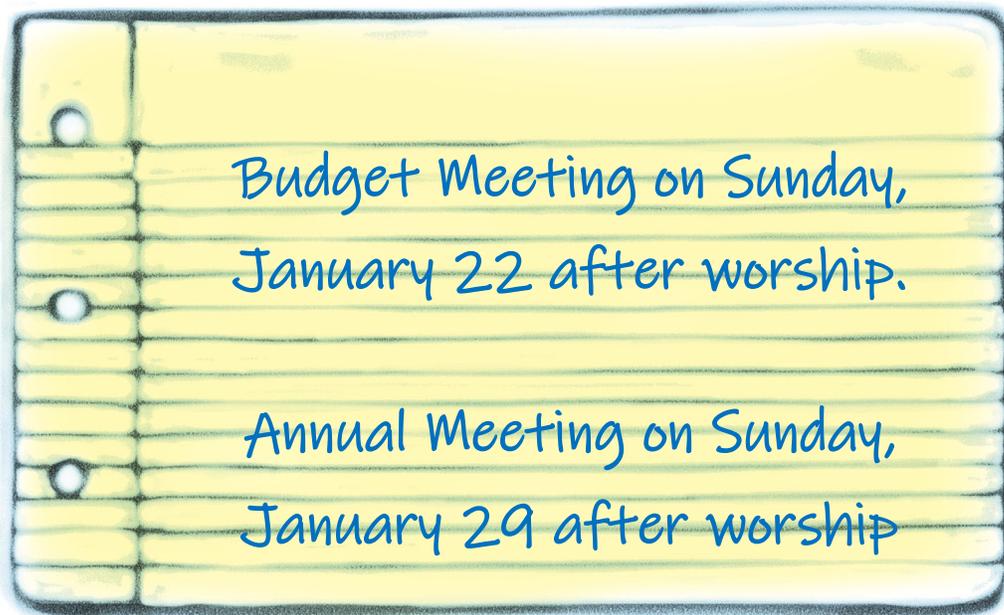


Trinity Tidings

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
709 W BECKERT RD
NEW LONDON, WI 54961
WWW.TRINITYNEWLONDON.COM
TRINITY.NEWLONDON@GMAIL.COM
920-982-5833

January 12, 2023 News

PASTOR CHUCK THOMPSON 920-273-5105;
PASTOR.TRINITYNEWLONDON@GMAIL.COM
SECRETARY: AMY VAN DREEL TRINITY.NEWLONDON@GMAIL.COM
CHILDREN'S FAITH FORMATION COORDINATOR: MADALYN SIMONIS
FAMILYFAITH.TRINITYNEWLONDON@GMAIL.COM



Constitution Review Folders

Folders are available on the table in the library for review of ELCA Churchwide Model Constitution vs. Trinity's current Constitution.

Green pages are the existing Trinity Constitution. White pages are the up to date Model Constitution from ELCA Churchwide. These pages have just the "*" portions of the constitution.

Take out the green and white constitutions and compare for change, remembering that these "*" portions are not available for edit from model constitution verbiage.

These sections are the only ones we will be approving to amend at the Annual Meeting to bring our Constitution up to date.

Updates to sections that outline Trinity's ministry will be brought to the congregation in working meetings during Feb and March, with a final vote on the entire updated and synod approved Constitution in April, 2023.

January 2023						
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, January 15

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

Monday, January 16

Tuesday, January 17

- Council Meeting 6:30 PM

Wednesday, January 18

- Confirmation Class 6:30 PM

Thursday, January 19

- Bible Study 9 AM
- Quilting 10 AM
- Comfort Crafts 5:30 PM
- Carport Clutch 6:00 PM
- Dartball at home

Friday, January 20

Saturday, January 21

Sunday, January 22

- Adult Sunday School 8 AM
- Worship 9 AM
- Sunday School 10 AM
- Budget Meeting 10:15 AM

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

Click [here](#) for worship.

PRAISES & Prayers



Email or call
With your request.

