

The JOURNEY — Walking Daily with Jesus

5th Sunday Potluck to follow . . .

"JERUSALEM WALL OF LIFE" ARTIST TO SPEAK JANUARY 29

Spoooner artist, Patricia Solveson, will be our guest at the January 29 worship service, when she will talk about her life's work: the creation of a football field length mural depicting the entire Bible!

Last May, Patricia completed this daunting task of painting the entire Bible. Called the Jerusalem Wall of Life, the biblical mural is longer than a football field and portrays scenes from Genesis to Revelation, including Moses parting the Red Sea. It took over six years for her to finish it.

"I'm probably more changed by painting this mural than anything else. I was very relieved, very relieved. But I felt His heart. I felt the Lord's heart of joy because He knows this is His place and His message can come forth," she shared in an interview with Christian Broadcast News (CBN).

"In a place where the Good News has been quenched, very seriously quenched, here are the walls shouting out His name," she said.

Creating the mural wasn't easy.

"Such a vast job. It was just overwhelming — many, many times," she said. "But then someone would come in. They'd be so touched and then I'd be revived again to keep going."

She completed the mural under the auspices of the Alliance Church in the Holy Land, which held a dedication service for the work.

The mural wraps around the walls of the Alliance Church cemetery in Jerusalem's

German Colony. The cemetery, now an official Ministry of Tourism site, enjoys a rich heritage and history.

She calls the artistic style "impressionistic realism." Her favorite scene? The Resurrection.



"Because Miriam, she thought this was the gardener and she said, 'Where did you put His body?' And He spoke her name and she had this love relationship with him. That's the kind of relationship I have with him," she told CBN News.

"But I also love the scene with the Lamb because it's not a traditional Calvary scene, — it's a scene, it's a scene with the Passover Lamb, like when John the Baptist said, 'Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world,'" she said.

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PASTOR JOAN'S COLUMN

As I begin to write this and realize that this is for 2017, I find myself in a state of disbelief that we can actually be moving from 2016 to 2017! And I ask myself, "Where did this last year go?" The older I get, the faster time seems to fly by!

But as I think of the past year, and specifically the last few months, I am saddened and heartbroken for my Trinity family at the events that have unfolded since the end of October. However, I am happy that God arranged for me to be available to be here for you, and I have felt that I was coming home. Thank you to all for a warm welcome.

However, Trinity is at that place again of needing healing - the healing hand of God's grace and mercy. Our trust in an individual has been shattered, but our trust in Jesus as our Lord and Savior should still be intact. And that is where we need to focus at this time.

I want to share with you part of the August 11 devotional from Oswald Chambers' *My Utmost for His Highest*. It is based on 2 Kings 2:11-12: "Elijah went up by a whirlwind into heaven. And Elisha . . . saw him no more." Chambers writes: "It is not wrong for you to depend on your 'Elijah' for as long as God gives him to you. But remember that the time will come when he must leave and will no longer be your guide and your leader, because God does not intend for him to stay. Even the thought of that causes you to say, I cannot continue without my 'Elijah.' Yet God says you must continue. . . . You now have to put to the test



what you have learned when you were with your 'Elijah.'"

We might think of Jon Paquette as Trinity's 'Elijah,' because I know that under his leadership Trinity has grown spiritually. God sent him here to Trinity for a specific purpose, but the sin in the world often gets in the way of God's plans for us because we have the free will to choose that sin over God. We all do this daily by the choices we make. And God warns us in His Word, "Do not trust in a neighbor; do not have confidence in a friend" (Micah 7:5); however, the Lord says, "Blessed is the man who trusts in the Lord and whose trust is the Lord" (Jeremiah 17:7). God wants every bit of each one of our hearts. He doesn't settle for less than that. We need to be mindful to

"commit our ways to the Lord, trust also in Him" (Psalm 37:5).

