



HOLY TRINITY  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

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# THE COMMUNITY CHURCH

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Ingrid C. A. Rasmussen, Angela T. Khabeb, and Doug Mork, Pastors

## MESSAGE FROM NICKI HINES

Along with the communications that Ingrid and team are sending to all Holy Trinity members, I wanted to send you a brief update. Some of you have been able to get to church over the past few days and others haven't, so I wanted to share a bit more about what's going on at the building.

The generosity of the community has been abundant and overflowing. Supported by a posting in the Star Tribune yesterday encouraging donations be brought to Holy Trinity, the church basement and sanctuary are full of food and household items for neighbors. Over the weekend we received donations and gave them out as fast as we could. Today we continue to receive and distribute food, diapers, baby food, household items, personal hygiene products, etc.

A group of HT members are coordinating volunteers, communications, and logistics. Megan Olsen Biebighauser's dual role of HT member and Minneapolis Area Synod employee is serving us well as she draws upon HT and Synod people to help. There are others who are leading/helping, including, of course, our fearless three pastors and staff, Ann and David (what a first few weeks on the job for David!), and others. My rambling here is not meant to be a full accounting of the staff, but to let you know it is being managed.

Today, Monday, people can drop off donations and pick up needed supplies from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Each day we are learning how to improve on our ability to serve the community. As Ingrid noted in an email this weekend, we served thousands last week in our ministry, and we expect to continue.

Updates are being posted on Holy Trinity's Facebook page, and calls for volunteers, as needed, are being posted on Holy Trinity's Family Ministry Facebook page. Please watch those for frequent updates.

The world has changed in just one week (even more so than it already had). Council's decision two weeks ago to keep the doors of our church closed until September has been altered. But Holy Trinity is called to serve, and we will.

In another previous council meeting, Ingrid shared a vision of Holy Trinity having porous walls, that there be little distinction between what happens inside the building and outside. Today, the walls are indeed melting away.

Thank you for continuing to lead and serve in this time.

Nicki Hines  
Church Council President



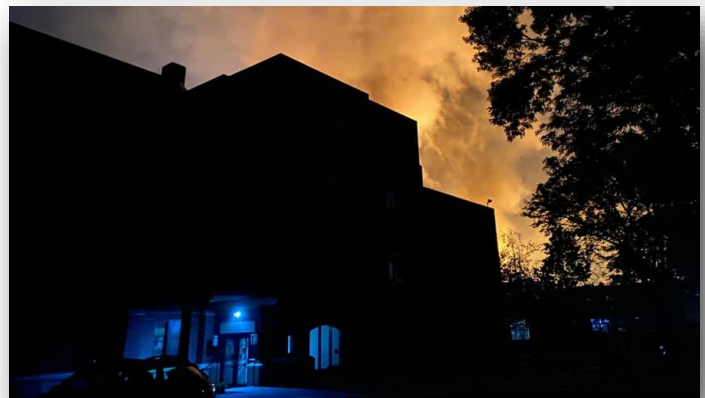
## HOLY TRINITY

### READINGS

Genesis 1:1-2:4a; Psalm 8;  
2 Corinthians 13:11-13; Matthew 28:16-20

### RACIAL JUSTICE OPEN CONVERSATION MONDAY, JUNE 8

Members of the Doctrine of Discovery and Racial Justice Task Force will host a virtual open conversation Monday, June 8, at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom. Members of Holy Trinity are invited to share their reactions to the death of George Floyd while in police custody. We will consider how we can respond as individuals and as a congregation committed to racial justice in the presence of pervasive racism. Starter questions for the conversation will be provided as necessary.



## PARISH INFORMATION

### WORSHIP LINK FOR SUNDAY, MAY 24

In case you missed the worship video for Sunday, May 24, it can be found here: <https://vimeo.com/421655820>. We welcomed Bishop Ann Svennungsen as our preacher and Assistant to the Bishop, Craig Pederson, who led the service of installation for Pastor Doug Mork.

### BIG MEETING NIGHTS BEGIN IN JUNE

Beginning in June, on the first Thursday (June 4) and the second Tuesday (June 9) of each month, we will be hosting Big Meeting Nights. The purpose of these evenings is to gather our committees and working groups in one place (on Zoom) to build community and to foster collaboration between committees and working groups.

The schedule for each night is as follows: Pastoral and Council leadership will provide a very brief update at 6:45 p.m. to interested persons. All participants will be together for this update. Individual meetings will then be held from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. Committees and working groups will be in their own break-out rooms for their meetings.

Your committee or working group chair will soon send out more information about joining the meeting.

### HOLY TRINITY RACIAL JUSTICE TEAM RESOURCE NO. 4

Holy Trinity's Racial Justice Team is sharing resources to help uplift the importance of talking about race and racism in this current moment, and always. Their goal is to make the topics less intimidating to talk openly about, so that it becomes a norm to discuss within our congregation, and we can begin to build common language around the issues we're called to confront.

#### Reflection from Racial Justice Team member, Emily Kosilla

*Content warning: Black Maternal Mortality*

Late in April, this [news story](#) was released of Amber Rose Isaacs's story, a black pregnant woman who tweeted that she was concerned about the maternity care she had been receiving from a Bronx hospital, and that she didn't feel like she would survive her upcoming labor. She tragically died within hours of birthing her baby due to a platelet condition that was missed in pregnancy.

As a doula, I've seen firsthand the long-lasting racial health disparities that are being severely exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. My heart breaks for Amber and her family, and I really invite my fellow white folks to sit in that heartbreak with me. We need to be sharing and talking about these stories and analyzing the part we play in them.

#### Reflection Questions

- Have you or your friends or family approached child-birth with the kind of dread and fear Amber Isaac possessed? Why or why not?
- Think of 2 people in your sphere of influence you can talk about this story with. What meaningful actions can you take to ensure this doesn't continue to happen?

**Action Step.** Check out this resource:

[MN Healing Justice Network](#) is a collaboration of over 100 Twin Cities BIPOC healers. There are many doula's and midwives in their network who are committed to reducing Black Maternal Mortality. Folks are encouraged to give time/resources and engage with their social media accounts.

### 2020 JOHNSON SYMPOSIUM

After thoughtful deliberation, we have decided to cancel the 2020 Johnson Symposium on Faith and Society. We made this decision to exercise an abundance of caution, in keeping with our deep and abiding love for the neighbor. We pray that we will again be able to welcome participants to the Johnson Symposium in 2021.

