### SEPTEMBER 2016

# The JOURNEY — Walking Daily with Jesus

Revisions to Constitution and Bylaws to be voted on SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING SET FOR SEPTEMBER 18

All members are invited and encouraged to attend a Special Congregational Meeting, immediately following worship, Sunday, September 18. There will be one item on the agenda: to approve and adopt revisions for the Constitution for Trinity Lutheran Church.

This is the only item for this meeting, which is for voting members only. Please put the date on your calendar and plan to attend, as your vote is important.

As a result of the Supreme Court action concerning same-sex marriage and to avoid successful lawsuits to both the congregation and to the pastor we are in need

Congregational



Meeting

of updating our constitution and bylaw language, to reflect a scriptural understanding on marriage.

We are aware that personal opinions on this matter may vary within the Trinity Community. Please know that the additions put forth will provide protection in the event of legal actions that could or may be taken against Trinity Lutheran Church and/or Trinity Lutheran Church's Pastor. The additions recommended will help clarify and ensure cohesion between Trinity Lutheran Church and Church Leadership, and Trinity Lutheran Church and its relationship within the community it serves.

The additions to our Constitution and Bylaws reflect much work and effort on the part of the participants, utilizing language already adopted by many sister LCMC congregations under the guidance of legal aid attorneys. The Special Congregation Meeting will be held September 18, 2016.

If you would like to review the additions to the Constitution and Bylaws. copies are available on the Welcome Center Table. Please give careful review to the additions put forth and any comments or questions may be forwarded to Pastor Jon.

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## PASTOR JON'S COLUMN - "Now, where did I put . . ."



Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him. And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them." So he told them this parable: ..." [W] hat woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? When she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin

that I had lost.' Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents."  $From\ Luke\ 15$ 

I think that I can relate to this woman. I picture her as middle-aged, trying to keep a lot of related and unrelated tasks in balance every day, feeling absent-minded from time to time.

Well — Okay, okay. I know I'm putting my life onto hers, and that I am a man and she — a woman — but let's go with that for a minute. Because I don't just feel as though I know this woman; I feel as though I am this woman (metaphorically speaking). At least once a day, I lose my pen, which is why I keep several in my desk drawer. Several times a day, I lose my reading glasses, and now I own several cheap pairs and keep them around where I might need them: in the car, gym bag, kitchen, bathroom (for reading of course!), and my desk. How can it be, then, that I sometimes find myself without a pair? I have, on one occasion, been traveling and had to head to the nearest Wal-Mart because I had forgotten to bring glasses.

Then, there are the times when I really think I've lost my mind, such as searching for my glasses, then catching sight of myself in the mirror, where I see them hanging around my neck or on top of my head — Or looking around wildly for my cell phone while I'm holding it.

Recently, I've been looking for my "good sunglasses" for a couple of weeks. The last I remember of them? I don't. I have looked in all the usual places several times. I've been through my car AND Kathy's car, under the seats, the glove box, the trunk — (where I discovered the book I had been looking for the past month!). I didn't find the glasses in my desk drawer, but did find two pieces of chocolate I probably had placed there over a year ago. (Do you think they're still safe to eat?) I've searched my desk drawer, dresser, bathroom, and kitchen. The thing is — I know I put them in a "safe" place. If only I could remember where that was...

So, I understand this woman. I don't think this is the first time she's swept the house, looking for this stupid coin. She's searched the entire house three or four times. She's been through the trash, looked under the beds, turned over every jar, checked her husband's pockets, and looked through the children's playthings. Everything that glints in the sunlight makes her hopeful, then disappointed. She lies awake at night, wondering where she has failed to look, or where she might look again more thoroughly. She tells her husband about it, tells her friends about it — talks about it when she's buying bread with another coin. She's losing her mind. And then one day, when she is sweeping in a place she's already been over more than once, she hears a metallic tinkle as the little coin scuttles across the floor. She's afraid to hope, but there it is!

