



August/September Newsletter 2023

Pastor's Office Hours

Pastor Tarrah will begin keeping regular office days/hours at Holy Ghost Darmstadt from 9am-3pm on Wednesdays. Drop in to visit, chat, and perhaps have a cup of coffee. If you would like to meet with Pastor Tarrah outside of this day and times, please don't hesitate to reach out! Visits and appointments can be arranged to come to you as well.

Church Phone: 618-475-2958

Church E-mail: holyghost@wisperhome.com



Mental Health Ministry

On Sunday, May 21st, a congregational meeting was held to vote on becoming WISE congregations. The vote passed unanimously and have begun looking forward to the best practices as Welcoming Inclusive Supportive and Engaged congregations for those with Mental Illnesses. If you are interested in being a part of our

WISE Mental Health committee, please let Pastor Tarrah or another committee member know so we can include you in our monthly meetings.

Join us for our first Mental Health Ministry gathering on Sunday, September 17th immediately following worship! We will be discussing and learning about depression symptoms, diagnoses, treatment, and spiritual care. Future programming will include Suicide First Aid Training, Grief Support, and Mental Illness education workshops.

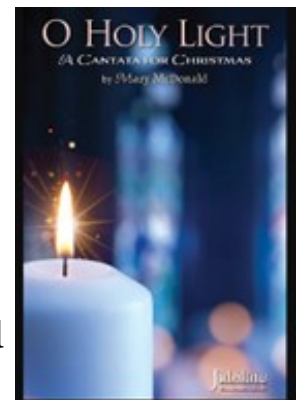
Christmas Cantata 2023

Save the date for our combined Christmas Cantata 2023!

On Saturday, December 16th we shall gather at

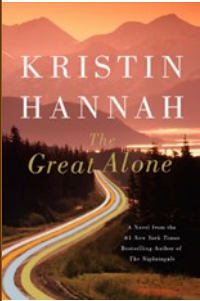
Holy Ghost Darmstadt at 2pm to join our voices with singers from neighboring congregations to present,

“O Holy Light: A Christmas Cantata.” Combined rehearsals for the Cantata will begin on Wednesday, September 13th at 5pm and will continue each Wednesday through December 13th.



Book Club News

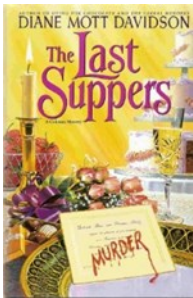
Our Book Club just finished reading “You Can’t Ride a Bike to Alaska. It’s an Island!” By Mickey Thomas and “Cereal Murders” by Diane Mott Davidson. Our next book club meeting will be held on **Wednesday, August 30th at 6pm.** We are reading two books for our next gathering. Check out more about them below. ALL are welcome to join us at anytime. If you aren’t a reader, we try to choose selections that are available via audio books as well. Reading the books in their entirety aren’t a requirement to attend either. There is plenty of conversation to keep everyone engaged whether you’ve read the book or not! Join us 😊



“The Great Alone” by Kristin Hannah

Unpredictable. Unforgiving. Untamed. For a family in crisis, the ultimate test of survival.

Ernt Allbright, a former POW, comes home from the Vietnam War a changed and volatile man. When he loses yet another job, he makes an impulsive decision: He will move his family north, to Alaska, where they will live off the grid in America's last true frontier. Thirteen-year-old Leni, a girl coming of age in a tumultuous time, caught in the riptide of her parents' passionate, stormy relationship, dares to hope that a new land will lead to a better future for her family. She is desperate for a place to belong. Her mother, Cora, will do anything and go anywhere for the man she loves, even if means following him into the unknown. At first, Alaska seems to be the answer to their prayers. In a wild, remote corner of the state, they find a fiercely independent community of strong men and even stronger women. The long, sunlit days and the generosity of the locals make up for the Allbrights' lack of preparation and dwindling resources. But as winter approaches and darkness descends on Alaska, Ernt's fragile mental state deteriorates and the family begins to fracture. Soon the perils outside pale in comparison to threats from within. In their small cabin, covered in snow, blanketed in eighteen hours of night, Leni and her mother learn the terrible truth: They are on their own. In the wild, there is no one to save them but themselves. In this unforgettable portrait of human frailty and resilience, Kristin Hannah reveals the indomitable character of the modern American pioneer and the spirit of a vanishing Alaska—a place of incomparable beauty and danger. The Great Alone is a daring, beautiful, stay-up-all-night story about love and loss, the fight for survival, and the wildness that lives in both man and nature.



“The Last Suppers” by Diane Mott Davidson

This is the 4th book in this series that our book club has enjoyed reading. We’ve also enjoyed creating some of the recipes that are contained in each of her books, and have feasted on them during our meetings.

