

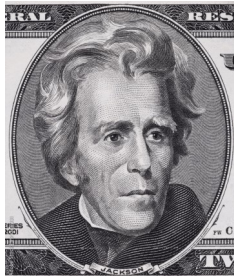


Holy Trinity United Methodist Church

The Sail

Our Vision: *"To love God, uplift people, inspire hope, and grow disciples of Jesus Christ in our community and everywhere we go!"*

June, 2025



Free Andrew Jackson for Ministry!

In our CORE team meeting this month we discussed – as we do – the blessings and the challenges of our ministry together. One blessing stands out: We are so fortunate to have several new young families worshipping with us. Two babies have been born in the past 6 weeks! Our children are our joy, and they are also the future of our church, our community, and indeed our country. That's a lot to carry in small hands. We must do everything in our power to support them through this life – love them, pray for them, tell them about God's love, show curiosity and care for their daily lives, and teach them values that reflect our Christian faith. At Holy Trinity we talk a great deal about love, kindness, and inclusion, and we walk the walk. Our kids are living, breathing reminders of why we do this, and why Holy Trinity matters.

One challenge also stands out: Our budget deficit. God calls each of us to share our prayers, our presence, our stories, our service, and our gifts. One sign of a faithful and vital church is the ability to fully finance its ministry. At Holy Trinity we manage our expenses well – we have a lean staff in line with other churches our size, and we have active laity who maintain our building and serve in many and varied other ways. Even so, we are running at a substantial deficit; approximately \$18,000 for the year to date. We need more money.

I believe in my heart that we can meet this challenge – if we do this together. To help balance our budget, I encourage each of us who are able to ***Free Andrew Jackson for ministry!*** If we each give an additional \$20 per month it will go a long way toward closing our budget gap. This is something most of us can do without too much pain – perhaps with one less restaurant meal, forgoing a few lattes, purchasing one less item of clothing per season, or realigning our total giving to charity.

In this Issue

Pastor Leigh	1-2
Children, Youth & Family	3
Mission Corner	4
Church Announcements	5-6
Inclusion Starts with I	7
2025 Graduates	8
June 2025 Calendar	9

Continued on next page...

Pastor Leigh continued...

We will include envelopes for this additional gift in the sanctuary on the first Sunday of each month. We'll also keep a supply of envelopes on the Welcome Center for those who miss the first Sunday to use on subsequent Sundays. You can also mail Andrew Jackson to the office, or send him to the church via Venmo. Andrew Jackson loves to travel.

Thank you for your additional gift to your church and for your devotion to Holy Trinity's present and future. You are the best!

—Pastor Leigh



Set me free!



June 5-July 31 (every other Thurs.)	<i>Tomorrow Will Be Different</i> Book Study
June 8	Graduate Recognition Sunday
June 11-13	MN Annual Conference
June 15	Pride Bingo and Pizza Night
June 23-26	Vacation Bible School
June 28-29	Twin Cities Pride Festival
July 11-12	Lakefront Music Fest
July 13-17	STORM Camp
August 5	Night to Unite
September 7	Rally Sunday



Twin Cities PRIDE will take place June 28 and 29.

PRIDE is an opportunity for LGBTQIA+ persons to celebrate their true selves and for their allies to celebrate with them. After a fantastic PRIDE Festival last year, it's time to continue celebrating the LGBTQIA+ community. Let's have MN Reconciling Congregations help make this another great PRIDE celebration!

Booth in Loring Park

Once again we will have a booth in Loring Park on Saturday from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Each year we staff our booth with smiling volunteers from across the state and this year is no different! **By signing up, you help let PRIDE attendees know that there is a place for them in United Methodist congregations and help build positive interactions by giving them a rainbow peace medallion.** Jobs are available for both introverts and extroverts.

Sign up for your shift online at: tsu.me/hnhbvz

All volunteers receive a confirmation email when signing up and a logistics email with more detailed information closer to PRIDE. Please contact Don Prestly don.prestly@gmail.com at with questions.

Parade along Hennepin Avenue

The Parade will be on Hennepin Avenue. It begins at 11 a.m. on Sunday (participants need to be in place prior to this time) and will go from 3rd & Hennepin to Loring Park. **This is a great way to be part of the PRIDE celebration!** All ages are welcome to participate. Don Prestly is coordinating the Parade preparations. Please contact Don at don.prestly@gmail.com with questions.



