



September 2020

Trinity Times

God's Work. Our Hands.

Sunday, September 13th through Sunday, September 27th

Because we can't gather in a large group this year or in person, we are participating in the ELCA service project virtually. We encourage all members to participate in a service project of their choosing. Maybe it is weeding your neighbors' flower bed for them, writing cards to shut-ins, making quilts for refugees, taking a meal to someone who is sick, giving a ride, helping at soup kettle, volunteering at an animal shelter....

The list of ways to serve is endless! After you serve, drop a picture or note telling briefly what you did to holytrinity@holytrinityelgin.com or mail it to the church. We will compile a collage of Holy Trinity's virtual GWOH projects.

Worship Times

Sundays at 9:30 a.m. on WRMN 1410 AM or livestream on our YouTube channel

Saturdays, Sept. 5 & 19 – at 5:00 p.m. Outside! Bring a lawn chair, there are also some chairs set up

Thursdays, Sept. 10 & 24 at 10:00 a.m. inside the sanctuary. *Call office to attend*

Memorial Bricks

The first group of memorial bricks are in! They will soon be placed in on the Chapel side of the church. If you would like to purchase a brick in honor or in memory of someone contact the office.

holytrinity@holytrinityelgin.com



James: A Biblical Study by Joyce Meyer

Put your faith into practice on a daily basis and grasp the practical truths of God's Word with this in-depth commentary on James from Internationally renowned Bible teacher.

James has so much to say about living a powerful and effective life in Christ. The book addresses a variety of topics important to growing your faith and teaches that you not only need to read the Word of God and know what it says, but you also need to act on it.

This study begins

Wednesday, Sept. 9th at 10:00 a.m.

Christi Engen's deck

Please call Christi at 847-742-4598 to participate. And wear a mask!

Calendar of September events:

Wed., 2nd

Young Adult book study 5:00 p.m.

Fri., 4th – Soup Kettle 5:30 p.m.

Sat., 5th – Outside Worship 5:00 p.m.

Sun., 6th

Community Breakfast 8:00 a.m.

Worship online/radio 9:30 a.m.

Children Sunday School 4:00 p.m. Zoom'

Soup Kettle 4:30 p.m.

Wed., 9th

Bible study at Engen's 10:00 a.m.

Young Adult book study 5:00 p.m.

Thurs., 10th

Inside worship 10:00 a.m.

Fri., 11th – Soup Kettle 5:30 p.m.

Sun., 13th

Worship online/radio 9:30 a.m.

Soup Kettle 4:30 p.m.

Tue., 15th – Council 7:00 p.m.

Wed., 16th

Bible study at Engen's 10:00 a.m.

Young Adult book study 5:00 p.m.

Thurs., 17th – Youth Group

Fri., 18th – Soup Kettle 5:30 p.m.

Sat., 19th – Outdoor Worship 5:00 p.m.

Sun., 20th

Community Breakfast 8:00 a.m.

Worship online/radio 9:30 a.m.

Children Sunday School 4:00 p.m. Zoom'

Soup Kettle 4:30 p.m.

Wed., 23rd

Bible study at Engen's 10:00 a.m.

Young Adult book study 5:00 p.m.

Thurs., 24th

Inside Worship 10:00 a.m.

Fri., 25th – Soup Kettle 5:30 p.m.

Sun., 27th

Worship online/radio 9:30 a.m.

Soup Kettle 4:30 p.m.

Wed., 30th

Bible study at Engen's 10:00 a.m.

Young Adult book study 5:00 p.m.

Sat., 10/3 Outdoor Worship with PET
BLESSING! 5:00 p.n.

From the Music Director...

Every so often I spend some time reflecting on my past experiences serving in worship. One of the norms for many churches is as follows. The service starts at exactly the top (or bottom) of the hour without a second to spare. Some churches go to extra lengths ensuring the service does not go over 60 minutes. Within that set time, they engage in the same liturgy, the same order, seldom varying from the norm. Over time, part of the service feels as though you are just going through the motions and becomes robotic. You may no longer feel connected to a worship service the way you once did. At that point, those powerful services you once remember are very rare. Nearly every Sunday and holiday service is engrained in your head to the point that if a pastor is one step off where he usually preaches from, it throws everyone for a loop - don't even get started with the pastors that don't preach from the pulpit! When I give input towards worship planning, one of my biggest things is preventing worship from becoming stale. If coming to a worship service just feels like going through the motions, what are you really getting out of it?

