



THE COMMUNITY CHURCH

On 28th Avenue between Lake and 31st Streets Minneapolis, MN 55406 • 612-729-8358 • office@htlcmpls.org • www.htlcmpls.org
WORSHIP SERVICES: 8:45 and 11:00 am • CHURCH SCHOOL: 9:55 am • Mark K. Holman and Ingrid C. A. Rasmussen, Pastors

BUILDING A BETTER FORUM

Around 250 feral cats have taken over the Largo di Torre Argentina, a complex of ruined temples in the old Roman forum. For a couple of centuries before Jesus, and a couple of centuries after, emperors built temples there. They celebrated their military victories. They prayed for fertility. They were assassinated on the Ides of March.

You can go explore these excavated sites, right in the middle of the city, surrounded by a glory of cats: some sunbathing, some pouncing, some carefully watching you as you watch them. You can also meet *gattare*, volunteers who know the cats, name them, tend to their needs, enjoy their company. Presumably many of the people who frequented this forum in ancient times looked more like the “cat ladies” of modern Italy than the chiseled caesars we picture, but none of them are mentioned on the Torre Argentina’s Wikipedia page. Just emperors, cats, and *gattare*.

The library on the second floor of Holy Trinity might prove, thousands of years in the future, less worthy of tourism than the ruined temples of Rome. But the Forums we host each Sunday there stand a good shot of being influential on our time, a reflection of our communal values and aspirations. Many Holy Trinity members and friends come. Many don’t. Many feel comfortable contributing. Many don’t, yet. Many are happy enough with the way our conversations go. Many of us aren’t.

The Adult Education Committee has been listening to some concerns raised about how we structure the time and space and voices lifted in Adult Forums, and we’re ready to make some suggestions about what values this community holds (curiosity for differing perspectives, a commitment to resist patriarchy, tolerance for ambiguity), and what concrete practices might best support those values in an educational space. Stop by the Library soon – perhaps this Sunday at 10:00, say – and you’ll see some cool splashy posters that reflect some of those conversations.

We offer this invitation particularly to people who have been frustrated, silenced, bored, wounded by our Forums in the past. And though we are committed to the values described on these posters, we are also interested in expanding them, and in thinking about how we can make our practices more faithful to our visions.

Whether you’re most comfortable sunbathing in the light of someone else’s knowledge in a lecture, pouncing on intriguing questions in a small group conversation, quietly observing the others who have entered the space alongside you, or engaging in some other strenuous feline metaphor for education (you should know I considered and rejected “chasing a laser pointer of faith” and “getting stuck in the paper grocery bag of somebody’s life journey”), reach out to any of the members of the committee if you’d like to get coffee sometime to discuss your experiences of Adult Forum and/or your hopes for what it might be.

—Jeff Olsen Biebighauser; kind of a dog person and member of the Adult Education Committee

DIRECTORY PHOTOS SUNDAY, MARCH 26, 9:45-10:45 A.M.

Bill Capman, one of Holy Trinity’s extraordinary photographers, will be here to take directory photos from 9:45-10:45 a.m. on Sunday, March 26. New members will have their photos taken for the church directory. Any current members interested in having their photos retaken (or taken for the first time) are welcome to come and have their picture taken, as well. You need not justify why you’d like a new photo taken; you simply need to come between 9:45-10:45 a.m.! New photos will then be inserted into the church directory that we print on an ongoing basis and make available in the Community Room.

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

Baptism is sometimes called enlightenment. The gospel for this Sunday is the story of the man born blind healed by Christ. I was blind, but now I see, declares the man. In baptism God opens our eyes to see the truth of who we are: God’s beloved sons and daughters. As David was anointed king of Israel, in baptism God anoints our head with oil, and calls us to bear witness to the light of Christ in our daily lives.



READINGS

1 Samuel 16:1-13
Psalm 23
Ephesians 5:8-14
John 9:1-41

ADULT FORUM

10:00 am

MARCH 26 “New Member Welcome”
In the Community Room

The congregation is invited to come and boldly welcome new members at 10:00 a.m. in the Community Room. We’ll hear from current member, Bryan Hollaway, who will offer a reflection on what it means to be a part of this community of faith. We’ll also be introduced to the 19 people joining this congregation!

APRIL 2 “Adult Forum with Pastor Joann Conroy”

Join us as we welcome ELCA Pastor Joann Conroy, a member of the Oglala Lakota Tribe. Pastor Conroy is the President of the American Indian and Alaskan Native Lutheran Association. She was active in the resistance to the Dakota Access Pipeline and is a leader for racial justice in the metro area.

MEALS ON WHEELS APRIL 3-7

Holy Trinity will deliver meals for South Minneapolis Meals on Wheels the week of April 3-7. Volunteers are needed to cover 5 routes. Pick up meals at 11:15 a.m. each day at the Nokomis Square delivery area at 35th Ave. S. and 50th St. Delivery takes about one hour. Sign up in the Community Room or call Mary Engen. If you have not delivered before, talk with Mary about riding along with someone. Sign up for 1-5 days.

BREAD FOR THE WORLD OFFERING OF LETTERS

The Peace with Justice Committee will provide an opportunity to participate in the Offering of Letters sponsored by the Bread for the World Organization. During the soup supper on March 22 and after the 11:00 service on March 26, materials and information will be available for people to write letters to Congressional Representatives about the need to fund programs that address hunger both in the U.S. and around the world.

