# 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

# LETTER FROM PASTOR CARLSON

I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. Philippians 1:3-5

In June of 2008 I came to serve at Holy Trinity as your pastor. It was the week of the Theatre Circle's production of *The Sound of Music*, which provided me with a perfect introduction to the congregation. It was just the first of countless times I have been impressed by the talent, hard work, and thoughtfulness of the Holy Trinity community. I witnessed those same qualities as we took on other projects over the years that followed: building a rain garden, inaugurating the Johnson Symposium, responding to predatory payday lending, traveling together across the country and across the globe, installing a new boiler, calling a gifted associate pastor, welcoming new friends into our community, constructing an accessible and welcoming east entrance and office area, hosting a powerful conference on racial justice, and faithfully gathering for meaningful worship and learning experiences. Thanks be to God for all of this. Thanks be to God for you.

Because of all that we have shared over the past nine years it is difficult for me to announce that I have decided to resign my call as lead pastor at Holy Trinity. I have sensed a nudging of the Holy Spirit to spend more time with my family and to support my wife, Kristen, as she follows her call to a new vocational opportunity with North Memorial Hospital. Holy Trinity is strong and vibrant, and it has been a gift for me to work with Pastor Ingrid, the church staff, and all of you. Yet I believe it is the right time for the congregation to call a new pastor to lead the next chapter of Holy Trinity's ministry.

The Holy Trinity community has been such a blessing in my life and my family's life. You celebrated with Kristen and me as we began our marriage at Holy Trinity on a chilly August afternoon. You lovingly welcomed Beatrice and Malena and accompanied them on the first steps of their journeys of faith at the font, in worship, in the nursery, and in Godly Play. Together we have discussed important questions and challenged one another to live lives of faithful discipleship. What a gift it has been to be part of this amazing congregation. Thank you.

February 12 will be my final Sunday at Holy Trinity. Over these coming weeks, feel free to be in touch with questions or concerns. I would love to share conversation and prayer with you. With the Spirit's guiding, I am confident that Holy Trinity's ministry will continue to grow during the transition and far beyond.

With gratitude and love,

Pastor Jay M. Carlson

#### ANNUAL MEETING SUNDAY, JANUARY 29, 12:00 P.M.

Following the 11:00 a.m. service, all are invited to the gym for a free meal and the annual congregational meeting. We will review committee goals, elect new council members, and approve the 2017 budget.

#### FAREWELL FOR PASTOR JAY

Please plan to join us in the church gymnasium on Sunday, February 12, at noon. Over lunch, we'll celebrate his ministry at Holy Trinity. We'll have the opportunity to revisit some of Pastor Jay's finer moments and joke about some of the moments he'd rather forget during his tenure here. Members and friends are welcome. Sign up in the Community Room by February 5, so we know how many to expect.

# FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

Who are the blessed ones of God? For Micah, they are those who do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God. For Paul, they are the ones who find wisdom in the weakness of the cross. For Jesus, they are the poor, mourners, the meek, those who hunger for righteousness, the merciful, the pure in heart, the peacemakers. In baptism we find our blessed identity and calling in this countercultural way of living and serving.



READINGS Micah 6:1-8 Psalm 15 1 Corinthians 1:18-31 Matthew 5:1-12

ADULT FORUM 10:00 am

# JANUARY 29 "Preview of Annual Meeting" Pastors and Members of Church Council

There is a lot of business to cover during today's annual meeting, which will be held after the 11:00 a.m. worship service. Come and preview the meeting agenda with Pastor Jay, Pastor Ingrid, and council representatives during the adult forum hour. Bring your questions!

# FEBRUARY 5 "Youth Recital"

We celebrate the musical gifts of Holy Trinity's young people during our annual music recital in the sanctuary at 10:00 a.m. If you wish to perform, please contact Ann Schrooten.

"THE HIGHWAYMEN" AT THE HISTORY THEATRE SUNDAY, FEB. 19, 2 P.M. 1956. The construction of Interstate 94 destroyed the thriving, tight-knit Rondo neighborhood where homes, stores, and businesses once stood. The new freeway tore through the heart of St. Paul's largest African-American community. This powerful new drama explores the dynamics surrounding the decision-making process that shattered the lives of thousands of middle-class residents and changed the face of St. Paul forever. Sign up in the Community Room and pay \$40 to the church office by February 5 to save your ticket. We have only 4 more tickets for the 2:00 p.m. performance available.

MINISTRY TO AND WITH THE AGING BROWN BAG LUNCH FEBRUARY 2 Numerous thought provoking questions were asked at our first Encore/Christian Education brown bag lunch. For example: "How do I handle the sentimental attachment to my stuff when I downsize?" "Who will help me make hard decisions?" "How do I maintain friendships left behind?" "What to do with an 80-lb. pet?" "How do I overcome the fear associated with major changes?" Come join us for another vigorous dialogue about renegotiating relationships as we move through the various stages of the aging process. We will meet in the Community Room on Thursday, February 2, from 12:00 - 1:30 p.m.

