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## REPARATIONS: Challenging But Essential

Even in a global health crisis, issues of racial justice have dominated life in our society and have been a major concern of Holy Trinity, especially since the murder of George Floyd last Memorial Day. In the uprising that followed, Holy Trinity responded by becoming a distribution center that served the neighborhood throughout last summer.

Part of Holy Trinity's programmatic response was a series of 8 discussions on Zoom based on the chapters in the book [Dialogues on Race](#). Those discussions created the awareness that more work can be done on the need for reparations. At its root, reparations simply means "the making of amends for wrong or injury done." Along with this simple definition is the more complex implication that white people benefit from the wrong or injury done even if they did not personally cause it. Consider, for example, the disproportionate difference in homeownership between white and Black, Indigenous, and people of color (BIPOC). The "wrong or injury done" began with the genocide of Native Americans, the enslavement of African Americans, and the victimization of other people of color (Asian, Hispanic, Arabic) and deepened with reservations, reconstruction, concentration camps, racial covenants, redlining, and racial profiling.

A small working group consisting of members of the Racial Justice Task Force and the Doctrine of Discovery Task Force arranged a series of four discussions looking specifically at the question of reparations as a follow-up to the book discussion of last summer.

The necessary work is not done. Most recently, the working group met with colleagues who have been active in pursuing racial justice in other settings. The next step is to listen to various members in the BIPOC community, both within Holy Trinity and in other parts of the city, in order to learn what actions might be appropriate and feasible if Holy Trinity were to commit itself and resources "to make amends for wrong or injury done."

The working group has learned a lot: the need to truly honor, respect, and listen to BIPOC people, the importance of relationships and coalition building, the need for those of us who are white to probe our own history, and to learn from the examples of reparations that have been accomplished in other settings.

Our working group is in the beginning phase of what is a challenging but compelling journey for us. We hope to engage increasing numbers of the Holy Trinity faith community in discerning why this is an issue for all of us, what will lead to action, what are the greatest needs to be addressed, and what relationships are most important in this work. Opportunities for Holy Trinity members to participate in this project will be developed.

—Randy Nelson, for the working group of Michael Miller, Libby Olstad, and Keith Olstad.

## PENTECOST

### READINGS

Acts 2:1-21; Psalm 104:24-34, 35b;  
Romans 8:22-27; John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15

### ADULT FORUM

Login at zoom.us or call 312-626-6799 or click [here](#)  
Meeting ID: 858 5687 1594 / Password: 317879

To view a recording of the forum from May 16, click [here](#).

**SUNDAYS, 9:30 A.M.**

**MAY 23**

**"Longfellow Rising, Part 2"**

**Ingrid Rasmussen and Others**

Longfellow Rising is a collective that formed in the wake of the police murder of George Floyd and the Uprising that engulfed the neighborhood surrounding the Third Precinct. The group believes that this moment in our neighborhood is an opportunity for new life. The work is driven by the mission to "rebuild Downtown Longfellow with equity, sustainability, and belonging." Join Pastor Ingrid and other Longfellow Rising board members to learn more about the work and to share your ideas!

**MAY 30**

**"Building Back Better"**

**Stepping Out in Faith Working Group**

The Stepping Out in Faith working group relating to our shared community will report its initial thinking on how to help the neighborhood "build back better."

### LIBRARY NEWS

Now you can explore the Holy Trinity library catalogue from home by using this link: [holylutheranlibrary.org/](https://holylutheranlibrary.org/) Surpass Software recently upgraded our software to make this remote access possible. There are tweaks to be done to make it work the best for Holy Trinity, but in the meantime you can start browsing! The log-in feature (upper right corner) is not yet set up, but you don't need that to peruse the catalogue. If you wish to borrow a book, just contact librarian Roberta Shaw ([roberta.shaw@yahoo.com](mailto:roberta.shaw@yahoo.com) / 651-206-6334), and she will get it to you in a Covid-safe way.

During the pandemic, folks have been borrowing books, many of which are new titles acquired in the last eight months. New titles are featured on the catalogue lead page. One of special interest is *You'll Never Believe What Happened to Lacey* by Pastor Angela's sisters Lacey and Amber.

As you browse and use the search feature, let Roberta know if something is not working as you think it should.

## PARISH INFORMATION

### COVID VACCINATION BUS AT HOLY TRINITY MAY 19

Holy Trinity, Trinity Apartments, and Trinity on Lake are partnering to bring a vaccination bus to the front of the church on Wednesday, May 19, from 12:00–6:00 p.m. Do you still need a shot or have a neighbor who would appreciate the ability to walk over and be vaccinated? Email or call the church office to schedule an appointment (or just show up). The vaccine will be Johnson and Johnson, so a second shot is not necessary. One shot and you're done!

### STATEMENT FROM ISRAEL PALESTINE WORKING GROUP

Throughout history there have been many examples of settler-colonialism—including here in the U.S. against Native Peoples, and in South Africa until the international community pushed for change. We see it again with Israel's recent actions. The trigger was the takeover of Palestinian homes in Sheik Jarrah, a neighborhood in East Jerusalem, followed by desecration at Al 'Aqsa Mosque—the third holiest Muslim site in the world. The world is watching as Palestinian land is occupied, homes are stolen, voting rights are absent, access to water and electricity are limited, and freedom of movement is restricted.

The Palestine Israel Working Group encourages you to take action. Call the White House and request that the U.S. stop blocking the U.N. Security Council call for a Cease Fire and demand that funding to Israel be conditional to human rights as per Rep. Betty McCollum's bill HR2590. Act locally to interrupt business with Israel. General Mills is a player. If you know anyone who works there, have a conversation. Stop buying "Big G" products which now include: Gold Medal flour, Annie's Homegrown, Betty Crocker, Yoplait, Colombo, Totino's, Pillsbury, Old El Paso, Häagen-Dazs, Cheerios, Trix, Cocoa Puffs, Lucky Charms, Blue Buffalo, Cascadian Farms, Yoplait, Larabar, Epic, Muir Glen, Mountain High, and more. The ELCA took action years ago to divest. Now we get to renew efforts to Boycott, Divest, and Sanction.

We invite you to join our working group to continue educating and taking action against this racial injustice.

### COMMUNITY FELTED MURAL PROJECT SATURDAY, MAY 29

All are welcome to join in making symbols for a community wool mural on Saturday, May 29, 10:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m., at the corner of Lake and Minnehaha. Learn how to make a symbol of healing, dreaming, and building. This is a drop-in event; plan to spend an hour on your symbol. Rain date is May 30. Contact Elise (612-961-4691) with questions. See more info [here](#).



### IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

View the worship service from Sunday, May 16, [here](#).

### SWAHILI WORDS FOR TODAY

Another quarantine opportunity: Learn some Swahili words! Pastor Andrea will teach us some common Swahili words and phrases. More counting today! (Click [here](#) to hear pronunciations)

Sunday: Jumapili;

Thursday: Alhamisi;

Monday: Jumatatu;

Friday: Ijumaa;

Tuesday: Jumanne;

Saturday: Jumamosi

Wednesday: Jumatano;

### HOLY TRINITY YOUTH CHOIR DRIVE-BY CHOIR AWARDS

Thursday, May 27, 2021, 6:00-7:30 P.M.

It's been an unusual year trying to make music together while being miles apart, but we've been faithful in our relationships to one another and raising our voices at home, reminding us *we have not been alone, we belong to one another, and we are all beloved children of God!* Choir Director Ann Schrooten wants to celebrate children's and youth choir members on this day and mark the years you've shared your voice and spirit with this community; whether it be your FIRST year or your SEVENTH year!

