



WE ACKNOWLEDGE THAT WE GATHER ON THE DAKOTA HOMELAND

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Ingrid C. A. Rasmussen, Angela T. Khabeb, and Doug Mork, Pastors

GUEST PREACHER KAZUHIRO SEKINO

The Rev. Dr. Kazuhiro Sekino will be preaching in Holy Trinity's worship video for Sunday, June 27. Pastor Sekino is an ordained Japanese Lutheran minister who is currently serving as a resident chaplain at Abbott Northwestern hospital in Minneapolis. Sekino served as a pastor for 14 years in an urban Tokyo city congregation, and did his doctoral studies in the area of Pastoral Theology at a Lutheran seminary in Hong Kong. Caring for diverse people within an Asian context is a big part of his mission. He is committed to raising his voice and taking action against growing Asian hate at a time when Covid-19, poverty, and discrimination are such a threat to our communities.

In Japan, the soft-spoken Rev. Dr. Sekino would minister to his congregation at a Lutheran Church in urban Tokyo by day and was known to moonlight at night as a member of Japan's "premiere Lutheran pastor hard rock band" called Boxi Rocks (the name is a play on the Japanese word for pastor). Boxi Rocks was a



musical ministry created by Sekino and a couple of other Lutheran pastors in 2013 who discovered they all enjoyed playing hard rock music and sharing the good news of the gospel with the youth of Japan. The band's ordained members would dress in church robes to perform, often with black leather coats over the top of their clerical garb. They wrote their own lyrics, and their songs convey the message of God's love, hope, peace, forgiveness, and salvation through Jesus. (Listen to the band [here](#).)

Rev. Sekino's chaplain residency at Abbott was delayed twice due to the pandemic, but once installed, he was assigned to work with Covid patients. Required to wear PPE (gowns, gloves, masks), Chaplain Sekino realized his communication with the Covid-19 patients was limited; it was challenging for the patients he visited to hear his soft voice. He decided to make something the patients could see that would serve as a visual symbol of hope and healing.

In Japan, people believe in "Senba-Zuru"—paper cranes made with prayers. It is believed that the cranes can help heal pain and disease, as well as bring peace. When 1,000 paper cranes are collected and tied together, it is a powerful prayer for healing and peace. *(cont. in next column)*

FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



READINGS

Lamentations 3:22-33; Psalm 30;
2 Corinthians 8:7-15; Mark 5:21-43

ADULT FORUM

SUNDAYS, 9:30 A.M.

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

A recording of the forum from June 20 can be found [here](#).

JUNE 27 "Reflections from Tanzania"
LuAnn and Josiah Kibira

LuAnn and Josiah Kibira reflect on their life and ministry from their home in Tanzania.

JULY 4 NO ADULT FORUM

View the worship service from Sunday, June 20, [here](#).

(Sekino, cont.) With that in mind, Sekino presented his first folded origami crane to a middle-aged man facing Covid at Abbott. When he saw the crane, the man immediately started crying, vowing to keep the little paper bird for the rest of his life.

The experience was very meaningful to Sekino, so he decided to try to expand on it. The chaplain took to his YouTube channel to ask his viewers to fold some paper cranes for Covid patients and medical staff at the American hospital in Minneapolis where he was performing his chaplaincy.

The YouTube channel is popular with his former congregants in Japan, so Sekino thought he might get as many as 200 cranes. Surprisingly, 16,000 paper cranes infused by their creators with prayers for peace, hope, and healing were sent to the hospital from Japan! Most of these beautiful cranes are now on display at Abbott—chains of the birds can be seen hanging from the ceiling in the main lobby. There are several news stories about this amazing gift, see some here. [KARE11](#); [MSPMag](#); [UPI](#).

We're very excited to hear from Pastor Sekino as he preaches his gospel message through his unique and intriguing lens. If you would like to check out his [YouTube Channel](#). On the front page of his channel, you'll find a message from the pastor encouraging us to "Keep the Faith and Keep on Rock'n!"