# FAMILY RETREAT AT ST. ANDREW VILLAGE FEBRUARY 17-19

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, Minnesota. Meals, activities, and accommodations are included for the retreat fee of \$100/adult and \$50/child (5-18 years old).

# PARISH INFORMATION

# DOWNTOWN LUNCH GROUP WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 8

Periodically, those who live or work downtown meet for lunch. This time, you'll find them at Thrivent's Cafe at 12:00 p.m. Sign up in the Community Room by Sunday, February 5, so organizers know how many seats to save.

# **RACIAL JUSTICE 1.0 SMALL GROUPS**

Holy Trinity is again offering a discussion group on addressing racism. The group will be small and will meet six times over the course of three months, beginning in February. The purpose of the group is to provide an environment for exploring racism and the collaborative role we play in maintaining it. All groups will meet at Holy Trinity. Child care provided, as needed. Indicate your interest by January 30. Dates will be determined by the group.

# FAITH AND FAMILY MATTERS, SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12 *How to raise successful kids without over-parenting*

9:55-10:50 a.m. in the Bartsch Room

TED Talk video presentation featuring Julie Lythcott-Haims, the former Dean of Freshmen at Stanford, who makes the case for parents to stop defining their children's success via grades and test scores. Instead, she says, they should focus on providing the oldest idea of all: unconditional love.

# FIRST FRIDAYS WITH FRIENDS ADULT LOCK-IN, FEBRUARY 3

Adults of all ages are invited to the church for pizza, 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 begin at 6:15 p.m. and conclude at 9:00 p.m. so we can go home, watch the news, and sleep.

#### PARENTS' NIGHT OUT FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 6:00-9:00 P.M.

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.

#### BOOK STUDY ON RACE IN MINNESOTA MONDAY, JANUARY 30

All interested persons are invited to join us in reading and discussing the book, *A Good Time for the Truth: Race in Minnesota.* This is an inspiring and challenging anthology of stories and essays by a wide variety of indigenous people and people of color. Contact Deb Sodt for more information. Sign up in the Community Room.

Office phone: 612-729-8358

U.S. Postage Paid Periodical THE COMMUNITY CHURCH (USPS 777-060)
Published weekly by Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 2730 E 31 St, Pollimbra MM 55406. Periodicals postage paid at St. Paul, Minnesota POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Community Church, c/o Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 2730 E. 31 Street, Mpls., MN 55406.

	lanuary 29-February 4, 2017		
	Sunday	8:45 am	Worship Service with Holy Communion
		9:30 am	Confirmation
		9:55 am	Sunday School
		10:00 am	Adult Forum
		11:00 am	Worship Service with Holy Communion
		12:00 pm	Lunch and Annual Congregational Mtg.
		2:00 pm	Swahili Service
	Monday	6:30 pm	Book Study
	Tuesday	11:00 am	Worship Readings Discussion
	•	6:30 pm	Enneagram Workshop in Library
	Wednesday	9 am-12 pm	AARP Tax Aide in the Library
	•	5:30 pm	Choir Supper
		6:00 pm	Youth Choirs
		6:30 pm	Trinity Singers
		7:30 pm	Adult Choir
	Thursday	12:00 pm	Brown Bag Lunch
	Friday	6:00-9:00 pm	Parents' Night Out
	-	6:00-9:00 pm	First Fridays with Friends

Worship/Fine Arts in honor of Sharon/Rob Englund's 50th wedding anniversary by Sally Parks, LaVonne Garcia, and Nelson Berg

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS JANUARY 29, 2017				
8:45 AM		11:00 AM		
Mason Helmel	Assisting MInister	Sam Kelley		
Grayson Wieczorek, Tevy Nou	Acolytes	Will Kelley, Louis Kelley		
Tom Cahoy	Crucifer	Cliff Brown		
Joyce Peterson, David Kohlstedt	Communion	Dennis Nordholm		
Carol/David Berg	Altar Guild	Betty/Dick Pittelkow		
Bob Peschiutta, DeWayne Townsend, Marcea Mariani	Ushers	Lynda/Dennis Nordholm, Camilo Rudolph, George Christians		
Jane/Bob Aldrich	Coffee Servers	Congregational Meeting		
Dennis Nordholm, Julie Cahoy	Counters	Deb Helmel, Gary Johnson		
	Closer	John Sulzbach		
5' 115 1				

Financial Report	January 22	Year to date
Budget Receipts	14,742.88	52,802.80
Longfellow Alternative H.S.	20.00	60.00
Opening Doors	11,427.37	15,657.61
World Hunger	62.00	102.00