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"after the comma"

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February 2021

*Hello,  
February!*

### Hello, Trinity United Church of Christ!

I had a thought of finding some really clever opening statement to introduce myself to all of you, but what I kept coming back to was the simple word hello. Then as I so often do, I researched that word... "hello". Seems to me it's been around us for thousands of years, but actually came into our vocabulary in the early 1800's. Its initial use was to attract attention as in hailing a driver, or to express surprise. Ammon Shea writes as author of *The First Telephone Book*: Hello is a new word. The Oxford English Dictionary says the first published use of "hello" goes back only to 1827. And it wasn't mainly a greeting back then. Ammon says people in the 1830's said hello to attract attention ("Hello, what do you think you're doing?"), or to express surprise ("Hello, what have we here?"). Hello, didn't become "hi" until the telephone arrived.

Confessing I didn't know this, I am here to say that my hello to you contains both of these uses. Hello, I am so excited to be here with all of you, and hello, who would have thought to put us together?

I am humbled and ecstatic in the call to be your Pastor. In this time of pandemic, social upheaval, justice concerns and all of our yearning for normalcy, God has done a new thing. God has brought us together to explore, dream, build, sing, work, cry, pray and create a place where love can be given and accepted freely.

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## TRINITY UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

4435 North Calhoun Road  
Brookfield, WI, 53005  
262-781-9378

**Email:** [contact@trinitybrookfield.org](mailto:contact@trinitybrookfield.org)

**Web Site:** [www.trinitybrookfield.org](http://www.trinitybrookfield.org)

### Office Hours

Monday-Wednesday: 8:00 am - 1:00 pm

Thursday: 8:00 am - 12:00 pm

### Virtual Sunday Worship

**Worship:** 10:00 am

**Fellowship Hour:** Follows service

*(During in-person worship)*

**Holy Communion:** First Sunday of the Month  
(unless noted otherwise)

### Sunday School Via Zoom

Jill Gretenhart and Robin Komassa teach students from Pre-K through 7th Grade. If you are interested in having your children participate or if you have questions, contact Kathy Haass at [KatydidHaass@gmail.com](mailto:KatydidHaass@gmail.com) or Jill Gretenhart at [yippeeefun@aol.com](mailto:yippeefun@aol.com). Lessons for the upcoming week are sent via email in addition to the Zoom link. Class begins at 9:15 am for 30 to 45 minutes.

### Open to the Community

Virtual Worship, Sunday 10:00 am

On Hold: Boy Scout Troop 21

On Hold: Game Nights

On Hold: Quilters

### Staff & Lay Leaders

**Pastor:** Rev. Daniel Krueger

**Council President:** Terri Allen

**Director of Music:** Mike Hetzel

**Administrative Assistant:** Marie Furrer

**Cleaning Custodian:** Jodie Gerard

**Maintenance Custodian:** Eric Dahm

**Ministers of the Church:**

All Members of Trinity United Church of Christ

### Newsletter Deadline

The 15th of each month.



Lisa Corley  
Zachary Hanson  
Frederick Theilacker  
Lourie Martinez  
Jean Gichert  
Jan Glasenapp  
Pat Basting  
Dan Rieves  
Sarah Komassa



Lynne & Dave Mielke



### HOMEBOUND MEMBERS

Beverly Littmann

Geraldine Masch

Marion Wandsneider



*Continued from Page*

Over our time together we will learn about each other. Our past, present and futures will become the tapestry, weaving a wider and more colorful pattern of community. This includes building upon those pieces of the loom that God built in this place over 150 years ago, we are the threads of warp and weft being tamped together. Individual in our lives yet together in our worship and service. Through all of this, I look forward to being with you - as we are all brothers and sisters in God's great loving family. There may be times when we will have some conflicts as any family would. What is more important is when we look to God and each other- forgiving, loving and embracing knowing we are not perfect, but we are good.

In the first few months we will get some chances to meet and find our mutual passions and our different gifts. This year, Lent is upon us in mid- February and we are planning to continue the Jazz Worship Service and even our Mardi Gras styled meal. On February 14<sup>th</sup>, both will be given a "virtual" presence with Mike and Mikey creating a virtual music extravaganza for our 10:00 worship time on You Tube, and the Mission Team planning a 11:30- 1:00 Cajun takeout meal for all who wish to order and support Back Bay Mission in Biloxi, Mississippi. (By the way, your contribution of \$2,000.00 last year was amazing!! Booyah!)

As we move into Lent, we will be preparing and sharing a 7:00p "virtual" Ash Wednesday service with Holy Communion and imposition of ashes. We will also be hosting each Wednesday evening at 7:00p of Lent, a virtual service for Lenten reflection. I will be presenting a series of short services talking about our need of prayer and the types of prayers we lift up. Please join me for a bit of song, reflection and, of course, prayer.