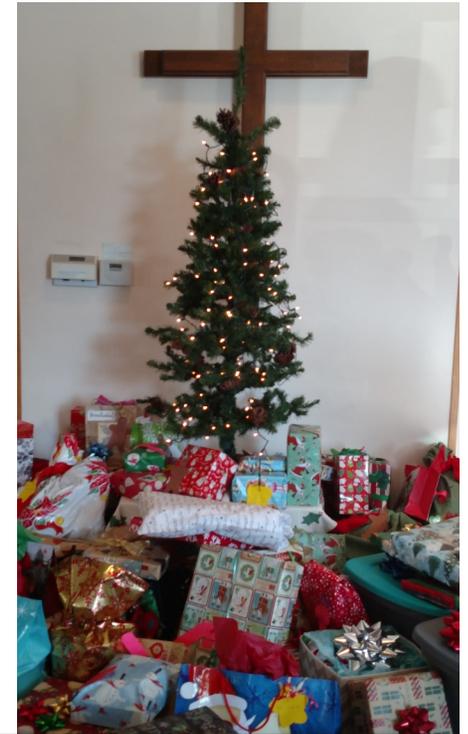
Trinity is a church committed to, and active in, the community of Birchwood, and supports many missions. Please don't let those things (works) be the only driving force for this wonderful church that is filled with strong leaders and some very spiritual believers. All of us need to stay committed to

reading and studying God's Word, to stay committed to praying constantly and insistently. We need to develop the habit of putting God first in every part of our lives, make Him the master of all that we do. In that way, we are then equipped to go out and make disciples, just as Jesus commanded us to do.

As Paul closed his letter to the Ephesians, "Grace be with all those who love our Lord Jesus Christ with incorruptible love."

Pastor Joan

Thank You!



Thank You, Trinity Family, for once again being so generous in donating gifts for six Birchwood families in need. We brought joy to six families this year! God is Good!

(Continued from page 1)

She found inspiration from her own transformed life. "Inspiration is a four letter word, L-O-V-E," she explained. "Really because of the Lord who did for me what I could not do for myself - He took me out of this pit. He put a song in my mouth, a paintbrush in my hand and he said, 'You're going to live.'"

"It's really a love story for all people, from all over the world," she concluded.

The presentation will consist of a DVD which portrays a little about Jerusalem and her mural, her music and her sharing of God's Word and some of the amazing experiences in Jerusalem.

Stay for the 5th Sunday Potluck and meet Patricia!

WOMEN OF TRINITY MEETING MINUTES

†We held our monthly meeting on December 15, in the Fellowship Hall with President Marcia Kampf presiding, and 12 women present.

†The Lefse and Bake Sale held December 3 and 4, was a roaring success with lefse sales of \$424, and baked goods sales bringing in \$393, for a total of \$817. That's \$124 more than last year. Thanks to everyone who helped by baking Christmas baked goods and/or making lefse.

About 16 people turned out for lefse day, and dozens of bakers contributed to the bake sale. And it was all . . . so . . . good!

†Altar Guild person for January is Sharon Dhein. The 2017 Altar Guild schedule will be published in the 2017 Service Book.

†Prayer Shawl Ministry continues as an on-going ministry, and people who knit or crochet are needed to make prayer shawls over these cold winter nights. If you need yarn, directions, or a prayer shawl, those items are in a tote bin in the storage area of the Fellowship Hall.

Just be sure to sign the prayer shawl out so duplicates aren't given.

†A new procedure for keeping the kitchen clean will be implemented in 2017. An article appears below.

†It was recommended that more of us become trained on how to use the kitchen dishwasher so that we can use it for smaller events, and fewer loads.

†Any donations for the kitchen should go through Ginger LaMotte.

†We donated \$75 to our own church youth group.

†The 2017 Women of Trinity Service Books will be printed and distributed in January. Check

your mailbox.

†We donated \$100 to Paul Oman to use toward his start-up ministry incorporating Drawn to the Word.

†Following our December meeting we had a great lunch, then packed up 26 cookie boxes for shut-ins. Thanks to all who donated homemade cookies!

†Our next meeting is Thursday, January 19, at 11 am.



NARRATIVE LECTIONARY PAINTING PROJECT

Paul Oman, former Trinity pastor and reknown painter, has been invited to illustrate the Bible as a project titled, The Narrative Lectionary Painting Project!

What is The Narrative Lectionary? It is a fancy phrase for a chronological order of Bible readings from beginning to end, Genesis through Revelation.

The goal is to create a video of an original Paul Oman painting for every text of the Narrative Lectionary, and make it available on video for FREE, for every church, every week.