And so she goes back to all her friends, the same ones who have had to listen to her talk about losing the coin, and they share her joy and relief. It has not been lost forever. It was there all along, just hidden.

While the parable seems to be designed to make the reader sympathize with the woman, she is really a symbol of God and of God's untiring love.

No matter how lost we may feel, or truly are, God doesn't give up on us. No matter what stresses make us lose sight of the good, no matter what bad decisions have taken us down a difficult trail, no matter what life circumstance has troubled us seemingly beyond help, God is there. We may be alienated from everyone and everything, but we are not lost to God.

There is nothing I can do, nor anything that can be done to me, that takes me out of reach of the God who is there. God doesn't forget where I am or who I am. Even when I feel lost, God has hidden me in a safe place. Unlike us, God remembers where the safe place is, so we are never truly lost from God at all.

Oh, and if you happen to see my sunglasses, would you give me a call?

Janitor/Clown/Pastor Jon



### TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH WOMEN HAPPENINGS

- President Marcia Kampf presided over the August 18 meeting, with nine women present.
- + Altar Guild chairperson Jeanne Dahlby reported that the two-person team for the summer is working well.
- + September
  Altar Guild
  person is Karen Hayes,
  and we'll be
  back to one
  service after
  Labor Day.

Trinity Lutheran Church Women



The ongoing Outreach project is collecting supplies for the Back to School backpack project.

- + Melinda Pedersen informed us of a forum in Chicago, September 17, presented by Beth Moore, and entitled "Living Proof." This is available for live broadcast to interested groups, and the cost is \$20 per person. More information is being gathered before a decision is made.
- + The August 9 Salad Luncheon was well attended with 50 plus women attending. We raised \$307, which will go toward our charities at the end of this year. The speaker, Diane Brask, of Global Seed Planters, received a free-will offering of \$309 for her mission work, and we sent her a "Thank you" note along with \$50 to help cover her travel expenses.
- The Oktoberfest Community
   Dinner will take place October

   at the Birchwood School
   Commons. Raffle ticket sales

for the quilt and original watercolor painting are coming along, with monies collected from sale of tickets being deposited at the bank. Soon sign-up sheets will be put out for those who wish to help with the dinner.

> + Prayer Shawl Ministry is progressing. Marcia is preparing a list of supplies and directions for knitting the shawls and she will prepare kits

for knitters. Those of us who do not knit or crochet can contribute to this ministry by donating \$15 for yarn. The fourth Sunday of each month will be Shawl Ministry Sunday.

+ Our next meeting is September 15, at 11 am. Donna Switzer, from Saving Grace Lutheran Church of Eau Claire, will be our special speaker. The topic will be "Cross Ministry." Everyone is invited to attend and learn more of this ministry. A lunch will follow the meeting, and then the presentation will take place.



New voices wanted and welcomed!

### CHOIR & PRAISE TEAM REHEARSALS START SEPT 7

DO YOU SING IN THE PEW?! Then join the Choir or Praise Team! We need NEW VOICES in the Trinity Choir and Praise Team! NO AUDITIONS! And you don't need to be able to read music . . . We'll make sure you learn your part!

If you are high-school age or older, just show up on September 7, at 7 pm. The returning mem-



bers will make you feel very welcome! Rehearsals run from 7-8:30 pm, and the choir sings the first and third Sundays of each month — EXCEPT this September! Due to the choir director's family travel plans, the Choir will sing on September 11 only.

The Praise Team will rehearse at 8 pm, September 7. They lead the music on the second Sunday of each month.

Questions? Call Joanne Schilling, 715-651-4875.

### ANNUAL CHURCH PICNIC ON SEPTEMBER 11



The second annual Trinity Lutheran Church Picnic will be held following the 10 am worship service, in the Fellowship Hall, and outdoors. Hamburgers, hot dogs, buns, potato chips, lemonade, coffee, and table service will be provided. Those attending are encouraged to bring salads and desserts.

