



THE COMMUNITY CHURCH

On 31st Street between Minnehaha and 28th Avenues Minneapolis, MN 55406 • 612-729-8358 • office@htlcmpls.org • www.htlcmpls.org
Ingrid C. A. Rasmussen, Angela T. Khabebe, and Doug Mork, Pastors

BROKEN BODIES

If you go to my parents' house today, more than likely the news will be on every television in the house. It will be playing in the dining room, the living room, the home office, and probably even my parents' bedroom. "You have to be informed," my mom always says. The longer I live, the more I've embraced my mother's sentiment. Yet lately, I've realized that my goal to become a well-informed citizen has become hazardous to my health. Each time I learn about *another* public lynching of a black person, I am (re)traumatized. Sometimes, watching the news feels like an act of self-harm. The late theologian, James Cone, authored a book, *The Cross and the Lynching Tree*, connecting the two most emotionally charged symbols in the history of the African American community. Today we are eye witnesses—often through someone's iPhone—to Christ being crucified afresh. Places like Glynn County, GA, Louisville, KY, Minneapolis, MN, and Rochester, NY, have become a modern-day Golgotha.

A few days ago, it dawned on me that Jacob Blake, who was shot in the back seven times by a police officer in Kenosha, WI, had survived a public lynching. Immediately, I connected Jacob Blake with Dr. James Cameron who, in August 1930 at the age of 16, also survived a lynching in Marion, IN. Cameron was with two other teens, Thomas Shipp and Abram Smith. A rioting, wrathful mob of thousands of people had assembled at the jail where the three teens were imprisoned. The mob wanted vigilante justice for the murder of Claude Deeter, and they got it. Cameron describes his escape. The noose was around his neck and he was dragged to the Lynching Tree to join Shipp and Smith. (Doubtless you've seen the photograph. It is one of the most widespread lynching photos because the photographer, Lawrence Beitler, stayed awake through the night working to reproduce the photo for postcards to be sold for 50¢.) Cameron said he heard a voice from heaven saying, "Let him go. He is innocent." Just then, the mob relented and released Cameron. He stumbled and staggered the half block back to jail where deputies in a black Studebaker secreted him to Huntington, IN, for safekeeping. Throughout the decades, Dr. James Cameron used his voice to speak for others who were silenced. He dedicated his life to dismantling white supremacy. In 1988, Cameron founded the America's Black Holocaust Museum in Milwaukee, WI—about 35 miles from where Jacob Blake was nearly lynched. It is my prayer that Jacob Blake lives and continues to grow stronger and stronger until he is able to one day lift his voice for the countless others who have been crucified on the cross of white supremacy. I also pray that for every modern-day Golgotha there will be some form of resurrection. Until then, the body of Christ cannot breathe. Merciful God, hear our prayer.

—Angela Khabebe, Pastor

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

READINGS

Genesis 50:15-21; Psalm 103:1-13
Romans 14:1-12; Matthew 18:21-35

ADULT FORUM

SUNDAY, 9:30 AM

Login at zoom.us or call 312-626-6799 or click [here](#)

Meeting ID: 858 5687 1594 / Password: 317879

SEPTEMBER 13

"The Role of Preaching in a Time of Protest & Pandemic"

Karoline Lewis,

Professor of Biblical Preaching at Luther Seminary

Preaching has always been central to the worship life of communities of faith, but its purpose changes in the changing circumstances of our lives, our nation, and our world. What should preaching do and how should preaching sound in these unprecedented times of converging realities of protest and pandemic?

SEPTEMBER 20

"Faith-Rooted Activism and Spiritual Healing Through the Arts"

Joe Davis, Artist, Educator, and Speaker

Joe will invite participants to actively engage in the work of healing and transformation through interweaving dynamic poetry, storytelling, and research-based intercultural practices.

STEPPING OUT IN FAITH FOCUS GROUPS

Focus groups have been available and will be again for Holy Trinity members to share ideas about the use of Stepping Out in Faith funds from the sale of Trinity Apartments. The response has been great, but we would especially like to hear more from members who fall in the youth/college age bracket and those in their 20s and 30s. Additional group slots will be available soon through Signup Group on the Holy Trinity website. If you prefer, you can share your ideas by email (steppingout@htlcmpls.org) or a member of the Stepping out in Faith Task Force will give you a call. If you call the office we'll find a way to connect with you. The questions used in the focus group are:

1. *When you think about using the funds for the community what **specific** ideas come to mind?*
2. *Imagine that you could improve any aspect of congregational life. What **specific** improvements would you make?*
3. *Thinking about the building and the physical space, what **specific** changes would you suggest?*
4. *Where do you see **specific** opportunities for change regarding justice issues at Holy Trinity and in the community?*

Thanks to those who already participated in a focus group. We welcome additional voices!