Our Sundays in our Lenten season will explore the hope and message of the proclamation that "God So Loves Us".

As you can see there is much for us to do in our expanding family! Recently I have had the pleasure of meeting with some of your ministry teams and am amazed at the level of activity, care and most of all the compassionate Love work that Trinity UCC is doing. For that, I again must say "Hello"!

***"I always thank my God for you because of his grace given you in Christ Jesus". 1 Corinthians 1:4***

Pastor Dan

## *Worship and Lenten Services - February 2021*

### **Sunday, February 7th**

#### **"Who Wants this Job?"**

Communion

I Corinthians 9:16-23

Psalms 147:1-11, 20c

### **Sunday, February 14th**

#### **"How Can We Keep Silent?"**

Jazz Worship

6th Sunday after Epiphany

Mark 9:2-9 (NIV)

Psalms 105: 1-6 (The Message)

Psalms 150 (MSG)

### **Wednesday, February 17th**

#### **"We've Got Work To Do."**

7:00 pm Virtual Service

Ash Wednesday

Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21 (MSG)

Isaiah 58:1-12 (MSG)

Psalms 51:1-17 (NIV)

### **Sunday, February 21st**

#### **God So Loves Us - By God's Forgiveness**

Psalms 25:1-10 (NIV)

1 Peter 3:18-22 (NIV)

Genesis 9:8-17 (MSG)

### **Wednesday, February 24th**

Prayer

Worship & Praise

### **Sunday, February 28th**

#### **God So Loves Us - By God's Promises**

Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16 (NIV)

Psalms 22:23-31 (MSG)

Mark 8:31-38 (MSG)



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## **Pastor Susan and Jim Send Off**

On Saturday, Trinity held a farewell drive thru in Trinity's south parking lot for Pastor Susan and Jim. Pastor Susan's last day will be Sunday, January 31. We all wish her well in her retirement and will greatly miss her infectious smile. Thanks to Worship and Arts for this great send off.





Trinity United Church of Christ  
4435 North Calhoun Road  
Brookfield WI 53005

Approved date: December 14, 2020

## Coronavirus (Covid-19) Policy Guidelines

**DEFINING DIRECT EXPOSURE** is defined as contact with a COVID-19 positive individual within 6 feet for at least 15 minutes in a day, regardless of mask usage or other personal protection equipment. If the result of the test is positive and you develop severe symptoms like: difficulty breathing, bluish lips or face, persistent pain or pressure in the chest, new confusion or trouble staying awake, you should notify your Physician to report symptoms **and** tell them you tested positive for coronavirus. This list is not all-inclusive. Please consult your Physician for any other symptoms that are severe or concerning.

### CONTACT TRACING

Anyone that tests Covid-19 positive, suspects they have been exposed to a Covid-19 positive person, exhibits signs & symptoms of Covid-19 will contact the Council President. If reported by another person, Council President will contact the suspected COVID-19 positive individual to identify anyone at Trinity who has had direct exposure to that individual while at a Trinity function. The window for contact tracing for a COVID-19 positive individual starts at the time the report is received and goes back to 48 hours before the COVID-19 positive individual's symptom onset or to 48 hours prior to a COVID-19 test if the individual was asymptomatic or 48 hours prior to suspected exposure.

### NOTIFICATIONS

Council President, in consultations with Pastor, will inform the Congregation at the next in-person Worship Service and will send explanatory letter (US Post Service and MailChimp or other methods) to members and friends listed in the current Church Directory. In addition, emails and phone calls will be made to Trinity Committees or groups and individuals who may have been directly affected.

### QUARANTINE

Those identified as having direct exposure are required to quarantine for 14 days from date of exposure, even if they test negative for COVID-19 during that time.

### FACILITY CLEANING

If/when a COVID-19 positive individual has been in Trinity, Council President receives notice and restricts access to areas that are potentially impacted. Deep cleaning of the potentially impacted areas is performed and all surfaces are disinfected.

Trinity is closed to all members except Pastor, Music Director, Audio Tech Administrator, Office Administrator and B&O Chair, Bookkeeper, Counter, Cleaning Crew, Custodian, Decorating Chair, Property Committee Members for repairs, and Council members, all who are deemed essential to the ongoing work of Trinity United Church of Christ, and anyone directly approved by the Council President or the Pastor.

### When can I stop isolation at home?

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), you may discontinue home isolation when:

- You have had no fever for 24 hours without using fever-reducing medication **and**
- Your symptoms have improved **and**
- At least fourteen (14) days have passed since symptoms first appeared or at least fourteen (14) days have passed since testing positive and if you didn't experience any symptoms.

**If you have an immunocompromising condition as determined by your Physician**, please consult your local public health department for additional recommendations.