This is also an official day to kick-off Rally Day for our youth, who will now be meeting on Wednesday nights. Games will be provided for our young people by the Education, Family, and Youth committee.

This event is sponsored by your Fellowship & Growth Committee, and those willing to help should sign-up on the sheet at the Welcome Center in the narthex.

Support the Birchwood Food Pantry! Check out their LAST Bake Sale of the summer, at their location on Main Street, next to the Bluegill Bar.

8-11:30 AM \* SEPT 10

Proceeds go towards food purchases and operating expenses. Want to donate baked goods for the sale? Call Charlotte at (715) 354-7077.



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### GOOD NEWS FOR "EASTER" PEOPLE INDEED!

At our Lord's Supper at Trinity we remember what is traditionally known as the "Last Supper." Held in the Upper Room, during the season of Passover, Jesus presides over the "Passover" meal which remembers what great work God had done in bringing the captives out of Egypt – setting the captives free!

During the meal, the four promises God makes in Exodus Chapter 6, are remembered:

blood which will be shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sins. For in forgiveness be-

"I will take you out,"

"I will free you,"

"I will redeem you,"

"I will take you to myself.

As each promise is remembered, they drink from the cup. This – along with bitter herbs reminding them of the bitterness of captivity, and the unleavened (sinless) bread make up the focus of the Passover meal. A fifth cup is present, traditionally known as the "Elijah" cup. It is placed there to remind of Elijah's return one day, when Elijah would determine the answers to some of the auestions that the people of Israel could not resolve – the Fifth Cup.

In the setting of the "Last Supper," Jesus puts new purpose into this meal in a very significant and specific way. When Jesus takes the unleavened ("sinless") bread, he breaks it, and gives it to his friends – but then he says in effect,

"This sinless bread – is my very body, which will be broken – For You!

Then, we read in the Gospels that, after supper, Jesus took the cup again – perhaps at the time to remember God's promise of redemption (the third cup), and says, "This redemption we remember – well this redemption is now in my blood which will be shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sins. For in forgiveness between you and God, there lies redemption."

Well, at Trinity, when we celebrate the Lord's Supper, we also remember that after the supper. Jesus and the 11 move through the Kidron Vallev to the garden at Gethsemane. Once there, Jesus takes Peter, James, and John into the aarden to pray. And it is here that we remember that he speaks to his heavenly Father, "Let this cup pass from me, your will not mine be done." What Cup? Perhaps the Fifth Cup. the Elijah Cup. the cup of God's wrath written in scripture in Jeremiah 25 - which speaks of the cup of God's wrath which was to be poured out upon all nations.

As "Easter" people we know that in Jesus' death and resurrection Jesus drank that cup dry – for you! Not one drop left for those who are in Christ Jesus – That, now there is



no condemnation for those who are in Him. Jesus came and "decided" the fate of that Fifth cup. He drank it dry, took the punishment and forgave us all the while he was doing so – "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing."

So this day, and every day of your life – stop believing the lies of the father of all lies. Believe, and live into the truth: The cup of condemnation has been replaced –by the cup of freedom, redemption, and reconciliation! Good News Indeed!

Janitor/Clown/Pastor Jon

[This appeared in the March newsletter — but Good News bears repeating!]

### HOW ABOUT A YARD CROSS?

Got a yard? How about putting a yard cross in it?!

The Trinity Lutheran Church Women (TLCW) will welcome Donna Switzer, from Saving Grace Lutheran Church, Eau Claire, to the monthly TLCW meeting on September 15.

During this election season when people display their political preferences in their front yards, Donna will be telling us about a "CROSS" ministry which God has inspired her to implement in her congregation. This "CROSS" ministry is a statement of faith where people place a cross in their yard as a bold witness for their faith in Jesus Christ. Come and hear Donna share about this exciting adventure that she has brought to her congregation and beyond.

Donna will give an informational talk on "The Benefits of Yard Crosses" for our congregation. The talk will begin immediately after a short business meeting at 11 am. Following her presentation, a lunch will served by the women in the Fellowship Hall.

