HOLY TRINITY

LUTHERAN CHURCH

THE COMMUNITY CHURCH

HOLY TRINITY GATHERS ON THE SACRED LAND OF THE DAKOTA PEOPLE

Newsletter

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

We Hold More Truth Together

A Meditation by Rev. Cameron Trimble, written November 19, 2025 Published by Substack

"Now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face: now I know in part; but then shall I know even as also I am known." —1 Corinthians 13:12



Last night, I spoke on a panel with two remarkable spiritual leaders—Imam Jamal Rahman and Kosen Gregory Snyder—to reflect on how interfaith friendship shapes our lives. It's a question I return to often, especially in these days of deep division.

The truth is, interfaith relationships have changed me, not by demanding less of my own faith, but by helping me see it more clearly. Each encounter across tradition becomes a window into the sacred: a story that surprises me, a practice that steadies me, a silence that teaches me to listen in new ways.

I've learned from Sufi mystics how to pray with poetry, chanting and longing. I've learned from Buddhist teachers how to sit with suffering (and joy) instead of fleeing it. Jewish friends have shown me the holy art of wrestling with text... and with God. They've also introduced me to cinnamon Babka bread (looking at you, Rabbi Ross), which is surely what God tastes like. Indigenous elders have invited me to walk in reciprocity with the Earth. Muslim colleagues have modeled for me a fierce, generous hospitality that never stops at words.

These friendships haven't blurred our differences. They've made them beautiful. They've helped me see that difference is not something to overcome, but something to honor, a path toward understanding the vastness of the Divine.

(continued on next page)

FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT

READINGS

Isaiah 2:1-5; Psalm 122; Romans 13:11-14; Matthew 24:36-44

ADULT FORUM

Holy Trinity Adult Forums feature in-person presentations beginning at 9:00 a.m. on Sunday. The presentations are also available via **Zoom** (meeting ID:858 5687 1594; passcode:317879) for those unable to attend in person.

November 30 Intergenerational Event/Packing Care Packages for College Students

Join us in the Community Room for a fun *intergenerational* event as we pack care packages for Holy Trinity's college students across the country. Each package will include noodles, sweets, protein, pens, and Kleenex—small comforts to remind our students that their church community is thinking of them.

December 7 NO ADULT FORUM

You're invited to shop the Makers and Bakers Advent Bazaar youth fundraiser before, during, or after the adult forum hour.

A BEAUTIFUL DAY OF THANKSGIVING AND COMMUNITY AT SOUP FOR YOU!

The gym was filled with joy, conversation, laughter, and love. What a beautiful Thanksgiving gathering of friends, neighbors, and community. Thanks to Chef Judah and all the SFY! crew who prepared such a wonderful Thanksgiving feast!











PARISH INFORMATION

It reminds me of Gandhi's words: "I came to the conclusion long ago that all religions were true and also that all had some error in them, and while I hold by my own religion, I should hold other religions as dear as Hinduism. So we can only pray, if we were Hindus, not that a Christian should become a Hindu; but our innermost prayer should be that a Hindu should become a better Hindu, a Muslim a better Muslim, and a Christian a better Christian." No single tradition has the whole truth. But each of us carries a part of it. When we come together—not to convince or convert, but to listen with love—we hold more of the mystery.

This is the gift of interfaith friendship. It doesn't dilute faith. It deepens it. It invites us to be changed, not by agreement, but by presence.

In a world addicted to certainty and division, these relationships remind us that the deepest truth is not about being right. It's about being real. Being real, in a posture of curiosity and humility, might just be the most sacred work of all.

We are in this together, Cameron

~ 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 Mary Petersen's friend, Lenny Garber; Nikki Randolph-Martinez; Mary Petersen; Mary Heltsley; Tre Tellor's mom Jill; Tina and Neela; Tracey Baubie's mom ShaRon; Rick Lathrop; Karen Batdorf's sister Marie; Mike Kelly; Josie Tober; Theresa Duty and her family, at the death of her sister Carol Kile.

REMINDERS

YEAR-END GIVING OPPORTUNITY-ORGAN RENOVATION FUND UPDATE

The organ has been at the heart of our congregational song for decades, empowering our worship and strengthening our life together as a faith community. Organ renovations have started, albeit slowly due to contractors being very busy with other work. So far, the blower has been relocated from the basement to inside the pipe chamber clearing up space in the basement refrigerator room and ensuring better air supply to the instrument. In consultation with structural engineers, contractors and the organ company, a plan to stabilize the sagging pipe chest has been drawn up and approved by all parties. Fabrication of brackets and parts for that chest has begun and we anticipate the work to be done in early 2026. During this time there may be a couple of Sundays when the instrument is partially or completely unusable as some pipes will have to be removed for safety reasons.

