



WE ACKNOWLEDGE THAT WE GATHER ON THE DAKOTA HOMELAND

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

MESSAGE FROM DEACON DAVID

With the Labor Day holiday weekend behind us, we collectively begin to look forward to our Fall 2021 programming. There has been much thought, prayer, and time taken to bring us together in ways that are both meaningful and as safe as possible. Over the course of the last month, we have asked for feedback in preparation for Children, Youth, and Family (CYF) activities. Thank you to everyone who has taken the time to fill out forms, email me, meet with me, etc.!

Every Sunday after September 12, when the congregation meets in person, we will have outdoor lessons and activities for Godly Play, Trinity Village, and Confirmation aged students. If the weather does not permit for this, we will cancel activities for the day and let everyone know in advance via email and social media. Thank you for your patience and grace with all of this! As weather permits, all activities will happen outdoors in between services and we encourage parents/guardians to plan for their children and youth being in classes from at least 10:00 a.m. through 10:30 a.m. each Sunday.

If you have not had the opportunity to give your input concerning CYF activities, I am always available by email drojasmartinez@htlcmpls.org and phone 612.729.8358 extension 19 so please do not hesitate to reach out! It's never too late to let me know what you are thinking, especially with everything always needing to shift and adapt to the times. We move forward with an abundance of grace and even more prayer for each other.

This coming Sunday, September 12, will mark Rally Day. This means that we will be including blessings for all our community, especially teachers, parents, and students during our Sunday liturgies. It also means that we will be hosting an "open house" of sorts. I put that term in quotation marks because it is a loose term for what you can expect this coming Sunday as we slowly and carefully return to life in person. There will be no classes; however, weather cooperating, we will have teachers for all age groups set up outdoors to meet with parents and students in order to make first connections as well as answer any questions. All teachers and adults interacting with our children and youth will be vaccinated and be asked to mask, even outdoors. We look forward to reconnecting with you all!

I'm sure that I'm forgetting some details. I plan on getting a better sense of calendars and needs as the weeks progress and we figure out what we all need and/or want. Thank you for your prayers and understanding. I am excited to be connecting with all CYF folks!

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



READINGS

Isaiah 50:4-9a; Psalm 116:1-9;
James 3:1-12; Mark 8:27-38

ADULT FORUM

10:00 A.M. IN THE BARTSCH ROOM

Holy Trinity Adult Forums now feature in-person presentations in the Bartsch Room, beginning at 10:00 a.m. The presentations will also be available on Zoom for those unable to attend.

*ID and password remain the same:
ID 858 5687 1594; Password 317879.*

SEPTEMBER 12 "Longfellow Alternative School"

Representatives of Longfellow Alternative School will preview their work at the beginning of another academic year.

SEPTEMBER 19 "Lutheran Volunteer Corps"

Meet the new volunteers living in the Wellstone House.



L to R: Claire, Katia, Xena, Marlana, and Kayla

View the worship service from Sunday, September 5, [here](#).

CALL TO JOIN PLANNING TEAM FOR RACIAL JUSTICE RETREAT

The Racial Justice Group is looking for 2-3 volunteers to join our planning team for a January 2022 HTLC racial justice retreat. Ideally, volunteers are engaged in HTLC racial justice work at some level already. Members will attend monthly planning meetings and will help to promote the event, recruit attendees, review facilitator's plans, review brief applications, etc. Reach out to Ryana Holt (ryanadh93@gmail.com) if you are interested.

****AMENDED** 2021 FALL RETREAT: SEPTEMBER 24**

After lengthy discussion, the Nurturing Committee has decided to postpone Holy Trinity's Fall Retreat at St John's. With the resurgence of the COVID variant, the committee doesn't feel the safety of attendees can be assured this fall. They will consider rescheduling the full retreat in the spring. There *will* be a shorter program with Dr. Bell offered via Zoom on the evening of Friday, September 24. Watch for more information.

BRIGHT STARS OF BETHLEHEM WEBINAR SEPTEMBER 8

Bright Stars of Bethlehem is about creating hope in Palestine. Learn more on Wednesday, September 8, at 11:00 a.m. when Bright Stars hosts a policy discussion with Minnesota Congresswoman Betty McCollum and the Rev. Dr. Mitri Raheb. They will describe U.S. perspectives on Israeli-Palestinian issues and the Congresswoman's legislation that addresses Palestinian human rights. Register [here](#).

