



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

OUR WELCOMING JOURNEY

One of our congregational goals adopted earlier this year is that Holy Trinity will: **Grow in competency and commitment to issues of gender and sexuality in our congregation.** We could fulfill this goal by: *Renewing our commitment as a Reconciling in Christ congregation. Offering opportunities to learn about living healthy lives as sexual beings, whatever our orientation or identity, using the Our Whole Lives curriculum across age groups. Offering opportunities to learn about how life is experienced by people of various sexual orientations and gender identities.*

Over the last several weeks of adult forums we've been learning from representatives of partner organizations and from our own members about a variety of topics related to gender and sexuality. The conversations have been lively and wide-ranging, and I hope you'll consider joining us as we revisit this series in the spring.

In the new year, we'll gather a group that will lead us through renewing our commitment as a Reconciling in Christ congregation. That group will discern the path together, but one task will be to update or re-write our welcome statement.

One tangible outcome of these conversations is that we now offer pronoun stickers that we invite you to add to your Holy Trinity nametag, to indicate the personal pronouns that you use. From *Reconciling Works*: "Personal pronouns are the set of pronouns a person wants others to use when talking to or about them. Ask a person what pronouns they prefer. Remember: if someone is feminine presenting, it does not automatically mean they use she/her/hers pronouns. You cannot assume someone's pronouns based on the person's gender expression." If you choose to add a pronoun sticker to your nametag, you can find them on a small table near the nametag display wall.

I'm grateful for this community and look forward to working together as we reach new milestones in our Welcoming Journey. If you're interested in leadership in this area or just want to talk more, let me know.

—Meghan Olsen Biebighauser (she/her)

REFUGEE FAMILY ARRIVES SOON!

The Karen (Burmese) family of nine that we were hoping to help resettle last summer but whose travel was cancelled at the last minute has now gotten the okay to come to Minnesota! This is unexpected and wonderful news. They will arrive on December 19. We will be working in the next two weeks to collect the rest of the household items they will need, prepare an apartment, stock their kitchen with groceries, and greet them at the airport. If you have any twin mattresses or box springs that you could donate, please contact Deb Sodt or Martha Mueller. Mattresses can be used but must be clean and in good condition.

December is a busy time for many of us, but we can remind ourselves that there could hardly be a more appropriate time than Christmas for people of faith to help a refugee family reunite after years apart.

THANK YOU TO MAKERS AND BAKERS

Thank you to everyone who donated their time to create and bake, and everyone who shopped and donated at the Makers and Bakers youth fundraiser. We exceeded our goal and are overwhelmed by the generosity of this beautiful community. It is with sincere gratitude that these amazing youth will look forward to their summer travels.

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT



READINGS

Malachi 3:1-4

Luke 1:68-79

Philippians 1:3-11

Luke 3:1-6

ADULT FORUM

10:00 am – in the Library

DECEMBER 9 "Welcome Card"
—Worship and Fine Arts Committee

You may have noticed that we have new worship welcome cards in each pew. Come and hear members of the Worship and Fine Arts Committee talk about what the cards say to visitors about worship at Holy Trinity.

DECEMBER 16 "Advent Hymn Sing" in the Bartsch Room
—David Sims, Cantor

So many hymns, so little time! We'll use the forum hour to get a few more Advent hymns in before the season is over. David will collect hymns for Advent around a particular theme—some familiar, some obscure, some brand new—for us to sing and think about together.

SCHEDULE FOR ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS

Sunday, December 9, Second Sunday of Advent

Worship led by Adult Choirs at 8:45 & 11:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary

Wednesday, December 12

Advent Supper from 5:30-6:45 p.m. in the Community Room**

Watching with Wonder for young children, 5:30-6:30 p.m., Bartsch Rm.

Book Discussion *I'm Still Here*, 2nd floor, next to the Library

Advent Evening Prayer at 7:00 p.m. in the Bartsch Room

Sunday, December 16, Third Sunday of Advent

Worship with Holy Communion at 8:45 a.m. in the Sanctuary

Hymn Sing at 10:00 a.m. during Adult Forum in the Bartsch Rm.

Worship led by Holy Trinity Children & Youth at 11:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary

Wednesday, December 19

Advent Supper from 5:30-6:45 p.m. in the Community Room**

Watching with Wonder for young children, 5:30-6:30 p.m., Bartsch Rm.

