



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 • Hans Lee and Ingrid Rasmussen, Pastors

**THEOLOGICAL FOUNDATION FOR
SANCTUARY FOR REFUGEES (PART 2 OF 2)**

In last week's column, we looked at how a great deal of the Hebrew Bible—what many call the Old Testament—is a commentary on how God lives with, cares for, and sustains people who are immigrants, refugees, and oppressed in foreign lands. In the New Testament, these stories become the basis for interpreting the life of Jesus.

Jesus begins life as a refugee fleeing with his family to Egypt. He returns to Palestine only to live as a Jew under Roman oppression. He wanders throughout Palestine, teaching and healing people, and asking them to care for others. All the while, he and his followers need to depend on the hospitality of others. When he orients his disciples to their mission Jesus issues a curse against anyone who refuses to show hospitality. He teaches people to love God so completely that they always care for anyone in need of assistance of any kind. The greatest commandment, Jesus says, is to love God with your whole being, and to love your neighbor as you love yourself. When asked who is one's neighbor, Jesus tells one of his most provocative stories: the Good Samaritan, a parable about a traveler who takes care of a sorely wounded member of the oppressor class. Then, in John's gospel, Jesus, walking in a foreign land, breaks all social norms by having a long, deep conversation with an ostracized Samaritan woman at a well.

One of the most popular verses of the bible is based on what God did for the Israelites during their exodus. Here John remembers Jesus saying, "...just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. For God so loved the world that (God) gave (God's) only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him." In another verse remembering Moses, Luke in Acts 7 remembers the first martyr, Stephen, using Moses to anticipate the coming of Jesus as the Christ. Not only is Jesus an itinerant migrant, but he is frequently compared to other migrants from the past.

After his death, Jesus' followers move out into the countryside, crossing national boundaries and entering foreign lands in order to spread the good news of what God has done through the death and resurrection of Jesus, the Christ. Philip, wandering on a foreign road, encounters a man who is different in virtually every way possible, but Philip develops a deep conversation with him. Elsewhere Peter has a vision that moves him to reach out to all people with the good news. Then Paul takes repeated journeys throughout the Mideast, depending on the hospitality of others and welcoming everyone into the renegade Christian community that became the church.

Trying to articulate a theology of sanctuary, a rationale for hospitality toward immigrants or refugees is a daunting task to accomplish briefly. I've chosen to do it by presenting the bible as a book written about and for immigrants, refugees, and people needing sanctuary. I've highlighted the treatment of immigrants and refugees as a central theme of the bible. Welcoming and caring for "the stranger" is what it is all about.

I began by mentioning the immigrant Abram. The apostle Paul remembers one of the stories about Abram, and instructs the early church, "Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it." What an invitation: to entertain angels!

—Keith Olstad, Holy Trinity Member

TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

In Isaiah the people are bid to look to their spiritual ancestors as the rock from which they were hewn. Jesus declares that the church will be built on the rock of Peter's bold confession of faith. God's word of reconciliation and mercy are keys to the church's mission. Paul urges us to not be conformed to this world, but to offer our bodies as a living sacrifice, using our individual gifts to build up the body of Christ. From the table we go forth to offer our spiritual worship through word and deed.



READINGS

Isaiah 51:1-6
Psalm 138
Romans 12:1-8
Matthew 16:13-20

ADULT FORUM

10:00 am – In the Library

AUGUST 27 "The Role of Mothers in Muslim Families in Dakar, Senegal, and What It Can Teach us About Our Ideas of Women and Islam"
Emily Goodhue

Come learn about the division of labor in Muslim Senegalese families, how decisions are made for the family, and how family dynamics change when women work outside of the home. The first part of the forum will be a sharing of information from 28 interviews conducted in Dakar, Senegal, in 2012 and 2013. The second part of the forum will be small group and then large group discussion about the role of mothers in U.S. families and how an understanding of the role of Muslim Senegalese women challenges U.S. stereotypes about gender roles in Muslim families.

SEPTEMBER 3 No Adult Forum

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 3—ONE SERVICE ONLY AT 10:00 A.M.

8:45 and 11:00 a.m. worship services will join together for ONE SERVICE at 10:00 a.m. We are pleased to welcome seminarian and child of this congregation, Korla Masters, as preacher!

LUNCH DISCUSSION OF DON AND EMILY SALIERS' WRITINGS, SEPT. 18

Pack a bag lunch and join Randy Nelson, Pastor Hans, and other symposium-goers on Monday, September 18, at noon, for an introduction to the writings of Don and Emily Saliers. Copies of the material to be discussed are available in the Community Room. Sign up by September 17.

END-OF-SUMMER PICNIC, SUNDAY, AUGUST 27, 4:00 P.M.

Join fellow members at an end-of-summer picnic on Sunday, August 27, at Wabun Park Pavilion F. Games at 4:00 p.m., we'll eat at 5:00 p.m. Bring a dish to pass, as well as your own utensils and beverage.

RALLY DAY AND MUSIC IN THE GARDEN SEPTEMBER 10

Four Hour Parking is a musical group comprised of five musicians from diverse disciplines eschewing genre and making good noise together. Join us for music and wood-fired pizza, salad, and fruit in the garden at noon. It promises to be fabulous! \$5 suggested donation for lunch, but don't let the money keep you away from the fun. All are welcome!

