

# Tidings Newsletter

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church

Physical: 2511 S Pines Road, Spokane Valley, WA 99206

Mailing: PO Box 141862, Spokane Valley, WA 99214-1862

Office Phone: (509) 926-7966

Email: office@holytrinitylcmc.org

Website: www.holytrinitylcmc.org

June 2026

Volume 66, Number 6

Monthly Newsletter

Summer Worship Schedule

*No Sunday School*

Worship Service w/Communion begins @ 9:30 am

WE DESTROY  
ARGUMENTS AND EVERY  
LOFTY OPINION RAISED  
AGAINST THE  
*knowledge  
of God* AND TAKE  
EVERY THOUGHT CAPTIVE  
TO OBEY CHRIST

2 CORINTHIANS 10:5

## Inside this issue

- Page 2      **Unpacking Our Stuff** — *by Pastor Ed Backell*
- Page 3      **RightNow Media: Video of the Month** — *“When Your Way Isn’t Working”*
- Page 4      **Memorial Service: George LePard** — *Tuesday, June 16, 2:30 pm @ Veteran’s Cemetery*
- Page 5      **Bite2Go** — *Feeding Kids @ Bowdish Middle School*
- Page 5      **UGM Kid’s Camp Service Project** — *May 10—June 14, 2026*
- Pages 6-8    **Council Meeting Minutes** — *by Sandy Hoveskeland, Council Secretary*

## Unpacking our Stuff

by Pastor Ed Backell

One of the challenges that I'm faced with as a pastor is to find the balance between remaining "professional" and oversharing too much from my own life. I want to be authentic and transparent...but I don't want to delve so deeply into my personal experiences that I wear you all out with yet another chapter from the Book of Ed. So, let me process what's currently going on in my life, and hopefully it will encourage you all as well.

We just took delivery of a new shed. It's twice the size of our old shed, and it was delivered EXACTLY where I wanted it in the back yard. I now have space to be able to completely empty my old shed, a fifth-wheel trailer that has too much stuff in it, and I should be able to clean out my garage as well.

But this entire process has certainly caused me to reflect upon how much "stuff" I've allowed to accumulate in my heart and mind. I know full well that we, as followers of Christ, allow too many things that are NOT "of Christ" to take up space in our lives.

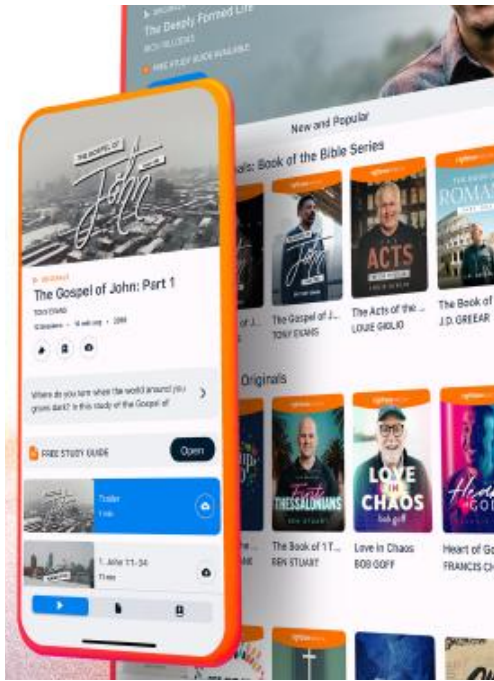
I share this, not to guilt you, but to commiserate with you. It's very easy to let all kinds of thoughts, attitudes, and practices that do not reflect the character of God to take up residence in us. I'm sure this concern is brought to the forefront of my mind because of the sermon I preached a couple of weeks ago in May about Captivating Thoughts. *What does it really look like for us to take our thoughts captive?*

As we move into our summer schedule of meeting at 9:30 am without a Bible Study time, I want to encourage us all--it might be time to empty the "storage sheds" of our mind, examine if anything is worth keeping, or should be let go, as we follow in the footsteps of our Savior.

