

Weekly Bulletin - Trinity Lutheran Church of Freistadt!

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TRINITY'S WEEKLY CHURCH BULLETIN

October 24-30, 2020

A Message from Pastor Chris

It was evening, and they were ready to turn in. Jesus' disciples had just met up with their Master in a remote part of Galilee, a perfect location for prayer and rest. But Jesus and the Twelve were not alone; a crowd, numbering over five thousand, had been with Jesus for much of the day.

Now, if you put yourselves in the shoes of the Twelve, it may seem strange for a large crowd to spend a significant portion of the day with someone in a remote place. Even stranger is how they willingly walked *around* the Sea of Galilee to catch Jesus on the other side who took a boat across. Essentially, this crowd was willing to do whatever and go wherever just to be with Jesus.

So, why spend so time chasing Jesus? And why stay with Him in a remote place through the evening? The answer for this lies right in Matthew 14:13: The crowd had seen that the Lord satisfies. After Jesus made it ashore, He saw the crowd and had compassion on them. He healed the sick and performed miracles for their benefit.

So, since they have now experienced the Lord's goodness, they wanted more. They wanted more of what Jesus had to give...and they got it. Though the Twelve wanted to turn in for the evening and send the crowd away for food, Jesus had other plans. Clearly, the five loaves of bread and two fish seemed only to be enough for thirteen people; Jesus showed otherwise.

After looking up to heaven and giving thanks to the Father for the food, Jesus broke the bread and gave it out. But it wasn't just five loaves and two fish He gave out; they both multiplied. In fact the food multiplied so much that the crowd didn't just eat a fair share of it; verse 20 shares that the crowd ate, "*and [was] satisfied.*" In other words, Jesus kept providing food until everyone in the crowd was satisfied.

In one day, Jesus satisfied a crowd of 5,000+ people...twice. He first healed all who were sick and then fed them fully in the evening. Because the crowds saw that Jesus alone could satisfy their needs, they continued to pursue Him.

Now, Jesus may no longer walk the earth as He did in Matthew 14, yet that does not change who He is. Just as the crowds and disciples saw how Jesus alone satisfies, Jesus still does the same for us. While Jesus gave the crowds a full stomach to satisfy their physical hunger, He gives us His Word to satisfy our spiritual hunger. While Jesus healed the bodies of those sick in the crowd, He still heals our bodies and points us to the Resurrection when they are broken. While the crowds went to Jesus to receive satisfaction for their bodies, we can still go to Jesus to receive satisfaction for our souls.

In a world full of spiritual starvation and brokenness, we are told to satisfy these needs through material means. That is, through entertainment, social media, friends, money, and/or sex, we can somehow fill our spiritual void which only Jesus can fill. Now, it should be clear how we do not drink water when we are hungry, nor eat food to quench thirst. So how could we possibly fill a God-sized hole with worldly things!?

Well, maybe we need God to fill that spiritual void in ourselves. Maybe we need to hear Him speak by meditating on Scripture. Maybe we need His Sacrament as a sure sign of His forgiveness. Maybe we need to have a conversation with Him in prayer, speaking and listening for His response. In short, if we let God satisfy those deep desires in our hearts (and He will), then we will be at peace despite this broken world. We will be joyful despite suffering, and we can use our material gifts to glorify God.

News & Information

NEW WORSHIP SCHEDULE HAS BEGUN

Please Note: The extension of Wisconsin's mask mandate prevents us from offering a mask-optional worship service for the time being. However, because of the growth of our indoor worship service, we intend to move ahead with the new schedule. Because the Governor's mask order includes a broad range of exemptions, we are asking that those for whom exemptions apply *attend our Sunday morning services*. This will allow those who are particularly concerned about the effects of Covid-19 to be comfortable in worship on Saturday evening, knowing that all those present will be wearing masks.

We anticipate that the 5, 8, and 10:45 schedule will continue for the foreseeable future.

