

VOLUME 17, ISSUE 4

APRIL 2021

Dearly Beloved,

Christ is risen! Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia! This is the cry of the Easter season. It is so amazing that it is the Sunday after Easter that we begin to return to in-person worship. New life returning to our congregation! New life for the nation as we begin to recover from the pandemic. New life in nature as the winter ends and spring begins.

But I discovered something interesting. New life is never easy. When we started personal distancing over a year ago, it was hard and I had to adjust in ways I never expected. We had to do so many things differently. I was anxious and uncertain. But in faith I made my way forward... we made our way forward. We discovered new ways to share the faith. We made new connections and took on new roles. Many of those things will continue even as we enter a new phase of our life, moving physically closer together again. It is wonderful!

At the same time, new life and change can also come with anxiety and uncertainty. So many details to put together. Actions honed over a year of practice now need to change and adjust again. When I expressed this during a recent council meeting (we are still meeting via Zoom) someone remarked, "Yeah, but we have been doing in-person church for a long time." That is true, but nothing will be exactly the same in our post-COVID world and so we go—moving forward together in faith.

Will everyone come back to the church as we gather again? I don't know. What changes will we need to make as we enter the transition from physically distancing to in-person activities? I don't know. What challenges will we face in this year? I don't know.

But—I do know that the risen Lord is present with us, and wherever Jesus is present, there is NEW LIFE! I do know that in 2022 we will be celebrating our 100th anniversary as a congregation. God has seen us through all the changes that 100 years have brought and so we can trust God in this time as well. And, I do know that Easter means new life, and so I am ready. Are you?

I have found over many years that new life and new beginnings can be challenging — they don't always happen without pain and anxiety and struggle. Jesus had to die on a cross for new life to be born. As we open ourselves to the possibility of new life, incredible things can happen and we continue to grow as the people of God. Jesus over and over in his ministry and again after the resurrection said the same four words, "Do not be afraid."

Christ is risen! Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia! It is time to rise again. Do not be afraid.

Yours in Christ.

Together with Pastor Cris and the whole Trinity Leadership Team



Recently Shirl Curreri and Barb Sass took a drive down to "Savers" in Crystal Lake, Illinois where they were given FIVE totes containing 70 sheets—FREE OF CHARGE! From that one donation the Trinity Comforters will be able to complete 25 quilts—well worth the drive!

The Comforters have been very busy! Just since last month they donated 10 quilts to **ProjectRETURN**—a Milwaukee-based ministry that exists to help ex-incarcerated men and women make a positive, permanent return to community, family and friends.

Thanks to a connection made through Our Savior's Lutheran Church, they also donated 28 quilts to Hephata Church and a homeless shelter in Milwaukee.

The Trinity Comforters invite you to join them on Thursday afternoons at church. No experience necessary, all you need is a heart to help! They also want all of us to know they would happily accept monetary donations as well as donations of flat cotton sheets (any size or color!) to help support this very special and impactful outreach ministry.





WELCOME finita McClain NEWLY ELECTED COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Anita McClain has been a member of Trinity for about 10 years. Transferred from Philadelphia in November of 2007, Anita works for MGIC in Milwaukee as a marketing program manager. Anita is the proud mom of Julia, 21—a student at Middlebury College, VT; Olivia, 21—a student at Brown University, RI; Payton, 19—a student at Moraine Park Technical College; and Pierce, 17—a junior at West Bend-West High School. Over the years at Trinity, Anita has served as an usher, coffee hour host, counter, supporter of Family Promise, a lector and a Worship assistant. When asked what drew her interest to serving on the Trinity Congregation Council she first joked, "Responding to strong-arm tactics - LOL"! But immediately added, "Seriously, I want to do my part in helping the church prosper since it has been an integral part of my life and the lives of my children. Moving to a state where you know no one and finding a community and family like the one at Trinity has been a blessing in my life and I would like to pay it forward."

Anita joined the council in February of 2020, just before we closed our doors to the pandemic. She was immediately nominated and accepted the position of serving as the council's Vice President. The council has continued to meet on a monthly basis via Zoom, but there are drawbacks to not seeing each other in person. This is how Anita describes it, "It has been hard to maintain the sense of community with the loss of inperson worship, meetings and other gatherings. The same can be said of my company and professional life. We have had to dig in, be resilient and discover alternate ways to work and worship. I believe we will one day look back at this and appreciate life more fully for what we have experienced".

