



WE ACKNOWLEDGE THAT WE GATHER ON THE DAKOTA HOMELAND

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Ingrid C. A. Rasmussen and Doug Mork, Pastors; David Rojas Martinez, Deacon

## Yudelkis' Journey

Written by Kris Christians  
Member of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church  
With gratitude for Holy Trinity and for Augustana Lutheran Church, West St. Paul

Theirs is a story of a long and winding journey in search of home. It's an exodus story of emigration and a gospel story of new beginnings. It's a tale of courage and persistence in the face of dangers, barriers, unknowns, and long delays. And it's a story of the interconnectedness of God's people and the power of God's love.

It was the summer of 2020 when Yudelkis and her six-year-old daughter Melody found temporary shelter at Trinity on Lake apartments. They had just arrived in Minnesota after a journey from Cuba that spanned *thirteen* countries and more than two and a half years. When I first met Yudelkis, I remember sensing both immense exhaustion and great relief at having arrived at yet another new beginning. The most recent leg of the journey had taken them across the US-Mexico border to an immigration detention center in Texas where she was granted "parole," fitted with a tracking device, and put on a bus to Minnesota. Like many immigrants, her "sponsor" here in Minnesota was a family connection, but also essentially a stranger to her. Yudelkis and Melody had arrived in Minneapolis in the early stages of a global pandemic and found themselves in the heart of a neighborhood still reeling from the killing of George Floyd and deeply changed by the uprising that had followed just two months before their arrival. And here in this place, they also found welcome. During that summer, Holy Trinity was serving as a food/supply distribution site. Yudelkis and Melody visited on the day when backpacks and school supplies were being distributed, ripe with hope that Melody would finally be able to attend school. Yudelkis set about the business of building a new life with a tenacity that amazed me.



As I got to know Yudelkis, I began to understand the commitment she had made to herself to find a country where her daughter could be fully documented and a place where she could grow up with hope for the future. Yudelkis had left her home with this dream...not knowing which country that might be, or where exactly their journey would take them. Along with all the hardships and moments of tremendous fear, she has

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## Sixth Sunday of Easter



### READINGS

*Acts 17:22-31; Psalm 66;  
1 Peter 3:13-22; John 14:15-21*

### 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 858 5687 1594; Password 317879.*

**May 14 "Report from Tennessee and Alabama"**  
Participants who were on the recent trip to Civil Rights sites in Tennessee and Alabama will reflect on their experience.

**May 21 "Guns, God, and Prayer"**  
**Randy Nelson**  
Conversation among ourselves about what we believe.

### DO YOU LOVE PEOPLE?

Holy Trinity needs more Lay Communion Visitors. We welcome new Visitors and new persons who wish to be visited. Visitors bring communion on a monthly basis to members who are unable to come to church on a regular basis. This is usually a long-term commitment, and good friendships may develop as a result of these visits. Training and supplies are provided. If you are interested in being a Lay Communion Visitor, or desire to have a Lay Communion Minister visit you, please contact Nancy Madich ([nmadich@gmail.com](mailto:nmadich@gmail.com)).

### PRAYERS FOR SUNDAY WORSHIP

Do you like to write? Would you like to write prayers for Sunday worship? Please call the office (612-729-8358) or email Sue Roberts ([htoffice@htlcmpls.org](mailto:htoffice@htlcmpls.org)) if you would like to be added to the list of prayer writers.

### COMMUNION BREAD BAKERS

To break bread, we need to make bread! With summer coming, we'd like to firm up a schedule for Communion Bread bakers. There is a sign up sheet in the Community Room. There will also be an instruction and recipe sheet, in case you are new to the process and want to give it a try.

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beautiful stories of being welcomed and protected by strangers who became friends. She talked about feeling like she could stay in several countries along her journey, but if a pathway to legal, permanent residence was not possible, she knew she had to continue on the quest for country. Here in



Minnesota, Yudelkis and Melody found the support they needed to realize that dream. The visit to the food distribution site with backpacks and food to share sparked a conversation that led not only to my friendship with Yudelkis, but to a connection to a church community who generously gave funds for housing and a phone with no questions asked. A visit to CLUES led to wrap-around case management that opened many doors of friendship and caring services. The Advocates for Human Rights offered

connections to pro-bono legal services. Long term shelter was found through the Jonathan House program of the International Association for Refugees. A public school welcomed Melody and taught her in her native language as well as teaching her English. The same school offered Yudelkis employment and a place where she could use her many gifts as soon as her work permit was secured. County programs provided health care and food assistance. The list goes on.

Now, five years after leaving her country of origin, the coveted permanent residency status has been secured. More new beginnings. Yudelkis recently decided to begin this next phase in Miami where she has family and a longtime friend. As we said farewell for now, she expressed her deep gratitude for the tangible welcome she received here in Minnesota. She is forever grateful for the money that provided for many smaller needs in the past two years, and that she was able to save the rest while living at Jonathan House. Now that money provides them rent for two months so that she and Melody can get settled in a home of their own. With gratitude they continue the long and winding journey.

