# HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH Community Calendar at a Glance Fall 2016

Greetings, Holy Trinity!

While the summer was certainly full of meaningful opportunities, the fall always brings renewed excitement in our congregational life. That's especially the case this year! As you'll read in this booklet, there is an abundance of ways to participate in God's work through Holy Trinity—through teaching and learning, advocating for justice, strengthening relationships and building new ones, and prayer and worship. Take some time now to mark your calendars for the coming months.

This fall we will continue to deepen our commitment to grow in our own intercultural understanding and to seek racial justice in our communities. We encourage each member of Holy Trinity to engage in this work, and we will offer large group and small group discussions to help us all in our learning and growth. We trust the risen Christ is with us in challenging conversations and new learnings.

We are also excited that our building will soon better reflect our shared commitment to "welcome, with no exception, all people to the full life of this community of faith." Because of the generosity of the congregation and skilled construction work, our east entrance will offer a warm and hospitable welcome to each person who uses it.

We are grateful for the amazing variety of ministries at Holy Trinity and to serve with all of you in response to God's grace.

Peace,

Carlan

Pastor Jay Carlson

Ingrid C. A. Rasmusser

Pastor Ingrid C. A. Rasmussen

*Traditional Worship – Contemporary Message – A Call to Social Justice* 2730 East 31<sup>st</sup> Street, Minneapolis, MN 55406 • (612)729-8358 • <u>www.htlcmpls.org</u>

# WORSHIP AND MUSIC from David Sims



It is a joy to make music every Sunday with the Holy Trinity congregation! My job title "Cantor" means the leader of the people's song, and I am profoundly grateful for such a wonderful environment in which to lead singing. My primary choir, therefore, is the congregation. With the lectionary readings as a guide, I help choose the hymns and service music in collaboration with Pastor Jay, Pastor Ingrid, and Ann, and find ways of leading that singing, whether by organ, piano, choir, cantors, or instrumental soloists. It is your voices, however, that are the most important to our worship life together, and I am so glad that you share them each week.

For those who want a more in-depth singing experience we have two adult choirs that help to lead worship. The Adult Choir sings almost every Sunday from September–May at the 11:00 service, and rehearses in the choir room on Wednesdays from 7:30–9:00 p.m. We sing a wide variety of choral literature, psalm antiphons, and other liturgical music. Trinity Singers provides choral music at the 8:45 service the second Sunday of each month, and rehearses in the Sanctuary the two Wednesdays prior from 6:30–7:30 p.m. It has been a great option for people whose schedules don't allow them to rehearse and sing each week, as well as parents of children who are in choir at the same time. If you are interested in singing with either group, or sharing your other musical talent in worship, let me know! We would be glad to have you.

# CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILY MINISTRY from Ann Schrooten

There are several exciting plans underway for our children, youth, and families this year! First and foremost, we will be moving our Godly Play and Trinity Village classrooms to 2<sup>nd</sup> floor early in September in order to create a new Educational Suite in the vacated staff offices. Each age group will have their own individual classroom in which to meet, and parents will experience easier access to all Nursery, Godly Play, and Trinity Village classrooms located on the same level. Gathering spaces for parents will also be incorporated into the Educational Suite, providing opportunity for informal small group discussions or occasional presentations of interest to parents.

Talented and committed adults have always stepped forward to guide our children as they explore their faith. This year is no different. We are pleased that Kay Buzza will return to lead Godly Play again this year. I'm also excited to announce that Katie Murray will once again lead our 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade class and Paul Thorson makes a comeback to lead our 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders this year. To continue building on the concepts of Godly Play, our Trinity Village learners will work together to create spaces and routines that will engage their imaginations as well as nurture their spirits. It is our hope that all families will want to make Sunday morning learning and community part of their weekly routine. The presence of our children in classes and in worship invigorates Holy Trinity's vibrant fabric of faith!

