HOLY TRINITY
LUTHERAN CHURCH

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THE COMMUNITY CHURCH Newsletter

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.

SERMON EXCERPT FROM OCTOBER 4

Pastor Ingrid preaching at St. John's Lutheran in Sacramento, CA

Matthew 21, Psalm 90

...It all feels a little too close to home. The truth is, we have all witnessed a lot of grabs for power lately. I'm here with you this weekend because of my experiences during the federal immigration enforcement surge in Minneapolis earlier this year. Yesterday, I heard from your local leaders about what immigrant communities are experiencing here in Sacramento. And regardless of where we call home, we know something about what it feels like when domination and brutality become through-lines in our shared story.

It is easy to despair. I see it in my own congregation sometimes. People feel overwhelmed by the enormity of what is happening. They become immobilized by the scale of it all. And while I'm only getting to know you, I suspect you see some of that here, too. Perhaps you even feel it in your own heart. It's in mine, too.

And I'm not sure we really need Scripture to remind us on Sunday morning that the world can be violent. We already know that. But perhaps Scripture gives us a place to examine it. To take a close look at what is not right and grieve it, not just in the silence of our own heads when they hit the pillow at night, but together. With our bodies. With our voices.

The ancients called this lament. *[There are 45 psalms left out of the Revised Common Lectionary—the set of readings we use each week. 30 of those are lament psalms, so we don't get a lot of practice with corporate lament.]* Lament refuses to pretend that everything is fine. It gives us language for the distance between the world as it is and the world as God intends it to be. And that matters because lament is not the same thing as despair. Despair says, "This is terrible, and nothing can change." Lament says, "This is terrible, and it is not what God desires." ...

...Despair is like a bridge that was never finished. It takes us out over the chasm and leaves us there. Lament builds an on-ramp back toward abundant life. I used to think social movements stalled because people were afraid. I don't think that anymore. I think movements stall when fear and despair cause people to stop dreaming. The hope has to become as real as the violence. The dream has to become as palpable as the despair.

(*Continued on next page*)

FEAST DAY OF MARY, OUR LADY OF THE PILLAR

READINGS

1 Kings 5:1-3, 7-15c; Psalm 111;
2 Timothy 2:8-15; Luke 17:11-19

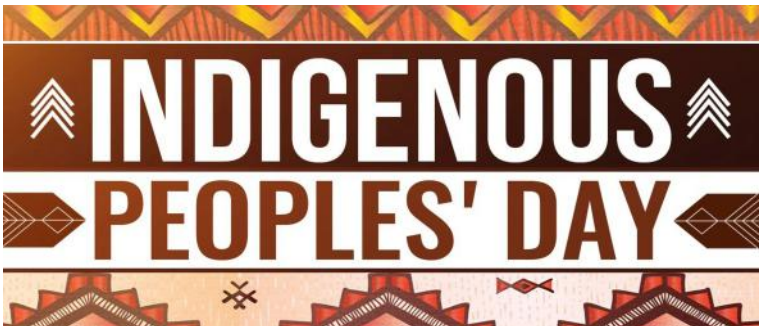
ADULT FORUM

9:00 a.m. each Sunday beginning September 13 (live and on Vimeo / https://vimeo.com/event/6114261)

October 11 **NO ADULT FORUM TODAY**

OCTOBER 18 INTERGENERATIONAL FAITH FORMATION

Please plan on joining us for an intergenerational (Trinity Village-Adults) education hour from 9:00-9:50 a.m. in the Community Room. Forrest Wasko will give a tutorial on how to create zines, which is short for 'magazines' — we will be creating small booklets to tell a faith story important to us. Pastor David will give a lesson on sharing our faith stories to spark inspiration. Godly Play will meet as usual.



