



# TRINITY BELLS

*A Publication of Trinity United Church of Christ  
An Open and Affirming Congregation  
4435 North Calhoun Road, Brookfield, WI 53005*



## “after the comma”

### Replacements

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**December 2023**



I was visiting recently with a cousin of mine and it was the first visit I had with her since she had knee replacement surgery. Now I’ve been very fortunate in my life to not have had to go through this style of surgery and it was a time for me to ask some questions about what she had experienced. Of course, the first question was how are you doing? I could see that her ability to walk was a bit of a challenge but knowing her- this was just a challenge that she was ready to take on. Talking with her mother- (she against her doctors and therapists’ recommendations) had gone back to work almost 6 weeks early. (By the way her mother has had both knees replaced also!) As she shook off our gasps of why you would risk going back so early – she began describing how it felt...this new part of her body. Researching the recovery, it says it can take up to a Year and sometimes a bit longer for the full recovery from this style of surgery. I would imagine knee, hip elbow replacements would have similar time frames. Yes, pain replaced with a new prosthetic within ones body can be quite an experience and takes much work by skilled surgeons, nursing care, therapy and the want of the patient to do what is needed to bring mobility without pain to fruition. It’s not easy and again, not having gone through it myself, I can only imagine.

But then my cousin brought up something that was intriguing and filled my mind with considerations I had not thought about before.

She was experiencing the feeling of something new, foreign in her body and this feeling was of what is this new thing- will it ever be accepted by the host limbs and tissue and most of all will it survive and become one with the whole?

## 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

Tuesday & Friday: 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

### Sunday Worship

**Worship:** 10:00 am

**Fellowship Hour:** Follows service

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

### Sunday School

12/10 – Christmas Program

Contact Kathy Haass ([KatydidHaass@gmail.com](mailto:KatydidHaass@gmail.com))  
with questions or for more information.

### Open to the Community

Worship, Sunday 10:00 am

Monday Quilters: 12/4, 12/11 – 8:30a-4:00p

### Staff & Lay Leaders

**Pastor:** Rev. Daniel Krueger

**Council President:** Mark Burbey

**Director of Music:** Mike Hetzel

**Administrative Assistant:** Mikey Hetzel

**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.

## Happy Birthday!!



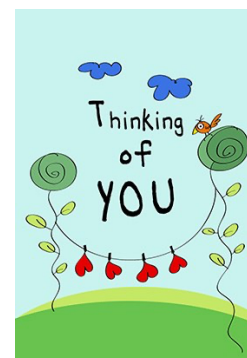
Christina Matthews .....12/3  
Ken Masch.....12/6  
Mike Hetzel.....12/9  
Roberta Stanley .....12/10  
Jeanne Zimmerman ..12/12  
Meghan Dahm .....12/14  
Lola Krainer .....12/22



Kathryn & Dan Dierbeck ..... 12/05/1981

## HOMEBOUND MEMBERS

Nancy Korslin  
Jerry Krainer  
Sherry Nuszbaum  
Joann Shue  
Fred Theilacker  
Marion Wandsneider  
Patricia Wendlandt





## Worship Services - Dec 2023

Sunday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>

Worship Service – 10:00 AM  
Communion

Sunday, December 10<sup>th</sup>

Worship Service – 10:00 AM  
Christmas Program  
Christmas Tea Following Worship

Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup>

Worship Service – 10:00 AM  
Celebration Singers Concert  
Council Meeting - 11:15 AM

Sunday, December 24<sup>th</sup>

Worship Service – 10:00 AM  
Christmas Eve Service – 4:00 PM

Sunday, December 31<sup>st</sup>

Worship Service – 10:00 AM

## Usher Teams

**December 3rd - Dahm Team,  
Group 5**

(Eric Dahm, Edith Heins, Tootie Seidel)

**December 10<sup>th</sup> - Halvorson Team,  
Group 1**

(Terri Allen, Emily Goblirsch, Kathy Haass, Joe Halvorson)

**December 17<sup>th</sup> - Mielke Team,  
Group 2**

(Sarah Dahm, Lori Krueger, Dave Mielke, Lynne Mielke, Naomi Stewart)

**December 24<sup>th</sup> - Stanley Team,  
Group 3**

(Kathy Dahm, Bob Stanley, Roberta Stanley, Linda Rube)

**December 31<sup>st</sup> - Frank Team,  
Group 4**

(Lou Frank, Jan Frank, Kathy Immekus)

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## CHRISTMAS AT TRINITY

Christmas can be a very busy time for some. We are inviting you to take some time from the busyness of the season and join us for worship and refresh your Christmas spirit.