He has already produced two samples — Creation, and Crucifixion — at the link below:



<https://www.kickstarter.com/projects/734992033/the-narrative-lectionary-painting-project>

Churches will be able to use this resource, beginning next September. They will SEE the story while they hear it during worship.

Want to help make this happen? Easy! Please visit the Kickstarter Campaign link above! Check out the benefits you will receive at every giving level Please make a PLEDGE TODAY, and know that you are helping others hear, SEE, and know the story of God's grace.



WOMEN OF TRINITY WORK TO KEEP KITCHEN CLEAN & ORGANIZED

The Women of Trinity are trying to get the kitchen clean and organized. A committee of four inventoried it recently, made recommendations for what was needed and not needed, and have come up with a plan to keep it neat and clean.

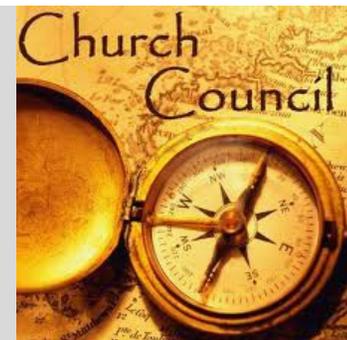
Here's how it goes:

- Service committee co-chairs will be assigned two months out of the year to coordinate the inspection and cleaning of the kitchen. The members assigned to their service committee may be asked to assist with any needed cleaning.

- A checklist will be provided. Areas that need heavier cleaning will be scheduled on an annual or bi-annual basis and volunteers will be needed.
- A kitchen usage calendar will be posted in the kitchen, and all who use the kitchen on a regular schedule, or for an annual event, will be asked to post these on that calendar.
- All food in the refrigerator should be labeled.
- All donations for the kitchen should be approved by Ginger LaMotte.

The 2017 Council members will be installed at the January 8 worship service.

Outgoing members will be recognized for their service: Rolf Kleven, Fred Peck, Dianne Buxton, and Colleen Gindt.





Outreach Chairperson Karen Hayes recently received a letter from Gladys Mungo, of Haiti's Children, Inc., with an update on Haiti and the young Haitian boy we sponsor, Jonathan Alty. Here is a recap:



Hurricane Matthew hit the southern coast of Haiti on October 3, and was followed a week later by a huge tropical storm. Haiti's Children, Inc., has delivered over 50 tons of food to many remote communities. Tarps were handed out, hoping to give some covering for as many families as possible. Many of the schools and churches were destroyed completely, so tarps were also used for schools, and the children are now back in school.

Some of the communities had well over 70% in damage and destruction to their homes. Downed trees have changed the landscape, farms were destroyed and washed out, animals drowned, causing loss of income for many families. Jonathan's family lost the roof of their home.

If you would like to help with replacing a roof on a home, the cost is \$150, which covers tin, nails and a hammer. The family or community do the labor. The lumber will come from the many downed trees.

Haiti's Children, Inc., has received many donations as well as a grant to replace 100 tin roofs. An anonymous donation for a container of food, will ship in December with over 270,000 meals. Please continue your prayers for Haiti and her people.

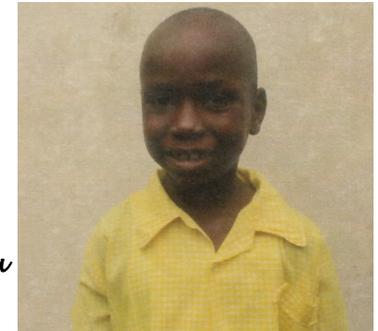
In a brief note from Jonathan, he writes:

November 7, 2016

Dear Trinity,

Hello! I am very happy for your attention. I hope that God always help you therefore you will always help us. I am asking God to look on you, to protect you and to keep you healthy. I am happy for all those gifts that you gave to me.

Thank you so much.



POTLUCK

It may be cold outside, but it will be warm inside with delicious food and fellowship on Sunday, January 29, when we hold our 5th Sunday Potluck.

Immediately after the church service, come on over to the Fellowship Hall where you can join your fellow friends and members for what has to be the most popular meal in the Midwest: The Potluck Dinner!

