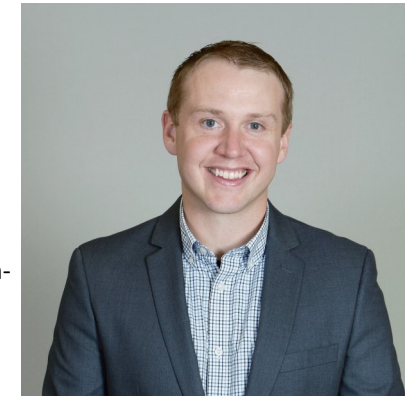


The Visitor

October 2019 Volume 37 Issue 10



Re-membering



My grandfather was a pastor. He is a significant inspiration for me: I wear his alb every Sunday and say his final benediction at most services. I miss him, as he died in 2010 after a battle with dementia. He didn't get a chance to know me as pastor, and there are days I would love the chance to "talk shop" with him.

After his death, I went to a workshop on dementia. I learned that people with dementia do not necessarily lose memories, but they lose the ability to access them. I learned that our memories are complex stories, with bits and pieces of the memory located in different locations in the brain. Smells, emotions, sounds, settings, people, voices, and tastes are stored in different and multiple places.

The presenter unpacked the word "remember." He said to think of remembering like re-membering, where re-membering involves re-connecting the members, or parts of the experience into a more complete picture. Sometimes people with dementia have a difficult time remembering because they can't re-member the various parts of the memory. The individual parts of the memory may be there, but the connections between them are lost.

I've never thought of "remembering" the same way again. Because remembering is less about resurfacing old information, but re-membering is re-assembling individual components into a cohesive memory. Furthermore, re-membering is also about making connections between something that happened before with something happening today.

Faith is all about re-membering. Throughout the Biblical story, there's a continued emphasis on re-membering. Remember God's covenant with Abraham (Exodus 2). Eat and drink in remembrance of me (Luke 22). As we gather for worship today, we remember God's promises for our ancestors because we need to connect them to ourselves. We remember how God has worked in the world before, so that we can make connections with how God is at work in the world today.

Throughout this 2019-20 year, Holy Trinity is embarking on a 4-phase vision process. This first phase of the 2020 Vision process is "Looking Backward." At the Backward Huddle on Sept. 15th, Chris Loose told the story that Holy Trinity began with three women who had a vision for a church. God worked through them to make it happen. In the same way, Chris told us that we can do the same. This is how God works in the world: through normal people like you and me and the visions that we have.

Stories like this matter because they help us know how to go forward. When we remember what God's Covenant was for Abraham, when we remember stories from the beginnings of Holy Trinity, we see that we are connected. We re-member ourselves with our ancestors, we re-member our today's with our yesterdays. Just as God has worked through our ancestors of this church and ancestors of the faith, so too will God act through this new generation as we seek to be faithful in the year 2020 and beyond.

Each Sunday that I wear my slightly stained alb, and each service that I lift my hand for the final benediction, I remember my grandfather. Even though he hasn't seen me preach, and even though we can't "talk shop", as I remember him, I re-member myself with him. We are still members of the same team, the body of Christ. For that, I am forever grateful!

- Pastor Ben Hilding

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Key Dates

10/6	Sunday School sings in church
10/9	Crew Time sings in church
10/26	Trunk or Treat
10/27	Confirmation Service
10/30	Confirmation Service
11/3	Inward Huddle

In Our Prayers

We ask that you keep in your prayers: Laurie Tolzmann, granddaughter Vada, Susie Rogers, Claire Warner, Don Mushitz, Nancy, Elaine Kumpf, Elaine Jacobson, Tanya, Susan Wyatt, granddaughter Piper, Mary Eagen, Pearl Shirley, Ann Gengel, Laura Kube and family, and Clint Evans. Please inform the church office of any illness, hospitalizations, or prayer requests as desired.

Wednesday Meals

Served from 5:00-5:50pm.

