HOLY TRINITY
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Volume 114 Issue 42 • November 1, 2026

THE COMMUNITY CHURCH
Newsletter

HOLY TRINITY GATHERS ON THE SACRED LAND OF THE DAKOTA PEOPLE

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.

Gratitude for Continuing Education

David Larson-Martínez

I am grateful that Holy Trinity is committed to supporting all staff with continuing education funds that support the refreshing of our work to the benefit of all. Thank you, dear congregants! I am also extremely thankful that we are encouraged to find continuing education opportunities that best meet our specific learning styles and needs, not only the more generic possibilities available. It is thanks to this that I was able to enjoy three days of continuing education on the Paul Bunyan Trail in northern Minnesota from October 7 through the 9!

When I traveled with the post-confirmation youth to Spain this past summer, I ended up tearing my left knee's meniscus and straining my left IT band as well. This meant that I did not completely walk the Camino with the youth, but instead only walked halfway each day and took a taxi to meet the pilgrims at the end of their daily pilgrimage. This had left me feeling a bit bummed and wanting to walk some miles. So, it was great to hear from a United Church of Christ (UCC) pastoral colleague that a UCC congregation in Hackensack was going to host a Northern Minnesota Camino for anyone who wanted to walk it. I signed up immediately!

The idea was that each day all the pilgrims would gather for morning prayer and breakfast before being driven to a different location on the Paul Bunyan Trail to walk back to our church-home-base location in Hackensack. After the day's pilgrimage we were to meet at a local brewery for conversation, and then we were expected to participate in communal supper followed by evening prayer. The pilgrims were also expected to stay at the church-home-base in the various rooms, nooks, and crannies of the church building. It was a wonderfully shaped experience!

I began my Northern Minnesota Camino on my ordination anniversary which is October 7. On that day I was lucky enough to hike 8 miles of pilgrimage during which I prayed the luminous mysteries of the rosary. Yes, Martin Luther continued to pray the rosary until he died and encouraged all Christians to do so. The falling, colorful leaves and quiet time with Mary allowed me to ease into a rhythm that helped to release some things I had been holding. As I reflected on it being my ordination anniversary, I realized that after three years I had no great insight. I only knew (and know) that my faith continues to be a place of grounding in a shifting world. And

(Continued on next page)

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

READINGS

Revelation 7:9-17; PSALM 34:1-10, 22;
1 John 3:1-3; Matthew 5:1-12

ADULT FORUM

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

NOVEMBER 1 ADULT FORUM TO HONOR THE SAINTS

Today we remember those sinner-saints who have died before us. Too rarely are we given the opportunity to talk with one another about the loss of beloved friends and family members. This year, we invite you to bring pictures of the saints in your life and display them in Library the during the adult forum hour at 9:00 a.m. During the hour, we'll have an opportunity to share stories about the photos we bring. Following the adult forum, the photos can be brought to the sanctuary for the All Saints worship service.

NOVEMBER 8 STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY

Join us in the sanctuary to celebrate God's work through the ministry of Holy Trinity. As we look toward our ministry together in 2027, we invite you to reflect on the theme "In Every Age." In every generation, God continues to call ordinary people into lives of courage, generosity, justice, and hope. Members of the Financial Stewardship Committee, Council, and pastoral staff will share how our shared financial commitments help sustain that calling—supporting the work of belonging, compassion, and transformation within our congregation and throughout our neighborhood. You will be invited to make a financial commitment in support of Holy Trinity's ministry for 2027. This gathering will take the place of the adult forum today. Breakfast tacos will be served!

~ Concerning People ~

We pray for healing for all those who are injured, sick, or suffering, especially **Wayne Vetter**; **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**; the family, friends, and members of The Link community upon the deaths of **Calvin Wolf**, **Jonathan Simmons**, and **Rainy Cunningham.**

that Mary continues to point me to her Son, Jesus, who reveals to me that God loves me. Full stop.

