THE TIDINGS

A Monthly Newsletter of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church



IN THE IMAGE OF GOD (IMAGO DEI)

by Pastor Derek Rosenstiel

"Even when I'm weak and I'm breaking
I stand weeping at the train station
'Cause I can see your faces
I love people's faces"
-Kae Tempest, "People's Faces"

In this time of social isolation and distancing, I have found myself thinking a lot about what it means for Christ to be present with us in our experiences of separation. I would wager that there is not a single person who has not felt some amount of separation through this pandemic experience. As a human family we are in a state of communal mourning because of this traumatic experience. We can share stories of feeling separated from our families, from our communities of support, and yes, sometimes even feeling separated from God. It is perfectly okay to share these stories, and in fact it is healing to do so.

The question remains though – what do we do with all these experiences of separation? It is indeed good to share our stories and metaphorically walk with one another amidst our grief. It is also especially important to remind one another that Christ is with us in these experiences. Yet how do we find real healing and comfort in these reminders of Christ's presence? How do we truly see that God is with us in what we are going through? If I am to be honest with you dear siblings in Christ – I find myself to be a broken record each time I tell people, "Christ is with you, never forget that." I, at times, struggle with truly experiencing and seeing that God is in fact with me in this too. My head knows the truth, but my heart does not seem to receive it.

"WHEN I SAW MY FRIEND'S FACE. I WAS SEEING THE VERY IMAGE OF GOD."

Just the other day, I had set up a visit with a dear friend on Zoom to simply catchup and lend each other support in this time. I clicked on that now familiar link, and it brought me to a virtual room that was created for just her and I to visit in. When I entered that room and saw her face, I was literally brought to tears. As the tears began to fall, I thought to myself – "what is going on?" Then I remembered something that I learned in seminary which brought me a refreshing sense of hope and comfort, which I am going to share with you.

There is a beautiful Christian theological concept named Imago Dei. In this it is spoken about how each one of us bears within ourselves the very image of God. Imago Dei is Latin for image of God. Several places in scripture we read that we are created in the likeness of God. For example, in Genesis 5: 1-2 – "When God created humankind, God made them in the very likeness of God's own self. Male and female God created them, blessed them, and named them "Humankind "when they were created." This very concept is what I believe is the key to experiencing that God in Christ is with us always.

When I saw my friend's face, I was seeing the very image of God. In her face, it was revealed to me that indeed God is with me and that God loves me and cares for me. This is what we must hold on to in times such as these. When we are in the presence of one another, even digitally or socially distanced, we are in the very presence of God. Our relationships are a means of grace from my perspective. Our relationships are ways in which we are shown what it means to love God and be loved by God when they are lived in right ways. I would propose that even in the face of a stranger we are witnessing the image of God.

Dear beloved of God, may you see God all around you in people's faces. May you hear the voice of God every day, in the voices of others. May you feel the very touch of God in the embrace of those whom you love. May you feel the very presence of God, in the presence of each beautifully created child of God whom you encounter. For this is the truth, we are all beautifully and wonderfully made in the image of God, and all of us bear witness to God in this world. Continue to hold on to this truth and may it bring you hope and joy each day!

God's Peace, Pastor Derek

WORSHIP

Saturday, November 7th at 2:00 p.m.

Parking lot worship with communion.

Parking spots and outdoor seating are limited and require a reservation.

Location: Wartburg Seminary 333 Wartburg Place (behind seminary)

To make a reservation go to: https://signup.zone/XH3yaz4vbfCfvSh2x

For details go to: https://htlcdbq.com/worship

Each Sunday at 9:00 a.m. Coffee Hour following at 10:00 a.m.

To join, click here or go to our website at htlcdbq.com

Can't connect online?

Just call 1-312-626- 6799 and use Meeting ID: 696 504 258

ALL SAINT'S DAY SUNDAY NOVEMBER 4, 2020

The Apostle Paul writes...

"I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason, I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers." Ephesians 1:15-16

On Sunday, November 4th we celebrate All Saints Day. We are reminded that we are God's children made holy by the gift of Jesus Christ. We do not call ourselves saints by our own deeds but in the grace of Jesus Christ, we are made holy.