Saturday Evening | 5:00 pm | Sanctuary

In the sanctuary; **MANDATORY MASKS** and **SOCIAL DISTANCING** rules will apply; *We are highly suggesting that if you are not able to wear a mask due to health reasons that you please attend one of the services on Sunday morning.*

Sunday Morning | 8:00 am | Sanctuary

In the sanctuary; **Masks required** and **social distancing** rules will apply (*If you are unable to wear a mask due to health issues, please refrain from attending the Saturday evening service.*)

Sunday Morning | 10:45 am | Outdoor

The 10:45 service will continue to be held outdoors, weather permitting (**masks optional**)

Trinity

IMPORTANT REMINDER: Trinity serves as a Mequon Polling place and our parking lot will be a very busy place as the school will also be in on Tuesday, November 3rd. We'd like to remind you that to vote you may only enter through the Gathering Room Glass doors accessed from the south parking lot. Signs will be posted to help direct you. If you are able to avoid voting between the following times, it would be helpful as kids arrive at school and depart from school: Arrival time: 7:30a-8:15a; Departure time: 3:00p-3:30p. Thank you.

Turn your clocks back one hour November 1st.

FOOD FOR INNER CITY CHURCHES

Trinity's efforts to supply the food pantries of our inner-city churches continues. Canned and dry goods, paper products, and any non-perishable foods are always welcome. If you can't get out to shop and would like to make a donation to our "grocery" fund for the churches, we can do the shopping for you. Trinity supports the work of Bethany, Mission of Christ, and Holy Ghost Lutheran Churches.

"...if you pour yourself out for the hungry, and satisfy the desire of the afflicted, then shall your light rise in the darkness and your gloom be as the noonday." Isaiah 58:10

Thanksgiving Food Drive: November 15-29

Since the pandemic began, Trinity members have been generously providing non-perishable food and paper goods for our local LCMS food pantries. THANK YOU! Due to the economic impact of COVID-19, many more families now rely on food pantries. Our annual Thanksgiving Food Drive will help re-stock the shelves at Mission of Christ after their Thanksgiving distribution.

Here's how it will work: Take one or more of our yellow collection bags home with you on **November 14-15**, fill the bag(s) with non-perishable food items (no glass please), and bring the bag(s) back to church or school by **Sunday, November 29**. Place the bags in the designated area in the south church entrance.

You can also involve your friends, co-workers, and neighbors by providing them with a green NEIGHBOR version of our collection bag. Arrange for a pick-up date/time or follow the instructions on the bag and pick them up on **Sunday, November 29 after 12:00 noon**. We encourage you to give a green printed Thank You card, found in the Gathering Room, to those who contributed.

Monetary donations are also accepted. Clearly mark your envelope or check memo line with **Food Drive**.

Your generosity and prayers make a difference in the lives of many.

By putting God's words literally into practice, you will find the life God has made for you! #redletterchallenge

THANK YOU TRINITY! We praise God for your generosity to the September Nehemiah project. Your contributions to support our school food service program significantly impacts our ability to meet new requirements, serve a record number of students, and expand service to our childcare.

Our new steam table arrived and is used daily!

October Nehemiah Project:

Ministries Supported by Trinity

Trinity supports a great many outside ministries each year and this year the need to support them is even greater! Reverend David Baker (missionary), Milwaukee Lutheran High School, Bethany Lutheran Church in Milwaukee, and needy families are just a sampling of those we support. All donations received through the month of October will be evenly divided between these and other mission needs that may arise.

Church

Fall Pitch In

October 24 @ 8:00 am - 12:00 pm

Worship Options:

Introducing Anchored & Connected Services

For many years, Trinity (along with many other congregations) has offered two worship styles, usually labeled as traditional and contemporary. These two are generally distinguished by the style of the music, and people have chosen to attend one or the other based on their personal musical taste. While most people simply make the most of the opportunity to worship regardless of how well the music fits their personal preferences, this can become a stumbling block that unintentionally communicates that worship is actually about my own taste, instead of being about the God who is worthy of our worship. One very large church expanded on this to the point of offering seventeen different styles, each intended to appeal to a person's musical taste.

Beginning on **November 8**, Trinity will worship in two distinct formats with more than just the musical style to distinguish between the two. Resources for worship in homes will continue to be provided.

Anchored Worship

The 5 pm Saturday and 8 am Sunday services will continue to utilize the familiar liturgies, hymns, and creeds that reach back through two millennia of Christian history and anchor us to the timeless truths of God's Word. We will call these two services **Anchored Worship**.