Confirmation students and their amazing team of leaders meet Sunday mornings up on 4<sup>th</sup> floor. In order to simplify week-to-week schedule keeping, a family calendar has been produced that lists the schedule for Confirmation, Godly Play, and Trinity Village, including special events and the singing schedule for Children's Choir and Cantate! This should make it much easier for parents to stay on top of the schedules by having to look in only one place.

We are working to build a more regular and robust connection with our high school students as they maneuver increasingly rigorous classes and demands on their time. Conversations with them have already begun to discover ways in which Holy Trinity can further support their faith journey leading up to graduation, including fun gatherings, faith-building trips and retreats, leadership opportunities in worship, and service projects that encourage their connection between faith and a world in great need.

As I step into this new role as Coordinator of Children, Youth, and Family Ministry, I am excited about so many possibilities to strengthen our life together. I am grateful for your support and I ask that you please pray for our young people as they continue to grow in a faith that will sustain them throughout their lives.



# UPDATE ON PAYDAY LENDING from Parish Organizing Leader Meghan Olsen Biebighauser



The August issue of our denominational magazine, *Living Lutheran*, included a great article about Exodus Lending. It told the story of how Holy Trinity responded to the issue of harmful lending practices in our neighborhood by creating an organization to help people get out of the cycle of debt so often caused by payday loans. Motivated by our faith in a God who seeks justice and freedom, we have helped many of our neighbors who have been caught in a difficult situation. Exodus Lending is growing and finding ways of helping more people all the time.

The issue of predatory payday lending continues to be a priority for many Holy Trinity leaders and our partners. I have transitioned from interim Executive Director of Exodus Lending to board member and liaison for Holy Trinity's engagement with Exodus Lending's work. With all that we have learned in the past few years, the opportunities to seek legislative reform are really exciting.

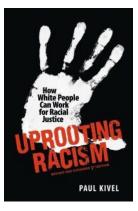
I am particularly interested in partnering with the faith-based organizing group, ISAIAH, in this work. ISAIAH has taken an active role in lobbying the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau on their payday lending rules and is poised to transition from that work into focusing on reforms at the MN level. ISAIAH has built strong leadership with those most directly impacted by this issue; in fact, several leaders are Exodus Lending graduates! I plan to build a team of Holy Trinity leaders to guide our future in this work—discerning what our congregation's priorities should be on this issue, reconnecting with our neighborhood, and building stronger relationships with partners.

It was a joy for me to lead an adult forum on payday lending last month. There was great energy in the room as attendees—both seasoned and fairly new to the issue—asked questions, grappled with various strategies, and expressed their excitement about where we've been and where we're heading. I heard people speaking confidently about God's call to us in this work, and since yesterday have heard from some in attendance that they want to grow in their commitment to this issue. Please contact me if you have questions or would like to get involved. Our sustained focus on an issue is what leads to real change, and I'm excited to discern along with you what the next phase of this work will be.

# FALL OPPORTUNITIES

#### Various Dates-Racial Justice 1.0 Small Groups

Holy Trinity is once again offering one daytime and one evening discussion group on addressing racism. Groups will be small and will meet six times over the course of three months, beginning in October. The purpose of the groups is to provide an environment for exploring racism and the collaborative role we play in maintaining it. Discussions will also attend to our faith and to how we can take action to promote racial justice. We will use Paul Kivel's book, "Uprooting Racism: How White People Can Work for Racial Justice," and other articles and films to explore our own identity, bias, and privilege. All groups will meet at Holy Trinity. Child care provided, as needed. Indicate your interest by September 18. Once the groups are formed, the participants will choose dates that work for them.



# Friday, September 2-First Fridays with Friends and Parents' Night Out

First Fridays with Friends and Parents' Night Out are cancelled this month, due to the holiday weekend.

# Sunday, September 4–Labor Day Weekend

Two services as usual!

# Sunday, September 4–First Sunday Musings

*Head to Himalayan at 12:15 p.m. with several other members for lunch and conversation. No sign up necessary. The group meets by the brightly-colored sign in the Community Room.* 

# Wednesday, September 7—Children, Youth, and Adult Choirs Begin

For more information on choral opportunities, talk to Ann Schrooten (children, youth, and bell) or David Sims (adult).