YOUTH CHOIRS BEGIN REHEARSALS SEPTEMBER 15

Children's Choir (grades 1-4) will rehearse outdoors (weather permitting) on Wednesdays from 6:00 to 6:45 p.m. *Cantate!* Youth Ensemble (grades 5-8) will rehearse on Wednesdays from 6:45 to 7:30 p.m. (mostly outdoors, weather permitting). To provide a safe singing experience, face masks are required for singing activities. If you're interested in joining the choir for the first time, contact Ann Schrooten (612-309-9583 or aschrooten@htlcmpls.org).

COMMITTEE AND WORKING GROUP BUDGETS FOR 2022

It's time to start drafting your 2022 budgets. Given the ways that COVID has shifted programming, committees might need to do some discerning of what CAN be done during this time and what financial support is needed to do it. (In other words, simply saying "the same as last year" doesn't seem to work this time around!) Committees should submit this information by November 1.

SUNDAY SCHOOL & CONFIRMATION BEGIN SUNDAY

We will kick off on-site activities for children and youth on Sunday, September 12. In preparation, we are hoping to gather some information from everyone. All families who plan to have young ones join faith formation activities are encouraged to fill out both the [Student Information Form](#) and the [Adult Information Form](#). Contact Deacon David (612-729-8358 ext. 19 or drojasmartinez@htlcmpls.org) with questions.

ELCA YOUTH GATHERING 2022 IN MINNEAPOLIS

The ELCA is so excited to be in our backyard next summer with thousands of youth and adult leaders from across the church to reach out and share an opportunity for members of our congregation to be involved with the 2022 ELCA Youth Gathering in Minneapolis from July 24-28, 2022.

Local volunteers serve in a wide variety of roles, and there are jobs for people of all ages, abilities and schedules. This cycle, they will utilize local volunteers to serve as hotel hospitality, checking participants in, and being their Gathering point person at their assigned hotel. Applications for local volunteers are currently open and will close when they have reached capacity. Learn more and volunteer [here](#).

A BLESSING FOR WHEN YOU'RE SCARED YOUR KIDS WON'T GET THE SCHOOL YEAR THEY NEED:

oh God, this plague has already lasted so long and taken so much from kids and their teachers, and now pandemic pressures are rising all over again.

oh God help our kids and their teachers have a safe and strong and beautiful year.

and He took the children in his arms, placed His hands on them and blessed them. -MARK 10:16

God, what a thought:

that You could take our kids in Your arms and touch them, hold them, bless them.

oh how we long for that

we have seen our kids suffer too long
from the strangeness of growing up in a plague,
from worries that they can't even articulate,
from things they don't even realize aren't there.

God, our kids need a school experience that works,
that feeds their growing minds,
and provides safety for body and soul.

blessed are we, their parents,
who crawl up into Your lap (for we are Your children too)
and ask You God, please come and bring this pandemic to an end.

and in the meantime,

help us keep learning ourselves,
and creatively support them, their schools and their teachers.
that our kids might grow up beautifully,
like You, full of grace and truth.

take your kid in your arms. in this moment, love is enough.
for both of you.

—Kate Bowler

PARISH EVENTS SEPTEMBER 12-18

Sunday	8:45 am	Worship Service of Holy Communion
	10:00 am	Youth Education
	10:00 am	Adult Forum
	11:00 am	Worship Service of Holy Communion
	2:00 pm	Swahili Service
Tuesday	11:00 am	Worship Readings Discussion
	6:45 pm	Big Meeting Night
Wednesday	6:00 pm	Children's Choir
	6:45 pm	Cantate!
	7:30 pm	Adult Choir

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS FOR SEPTEMBER 12, 2021

<u>8:45 AM</u>		<u>11:00 AM</u>
Ingrid Rasmussen	Preacher	Ingrid Rasmussen
Angela Khabeb	Presiding Minister	Angela Khabeb
	Crucifer	Bob Hulteen
Nicki Hines	Assisting Minister	Stephanie Cole
Mike Nevergall, Julie and Tom Cahoy, Chuck and Ginny Jordan	Ushers	Kathy Ohler, Kayden Nordby, Kathy Hollander, Rod Johnson, Chris Amundson, Bob and Helen Norheim
Chuck Jordan, Chris Engen	Counters	Pam Kildahl, Scott Cole
	Closer	Rod Johnson