



# 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](http://www.htlcmpls.org) email: [office@htlcmpls.org](mailto:office@htlcmpls.org)

Volume 91, Issue 27

July 8, 2007

**WORSHIP SERVICES:**

**8:45 and 11:00 am**

**CHURCH SCHOOL: 9:45 am**

## FREEDOM

*For freedom Christ has set us free...for you were called to freedom...* (Gal.5:1,13) With thanks to Rodney Sadler Jr. in his comments on this text in *The Christian Century* (6/12/07), I think it's worthwhile to consider how we hear these freedom words. Failing to distinguish 'Christian freedom' from 'American freedom' can mix faith and patriotism in a kind of nationalistic Christianity. Can this kind of faith possibly encourage certain American leaders, who identify themselves as Christian, to seek to spread American freedom with missionary zeal to the rest of the world as a kind of divine mandate?

American freedom is rooted in our own war of independence from foreign rule. Our ideals of freedom are written in the Declaration of Independence and Constitution. American freedom is tied to a particular form of democracy and a particular type of capitalist economic system. In our history, some people have always been freer than others. Our founding documents originally defined a black man as the equivalent of 3/5 of a white man. At the same time many of our European ancestors were landing at Ellis Island and being greeted by the Statue of Liberty, our African American sisters and brothers were barely out of slavery with a long way to go towards freedom. Native Americans indigenous to this land had already lost much of their freedom. Men have often been freer than women. Billboards today proclaim 'financial freedom' as they advertise a bank or financial planners. Yet Americans with good jobs and higher incomes have always been financially freer than those in poverty.

Many Americans have worked, sacrificed and given their lives for the sake of the freedoms we usually take for granted. They have done so in wars and in struggles for civil and human and equal rights and justice for all. Unfortunately, American freedom has evolved into a preoccupation with personal liberties, despite the sacrifices countless people have made for the nation, for various groups, and for the sake of future generations. Someone has said "Freedom is a tightrope between law and license." American freedom tends to slide towards license. I'm free to say whatever I want, no matter who it offends or hurts. I'm free to carry a handgun and force you as a public institution to post a sign forbidding firearms on your property. I'm free to gather with the Ku Klux Klan, regardless of the agenda of hate towards fellow Americans. I'm free to live by any moral code, so long as I can rationalize I'm not hurting anybody. I'm free to make money however I want, so long as I don't get caught.

American freedom is not the same as Christian freedom. American freedom is focused on freedom *for* the self. Christian freedom is focused on freedom *from* the self in order to be rightly related to God and neighbor. Theologically, Christian freedom is the gift of being reconciled – forgiven, accepted, welcomed, restored – through the life, crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus of Nazareth. Christian freedom is living free from the burden of having to prove ourselves to God, others or ourselves by adherence to a burdensome list of external laws and rules. God's reconciling grace puts all our relationships on new ground and the resulting freedom is not for self indulgence but, as Paul exhorts the Galatians, *through love becomes slaves of one another.* (Gal.5:13) (American freedom too often becomes an excuse for self indulgence.)

## SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

*God's abundance and power are themes of this Sunday's readings. God nourishes those who serve the people. Jesus sends his disciples out, empowering them to heal and teach the way of God.*



## LESSONS

2 Kings 5:1-17

Psalm 66:1-8

Galatians 6:7-16

Luke 10:1-11, 16-20

## SUNDAY ADULT FORUM

**9:55 am Library**

**July 8 "The Exonerated" - Part 2**

**Jim Hartsoe**

The conclusion of the play about the lives of six people who were cleared of blame in criminal activity while on death row. The DVD introduces you to the real people whose stories were told at the conclusion of the play. Note: strong language is used in the production.

**July 15 "Experiences & Observations from Operation Enduring Freedom 2002-2007" - Kirk Jensen**

Martin Luther paraphrases Paul: *For freedom consists in this, that we have no other obligation than to love our neighbor.* While Christian freedom doesn't prescribe the particulars of public policy, it does inform the spirit of policies which should seek what's best not just for ourselves, but for our neighbors. Christian freedom is being free to *do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with your God.* (Micah 6:8)

As we celebrate another 4<sup>th</sup> of July, I am grateful for the best and highest sense of American freedom, won at no small cost by so many. I will also recall, and invite you to do likewise, our Christian freedom – how we are set free in Christ to love and serve our neighbor.

Bruce C. Arnevik, Interim Pastor [arnevik@htlcmpls.org](mailto:arnevik@htlcmpls.org)

**CONCERNING PEOPLE:** Please pray for **Virginia Lee**, recovering from pneumonia; **David Lindell**, recovering from knee surgery, and **Peggy Nevers**, at Abbott Northwestern after hip surgery.

**Josiah Kibira** was featured in a June 22 *Star Tribune* article in relation to his career of writing and producing movies about Tanzania. His most recent movie, "Tusamehe," is the story of a man in America and originally from the fictitious African country of Bongoland who learns he is HIV positive. Josiah is in Tanzania to produce his third movie, "Bongoland II."

## PARISH INFORMATION

### SERVE MEAL AT SIMPSON SHELTER

Holy Trinity youth and adults are responsible for serving at Simpson July 16 (Women's). Please volunteer. Meet at Holy Trinity 5 pm. Karrie 612-728-3885

### EXPLORING OUR HISTORY VCS Youth trips

Youth in grades 6-9 are invited to **Exploring Our History**, July 9-11, 10:00-2:00: Monday, July 9, Northwest Company Fur Trade Post, Pine City. July 10 at the Minnesota History Center Museum we'll see *If These Walls Could Talk*, an interactive exhibit modeled on a house on St. Paul's East Side. In the afternoon Matt Anderson from the Museum will give a presentation on *The History of Professional Baseball in the Twin Cities*. On July 11 we'll go to the Mill City Museum. Group leaders: Bruce Arnevik and Randy Nelson.