It is customary that the Council Vice President is automatically in line to fill the position of President when the current servant's time on Council has ended. While some Council members service time, including that of Charlie Hillman, should have ended at the beginning of 2021, outgoing members were asked and agreed to continue to serve until the time comes when an Annual Meeting of the Congregation can be conducted. That said, there was no reason that Anita couldn't step in as President (swapping positions with outgoing council member/former President, Charlie Hillman)—and that is just what happened this past month.

As Trinity's newly elected Council President, Anita had this to say, "It will be very exciting to begin worshiping again together and building back what we have lost due to the pandemic. I also look forward to learning more about the inner workings of the church, deepening relationships with the pastors and other members, and sharing my business acumen".

Please join us in THANKING Charlie Hillman as our outgoing Council President and welcoming Anita in her new position of service to the Trinity congregation!

IN-PERSON WORSHIP

#TrinityTogetherAgain

Your Church Council leadership has been working with our Worship and Music team and staff to develop a plan for how we might begin to gather for in-person worship in the weeks and months ahead. For some this plan may seem aggressive and fast, for others it may seem slow. Not knowing what is around the next corner in this ongoing, unpredictable pandemic journey, *this is a place to start:*

- APRIL 1 | Maundy Thursday Worship
 ONLINE and IN-PERSON* Worship Service at NOON
- APRIL 2 | Good Friday Worship
 ONLINE and IN-PERSON* Worship Service at NOON
- APRIL 4 | EASTER SUNDAY ONLINE and DRIVE-IN WORSHIP | 10:30 AM | Trinity's Parking Lot



- We will all be tuning in via our FM car radios
- Pre-filled Communion Cups will be provided or BYØ
- Plan to arrive/park by 10:15 AM



BEGINNING APRIL 10/11 | IN-PERSON* WORSHIP RESUMES

5:00 PM - SATURDAY EVENING* 9:30 AM - SUNDAY MORNING*

ONLINE WORSHIP WILL CONTINUE TO BE PART OF OUR MINISTRY *NOTE TRINITY POLICY for IN-HOUSE ACTIVITIES/WORSHIP BELOW

Ultimately, things will look different than they did a year ago. We cannot go backward any more than we can live in the future; however, we can walk forward together into a new reality here and now. We are extremely thankful and look forward with anticipation to moving forward together and gathering in our building again. Thank you for your ongoing prayers, service, and care for one another. May God continue to bless the journey as we head into this new year together.

*TRINITY'S POLICY for IN-HOUSE ACTIVITIES and WORSHIP

MASKS ARE REQUIRED | COVERING NOSE & MOUTH Following guidance from health professionals and taking responsibility for one another's sake and safety, it is Trinity's policy that MASKS ARE REQUIRED for all in-person activities, including worship.

This is a small gesture on each of our parts to care for each other—following best practices for the privilege of being able to gather safely. If you are opposed to mask wearing, we ask that you respect our policy

and invite you to continue to worship with us ONLINE until such time that the threat to others well-being has passed.



Thou shalt not covid thy neighbor.

MASKS REQUIRED

PLEASE CALL or EMAIL AHEAD | BY THURSDAY, each week 262-334-2125 | sbeekman@trinitywestbend.com | 8 AM-3 PM

To help us adequately plan to safely accommodate as many people as we can, while still maintaining social distancing, we ask that you call or Email the church office the Thursday before each weekend that you wish to attend in-house worship. Please indicate how many (family members) you expect and at which service: Saturday evening or Sunday morning.

April Book Study

I had a request to study the book Night by Elie Wiesel. It is an autobiographical account of his survival as a teenager in a Nazi prison camp. This book is a classic as it explores the issues of faith in dark and difficult times. How does one find meaning in the midst of something as horrific as the Holocaust?

This book is not long, but is a difficult emotional read. I truly believe sometimes we have to face the darkness to discover the power of the light. For those who are interested please join the discussion:

Night by Elie Wiesel
Thursday | April 29 at 7:00 PM
IN-PERSON or VIA ZOOM

If the participants are willing we will also record the session for later viewing. All are invited. Contact Pastor Dave through the church office with any questions.