# Sunday, September 11–Adult Forum with Dr. Karoline Lewis

Our adult forum series on "the body" continues through the fall season. Today, we continue this conversation as we welcome Dr. Karoline Lewis from Luther Seminary. Lewis will present on her new book, "She: Five Keys to Unlock the Power of Women in Ministry," in which she suggests that women in ministry experience unique challenges in their church settings which continue to hinder their vocational, professional, and personal success. Covering everything from biblical arguments for and against women in the church to what not to wear, this book offers background information and tools for negotiating the many and varied issues that women in ministry face.

# Sunday, September 11—Rally Day and Music in the Garden

*Come and hear the music in the Rain Garden after the 11:00 a.m. service. Lunch will be served. \$5 suggested donation. Don't let the money keep you away from the fun!* 

# Tuesday, September 13-Christikon Reunion for Campers and Families

Following a meal together at 6:00 p.m., the families of the middle school youth who traveled to Camp Christikon in Montana this summer will share photos and memories of their trip.

# Wednesday, September 14-Fare For All

Each month, Holy Trinity hosts Fare For All, an organization that buys fresh fruits, vegetables, and frozen meat in bulk to save buyers up to 40% off grocery store prices. Fare For All is community supported and open to everyone. The more people who shop, the better. Fare For All accepts cash, credit, debit, and EBT cards. (Sorry, no personal checks.) Come and shop between 3:30-5:30 p.m.

# Thursday, September 15–Encore! at Turtle Bread

Encore! (the group for members 50 years of age and older) meets monthly at 8:00 a.m. at Turtle Bread (4205 E. 34th St.). There is no agenda. Breakfast goers simply get to know one another. No sign up necessary.

# Sunday, September 18-Adult Forum with Author David Weiss

David Weiss is a St. Paul theologian, writer, poet, and hymnist committed to doing "public theology" around issues of sexuality, justice, diversity, and peace. He has been active in local peace work and both locally and nationally as an ally for LGBTQ persons in faith communities. As part of our series on the body, David will guide us in our thinking on issues of sexuality.

# Sunday, September 18-Lay Communion Visitors Luncheon

The mission of Holy Trinity's Lay Communion Visitation Program, sponsored by the Nurturing Committee, is to provide monthly communion visits to as many of Holy Trinity's homebound persons as possible. For these homebound persons this provides regular person-to-person contact with Holy Trinity and an opportunity to receive the sacrament of Holy Communion on a monthly basis. For the visitors it provides an opportunity to participate in an important face-to-face ministry of the congregation. In many cases new and lasting relationships are forged between the person visited and the visitor. This program is a tremendous help to the pastors, who visit each homebound member four times per year. Current lay communion visitors and those interested in learning more about this important ministry are invited to be our guests for a catered lunch after the 11:00 a.m. worship service. Sign up in the Community Room by September 11.

# Monday, September 19-Lunch Discussion of Rev. Dr. Wil Gafney's Writings

Pack a brown bag lunch and join Randy Nelson, Pastor Ingrid, and other symposium-goers for a lively introduction to Rev. Dr. Wil Gafney's writings. Copies of the material to be discussed are available in the Community Room. Sign up by September 18, so we know how many to expect for the discussion.

#### Sunday, September 25-Adult Forum on Possible Partner Parish in El Salvador



Una Hermandad en Cristo: How could a Holy Trinity partnership with a Lutheran parish in El Salvador enrich our ministry? How could such a partnership inform our work on racial justice? How could a partnership inspire our work with immigrant Salvadoran youth in Minnesota? What about our relationship with the Iringa Diocese in Tanzania? For insight on these questions, join us for this adult forum.

#### Friday, September 30-Youth Lock-In

Lock-ins at Holy Trinity have become a fun tradition for youth! Students in grades 6-12 and their friends are invited to join us for late night games, food, and worship. This year's lock-in will go from 6:00 p.m. to midnight.