Sundays, December 3, December 10, December 17, and December 24 are the four Sundays in Advent. Pastor Dan will do reflections on E-V-O-L, Love. The music and lessons will bring us joy. All services are at 10:00 AM.

Sunday, December 24, is the last lesson in Advent. It will be a "Come As You Are" service and you are invited to bring your cup of coffee or tea (or have one of ours) and enjoy a donut before the 10:00 AM service.

December 24 at 4:00 PM there will be the Christmas Candlelight Service for all.

Dec. 25, Christmas Day, 10:00 AM - view service online. (no in person worship service)

Take a breather, refresh your spirit, and join us in worship of our Lord, because "Jesus Is the Reason for the Season".

Worship and Arts



*Continued from page 1*

I found this on Curovate.com... “Many people with a knee replacement have a difficult time accepting their newly replaced knee as a normal part of their body. Accepting their new knee and having a good relationship with it is a very important aspect of recovery that is often overlooked.<sup>131</sup> Rather than just focusing on physical function, healthcare professionals are beginning to recognize the importance of understanding people’s feelings and perceptions toward their new knee.”

Yes she had a feeling of something being of help, but also of having a high degree of keeping her on notice of the change to her body...was there full trust in this new joints capabilities? Would it hold up when called upon to do strenuous things as the former joint had allowed before it became too painful and worn down? Not any questions that I could answer and for my cousin probably too soon to know as well.

It made me think of how we look at this time of Advent. We have had a year previous where we worked through the seasons, worked through what we had been asked to do and some was of joy, some of pain and sadness, some of war and some of new life. And now we get the chance again to bring in the newness of God’s gift. God’s transplant and replacement of the worn wants and ways of our human lives. Reattaching us to the love giving hope, joy and peace which Christ brings to our bodies of faith. God as surgeon has given us the procedure for finding love again when our world has caused us to move in pain with the extra weight of hate, prejudice and mistrust. Jesus comes in as a new way, a regenerative part of our spiritual bodies, but now we must do the work of receiving and recovering once again. Our prayers answered.

Just like my cousins new knee joint, we notice a newness within us...and if we truly believe in the power of love that our God bestow to our aching hearts and souls, we will begin to work through the exercises...strengthening our fledgling new love joints and limbs.

*And you can hear Jesus right next to us saying “keep going...you’ve got this and I’m right here”.*

The best part of all of this- is knowing all the world is given this same opportunity, this same surgery of the soul where we can find common ground. It takes our attention and our will to accept this love and give it as freely as it is given to us. Yes, accepting the replacement to our broken hopes, our fears and doubts with the new love moving joint woven onto our own limbs of life!

Hallelujah to the God Most High who knows how much we need Christ in our lives...it is the Way in which we live that can help all God’s children recover and renew for we have many more loves to do. May you find Hope, Joy, Peace and Love this Advent season. Amen

Pastor Dan



## POINSETTIA PLANT SALE

Poinsettia plants will again be available to purchase and will be used to decorate the sanctuary for the Christmas holidays.

The plants will be on sale for \$14.00 and are beautiful plants from Shady Lane Greenhouse. Order forms will be available at church on Nov. 19, Nov. 26, and Dec. 3.

All orders must be in by December 10, as no late orders will be accepted.

If you would like to order a plant but cannot get to church, please call Marlene Helinski at 262-246-3258, or Lynne Mielke at 262-547-0109.

The Worship and Arts team thanks you.



## Clothing Drive Success



Again this fall the clothing drive received many items. Three car loads of clothing were delivered to Saint Vincent de Paul. Your donations are very much appreciated.

