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

ACTION PROJECT

“The fire hose of injustice, white supremacy, and institutional oppression continues to be penetrating and fierce. The need for courageous listening and learning has never been greater. While droves are now awakening to the unshakeable reality for people living on society’s fringes, many are paralyzed and baffled about how to transition their new learning into action. It is the call of community leaders to provide opportunities for this critical social leap in order to bridge the gap of injustice.”

This was the introduction to the ACTION Project (A Commitment to Inclusion in Our Neighborhoods) that attracted 18 Holy Trinity members to participate in this one-year initiative. The initiative involves 6 local interdenominational congregations and 135 individuals willing to listen, reflect, and take action around racial injustice. Created and administered by Rev. Jia Starr Brown of First Covenant in downtown Minneapolis, the program has gotten off to an excellent start.

In October 2020, all participants took the IDI (Intercultural Diversity Inventory) administered by Rev. Starr Brown. We received the assessment outcomes which provide the average cultural intelligence for our faith community group of 18. Most of us fell on the middle of a spectrum of cultural intelligence called “minimization.” The IDI estimates 40-50 intentional contact hours are needed to make a positive shift on the cultural intelligence spectrum, so we began engaging in weekly and monthly events and explorations to produce this critical shift. The IDI will be administered again in October 2021 to measure our progress as a group.

So, what do participants actually do in ACTION? Due to COVID, most activities are by Zoom or phone to keep us all safe. We attend monthly learning and discussion sessions organized by Rev. Starr Brown and a planning committee. So far, we’ve listened to speakers from the Indigenous, African American, Latinx, and Asian communities. Every Wednesday we receive emailed resources to explore on our own with YouTube videos, articles, or podcasts all advancing our understanding of different cultures and challenging the myths and biases we hold. Recently we watched a video on the history of policing racial tension and violence that was eye-opening. We learned that policing began as a way to snare and return slaves. Another week we watched a video that followed a Hmong chef and showed how he started and refined his professional cuisine, a challenging journey. Each week is different. Everyone participating has an ACTION “buddy” and we connect by phone or Zoom to share our challenges in both our head and heart as we grow in understanding the gaps with racial equity and inclusion. The in-person “action” part of ACTION is mostly on hold due to the pandemic, but we hope, when it’s safer, there are opportunities with practical steps to enhance the well-being of our communities. *(cont. next column)*

FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

READINGS

Jeremiah 31:31-34; Psalm 51:1-12;
Hebrews 5:5-10; John 12:20-33

ADULT FORUM

Login at zoom.us or call 312-626-6799 or click [here](#)
Meeting ID: 858 5687 1594 / Password: 317879

To view the recorded Adult Forum from March 21, [click here](#).

SUNDAYS, 9:30 A.M.

MARCH 21 “Reflections on Justice Activities” Mary and Bernard Glover

Mary and Bernard Glover, members of Wayman AME Church, will reflect on their personal involvement in justice activities.

MARCH 28 “The Book of Job: Despite Everything God is Good” Rowland Joiner

Presented by Rowland Joiner, Methodist Minister from the United Kingdom who engaged in pastoral work and training and coaching ministers

(ACTION Project, cont.) Finally, we organized a monthly one-hour conversation/happy hour for our Holy Trinity participants to share questions and insights as we go through the program.

If you’re interested in participating in ACTION in the future, there will be another cohort starting in October of this year. Until then we’ll keep you posted on our slow but steady work in bridging the gap in racial injustice.

Libby Olstad, member of Holy Trinity



PARISH INFORMATION

COVID-19 VACCINATION RESOURCES

In addition to the Minnesota Vaccine Connector described in the February 28 Community Church, the national VaccineFinder can help you find providers and pharmacies that are offering COVID vaccines. Go to <https://vaccinefinder.org>, click on "find COVID-19 vaccines," and enter your zip code. It will show information about locations near you, including the types of vaccines available, the location's website and phone number, hours of operation, and instructions on how to take the next step to get vaccinated. You will be asked several questions to determine whether you are eligible for vaccination according to your state's guidelines. Vaccine availability is subject to change and appointments are required at most locations. If you don't find anything the first time you try, check back every few days because the site will be updated regularly

MINNEAPOLIS AREA SYNOD ASSEMBLY (VIRTUAL)

Friday, April 23, 6:00–9:00 p.m.

