



THE COMMUNITY CHURCH

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

ANNUAL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

With approximately 140 Holy Trinity members in attendance, we gathered in the church gym for a delightful annual meeting on Sunday afternoon. I want to offer my thanks to Sara Jensen and the rest of the Church Council for their leadership as well as to all who gave reports, asked questions, prepared the meal, and otherwise helped to make it a fun day of giving thanks for our life and ministry together. Minutes of the meeting will be available soon, but I'm happy to share some highlights:

- Four new members were elected to three-year terms on the Church Council: Judy Davison, Chris Engen, David Krig, and Roberta Shaw. I'm grateful for their gifts and willingness to serve in leadership for the congregation. Thanks also to the Nominating Committee for their hard work. When the Council meets in February, we will decide whether to add any one-year appointments to Council.
- Following the congregational meeting, the new Council met to elect officers. Sara Jensen and Laura Bolstad were reelected as president and treasurer. Theresa Rian will step into the vice president role, and our new secretary is Melanie Townsend.
- Our financial position is strong, as offerings and other income covered all of our expenses last year. We had planned to use \$35,000 from a special estate fund in 2015 but ended up only needing to use \$20,000.
- Our average worship attendance in 2015 was 216, which is up from the previous year's average of 198. I believe this reflects the number of new people visiting and joining Holy Trinity as well as regular participation by the congregation, both of which are signs of a healthy congregation. Your weekly worship means a lot to our community of faith.
- The congregation approved a budget of \$750,500 for 2016. This is an increase of about \$23,000 over last year's budget, but the Council and Financial Stewardship Committee are confident that we can meet this new goal together. Thank you for your generous giving!
- We approved two special appeals for 2016: ELCA World Hunger and Refugee Resettlement (through Lutheran Social Service and MN Council of Churches). Watch for more information about each and an opportunity to help out with sponsoring a refugee family this spring.
- I am pleased that the Personnel Committee has worked hard over the last several years to bring staff salaries in line with synod guidelines. We have an exceptionally talented and dedicated team with whom I feel privileged to work on a daily basis, and I believe it's important to the whole congregation that we show each staff member that they are valued. A question was raised during the meeting on Sunday about the possibility of continuing to raise salaries beyond the minimum guideline. There was good discussion about the issue, and we recognized that there are a variety of factors to take into account before adjusting the personnel budget. The congregation then approved a motion to "encourage the Personnel Committee to have conversations about how to adjust/improve the pastors' and staff's salaries." As this conversation moves forward, I want to express that I personally feel well supported and compensated by the congregation. This suggestion did not come from a staff member but was made with appreciation for the work of our staff. I think I can speak on behalf of the church staff in saying that such expressions of appreciation mean a great deal to us.

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TRANSFIGURATION SUNDAY

Witnesses to the glory of God in the face of Jesus will be unable to avoid reflecting that glory in the world. It was true for Moses. It was doubtless true for Peter, James, and John. We pray that it will be true of all of us who see the glory of the Lord in the word and in the supper and who are being "transformed into the same image" by the Spirit of God.



READINGS

Exodus 34:29-35
Psalm 99
2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2
Luke 9:28-36-43a

ADULT FORUM

10:00 am – in the Library

FEBRUARY 7 "Hope in the Hospital Setting" Jess Olson, Seminary Student

This congregation is delighted to support three members who are attending seminary through prayer and through the Seminary Tuition Fund, which was established in 2013. Jess Olson is in her second year at Luther Seminary in St. Paul. Jess completed her clinical pastoral education this past summer. Come and hear Jess reflect on hope in the hospital setting.

FEBRUARY 14 "Hope in the 'Restore the Vote' Movement" Mark Haase, Restore the Vote Minnesota

Minnesotans lose the right to vote until they have been released from supervision, including while they are living in the community, even if they never spent any time in prison or only served a short jail sentence. Restore the Vote Minnesota is a coalition of groups who advocate changes to the law that would allow people who have served their time and are living in their community to vote.

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Throughout the meeting, members reported on our efforts relative to our five current congregational goals:

1. Nurture faith, life, and relationships in worship experiences, small groups, and meaningful volunteer opportunities.
2. Grow in children, youth, and family ministry.
3. Grow in intercultural competence and understanding.
4. Advocate for alternative energy sources and payday lending regulations.
5. Launch a capital campaign for building renovation.

The funding team reported that we have so far received \$630,000 in pledges for the "Opening Doors" building campaign. We still have a ways to go with the campaign in reaching our goal of \$850,000 and our goal of 100% participation. You will see a display in the Community Room beginning this week with updates on our progress, and you can also visit htlcmpls.org/opening-doors for more information. Pledge forms are available both in the Community Room and online as well.