#### Friday and Saturday, September 30-October 1-Adult Fall Retreat at St. John's Abbey

Each fall, we host an overnight retreat for adults of all ages. This year, we'll have wonderful programming on gratitude by Minneapolis author Mark Scannell and opportunities to connect with one another and with the Benedictine community at St. John's. We'll also explore the campus, which includes the famous Breuer chapel and the pottery studio of Richard Bresnahan. We have individual rooms (with individual bathrooms!) for 25. Cost is \$100. Scholarships are available. Please note: This retreat has already filled, but we've created a waiting list in the Community Room.

#### Sunday, October 2-Adult Forum on Supporting Survivors of Sex Trafficking in MN

Member Amy Froiland-Parada is a clinical social worker who has recently started volunteering to support women survivors of sex trafficking in St. Paul. She will share information about the experiences, challenges, and services women often encounter when they are trafficked for sex. There is much more happening in Minnesota than we might realize, and there are some things we can do to support these brave survivors and spread awareness. Amy will also share some general information about what clinical work with survivors looks like. \*Please note that parts of the subject matter may be triggering for some; take care of yourself.

#### Sunday, October 2-First Sunday Musings

*Head to Himalayan at 12:15 p.m. with several other members for lunch and conversation. No sign up necessary. The group meets by the brightly-colored sign in the Community Room.* 

#### Wednesday, October 5-Downtown Lunch Group

Periodically, those who live or work downtown meet for lunch. This time, you'll find them at Thrivent's Café at 12:00 p.m. Sign up in the Community Room by Sunday, October 2 so organizers know how many seats to save.

## Friday-Saturday, October 7-8-Racial Justice Conference

Along with twenty-five other congregations, Holy Trinity is hosting a weekend conference that will provide congregational teams the opportunity to explore racial justice issues, better understand and confess the white privilege that is at work in the Lutheran church, and identify action steps to take as a team, a congregation, and a denomination. Keynote speakers Rozella White and Debra Rodgers



will frame our conversation and professional facilitators will lead a variety of workshops. Please note:



Registration has filled for this event. If you wish to volunteer, please speak with Meghan Olsen Biebighauser or Libby Olstad.

## Friday, October 7-First Fridays with Friends and Parents' Night Out

*First Fridays with Friends and Parents' Night Out are cancelled this month, due to the racial justice conference being hosted at Holy Trinity.* 

# Sunday, October 9–Adult Forum featuring Holy Trinity's Book and Music Libraries

We have two richly-stocked libraries in our church. Today, you are invited to visit the book library (on the sanctuary level) to take a closer look at some great reading for all ages. You might be surprised at some of the books we have! The music library, on third floor, is a warmly-decorated room that houses all the amazing music that enhances our worship through the leadership of our choirs — children's, youth, adult, and handbell. Come explore from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

#### Wednesday, October 12-Downtown Lunch Group

Periodically, those who live or work downtown meet for lunch. This time, you'll find them at Thrivent Cafe (625 4th Avenue South, Skyway Level) at 12:00 p.m. Sign up in the Community Room by October 9 so organizers know how many seats to save.

#### Wednesday, October 12-Fare For All

Each month, Holy Trinity hosts Fare For All, an organization that buys fresh fruits, vegetables, and frozen meat in bulk to save buyers up to 40% off grocery store prices. Fare For All is community supported and open to everyone. Shop between 3:30-5:30 p.m.

# Saturday, October 15–Minnesota Meal with Chef Howasta Means

*Each fall, we gather for a meal of local food and give thanks for the bounty of God's creation. Bring your favorite food dish to pass and hear an interesting presentation by Howasta Means, the chef at the* 

Minneapolis American Indian Center. Confirmation students and mentors are encouraged to attend together. Sign up in the Community Room by October 9.