“It should be the happiest day of Goldy’s life. The Colorado caterer is about to tie the knot with the man of her dreams, homicide detective Tom Schultz. But minutes before the ceremony is to begin, Tom phones with an urgent message: The wedding is off, and the reason is murder!

Tom was on his way to the church when he stopped to pick up Father Olson—and found the rector shot and dying. Yet by the time Tom’s fellow officers arrive at the crime scene, Tom has disappeared. Has the groom been abducted by the killer? Or has he gotten cold feet and walked out of Goldy’s life?

For better or worse, Goldy needs to know the truth. So she puts her exquisitely decorated wedding cake on ice and begins to search for clues. Her fiancé’s life—and her future happiness—will lead her to an unsavory killer whose unholy passion make Goldy a widow before she’s a wife.

Featuring original recipes for such heavenly delights as monster cinnamon rolls, savory shrimp on wheels, and sinful first wasp latkes! such enticing delights as Sugar Plum Cake and Sweetheart Sandwiches leave the reader satisfied, yet hoping for more.”



PRAYER LIST (long term)

Richard Juenger, Les Erb, Dorothy Herzog, Vicki Black, Larry Wagner, Bradley Funk, and Lucas (3-year-old with leukemia in Darmstadt).

PRAYER LIST (short term)

People of Ukraine, Rick Schaeffer, Matt Reidy (June Pflasterer’s Son-in-law), Jeanette Funk, Nina Heymann (Friend of Frieda Feig), Almira Kinzel, Family and Friends of Al Funk, Family and Friends of Matt Henson, Family and Friends of R.D. Mueller (Friend of Sue Triefenbach), and Family and Friends of David Schmersahl (Neighbor of Lee & Cathy Harms).

Please contact Pastor Tarrah, Kim Weekley or Frieda Feig if you wish to add someone or know of any names that could be removed. Thank You

“MISSION OF THE MONTH”

A basket is at the back of the church.
This month our mission project is

Dubois Scholarship Fund

“For it is in giving that we receive.”
-St. Francis

READERS NEEDED!!

Please sign-up to be a reader on Sunday.

Combined Choir Returns



It is time to begin our combined choir rehearsals!

Join the Choir..
You'll Be Glad You Did!

We will be meeting every Sunday morning at :30am.

Please mark your calendars 😊
ALL are welcome to join us!

Holy Ghost Mowing



Thank you to all who have mowed or will be mowing at church.

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Crochet and Knitting Ministry



Do you like to crochet?
How about knitting? If
you answered yes to
either of those questions,
please consider joining
Pastor Tarrah on

Wednesday mornings at 9am each week to
build our prayer blankets inventory for those
that can really use the visual reminder of our
support during a time of illness. We will also
be working on lap sized blankets for our loved
ones in nursing homes and rehab centers.
Please bring your own crochet hooks or
knitting needles. Pastor will be providing
skeins of yarn to work from. Don't know how
to crochet or knit? NO problem! Come for
the fellowship and maybe learn a stitch or
two.



It's time to
kick-off our
Confirmation Class
once again!

**There will be a
mandatory
meeting for confirmands, parents
and faith partners on Sunday,
August 6th immediately following
worship.** Schedules for the entire
year will be distributed at that time, as
well as some new incentives rolled out
to encourage opportunities for more
engaging gatherings. If you are
interested in offering additional
guidance and encouragement to our
confirmands, please let Pastor Tarrah
know.

IN MEMORIUM



Alvin C. Funk

Born: Oct. 12, 1936
Died to Life: July 7, 2023

“Blessed are those who mourn,
for they shall be comforted.”
Matthew 5:4



Pastor Tarrah has been working with
Pastor Bob Koch (St. John's, New
Athens) and Pastor Brett Palmer
(Friedens, Marissa) to develop some
new fellowship opportunities for the
men of our congregations. If you
have any ideas that you would like
us to consider, please let Pastor
Tarrah know as soon as possible.
Stay tuned for more information
about the group starting up AFTER
the harvest this fall.

