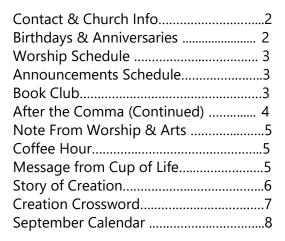




A Publication of Trinity United Church of Christ An Open and Affirming Congregation 4435 North Calhoun Road, Brookfield, WI 53005





September 2021





"after the comma"

The Need of Hospitality

As I write this article, I am overwhelmed by so many things that have happened over the last month.

We've experienced with our sisters and brothers floods, fires, droughts, war, peace, baptisms, hospital stays, Olympic sport, pandemic, healing, death, birth, new life, oppressive heat, bombs, refugees, back to school, humidity, rest, lament, community, social unrest, family, work, prayer, murders, prosperity, deprivation, joy, despair, hope, pain, love and the constant invitation that God is with us in all. It seems if someone were to read all of these there would be a question of why? Why all of this? For those who feel God is not present, the claim would be God is not a caring or compassionate god. Can we argue our belief that God does indeed love us when all of these things seem so desperate and random? Our collective cry would be to have things easy..." God- give us only the good stuff and spare us from all of the things that try us and give us hardship!"

Is this God's role in our lives? Must God in order to be worshipped by us, be the giver of only the good things? I believe God gives us all we need to accomplish what this life is, it is our privilege as the heirs of God's love and Jesus's kinship that we bring ourselves into every situation.

Our hearts ache when we see injustice and hear the cry of those oppressed and unserved. That is our role and also our call to be involved. Our hearts bleed with the pulse of hospitality that wants to be the welcoming embrace for those lost in the myriad of all of life's challenges. We want to extend our hand of friend-ship exposing ourselves to the other saying we also have experiences that have tried us, but right now we are present to you. Or maybe it is ourselves that needs to be embraced, served.

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 & Thursday: 9:00 am - 11:00 am

Sunday Worship

Worship: 10:00 am

Fellowship Hour: Follows service

Holy Communion: First Sunday of the Month

(unless noted otherwise)

Sunday School

In-person classes begin September 19, 2021.

Classes will be in session during worship service.

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

Open to the Community

Worship, Sunday 10:00 am On Hold: Game Nights

Boy Scouts Troop 21: 9/12, 6:00 pm Quilters: 9/20, 8:30 am- 4:00 pm

Staff & Lay Leaders

Pastor: Rev. Daniel Krueger

Council Interim Convener: 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!!

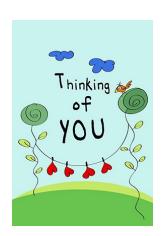
Marlene Helinski Michaela Faulk Joe Halvorson Bob Stanley Sherry Nuszbaum Cooper Brown Paula Matthews Robin Komassa



Connie & Matthew Koch John & Norine Schroeder Jan & Lou Frank

HOMEBOUND MEMBERS

Beverly Littmann Marion Wandsneider Fred Theilacker Joann Shue Lola & Jerry Krainer



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Worship Services - September 2021

Sunday, September 5th Worship Service - 10:00 A.M.

Sunday, September 12th Worship Service - 10:00 A.M.

Sunday, September 19th Worship Service - 10:00 A.M.



Sunday, September 26th Worship Service - 10:00 A.M.



Announcements Schedule

9/5 Mike Hetzel

9/12 Pastor Dan

9/19 Kathy Immekus

9/26 Robin Komassa

Could all Committee Chairs please get your announcements for the following Sunday to the appropriate Council member by Wednesday morning of that week.

Thank You all.

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One of the lessons I learned from being in the food service industry is that we are constantly learning from our mistakes. There are some great recipes and techniques that worked, but just as many that have been tried and failed. Think about the first time you ever set a table. Were the utensils set in the correct order? Did the napkin belong on the right or the left? What plates were for salads or appetizers? (As I write this, I realize- how non-inclusive we were with those who are left handed? Seems all my place settings were geared to right handed folks...something to think about...). The more we learned about how to be servers, the more we learned about the importance of listening, grace, forgiveness and just being present. When someone sat at our table, we did not necessarily know what their situation was. Maybe this meal was a celebration, or maybe it was a somber gathering where someone they loved had just received bad news. Maybe a fight had just occurred, or an expectation had not been fulfilled. Perhaps they just needed to experience that someone could take care of them. The cynic in me says that they would expect us as servers that we would be in a position to understand their needs, and in some respects- rightly so. The challenge here is that we don't know and should not assume to know what is best for these others in our lives. What we can do is be "hospitality" in a way that exclaims we are together in this human experience.

