

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"

The Games People Play

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In my reflection this month for the New Year, it comes to mind one of my most cherished activities...playing games!

There are many games throughout the years have been my favorites, and there are plenty of old standards. Monopoly, Stratego, Chess, Risk (who doesn't like World domination?), Loopin' Louey, and of course the card games. Sheephead (Schkopf), Cribbage, Poker, Rummy just to name a few. Some of the newer ones such as Settlers of Catan, or Wavelength are very much built on the premise of not just playing together but having to interact. In fact, in Catan, for you to succeed you have to have dialogue and trade with each other in order to survive. Compromise along with trust and vulnerability. But of course, most if not all games are made so that a winner can be crowned. My childhood and adulthood have been blessed by the games that brought friends and family together- which is the true meaning of multi-player games. I found this quick listing from a library assistant in Pennsylvania that aligned a bit with my thoughts about games and why we play.

Some Benefits of Playing Board Games (Bucks County Free Library, Doylestown, PA)

- *Playing board games brings people closer, strengthens relationships, and can help you meet new people.*
- *Playing board games increases brain function.*
- *Playing board games teaches you how to set goals and be patient.*
- *Playing board games is great for reducing stress and makes for laughter.*
- *Playing board games creates more happiness*

written by Pat S., Youth Services Assistant, Bensalem Branch

January 2023



TRINITY UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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

Email: contact@trinitybrookfield.org

Web Site: 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

1/8, 1/22

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

Open to the Community

Worship, Sunday 10:00 am

Troop 21:

Monday Quilters: 1/16, 1/30, 8:30 am - 4:00 pm

Staff & Lay Leaders

Pastor: Rev. Daniel Krueger

Council President: Kathy Immekus

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!!



Arnold Dahm..... 1/16

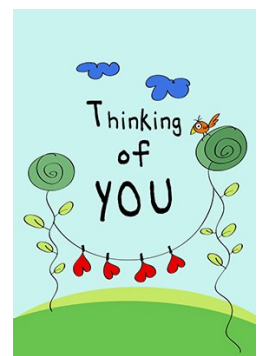
Janice Fredrick..... 1/18

Peg Zahn 1/26



HOMEBOUND MEMBERS

Beverly Littmann
Marion Wandsneider
Fred Theilacker
Joann Shue
Nancy Korslin



Worship Services January 2023

Sunday, January 1st
Worship Service – 10:00 AM

Sunday, January 8th
Worship Service – 10:00 AM

Sunday, January 15th
Worship Service – 10:00 AM

Sunday, January 22nd
Worship Service – 10:00 AM

Sunday, January 29th
Worship Service – 10:00 AM

*It was an outstanding
performance.....*



Trinity's Sunday School & the Celebration Singers presented The Christmas Story on December 11th. The children excelled in their performances which were enhanced by the Celebration Singers. We hope you all enjoyed our presentation. Thank you kids for your hard work you did great, the Celebration Singers for the musical backup and thank you Jill Gretenhart for the on stage support.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Kathy Immekus	Jan. 1
Mike Hetzel	Jan. 8
Mark Burbey	Jan. 15
Robin Komassa	Jan. 22
Pastor Dan	Jan. 29

If you're unable to do your scheduled date, please contact Kathy Immekus.



Continued from page 1

For sure there is always an element of luck that is within any game especially when the game is new to the participants. This gives many games the mystery of why we play...the unknown- which can make any game new and exciting. If I won all the time- who would want to play? (Ask my kids about the game Risk... 😊)

This coming month on January 22, we will be having the first of our 2023 church gatherings in the fellowship hall. After our time in Worship, we will be fed some wonderful chili made by our very own in-house chef's and are being asked to stay around a bit for some games during and afterward. Yes, this is a bit of a plug for this event, but I am really am excited to see how we respond to this call of fellowship. We have done so many great things already and one of the most encouraging happenings I get to witness are how the varying groups in the life of the church gather and spend time. Sure, we are doing the work of the church in creating opportunities for service and mission and this is good and worthy, but we shouldn't forget about how we play together.

In fact, we as parents looked to our children to know how to play together. Things like sharing, taking turns, helping others, laughter and even empathy when we saw someone was struggling with the game or play, and these are life/love skills for the ages. I remember my parents making sure that my play was not restricted and would make sure all the children present were asked to play. If they declined, that was okay- all had the opportunity. I know this begins to sound a bit utopian, but isn't that the goal? Our play together can be a meaningful reminder of what our God wishes for us to be embracing and inviting to others to play and work along. James Howell is credited for the 1659 Proverb;

"All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy, All play and no work makes Jack a mere toy."

Yes there is a balance, but there is a way to encourage and support others in both work and play. I do believe that God does want us to play together.

We have much work to do in helping to build God's Kindom, and we are given much to work with including each other. My hope is that we also find that we can play together. Reminding each other that we are the children of God, that we are siblings in Christ, and we are blessed to be in the game of life and love together. By the way, we know the rules already... 😊 !

Let's play! God, we thank you for the work and play of our lives together. May we bring to each the needed love and attention so that all of your children can be in the game. Amen!