August 2023

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3 National Water-melon Day	4 National Chocolate Chip Cookie Day	5 Campfire Day 
6 Trinity 9 am Confirmation meeting following worship	7 National Light House Day	8 Sneak some zucchini onto your neighbor's porch day	9 Book Lovers Day	10 Lazy Day 	11	12 Middle Child's Day
13 Trinity 9 am	14	15 Relaxation Day 	16 Book of Joy Study Group 6 pm HG	17	18 National Fajita Day	19 National Honey Bee Awareness Day
20 Holy Ghost 9 am	21 Senior Citizen's Day	22 Be An Angel Day 	23	24 National Waffle Day	25 National Banana Split Day	26 National Dog Day
27 Holy Ghost 9 am Council Meetings following worship	28 Stuffed Green Pepper Day	29 More Herbs, Less Salt Day	30 Book Club 6 pm Holy Ghost	31 National Eat Outside Day		

September 2023

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2 International Bacon Day
3 Trinity 9 am	4 	5 Cheese Pizza Day	6 Women's Guild at Trinity 12:30 pm Book of Joy Study Group 6 pm HG	7	8 Inter- National Literacy Day	9 
10 Schlachtfest 11 am—3 pm	11 	12 Chocolate Milk Shake Day	13 Christmas Cantata Rehearsals Begin 5 pm	14 National Cream- filled Donut Day	15	16 National Play Doh Day
17 Holy Ghost 9 am <i>Rally Day and Blessing of Backpacks</i> <u>Let's Talk about Depression after Worship</u>	18 happy national  cheeseburger day!	19	20 <i>Book of Joy Study Group</i> 6 pm HG	21 	22 Breakfast in Bed Day	23 
24 Holy Ghost 9 am <i>Council Meetings after worship</i>	25 National Comic Book Day	26 Johnny Appleseed Day	27	28 National Good Neighbor Day	29	30

SAVE THE DATE!

The Book of Joy Adult Book Study kicks off – Wednesday, August 16th at 6pm
Schlachtfest – Sunday, September 10th 11am-3pm
Christmas Cantata Rehearsals begin – Wednesday, September 13th at 5pm
Rally Day and Backpack Blessings – Sunday, September 17th during 9am worship
Let's talk about Depression – Sunday, September 17th immediately following worship
Anniversary Celebration! - Sunday, October 15th during 9am worship and following
Trunk or Treat – Friday, October 27th
Thanksgiving Sunday and Totenfest – Sunday, November 26th during 9am worship
Hanging of the Greens – Sunday, November 26th immediately following worship
First Sunday of Advent: Hope – Sunday, December 3rd, 9am worship at Trinity
Congregational Christmas Party – Friday, December 8th at 5pm at Holy Ghost
Second Sunday of Advent: Peace – Sunday, December 10th, 9am worship at Trinity
Christmas Cantata with Cocoa and Cookies reception – Saturday, December 16th, 2pm at Holy Ghost
Third Sunday of Advent: Joy – Sunday, December 17th during 9am worship
Blue Christmas Service followed by outing to the 'Way of Lights' – Thursday, December 21st at 5pm (Trinity Biddleborn)
Fourth Sunday of Advent: Love – Sunday, December 24th, 9am worship at Holy Ghost
Christmas Eve Candlelight service – Sunday, December 24th at 5pm at Trinity
New Year's Eve Service of hope and reflection – Sunday, December 31st at Holy Ghost

August Birthdays and Anniversaries

Birthdays

2– Judy Feig
2– Tyler Sinn
6–Justin Rhodes
25 –Charley Weymoth
27 –Cathy Harms
31 –Dustin Weekley



Anniversaries

12 –Betty & Brad Triefenbach
13 –Debbie & Brian Prest
14 –Lisa & Pat Leonhardt

Anniversary Celebration

Mark your calendars for Sunday, October 15th for three HUGE milestone celebrations! We will be celebrating 180 years of ministry at Holy Ghost, Darmstadt; 145 years of ministry at Trinity, Biddleborn; 70 years of ministry worshiping and serving together! If you are interested in being a part of the planning, please contact Pastor Tarrah.



Schlachtfest

Food, Music and Fun

PROGRAM OF THE DAY

11-3pm Meals served in church pavilion
11-3pm Country Store and Meal Sales
11-3pm FREE Kids Corner
11:30-1pm The Venedy Band
1:30pm-3pm The Ainad Brass Band

TICKETS
\$15 ADULTS
\$6 (6-12)
UNDER 6
FREE

Parking shuttles run all day long!!



Sunday, September 10th
Trinity Biddleborn United Church of Christ
5698 Biddleborn Rd, Marissa
www.countrychurches.org

Current Worship Series



On June 4th we kicked off our worship series that is taking us on a journey through Matthew's Gospel!

“**Embracing the Kingdom**” more deeply explores the words found in Matthew 28:18-20, “And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you.

And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

The following is a rough outline of our worship dates and correlating scriptures. Please understand that these themes and scriptures may change based on current events, church activities, etc.