For more information call Marcia Kampf, TLCW president, at (715) 354-3048.

### WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDIES

Women's Thursday morning Bible Study will begin a new day, September 15, at 9:30 am.

Paul's letter is timely for the church today, both to instruct and to inspire. Most of the questions and problems that con-

fronted the church at Corinth are still very much with us. Yet in spite of its concentration on problems, the book contains some of the most familiar and beloved chapters in the entire Bible.

The Women's Thursday evening Bible Study is switching to MONDAY Nights, at 6:30 pm. They will be studying *Living like you belong to God*.

The group will meet in the Sanctuary. PLEASE NOTE: there will be no session on Sept 5, which is Labor Day.

To order a book, please call Barb Kleven at (715) 834-9988.



Games Bible Lesson Crafts Videos Supper Fun 1 Thessalonians 5:5 — "For you are all children of light, children of the day".

## L.I.G.H.T. Keepers

(Learn In God's House Together)

A fun weekly Wednesday night program is beginning in Birchwood! The program will meet at Trinity Lutheran Church and is for any 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, or 5<sup>th</sup> grade child in the community. Come from 5 to 6:30 pm to play games, Bible lessons, videos, crafts, a light supper and FUN!! The *L.I.Q.H.T. Keepers* program will meet every Wednesday evening and will follow the Birchwood school calendar.

An Open House is scheduled Wednesday, September 14, from 5 pm to 6 pm. At the open house, parent(s)/guardian(s) and children can meet Sue Jostad and find out more about the *L.I.G.H.T. Keepers* program.

The start date will be Wednesday, September 21, at 5 pm to 6:30 pm.

For further information contact Sue Jostad at 763-218-3354 or the church office at 715-354-3790.

Join L.I.G.H.T. Keepers for FUN!!

# TLC OUTREACH NEWS

NEIGHBOR 2 NEIGHBOR URGENT NEED — Birchwood's

Neighbor 2 Neighbor organization is in urgent need of: blankets, sheets, pots & pans, and other kitchen items.



FOOD PANTRY NEEDS — Toothpaste,

tooth brushes, shampoo, conditioner, shaving cream, and bar soap.



<u>BABY KITS</u> — Outreach put together 15 Baby Kits for Lutheran World Relief. Thanks to all who donated!!

HAITI'S CHILDREN, INC — Outreach donated \$500 to Gladys Mungo of Haiti's Children, Inc.,

who spoke at the June Baby Shower Luncheon. Outreach is sponsoring a Haitian child thru her organization. [See picture and info at right!]



<u>SCHOOL SUPPLIES</u> — Thank you to everyone who has already donated school supplies for the backpacks for Lutheran World Relief and Birchwood students. Please continue to donate items — the lists are in the narthex.

<u>TIMBER BAY</u> — Outreach will be providing a supper meal on September 12, to the Timber Bay kids.

# Mææt Joratari

Outreach Ministry has decided to sponsor a child through Gladys Mungo's organization, Haiti's Children. Inc.

Jonatan lives with his parents, one brother and one sister in La Savanne. La Savanne sits on the Caribbean, a Haitian slum. Seventy percent of the community lives in abject poverty.

"Hello, my name is Jonatan Alty. I am 6 years old, and in 1st grade. I like to play soccer with my friends. My favorite subject is French.



"I want to be a Doctor when I grow up.

"Thank you for your love and support. Your sponsorship allows me to receive the assistance I need to grow and develop into the person God intended me to be."

This summer we were visited by Gladys Mungo from Haiti's Children, Inc. Some have expressed interest in perhaps going there in the future. At this time there is no plan, however we could look at a mission trip in the early part of 2018. For now, if you think you may be interested, please let Pastor Jon know. He will gather names and schedule a meeting to discuss a trip!

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### COMMUNITY OKTOBERFEST DINNER — OCT 8

This year Trinity is combining our annual Oktoberfest with the entire community of Birchwood and calling it the *Community Oktoberfest Dinner*.

