



WE ACKNOWLEDGE THAT WE GATHER ON THE DAKOTA HOMELAND

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Ingrid C. A. Rasmussen, David Larson-Martínez, and Doug Mork, Pastors

HOLY TRINITY WILL BE MOVING TO ONE WORSHIP SERVICE AT 10:00 A.M. BEGINNING JANUARY 26, 2025, EDUCATION HOUR AT 9:00 A.M.

## A LESSON IN A STOVE AND A BOWL OF SOUP

It's always hard to believe how quickly a year can pass by. It was a year ago that I was sitting in the office between Christmas and New Years thinking about conversations the staff had been having about leaning into 2024 as the year we are back. Back from COVID, back from the uprising, back to in-person activities, back to hosting events, back to life, together! We wanted 2024 to be the year we could come together again, fully, as a congregation and a community. And boy, have we done that! It has felt good to have so much life and activity back in the building.

As part of the process, one of the things we decided to lean into in 2024 was committing to a new building partner, Soup For You! They approached us in late October of 2023 looking for a new home. Everyone agreed it was the right thing to do, and it aligned with our mission in all sorts of ways.

It was also this time last year that I was sitting in the office wondering how we were going to make this work. The kitchen was going to need a lot of updating, and what about that old stove. It would definitely need to be replaced, many of us were sure of it, that was going to be expensive. Thankfully the congregation approved the "kitchen rehab" special appeal and I stopped wondering; we all came together and made it work. Thanks to the amazing generosity of members, friends, and neighbors, we were able to welcome SFY! into our space in June. They fit so well into our mission and the body of this community that it feels like they've always been here.

Through the money raised from the special appeal, we have been able to professionally clean and paint the kitchen. We made some plumbing upgrades and built out a wall to hide the pipes and add electrical outlets. We replaced wooden cabinets and counters with commercial grade stainless steel counters, shelving and work surfaces. We added electrical outlets in the old "Julbord" room that now houses 2 refrigerators and 3 freezers. We updated outlets in the kitchen to be up to code and to be able to accommodate an additional commercial refrigerator. The cement pad above the old Julbord room and pantry was replaced to help fix the water leaking issue we had into those spaces. All equipment and appliances were professionally cleaned and assessed. It's amazing what a difference that made to the convection oven.

But what about that old stove? Many of us were so focused

(Continued on next page)

## First Sunday of Christmas December 29, 2024

### 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](#) (meeting ID:858 5687 1594; passcode:31787) for those unable to attend in person.

**DECEMBER 29 NO ADULT FORUM**

**JANUARY 5 "ADDITIONAL PERSPECTIVES ON THE HIAWATHA GOLF COURSE"**

Following a forum in December, the conversation continues with some additional perspectives on the Hiawatha Golf Course.

**JANUARY 12 "REALM TRAINING"**

Join us at 10:00 a.m. in the Library or on Zoom. Kathy Ekwall will be leading a training on the member portal of our new church management software, Realm. If you would like, bring your laptop, tablet, or phone and follow along on your own device.

### COMMITMENT CARDS FOR 2025

We invite members and friends to consider making a financial commitment to the mission and ministry of Holy Trinity for 2025. Your gifts will allow us to support our dedicated staff, offer our space for community use, sustain our commitment to neighborhood recovery, and continue organizing for the wellbeing of all—especially in divisive times. You may pledge online or by filling out one of the pledge cards found in the Community Room.