Healing:

- Daniel Bodway
- Family of Azim
- Ruth Kuehl -sister-in-law of Amy Kuehl, health issues
- Sue Holtz - friend of Amy Kuehl, medical issues
- Rick Roesler - son-in-law of June Steinberg, upcoming surgeries
- Patti Natzke - recovering from surgery
- Carrie Doughty - illness
- 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 Westphal - health concerns
- Bonnie Wegner - cancer
- Tina Bartelt - 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
- Sam Ives - health issues

Those in the military:

- Shane Borree
- SSGT Zachary Abel

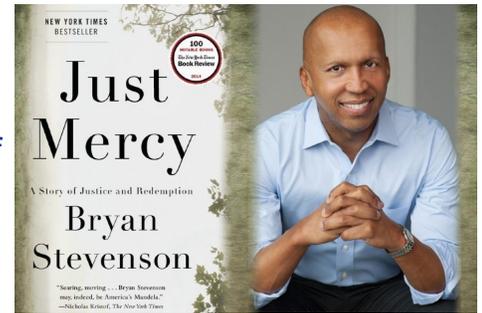
Need something to do on those cold winter nights? The church library is sponsoring a book discussion based on Just Mercy by Bryan Stevenson.

"This is the story of Walter McMillian, a young man sentenced to die for a notorious murder he didn't commit. The case drew Stevenson into a tangle of conspiracy, political machination and legal brinkmanship- and transformed his understanding of mercy and justice forever."

We will be meeting on the following Tuesdays at 6:30 to discuss this book- Jan. 24, Feb. 7, Feb.21 and Feb. 28.

Please sign up at the information center so that we can make sure we have enough copies of the study guide. All are welcome. Please consider grabbing a copy of Just Mercy and joining us.

Questions-Contact Kathryn Moser is you need additional information.



January FREE Community Meal



Dawn Hess is serving grilled hot dogs and brats to the New London community on **Wednesday, January 25, from 5 to 6 pm.**

Donations needed for the January meal are:

- Healthy snacks (e.g. apple sauce, raisins, craisins, fruit cups, granola/protein bars, jerky, etc.)
- Cookies (packaged or homemade)
- PLEASE NO NUTS and NO ITEMS REQUIRING REFRIGERATION.

Please place donations in the bin outside of the doors in front of the church offices.

January Joy of Giving - Good Samaritan Fund

This ministry provides funds for people living within our community, administered by Pastor Chuck, and usually in the form of scrip cards that can be used for food or gas.

Examples of how it has been used in the past are a needed meal for a family or a tank of gas for a job interview.

Prayerfully consider this opportunity to help a neighbor in need.



Good Samaritan
Fund

SUNDAY SCHOOL

SUBSTITUTE NEEDED

Join us for just a weekend or two
in the 2nd-3rd Grade class!

Materials will be provided, you
just come have the fun with kids!

February 12

February 26

April 2

email Madalyn for more
information or to sign up!

familyfaith.trinitynewlondon@gmail.com



FOOD DRIVE



Thank you for your
continued support
of the New London
Community Cupboard!
There is an ongoing need
for donations. Please drop
off your donations in the
bin outside of the
church doors.



Second Sunday after Epiphany

First Reading: Isaiah 49:1-7

Here the servant, identified as Israel, speaks for herself and describes her honored mission. Called before her birth like Jeremiah and John the Baptist, the servant is not only to restore Israel. The servant's ultimate assignment is to bring news of God's victory to the ends of the earth. God in faithfulness has chosen Israel for this task.

¹Listen to me, O coastlands,
pay attention, you peoples from far away!
The LORD called me before I was born,
while I was in my mother's womb he named me.

²He made my mouth like a sharp sword,
in the shadow of his hand he hid me;
he made me a polished arrow,
in his quiver he hid me away.

³And he said to me, "You are my servant,
Israel, in whom I will be glorified."

⁴But I said, "I have labored in vain,
I have spent my strength for nothing and
vanity;
yet surely my cause is with the LORD,
and my reward with my God."

⁵And now the LORD says,
who formed me in the womb to be his serv-
ant,
to bring Jacob back to him,
and that Israel might be gathered to him,
for I am honored in the sight of the LORD,
and my God has become my strength—
⁶he says,
"It is too light a thing that you should be my
servant

to raise up the tribes of Jacob
and to restore the survivors of Israel;
I will give you as a light to the nations,
that my salvation may reach to the end of
the earth."

