



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 16, 2007

WORSHIP SERVICES: 8:45 and 11:00 am

CHURCH SCHOOL: 9:45 am

A SEASON TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE 2007

Holy Trinity's Christian Education Committee has designated *Poverty* as the theme for Sunday Adult Forums this winter quarter (Dec. – Feb.). The following is from *A Minnesota Without Poverty*, an initiative sponsored by the six synods of the ELCA in Minnesota, Lutheran Social Service of MN, Joint Religious Legislative Coalition, and Lutheran Coalition for Public Policy in MN.

Thirty-five Million Americans will experience hunger for some or most of the upcoming holiday season. 992,750 Minnesotans live in households struggling to put food on the table. Half of Minnesota food shelf visitors are children.

One Million American children will be homeless for some or all of this season—no stockings, no presents, no home and no food.... In Minnesota approximately 29% of those who are homeless are children. That means on any given night—including in December and January—2,726 children are without permanent shelter. *2006 Wilder Report.*

Between 2000 and 2005, the poverty rate in Minnesota has grown by 17 percent.

In this season of giving we would like to invite you to participate in a *Minnesota Without Poverty* initiative to support the efforts of the Legislative Commission to End Poverty. The Commission, with roots stemming from the ecumenical/interfaith document, "A Common Foundation: Shared Principles for Overcoming Poverty" and appointed by the legislature and governor, is holding hearings throughout the state in their effort to develop recommendations to end poverty in Minnesota. What you can do NOW...

Write/Call your legislator and let them know you are grateful for the work of the Ending Poverty Commission on the part of Minnesota's children and vulnerable families and adults. Ask that they be engaged in the work of the Commission and encourage them to develop and support recommendations that will indeed end poverty. (Find your Senator? Call 651-296-0504 www.senate.leg.state.mn.un/members Find your Representative? Call 651-296-2146 www.house.leg.state.mn.us/members/hmem.asp)

Some suggestions on what to say or write: 1) Introduce yourself as a member of Holy Trinity congregation and that you live in their legislative district. 2) Tell them you have signed the declaration of support for A Common Foundation (if that is correct). 3) Invite them to sign also at www.mnwithoutpoverty.org under "Sign Foundation". 4) Ask them to show support for the work of the Commission to End Poverty. 5) Ask them to encourage the commission members to develop recommendations that will indeed end poverty, and not just service or manage poverty. 6) If they are a member of the legislative commission: express appreciation for the work they are doing and encourage them to develop recommendations that will end poverty and not just service or manage poverty.

– Bruce Arnevik, Interim Pastor arnevik@htlcmpls.org

CONCERNING PEOPLE

Please pray for **Peter and Amy Johnson and their family** as they mourn Peter's father.

Third Sunday of Advent

The promises of God are sure: the One who made the earth and seas keeps faith forever. Be patient, say the biblical witnesses, for the Good News is at hand.



LESSONS
Isaiah 35:10
Psalm 146:5-10
James 5:7-10
Matthew 11:2-11

The Sunday School's annual Advent program will be presented during the 11 am service. It includes music, readings and visual art.

SUNDAY ADULT FORUM

9:55 am

Library

December 16 "The Preferential Option for the Poor"

Randy Nelson

Liberation Theologies, especially those with roots in Central and South America, strongly emphasize that the poor have a special place in the economy of God. How should such theologies be understood by those of us living in the North American context?

December 23 "Waging a Living" Part I

Bob Hulteen

Recently MN legislators heard stories from low income Twin Cities suburbanites. This video presentation will also introduce you to four person/families who are trying to make a living in the current economic situation.

DECEMBER FINANCIAL CHALLENGE

Holy Trinity has budgeted \$415,000 in regular offerings for 2007. We need to receive these offerings to fulfill our obligations and be well-positioned to begin the new year and call our new pastor.

Regular offerings for the year (projected) \$415,000.00

Received to date: 353,107.57

Balance yet to receive: \$61,882.43

Please help, if possible, by

- Completing your financial commitment on time
- Giving an extra offering if you are able

CALL COMMITTEE UPDATE

Our congregation is experiencing Advent in a new way this year – as we eagerly wait for word of a new pastor, and ponder just how the gifts and skills of this person will integrate with and offer new light to the mission and vision that is Holy Trinity. A sense of excitement is bubbling as we look forward to interviews with four candidates the first weeks of January – and the conversations we will have together. More candidates are being contacted by the synod, while names from national sources continue to come our way. – Lynda Nordholm, on behalf of the Call Committee

PARISH INFORMATION

CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

Monday, Christmas Eve 4:00 pm ✕ Twilight Service
 Monday, Christmas Eve 11:00 pm ✕ Candlelight Service
 Tuesday, Christmas Day 10:00 am ✕ Festival Service

SPECIAL MUSIC FOR ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS

The Adult Choirs and Handbells will present their Advent Devotion: Choral Music & Readings, at worship services on December 23. The Children's Choir and *Cantate!* will sing for Christmas Eve worship service at 4:00 pm.

ADVENT EVENING PRAYER – DECEMBER 12 & 19

Supper of soup and bread is served at 6:15 pm on Wednesdays during Advent. A service of prayer, meditation and music begins at 7:00 pm.

