



HOLY TRINITY GATHERS ON THE SACRED LAND OF THE DAKOTA PEOPLE

Newsletter

2730 E. 31st Street Minneapolis, MN 55406 • 612-729-8358 • office@htlcmpls.org • www.htlcmpls.org  
Ingrid C. A. Rasmussen, David Larson-Martínez, and Doug Mork, Pastors

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

## Lilly Grant Shared by Matt Hendrickson at the Annual Meeting

Members and friends,

Good morning. I'm Matt, and on behalf of the Church Council, I get to share some genuinely joyful news with you today.

Holy Trinity has been awarded a major grant from the Lilly Endowment, and it will support our congregation—and our building partners—for the next five years.

This is a big deal. And not just because it's generous funding, though it is. It's a big deal because it's an investment in something we already believe in deeply: that stories matter.

Stories shape how we see ourselves. They shape how we see our neighbors. They shape what we believe is possible—about community, about God, and about the future.

This grant grew out of a simple but powerful truth: we are already a storytelling community. We tell Bible stories and faith stories. We share personal stories. We hold space for hard stories—stories of loss, change, struggle, and survival. And we celebrate stories of joy, resilience, healing, and hope. Here at Holy Trinity, stories are not just something we listen to—they are part of how we practice belonging.

Pastor Ingrid first discovered the grant opportunity in spring of 2025, and with encouragement from the Council, she applied. Then something exciting happened: Holy Trinity made it through the first round of the process, and we were invited to expand and deepen the proposal over the summer.

Many of you participated in that stage—through conversations, surveys, and open sessions where you shared what stories you carry, what stories you long to hear, and what stories you believe our community needs right now. That input mattered. And it shaped what this grant is becoming.

Now we've learned that we've officially received the award.

And here's one of the most meaningful parts: this grant supports not only Holy Trinity, but also the three other communities who call this building home—Minnesota Swahili Christian Congregation, Metro Work Center, and Soup for You! Café.

(continued on next page)

## FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY READINGS

*Isaiah 58:1-9a; Psalm 112:1-9;  
1 Corinthians 2:1-12; Matthew 5:13-20*

### 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.

**February 8 Pancake Breakfast (no Adult Forum today)**  
Join us for a pancake breakfast from 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Sunday to raise funds for youth service/learning/fun trips. Suggested donation for tickets is \$10.

**February 15 "Move Your Money:  
Break Up with Your Bank"**

Please join the members of our Creation Care Committee for a presentation and discussion on how your banking choices can have a positive impact on the environment and climate justice. Creation Care will also share updates on other parts of their work. This committee has led on bringing solar panels and LED lighting to Holy Trinity and our neighborhood, greater investment in clean energy, resiliency hubs, and more. Join us at 9:00 a.m. in the Library or on [Zoom](#).

### ~ 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 **Carol Berg; Darren and Sarah; Paul Ramsour; Merlin Wells; Wilson Murray; Dorothy Kelly; Nikki Randolph-Martinez; Carol Kelly; Mary Petersen; Tre Tellor's mom Jill; Tina and Neela; Rick Lathrop; Karen Batdorf's sister Marie; Mike Kelly; Josie Tober; Stella Townsend; Angel Blanco**; all people deeply hurt and affected by ICE activity.

## P A R I S H I N F O R M A T I O N

Together, we're not just a shared space—we're a shared life. Four communities with different histories, different gifts, different languages, different needs. And yet, we are deeply connected. We've come to call it an ecosystem of belonging—rooted right here in the Longfellow neighborhood and reaching outward into the wider world.

This initiative is called *Our Deepest Belonging*, and it is not a program for a small group or a single committee. It's for all of us. Because storytelling isn't just about performance. It's about relationship. It's about the courage to tell the truth, the humility to listen, and the hope to imagine something better together.

Beginning in 2026, each of our partner communities will lead a major storytelling project:

- Minnesota Swahili Christian Congregation will launch a youth-centered multilingual storytelling studio, including podcasts, recorded worship music, and intergenerational story gatherings.
- Metro Work Center will lead a project called *We Are Your Neighbors*—a visual and mobile art campaign that introduces community members through portraits, artwork, and a traveling art van.
- Soup for You! Café will work with an award-winning filmmaker to create a short documentary that reframes stories about hunger, hospitality, and dignity.
- And Holy Trinity will host story circles, Moth-style storytelling events, and digital storytelling projects—especially with and for people who are spiritually curious but cautious about institutions.