**A mandatory sign in sheet** with the date indicated has been placed at the northwest door at Trinity and similar attendance sheets are mandatory for all Trinity related functions. For Trinity related functions, the attendance sheets will need to be submitted to office. If a group has been exposed or a possible exposure, the Council President will refer to the sign in documents to contact people in attendance.

## Mission Update

"Because of the good giving from the congregation, your Mission Committee was able to send Christmas gifts to these organizations in December:

Waukesha Food Pantry	\$1000.00
Hunger Task Force	\$1000.00
Guest House of Milwaukee	\$500.00
Hope House of Milwaukee	\$500.00

### Neighbors in Need:

\$200.00 UCC National Conference

### Christmas Fund:

\$200.00 UCC National Conference

These organizations were very grateful for the help they received from these gifts, as they were able to continue their work in the community.

Thank you from the Mission Community



## Welcome Pastor Dan!

Welcome Pastor Dan, Brenda and family to Trinity UCC in Brookfield, Wisconsin. Members and Friends here at Trinity are very excited about you joining us, virtually for now but outside, once the weather permits. For those who don't know, Pastor Dan has already met with most of the Council twice and with Worship & Arts and Mission Committees. He wanted to get to know the people on those committees and Council and wanted to help with the planning for the next three months of our faith journey together. This will take us into Lent and Easter. Those plans will be shared with everyone through Worship & Arts and Pastor Dan. In addition, the Spiritual Life Committee is working out a plan, with Pastor's input, to meet with the homebound on two Sundays in late February and mid-March. One of our members will accompany Pastor to each meeting and will offer Communion to homebound and any one else in their household who would like to partake. There is also going to be a Wednesday, virtual Lenten service and those details will be forthcoming in the next few weeks.

So, as Pastor Daniel J. Krueger begins his work among us as our Spiritual Leader and Pastor, let all of us remember to pray for his ministry at Trinity here in Brookfield. There will be opportunities to see him virtually, as he leads our worship services and to meet face to face, as soon as possible. You will all be informed in both our usual Thursday announcements and through our monthly newsletter, "BELLS" of all plans, services and special events. Pastor's installation will take place once we can safely join together in our sanctuary and will include a luncheon celebration. These are exciting times in the life of this congregation and we are blessed to have Pastor Dan lead us in the journey.

Council

2-1-2021



**February 14, 2021**

Jazz Worship Service - 10:00 a.m. on Youtube

New Orleans Brown Bag Lunch

Pickup from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 pm - in Trinity North Parking Lot

Enjoy Cajun Chicken Salad Po' Boy, Cajun Onion Soup,

and Praline Brownie.

All lunches must be pre-ordered with payments and received at Trinity by February 8, 2021. Don't miss out, send your orders in NOW.

Adults \$15.00 and Children \$7.00

All proceeds support the U.C.C. Mission in Back Bay, Mississippi.

Sponsored by Trinity's Mission Committee

Make check payable to Trinity United Church of Christ and mail with completed order form to Trinity at 4435 North Calhoun Road, Brookfield 53005

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**New Orleans Bag Lunch Order Form**

NAME: _____
NUMBER OF LUNCHES: _____
PHONE: _____
EMAIL: _____



## THE YEAR OF THE DOGS 2020 A.D.

*A Krueger Christmas Letter inspired by the comments of Gibson C. Krueger (the dog)  
Transcribed and interpreted by Dan. (Dan's commentary is in RED)*

Hello, my name is Gibson. Some of you have met me and some not. (that is all he said about himself) This year I have been on more walks than I can remember in my 13 years. It is a good life. My people have been home much more than usual. Not sure how I feel about this. (Knowing Gibson- he likes solitude for reflection and general laziness)

Cheyenne brought home an interloper named Nel. (Cheyenne graduated this year from UW-Platteville with a Bachelor of Science with a Major in Criminal Justice and Minor in Sociology. As she came home early in April due to this year's changes, we were introduced to her canine baby Ms. Nel a 1.5-year-old shelter rescue. Black Mouth Cur mix. Outweighs Gibson by 40lbs- although he won't tell us his weight). I like Cheyenne because she feeds me and gives me walks. Nel gets in my stuff. Nel chews on my toys. (The dogs have learned to kind of like each other, and Cheyenne currently is employed at Kohler Co. as a Security Officer. She is applying for work with the WI DNR. She temporarily lives with us in some newly created space in the lower level of the house with Nel the dog.)

