

TIDINGS

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church

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October 2025

Volume 65, Number 10

Monthly Newsletter

Regular Worship Schedule

Sunday School @ 9:30 am

Worship Service w/Communion @ 10:30 am

Let us not become weary in doing good,
for at the proper time we will reap a
harvest if we do not give up.
Galatians 6:9



Inside this issue:

- Page 2 Harvest Time — *by Pastor Ed Backell*
- Page 3 Right Now Media — *by Dan Olson*
- Page 4 Save the Date: Thank-you Banquet — *Sunday, October 12, 6:00 pm*
- Page 4 New Member Class — *October 19 & October 26, 12:15 pm*
- Pages 5-7 Council Meeting Minutes — *by Sandy Hoveskeland*
- Page 8 HTLC Little Free Library — *come check it out*

Harvest Time

by Pastor Ed Backell

Here we are, looking at October, and harvest season is upon us. Spokane Valley isn't nearly as rural as my last call, but thoughts about harvest during this Autumn season are on my mind. I found some interesting Biblical thoughts about sowing and reaping. Often, when we hear those phrases in a Biblical context, we're drawn to Jesus' words on the subject ("The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few." - Matthew 9, Luke 10).

However, I'm struck by St. Paul's words in Galatians. Let me share them with you: "Make no mistake about this: You can never make a fool out of God. Whatever you plant is what you'll harvest. If you plant in the soil of your corrupt nature, you will harvest destruction. But if you plant in the soil of your spiritual nature, you will harvest everlasting life. We can't allow ourselves to get tired of living the right way. Certainly, each of us will receive everlasting life at the proper time, if we don't give up. Whenever we have the opportunity, we have to do what is good for everyone, especially for the family of believers." (Galatians 6:7-10)

What jumped out at me was the idea of the crop itself. It's logical for us to expect that when we plant corn, we'll get corn stalks coming up out of the ground. When we plant a kernel of wheat, we can expect fields of wheat to grow, ready for harvest. But did

you notice that in Galatians, the initial emphasis is on the SOIL, and not the seed?

Clearly, it's important to make sure that our lives (the soil into which spirituality is going to grow) are ready to receive what we're going to plant. If we plant according to our old lives, living by a set of values that don't reflect God's kingdom, we will not receive what is most beneficial to us. It's not that we are necessarily focusing on *bad* things: there's nothing necessarily "wrong"



with working hard, and then playing hard... but do those actions we take result in LIFE – actual, real, lasts-for-eternity life that means something - or do they just pass time?

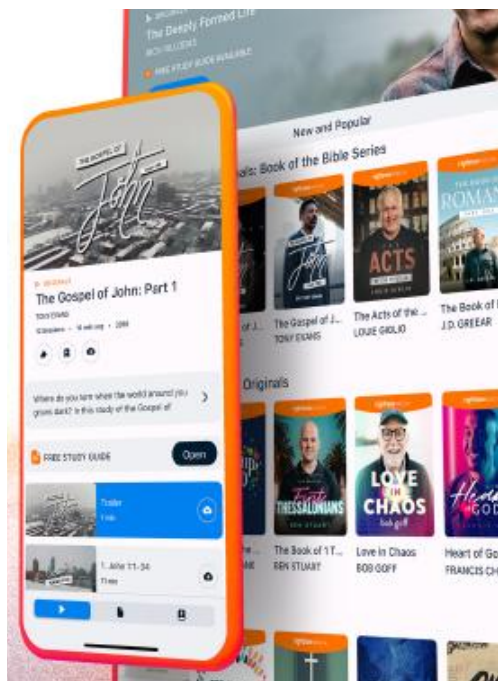
I want us all to live in such a way that no matter who we encounter, we are able to be walking in the Spirit, preparing the soil of our lives to receive whatever God chooses to plant in us from the Word. That way, when what is planted begins to bear fruit, and our own personal "harvest time" approaches, we can thank God for the results, because the Lord will be glorified. May that be true of all of us as we move through this harvest season... that it would be a constant reminder of the work that God is doing among us.

Joining with you in preparing our spiritual soil...

Keep Following Jesus—Pastor Ed

rightnow MEDIA

by Dan Olson



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!



