



HOLY TRINITY GATHERS ON THE SACRED LAND OF THE DAKOTA PEOPLE

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

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

GIVE THANKS FOR THE PRESENT

Growing together – August 2026

By Kimberly Knowle-Zeller, Published in *Living Lutheran*,
August 5, 2026

Focal verse

"This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it" ([Psalm 118:24](#)).

Reflection

Living in Missouri, I'm no stranger to photographs of families enjoying an afternoon at a creek. For several summers, visiting the creek near me was on my list of things to do. Finally, one morning this summer, I took my son and one of his friends to the creek. On the shore, the boys changed into swimsuits and watched for fish and crawdads. A large tadpole swam away, just out of their reach. Laughter, splashing and birdsong were the only sounds we heard. I waded in the water up to my knees.

I'm able to breathe more deeply at the creek. This, I thought, is how I'd like to feel throughout my days. More relaxed. More present. More attuned to the smile on my son's face. More open to play.

More present to the [grace](#) before me.

Now that we're in August, we're in the thick of all things [back-to-school](#). There are already lists for school supplies. Teachers are back in their classrooms. The days of later nights and (maybe) sleeping in are coming to an end. It's hard to stay present when there's a list of things to do.

I don't think I'm the only one who wishes they could be more present with their children. Every season has its beauty, and summers especially can be filled with memories of park playdates, time in the water or simply enjoying watermelon and ears of corn with family. I'm looking forward to what's to come but also deeply grateful for what is right now.

The time at the creek reminded me to stay attuned to what's before me. As we approach a new season, take time to reflect as a family on where you've experienced God's grace this summer. Share the joys and the challenges. Keep track of the prayers you prayed and how God met you. If you can, gather for a picnic or movie night and talk about your favorite memories. Through it all, remember that God's love never left you—and will be with you in the days and seasons ahead.

(Continued on next page)

ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

READINGS

1 Kings 19:9-18; Psalm 85:8-13;
Romans 10:5-15; Matthew 14:22-33

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

SUMMER ADULT FORUMS

August 9 "The Bible from 10,000 Feet"

Pastor Doug

Join Pastor Doug on August 9 for the final session in this series. If you would like to read ahead, here is what I plan to cover:

August 9: Chapters 10-16: Jesus, early church, where do we go from here?

We'll meet from 9:00-9:45 a.m. in the library.

~ Concerning People ~

Lord who healed the sick, we ask for your compassion and healing for all who suffer in body, mind, or spirit, and those who suffer fear and uncertainty. We bring before you especially **Olive Murray**, recovering from a broken wrist; Donna Heyer's grandson, **Jeremy**; **Senem Yumsak**; **Ayhan Yumsak**; **Aysel Yumsak**; **Marlene Peterson**; **Merlin Wells**; **Dorothy Kelly**; Mary Petersen's friend, **Barb Nygaard**; Tre Tellor's mom **Jill**; Karen Batdorf's sister **Marie**; **Josie Tober**; **Stella Townsend**.

August 22, 11:00 a.m. Memorial Service for Herb Hanson
10:00 a.m. Visitation, Lunch following the service.

October 24, 2:00 p.m. Memorial Service for Rick Lathrop
Coffee and sweet treats following the service.

If you'd like to help with either memorial service, please sign up in the Community Room or contact the church office.

PARISH INFORMATION

Practices

- Create a family ritual for the first days of school. Pray together before you leave home, or write one another notes to open during lunch. Draw a cross on everyone's hand to remind them of God's presence.
- Find water to splash or swim in. When you float, picture God holding you and carrying you through your days. When you splash, remind one another of being drenched in God's love.

Prayer practice

Pray for the school year ahead. Be specific and name the teachers and staff in your school. Ask your kids what they're looking forward to and what worries they have. Pray together:

Dear God, we thank you for the gift of learning. We pray for all who work in schools and all who teach. May we be friends, and may we find friends who love us. May we stretch our minds and do our best. Keep us safe. Help us to ask questions and to always keep learning. Amen.

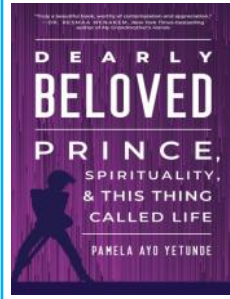
Kimberly Knowle-Zeller is an ordained ELCA pastor, mother of two, spouse of an ELCA pastor and author of [Small Steps: Blessings to Lift Your Soul on the Pilgrimage of Life](#), a collection of blessings.

