



THE COMMUNITY CHURCH

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

WE BELONG TO ONE ANOTHER

“Though there are many of us, we are one body in Christ, and that individually, we belong one to another.” Romans 12:5

Dear Holy Trinity,

In the midst of significant hardship in our own homes, our city, and the world, we are buoyed by the truth that we belong to one another. Bombarded with stories of separation and exclusion, this community chooses to enact a different story—one marked by inclusion, mutuality, equity, and belonging.

Our worship videos during the month of October have highlighted a few of Holy Trinity’s ministries that expand our understanding of what it means to belong, including lay communion visitation, children and youth choirs, and Longfellow Rising. These ministries, and many others, have adapted to life marked by the pandemics of COVID-19 and racism in America. While we still have a physical structure, we know the Spirit calls us into the work of rebuilding a new world.

You are an important part of that work. Inspired by the congregation’s mission, the community’s vision, and the neighborhood’s need, we hope to increase regular offerings by \$57,200 in 2021. In order to meet that goal, we need those who already give to consider an increase. Each gift is meaningful. Each gift is an important part of the whole.

Please join us online for our annual Commitment Sunday program. This year we will gather on Zoom at 9:30 a.m. on Sunday, October 25. (Click [here](#), OR from your computer, tablet, or smart phone, go to [zoom.us](#), OR from your phone, dial 312-626-6799. The meeting ID is 858 5687 1594 / Password: 317879). We will share our hopes and dreams for congregational life in 2021 and invite you to share your financial commitments, either by mailing the commitment card you received in the mail or by submitting your pledge through the church website (<https://htlcmpls.org/pledge/>).

From the bottom of my heart, I say thank you for your generosity this year. In the midst of all that we have experienced, your faithful giving has afforded us the ability to say “yes” when God and our neighbors called us into ministries we could not have anticipated. I pray the same will be true in the months ahead.

Holy Trinity, we belong to God, and we belong to one another. Thanks be to God.

Pastor Ingrid C. A. Rasmussen

P. S. Consider using SimplyGiving to set-up a recurring weekly or monthly gift to Holy Trinity. Your gift of any amount will be automatically deducted from your bank account, taking the guesswork out of giving. If you are already using SimplyGiving for your gifts, thank you for your steady and consistent support!

REFORMATION SUNDAY

READINGS

Jeremiah 31:31-34; Psalm 46;
Romans 3:19-28; John 8:31-36

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

OCTOBER 25 “Stewardship Sunday”

Financial Stewardship Committee

We’ll have the opportunity to share our hopes and dreams for congregational life in 2021, and you will be invited to share your financial commitments that will allow us to make them possible.

NOVEMBER 1 “Annual All Saints Day Celebration”

Holy Trinity members are invited to share stories and memories of friends and relatives who “now rest from their labors.”

REPORT FROM PALESTINE ISRAEL WORKING GROUP

We had a dynamic forum Sunday with Betty McCollum's Chief of Staff, Bill Harper. He shared 2 pieces of legislation that Betty has authored: “Promoting Human Rights for Palestinian Children Living Under Israeli Military Occupation Act” ([HR2407](#)); and the “Israeli Annexation Non-Recognition Act” ([HR8050](#)). The recorded forum is [here](#).

The Palestine Israel Working Group invites everyone to join a Bright Stars of Bethlehem fundraiser, “Be the Key—#Hope Unlocked.” Many are familiar with Rev. Mitri Raheb and his work with Dar al Kalima University in Bethlehem to educate the next generation in Palestine and keep their arts and culture strong through programs in art, communication, and culinary art. Supporting organizations like BSB is a way to take action on the Palestine Israel issue. The virtual event is October 24 at 7:00 p.m. Register [here](#)!

LECTIO DIVINA GROUP HAS SPACE FOR 4 MORE PEOPLE

Please contact Joyce Besser (besserjb@aol.com) if you would like to be a part of this second Lectio Divina group.