~ Concerning People ~

Strengthen all those in this congregation whose labor serves the needs of others in the community, **Carol Kelly**; Jim Langworthy's brother, **David**; Maelene Krig's brother-in-law, **Jeff Ramsdell**; Carol Masters's son, **Paul**; **Ron Duty**; Donna Heyer's grandson, **Jeremy**; **Senem Yumsak**; Ayhan **Yumsak**; **Aysel Yumsak**; **Marlene Peterson**; **Merlin Wells**; **Dorothy Kelly**; Tre Tellor's mom **Jill**; Karen Batdorf's sister **Marie**; **Josie Tober**; **Stella Townsend.**

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

Earlier this year, I received a call from a friend. Someone known to his community had been detained by ICE. He was an asylum-seeker who had gone to a routine check-in and did not come home. I went immediately to be with the family he left behind, a wife and two children. Two weeks later, after a successful habeas petition, I got to bring the dad home. His teenage daughter wrapped herself around him and clung to him like a koala. She would not let go.

The love was so fierce, the relief so enormous, the tenderness so intimate that it almost felt difficult to witness. Like we were seeing something too precious for the rest of us to be allowed to see. But I have come to think that maybe that was a glimpse of the new world. Maybe that is another way of describing the cornerstone. A love that will not let go, regardless of the brutality it encounters. A mercy tender enough to disarm those of us who have become practiced at despair.

It reminds me of the stories from the peaceful revolution in East Germany, when people gathered with candles and prayers and songs. One official later recalled that the authorities had prepared for many possibilities, but not for candles and prayers. Maybe, dear ones, in our time it will be an embrace that helps lead the revolution…

You can watch the service here:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZzMmdnpxhlw

THIS WEEK

BIG MEETING TODAY AFTER WORSHIP

Our monthly Big Meeting occurs today, the second Sunday of October, 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. Committees meeting today include Children and Family / Youth Committees (combined this month); Financial Stewardship; Immigration; Adult Education, Nurturing, and Palestine Israel.

THIS WEEK

INDECENT, SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11, AT 2:00 P.M.

Come enjoy an afternoon of theater with Holy Trinity! Paula Vogel's *Indecent* is a play with music exploring Jewish identity, queer love, censorship, and the courage it takes to tell stories others want silenced. Tickets are pay what you can, up to the full ticket price of approximately $70–$72. The performance takes place at the Ritz Theater, 345 13th Ave NE, Minneapolis. Sign up in the Community Room or contact Sulia Altenberg at saltenberg@htlcmpls.org. Please let Sulia know if you need a ride or can offer one so we can explore carpools. Ticket availability and payment details will be confirmed after sign-up.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 12—INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' DAY

Holy Trinity gathers on the Dakota homeland, in a place that has been home to the Dakota people for generations and remains deeply connected to Dakota life, history, and community today. Indigenous people's day invites us not only to acknowledge whose land we are on, but to keep learning about the people, histories, treaties and ongoing relationships that shape this place. Explore the Indigenous lands where you live, work, worship, and gather through Whose Land (www.whose.land), and learn more about Dakota relationships to this region through the Bdote Memory Ma (bdotememorymap.org). The church office is closed. We'll talk to you tomorrow.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13—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).

OCTOBER 13 VIEWING OF *NAZA*

The Palestine/Israel Committee invites you to join them at a viewing of *NAZA*, a 2026 British documentary that will be at The Main Theater from October 9-15. Our committee will attend the viewing on October 13, 7:15 p.m. Meet us there by 7:00 p.m. *NAZA*, written and directed by Yuval Abraham and Rachel Szor and produced by *The Guardian* and JW Films, investigates the integration of artificial intelligence and automated surveillance in military targeting systems used by Israeli forces during the ongoing Gaza war and genocide.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14—MEA BREAK

Wednesday rehearsals, meal, and open gym time are canceled due to MEA break. We will see you next week!

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15—ENCORE! AT TURTLE BREAD

Encore! (the group for members 50 years of age and older) meets monthly 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. Talk to Pastor David if a scholarship would allow you to participate!