## KNITTING DURING WORSHIP

You may see knitters in the pews working on prayer shawls. These shawls are distributed to persons in the congregation by the clergy as a way of sharing love and caring at special times. They have been given to high school graduates and to those who experience loss or health problems. If you are interested in joining the knitters, they meet the first Tuesday of each month at 2 p.m. at the church. Questions? Contact Liz Blood or any of the knitters.

## LIBRARY NOTES: FREE BOOKS

In the hallway outside the library you'll find an array of books that are free for the taking. Please help yourself, there is something for everyone.

## HAPPENING THIS WEEK

### SUNDAY MAY 14, 10-10:50 A.M.

Join us for forest bathing with Ann Schrooten. We hope this will encourage fun, interactive, and meaningful connections for our children, youth, and adult participants.

### IT'S NOT WINTER CELEBRATION! SATURDAY, MAY 13, 2-4 P.M.

Fair, concert, food, fundraiser, fun and games for all ages! Free family and all-ages event outside at the church. Donations recommended to Swahili Choir, who will be providing music, for the fundraising effort for new instruments. Bring your friends and neighbors and let's celebrate the end of a very snowy winter together! In case of rain, the event will be moved inside.

### CHILDREN'S CHOIR AND GLORIA RINGERS PERFORMANCE

Holy Trinity Children's Choir, led by Phil Radtke, and the Gloria Ringers Handbell Ensemble, led by Logan Olson, will perform Wednesday, May 17, 6:00 p.m. at Lake Johanna Shores (3200 Lake Johanna Blvd, Arden Hills, Minnesota). The concert is free and open to the public

### CELEBRATING THE RESTORE THE VOTE CAMPAIGN AND MORE!

You are invited to join with the leaders who championed Lutherans for Restore the Vote as well as friends, neighbors, and partner organizations to celebrate all the amazing work that has paved the way to this point. [RSVP HERE](#)

**Synod Organizing Celebration Event**  
**Saturday May 20, 11:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.**  
**Redeemer Lutheran Church Backyard**  
**1800 Glenwood Ave, Minneapolis**

### SUCCESSFUL PROPERTY WORK DAY

Thank you to the crew that volunteered for the Spring property work day! The weather was perfect and the garden areas look great. It was a successful day.



### SUMMER WATER SOVEREIGNTY PROGRAM

Our neighbor and partner MIGIZI is initiating its Summer Water Sovereignty Program! Participants learn about Indigenous culture and their connection to water. A big part of the program is canoe trips to the BWCA. Feedback from the young people tell us that the trips are life changing! The trips are also costly. Please consider supporting these youth by contributing through Holy Trinity's Special Appeals Project. Donations can be designated to MIGIZI on checks or on the church website.

## NEW DINNERWARE AND FLATWARE AT HOLY TRINITY

After much discussion, the dinnerware/flatware committee (Sandy Hoverson, Carol Johnson, and Sue Roberts) has procured new flatware and plates for Holy Trinity. One goal was to find something lighter and less bulky than the previous china plates. We chose two sizes of Corelle plates—dinner and salad. The plates stack well, they're easy to carry, they are nearly unbreakable, and they are manufactured in the United States. The all-white plate will work with nearly every color placemat or tablecloth.

- The flatware is Oneida Lonsdale stainless steel. It was chosen for its clean, smooth lines and comfort when holding. It replaces mismatched flatware that was given to the Lutheran Social Services Refugee Relief program.
- The new cups are 8-oz. glass cups from Ikea. The cups are small enough to fit in our existing cup racks. They will not show coffee stains. And they will coordinate with any placemat or tablecloth on a set table.
- In addition to dinnerware, you will see new flower vases from Ikea (replacing old mismatched vases) and new coffee thermal pots.

Stop in the Community Room on Sunday to see a display of the new items, prepared by Sandy Hoverson.



## COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITIES

### LONGFELLOW PLANT SALE

Longfellow School will be having our annual plant sale Fridays, May 12 and May 19. The sale will be from 2-4pm on the corner of 31<sup>st</sup> St & 31<sup>st</sup> Ave. Most plants were grown from seed by students during STEM class!

The plants this year include:

- Cherry and beefsteak tomatoes
- 4 varieties of peppers
- Herbs: basil, thyme, sage, oregano
- Flowers: alyssum, marigold, moss roses, geranium, coleus, impatiens
- Clearance section

This is an incomplete list, there will be more, stop by and check them out! Please spread the word to friends and neighbors!

