

The JOURNEY — Walking Daily with Jesus

GOD RICHLY BLESS YOU DURING THESE UNCERTAIN TIMES!

These past two months have gone by fast as your interim pastor at Trinity. So much change has happened as we find ourselves experiencing a “never before” corona virus isolation. Easter Sunday was especially meaningful as 12 people gathered at 10 am in Trinity parking lot to witness ringing the church bell 33 times (representing the 33 years Jesus lived on this earth). As the sound of the church bell rang through the air, my soul rejoiced at the thought of God blessing each person who could hear it. Let it ring loud and clear that “Jesus is Lord,” that He promises to bless those who love Him. Let it ring loud and clear to those who don’t know Him that it’s time to ask God to search our hearts and see if there’s anything He wants us to change. This is a time of seeking the Lord, of searching our hearts, of repentance and letting God examine us to see if there’s anything in us that needs changing. (Psalm 139:24)

God promises that all things work out for good for them who love Him and are called according to His purpose. (Romans 8:28) Do you love Him? Do you open His Word and let it examine your heart to see if there’s any hidden sin? (John 3:21)

It is my sincere desire and prayer that we won’t just wait for this isolation time to be over, but do some soul searching and seeking after the Lord. God wants to get our attention, examine our hearts, repent, and show us His Way so that we will follow Him. *The eyes of the Lord roam to and fro throughout the earth, to strengthen and strongly support those whose heart is completely His.* (2 Chronicles 16:9)

God bless us all and draw us near to Him. He not only will show us the way, protect and guide us, but use us to bring the Good News of Jesus to others and be bright shining lights in our community and beyond.

Check our Trinity Lutheran You Tube service posted each Sunday. I do have office hours Monday-Wednesday 10am -1 pm or 2 pm. Stop in. I am here for you!

**In Christ’s love and service,
Pastor Barb Kleven**

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President's Message

Greetings all. Hope you are all staying safe and are healthy. This was the first Easter in awhile that we haven't been able to get together to celebrate Jesus' resurrection and his promise of eternal life. I'm so thankful to Pastor Barb, Joanne, Julie, Ashley and The Cross kids for their YouTube video participation during Holy Week worship services. They were truly inspirational. We will continue these YouTube worship presentations until we can meet in church.

This pandemic has given us time to think about our priorities in life and be thankful for the little things in life. The Stay at Home directive has given us time to get closer to God and spend more time in prayer and reading his word. If we listen to the TV news channels or read social media, we hear the negative and fearful news about deaths, coronavirus exposure and stay at home directives. The good news is we have **The Good News** (promises from God).

Jeremiah 29:11-12 give us hope:

"For I know the plans and thoughts that I have for you," says the Lord, "plans for peace and well-being and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope. Then you will call on Me and you will come and pray to Me, and I will hear [your voice] and I will listen to you."

Many church leaders believe that God is trying to get our attention. He has got mine. Our real hope is the healing, grace and protection of Jesus Christ (Psalm 91). We will get through this time together with God's help but in his timing. Max Lucado said the pandemic outbreak was our Good Friday, and now we are in the silent waiting of Saturday, looking forward to Easter Sunday when the world will be resurrected from this terrible virus and can celebrate life again.

In this time of waiting, pray that God would bless his church and show us the way to our new pastor and show us how to minister to each other and our community.

Looking forward to seeing you all again soon. A time when we can shake hands and give hugs. Remain close to God. May the peace which surpasses all understanding keep your hearts and mind in Christ Jesus.

Jim McGraw

The Eternal Candle

To keep the Eternal candle burning or not? That is the question. Our Trinity family has rallied together this past year for multiple challenges. One of those challenges has been financial. The challenge has caused each of us to step back on a personal level to determine how we might save on costs for keeping Trinity's doors open, thus allowing each of us to have a place to praise, worship and glorify our Heavenly Father.

WMMT (Worship and Music Ministry Team), has recently discussed candle costs to keep the Eternal candle burning. As with everything else, candles have increased in cost. This prompted thinking outside the box, such as battery operated candles. The bottom line, batteries did not "math out" as a savings. It was agreed to continue use of the current candles.