DO YOU HAVE A CONCERN AND INTEREST TO WORK FOR PEACEFUL SOLUTIONS RATHER THAN NUCLEAR WEAPONS?

WAMM (Women Against Military Madness) is planning a Minnesota Campaign in support of the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN). They would like Holy Trinity and the Peace with Justice Committee to host a discussion, get signatures on a petition, and send postcards to our Senators. PWJ is a small committee that doesn’t have the capacity to do this without some new helpers. If this interests you, please call or email Meghan (molsen@htlcmpls.org), or sign up in the Community Room.

PARISH INFORMATION

WEDNESDAYS, MARCH 29, AND APRIL 5

Lenten Soup Suppers, Labyrinth, and Evening Prayer Services

All are invited to partake in the Lenten soup suppers on Wednesdays from 6:00-6:45 p.m. in the Community Room. Food is provided; free-will donations are accepted. The community then moves downstairs at 7:00 p.m. for the Service of Evening Prayer in the Bartsch Room. The labyrinth will be available for walking and contemplation from 5:30-7:00 p.m. in the Library each Wednesday.

KINSHIP MEALS APRIL 7 AND 8

Twice a year the Nurturing Relationships Committee organizes kinship meals, which allow members to dine together and learn about each other in the warmth of someone's home. We choose dates around the time that we receive new members, so that we can invite these newest branches of God's living tree to a gathering soon after their arrival. The meals are for anyone interested in a more intimate gathering of people from church. Sign up in the Community Room by April 2.

CONCERNING PEOPLE

Please include **Shelley Grimes** and **David Berg** in prayers for healing.

WEDNESDAYS IN LENT: CONVERSATIONS ABOUT RACE/PRIVILEGE

During the Lenten Season, Holy Trinity will offer a weekly meditation that will be emailed to you. All of the meditations will have a theme of our call and response to racial justice. You will receive a link to a video, a related Biblical verse, a quote related to racism, a few questions for you to consider, and a prayer. You can use these on your own or you can engage with others in conversation. Members of the Racial Justice Working Group will be available for discussion during Lenten soup suppers. Get a bowl of soup and pull up a chair at one of the marked conversation tables in the Community Room.

PARENTS' NIGHT OUT FRIDAY, APRIL 7, 6:00-9:00 P.M.

Adults and youth work together caring for HTLC children while their parents go "out" from 6:00-9:00 p.m. Sign up in the Community Room to help with childcare or to save a spot for your kids in the nursery. Volunteers can easily complete a necessary background check through the church office.

FIRST FRIDAYS WITH FRIENDS

This month, the 20s, 30s, 40s group invites you to join a kinship dinner. More information is available elsewhere in this Community Church Newsletter.

U.S. Postage Paid
Periodical

THE COMMUNITY CHURCH (USPS 777-060)
Mpls MIN 55406. Periodicals postage paid at St. Paul, Minnesota
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Community Church, c/o Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 2730 E. 31 St. Paul, MN 55406.

PARISH EVENTS March 26-April 2, 2017

Sunday	8:45 am	Worship Service with Holy Communion
	9:30 am	Confirmation
	9:55 am	Sunday School
	10:00 am	New Member Welcome/Community Rm.
	11:00 am	Worship Service with Holy Communion
Monday	12:15 pm	Gloria Ringers Rehearse
	2:00 pm	Swahili Service
	9 am-12 pm	AARP Tax Aide in the Library
Tuesday	11:00 am	Worship Readings Discussion
Wednesday	9 am-12 pm	AARP Tax Aide in the Library
	5:30 pm	Labyrinth (in the Library)
	6:00 pm	Soup Supper
	6:00 pm	Youth Choirs
	7:00 pm	Lenten Worship Service in Bartsch Room
	7:45 pm	Adult Choir

ENCORE! TOUR STATE CAPITOL BUILDING APRIL 25, 11:00 A.M.

Join us for a tour of the newly-remodeled state capitol building. www.mnhs.org/capitol. Suggested donation \$5. Meet at the Capitol rotunda at 10:45 a.m., or take the light rail with some of us. We will go to lunch afterwards on University Ave. Sign up in the Community Room. See Deb Sodt or Joyce Peterson for questions.

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS MARCH 26, 2017

8:45 AM	11:00 AM
Nicki Hines	Assisting Minister Stephanie Cole
Bea Martin, Elena Alpizar	Acolytes Alyssa Krig, Linnea Krig
needed	Crucifer Paul Chindvall
Andrew Johnson, Joyce Peterson	Communion Cori Gershon, Kathy Hollander, Allison Johnson
needed	Altar Guild Carol Lane, Rosemary Foley
Bob Peschiutta, Sally/David Kohlstedt	Ushers Helen/Bob Norheim, Sam Kleven, George Madich
Nancy/Dave Moe	Coffee Servers Judi/Lee Kampinen
Pam Blomgren, Donna Heyer	Counters Pam Kildahl, Wayne Vetter
	Closer Cliff Brown

	March 19	Year to date
Financial Report		
Budget Requirement	14,725.00	176,700.00
Budget Receipts	16,340.65	170,108.01
Opening Doors	5,751.50	40,104.25
Refugee Resettlement	-	56.00
World Hunger	25.00	631.00

EASTER LILIES

If you'd like to purchase an Easter lily for the altar area on Easter Sunday, please contact the church office. \$12 each.