



HOLY TRINITY

LUTHERAN CHURCH

THE COMMUNITY CHURCH

Volume 98, Issue 37 • September 21, 2014

On 28th Avenue between Lake and 31st Streets Minneapolis, MN 55406 • 612-729-8358 • office@htlcmpls.org • www.htlcmpls.org
WORSHIP SERVICES: 8:45 and 11:00 am • CHURCH SCHOOL: 9:45 am • Jay Carlson and Ingrid Rasmussen, Pastors

LOVING OUR NEIGHBORS

Yasir's message read: "Please call Chimi at Minnesota Council of Churches (MCC). I need a new bus card so I can go to Holy Land to buy food for the family. Chimi won't return my calls. Please make an appointment for me so I can get a new bus card." Just another day in the life of our refugee family from Iraq.

It has been almost 4 months since their arrival. Many Holy Trinity members greeted them at the airport. They had been traveling for 36 hours since leaving Amman, Jordan, where they lived for several years after being forced to flee Baghdad due to imminent threats of torture and death.

That night we took them to their new home which had been cleaned and prepared by the loving hands of a team led by Kay and John Buzza. They had a mountain of luggage, which is unusual for refugees. The eldest son had an iPhone and a laptop. They had very high expectations about life in the USA.

The first few weeks were a flurry of necessary activities and appointments beginning with orientation. Case Manager Sarah explained the provided services. She outlined the family's responsibilities, too. Following through was imperative; their federally funded Match Grant depended on it. This money would be their lifeblood for 4-6 months while Ahmed, the father, and 19-year-old Yasir found employment.

Over the next several months our volunteer team walked with the family through Social Security, EBT, medical assistance, school enrollment, groceries, school supplies, uniforms, state IDs, medical appointments, transportation, job training, and so much more. Members of the team were always there when needed; each brought valuable gifts to this work.

- Kris Christians ensured the kids got on the right bus and met them at school to help them find their classrooms and meet their teachers.
- Deb Sodt was there when the youngest, Yaqoub, was hospitalized with breathing problems, spending time with the family and bringing them food during the five days of hospitalization.
- Chris and Mary Engen could always be counted on to shop for necessary items and to provide rides to the ER. (Soccer and horsing around the house led to two trips to the ER with Yousif and a painful visit to the podiatrist.)
- Susan Wootten guided Yasir through the steps of applying for admission to Century College with medical school as an ultimate goal.
- Harry and Martha Mueller found temporary work for Ahmed and Yasir.
- Other volunteers included Meagan McLaughlin, Dave and Carol Berg, Wally Lentz, Eleni Wolking, Nancy Moe, and Turid Ormseth.

This is just a small sampling of the work and generosity of our volunteers. We closed our time with this special family with a celebration picnic organized by Susan Nixon. Everyone brought food, played Frisbee, and expressed their love, compassion, and wishes for a successful future for these new members of our community. God's love was definitely at work through all those involved in this meaningful journey.

Thank you everyone!

— Dave Moe

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Matthew narrates one of Jesus' controversial parables, in which Jesus says the reign of God is like workers who get paid the same no matter when they start. In baptism we receive the grace of God that is freely given to all. As Luther wrote, in the presence of God's mercy we are all beggars.



LESSONS

Jonah 3:10-4:11

Psalm 145:1-8

Philippians 1:21-30

Matthew 20:1-16

ADULT FORUM

10:00 am — In the library

SEPTEMBER 21 "REFLECTIONS ON TEACHING ENGLISH TO VILLAGERS IN NICARAGUA"

Keith Olstad

Rural Nicaragua—beautiful setting with gracious, hard working people—offers a very different life than our context in urban Minnesota. Keith Olstad offers photos and journal reflections on two months of living with poor families in the Miraflor reserve while teaching basic English in the coffee-producing northern Nicaraguan mountains.

SEPTEMBER 28 "A REPORT ON THE CONGREGATION'S MULTICULTURAL INITIATIVE"

Pastor Ingrid Rasmussen

Over the summer the Outreach Committee has hosted learning opportunities and dialogue circles about race, difference, faith, and justice. We will offer reflections on the content of these meetings, engage in conversation, and look toward the future of this work at Holy Trinity. All voices welcome.

ADULT RETREAT

Sign up by September 26 for the mono-tasking retreat in Frontenac, MN, October 10-11. For more information, see Pastor Ingrid.