CONFIRMATION ORIENTATION SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 9:30 A.M.

Confirmation students in grades 6-10 and their families gather in the Sky Room at 9:30 a.m. for an engaging and fun-filled preview of the year of study, service, and fellowship. Pastor Hans Lee will be present to introduce himself and answer the question: "Why Does Confirmation Still Matter?" Parents will be invited to volunteer to assist with activities this year and students will be updating their profiles by interviewing each other.

PARISH INFORMATION

ADULT FALL RETREAT AT ST. JOHN'S ABBEY GUESTHOUSE NOVEMBER 3-4

Sign up for an overnight retreat for adults of all ages. We have individual rooms for 25. Cost is \$125; scholarships are available. Talk with Liz Blood or Joyce Peterson for more information. Sign up in the Community Room and submit payment to church office by October 2. When you pay, you'll receive a copy of the book we are using, entitled *More Than Enough: Living Abundantly in a Culture of Excess* by Lee Hull Moses.

RACIAL JUSTICE FILM SERIES TO SHOW "SELMA" ON SUNDAY, SEPT. 24

The first of a three-part series, "Selma" will be shown following the 11:00 service and the congregational meeting. We will enjoy a light lunch together in the Bartsch Room. The film will be shown and a guided discussion will follow. The idea for this film series grew from our Racial Justice Conference last October. Join us for this inaugural event!

SUNDAY SCHOOL BEGINS SEPTEMBER 10, 9:55 A.M.

Children in grades K-5 return to Godly Play and Trinity Village classes at 9:55 a.m. in the second-floor education suite. Trinity Village parents are invited to attend the first portion of this hour with their children, then depart to gather together for coffee and pastries with Ann Schrooten in the Mary Martha Room for informal conversation and a short presentation about a new family devotional idea called FAITH5!

REHEARSALS BEGIN SEPTEMBER 6 FOR HOLY TRINITY CHOIRS

Choirs meet Wednesdays: Children's Choir rehearses from 6-6:45 p.m.; Cantate! Youth Choir rehearses from 6:45-7:30 p.m.; and the Adult Choir rehearses from 7:30-9:00 p.m. Gloria Ringers, Holy Trinity's handbell ensemble, rehearses Sundays from 12-1 p.m. For more information on choral and/or instrumental opportunities, talk to Ann Schrooten (children, youth, and handbell) or David Sims (adult).

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 12:00 P.M.

The congregation will meet at 12:00 p.m. in the sanctuary for a formal congregational meeting. The Council will recommend the names of six Call Committee members; the congregation will then vote on the Call Committee. Bishop Svennungsen will be with us to discuss our Ministry Site Profile.

JOHNSON SYMPOSIUM NOVEMBER 10-11

Dr. Don E. Saliers and Emily Saliers will be here for the 2017 Johnson Symposium November 10-11, 2017. Tickets are \$50. Scholarships are readily available; simply talk to Pastor Hans.

LAY COMMUNION LUNCHEON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 12:30 P.M.

A luncheon for Lay Communion Ministers will be held Sunday, September 17, following the 11:00 service. Sign up in the Community Room.

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 Street, Mpls, MN 55406.

PARISH EVENTS August 27-September 2, 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
Tuesday	4:00 pm	Congregational Picnic at Wabun Park
	11:00 am	Worship Readings Discussion

ENDING HOMELESSNESS TOGETHER, WED., OCT. 25, 12-1 P.M.

Beacon Interfaith Housing Cooperative will host a lunch and fundraiser on Wednesday, October 25, from 12:00-1:00 p.m. at the Minneapolis Convention Center. Free parking passes will be given to each guest. You will be served lunch while learning more about Beacon's programs. Sign up in the Community Room by Sept. 3; contact Mike or Marilyn Miller for more information.

ADVENT DEVOTIONAL BOOKLET

We will again be creating an Advent devotion booklet featuring daily reflections written by Holy Trinity members and friends. If you are interested in writing a 300- to 400-word reflection, please look for the sign-up sheet in the Community Room. Reflections are due by October 22. They can be typed and emailed (office@htlcmpls.org) or handwritten and delivered.

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS AUGUST 27, 2017

8:45 AM	11:00 AM
Andrea Hansen	Assisting Minister Susan Wootten
Grayson Wieczorek, Tevy Nou	Acolytes Louis Kelley, Will Kelley
Jeff Weiss	Crucifer Troy Davison
Brian Lenz, Pam Blomgren	Communion Gary Johnson, Rod Johnson
Bev Peschiutta, Nancy Madich	Altar Guild Libby/Keith Olstad
Bob Peschiutta, Sally/David Kohlstedt	Ushers DeWayne Townsend, Ethan Townsend, Donna Scott, Emily Davison
Kleven Family	Coffee Servers Susan/Mike Wootten
Bob Peschiutta, Annie Hines	Counters Wayne Vetter, Gary Johnson
	Closer Bob Hulteen

Financial Report	August 20	Year to date
Budget Requirement	14,725.00	500,650.00
Budget Receipts	13,091.15	489,002.87
Opening Doors	1,017.37	114,138.59
World Hunger		2,597.00