HOLY TRINITY

LUTHERAN CHURCH

THE COMMUNITY CHURCH

Newsletter

WE ACKNOWLEDGE THAT WE GATHER ON THE DAKOTA HOMELAND

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JOIN US EVERY SUNDAY FOR WORSHIP SERVICE AT 10:00 A.M.

Come, Holy Spirit, Come



By Bishop Jen Nagel

More than 800 voting members and hundreds of visitors, observers, volunteers, and staff spent last week in Phoenix at the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) Churchwide Assembly. From Minneapolis Area Synod, we had a group of 30 voting members and a strong contingent of others supporting

the assembly's work. I am deeply grateful for how our group showed up with faithfulness, curiosity, humility, mutual respect, good humor, joy, engagement, and honesty.

I know that many have been following the assembly's actions online. Want to catch up?

- Here is a <u>playlist of videos</u> chronicling the whole assembly—plenaries (sessions for business, learning, voting, and prayer), worship services, special events like the exhibition pow wow, short videos with a focus on assorted ministries (hint: could be used in worship), and some really well done pre assembly bible studies (even after the fact, these could be used well in a congregational bible study setting).
- Here are <u>daily posts from Living Lutheran</u>. I appreciate the words, but even more I love the pictures. Check them out!
- And here are the <u>daily updates</u> posted by Assistant to the Bishop for Faith and Neighboring Nicholas Tangen.

By now, most have heard of the elections of Presiding Bishop-Elect Rev. Yehiel Curry and Secretary-Elect Rev. CeCee Mills. Bishop Curry currently serves in Metropolitan Chicago Synod and also serves as the Chair of the Conference of Bishops. It's in this capacity that I've come to know him over the last year and so value his leadership and ministry. I'd echo a phrase I've heard from others: He's the real deal. He embodies faithfulness, trust in God's power and the Holy Spirit's movement, clarity, collaboration, and humor. I'm grateful for his willingness and trust to step into this big role and I invite you to join me in praying for Bishop-elect Curry, his family, and the Metropolitan Chicago Synod.

I look forward to working with Secretary-Elect Mills and learning more about her leadership. It's my sense that she melds a deep piety, considerable years of ministry in the North Carolina Synod office and parishes, a willingness to

(Continued on next page)

NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

READINGS

Genesis 15:1-6; Psalm 33:12-22; Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16; Luke 12:32-40

MOMENTS OF LEARNING, JOY, GRATITUDE

If you have a moment you'd like to share, please send it to Kathy (kekwall@htlcmpls.org) and we will share them in the Community Church during the summer months.



Carol and I want to report that we've had our own Gunflint Trail Holy Trinity Cottage Meeting!!

Carol and David so graciously invited us over for dinner at their cabin last night. It was so lovely, and Mark and I were thrilled to join them and get to know them better. It was such a gift to show up after a day of work and relax with friends!

Thank you so much Carol! We had a truly lovely time!!

I hope all is going well in Minneapolis!

~ Sandra Hisikuni

~ 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 **Chris Amundson**, recovering from a fall; **Tina** and **Neela**; Tracey Baubie's mom **ShaRon**; Jeff Olsen Biebighauser's mom **Jo**; **Rick Lathrop**; Breon Hutchins-Spratt's mom **Allison**; **Jenni Vaillancourt's stepdad**; **Mary Petersen**; Karen Batdorf's sister **Marie**; **Mike Kelly**; Katie Murray's mom **Pat**; **Josie Tober**; Julie Cahoy's brother **Mike McDonald** who entered hospice this week; the family of **Paddy**, Chris Engen's sister, upon her death; the family and friends of **Marge Guelker**, upon her death.

PARISH INFORMATION

listen and act, and just the right amount of constitutional nerdiness that's essential for facilitating a good process as the church moves and flexes in these times. We pray for Secretary-Elect Mills, her synod and community, and the whole ELCA Churchwide organization in these coming months.

Memorials sent from Minneapolis Area Synod, along with dozens of others from synods around the church, were approved *en bloc*. These included memorials related to Youth Gathering DEIA, Murdered and Missing Indigenous Women, and Child and Vulnerable Adult Protection. A few areas to name in particular:

- The Faith and Civic Life Social Statement was approved. This offers important ethical language and direction for each of us (yes, you and me, all of us, check it out), especially in this time. Some years ago, it was from Minneapolis Area Synod that the call rose for a social statement of this nature.
- We approved a memorial related to Palestinian rights and Israel. This came from many synods and included elements from the memorial passed by our synod. Learn more about this work of Sumud (which means steadfastness in Arabic) here.
- We approved a memorial about Indian Boarding School Remembrance. Our thanks to Elizabeth Andress from Grace University Lutheran Church who is a leader in this movement.
- In all of this, the humanity of God's church was real—we tried our best and still there was harm, still it was painful at times. For many in our delegation, there were real highs and also significant struggles, especially related to how we as the ELCA hold the tension between the church as it is, and the church as it is called to be. I was grateful for the role of Assembly Chaplains, led by Dr. Kelly Sherman-Conroy and Rev. Jenny Sung, making space, accompanying individuals, and inviting reconciliation.