JOHNSON SYMPOSIUM ON FAITH AND SOCIETY

Register now to hear the Reverence Nadia Bolz-Weber speak on "Deeply Faithful; Deeply Flawed: Telling the Truth about Ourselves, the World, and God" at the fifth annual Johnson Symposium on Faith and Society, November 7 & 8, 2014. Registration forms are included with today's newsletter.

PARISH INFORMATION

NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION

We at Holy Trinity believe that community is integral to faith, which is why we invite interested persons to consider membership in this congregation. Our next new member orientation will be held on Wednesday, October 8, from 6:00-8:00 p.m. in the library. We will welcome new members in worship on Sunday, October 12. Over a simple meal, those interested in membership will have the opportunity to learn more about one another and about Holy Trinity's mission and ministry. There are no prerequisites; all are welcome. Please speak with Pastor Jay or Pastor Ingrid if you intend to come.

ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS DEVOTION BOOKLET

We will once again be creating an Advent devotion booklet featuring daily reflections written by Holy Trinity members and friends. If you would be interested in writing a 300-400-word reflection on the daily lectionary texts, please sign up in the Community room. Typed or handwritten reflections are due to the office by November 1.

MINNESOTA MEAL

This year's Minnesota Meal will be on September 21 at 12:30 in the Bartsch room. Bring a dish to share featuring Minnesota-grown foods and join us. The meal coincides with the Peoples Climate March and events taking place throughout the country. Dylan Bradford-Kesti of the Land Stewardship Project will share his work on urban agriculture, food justice and food access issues and will be joined by a leader from their partner, Hope Community Inc., a Phillips Neighborhood garden project.

WINTER CLOTHING FOR REFUGEE FAMILIES

As winter approaches, the refugee family we have sponsored this year is in need of warm outerwear. Please bring clean, gently used (or new) coats, jackets, boots (especially needed), gloves, mittens, hats, scarves and warm socks to the Community Room anytime by October 13. Boys ages 2, 4, 11, & 15. Girl age 12. Two adult men and one woman. Any extra items will be donated to the MN Council of Churches to provide for other refugees. Contact Deb Sodt for further information. Thank you!

Jay Carlson and Ingrid Rasmussen, Pastors
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Ingrid Rasmussen

PARISH EVENTS September 21-27, 2014		
Sunday	8:45 am	Worship Service with Holy Communion
	9:30 am	Confirmation 9:45 Sunday School
	10:00 am	Adult Forum
	11:00 am	Worship Service with Holy Communion
	12:30 pm	Minnesota Meal in Bartsch Room
Monday	2:00 pm	Swahili Service
	6:00 pm	Executive Committee
	7:00 pm	Council
Tuesday	11:00 am	Text Study
Wednesday	5:30 pm	Choir Supper
	6:00-7:00 pm	Youth Choirs
	7:30 pm	Adult Choir
Friday	6:00-9:00 pm	Parents' Night Out

Special gifts in memory of **Ron Peterson** by Dorothy Kelly, Mary Ellen Olson, Sally Parks, Vern/Vi Michaelson, Linda McMahon, Cathryn Olson, Sharon/Rob Englund, Eunice Milbrath, Linda Fredrickson, Gerry/Linda Berglin, Richard/Betty Julin, Hiawatha Y Service Club, Ted Dooley/Kristi Holmquist, Deb Sodt, Arlene Helvig

African Pastors Fund by Bud Diken

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS September 21, 2014			
8:45 AM		11:00 AM	
Ingrid Rasmussen	Preacher	Ingrid Rasmussen	
Joel Wiberg	Presiding Minister	John Buzza	
Danya Werth, Anton Werth	Acolytes	Linnea Krig, Mason Helmel	
Joyce Peterson	Assisting Minister	Jody Cameron	
Anne Beschnett	Crucifer	Meghan Olsen Biebighauser	
Kevin Proescholdt, Lisa Martens	Communion	Libby Olstad, David Krig	
Gerry/Linda Berglin	Altar Guild	Joe Fortier, Rosemary Foley	
Bob Peschiutta, DeWayne Townsend III, Neil Anderson	Ushers	George Madich, Bob/Helen Norheim, Mark Hiner	
Liz/Pat Kelley	Coffee Servers	Bill/Sue Roberts	
Joyce Peterson, Chris Engen	Counters	Gary Johnson, Deb Helmel	
	Closer	Cliff Brown	