



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 Holman and Ingrid Rasmussen, Pastors

REFLECTIONS ON THE MINNEAPOLIS AREA SYNOD CONFERENCE

Real Presence: In our neighborhoods, with our neighbors

Bishop Svennungsen welcomes the group of over 400 clergy and lay Lutherans. She lets us know our job is to bring back to our congregations the insight that we can be the “real presence,” the embodiment of Christ’s love, wherever we go. She says, “In the neighborhood, God is already ahead of us. When we go into our surrounding communities, we find Jesus already present there—in, with, and under the lives of those we encounter. We find real presence, in our neighborhoods and with our neighbors.”

Ruben Duran, director of new congregational development for the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), tells some stories about new startups all over the country. These are mission efforts, but the energy and the shape of each mission comes from the community it serves. Ruben tells us in Renton Washington there’s a bar called Luther’s Table with homeless veteran housing upstairs. The bartenders are pastors. They are branching out to hold worship services in another location. Recently here at our Adult Forum we had Pastor Marissa Sotos tell us about another one of these pastoral startups: Tree of Life in the North Loop of downtown Minneapolis. Tree of Life serves people who are mostly young professionals. Whether in Renton or in Minneapolis, mission starts see people as assets to be welcomed, not problems to be solved. Duran sprinkles his presentation with words of wisdom:

- *Always have more curiosity than judgment.*
- *People everywhere long for community.*
- *People support what they create.*
- *You gotta go where the people are, and wherever you go, you have the “3 amigos” with you!*

A story is recounted by our next presenter, Rev. Dr. David Lose, about a street musician playing outside a Washington, D.C., subway station in 2007. It is famed violinist Joshua Bell and he is playing sublime music from the recital he will later give in a concert hall. It is a study, a social experiment: A hidden camera records 56 people walking by in thirty minutes, and not one looks at him. It sadly makes a case that people have a hard time accepting beauty other than where they expect it. Lose wonders if, similarly, we have trained ourselves not to see God other than where we are used to seeing God. “Religion works easier for us when it does not make claims on us and stays in its place,” Lose says. “Church is not the only place to see God; it’s just the easiest place.” But how we care for “the least of these,” as in the parable of Matthew 17, is always what our life should be about. Our ability to see the sacred in our neighbors is the way we see Jesus and affirm our faith.

A central concept that ties together the entire synod assembly is opportunity: opportunity to be generous and patient with our time and our listening as we share in the lives of our neighbors.

Barbara Lundblad, a famed preacher and teacher, tells us Bible stories about St. Paul’s culturally respectful ministry to the Greeks. She leads us to hear as with new ears. She leaves us to ponder the ecstatic embracing of opportunity in Mary Oliver’s words: “Tell me, What do you plan to do with your one wild and precious life?”

—Chris Engen, Holy Trinity Council Member

PARENTS’ NIGHT OUT JUNE 2, 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 kid(s) in the nursery. Volunteers can easily complete a necessary background check through the church office.

ASCENSION OF OUR LORD

In today’s gospel the risen Christ ascends into heaven and his followers are assured that the Spirit will empower them to be witnesses throughout the earth. The disciples were told to not gaze up into heaven to look for Jesus; we find his presence among us as we proclaim the word and share the Easter feast. We too long for the Spirit to enliven our faith and invigorate our mission.



READINGS

Acts 1:1-11

Psalm 47

Ephesians 1:15-23

Luke 24:44-53

WE WILL HAVE TWO SERVICES AS USUAL ON SUNDAY, MAY 28.
SEE YOU AT 8:45 OR 11:00 A.M.

THE OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED ON MONDAY, MAY 29.

ADULT FORUM

10:00 am – in the Library

MAY 28 “The Reformation Video with Rick Steves”

Five hundred years ago, Martin Luther kicked off the Reformation, which ultimately split western European Christianity in two: Catholic and Protestant. In this one-hour public television special—filmed on location in Germany and Rome—Rick Steves traces the dramatic events of this grassroots movement that changed the course of history. Join us for the showing of this video, as we think about what it means to be a reforming church.

JUNE 4 “Compassion and Choices” Harlan Limpert

The Minnesota Chapter of Compassion and Choices, along with the Rev. Harlan Limpert, a Unitarian Universalist minister, is offering this forum—Expanding End of Life Options in Minnesota—to provide an overview of the proposed legislation as well as the religious and ethical aspects of medical aid in dying.

SIGN UP TO PARTICIPATE IN A FELLOWSHIP TABLE

Through the month of June, members of the Transition Team will be facilitating many Fellowship Tables to engage HTLC members in discussion specific to our calling a new Lead Pastor: *Looking out 2-3 years, what are your hopes and concerns for our church? And, what specific skills, passions and experiences do we value in a new pastor?* Sign up in the Community Room to participate in one of these important conversations.

