

# 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 • Ingrid Rasmussen and Hans Lee, Pastors

# LISTENING TO CHILDREN WE SEE

"Children should be seen and not heard." This was a belief commonly held in my parents' generation. My mom and dad remember stifling comments and questions while growing up so as to respect their elders. They still have questions that were never answered.

However, as I sat in the pews at the 11:00 a.m. service on Sunday, December 17, I felt transformed by listening to the beloved children of our Holy Trinity congregation. My own daughter was speaking and singing that day, so I freely admit some bias toward positive feelings. At the same time, I believe that the experience would have been powerful no matter what

Please let me clarify that I did not catch all of what was said into the microphone by the children presenting that day. I also heard the voices of babies and toddlers expressing themselves during the service, those young enough to not yet feel pressure to suppress their voices, which sometimes drowned out the words of the presentation. Yet those voices moved me as well. How wonderful it was to experience the presence of families and people of all ages around me as children shared their gifts. They told us a beautiful story about connection and bridging differences, and reminded us that we are all children of God. I felt that message loud and clear even if I did not hear every word.

And so I am inspired to ask you all, how do you experience the children of our congregation? How do you see them? How do you listen when they speak or sing? The spontaneous, honest, and free sounds of our children can teach us so much, and most importantly can inspire pure and deep feeling. I believe that the Holy Spirit moves powerfully through the voices and actions of children. Maybe we can all be transformed by opening our hearts to the young voice asking for peace where there is violence, health where there is sickness, understanding where there is prejudice. We can learn so much from a child's ability to live in the present moment with authenticity.

Therefore, I would like to say that children's participation in our worship life is important and deeply valued. To those of you who are children, or have children, or are well connected to your inner child, please help Holy Trinity support children's participation during worship! In addition to children attending or singing during worship services, you may have noticed children serving as acolytes who accept offering and offer us glasses for Holy Communion. This would be an easy place to start for any child interested in participating.

As the chair of the Children and Family Team here at Holy Trinity, I invite all children to consider participating in worship. Please talk to me, or to Ann Schrooten or Pastor Ingrid, about how your child can be involved.

With deep gratitude for every member of this congregation (young, old, and in-between), Cathy Alpizar

# **BAPTISM OF OUR LORD**

Our re-creation in baptism is an image of the Genesis creation, where the Spirit/wind moved over the waters. Both Mark's gospel and the story in Acts make clear that it is the Spirit's movement that distinguishes Jesus' baptism from John's. The Spirit has come upon us as upon Jesus and the Ephesians, calling us God's beloved children and setting us on Jesus' mission to re-create the world in the image of God's vision of justice and peace.



READINGS Genesis 1:1-5 Psalm 29 Acts 19:1-7 Mark 1:4-11

#### **ADULT FORUM**

10:00 am — in the Library

JANUARY 7 "Lutheran Churches and a Discussion of Race" Randy Nelson

Randy Nelson will offer a brief sketch on how Lutheran churches have approached issues of race in the 19th and 20th centuries.

# JANUARY 14 "My Life Story, My Faith Story" Connie Adams

As part of our ongoing commitment to sharing our narratives of faith, today we hear from Connie Adams. Come and hear Connie tell her life story, her faith story.

#### CHERISH ALL CHILDREN SATURDAY, JANUARY 13, 10 A.M.

Learn how the faith community can support service providers working to curb sex trafficking around the Super Bowl and beyond. Sgt. Grant Snyder will tell us how the law enforcement community works with service providers to end sex trafficking and specific Super Bowl efforts. The Link, Breaking Free, and Streetworks will share how the faith community can support them in their efforts. Register at Eventbrite (search for "A Call to Action") for this free event, and make a difference in our community. Questions? Email info@cherishchildren.org.

#### RACIAL JUSTICE FILM SERIES

Include a movie in your observances of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. weekend. Sunday, January 14 is the second event in our Racial Justice Film Series. Gather with us in the Bartsch Room right after the 11:00 worship service. A light lunch will be provided. After viewing the film we will hold a discussion circle. Hope to see you there!