Through this essential work, we honor the role of the organ in our worship and ensure it continues to inspire and uplift our congregation for generations to come. We have raised \$24,500 of the \$31,149.50 needed.

MAKE YOUR YEAR-END GIFTS

We invite you to plan for and make your final contributions for the current fiscal year at this time. Please allow for additional processing time with consideration to the holiday season if you are anticipating requesting funds from retirement accounts. This will give us all adequate time to deposit and post gifts before the close of the tax year and also get yearend statements out to you in a timely manner. Thank you so much for all you share with Holy Trinity!

COMMITMENT CARDS FOR 2026

We invite members and friends to consider making a financial commitment to the mission and ministry of Holy Trinity for 2026. 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.

HOLY TRINITY SEEKS CYF MINISTRY COORDINATOR

The Children, Youth, and Family (CYF) Ministry Coordinator will work in collaboration with the Associate Pastor and provide organization and leadership for children's faith formation and support for youth programs and events throughout the year. Candidates will work consistent with the congregation's values. Learn more at https://htlcmpls.org/site/wp-content/uploads/2025/11/Children-Youth-and-Family-Ministry-Coordinator.pdf

THIS WEEK

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 30-HELP MAKE CARE PACKAGES!

Adult Forum and Faith Formation | 9:00–9:50 a.m.

Join us in the Community Room for a fun *intergenerational* event as we pack care packages for Holy Trinity's college students across the country. Each package will include noodles, sweets, protein, pens, and Kleenex—small comforts to remind our students that their church community is thinking of them.

This joyful gathering will take the place of both the Adul Forum and Children, Youth, and Family education this week. All ages are welcome to come share in the fun, connect with others, and enjoy a warm start to the Advent season!

JOIN PASTOR INGRID ON A BUILDING TOUR SUNDAY FROM 11:15-11:45 A.M.

Pastor Ingrid will host a building tour for members today following worship. She will meet people in the library. In an age of disruption, Ingrid would like to review building protocols with all members.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR WEDNESDAYS IN ADVENT

We are looking for volunteers to help with Advent Evening Soup Suppers (December 3, 10, and 17). For each meal, We especially need volunteers to set up and clean up each of these evenings. Sign up in the Community Room.

JOIN US FOR ADVENT SOUP SUPPER ON WEDNESDAY EVEINGS, BEGINNING DECEMBER 3

All are invited to partake in the free Advent soup suppers on Wednesdays from 6:00 to 6:45 p.m. in the Community Room. As has been our tradition in years past, we will also gather at 7:00 p.m. for a Service of Evening Prayer in the Sanctuary. People of all ages are invited to worship.

THIS WEEK CONTINUED

YOUNG ADULT MONTHLY SOCIAL DECEMBER 3, 7:00 P.M.

Are you constantly wondering if you're still a youth? Does your spirit tell you "Yes!" But your back says "heck no!" Does your body lose control when a mid-2010s pop song comes on? Well then, this group is for you!

We are creating a young adults group for Holy Trinity. A space where we can explore who we are, share a meal, a story, and perhaps unwanted wisdom our mom told us in that one phone call last week. We will convene on the first Wednesday of every month, sharing a meal at our church. This will be followed by a shared drink at our west campus (Arbeiter Brewery). This month we will join the Advent Wednesday evening Soup Supper at 6:00 p.m., then move to Arbeiter at 7:00 p.m.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 4, 7:00 P.M. CHRIST BE OUR LIGHT: CHANTING THE PSALMS IN HOPE

Join Ann Schrooten on Thursdays to lean into the ancient practice of chanting the psalms. Ann says, "In the coming days and weeks, our intention will be to sing through all 150 Psalms in order, beginning to end."

PASTURES A PLENTY, ORDER BY THURSDAY, DECEMBER 4, DELIVERY SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6

Pastures A Plenty is A 4th generation family farm producing naturally raised Berkshire pork, Grassfed beef, Free range chicken and organic crops. Their next delivery date is Saturday, December 6. Orders need to be submitted by Thursday, December 4. You can order by emailing shop@pasturesaplenty.com or visiting their website www.pasturesaplenty.com.

GAME NIGHT SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6

An evening of games, pizza, and connecting in community, join the Racial Justice Committee and Mother St. James AME on Saturday, December 6, from 5:30-7:30 in the Holy Trinity Library. Bring a game or two you would like to play and an openness to try a new game with new people!

DATA CENTER PETITION NEEDS YOUR SUPPORT

The rapid proliferation of AI technology requires the construction of massive data centers throughout our country (and the world). What is just becoming evident, is the massive drain these centers are on energy and resources. The centers already constructed are using water and electricity equivalent to a quarter of a million households! What a drain on the community and state hosting them.