### ~ 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 pray especially for **Lathrop family; Gerry Berglin; Kaia Ellis's father-in-law Bill; Karen Batdorf's sister, Marie; Pam Kildahl's sister, Wendy; Mark Horning, friend of Tony Wald; Merlin Wells; George Madich; Mike Kelly; Rev. Amy Schifrin; Michael Scanlan; Aric Sorenson and Ty Inglis; James Nysse's cousin, Eric Steckling; Katie Murray's mom Pat; Jeff Olsen Biebighauser's mom Jo; Juliet Williamson; Jan Mehlhoff's friend, Margie Guelker; Meghan Hendrickson.**

## PARISH INFORMATION

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on that stove and how bad it looked. It seemed to never be working quite right. We were sure we needed a new one, even before we knew SFY! was moving in. Well, as it turns out, it really just needed some TLC. The company that assessed it said it has good “bones,” and they said they wouldn’t replace it. The stove just needed a little work, and some cleaning. That stove had been overworked, underappreciated, and not taken care of as good as it should have been, so it was looking weathered and worn out. This is where the lesson comes in. In life we often get so focused on the way something, or someone looks, that we forget to see the real value. We are all a little broken, a little worn, a little tired, we just need a little love, a little care, a purpose. That old stove has a purpose again, it warms the soups and enables Chef Judah, John, and the other soup makers to create the nourishing soup that warms the bodies, souls, and hearts of those who walk through the doors. We are not looking for perfection, we are looking for purpose, sharing love, compassion, and respecting the value of people and things, even when they look a little weathered. This year, I have found a lesson in a stove and a bowl of soup, and I am grateful.

There has been no better way to come back to community life. Thank you to Soup For You! and all who have donated money, time, and resources to make this partnership successfully happen.

~ Kathy Ekwall

I have periodically volunteered with Soup for You! since they started using the Holy Trinity space in June.

The notion that I am continually drawn to is *dignity*. Each guest’s inherent dignity is recognized and acknowledged.

Chefs Judah and John know the names and many of the life stories of the guests. People gather for food, for conversation, and to “sit a spell” among friends.

It is an honor to serve and to be reminded that sacred dignity dwells in all people.

~ Mary Norby, Holy Trinity Member

As 2024 comes to a close, the board of Soup For You! Would like to thank everyone at Holy Trinity for all the work put in to make our transition to your space possible. Looking back to last spring and the uncertainty we faced, it’s hard to believe how blessed we are to be in such a warm and supportive environment. We truly appreciate all the hours the staff has spent in everything from discerning whether this partnership was even possible, to all the cleaning, sorting, and remodeling of the kitchen to fine tuning things by installing paper towel holders and a lock box. Every action you have taken (and continue to take) has allowed us to do what we love to do... feed the people. We are grateful and look forward to our continued partnership in 2025!

~ The Board of Soup For You!

Chef Judah Nataf started Soup For You! nearly ten years ago as “just one guy making soup.” He brought great food to the Seward neighborhood for free, while helping to create a vibrant community or “village” of guests, volunteers and contributors that has grown today into a true community institution. Over a year ago, we faced something of an existential crisis, as the space in Bethany Church on Franklin that had been generously provided to us, first by the church itself then by Augsburg University, was slated to be sold. It has been our great fortune to have found a new host and partner in Holy Trinity Lutheran Church. Since then we have been blessed to be warmly received by our new host and congregation, allowing us in turn to continue to warm bellies with our soup, to warm hearts with our fellowship, and to warm bodies with the many generous contributions of clothes provided by church members and others. From the depths of our hearts, thank you!

~John Harkness; Chair, Soup For You!

Volunteering with Soup for You! has provided a way to invoke a sense of service and community. It’s reminiscent of the feelings of being of use, being connected and acting with humility that were experienced with the Holy Trinity community in the wake of the Uprising. Each time I volunteer my heart fills to the point of breaking. I see the full tables, hear the din of conversation, taste the love-filled soup, smell the faint woodsmoke on fire-warmed hands and feel the relief of those who’ve found their way to warmth and nourishment. As I often shed a few tears, share some hugs and am reminded of Leonard Cohen’s sage observation in **Anthem**,

Ring the bells that still can ring  
Forget your perfect offering  
There is a crack, a crack in everything  
That’s how the light gets in

I show up to give and leave filled up.

~ Donna Goodlaxson, Holy Trinity Member

### THIS WEEK

#### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 29—ONE WORSHIP SERVICE ONLY

8:45 and 11:00 a.m. worship services will gather together for one service at 10:00 a.m. This is your opportunity to see and connect with members and friends from “the other service.”

#### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 29—NO GODLY PLAY, TRINITY VILLAGE, CONFIRMATION CLASSES.

We rejoice in God with us and enjoy rest. We will meet again January 5, 2025.

#### MONDAY-WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 30-JANUARY 1—CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

We have very few days when our building partners are on break....we are closing to attend to the floors that receive over 150 people each day and the more than 40 other spaces in the building that host our building partners, community groups and organizations. See you on January 2!

**SAVE THE DATE**

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 5—GODLY PLAY, SUNDAY SCHOOL, AND CONFIRMATION STARTS AGAIN**

Join us from 10:00 to 10:50 a.m. for faith formation. We have taken time to celebrate the birth of Christ and now we rejoice in the gift of Epiphany!

Godly Play (children ages 4-5) meets in the 2nd-floor education suite from 10:00-10:50 a.m.

Trinity Village (grades K-5) meets in the 2nd-floor education suite from 10:00- 10:50 a.m.

Confirmation (grades 6-9) meets in the 4th-floor Sky Room from 10:00-10:45 a.m.

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 7—WEEKLY SCRIPTURE READINGS STUDY**

Join Pastor Doug and congregants on Tuesdays at 11:00 a.m. in the youth library or on Zoom to study the assigned worship readings for the upcoming Sunday. Participants need not attend every session, and no prior bible experience is necessary (to join on [Zoom](#): Meeting ID: 872 7504 3389, Passcode: 336030).

**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8—KNITTING LESSONS FOR LONGFELLOW MOMS**

Once a week you're invited to teach knitting to Longfellow High School students who are pregnant or parenting. Help students learn the basics of knitting and help with beginning knitting projects while getting to know students and the volunteer knitting teachers. Meets every Wednesday at 1:20 p.m. at Longfellow High School during the school year. For more information, contact Liz Blood ([liz.bill.blood@gmail.com](mailto:liz.bill.blood@gmail.com)). All volunteers need to complete a brief background check.

**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8—WEDNESDAY MEAL, CHILDREN'S CHOIR, AND OPEN GYM BEGIN AGAIN**

Children's Choir will resume rehearsals on January 8. For more information on choral and instrumental opportunities, talk to Phil Radtke. Children's Choir meets from 5:45 to 6:45 p.m. and sings in worship every 4-6 weeks.

The Children, Youth, and Family Committee will offer a community meal from 5:00 to 6:00 p.m. each Wednesday that choirs are in session. After the meal, there will be an open gym time with adult supervision until 8:00 p.m. You need not be in choir to participate.

If you would like to help provide a Wednesday evening meal, please contact the office for more information or sign up in the Community Room.

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 11—WINTER FUN FOR YOUTH**

Bundle up and join us for a winter fun day with Confirmation and High School youth! Meet at the church at 2:00 p.m. for an afternoon of snowy adventures and seasonal treats, returning by 6:00 p.m. If there's no snow, we will plan on tubing at Elm Creek. Watch the Community Church for updated details closer to the date.

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 7—KNITTING GROUP**

Knitters (and crocheters!) are invited to bring their knitting or crochet projects to Holy Trinity on the first Tuesday of each month at 1:30 p.m. All are welcome to join in for needlework and conversation. For more information, contact Liz Blood ([liz.bill.blood@gmail.com](mailto:liz.bill.blood@gmail.com)).

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 19—ADULT FORUM WITH PASTORS AND COUNCIL LEADERSHIP**

There is a lot of business to cover during next week's annual meeting, which will be held after the 11:00 a.m. worship service on Sunday, January 26. Come and preview the meeting agenda with Pastor Ingrid, Pastor David, Pastor Doug, and Council representatives during the adult forum hour. Bring your questions!

