



# Trinity Times

September 2021

holytrinityelgin.com

357 Division St Elgin, IL 60120

847-742-2025

## *Visioning Process Updates*

As many of you know, Pastor Dave used the summer to listen to members and discern from God a vision for the next chapter of our ministry together. At our most recent church council meeting some preliminary results were discussed and some potential priorities lifted up for the congregation. These will help shape our work in the months and years ahead. We will continue to explore these at the September council meeting as well. Here are eight areas that we are looking at giving extra attention. This list is a draft and not final, but it will help all of you know what kinds of things seem most helpful and are being considered.

1. **Deepen the spirituality and faith lives of people** as individuals and the spiritual tone and character of the congregation, with particular attention to the faith formation and the spiritual lives of adults while also building a stronger base of youth and children.
2. **Clarify a longer-term model for staffing** and especially for the work/role of the pastor for the next chapter of ministry.
3. **Reconnect people within the congregation** as a community of faith more fully as shifts in the COVID pandemic permit.
4. **Increase the development of leaders** within the life of the church and their ability to empower more people to engage in shared ministry, so the work of the church is led by and involves more people and a broader and more diverse base.
5. **Develop new relationships** with people in the neighborhood and surrounding community.
6. **Improve the quality of and the usage of technology** in the life of the church as well as in engaging our neighbors. Equip our people to know how to use it and participate in ways that expand involvement and connections within the church and with people in our lives outside the church as well.
7. **Learn relational evangelism and faith sharing** so that people can be equipped to share, invite, and accompany new and more diverse people into the life of the church.
8. **Continue to grow in stewardship** awareness and develop stronger and more diverse resources for the ongoing work of the church.



Please reflect on these and pray for our leaders as we continue to work on these. We will also be drafting a purpose statement/tag line for our congregation and a list of core values/guiding principles that will shape our work. We will plan to share more fully about these in October and discuss them at our next congregational forum.

On Division St there is a food box for our community!  
Anyone is welcome to grab food if they have need or drop off food and/or paper goods.

If you are able to contribute to our food box, the following items are appreciated:

Soft granola bars, chips, crackers, canned/dried meat, paper towel, canned pasta, dried beans/rice, cookies, canned fruit.

Thank you!



Begins Sunday, September 12<sup>th</sup> after worship  
for children and youth!

### **Some updates on Deaconess Andrea & Seminary...**

She starts school Sept 6<sup>th</sup>! Below is a little info on the program she is a part of...

#### **Collaborative Learning Program**

Wartburg Seminary launched a new program in the Fall of 2016 that meets the needs of the church for leadership formation through collaborative partnership between students, congregations, ELCA Synods, and the seminary. Features of the Collaborative Learning Program include:

- *Learn. Lead. Serve.* Unlike most theological education, students serve in a congregation or other ministry ALL four years while also taking courses online to complete their degree. Serving in ministry from the first day of seminary focuses learning which is integrated with course curriculum and content. This creates a dynamic action-reflection based learning experience.
- Reduces the need for educational student loan borrowing. In addition to being compensated for ministry service, sponsoring synods, congregations or other ministries, and the seminary work together to support the student and reduce the need for students to take on significant educational debt. Students often accumulate debt due to living costs rather than tuition. By providing employment this relieves a significant financial burden on the student.
- Real-time classroom participation. Using new classroom technology, students will participate in courses from their computer, as if they are sitting in the classroom, – engaging in conversation, asking questions, and sharing insights gained from the work they are simultaneously performing in a congregation or other organization.
- Visit campus two times per year. No need to move to Wartburg Seminary's campus in Dubuque, Iowa. Instead, students will participate in one-week intensives at the beginning of each semester with

classmates and faculty to build community which is a core element of Wartburg Seminary's formation process.

- Learning sites provide pastoral leadership in congregations. Sites may include congregations where there is currently no pastoral leadership where students will serve as a synodically authorized minister or larger multi-staff congregations where the student will serve alongside other pastoral staff.

**Watch for more updates in the coming months! Thank you for your prayers and support as we embark on this new exciting journey God is leading us on!**

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## **Worship Updates:**

**Beginning the weekend of September 11 & 12, we are moving to the Narrative Lectionary. Below is some information on what the Narrative Lectionary is and how it shapes our worship life. On the next page, there is an overview of the many stories we will hear and learn from this year.**

### **What is the narrative lectionary?**

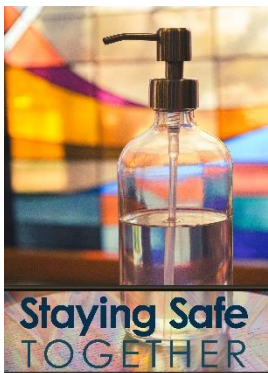
The Narrative Lectionary is a four-year cycle of readings. On the weekends from September through May each year the texts follow the sweep of the biblical story, from Creation through the early Christian church.

The texts show the breadth and variety of voices within Scripture. They invite people to hear the stories of Abraham and Sarah, Moses and the prophets, Jesus, and Paul. Listening to the many different voices within Scripture enriches preaching and the life of faith.

