



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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June 1, 2008

WORSHIP SERVICES: 8:45 and 11:00 am

CHURCH SCHOOL: 9:45 am

WIN CAMPAIGN FOR SECURITY OFFICERS, PART TWO

(This is the second of a two-part article I'm writing about Workers Interfaith Network's campaign on behalf of local security officers. I am chronicling my participation as a religious leader involved with WIN. The following is by no means a full account of all the details and actions involved in this campaign.)

On December 31, 2007 the contract for local security officers who are part of SEIU (Service Employees International Union) expired. WIN was heavily involved in the campaign, seeking affordable healthcare as part of a new contract. The average wage of these workers was \$11.27 per hour and only 2% could afford the family healthcare offered by their employers. A rally and strike vote was held on February 9. I opened the gathering with prayer. U.S. Representative Keith Ellison spoke about the spiritual dimension of this struggle for worker justice and expressed gratitude for the involvement of clergy. Minneapolis Mayor R.T. Rybak talked about the important role security officers play in downtown Minneapolis and how they often work hand-in-hand with the Minneapolis Police Department. Officers voted to authorize a strike if necessary.

WIN helped organize a press conference in the Minneapolis City Hall Rotunda on February 21 where I was one of several speakers. This was followed by a march to the IDS Center where we had hoped to address the building owners who were meeting there. Fortunately, one of their representatives involved in the contract negotiations came down to the Crystal Court to allow several of us to have a public word with him.

On March 25, there was a one-day strike downtown involving some downtown security officers. Along with security officers, labor leaders, representatives from various community organizations and political leaders, WIN was present with clergy and others from the faith community. The picket line had a major presence in front of the US Bancorp building as well as the Ameriprise building (where some security officers work). Some of us gave brief sidewalk speeches.

On Maundy Thursday, March 20, a number of people involved with WIN were among those arrested in a sit-in which took place in the lobby of US Bancorp and cited for trespassing. Among those arrested was Holy Trinity's Korla Masters.

Then on March 27 a second act of civil disobedience was staged in the Crystal Court of the IDS. As many people marched into the IDS Center chanting for healthcare for security officers, a number of us gathered in a circle around an information kiosk and handcuffed ourselves to each other. The group included nine security officers who were the first security officers to be arrested for civil disobedience in the nation. I was part of this group of arrestees.

Two weeks after the second set of arrests, just as security officers were about to go out on a full-blown strike, talks were renewed and a new contract was offered by contractors and agreed to by officers. The contract was a great victory with major advances in healthcare affordability, increased wages, increased minimum starting wages, sick days, safety equipment, etc.

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Given God's grace, the faithful keep the commandments. Jesus challenges the disciples to respond with works of love and mercy.



LESSONS

- Deuteronomy 11:18-21, 26-28
- Psalm 31:1-5, 19-24
- Romans 1:16-17; 3:22b-28
- Matthew 7:21-29

SUNDAY ADULT FORUM

9:55 am Library

June 1st "Lutheran Life in Hungary, Poland and Slovakia"

From April 25-May 6, 2008, 21 people traveled to these countries. A slide presentation of tour highlights will be shown, including worship and visits with Lutheran congregations in Budapest and Bratislava; a visit to a Lutheran community in Poland; their stay at Agape Lutheran Retreat Center in a wine-producing village near Bratislava; and entering the gates and world of Auschwitz concentration camp.

June 8th No Adult Forum

June 8 will be Pastor Bruce Arnevik's last Sunday at Holy Trinity. There will be a farewell reception between worship services. See back page for more details.

CONCERNING PEOPLE

Please pray for **Carrie Sue Hiner**, recovering after being hit by a car while jogging; **Troy Cook**, being deployed to Iraq on June 5; **Anna Butler** at Abbot Northwestern Hospital; **Bernice Wanberg** in hospice care at Augustana Healthcare Center in Apple Valley; **Caroline Garman**, recovering from back surgery; **Vi Michaelson**, recovering at home following a fall; **Doris Neuendorf**, at Providence Place, recovering from hip surgery; **Jim Schneiders**, **Liz Blood** and **Karen Fantauzza**, as they receive chemotherapy treatment.

Many factors went into settling this contract. Most are a mystery to me. What role did a particular action play? Who knows? Certainly the collective impact of actions carried out by a strong coalition of labor, religious, community and political leaders working together made a huge difference. Clearly the religious community played an important role in a campaign which made a real difference in the lives and families of many working people in our community. "Thanks be to God!"

I've never been involved in something like this nor ever been arrested for civil disobedience. I didn't consider myself the "protester type." However you may express your concerns for justice as a Christian, perhaps the point is more how you respond to an invitation. I responded to an invitation. We respond to invitations in ways that fit with who we are. "Low profile" involvement is as important as "high profile." As I leave Holy Trinity, I commend WIN to you to consider getting involved with, in whatever fashion.

– Bruce C. Arnevik, Interim Pastor

PARISH INFORMATION

PROGRESSIVE DINNER AND FELLOWSHIP: Please join us for a Progressive Dinner on Saturday, June 14, beginning at 6:15 pm at various homes. You may sign up in the Community Room or call the church office.

SUMMER PROGRAM

This year's VCS program, "Communities of Peace," age 3-grade 6 will be June 16-19, 9:30-11:30 am. Through stories and activities, children will experience and begin to understand what a peaceful community feels like. Volunteers needed: please sign the list in the Community Room or contact Stephanie Sulzbach or church office.

