



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 Angela Khabebe, Pastors

GENEROSITY

We are approaching the end of our fiscal year. We are grateful for your generosity in 2018. It has empowered this community of faith to proclaim God's love, mercy, peace, and justice.

We've received several questions this week about 2018-2019 giving. In an effort to give you the information you need to give generously at the end of 2018 and to plan for 2019, we've detailed answers to the most frequently asked questions.

Have I completed my pledge for 2018?

We eagerly await the arrival of approximately \$33,000 in outstanding pledges. Vicki Mann, Church Administrator, recently mailed giving statements to all active households. That statement details how much your household has given so far in 2018. It also outlines how much, if any, remains to be completed on your 2018 pledge. If you are unable to locate the giving statement in the stack of Christmas greeting cards, please call Vicki Mann, and she'll give you your household information over the phone. The church office number is (612)729-8358.

How can I complete the giving pledge I made for 2018 or make an additional year-end gift?

Each year, we rely on additional year end gifts to fulfill our budget. Our Financial Stewardship Committee would be delighted to see \$13,000 in additional gifts between now and December 31. If you would like to pay the remaining amount of your 2018 pledge or make an additional year-end gift, you can do it one of three ways:

- Write a check and mail it. The letter needs to be postmarked by Monday, December 31.
- Write a check and drop it off at Holy Trinity. The church office is open from 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday and from 8:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. on Fridays. The office is closed on Christmas Day. All checks received in worship on Sunday, December 30, will also be counted as a 2018 donation.
- Pay the remainder of your pledge or make an additional gift online. *From a bank account:* If you simply wish to make a one-time year-end donation, you do not need to create a profile. Go to htlcmpls.org, click on the *Give Online* button, enter the amount you wish to contribute to the general fund, and click continue to be directed to a page where you can enter your bank information. Gifts received online between now and midnight on December 31 will be counted as 2018 donations. *From a credit card or debit card:* Go to htlcmpls.org/donate. All major credit cards and debit cards are accepted.

I cannot complete my 2018 pledge because my life circumstances have changed. Now what?

We understand that life changes, sometimes without much forewarning. If you find that you're unable to fulfill your pledge for 2018, don't worry. Simply let us know that your plans have changed. Our first priority is supporting you and caring for you in whatever life circumstances you find yourself!

I would like to pledge for 2019. How can I do that?

We have received 131 financial commitments for 2019! If you have not yet pledged for 2019, please call us and inform us of your plans. We would love to receive your commitments by January 4.

This year and every year, we're grateful for your financial contributions to the mission and ministry of Holy Trinity. Thank you!

—Ingrid Rasmussen, Pastor

FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS



READINGS

- 1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26
- Psalms 148
- Colossians 3:12-17
- Luke 2:41-52

ADULT FORUM

10:00 am – in the Library

DECEMBER 30 "Reflections on the Past Year; Hopes for the New Year"

Holy Trinity has had an exciting transitional year in 2018 and enters 2019 with anticipation and hope. What has 2018 been like for you personally, and what are your hopes for 2019? Join us in small groups as we reflect on 2018 and look forward to 2019.

JANUARY 6 "Let's Innovate Together!"

What about Holy Trinity fills your cup? What leaves you wanting more? How can we create safe spaces for vulnerability and walking together through life's highs and lows? How can we connect more deeply with each other and our neighbors? We'll discuss our collaboration with Augsburg's Riverside Innovation Hub to connect with younger adults, foster relationships, and create inspiring community both inside and outside our church walls.

CHANGES TO OUR REGULAR SCHEDULE

- No worship readings discussion on January 1
- No First Fridays with Friends in January
- No Parents' Night Out in January

LET'S INNOVATE TOGETHER! JANUARY LUNCH AND DINNER EVENTS—BUILDING INSPIRING COMMUNITY

Let's continue the conversation from the January 6 adult forum (see above) on our collaboration with Augsburg's Riverside Innovation Hub to connect with younger adults, foster relationships, and create inspiring community both inside and outside our church walls. Whether you come to the adult forum or not, if any of these questions sound interesting to you, please join us for one or both of the following events, where we'll celebrate the installation of our Innovation Team Coach, Asefa Wakjira, share ideas, and develop next steps.