At Holy Trinity, we are lucky to be a congregation that can have changes to weekly worship without an uproar. I have personally found myself growing as a church musician because of the openness to change that Holy Trinity has. Growing up as a Lutheran church musician, most people stick to certain types of music. Simply put, all the music eventually sounds the same. As I mentioned the services becoming stale, the music can also experience that - and very easily I might add. At Holy Trinity I have been able to expand my repertoire due to your love of music. You are open to hearing anything, even when I am hesitant about playing certain things during a church service. I have been surprised at some of the music that has most been enjoyed, but it is that feedback that allows me to take those risks and push myself to do better. Years ago, when I first started working with Michael, one of the things he spoke most highly about Holy Trinity was how supportive the congregation was for hearing different types of music. It is nice to be able to play music that was composed several hundred years ago and music composed this year in the same service. While I might provide music for church using the gifts God has given me, I am extremely thankful for your support that allows me to grow as a musician.

-Matt Wahl

Young Peoples Ministry at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church

In August, I spent some time re-imagining this important ministry at Holy Trinity in these days of COVID. If you have any questions or would like to help, please contact me!

Deaconess Andrea

This ministry seeks to provide the age groups birth – young adults in the following ways:

- Faith Formation
- Service opportunities
- Stepping Stones – milestones in children’s faith lives
- Support and prayer for parents/grandparents

Children’s Ministry

- Birth – Preschool
- Grades K- 2
- Grades 3-5
 - Needs: Prayer support for children and families, service opportunities that are age-appropriate, be included in worship, regular faith formation times

Confirmation Ministry

Grades 5 & above – Children are invited to a monthly Zoom class on the Bible and Luther’s Small Catechism

Youth Ministry

- Grades 6-8
 - Need: Prayer support, service opportunities, faith formation, ways to being included in the congregation, a safe way to get to know each other in a fun environment
- Grades 9-12
 - Need: Prayer support, some time for just High School group, service opportunities, faith formation, ways to be included in the congregation, a safe way to be get to know each other in a fun environment

Young Adult Ministry

- age 18-23
 - Need: prayer support, “care packages,” Book studies or relevant studies on current issues, service opportunities

Fall 2020 Calendar – Children, Youth, and Family Ministry

**Cross + Gen: Sunday
Zoom School** - all ages/all
congregation members &
friends welcome

Sept. 6 & 20

October 4 & 18

Nov. 1 & 25

Advent series - Nov. 29, Dec.
6, 13, 20

4:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Youth (grades 6-12)

**Monthly Youth group
meeting Group via Zoom.**

Discussions on current issues
related to our faith, zoom,
games, and planning for
service/mission trips.

Thursdays, 7:00 – 8:00 p.m.

September 17, October 22,
November 19, December 17

Youth in Service to Others

Bi-monthly service events for
our church and community.
Also, planning for yearly
mission trip!

Young Adults

Weekly outside Book study
(until mid-October)
Wednesdays at 5:00 p.m.

Starting Oct. 14 every other
Wednesday Zoom study
(5:00 – 6:00 p.m.)

HTLC Tech Team Celebrated its 2nd birthday in July 2020

(by Bruce Woerner)

The HTLC Tech Team celebrated our second ministry anniversary in July 2020. Current members include: Deaconess Andrea, Bruce Cook, Candy Grzadziel, Brian Janz, Ryan Read, Doug Schaeffer, Matt Wahl and Bruce Woerner (Lead).



Our team seeks to provide innovative solutions using technology to meet the ministry needs of the church, assist in community outreach, as well as supporting the operational and administrative functions of Holy Trinity. We pilot technology solutions and are technology advocates in our church. We often partner with other committees, staff and the church council in the implementing solutions. We are the stewards for the livestreaming of our 9:30 am Sunday Services which rolled out in 2018. In our livestreaming role we partner closely with the Radio Ministry team to ensure both are synchronized and complementary.

The global pandemic has highlighted many of the technologies we have put in place such as the Improved HTLC Website, Facebook, Livestream, Video Meetings and Congregational Communications via Breeze.

As an example - In 2018, Tech Team started meeting monthly via video conference (Zoom, Google Hangouts, etc.) while other committees were meeting in person at church. The technology was poor at the time, but we stuck with it, tried new technologies as the came along and learned a ton. This experience helped as our congregation transitioned to remote gatherings in March 2020. It was quite rewarding to see dozens in the congregation on a remote 'Easter Brunch' Zoom Meeting after the 2020 Easter service including people dialing in from out of state.

While technology has helped us stay connected during the pandemic, our tech team looks forward to being able to meet again in person. We could always use more help. If technology at Holy Trinity interests you, please reach out to me and we can look for including you in our growing ministry.



On the way to calling a new pastor...

- ✓ Survey congregation for MSP
- ✓ Submit MSP
- Meet with Synod staff
- Interview Interim/ council hires interim
- Establish a call committee (send a note or e-mail to council president if you would like to serve on this committee)
- Call committee begins to meet and works to figure out the compensation/style of new pastor
- Call Committee interviews potential pastors
- Call committee recommend a candidate to council
- If council approves, candidate meets congregation
- Congregation votes on candidate
- If approved, candidate begins ministry at Holy Trinity!
- Welcome party!