And alongside those projects, there will also be a shared, collaborative project: an Ecosystem Mural that will transform our gym into a vibrant community story-canvas—created with participation from all four communities.

We live in a time when so many of the stories being told in the world are driven by fear, division, and despair. But this grant is an invitation to choose something else—to tell and amplify stories that create compassion, courage, and connection.

So today, we celebrate. And we also begin.

In the seasons ahead, you'll hear more about ways to participate—whether that means telling a story, listening to one, helping host an event, contributing creatively, or simply showing up and making space for someone else's voice.

Because when we share stories truthfully, something happens. People come alive. Communities deepen. And belonging grows.

Thanks be to God—and thank you for being part of this.

You can watch the video *A Community of Belonging* that was shown at the Annual Meeting here:

<https://vimeo.com/1161557538?fl=ml&fe=ec>

### HOLY TRINITY X ARBEITER COLLAB—SUCCESSFUL KICKOFF

Holy Trinity kicked off an exciting new collaboration with **Arbeiter Brewing** as part of our *Our Deepest Belonging*, aka Lilly Grant project this past Wednesday. About 17 HT folks gathered at Arbeiter to meet their head brewer, learn about the brewing process, and begin dreaming about a Holy Trinity beer to be brewed for Easter, with ideas for a Pride beer to follow. Watch the Community Church for information on next steps in the process, including voting on a name. Below, enjoy some photos from the event!



## THIS WEEK

### PANCAKE BREAKFAST SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8

We are holding the annual pancake breakfast from 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 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 \$10 at the door.

### BIG MEETING AFTER WORSHIP SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8

Curious about getting involved at church? Join us for Big Meeting Sunday today. After worship, everyone can get pancakes from the pancake breakfast and bring them to the Bartsch Room for committee meetings from 11:20 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome—whether you're on a committee already or simply interested in learning more. The first 10 minutes will include a shared congregational update, followed by committee conversations. Big Meeting Sundays happen on the second Sunday of each month. Creation Care, Children and Family, Palestine/Israel, Immigration, and Financial Stewardship Committees will be meeting.

### FEBRUARY 2026: BOOK GROUP WITH PASTOR INGRID

This season, our whole congregation is invited into a transformative book study on *The Power of Bridging: How to Build a World Where We All Belong* by John A. Powell. Drawing from years of research and community practice, Powell offers a hopeful, practical vision for healing divides and nurturing belonging in a fragmented world. Together, we'll explore what it means to "bridge" across differences and try simple, meaningful actions that strengthen connection in our daily lives.

Across the region, thousands of people have already joined this growing movement through the Bush Foundation's book club, and we're excited to add our voices to the conversation. Whether you're eager to deepen relationships, strengthen our communal life, or practice new ways of engaging across difference, this study will offer inspiration and tools for the journey. Copies of the book have been provided by the Bush Foundation and distributed to Holy Trinity members. A few extra copies are available in the Community Room for friends and visitors who'd like to join the book read.

### AARP TAX AIDE—NOW-APRIL 8

AARP Tax Aide will again be available at Holy Trinity to provide assistance with 2025 tax preparation for seniors and low-income taxpayers. Tax assistance is available at Holy Trinity on Mondays and Wednesdays now through Wednesday, April 8. The procedures necessary to receive tax assistance will be the same as those used in 2025. The steps to take are described below. You will need an appointment to have your tax documents prepared at Holy Trinity. Call **612-567-2368** between the hours of **9:00-11:00 a.m. or 1:00-3:00 p.m. Tuesday through Thursday**. Please have your 2024 tax return available.

### TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 10—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, FEBRUARY 11—MEAL, OPEN GYM AND ENSEMBLE REHEARSALS

- Community Meal (5:00-6:00 p.m. in the lunchroom)
- Supervised open gym (6:30-8:00 p.m.)
- Jubilation rehearsal (5:45-6:30 p.m.)
- Children's Choir rehearsal (5:45-6:45 p.m.)
- Gloria Ringers rehearsal (6:30-8:00 p.m.)