10/2	Scalloped Potatoes & Ham
10/9	Tacos
10/16	Soup & Sandwich
10/23	Chow Mein Hotdish
10/30	Chef's Choice

Holy Trinity's Staff

Co – Pastors: Pastor Alicia Hilding & Pastor Ben Hilding
 Office Manager: Jamie Bisek
 Custodian: Jim Cody
 Ministry Coordinator: Karen Taylor
 Facility Manager: Jon Bergquist
 Worship Team: Rita Sapp, Rose Fife, Tim Price, Toby Thietje, & Lex Lammers
 Special Music / Mission Outreach Coordinator: Rose Fife
 Adult Choir Director: Toby Thietje
 Hospitality Coordinator: Donna Galvin
 Visitation Pastor: Pastor Diane Goulson

Connect with HTLC



Find us online at holyltrinityonline.org
 Like HTLC on facebook for latest updates
 Check out past services on our Youtube channel
 Tune in to KCHK 1350AM or 95.5FM radio Sundays @ 9am

Holy Trinity's Worship Schedule

Sundays @ 9am, Wednesdays @ 6pm
 Distribution of the Lord's Supper is celebrated on the 1st and 3rd Sundays and following Wednesdays of each month. All are welcome to the Lord's Table.

Holy Trinity's Church Council

President: Dirk Berger
 Vice President: Karla Klingfus
 Secretary: Mary Hanson-Busch
 Treasurer: Eric Fiala
 Jay Schoenebeck
 Dan Jacobson
 Tim Ditberner
 Tyler Klenow
 Jesse Hemann

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20 VISION 20

LOOKING BACKWARD

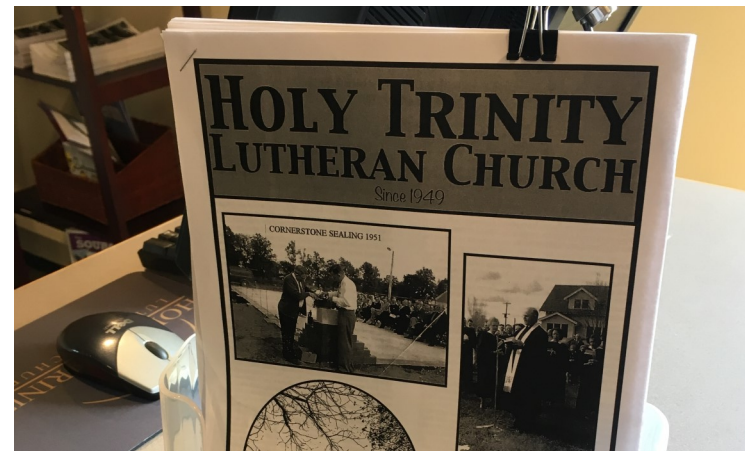


The 2020 Vision process kicked off with the “Backward Huddle” on September 15th. With a 1940’s theme, attendees heard about the history of Holy Trinity from a variety of presenters, including former pastor Rev. Don Fultz. The sanctuary was transformed into a banquet hall, where everyone was served a hearty meal, and we even listened to the 1940’s hit, “Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy.”



Get Involved: History Gallery

Throughout Phase 1 of the 2020 Vision Process, you are invited to spend time learning the stories of HTLC through the “History Gallery”, displayed up and down the hallways as well as in the glass shelves of the library. Thanks to Vision Team member Chris Loose for collecting all these wonderful memories!



Get Involved: Written History

Over the past year, Pat and Deb O’Malley have been working on writing a history of Holy Trinity. At the Inward Huddle, they gave copies of this history out to all who attended. If you were not able to be present, be sure to pick up the written history at the Welcome Center. Thanks to Deb and Pat O’Malley for all your hard work!