# Sunday, October 16-Building Dedication

As a congregation, we proclaim, "We welcome, with no exception, all people to the full life of this community of faith." Today we celebrate that our building now better reflects our welcome statement. Thanks to the congregation's generous support of the Opening Doors campaign, the east entrance has been renovated to improve our building's accessibility, hospitality, and safety. Join us between services to meet a few of the skilled people who helped us with designing and constructing the project, and celebrate with us the completion of the renovation.

# Sunday, October 16-Worship Leaders Training

If you would like to serve as a leader in worship, this training is for you. From noon-1:30 p.m. we'll offer training for ushers, crucifers, assisting ministers, communion servers, altar guild, and coffee servers. Veterans and novices are welcome! Sign up in the Community Room by October 9, so we know to look for you.

# Tuesday, October 18-Saturday, October 29-Study Trip to Germany

Many Holy Trinity members are headed to Germany. The tour will explore sights that were significant during the Protestant Reformation. Please keep them in your prayers as they travel!

# Thursday, October 20-Encore! at Turtle Bread

Encore! meets monthly at 8:00 a.m. at Turtle Bread (4205 E 34th St.). No sign up necessary.

# Sunday, October 23-Adult Forum Welcoming New Members in the Community Room

The congregation is invited to come and boldly welcome new members at 10:00 a.m. in the Community Room. We'll hear from two current members, who will offer reflections on what it means to be a part of this community of faith. We'll also be introduced to the many people joining this congregation.

#### Sunday, October 23-New Member Sunday

We at Holy Trinity believe that community is integral to faith, which is why we invite interested persons to consider membership in this congregation. (Orientations sessions for those wishing to become members will be held on the evenings of October 13 and 20.)

#### Friday and Saturday, October 28 and 29-Kinship Dinners

Twice a year the Nurturing Relationships Committee organizes kinship meals, which allow members to dine together and learn about each other in the warmth of someone's home. We choose dates around the time that we receive new members, so that we can invite these newest branches of God's living tree to a gathering soon after their arrival. The meals are for anyone interested in a more intimate gathering of people from church. Sign up in the Community Room by October 23.

#### Saturday, October 29-Property Work Day

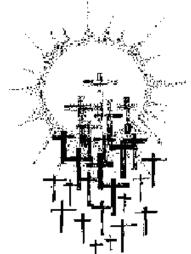
Our property needs a little extra TLC as the weather changes. Come and help us with raking and bagging, weeding and trimming. We'll work from 8:30 a.m.-noon. Sign up in the Community Room by October 23.

#### Saturday, October 29 – All Saints Service in the Bartsch Room

On Saturday, October 29, we will gather in the Bartsch Room at 4:00 p.m. to remember those sinner-saints who have died before us. This service will attend to the full range of emotions that accompany the loss of beloved friends and family members. Please join us as we grieve together, sing together, pray together, and celebrate love together. Worshipers are invited to bring a picture of their loved one(s); these saints will surround us in worship.

#### Sunday, October 30-All Saints Sunday

Holy Trinity remembers aloud all of the saints who have died and all those saints who have been baptized in this congregation in the past year. Worshipers are invited to add their saints to the spoken litany during the service.



# Sunday, October 30-Adult Forum on "My Life Story, My Faith Story"

As part of our ongoing commitment to sharing our narratives of faith, today we hear from two current members, Cori Gershon and Ray Sanders. By sharing their coming out stories, both Cori and Ray will also connect their journeys to the theme of "the body."

#### Friday, November 4-First Fridays with Friends and Parents' Night Out

*First Fridays with Friends and Parents' Night Out have been rescheduled this month. Join us on November 18 for a pre-Thanksgiving house party at Pastor Jay's home! You'll find more details below.* 

#### Friday and Saturday, November 4-5—The Johnson Symposium on "Sex, Gender, and Identity in the Scriptures"

We welcome The Rev. Dr. Wil Gafney as this year's presenter for The Johnson Symposium on Faith and Society. The Rev. Dr. Wil Gafney is Associate Professor of Hebrew Bible at Brite Divinity School in Fort Worth, Texas. Gafney, an Episcopal Priest, is a member of the historic African Episcopal Church of St. Thomas in Philadelphia, PA. Prior to joining the Episcopal Church, she served as a U.S. Army Reserve Chaplain. Gafney is the author of "Womanist Midrash: A Reintroduction to the Women of the Torah and the Throne" (2017) and "Daughters of Miriam: Women Prophets in Ancient Israel." She is co-editor of "The Peoples' Bible" and "The Peoples' Companion to the Bible." She is a prolific blogger and regular commentator on current issues. Tickets are available in the church office or on the church website. Scholarships are available and freely given!



