



Holy Trinity Lutheran Church THE COMMUNITY CHURCH

On 28th Avenue between Lake & 31st Streets Minneapolis, MN 55406 612-729-8358

Web site: www.htlcmpls.org email: office@htlcmpls.org

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December 3, 2006

WORSHIP SERVICES:

8:45 and 11:00 am

CHURCH SCHOOL: 9:45 am

Advent: A Time to Wait

The season of Advent begins Sunday, December 3. One of Advent's themes is waiting. 'Advent' ('coming'), goes back to the Old Testament with its hopes and prophecies for the coming of a future Messiah. Luke is the Gospel featured in the new Church year beginning Sunday. Scholars have debated whether or not Luke believed Christ's return was as imminent as other New Testament writers expressed. Certainly he believed the Church had a mission to be about in the here and now between Christ's first coming and that future when God's reign will be complete. Whatever Luke believed, we live as Christians in a prolonged 'interim time' between Christ's birth and a promised return. Advent reminds us of life's many kinds of waiting and our call to wait actively as people of faith who have hope.

How difficult it is to wait. Our culture shows signs of 'Christmas' in some stores beginning in October. Before Thanksgiving at least one FM station is playing Christmas music 24/7. 'Black Friday' kicks off Christmas shopping with a vengeance as retailers seek strong holiday revenues to end the year 'in the black'. I'm not a purist in regards to rules about when it's permissible to hear or sing Christmas carols or decorate for Christmas, but I appreciate the reminders to 'wait' in the Scripture readings, hymns and liturgy of our worship life together during Advent.

Does our culture train us to wait for anything? Isn't the message to expect... the ideal job... income to buy all the comforts and toys... resolutions of all personal struggles...without having to wait? How difficult it is to wait...for news about a loved one...for the results of medical tests and procedures...for the darkest days of grief to pass...to emerge from a long tunnel of depression...for finances to stabilize...for peace to come. How hard it is to continually hear of the daily deaths in Iraq where, as someone said, we appear to be totally stuck - unable to stay and unable to leave.

How difficult it may be to wait during this transition time at Holy Trinity. Yet we do not wait passively, as you will hear if you attend Sunday's Adult Forum led by the Interim Committee or "Compass Team."

Those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength... they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint. (Isaiah.40:31) O God, teach us to wait. Come to us in our waiting. Empower us to walk and even run forward in the mission that lies before as your people. In the name of the Christ, Amen.

Bruce Arnevik, Interim Pastor,
arnevik@htlcmpls.org

THE FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT



Mixed with Advent's mood of hope and expectancy is apprehension of what the future may bring. Jesus assures the faithful that they have nothing to fear.

LESSONS

Jeremiah 33:14-16

Psalms 25:1-10

1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

Luke 21:25-36

SUNDAY ADULT FORUM

9:55 am In the Church Library

December 3 "Interim Committee Report"
Committee members

The committee has met three times. You will receive information on the interim process as well as specific activities of the committee.

December 10 "The Nativity Story in the Qur'an"
David Lindell

David will share thoughts on the role of Mary and Jesus in the Islamic tradition and some stories of Christmas in India.

ADVENT EVENING PRAYER DECEMBER 6, 13, 20

Evening Prayer will be held at Holy Trinity the Wednesdays of Advent. Our custom is to share a simple supper of soup and bread at 6:15 pm, before the service of prayer, meditation and advent music at 7:00 pm. Please indicate your intention to attend in the Community Room.

HOLY TRINITY INVITATIONAL NEW YEAR SYMPHONIA

Dust off your instruments, Holy Trinity musicians! On Saturday, December 30, from 10am - noon, you are invited to the inaugural gathering of the **Holy Trinity Symphonia**. This is a purely-for-fun gathering of anyone in the Holy Trinity community who plays a band or orchestral instrument, or who *once* played an instrument. We're doing this over the holiday break (perhaps as an alternative to shopping and eating) so that families who are spending time together here in town might have an opportunity to make some music together as well.

The only requisite is that you can read notes on a page of music using your instrument of choice. Please sign up in the Community Room to indicate your interest and what instrument you play so that we'll have the right parts and *enough* parts available that day. Come join us, and bring the whole family. The more players we have, the less we'll know how much (or little) we've been practicing over the years. And who knows, we might even have so much fun we'll want to do it again in 2007! Contact Ann Schrooten for more details.

PARISH INFORMATION

LAST CALL: THEATER EVENT December 2, 8:00 pm

Inspecting Carol is a holiday comedy that addresses serious issues. This play will be at the Minnesota Centennial Showboat on Harriet Island, St. Paul. Tickets are \$22: please call the office for a reservation! The theatergoers plan to have supper at a local restaurant before the event.

GIFTS SUGGESTIONS FOR CHRISTMAS

On the occasion of Christmas, you may wish to provide a special gift to the work of the church. One (or more) of the following funds may be selected: Church budget – special gifts Nonviolent Peace Force World Hunger and Development African AIDS Project Central America Fund

If you would like to order a **poinsettia** for the altar area at Christmas, please call the office by Tuesday, December 19. They are \$14 this year.

