



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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September 2, 2007

WORSHIP SERVICES:

8:45 and 11:00 am

CHURCH SCHOOL: 9:45 am

HEALING AND SABBATH OBSERVANCE

In Luke 13 the story is told of a healing that Jesus performed on the Sabbath. The woman healed was grateful and praised God, but because it occurred on the sabbath, the president of the synagogue was indignant and criticized Jesus in front of the congregation.

The president as well as the congregation knew that we cannot live without rules. There have to be policies and procedures, guidelines and laws that order our lives and that we follow or life together would become impossible. Instead life would degenerate into chaos with no safety or security for anyone. But when the rules become more important than the persons whose lives the rules are intended to protect, preserve, and enhance then the rules must be broken.

The inability of the congregation to recognize what had happened as an appropriate suspension of the rules, its failure to celebrate with the woman her new freedom and to praise God for her healing, its commitment to a routine that prevented the seeing of legitimate needs – all of this is to live in a bondage that is more real, deeper, and more limiting than the bondage in which the woman had lived for eighteen years. Such bondage is a sickness unto death, a way of life that actually denies life. They cannot see that life at its fullest, richest, and freest is life lived in compassion, mercy, and love in the service of those in need. They cannot see what it is that God is about and what God intends for God's people.

The rule of God that Jesus ushers in and to which he bears witness is characterized by compassion, mercy, justice, love, and grace. It is a rule in which Jesus demonstrates God's love for all people and in which God's intention for healing and wholeness for all people is evident.

It is a rule in which we are invited to participate by praising God for those moments of healing in our own lives, by thanking God for the experiences of grace and mercy that sustain us day to day, by appreciating the wonders of God's creation, by reveling in the love of family and friends that surrounds us in the midst of difficult and troublesome times, and by allowing the love of God to flow through us in all that we do.

We can, of course, fall back into old patterns and habits and think and act as if it is what we accomplish that is of the utmost importance or that is it the rules that we have developed that will save us. If we do that, then the words of Jesus will be as confusing and beyond comprehension to us as they were to the congregation in the synagogue.

Healing on the sabbath is an indication that God is doing a new thing. If we open our eyes to see it then our reaction will not be confusion but it will be said of us what was said of those who were not part of the religious establishment, those who were on the outside looking in, as it were. In Luke's words, "the mass of the people were delighted at all the wonderful things Jesus was doing."

May our response be delight at all the wonderful things God has done, is doing, and will do in our lives and in the world because of the love with which we are embraced and which puts our well-being above the rules that lead to death rather than life. The sabbath was made for men and women, not men and women for the sabbath.

Randy A. Nelson rmelson1941@yahoo.com

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

The readings for this Sunday teach and encourage upright conduct. The faithful are to be just, compassionate, and fearless in doing the right thing, trusting in God. Jesus reveals God's grace through examples of humility and generosity.



LESSONS

Proverbs 25: 6-7

Psalm 112

Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16

Luke 14:1, 7-14

SUNDAY ADULT FORUM

9:55 am Library

September 2 "Seasons of Faith"

Bob Hulteen

Kicking off the fall theme of "Faith," this forum will include viewing and discussing a Bill Moyers' facilitated video on Abraham, a symbol of faithful behavior. Five activists and scholars of the Hebrew Scriptures discuss a variety of perspectives on Abraham. Part of the PBS series "Genesis," this video mines deep insights into faith as the foundation for religious communities.

September 9 "Abraham – Exemplar of Faith"

Rev. Mark Throntveit, Luther Seminary

Call Committee Update

Having received the COMPASS Team's recommendations for priorities and possible staffing models, the Call Committee is now contemplating the direction and effect it will have in shaping the call of Holy Trinity's pastoral leadership.

At the same time, the Committee continues to complete the requisite Congregational Missional Profile, a document that will clarify the needs and desires of the congregation and introduce Holy Trinity to potential candidates.

The Call Committee invites your comments, questions, or concerns: Email: callcommittee@htlcmpls.org or Voicemail: 612.729.8358, mailbox #23 (During office hours, ask for #23, after hours, press #23 once you hear the recording).

- Lynda Nordholm for the Call Committee

CONCERNING PEOPLE

Please pray for **Linda Sourbis**, at University Hospital after a successful kidney transplant; and for **Betty Fredrickson** as she prepares for upcoming surgery.

PARISH INFORMATION

CHILDREN'S CHOIR, and CANTATE! RESUME SEPTEMBER 5

Two of the most exciting and active groups for young people to get involved in at Holy Trinity are the Children's Choir and the *Cantate!* ensemble for middle and high school youth. If you enjoy music and like to sing, please consider joining us. Children's Choir, grades 1-8, meets Wednesdays 6:30-7:20. *Cantate!*, grades 6-12, meets *every other* Sunday, 12:30-2:00 pm beginning Sept. 9. Whether you are a returning or brand new singer, please contact Ann Schrooten prior to the first rehearsal so your music will be ready for you! -- Ann Schrooten, Director

SUNDAY CHURCH SCHOOL

A new year for Church School is upon us. Sunday Church School classes begin September 9 and teachers are needed! Please sign up in the Community Room, or call the office to leave a message for Stephanie Sulzbach.