Be sure to mark your calendars and keep Saturday, October 8, free so we can all meet at the Birchwood School Commons. There will be plenty of good German food and entertainment, too.



The drawing for Ginger

Rocky Strand

LaMotte's beautiful quilt and Paul Oman's original watercolor painting will be held that evening, plus a 50/50 drawing and the opportunity to bid on numerous silent auction items, including a 2016 autographed Packer football.

The Women of Trinity are sponsoring this event and it is a benefit for the Birchwood Food Pantry. Watch for more details in the Sunday Bulletin, October Journey, posters and newspapers.

### **CALLING ALL MENTORS & MENTEES!!**

Meeting on September 7 at 6 PM — Trinity Room For youth, parent/guardian and selected mentors

9/10 Stan Dahl

### WORSHIP ASSISTANTS NEEDED

Once again, there were not enough signups on the Worship Assistant chart to publish it here. So we encourage you to stop by the Welcome Center and sign up! Whether as a greeter, an usher, communion assistant, or lay reader — WE NEED YOU!





### NOMINATIONS OPEN FOR CHURCH COUNCIL

The Annual Congregational Meeting will be here before we know it - November 6! So it isn't too soon to be looking for candidates for council positions opening up. Please prayerfully consider be nominated for one of

these critical positions: Vice President (1 year, then moves up to be President for 1 year), Treasurer (2 years), Financial Secretary (2 years), Evangelism (2 years), Fellowship (2 years), Stewardship (2 years), and Worship & Music (2 years).

If you are interested in being nominated, please contact the church office at 715-354-3790.

DON'T GO TO CHURCH; BE THE CHURCH.



# HAPPY BİRTHDAY

David Dhein	9/1	Brett Westphal	9/10	lda Harrod	9/22
Shannon Saffert	9/2	Becca Hedman	9/12	Barb Kleven	9/22
Jenny Dahl	9/3	Logen Gindt	9/12	Jim Lavigne	9/24
Anna Will	9/3	Wyatt Lobitz	9/12	Bonnie Namtvedt	9/24
Dee Cartwright	9/5	lda Jahnke	9/15	Fred Peck	9/25
Samantha Saffert	9/5	Chris Smith	9/15	Ginny Johnson	9/26
Linda Schuh	9/5	<b>Brody Snowbank</b>	9/15	Tessa Kato	9/26
Merlin Jahnke	9/6	Mariah Lightner	9/16	Ryan Liermann	9/26
Steven Kotel	9/8	Misstie Anderson	9/17	Kyle Roppe	9/26
Connie Larson	9/8	Onalee Boumeester	9/18	Payton Schultz	9/30
Kelsie Lavaliere	9/8	Edward Leader	9/19		
Victoria Lindow	9/8	Lucas Gindt	9/21		

# 1 - Dave Webster 17 - Linda Zillmer

1 - Dave Webster 2 - Mary Webster 3 - Anna Westphal 4 - Brett Westphal 5 – Cindy Westphal 6 – Cole Westphal 7 - Al Widiker 8 - Gloria Widiker 9 – Anna Will 10 - Ben Will 11 – John Will 12 - Josie Will 13 - Kim Will 14 - Donna Willis 15 – Elaine Yndestad 16 - Don Zillmer

18 - Carol Addington
19 - Adam Anderson
20 - Jody Anderson
21 - LeRoy Anderson
22 - Cody Applebee
23 - Lisa Applebee
24 - Marly Applebee
25 - Rodney Applebee
26 - Afton Baribeau
27 - Dillon Baribeau
28 - Nicole Baribeau
29 - Payton Baribeau
30 - Pete Baribeau