Grace: Part Two of a Three Part Prayer

Have you heard about the importance of “being in the moment?” You must have. There are many books, websites, programs and classes available to learn about the mental and physical benefits of living mindfully, and how to practice meditation and awareness for a better life. It doesn’t come naturally. It can be really hard to “be in the moment,” in our world today. We are bombarded with information that shocks and entertains and draws our attention, we have relationships and to-do lists to manage, keys and cell phones to find, and a lot more. When I am trying to focus on one thing it can be irritating as people, tasks and opportunities interrupt my focus, and many times it seems like I have to do everything for everyone else before I feel it is okay to take a breath and just be.

“Being in the moment,” has a kind of New Age ring to it, but we read about it a lot in the Bible; “wait on the Lord,” “Be still and know that I am,” “Trust.” Jesus taught us that being right with God was more about our attitude and our behavior of loving God and loving others, than it was about properly doing all the things that his culture said was necessary. When I look at the gospels, Jesus usually seems like he is entirely in the moment with the people when he is teaching, healing, and in conversation. It doesn’t seem like he is thinking about what he will be doing next, or ruminating over something that happened earlier. Being in the moment, being with God in every moment, seems to be a source of clarity and peace for Jesus. While generally Jesus seems patient with the many people making demands made of him, it is interesting that he isn’t always docile, or “nice.” He speaks out and calls the Pharisees hypocrites when they try to twist teachings to keep people under their own influence, and he flipped tables in the temple, when vendors were extorting money from people so they could worship.

People, their demands, and the tasks Jesus had were not interruptions to his ministry, they were part of his ministry. But, Jesus never lost sight of the most important thing; the first commandment, Loving God. Our work, our relationships, even our to-do lists can be our ministry in the here and now, but we too, have got to keep hold of what is the most important thing.

Continued above...

It is easy to get confused and think that doing more means loving more, or being blessed more. It is possible to forget that our goals and expectations are not necessarily the same as God’s. When we have an attitude of humility before God, and consistently invite God into our everyday moments, we can grow in clarity and peace as we live and connect with those around us.

Lord, we pray your grace on us, all your people, now, everywhere. Help us to live remembering our connection to each other and to you. Help us to be present with each other and act in your love, and help us listen for your voice in every moment..

When I remember to keep loving God, that most important thing, in front of me everything I do can be a prayer and a blessing. I don’t get it right all of the time, or even most of the time, but practice does help. When I feel disappointed, confused, overwhelmed or miserable, it usually is a call to me that I have let the wrong priorities get in the way and it is time to reorient myself. What is it that preoccupies you, and puts your priorities out of whack? For me, it could be trying to win approval, or avoiding unpleasantness. Listening for and obeying God in little things can ultimately bring great rewards, but let’s not worry about that now. For now, let’s stay in this moment, each moment, in grace together and with God. Let us be church to each other and to the world right now. And then, next month I hope you will join me for the final part of the Grace Three Part Prayer.

Lynnette Dobberpuhl
Children, Youth & Family Coordinator



Children, Youth & Family Coordinator

Our beloved CYF Coordinator Lynnette is retiring in July, so we are looking for someone to fill her CYF Coordinator position here at Holy Trinity. If you, or someone you know, may be interested in applying, please contact Pastor Leigh or the church office for more information. You can also find the job posting and apply on indeed here: <https://www.indeed.com/job/coordinator-children-youth-and-family-ministries-ee046cfc3207b622>.

June Mission of the Month



Building an
INCLUSIVE
Church
in Minnesota

*Minnesota Reconciling
Congregations*

Mission:

Reconciling Ministries Network equips and mobilizes United Methodists of all sexual orientations and gender identities to resist evil, injustice, and oppression in whatever forms they present themselves.

Vision:

Reconciling Ministries Network envisions a renewed and vibrant Wesleyan movement that is biblically and theologically centered. As committed disciples of Jesus Christ, the RMN strives to transform the world by living out the Gospel's teachings of grace, love, justice and inclusion for all of God's children.