We as the church are built on the inclusion of all of those who encounter our faith. As a Faith community we can become a refuge and a place of celebration, that within our very presence, those we meet can feel the connection of love and care. This love that proclaims we don't have all the answers, we don't have all the right things to say and do, but we are willing to walk alongside you and find these things together with God's grace and the glory of the Good News!

We as Christ's disciples will find sometimes, we are not as attentive as we need to be, but that is why we have each other, thank God! Not to call out the mistakes and missteps of others- judging, but rather to know that we are still within the experience of how to love and we are not perfect. Hospitality says we have prepared a place at the table for you, and we are so glad you are here as someone had done just the same for us...and now we can practice hospitality together. I know there are many more tables we will set, and just as important, there are many tables that we will be served at. We are asked to be gracious at both as we have been taught by Christ in our response to God's ultimate invitation to love!

After all of this, each of us should ask the next question, "Can you please tell me what is the '**special**' of the day? What has God prepared for me?" I'm sure it is something spectacular and no reservation needed. Order this...:)!

Together in service and hospitality!

Pastor Dan





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A Note From Worship & Arts

Worship and Arts would like to thank Kahney Rohrig for the art work she has created in the form of small quilts that hang on the front of the music stand that is used in our sanctuary. Kahney has made several pieces that are hung there at various times.

The latest one is that of a pineapple, which is the symbol of hospitality and friendship.

Thank you Kahney for the giving of your time and talents to Trinity. It is greatly appreciated!



Coffee Hour

We have resumed Sunday morning Coffee Hour after worship service. A time to have something to drink, a treat to munch and most important time to chat with our Trinity family. This activity can only happen if you sign up to host. There is a sign up sheet by the kitchen, pick a date and sign your name. Coffee, tea and lemonade are provided. If you want to bring a special treat too, that is great, if not there are cookies in the pantry. If you never have been in the kitchen to operate the coffee machine, dishwasher or know where all the supplies are, not to worry, training is available. So check your calendar and on Sunday morning sign up for a date, if you need some instructions on the machines, contact a member of the CNF committee and we will be there. Let's continue this special social event and volunteer to host.





Cup Of Life

Cup of Life is calling all women of Trinity, friends and members, to join us on Wednesday, September 8th at our annual Cedar Valley Retreat. Judy Nelson will lead us in a day filled with prayer, song and reflection centered around the theme of "HOPE".

Participants will leave Trinity's South Parking lot at 8:45am sharp and car pool to the Retreat House. The program will start when we arrive around 10:00am and break for lunch. After lunch, prepared by the staff, there will be time for some strolling through the maze, visiting the chapel and the beautiful grounds before we gather again for our afternoon session. We should be back in Brookfield sometime after 4:00pm.

Cup of Life has been hosting Women's Retreats for almost 20 years. It is a wonderful time for the women of Trinity to deepen their friendships and strengthen their religious foundation as Christian members of the United Church of Christ.

If you have any questions, reach out to any of the ladies mentioned above. We look forward to sharing a late summer day together praying, singing and reflecting.

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Hi Kids,

Now that school is starting, I thought it would be good to start our lessons with the very beginning of our world. This month's story is that of Creation, big word, you will understand the meaning as you read the story. Enjoy and good luck with the crossword puzzle.

Book of Genesis: Chapter 1

In the beginning there was no earth or sky or sea or animals. And then God spoke in the darkness: "Let there be light!" And right away there was light, scattering the darkness and showing the endless space. "That's good!" said God. "From now on, when it's dark it will be 'night' and when it's light, it will be 'day'."