- Sunday, January 6, 12:30 p.m.: Lunch at Mesob Ethiopian Restaurant on Hiawatha Ave. RSVP is appreciated but not required – sign up in the Community Room or on Facebook.
- Friday, January 25, 6:30 p.m.: Dinner at Katar River Restaurant on Minnehaha Ave. Please RSVP in the Community Room or on Facebook by Wednesday, January 23.

PARISH INFORMATION

SAVE THE DATE FOR WINTER FAMILY RETREAT, FEB. 15-17, 2019

Join other families for a weekend of rest and renewal and family-friendly fun with church members of all ages at the ARC Retreat Center near Osceola, Wisconsin, from Friday, February 15-Sunday, February 17. Watch for more information coming in January.

GAME NIGHT WITH NURTURING AND YOUTH COMMITTEES

Saturday, January 12, 7:00-9:00 p.m.

Snacks and games galore! Holy Trinity members and friends of all ages are invited to an evening of laughter and some fun competition playing favorite games and new games. Come and play between 7:00-9:00 p.m. Bring your favorite game snack to share. Sign up in the Community Room by January 6.

ANNUAL MEETING SUNDAY, JANUARY 27, 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 115th year of God's ministry through Holy Trinity Lutheran Church. We will review committee goals, elect new council members, and approve the 2019 budget. The annual meeting is also an opportunity for us to check on our progress made toward congregational goals.

TRINITY VILLAGE EPIPHANY PARTY SUNDAY, JANUARY 6

Trinity Villagers and their parents will make the journey with the Magi and place their gifts at the foot of the manger. Bring a "treasured" book to donate to the Longfellow School children's library. Star-gazing trivia, King's Cake, and Epiphany songs and games for all. Meet in the Bartsch Room at 9:55 a.m. Godly Play resumes in their regular classroom on 2nd floor with a special Epiphany party of their own!

FARE FOR ALL AND SHOE BUS WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 16

Fare For All is community supported and open to everyone! Bring a friend and join us at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 2730 East 31st. St., Minneapolis, January 16, 2019, from 3:30-5:30 p.m. This month, the Shoe Bus will be at Holy Trinity at the same time as the Fare For All truck. The Shoe Bus has new and gently used shoes for sale. Suggested donation of \$2.00 for sizes 0-6½, \$5.00 for sizes 7 and up. Every shoe purchase helps to provide food for the feeding programs of Good in the Hood. Fare For All accepts cash, credit, debit and EBT cards.

OFFERING ENVELOPES FOR 2019 AVAILABLE AT HTLC

2019 offering envelopes are on a table in the hallway on second floor.

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PARISH EVENTS December 30-January 5, 2018

Sunday	8:45 am	Worship Service with Holy Communion
	10:00 am	Adult Forum
	11:00 am	Worship Service with Holy Communion
Tuesday	2:00 pm	Swahili Service
		New Year's Day/Office Closed
Thursday	6:30 pm	Nurturing Relationships Committee
Saturday	10:00 am	Gloria Ringers Rehearsal

REFUGEE FAMILY UPDATE

We are very sorry to report that the refugee family that we are hoping to help resettle in the Twin Cities has, once again, had their travel delayed due to health problems of one of the family members. The national offices of the Council of Churches' refugee program are closed over the Christmas and New Year's holidays, so we do not expect to learn any more information until at least January. We will update the congregation when we learn more about the situation. Many thanks to all who have donated household items for this family and have otherwise shown your support for this important work. During this Advent season, we remain hopeful that this family eventually will be able to come here!

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS DECEMBER 30, 2018

8:45 AM		11:00 AM	
Andrea Hansen		Assisting Minister Deb Anderson	
Rosie Russell, Treva Russell	Acolytes	Grayson Wiczorek, Tevy Nou	
		Crucifer	Meghan Olsen Biebighauser
Tina Russell, Ben Martinez	Communion	Cori Gershon, Sharon Englund	
Tina and Robert Russell		Altar Guild	
Bob Peschiutta, Sally and David Kohlstedt	Ushers	Joshua Combs, Lee Kampinen, Helen and Bob Norheim	
Nancy Madich, David Broberg	Coffee Servers	Pat and Alan Libra	
Joyce Peterson, Chris Engen	Counters	Deb Helmel, Pam Kildahl	
		Closer	Bob Hulteen

World Hunger in memory of loved ones by Paul Krumrei

Special Gift in memory of Jack Hanson by Clairann Hanson