On the second day, following morning prayer, we walked for 10.5 miles in pilgrimage. I was especially grateful that our prayer leader had us start the day's journey by saying something to the effect of, "Isn't it great that we can just be one big question? It allows us to let go of our rigid answers." And so. Along the yellowing birches, the reddening maples, the orangeing oaks, and the beaver dens readying for winter I could simply let questions linger. I continued to realize that I have no answers, especially to the biggest questions that have been churning inside of me: Why am I here? Why am I choosing this? Why do I seem to make more mistakes than not? And, as I let my questions linger, I felt God saying, "Yes." And that is not an answer at all. But my tired feet realized that I don't care too much about what others say about the Divine regarding my own experience. My achy legs did not care about theological pontifications that others might want to share with me before knowing much about me. And the beer I enjoyed with the other pilgrims after walking the 10.5 miles left me fuzzy and warm, safe in God's "yes."

Finally, on the last day of my pilgrimage, I walked 15.5 miles for a total of 34 miles walked over the three days. As I have shared, I had lots of time to think about life. I was proud of being able to walk that far after physical therapy had helped me care for my torn meniscus and strained IT band. I was grateful for Holy Trinity's commitment to supporting continuing education for staff. But beyond that, I still felt that there was not much I was certain about including predominant Christian ideasofvocation,predominantsocietal/institutionalexpectations of everyone, and how we live in our bodies as spiritual-yet-still-animal beings. I was simply content to have had the opportunity to think, to pray, to walk, and to do it over and over again each day. There was one certainty! Ice cream should be a Sacrament.

THIS WEEK

TAMALES SALE SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 11:00 A.M.

Supporting local food businesses owned by minoritized groups continues to be a goal this fall. Many of these businesses were severely challenged during Metro Surge last winter. They still face obstacles with employees who have been deported, customers who fear leaving their homes to shop, and increased prices of ingredients for their products. This morning, you can help by buying tamales in the Community Room!

COMMUNAL VISIONING FOR MURAL WITH OLIVIA LEVINS-HOLDEN
Sunday, November 1, following worship

Following worship, all are invited to join local artist and muralist Olivia Levins-Holden as we continue to collaborate on the design process for a community mural through the Our Deepest Belonging Storytelling Project. Across the coming months, Holy Trinity and each of our building partners will participate in visioning and storytelling experiences—sometimes within their own communities and sometimes together. Through questions about belonging, place, and interconnection, participants will help uncover the stories, symbols, and shared aspirations that will shape a mural reflecting the many communities who call this space home. Light food and beverages will be provided.

WE BLOOM WHERE WE ARE PLANTED

Help our community garden grow! Artist Leah Zobott's illustration of Holy Trinity celebrates our participation in Rooted in Place, Open to All. Together, we're tending the place where we're planted—making our building more accessible and welcoming for everyone who gathers here.

When your household makes a gift or pledge to the capital campaign, add a flower, bird, bee, or other garden creature to the display. Already given or pledged? Add yours, too! Each household adds one piece, regardless of gift size. Watch what blooms as we build this future together. Find pledge forms and giving information at htlcmpls.org/capital-campaign/.

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 principles 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 began on Friday, October 16. If you want to vote early, check here for the sites that will open in the county in which you I 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

THIS WEEK CONTINUED

PRE-ELECTION WORSHIP GATHERING
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 7:00 P.M.

Longfellow congregations will gather together for prayer at Saint 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.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3—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, NOVEMBER 4—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 (6:00-7:30 p.m.)
- Cantate rehearsal (6:45-7:30 p.m.)

Whether or not you're involved in music-making, the weekly meal and gym time are open to all HTLC members and their freinds 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.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 4—YOUNG ADULT MONTHLY SOCIAL

Young adults are invited to meet at Arbeiter Brewing at 6:00 p.m. on the first Wednesday of each month for fellowship and fun! For further information, please reach out to Dave Herrera.

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. I Gather & Celebrate

7:00-7:30 p.m, I Stories, Vision & Impact

7:30-9:00 p.m. I 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.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5—2027 COMMITTEE GOALS, BUDGET REQUESTS, AND SPECIAL APPEALS NOMINATIONS DUE TO CHURCH OFFICE

Active committees, it's time to submit your 2027 committee goals, budget requests, and special appeals requests! If you need a reminder of what these might look like, contact Kathy Ekwall or Sue Roberts for a copy of last year's annual report. All committee chairs can submit their information through the form provided by the Financial Stewardship Committee. We need to receive them no later than November 5, 2026.