#### Saturday, November 5-Daylight Saving Time Ends

Set your clocks back one hour when you go to bed so you're not too early to church in the morning!

# Sunday, November 6–Adult Forum with Rev. Dr. Wil Gafney

The Rev. Dr. Wil Gafney, our 2016 symposium presenter, will lead the adult forum and preach in worship.

# Sunday, November 6-First Sunday Musings

*Head to Himalayan at 12:15 p.m. with several other members for lunch and conversation. No sign up necessary. The group meets by the brightly-colored sign in the Community Room.* 

# Wednesday, November 9-Fare For All

Each month, Holy Trinity hosts Fare For All, an organization that buys fresh fruits, vegetables, and frozen meat in bulk to save buyers up to 40% off grocery store prices. Fare For All is community supported and open to everyone. Shop between 3:30-5:30 p.m.

# Sunday, November 13-Confirmation Sunday

*Three Holy Trinity young people*—*Ella Cook, Emily Davison, and Anton Werth*—*will affirm their baptisms during the 11:00 service. Adult and youth choirs will help lead the celebration.* 

#### Sunday, November 13-Adult Forum with Longfellow Alternative

Holy Trinity is once again partnering with Longfellow Alternative High School, the school for parenting and pregnant teen women, located a few blocks east of the church. Come and learn about the school's mission and hear about ways this faith community can build relationships with the students, staff, and administration.

#### Thursday, November 17-Encore! at Turtle Bread

Encore! meets monthly at 8:00 a.m. at Turtle Bread (4205 E 34th St.). No sign up necessary.

#### Friday, November 18-House Party at Pastor Jay's

The 20s, 30s, 40s group invites you to Pastor Jay's home for a meal at 6:30 p.m. This event is being coordinated with Parents' Night Out, so caregivers can drop off their kiddos at the church for the evening. Sign up in the Community Room by November 13.

#### Friday, November 18-Parents' Night Out

Adults and youth work together caring for HTLC children while their parents go "out" from 6:00-9:00 p.m. Sign up in the Community Room to help with childcare or to save a spot for your kids in the nursery. Volunteers must complete a background check through Holy Trinity.

#### Sunday, November 20-Stewardship Sunday

Join us in the gym at 10:00 a.m. to celebrate God's work through the ministry of Holy Trinity. You will be invited to pledge financial support for our ministry in 2017. We'll also highlight opportunities for involvement.

#### Wednesday, November 23-Thanksgiving Eve Service and Pie Fest

*Children's, Youth, and Adult Choirs will lead a Service of Evening Prayer at 7:00 p.m. The service will be followed by a "pie fest" in the Community Room. Please bring a pumpkin pie to share.* 

#### Sunday, November 27-Adult Forum on Healing

*The adult forums move from a focus on the body to a focus on healing. Keep your eyes on the Community Church and the bulletin for more information about our series entitled "For the Healing of Creation."* 

# Wednesdays, November 30 and December 7, 14–Advent Soup Suppers and Evening Services

All are invited to partake in the Advent soup suppers on Wednesdays from 5:30-6:45 p.m. in the Community Room. Soup and bread are provided; free-will donations are accepted. The community then moves downstairs at 7:00 p.m. for the Service of Evening Prayer in the Bartsch Room. This year's Advent theme is "For the Healing of Creation."