⁷Thus says the LORD,
the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One,
to one deeply despised, abhorred by the na-
tions,
the slave of rulers,
"Kings shall see and stand up,
princes, and they shall prostrate them-
selves,
because of the LORD, who is faithful,
the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen
you."

Psalm 40:1-11

¹I waited patiently upon the LORD,
who stooped to me and heard my cry.

²The LORD lifted me out of the desolate pit,
out of the miry clay,
and set my feet upon a high cliff, making
my footing sure.

³The LORD put a new song in my mouth, a
song of praise to our God;
many shall see, and stand in awe, and put
their trust in the LORD.

⁴Happy are they who trust in the LORD!
They do not turn to enemies or to those
who follow lies.

⁵Great are the wonders you have done,
O LORD my God! In your plans for us, none
can be compared with you!

Oh, that I could make them known and tell
them! But they are more than I can count.

⁶Sacrifice and offering you do not desire;
you have opened my ears: burnt-offering
and sin-offering you have not required.

⁷And so I said, "Here I am; I come.

In the scroll of the
book it is written of
me:

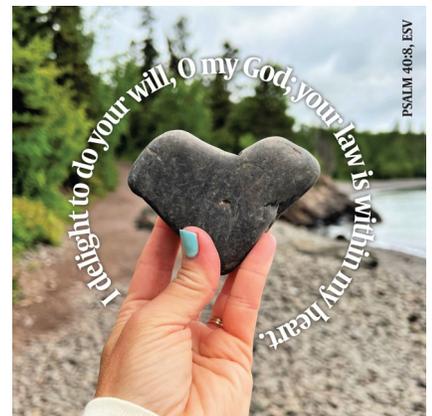
⁸I love to do your
will, O my God;
your law is deep
within me.' "

⁹I proclaimed right-
eousness in
the great assembly;
I have not re-
strained my lips,
O LORD, you know.

¹⁰I have not hidden your righteousness in my
heart; I have spoken of your faithfulness
and your deliverance;

I have not concealed your steadfast love
and truth from the great assembly.

¹¹You are the LORD; do not withhold your
compassion from me;
may your steadfast love and your truth con-
tinually keep me safe.



Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:1-9

Though God's church in Corinth is a fractious congregation beset with many conflicts, Paul opens this letter by spotlighting the multiple ways God has enriched and sustained its life as part of the divine call into the fellowship of our Lord Jesus Christ.

¹Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and our brother Sosthenes,

²To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, together with all those who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours:

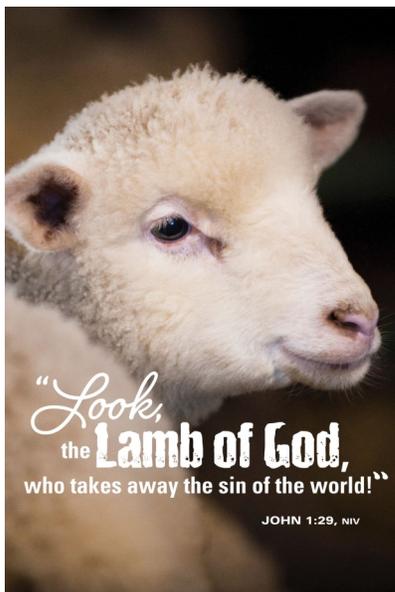
³Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

⁴I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, ⁵for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind—⁶just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you—⁷so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁸He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Gospel: John 1:29-42

John the Baptist's witness to Jesus initiates a chain of testimony as his disciples begin to share with others what they have found.

²⁹[John the Baptist] saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, "Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!" ³⁰This is he of whom I said, "After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me." ³¹I myself did not know him; but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel." ³²And John testified, "I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. ³³I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'He on whom you see the



*"Look,
the Lamb of God,
who takes away the sin of the world!"*

JOHN 1:29, NIV

Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' ³⁴And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Son of God."