What images do I hold? The visual of colorful streamers (and sometimes doves) embodying the Holy Spirit's movement leading us into and out of worship, and the steady rhythm of preparing for votes with song and prayer. Often led by Deacon John Weit from the Churchwide worship staff, we prayed singing chants such as "Come, Holy Spirit, Come" (ACS #940, and found here at 2:56:07).

This assembly felt like a shift in the possibilities for the future of our church and I am hopeful for this direction. Come, Holy Spirit, come. That's my prayer for all of us and our church moving forward. Thanks be to God.



THIS WEEK

SUNDAY, AUGUST 10-BIG MEETING AFTER WORSHIP

While it has been wonderful to have the ability to meet online for committee work, some committees have expressed a desire to meet in person on occasion. With our new worship schedule, we now have an opportunity to experiment with new offerings, including quarterly in-person gatherings. Each quarter, we will hold a Big Meeting after worship, starting at 11:30, with a simple lunch provided. Committees can decide whether to opt in based on their own needs and preferences. We look forward to the joy and connection of being together in person on Sunday, August 10, and Sunday, November 9, from 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 12-WORSHIP READINGS STUDY

Join Pastor David 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, AUGUST 13—BIKE RIDE (RAIN DATE: FRIDAY, AUGUST 15)

All are invited to the August HT group bike ride! This ride will be an easy 15-mile roll through Hidden Falls and Crosby Farm Parks. The loop will begin at church at 5:30 p.m. and end with a stop for ice cream nearby! Sign up in the Community Room.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 13—CHRIST BE OUR LIGHT: CHANTING THE PSALMS IN HOPE

If your spirit has been longing for an opportunity to pray and sing for God's redeeming love to prevail, consider joining Ann Schrooten on Wednesday evenings to lean into the ancient practice of chanting the psalms. Ann says, "We'll take up a handful of psalms each time we meet, surround ourselves with candlelight, and set aside a moment or two of silence and reflection following each psalm. In the coming days and weeks, our intention will be to sing through all 150 Psalms in order, beginning to end.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 13-OUTDOOR YOGA WITH JAMES

Regardless of who you are, what you look like, or whom you love, James Orione believes that creating a space for everybody is very important. Society places many expectations and roles as to how, what, when, where, and why you are doing something instead of simply being. Through conscious movement



connected to breath, you have an opportunity to learn how to be in this moment. Yoga is an opportunity to create, rediscover, and connect to the experience of being human and overcome the obstacles that stand in your path. Join us!

If you have your own mats, blocks, blankets, straps, or bolsters, please bring them. We have more than enough for those who need them. Classes are free and open to everyone—members and non-members. Invite a neighbor. This 90-minute class begins at 7:00 p.m.

PARISH INFORMATION

THIS WEEK CONTINUED

THURSDAY, AUGUST 14—EXODUS LENDING CELEBRATES TEN YEARS OF LENDING

Our community is the fabric of Exodus Lending, which is celebrating its 10th year of lending in 2025! The Exodus Lending story is a beautiful patchwork of relationships, values, and collective actions for the common good. It is a story of the fight together for economic justice in Minnesota. It's been a decade of stitching together a lending framework that models what we know our world could be. In these 10 years, Exodus Lending has saved 955 individuals \$2,818,651 in predatory lending fees and interest, and it is now offering small dollar loans to financially marginalized individuals! Please join Anna Brelje, Meghan Olsen Biebighauser, and Jeff Olsen Biebighauser on Thursday, August 14, for an anniversary celebration at 5:30 p.m. at Hook and Ladder in Longfellow. Sign-up in the Community Room and find full details at exoduslending.org.

SAVE THE DATE

MUSIC IN THE GARDEN SUNDAY, AUGUST 17, 11:00 A.M.

Join us for music and wood-fired pizza in the garden at 11:00 a.m. (immediately following the 10:00 a.m. service). The music for this Sunday will feature guitarist and true lyricist, John Swardson. You can learn more about him at johnswardsonmusic.com/. It promises to be fabulous. All are welcome!

AUGUST 18-OCTOBER 13, 2025—KATHY EKWALL ON SABBATICAL

"I am excited, blessed, and grateful to have a sabbatical this year. I have been working since I was 14 and in all but the last couple of years I've been in this role at Holy Trinity, I have had two jobs. Many of those years I had three or more jobs and/or classes. So, the thought of having several weeks off has been a bit hard to grasp. What was I going to do, so many possibilities. I have decided to take a big road trip. I'm planning to travel through several states, taking in sights, catching up with old friends, maybe making new ones, just living in the moment. I hope to find time for music, laughter, reflection, and rest. I look forward to seeing where the road takes me during this time. But I will also look forward to returning to work I love and a congregation that does so much good in the community." –Kathy Ekwall