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.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 2—DIA DE MUERTOS (DAY OF THE DEAD)

Día de 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.

SAVE THE DATE

COMMITMENT CARDS FOR 2027—NEXT WEEK IS STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY

We invite members and friends to consider making a financial commitment to the mission and ministry of Holy Trinity for 2027. 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.

This year, our congregation voted to make an extraordinary investment in this place through Rooted in Place, Open to All. We are inviting households to consider an additional capital commitment toward the $1.49 million remaining to complete the project. These are two different gifts, rooted in the same calling. So I invite you to consider: What annual commitment will help sustain and grow Holy Trinity's ministry in the year ahead? And what additional, personally meaningful gift might you make to Rooted in Place, Open to All over the next one, two, or three years? There isn't one right answer. The hope is that each of us will consider how we are called to participate in this community—to receive the care of others, offer what we have, and together make God's love tangible in the world around us.

SAVE THE DATE CONTINUED

DEPOLARIZING WORKSHOP PRESENTED NOVEMBER 10, 6:00-8:00 P.M.

If you anticipate recovering from the election or possibly preparing for holiday gatherings that might involve differences of opinions, this event might be for you. The Racial Justice/Indigenous Justice Committee will sponsor a 90-minute workshop presented by Braver Angels on "Depolarizing Ourselves." Braver Angels is a civic organization that develops educational tools to build bridges between political and societal differences. The presenter is Tammy Levi from Braver Angels. The event will be in the Holy Trinity Library Tuesday, November 10, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. There will be a light meal from 6:00 to 6:30 p.m. Sign up in the Community Room.

Participants will learn:

- Why political polarization has become so intense.
- How each of us has an "inner polarizer"—the tendency to stereotype, dismiss, or assume the worst about people with different political views.
- The difference between criticizing ideas, policies, or leaders and demonizing entire groups of people.
- Practical techniques for speaking about political opponents with greater accuracy, fairness, and respect.
- How to respond when conversations among friends family, or coworkers drift into contempt, ridicule, or sweeping generalizations.

What makes this workshop different?

Many depolarization efforts focus on conversations between people who disagree politically. This workshop starts somewhere else. It asks participants to examine their own habits before trying to change anyone else's. Rather than persuading participants to moderate their political beliefs, it encourages them to become more thoughtful about ho they express those beliefs and how they describe fellow citizens who see things differently.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR WEDNESDAYS IN ADVENT

We are looking for volunteers to help with Advent Evening Soup Suppers (December 2, 9, and 16). For each meal, 4 households would prepare and serve enough soup for 30 people. One household would prepare 4 boxes of Kraft Mac & Cheese and one household would pick up bread from Laune Bread (already ordered and paid for). We also need volunteers to set up and clean up each of these evenings. Sign up in the Community Room.

MAKERS AND BAKERS ADVENT BAZAAR SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6, 8:30 A.M.

The youth are spreading holiday cheer to help usher in the Advent season. Whether you have a homemade craft or jam to share, a batch of sugar cookies, or hand-knit socks, you are invited to plan ahead and donate your goods. Please sign up in the Community Room. All proceeds help to support summer 2027 programming for confirmation and post-confirmation youth. The bazaar will take the place of the adult forum this day.

