



WE ACKNOWLEDGE THAT WE GATHER ON THE DAKOTA HOMELAND

2730 E. 31st Street Minneapolis, MN 55406 • 612-729-8358 • office@htlcmpls.org • www.htlcmpls.org
Ingrid C. A. Rasmussen, Angela T. Khabeb (on leave), and Doug Mork, Pastors

GREETINGS FROM PASTOR INGRID!

A few days after the 2020 fires began, a man approached me carrying a lantern. He introduced himself as Brian Dragonfly from MIGIZI, a Native youth empowerment organization located across the alley from the church. MIGIZI's building survived the first night of unrest in the neighborhood, but the next night a fire spread from a neighboring structure. The building and most of its contents were destroyed.

When Dragonfly arrived to assess the situation, the building was still burning. "I decided to capture the fire," he told me, holding up his lantern. Would Holy Trinity Lutheran Church tend the fire for MIGIZI until they could rebuild? He thought that the flame might bring some comfort to his community in the weeks and years ahead.



In our sanctuary, he set the lantern on the altar. I ran to find a candle. We shared the fire and along with it the trauma of the preceding days, the conviction that not all that was destroyed was to be mourned, and the hope that the ashy moment in our neighborhood's life would be an opportunity for new life. Later, I decided to bring the flame home for the night; I was more than a little fire-conscious in those days. I drove the candle home in my car's cup holder. When I made it to my house with the flame still flickering, I wept, recognizing that even shattered dreams need tending.

For the past 2+ years, that fire has been burning in members' homes. Each week, two member homes host the fire. Over time the fire-keepers have figured out best practices, consulting with Roman Catholics about long-burning candles, testing out different lanterns for transport when the flame is passed from home to home, learning from precarious, windy situations along the way. The group of congregants, which has grown as more people take on the honor of tending, is committed to keeping the flame until MIGIZI reopens in its new location—maybe this spring or summer. At that time, Kelly Drummer, MIGIZI's

(Continued on next page)

BAPTISM OF JESUS

READINGS

Isaiah 42:1-9; Psalm 29;
Acts 10:34-43; Matthew 3:13-17

ADULT FORUM

Holy Trinity Adult Forums feature in-person presentations beginning at 10:00 a.m. on Sunday. The presentations are also available via [Zoom](#) for those unable to attend in person. ID and password remain the same: ID 858 5687 1594; Password 317879.

JANUARY 8 "Personal Journey and Perspective on Water Rights in Palestine"

Ashraf Ashkar was born and raised in Palestine in a village near Tulkarm. He did his undergraduate work in Palestine outside of the city of Jenin. He also worked there on water rights with OCHA, the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, and with Oxfam UK. Ashraf will bring his story of growing up in Palestine, highlighting some of the economic and political struggles related to water rights.

JANUARY 15 "Committee and Working Group Fair"

Please join us at 10:00 a.m. in the Community Room for a fair with Holy Trinity's committees and working groups. Learn about many of the ways this community of disciples seeks to follow Jesus and make a difference in our world! Teams will be especially focused on ways you can connect with their work! This fair takes the place of the adult forum for the day.

COMMITTEE AND WORKING GROUP FAIR JAN. 15

Please join us in the Community Room on Sunday, January 15 at 10:00 a.m. for a fair with Holy Trinity's committees and working groups. Learn about many of the ways this community of disciples seeks to follow Jesus and make a difference in our world. Teams will be especially focused on ways you can connect with their work.

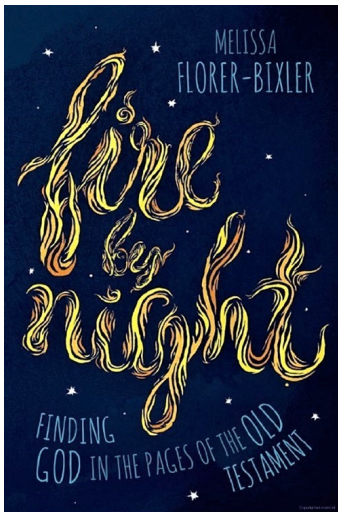


(Continued from previous page)

Executive Director, will have Native elders decide how and when the flame is extinguished.

I retell that story because it feels as though most of the past several years has been spent saying “yes” and then figuring out exactly what that means and how we’re going to make it work as a community of faith. I admit it’s not a natural posture for me. Perhaps some of you can relate to that, too. Saying “yes” when the community calls, is part of what author Sharon Welch calls the “feminist ethic of risk.” Welch says that those who engage in the work of mercy and justice always do so from a position of incomplete understanding and limited perspective. It is impossible to control or guarantee the outcome or success of a particular action. Welch invites us into an ethic of risk that is characterized by three elements: a redefinition of responsible action [what seemed reckless might now be the faithful thing], grounding in community [a community that is much, much larger than we often envision], and strategic risk-taking [beginning before we know how it will end].

