



THE COMMUNITY CHURCH

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

DIALOGUES ON RACE DISCUSSION SERIES PROMPTS REFLECTION AND ACTION

More than 40 Holy Trinity members and friends joined members from the Racial Justice Group and Doctrine of Discovery Task Force for a discussion series based on the short book, *Dialogues on Race*. It has seven distinct chapters from diverse writers covering issues around race, the Bible, whiteness, African American and Native American experiences in the U.S., the role of women in racial justice movements, and more. The biweekly sessions were held from July 1 to October 7 and offered discussion questions specific to each chapter which encouraged an excellent exchange of experiences and insights among attendees. The sessions were enriched by a diverse mix of co-facilitators (such as Jim Bear Jacobs, the author of one of the chapters).

The attendees ranged from young adults to seniors, and the majority indicated that they found the sessions to be extremely helpful and gave examples of how the readings/discussions most helped them (feedback survey results). Attendees also suggested further learning resources and potential follow up actions during the sessions. Some themes of actions that participants said they are willing to take on include: Develop relationships with diverse neighbors, write notes to targeted voters before the election (Postcards to Voters), explore reparation ideas, participate in ACTION Program (A Commitment to Inclusion in Our Neighborhood, led by Rev Jia Starr Brown), and support HT's efforts to use more diverse artwork and change the sanctuary stained glass windows to be more inclusive.

The planning committee will reflect on suggestions for follow up to this series and communicate additional opportunities for engagement on the topics raised by *Dialogues on Race*, whether through existing HT efforts or new ones. It was impressive to see the long-term commitment participants made by attending the discussion sessions over a three-month period. Thank you to all who attended and/or contributed! If you have not read the book yet, contact Randy Nelson (rnelson1941@yahoo.com) to see how we can circulate copies that were used during the series.

WORSHIP LINK FOR SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25

The worship service for October 25 can be found here: <https://vimeo.com/471740816>. In this worship video, we continue our fall stewardship series entitled "Belonging." 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 God and to one another. This week we hear from Dan Kennedy, Meena Natarajan, Dipankar Murhe-Rjee, Ruhel Islam, and Steve Krause, some of our partners in Longfellow Rising.

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.

ALL SAINTS DAY

READINGS

Revelation 7:9-17; Psalm 34:1-10, 22;
1 John 3:1-3; Matthew 5:1-12

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

NOVEMBER 1 "Honoring the Saints"

Today we remember those sinner-saints who have died before us. Too rarely are we given the opportunity to talk with one another about the loss of beloved friends and family members. This year, we invite you to bring pictures of the saints in your life and display them in your Zoom window during the adult forum hour. We'll have an opportunity to share stories about the photos we bring.

NOVEMBER 8 "Doing School in a Pandemic"

Dr. Padmini Udupa, Principal, Longfellow HS

Holy Trinity has an ongoing partnership with Longfellow Alternative High School, the school for pregnant and parenting teen women located a few blocks east of the church. Join us and learn about the school's challenges in the midst of a pandemic, and hear about ways this faith community can build relationships with the students, staff, and administration.

TELL US ABOUT YOUR INTEREST IN SOCIAL JUSTICE ISSUES

The Public Voice and Organizing Committee has put together [a questionnaire](#) to learn about the social justice issues you're most interested in, your communication preferences, and more. To help the committee better meet the needs of the congregation, please [complete the questionnaire](#). It should take only a few minutes. You will also have the option to let us know if you would like to learn more about the church's many social justice working groups, and how you can get involved.

If you prefer a paper copy of the questionnaire, contact Sue Roberts (sroberts@htlcmpls.org/612-729-9277) to have one mailed to you.

OPTING OUT OF PAPER ENVELOPES

If you offer a financial commitment (either by paper card or by using [this link](#)), you have the option of opting in (having the envelopes mailed to your home) or opting out (for those of you who prefer to give online). Thanks for the suggestion, and thanks to member Carol Kelly for helping us find a more flexible alternative.

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 ELCA World Hunger Fund 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.

CONCERNING PEOPLE

We celebrate with the family of **Kristen Townsend** upon her confirmation.

BIG MEETING NIGHTS NOVEMBER 5 AND 10

Big Meeting nights in November are Thursday, November 5, and Tuesday, November 10. If your committee plans to meet one of those nights, please let Pam know (651-398-7980/pwetterlund@htlcmpls.org).

YTD FINANCIAL REPORT AS OF September 30, 2020

Budget requirements	\$614,508.00
Budget receipts	\$715,869.17
Justice Funds received	\$456,606.80
World Hunger	\$3,249.00

AUTUMNAL TINTS

Shortly before his death, Henry David Thoreau finished an extraordinary ode to autumn in his essay, "Autumnal Tints." This was submitted by Communities of Calling Women of the Woods.

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October is the month of painted leaves.
Their rich glow now flashes round the world.
As fruits and leaves and the day itself
acquire a bright tint just before they fall,
so the year near its setting.
October is its sunset sky;
November the later twilight.

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It is pleasant to walk over the beds
of these fresh, crisp, and rustling leaves.
How beautifully they go to their graves!
How gently lay themselves down
and turn to mould!
Painted of a thousand hues, and fit
to make the beds of us living.
So they troop to their last resting place,
light and frisky. They put on no weeds,
but merrily they go scampering over the earth,
selecting the spot,
choosing a lot,
ordering no iron fence...
How many flutterings
before they rest quietly in their graves!
They that soared so loftily, how contentedly
they return to dust again, and are laid low,
resigned to lie and decay at the foot of the tree,
and afford nourishment to new generations of their kind,
as well as to flutter on high!
They teach us how to die.

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Let your walks now be a little more adventurous;
ascend the hills. If, about the last of October,
you ascend any hill in the outskirts of our town,
and probably of yours, and look over the forest,
you may see well, what I have endeavored to describe.
All this you surely will see, and much more,
if you are prepared to see it,—if you look for it...
Objects are concealed from our view,
not so much because they are out of the course
of our visual ray as because we do not bring
our minds and eyes to bear on them;
for there is no power to see in the eye itself,
any more than in any other jelly.
We do not realize how far and widely,
or how near and narrowly, we are to look.
The greater part of the phenomena of Nature
are for this reason concealed from us all our lives.
The gardener sees only the gardener's garden...
There is just as much beauty
visible to us in the landscape
as we are prepared to appreciate,
—not a grain more.

—Henry David Thoreau