Our Role:

Minnesota Reconciling Congregations is RMN's Annual Conference Team for the Minnesota Annual Conference .

After more than 48 years of ongoing debate at each of the General Conference meeting of the UMC, the 2020 General Conference (held in 2024) removed all the harmful language and restrictions from the Book of Discipline with respect to LGBTQIA+ persons and the persons who love and minister to them! Even though 2024 brought much progress, the work to warm hearts and open minds is not finished.

We will reach out in mission to members of the LGBTQ community to welcome them to our churches and to affirm them as children of God.



Thank you for donating **\$940** to Southern Valley Alliance during the month of April.



Southern Valley Alliance is a non-profit organization dedicated to providing victims of domestic violence and their families with support, referrals, protection and advocacy.

Our pizza party on May 4 to celebrate our kids' and families ministry at Holy Trinity was a huge success! We enjoyed beautiful weather, delicious brick oven pizza and fun games and activities. Thank you to all who helped put this celebration together and to everyone who came and made it a great event!



Church Announcements...



United
Women
in Faith

United Women in Faith Summer Months' Activities

We will gather for LUNCH only during the summer months – these will be informal lunches – a fellowship gathering of friends! All women are welcome & invited. Lunch will be at your own expense.

Only requirement is that a reservation is needed – please contact Sharon Dougherty **in advance** to be added to the list each month when you can attend. 612-280-2103 or sdsrdougherty@gmail.com

Tuesday, June 10

11:30am at Slate North
(The Wilds Golf Club Restaurant)
14819 Wilds Parkway NW in Prior Lake

Tuesday, July 8

11:30am at Crooked Pint Ale House
14120 State Hwy 13 in Savage

August will be a picnic –

Date, time & location to be announced!

Join us!

Be sure to contact Sharon Dougherty!



VBS 2025

Join us at Holy Trinity for four evenings of friendship, fun, food and finding out what trust in God is all about!

Monday-Thursday—June 23-26

5:30pm-8:00pm

No Cost



- For kids age 3-entering 6th grade
- crafts, science, games, music, and stories
- dinner included (free)
- register by **Sunday June 8** at <https://bit.ly/CampFirelight-UMCs>
- OR use the QR code
- Youth leaders also welcome!



Several local UWFaith members sponsored a table to honor **Liz Weninger** at the annual **Emma Norton Opening Doors Gala** held April 24 in St. Paul. Liz and Jim have been faithful supporters of Emma Norton for many years. Those honoring Liz were Sara Modders, Sharon Dougherty, Sandy Feldhake, Nancy Iverson & Lois Burkart.

The evening included celebration of the work of Emma Norton together with the celebration of the opening of Restoring Waters, testimonials from Emma Norton residents and staff, silent and live auctions, and dinner. A special surprise was the 2025 Champion Award presented to the MN Annual Conference and MN United Women in Faith for the outstanding support of the Campaign for Restoring Waters. Accepting the award was Bishop Lanette Plambeck and UWFaith President Marion Hanson.

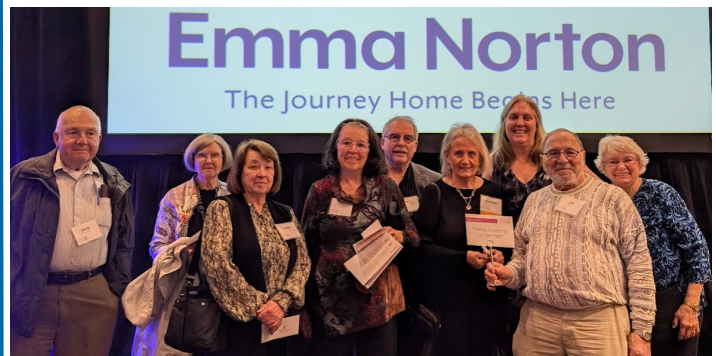


Table attendees joined Shawna Nelson-Wills, Advancement Director from Emma Norton – (L to R) Nick Modders, Sara Modders, Sandy Feldhake, Grace Swanson, Pat Dougherty, Sharon Dougherty, Shawna, Jim Weninger, and Nancy Iverson.

The table sponsors invited **Jim Weninger** to be their guest for the evening.