After Pentecost III Scripture and Themes “Cast the Net”

“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind.” – Matthew 13:47

August 6, 2023: Matthew 14:13-21 | “For Compassion”

August 13, 2023: Matthew 14:22-33 | “For Faith”

August 20, 2023: Matthew 15: (10-20), 21-28 | “For the Heart”

FAITH

(F) FORWARDING
(A) ALL
(I) ISSUES
(T) TO
(H) HEAVEN



After Pentecost IV Scripture and Themes “The Keys”

“I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven.” – Matthew 16:19a

August 27, 2023: Matthew 16:13-20 | “Identity”

September 3, 2023: Matthew 16:21-28 | “Confrontation”

September 10, 2023: Schlachtfest, prayer service at 8am, Trinity

September 17, 2023: Matthew 18:15-35 | “Accountability and Forgiveness”

After Pentecost V Scripture and Themes “The Vineyard”

“For many are called, but few are chosen.” – Matthew 22:14

September 24, 2023: Matthew 20:1-16 | “Made Equal”

October 1, 2023: Matthew 21:23-32 | “Going Ahead”

October 8, 2023: Matthew 21:33-46, 22:1-14 |

“Producing Fruit from the Streets”

October 15, 2023: Anniversary Celebration of our congregations!

FOR MANY
ARE
CALLED,
BUT FEW
ARE CHOSEN.
MATTHEW 22:14



After Pentecost VI Scripture and Themes “Put to the Test”

“When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats,”

– Matthew 25:31-32

October 22, 2023: Matthew 22:15-22 | “Truth”

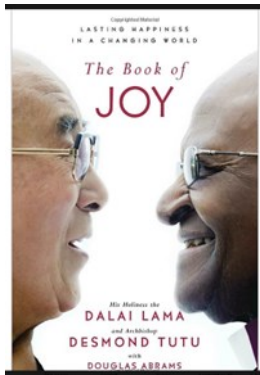
October 29, 2023: Matthew 22:34-46 | “Love”

November 5, 2023: Matthew 23:1-12 | “Greatness”

November 12, 2023: Matthew 25:1-13 | “Wisdom”

November 19, 2023: Matthew 25:14-30 | “Investment”

November 26, 2023 (Reign of Christ): Matthew 25:31-46 | “Care”



Coming this Fall: New Adult Educational Gatherings

Join us this fall for a new offering this fall! Pastor Tarrah will be leading a book study on “The Book of Joy: Lasting Happiness in a Changing World” which narrates a weeklong gathering between the 14th Dalai Lama and the Archbishop Desmond Tutu.

If you are interested in participating in the group, please pick up a copy of the book from the book seller of your choice and save these dates on your calendar 😊

Session 1: Wednesday, August 16th at 6pm; Introduction Session (pre-reading pages 1-8)

Session 2: Wednesday, September 6th at 6pm; The Nature of True Joy: We are fragile creatures & Why are you not morose? (pre-reading pages 10-41)

Session 3: Wednesday, September 20th at 6pm; The Nature of True Joy: Nothing beautiful comes without some suffering & have you renounced pleasure? (pre-reading pages 43-56)

Session 4: Wednesday, October 4th at 6pm; The Nature of True Joy: Our Greatest Joy & The Meeting of Two Mischievous People. (pre-reading pages 59-78)

Session 5: Wednesday, October 18th at 6pm; The Nature of True Joy: The Obstacles to Joy: You are a Masterpiece in the making; fear, stress, and anxiety; and frustration and anger. (pre-reading pages 83-108)

Session 6: Wednesday, November 1st at 6pm; The Nature of True Joy: The obstacles to Joy: Sadness and grief; despair and loneliness. (pre-reading pages 109-133)

Session 7: Wednesday, November 15th at 6pm; The Nature of True Joy: The Obstacles to Joy: Envy, suffering & adversity, illness & fear of death; and meditation: now I'll tell you a secret thing. (pre-reading pages 135-188)

Session 8: Wednesday, December 6th; The Eight Pillars of Joy: Perspective and Humility (pre-reading pages 193-213)

Session 9: Wednesday, January 3rd; The Eight Pillars of Joy: Humor and Acceptance (pre-reading pages 215-228)

Session 10: Wednesday, January 17th; The Eight Pillars of Joy: Forgiveness and Gratitude (pre-reading pages 229-249)

Session 11: Wednesday, February 7th; The Eight of Pillars of Joy: Compassion and Generosity (pre-reading pages 251-275)

Session 12: Wednesday, February 21st; Meditation, Celebration and Departure (pre-reading pages 277-305)

September Birthdays and Anniversaries

Birthdays

1– Mason Shubert
17 –Mark Leonhardt
20 –Frieda Feig
20- Katie Wagner
26 –Tyler (TJ) Jones



Anniversaries

5 –Caitlyn & Zach Henson
23 –Cathy & Lee Harms
29– Nancy & Scott Shubert

BIDDLEBORN NEWS

The Schlachtfest will be September 10th.
11 am - 3 pm

Note time change