The biblical story is filled with these three elements: redefinitions, community, and risk taking. We see prophets calling communities into new understandings. We see people of all ages building relationships and learning to live together. We see disciples taking risks at every turn for the sake of the vision made known in the living, dying, and rising of Jesus. All along, God is with them, tending the flame of faith. While we aren’t offered a “how-to manual,” we can look to these stories of the faith to guide our lives. The theme for congregational life this season is “Fire.” Thanks to a sabbatical grant that Holy Trinity received, each household will receive a candle and a copy of a book by Pastor Melissa Florer-Bixler entitled *Fire By Night*. The



book invites us to marvel at a God who travels with people through cloud and fire, by day and by night, since the beginning of time. Florer-Bixler calls the Old Testament a book of fire—reading it draws us close to God’s love which continues to burn away our expectations and set us ablaze.

I look forward to learning together, eating together, worshiping together, serving together, and tending the fire together this winter and

spring. Check your mailboxes for the seasonal calendar, which will be sent via postal mail to every member household. It’s a good and full time to be at Holy Trinity. Thanks for being a part of this community!

I leave you with a prayer from *Fire By Night*.

(Continued in next column)

(Continued from previous column)

*Perhaps you do not know how much
you need God
to come as a woman in labor,
a birthing spirit hovering over creation,
holding within her the memory of you
nursing at her breast.*

*Or to surprise you in ordinary places,
searching in the fields for sheep,
uprooting his garden,
keeping her bees,
a bird roosting in a tree.*

*If you look closely as you walk,
if you pay attention
with your eye on the book and the world,
the blessing will be
as near as dirt, as close as air—
a sprouting tree,
a rushing fountain.*

*And if you rage or fear, if your tears are your bread
God is there in the middle of it—
a steaming pot,
a raging she-bear,
a smoking kiln
or perhaps fire.*

Always fire.

Peace and love,

~ Pastor Ingrid Rasmussen



CHURCH COUNCIL NOMINATIONS

There are currently three individuals who have accepted the nominating committee’s invitation to serve on Church Council. There is still a little time left to submit a nomination. If you know a member who you think might be interested in serving Holy Trinity on the Church Council, please contact Connie Adams before January 11.

We’re grateful for these three members who have accepted the nomination:

- Sandra Hisakuni
- Matthew Floding
- Dennis O’Brien

PARISH INFORMATION

TUESDAY, JANUARY 10—HONOR THE EARTH WEBINAR

Join hosts Winona LaDuke, Patricia Torrez-Rey, Kari Dzedzek, Julia Nerbonne, Jim Bear Jacobs, and others for a joint Honor the Earth/Minnesota Interfaith Power & Light webinar to release details of a legislative platform for massive climate action by the state. 7:00- 8:30 pm CT. Find more information here.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 15, SUNDAY SCHOOL AND CONFIRMATION RESUME

We are so excited to have Sunday School and Confirmation classes resume today! We invite all folks who have younger people in their care to consider having them join us between services from 10:00 a.m. through 10:50 a.m. Children from preschool age through fifth grade meet in classrooms in the second-floor Education Suite. Confirmation students in grades six through nine meet in the Sky Room on the fourth floor. If your child did not participate in the fall but would like to, simply show up! Adult teachers will help them get signed up and to the correct classroom. We look forward to growing in faith alongside you.

COMMITTEE AND WORKING GROUP FAIR JAN. 15

Please join us in the Community Room on Sunday, January 15, at 10:00 a.m. for a “fair” with Holy Trinity’s committees and working groups. Learn about many of the ways this community of disciples seeks to follow Jesus and make a difference in our world. Teams will be especially focused on ways you can connect with their work.

MONDAY, JANUARY 16—HELP HOLY TRINITY HOST THE REV. DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. BREAKFAST

General Mills and the United Negro College Fund (UNCF) present the 33rd Annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday Breakfast on Monday, January 16. This year’s theme is “Keep Moving Forward” and the keynote speaker will be Valerie Jarrett, former senior advisor to U.S. President Barack Obama. The event will be held at the Minneapolis Convention Center, and there will be several community sites streaming the event. Holy Trinity has been asked to host the Minneapolis community site, and we are doing so in partnership with St. James, St. Peter’s, and Wayman AME. If you are available to help with this event, please reach out to Kathy Hollander. Church. If you are available to help with this event, please reach out to [Kathy Hollander](#).