PARISH INFORMATION

DIALOGUES ON RACE DISCUSSION SERIES—CHAPTER 6

Please join members from the Racial Justice Committee and Doctrine of Discovery Task Force for the continuation of the bi-weekly discussion series based on the short book, *Dialogues on Race*. The sixth chapter (*Two Christianities: American Religion in Black and White*), led by David Berg and Rev. Marchelle Hallman, will be discussed September 9, from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. If you would like a copy of the book (no charge), email Randy Nelson (rnelson1941@yahoo.com). Discussion questions are emailed to previous attendees.

To join this session, click [here](#) or login to Zoom, (or dial 312-626-6799 from your phone) and enter the meeting ID 987 6541 0718 and passcode 893110. All Holy Trinity members and friends are welcome to participate. If you have not previously participated, you are welcome to join the session (each chapter pertains to a different topic).

COMMUNITIES OF CALLING *NEW* SMALL GROUP SIGNUP

There are 12 new small group options ready for you to view and consider joining this fall! They include book groups, outdoor adventures, spiritual practices, and support gatherings. Most will take place on Zoom, and the outdoor experiences will take place at safe physical distance in the fresh air of our beautiful Minnesota fall weather. **We ask that you please sign up for just one opportunity**—the one that appeals to you the most—to allow as many folks to participate in these small group experiences as possible. Groups are intentionally kept small (no more than 5) for ease of scheduling and to foster deep conversation. All experiences are offered at no cost. Please include contact information in the COMMENTS section of the option you select.

Click [here](#) to review the list of options and to sign up for the one you prefer. Contact Ann Schrooten if you don't have access to the on-line sign-up page.

LONGFELLOW COMMUNITY COUNCIL SEEKS INPUT

The Longfellow Community Council (LCC) is facilitating a neighborhood planning process for the reconstruction of the areas most affected by this summer's social justice demonstrations. The goal is to create a new vision for equitable, sustainable, and resilient redevelopment, enhancing public spaces, preserving key community assets, and rebuilding civic, commercial, and residential places for the coming years.

Your participation in completing [this brief 5-minute questionnaire](#) will begin to inform this critical neighborhood rebuilding effort. **Please invite your family, friends and neighbors to fill out this questionnaire too!**

SUPPORTING PASTOR ANGELA

It was announced last week that Pastor Angela is taking three months of Family First Leave, effective September 1. If you'd like to show your support for Pastor Angela, you may wish to send her and her family a gift card from a local restaurant. It's a meal train of gift cards. Not having to prepare meals for an active family is a gift that Angela and her family will certainly appreciate. Gift cards should be mailed to Pastor Angela at home.

WORSHIP LINK FOR SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

The worship service for September 6 can be found here: <https://vimeo.com/455039303>. We invite you to find bread or crackers, wine or grape juice (or any morsel of food and sip of liquid) in your house and celebrate Holy Communion with us.

TEAMWORK

Beginning in September, we will consider special services like funerals, weddings, and ordinations, and sacraments and rites, like baptisms and Confirmation, on a case-by-case basis. These gatherings will have no more than 25 people in attendance and will have strict guidelines to ensure the safety of pastors, staff, and worshipers. If you would be willing to serve as an usher for these special gatherings, please email Sue Roberts (sroberts@htlcmpls.org) or call the church office by September 9 to indicate your interest. Ushers will be trained in COVID protocols and will help to ensure that all those in attendance follow the safety guidelines.

LONGFELLOW HEALTHY SENIORS OPPORTUNITIES

Longfellow Healthy Seniors can help seniors (age 60+) with food distribution, food delivery, housing assistance, library-at-home services, free face masks, and classes for improved health. Find more information [here](#).

SMALL BUSINESS RAISING FUNDS FOR HT NEIGHBORS

Jorden Curran owns an office support services business in Apple Valley. He is DeafBlind and currently doing a fundraiser with Bread of Life Deaf Church to raise money for restoring neighborhoods affected by the riots. He would like to extend the opportunity to members of Holy Trinity. You can support these efforts by visiting his Etsy page and purchasing return address labels. Please type "Holy Trinity" into the notes section of your order. https://www.etsy.com/shop/JOOfficeSupport?ref=search_shop_redirect

CONCERNING PEOPLE

Please don't hesitate to **contact us** with pastoral care emergencies (Church Office: 612.729.8358; Pastor Ingrid: 612.875.6679; Pastor Doug: 612.310.5752). We will do our best to care for you from a distance.

Do you need help with an errand? Please let us know. Several members have volunteered to assist those in need. [Simply click here and fill out the form](#) or call the church office. Someone will contact you within 48 hours.