

Weekly Bulletin - Trinity Lutheran Church of Freistadt!

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TRINITY'S WEEKLY CHURCH BULLETIN

November 7-13, 2020

A Message from Pastor Chris

The courtroom was tense. After a long, one-year battle for freedom, the day had finally come for sentencing...yet the defendant was not ready to give up.

About 13 months ago, Marcus had been arrested for a DUI. This had been his very first offense, for he had never been in trouble with the Law. In fact, if you knew Marcus at all, you would have never imagined him sitting in a defendant's chair. Until 13 months ago, Marcus was described by his friends as a saint. He always did the right thing and willingly sacrificed his time for others. He never spoke about his generous philanthropy and showed kindness to everyone. He was a dedicated churchman serving on multiple boards and could always be found at 8am worship every Sunday.

Until 13 months ago, Marcus had a squeaky clean record and reputation...and he knew it. For the first time ever, the courtroom saw a scared Marcus. That morning, before the hearing, Marcus realized that the good reputation he had worked so hard for was truly threatened. All of his good deeds had given him a sense of self-assurance that God was pleased with him. And, because God was pleased with him in everything else, surely that should give Marcus a pass from his sentence.

The judge would soon deliver his decision, yet both sides were given a final chance to make their case. After the prosecution finished, the defense lawyer took a stand and spoke the very words Marcus was thinking: "Before making a decision, look at everything Marcus had done in the grand scheme of things. He was liked by everyone who knew him, he generously gave to charity, and he was active in his church. Therefore, when comparing this minor issue against all of his good works, Marcus is overall an innocent man and should be let go."

The lawyer took his seat and the judge gave his decision: "Marcus, we know you have done many great things for your community and other people. Everyone here knows that. But you are not here because of those good deeds; you are here because of a DUI. And I must fairly deliver justice accordingly." The judge then gave his sentencing: 6 months in prison and a suspended license.

You know, there are times when I feel just like Marcus. There are times when I feel that God is smiling upon me because I have done something good. And because God smiles on me in those moments, I am entitled to getting away with some sin. Well, God does smile upon us, but it's not because of anything we've done; it is because of what Jesus has done for us. Proverbs 11:21 assures us how our God is a just God for, "an evil person will not go unpunished." Because we were born of Adam, we too are born into evil and sin. Yet Jesus paid the fair and just price for our sin: death. Death is what we deserved, but Jesus instead forgives us, giving us His righteousness.

Therefore, as we serve others and our God, let that service come not from a heart desiring God's approval, but rather from a grateful heart desiring to share the forgiveness He has shown us.

News & Information

WORSHIP OPTIONS

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 | Anchored Worship

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 | Anchored Worship

In the sanctuary; **Masks encouraged** 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 | 9:20 am | Anchored Worship

In the sanctuary; **Masks encouraged** 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.*

9:20 am service through November

Sunday Morning | 10:45 am | Connected Worship | Starting Nov. 8th

In the gym; **Masks encouraged** 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.*

Connected Service Information

Connected Service

Sunday Mornings at 10:45 in the gym

Begins November 8

Last Spring, many Trinity families discovered an unexpected blessing as they worshiped God in their living rooms. In spite of everything that we lost in not being able to gather our congregation for worship, there was still a richness to that time together and in God's Word, a richness that Paul described in Colossians chapter 3: *"Let the Word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another, and as you sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs, with gratitude in your hearts to God."*

In many ways, worship in our living rooms resembled worship in the early church. There was an intimacy as God's people gathered, and the hearing of God's Word was coupled with conversation. And so it should be no surprise that the Word of Christ was dwelling in

us richly as we asked questions, learned from one another, and watched one another apply God's Word to our lives.

The purpose of every worship service is to receive the gifts of God and respond to Him in prayer and praise, and the Connected service is no exception. The service will still include singing, confession and absolution, scripture reading, sermon, prayer, and communion, but it will also include time for God's people to engage in conversation about the Word of God and to carry one another's burdens to the Lord in prayer. The Connected Service will recapture some of the best aspects of our in-home worship, but this time without having to sacrifice the joy of gathering together with the rest of the body of Christ.

Where is the Connected Service held?

In the gym, with seating by families around socially distanced tables.

When is the Connected Service?

10:45am on Sunday Mornings, beginning November 8th

What will be included in the service?

Music (contemporary), Confession and Absolution, Scripture Reading, Sermon, the Creed, Prayer and the Lord's Supper.

How will we celebrate the Lord's Supper?

Communion will be similar to outdoor worship, using elements that are gathered by worshipers before the service and then consecrated during the service.