Fast forward, here comes the Corona virus. This has impacted each and everyone of us in so many ways. We can no longer attend services in our church, social distancing has become the new buzzword. This is so difficult, but so necessary.

What does this have to do with the Eternal candle? The Eternal candle is symbolic for the light that is Our Lord and Savior, it symbolizes the hope and love that our Lord has for each of us as well as the love we have for one another.

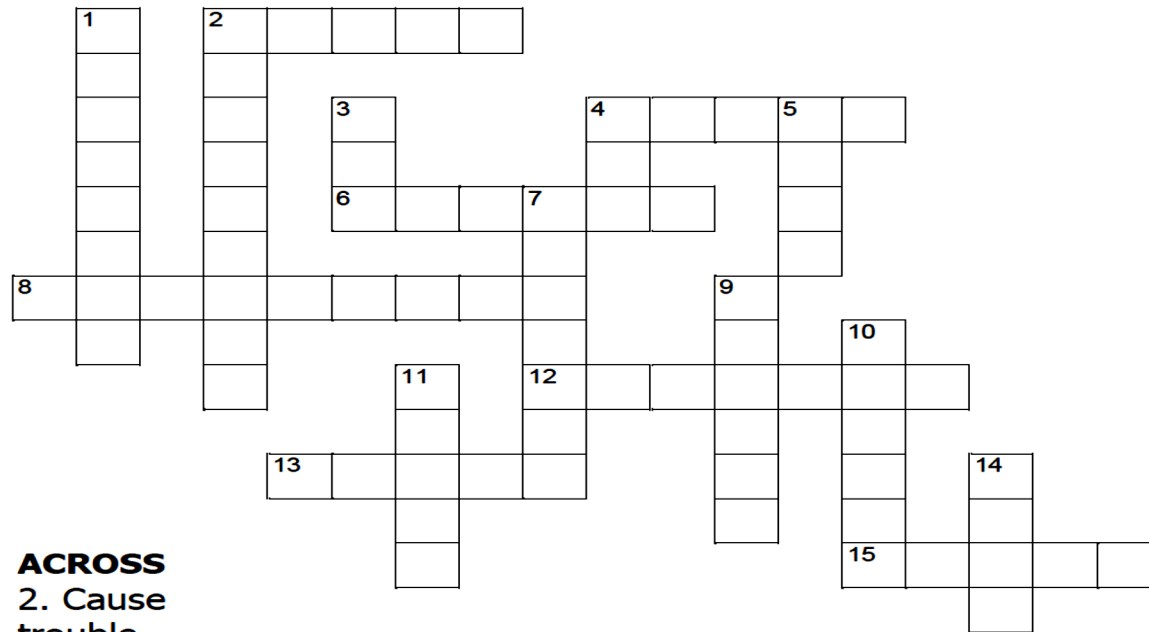
'The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid? Psalm 27:1



The Eternal candle will remain as a light for all as a reminder of the Lord's love for us, a sense of peace and encouragement. This "maths out" by keeping hope alive and well.

**Your Sister in Christ,
Kathy Thom**

CROSSWORD: All of the clues and answers are taken from the story of Job, the book in the Bible that comes right before Psalms.

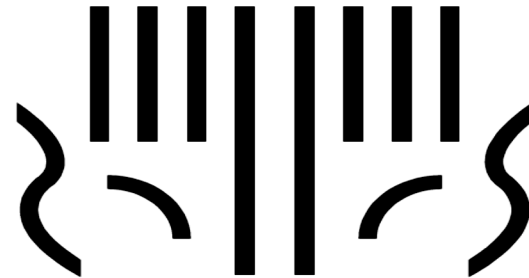


ACROSS

- 2. Cause trouble
- 4. Twinkling, heavenly lights
- 6. The Shuhite, a friend (2:11)
- 8. Creature of the deep, (41:1)
- 12. The Temanite, a friend (2:11)
- 13. Sores
- 15. Job had 7,000

DOWN

- 1. The One who ever lives (19:25)
- 2. Affliction
- 3. Had seven sons
- 4. Ocean
- 5. Precipitation
- 9. The Naamathite, a friend (2:11)
- 10. Job had 3,000
- 11. Job's 4th friend (32:2)
- 14. Job had 500 yoke



Nevertheless, the righteous will hold to their ways, and those with clean hands will grow stronger.