There is also a book study that will be conducted through the synod on:

So You Want to Talk About Race Thursday | April 15 at 7:00 PM ZOOM DISCUSSION

Contact Pastor Dave through the church office with questions and more details.



Our **April Bible study** will focus on the Biblical call for diversity in the New Testament. We will use as a guide the vision of Pastor and Professor David Rhoads in his book *The Challenge of Diversity: The Witness of Paul and the Gospels*.

We will examine passages through the New Testament that challenges us to move outside of our fixed ways of thinking into the expansiveness of the gospel. *This study will* run for 6 weeks, meeting on:

> Tuesdays at 1:00 PM starting April 6th IN-PERSON or VIA ZOOM

If participants agree it will be recorded and replayed on the internet. If there are those who would like to have an evening session please let Pastor Dave know.

Everyone is invited to join the discussions!



First Communion Workshop April 16th & 17th

All 5th grade (or above) youth AND their parents are invited to come to a special workshop that will prepare them to receive their First Communion.

Those who complete the workshops will receive their First Communion during a Worship Service on Sunday, April 25th. As part of their "Keeping the Promise **Rotation"** they will also be leading this worship service.

The workshop involves two sessions: Friday, April 16th | 6:30 - 8:30 PM Saturday, April 17th | 9:30 AM - NOON with a group meal following the Saturday morning session. This workshop is for BOTH the youth AND their parent(s). We realize that this is a significant block of time, but have found it to be a good time of spiritual growth and sharing for the youth, their parents and their whole families.

Parents, please take seriously how important your own faith journey is to the spiritual development of your **children!** *We will try to arrange additional* childcare for younger siblings at the church if this would help you.

Please call the church office to indicate your participation as soon as possible!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

WORK

- 1 Help with Children's Ministry trinitywestbendcm@gmail.com or call the church office 262-334-2125
- 2 Help with F.I.S.H. Group Call or text Pastor Cristy 252-483-0792 or email cschoob@trinitywestbend.com
- 3 Help with Confirmation Call or text Pastor Cristy 252-483-0792 or email cschoob@trinitywestbend.com





SENIOR HIGH FIRST SUNDAY

Sunday, APRIL 11 | 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM MASKS REQUIRED | Heritage Room

This is a monthly opportunity to get together (sometimes at church, sometimes elsewhere) to share a light meal, and take a little time to renew yourself as a child of God.

The SUMMER TRIP is ON!

- Connect or reconnect with friends.
- · Re-center yourself with a short, interactive worship experience
- Recharge your passion for compassion

It's Official! The 2021 SUMMER SERVANT TRIP is Scheduled!

WHERE? Crossway's Waypost Camp – Mission Lake WI (about 30 miles southeast of Wausau)

WHEN? August 4th - 10th, 2021

WHAT? We'll travel by vans up North to enjoy an extended group building and service retreat in a beautiful setting. It will be a perfect opportunity to re-connect with each other, nature and our faith as we enter our "post-COVID" future. For service we'll be helping the camp with some of its projects to offer faith-building opportunities for many people in the years to come.

REGISTRATION IS LIMITED —\$100.00 DEPOSIT DUE BY APRIL 30th.

Trip registration opens on May 1st to folks who WILL BE in 9th GRADE in fall of 2021.



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Sunday Mornings | 9:30 - 10:30 AM MASKS REQUIRED social distancing practices will be followed Serving kids age 3 years up to 6th Grade!



F.I.S.H. ReBirth-day Party

Sunday, April 11 | 11 AM - 12:30 PM 4TH-6TH GRADERS | MASKS REQUIRED

Join us in Fellowship Hall for a good time that includes games, snacks and prizes. THERE IS NO COST FOR THIS ACTIVITY.

RSVP IS NEEDED by Thursday, April 8th | Call or text Pastor Cristy 252-483-0792 or email cschoob@trinitywestbend.com



CONFIRMATION YOUTH PROGRAM

Confirmation Wednesday Nights | 6:30-8:00 PM

MASKS REQUIRED | Lower level, Fellowship Hall

APRIL 7 | NO CONFIRMATION CLASS

APRIL 14 | 6th Commandment | SNACKS: Gavin Schauble

APRIL 21 | 6th Commandment | SNACKS: Ava Schiller

APRIL 23/24 | RETREAT/ L CK-IN AT TRINITY

APRIL 28 | 7th Commandment | SNACKS: Ryan Schneider MAY 5 | |7th Commandment | SNACKS: Zach Schneider

Trinity Kids' Page

Hey Kids! Bring your completed word search or coloring section to Children's Ministry for a prize!