Youth in grades 7-12 and adult drivers are invited to be part of STORM Camp, an overnight camp hosted at Holy Trinity. We do two things at STORM Camp:

Work and Worship. We'll gather for morning devotions and evening chapel, and spend the days serving through yardwork, painting, building, cleaning and growing in relationships with those we're serving and those we're serving alongside. Contact Lynnette to register or to help with the event.



Church Announcements...



Lakefront Bible Study

June 3 & 17

from 1:00-2:30pm

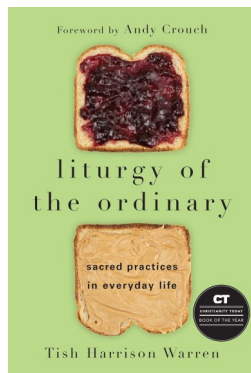
Lakefront Plaza Commons Room

The group is currently studying

Liturgy of the Ordinary by Tish Harrison Warren

*In the overlooked moments
and routines of our day,
we can become aware of God's
presence in surprising ways.*

*How do we embrace
the sacred in the ordinary and
the ordinary in the sacred?
Framed around one ordinary day,
this book explores daily life
through the lens of liturgy, small
practices, and habits that form us.*



This is a non-denominational group.
All are welcome! Call Barb Bollinger
with questions at 612-670-1847.

Trinity Readers

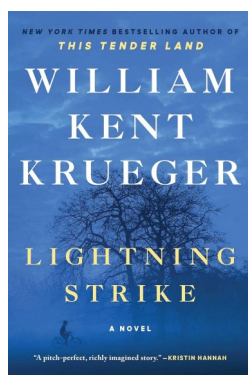
Tuesday, June 24

2:00pm Church Library



If you enjoy reading and discussing books, join us!

**The book for June: *Lightning Strike*
by William Kent Krueger**



*Poignant, powerful, and
mesmerizing... Krueger skillfully
blends big, suspenseful moments
with quiet, keenly observed
insights into human nature. This
novel is rich with wisdom about
right and wrong, choice and
change, fathers and sons, and the
ways in which loss can shape us
as profoundly as love.*



Tomorrow Will Be Different Book Study

Every other Thursday in June and July

(June 5 & 19 and July 3, 17 & 31)

6:30-7:30pm

Join us in June and July to discuss the
book *Tomorrow Will Be Different* by Sarah McBride.

Informative, heartbreaking, and
profoundly empowering, *Tomorrow
Will Be Different* is McBride's story
of love and loss and a powerful
entry point into the LGBTQ
community's battle for equal rights
and what it means to be openly
transgender. From issues like
bathroom access to health care to
gender in America, McBride weaves the important
political and cultural milestones into a personal
journey that will open hearts and change minds.



Please sign up at church or email Tina at
office@htumc.org if you plan to attend.



**Pride Bingo and
Pizza Night
June 15 @ 5:00pm**



The Holy Trinity Youth, along with the Glendale
Youth invite all of you to celebrate Pride Month
with our First Annual Pride Bingo and Pizza Night on
Sunday, June 15th starting at 5:00pm. We will
enjoy pizza from the Bread Oven Ministry Team and
the youth will lead us in Bingo. We hope for this to
be an intergenerational evening celebrating ALL!
Glendale UMC will be joining Holy Trinity UMC as a
Reconciling Congregation, and we want to offer
them a warm welcome into our reconciling
community. There will be fun prizes and fun
times. We hope you can make it!



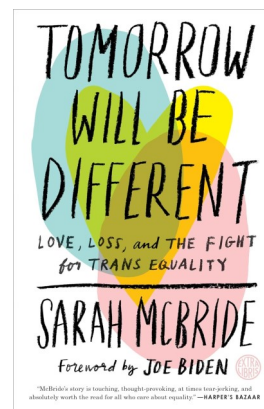
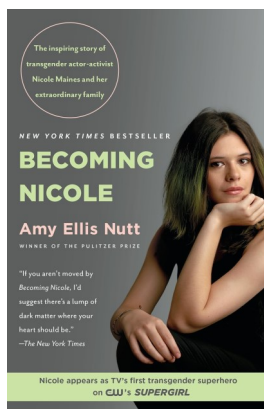
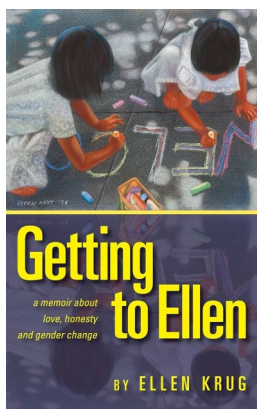
Inclusion Starts with I...