## Stuffed Animals for Kindred Heart Families



Kindred Heart Families is located in Sheboygan and provides support products to children placed in foster and adoptive homes.

One of the items they include in their *Welcome Bags* is stuffed animals.

On December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> stuffed animals will be collected and can be placed under the Christmas tree in the sanctuary.

## Cup of Life



The Cup of Life Ladies will be busy come December. On Wednesday, December 6<sup>th</sup> they will car pool from the South Parking Lot at 9:30 and arrive at the Khristmas Kringle Shoppe in Fond du Lac at approximately 10:15. We will spend about 1 hour and 45 minutes there and then go to the Sawmill Inn in Richfield for lunch. If you haven't been to either place, you are in for a treat. The shoppe is 2 floors full of Christmas ornaments and other Christmas items such as Department 57 Christmas Village houses, fake snow, jewelry and other holiday treats. And Sawmill Inn makes wonderful homemade lunch and dinner entrees and great desserts.

On Saturday, December 9<sup>th</sup>, the Ladies will meet at Trinity's Dining Hall at 1:00pm to decorate for the Annual Roland Perschon Christmas Tea Coffee Hour. The Coffee Hour will be on Sunday, December 10<sup>th</sup> after worship. There will be three types of stollen, Christmas cookies, tea, coffee and other treats. Please make sure to come on down and enjoy some early Christmas cheer that morning.

If any ladies of Trinity are interested in joining us, please call Terri Allen or Lynne Mielke by Friday, December 1<sup>st</sup>.

## Trinity's First Pie Day....was it a success ??



You make the call; we had 13 pies brought to share and the tables in the dining hall were filled with smiling faces and happy tummies.

Pie Day was created as a memorial for Donna Brill, an active member of Trinity and Kathy Dahm's mother. Donna loved pies and her birthday was in November. Kathy wanted to create a special event to honor her Mom. I'm sure Donna would have loved it and be very proud.



Thank you to everyone that brought pies and to all of you who came down to enjoy them.

*Christian Nurture & Fellowship Committee*

# Mitten Tree



During the months of December, January and February the Mitten Tree will be in the Gathering Space.

You are invited to decorate it with mittens, gloves, hats and scarves that will be going to the Hope Center in Waukesha.



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## Food Collection for the Waukesha Food Pantry





*Hi Kids,  
Here is part 2 of the story about Gideon.*

## Gideon – part 2

God had something a little different in mind. He told Gideon he had too many men in his army. He knew that Israel would think they defeated the Midianites on their own without God's help.

So God said to Gideon, "Announce to the people, 'Anyone whose afraid may go home now'." Amazingly twenty-two thousand of the men left! That's a lot of people! More than half of the whole army went home. Only ten thousand stayed.

Gideon still felt alright. At least they had ten thousand men, right? Not for long. The Lord told Gideon he still had too many men.

When they went down to the water for a drink the Lord told him, "Separate the men that drink the water like a dog and the ones that get on their knees and drink from their cupped hands."

I'm thinking this took quite a while with all those men but Gideon did it. It's surprising, but only three hundred men got on their knees and drank from their hands. All the rest looked silly drinking like dogs!

God told Gideon that he only wanted the three hundred men and the rest were supposed to go home. This way when they won, the Israelites would know that God was in control with only three hundred men left.

Gideon didn't know how God was going to help them win. There were so many Midianites against just three hundred of them so he worried and wasn't getting any sleep. So, God decided to help Gideon and make him feel better about things.

During the night the Lord spoke to Gideon, "If you are still afraid that I'm going to help you win, go down in the valley with your servant Purah where the Midianites are staying and listen to what they're saying. You'll feel much better after that."

Guess what Gideon did? He was still afraid and took Purah and snuck down to the Midianite camp. Just as he arrived he heard one of them talking to his friend about a dream he had. He was saying, "I dreamt that a round loaf of bread came rolling into our camp. It came so fast that it ran right into one of our tents and made it fall over."

His friend responded, "This must mean the sword of Gideon and that God will help him defeat the Midianites."

As soon as Gideon heard this he worshiped God and ran back to the camp. He returned and called out, "Get up, the Lord has given us the Midianite camp!"





