



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

Volume 91, Issue 2

January 14, 2007

WORSHIP SERVICES:

8:45 and 11:00 am

CHURCH SCHOOL: 9:45 am

GOOD NEWS OR BAD NEWS?

It depends upon your perspective, doesn't it? In the journey of the magi to Jerusalem in Matthew's Gospel is found their encounter with the political and religious establishment of the day—Herod, 'King of the Jews,' along with the chief priests and scribes. Both the political and religious leaders hear news about the birth of the Christ as bad news. They are threatened by the presence of a Ruler whose authority rivals theirs and who summons an allegiance higher than theirs. They want things to remain as they are—'no change is good.' They will each, in their own way and time, seek to eliminate this Christ who incites movement, this Jesus who evokes a response from the people beyond the control and jurisdiction of the authorities.

For most of us who tend to play it safe, who try to 'get along,' will a faithful journey through the year ahead perhaps lead us up against political or religious leaders or institutions who resist the quest we may be on, who don't want any movement or change? The magi received directions from Herod to return to him with news of the whereabouts of the Child. They received contrary directions from God to ignore Herod's lies and false religiosity and avoid the return trip to see him. (The mixture of lies and false religiosity strikes too close to home in our day where the goal of some politicians to gain or remain in office and retain power seems to trump truth and justice.) In the journey ahead, amid the host of voices clamoring for our attention and allegiance, which will we heed? How will we discern the voice of God guiding us?

Bruce C. Arnevik, Interim Pastor arnevik@htlcmpls.org

HERE IN THIS PLACE

While the Holy Spirit calls and gathers us into a community of the faithful, the recent COMPASS team survey indicated how we first learned of Holy Trinity and why we were attracted to this place. Approximately 60% of our survey said they first learned of Holy Trinity from a family member or friends who were members. About 22% were people who found Holy Trinity because they lived in the neighborhood. Other factors mentioned in smaller numbers were newspapers, flyers, the day care center, and the summer programs.

What specifically attracted people to this congregation fell into three categories 1) Social Values, 2) Inclusiveness, and 3) Worship experience. In the area of social values many listed social justice, community outreach, worldview, and liberal point of view. The inclusiveness category included items such as friendliness and openness of the congregation, open communion, and being "Reconciled in Christ" – (welcoming of gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender persons). Meaningful music, thoughtful sermons, and respect for the Lutheran liturgy were many of the responses which made for a quality worship experience. Educational opportunities, event programs, the building (especially the sanctuary), and the many uses the building accommodates were other responses.

These responses are most helpful in establishing our direction. How we learned of Holy Trinity and why we were attracted to this place sets a pattern for the future. Thank you for sharing.

Lyle Steinfeldt and Nicki Nelson Hines.

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

The readings for this Sunday reveal God's care for humanity in daily life, in joys and disappointments. The gifts of the Spirit are diverse, bringing us into community. In the gospel lesson, Jesus' first miracle manifests God's presence among us.



LESSONS

Isaiah 62:1-5

Psalm 36:5-10

1 Corinthians 12:1-11

John 2:1-11

SUNDAY ADULT FORUM

9:55 am

Library

January 14 COMPASS Team Survey Report

The results of the recent survey will be shared along with a report on the team's current activities.

January 21 Storytellers of Cygnus Storytelling

Storytellers of Cygnus Storytelling, of which Mike Mann is a member, will be here to tell the story of the Twin Cities Storyfest to be held the afternoon of January 21.

CONCERNING PEOPLE

We remember the following persons in the prayers of our congregation...**Carol Masters** and family in the death of her mother, Katy Meyers on December 18 (the funeral was January 6); **Bud Dixen** and family in the deaths of his sister, Doris Schlenker on December 20, and her husband, Ernest, back in August; the family of **LaVerne Mitchell**, Holy Trinity member and Trinity Apartments resident, who died on December 30 (the funeral was held at Bradshaw Funeral Home on January 4); **Phil Jury** who continues to recover from (very successful) prostate cancer surgery on December 19; **Mary Ellen Olson** as she recovers from back surgery on January 5 at Fairview Riverside; **Kirk** and **Sara Jensen** and children, **Oskar** and **Claudia**, as Kirk left for Air Guard duty in Afghanistan on January 1, scheduled to return home by the end of February.

PARISH INFORMATION

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION

Please mark your calendar for the Annual Meeting Sunday, January 28 at 12:30 pm in the gymnasium. A meal will precede the business session. We will elect four members to the Church Council and adopt goals, operating budgets and special funds.

All members of the congregation are urged to attend. There will be child care during the business session.

LONGFELLOW UNITED FOR YOUTH AND FAMILIES Jan. 19

The weekly tutoring program held at Holy Trinity (LUYF) hosts a community fundraising dinner at nearby St Albert the Great Catholic Church (29th St. & 32nd Ave) January 19 at 5:30 pm. The menu includes pasta, salad, bread, dessert, beverages. Freewill donation. Enjoy a meal and fellowship, and learn about the tutoring program!