*Walking with you - Pastor Ed*



# rightnow MEDIA



## Free Access to +25,000 Bible Study Videos

Every person in our church has free access to biblical video series for adults, youth, and kids—now streaming on your favorite device.

### Get Free Access

1. Click the link in your email invitation or visit <https://app.rightnowmedia.org/join/holytrinitylc>
2. Create your free account.
3. Download the app for your device and start browsing!
4. Or scan the QR code below.

### QR Code Access

Scan this QR code to sign up or click the link in the email to create your free account!



## Video of the Month June 2026

### “When Your Way Isn’t Working”

By Kyle Idleman, a 5-session study

Maybe you’ve found recently that you are getting more irritable with people. Or you’re feeling more overwhelmed and defeated by the challenges life is throwing your way. Or you’re spending more time scanning social media than you are connecting with God in prayer.

If you’re feeling discouraged, frustrated, and worn out, it’s a good indication that something in your life is out of sync. Fortunately, there is a solution to this problem found in Scripture.

In John 15:5, Jesus tells his followers, *I am the vine, you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit, apart from me you can’t do anything.*”

Instead of going it alone in this life, we are to stay connected to Him.

To view the video of the month, scan the QR Code using your cell phone camera.



## Memorial Service for George LePard

Tuesday, June 16, at 2:30 pm  
@ Veteran's Memorial Cemetery



There will be a memorial service for George on *Tuesday, June 16, at 2:30 pm* at the Veteran's Memorial Cemetery (21702 W. Espanola Rd, Medical Lake, WA 99022). There will also be a little gathering after the service at Audubon Park (3405 N Milton St, Spokane, WA 99205).

If attending the gathering, RSVP by calling the church office at (509) 926-7966 and leave a message, so they can plan for enough food.



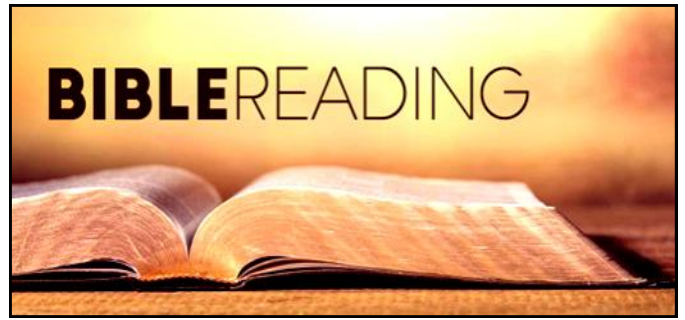
Bob & Pam McMahan  
*Married June 11*

Eric & Keri Fletcher  
*Married June 17*

Denel & Judy Ingraham  
*Married June 22, 1962*  
Celebrating 64 years!

John & Diane Fried  
*Married June 25, 1972*  
Celebrating 54 years!

Mark & Lynette Andreasen  
*Married June 29, 1996*  
Celebrating 30 years!



### June 7 - 2nd Sunday after Pentecost

- ✝ Deuteronomy 31:30--32:27
- ✝ Philippians 2:14-30
- ✝ Mark 9:9-29

### June 14 - 3rd Sunday after Pentecost

- ✝ Isaiah 5:18-24
- ✝ 1 John 3:8-15
- ✝ Luke 11:14-23

### June 21 - 4th Sunday after Pentecost

- ✝ Ezekiel 17:22-24
- ✝ 2 Peter 2:1-22
- ✝ Luke 8:4-21

### June 28 - 5th Sunday after Pentecost

- ✝ Isaiah 29:10-14
- ✝ 1 Timothy 4
- ✝ Matthew 15:1-20



### June Birthdays

Rich Weatherly	June 4
David Seybold	June 10
Kelly Peterson	June 12
Pat Woods	June 22



## **Bite2Go: Feeding Kids at Bowdish Middle School**

Holy Trinity is partnering with Bite2Go to provide children with a mix of easy-to-open, single-serving, nutritious, nonperishable food items for meals and snacks over the weekend during the school year beginning in September 2026.