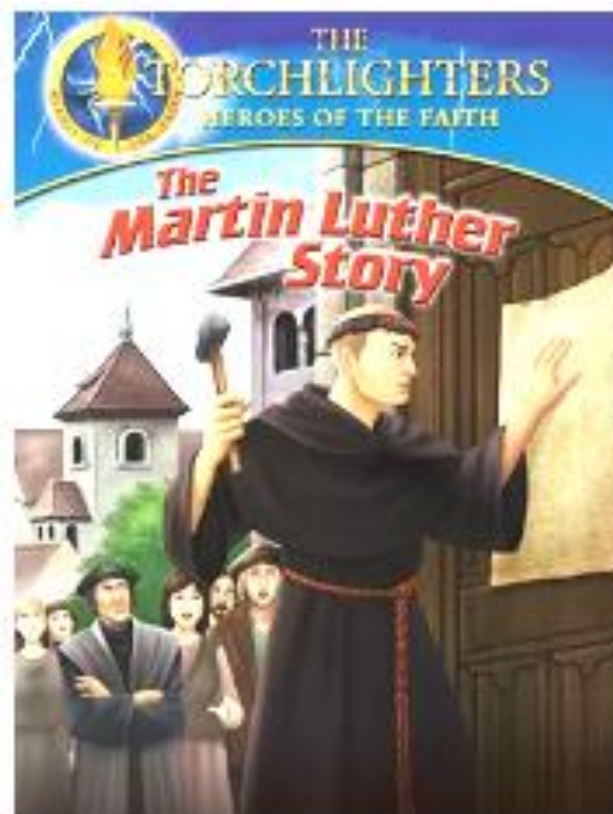
Video of the Month

October is Reformation Month.
October 31st is Reformation Day.

These are important days for Lutherans. To help know a bit more about Martin Luther, we recommend that you watch the following RightNow Media (RNM) video.

We hope this will help you celebrate Reformation Month and Reformation Day.

If you have any questions about the “Torchlighters: The Martin Luther Story” video or how to access your RightNow Media, please email office@holytrinitylcmc.org for help.





HTLC is hosting a ***“Thank You Banquet”*** on **Sunday, October 12, 2025,**
from 6:00 pm – 7:45 pm.

We would like to invite you and your friends and family, so please save the date and plan on attending.

The purpose of this event is to recognize and give thanks to God for all those who help provide the ministry that is happening at HTLC and in our community. Pastor Ed hopes that this will become a yearly event that recognizes and blesses everyone who serves at HTLC.

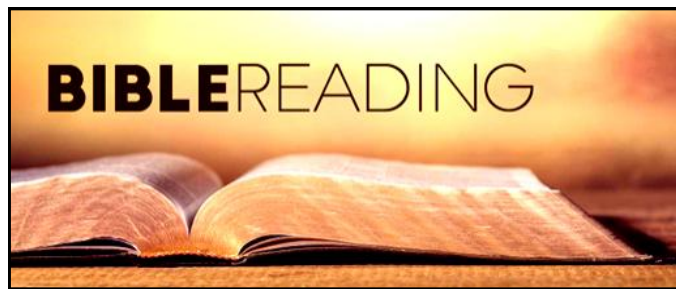
Tentative Plans:

1. Testimonies from members of our congregation
2. Dinner will be a Mexican Fiesta theme, with a taco bar
3. Fun and games

We would love to have members of HTLC give a brief (less than 5-minute) testimony of how HTLC has impacted your lives and the people around you, so please consider giving a testimony.

If interested in giving a testimony, please let Pastor Ed know by phone or email.

An invitation and opportunity to RSVP will be sent out soon.



October 5 (17th Sunday After Pentecost):

- ✝ Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4
- ✝ 2 Timothy 1:1-14
- ✝ Luke 17:5-10

October 12 (18th Sunday After Pentecost):

- ✝ 2 Kings 5:1-3, 7-15c
- ✝ 2 Timothy 2:8-15
- ✝ Luke 17:11-19

October 19 (19th Sunday After Pentecost):

- ✝ Genesis 32:22-31
- ✝ 2 Timothy 3:14—4:5
- ✝ Luke 18:1-8

October 26 (Reformation Sunday):

- ✝ Jeremiah 31:31-34
- ✝ Romans 3:19-28
- ✝ John 8:31-36



New Member Class

Sunday, October 19 & Sunday, October 26
12:15 pm – 2:15 pm

Attendees will need to bring their own brown bag lunch for the session.

Talk to Pastor Ed if interested.

COUNCIL MINUTES

Council Meeting Minutes: September 9, 2025 (Subject to approval)

Respectfully Submitted by Sandy Hoveskeland, Council Secretary

Present: Diane Fried, Denel Ingraham, LaLita Tadena, Pastor Ed Backell, Nancy Purcell and Sandy Hoveskeland. Pat Woods, Charlie May, Vicki Egesdal and George Simon were absent.

