



ANNUAL MEETING & LUNCH

SUNDAY, JANUARY 15, 2012

11:00 A.M

January Worship Schedule

January 1st – Worship at 9:30 only

NO Sunday School

January 8th – Worship at 9:00 and 10:30

January 15th – worship only at 9:30 followed by Annual Meeting and Lunch at 11:00

January 22nd – Worship at 9:00 and 10:30

January 29th – Worship only at 9:30

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**May all kings
fall down
before him,
all nations give
him service.**



Psalm 72:11

Pastor's Page

Dear Members of Holy Trinity Lutheran:

"Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God."
Hebrews 12:1-2

In the last days of each year, news magazines and television shows, and the internet show images to remind people of things that have taken place in the last twelve months. There are images of combat and scenes of rescue workers helping victims at a storm. There are Nobel Prize winners and political and religious leader. And there are faces of ordinary people, who add human interest. The images help to define where we have been, and give us pause to ask where we might be headed.

Hebrews 12 uses an image to show who Jesus is and what it means to follow him. The image of a "pioneer" reminds us where we have been, where we are, and when we might be going.

"Jesus is the pioneer of our faith." The American folk traditions are filled with the stories of pioneers, who made their way westward to open pathways for those seeking a better life in a new place. The better place was often pictured as a green landscape with good farmland, or perhaps a city where work was plentiful and shops were full of goods. Hebrews pictures Jesus as a pioneer who open the way to God. This is indeed a vision of a better live. This is what God wants for us, to be in relationship with him. That is what the pioneer does; he opens the way to life with God.

Jesus, as our pioneer, makes a future for his followers. By grace, we too move into a future where resurrection is the last word. But, what does that future look like? What are some glimpses of that future today that can lead us with hope into tomorrow? Where is God leading us?

Good questions. **Where is God leading Holy Trinity into the future of 2012?** Let that question be the guiding light, the beacon, as we have conversation together. Let's gather to talk about what we can anticipate during this fruitful time. In the month of January 2012, we will conduct two sessions at different days and times of the week to have conversation to discern, discover and discuss where God is leading us and what we can do to participate in this activity. Plan your schedules to attend both Session I and Session II at your convenience. Each Session I time and Session II time will be identical in nature and content. Here are the dates and times:

Session I:	Sunday, January 8	Noon – 3 PM
	Monday, January 9	6 PM – 9 PM
	Saturday, January 14	9 AM – Noon

Session II:	Sunday, January 22	Noon – 3 PM
	Monday, January 23	6 PM – 9 PM
	Saturday, January 28	9 AM – Noon

The "fruit" of these times will be of great help to the leadership and Call Committee of HTLC. All sessions will be held in the Fellowship Hall.

God's peace,
Pr. Mark.

Prayer Opportunities



In a Health Care Facility:
Ellen Niski, Floy Bohn, Leona Poucher, Hattie Jensen

In Our Prayers:
Brooklyn Pickens, Bev Horejsi, Lois Landela

Births:
Jude James Thietje, son of Toby & Nicole Thietje, December 15, 2011.

Our Sympathy:
Desiree Ferrazzo and family on the death of her father, Kenneth Hicks.

PRAYER CHAIN - Do you know of or have a need for special prayer? Holy Trinity's Prayer Chain is here to serve and minister to you! Call on us to pray for loved ones, special joys or thanks, or whatever your concern might be. Call Marsha @ the church office 758-3513 to start the chain.

HERE TO SERVE YOU

Ministers:

All children and children of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church

Custodian: Sue Tuma

Maintenance: Eric Tuma

Organist: Rita Sapp

Adult Choir Director: Toby Thietje

SONSHINE Preschool Director: Marijean Storlie

SONSHINE Christian Preschool:

Marilyn Breimhorst & Kelly Kalis, Lead Teachers

Jenny Vlasak & Stacy Kiihn, Assistant Teachers

Office Manager: Marsha Horejsi

Nursery Coordinator: Desiree Church

Confirmation Coordinator: Kristina Madigan

Sunday School Coordinator: Laurie Thorp

Interim Pastor: Rev. Dr. Mark Bents

Church Council Members

Dr. Bret Cardwell, President
Dan Gullickson, Vice-President
Dr. Tim Miller, Secretary
Dr. George Winn, Treasurer
Jed Becher
Tonya Jacobson
Audre Johnson
Dan Popple

Church Council

Church Council Summary of Council Actions November 15, 2011

1. MSP – Minutes accepted and approved as written.
2. MSP – The proposed 2012 budget with estimated income and four proposed categories will be used as a congregational guide.
3. By condenses – The proposed 2012 budget is to be mailed with pledge cards and published weekly twice prior to January 2012.
4. MSP - \$2,500 to be spent for repair and maintenance of office heating system.
5. By consensus – Church van/trailer to be stored during winter.
6. By consensus – Four programmable thermostats to be purchased and employed.
7. MSP – G. Winn and C. Clausen are designated as St. Paul Foundation contacts for transmittal of financial reports.
8. By consensus – G. Winn to arrange debit card for Marsha Horejsi to use for routine business office expenditures.
9. By consensus – Approved request to use HTLC puppets in ministry at both HTLC/LCMC churches assuming HTLC needs are met without compromise.
10. MSP – Adjournment at 9:30 p.m.

TABLED: Endowment committee membership reconstitution to annual congregational meeting January, 2012.