RESURRECTION WORD SEARCH

PILATE FIRST FRUITS
PRIEST HEAVEN
MARY JERUSALEM
GARDEN GALILEE
THOMAS TOMB
GUARDS UNLEAVENED BREAD

MESSIAH DISCIPLES NICODEMUS YESHUA

ROMAN APPOINTED TIME

HXJAPPOINTEDTIMEIULK EHJWJTKPNTNKTUQQTPW RXALEBZZTEVZJBHIROIK XVYRWWNVJVMMGRTMNV RWHYERUKTMARYZUUGB GCANLSGBKCJZAKOACD IWVWAAPRQARPL NZCKLIZBILRRCQDFINDV IPUXHEDQUSQJMEF K F P B L T G O X M E P W C X P M H M D Q W N E G E Z Q L O Q N A W B R U J SHUARGELGWFZADTISH ILATEGUTMLKET HMVJZMGZWSOROMANPSEZ DZDPMDISC IPLESVXKRSG WZXGQLKPNLTMGIDBQFSU DADAHUSOCUYLRWOBIKIH SFJWFIRSTFRUITSCLQAM J T H O M A S N Y S F P M X L N H Q UUNLEAVENEDBREADMAHG





















CHILDREN'S MINISTRY is up and running!

Sunday Mornings | 9:30 - 10:30 AM

Serving kids age 3 years up to 6th Grade! | JOIN US!

CONTACT ALYSSA FOR MORE INFORMATION: trinitywestbendcm@gmail.com





























How We Can Help!

Did you know the zip code reported to have the highest rate of incarcerations in the country, *not the state* but the country, is in Milwaukee? Zip code 53206.

Let me tell you about an organization called **Project RETURN** and what we can do to spread a little light to our neighbors.

Every year thousands of men and women are returning to the greater Milwaukee area from incarceration. This is where Project RETURN comes in. (RETURNING EXINCARCERATED PEOPLE TO URBAN REALITIES AND NEIGHBORHOODS) Project RETURN exists to help men and women make a positive, permanent return to community, family and friends.

Project RETURN grew out of a volunteer base that believed men and women returning from incarceration deserved a second chance. It offers a variety of support for those returning from incarceration.

Many of these men and women return to the community with little more than the clothes on their back. **Project RETURN** accepts donations from the community to help with the immediate needs for those returning from incarceration.

Some of the MOST NEEDED items are:

- Gently used and laundered clothing
- Under-garments
- Hygiene Products | Soap, Shampoo, Conditioner, Toothbrush, Toothpaste, Deodorant, Razor, Hairbrush/Comb, Washcloths, Feminine Hygiene Products, Shaving Cream, Toenail Clippers, Lotion, etc.
- Coats
- Hats & Gloves
- Pots & Pans
- Pillows & Blankets
- · Laundry Detergent, Bleach
- Toilet Paper
- Food Cards
- Bus Passes/Gas Cards

YOU Can Help NOW!

There are cardboard boxes in the Heritage room where your donations can be dropped off. After we gather up some donations, I will personally be sure they get to **Project RETURN**.

Any questions feel free to contact me, Nate Shubat | nateshubat@gmail.com

God's work. Our Hands. 9 AM-1 PM DAY OF SERVICE MAY 15TH

We have the opportunity to again have a service day at **Blue Lotus Farm & Retreat Center bluelotusfarm.org** on **May 15th** and hope you will consider joining us for all or part of the day (*from about 9-1*). More specific details will be provided as the workday draws closer but there are always tasks for all ages, both indoor and outdoor. The time goes quickly and it is always a great time of fellowship and service at their beautiful location.

Due to the pandemic, Blue Lotus is limiting the number of volunteers and their coordinator has asked for an indication of our numbers by mid-April so they know how many other groups/volunteers they can approve.

Watch for a SignUP Genius invitation coming soon!