Saturday, April 24, 9:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.

The Minneapolis Area Synod gathers annually to conduct business in the Synod Assembly, which is the synod's highest legislative authority. More than 600 participants attend the Synod Assembly each year, including representatives from each congregation and all active rostered leaders. The gathering is filled with worship, inspiration, presentations, and necessary business. Under the theme "Jubilee Reclaimed: Opening the Way," synod assembly participants will explore Biblical insights into the general welfare of the community. Can we imagine together ways to explore opportunities for the Church to be the leading edge of caring for the vulnerable in our world?

Holy Trinity seeks three people to attend as our representatives. Please talk to a pastor if you are interested.

THURSDAY BIG MEETING NIGHT DATE CHANGE IN APRIL

Big Meeting Night scheduled for Thursday, April 1, falls on Maundy Thursday this year, so it will be moved from Thursday, April 1, to Tuesday, April 6. Thursday and Tuesday BMNs for April will be on the same night **for April only** (Tuesday, April 6, 6:45 p.m.). Thursday BMNs will move back to their usual first Thursday of the month date in May. Your committee chair will send the Zoom link for April 6 to their committee members as we get closer.

WORSHIP SERVICE FROM MARCH 14, 2021

The worship service for March 14, 2021, can be viewed by clicking [here](#).

CONCERNING PEOPLE

Please don't hesitate to contact us with pastoral care emergencies (Church office: 612.729.8358; Pastor Ingrid: 612.875.6679; Pastor Angela: 612.248.9121; Pastor Doug: 612.310.5752). We will do our best to care for you from a distance.

PATHWAYS TO PRESENCE:

9 ENNEAGRAM JOURNEYS TO DEEPENED RELATIONSHIPS WITH SELF, OTHERS, AND THE DIVINE

Tuesdays, March 16, 23, 30; 7:00-8:45 p.m. (via Zoom)

We each possess a treasure within us that can remain hidden. The journey of human and spiritual growth requires peeling back layers of mistaken identity. As we see through these layers, we move closer to our essential self. At the same time, each uncovering enables us to relate more openly and honestly with others. And each movement toward our essence expands our capacity for Divine connection and guidance.

This three-part online course will explore how each type tends to and deepens its "I-We-Thou" journey. We will explore the entrapments and conditioning that lock us into our dominant Enneagram type. Some background on the Enneagram will be helpful but not essential. Sessions will include presentations, personal reflection, breakout groups, and large group discussions. Learn more and register [here](#).

Facilitator (and Holy Trinity member) [Scott McRae](#) has been involved in spiritual work in various forms for over 30 years and feels like he's just getting started. A pastoral educator for M Health Fairview, a spiritual director, and an Enneagram teacher and coach, he also runs [Sojourners Institute](#) with his wife, Melanie.

WEDNESDAYS DURING LENT

The Lord will guide you continually, and satisfy your needs in parched places, and make your bones strong; and you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water, whose waters never fail. Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt; you shall raise up the foundations of many generations; you shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of streets to live in. Isaiah 58:11-12

These beautiful words point to our theme for Lent this year, *Emerging Anew*. Wednesdays in Lent we will again use Holden Evening Prayer. In addition to the liturgy and music, speakers will share reflections on this *Emerging Anew* theme during each of the Wednesday services. The link will be emailed and posted on Wednesday.

REQUEST FROM SEMINARY STUDENT KARLEIGH CREPIN

Hello, wonderful people of Holy Trinity!

My name is Karleigh Crepin, and I'm one of the Luther Seminary students working at Holy Trinity. I am looking for people interested in being interviewed for a research project surrounding HTLC and its mission. Don't fret, the interviews are super casual and can be done in PJs! The interviews would take place the week of March 15-21 and would be flexible with work schedules. If you are interested, please email me at KCrepin001@luthersem.edu. The more interviews, the better so I can get a larger view of HTLC.

BECOME A MEMBER OF HOLY TRINITY

We at Holy Trinity believe that community is integral to faith, which is why we invite interested persons to consider membership in this congregation. If you or someone you know is interested in formalizing your relationship with this community, please let one of the pastors know, or contact the office (office@htlcmpls.org). The Spirit works in amazing ways, even during this period of physical separation.