# Friday, December 2—First Fridays with Friends: Join the Adult Coloring Craze

The 20s, 30s, 40s group invites you to an evening of eating and coloring, beginning at 6:30 p.m. (Location will be determined at a later date.) Don't color? Come, eat, and watch others color. This event is being coordinated with Parents' Night Out, so caregivers can drop off their kiddos at the church for the evening. Sign up in the Community Room by November 27.

# Friday, December 2-Parents' Night Out

Adults and youth work together caring for HTLC children while their parents go "out" from 6:00-9:00 p.m. Sign up in the Community Room to help with childcare or to save a spot for your kids in the nursery. Volunteers must complete a background check through Holy Trinity.

# Sunday, December 4–Adult Forum on Healing

*This season's adult forums will focus on healing. Keep your eyes on the Community Church and the bulletin for more information about our series entitled "For the Healing of Creation."* 

# Sunday, December 4–First Sunday Musings

*Head to Himalayan at 12:15 p.m. with several other members for lunch and conversation. No sign up necessary. The group meets by the brightly-colored sign in the Community Room.* 

# Wednesday, December 7—Fare For All

Each month, Holy Trinity hosts Fare For All, an organization that buys fresh fruits, vegetables, and frozen meat in bulk to save buyers up to 40% off grocery store prices. Fare For All is community supported and open to everyone. Shop between 3:30-5:30 p.m.

# Sunday, December 11–Adult Forum on Healing

*This season's adult forums will focus on healing. Keep your eyes on the Community Church and the bulletin for more information about our series entitled "For the Healing of Creation."* 

# Sunday, December 11–Adult Choirs Lead Worship

Hymns, choral anthems, poetry, and scripture combine as we explore the themes of Advent this morning. Trinity Singers and the Adult Choir will lead worship at both services as we sing together about hope for the healing of the whole creation.

# Thursday, December 15-Encore! at Turtle Bread

Encore! meets monthly at 8:00 a.m. at Turtle Bread (4205 E 34th St.). No sign up necessary.

#### Sunday, December 18-Adult Forum on Healing

*This season's adult forums will focus on healing. Keep your eyes on the Community Church and the bulletin for more information about our series entitled "For the Healing of Creation."* 

## Sunday, December 18-Sunday School Advent & Christmas Program

*Children age 4 through grade 5 will help lead our 11:00 a.m. worship service on this day, the fourth and final Sunday of the Advent season.* 

#### Saturday, December 24-Christmas Eve Services

*Join us for worship on Christmas Eve. We have a family-friendly service at* 4:00 p.m. and a service led by *the Adult Choir at* 10:00 p.m.

#### Sunday, December 25–Christmas Day Service

One festive worship service at 10:00 a.m. There will be no adult forum today.

## Sunday, January 1-New Year's Worship Services

Two services as usual!

#### Sunday, January 1-Adult Forum

*This season's adult forums will focus on healing. Keep your eyes on the Community Church and the bulletin for more information about our series entitled "For the Healing of Creation."* 

# Sunday, January 1-First Sunday Musings

*Head to Himalayan at 12:15 p.m. with several other members for lunch and conversation. No sign up necessary. The group meets by the brightly-colored sign in the Community Room.* 

## Saturday, January 7—Game Night with Nurturing and Youth Committees

Chili, snacks, and games galore! Holy Trinity members and friends of all ages are invited to an evening of comfort food, laughter, and some fun competition playing favorite games and new games. Come, eat, and play between 5-8 p.m. Sign up in the Community Room by January 1.



# LOOKING AHEAD

#### Sunday, January 22–20s, 30s, 40s Brunch

Nicholas Ellison invites the 20s, 30s, 40s group to join him for brunch after the 11 a.m. service. Look for more information in the bulletin and Community Church.

## Tuesdays, January 24, 31, and February 7—The Enneagram: Continuing the Conversation

This series of three classes held from 6:30-8:30 p.m. will deepen your knowledge of the Enneagram: an ancient and powerful map that sheds light on the motivation behind your behavior. Imagine combining the wisdom of your dearest friend, a personality tool like Myers-Briggs, and your own honest perceptions: that's the Enneagram! Back by popular demand, Kate Ostrem will guide us as we explore how the Enneagram can be applied to our daily lives and increase the compassion we have for ourselves and those we love.