I'm grateful to be in ministry with all of you. Thanks for being the church!

—Jay Carlson, Pastor

PARISH INFORMATION

RAIN GARDEN MOSAIC PROJECT, PART 2

Work has begun on the next phase of the Mosaic Project. The new tiles will be installed on the risers of the rain garden stage. If you would like to help with this project, come to the mosaic room on Tuesdays, beginning at 10:00 a.m. For more information, talk to Helen Norheim. No experience necessary.

THANK YOU FROM LONGFELLOW SCHOOL

The Longfellow staff and students want to thank you for the festive party in December! You brightened so many homes with your thoughtful contributions. The gifts were received with joy. The delicious treats were also greatly appreciated. The staff and students also send their thanks for your participation in the spoken word performance held in the Bartsch Room. They were glad to perform to a full house! We are also partnering on student participation in Fare for All, the food program held monthly at Holy Trinity. Each month, we offer a few small scholarships for students at Fare for All. If you'd like to provide a Longfellow student a box of fruit and vegetables and four meat items, you can send a donation to Holy Trinity for \$20.00. Please note Longfellow/Fare for All in the memo line. The next Fare for All is February 10.

PANCAKE BREAKFAST AND BAKE SALE FEBRUARY 7

The middle school and high school youth invite everyone to breakfast in the gym before or after worship. Proceeds from the breakfast and bake sale will support summer youth trips, especially a trip in July to Camp Christikon near Billings, Montana. Tickets are \$5 and will be available Sundays in the Community Room and at the door.

If you wish to donate baked goods for the bake sale, please sign up in the Community Room or talk to Melanie Townsend.

LENT AT HOLY TRINITY: "FILLED WITH COMPASSION"

As the days slowly lengthen, we begin the holy season of Lent. The ashes we receive on our foreheads remind us that we, along with all of creation, are dependent on God's grace. Services with the imposition of ashes will be held in the sanctuary at 12:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. We will also gather on the Wednesdays throughout Lent at 7:00 p.m. for Evening Prayer. Reflections on the theme of "Filled with Compassion" will be offered by John Buzza, Liz Rudrud, Bob Hulteen, Cathy Alpizar, and visiting German Pastor Helge Voigt.

Jay Carlson and Ingrid Rasmussen, Pastors
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PARISH EVENTS February 7-13, 2016

Sunday	8 am-1pm	Pancake Breakfast
	8:45 am	Worship Service with Holy Communion
	9:45 am	Sunday School
	10:00 am	Adult Forum
	11:00 am	Worship Service with Holy Communion
Monday	11 am-2:30 pm	AARP Tax Aide
	7:00 pm	Financial Stewardship Committee
	Tuesday	10:00 am
11:00 am		Worship Readings Discussion
Wednesday	11 am-2:30 pm	AARP Tax Aide
	12:00 pm	Ash Wednesday Service in Sanctuary
Friday-Sunday	3:30-5:30 pm	Fare for All
	5:30 pm	Soup Supper
	6:00 pm	Children, Youth, Family / Youth Choirs
	5:30-6:15 pm	Trinity Singers
	7:00 pm	Ash Wednesday Service in Sanctuary
	7:45 pm	Adult Choir
		Family Retreat at Chi Rho

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS FEBRUARY 7, 2016

8:45 AM		11:00 AM
Jeff Weiss	Crucifer	Sam Kleven
Lowenna Rian-Fairley, Ellie Brand	Acolytes	Claudia Jensen, Kristen Townsend
Rick Liedholm	Assisting Minister	Susan Wooten
Nicki Hines, Andrea Hansen	Communion	Jeff Olsen Biebighauser
Shelley Grimes, Nancy Madich	Altar Guild	Carol Lane
Bob Peschiutta, DeWayne Townsend III, Marcea Mariani	Ushers	Jeff Olsen Biebighauser, Joshua Combs
Joy/Randy Nelson	Coffee Servers	Kathy Ohler
Pam Blomgren	Counters	Gary Johnson, Scott Cole
	Closer	John Sulzbach

Financial Report	January 24	Year to date
Budget requirements	14,432.69	72,163.46
Budget receipts	9,150.78	76,998.55
Longfellow/Broadway	10.00	40.00
Opening Doors	4,432.87	27,158.61
World Hunger	10.00	86.00

Special gifts in memory of Paul Eid and John Buzza's father by Sandra Nelson