CHILDREN & YOUTH CHOIRS AND TRINITY SINGERS RESUME PRACTICE ON WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 18

Children’s Choir and Trinity Singers will resume rehearsals on January 18. For more information on choral and instrumental opportunities, talk to Phil Radtke. Children’s Choir meets from 5:30-6:30 p.m. and sings in worship every 4-6 weeks. Trinity Singers rehearses from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. and sings in worship once a month during the 8:45 a.m. service.

GAME NIGHT SATURDAY, JANUARY 21

Holy Trinity members and friends of all ages are invited to an evening of some fun competition playing favorite games and new games. Come and play from 5:00-9:00 p.m. The Nurturing Committee will provide pizza, drinks, and dessert. Bring your favorite game. Sign up in the Community Room by January 15.

ONE SERVICE AT 10:00 A.M. ON SUNDAY, JANUARY 29

The 8:45 and 11:00 a.m. worship services will gather together for one service at 10:00 a.m. followed by the Annual Meeting in the gym. Today’s texts remind us that the blessed are those who do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God. We are called into this counter-cultural way of living and serving. A perfect message for Annual Meeting Sunday! Gloria Ringers help to lead our worship at 10:00 a.m.

HOLY TRINITY’S ANNUAL MEETING, SUNDAY, JAN. 29

Holy Trinity’s 119th Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday, January 29, following the 10:00 a.m. worship service. The meeting will be in-person with a livestream option. There will be one worship service only that Sunday. We hope you’ll make plans to join us!

YOUTH RECITAL SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 10:00 A.M.

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. The recital will take the place of the Adult Forum.

GET THE LAST OF THE MOUNT OF OLIVES OIL!

There are still bottles of Olive Oil left. Sales of this oil support the work of the Lutheran World Federation vocational training program and reduce student fees. Brought to you by the Palestine-Israel working group.

PASTOR ANGELA ON LEAVE

Pastor Angela is still on leave. To honor this time of rest, we ask you to refrain from emails, phone calls, and text messages (even the most kind and loving ones!). Your prayers, of course, are welcome and appreciated.

~ Concerning People ~

We pray today for all those in need of God’s tender care, especially those who face illness, sorrow, or hard times, including Deacon David’s mother, **Margarita; Stella Townsend; Lee Kampinen; Pastor Angela; Cliff Brown; Jack Hanson; Dorothy Kelly; Cori Gershon; Marcea Mariani; DeWayne Townsend III; Marlene Peterson; Mary Heltsley; Mark Symchych; Mary Petersen’s friends, Marianne and Dolores.**

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS FOR SUNDAY, JANUARY 8, 2023

8:45 AM		11:00 AM
Doug Mork	Preacher	Doug Mork
David Rojas Martinez	Presiding Minister	David Rojas Martinez
Tom Cahoy	Crucifer	Wayne Vetter
Drew Lindorfer	Cantor	Drew Lindorfer
David Kohlstedt	Assisting Minister	Tom Skold
Linda Berglin, Chris Engen, Mike Nevergall	Communion	Sue Roberts, Deb Anderson, Jeff Olson Biebighauser
David Broberg, Ginny and Chuck Jordan	Ushers	Joy Nelson
Julie and Tom Cahoy	Altar Guild	Kathryn Howe, Doris Gbala
Jean Swanson, Kevin Proescholdt	Coffee Servers	Joy Nelson, Sue Roberts
Pam Blomgren, Joyce Peterson	Counters	Wayne Vetter, Deb Helmelt
	Closer	Roberta Shaw

Thank You!

Holy Trinity couldn't function as it does without the hard work and support of lots of people, many of whom stay behind-the-scenes. We truly appreciate everyone who made 2022 special, including the children and youth, parents, musicians, cooks, servers, the many worship ministry volunteers, our working groups and committees, the church council, the teachers, the staff, and all of our members. Together we make up the vibrant body of our living church!

PARISH EVENTS JANUARY 8-14, 2023

Sunday, January 8	8:45 AM 10:00 AM 11:00 AM 2:00 PM	Worship Service of Holy Communion Adult Forum Worship Service of Holy Communion Swahili Service
Monday, January 9	6:30-8:00 PM	Adult Choir
Tuesday, January 10	11:00 AM 6:45 PM	Worship Readings Discussion Big Meeting Night via Zoom
Wednesday, January 11	6-7:30 PM	Gloria Ringers Rehearsal
Thursday, January 12	8:00 AM	Encore! (at Turtle Bread on 42nd Ave)

LIVESTREAM LINKS FOR WORSHIP SERVICES

A [live-stream](#) of the 11:00 a.m. Sunday service is available online at 10:55 a.m. You can access recordings of previous worship services [here](#).