Call to Order: Vice President LaLita Tadena called the meeting to order at 6:45 p.m.

Devotional: LaLita gave the devotional based on the book "Unoffendable" by Brant Hansen. We need to trust ourselves and not feel guilty about bad decisions. Consider what God has done for us and forgive ourselves.

Approval of Minutes: A motion was made by Nancy and seconded by Diane to approve the August 12, 2025 minutes as presented. Motion was unanimously approved.

Treasurer's Report: The treasurer's report was provided by Vicki Egesdal. Total Assets are down about \$25,000 from the prior year. Most of that difference is depreciation on the building. The cost of the building is expensed throughout the year through depreciation. Cash assets are about the same this year as last year. Plate offerings January through August 2025 are \$96,512.55 compared to \$82,352.21 during the same period last year. Total expenses this year are \$134,108.81 compared to \$117,080.36 at this time last year. The biggest difference in our expenses is that we have a full-time pastor this year, and a part-time contract pastor last year. As a result, we have a greater net loss this year than at this time last year. This was expected as we chose to invest in a full-time pastor in hopes of growing the church in the future.

STCU Checking:	14,811.04
C. Schwab Building Fund:	36,397.33
C. Schwab Savings:	100,956.92
C. Schwab VIGAX Investment Fund:	23,364.49



Pastor's Report: Pastor Ed preached and taught every Sunday. He met weekly with the Wednesday Bible study group, Thursday men's fellowship, and Friday morning breakfast group. Pastor Ed met with Karl from AA several times during the month and provided prayers for Karl's daughter who has been diagnosed with cancer, and Karl's wife Cyndy. He met with Dan and Laura and Deanna Lane, Dan Winchester's daughter, who is attending LDS meetings. He gave Deanna a book to read "Bible on LDS Teachings". He attended a men's retreat with his son-in-law. Four letters have been mailed inviting new people to a church membership class in October. Holy Trinity has been asked to be the host church for the April 26, 2026 LCMC Northwest District meeting at Lutherhaven. Holy Trinity will be responsible for the Saturday evening church service. The Council discussed a request to transport attendees from the Spokane airport to Lutherhaven. It was decided that request would not be feasible.

Properties and Maintenance: See report submitted by Charlie May. A part was ordered for the air conditioner, and Bob McMahan will do the repairs when the part arrives. Charlie and Brent Egesdal installed

(Continued on next page)

COUNCIL MINUTES

(Continued from previous page)

the post on 26th Avenue for The Little Free Library that Brent is constructing. Brent refurbished a used snow blower and donated it to the church, so we have a backup to our existing snow blower.

Worship and Music: See report submitted by Nancy Purcell. The choir began singing last Sunday and Jami Backell is encouraging anyone interested to contact her. Choir practice will be on Thursday evenings. Arlene Russell has resigned from Altar Guild, and we are looking for someone to take over those duties. Dan Olson is currently making the name tags for new members.

Congregational Ministries: See report submitted by LaLita Tadena. HTLC had our 3rd Sticky Event on August 28. The S'Mores Night was held outside at 6 p.m. Four fire pits were provided for roasting marshmallows. Pastor Ed played his guitar and he and Jami led the singing. We all had a great time! Thanks to Squeaky May for organizing this fun event!

Christian Education: See report submitted by Pat Woods. Children's Sunday School was discussed. Pastor Ed has a children's worship service and curriculum prepared. All we need is children to come to Sunday School!

Social Cares and Concerns and Care Team: See report submitted by Diane Fried. Diane reported on visits the care team made with shut-ins. Communion is given during these visits if requested. Donations to the Partners INW Food Bank total 238 pounds so far for 2025. Diane also reported on a group from Holy Trinity serving lunch at the UGM Men's Shelter.

Old Business:

Identify and Approve Signers for STCU and Charles Schwab Accounts: Due to Dan Olson's resignation on the Church Council, Charlie May has agreed to be a signer on the STCU account along with George Simon. Signatory authority on the Charles Schwab accounts will be discussed at the October 14 Church Council meeting.

New Business:

RightNow Media Update: Pastor Ed provided a demonstration to the Council on RightNow Media, a video library for the entire family. Each church member will be able to register for free access to this library of material from trusted Christian leaders. Dan Olson paid the one-year fee. An announcement will be sent to each member's email with instructions on how to register for this library.