Sponsorship opportunities are available for anyone interested. **For just \$24 per month, you can sponsor a kid at Bowdish Middle School** and provide food they need to get them through the weekend.

It is estimated that there are 34 food insecure students at Bowdish Middle School that will be participating in the Bite2Go Food Program.

There will be a Bite2Go presentation at HTLC on July 12 that will provide more information and answer any questions.

If interested and would like more information, please contact...

**Dan Olson at (509) 990-0981;  
dolson@ghkservices.com,**

**George Simon at (509) 939-0652;  
mrgsjr@comcast.net.**



## **Service Projects to Support UGM Kid's Camp**

*May 10—June 14, 2026*

HTLC in partnership with  
Thrivent Action Teams

### 1st Project - Kids Camp Needed Items:

**Girls' One Piece Swimsuits**  
*(adult size small--large, or adult size 8--14)*

**Girl's Sweatpants**  
*(adult size small--large)*

**Girl's Shorts**  
*(kid size 14--16 and adult size 8--14)*

**Bed Pillows**

**Small Flashlights**  
*(10 pack at Walmart)*

**Tennis Shoes**  
*(youth size 3-6)*

### 2nd Project - Kids Camp Water Bottles (800):

You can make a monetary donation to purchase water bottles, please write, **"UGM Camp Water Bottles"** in the memo section of your check **OR** on the outside of the donation envelope if you are giving cash.

*New this year...UGM is bringing 5th graders to the camp to do the Adventure Course on June 5 & 9. Camps run during the week of June 22 - August 10.*

# COUNCIL MINUTES

**Council Meeting Minutes: May 12, 2026** *(Subject to approval)*

*Respectfully Submitted by Sandy Hoveskeland, Council Secretary*

**Present:** Charlie May, LaLita Tadena, Pastor Ed Backell, Nancy Purcell, Vicki Egesdal, Bob McMahan, Diane Bertholet, George Simon, Dan Olson and Sandy Hoveskeland. Pat Woods and Jen Bomhard were absent.

**Call to Order:** Vice President Charlie May called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

**Devotional:** Nancy provided the devotional based on verses from the Psalms.

**Approval of Minutes:** A motion was made by Vicki and seconded by LaLita to approve the April 14, 2026, minutes as presented. Motion was unanimously approved.

**Treasurer’s Report:** Vicki provided the Treasurer’s report. Total plate offerings are a little bit higher than last year. Larry Tyler’s salary has been moved from property expense to payroll; therefore, the payroll expense is higher than last year. Staff members were also given a COLA increase.

STCU Checking:	\$32,272.49
C. Schwab Building Fund:	\$37,264.22
C. Schwab Savings:	\$106,130.11
C. Schwab Savings VIGAX Fund:	\$25,490.56



**Approval of Treasurer’s Report:** A motion was made by LaLita and seconded by Nancy to approve the May 12, 2026, Treasurer’s Report as presented. Motion was unanimously approved.

**Pastor’s Report:** Pastor Ed preached and taught adult Sunday School every Sunday, and the Augsburg Confession study has been completed. He met weekly with the Wednesday Bible study group, Tuesday men’s fellowship, and Friday morning breakfast group. He attended the monthly Worship and Music committee meeting. Pastor Ed and Jami attended the LCMC district meeting at Lutherhaven on April 24-25. He helped Robbie with the AA meetings schedule at Holy Trinity so Robbie could attend. Pastor Ed met with several people during the month for visitation and counseling. Sober Karaoke was held at the church April 17. About eight people attended. We’ll need to publicize better next time.