Each year we remember those who have gone before us and celebrate the gifts that God gave through their lives and on the hope we all have in Christ Jesus our Lord. They include:

Phyllis Cooper Gaa Holdiman Neil Keith Elizabeth Woodhouse

We also remember those Saints who have been baptized and we celebrate the gifts that God have bestowed upon them. They include:

Maverick Finke Jude Hoff Beau Leonard Leib Elli Walen

WE CELEBRATE

The First Communion of Augustus Lambert, Erika Matson, and Connor Pauly on Saturday, October 10th.

The Affirmation of Baptism was made by Isabel Brauhn, Nathan Droessler, Rosalynd Hoefflin, Cameron Lovett, Sarah Martyn, Soren Obermueller, Sydney Wersinger, and Violet Widner on Saturday, October 24th.

















CONNECT

ONLINE SUNDAY SCHOOL

for preschool through elementary students.

Recorded videos are available each Sunday morning starting at 11:00 a.m. on our <u>YouTube channel</u>, which will include songs, an introduction, story, activity, and a closing. Take-home activity bags are available. A half-hour zoom meeting will take place at 11:00 am on the first Sunday of the month. Questions? Contact Sara McCaw, Family Minister, sara.mccaw@gmail.com.

YOUTH MINISTRY

These groups meet online via Zoom. Visit our <u>Youth & Family Ministry page</u> at htlcdbq.com for the links.

Bible Explorers 5th & 6th grade

Wednesday evenings starting at 5:00 p.m.

High School

First and third Sundays of each month starting at 6:30 p.m. November 1: Netflix Watch Party "The Social Dilemma.". November 15: Pr. Derek, and a Kahoot quiz led by Lilly Hoefflin.

7th & 8th Grade Confirmation

Wednesday evenings starting at 6:15 pm.

ADULT FORUM

Wednesday, November 11th at 6:30 p.m.

How do we as Christians live for the Common Good?

Join us to discuss what is the "Common Good" and how do we set personal priorities so that our actions support all of life. Click Here to Join.

November 25th No Adult Forum.

PARENT SUPPORT GROUP

Thursday, November 19th 7:30 8:30 p.m.

We know that this is a very stressful time. Many of you are juggling work, home, and now school as you navigate online education for your children.

We would like to offer you support in your efforts to make it all work. Join us in conversation with Amy Naumann and Sydney Bonn, teachers for Dubuque Community Schools. Visit our Youth & Family page on our website for the zoom link.



MINISTRY IN ACTION

COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING MEAL

Saturday, November 21st 3:00 to 5:00 p.m.

The Family Ministry and Outreach Teams will be providing a Thanksgiving meal to feed our hungry neighbors in Dubuque. Meals will be distributed curbside at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church between 3:00 – 5:00 p.m. while supplies last. Thank you to Thrivent for issuing a grant for this meal. If you are interested in helping Friday, November 20th, or Saturday, November 21st leave a message for Sara or Gretchen in the church office, 563-583-3228. Donations are welcome.

COLLECTING COATS, MITTENS, SCARFS AND HATS.

It is that time of year when the temperature Starts to drop and there is a chill in the air! Time to get out our warm clothing and coats. Most of us are fortunate to have a closet full of items to choose from, but some people are not.

Please help us provide some much needed items to our friends and neighbors that don't have what they need. We are accepting new or gently used coats, mittens, scarfs and hats. You can drop them off in the church entryway under the mailbox. Thank you!" Living Christ's Call To Love and Serve All!"



CHRISTMAS GIFTS FOR DUBUQUE COMMUNITY SCHOOL FAMILIES

It has been our tradition to sponsor families from the Dubuque Community for Christmas that have been identified by our local schools. This year will be a bit different because of the pandemic. Instead of asking you to get specific gifts, we are asking for cash donations. Members of the Family Ministry Team will shop for the needed gifts. HTLC has been very generous in the past, and we are asking for your help again to serve families in our community. Contact Sara McCaw at sara.mccaw@gmail.com for more information.



NOAH'S ARK

By Kate Stierman, Noah's Ark Board Chair

This year we have a lofty goal of raising \$20,000 for our first annual "Polish the Ark" fundraiser.

