

HTLConnections

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

December 11, 2020

SCRIPTURES OF THE WEEK

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

John 1:6-8, 19-28

HUMBLY WE PRAY

Source of All Love, surround with your healing love Deb O. (Lindsay C.'s mom), Jack G., Barb L., Duane P., Al R., Mark J., Elaine B., David, and all who suffer. Be the source of hope and peace for people who hunger or seek shelter and for doctors, nurses and teachers. Teach us to love as you love us. 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 SPONSOR

Sunday, December 6 was sponsored by Mark Peterson. Apologies to Mark Peterson & Mark Jackson for inadvertently naming the wrong sponsor for December 6.

Sunday, December 13 is sponsored by Jim Olson, in memory of JoAnn.
Thanks you, Sponsors!

FOLLOW US



THE GIFT OF (UNCONDITIONAL) LOVE

By Rose Fife, Communications Specialist

My parents gave me the name "Rose" which, according to certain books, means "Giver of Love." Several years into life, I recognized it as a blueprint for happiness: Give Love and Be Grateful. Got it.

I learned if I could "give love" by offering a compliment (heartfelt, of course), or an extra scarf (shameless plug for the [December Missions Drive](#)), I felt brighter upon seeing the intended's reaction, lighter with the hope that I had helped.

I am not, however, very good at **accepting** other people's gifts of love. Call it pride or shame, I never feel I am deserving. I have not striven hard enough, accomplished enough, or cared enough to warrant the gifts, compliments, or offers of help. And I know I am not alone in this.

The Bible tells us God gave us the Gift of Unconditional Love through Jesus. We don't have to suffer, toil, or fear for this love. It is there for all of us, just as we are. We only have to accept it.

Happy Advent, Friends.



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SPREADING THE JOY OF CHRISTMAS

The Mission Outreach Team is excited to announce our December Missions Drive!

Stocking Stuffers for the Little Free Pantries

Fill a clear, plastic bag (or two) with the following:

- **Hygiene Products:** Socks, toothbrush, toothpaste, deodorant, shaving cream, etc.
- **Winter wear:** New or handmade scarves, hats, mittens, etc.
- **Food:** granola bars, trail mix, dried fruit, chips, etc.

If the Little Free Pantries are full, a bin will be available for additional collection **Wednesdays in December, 11 am-3 pm** each week.

JIM'S DISHWASHER



After much research, we would like to purchase a new dishwasher in memory of Jim Reemts. He cared deeply about his volunteer role in the kitchen and loved every minute of working around his HTLC family. Of the \$7000 needed for a new commercial-grade dishwasher with a built-in booster heater (which ensures constant 145°F water to kill germs), we have collected \$2656.

Donations can be sent to Holy Trinity.

Please write "Jim's Dishwasher" in the memo line.

Questions? Call Jerry Privratsky at 952-758-3895 or **Jamie Bisek** at 952-758-3513.

FREE FOOD GIVEAWAY

Le Sueur County
FREE Food Distribution
(COVID Food Assistance Program)
Open to all households that are in need!

December 16, 2020
2:00pm-3:30pm
(or until food is gone)

First Lutheran Church
116 Inner Drive, Le Sueur, MN 56058
Vehicles will enter the Parking Lot off of Elmwood Ave., and exit onto Inner Drive.

Each household will receive:
• 1 gallon of milk
• Apples, Potatoes, Onions, Cantaloupe
• Tapered Cans, Microwaveable Food, Butter
• Smoked, Chicken Meatballs, Liquid Eggs
(Items subject to availability and expiration dates)

Le Sueur Food Shelf and Shop Program
second harvest HEARTLAND
Food changes everything™

FREE food distribution for Le Sueur Co. residents.

December 16
2 - 3:30 pm
First Lutheran Church

Click on the photo for complete details.



CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

Join us for online Christmas Eve Services at

2 pm, 5 pm and 10 pm

Identical services will premiere on Holy Trinity's **Facebook** page and **YouTube** Channel. See you online!

CHRISTMAS EVE VIDEOS

Reminder to send your **Silent Night Video** to **Casey Fremstad** by December 15. Send your "enter your house/Christmas Eve scene" video to **Jackie Mackenthun** by December 13. Full instructions can be found in the **HTLC Community Facebook group**.

ONLINE CHRISTMAS PROGRAMS

One of the benefits of the pandemic is the opportunity to view the beautiful Christmas Concerts of the Lutheran Colleges. Click to view: **Augsburg** and **St. Olaf**.

MEMORIAL SERVICE

The memorial service for **Elaine Jacobson**, mother & grandmother of Donna & Stephanie Galvin, will be on Sunday, December 13 at 2:00 pm at Forest Lawn cemetery in St. Paul. The service will be broadcast live on the **HTLC Facebook page**. Please keep the Galvin family in your prayers as they mourn the loss of Elaine.



CHRISTMAS CARDS

Do you have unused Christmas cards? Consider donating cards and some stamps to a Senior Living facility! Residents would love to send out cards to their loved ones.

COMMENT CORNER

Here's what people are saying about HTLC:

I really enjoy Monday mornings and Prayer Time in the Garden with Pastor Diane. I look forward to it every week. I may not make it right away at 9 am, but I make sure to view it every Monday. Thank you!

Leave us a comment! **HTLC Community Facebook**.

UPCOMING WORSHIP SCHEDULE

December 13 & 16

ADVENT 3

The Gift of Love

December 20 & 23

ADVENT 4

The Gift of Joy

December 24

CHRISTMAS EVE

He Came to Us

December 27

CHRISTMAS 1

Featuring Bishop Ann Svenningsen