Bring your dish to pass to the kitchen before the service, and we'll tuck it away for you and put it out just in time to serve it. Coffee, cold drinks, plates, and silverware will be provided.

Our guest speaker at worship, Patricia Solveson, will join us at the potluck, so come and meet her!



Thank You, Cantata Choir, for your dedication, time and musical gifts in presenting this year's Cantata!

And Thank You L.I.G.H.T. Keepers for assembling the luminarias for Christmas Eve!!

Joanne Schilling



Wednesday Night Meals

Please consider assisting in either preparing and serving or mainly serving the Wednesday youth meals to approximately 25 youth and 4 adults.

There are menu ideas and a sign up on the information counter. Melinda Pedersen will provide support to you as desired. Your consideration is appreciated!



Another wonderful telling of the Christmas Story!
SS KIDS SHARE "T'WAS THE LIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS"

On December 18, the Sunday School children and Confirmation Youth once again presented an AWESOME Christmas program this year — 'Twas The LIGHT Before Christmas — and with just ONE rehearsal!

Thanks to all the youth who shared the message of The Light of Jesus: Alyssa Langham, Garrett Langham, Logen Gindt, Landen Gindt, Lucas Gindt, Anna Will, Josie Will, Shay Sunderland, Gavin Stanley, Ellison Brown, and Landon Brown.

Thank You Pastor Joan, Rolf Jostad, Sue Jostad, Kim Will, Shannon Gindt, Becca Langham, Donnarae Carrell, Shirley Sorenson, and Joanne Schilling, for your participation in the Youth and Family Christmas Program.

What a blessing to Seek the Glorious Light together!



What goes UP. . .Must come DOWN!

First of all . . . Thank you, Thank you, Thank you!!!

The wonderful team below prepared Trinity for the celebration of the coming of our Lord! They transformed the church on Dec. 2, in nearly no time at all!

Rolf & Barb Kleven, Eldon & Joanne Kvale, Donnarae Carrell (not pictured), Joanne Schilling, Betty Orson, Jerry & Susan Janetski, Wes Mohns, Marsha Kampf, and Tom & Sue Svitak.

Now we need HELP to take it down on Jan 13 at 10 am!



CHOIR MEMBERS WANTED

It's "snowbird season" and that means about one-third of our regular choir membership is currently in warmer climes. So we need YOU!

If you sing the hymns from the pew, then you can sing a choir anthem from the choir loft!! Easier songs have been planned for the spring to accommodate our smaller choir. So come join us! For more information, call Joanne Schilling at 715-651-4875.



Join the Choir...

You'll Be Glad You Did!

JANUARY WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

	Jan 1	Jan 8	Jan 15	Jan 22	Jan 29
Greeters	<i>PLEASE SIGN UP</i>	<i>PLEASE SIGN UP</i>	Gindts	Tom & Sue Svitak	Tom & Sue Svitak
Ushers	Sunderlands	<i>PLEASE SIGN UP</i>	<i>PLEASE SIGN UP</i>	<i>PLEASE SIGN UP</i>	<i>PLEASE SIGN UP</i>
Comm Assts	<i>PLEASE SIGN UP</i>	<i>PLEASE SIGN UP</i>	<i>PLEASE SIGN UP</i>	<i>PLEASE SIGN UP</i>	Joanne Schilling
Reader	Donnarae Carrell	Karen Hayes	Shannon Gindt	Karen Hayes	Joanne Schilling



The council representatives for the Ministry Teams of Worship and Music, Evangelism, Congregational Care, Outreach, Women of Trinity, Education Youth & Family, and the Youth &

Family Coordinator will meet on Monday, January 30, at 10 am to coordinate their respective teams' plans and events and work to assist each other. It's Trinity Family Coordination!



Luther Park Bible Camp will hold its Annual Meeting on Saturday, January 28. The meeting will begin at 10 am, at the Camp which is located on 944 24 1/4 Street, Chetek. Our congregation is a member and entitled to send three voting delegates.