A generous donor will match gifts given to the "Polish the Ark" campaign up to \$10,000 during the month of November!

Proceeds will support space, programming, and security improvements! Noah's Ark is thriving even during these unprecedented times, but with your help we will take our success to the next level! Donations are tax deductible and may be made through the link below or sent to the church at the attention of Director Jenifer Montgomery.

Questions? Email director@noahsarkdbq.com or (563) 203-7204.

https://www.gofundme.com/f/noahs-ark-child-development-center



HUNGER OUTREACH FOOD DISTRIBUTION

Saturday November 7th 9:00 - 11:00 a.m.

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church will be supporting the community with another drive-through Hunger Outreach Food Distribution in partnership with St. Stephen's Food Bank. Food will be provided at no cost while supplies last. Those participating are asked to stay in your vehicle. Food will be brought to your car. Questions? Contact Pastor Derek (582-3228), Glenn Lichti (845-8832) or Gretchen Kueter (590-0174).

THE INCARNATIONAL PREACHER

Martin Luther believed that the purpose of a sermon was not just to explain the Bible or tell people about Jesus but to help them encounter the crucified and risen Christ in their midst. Dave Daubert's book *The Incarnational Preacher*: Proclaiming the Living Christ to Form a Living Faith helps people who have been called on to preach the gospel in a Lutheran voice do so in scripturally grounded ways that not only proclaim the gospel but also reveal it. Click here for a Free download.

RESOURCES FOR FAITH AT HOME

Have you visited our <u>Faith at Home</u> page on our website? We curated resources just for you. You will find everything from parenting advice, daily devotionals to art and theology. Take a look and let us know what you like.



WE HAVE A NEW "LOCKED" MAILBOX

I know, doesn't take much to get us excited here in the office. We have a locked mailbox located in the front entry of the church. This not only collects our mail but also offers you a place to deposit your offering envelopes and return your pledge cards!

ARE YOU A SAINT?

We are all saints. Read about what it means to be a saint in the Living Lutheran. Read More



STEWARDSHIP

YOU ARE NOT ALONE

By Dave Assmus on behalf of the Stewardship Team

Even though it has been seven and a half months since we have been able to gather in person for worship and fellowship, we are still connected to each other through the body of Christ. Holy Trinity has not stopped functioning as the church.

Even though we have not been able to physically be in each other's presence we have been able to keep connected. During the Sundays in October we were reminded that we are not alone through videos played during worship services. If you missed any, catch up at Holy Trinity's website. The videos and several ministry messages are posted there, use the link on the front page.

There are many ways that we are connected to each other in the body of Christ we know as Holy Trinity Lutheran Church. A partial list includes:

- Online worship
- Our affirmation of baptism
- Youth Ministry & Christian Education
- Cedar Rapids recovery assistance
- Vacation Bible School
- Little Food Pantry, Blessing Cabinet & Community food distribution
- Bible Study
- Noah's Ark preschool
- Stephen Ministries
- Coffee time after online worship

You are not alone as there are many ways that you are connected and can keep connected through God's life-giving Spirit.

You should have received a letter inviting you to consider your support for Holy Trinity's ministry for 2021. If you have returned the pledge card, Thank You! If you haven't had time to make your pledge, please do so as the Council will be preparing the budget for 2021. Your support will make it possible for us to stay connected and continue ministries to all needing to be reminded that You Are Not Alone.



<u>Pledge Online Here</u>



NOVEMBER SPECIAL APPEAL: MISSIONARY SUPPORT

By Paul Dettmann on behalf of the Stewardship Team

During October we were invited to focus on our individual and congregational commitment to the ministry of Holy Trinity for 2020. We were reminded of the many ministries that are a part of life at Holy Trinity even during the restrictions during this pandemic. We heard several sermons and member statements showing that the theme "You Are Not Alone" is a comforting reality for us in this trying time.

A small part of our gifts are used to support missionary work in other countries. These funds are used to partially support our missionaries, Jackie and Pat Bencke, in Japan. During this pandemic, they continue teaching and worshipping with the Japanese people. We were fortunate to enjoy their visit with us last year as this year most missionaries could not travel internationally. We should remember the Bencke family in our prayers as they strive to stay healthy while continuing to do the Lord's work.

