

HTLConnections

May 2020 | Weekly E-Bulletin | Issue 6

YOU ARE
NOT
ALONE

Now more than ever, we need to find ways to stay connected with our community. No one should feel alone or without the information, support and help they need.

DO YOU *MIND* IF I DO SAY SOMETHING?

Amy Simpson, author of *Troubled Minds: Mental Illness and the Church's Mission*, says that if we don't talk about mental illness in the church, that speaks. She shares that, "The silence sends a clear message that God is not interested in their suffering, serious problems have no place in the Church, and our faith has no answers for hardships like theirs." We want to communicate a different truth at Holy Trinity - a truth that God does care about our suffering, our serious struggles do have a place in the church, and our faith does have a response during hardships.

May is Mental Health Month. This Sunday, we will recognize the importance of addressing mental health and mental illness within our community. We will listen to stories and Scripture, and through them hear hope from God who doesn't remain silent in our suffering, but brings us good news that can be life-changing. We want to be a church that talks about what is really going on in our lives, because we not only believe God *wants* to say something, but God has good news that God *needs* us to hear!

Join us for worship this Sunday as we focus on mental health. We don't want to be silent - we want to welcome our real lives into the church. See you online for worship!

ONLINE WORSHIP

Watch online worship videos [here!](#)

IN OUR PRAYERS

Jesus, Risen Savior, in our brokenness, we come to you. To you we lift up: Jim Morris, Mark Jackson, Elaine Blomquist, Pam, Joel, Matt Weldon's friend, Kong, Don Mushitz, and all diagnosed with COVID-19. We also lift up Deb & Tim Miller grieving the death of Deb's mother, Mary Eagen grieving the death of her cousin Jim. We cling to your eternal love and promise of resurrection, O Christ. Amen

SCRIPTURE OF THE WEEK

[1 Peter 5:6-7](#)
[Isaiah 41:8-10](#)
[Matthew 11:28-30](#)

WORSHIP THIS WEEKEND

This Sunday, our focus will be Mental Health Awareness.

Tune in on Facebook at 9am!



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FINANCE UPDATE

As of March 31, 2020

(All figures listed are Year to Date)

Revenue: Budget \$128,631 : Actual \$114,329

Expenses: Budget \$138,449 : Actual \$130,325

Difference: Budget -\$9,818 : Actual **-\$15,996**
(Revenue - Expenses)

GIVING GOOD NEWS

HTLC has 28 new e-givers in the last 2 months!

Thanks to your generosity, we, as a church, were able to listen to the needs of the community and give \$1500 to the Peace Center (local food shelf) & \$1000 to Southern Valley Alliance for Battered Women. Thank you HTLC!

ENDOWMENT

The Endowment Fund's mission is to enhance the outreach of HTLC apart from the general operation of the congregation. Income distributions benefit: **Evangelism** (spread the word of Jesus Christ), **Missions** (local, national, international), **Youth Ministry** (extend the outreach to community youth), **Local Benevolence** (needs of the community), and **Special Needs of the Church** (non-operating expenses). If you know of a need, submit an Endowment Application by Tuesday, May 12 (applications available by emailing office@holyltrinityonline.org).

MISSION OUTREACH

The Peace Center is seeing more people than usual during this pandemic. Please send monetary donations to the **New Prague Peace Center** : 313 Columbus Ave N., New Prague, MN. You may also drop donations off at the Peace Center.

Hours : Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays 9 am - Noon and Thursdays 4:30 - 6:30 pm.

[Click here](#) for more information about Mission Outreach at Holy Trinity.
Thank you for your generosity!

VISION 2020 SURVEY

The Vision 2020 Team has been busy compiling [survey results](#). Thank you to everyone who shared their dreams about the future of HTLC! Questions? Contact [Pat Remfert](#), Vision 2020 Chairperson.

COMMUNITY CONNECTION

Check out this "[Be Safe, Be Strong, Be Kind](#)" video from the Mayo Clinic Health System!

COUNCIL CONNECTION

[March 16, 2020 Council Meeting Minutes](#)

[March/April 2020 Remote Motions & Approvals](#)

Get to know Tim Dittberner

What has been a bright spot during the COVID-19 social isolation? *It has been nice to slow down and spend more quality time with family. I never thought I'd enjoy long walks around town with my wife (because I'm used to running).*

Favorite COVID-19 Lockdown recipe: Jane's homemade kombucha - have a glass daily and it's guaranteed to make you feel and stay healthy.



Favorite HTLC moment or sermon... When Pastor Ben got the giggles at the beginning of his sermon after he mentioned something about Rita Sapp's homemade (Himalayan Possum) soup. I love that he's not afraid to laugh at himself - I can identify.

CARING CONNECTIONS

The isolation of COVID-19 can be challenging on everyone but it is especially difficult on people who struggle with mental illness. Learn the [facts](#) and how to [end the stigma](#) of mental health.