Sierra likes me. She lets me sleep with her in her bed. Sometimes I go stay with her in Steven's Point. But now she has a new boy dog friend named Buddy. I'm still tryin' to figure him out. (Sierra is in her last semester at UW Steven's Point with a focus on obtaining a Bachelor's Degree Majoring in both Social Work and Sociology. She intends to work with Hospice counseling. She is employed at the school along with a waitressing job that she loves in town. Buddy is another shelter dog with some Boxer and maybe a bit of terrier...who knows? Has become good friends with Nel when visiting)

Jenna always brings two loud little people with her. They are annoying. They are too busy. She brings my brother Moses (the dog) sometimes and now there is another new crazy dog named Pretzel. She runs fast. (Jenna, Dave, Elliot (5), and Foster (3) are living in Plymouth near the high school. Dave is the Corporate Attorney for Bemis Manufacturing Co. and has retained some space in their home to perform his work virtually. Jenna is busy as a mom and homemaker and part time employed at Mainstream Boutique in Sheboygan. Jenna, Shaun and Dave also (when able) perform as the musical group Sister Winchester all around Eastern WI)

I like Elliot because he drops food when he eats. (Elliot is in Pre K and is loved by his classmates and teachers. He has become quite the dancer and his moves to Michael Jackson songs is something to witness. His creativity goes into making things with as much tape as he can find and loves doing Legos with his Dad.)

I like Foster because he drops food when he eats. (Foster is pure kid. Always moving and a contagious laugh. He enjoys being with his brother, but also can be quite creative in finding ways to entertain us all. He is becoming a very independent thinker and let's you know what is on his mind.)

Shaun doesn't have a dog and she let's me lick her face. She smells like cats. (Shaun is living in Appleton and is working as a Customer Service Specialist for BMO Harris Bank. Her playing with Jenna and Dave in Sister Winchester took a break during the unfortunate pandemic, but she still is writing songs preparing for when they are back out playing. She is engaged to Brian who is a self-employed Marketing and Web Designer and they enjoy spending time with Brian's son Broederick who graduated from H.S. this year and is living in TX. They're learning new things to cook during the "shut down" and are planning a wedding set for Sept 2021. Gibson was correct. Yes, she does have 2 cats, Joplin and Frazier)





Brenda feeds me. She takes me and Nel for walks. She lets me lead. She also takes me to the cottage. That is my happy place. I can run all over anywhere and nobody cares. I don't like it when she cuts my claws. That makes me crabby. She is always keeping me awake with that tall cleaner thing (vacuum) and the water gurgly spinning thing next to my house (Washer and Dryer). She is always doing stuff, she needs to take more naps like me. (Brenda continues to work part time as an Office Administrator at Lakeland Chiropractic. She also gets to spend Grandma time with Elliot and Foster for a few days each week helping to get them to school and daycare when needed. She is a master planner and is skilled at keeping everyone on schedule and in the know.)

You (Dan) let me nap in your office. You let me outside and you throw squeaker toys for me when I ask. I don't like that you don't drop food when you are eating. I know you want to. (No Gibson- I do not want to feed you like that. Others have that covered. This year I graduated with a Master of Divinity Degree from Chicago Theological Seminary, received Authorization of Call from the UCC and am happy to have received and accepted a call to be the settled  $\frac{1}{2}$  Time Pastor for Trinity UCC in Brookfield, WI. I begin as their sole Minister February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021. I still am happily employed with VTI Security as the WI Branch Manager, working 80% from home and then from our two offices in Menasha and West Allis, WI. Yes, still playing in my classic rock band "Charlie Bucket" and had the joy of recording 30 of our classic songs at a studio in Appleton this last winter. My service with St John's UCC will come to an end in Jan, and I will miss so many, but am looking forward to my new call! Many thanks to all who traveled with me on this journey so far.)

So not sure who is all reading this, but I will say that I am happy that my people are all healthy and able to take care of me. I haven't seen as many of you around this year, but I have heard there was something to do about keeping distance. I do that all the time. (Yes, he likes to keep to himself through out the day). I do miss seeing all of my peoples, but when I do see you, I'll make sure I wag my tail extra hard and show how happy I am that you are here. (I agree with Gibson on this, but I won't wag my tail...you'll just have to imagine that.) I am thankful for all that is given to me. Each moment I am surprised when you take time to talk or walk with me or even pat me on the head. I guess I am truly a blessed dog. I'll be even more blessed when you drop a piece of bacon on the floor. That is my favorite. Oh and tell Nel to stop smelling my butt.

Yes- God has truly blessed us and we look to the days forward with renewed joy and hope. This has been one of the most challenging years with schedule changes, separation, life events being very different and trying. If we learned a new term this year it was definitely "virtual"! Our love for all of you is not virtual but, in our hearts, as we pray the coming year will bring us all new opportunities to be together. Each of you are celebrated and loved!

Can we go for a walk now? Those squirrels on the porch are laughing at me again. (Yes Gibson.)



P.S. Thanks for bringin' that tree in. I've been making sure it's watered everyday for you. Just helpin' out. Gib