Whether or not you're involved in music-making, the weekly meal and gym time are open to all and have become a beloved part of our shared life together. You're invited to come enjoy good food, connect with others, and simply be part of the community. Some parents also gather at Arbeiter Brewing during this time for conversation and connection over a beer or non-alcoholic drink. You're welcome to join there too! For more information on ensemble and solo opportunities, please reach out to Cantor Phil Radtke.

### THURSDAYS, FEBRUARY 12 AND 26—EXPLORE SPIRITUAL PRACTICES – WINTER SMALL GROUP

Are you looking to deepen or refresh your spiritual life this winter? Join us for a four-week small group exploring a variety of spiritual practices—simple, grounding ways to connect more fully with God in everyday life.

Each session will include time for reflection, sharing, and trying out a different practice together. Whether you're new to spiritual practices or hoping to grow, all are welcome.



#### LIBRARY NEWS

Greetings, Readers! In these days, it can be hard to concentrate on reading. But, if you want to delve into something new, just know that we have been busy cataloging new acquisitions (60+ since August). Some we purchased, some were donated, some just appeared(!). A few examples:

##### Children:

*Between Earth and Sky: Legends of Native American Sacred Places*, Joseph Bruchac / *Talk Peace*, Sam Williams

##### Youth:

*Heartstopper (Vols. 1&2)*, Alice Oseman

*Louder Than Hunger*, John Schu

##### Adult (on the white rack outside the library):

*Patriot: A Memoir*, Alexei Navalny

*Apostle's Cove*, William Kent Krueger

*Hope Dies Last: Keeping the Faith in Difficult Times (an anthology)*, Studs Terkel

*Disciples of White Jesus: the Radicalization of American Boyhood*, Angela Denker

You will find several anthologies from the Prison Writing Workshop displayed in a small bookcase at the front wall of the library.

To see all the new titles, you pick up a printed list in the library or find the catalogue online at

<https://holytrinitylutheran.library.site/>

or try our new QR code.



## SAVE THE DATE

### SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 15—SAMBUSAS IN THE COMMUNITY ROOM AFTER WORSHIP

Sambusas from Quruxley restaurant will be for sale in the Community. Sponsored by the Racial Justice Committee.

### WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18—ASH WEDNESDAY AT 6:00 P.M.

As the days slowly lengthen, we begin the holy season of Lent. The ashes we receive on our foreheads remind us that we, along with all of creation, are dependent on God's grace. A service with the imposition of ashes will be held in the sanctuary at 6:00 p.m. *Please note: We will not have a soup supper tonight; those will begin next week.* We are moving Ash Wednesday worship one hour earlier so that our younger members can participate more easily. The Adult Choir will share music at the 6:00 p.m. worship service.

### YOUTH RECITAL SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 9:00 A.M.

We celebrate the musical gifts of several of Holy Trinity's young people during our annual music recital in the Sanctuary at 9:00 a.m. on Sunday, February 22. This will serve as our adult forum for the day. Sign up in the Community Room, or contact Phil if you wish to perform ([pradtke@htlcmps.org](mailto:pradtke@htlcmps.org)).

### SOUP SUPPER HELP NEEDED WEDNESDAYS IN LENT, FEB. 25, MARCH 4, 11, 18, AND 25

For each Wednesday during Lent, four households are needed to prepare and serve enough soup for 30 people, one household is needed to prepare 6 boxes of Kraft macaroni and cheese, one person is needed to pick up bread by 2:00 p.m. at Laune Bread on Lake Street (preordered and prepaid), and volunteers are needed to set up and clean up each Wednesday in Lent. Please sign up in the Community Room if you can help.

### PHOTOGRAPHER AT HOLY TRINITY SUNDAY, MARCH 1, 9:00 A.M.-12:30 P.M.

All are encouraged to have new photos taken for Holy Trinity directories. A photographer will be available on Sunday, March 1, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in the Community Room. Appointments are not needed.