### LONGFELLOW HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION, JUNE 8

Longfellow High School graduation is June 8, 5:30 p.m. There will be 29 graduates. This takes place at Anne Sullivan School. It is an inspiring event. You are welcome to attend.

## MANDELA NAKBA DAY TOUR - MINNEAPOLIS, MAY 16

2023 marks the 75th anniversary of the Nakba ("Catastrophe" in English), when over 750,000 Palestinians were banished from their homes upon the formation of the settler-colonial state of Israel. Today, there are close to five million Palestinian refugees who continue to demand their Right to Return to the homes and lands from which they were exiled.

To commemorate the Nakba, the U.S. Palestinian Community Network (USPCN) and the National Alliance Against Racism and Political Repression (NAARPR) have arranged a brief U.S. Nakba Day 75 tour, to take place from May 15 - May 20, featuring Nkosi Zwelivelile Mandela, elected member of the South African National Assembly representing the African National Congress – and grandson of the late Nelson Mandela – as the tour's keynote speaker. Tues., May 16, 2023, 7:00 - 9:00 p.m., 301 S 19th Ave, Minneapolis. Click [here](#) for more details.

*\*Please note: There is no charge for admission, but instead asking if communities would help support this historic tour with a donation!\**

### THE US CAMPAIGN FOR PALESTINIAN RIGHTS

The US Campaign for Palestinian Rights has a new tool to look up how much money goes from your city or state to fund Israel's military. Curious? Over \$11 million goes just from Minneapolis and St. Paul, with Minnesota contributing \$65 million in our tax dollars.

For more information: <https://uscpr.org/activist-resource/us-military-funding-to-israel-map/>

### AL NAKBA MARCH

End U.S. aid to Israel! The state of MN must divert over \$800 million in state pension funds from Israeli companies and bonds. Speaking out for Palestine is not a crime! Join the march Saturday, May 20, 2 p.m. Meet at Bryant Square Park, 3101 Bryant Ave S.

### OLIVE OIL FROM THE MOUNT OF OLIVES

Remember you can buy Olive Oil from the Mount of Olives. Available in two sizes: 250mL bottles for \$15 and 750 mL bottles for \$35. Purchases support the work of the Lutheran World Federation vocational training program and reduce student fees. Brought to you by the Palestine-Israel Working group. Contact the [office](#) to purchase.

## ~ Concerning People ~

We pray today for all those in need of God's tender care, especially those who face illness, sorrow, or hard times. We remember especially the family of **Scott Davies**, upon his death; **Tammy Wells**, Karen Batdorf's friend **Katie**; **Sharon Clappier** (Steve Murray's aunt); Steve Murray's grandma, **Rosie Stalsberg**; **Dorothy Kelly**; **Cori Gershon**; **Mark Symchych**.

## WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS FOR SUNDAY, MAY 14, 2023

8:45 AM		11:00 AM
Doug Mork	Preacher	Doug Mork
Ingrid Rasmussen	Presiding Minister	Ingrid Rasmussen
	Crucifer	Katie Schroeder
Stephanie Sulzbach	Cantor	Stephanie Sulzbach
Rick Liedholm	Assisting Minister	Kris Christians
Andrea Hansen, Keith Olstad, Amy Froiland-Parada	Communion	Roberta Shaw, Kari Kleven, Bryan Kuzel
David Broberg, Chris Engen, Sally and David Kohlstedt	Ushers	Kathy Hollander, Rod Johnson, Chris Amundson, Joy Nelson
Libby and Keith Olstad	Altar Guild	Roberta Shaw, Doris Gbala
Jean Swanson, Kevin Proescholdt	Coffee Servers	Josef Fortier, Liz Kelley
Chris Engen, Annie Hines	Counters	Deb Helmel, Wayne Vetter
	Closer	Bob Hulteen

### PARISH EVENTS MAY 14—MAY 20, 2023

Sunday, May 14	8:45 AM	Worship Service of Holy Communion
	10:00 AM	AdultForum
	10:00 AM	Supervised Play Time
	11:00 AM	Worship Service of Holy Communion
	2:00 PM	Swahili Service
Monday, May 15	6:30-8:30 PM	Adult Choir Rehearsal
Tuesday, May 16	11:00 AM	Worship Readings Discussion
	6:30 PM	Executive Council
	7:00 PM	Church Council
Wednesday, May 17	6:00 PM	Children's Choir and Gloria Ringers at Johanna Shores
Thursday, May 18	8:00 AM	Encore! at Turtle Bread
Friday, May 19	9:00 AM	Spiritual Companion Group

### NEW SUMMER SCHEDULE BEGINS MAY 28

Between Memorial Day weekend and Labor Day weekend, the 8:45 and 11:00 a.m. worship services will join together for one service at 10:00 a.m. The summer season affords us the opportunity to see and to connect with members and friends from "the other service."

### 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](#).