# PARISH INFORMATION

## WORSHIP LEADERS TRAINING SUNDAY, FEB. 25, 12-1:30 P.M.

If you would like to serve as a leader in worship, this training is for you. From noon-1:30 p.m. we'll offer training for ushers, crucifers, assisting ministers, communion servers, altar guild, and coffee servers. Veterans and novices are welcome! Sign up in the Community Room by February 18, so we know to look for you.

# GAME NIGHT WITH NURTURING & YOUTH COMMITTEES **Saturday, January 20, 6:00-9:00 p.m.**

Snacks and games galore! Holy Trinity members and friends of all ages are invited to an evening of snacks, laughter, and some fun competition playing favorite games and new games. Come and play between 6:00-9:00 p.m. Sign up in the Community Room by January 13.

## **FAMILY EPIPHANY PARTY**

Trinity Villagers and their parents are invited to the Bartsch Room on Sunday, January 7, from 9:55 to 10:50 a.m. for an Epiphany party. Come and eat a little Three Kings Cake, sing a chorus or two of "We Three Kings," find out a little more about frankincense and myrhh, and wrap up a gift of "time or talent" to bring to the Christ Child in 2018.

#### MEALS ON WHEELS JANUARY 8-12

Holy Trinity delivers meals for Meals on Wheels the week of January 8-12. Meals are picked up at Nokomis Square, 50 St. & 35 Ave. S., at 11:15 a.m. Delivery takes about 1 hour. Volunteers are needed to deliver for 1-5 days. Sign up in the Community Room or call Mary Engen. We are delivering five routes, so more help is needed.

#### ANNUAL MEETING SUNDAY, JANUARY 28, 12:00 P.M.

Following the 11:00 a.m. service, all are invited to the gym for a free meal and the annual congregational meeting, as we celebrate the 114th year of God's ministry through Holy Trinity Lutheran Church. We will review committee goals, elect new council members, and approve the 2018 budget. The annual meeting is also an opportunity for us to check on our progress made toward congregational goals.

#### FIRST SUNDAY MUSINGS JANUARY 7

Head to a local restaurant 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.

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	PARISH EVENTS January 7-13, 2018		
Sunday	8:45 am	Worship Service with Holy Communion	
	9:30 am	Confirmation	
	9:55 am	Godly Play	
	9:55 am	Family Epiphany Party for Trinity Village	
		Adult Forum	
	11:00 am	Worship Service with Holy Communion	
	12:00 pm	Worship and Fine Arts Committee	
	12:15 pm	First Sunday Musings	
	2:00 pm	Swahili Service	
Monday	7:00 pm	Financial Stewardship	
Tuesday	11:00 am	Worship Readings Discussion	
Wednesday	5:30 pm	Choir Family Supper	
_	6:00 pm	Children's Choir	
	6:45 pm	Cantate!	
	7:30 pm	Adult Choir	

#### CHANGES TO THE REGULAR SCHEDULE

- —No Youth Choirs on January 3
- —No First Fridays with Friends in January
- —No Parents' Night Out in January

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS JANUARY 7, 2018				
8:45 AM		11:00 AM		
Liz Rudrud	<b>Assisting Minister</b>	Stella Townsend		
Bea Martin, Emma Murray	Acolytes	Louis Kelley, Will Kelley		
Lisa Martens	Crucifer	Bob Hulteen		
Linda Berglin, Rick Liedholm	Communion	Sharon Englund, Sean Gosiewski		
Bev Peschiutta, Erin Arifin	Altar Guild	Libby and Keith Olstad		
Bev and Bob Peschiutta, Samantha Waddick	Ushers	Emily & Troy Davison, Kathy Hollander, Rod Johnson		
Nancy Madich, George Madich	Coffee Servers	Kris Christians family		
Julie Cahoy, Chuck Jordan	Counters	Wayne Vetter, Gary Johnson		
	Closer	Deb Sodt		

# INTERFAITH SERVICE STANDING WITH IMMIGRANTS, REFUGEES

"Seeing All as God's Children," a one-hour interfaith service embracing immigrants and refugees, will be held on Sunday, January 7, at 1:00 p.m. at the Basilica of Saint Mary, 88 17th St. N., Mpls. Through testimony, prayer, and music, the congregation will recognize a common bond as beloved children of God and heed the call to welcome, protect, promote, and integrate immigrant and refugee brothers and sisters. Register at tinyurl.com/seeingall.