### 2025 THRIVENT CHOICE® DOLLARS EXPIRE MARCH 31

Since 2010, over \$370 million has been distributed to churches, schools, and other nonprofits through Thrivent Choice®. Through this program, eligible members can recommend where Thrivent donates millions of charitable outreach dollars each year. Please consider recommending Holy Trinity for your Thrivent Choice Dollars.

### REGISTRATION FOR CAMP WAPO SUMMER CAMP OPEN

Camp Wapo Summer Camp registration is now open. Holy Trinity has spots saved for those who register before February 15. On February 16, any unused spots will be released to the waitlist and general public. Reserved weeks and spots:

- Wapo Youth (completed grades 4–9): August 2–7, 2026 (8 spots)
- Wapo Seeds (completed grades 1–3): August 7–9, 2026 (5 spots).

To register for the correct week and program, please use our church-specific registration link: <http://lwlbc.com/holytrinity-mpls> Questions? Contact Katie Schroeder.

### AUGUST 7-11—FAMILY-FRIENDLY BOUNDARY WATERS TRIP

Attention campers, (and aspiring campers). We have been busy planning for HTLC's annual BWCA canoe trip. This year, our Boundary Waters camping adventure is scheduled for August 7-11 and we can have a group of 18. We currently have one spot left, but you can put your name on a waiting list if you're interested and we can let you know if anyone currently signed up has a chance in plans. The total cost is approximately \$175 per person. Scholarships are available. As always, this is a family-friendly trip. Call or email with any questions or for more details. Contact Tom at (612) 616-0507, or [itcahoy@gmail.com](mailto:itcahoy@gmail.com).

### EXAMPLES OF LOVING EACH OTHER THROUGH THE MESSINESS

The mom of a second grader called a week or so again and asked if we would take some care packages her daughter made for kids affected by ICE that may not be able to go to school or play with friends. *"I said sure, you can drop them off and we'll find a way to distribute them."* The mom told me they live in Colorado so they would ship them! They package arrived yesterday. A large box filled with 15 new backpacks, stuffed with snacks, activities, and fun items for kids, including a note for each backpack from second grader, Leah!



Soup For You! has been packing extra bags of groceries for South High families affected by ICE. They pack 30 bags this week, a random neighbor dropped off an additional 20 bags to distribute.



## WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS FOR SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 10:00 AM

<b>Guest Preacher</b>	Paul Slack (he/him)
<b>Presiding Minister</b>	Ingrid Rasmussen (she/her)
<b>Cantor</b>	Drew Lindorfer (she/her)
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Connie Adams (she/her)
<b>Crucifer</b>	
<b>Assisting Minister</b>	Madeline Burbank (she/her)
<b>Communion</b>	Kaitlin Scott (she/her), Karen Kunze (she/her), Melanie Townsend (she/her), Stephanie Sulzbach (she/her)
<b>Ushers</b>	Chris Amundson (he/him), David Broberg (he/him), David Rediger (he/him)
<b>Coffee Servers</b>	Pancake Breakfast
<b>Counters</b>	Deb Helmel (she/her)
<b>Closer</b>	Roberta Shaw (she/her)
<b>Video Operator</b>	Bob Hulteen (he/him)

### NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION SUNDAY, MARCH 1

We invite interested persons to consider membership in this congregation. The orientation will be held from 9:00-10:00 a.m. in the Bartsch room. Breakfast will be served. There are no prerequisites; all are welcome. Please sign up in the Community Room if you intend to come.

## PARISH EVENTS FEBRUARY 9-15, 2026

Sunday, February 8	8:30 AM-12:00 PM	Pancake Breakfast
	9:00 AM	Youth Education
	10:00 AM	Worship Service of Holy Communion
	11:20 AM	Big Meeting Sunday
	12:00 PM	Swahili Service
Monday, February 9	6:30-8:00 PM	Adult Choir Rehearsal
Tuesday, February 10	11:00 AM	Worship Readings Discussion
Wednesday, February 11	5:00 PM	Choir Families Meal
	5:45-6:45 PM	Children's Choir
	5:45-6:30 PM	Jubilation Youth Handbell Ensemble
	6:30-8:00 PM	Gloria Ringers
	6:30-8:00 PM	Supervised Gym Time
Thursday, February 12	7:00 PM	Spiritual Practices Group

### 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](#).