Third Act Minnesota and a consortium of climate and environmental groups want the state legislature to enact legislation requiring a thorough Environmental Impact Report before centers are approved in Minnesota.

We urge you to sign a petition asking for just that! And we are aiming for at least 10,000 signatures by December 20 when the petition must be submitted to the governor's office.

I will be at the next 3 fellowship hours after worship with more information on this issue as well as the invitation for you to sign the petition. Come and seek me out!

~ Dennis O'Brien

SAVE THE DATE

MAKERS AND BAKERS ADVENT BAZAAR SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7, 8:30 A.M.-12:30 P.M.

This is a special invitation to share your culinary and crafting abilities for the upcoming youth benefit Advent Bazaar! It will be on Sunday, December 7, from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Holy Trinity. Our youth will sell your generously donated creations in this festive community event that supports summer youth trips and other HT youth activities. Favorite baked goods and ethnic treats, jams and other canned goods, or your special hand-made crafts will be graciously accepted. To contribute, sign up in the Community Room. Bring donations to the church building by Friday, December 5, or Saturday morning, December 6. Look for a follow-up email a week ahead with more donation details. It is certainly okay to just plan on shopping, too!

INVITATION FROM PASTOR DOUG

I would like to invite you to consider joining me in leading Holy Trinity's participation in a statewide (and national) faith -based effort to resist authoritarianism. Powerfully led by ISAIAH, a state-wide organization of faith communities, this effort aims to organize tens of thousands of people of faith across Minnesota onto a path of resistance that will include a major march on the afternoon of Palm Sunday and a national mobilization to Washington, DC on the $4^{\rm th}$ of July.

Join me for *A Light in the Storm: Agenda Launch and Anti-Authoritarianism Strategy Training* from 1:00-6:00 p.m. on **Saturday, December 13,** at the Minneapolis Convention Center. This event will include thousands of people of faith from across the state and will set the path for the next year. I would love to have at least 5 members from Holy Trinity with me for that day, though I know it is a big ask in a busy season. Thanks for considering this invitation!

BYSTANDER INTERVENTION TIPS IN MOMENTS OF CONFLICT

Can you remember a time when you witnessed conflict and were confused about how and if you should act? You see a child bullying another child at a playground. You observe racial harassment in a traffic stop. You hear a Spanish speaking neighbor and citizen confronted by ICE. Is it best to keep your distance or try to intervene? There are no easy answers. But there are some options for taking action to consider.

Many community agencies offer training on how to **be** a helpful observer in conflictual situations and, when appropriate, take action to reduce the tensions or harm that can come to a victim. You may want to attend one of these trainings, but even if you can't do that there are steps you can **take** with bystander intervention. One resource is Bystander Observation and the "Five Ds."

The link below offers some tips helpful for bystanders. The link could be useful to you at school, at work, in your family or in your community.

~Holy Trinity Racial Justice Committee

https://righttobe.org/guides/bystander-intervention-training

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS FOR SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 10:00 AM

Preacher	Doug Mork (he/him)		
Presiding Minister	David Larson-Martínez (he/him)		
Cantor	Andrea Hansen (she/her)		
Altar Guild	Roberta Shaw (she/her), Vicki Bergman (she/her)		
Crucifer			
Assisting Minister	Karen Batdorf (she/her)		
Communion	Carol Berg (she/her), Dennis O'Brien (he/him), Melanie Townsend (she/her)		
Ushers	Alan Libra (he/him), David Rediger (he/him), DeWayne Townsend IV (he/him)		
Coffee Servers			
Counters	Counters John Sulzbach (he/him)		
Closer	Bob Hulteen (he/him)		
Video Operator	Bob Hulteen (he/him)		

PARISH EVENTS NOVEMBER 30-DECEMBER 6, 2025

	That I was I			
	Sunday, November 30		Family Coffee Hour	
		9:00 AM	Intergenerational Event/Packing Care Packages for	
		10.00 414	College Students	
			Worship Service of Holy Communion	
		12:00 PM	Swahili Service	
	Monday, December 1	6:30-8:00 PM	Adult Choir Rehearsal	
	Tuesday, December 2		Worship Readings Discussion	
		1:30 PM	Knitting Group	
	Wednesday, December 3	5:45-6:30 PM	Children's Choir & Cantate Rehearsal	
	,,		Jubilation Youth Bell Ensemble	
			Advent Soup Supper	
			Young Adults Group (Meet for Soup)	
			Gloria Ringers Rehearsal	
			Advent Evening Prayer Service	
	Thursday, December 4		Big Meeting Night	
		7:45 PM	Christ Be Our Light: Chanting the Psalms	
	Saturday, December 6	5:30-7:30 PM	Game Night with St. James AME	
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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>.