### **What are the readings?**

The texts include the major episodes in Scripture. They are arranged in a narrative sequence to help people see Scripture as a story that has coherence and a dynamic movement.:

- From September to mid-December the preaching texts begin with the early chapters of Genesis, move through the stories of Israel's early history, the exodus, the kings, prophets, exile and return.
- From Christmas to Easter there is sustained reading of one of the four gospels
- From Easter to Pentecost the texts are chosen from Acts and Paul's letters.



With the continued rise in COVID cases in our state and county we ask they you continue the following if you come in-person to the church building:

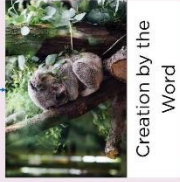
- Wear a mask
- Wash hands/use hand sanitizer
- Sit in the pews marked with the blue tape so we can socially distance

We will continue to have communion. As of 9/2, please pick up an individual communion kit in narthex on the way to your seat.

Thank you for your help in keeping our church healthy!

# Narrative Lectionary Timeline 2021-22, Year of John

## Genesis



Creation by the Word



Binding of Isaac



Isaac's Blessing and Jacob's Dream



God's Name Is Revealed



God Provides Manna

## Kings and Prophets



God Calls Samuel

## Kings and Prophets



God Calls David



Solomon's Temple



God Speaks to Elijah



Amos: Justice Rolls Down



Isaiah: A Child Is Born (Christ the King)



Jeremiah's Letter to Exiles (Advent 1)



Ezekiel: Valley of Dry Bones (Advent 2)

## Advent

## Advent



Word Accomplishes God's Purpose (Advent 3)



Word Made Flesh (Advent 4)

## Christmas



Birth of Jesus (Christmas Eve)



Shepherds Visit (Christmas Day)

## Gospel of John



Jesus Says Come and See



A Voice in the Wilderness

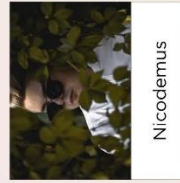


Wedding at Cana



Jesus Cleanses the Temple

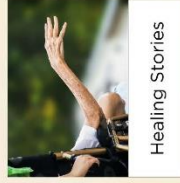
## Gospel of John



Nicodemus



The Woman at the Well



Healing Stories



Bread of Life

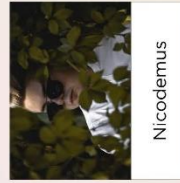


The Man Born Blind (Transfiguration)



The Good Shepherd (Ash Wednesday)

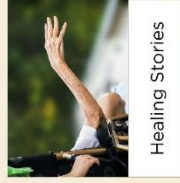
## Easter



Jesus Washes Feet



Peter's Denial



Jesus and Pilate



Jesus Condemned



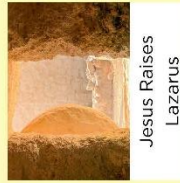
The Crucified Messiah (Palm/Passion Sunday)



Jesus' Last Words (Maundy Thursday)



Jesus the Passover Lamb (Good Friday)



Jesus Raises Lazarus

## Gospel of John



Thomas



Paul's Conversion



Paul and Silas



Paul's Sermon at Athens



Partnership in the Gospel



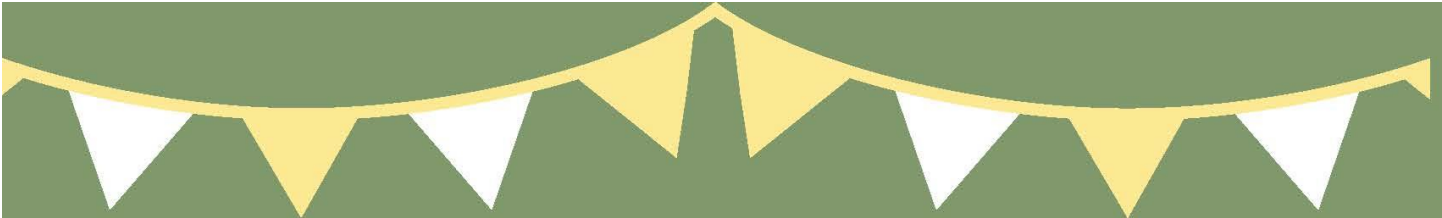
The Christ Hymn



Rejoice in the Lord (Pentecost)

## Acts and Letters of Paul

## Pentecost



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# NEIGHBORHOOD BLOCK PARTY

Saturday, September 18, 2021

1:30 - 4:30 PM

**ALL ARE WELCOME!!!**

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**Food, games, music!**

Toys, furniture, books & more  
donation welcome for our food  
pantry!

**Masks Encouraged!**



# GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

Open to all who are grieving the  
death of a loved one.

**SECOND AND FOURTH THURSDAYS**

**10:30 - 11:30AM**

**STARTING SEPT. 9**

**HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH,  
ELGIN**

**357 DIVISION ST.**

Sponsored by Promedica (Heartland) Hospice.  
Call Laura Wilson, Bereavement Coordinator, at  
224-361-9848 for information.