Respectfully submitted,

T. J. Miller, Interim HTLC Council Secretary

Confirmation

Classes continue to meet each Wednesday night at 6:30 in Paul's Place. Students are reminded to keep working on their service hours: at least 5 hours within the church and 5 other hours. This spring we will complete the final 2 service hours, one on highway clean up and one on food collection. If you need help with ideas for how to complete these, check with Pastor Mark for another copy of the list which was distributed in December. We are always looking for parent volunteers to sit in with us during class. Your help is encouraged even if you can only come once or twice during the year. If you are willing and able to assist with small group discussion time or just assisting during the large group time, please e-mail Pastor Mark or Kristina Madigan.

Happy New Year!

Peace, Kristina Madigan

Stewardship

Why do we when we heard the word “stewardship” so often associate it with money only? The definition of stewardship is: “the position, duties, or service of a steward” so then the steward is to care for and manage that which has been put in his or her care and charge. To use it for good, to multiply it for others to use and to care for what God has put each of us in charge of or given us personally, actually, gifts from our Lord. Jesus spoke more often about money, its use, its evils, giving it back to God, helping others like widows, children and the poor with it, than any other topic that He spoke about.

A very meaningful parable of Jesus to me is the one about the fellow (Matthew 25: starting at v 14) who before he left on journey gave one servant five talents, another two talents and the third one talent to care for. After a period of time he returned and asked the servants what they had done with the money (talents) he had left with them. The first two had doubled theirs in value, however, the third man buried his one talent so he yet had only the single talent, apparently he was afraid he might lose it, so he buried it. Hearing this, the fellow was furious because the man had done nothing with his talent and praised the other two for how they increased the value of theirs and he gave the talents to them to keep as reward. This says to me that we each are to use our talents, that is, our brains, skills, knowledge, service, time and abilities, not just our money, in service to our Lord. All these, listed above, and more are God given and we are obligated to use them in His service and to His Glory! How much? That is up to each of us. Remember how Jesus praised the poor widow for giving back all she had, two tiny coins! One hundred per cent, all she had to her name! How many of us have such faith and display it to God in our service and giving? Ask yourself.

There are so many ways we show our commitment to what stewardship means to us in our lives and our personal faith journeys. With what has happened in our Holy Trinity congregation the past several months, we witness the results of the stewardship commitments made here, put into service in our church and by members financial support, The fellowship, prayers, helping others through these difficult times, lending them encouragement and support attest to our “stewardship” commitment.

So our prayer is that we personally and as a congregation. do Gods' will, that we listen to Him for His guidance and blessing. Let us thank Him for our congregation, our church home, our place where we worship and glorify Him. Just think of the opportunities we have here to invite, equip and send! Keep in mind the fact that being members of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church we are obligated in serving God by keeping our congregation viable and growing! Now a little preaching: Remember, Jesus told us to love the Lord above all, then to love our neighbors as ourselves and then the tough one, for some of us, “go and tell the whole world the Good News of Jesus Christ!

George Winn, Council Member
December, 2011



January, 2012

Themes of the Month

January

Shape of the Month:

3-year-olds: Triangle

Pre - K: Oval

Color of the Month: Blue & White

Bible Theme: "The Storm"

PAJAMA DAY will be held on January 18 & 19. Children may come to class dressed in their pajamas. If they have a favorite stuffed animal or blanket they may bring that also. A special breakfast snack is being planned for the children.

DECEMBER ,SMART' ACTIVITY: PENCIL ROLL

Purpose: Helps the inner ear dealing with posture, equilibrium, muscular tones and orientation in environmental spaces.

Procedure: The child rolls down the mat moving in a straight line as quickly as tolerated by the child.

MRS. MARILYN'S CLASSES ARE LOOKING for the following items for January activities:

- Tinfoil
- Cardboard tubes
- Sponges (new) for art project
- Crisco for making pinecone bird feeders

NO SCHOOL DAYS IN JANUARY

January 16

NO School

January 26 & 27

NO School – Kindergarten Bound Conferences for those with questions.

The Sharing Tree

This past year we sponsored 11 families, including 42 children with a total of 174 gift tags made for The Sharing Tree. We also received countless other donations of toys, mittens, hats, clothes, books and extra special things included with many of the purchased specific tag items. So many of you were very generous and made such thoughtful choices with the items we received.

This year was especially challenging for the Adopt a Family group as they had over 367 families apply. They had refocused their funds to provide the clothing items they could, and because of our generous contributions and groups throughout our community and other surrounding churches, they were able to still add the toys.

I am hopeful next year will provide even more opportunity for assisting this group as they grow and make decisions as to how best serve the definite need we see amongst us, especially during the Christmas Season.

Thank you all once again and special thanks to Julie Pople and Beth Baribeau for their help in sorting and shopping.

Mary Hanson-Busch

Thanksgiving Dinner

Many thanks to those who donated pies, salads, veggies and everything else including help to the Dinner. Personally I found it to be a great success and everyone attending seemed to enjoy the camaraderie and found the time to be enjoyable, fulfilling and "filling".

Special thanks to the anonymous donor of 10 turkeys, Sirek's Gardens for 65# of potatoes, Senior Meals for Green Bean Casserole, Chameleon for Pies and take out containers and Lakeside for gravy & once again turning the turkeys into succulent delights. The monetary gifts paid for extra food, & promotional advertising.

We served approx 140 meals in house and 40-50 take-out meals. Leftovers were happily gathered by those who would eat well for a week, Some paid for additional food to serve additional family the next day.

\$500 was collected for the Peace Center plus 3 bags of groceries. In addition 14 smaller turkeys and 10 large turkeys were donated via the turkey stamps from Coborns that were shared by members for turkey cards.

Thanks to all it was a fun experience and left a great feeling of well being to begin the extended Holiday Season.

Blessings to all.