As we prepare to move into fall, back-to-school, and regular church programming, I invite you to follow the suggestion in this article of reflecting on where you experienced God's grace this summer. Think about the joys and challenges. If you're willing to share, I'd love to put them in the Community Church during August and September. I think it will be a lovely way for us to come back together in worship, education, music, and the many other activities that return as church programming begins. It will help us share our experiences during the down time (or not so down time) of the summer months and foster the connections created during the summer gatherings, Music in the Garden, and other summer celebrations.

~Kathy Ekwall

THIS WEEK

AUGUST 2026—BOOK GROUP WITH KATHY EKWALL



From Kathy: In April of 2025, Pastor Ingrid gifted me the book *Dearly Beloved: Prince, Spirituality, and This Thing Called Life* by Pamela Ayo Yetunde. This book explores the spiritual messages coded within Prince's work and has helped me connect the dots of why Prince and his music have resonated with me so much more than any other artist. I invite you to join me in exploring the spiritual side of Prince through this book. From the author: "For all who live in search of deeper meaning and tools for cultivating resilience in difficult times—*Dearly Beloved* is an essential spiritual guide." I'll host two in-person discussions, **August 25 and 31 (please note date change)**. Sign up in the Community Room, more books will be available soon.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 9—BIG MEETING AFTER WORSHIP

Our monthly Big Meeting continues on the second Sunday of each month following worship. Join us at 11:20 a.m. for conversation, collaboration, and connection as committees and ministry teams gather together in person. A simple lunch will be provided, and we look forward to sharing this time together from 11:20 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 11—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, AUGUST 12—NEIGHBORHOOD MEETUP AT MINNEHAHA SCOOP

Join CYF Ministry Coordinator Taryn for a visit to Minnehaha Scoop and a saunter around the neighborhood! All ages are welcome, especially children and youth. Meet outside Holy Trinity's cul-de-sac entrance at 6:00 p.m., and RSVP to Taryn Meyer.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 12—BIKE RIDE WEDNESDAY

Join us for the August 12 Bike Ride! We will leave from church at 5:30 pm, bike the Greenway to the lakes, eat a bite at Bread & Pickle, and return via Minnehaha Creek Trail. The ride is 18 miles or so and will take about 3 hours with the stop. All ages welcome!

SUMMER GATHERING FUN

Enjoy photos from the gatherings hosted by Jess Yarger and Dave Herrera, July 16, and Zoe and Miguel Martinez, August 1.



SAVE THE DATE

PREPAREDNESS TRAININGS—AUGUST 16, 23, AND 30

With all that we have collectively experienced in recent times, concern for the midterm elections is reasonable. We are seeing the arrests and intimidation of people registering others to vote in Ohio; illegal pressure put on state officials to turn over voting rolls; peaceful protesters being arrested under terrorism charges; and more. If you are concerned, know you are not alone. But we can be proactive together to prepare for what happens before *and after* the elections in November. Join other Holy Trinity members for a series of three trainings on Sundays August 16, 23, and 30 immediately after church in the Bartsch Room. Save those dates; sign up in the Community Room. And, we will be calling you to encourage your participation.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 20—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 goesers simply get to know one another. No sign up necessary.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 23—CLOSE OF SUMMER PICNIC AT WABUN PARK

As summer begins to wind down, Holy Trinity families will gather for an afternoon of fun, food, and fellowship at the Wabun Picnic Area (4655 46th Ave. S.) in Minnehaha Falls Park. Join us after worship, beginning around 11:30 a.m., and bring a dish to share for the potluck meal. Sign up in the Community Room.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 27—SISTERS' CAMELOT GROCERY DISTRIBUTION

Sisters' Camelot is a collectively run nonprofit founded in 1997 that is focused on food justice, waste reduction, sustainable living, community building, and youth education. They share free organic groceries and free organic meals with the community. They deliver groceries at Holy Trinity on the fourth Thursday of each month at 2:30 p.m. Distribution takes place outside by our pizza oven.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 28—PARENTS' NIGHT OUT

We are bringing back Parents' Night Out! Enjoy a few hours to yourselves while the kids get an evening of fun! Registration is a free will donation, which will support Confirmation student leaders who attended the Be the Neighbor trip to Arkansas in mid-July. Children must be potty-trained, and caregivers are welcome to drop off and pick up their child(ren) at any point between 5:30 and 8:30 p.m. Snacks will be provided. Register on Realm or sign up in the Community Room.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 30—SUMMER POP-UP CHOIR

Our final Pop-up Choir of the summer! Everyone is welcome, from those who can't commit to weekly rehearsals during the school year but have always wanted to sing to those who have sung in the choirs for years. (Family and friends who are visiting are also welcome!) Rehearse at 9:00 a.m. in the sanctuary for the 10:00 a.m. worship service. No preparation needed! This will be an intergenerational pop-up choir offering music accessible to both young and old.