He divided all the men in three groups and gave them all trumpets and empty jars with torches inside.

Gideon and the men surrounded the camp in the three groups (remember they were up high looking down into the valley). When Gideon started to blow his trumpet the rest followed.

They blew their trumpets and yelled, "For the Lord and for Gideon!" Then they broke the jars they were carrying, holding onto the torches with one hand and the trumpet in the other hand shouting, "A sword for the Lord and for Gideon!"

When the Midianites heard this they started yelling and running around. Then when all the trumpets started again the Lord caused the Midianites to start freaking out and they started to turn on each other with their swords.

The rest that got away were captured by the men of Ephraim by the Jordan because Gideon sent messengers ahead of them to let them know they were coming.

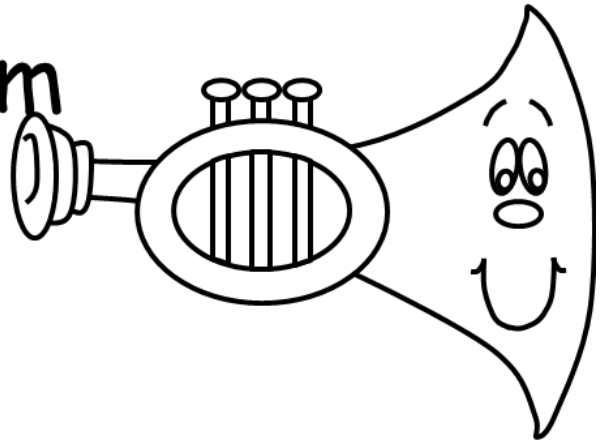
That was the day God saved Gideon and defeated the Midianites. Without God none of this was possible. I hope that after this Gideon learned his lesson and stopped worrying. With God nothing is impossible!

Next time you're in a tough situation know that God can give you strength and he wants to help you. Just ask and He will!



