

# Trinity Tidings

September 29, 2022 News

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OCTOBER 2

TWO BY TWO DAY

Bring a friend to church and/or Sunday School!

worship-9:00

Sunday School-10:00

RAINBOW DAY

wear rainbow apparel to remind us of God's  
promise



## October 2022

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

Sunday, October 2

- Adult Sunday School 8 AM
- Worship 9 AM
- Sunday School 10 AM

Monday, October 3

- *Office Closed*

Tuesday, October 4

Wednesday, October 5

- Staff Meeting 8 AM
- WIC 8 AM
- Confirmation Class 6:30 PM

Thursday, October 6

- *No Bible Study*
- Quilting 10 AM
- Comfort Crafts 5:30 PM
- Carport Clutch 6:00 PM

Friday, October 7

Saturday, October 8

Sunday, October 9

- Adult Sunday School 8 AM
- Worship 9 AM
- Sunday School 10 AM

Click [here](#) for the most current calendar.

Click [here](#) for the livestream of Sunday's  
worship service.



## HOW CAN WE PRAY FOR YOU?

Email or call with your request.

### Healing:

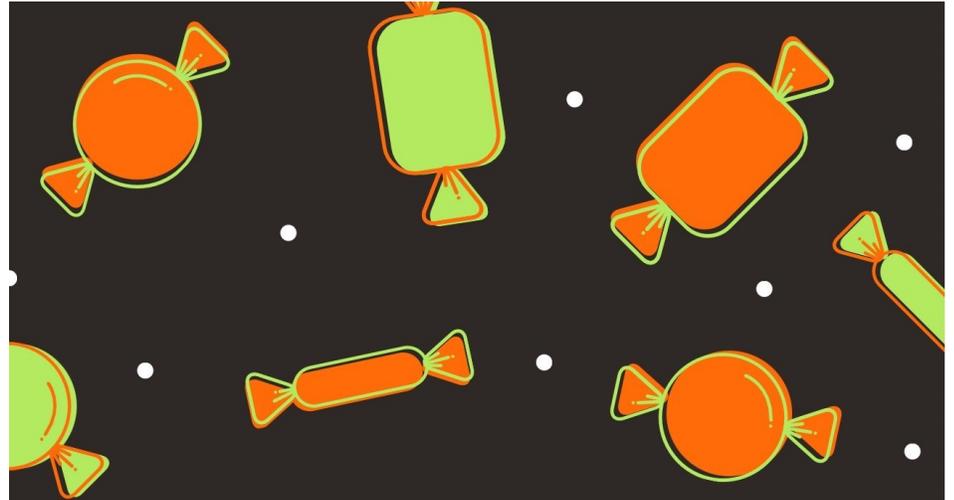
- Jack Thurk, family & friends, as they mourn the death of Jack's mom, Lois
- Bill Krejcarek - recovering from surgery
- Ted Robbins - friend of Kirk & Amy Van Dreel, hospitalized
- Carrie Doughty - illness
- Mary Snyder - recovering from surgery
- Dixie Hill - health concerns
- Jill Maus - sister-in-law of Denise Knudsen, cancer
- Adam Lehmann - health concerns
- Carole Ebert - cancer
- Larry Leatz - friend of Tom & Sue Luba, cancer
- Trista Jo Blank - health concerns
- Bonnie Wegner - cancer
- Tina Bartelt - cancer
- Cindy Wolford - cancer
- Kathy Feeney Rueckert - friend of Sue Luba, medical issues
- Helen Massey - health concerns
- Jackie Janke - health concerns
- Dawn Haag - cancer
- Ginger Massey - relative of Helen Massey
- Anna Roberts - cancer
- Sam Ives - health issues

### Those in the military:

- Shane Borree
- SSGT Zachary Abel

## Farewell and Godspeed Rochelle Schroeder!

As many of you know, Rochelle is moving to Stevens Point to live near her son and daughter-in-law. We will take time during worship this Sunday, October 2, to give her our blessings for her move.



DON'T MISS OUT! SIGN UP NOW!

# TRUNK OR TREAT

decorate your car and hand out goodies to our local children as they safely trick or treat through our parking lot at the beginning of the city's trick or treat!

October 31, 2020 | 4:30-5:30 PM | Trinity Parking Lot

Sign up with Madalyn or the office  
come around 4/4:15 on Halloween to prepare your car as  
needed

Fall Clean Up  
Sunday, October 23  
After worship  
Indoors & Outdoors

Many hands make light work!



# Thank You

Sunday School thanks you all for your generosity!