# SEPTEMBER 2016

8UNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Altar Guild Karen Hayes				1	2 OFFICE CLOSED	3 10:30a-1:30p - Food Pantry Open
4 16th Sunday after Pentecost 8:30a - OUTDOOR Worship w/Communion 9:30a — COFFEE TIME 10a - INDOOR Worship w/ Communion		6 9a - Prayer Session	9:15a - Video Series 10:30a - Staff Mtg 6p - Confirmation Men- tor/Mentee Mtg 7p - Trinity Choir Reh 8p - Praise Team Reh	8	9 OFFICE CLOSED	8-11:30a — Food Pantry Bake Sale
11 17th Sunday after Pentecost 9:30a - COFFEE TIME 9:30a - Trinity Ch Reh 10a - Praise Worship w/ Communion  ANNUAL CHURCH PICNIC	12 10a - Worship & Music Mtg 6:30p - Book Study 6:30p - Women's Bible Study 7p - AA, Fellowship Hall	9a - Prayer Session 6:30p - Council Mtg	9:15a - Video Series 10:30a - Staff Mtg 5p - L.I.G.H.T Keepers OPEN HOUSE 6:30p - Confirmation 7p - Trinity Choir Reh	9:30a - Women's Bible Study 11a - TLCW Mtg with Guest Speaker on Yard Crosses	16 OFFICE CLOSED	17 10:30a-1:30p - Food Pantry Open
18 18th Sunday after Pentecost 9:30a — COFFEE TIME 10a - Worship w/Communion Love Fund & Food Pantry Offerings  SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING	10:30a-1:30p - Food Pantry Open 1p - Outreach Mtg 6:30p - Book Study	20 9a - Prayer Session	9:15a - Video Series 10:30a - Staff Mtg 5p - L.I.G.H.T Keepers 6:30p - Confirmation NO CHOIR REH	9:30a - Women's Bible Study	OFFICE CLOSED	24
<b>25</b> 19th Sunday after Pentecost 9:30a - COFFEE TIME 10a - Worship w/Communion	26	<b>27</b> 9a - Prayer Session	9:15a - Video Series 10:30a - Staff Mtg 1p - JOURNEY Assembly 5p - L.I.G.H.T Keepers 6:30p - Confirmation 7p - Trinity Choir Reh	29 9:30a - Women's Bible Study	OFFICE CLOSED	

Non-profit Org U.S. Postage PAID

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54817

Permit No. Birchwood,

FORWARDING SERVICE REQUESTED

54817

MI

Birchwood, Box

Trinity Lutheran Church

Chetac Ave

# GREGA



# The *JOURNEY* SEPTEMBER 2016

### TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

Jon Paquette, 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)

10 am (Sept - May 21) Sunday School

8 - 11:30 am, 12:30 - 3:00pm (M-Th) Office Hours

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

9/4 8:30 am Outdoor & 10 am Indoor Worship w/Communion

9/11 10 am Praise Worship w/Communion

CONGREGATIONAL PICNIC

9/18 10 am Worship w/Communion

SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

9/25 10 am Worship w/Communion

### **KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS**

Amelia Art Johnson **Dorothy Perpich** Dave Beaver Eileen Koeferl Gordy Peterson Michelle Bender Jean Peterson Dean Kruegel Alice Bhend Jody Kruegel Mary Reppe Bill & Eunice Kuntz Roger Blanch Merle Ries George Crust Rov Kuula Buddy Robotka Bill Lambrecht Annette Gentile Sue Sachs Laine Guttenberg Bob Langham Carter Sackman Ron Hartzell Ed Leader Shalom Ministry Team Gorman Hayes Bob Liermann Charlotte Snarski Lora & Mary Overgard Jeremy Spahn Deb Healy Harry Heath Susan Molin Denise Spiller McKel Heebink Sue Miles Mary Subrt David Yndestad Becky Hunt Lee Namtvedt Merlin Jahnke Elaine Yndestad Leonard Nysted

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.

	NEXI MEETING OF	
Birch	wood Food Pantry 10:30 am, Sep 3, 5, 17	, 19
Wors	hip & Music Team	p 12
Cong	egational Council	p 13
Trini	y Lutheran Church Women	p 15
Outr	ach Committee	p 19