CHILDREN'S CHOIR, CANTATE! CHRISTMAS CAROLING

The Children's Choir and Youth Ensemble *Cantate!* will carol Saturday, Dec 23. If you know of a homebound member that we should visit, please email Ann Schrooten. This is a gift from the children and youth, especially to those who would otherwise be unable to enjoy a choir this season.

YOUTH SERVE AT SIMPSON SHELTER

Holy Trinity Youth will be serving at the Simpson's Women's Shelter Tuesday, Dec. 5. Holy Trinity is responsible for serving the Simpson's Women's Shelter Wednesday, Dec. 13; 4-5 *adults* are needed for this shift. Youth will serve at the Simpson's Men's Shelter Tuesday Dec. 19; adult volunteers are needed. Please call Karrie Cable-Spratt 612-728-3885 if interested in volunteering.

ADULT RETREAT: PLEASE SAVE THE DATE Feb. 2 & 3

Adults of the congregation can enjoy a quiet retreat for reflection and fellowship this February. It will be at Edenwood. More details to come; for further information, contact Liz Blood.

NEW LIBRARY ACQUISITION

Honoring Our Neighbor's Faith is a guide that invites you to honor the faith traditions represented in North America, such as Buddhism, Eastern Orthodox, Moravian, Baptist, and so on, in a 2-3 page summary form. There is a table of comparison with the Lutheran tradition in each section.

SAVE ENERGY FOR THE HOLIDAYS

Holy Trinity has LED holiday lights for sale, by Alliance for Sustainability. LED lights use 1/100th the energy of a standard holiday light. Strings are \$10; checks to Alliance for Sustainability. Information, Sean Gosiewski 729-3828.

"LA NATIVIDAD" AT HEART OF THE BEAST

Heart of the Beast Theatre, Mercado Central and St Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church are collaborating on this special bilingual presentation of The Nativity Story, combining La Posada traditions with street theatre & puppetry. "La Natividad" will be performed one weekend only on December 15-17. For more information, call 612 770 4488.

PARISH EVENTS - December 3-December 9, 2006

SUNDAY	8:45, 11am	Worship Service of Holy Communion	9:45 am	Sunday School	9:55 am	Adult Forum
	12:15 pm	Hand bell ensemble	2:00 pm	Swahili Service		
MONDAY	6:00 pm	SOA Watch	7:00 pm	Social Issues		
	7:00 pm	Outreach, Worship/Music committees				
TUESDAY	7:00 pm	Yoga, Tutoring	7:30 pm	Soccer		
WEDNESDAY	6:15 pm	Advent Supper	6:30 pm	Children's Choir		
	7:00 pm	Evening Prayer	7:45 pm	Senior Choir		
SATURDAY	5:00 pm	Trinity Singers		rehearse		

SPECIAL GIFTS in memory of

- **Dorothy Antil** by Bruce/Mary Anderson, Frederick L. Paul, Jr.

- **Loved ones** by Cathryn Olson

SPECIAL GIFT (children's choir) in memory of

- **Harold Fredrickson** by Betty Fredrickson

GIFTS TO WORLD HUNGER by Vi/Vernon Michaelson, Dorothy Krumrei, Pat Lundquist Judy Davison, Ingrid Phillips, & in memory of

- **Dorothy Antil and Harold Fredrickson** by Kathryn Nevers

SPECIAL GIFT (Thanksgiving) by C. L. Saunders

GIFT TO CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT by Dennis/Lynda Nordholm,

Cliff Brown

GIFTS TO URBAN LATINO MINISTRY by Bud/Sylvia Dixen, Troy/ Judy Davison

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS December 3

Preacher		Bruce Arnevik
Celebrant	8:45 am	Dennis Ormseth / 11:00 am Gary Sartain
Liturgist	8:45 am	Rick Liedholm / 11:00 am Liz Rudrud
Communion Asst	8:45 am	Deb Kohlase, Pam Blomgren
	11:00 am	Dawn Wiczorek, John Sulzbach
Acolytes	8:45 am	Tyler Spratt
	11:00 am	Christine Nilsen, Megan Libra
Greeters	8:45 am	Joyce Peterson / 11:00 am David Broberg
Ushers	8:45 am	Bob Peschiutta, Sally Kohlstedt, Ron Mack Murphy, Chris Engen
	11:00 am	Rod Johnson, Alan Libra, Don Lang, Carole Lang
Altar Guild	8:45 am	Sandra Thornby, Karrie Cable Spratt
	11:00 am	Pat Lundquist, Linda Gawthrop
Nursery	8:40 am	Rachel Hefte / 10:30 am Sara Jensen
Coffee servers	8:45 am	Pam Blomgren / 11:00 am Jim/Rachel Trelstad Porter

FINANCIAL REPORT November 26 Year to date

Budget requirement	10,905.77	523,476.92
Budget receipts	6,499.00	479,702.94
World Hunger	106.00	7,227.90
Capital Improvements	100.00	17,330.50
Nonviolent PeaceForce	-.-	884.00
African AIDS Fund	12.06	2,127.38
Urban Latino Ministry	-.-	1,870.00
Hymnals	52.50	4,370.50
Central America Fund		108.44