NORTH SHORE HIKING: An intergenerational hiking trip Aug. 12-15 will be a lodge-to-lodge adventure on the North Shore. One day will be spent on trail work serving the Lake Superior Hiking Assn. Cost approx. \$350: 3 nights lodging, meals, & shuttles. We will car pool; drivers will get gas money. Youth will have a subsidy (approx. \$50) and opportunity for fund raising. Register with \$100 deposit. For more info contact Kris Bogren.

THANK YOU!

A portable lectern with a built-in wireless speaker has been donated by Bill and Eunice Milbrath. It is currently in the library for use in our adult forums, and we have the option of using it in various places in the church building.

DEADLINE FOR REGISTRATION for *Hearts on Fire* is June 1.

The conference *Hearts on Fire*, July 3-6, in San Francisco, will equip Reconciling in Christ congregations to work for continued welcome in the ELCA. Please register by June 1: <http://www.lcna.org/assembly>.

TORTURE IS A MORAL ISSUE

June 26 marks the UN Day in Support of Victims of Torture, and will be celebrated at The Center for Victims of Torture, 717 River Pkwy, 6 pm. Many congregations work with the National Religious Campaign against Torture to stop our government from using torture. www.cvt.org.

PASTORS FOR PEACE FRIENDSHIPMENT TO CUBA

A caravan of supplies for Cuba will be in the Twin Cities June 19. A Cuban meal, music and program at St. Albert the Great Catholic Church, 6 pm, will support the effort. \$10 includes meal, but no one turned away for lack of funds.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR PROJECT HOMELESS CONNECT

Help end homelessness: Please join St. Paul/Ramsey County Project Homeless Connect at the St. Paul River Center Tuesday, June 10. There will be opportunities for individuals and groups. Volunteers are asked to attend a short training session prior to the event. When you register to volunteer, you will also register to attend a training session. Next session: Saturday, May 31 10-11:30am at Girl Scout Council, 400 S Robert, St Paul. Go to www.projecthomelessconnectmn.com to volunteer.

PARISH EVENTS June 1 - 7, 2008

| | | |
|----------|------------|---|
| SUNDAY | 8:45, 11am | Worship Service of Holy Communion |
| | 9:55 am | Adult Forum 12: 15 pm Confirmands Picnic |
| | 1:00 pm | HTTC rehearsal 2:00 pm Swahili Worship |
| MONDAY | 6:30 pm | Youth committee |
| | 7:00 pm | Peace with Justice, Outreach, Worship cmtes |
| TUESDAY | 7:00 pm | HTTC Rehearsal |
| THURSDAY | 7:00 pm | Knitting |
| SATURDAY | 10:00 am | Sound of Music Rehearsal |

GIFTS TO WORLD HUNGER by Vernon/Vi Michaelson, Inez Olsen, Viola Madson, Linda Gawthrop, Josef Fortier/Carol Lane, Liz O'Brien, Dennis/Lynda Nordholm, Robert/Dorothy Kelly, Nicholas Ellison, John/Kay Buzza, Ray Sanders, David/Mary Lindell, Bob Wetzler and in memory of

- My mother, Lila Milbrath by Bill Milbrath

GIFT TO CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT by Donna Heyer

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS June 1, 2008

| | | |
|----------------|---------------|--|
| Preacher | Bruce Arnevik | |
| Celebrant | 8:45 am | David Broberg 11:00am John Buzza |
| Crucifer | 11:00 am | Korla Masters |
| Liturgist | 8:45 am | Mary Young / 11:00 am Jeff Hoch |
| Communion Asst | 8:45 am | Linda Berglin, David Kohlstedt |
| | 11:00 am | Liz Rudrud, Cliff Brown |
| Greeters | 8:45 am | Deb Sadt / 11:00 am Margaret and Ron Peterson |
| Ushers | 8:45 am | Bob Peschiutta, Ron Mack Murphy, Chris Engen |
| | 11:00 am | Rod Johnson, Alan Libra, Liz Blood, Lee Kampinen |
| Altar Guild | 8:45 am | Bev Peschiutta, Karrie Cable-Spratt |
| | 11:00 am | Linda Woytasek, Carol Lane |
| Nursery | 8:40 am | Margaret Carlson, Ian Cable |
| | 11:00 am | David Krig, Alex Benson |
| Counters | 8:45 am | Bob Peschiutta, Annie Hines |
| | 11:00 am | Gary Johnson, Vicki Mann |
| Closer | | Vicki Mann |

FAREWELL RECEPTION FOR PASTOR BRUCE ARNEVIK

Join us on June 8 as we gather to say thank you and good-bye to Pastor Bruce Arnevik, who has led our congregation since September, 2006. There will be a reception and program between worship services. There will also be an opportunity to greet Pastor Bruce after the second worship service.

FINANCIAL REPORT May 25, 2008 Year to Date

| | | |
|---------------------------|-------------|--------------|
| Budget Requirements | \$10,978.85 | \$230,555.85 |
| Budget Receipts | 5,761.52 | 217,682.44 |
| World Hunger | 365.00 | 4,061.40 |
| Capital Improvements | -- | 625.00 |
| Nonviolent Peaceforce | -- | 150.00 |
| African AIDS Fund | -- | 358.51 |
| African Pastors Endowment | 20.00 | 440.00 |
| Central America Fund | 25.00 | 130.00 |