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 26—ANNUAL MEETING**

Following the 11:00 a.m. service, all are invited to the gym for a free meal and the annual congregational meeting, as we celebrate the 121<sup>st</sup> year of God's ministry through Holy Trinity Lutheran Church. We will review committee goals, elect new council members, and approve the 2025 budget. The annual meeting is also an opportunity for us to check on our progress made toward congregational goals.

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9—PANCAKE BREAKFAST**

We are holding the annual pancake breakfast from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. this day. Confirmation students and their families will host the event. This will be a fundraiser for youth service/learning/fun trips. Tickets are a suggested donation of \$10 per person and will be on sale at the Annual Meeting on Sunday, January 26, as well as at the door on the day of the event. Please consider volunteering!

**SOUTHWEST MINNESOTA INDIGENOUS SITES TRIP MONDAY, MARCH 31, TO THURSDAY, APRIL 3**

Holy Trinity is partnering with Edina Community Lutheran Church (ECLC) for a trip to Southwestern Minnesota sites important in Indigenous history in Minnesota. We are excited to partner with ECLC to both learn and move towards further advocacy with Native People. These dates have been chosen to coincide with Minneapolis Public Schools spring break should families wish to participate. We will be staying in the hotel at Jackpot Junction for three nights and traveling to sites each day with some time in the evenings for debriefing. We should have a cost estimate shortly. Please indicate your interest on the sign-up in the Community Room (where there is also a rough itinerary) or call or email the church office.

Some of the sites we'll likely visit include:

- Jeffers Petroglyphs, Makoce Iki cupi, and Howwuju Otunwe (Mountain Lake)
- Pipestone National Monument, Blue Mounds State Park
- Lower Sioux Agency, Birch Coulee Battlefield, Ft. Ridgely
- Reconciliation Park (Mankato), Traverse des Sioux, Treaty Site History Center

NEW MEMBERS—NOVEMBER 2024 CLASS, WELCOME TO HOLY TRINITY



**Grace Basler**

Hi! My name is Grace and I'm from Des Moines, Iowa. I moved to Minneapolis in 2023 and work in nonprofit communications for the Parkinson's Foundation. I grew up in the ELCA and am passionate about the intersection of church and social justice. I've been reconnecting to traditional worship in recent years and am excited to be a part of Holy Trinity!

**Madeline Burbank (she/her)**

By the grace of God, I enjoy spending tremendous time in community and marinating in collaborative creativity. I'm an ELCA ordained minister of word and sacrament whose experience as a pastor has been rooted in hospitality and social justice. Now that I'm focused on my Master of Social Work at Augsburg University, I appreciate deepening my student perspective through active worship and collective care at Holy Trinity, which is a role model for putting faith into action. Sometimes my loved ones visit as guests and helpers, and right away they understand why this congregation makes me feel and breathe belonging.



**Emily O'Brien**

I've been a Lutheran all of my life and church and the community have always been very important to me. Holy Trinity's commitment to social justice and fellowship aligns with my values and beliefs.



**Dave and Jess**

**Dave Herrera Santacruz**

Colombian immigrant have been here since age 10. Love the outdoors and physical activity. Will probably find me juggling one of my too-many hobbies (according to my fiancée).

**Jess Lee Yarger**

I was raised in an ELCA Lutheran family with my dad and grandpa being pastors. I now live in Standish with my partner. I am exited to join a community who truly

lives out their faith, rather than just speaks about it.

**Chloe Gil**

I was raised in the Missouri Synod Lutheran Church. When my husband and I moved to Minneapolis we were looking for a welcoming community to all and found that in Holy Trinity!

**Mason Gil**

I grew up in the Bay Area, CA. I work as a software developer and live with Chloe in NE Minneapolis. We have a corgi named Gus and a basset hound named Flapjack. I joined with Chloe because we find this church's values, community and leadership inspiring and in right mind and spirit.



**Mason and Chloe**

**Paul Poster**

To be part of a community; music and outdoors.

**Carrie Poster**

I've been a Lutheran all of my 66 years of life and have always been involved with my church!