What Covid-19 precautions will be in place?

The seating will be socially distanced. Masks are not required by Trinity, but the mask mandate (and associated exemptions) apply until it expires or is rescinded.

Note: "**No pews available**" via the links indicate that the church is at capacity. We thank you for your patience and flexibility. We invite you to participate in our [Worship in Your Home](#) services.

[Wednesday, November 25th, 2020 | 6:30 pm](#)

[Thursday, November 26th, 2020 | 9:30 am](#)

Trinity

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

November Nehemiah Project – Goal \$3,500

God is at work! He is blessing our school ministry by entrusting us with many new school families and with families who have been attending our school for years. Some live close by, some do not. Some are members of our congregation, some are not. Some are Christians, some are not. All of our school families share at least one thing in common – they all need Jesus!

We have a tremendous opportunity and responsibility to connect our students to Jesus and make disciples. With the help of the Spirit, our faculty and staff live out this mission every day. Connecting our student families to Jesus is equally vital and you can help support one of those efforts through our November Nehemiah project. We seek funds to present a Christmas gift to all of our school families to thank them for entrusting their children to us and to encourage and support their walk with Jesus. It is a privilege to join in His mission – TOGETHER!

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE AND BRING HIS KINGDOM RIGHT HERE AND RIGHT NOW. #REDLETTERCHALLENGE

Elections for Trinity Leadership will be held at the Congregational Meeting on Sunday, November 22, 2020 following the late service (approximately 12:00 PM).

Please plan to attend.

Agenda | Congregational Meeting | 11-22-20 Noon

- **CANDIDATES FOR ELDER, (ELECT 1)**

Tom Boehlke- Tom has been a member of Trinity most of his life. He has been married to Gayla for 46 years. Tom has served Trinity in many capacities (Choir member, usher, 4 th of July committee, served on Board of Lay Leaders and was the Vice Chair for 8 years). He is currently serving as an Elder.

Neal Degner– Neal and his wife Erika have been members at Trinity for over 30 years. Neal has served Trinity in many capacities (usher, Board of Adult Education, Sunday school navigator, and Board of Lay Leaders). He was part of the LCMS SW District Child Education Committee from 1989-1997. Currently he serves as a Worship Assistant and an Elder. Prior to joining Trinity he was an usher and Sunday School Superintendent at St. John’s Lutheran Church in West Bend 1978-1983.

- **CANDIDATES FOR ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE, (ELECT 1)**

Robinson (Rob) Butz- Rob and his wife Jane joined Trinity Lutheran Church Freistadt in 2017. He is currently serving on the Endowment Committee and is also active in the Homebound Program. They have been married 47 years and have a daughter, twin sons and a granddaughter. In 2010, after 34 years with Robert W. Baird & Co., Rob retired as a Sr. V.P. of Investment Operations. Interests include gardening, golf, traveling, online courses, music and creating short video movies.

Marianne Menzel- Marianne and her husband Gary have been members of Trinity for 12 years. They were previously members at Beautiful Savior in Milwaukee. Marianne is retired after teaching physical education at Martin Luther High School for 30 years. Marianne and Gary have two married sons and 6 grandchildren. They have a grandchild at Lake Country High School and a grandchild at Divine Redeemer. Marianne has been an active volunteer at Trinity. Her service includes hosting at Lenten Suppers and other congregational events, tutoring at Trinity's after school program and packing college care packages.

Jenise Seeger- Jenise is a lifelong member, being baptized, confirmed, and married at Trinity. She attended grade school at Trinity from K through 8th grade and has great memories of her teachers and pastors and is so thankful for both the academic and faith foundation that they built in her. She is married to Scott and they have a beautiful daughter, Emily, who is a junior at Germantown High School. Jenise has a degree in Horticulture from UW-Madison and works for Carlin Sales Corporation, supplying greenhouses, nurseries, and landscapers with the supplies they need. Her hobbies include gardening, reading, cooking, and spending time with family.

- CANDIDATES FOR BOARD OF LAY LEADERS (ELECT 3)

Richard (Dick) Frohmader- Dick and his wife Patti have been members at Trinity for 38 years. Their children attended Trinity School. Dick has served as an usher, and in the past on the Board of Properties and School Board.

Jack Hoelz- Jack and his wife Cheryl have been members of Trinity for 20 years. Daughters Kaitlan and Sophie attended Trinity and Living Word Luther High. Kaitlan graduated from Concordia Mequon and Sophia graduated from Concordia Seward last December. Jack has served on several committees over the years. Jack and Cheryl have also chaperoned for two youth gatherings and participated in mission trips to the Wind River Reservation.