STEELPAN ENSEMBLE AT HOLY TRINITY

Have you ever played steelpan? Would you like to try it out? Holy Trinity is gathering folks who are interested in playing steelpan together on Mondays from 5:30-6:30 p.m. in the choir room for the next couple months to play in worship during Advent and Sunday, January 17 when we will be joined by Zahra Lake, an Antiguan pan musician, director and arranger. No experience is necessary and you'll be taught everything you need to know as we go! Since space is limited, please reach out to Cantor Phil Radtke to confirm your spot with the group

REFLECTIONS FROM ANTIGUA

Pristine beaches, stunning scenery, flowers everywhere, crowded, crazy roadways, multitudes of roadside trinket and food vendors, goat soup for breakfast (YES!), friendly faces eager to chat. Antigua! And Steel Pan music seemed to envelope the island Every day we attended one and often several rehearsals. The unique, intoxicating sound of pan music filling the "pan yards". There seemed to be pan music groups everywhere! I have loved steel pan music since I first encountered it at a Youth Gathering decades ago. That love was reignited by "pan Sundays" with the Martin family during my time at Holy Trinity. What a joy and privilege it was to travel to Antigua and experience this music where it is "at home". What a privilege to share this experience with my 6 treasured fellow travelers! Our 8 days there were magical and gone in a flash..

What I took away most deeply from this experience was a lesson relearned through coming to know the history of steel pan music. A century ago it didn't exist! It began in the years before WW2. Local musicians on the island of Trinidad, began crafting musical instruments out of discarded industrial steel drums. These were not academy trained elites, but impoverished descendants of the African immigrants who slaved and died in brutal conditions on plantations, and who even after emancipation, suffered under the heavy hand of empire. People considered of little or no consequence, using materials considered refuse to create a or new kind of instrument and musical culture which has filled the Caribbean islands and is captivating the world. Does that astounding history not reflect a core conviction of our faith—that God in Christ embraces the people and things the world regards as least, little or nothing, and invests them with hope, faith and amazing potential!

I think steel pan music will be a great gift to the already rich and varied musical life at Holy Trinity. And in light of the history and spiritual power it possesses, it just may transform us!!

~Dennis O'Brien, member

DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME ENDS NOVEMBER 1, 2026

Set your clocks back one hour when you go to bed so you're not early to church in the morning!

Worship Participants for Sunday, November 1, 10:00 a.m.

Preacher	Ingrid Rasmussen (she/her)
Presiding Minister	Doug Mork (he/him)
Crucifer	Tre Tellor (he/they)
Cantor	Cathy Alpizar (she/her)
Altar Guild	Amy Hanson (she/her), Jean Swanson (she/her)
Assisting Minister	Bob Hulteen (he/him)
Communion Servers	Francis Kelly (she/her), Roberta Shaw (she/her), Aaron Hanson (he/him), Emma Murray (she/her)
Ushers	Margaret Kelly (she/her), Giovanni Kelly (he/him), Kathy Hollander (she/her), Rod Johnson (he/him)
Coffee Servers	Donny (he/him) and Jess (she/her) Daniel Hart
Counters	Deb Helmel (she/her)
Video Operator	Jeff Weiss (he/him)
Closer	Roberta Shaw (she/her)

Parish Events November 1-7, 2026

Sunday, November 1		*Daylight Saving Time Ends*
	8:30 AM	Family Coffee in the Community Room
	9:00 AM	Faith Formation and Adult Education
	10:00 AM	Worship Service of Holy Communion
	11:AM	Tamales Sale in the Community Room
		Communal Visioning for Mural in the Gym
	12:00 PM	Swahili Service
Monday, November 2	6:30-8:30 PM	Adult Choir Rehearsal
Tuesday, November 3	7:00 AM-9:00 PM	Voting - Holy Trinity is an Assigned Election Day Polling Place
	11:00 AM	Worship Reading Discussion
Wednesday, November 4	5:00-6:00 PM	Wednesday Evening Family Meal
	5:45-6:30 PM	Jubilation Youth Handbell Rehearsal
	5:45-6:45 PM	Children's Choir Rehearsal
	6:00 PM	Young Adult Group at Arbeiter
	6:00-7:30 PM	Gloria Ringers Rehearsal
	6:30-8:00 PM	Supervised Pay Time
	6:45-7:30 PM	Cantate Rehearsal
Thursday, November 5	6:30 PM	*Rooted in Place, Open to All* Launch Event
Saturday, November 7	10:00 AM-3:00 PM	*My Faith Story, My Life Story* Workshop

LIVESTREAM LINK FOR WORSHIP SERVICE

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.