8/19/19 Council Meeting Minutes

Call to Order: 6:31pm Berger

Present: Jacobson, Kienow, Fiala, Pastor Ben, Pastor Alicia, Klingfus, Hanson-Busch, Berger, Hemann, Dittberner **Guests:** Pat Remfert, Nikki Hauck

Opening Prayer: Pastor Alicia

Motion: Approve agenda with one addition of 2020 Vision Report: Kienow, second Klingfus: passed

Motion: Approve June 2019 minutes: Kienow, second Jacobson: passed

Review minutes: June 30 special congregational meeting, to be approved at annual meeting

Full Vision 2020 update: team introduction and review of details of first huddle with Pat Remfert and Nikki Hauck. September 15th is the date. Council encouraged to attend and invite others.

Devotions: Canoeing the Wilderness Chapter 8,9: Pastor Ben

Pastor Alicia report: VBS review, 92 kids age 3-4th grade. Who is my Neighbor? theme. New members had 7 family units join, next session in November. Ribfest sell out this year of ribs, cooperation with community neighbors added additional proceeds. Child protection policy implemented training dates September 8,11. Children’s ministries plan open house those days also. Stewardship drive this year in October again with confirmation last week October. Alicia and Ben will change to ¼ time each effective September 1.

Pastor Ben report: summer attendance and special services reviewed. Last Lakeside service August 28, will have baptisms. Summer sermon series of Acts finished, this fall will start Narrative Lectionary for worship and will align with the Vision 2020 phases. Finished Masters in Leadership degree and Capstone project from Augsburg. Fall kick off video being developed. July drives for Peace Center very successful as was back to school drive.

Motion: To approve Benevolence Team request to spend up to additional \$3000 for another back to school drive this fall if team determines to repeat. Kienow, second Jacobson: passed.

Treasurers Report: July soft giving month, Year to date budget still ahead, mostly due to Benevolence team planned spending but not allocated yet. Reviewed combining balance sheet, cashflow and capital fund. Cash handling policy discussed, all supplies and drop safe in place. Will be implemented immediately.

Motion: Approve Cash Handling Policy with wording changes by Finance Team and document update by Pastor Alicia: Kienow, second Klingfus, passed.

Staff update: Diane Goulson will be Visitation Pastor for Holy Trinity, 4 hours per week. John Bergquist will plan to retire this December. Additional contracted employment offer made for sound system fine tuning and training this fall.

Property Update: Will be replacing failed refrigerator with donated unit. Will be making a change to the kitchen space area and expanding food preparation and storage space. Garage project will move forward as a remodel of the current storage shed and space. All work done internally.

Motion to approve return of \$15,000 garage ministry grant to the Minneapolis Area Synod, Dittberner, second Fiala: passed.

Directory Update: Online/mobile version will be promoted with instructions for use this fall.

ELCA Churchwide Assembly, Dirk Berger attended will provide update as part of the sermon September 1 and 4th.

Closing: Lord’s Prayer

Motion to Adjourn 8:12pm Klingfus, second Kienow, passed.

Next meeting: September 16,2019

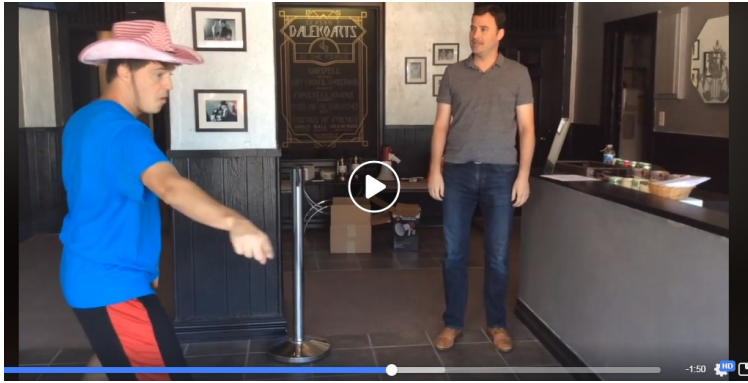
Finance Update

(Finance update as of August 31, 2019)
 Revenue: YTD Budget \$324,537, YTD Actual \$324,312
 Expenses: YTD Budget \$337,605, YTD Actual \$326,862
 Revenue-Expenses: YTD Budget \$-13,068, YTD Actual \$-2,550

Radio Ministry

Thank you to all those who have sponsored a week of Holy Trinity’s radio broadcast. We have 7 weeks that are in need of a sponsor. If you would like to sponsor a week, please contact the church office. A one week sponsorship is \$63.75.