### HOLY TRINITY SYMPHONIA BEGINS JULY 11, 7 PM

For six weeks this summer, Youth and adult instrumentalists are invited to join Nicholas Ellison (band) and Ann Schrooten (strings) on Wednesday evenings for our own *Sommerfest* of music! Please sign up in the Community Room before July 11 to indicate your interest AND what instrument you play. Or contact Ann via email. Rehearsals are July 11, 18, 25, August 1, 8, and 15. The ensembles will be featured at worship on Sunday, August 19, for a *grande finale* to summer.

### PEACE IN IRAQ: VIGIL ON LAKE ST BRIDGE July 11

Our congregation has been invited to have a peace presence on the Lake Street Bridge with an identifying church sign or banner, at 4:30 pm to show support for withdrawal of troops from Iraq. For more information: [www.worldwidewamm.org](http://www.worldwidewamm.org).

### LOAVES AND FISHES - July 11

Holy Trinity is responsible for cooking and serving a meal at the Loaves and Fishes site at Holy Rosary, 18<sup>th</sup> Ave and 24<sup>th</sup> St. We need cooks, servers and a clean-up crew: 2:00 pm, cooking; 5:00 pm, serving; 6:00 pm, clean-up.

### FARM WORKERS FUNDRAISER July 26, 6 pm

The Coalition of Immokalee Workers (a community-based worker organization whose members are largely Hispanic immigrants working in low-wage jobs) will hold a spaghetti dinner to raise money and send people to the annual Student-Farmworker Alliance Encuentro in Immokalee, Florida. The event is at Bethany Lutheran on Franklin. The group is inviting faith communities, who have been very supportive of the Alliance for Fair Food (the larger campaign working on farm worker issues with fast food restaurants). Presenters will be local farm workers, local meatpackers, and Twin Cities representatives of the Workers Interfaith Network. Tickets are being sold in advance for a suggested donation of \$15. If interested in tickets, please contact Korla Masters.

**PIANO** in the choir room needs a new home. Baldwin spinet, blond wood, will tune, move. Contact Julie Lindorff or call the church office.

PARISH EVENTS July 8 – July 14		
SUNDAY	8:45, 11am	Worship Service of Holy Communion
	9:55 am	Adult Forum 12:30 pm Executive & Call Cmtes
MONDAY	10:00 am	Exploring Our History (VCS)
	6:00 pm	Church Council at Bob Hulteen's
TUESDAY	10:00 am	Exploring Our History
	6:30 pm	Outreach cmte, El Norteño
WEDNESDAY	10:00 am	Exploring Our History (VCS)
	5:00 pm	Loaves & Fishes, Holy Rosary 7 pm Symphonia

**GIFTS TO HYMNALS FUND** in memory of

- **Helen Madich** by Nan Madich
- **Dr. Paul Durkee, our colleague of many years in India** by Mary/Rev. David Lindell
- **Raymond & Kaarina Wargelin** and in honor of their **work on Finnish hymnody in the United States** by Cliff Brown/Marianne Wargelin

**GIFT TO CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT** in memory of

- **Florence Goodmanson** by Mary Kreft

**SPECIAL GIFTS** in memory of

- **Marion Englund's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday** by Joseph/Hazel Banasik

**GIFT TO DIALOGUE FUND** in recognition of

- **program initiatives of Pastor Ron Johnson** by David/Sally Kohlstedt

**GIFT TO AFRICAN PASTORS FUND** by Bud/Sylvia Dixen

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS July 8, 2007			
Preacher	Bruce Arnevik		
Celebrant	8:45 am	Randy Nelson / 11:00 am	Dennis Ormseth
Crucifer	8:45 am	Wayne Vetter / 11:00 am	Korla Masters
Liturgist	8:45 am	Carol Masters / 11:00 am	Deb Anderson
Cantor	8:45 am	Trinity Singers / 11:00 am	Choir
Communion Asst	8:45 am	Lois Roos, Jane Kretzmann	
	11:00 am	Linda Jury, Phil Jury	
Greeters	8:45 am	Carol Berg / 11:00 am	Helen Cotton, Maggie Kane
Ushers	8:45 am	Bob Peschiutta, DeWayne Townsend, Chris Engen, Jim Schneiders?	
	11:00 am	Dennis/Lynda Nordholm, Lee Kampinen, Ron Peterson	
Altar Guild	8:45 am	Jeanette Brown, Carole Schneiders	
	11:00 am	Lynda Nordholm, Dennis Nordholm	
Nursery	8:40 am	Jeff Weiss / 11 am	Matt Kane
Coffee Servers	9:45 am	Margaret Carlson /Noon	Stella Townsend

### EVERY CHURCH A PEACE CHURCH PROGRAM

The next regular bimonthly potluck supper meeting will be Monday, July 9, 6:30 pm, St. Stephen Lutheran Church, 8400 France Ave S Bloomington. <http://www.ststephen.net> 952-835-6876. Program: "Build Bridges, Not Walls." Panel: 3 students and a Lutheran Pastor.

<b>FINANCIAL REPORT</b>	<b>July 1</b>	<b>Year to date</b>
Budget Requirement	11,244.23	292,349.98
Budget Receipts	9,400.50	271,331.30
World Hunger	40.00	2,768.14
Capital Improvements	325.00	7,510.00
Nonviolent Peaceforce	--	334.00
African AIDS Fund		931.95
African Pastors Fund		85.00
Hymnals	--	827.00
Central American Fund	--	125.00