Unscramble the letters to find the words in our

# Gideon Anagram



ceeefl \_\_\_\_\_

hioprs \_\_\_\_\_

adhnosstu \_\_\_\_\_

aekstw \_\_\_\_\_

aiorrrw \_\_\_\_\_

adeiiimnst \_\_\_\_\_

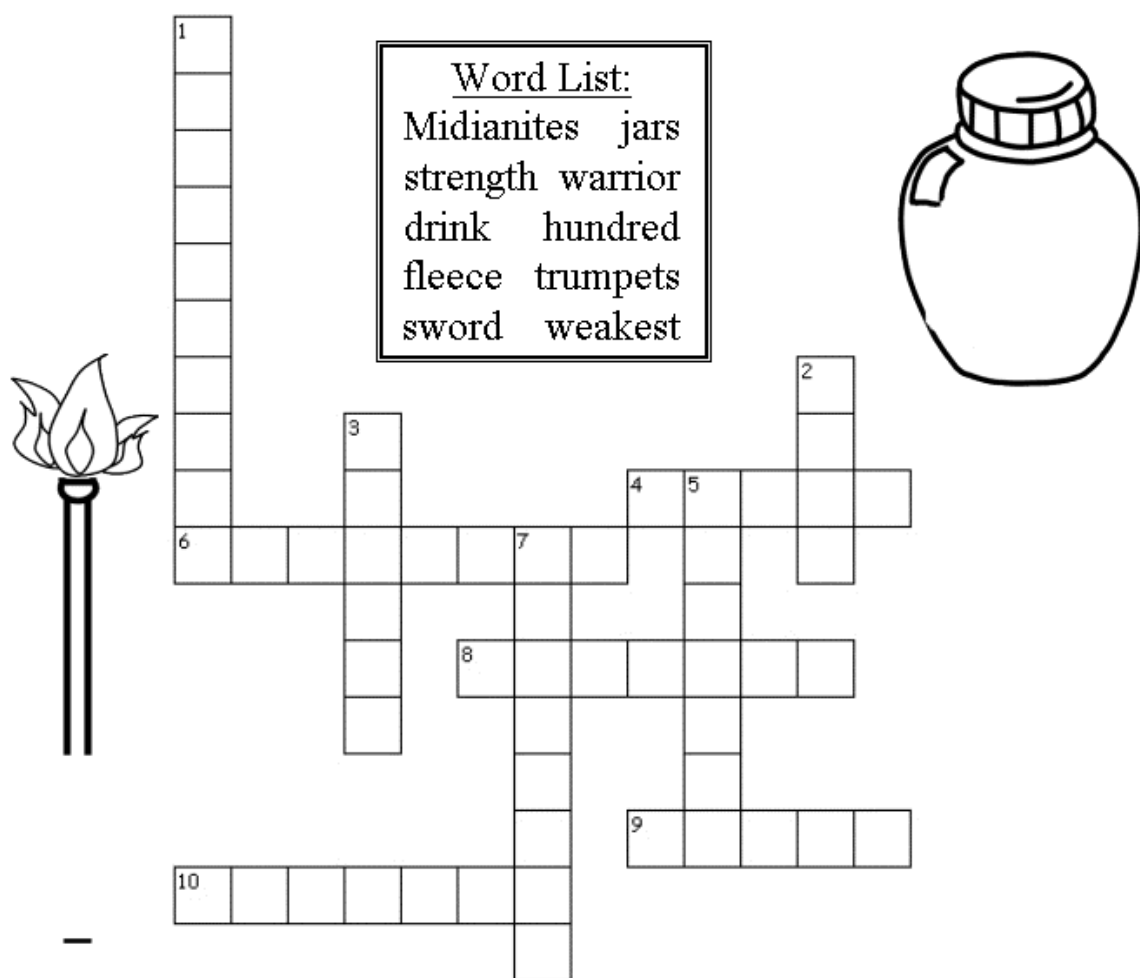
aacktt \_\_\_\_\_

emprsttu \_\_\_\_\_

eghnrstt \_\_\_\_\_

cehorst \_\_\_\_\_

# Gideon Crossword



## Across

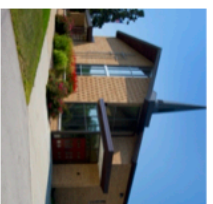
- The Israelite army chanted: The \_\_\_\_ of the Lord and of Gideon.
- It was God's \_\_\_\_ that won the battle for the Israelites.
- The army started out being thousands and ended up being three \_\_\_\_.
- The army got smaller after God asked Gideon to watch the men do this.
- Gideon thought he was the \_\_\_\_ in his clan, but God didn't see him that way.

## Down

- These were the people that God helped Gideon defeat.
- The army carried trumpets and broke these to scare the Midians.
- Gideon wanted to see if this was wet and the ground was dry.
- When the angel approached Gideon he called him a mighty \_\_\_\_.
- There was no fighting. The army blew these and scared the Midian's away.

# December 2023

Revised 12/3/23



**TRINITY UCC  
BROOKFIELD**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26	27	28	29	30	Office Open 9:00 a - 12:00 p	2
Worship 10:00 am 3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Communion	Monday Quilters 8:30 am - 4:00 pm, DH	Office Open 9:00 a - 12:00 p	Cup of Life Christmas Kringle 9:45 am Mission Meeting 1:00 pm, DH	Office Open 9:00 a - 12:00 p	Office Open 9:00 a - 12:00 p	Cup of Life Set Up Dining Hall 1:00 - 3:00 pm
Worship 10:00 am 10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Christmas Program Following Worship	Monday Quilters 8:30 am - 4:00 pm, DH	Office Open 9:00 a - 12:00 p	Confirmation Class 5:30 - 7:30 pm	W&A Meeting 1:00 pm, DH Property Meeting 3:00 pm, DH	Office Open 9:00 a - 12:00 p	
Worship 10:00 am 17	18	19	20	21	22	23
Celebration Singers Concert Council 11:15 am		Office Open 9:00 a - 12:00 p			Office Open 9:00 a - 12:00 p	
Worship 10:00 am 24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Christmas Eve Service 4:00 pm	Christmas Day Broadcast (no In-person worship)	Office Open 9:00 a - 12:00 p			Office Open 9:00 a - 12:00 p	
Worship 10:00 am 31	1					

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