New Member Classes: Pastor Ed mailed letters to the people who completed a yellow card when they attended church services inviting them to attend a New Member Class. There are two classes, October 19 and October 26. The class is two hours long, beginning after church at 12:15 p.m. Attendees will need to bring a brown bag lunch for the session.

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COUNCIL MINUTES

(Continued from previous page)

Thank You Banquet: On October 12 at 6 p.m. we will have a Thank You Banquet to thank those who have volunteered throughout the year. John Fried is donating his \$250 Thrivent dollars to pay for this banquet. The menu will be a Mexican theme with a taco bar.

Review of the S'Mores Night Success: As reported in the Congregational Ministries report, the evening was a success and a lot of fun. Pastor Ed would like to have a Car Show in the future on the same idea as the S'Mores night. This will be further discussed next spring.

Request from LCMC Northwest District for HTLC to be the Host Church for their Camp Lutherhaven Meeting:

Pastor Ed received a request from LCMC asking HTLC to be the host church for the Northwest District meeting on April 23-26, 2026 at Camp Lutherhaven. They would like us to run the Saturday night service, a full standard service with music, preaching, and Communion. They also asked if we could help drive the occasional person from the airport or train station to the camp and back. The Council agreed the transportation piece of this request is more than we can commit to, but we will be willing to run the Saturday night service. We discussed carpooling our congregation to Lutherhaven for their Sunday morning service but chose not to close Holy Trinity on a Sunday morning.

Facility Use Request for New NA Group: A request was received from an NA group to use our facility to hold weekly meetings in the large AA room. This request was approved on the condition that they provide adult supervision for children who accompany their parents to these recovery meetings. Children will not be allowed to be unsupervised in any part of the church.

Next Month's Devotional: Denel

October Counters: LaLita and George

Adjournment: The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer at 8:50 p.m.



October Anniversary

Dan & Lynn Olson
October 27 (1979)
Celebrating 46 years!



October Birthdays

Virginia Boyles	October 1
Jim Abitz	October 14
Cindy Slaton	October 24
Donna Tiley	October 28

HTLC's Little Free Library

HTLC now has a Little Free Library, thanks to Brent Egesdal and Charlie May. Brent & Charlie installed the post in the ground, and Brent built the structure.

The Little Free Library is now ready to be used. It is located on 26th Avenue in front of the main parking lot. See photos below.

A Little Free Library is typically a community-driven book exchange that operates on a "take-a-book, share-a-book" principle allowing anyone to take a book or leave one in return.

But for the time being we are just asking people to "take a book" as we have plenty of books to fill the library from the preschool and Pastor Ed's own personal collection.

We so appreciate both Charlie's and Brent's contributions...they did such a great job!

Come check out our new Little Free Library!