OCTOBER 15-18 MEA WHITE EARTH RESERVATION TRIP

The Adult Education team is looking into an educational trip to the White Earth Reservation over MEA weekend, October 15-18. We are working with the Rev. Dr. Mark Olson, pastor and community developer working both with the ELCA and the Episcopal Diocese of MN, who would facilitate the trip and help us organize much of our time while there. This would likely be a joint event with St. Paul's Episcopal Church of Duluth. We still have considerable planning to do and will share more details later, but it would be helpful to get a sense of interest. We would likely share transportation up (perhaps rental vans) and would stay at the Shooting Star Casino while we are there. If you are interested, please indicate your interest by filling out this form <https://forms.gle/FC1cX6nFw3mTHaEb7> or signing up in the Community Room ASAP. Email Pastor Doug (dmork@htlcmpls.org) with questions though more information will be coming soon.

ANTIGUA STEELPAN TRIP OCTOBER 6-13

There is still time to participate in this fall's Steelpan trip to Antigua. Andy Martin, Cantor Phil, and Pastor Doug will lead the trip from October 6-13. Prior to that, we would start some basic orientation to the instrument so we could get the most from the trip. Our goal is to start a steelpan band at Holy Trinity. We currently have a group of 6, counting leaders, and could take several more. Musical experience is not required, just an interest in steelpan and a willingness to learn! The total cost of the trip will be approximately \$2,500-\$3,000 per person. We need to buy tickets very soon so please let one of us know TODAY if you are interested.

ADVENT DEVOTIONAL WRITERS NEEDED

We're once again creating an Advent devotional booklet featuring daily reflections written by Holy Trinity members and friends. If you'd like to contribute, we invite you to write a 300- to 400-word reflection on the theme of newness. To participate, please sign up in the Community Room. Reflections may be typed or handwritten and are due to the church office by November 1.

THANK YOU!

Thank you to all who helped with Music in the Garden this summer. Our last one of the season was Sunday. What a wonderful day it was. Enjoy some photos!

Also, please save the date for our Celebration on the Front Lawn, Renewal Sunday, September 13, immediately following the 10:00 a.m. service.



WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS FOR SUNDAY, AUGUST 9, 10:00 AM

Preacher	Doug Mork (he/him)
Presiding Minister	Ingrid Rasmussen (she/her)
Crucifer	Tre Tellor (he/him)
Cantor	Paul Rasmussen (he/him)
Altar Guild	Amy Hanson (she/her), Jean Swanson (she/her)
Assisting Ministers	Nicki Hines (she/her)
Communion Servers	Aaron Hanson (he/him), Linda Berglin (she/her), Lori Lathrop (she/her), Melanie Townsend (she/her)
Ushers	David Broberg (he/him), DeWayne Townsend IV (he/him), Kathy Hollander (she/her), Rod Johnson (he/him)
Coffee Servers	
Counters	Deb Helmelt (she/her)
Video Operator	Bob Hulteen (he/him)
Closer	Rod Johnson (he/him)

NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

We at Holy Trinity believe that community is integral to faith, which is why we invite interested persons to consider membership in this congregation. Over breakfast and coffee, those interested in membership will have the opportunity to learn more about one another and about Holy Trinity's mission and ministry. There are no prerequisites; all are welcome. Please speak with one of the pastors or sign up in the Community Room if you intend to come.

BULLETIN COVER ART

If you would like to submit art to be used for bulletin covers, please sign up in the Community Room. The art can be inspired by readings for the day (sent to you by the office), or it can be something that you choose. Drawings, paintings, photos—all are welcome!

PARISH EVENTS AUGUST 9-15, 2026

Sunday, August 9	10:00 AM 11:20 AM 12:00 PM	Worship Service of Holy Communion Big Meeting Swahili Service
Tuesday, August 11	11:00 AM	Worship Readings Discussion
Wednesday, August 12	5:30 PM 6:00 PM	Bike Ride Wednesday Neighborhood Meetup at Minnehaha Scoop

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](#).