You will make the most of Anchored Worship as you come to appreciate the deep meanings contained in the traditions of our church. From the order of the liturgy to the physical posture of the pastor and congregation, almost every element of the service has a meaning that goes deeper than what is visible on the surface. You will also find that the words of the hymns and the liturgy itself continually deepen your understanding of God and His relationship with His people.

Connected Worship

Our 10:45 am Sunday service will experience a transformation, and will join our worship in the home resource in being interactive, with a focus on connecting God's people through discussion of His Word. This service will take place in the gym, around tables, and will

include times of silence as well as times of discussion to support deep reflection on God's Word and application of God's Word in our lives. We will call this service **Connected Worship**.

There are two ways to make the most of this opportunity to worship. Most worshipers will choose to sit at tables and take advantage of the opportunity to be in discussion and prayer with fellow believers. However, it can also be beneficial to take advantage of those times to connect directly with God, and so worshipers may also choose to sit apart from the tables and to use those interactive periods of time to ponder His Word and come to Him in silent prayer.

The Lord's Supper

The Lord's Supper will be celebrated every week in all services. The Anchored Service will continue to use the traditional elements, and Connected Worship will initially use prepackaged elements. We intend, eventually, to commune using elements reminiscent of our Maundy Thursday services in each Connected Worship service.

Masks and Social Distancing

Our 5 pm service on Saturday evening is intended to provide a comfortable environment for those who are most concerned about the danger posed by Covid-19, and so we will continue to ask worshipers to wear masks on Saturday evening. We encourage those who are exempt from the mask mandate to worship on Sunday morning instead. Seating in all services is socially distanced.

2020 Confirmation Class

Front row (L to R): Payton Phillips, Henry Ziebell, Hannah Riemer; Back row (L to R): Pastor Christopher Conkling, Todd Tischer, Jacob Busch, Pastor Carl Lehenbauer

PICK UP YOUR COPY of TRINITY'S PHONE DIRECTORY—NOW AVAILABLE

A stack of these directories will be in the Gathering Room for sanctuary services and will be available at the outdoor service (please see an usher). You may also stop by the Welcome Desk between the hours of 9a-3p to pick up a copy. A limited number of copies have been made and will be restocked as needed.

NOVEMBER FOOD BARREL

Baby Food Jars, Formula, Cereal

CEMETERY DECORATION REMOVAL DEADLINE

All seasonal decorations and flowers must be removed from cemetery plots by **November 1st**. Items remaining after that date will be either thrown away or placed by the dumpsters located at the back of the school for those wishing to retrieve them. Thank you.

College Care Pack Thank You

Mr. Adams and the Trinity Lutheran Family-

Thank you so much for sending the college care package! My roommates and I couldn't wait to dig into the goodies.

Thanks again,

Annalise Gong | CUW '24

School & Childcare

No updates this week.

Birthday and Anniversaries

A printed copy of this calendar is available for those members who do not have internet capability. Please stop by the office for your copy.

Ask | Seek | Knock

Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks, receives; he who seeks finds; and to him who knocks, the door will be opened. – Matthew 7:7-8

Please take a moment to pray for the following:

For Missionaries: David & Rachel Baker, Rev. Andrew & Kelsey Schlund serving in Mexico
Our military, serving our country: Sarah Geidel (Reserves), Rebecca Guild (serving in San Diego), Akan Udoeyop (serving in Germany), Madison Kessel Lyon (serving in Germany), Nicholas Zanow (Charleston, South Carolina), Kurt Degner (WI National Guard), Mark Liedtke (Fort Lewis, Washington)

Continued Healing, Comfort & Protection:

Tom Vorpapel (going through tests), Dru Wyatt (recovering from surgery), Christine Geidel (battling cancer), Ken Steiner (recovering from a heart procedure), Marian Vorpapel

(recovering from a fall and hip surgery), Shawna Geidel (successful cancer treatment). For all those we name in our hearts needed spiritual and physical healing.

Celebration:

Calleigh Weiss (daughter of David Weiss & Laura Rechcygl) made God's child through the waters of Holy Baptism.

Do you know of others for whom we should be praying?

Let us know by sending an email to trinity@trinityfreistadt.com.