³⁵The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, ³⁶and as he watched Jesus walk by, he exclaimed, "Look, here is the Lamb of God!" ³⁷The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. ³⁸When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, "What are you looking for?" They said to him, "Rabbi" (which translated means Teacher), "where are you staying?" ³⁹He said to them, "Come and see." They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o'clock in the afternoon. ⁴⁰One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. ⁴¹He first found his brother Simon and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which is translated Anointed). ⁴²He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, "You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas" (which is translated Peter).



What Do You Want?

I would like to try something different today.
Can I take your order?
10 or 15 or 20-minute sermon?
Would you like a joke with that?
Would you like a personal story?
Some biblical history?
Anybody want some fire and brimstone?
What are you looking for in a sermon?
What are you looking for in worship?
It is probably safe to say we are all looking for God's Word and some message of hope to some degree.
On the other hand, I suppose we are all looking for something different.
We have our personal tastes.

When we are asked "what do you want?" or "what are you looking for?" we may not always have an answer right away. It may depend on the day or what we are dealing with in our lives at the time. Peace, love, hope, direction, etc.?

Especially when it comes to deeper questions of meaning and purpose.

Such as "what do I want out of life?" "what do I want to accomplish?"

Or "what do we want the church to look like?"

In the Gospel of John, the first words out of Jesus' mouth are "What are you looking for?" He is asking this of 2 of John the Baptist's disciples who were sent to follow Jesus by John. John tells them "this is the guy you need to follow now. He is the lamb of God." (Passover imagery, the lamb without blemish).

The two disciples (unnamed at this point) reply with a question of their own, "Rabbi, where are you staying?" On the surface this might appear to be a disjointed conversation. Jesus asks a question that could be taken in many different ways and the disciples' response is a question that is, on the surface, not in any way related to Jesus' question. However, when one understands that Rabbi means teacher (which the evangelist kindly spells out for us) then it becomes a bit more obvious what the disciples mean; they want to learn from Jesus.

Jesus invites them to "come and see," an invitation that Jesus will make in various ways to many people throughout the Gospel. As a rabbi, a teacher, Jesus does not just speak (although he certainly does plenty of that in John), he invites disciples into participation. He invites them to not only learn more about God but also enter into relationship with him. I have found throughout my school years I have learned most from teachers who invited us to get to know them. Ex: Walter Michel (Old Testament Seminary Professor) inviting us to lunch after class to discuss/learn more. He built relationships with us. This is what Jesus desires for us too. He knows our wants and needs and invites us to "come and see."

How can we know him?

Through the Word and Sacraments and relationships with one another.

We do not need to preach to one another but Christ works in and through us.

It is said that St. Francis of Assisi once invited a young monk to join him on a trip to preach in a nearby town. The monk was honored and readily accepted the invitation. All day the two monks walked through the streets and alleys

of the town and even ventured into the suburbs. They rubbed shoulders with hundreds of people and engaged in conversations with them.

At the end of the day, the two headed to a monastery for the night. The young monk was puzzled that Francis had not even once addressed a crowd, nor had he talked to anyone about the gospel. Greatly disappointed, his young companion finally said to Francis, "I thought we were going into town to preach." Francis responded, "Oh, but we have preached. We were preaching while we were walking. Many saw us and our behavior was closely watched. It is of no use to walk anywhere to preach unless we preach everywhere as we walk!"

Meeting people where they are.

That is what Jesus did.

That is what we are called to do.

As we all respond to Jesus' question "What do you want?" we can walk together on our faith journeys as we discern together what Jesus is saying to us today.

One thing we know for sure: he is the answer to our deepest longings.

When we look elsewhere to meet our deepest needs we come up empty.

Or when we think we can satisfy ourselves on our own we will come up short.

Jesus says, "look to me. Come and see."

How do we know we can trust him?

He died on the cross and rose again so that we may know him.

Through the Spirit he invites us to

"Come and see."

"What do we want?"

What are we looking for?"

How about we look to Jesus together?"

Serving at worship on Sunday

Ushers

Morgan Monty, Tom Luba

Lector

Steph Friebohle

Communion Assistant

Treston Kaepernick

Slides

Majah Knudsen

Livestream

Randy Cleveland

Altar Guild