Pastor Dan



Cup of Life

Ladies of Cup of Life have been very busy this fall. During our November and December meetings, 100 Christmas Cards and bookmarks were made and delivered to the Congregational Home on Burleigh. Then in December, we held our 2nd Christmas Tea in honor of Roland Perschon. Hoping everyone had a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Our meetings are held on the 1st Wednesday of each month. Contact Terri Allen, Lynne Mielke or Jan Schuster if you have any questions.



Chili Lunch Sunday, January 22nd after worship service



We are looking for people to bring chili and also for those of you that don't cook side items are needed also. The sign-up sheet is located in the gathering space on the pedestal bulletin board. All are welcome to come and join in the good eats, whether you bring an item or not. We are asking for a free-will offering to help supplement the Samaritan Fund (aka Pastor's Discretionary Fund). Any questions, contact your Mission Committee.

Laissez Les Bon Temps Roulez

Let the good times keep rolling after the Jazz Worship Service on February 19th and come on down to the Dining Hall for lunch. The Mission Committee will be serving Pulled Pork Sandwich, Mac & Cheese Salad, and Stranger Cake.

See Dave Mielke or Joe Halvorson for tickets. Adults are \$15.00 and children are \$7.00. Let us know if want carry-out. All proceeds will go to Back Bay Mission in Back Bay, Mississippi.



Happy New Year kids! Last month your story was about Mary and Joseph and their baby Jesus. After Jesus was born he was visited by Kings or sometimes called Wise Men. This month's story is about the Wise Men that found Jesus.



The Wise Men

During the time when Jesus was born, there was a very mean king who ruled the land. His name was King Herod. Remember his name, because we will talk about him later.

Soon after Jesus was born, wise men were traveling on their camels. One night they noticed a very strange star in the sky. They knew that this star meant that the King of the Jews, the One who would save the world had been born.

When the mean King... (What was his name again?) Herod heard this he got very worried.

He called a meeting with all the other important people in the area and asked them where this special baby had been born. The people replied, "In Bethlehem." The knew this because they heard that one day a special person would come from there and take care of all the people.

Then King Herod called the wise men to a secret meeting and found out from them exactly where they saw the star. He then told them, "Go and find this child. As soon as you find him, tell me, so that I can go and worship him."

After they had spoken to the King, the wise men left to find the baby. They didn't know exactly where the baby was, but at night they followed the star in the east. They followed the star until it hung right over the very place where Jesus was.

When they finally had arrived they were very excited and happy. They found Jesus lying in Mary's arms, and they bowed down and worshipped him.

They opened the gifts they had brought Jesus. The gifts were gold, frankincense, and myrrh. These were very expensive gifts; these were gifts that you would give to a King, not to a baby. Mary thanked them for bringing the gifts for Jesus, and the wise men went to find a place to sleep for the night.

As the wise men slept, they each had the same dream. They were not to go back and tell King Herod where they found Jesus. King Herod didn't want to find Jesus to worship him; instead he wanted to kill him because he was jealous that this baby would someday be better than him.

So the wise men went home another way so that Herod would not know where they had come from. They also decided that they would not tell King Herod anything about what they had seen.

When the wise men had left, an angel appeared to Joseph in a dream. "Get up," the angel said, "take Jesus and Mary and run away to Egypt. Stay there until I come to you again, because Herod is going to search for Jesus to kill him."

(continued)

Joseph immediately got up and woke Mary. She gently picked up Jesus so he wouldn't wake from his sleep. They left in the middle of the night for Egypt, so no one would see them.

They were safe in Egypt, and after King Herod died an angel appeared to Joseph and told him he could go to a place called Nazareth. And that is where Jesus grew up.

Mary and Joseph soon fell asleep; they were so glad to have this special baby join their family.