We are grateful for you!

Thank you for the snacks, school supplies, and sanitizing supplies!



September 28 was a beautiful Autumn evening to serve 143 Community Meal guests with tasty grilled brats and hotdogs accompanied with fresh fruit from Kwik Trip and lunch bags full of assorted snacks and dessert.

Trinity's Community Meals ministry is possible due to the generous monetary and supply donations by Trinity members. Your support is much appreciated by the ministry team and the guests we serve.

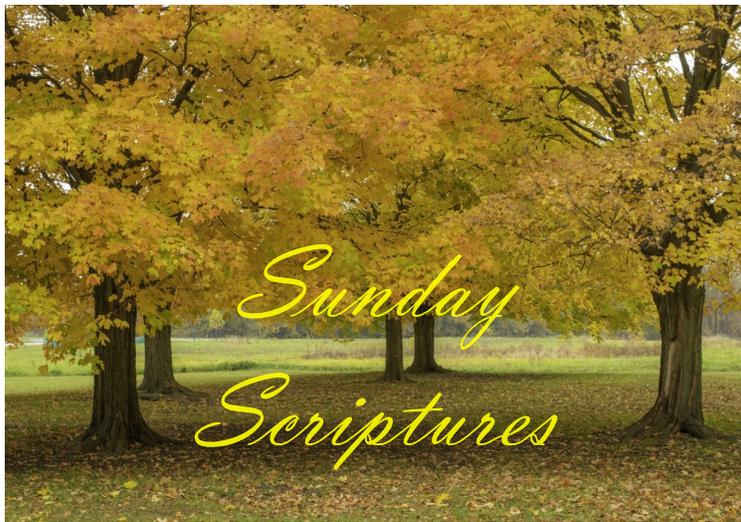
October's Grab & Go Community Meal is scheduled for October 26, 5:00-6:00.

The October event will be our last event for 2022. We will be serving meals again next year starting January 25. If you know of a family in need, please share with them the meal opportunities; or consider picking up a meal to deliver to the family.

Thank you and God bless

Kelly and Barbara Lehl – September Community Meal lead





**First Reading: Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4**

*Injustice and violence in the time leading up to the Babylonian exile move this prophet to lament: How can a good and all-powerful God see evil in the world and seemingly remain indifferent? God answers by proclaiming that the righteous will live by faith.*

<sup>1</sup>The oracle that the prophet Habakkuk saw.

<sup>2</sup>O LORD, how long shall I cry for help, and you will not listen?  
Or cry to you "Violence!"  
and you will not save?

<sup>3</sup>Why do you make me see wrongdoing and look at trouble?  
Destruction and violence are before me;  
strife and contention arise.

<sup>4</sup>So the law becomes slack  
and justice never prevails.  
The wicked surround the righteous—  
therefore judgment comes forth perverted.

<sup>2:1</sup>I will stand at my watchpost,  
and station myself on the rampart;  
I will keep watch to see what he will say to me,  
and what he will answer concerning my complaint.

<sup>2</sup>Then the LORD answered me and said:  
Write the vision;  
make it plain on tablets,  
so that a runner may read it.

<sup>3</sup>For there is still a vision for the appointed time;  
it speaks of the end, and does not lie.  
If it seems to tarry, wait for it;  
it will surely come, it will not delay.

<sup>4</sup>Look at the proud!

Their spirit is not right in them,  
but the righteous live by their faith.

**Psalm: Psalm 37:1-9**

<sup>1</sup>Do not be provoked by evildoers;  
do not be jealous of those who do wrong.

<sup>2</sup>For they shall soon wither like the grass,  
and like the green grass fade away.

<sup>3</sup>Put your trust in the LORD and do good;  
dwell in the land and find safe pasture.

<sup>4</sup>Take delight in the LORD,  
who shall give you your heart's desire.

<sup>5</sup>Commit your way to the LORD; put your trust in the LORD,  
and see what God will do.

<sup>6</sup>The LORD will make your vindication as clear as the light

and the justice of your case like the noonday sun.  
<sup>7</sup>Be still before the LORD and wait patiently.

Do not be provoked by the one who prospers, the one who succeeds in evil schemes.

<sup>8</sup>Refrain from anger, leave rage alone;  
do not be provoked; it leads only to evil.

<sup>9</sup>For evildoers shall be cut off,  
but those who hope in the LORD shall possess the land.

