



HOLY TRINITY

LUTHERAN CHURCH

THE COMMUNITY CHURCH

Volume 103, Issue 46 • November 17, 2019

On 31st Street between Minnehaha and 28th Avenues Minneapolis, MN 55406 • 612-729-8358 • office@htlcmpls.org • www.htlcmpls.org

WORSHIP SERVICES: 8:45 and 11:00 a.m. • EDUCATION: 10:00 a.m. • Ingrid Rasmussen and Angela Khabeb, Pastors

PREPARING FOR THE JOHNSON SYMPOSIUM

Excerpted from Howard J. Vogel's The Doctrine of Christian Discovery: A Call for Its Repudiation and Reparations by People of Faith

VI. REPARATIONS IN PARTNERSHIP ON THE WAY: Taking the Past Seriously on the Road to a Transformed Future

The repudiation of the Doctrine of Discovery by religious organizations comports with the growing international recognition of the human rights of Indigenous peoples and the central importance of land in that recognition, as set out in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, adopted by the General Assembly in 2007. In light of these emerging statements, and in the absence of any constitutional foundation for the plenary power doctrine and the Discovery Doctrine on which it is founded, further adherence to these doctrines as a matter of law by domestic courts in the United States is both a legal embarrassment as well as a theological embarrassment. Legally it is a profound contradiction of the American commitment to the Rule of Law. Theologically it is a profound contradiction of the Church's commitment to the gospel of Jesus. In a nation that prides itself as committed to the Rule of Law, the Discovery Doctrine is nothing more than a judicial fiat with religious overtones. Telling this truth and facing it squarely raises the question of how action might be taken to repair the trauma of America's past that continues to afflict and shape our national life today.

The true test of any dialogue that we might engage in, about the truth of the past, in an effort to heal the trauma of America's past, will ultimately require that we take the past seriously by thinking and acting imaginatively in a way that repairs the harm and saves us from being ravaged by it in the future. And that will surely require that we think, talk, and act long and hard about the subject of reparations.

"Reparative justice" can contribute much to any effort to develop a response to the trauma of the past, but it has not received the extended study that has been given to "retributive justice." To do so we would do well to consider the work of Janna Thompson, who has developed an extended study of "historical obligation and entitlement." She argues that "as members of nations and of other organized groups and communities we *do* have historical obligations." She grounds this claim:

in a conception of a society or nation as an intergenerational community. Its institutions and moral relationships persist over time and through a succession of generations, and it depends for its moral and political integrity on its members accepting transgenerational obligations and honouring historical entitlements.

This view leads Thompson to go on to defend what she calls a "reconciliatory" approach to reparative justice" that leads her to embrace a theory of reparations that is "obligations-dependent" rather than "rights-centered." In doing so, she takes seriously the fact of historical injustices in our shared life in a way that can enable us to take seriously the historical injustices to which the on-going trauma and social dislocation of the Dakota people today offer testimony. As she puts it at the outset of her study:

History is a tale of unrequited injustice. Treaties have been broken, communities wiped out, cultures plundered or destroyed, innocent people betrayed, slaughtered, enslaved, robbed, and exploited, and no recompense has ever been made to victims or their descendants.

(cont.)

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



READINGS

Malachi 4:1-2a

Psalm 98

2 Thessalonians 3:6-13

Luke 21:5-19

JIM BEAR JACOBS WILL BE OUR GUEST PREACHER
ON SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 17, AT BOTH SERVICES.

ADULT FORUM

10:00 am—in the Library

NOVEMBER 17 Adult Forum with Jim Bear Jacobs

Jim Bear Jacobs was born in St. Paul, Minnesota. He is a member of the Stockbridge-Munsee Mohican Nation, an American Indian tribe located in central Wisconsin. He has degrees in Pastoral Studies and Christian Theology and has served various churches as youth minister, adult Christian educator, and director of Men's Ministries. He is a cultural facilitator in the Twin Cities and works to raise the public's awareness of American Indian causes and injustices. He is a convener of "Healing Minnesota Stories," a committee dedicated to creating events of dialogue and education particularly within faith communities. He presently lives in Mounds View with his wife Susan and four children. Jim Bear Jacobs will also be our preacher for the day.

NOVEMBER 24 "An Ecological World View from the Movie *Habitat Earth*"

Join the Caring for Creation team in viewing the beautifully illustrated story of the inter-connectedness of all living things on planet earth. From mushrooms to trees to birds to sea creatures, we are all connected and depend on each other for our very existence.