OCTOBER 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28	29	30	1	2	3	4
			Pastor Ed's Hours: 9:00 am—5:00 pm 10:00 am Bible Study 12:00 pm AA—VNG 1:30—3:30 pm Craft Club 5:30 pm AA—HHG 6:00 pm NA—WNW	Pastor Ed's Hours: 9:00 am—5:00 pm Tracy's Office Hours: 11:00 am—1:00 pm 12:00 pm AA—VNG 4:00 pm Jr. Fiddlers 5:30 pm AA—HHG	7:30 am Breakfast and Bible Study 12:00 pm AA—VNG 5:30 pm AA—HHG 6:00 pm AA-HHG Bingo Night 6:30 pm—7:00 pm NA Book Study	8:00 am AA—MWJ 10:00 am AA—SMM 8:00 pm AA—SNM
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
<u>17th Sunday after Pentecost</u> 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship Service & Fellowship 10:00 am AA—SMG 7:00 pm AA—SRG	Pastor Ed's Hours: 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	Pastor Ed's Hours: 9:00 am—5:00 pm 12:00 pm AA—VNG 5:30 pm AA—HHG 7:00 pm NA—B2B	Pastor Ed's Hours: 9:00 am—5:00 pm 10:00 am Bible Study 12:00 pm AA—VNG 1:30—3:30 pm Craft Club 5:30 pm AA—HHG 6:00 pm NA—WNW	Pastor Ed's Hours: 9:00 am—5:00 pm Tracy's Office Hours: 11:00 am—1:00 pm 11:15 am—1:00 pm Serving Lunch @ Men's Shelter 12:00 pm AA—VNG 4:00 pm Jr. Fiddlers 5:30 pm AA—HHG	7:30 am Breakfast and Bible Study 12:00 pm AA—VNG 5:30 pm AA—HHG 6:30 pm—7:00 pm NA Book Study	8:00 am AA—MWJ 10:00 am AA—SMM 8:00 pm AA—SNM
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
<u>18th Sunday after Pentecost</u> 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship Service & Fellowship 10:00 am AA—SMG 5:30 pm—6:30 pm NA Committee Mtg. 6:00 pm Thank-You Banquet 7:00 pm AA—SRG	Pastor Ed's Hours: 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	Pastor Ed's Hours: 9:00 am—5:00 pm 12:00 pm AA—VNG 5:30 pm AA—HHG 6:30 pm Council Meeting 7:00 pm NA—B2B	Pastor Ed's Hours: 9:00 am—5:00 pm 10:00 am Bible Study 12:00 pm AA—VNG 1:30—3:30 pm Craft Club 5:30 pm AA—HHG 6:00 pm NA—WNW Newsletter Articles Due	Pastor Ed's Hours: 9:00 am—5:00 pm Tracy's Office Hours: 11:00 am—1:00 pm 12:00 pm AA—VNG 4:00 pm Jr. Fiddlers 5:30 pm AA—HHG	7:30 am Breakfast and Bible Study 12:00 pm AA—VNG 5:30 pm AA—HHG 6:30 pm—7:00 pm NA Book Study	8:00 am AA—MWJ 10:00 am AA—SMM 8:00 pm AA—SNM
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
<u>19th Sunday after Pentecost</u> 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship Service & Fellowship 12:15 pm New Member Class 10:00 am AA—SMG 7:00 pm AA—SRG	Pastor Ed's Hours: 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	Pastor Ed's Hours: 9:00 am—5:00 pm 12:00 pm AA—VNG 5:30 pm AA—HHG 7:00 pm NA—B2B	Pastor Ed's Hours: 9:00 am—5:00 pm 10:00 am Bible Study 12:00 pm AA—VNG 1:30—3:30 pm Craft Club 5:30 pm AA—HHG 6:00 pm NA—WNW	Pastor Ed's Hours: 9:00 am—5:00 pm Tracy's Office Hours: 11:00 am—1:00 pm 12:00 pm AA—VNG 4:00 pm Jr. Fiddlers 5:30 pm AA—HHG	7:30 am Breakfast and Bible Study 12:00 pm AA—VNG 5:30 pm AA—HHG 6:30 pm—7:00 pm NA Book Study	8:00 am AA—MWJ 10:00 am AA—SMM 8:00 pm AA—SNM
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
<u>Reformation Sunday</u> 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship Service & Fellowship 10:00 am AA—SMG 12:15 pm New Member Class 5:30 pm—6:30 pm NA Committee Mtg. 7:00 pm AA—SRG	Pastor Ed's Hours: 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	Pastor Ed's Hours: 9:00 am—5:00 pm 12:00 pm AA—VNG 5:30 pm AA—HHG 7:00 pm NA—B2B	Pastor Ed's Hours: 9:00 am—5:00 pm 10:00 am Bible Study 12:00 pm AA—VNG 1:30—3:30 pm Craft Club 5:30 pm AA—HHG 6:00 pm NA—WNW	Pastor Ed's Hours: 9:00 am—5:00 pm Tracy's Office Hours: 11:00 am—1:00 pm 12:00 pm AA—VNG 1:30 pm W&M Meeting 4:00 pm Jr. Fiddlers 5:30 pm AA—HHG	7:30 am Breakfast and Bible Study 12:00 pm AA—VNG 5:30 pm AA—HHG 6:30 pm—7:00 pm NA Book Study	

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.

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October Events	
Serving Lunch at UGM Men’s Shelter	Thursday, October 9 11:15 am—1:00 pm
Thank-You Banquet	Sunday, October 12 6:00 pm—7:45 pm
Council Meeting	Tuesday, October 14 @ 6:30 pm
Newsletter Articles Due	Wednesday, October 15
New Member Class <i>Bring sack lunch</i>	Sunday, October 19 12:15 pm—2:15 pm
New Member Class <i>Bring sack lunch</i>	Sunday, October 26 12:15 pm—2:15 pm
Worship & Music Committee Meeting	Thursday, October 30 @ 1:30 pm
Craft Club	Wednesdays 1:30 pm—3:30 pm
Mid-week Bible Study	Wednesdays @ 10:00 am
Breakfast & Bible Study	Fridays @ 7:30 am
Regular Worship Schedule 9:30 am Sunday School (for all ages) 10:30 am Worship Service & Fellowship (after)	