If you are interested in attending as one of our voting delegates, please contact the church office.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Jill Pedersen 1/1	Alan Pedersen 1/12	Rodney Levake 1/25
Lilly Gottwald 1/2	Madyson Schultz 1/15	Shay Sunderland 1/25
Kim Rich 1/2	Morgan Hayes 1/16	Jerry Chasteen 1/27
Colette Sandow 1/2	Gloria Sibley 1/17	John Carlstrom 1/28
Kimberly Will 1/2	Shirley Dunwiddie 1/19	Travis Miller 1/28
Andy Hedman 1/3	Gavin Stanley 1/19	Foster Dunwiddie 1/29
Adam Robotka 1/3	Emma Leamy 1/20	Desiree Jasper 1/30
Eric Flora 1/5	Norm Jastram 1/21	Bob Hayes 1/31
Rigil Christensen 1/7	Lee Flora 1/21	
Patti Johnson 1/8	Thor Olson 1/21	
Leo Diehl 1/9	Dave Lhotka 1/23	
Jordan Berg 1/10	Carly Pedersen 1/23	
Linda Rieman 1/10	Klarese Applebee 1/24	
Andy Janetski 1/12	Amy Roppe 1/24	
Rolf Jostad 1/12	Maryann Cowans 1/25	

IN OUR PRAYERS

1 - Jay Gilbertson	17 - Chrissy Gottwald
2 - Cindy Gilgenbach	18 - Kris Gottwald
3 - Pip Gilgenbach	19 - Lilly Gottwald
4 - Bob Gindt	20 - Rose Grab
5 - Brien Gindt	21 - Jim Gronberg
6 - Colleen Gindt	22 - Lois Gronberg
7 - Landen Gindt	23 - Alice Hamm
8 - Logen Gindt	24 - Jean Hansen
9 - Lucas Gindt	25 - Lorraine Hartwig
10 - Shannon Gindt	26 - Ron Hartzell
11 - Adara Glenz	27 - Bruce Hatlan
12 - Jayda Glenz	28 - Bob Hayes
13 - Max Glenz	29 - Brynn Hayes
14 - Cindy Goodwin	30 - Greg Hayes
15 - Tom Goodwin	31 - Karen Hayes
16 - Bradey Gottwald	

JANUARY 2017

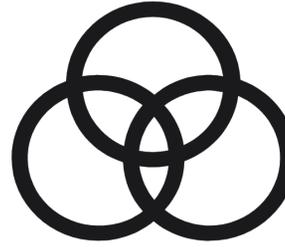
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 1ST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS 9:30a - COFFEE TIME 10a - Worship w/Communion HAPPY NEW YEAR!	2 9:30a - 2pm - Quilters 10a - Worship & Music Mtg 10:30a-1:30p - Food Pantry Open 4:15p - Walk by Faith 6:30p - Bible Study 6:30p - Women's Study 7p - AA, Fellowship Hal	3 9a - Prayer Session	4 10:30a - Video Study 4:15p - Walk by Faith 5p - L.I.G.H.T. Keepers 5:15p - Confirmation 7p - Trinity Choir Reh 8p - Praise Tm Reh	5 9:30a - Women's Bible Study	6 OFFICE CLOSED 4:15p - Walk by Faith	7 10:30a-1:30p - Food Pantry Open
8 BAPTISM OF OUR LORD 9:30a - COFFEE TIME 10a - Praise Worship w/ communion Installation of 2017 Council Members	9 8:30a - Outreach Mtg 9:30a - 2pm - Quilters 4:15p - Walk by Faith 6:30p - Bible Study 6:30p - Women's Study 7p - AA, Fellowship Hall	10 9a - Prayer Session 6:30p - Council Mtg	11 10:30a - Video Study 4:15p - Walk by Faith NO L.I.G.H.T. Keepers 5:15p - Confirmation 7p - Trinity Choir Reh	12 9:30a - Women's Bible Study	13 OFFICE CLOSED 4:15p - Walk by Faith	14
15 2ND SUN AFTER EPIPHANY 9a - Choir Warm-up 9:30a - COFFEE TIME 10a - Worship w/Communion Love Fund & Food Pantry Offerings	16 Journey Deadline 9:30a - 2pm - Quilters 10:30a-1:30p - Food Pantry Open 4:15p - Walk by Faith 6:30p - Bible Study 6:30p - Women's Study 7p - AA, Fellowship Hall	17 9a - Prayer Session	18 10:30a - Video Study 4:15p - Walk by Faith NO L.I.G.H.T. Keepers 5:15p - Confirmation 7p - Trinity Choir Reh	19 9:30a - Women's Bible Study 11a - TLCW Mtg	20 OFFICE CLOSED 4:15p - Walk by Faith	21 10:30a-1:30p - Food Pantry Open
22 3RD SUN AFTER EPIPHANY 9:30a - COFFEE TIME 10a - Worship w/communion	23 9:30a - 2pm - Quilters 4:15p - Walk by Faith 6:30p - Bible Study 6:30p - Women's Study 7p - AA, Fellowship Hall	24 9a - Prayer Session	25 10:30a - Video Study 4:15p - Walk by Faith 5p - L.I.G.H.T. Keepers 5:15p - Confirmation 7p - Trinity Choir Reh	26 9:30a - Women's Bible Study	27 OFFICE CLOSED 4:15p - Walk by Faith	28
29 4TH SUN AFTER EPIPHANY 9:30a - COFFEE TIME 10a - Worship w/communion 5th Sunday Potluck	30 9:30a - 2pm - Quilters 10a - Christian Life mtg 4:15p - Walk by Faith 6:30p - Bible Study 6:30p - Women's Study 7p- AA, Fellowship Hall	31 9a - Prayer Session			Altar Guild Sharon Dhein 	