The evening came and the night passed and then the light returned. That was the first day. On the second day, God made the earth and over it He carefully hung a huge blue sky. He stood back and admired His creation. "That's good too!" said God and the second day was over

The next morning God looked around and thought, "The earth needs to be a bit more organized." So, He put all the water in one place and all the dry land in another. When He had finished that, God made plants to cover the land. Dandelions and daffodils appeared. All sorts of trees and grasses began to grow. "It's looking great," said God and that was the end of the third day.

On the fourth day, God looked around and thought, "The daylight still needs a bit more work and the night is just too dark." So, He made the sun to light the sky during the day and the moon and stars to add a bit of sparkle to the night. He hung them in the sky and stepped back to look at his work. "This is coming along very well," said God.

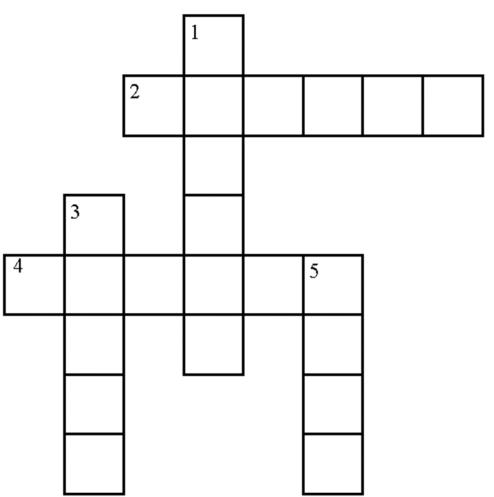
The next day, God turned his attention to the water he had collected in the oceans. "I want these waters packed with life!" As soon as He said it, it was so. In no time, there were millions of small fish darting through the shallow water and huge fish swimming in the ocean. God made birds, too. He sent them soaring through the air. "Ahh, that IS good!" said God. The dusk fell over the water and the sky grew dark and that was the end of the fifth day. On the sixth day, God added creatures to the land. He made lions and tigers and bears. He made rabbits and sheep and cows. He added everything from ants to zebras to the land. But He still felt something was missing. So God added Mankind to enjoy and take care of all that He had created. God looked around and was happy with all He had made.

After six days, the whole universe was completed. On the seventh day God had a nice long rest and enjoyed looking at all He had made.



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Creation Crossword



ACROSS

- 2. On the _____ day God made the sky.
- 4. God separated the _____ from the sky.

DOWN

- 1. He called the sky _____
- 3. He called the land _____
- 5. He called the waters _____

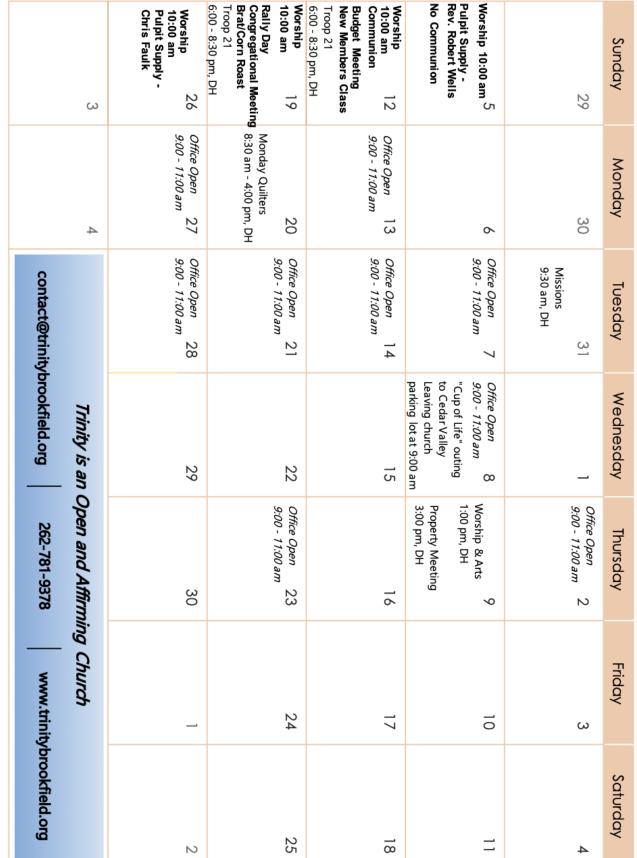


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