Lisa Starke (Community Engagement Coordinator for Blue Lotus) sent this message following our fall 2020 service day:

"As many of you know, Blue Lotus operates with just one full-time and 2 part-time staff. And, the reason we are able to make that work is due to the dedication of our volunteers. On Saturday, the efforts of each of you resulted in the equivalent of over 160 hours of labor. It would have taken us two full 40-hour weeks to accomplish what you completed in only 4 hours. Because of you, our trails look neatly trimmed, our equipment and furniture are safely stored, and our many gardens have been nicely put to bed for their long winter nap.

My favorite part of these work days is the enthusiasm and positive energy that each of you bring, along with your rakes and gloves. It is also inspiring to see how many families spend this time together-sharing the joy of volunteering is a wonderful qift for parents to give their children."

Please consider taking part in this service event on May 15!



Reaching out to brighten someone's day has never been easier—**be part of Trinity's mail ministry!** Cards are ready and waiting with pre-addressed envelopes, all they need is your signature! We will even mail them!

Stop in the church office weekdays between 8 AM-3 PM—a few minutes of your time will go a long way to make someone's day.

Thank you, Trinity! #trinitytogether #churchwithoutwalls

Compassion Weekend | April 24/25



At Trinity

A time dedicated to learn more that includes an opportunity to sponsor a child through the Comassion International.

Faithful Giving

Again we want to thank everyone for your faithful financial support of our ministry together. It is because we all share in this journey that our ministry has been able to continue through this difficult time. As we move toward and look forward to worshiping together in person and new possibilities, we now hope that many of you can also offer your <u>time</u> to the work we share together.

- We are in need of those who will participate as leaders in children's ministry.
- We are looking for people who will help with the audio/visual needs of the congregation. Even as we move into in-person worship, we still want to continue our online presence and will need help with the audio/visual needs of our in-person worship.
- As soon as we can schedule it, we will be holding our congregational meeting and we will be electing members to the church council. If you would be interested, we would love to know.
- We also need people who will count offerings and work with our finance teams.

Each of us has been given gifts for the work of the kingdom. If you are called to any of these ways to serve, please contact us in the office. And when you do, please say HI to Sue Beekman, our Parish Coordinator. She has been getting used to the new role and is doing a great job. Give her a big pat on the back.

Pastors Dave and Cris

FAMILY PROMISE COORDINATORS NEEDED—prayerfully consider volunteering for this outreach ministry

Family Promise rebuilds lives with compassion by providing resources and services that prevent and end homelessness for individuals and families in Washington County.



Please consider this opportunity to become an integral part of this very important outreach ministry. A team of two people -OR- two couples would be great to help coordinate this ministry! sbeekman@trinitywestbend.com

BLESSINGS

ON THE DAY YOU WERE BORN, GOD DANCED, ANGELS SANG AND THE STARS ALIGNED. WE HOPE THAT YOUR BIRTHDAY WILL BE A HAPPY CELEBRATION FILLED WITH BLESSINGS.

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Larry Loomans		01
Mason Schweizer	4	03
Eugene Wiedmeyer		03
Lisa Farvour		04
Carrie Pierce		04
Debbie Burns		05
Charlotte Lord		05
Roy Trott		05
Robert Rick		06
Janell Erdmann-Gries		07
AJ Oleniczak		07
Torie Pietschmann		07
Kristel Vandeboom		80
Ruth MacDonald		09
Kristi Mildbrandt		09
Jordan Ketter		10
Noreta Wiedmeyer		10
Taylor Kurer	4	
Mark Sergeant	4	
Cindy Tikusis	4	
Lois Ebersold	4	
Cory Gunnare	4	
Ashley Hall	4	
Stacie Kozlowski	4	
Gladys Boos	4	
Pastor Cris Schoob	4	
Marie Dominguez	4	
Hailey Granger	4	
Bob Poenitsch	4	
David Kreutzer	4	
Connie Falk	4	
Garrett Cranney		22
Pamela Frank		22
Dan Hoppenjan		22
Greta Polinski		24
Charlotte Butzler		25
Madison Jochims		25
Brent Kershaw		25
Lenore Holcomb		27
David Laatsch		27
Valerie Oksiuta		27
Amy Schmoldt		27
Helene Schrankler		27
Benjamin Scaffidi		28
Nancy Wickert		28
Aidan Marlett		29
Kathryn Schickert	4	29



rivity | Contact Information

Pastor Cristy Schoob

Pastor David Schoob

262-483-0792

262-483-0791

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Hazel Griffin
Ruth MacDonald
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