REPORT FROM WAVELAND, MISSISSIPPI

The week after Thanksgiving, six of us traveled to the Gulf Coast to help restore housing damaged by Hurricane Katrina. In five days, we worked on three different houses, painting, spackling and sheet-rocking. We saw videos of the storm and talked to survivors. The immense water surge and sustained winds were unprecedented; thousands of homes have yet to be rebuilt. There are frustrations with burdensome paper-work, inequitable distribution of aid, and the slowness of the grant application process. Donations to Katrina Relief, 700 Tabor, Waveland MS 39576 go directly to help rebuild homes. For more information, see www.reliefvolunteers.com (Kathleen's Blog). We're glad we went; volunteers are still urgently needed.

- Mary & Chris, Susan & Wally, Kathy H., Dennis N.

IMPORTANT MEETING ON PROPOSED ECO-BURNER

The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency has revised their draft permit for the Midtown Eco Energy Project and will hold a public hearing to propose revision: Thursday, **December 13, 6-8:30 pm at Holy Trinity**. Open house 6-6:30; presentation by MPCA 6:30-7pm. Questions and answers until 8:30 Your questions and concerns can also be registered with: Brad Moore, MPCA Commissioner, MPCA, 520 Lafayette Road, St. Paul, MN 55155-4194. 651-296-7301 or Brad.Moore@state.mn.us

More information at www.neighborsagainsttheburner.org.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR LA NATIVIDAD, ST. PAUL'S

This is a wonderful street performance/procession jointly put on by St. Paul's and Heart of the Beast Theatre. Three particular jobs are short staffed 1) Bi-lingual Spanish/English people to serve as ambassadors at Mercado Central 2) "Blue Star carriers" to be on 15th Ave South to lead play goers into St. Paul's for the food and 3) Food preparers and servers to serve food at St. Paul's. Dates of performances are Dec. 14,15,16 and Dec. 20,21,22. In exchange for helping, a limited number of tickets for the performances are available. Contact Luisa Cabello-Hansel 612- 275-2914 to volunteer.

PARISH EVENTS December 16-22	
SUNDAY	8:45, 11am Worship Service of Holy Communion
	9:30 am Confirmation
	9:45 am Sunday Church School 9:55 am Adult Forum
	9:45 am Personnel 12:15 Cantate! lunch, rehearsal
	8:00 pm Call Committee
MONDAY	6:00 pm Executive Cmte 7:00 pm Church Council
TUESDAY	9:00 am Healthy Seniors 7:00 pm Tutoring
WEDNESDAY	6:15 pm Soup Supper 6:30 pm Children's Choir
	7:00 pm Evening Prayer 8:00 pm Adult Choir
THURSDAY	7:00 pm Knitting 8:15 pm Basketball
FRIDAY	6:00 pm Confirmand progressive Christmas dinner
SATURDAY	10:00 am Christmas Handbell rehearsal

GIFTS TO WORLD HUNGER by Virginia Smith, Sandra M. Nelson, Ingrid Phillips, and in memory of Godmother, Dolly Anderson, by Lynda Nordholm.

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS December 16, 2007	
Preacher	Bruce Arnevik
Celebrant	8:45 am Joel Wiberg / 11:00 Bruce Arnevik
Crucifer	11:00 am Bob Hulteen
Liturgist	8:45 am Jim Klobuchar /11:00 am Cathryn Olson
Cantor	8:45 am Ann Schrooten /11:00 am Peter Aldrich
Dec 19 service	Stephanie Sulzbach
Communion Asst	8:45 am Jeff Weiss, Joyce Peterson
	11:00 am. Susan Wootten, Andrew Johnson
Acolyte	8:45 am Fiona Carson
	11:00 am Kevin Kane, Thomas Aldrich
Greeters	8:45 am Joyce Peterson
	11:00 am Liz Blood
Ushers	8:45 am Bob Peschiutta, Shawn Barry, Ron Mack Murphy
	11:00 am Mark Hiner, Liz Blood, Lee Kampinen, Kathy Hollander
Altar Guild	8:45 am Carol Berg, Elsie Heyer
	11:00 am Carol Lane, Linda Woytasek
Nursery	8:40 am Sean Gosiewski / 11:00 am Troy Davison

POINSETTIAS: If you would like to order a poinsettia for the altar area at Christmas, please call by Tuesday, December 18. They are \$14.

ADULT RETREAT: Save the date Feb 1-2, Fri night and Saturday, in the metro area. More information to follow.

ANTIWAR VIGIL AND PROTEST Fri, Dec 21, 6:30 pm

Initiated by the Iraq Peace Action Coalition, the vigil takes place at the Library Plaza, Hennepin & Lagoon, to create a visible antiwar presence on one of the busiest intersections in Minneapolis.

FINANCIAL REPORT December 9 Year to date

Budget Requirement	11,244.23	550,967.27
Budget Receipts	11,147.70	482,750.53
World Hunger	41.00	6,999.76
Capital Improvements	.-	8,792.00
Nonviolent Peaceforce	.-	634.00
African AIDS Fund	15.53	1,684.55
African Pastors Fund	130.00	505.00
Central American Fund	.-	254.00