**Second Reading: 2 Timothy 1:1-14**

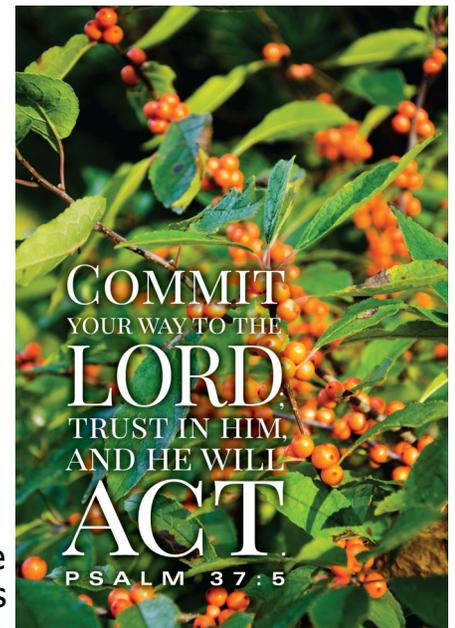
*This letter written to Timothy is a personal message of encouragement. In the face of hardship and persecution, Timothy is reminded that his faith is a gift of God. He is encouraged to exercise that faith with the help of the Holy Spirit.*

<sup>1</sup>Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, for the sake of the promise of life that is in Christ Jesus,

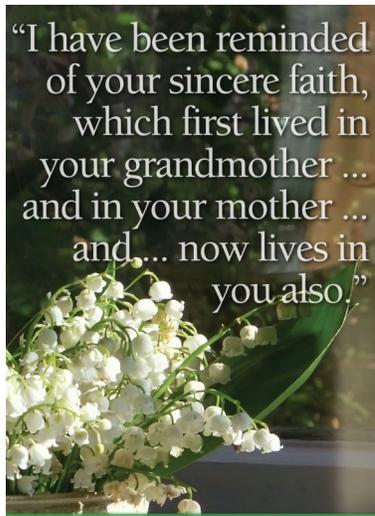
<sup>2</sup>To Timothy, my beloved child:

Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

<sup>3</sup>I am grateful to God—whom I worship



with a clear conscience, as my ancestors did—when I remember you constantly in my prayers night and day. <sup>4</sup>Recalling your tears, I long to see you so that I may be



2 Timothy 1:5, NIV

filled with joy. <sup>5</sup>I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that lived first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, lives in you. <sup>6</sup>For this reason I remind you to rekindle the gift of God that is within you through the laying on of my hands; <sup>7</sup>for God did not give us a

spirit of cowardice, but rather a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline.

<sup>8</sup>Do not be ashamed, then, of the testimony about our Lord or of me his prisoner, but join with me in suffering for the gospel, relying on the power of God, <sup>9</sup>who saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works but according to his own purpose and grace. This grace was given to us in Christ Jesus before the ages began, <sup>10</sup>but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Savior Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. <sup>11</sup>For this gospel I was appointed a herald and an apostle and a teacher, <sup>12</sup>and for this reason I suffer as I do. But I am not ashamed, for I know the one in whom I have put my trust, and I am sure that he is able to guard until that day what I have entrusted to him. <sup>13</sup>Hold to the standard of sound teaching that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. <sup>14</sup>Guard the good treasure entrusted to you, with the help of the Holy Spirit living in us.

### **Gospel: Luke 17:5-10**

*On the way to Jerusalem, Jesus instructs his followers about the power of faith and the duties of discipleship. He calls his disciples to adopt the attitude of servants*

*whose actions are responses to their identity rather than works seeking reward.*

<sup>5</sup>The apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith!" <sup>6</sup>The Lord replied, "If you had faith the size of a mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it would obey you.

<sup>7</sup>"Who among you would say to your slave who has just come in from plowing or tending sheep in the field, 'Come here at once and take your place at the table'?

<sup>8</sup>Would you not rather say to him, 'Prepare supper for me, put on your apron and serve me while I eat and drink; later you may eat and drink'?

<sup>9</sup>Do you thank the slave for doing what was commanded? <sup>10</sup>So you also, when you have done all that you were ordered to do, say, 'We are worthless slaves; we have done only what we ought to have done!' "



Serving at worship on Sunday

**Ushers**  
Allison & Peter Kurth

**Lector**  
Terry Wegner

**Communion Assistant**  
Jayne Murphy

**Slides**  
Laura Thompson

**Livestream**  
Tom Vigil

**Altar Guild**  
Joy Flohr

# Sermon Notes

## Increase Our Faith

Jesus' disciples said, "Increase our faith!" Jesus was asking a lot from them and they did not think they could handle it.

Have you ever felt like you needed more faith?