I am very happy that Holy Trinity is so involved with social justice and is willing to go out to help all people and hope to be able to be part of this service.

**Lori Lathrop**

After retiring two years ago and after a year of fallow time, I began attending worship at Holy Trinity with my Uncle Rick and cousin Deb. My spirit is enlivened through the fine preaching here. Week after week the gospel is delivered to me. That's why I'm here. That's why I'm joining. I trust I will grow in my faith, in my personhood, and in my life.

I worked for almost 40 years as a NICU nurse and for almost 15 years as a pastor (Luther Seminary grad).

My brother and two sisters live in Montana where we were raised. I have five nephews (and their families) I'm close with. One nephew and family live nearby and I babysit their youngest (3 1/2 years old) two days/week which brings great joy as a child that age can do.



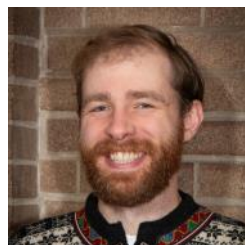
**Rick Lathrop**

I met my wife at a Lutheran Bible camp when we were 15 years old. We were able to spend 60 years together until she passed Christmas Day 2021. We raised three sons together. We have been blessed with 7 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. One of our grandchildren and his wife are the custodians of three kids under 10, so I think of them as three more great-grandchildren. I was taken in by a wonderful foster family when I was 6 months and adopted at age 5 by that family. As a result, I am deeply aware and grateful of God's grace from my very first day right up until today.



**Sophie Breen**

Grew up Lutheran.  
Immigrant rights activist  
ELS teacher  
social justice.



**Alex Brandt**

Traditional worship and liturgy  
Modern message more relevant to today.

HOLIDAY SHARING WITH LONGFELLOW ALTERNATIVE SCHOOL

Thank you to all who helped with the annual holiday sharing event and brightened the holidays for the Longfellow moms and their children. It was a fun and heartwarming event.



# AMMPARO

Accompanying Migrants with Protection, Advocacy, Representation and Opportunities

## Know Your

## Rights

December 2024

### Information

To be better prepared to accompany and support our immigrant neighbors, now and in the coming months, the below document link provides resources that can help communities stay generally informed and ready.

[Know Your Rights 2024](#)



AMMPARO is Planning a border immersion trip with Border Servant Corps in April 2025.

More information about the trip will be shared soon. Please contact [raed.abujries@elca.org](mailto:raed.abujries@elca.org) if interested in participating.



## AMMPARO Network Today

**262** Welcoming and Sanctuary Congregations

**35** Synod Committees

**59** Engaged Synods

## WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS FOR SUNDAY, DECEMBER 29, 2024

	<b>10:00 AM</b>
<b>Presiding Minister</b>	Doug Mork, David Larson-Martínez
<b>Crucifer</b>	
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Amy Hanson, Jean Swanson
<b>Assisting Minister</b>	Rick Liedholm
<b>Communion</b>	Aaron Hanson, Stephanie Sulzbach
<b>Ushers</b>	Chuck and Ginny Jordan, Alan Libra, David Broberg
<b>Coffee Servers</b>	Nicki Hines
<b>Counters</b>	John Sulzbach
<b>Closer</b>	Bob Hulteen
<b>Video Operator</b>	Bob Hulteen



### PARISH EVENTS DECEMBER 29, 2024-JANUARY 4, 2025

Sunday, December 29	10:00 AM 2:00 PM	Worship Service of Holy Communion Swahili Service
Monday, December 30		Office Closed
Tuesday, December 31		Office Closed
Wednesday, January 1		New Year's Day/Building Closed
Thursday, January 2	6:45 PM	Big Meeting Night

#### LIVESTREAM LINKS FOR WORSHIP SERVICES

A [live-stream](#) of the 10:00 a.m. Sunday service is available online at 9:55 a.m. You can access recordings of previous worship services [here](#).  
*Please note, beginning January 26, 2025 the live-stream will be at 10:00 a.m.*

