

# HTLConnections

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

April 30, 2021

## SCRIPTURE OF THE WEEK

John 15:1-8

## HUMBLY WE PRAY

Good Shepherd, surround with comfort and hope Eileen P., Jackie, Mark J., Tim A., Christine, and all who mourn, especially the Smiseks as they mourn the death of their daughter, Tanya, and the friends and family of Lorraine Clemmer. Continue to encourage school and medical personnel. With confidence in You, O Lord, we pray. Amen

## WORSHIP THIS WEEK

**Online - Facebook & YouTube**

Sunday @ 9 am

**In-person - HTLC Parking Lot**

Wednesday @ 6 pm. [Register Here!](#)

**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 on local KCHK radio station is sponsored by Joan Bohnsack. Thank you so much for this blessing!

## FOLLOW US



## BEING PRUNED

By Pastor Ben Hilding

I'm not a master gardener. Nor do I know much about vines, growing grapes, or the process of making wine. But this week, we're diving into the metaphor of Jesus referring to himself as the true vine.

Metaphors are a comparison between two things, where something abstract is better understood through a common image. When Jesus shared this metaphor, he was likely speaking to people who understood the comparison. If you don't have your own vineyard, I'd invite you to prepare for worship by reflecting on your own gardening experiences.

Some questions to consider: How might tending to a garden bring us in touch with our spirituality? What might gardening teach us about the fruits of the Spirit? What do you learn about God after getting dirt underneath your fingernails and little cuts from prickly bushes on your arms? Especially as you look back on this past year, how might you understand your priorities, your life, (even our church) in the language of "being pruned?"

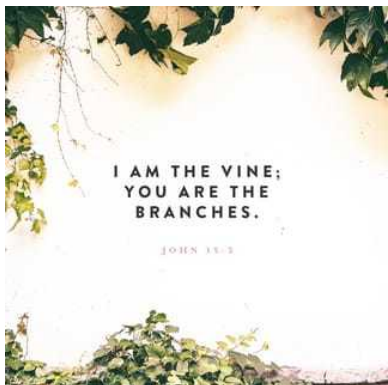


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## WORSHIP THIS WEEK



Join us for worship as we hear about The True Vine. Watch online Sunday, 9 am, or [register for outdoor worship](#) on Wednesday, 6 pm, in the HTLC parking lot. Message and scripture will be the same each week, but the music will vary for each service.

## COUNCIL CONNECTION

March 2021 Church Council Meeting Minutes

## GIVING UPDATE

Financial Health as of March 31, 2021	Year to Date Budget	Year to Date Actual
Revenue	\$120,522	\$134,576
Expenses	\$140,494	\$124,904
Revenue - Expenses	<b>\$19,972</b>	<b>\$9,671</b>

**VOLUNTEER!**  
Outdoor Worship Assistants.  
[Sign up here](#)

## STRENGTHENED BY CONNECTIONS

The ministry of Holy Trinity is strengthened by our partnership with other churches and colleges. Thank you to Luke Friendshuh, Liz Nelson, Pastor Ben and Pastor Alicia who participated in the annual Minneapolis Area Synod Assembly (the annual meeting with 150+ ELCA churches in our area).

The annual Gustavus Adolphus College Association of Congregations (GACAC) meeting was also held. Thank you, Jay Schoenebeck and Tracy Torgerson for joining Pastor Alicia in representing Holy Trinity. This meeting serves to strengthen the relationship between the college and the church, elect the Board of Trustees and the GACAC Board of Directors. We are proud to announce that Pastor Alicia was elected President of the Board of Directors. Congratulations!

## VACCINE INFORMATION

All COVID -19 vaccines are FREE, regardless if you have health insurance or not. To register for the vaccination waiting list, follow these links:

[Scott County Public Health](#)

[Le Sueur County Vaccination Information](#)

[Minnesota COVID-19 Vaccine Connector](#)

[Mayo Clinic Health System - New Prague](#)

To lessen the side effects of the COVID vaccine, Dr. Tim Miller recommends,

**"Do not be afraid to use Tylenol or Advil. But the main thing is fluids. The brain is 70% water, so if your brain gets dry, one of the things it will do is tell you you're nauseated, you have a headache, and you're achy."**

Dr. Miller recommends 100-120 ounces of water (12.5-15 8 oz. glasses) over a 24-hour period and taking Tylenol, Advil, or Aleve as directed on the container.  
[Click to read more of advice!](#)

## IN OUR PRAYERS



We sadly announce the passing of Lorraine Clemmer, long-time HTLC member. [Lorraine was recently featured in our HTLChronicles.](#) Please keep the Clemmer family in your prayers as they navigate through this loss amidst a pandemic.

[Read more about Lorraine here.](#)

## MUSICIAN SURVEY

After a full year of worshiping online, we believe the Holy Spirit has been at work, not only to "get us by," but also creating something new that will impact how we worship in the future. As we shift from strictly online worship to both in-person and online, [we'd like your input](#) on how we can listen to God's calling.

## UPCOMING WORSHIP SCHEDULE

May 2 & 5

**I AM**

The True Vine

May 9

**MOTHER'S DAY**

Celebrating all the women in our lives

May 12

**CYF CELEBRATION**

Last Day of CYF Program Year!

May 16

**ASCENSION**

Fulfilling the Father's Promise