A couple of months ago Pastor Leigh shared a beautiful thought that she had heard at a conference: “The shortest distance between two people is a story.” I love that! When we tell our stories, we share our humanity. When we know other people’s stories, it is harder to judge them. June is Pride Month, and we will be celebrating Pride in a number of ways at Holy Trinity. This month our Mission of the month will be used to support the Minnesota Reconciling Congregations (MRC). I am signed up to volunteer at the MRC Pride Booth on Saturday, June 28th, and I’m planning to march with the MRC group in the Pride Parade on Sunday the 29th. Let me know if you are interested in coming with me.

Our stories are what unite us, and Pride Month is a great month to share them. I know that many of us in this church community have family, friends, and others in our life who are members of the LGBTQ+ community. We all have stories to share. The transgender population has been especially targeted for bullying and violence recently, as well as for laws that make it dangerous for them to travel in this country. I also know that it can be difficult to understand what it is to be transgender. That is why both the MRC group and the I Team are putting a special focus on the trans community during this year’s Pride Month. Education and empathy promote understanding. I personally know at least five people who are trans. I’ve had the opportunity to hear their stories firsthand. Trust me when I tell you that they are not “men pretending to be women or women pretending to be men.” They are finally living their authentic selves. For at least one of the people who shared her story with me, suicide was the alternative.

Trans stories are powerful stories. If you want to understand more, I highly recommend *Getting to Ellen: A Memoir about Love, Honor, and Gender Change* by Ellie Krug. Another good nonfiction book that gives a good perspective about transgender children is *Becoming Nicole* by Amy Ellis Nutt. This book was written in 2016 about Nicole Maines, who is now 27 years old and an actor, writer, and transgender activist. We have copies of both of these books at church. We are planning to do a book study with United States Representative Sarah McBride’s book *Tomorrow Will Be Different: Love, Loss, and the Fight for Trans Equality*. We will meet on Thursday evenings at 6:30 every other week in June and July. The sign-up sheet is available both upstairs and downstairs. Although she has been vilified and bullied by some of her congressional colleagues for being her authentic self, she does not respond in kind; she just serves her constituents and works hard at her job. I encourage you to read or listen to at least one of these books, especially if you really can’t understand what it means to be transgender. Their stories are both heartbreaking and inspiring.

Our stories are what unite us. Jesus was one of the best storytellers of all time, with all of his stories pointing his followers into the direction of loving and accepting others, especially those who are different than we are. Atticus Finch explains this beautifully in the novel *To Kill a Mockingbird*, “You never really understand a person until you consider things from his point of view . . . until you climb into his skin and walk around in it.” Happy Pride! Remember, **Inclusion Starts with I.**



Congratulations to our 2025 Graduates...

Sarah Banitt—daughter of Ann and Troy Banitt, graduate of Lakeville South High School.
Sarah will attend honors college at Indiana University-Bloomington, majoring in human biology.



Zac Alemu—son of Tanya and Sei Alemu, graduate of Prior Lake High School.
Zac will attend Mankato State University to study Medical Laboratory Science.



Ashlyn Chant—daughter of Tina and Mark Chant, graduate of Prior Lake High School.
Ashlyn will attend North Dakota State University majoring in nursing.

Caroline Service—daughter of Tia and Scott Service, granddaughter of Connie Short, graduate of Belle Plaine High School. Caroline will attend Normandale College to study nursing with a certificate in radiology tech.

Josh Pascanik—son of Krista and Brad Pascanik, graduate of Prior Lake High School.
Josh will attend Indiana University to study finance and accounting.

Ramazon Davlatzoda—exchange student son of Maia and Vic Noer, graduate of Prior Lake High School.
Ramazon will attend the Technological University of Tajikistan in Dushanbe majoring in computer science.