OCTOBER 15-18 MEA WHITE EARTH RESERVATION TRIP

Holy Trinity members are making an educational trip to the White Earth Reservation over MEA weekend, October 15-18 (Thursday to Sunday). Please talk to Pastor Doug today if you haven't already indicated interest or corresponded about this trip.

SAVE THE DATE

HOLY TRINITY DELIVERS MEALS ON WHEELS OCTOBER 19-23

Holy Trinity volunteers will deliver meals for South Minneapolis Meals on Wheels on Monday-Friday, October 19-23. Volunteers pick up meals at 11:15 a.m. at Nokomis Square (50th St. and 35th Ave. S.). Meal delivery takes about one hour. Contact Mary Engen to sign up for part of all of the week.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21—HOLY TRINITY OCTOBERFEST AT ARBEITER BREWERY

Join us for HTLC Octoberfest—a casual evening of connection and good cheer at Arbeiter Brewery! Whether you're new to Holy Trinity or have been around for years, this is a chance to relax, laugh, and build community over a beer or non-alcoholic drink. Led by members Alyson Sorensen and Ryana Holt, the night promises low-key fun with great people. We'll gather on Wednesday, October 21, at 7:00 p.m.—come as you are and bring a friend!

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22—PROPERTY WORK DAY

Our property needs a little extra TLC as the weather changes. Come and help us with raking and bagging, weeding and trimming. We'll work from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. (If we are rained out, we will meet on Thursday, October 29 instead.) Sign up in the Community Room by Sunday, October 18.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23—PARENTS' NIGHT OUT, 5:30-8:30PM

Parents' Night Out is back! No need to worry about childcare this evening, as your kiddo(s) will be entertained and well taken care of. Student leaders, supported by adults, will guide children in hands-on activities, and there will be screen-free opportunities to wind down. Registration is a free will donation, which will support Confirmation and Post-Confirmation trips next summer! Snacks will be provided, and you are welcome to send along a bag dinner. 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. Register on Realm starting in September; contact CYF Ministry Coordinator Taryn for more information.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 29—AN EVENING WITH GLOBAL REFUGE

Holy Trinity welcomes Krish Vignarajah, President and CEO of Global Refuge (formerly Lutheran and Immigrant Refugee Service), for an evening of conversation about welcoming newcomers, refugee resettlement, and the work of building communities of belonging, particularly in partnership with congregations and faith-based communities across the United States. A panel discussion with local voices may also be part of the evening. More information to come. Everyone is invited to the 7:00 p.m. event.

MONDAY, NOV. 2—DIA DE LOS MUERTOS (DAY OF THE DEAD)

Día de los Muertos, celebrated each year on November 1–2, is a tradition of remembering and celebrating the lives of loved ones who have died. Coinciding with All Saints Day, it invites us to gather, share stories, and honor those who came before us. As we celebrate, purchasing food from local Latinx-owned businesses is one small way we can support our neighbors and honor the vibrant cultures that enrich our community.

WE VOTE FOR MANY REASONS

We vote for many reasons—for people we trust, on behalf of our neighbors, with thoughts toward children we care about. Sometimes we vote strategically; sometimes we are committed to principals we can't let go of.

But we trust that voting is important—for us, for our neighbor, for democracy. There is an election upcoming on Tuesday, November 3. Absentee balloting has started; in-person voting begins on Friday, October 16. If you want to vote early, check here for the sites that will open in the county in which you live. If you prefer to vote by absentee ballot, check here soon to receive and return your ballot in time.

The Minnesota Secretary of State's election web page is a trusted source of information, as is the League of Women Voters of Minnesota site.

Voting is not the whole of democracy, but democracy cannot be whole without the vote.

~Rev. Traci D. Blackmon

WORSHIP GATHERING DURING ELECTION WEEK

Monday, November 2—Election Worship with Longfellow Congregations at 7:00 p.m. at St. Peder's Lutheran Church.