Pastor Ed helped with the musical at Valley Christian School on April 30. He set up and operated the lights for the musical. He taught a new members class, which included one new member and two repeat members. He visited Pam McMahan and Denel Ingraham at Deaconess Hospital. Pastor Ed noted that hospitals can no longer call pastors for patients, so be sure and let him know when someone in the hospital would like a visit from Pastor Ed. Prayer requests were received from Susie and Karen. Pastor Ed attempted to contact Northgate

*(Continued on next page)*

# COUNCIL MINUTES

*(Continued from previous page)*

Revival to invite them to have a concert at our church again this year. He found that the group has disbanded. In place of them, Pastor Ed and Jami will have a program, which will include the choir from Valley Christian School, on May 31.

**Properties and Maintenance:** See report submitted by Charlie May. Brent and Charlie will install a new flush system in the men's bathroom to fix the problem. It was discovered that the refrigerator in the kitchen wasn't working. Tom checked it and determined the problem was with the outlet it was plugged into. Brent and Vicki went through and tightened the screws on all the pews. There continues to be a problem with broken chairs in the Fellowship Hall. Keith from AA and Dan Olson picked up some new chairs to replace the broken ones.

**Worship and Music:** See report submitted by Nancy Purcell. The summer schedule begins on May 24. There will be no Sunday School in the summer. The worship services will be at 9:30 a.m.

**Congregational Ministries:** See report submitted by LaLita Tadena. Supporting UGM Kid's Camp will be our service project, and we will seek help from the congregation in supplying camping items May 10 through June 14.

**Christian Education:** See report submitted by Diane Bertholet.

**Social Cares and Concerns and Care Team:** See report submitted by Jennifer Bomhard.

**Insurance Policy Ad hoc Committee:** This was tabled at last month's Council meeting. The committee meets tomorrow, May 13, at 1 p.m. Related to this topic, Dan noted that UGM wants a volunteer application for everyone who volunteers at UGM. Their insurance is requesting this from people coming in who don't work there.

**Approval of Committee Reports:** A motion was made by Vicki and seconded by Nancy to approve the Committee Reports as presented. Motion was unanimously approved.

## Old/Unfinished Business:

1. Report on Zoom Meeting on Insurance Needs: Tabled as the committee has not been able to meet yet. The committee of Vicki, Charlie and Bob will review the insurance policy and the user group agreement. Vicki will lead the committee.
2. National Night Out – August 4th: Vicki is looking for volunteers to help with planning. She will get the information to Tracy to start advertising this sticky event.

*(Continued on next page)*

# COUNCIL MINUTES

*(Continued from previous page)*

3. Annual Events: The UGM Summer Camp is coming up and there may be some interest in touring the camp on the Spokane River as was done in previous years. More information will follow.

## New Business:

1. Review for Compliance - Constitution and Bylaws: The review is not yet completed. A note moving forward is to not attach operational documents to the Bylaws.

## Member Items:

1. Debit Cards: A debit card will be issued in Tracy Damiano's name. Charlie's card will be shredded. Tracy and Vicki Egesdal will each have a debit card moving forward.
2. Bite2Go Information: George Simon and Dan Olson gave an update on the Bite2Go Program. The mission is to deliver food to grade school, middle school and senior high school students who are food insecure and need food for the weekend. The only school currently in need in the Central Valley School District is Bowdish Middle School.

If we have enough individual donors to supply 33 kids with food at a cost of \$24 per month per child (\$288 per year), Holy Trinity will be able to be a sponsor for this program. This number is based on how many kids at Bowdish eat the free lunch. This is a three-year commitment for each individual donor.

Julie Myklebust from Bite2Go will attend church service on July 12 and she will give a presentation on Bite2Go. To build awareness in the church ahead of time, posters will be put up in the church and flyers will be available. George Simon will be the contact person. This will be announced in church each Sunday before Julie is here for her presentation.