Adam Bather—grandson of Marla and Steve Fulkerson, graduate of Prior Lake High School.
Adam will attend Dakota County Technical College for Construction and Electrical Maintenance.

Jeremy Kes—grandson of Marla and Steve Fulkerson, graduate of Prior Lake High School.
Jeremy will attend the University of Minnesota-Duluth to study Mechanical Engineering.

Christian Jensen—grandson of Harold Jensen, graduate of Apple Valley High School.
Christian will begin his studies at a junior college with the goal of becoming a chiropractor.

Tyler Turzinski—grandson of Kay Petterson, graduate of Shakopee High School.
Tyler will attend Northern Illinois University on a wrestling scholarship to study health sciences.

Lela Sabin—granddaughter of Ardys and Dan Sabin, valedictorian of Camden High School.
Lela will attend the University of Northern Iowa majoring in biology.

Molly Sabin—granddaughter of Ardys and Dan Sabin, graduate of Osseo High School.
Molly will attend Western Michigan University majoring in elementary education .

Tommy Mestnik—son of Janean and Joe Mestnik, graduate of UW Eau Claire with a degree in Secondary Math Education. Tommy will be teaching math at Big Lake High School in the fall.

Rachel Banitt—daughter of Ann and Troy Banitt, graduate of Miami University with a degree in finance and accounting. Rachel will work as an International Tax Associate with Pricewaterhouse Coopers in Boston.

Dustan Green—son of Paula and Pat Green,
graduate of University of Wisconsin- Eau Claire with a degree in Business.

Ryan Boller—son of Jodi and Jeff Boller, graduate of North Dakota State University.

Vera Topcik—granddaughter of Sara and Nick Modders,
graduate of Bard College in New York with a degree in Physics.

More information and graduates are being added as information comes in.
Join us in worship on June 8 for our graduate recognition and a celebratory Fellowship Hour.










June 2025

Holy Trinity UMC

(952) 447-2990

office@htumc.org

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
1 9:30am Worship/ Live-Stream	2 4-6pm Hope Cafe 7pm Al-Anon at the parsonage	3  1-2:30pm Lakefront Bible Study 4-6 Hope Cafe 7pm CoDA at the parsonage	4 4pm Bells Rehearsal	5 11am Care Team Meeting 6pm Veterans AA at the parsonage 6:30-7:30pm Book Study	6	7
8 9:30am Worship/ Live-Stream 2025 Graduate Recognition 	9 4-6pm Hope Cafe 7pm Al-Anon at the parsonage	10  United Women in Faith 11:30am UWfaith Lunch @ The Wilds 4-6 Hope Cafe 7pm CoDA at the parsonage	11	12 6pm Veterans AA at the parsonage	13 10am-3pm Quilters	14
15 9:30am Worship/ Live-Stream 10:30am I-Team 5:00pm Pride Bingo 	16 4-6pm Hope Cafe 6:30pm Core Team Meeting 7pm Al-Anon at the parsonage	17 1-3:15pm Quilters  1-2:30pm Lakefront 4-6 Hope Cafe 7pm CoDA at the parsonage	18	19  6pm Veterans AA at the parsonage 6:30-7:30pm Book Study	20	21
22 9:30am Worship/ Live-Stream	23	24 2:00pm Trinity Readers 4-6 Hope Cafe 7pm CoDA at the parsonage	25	26 6pm Veterans AA at the parsonage	27	28 Twin Cities PRIDE Festival 10am-7pm  PRIDE
29 9:30am Worship/ Live-Stream Twin Cities PRIDE Festival 10am-6pm PRIDE Pride Parade 11am-2pm	30 4-6pm Hope Cafe 7pm Al-Anon at the parsonage					

Holy Trinity United Methodist Church



16150 Arcadia Avenue SE
Prior Lake, Minnesota, 55372

Worship: 9:30am (in-person & online)

Pastor: Rev. Leigh Brown
pastor@htumc.org

Family Ministries: Lynnette Dobberpuhl
(651) 492-8188 kidsandfamilies@htumc.org

Church Admin: Tina Chant
(952) 447-2990 office@htumc.org

Church website: www.htumc.org



Our Vision: *"To love God, uplift people, inspire hope, and grow disciples of Jesus Christ in our community and everywhere we go."*