J o b 1 7 : 9

- Solution:**
Across
 2. Satan
 4. stars
 6. Bildad
 8. Leviathan
 12. Eliphaz
 13. boils
 15. sheep

- Solution:**
Down
 1. Redeemer
 2. suffering
 3. Job
 4. sea
 5. rain
 7. donkeys
 9. Zophar
 10. camels
 11. Elihu
 14. oxen

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

	May 3 (10 AM)	May 10 (10 AM)	May 17 (10 AM)	May 24 (8:30 AM)	May 24 (10 AM)	May 31 (8:30 AM)	May 31 (10 AM)
GREETERS	Betty Blanch	Tom & Sue Svitak	Brenda & Pat Mackey		Boy Scouts & Stacy Kolodzinski		Terri & Rob Freeman
USHERS	Zach & Bo Beffa LeRoy Brensel	Rob Freeman Wally Thom	Di & Kyle Hubbard	John Schieffer	Joanne & Eldon Kvale	Char & Wes Mohns	Wally Thom LeRoy Brensel
COMM. ASSTS	Kathy & Wally Thom	Cindy & Jim McGraw	Jeanne Dahlby Melinda Pedersen		Kathy & Wally Thom		Sharon & Dave Dhein
READER	Rolf Kleven	Donnarae Carrell	Gloria Widiker	Janet Schieffer	Travis Soper	Karen Hayes	Stacy Kolodzinski

*Greeters also serve as Ushers and Communion Assistants for the 8:30 am service.



Racine Danish Kringle Fundraiser

Update on our fundraiser: The fundraiser will be put on hold at this time. The Women of Trinity (WOT) will promote this fundraiser in the future, when it is safe to do so.

Jeremiah 29:11: "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

Stay tuned and stay hopeful.

Kathy Thom



UPDATE US PLEASE!!!

We would like to keep you updated with all that is going on at Trinity. Periodically we send out emails to the membership and want to make sure you are included.

Please email tlcbirchwood@gmail.com and let us know your email address, update your phone and mailing address, so we can keep in touch.

Or call Julie at the office
715-354-3790

NEXT MEETING OF . . .

- Birchwood Food Pantry Open. 10:30 am, May 2, 4, 16, 18, 30**
- Worship & Music Team. 10 am, May 4**
- Mission & Outreach. 11 am, May 13**
- Women of Trinity. 6:30pm May 5**
- Trinity Council Meeting 6:30 pm, May 19**



Remember our friends in the nursing homes. When we can't visit face to face because of the Covid 19 virus, we can still send them our thoughts and prayers in a letter or card. Besides they LOVE getting mail!!



Way back when . . . In BC (Before Coronavirus) . . . Trinity's Council provided a lengthy form to members, and was scheduling interviews by Pastor Warren with members of the congregation. This was to obtain an assessment to help in the search for our next pastor. Now that we are following "Safe-at-Home" restrictions, the council has revised how to obtain the desired information for Pastor Warren.

Inserted in this newsletter is a shorter questionnaire for all members to fill out and return to the church office (by mail or by dropping off). **IT WILL ALSO BE MAILED TO TRINITY MEMBERS. PLEASE RETURN ONLY ONE.** The questionnaire form has guidelines to follow in order to fold it into thirds. Just tape the three un-folded sides, place a stamp on it (if you are mailing it) and return it to the church office **ASAP.**

This information is crucial to both the Council and the future Pastoral Call Committee. So please take time (no excuses now!!) and let us know your thoughts. All questionnaires will be assessed Pastor Warren.

PASTORAL CALL COMMITTEE. If you feel called to serve on the Pastoral Call Committee, please fill out the enclosed application and return it to the church office.