FINE ARTS SERIES EVENT Sunday, January 21

The next event in the Holy Trinity Fine Arts Series will be hosted by Mike Mann January 21, 2:30 pm. A workshop, Storytelling Made Easy, is followed at 4:30 with a presentation of some of Minnesota's finest storytellers: *Joining Voices Under the Winter Moon*. For further details, contact Mike at 612-724-7074 or www.storyswans.com.

ONE VOICE MIXED CHORUS

Notice from Lutherans Concerned/North America: One Voice Mixed Chorus, an 80-voice GLBT community chorus, performs "Reclaiming Faith: In the Spirit of Justice" in four congregations in January. Concerts feature music from around the world, celebrating communities taking action in support of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender people. Tickets 612-332-1302. Mayflower Congregational UCC, January 20, 7:30pm; Temple Israel, January 21, 3:30 pm; Spirit of Hope United Methodist Church, Golden Valley, January 27, 7:30 pm; Saint Paul United Church of Christ, St. Paul, January 28, 3:30pm.

LIBRARY ACQUISITION

In *Traveling Mercies*, Anne Lamott shares her struggles with faith and doubts and the ups and downs of being a single parent. She is poignant yet earthy, even irreverent. She will leave you touched by her humanity and her toughness as a loving person.

CARING FAMILIES AND FRIENDS EVENT

Caring Families/Friends is a ministry of the Joint Synod Committee for Inclusivity, (ELCA). On Sunday, Jan. 28, 2:00 pm, at University Lutheran Church of Hope, Ken Gowdy speaks on "Living on the Edges: One Thinking Christian's Journey". Gowdy was asked to leave teaching at Bethel College because of his counsel and support of a gay student. More information, Tim Fisher 612-824-8447.

PLEASE SAVE THE DATE: ADULT RETREAT 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.

PARISH EVENTS January 14-20

SUNDAY	8:45, 11am	Worship Service of Holy Communion
	9:45 am	Sunday Church School 9:55 am Adult Forum
MONDAY		Meals on Wheels, Monday through Friday
	6:00 pm	Executive Committee 7:00 pm Church Council
TUESDAY	10:00 am	Healthy Seniors 5:30 pm 3 rd year Confirmation
	7:00 pm	Tutoring
WEDNESDAY	6:30 pm	Children's choir 7:30 pm Choir
THURSDAY	5:30 pm	4 th yr Confirmation 6:30, 8:15 Men's Basketball
FRIDAY	5:30 pm	(At St Albert's) Longfellow Tutoring Dinner

SPECIAL GIFTS by June Prange/Carolyn Schurr, Bob/Bev Peschiutta and in memory of

- Parents **Martha and Herloff Nelson** by Jeanne Grates
- **Nellie C. Gabrick** by Patricia Johnson and in honor of
- **Pastor Ron Johnson & blessings he has given us** by Penny Pederson/Andrew Panko

GIFTS TO NONVIOLENT PEACE FORCE by Patrick/Kim Doss-Smith, Birgit Birkeland

WORLD HUNGER by Robert/Dorothy Kelly, Bud/Sylvia Dixen

GIFTS TO HYMNALS FUND in memory of

- **Rev. Ruth Votaw** by Roxanne/Phil Ekstrand

GIFTS TO AFRICAN PASTORS FUND by Rosemary Foley

GIFT TO AFRICAN AIDS FUND in memory of

Dorothy Antil and Harold Fredrickson by Pat Lundquist

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS January 14, 2007

Preacher			
Celebrant	8:45 am	Jim Hartsoe	11:00 am Joel Wiberg
Liturgist	8:45 am	Mary Young	/ 11:00 am Wayne Vetter
Communion Asst	8:45 am	David Moe, Nancy Moe	
	11:00 am	Liz Blood, Andrea Hansen	
Greeters	8:45 am	Kevin Proescholdt	
	11:00 am	Margaret Peterson, Ron Peterson	
Ushers	8:45 am	Bob Peschiutta, DeWayne Townsend, Vernon Michaelson, David Kohlstedt	
	11:00 am	Lee Kampinen, Helen Norheim, Bob Norheim, Tim Mann	
Altar Guild	8:45 am	Sandra Thornby, Karrie Cable-Spratt	
	11:00 am	Rosemary Foley, Linda Gawthrop	
Nursery	8:40 am	Gretchen Lund /	10:30 am Troy Davison
Coffee servers	8:45 am	Ron/Cheryl Nerem	
	11:00 am	Bill Capman/Laura Simms	

STEWARDSHIP REQUEST: To save postage, please pick up your envelopes for 2007 after worship or stop by the office this week. They are in the Community Room.

MEALS ON WHEELS: Holy Trinity drivers are needed for Meals on Wheels the week of January 15-19. A sign-up sheet is in the Community Room.

SPECIAL FUNDS 2007

	January 7	Year to date
World Hunger	10.00	10.00
Capital Improvements	100.00	100.00
African AIDS Fund	9.50	9.50