David Kaemmer- David Kaemmer has been a member of Trinity for 30 years. David and his wife Crescent have two adult children. Jeremy and Noah both attended Trinity School. David had been involved at Trinity in Board of Evangelism (6 years), Board of Elders, taught 7/8 grade Sunday School (4 years), along with attending Bible study regularly. David enjoys spending time playing tennis, pickle ball, golf, hiking, drums along with volunteering percussion talent with the students at Living Word Lutheran HS.

Dave Otis- Dave has been an active member of Trinity Lutheran Church- Freistadt since 2015, after moving to Germantown. He would like to expand his participation within the church community by being a member of the Board of Lay Leaders. Previous related experiences include: Member of Call Committee for finding a replacement Assistant Pastor in 2018, serving on the Church Council (Social Ministry) at St. Luke's in Slinger, WI for 3 years, being a manager at Mercury Marine in Fond du Lac, prior to retirement in 2012 as well as volunteering at church assisting with communion setup, painting projects, and meal preparation kits for export to Africa.

Adam J. Schoessow- Adam has been a member at Trinity for over 40 years. He attended school at Trinity from Kindergarten through 6th grade. Adam and his wife Christina have 2 children that attend school at Trinity.

Deb Yahr- Deb and her husband Jim have been Trinity members for over 20 years. Their two sons, Preston and Luke are Trinity graduates. Deb has taught Sunday school/ T3 for kids over the past 20 years and participates in small group Bible study. She has also volunteered for activities including the Trinity Human Care board, Trinity School PTL board, Basketball Tournament Committee, tutoring, and she is currently on the Board of Lay Leaders, serving as Vice Chair. Deb is a Physical Therapist and enjoys golf, sports, fitness activities, gardening, and time with family and friends.

Thank you to all who gave donations toward our mite goal in September and October. LWML National Mites for September totaled \$168,376.82. We still need \$512,654.81 by 03-31-2021. District donations since July amount to \$31,197.69 toward our new goal.

Thank you to all the volunteers who worked on donations for Lutheran World Relief. 20 quilts, 19 baby care kits, and 6 school kits were shipped on October 10th. A big thank you to Tom and Elaine Vorpapel for getting all those boxes to the train.

Our next meeting is planned for November 18th at 7 pm. Our speaker will be Pastor Novelli of the South Wisconsin District Hispanic Ministry. We will also discuss our plans for December. Please bring your ideas. Plan to join us for some fellowship. Refreshments will be served. Don't forget your mites and your masks.

Dear Pastor Lehenbauer,

In 1979 I served Trinity as a Teacher and Director of Music. That year, Trinity celebrated their 140th anniversary. As a gift to the congregation, I composed the words and music to the hymn "God's Word. Our Heritage"

The purpose for writing to you is I am now a retired pastor, serving as an Assistant Pastor for Faith Lutheran here in St. Robert, MO. With your permission. I would like to use this hymn in our worship services here. I feel since I gave this hymn to the folks at Freistadt, it is only right that I gain this permission. After forty years I doubt there should be an objection. Nevertheless, I feel it is appropriate that I ask first instead of assuming.

As you can well imagine, I have had a joy-filled ministry since I began in 1965. I love our Lord and His people!

May He continue to bless you, your staff, and all the members of Trinity. I DO have love for you all in my heart.

With Joy in Jesus,
"Pastor Ben" Schumacher

Pastor Carl's response:

What a joy to receive your letter and to be able to pass on your kind words to the congregation here! Of course, you should make use of the hymn at Faith, and anywhere else where it can be a blessing to others as it has been to us here. Your ministry here is still fondly remembered by many, and I am glad to hear that your joy in serving the Lord continues.

Thank you for reaching out, and for your continued faithful ministry to God's people.

*In Christ,
Carl*

School & Childcare

No updates this week.

Birthday and Anniversaries

November Birthdays 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. James & Peggy Krikava serving in the Czech Republic

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:

- Doris Kroeninger (recovering from a stroke), Dru Wyatt (recovering from surgery), Christine Geidel (battling cancer), Shawna Geidel (recovering from surgery) Robert Heiden (hospitalized for Covid), Elaine Landers (recovering from Covid), Elaine Riemer (recovering from an incident), Marian Vorpagel (placed in hospice), Bev Bergmann (scheduled for heart surgery). For all those we name in our hearts needed spiritual and physical healing.
- Family of Vivian Kaiser (as they mourn her passing and rejoice that she has joined her Savior in heaven)

Celebration:

Willard Riemer (flowers on the altar have been placed in celebration of Willard's 80th birthday).

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

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