Sharyl Miller	05/03	Lou Anne Kristensen	05/14
Angelica Laone	05/03	Mary Stoeklen	05/16
Cindy Gilgenbach	05/05	Jason Ufferman	05/17
Nicole Breed	05/06	Shane Hodgson	05/17
Lucas Dahl	05/06	Jeanne Dahlby	05/18
Steve Soltis	05/07	Austin Parenteau	05/23
Phyllis Nelson	05/09	Wayne Palm	05/24
Billy Nordback	05/08	Larry Sibley	05/24
Benjamin Will	05/08	Bob Robotka	05/25
Matthew Jefson	05/09	Gloria Widiker	05/27
Ron Larson	05/10	Julie Sunderland	05/28
Carley Levake	05/11	Jacob Lavalriere	05/29
Kirk Kotel	05/13	Molly Parkos	05/30
Benjamin VandeVoort	05/13	Shannon Gindt	05/31

Haiti's Children Inc
 PO Box 577 Pell Lake, WI 53157
www.haitischildren.org
gladynhaiti@yahoo.com



March 2020

Dear Sponsor,

The Corona Virus has hit Haiti. Considering the lack of medical infrastructure in the country, and the fact that most people feed their families based on what they can sell each day, this is going to be very difficult to contain and will have horrific impacts on an already vulnerable population. Haitians are a social society and are having a difficult time with social distancing and staying in their homes.

The National Airports and borders are closed for commercial flights; schools and universities are closed for the second time this school year. Stress levels are extremely high. Oxygen, medical care, and sanitary conditions are difficult to get on normal circumstances.

I know you all love to hear from the children you sponsor, as well, they love to hear from you. Unfortunately, this school year has posed so many difficulties: the 3-month (peyi-lok) lock down, and now Covid-19 that has hit us all around the world.

I ask that you continue to pray for the child you sponsor and their families. Please be understanding about not receiving letters from your child this year. Please know that we are all praying for you and the situation in the United States.

“Nevertheless, I will bring health and healing to it; I will heal my people and will let them enjoy abundant peace and security.” (NIV) Jeremiah 33:6

Remember, church starts with you, it is not about the building.

In His Service,

Gladys Mungo
 Director of Haiti Missions

- Trinity Lutheran Church Birchwood
- Financial Update, First Quarter 2020
- Planned 1Qtr 2020 Giving/Income \$46,708.50
- Actual 1Qtr 2020 Giving/Income \$41,554.45
- Giving/Income Shortfall - Less than plan \$5,154.05
- Planned 1Qtr 2020 Expenses \$46,667.00
- Actual 1Qtr 2020 Expenses \$34,638.51
- Expenses - Less than plan \$12,028.49
- For First Quarter 2020 Income is Higher than Expenses by \$6,915.94
- Summary:
- Trinity Lutheran Church has a small positive of income over expense for the first quarter of 2020.
- Several expenses are expected later in the year including increased pastoral salary, heating gas and insurance payments.
- Very generous giving in January helped increase our income.
- Income has been reduced due to the church being closed, but many members



TRINITY YOUTUBE CHANNEL

In light of the coronavirus, Trinity has created its own YouTube channel so we can upload videos of the weekly sermons.

The link for it is a long one, but if everyone (and your friends!) visits the link and clicks the "Subscribe" button, maybe we can get the magic 100 subscribers to allow us to change our name to something more user-friendly! Here is the link:



<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCrIQB6cjOINlmHer9EuOEA>

ALSO IF YOU HAVE AN EMAIL THAT THE CHURCH OFFICE DOES NOT HAVE PLEASE UPDATE US SO WE CAN KEEP COMMUNICATION OPEN!!



Blessings and Thank You to you all for the many prayers, calls, and visits during my very long "quarantine." I am home and very happy to have my life back to somewhat normal. I am not done with "stuff" but on hold for more surgery. Your love and care has been a wonderful "cure."

God Bless,
Carol Addington



Trinity still needs your offerings, Please mail or drop them off at church!

WHERE TO FIND INFO ONLINE

In addition to finding the weekly sermon on our YouTube channel, we are trying to provide our members with information thru various methods. So check out our website and Facebook page.