ADULT CHOIR RESUMES SEPTEMBER 5 – MAJOR WORKS!

Adult choir resumes rehearsals Wednesdays, 7:30 pm. Besides weekly anthems, we will prepare two major works, by Rene Clausen and John Rutter, to be performed this fall. We need your voice! More info to come; contact Rick Prescott.

Trinity Singers, the 12-voice chamber group, also resumes Sept. 5, 6:30 pm. Membership is by audition and openings are available for tenor and bass. Contact Rick Prescott.

SYMBOLS OF THE FAITH RETREAT Saturday, Sept 15, 9 am-4 pm

This annual retreat is conducted by Randy Nelson. Participants help provide experiential content to understand the basic symbols of our faith—God, Christ, and Spirit. The retreat concludes with viewing a current film to test what has been shared. Please register: call or email the office: office@htlcmpls.org.

OPPORTUNITY SALE IS OCTOBER 6: Please remember the fall sale as you clean out your gently used tools, small furniture, games, books, and collectibles. Drop off items inside cul-de-sac door. Please, no clothes or electronics (i.e., televisions, computers).

MARK YOUR CALENDARS: The first program in Holy Trinity's Fine Arts series will be a Trumpet-Organ Recital by Hodel-Lehman Duo, Sunday, Sept 30, 2007, 4:00 pm. The duo, Martin Hodel, trumpet and Bradley Lehman, organ, began performing together 25 years ago.

MINNESOTA FLOOD RELIEF – SYNOD RESPONSE

The flooded areas are not yet equipped to receive volunteers. More details will be made available in the coming weeks; for now, those interested in volunteering should contact Joyce Pederson, Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota Disaster Services (612) 922-0776. The BEST way to help right now is financially. Funds can be sent to the Minneapolis Area Synod office (designated for SE Minnesota Flood Relief): Minneapolis Area Synod, ELCA/ SE Minnesota Flood Relief, 122 W Franklin Ave, Ste. 600, Minneapolis MN 55404 or Lutheran Disaster Response, 2485 Como Ave, St. Paul, MN 55108 (from Bishop Craig Johnson).

PARISH EVENTS September 2 – September 8

SUNDAY	8:45, 11am	Worship Service of Holy Communion
	9:55 am	Adult Forum 2:00 pm Swahili Service
MONDAY		Labor Day Holiday, office closed
WEDNESDAY	6:30 pm	Children's Choir 7:30 pm Adult Choir

GIFTS TO AFRICAN AIDS FUND by Robert/Rosemary Nailon

GIFTS TO LONGFELLOW SCHOOL SUPPLIES by Carol Johnson,

Linda Gawthrop and in memory of

- **Uncle Worth Hanson** by Sandy Hoverson

SPECIAL GIFTS in memory of

- **Lorraine Pafko** by Janine Kemer, Pauline Berndtson, John Sable, Frank Pafko, Bernice Gladwin, Deanna Swensen, Robert Schauinger, Janet Peterson, Barbara Lindy, Roberta Sigg, Nancy Ness, Jim/Sharon Sable

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS September 2, 2007

Preacher	Bob Hulteen	
Celebrant	Bruce Arnevik	
Crucifer	8:45 am	Brian Lenz / 11:00 am Korla Masters
Liturgist	8:45 am	Mary Young / 11:00 am Scott Cole
Cantor	11:00 am	Pamela Kildahl
Communion Asst	8:45 am	Mary Engen, Chris Engen
	11:00 am	Liz Blood, Vicki Mann
Greeters	8:45 am	Deb Sott / 11 am Margaret/Ron Peterson
Ushers	8:45 am	Bob Peschiutta, David Kohstedt, Aaron Crawford
	11:00 am	Rod Johnson, George Madich, Alan Libra, John Kelly
Altar Guild	8:45 am	Freda Miller, Sandra Thornby
	11:00 am	Dennis Nordholm, Lynda Nordholm
Nursery	8:40 am	Gretchen Lund/ 11:00 am Troy Davison
Coffee Servers	9:45 am	Freda Miller / Noon Gerald Werth

CROP WALK: Youth grades 7-10 and sponsors save the date of September 30 for a group lunch and Crop Walk. Registration is at 1:30 pm at Father Hennepin Park. Lunch at church beforehand. More information to come. -- Kris Bogren

WANTED: Youth-friendly adults to volunteer time and energy in our new confirmation program. There are two options:

*Small group leader -Work with 5-7 confirmands on Sundays (alternating with a partner) and one other time during each month in discussion, service and/or fellowship activities.

*Confirmation sponsor - Pair with one 1st-year confirmand during the period of his/her confirmation education. For more information about these options, contact Linda Jury.

FINANCIAL REPORT August 26 Year to date

	August 26	Year to date
Budget Requirement	11,244.23	382,303.82
Budget Receipts	4,969.33	347,209.81
World Hunger	110.00	3,745.14
Capital Improvements	--	8,290.00
Nonviolent Peaceforce	--	334.00
African AIDS Fund	100.00	1,182.48
African Pastors Fund	--	135.00
Hymnals	--	877.00
Central American Fund	--	125.00