3. Advent Lutheran Fund Raiser Dinner: Pastor Ed was contacted about a Murder Mystery Dinner Theater at Advent Lutheran to be held on June 5. The purpose is to raise money to remodel the Fellowship Hall at Advent Lutheran Church. Their request is for a representative from Advent Lutheran to sell tickets to the event at Holy Trinity on Sunday, May 24. The Council agreed that it would be appropriate to sell tickets. The cost of a ticket is \$35.

**Next Month's Devotional:** Vicki

**June Counters:** LaLita and Vicki (Nancy will fill in for Vicki June 14)

**Adjournment:** The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer at 7:48 p.m.



June 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
	<b>Pastor Ed's Hours:</b> 9:00 am—5:00 pm  12:00 pm AA—VNG  5:30 pm TOPS  5:30 pm AA—HHG  7:00 pm NA—MNM	<b>Pastor Ed's Hours:</b> 9:00 am—5:00 pm  12:00 pm AA—VNG  5:30 pm AA—HHG  7:00 pm NA—B2B	<b>Pastor Ed's Hours:</b> 9:00 am—5:00 pm  <b>10:00 am Bible Study</b>  12:00 pm AA—VNG  5:30 pm AA—HHG  7:00 pm NA—WNW	<b>Pastor Ed's Hours:</b> 9:00 am—5:00 pm  <b>Tracy's Office Hours:</b> 11:00 am—1:00 pm  12:00 pm AA—VNG  5:30 pm AA—HHG	<b>8:00 am Breakfast and Bible Study</b>  12:00 pm AA—VNG  5:30 pm AA—HHG	8:00 am AA—MWU  10:00 am AA—SMM  8:00 pm AA—SNM
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
<b>5th Sunday of Easter</b>  <b>9:30 am</b> <b>Worship Service &amp; Fellowship</b>  10:00 am AA—SRG (AM)  7:00 pm AA—SRG (PM)	<b>Pastor Ed's Hours:</b> 9:00 am—5:00 pm  12:00 pm AA—VNG  5:30 pm TOPS  5:30 pm AA—HHG  7:00 pm NA—MNM	<b>Pastor Ed's Hours:</b> 9:00 am—5:00 pm  12:00 pm AA—VNG  5:30 pm AA—HHG  <b>6:30 pm</b> <b>Council Meeting</b>  7:00 pm NA—B2B	<b>Pastor Ed's Hours:</b> 9:00 am—5:00 pm  <b>10:00 am Bible Study</b>  12:00 pm AA—VNG  5:30 pm AA—HHG  7:00 pm NA—WNW	<b>Pastor Ed's Hours:</b> 9:00 am—5:00 pm  <b>Tracy's Office Hours:</b> 11:00 am—1:00 pm  <b>11:15 am—1:00 pm</b> <b>Serving Lunch @ Men's Shelter</b>  12:00 pm AA—VNG  5:30 pm AA—HHG	<b>8:00 am Breakfast and Bible Study</b>  12:00 pm AA—VNG  5:30 pm AA—HHG	8:00 am AA—MWU  10:00 am AA—SMM  8:00 pm AA—SNM
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
<b>6th Sunday of Easter</b>  <b>9:30 am</b> <b>Worship Service &amp; Fellowship</b>  10:00 am AA—SRG (AM)  5:30 pm—6:30 pm NA Committee Mtg  7:00 pm AA—SRG (PM)	<b>Pastor Ed's Hours:</b> 9:00 am—5:00 pm  12:00 pm AA—VNG  5:30 pm TOPS  5:30 pm AA—HHG  7:00 pm NA—MNM  <b>Newsletter Articles Due</b>	<b>Pastor Ed's Hours:</b> 9:00 am—5:00 pm  12:00 pm AA—VNG  5:30 pm AA—HHG  7:00 pm NA—B2B	<b>Pastor Ed's Hours:</b> 9:00 am—5:00 pm  <b>10:00 am Bible Study</b>  12:00 pm AA—VNG  5:30 pm AA—HHG  7:00 pm NA—WNW	<b>Pastor Ed's Hours:</b> 9:00 am—5:00 pm  <b>Tracy's Office Hours:</b> 11:00 am—1:00 pm  12:00 pm AA—VNG  5:30 pm AA—HHG	<b>8:00 am Breakfast and Bible Study</b>  12:00 pm AA—VNG  5:30 pm AA—HHG	8:00 am AA—MWU  10:00 am AA—SMM  8:00 pm AA—SNM
21 - Father's Day	22	23	24	25	26	27
<b>7th Sunday of Easter</b>  <b>9:30 am</b> <b>Worship Service &amp; Fellowship</b>  10:00 am AA—SRG (AM)  7:00 pm AA—SRG (PM)  	<b>Pastor Ed's Hours:</b> 9:00 am—5:00 pm  12:00 pm AA—VNG  5:30 pm TOPS  5:30 pm AA—HHG  7:00 pm NA—MNM	<b>Pastor Ed's Hours:</b> 9:00 am—5:00 pm  12:00 pm AA—VNG  5:30 pm AA—HHG  7:00 pm NA—B2B	<b>Pastor Ed's Hours:</b> 9:00 am—5:00 pm  <b>10:00 am Bible Study</b>  12:00 pm AA—VNG  5:30 pm AA—HHG  7:00 pm NA—WNW	<b>Pastor Ed's Hours:</b> 9:00 am—5:00 pm  <b>10:00 am Table-Talk w/ Pastor</b>  <b>Tracy's Office Hours:</b> 11:00 am—1:00 pm  12:00 pm AA—VNG  <b>1:30 pm</b> <b>W&amp;M Committee Mtg</b>  5:30 pm AA—HHG	<b>8:00 am Breakfast and Bible Study</b>  12:00 pm AA—VNG  5:30 pm AA—HHG	8:00 am AA—MWU  10:00 am AA—SMM  8:00 pm AA—SNM
28	29	30	1	2	3	4
<b>Day of Pentecost</b>  <b>9:30 am</b> <b>Worship Service &amp; Fellowship</b>  10:00 am AA—SRG (AM)  5:30 pm—6:30 pm NA Committee Mtg  7:00 pm AA—SRG (PM)	<b>Pastor Ed's Hours:</b> 9:00 am—5:00 pm  12:00 pm AA—VNG  5:30 pm TOPS  5:30 pm AA—HHG  7:00 pm NA—MNM	<b>Pastor Ed's Hours:</b> 9:00 am—5:00 pm  12:00 pm AA—VNG  5:30 pm AA—HHG  7:00 pm NA—B2B				

HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH  
 PO BOX 141862  
 SPOKANE VALLEY WA 99214-1862

*Return Service Requested*

**Holy Trinity Lutheran Church  
 Mission Statement:**

*“To proclaim the Good News of God’s  
 Saving Grace and to minister to our  
 community through our relationship with God.”*



**Tidings** is published monthly for the members and friends of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church. The material and content of this periodical is intended to be about church business, community outreach, theology, and spiritual inspiration.

*If you no longer desire to receive this publication, please email [office@holytrinitylcmc.org](mailto:office@holytrinitylcmc.org), or call (509) 926-7966.*

**June Events**

Council Meeting	Tuesday, June 9 @ 6:30 pm
Serving Lunch at UGM Men’s Shelter	Thursday, June 11 @ 11:15 am
Newsletter Articles Due	Monday, June 15
Happy Father’s Day!	Sunday, June 21
Worship & Music Committee Meeting	Thursday, June 25 @ 1:30 pm
Mid-week Bible Study	Wednesdays @ 10:00 am
Table-Talk w/Pastor	Last Thursday of the month @ 10:00 am
Breakfast & Bible Study	Fridays @ 8:00 am

**Summer Worship Schedule**

*No Sunday School*

**9:30 am Worship w/Communion  
 (fellowship after)**