Book Discussion *I'm Still Here*, 2nd floor, next to the Library

Advent Evening Prayer at 7:00 p.m. in the Bartsch Room

Sunday, December 23, Fourth Sunday of Advent

Worship with Holy Communion at 8:45 & 11:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary

Monday, December 24, Christmas Eve

Worship with Holy Communion at 4:00 & 10:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary

Tuesday, December 25, Christmas Day

There are no services on Christmas Day

**Please sign up in the Community Room so we know how much food to order.

PARISH INFORMATION

YEAR-END GIVING OPPORTUNITIES

Every year Holy Trinity anticipates and relies on a year-end increase in offerings that helps support the work of the church. This holiday season, please consider making an additional contribution to Holy Trinity or to our special appeals, Minneapolis Area Synod Racial Justice Organizer and ELCA World Hunger. To donate online, visit the church website at htlcmpls.org and locate the link to the giving page. **Please remember: contributions must be received or postmarked by December 31, 2018, to be counted as a 2018 donation. Thank you!**

SECOND SUNDAY SUPPERS DECEMBER 9, 6:00 P.M.

Join other women of Holy Trinity at Houlihan's Restaurant, 6601 Lyndale Ave. S., Richfield, at 6:00 p.m. for an evening of conversation, support, and laughter. No sign up necessary.

PARENTS' (AND KIDS') NIGHT OUT FRIDAY, DEC. 7, 6-8 P.M.

Adults and youth work together caring for HTLC children while their parents go "out" from 6:00-8:00 p.m. Sign up in the Community Room to help with childcare or to save a spot for your kids in the nursery. Adult volunteers must complete a background check through Holy Trinity.

SCHEDULE OF WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

The worship participant schedule for January-February will be created and sent on December 17. If you have requests for the upcoming schedule, please update your Ministry Scheduler Pro profile prior to December 17. Thank you.

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

If you would like to sponsor a poinsettia for the altar area at Christmas please call the church office at 612-729-8358. Cost is on a sliding scale from \$3-\$25. Donate according to your ability. The Christmas Eve bulletins will list the names of sponsors and the loved ones they are remembering or honoring.

AFRICAN PASTORS FUND

Holy Trinity recently transferred \$1,600 from the African Retired Pastors Fund to the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania, where it will be distributed to retired pastors and widows of pastors. The money represents earnings on an endowment account set up to supplement the modest pension payments from the ELCT. The recipients are very grateful!

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PARISH EVENTS December 9-15, 2018

Sunday	8:45 am	Worship Service with Holy Communion
	9:30 am	Confirmation
	9:55 am	Sunday School
	10:00 am	Adult Forum
	11:00 am	Worship Service with Holy Communion
	12:00 pm	Gloria Ringers Rehearse
Monday	2:00 pm	Swahili Service
	6:00 pm	Second Sunday Suppers at Houlihan's
Tuesday	7:00 pm	Financial Stewardship
	11:00 am	Worship Readings Discussion
	12:30 pm	Writers' Circle
	5:00 pm	Racial Justice
	6:30 pm	Youth Committee
	5:30 pm	Advent Supper
	5:30 pm	<i>Watching with Wonder</i> for young children
	5:45 pm	<i>I'm Still Here</i> Book Discussion
	6:00 pm	Children's Choir
	6:30 pm	Cantate!
Wednesday	7:00 pm	Advent Evening Prayer
	7:45 pm	Adult Choir
	9:30-11:30 am	Children's Advent Rehearsal

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS DECEMBER 9, 2018

8:45 AM	11:00 AM
Bob Aldrich	Stella Townsend
Assisting Minister	
Will Hansen, Ben Hanson	Bea Martin, M.A. Martin
Acolytes	
Jeff Weiss	David Krig
Crucifer	
Bob Hulteen, Linda Berglin	Paul Chindvall, Michael Douglas
Communion	
Erin Arifin, Nancy Madich	Rosemary Foley, Carol Lane
Altar Guild	
Bob Peschiutta,	Meghan Olsen Biebighauser,
Sally and David Kohlstedt	Alan Libra, Kathy Hollander
Ushers	
Turid and Dennis Ormseth	Zoe and Miguel Martinez
Coffee Servers	
Donna Heyer, Gerry Berglin	John Sulzbach, Deb Helmel
Counters	
Closer	Vicki Mann

Financial Report	December 2	Year to date
Budget Requirements	15,051.92	722,492.31
Budget Receipts	9,857.33	660,285.28
Disaster Relief	100.00	3,130.00
Opening Doors	682.87	80,015.13
MAS Racial Justice Appeal	90.00	877.00
World Hunger	90.00	3,908.32