Supporting missionaries around the globe is one way that we can send God's Word to people whom we will never meet. But through this missionary work, we will become brothers and sisters in Christ. This month we are encouraging our members to provide additional funds for this work by using the special appeal envelope. Please be generous. Future brothers and sisters in Christ depend on it.

FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT

JANUARY - SEPTEMBER 2020

YTD INCOME - \$452,248.35 Highlights below:

(Regular/Pledged giving \$327,824.89 – 91% of budget) (Special Projects Giving transfers - \$ 50,033.97) (PPP Funds for HTLC Staff Payroll - \$59,188.49)

YTD EXPENSES - \$442,996.80 (includes budgeted expenses and special projects)
YTD Net Surplus/(Shortfall) - \$9,251.55

The generosity of this congregation continues, both through regular giving and support of special projects, despite the uncertainly we're all living through. If you feel called to increase your giving this year, we welcome the additional support! The Finance Team continues to evaluate our financial situation and is busy planning for 2021.

If you are interested in seeing the detail of all the financial activity at HTLC, you can view those reports in the Council Packets found on the website. If you prefer, ask a council member for more information, we're happy to answer your questions! Your gifts are making a difference – thank you!

Wendy Einsweiler & The Stewardship Team

FROM THE OFFICE

PASTORAL VISITS

If you would like a pastoral visit by phone during this time of social distancing, please contact one of our pastors.

Pastor Josh Martyn (563) 613-4337 or htlcdbqpastor@gmail.com Associate Pastor Derek Rosenstiel (608) 556-0206 or associatepastorderek@gmail.com

FAITH AT HOME

We have many resources available on our website for children, families and adults to grow in faith, relationships and knowledge. Go to our "Connect" tab and click of "Faith At Home" to view or click here.

ALTAR FLOWERS

Thank you to those who have sponsored altar flowers for November.

November 1 Jan Leslein

November 8 Ron and Jan Appleby

November 15 Sam and Elizabeth Engbrecht November 29 Burnell and Karen Smith

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please pray for the following: Irene Jecklin Bill and JoAnne Blum Christopher Bredesen and his mother Judy Bredesen

For all affected by natural disasters, especially those affected by the wild fires in California and those affected by hurricanes.

HTLC Military personnel serving our country:

Army: Kyle Salmon, Christina Fink, Col. Karl Anderson,

Kyle Osborne.

National Guard: Eric Bowman Air Force: Chris Barajas

Marines: Staff Sgt. Rossetti

Air Force: Chris Barajas, Michael Osborne, Logan Knobbe

PRAYER REQUESTS

We would love to pray for you. We have a group of faithful people who who pray for our community every day. <u>Submit your request online</u> or call the church office at 563-582-3228.