Website:

TRINITYLUTHERANBIRCHWOOD.COM



May 2020

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 OFFICE CLOSED	2 10:30a-1:30p -Food Pantry Open
3 9:30 am - Coffee 10am - Worship	4 10:30a—Food Pantry open 10a—WMMT mtg by Zoom 7p - AA, Fellowship Hall	5 6:30p-WOT meeting	6 7:00p -Trinity Choir rehearsal	7 9:30a—Women's Bible Study	8 OFFICE CLOSED	9
10 9:30 am - Coffee 10am - Worship	11 OFFICE CLOSED 7p - AA, Fellowship Hall	12	13 11a—Missions Meeting 7:00p -Trinity Choir rehearsal	14 9:30a—Women's Bible Study	15 OFFICE CLOSED	16 10:30a-1:30p - Food Pantry Open
PENDING						
17 9:30 am - Coffee 10am - Worship 10am - Worship Love Fund/Food Pantry Offering	18 Journey Deadline 10:30a —Food Pantry Open 7p —AA, Fellowship Hall	19 Journey Assembly 6:30 pm Council Meeting	20 7:00p -Trinity Choir rehearsal	21 9:30a—Women's Bible Study	22 OFFICE CLOSED	23
24 8:30 am Outdoor Service 9:30 am - Coffee 10am - Worship Prayer Shawl Sunday	25 7p - AA, Fellowship Hall	26	27	28	29	30 10:30a-1:30p - Food Pantry Open
31 8:30 am Outdoor Worship 9:30 am - Coffee 10am - Worship 5th Sunday Pot Luck						

Trinity Lutheran Church
501 E. Chetac Ave
PO Box 8
Birchwood, WI 54817

FORWARDING SERVICE REQUESTED

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Birchwood, WI
54817

**URGENT QUESTIONNAIRE
ENCLOSED**



The JOURNEY

May 2020

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

Pastor Barb Kleven—Interim Pastor

Julie Sunderland, Parish Administrator

Ashley Beffa, Youth & Family

Joanne Schilling, Choir Director

Betty Blanch & Donnarae Carrell, Custodians

501 E. Chetac Ave ♦ PO Box 8 ♦ Birchwood, WI 54817

(715) 354-3790 ♦ (715) 834-9988 (Pastor's cell)

♦ trinitylutheranbirchwood.com ♦

♦ tlcbirchwood@gmail.com ♦

JOURNEY Editor ♦ Julie Sunderland ♦ tlcbirchwood@gmail.com

Sunday School 10 am (Sept – May)
Office Hours 8 – 11:30 am, 12:30 - 3:00pm (M-Th)
Bulletin deadline 9 am Tuesdays
JOURNEY deadline Monday of 3rd week of the month

SUNDAY WORSHIP THIS MONTH

5/3 – 10am Worship w/ Communion

5/10 – 10am Worship w/ Communion

5/17 – 10am Worship w/ Communion – Love Fund/Food Pantry

5/24 – 8:30am Outdoor Service & 10am Worship w/ Communion – Prayer Shawl Sunday

5/31 – 8:30am Outdoor Service & 10am Worship w/ Communion

KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS

Vicki Busick	Lora	Timothy Wallace
Debbie Davis	Sharon Mackey	Elaine Yndestad
Barb Fegan	Rusty Morrell	Carol Addington
Annette Gentile	Leonard Nysted	Walter Radomski
Dan Gowan	Fred Peck	Giamore Lapacinski-Pradera –(Soper's Nephew)
Andy Hedman	Jim Pravda	Nancy Seffinga- (Soper/Hayes niece)
Eileen Koefler	Tom Reed	
Eunice Kuntz	Tracy Reid	
Roy Kuula	Bill Rice	
Joyce Lambrecht	Ro Sackmann	
Rebecca Langham	Carter Sackmann	
Ed Leader	Cindy Schaan	

In the military: Rigil Christensen, Rochelle Fabrizio, Eric Bebee, Tim Groth, John Hughes, Cody Davis, Bennett Jorgensen and all those serving in the military.