Winter Word Search

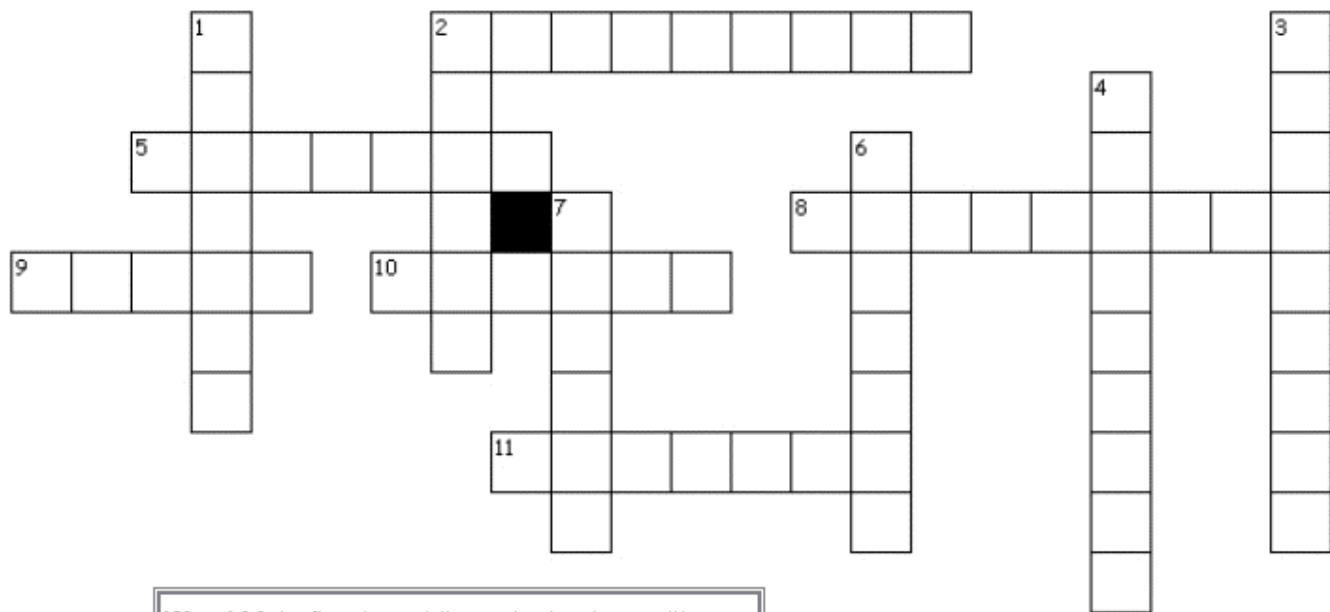
F S N O W M A N Y P V W R U E
X I U E I L I G O F I A R H T
U C R C T U O L D N G K L I A
C S E E G I A Z T S O R F B R
C N O N P R H E O M H Q C E G
H M E P B L R W C Y P K M R I
I P O E E K A L F W O N S N M
L O A G T O Q C I Z U C P A U
L R Z A K O C P E I J J D T Z
Y T H O T C H O C O L A T E J

chilly
fireplace
frost
hibernate
hot chocolate
migrate



penguin
polar bear
snowflake
snowman
white
winter

Winter Crossword



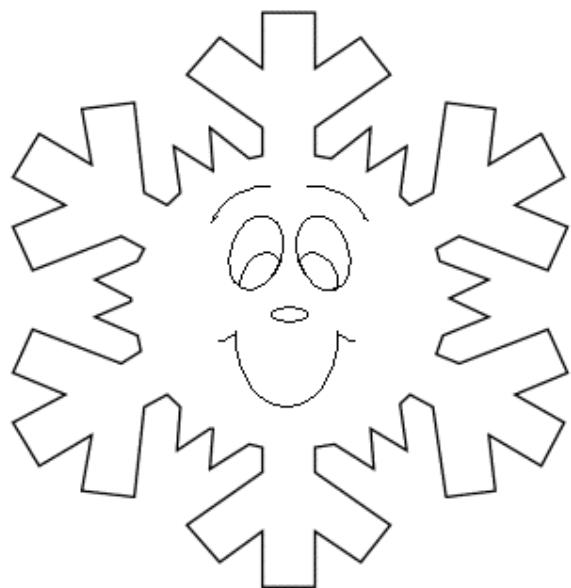
Word List: fireplace, hibernate, hockey, mittens, penguin, polarbear, skidoo, skiing, snowflake, snowman, sweater, white

Across

- no two are alike
- tuxedo with feathers
- light a fire here to keep warm on chilly days
- winter's favorite color
- twelve sticks and one puck
- frosty fellow with a carrot nose

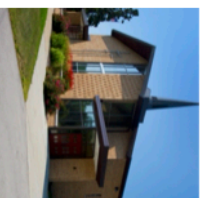
Down

- grandma will knit you one to keep you warm
- winter vehicle for off road travel
- some animals do this all winter
- white teddy
- covers for cozy hands
- strap two sticks on your feet and swoosh down a hill



January 2023

Revised 1/3/23



**TRINITY UCC
BROOKFIELD**

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Worship 10:00 am Communion Hymn Sing	1	2	Office Open 3 9:00 am - 12:00 pm	4 Confirmation Class 4:00pm - 5:30pm Ed. Wing	5	Office Open 6 9:00 am - 12:00 pm	7
Worship 10:00 am -Sunday School	8	9	Office Open 10 9:00 am - 12:00 pm	11 W&A Meeting 1:00 pm, DH Property Meeting 3:00 pm, DH	12	Office Open 13 9:00 am - 12:00 pm	14
Worship 10:00 am	15	16	Office Open 17 9:00 am - 12:00 pm	18 Confirmation Class 4:00pm - 5:30pm Ed. Wing	19	Office Open 20 9:00 am - 12:00 pm	21
Worship 10:00 am -Sunday School	22	23	Office Open 24 9:00 am - 12:00 pm	25 Meeting 9:00 am - 1:00 pm, DH	26	Office Open 27 9:00 am - 12:00 pm	28
Worship 10:00 am	29	30	Office Open 31 9:00 am - 12:00 pm	1	2	3	4
Worship 10:00 am	5	6	<p><i>Trinity is an Open and Affirming Church</i></p> <p> contact@trinitybrookfield.org 262-781-9378 www.trinitybrookfield.org </p>				