CELEBRATIONS

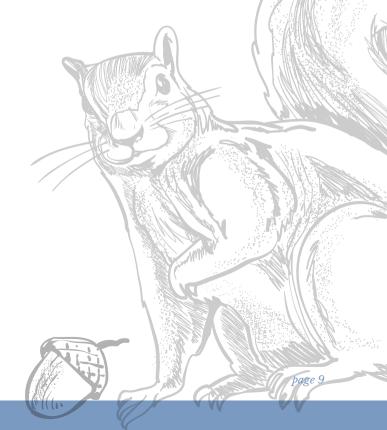
BIRTHDAYS

511K11157K15	
Smith	November 01
Murray	November 02
Stork	November 02
Brass	November 03
Lindecker	November 04
Einsweiler	November 05
Kilgore	November 05
Zuccaro	November 05
Brooks	November 06
Parker	November 06
Fair	November 07
Jasper	November 08
Lau	November 08
O'Dell	November 09
Kalmes	November 10
Bode	November 11
Day	November 11
Phalen	November 11
Smart	November 11
Fair	November 14
Chesterman	November 15
Houlihan	November 15
Livermore	November 15
Metz	November 15
Ernster	November 16
Roling	November 16
Wieland	November 16
Noel	November 17
Phalen	November 17
Rutz	November 18
Bagstad	November 19
Burgmeier	November 19
Lindecker	November 19
Meyer	November 19
Faubel	November 20
Honda	November 20
Wieland	November 20
Zuccaro	November 20
Lovett	November 21
Vondran	November 21
Assmus	November 22
Krause	November 23
	November 24
Droessler	November 25
Appleby	November 26
Brauhn	November 26
	Murray Stork Brass Lindecker Einsweiler Kilgore Zuccaro Brooks Parker Fair Jasper Lau O'Dell Kalmes Bode Day Phalen Smart Fair Chesterman Houlihan Livermore Metz Ernster Roling Wieland Noel Phalen Rutz Bagstad Burgmeier Lindecker Meyer Faubel Honda Wieland Zuccaro Lovett Vondran Assmus Krause Martelle Droessler Appleby

Donna	O'Dell	November 26
Steven	Olson	November 26
Carlee	Albertsen	November 27
Brian	Burns	November 27
Merville	Harry	November 27
Scott	Pauly	November 27
Daniel	Haug	November 28
Sara	McCaw	November 28
Melissa	Wersinger	November 28
Jeffry	Breitfelder	November 29
Emily	Harmon	November 29
Erik	Borchert	November 30
Aaron	Dresser	November 30
Amy	Norton	November 30

ANNIVERSARIES

Greg & Tricia Kivlahan	November 01	22
Christopher & Gretchen Kueter	November 06	32
Ron & Jan Appleby	November 10	40
Elizabeth & Samuel Engbrecht	November 10	46
Tyler & Janet Kelsch	November 24	20
Darin & Teri Harmon	November 25	30
Burnell & Karen Smith	November 26	9
Martin & Carrie Lohrmann	November 27	20
Lynn & Jonathan Helmke	November 28	49



Holy Trinity Lutheran November 2020

Nov 2020 (Central Time - Chicago) 21 2pm - Parking lot worship 9am - Food Distribution 3pm - Community 6am - Men's Bible Study @ The Tidings Newsletter Pastor Josh's Day Off Pastor Josh's Day Off Pastor Josh's Day Off Pastor Josh's Day Off Ē Stephen Ministry Meeting Stephen Ministry Meeting 7:30pm - Parent Support 4pm - Praise Team 4pm - Praise Team 4pm - Praise Team 4pm - Praise Team Thu NO Adult Forum tonight @ 6:15pm - Bible Explorers @ 6:15pm - Bible Explorers @ 6:15pm - Bible Explorers @ Adult Forum -What is the 6:15pm - Bible Explorers @ 6:15pm - Confirmation @ 6:15pm - Confirmation @ 6:15pm - Confirmation @ 6:15pm - Confirmation @ 11:30am - Ecumenical Bible 11:30am - Ecumenical Bible 11:30am - Ecumenical Bible 11:30am - Ecumenical Bible 6:30pm - COUNCIL @ Choir 5:45pm - All Committee Pastor Derek's Day Off Sara McCaw's Day Off Sara McCaw's Day Off Sara McCaw's Day Off Sara McCaw's Day Off Mon 10am - Coffee & Fellowship 9am - Online Worship @ FOOD PANTRY SUNDAY 7:30pm - Highschool This Months Special Sun

THE OFFICE

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AL PINE MAINTENANCE

563-582-3228

NOAH'S ARK CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER

JENIFER MONTGOMERY DIRECTOR

563-203-7204 director@NoahsArkDBQ.com

CHURCH COUNCIL

Sue Tigges, President
Adam Eikamp, Vice-President
Michele Faubel, Secretary
Jonathan Brown, Treasurer
Marlee Tart, Financial Secretary
Gretchen Kueter, Outreach
Tami Ernster, Parish Ed./Family Ministry
Darrell Kalmes, Bldg. & Grounds
Wendy Einsweiler, Stewardship
OPEN, Fellowship
Jason Duba, Noah's Ark
Terry Hoefflin, Worship
Lilly Hoefflin, Youth Rep.

WEBSITE

www.htlcdbq.com

FACEBOOK

https://www.facebook.com/HTLCDBQ





Holy Trinity Lutheran Church

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