Historical injustices cast a long shadow. Their effects can linger long after the perpetrators and their victims are dead. They haunt the memories of descendants, blight the history of peoples, and poison relations between communities.

Thompson's work embraces the hope for reparative justice in the context of historical injustice and challenges us to see our relationship to both the past and the future within a framework that takes moral obligation seriously within this relationship. Her approach to the task of reparative justice in the face of historical injustice puts our imagination to the test by calling us to think and act out of a sense of justice that is not simply tied to our own individual experience, severed from the past or the future as it is in the conventional individual rights-centered approach of American law. Thompson's work calls us to think about what justice requires in the context of our communal connection and interdependence. This raises a question about the meaning of patriotism in the 21st century.

PARISH INFORMATION

THANKSGIVING EVE SERVICE AND LUNCH WEDNESDAY, NOV. 27
Please join us for a Thanksgiving Eve Service at noon on Wednesday, November 27. The service will offer space for us to give thanks to God. After worship, we'll share a simple meal. There will be pie! Sign up in the Community Room by Sunday, November 24, so we know how much food to order.

WALK TO END HUNGER FOR SOUTH MPLS. MEALS ON WHEELS
South Minneapolis Meals on Wheels (SMMOW) will participate in the Walk to End Hunger at 7:30 a.m., November 28, at the Mall of America. Consider supporting SMMOW by donating or walking with them. Sign up online (event.walktoendhunger.org). Contact Mary Engen (612-716-6338) with questions.

MAKERS AND BAKERS ADVENT BAZAAR SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1
The annual Bakers & Makers fundraising sale for the youth trip will be on Sunday, December 1. If you are interested in donating home-baked or handmade items to the sale, please let Sara Jensen know at saraojensen@gmail.com. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

ADVENT BOOK DISCUSSION: DEAR CHURCH BY LENNY DUNCAN
A book discussion will be held December 4, 11 and 18, from 5:45-6:45 p.m. The book is *Dear Church: A Love Letter from a Black Preacher to the Whitest Denomination in the U.S.*, by Rev. Lenny Duncan. Bring your supper (available in the Community Room). Facilitators will be Deb Sodt and Benhi Khabeb. Books are for sale in the office (\$8), and three copies are in the library. Sign up in the Community Room.

LONGFELLOW H. S. SHARING CELEBRATION FRIDAY, DEC. 13
Longfellow Holiday Sharing Celebration is Friday, December 13, at 2:30 p.m. Sign up in the Community Room to share the holidays with a Longfellow student and their children.

KITCHEN ORGANIZING PROJECT WED., NOV. 20, 3:00 P.M.
Join others in making the kitchen easier to use. Sign up in the Community Room or just come. We will have another date in January.

U.S. Postage Paid
Periodical

THE COMMUNITY CHURCH (USPS 777-060)
Published weekly by Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 2730 E 31 St, Mpls MN 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 November 17-23, 2019

Sunday	8:45 am	Worship Service with Holy Communion
	9:55 am	Trinity Village and Godly Play
	9:55 am	OWL Class
	10:00 am	Adult Forum
	11:00 am	Worship Service with Holy Communion
Monday	2:00 pm	Swahili Service
	6:00 pm	Executive Committee
	7:00 pm	Church Council
Tuesday	11:00 am	Worship Readings Discussion
Wednesday	3:00 pm	Kitchen Big Clean
	5:30 pm	Choir Families Supper
	6:00 pm	Children's Choir
	6:45 pm	Cantate!
	7:00 pm	Public Voice
	7:30 pm	Adult Choir
	7:30 pm	Gloria Ringers
Saturday	11:00 am	Nancy Wiberg Memorial Service

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS NOVEMBER 17, 2019

8:45 AM		11:00 AM
Rick Liedholm	Assisting Minister	Melanie Townsend
Lisa Martens	Crucifer	Needed
Bea Martin, M.A. Martin	Acolytes	Peter Weiss, Asha Olson
DeWayne Townsend, Pam Blomgren	Communion	Linda and Phil Jury
Carol and David Berg	Altar Guild	Melanie Townsend, Needed
Bob Peschiutta, Julie and Tom Cahoy	Ushers	Mike Mann, Ethan Townsend, DeWayne Townsend, Kathy Ohler
Luann and Josiah Kibira	Coffee Servers	Liz Kelley, Katy Benson
Chris Engen, Chuck Jordan	Counters	Deb Helmel, John Sulzbach
	Closer	Vicki Mann