PARISH INFORMATION

NOMINATE A SPECIAL APPEAL FOR 2021

Each year, Holy Trinity identifies and authorizes special financial appeals for 2-3 organizations. Special appeals are characterized by being open ended (i.e., we give to the organization(s) what we receive), they are normally approved for just one year, and they are supported by a special appeal letter which is sent to all the giving units in the congregation.

The Financial Stewardship Committee and Church Council work together to select the organizations. They evaluate proposed organizations based on the organization's relationship to or history with Holy Trinity; the connection between the organization and the goals of Holy Trinity; and the donation's impact. They seek to achieve a balance between local and global giving.

If you have a 501(c)3 organization that you'd like to nominate, please contact one of the church's standing committees and ask for support of your nomination. By tradition, the World Hunger of the ELCA has been included as one of the causes designated for a special appeal and therefore does not need to be submitted by a standing committee. Nominations will be accepted until December 1, 2020. The congregation will be informed of the 2021 special appeals at our annual meeting on Sunday, January 31, 2021.

Nominations, supported by a standing committee, may be emailed to Steve Murray (stevemurray0803@gmail.com) until December 1, 2020.

MEET CONFIRMAND KRISTEN TOWNSEND

I started my first year of high school at St. Anthony Village High School earlier this fall, and it has been quite interesting. I am on the tennis team, play saxophone in the school band, and am an active First Class Scout in Troop 33. Distance learning is very strange, but hopefully it will get better as the year progresses. I have been a member of Holy Trinity since my family and I moved back to Minnesota in my toddler years, and I have met many wonderful people since then.

CONCERNING PEOPLE

Donations to the **Coronavirus Assistance Fund, the Justice Fund, and Holy Trinity's General Fund** (for ongoing operating expenses) can be mailed to the church or given electronically (from your [bank account](#) or by [credit card](#)).

WORSHIP LINK FOR SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18

The worship service for October 18 can be found here: <https://vimeo.com/469274025>. We welcome Eric Barreto as our preacher. Eric is an Associate Professor of New Testament at Princeton Theological Seminary. As a Baptist minister, Barreto has pursued scholarship for the sake of the church, and has been a leader in the Hispanic Theological Initiative Consortium. All this plus he's a nice person!

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.

DO YOU NEED HELP WITH AN ERRAND?

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.

UPDATES ON COMMUNITY PARTNER CTUL (CENTRO DE TRABAJADORES UNIDOS EN LA LUCHA)

We wanted to update the congregation and uplift the incredible work CTUL is doing as their mission of improving low-wage work conditions and fighting for fair wages in the Twin Cities has now been compounded by **a pandemic leading to unprecedented layoffs and unsafe demands of essential workers**. CTUL has also undertaken a tireless battle of preserving the George Floyd Memorial at the intersection of 38th and Chicago (which is on the other side of the block from their office). They and their members have been working every day on the frontlines of the Minneapolis Uprising at the George Floyd Memorial site, as well as many activist spaces and protests committed to improving the Twin Cities for all of its residents. Here are some brief examples of the important work they do every day:

- During the first month of response, sewers from Holy Trinity donated several hundred masks to CTUL, who then provided free masks, food, and household items to community members at George Floyd Square.
- Over the summer, CTUL and Holy Trinity joined with 22 additional organizations calling to [rebuild our neighborhoods](#) as "multi-cultural space that is truly led by and for the people of the community."
- In support of more equitable rebuilding, CTUL has also joined Central Area Neighborhood Development Organization and Bryant Neighborhood Organization in protecting the sacred space of George Floyd Square and calling for the [future of 38th and Chicago](#) to include a permanent memorial.
- This past Labor Day, CTUL joined together with the Awood Center and TakeAction MN for a large-scale fundraising campaign for workers' rights. We encourage folks to learn more about supporting their work at <https://secure.actblue.com/donate/workingpeoplepower>.

Folks can follow and engage with CTUL on their [website](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#), and [Facebook](#).