TELL ME ANOTHER! STORY SHARING PROJECT (Episode 2)

The Communities of Calling event was launched February in an effort to provide a venue to hear from members of ALL ages and to go a bit beyond the usual brief *hellos* and *how are yous*. Most participants were nominated by members of the Children's Choir and the *Cantate!* Youth Ensemble to share a story from their lives. Other participants simply wanted to be part of the project. **Josie Hines**, one of our high school students, hosted this second event. In [Episode TWO](#), you will meet a wonderful cross section of Holy Trinity members sharing stories about Boundary Waters drama and humor, family camping adventures, African musical experiences, close encounters with scorpions, beloved neighbors becoming part of the family, delivering mail in Longfellow during a global pandemic/civil unrest/election angst, and finally, kitties “Sven and Ole” find their new home! **Meagan Fortier, John Buzza, Mike and Vicki Mann, Levi Knudson, Fiona Carson, Linda McMahon, Deacon David Rojas Martinez, and Peter Weiss** will give you many things to ask them about the next time you see them at church. Enjoy and stay tuned for **Episode THREE** to be shared next week (Rated G and suitable for all audiences).

LUTHERAN NIGHT AT THE TWINS MONDAY, JULY 26

Lutheran Night at the Twins is Monday, July 26, at 7:10 p.m. vs. Detroit Tigers. Our participation in this event has been approved by the COVID Task Force. Tickets are \$29. Scholarships are available. To reserve a seat or for questions contact Pam Kildahl (612-729-5836 / pkildahl@gmail.com) or the church office. Deadline to sign up is July 5.

MEALS ON WHEELS DELIVERY JUNE 28-JULY 2

Holy Trinity Lutheran will be delivering meals for South Minneapolis Meals on Wheels the week of June 28-July 2. Volunteers are needed for 5 routes and can do 1-5 days. Meals are picked up at Nokomis Square Cooperatives at 35th Ave. S. and 50th St. at 11:15 a.m. Deliveries take 1-1 ½ hours. To volunteer, please contact Mary Engen (612-716-6338 / engenmary@yahoo.com).



Origami cranes hanging at Abbot Hospital in Minneapolis.

GET TO KNOW DAVID SIMS

I'm the Cantor at Holy Trinity, and Music Development Manager at Augsburg Fortress. I grew up in central Illinois and attended St. Olaf and Indiana University. After grad school, I spent 6 years as an organ builder, especially tuning, maintenance, and wiring. In my non-musical time, I love to cook!

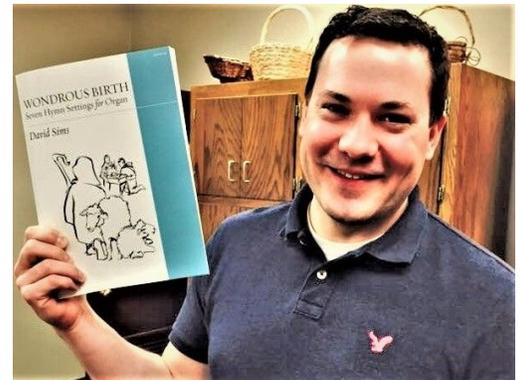
In 2019, my grandfather took our whole family on a very meaningful journey together—a cruise to Alaska. It was an amazing trip and turned out to be incredible timing. His health and the pandemic would have made that impossible now, and it was such a once-in-a-lifetime chance to be with my extended family, including my cousins who live in Papua New Guinea.

If I could instantly become an expert in something, I would be an architect or a graphic designer. I am amazed by people who can interpret space or information visually, especially those who have courage enough to be minimalist. I do not currently have that courage.

The thing I'm looking forward to most when Covid is behind us is being able to travel to see friends and family and live music again, whether that's singing at church or going to concerts.

If I could have dinner with someone, dead or alive it would be Fred Rogers. I loved him as a kid, and I continue to be amazed at the depth and thoughtfulness with which he created his show to help children explore emotions. We'd order whatever food would take the longest to eat, so that dinner would last as long as possible. ☑

I think my greatest achievement is editing the music for a hymnal supplement during a global pandemic. It involved coordinating the work of 10 people across two continents, all from a folding table in my basement.



When I try to identify a really significant thing in my life, it's a small thing, but when I finish playing a hymn introduction at the organ, take a breath, start the first stanza and hear a whole congregation start singing together, it feels like magic every single time. That moment, when we all start creating something together, feels significant, special, and unique every time.

RE: HTLC: I'm always learning from the members, staff, and neighbors of HTLC. Rather than a specific thing, I'm most excited that HTLC's posture tries to be one of listening and learning first, then responding based on that knowledge. I think that's a life-giving model for how to be servant leaders in any community.