

# HTLConnections

The weekly e-newsletter of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, New Prague, MN

November 25, 2020

## SCRIPTURES OF THE WEEK

Isaiah 64:1-9  
Mark 13:24-37

## HUMBLY WE PRAY

Blessed Savior, bring your healing presence to Elaine J., Mark J., George & Suzanne M., Nathan K., Holly W., and all who are ill; all who grieve; people suffering with mental illness; struggling relationships or employment; communities devastated by fires or flooding; and our nation. Amen

## WORSHIP THIS WEEK

**Online - Facebook & YouTube**

Sunday @ 9 am  
Wednesday @ 7 pm

**Cable TV - Bevcomm Channel 6**

Sunday @ 9:30 am  
Wednesday @ 6 pm

**Radio - KCHK 95.5 FM & 1350 AM**

Sunday @ 9 am

## RADIO SPONSOR

Our Sunday radio broadcast ministry is anonymously given in honor the HTLC Communications Team - Gina Fadden, Rose Fife, Angela Schoenbauer and Karen Taylor. You bring our stories to life and keep us connected: it truly does take a village.

## FOLLOW US



## THE GIFT OF HOPE

By Karen Taylor, Ministry Coordinator

I love preparing for Christmas! Christmas music has been playing in my car since early November (in fact, it was my 17-year-old son who gleefully came home from school that week, humming a Christmas tune and exclaimed "Mom! They're playing Christmas music!"). And yes, my outdoor Christmas lights have been on since the first weekend in November. Traditionally, we decorate our Christmas tree the day after Thanksgiving, but this year, it's happening a little sooner. COVID can take away in-person worship, school sports, dining inside restaurants and even my favorite fitness facility, but it WILL NOT take away Christmas.

Preparing for Christmas has always been special for me. When my boys were young, I explained that Christmas is the biggest, most special birthday party EVER and that is why I take such care to decorate the house. We were preparing for Jesus' birthday and he deserved something amazing.

Advent is preparing us for the best birthday party imaginable and the hope that comes in the form of Jesus.



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## GIVING UPDATE

Financial Health as of October 31, 2020	Year to Date Budget	Year to Date Actual
Revenue	\$405,288,	\$388,087*
Expenses	\$466,999	\$452,548*
Revenue - Expenses	-\$61,711	<b>-\$64,461</b>

\*\$35,000 income/expenses related to the current building projects (run through capital account) are not included in totals so operation numbers are not misleading.

## COUNCIL CONNECTIONS

October 2020 Council Minutes

## SHARING TREE

Last Day for Drop off!

Monday, November 30, 6 - 7 pm.

Place NEW clothing in a car marked **Sharing Tree** in the HTLC parking lot near the south entry.  
Contact Julie at [popplenp@hotmail.com](mailto:popplenp@hotmail.com) or Mary at [marybusch@me.com](mailto:marybusch@me.com).

## CHRISTMAS TEA, PLAN B

Ladies, You're Invited...to Christmas Tea, Plan B.

This lovely tradition will be online this year, premiering on our Facebook page after worship on

**Sunday, December 6, 10 am.**

Darcey & Kim chat about the Christmas Tea...check it out [HERE!](#)

## SANTA ANONYMOUS

There's still time to donate to **Santa Anonymous!** Le Sueur County is seeking cash donations to purchase toys for families. (Toy preference has already been indicated by the families, please do not donate toys.)

Please contact LuAnn Leach at 507-357-4850, if you'd like to make a donation.

**SIGN UP!**  
**CHRISTMAS TEA, PLAN B**  
Deadline November 27

## ADVENT KITS

Thank you to Craig & Melissa Horejsi for donating the birch trees, Rob & Karen Taylor for cutting the trees and cutting the logs to size, and Jon & Bonnie Berquist for drilling tea light holes and making a flat side to each log.

If you missed picking up your Advent Kit, they are available to pick up at church, outside of Door 1. Please take one log and one bag of candles per household.

Find a digital copy of the Advent Devotionals [HERE](#).

## LITTLE FREE LIBRARY

The HTLC Little Free Library is getting some great use! A friendly reminder to return any books you brought home so others may enjoy them.

Want to know what books are in our library? Click [HERE](#) to see the entire list and a description of each book.

## HTLC IN ACTION!



## WORSHIP SURVEY RESULTS

Find the summary report [HERE](#).

## COMMENT CORNER

Here's what people are saying about HTLC:

*"I'm proud of HTLC [for] making safe and responsible decisions for the greater good, even if difficult or not popular at times. From a Healthcare worker perspective, it's distressing and heart-wrenching to see rampant irresponsibility tied with the reality of what is going on in our community. Thank you."*

Leave us a comment! [HTLC Community Facebook](#) page.

## UPCOMING WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Nov. 29 & Dec. 2

**ADVENT 1**

The Gift of Hope

December 6 & 9

**ADVENT 2**

The Gift of Peace

December 13 & 16

**ADVENT 3**

The Gift of Love

December 20 & 23

**ADVENT 4**

The Gift of Joy