Holy Trinity Happenings



Kickoff Video 2019

Holy Trinity put together a 2019 Kickoff video, featuring Toby Thietje dancing through New Prague because he's so excited to go back to church! Check it out on Holy Trinity's Facebook page.



Bishop's Theological Conference

Pastors Ben, Alicia, and Diane attended the Minneapolis Area Synod's fall conference titled, "Does Scripture Matter?", for continued education, networking, and synod updates.



New HVAC System

Thanks to Dual Air inc. and Picha Electric for helping get our new sanctuary HVAC system up and running. Also, way to go Holy Trinity for responsible budgeting that made this upgrade possible.



Dozinky Parade

A wonderful group of Holy Trinity folks handed out candy in the Dozinky Parade on September 21st. Special thanks to Jeremy Torgerson and family for securing the float and decorating it.



Soundboard Trainings

A crew of A/V minded people have recently been trained on the new soundboard in the sanctuary. Special thanks to Karen Taylor for organizing these trainings, and Brian Elliott for teaching.



Faith & Addiction Conference

Thanks to the generous support of the Endowment Committee, Tim Price was able to attend a Faith and Addiction Conference. Here Price is pictured with the conference organizer, Rev. Ed Treat.

SUNDAY
NOVEMBER 3RD ~ 4 To 6 PM ~
 FREE • DINNER • DESSERT • ENTERTAINMENT • KIDS MEAL • CHILDCARE
 GUEST SPEAKER: CHRIS JOHNSON

This is us
 OUR FRIENDS ~ OUR FAITH ~ OUR CHURCH

Holy Trinity
 Lutheran Church
INWARD Huddle

RSVP by Oct 27th with all guest names at HTLCvision2020@gmail.com or CALL 952.758.3513

Communications Central

Volunteers of the Month

This month's volunteers are a dedicated group of people that keep our property looking great all year round, but especially during the warm months. Thank you for your behind the scenes work to make Holy Trinity a beautiful, safe and welcoming building for all of the groups that use our facility. Thank you for teaching us to recognize God's gifts in ourselves and to give back in gratitude! **Thank you to the Lawn Mowing team!**

Lawn Mowing Crew: Jerry Privratsky, Jim Reemts, Tim Thorp, Gary Eagan, Jim Heckenlaible, Bob Nelson, John Schmiesing, Gary Parker, Mike Ryan, Jake Jacobson, George Meyer, Vincent Meyer, Joanne Reemts, Brian Hintgen, and Isaac Hintgen.

Are you looking to meet new people or to join one of the many teams at Holy Trinity? Connect with Karen Taylor before or after worship services or email volunteer@holyltrinityonline.org or call Jamie Bisek, Office Manager at 952-758-3513 and they will assist you with finding a team.

-Karen Taylor (Ministry Coordinator)

Church Council Letter

Welcome to October already! This season is my favorite. I love the leaves changing color, the cool crisp air, the pumpkin patches, all the homecoming festivities and the cozy sweaters from my closet. I celebrate a birthday and wedding anniversary and even enjoy the yard work as we prep for the snowy winter.

Fall means a change of season and it also is a great time to try something new. Late last Fall I accepted a nomination for church council. I have enjoyed the year as secretary and look forward to more time of growth and service with the rest of the council and the pastors.

I hope you take a chance this fall to say yes to something new here at church. Join the choir, play in the bells, sign up for special music, come and eat dinner on a Wednesday night, attend a service on Wednesday, come early on Sunday and enjoy the worship team warming up, volunteer for youth programming, sign up to help at Sunday or Wednesday services with the rotating worship assistant teams, attend the Vision huddle in November, and the list goes on.

The best part of a change is something new for you can make a positive difference for others.

