

CYF SUMMER 2021



Summer Calendar

Family Fun Days:

- June 26, 2021: HTLC "Morning Parking Lot Party"
- July 24, 2021: "Evening @ The Drive-In"
- August 28, 2021: "Hiking Day at Prairie Oaks"

Special Blessings:

- June 16, 2021: Blessing of the Bikes
- July 21, 2021: Blessing of the Pets
- August 18, 2021: Blessing of the Backpacks

Summer Lakeside Service

- August 25, 2021 (please contact the church office if you are interested in a baptism).



It's Summer Time at Holy Trinity!

The church doors are opening, the weather is warming up, and lake days are finally here! We are excited to be able to worship together in-person once again and Holy Trinity has several service options available this summer. You can join us for worship on Sunday mornings, both in the sanctuary and online, as well as Wednesday evenings in the church parking lot. Don't forget to mark your calendars for three special blessing services happening on Wednesday evenings this summer! We are also excited to announce that we will be hosting monthly "Family Fun Days" as a way to embrace some summer fun and be in community with one another. We hope to see you around this summer!



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Alternative VBS Options

We know how fun VBS is and would love to direct you toward some of our partners in ministry who have invited our church to check out their VBS programs this summer:

- **Shepherd of the Lake Lutheran Church**

in Prior Lake, MN: June 14 -17, 2021 from 1:00-3:30pm each day (outdoors). For more information please go to: <https://www.sollc.org/cyf-summer-at-the-lake>

- **Family of Christ Church** in Chanhassen,

MN: June 28 - 30, 2021 from 9am -3pm each day. For more information please go to: <https://familyofchristonline.org/events/>

- **East Union & West Union Churches**

Joint VBS with Green Lake Camp Counselors in Cologne, MN: July 12 -15, 2021 from 9am-2pm each day. For more information go to: https://www.westunionlutheran.org/vacation_bible_school

- **Cristo Obrero** in Shakopee, MN: Once a week June - August 2021. Tuesdays in the park at Riverview starting at 3:30pm. For more information please contact youth@holytrinityonline.org and we will get you in touch with Pastor Jorge!



The Power of Rest: Pressing Pause on VBS

Summer is upon us and we rejoice in the many opportunities that are available to re-engage with the world. After spending the last 15 months primarily online, we are so eager at Holy Trinity to embark on in-person ministry opportunities once again. This summer, in an effort to provide worship opportunities that align with various comfort levels and schedules, we are having three worship services each week (online, indoors, and outdoors). At the end of the day, the most important thing we do is worship, and we want to make that available for all. As we set boundaries in an effort to be realistic about our capacity, we have decided to take a year off from Vacation Bible School.

We read in Genesis that after six days of creating, "God blessed the seventh day and declared it holy, because it was the day when He rested from all His work in Creation (Genesis 2:3)." In the beginning God blessed the necessary time it takes to rest, restore, and re-nourish ourselves. Even God rested!

For the past few months, we have been participating in conversations with area youth ministry leaders about VBS. The task is daunting. While the COVID-19 numbers continue to drop locally, we recognize that children still don't have the opportunity to be vaccinated, and we would want an in-person experience to be safe. A typical VBS experience entails many children, and consequently many volunteers. We hear the exhaustion from many people who would typically volunteer- they just need a break. It feels like for just this year, God's inviting us to pause on VBS.

In the same way, as we jump back into rhythms this summer, just as the church is "resting" from VBS this year, we encourage you to be good to yourselves too. You don't have to say "yes" to everything everybody wants you to do. It is not easy to say no or to prioritize time to rest, but it is holy and necessary. Setting "new normals" takes time and energy. Our bodies, relationships, and spirits need time to recover. We pray that this summer you feel permission to rest, whatever that looks like for you. We support you, love you, and encourage you to pursue the things that refresh your soul and bring your body rest.