YEAR-END CHILDREN AND YOUTH SCHEDULE

Sunday, June 4

Families with children who are ready to begin receiving communion, or families and children who want to expand their understanding of communion, plan to attend a presentation by Pastor Ingrid and Pastor Mark at 10 a.m. in the Godly Play Classroom on 2nd floor.

The annual year-end Confirmation Picnic will take place at the Wabun Picnic Shelter at Minnehaha Park after the 11 a.m. worship service. Confirmants, teachers, sponsors, and families are invited to gather and celebrate another successful year of faith-filled learning, growth, and kinship in our faith community.

PARISH INFORMATION

BREWS FOR JUSTICE, LVC FUNDRAISER, JUNE 6, 7-9 P.M.

Join the Lutheran Volunteer Corps (LVC) in the Twin Cities on Tuesday, June 6, from 7-9 p.m. at Sisyphus Brewing for a fun evening connecting with the LVC Twin Cities community. For tickets, visit action.lutheranvolunteercorps.org/campaigns.

THANK YOU FROM THE FAMILY OF SHELLEY GRIMES

Thank you for being just wonderful hosts for Shelley's celebration of life gathering. We appreciate everyone from the committee organizers to the dishwashers, set-up, and clean-up people. Again, thank you so much. Love, Shannon, Fiona, and family.

FIRST SUNDAY MUSINGS JUNE 4, 12:15 P.M.

Head to Himalayan at 12:15 p.m. with several other members for lunch and conversation. No sign up necessary. Meet by the brightly-colored sign in the Community Room.

BIRDWATCHING OPPORTUNITY WEDNESDAY, MAY 31

Birds are returning from their amazing migrations and filling the morning air with song. Spend time with Keith Olstad listening for and seeing the grand diversity of birds that come into and through Minnesota. Meet at the Old Cedar Avenue Bridge parking lot Wednesday, May 31, 7:30 a.m. If you have questions or need directions, call Keith.

MEET YOUR MUSLIM NEIGHBORS

As Muslims prepare for the sacred month of Ramadan, the Minnesota Council of Churches and the Muslim American Society announce a series of *Taking Heart Open Houses*. Mosques and Islamic Community Centers throughout the metro area will be welcoming their non-Muslim neighbors for encounter and learning, capped off by a traditional Ramadan Iftar, or fast-breaking meal. Please visit www.mnchurches.org to register for one or more of the open houses. Bring friends and family!

FIRST FRIDAYS WITH FRIENDS JUNE 2, 6:00 P.M.

Join the 20s, 30s, 40s group for dinner at Sea Salt. If seafood isn't your thing, there's always ice cream! If cash is a problem, talk to Pastor Mark about a scholarship. Sign up in the Community Room by May 28, so we know how many to expect in line at 6:00 p.m.

TRINITY SUNDAY AND GRADUATION BLESSING JUNE 11

During the 11:00 a.m. service, we will bless our high school graduates—Soren Peterson, Kaia Porter, Liza Roberts, Lauren Van Doren, and Danya Werth—during a time of exciting transition in their lives. Please come and uphold the promises we made to these beloveds in baptism.

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 POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Community Church, c/o Holy
 Trinity Lutheran Church, 2730 E. 31 Street, Mpls, MN 55406.

PARISH EVENTS May 28-June 3, 2017

Sunday	8:45 am	Worship Service with Holy Communion
	10:00 am	Adult Forum
	11:00 am	Worship Service with Holy Communion
	2:00 pm	Swahili Service
Monday		Memorial Day/Office Closed
Tuesday	11:00 am	Worship Readings Discussion
Wednesday	7:30 am	Birdwatching at Old Cedar Ave. Bridge
Friday	6:00 pm	First Fridays with Friends at Sea Salt
	6:00-9:00 pm	Parents' Night Out

CONCERNING PEOPLE

Please pray for **Ingrid Rasmussen** and others in the synod group traveling to Leipzig and Wittenberg this week.

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS MAY 28, 2017

8:45 AM		11:00 AM	
Rick Liedholm	Assisting Minister	Roberta Shaw	
Linden Kung, Soren Kung	Acolytes	Molly Davison, Claudia Jensen	
Samantha Waddick	Crucifer	Cliff Brown	
Lisa Martens, Nancy/Dave Moe	Communion	Deb Sodt, John Sulzbach, Keith Olstad	
Tina/Robert Russell	Altar Guild	Libby/Keith Olstad	
Bob Peschiutta, Julie/Tom Cahoy	Ushers	George Madich, Riley Conway, Helen/Bob Norheim	
Liz/David Rudrud	Coffee Servers	Sara/Kirk Jensen	
Bob Peschiutta, Gerry Berglin	Counters	Vicki Mann, Deb Helmel	
	Closer	Deb Sodt	

Financial Report	May 21	Year to date
Budget Requirement	14,725.00	309,225.00
Budget Receipts	10,176.78	324,810.09
Opening Doors	1,707.37	66,223.76