When you feel there are too many demands on you?

Or feel like you are in way over your head?

There is the classic story of poor Jack, who was out jogging. As he passed a cliff, he got a little too close to the edge, and suddenly found himself falling. On the way down, he managed to grab a branch, nearly yanking it out of the cliff. When he caught his breath, he realized what a terrible jam he was in. He couldn't get up, and letting go certainly seemed to be a poor option. He began to scream, "Hello up there! Can anyone hear me?"

In a moment, a voice returned.

"Jack, Can you hear me?"

"Yes, Yes, I can hear you I'm down here."

"I can see you, Jack, are you alright?"

"Yes, but, who are you, and where are you?"

"I am the Lord, Jack, I am everywhere."

"The Lord? You mean God?"

"That's me."



"God, help me, I promise that if you get me down from here, I'll stop sinning. I'll be a really good person and serve you for the rest of my life."

"Easy on the promises, Jack. First let's get you down, then we can discuss those."

"I'll do anything, Lord, just tell me what to do, okay?"

"Okay, let go of the branch."

"What?"

"I said, let go of the branch. Just trust me, let go."

There was a long pause, as Jack thought of the offer.

In a moment, however, Jack let out a loud yell. "Hello, Hello – is there anybody else up there?!"



Faith, ultimately, is trusting in God. It is letting go and letting God work. It is surrender.

As one of my favorite theologians, Carl Braaten puts it, "Faith is a self-surrendering commitment of the whole person to the transcendent reality of God."

Faith is not irrational.

It includes reason.

The whole person is inclusive of intellect, will, and trust.

Faith is more than mere feeling and emotion.

It is not believing in things without any evidence.

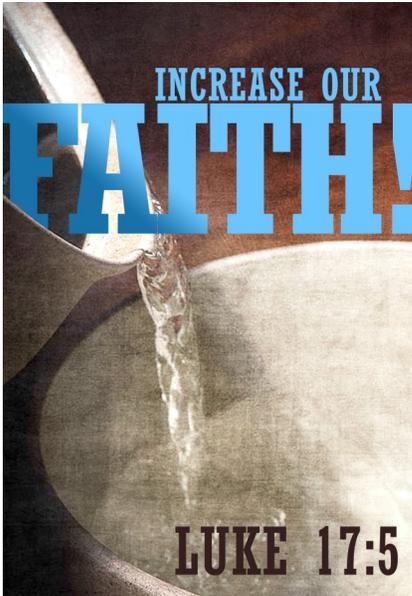
It is not blind.

It is surrender.

It is letting go of the branch and letting God work.

Jesus' disciples struggled with this. They had shown faith by leaving everything and following him. But his teachings, his demands, are too much for them. He had just told them before our gospel text starts, "If someone sins against you 7 times a day you need to forgive them each time!"

So they say to him, "increase our faith!" His response: "If you had faith the size of a mustard seed, you could say to this mul-



berry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it would obey you." He is saying faith is not something you can quantify, put a number on. It is about quality, not quantity. It is not a matter of "if I could have 10 percent more faith I can do this..."

Faith is allowing God to use us as

we are to accomplish wonders.

This is easier said than done. I wonder how it has been for those impacted by Hurricane Ian?

One good thing about hurricanes is that since they move so slowly you have plenty of time to prepare and evacuate if necessary.

My sister lives in Tampa so the rest of us have been in contact with her. She has told us they are prepared. They are about 100 miles north of the eye.

But for those in direct path it must be scary.

We are seeing the devastation.

It is natural to ask, "Where is God in this?"

The promise of scripture is that God is present through the worst of times. Faith is trusting in this promise of God's presence even through the worst of times.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. exemplified this when he described the fear that overcame

him when he began receiving death threats during the Montgomery bus boycott in the mid-1950s. One night after a particularly troubling phone call, King found himself exasperated, unable to sleep, and ready to quit. While offering a humble, desperate prayer, King says that he felt the presence of God like never before and heard the words speaking to him in the depth of his soul, "Stand up for righteousness, stand up for truth. God will be at your side forever." As King notes, "the outer situation remained the same, but God had given me inner calm."

Faith gives us an inner calm.

Surrender to God is what keeps us moving forward.

Trusting that he is with us and moving us forward.

Trusting in the promise that through Jesus' death and resurrection God has already done the work of salvation for us. It is not about us: It is about letting God use us to move mountains and uproot mulberry trees.

Here's the key: What matters is not the size of your faith but the size of our God. A little faith in a big God gets big results! Amen.