THURSDAY, AUGUST 21—ENCORE! AT TURTLE BREAD

Encore! meets monthly on the third Thursday of the month at 8:00 a.m. at Turtle Bread (4205 E. 34th St.). There is no agenda. Breakfast goers simply get to know one another. No sign up necessary.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 24—9TH ANNUAL INTERGENERATIONAL PICNIC AT WABUN PARK

As summer wanes, Holy Trinity families will gather for fun, food, and frolic at Wabun Picnic Area, 4655 46th Ave S, Minnehaha Fall Park. Plan to join us after worship (12:00-3:00 p.m.). Wabun Park features a covered gazebo, splash pad, and play ground. Sloppy joes, watermelon, and ice water provided; bring your own beverage and a dish to share. Sign up in the Community Room.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 21-RING OUT! AUDITIONS

Ring Out! handbell ensemble will hold auditions starting at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, August 21. Contact Logan Olson for mor information and how to sign up! Founded in 2024, Ring Out is a handbell ensemble created by and for LGBTQIA+ringers and allies. Ring Out is one of the first handbell groups in the



nation dedicated to LGBTQIA+ inclusivity. They believe that handbells are a powerful medium for building strong connections and aim to make the artform accessible and welcoming to those wo may not be comfortable with the church, where the majority of handbell ensembles are based. They explore the rich world of secular handbell music and support the composition of more inclusive and representative music through commissions and collaborations.

EXTRA NOTES

SCHOOL SUPPLIES FOR LONGFELLOW STUDENTS

As school supplies go on sale, please think of Longfellow teen moms. Our goal is to fill 50 backpacks and donate them to the students at Longfellow High School. A good backpack is necessary since it also serves as a diaper bag. The filled backpacks can be dropped off at the church office or on Zoe Martinez's porch by Friday, August 29.

Each backpack should be filled with 3 spiral notebooks, 3 folders, pens, pencils, erasers, pencil sharpener, highlighters, markers, colored pencils, scissors, hair ties, comb and hairbrush, hand sanitizer, lip balm, wipes, and a water bottle. For more information, contact Zoe Martinez.

SOUTH MINNEAPOLIS MEALS ON WHEELS-JOIN THE BOARD

South Minneapolis Meals on Wheels is looking for new members for their Board of Directors beginning in January of 2026. Holy Trinity is a member church within the organization and provides volunteers for meal delivery and some financial support. You do not need to have delivered meals to consider this opportunity. This year Holy Trinity has 2 people on the SMMOW Board - Mary Engen and Julie Cahoy. Please talk to either of us if you are interested. We also welcome people to help on one of our committees - Finance, Marketing/Fundraising, Board Development, and Operations Council.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 9-BOOK LOVERS BALL

Please join us Thursday, October 9, for the 2025 Book Lovers Ball, Milkweed Editions' signature fundraising gala. Join guest speaker Robin Wall Kimmerer and 300 fellow book lovers at Nicollet Island Pavilion in Minneapolis to celebrate and raise funds for transformative literature. Tickets will sell quickly—to secure yours, reserve them today!

Robin Wall Kimmerer is the author of *The Serviceberry: Abundance and Receprocity in the Natural World*. Many of you participated in reading and discussing the book with Pastor Ingrid earlier this summer.

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS FOR SUNDAY, AUGUST 10, 2025, 10:00 AM

Preacher	David Larson-Martínez (he/him)	
Presiding Minister	Ingrid Rasmussen (she/her)	
Cantor	Stephanie Sulzbach (she/her)	
Altar Guild	Vicki Bergman (she/her), Roberta Shaw (she/her)	
Crucifer		
Assisting Minister	Rick Liedholm (he/him)	
Communion	Zoe Martinez (she/her), Dennis O'Brien (he/him), Karen Kunze (she/her), John Buzza (he/him)	
Ushers	Bob Peschiutta (he/him), Jeff Olsen Biebighauser (he/him), Robin Olsen Biebighauser (he/him), Frances Olsen Biebighauser (she/her)	
Coffee Servers	Coffee Servers Connie Adams (she/her), Deb Sodt (she/her)	
Counters	John Sulzbach (he/him)	
Closer	Closer John Sulzbach (he/him)	
Video Operator Bob Hulteen (he/him)		



HAPPY 50TH ANNIVERSARY STEVE AND BARBARA BENSON

This week we rejoice with Holy Trinity members, Steve and Barbara Benson as they celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary.

Ain't love grand!

PARISH EVENTS AUGUST 10-16, 2025

Sunday, August 10		Worship Service of Holy Communion Swahili Service
Tuesday, August 12	11:00 AM	Worship Readings Discussion
Wednesday, August 13	7:00 PM	Community Bike Ride Christ Be Our Light: Chanting the Psalms in Hope Yoga with James
Thursday, August 14	5:30 PM	Exodus Lending Celebration

LIVESTREAM LINKS FOR WORSHIP SERVICES

A <u>live-stream</u> of the 10:00 a.m. Sunday service is available online at 9:55 a.m. You can access recordings of previous worship services <u>here</u>.