-Mary Hanson-Busch (Council member)

Very Merry Christmas Sale

On November 9th, from 9am-12:30pm, the Book Nook will have a Very Merry Christmas Sale. We need volunteers on Friday and Saturday beforehand, and baked goods, crafts, plants, etc. to sell. Please contact Karen Hoylo at 952-758-2720 to help.

Stewardship Team

October is Stewardship Month and The Stewardship Team will be sending out a letter which will also contain an Estimate of Giving Card for 2020. This Year's Theme is "God's Covenant / Renewed Commitment." We will be looking back asking how long have we been at Holy Trinity, why is Holy Trinity important to us and what is our commitment. We ask that you please read our letter - prayerfully consider one's role in Holy Trinity and how each of us can contribute. We all have something to give whether it be Time, Talent or Treasure – any contribution, if given from the heart, glorifies Christ our Lord.

We will be doing a separate collection basket on Sundays 10/13 and 10/20 and also Wednesdays 10/16 and 10/23 for those who would like to turn in their Estimate of Giving Cards. The cards can also be mailed or dropped off at the church office during business hours.

-Jim Niemeyer (Stewardship Team member)

Mission of the Month: Outerwear

"I have kids wearing only spring coats when it's 20 degrees below 0. Some of our students only have the 99 cent thin cotton gloves because that is all they can afford." --social worker at NPAS

Our October Drive will be new/gently used winter outerwear (coats, hats, gloves, boots, scarves, etc.), for students in the NPAS and a school in North Minneapolis. Bring your donations during October to the carts in the Narthex. **This is a great time to give away those (clean) coat/hat/gloves/boots your child only wore a few times before they outgrew them.**

To donate adult clothing, the Peace Center is collecting and distributing clean and gently used winterwear and blankets for the community. They are always in need of sandwich bread, coffee, and toddler-sized diapers. Drop-off is during their business hours.

-Rose Fife (Missions/Outreach Coordinator)

Below are a couple "thank you's" we've received:

"I usually have so many calls on the first day of school... so many supplies needed! This year, we had very few. I could not believe it! Thank you for supporting our kids with the School Supplies Drive!" --Amy Hennen, social worker, Falcon Ridge Elementary School, and the teacher who had the original idea!

The New Prague Area Schools would like to thank Holy Trinity for all the donations and work put into the August School Supplies Drive. You are appreciated!

"Rita Goggins sends a big shout-out to Holy Trinity for the generosity it has shown to the Peace Center and the community!" --Deb O'Malley, volunteer at Peace Center Food Shelf

Children, Youth and Family



Children's Ministry

We certainly have jumped into Children's Ministry at Holy Trinity! So far, **126 kids** have registered for either Sunday School or Crew Time (or jumping back and forth)! We believe these students are not here by accident, as God has brought them to Holy Trinity to grow in faith. Praise the Lord! In order to make this children's ministry run, we are also grateful for the 25 Crew Time leaders, 6 Sunday School leaders, and 23 Special Event volunteers who have stepped up to make these ministries happen. For weekly updates regarding the schedule, make sure you are on Pastor Alicia's weekly email list!

Confirmation

Confirmation is up and running at Holy Trinity! There's a great group of **78 students** participating in Holy Trinity's confirmation ministry this year, as well as strong leaders for each of the small groups. Special thanks to all the Children, Youth and Family volunteers, and the 11 confirmation leaders in particular, for completing the child protection policy training which includes a background check. Students will learn many things this year about the Bible, history, theology, and faith in daily life. For weekly updates regarding the schedule, activities, and make sure you are on Pastor Ben's weekly email list.



Trunk or Treat

Join us for a family friendly event on Saturday, October 26 from 5 - 6 pm! Bring your kids for an easy Halloween trick-or-treating experience, right in the parking lot of HTLC! Spooktacular supper starts at 5:00 pm with Trunk or Treating afterwards. This event can't happen without your trunks! Sign up on HTLC website to reserve your trunk space in the parking lot and arrive no later than 4:30 pm to set up.