Trinity Lutheran Church
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**5th Sunday Potluck
 January 29**



**The JOURNEY
 JANUARY 2017**

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

Joan Scheffler, Pastor
 Cindy Westphal, Parish Administrator
 Melinda Pedersen, Youth & Family
 Joanne Schilling, Choir Director
 Betty Blanch, Custodian

501 E. Chetac Ave ♦ PO Box 8 ♦ Birchwood, WI 54817
 (715) 354-3790 ♦ (715) 354-3224 (parsonage)

♦ trinitybirchwood@centurytel.net ♦ trinitylutheranbirchwood.com ♦
 JOURNEY Editor ♦ Joanne Schilling ♦ jlschilling@hotmail.com ♦

Sunday Worship 8:30 am outdoor (Memorial - Labor Day)
 10 am indoor (Year-round)
 Sunday School 10 am (Sept - May 21)
 Office Hours 8 - 11:30 am, 12:30 - 3:00pm (M-Th)
 Pastor's Hours 8a - noon, M-Th
 Bulletin info deadline 9 am Wednesdays
 JOURNEY deadline Monday of 3rd week of the month

WORSHIP THIS MONTH

1/1 10 am Worship w/Communion
 1/8 10 am Praise Worship w/Communion
 1/15 10 am Worship w/Communion
 1/22 10 am Worship w/Communion
 1/29 10 am Worship w/Communion— 5th Sunday Potluck

KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS

Amelia	Art Johnson	Leonard Nysted
Dave Beaver	Eileen Koefler	Fred Peck
Michelle Bender	Dean Kruegel	Dorothy Perpick
Alice Bhend	Jody Kruegel	Gordy Peterson
Hazel Bonkrud	Bill & Eunice Kuntz	Jim Pravda
Vicki Busick	Dick Kuula	Merle Ries
George Crust	Roy Kuula	Buddy Robotka
Annette Gentile	Bill Lambrecht	Sue Sachs
Laine Guttenberg	Bob Langham	Carter Sackman
Ron Hartzell	Ron Larson	Shalom Ministry Team
Gorman Hayes	Ed Leader	Jeremy Spahn
Deb Healy	Lora	Ashley Spiller
Harry Heath	Susan Molin	Denise Spiller
McKel Heebink	Sue Miles	David Yndestad
Becky Hunt	Lee Namtvedt	Elaine Yndestad

In the military: Rigil, & Randy Christensen, Rochelle & Alex Fabrizio, Kelsey Will, Eric Bebee, Tim Groth, John Hughes, Brian LaGrange and all those serving in the military.

NEXT MEETING OF

Birchwood Food Pantry.10:30 am, Jan 2, 7, 16, 21
 Worship & Music Team. 10 am, Jan 2
 Outreach Committee. 8:30 am, Jan 9
 Congregational Council. 6:30 pm, Jan 10
 Trinity Lutheran Church Women. 11 am, Jan 19