Longfellow congregations will gather together for prayer at St. Peder's Lutheran Church, 4600 E. 42nd St. on Monday, November 2, at 7:00 p.m. All are welcome, regardless of religious or political affiliation, as we bring our prayers for the future and wellbeing of the United States and all of creation to God.

MY FAITH STORY, MY LIFE STORY WORKSHOP WITH MARCELLA PROKOP

Saturday, November 7, 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

The small details of your life are interwoven with the sacred. In this one-day workshop, participants will turn personal memory into story, exploring the places where life and faith intersect. Using a "Where I'm From" poem template as a starting point, writers will start to craft poetry, fiction, or creative nonfiction that traces these rich threads of connection. Through literary examples, writing prompts, and conversation, writers of all backgrounds, beliefs, and skill levels are invited to develop drafts of their origin stories during this free workshop. Join Pastor Ingrid and Marcella for this heart-centered event by signing up in the Community Room to participate.

COME CELEBRATE WHAT WE'RE BUILDING TOGETHER THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5

You're invited to the Community Launch of *Rooted in Place, Open to All!* Join us on Thursday, November 5, for a festive evening celebrating Holy Trinity, our building partners, and the community that brings this place to life. Come for refreshments, conversation, stories, and a chance to imagine together what's possible as we invest in a building that can welcome and serve our community for generations to come.

6:30–7:00 p.m. | Gather & Celebrate
7:00–7:30 p.m. | Stories, Vision & Impact
7:30–9:00 p.m. | Explore, Connect & Dream Together
Stay for as much or as little as you'd like!

Mark your calendar, bring a friend, and come celebrate with us! This is a moment to give thanks for all that has taken root here and to imagine together what comes next.

Worship Participants for Sunday, October 11, 10:00 AM

Preacher	David Larson-Martínez (he/him)
Presiding Minister	Ingrid Rasmussen (she/her)
Crucifer	Noah Hines (he/him)
Cantor	Paul Rasmussen (he/him)
Altar Guild	Roberta Shaw (she/her), Vicki Bergman (she/her)
Assisting Ministers	Andrea Hansen (she/her)
Communion Servers	Andrea Martin (she/her), Bea Martin (he/him), Mary Alice Martin (she/her), Katy Benson (she/her)
Ushers	Chris Amundson (he/him), Julie Cahoy (she/her), Tom Cahoy (he/him)
Coffee Servers	Mary Beth Bierwagen (she/her)
Counters	Julie Cahoy (she/her)
Video Operator	Jan Mehlhoff (she/her
Closer	Bob Hulteen (he/him)

NOMINATE A SPECIAL APPEAL FOR 2027

Special appeals are characterized by being open ended (i.e., we give to the organization(s) what we receive), they are normally approved for just one year, and they are supported by a special appeal email which is sent to all the giving households in the congregation.

The Financial Stewardship Committee and Church Council work together to select the organizations. They evaluate proposed organizations based on the organization's relationship to or history with Holy Trinity; the connection between the organization and the goals of Holy Trinity; and the donation's impact. They seek to achieve a balance between local and global giving.

If you have a 501©3 organization that you'd like to nominate, please contact one of the church's standing committees and ask for support of your nomination. By tradition, the World Hunger of the ELCA has been included as one of the causes designated for a special appeal and therefore does not need to be submitted by a standing committee. Nominations will be accepted until November 5, 2026. Nominations, supported by a standing committee, may be emailed to Pastor Ingrid. The congregation will vote on the recommended 2027 special appeals at our annual meeting in January.

Parish Events October 11-17, 2026

Sunday, October 11	8:30 AM	Family Coffee
	9:00 AM	Youth Education
	9:00 AM	Adult Forum
	10:00 AM	Worship Service of Holy Communion
	12:00 PM	Swahili Service
Monday, October 12		Building closed for Indigenous Peoples Day
Tuesday, October 13	11:00 AM	Worship Readings Study
Wednesday, October 14		MEA Break—No Wednesday Evening Activities
Thursday, October 15	8:00 AM	ENCORE! At Turtle Bread

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.