#### January 24: Meet the Enneagram

If you are brand new to the Enneagram, this class will help you identify your type. If you are already familiar with the Enneagram, come anyway! There is always something new to learn about your own type or that of others.

#### January 31: The Enneagram & Communication

*Continue the conversation in this class with a focus on how your type impacts your communication style.* 

#### February 7: The Enneagram & Conflict

The series concludes with a look at how understanding your type helps you face conflict in a way that is respectful and healthy.

If it's not possible for you to attend the first class, come to the second and third anyway. The church office has a handout that can help you start to identify your type and we can catch you up at the next class. Cost for the series is \$20. Scholarships are available. Sign-up in the Community Room by December 18.

# Sunday, January 29-Annual Meeting

Following the 11:00 a.m. service, all are invited to the gym for a free meal and the annual congregational meeting, as we celebrate the 113<sup>th</sup> year of God's ministry through Holy Trinity Lutheran Church. We will review committee goals, elect new council members, and approve the 2016 budget. The annual meeting is also an opportunity for us to check on our progress made toward congregational goals.

# Friday, February 3–First Fridays with Friends Hosts a Church Lock-in for Adults

Yes, you read this correctly. Adults of all ages are invited to the church for junk food, sardines, and community. If you were in Luther League as a teenager, the evening will feel familiar to you. If you're new to the church, come and experience your first lock-in. Fun will conclude at 9 p.m. so we can go home, watch the news, and sleep.

# Friday, February 3–Parents' Night Out

Adults and youth work together caring for HTLC children while their parents go "out" (or stay "in") from 6:00-9:00 p.m. Sign up in the Community Room to help with childcare or to save a spot for your kids in the nursery. Volunteers must complete a background check through Holy Trinity.

#### Sunday, February 5–Youth Recital

We celebrate the musical gifts of several of Holy Trinity's young people during our annual music recital in the sanctuary at 10:00 a.m.

## Friday-Sunday, February 17-19-Family Camp at St. Andrew Village

Join us for a weekend of rest and renewal with church members of all ages. Due to the popularity of this annual event we have outgrown our usual location, so this year we will travel to St. Andrew Village in New London, MN.

## Thursday, February 23-Joint Religious Legislative Coalition's Day on the Hill

JRLC's Day on the Hill is the Joint Religious Legislative Coalition's annual policy briefing and lobby day. Participants are briefed on the JRLC issues that are being debated and voted on at our State Capitol. Clergy and lay people from across the state attend Day on the Hill to show an interfaith commitment to social justice and to participate in the lawmaking process. The event includes a meal, inspiration, issue briefings, and opportunities to take action. Registration is required. Watch the bulletin and Community Church for more information.

# Sunday, February 26—Pancake Breakfast and Bake Sale

The middle school and high school youth invite everyone to breakfast in the gym before or after worship. Proceeds from the breakfast and the bake sale will support summer youth trips.

# Friday, March 3-First Fridays with Friends Hosts a House Party with Margaret and Eileen

*Join the 20s, 30s, 40s group at Margaret and Eileen Kelly's lovely house for pizza and fun beginning at 6:30 p.m.! There will be gluten-free, cheese-free, and vegetarian options! Bring a beverage to share.* 

# Friday, March 3-Parents' Night Out

Adults and youth work together caring for HTLC children while their parents go "out" from 6:00-9:00 p.m. Sign up in the Community Room to help with childcare or to save a spot for your kids in the nursery. Volunteers must complete a background check through Holy Trinity.

# Friday-Sunday, March 3-5—"Do Justice" High School Retreat

"Do Justice" is a retreat for Twin Cities churches designed to accompany high school youth and young adults in a journey of discovery, awareness, and action around the realities and issues of social justice which contribute to hunger, poverty, and violence. Talk to Pastor Jay for more information!