



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!"*

August, 2025



Grace

We have known and have believed the love that God has for us. God is love, and those who remain in love remain in God and God remains in them. This is how love has been perfected in us, so that we can have confidence on the Judgment Day, because we are exactly the same as God is in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love drives out fear.

1 John 4:16-18

Grace is a churchy word that means, quite simply, the unconditional love of God. These words from scripture tell us that love comes from God, and indeed that God is love. So to experience grace is to feel the loving presence of God. And to extend or give grace is to offer the experience of God's unconditional love to another.

Please, please give yourself plenty of grace in these times.

Many folks have said that they are experiencing stress and/or anxiety in this time. Stress and anxiety take a toll on our health and on our ability to function well each day. They say that Shakespeare wrote his greatest works while quarantined during the Plague. Shakespeare, I think, was an uncommon guy. Most people, under stress, instead experience a lack of creativity, among other things. It's harder to concentrate. It's harder to remember all of the details. It takes longer to get things done.

Also, in the past several years (taking into account the pandemic), most of us have experienced a dramatic change in our routines at some point: from how we shop, to caring for children, to caring for parents, to how we work. Many of us have also had a change of residence and/or a change of job or vocation. Add to that the uncertainty that is inherent with the very inconsistent and sometimes hostile messages we receive from our leaders and the media, and it's understandable that so many folks are hesitant to take on any new activity!

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Pastor Leigh continued... and Church Announcements...

Yet our community and our world need the church now more than ever. And your church, Holy Trinity, needs you. We need folks to help with kids' church, and folks to help with the garden, and folks to help with Hope Café. These are just a few ministries that come to the top of my mind as I write. The more church family members that step up to help, the lesser the work will be. We are not looking for long-term commitments to a ministry – even just helping in these areas on occasion would make a huge difference.

And so I think the key word for these times is grace. This congregation is filled with it. Make sure that you offer it to yourself in this time. Make sure that you offer it to others. Now is the time to take care of ourselves and each other.

And let us remain hopeful, because even on those days when we can't see the light at the end of the tunnel, Christ still rules this world.



Come celebrate Night to Unite at Holy Trinity on **Tuesday, August 5 from 6-8PM**. Join neighbors and friends for food, fun, and fellowship! We will serve hot dogs and hamburgers, chips, and drinks and have Culver's custard for dessert! (Thank you to Culver's for this generous donation!) There will be an inflatable for the kids, and games for all ages. Visits from the Prior Lake Police, Fire, and Public Works are planned. However, we need **YOUR HELP** to make this event a success! Please sign up at church or email the office if you can help.

Children, Youth & Family Coordinator



Our beloved CYF Coordinator Lynnette retired on July 20, 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.



United
Women
in Faith

August United Women in Faith Gathering

Please join us for a
Summer Picnic in the Park
to celebrate the end of summer!

Tuesday, August 12th – 12:00pm

**Location: Picnic Shelter
at WILDS PARK**

15200 Wilds Parkway, Prior Lake



We will furnish lunch at no cost!

(Subs, chips, fruit, dessert & beverages)

Picnic tables are available but bring a portable camping chair if you wish.

RAIN OR SHINE (if rain, we'll dine in Fellowship Hall)

All women are invited!

RSVP to PICNIC, contact Sharon Dougherty
at sdsrdougherty@gmail.com

or 612-280-2103 **by Friday, August 8th**

****if you'd like a RIDE from the church parking lot,
please contact Nancy Iverson at 612-747-1630**

by Monday, August 11th**

Trinity Readers

Tuesday, August 26

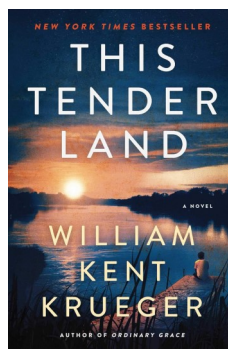
2:00pm Church Library



If you enjoy reading and discussing books, join us!

The book for August: *This Tender Land*

by William Kent Krueger



During the Great Depression, four orphans flee their harsh Minnesota school by canoe, seeking belonging while evading authorities. With the feel of a modern classic, this novel is an en-thralling, big-hearted epic that shows how the magnificent American landscape connects us all, haunts our dreams, and makes us whole.



Lakefront Bible Study

August 5 & 19

from 1:00-2:30pm

Lakefront Plaza Commons Room

The group is currently studying

***Liturgy of the Ordinary* by Tish Harrison Warren**

ALL ARE WELCOME! JOIN ANYTIME!

August Mission of the Month



Today Rock serves children at all schools in the Prior Lake area and now at Kenwood Middle School in Lakeville. Rock provides Power Packs, which are sent home with students in backpacks that include: 2 breakfasts, 2 lunches, 2 snacks, a fruit and a vegetable. They offer their Power Pack Program to all families who feel they could benefit from these food items.

One of their key focal points is to identify with school social workers kids in the schools that may need help with other basic needs. They can provide winter coats, boots, gloves, and hats among other needed clothing items and hygiene supplies.

In addition, Rock provides food, school supplies, hygiene items and clothing at school stores on an on-going basis to the students at the Bridges Area Learning Center and Prior Lake High School. They have found through their programs that students will come to school on a more regular and consistent basis because they know there is food available.

This month, we are collecting the following most needed items for Rock as well as monetary donations...

Granola Bars
Easy Mac & Cheese

Individual Snacks
Canned Vegetables

Thank you for donating
\$830.43 to Minnesota
Reconciling Congregations
during the month of June.



Minnesota Reconciling Congregations mission is to equip and mobilize United Methodists of all sexual orientations and gender identities to resist evil, injustice, and oppression in whatever forms they present themselves.

Sleep In Heavenly Peace Bed Building Event

SAVE THE DATE

Saturday, September 13 8:30-10:45am

Join us to build beds for kids in our community who are without a bed. We will cut, sand, assemble and finish bed components. No experience, no worries! These builds are designed with everyone in mind. A few hours of your time will mean the world to a child sleeping in an unfavorable condition.



Sign up at church or email/call the office if you'd like to participate!



Join the Choir...
You'll Be Glad
You Did!

The Holy Trinity Chancel Choir, directed by the talented Randi Erlandson, will resume rehearsals on **Wednesday, August 27 at 7:00pm**. They would love some new choir members to join them this year! Rehearsals are Wednesday evenings from 7-8pm and then the choir sings during worship on the first and third Sundays of the month (plus special holidays.) However, the schedule is flexible! Come when you can! They'd love some new voices!



Make plans to join us on **Rally Sunday, September 7!** We will return to our fall programming with Kids' Church and a new sermon series, and as is tradition, warm, fresh cinnamon rolls from our Bread Oven Ministry Team will be served after worship!

Inclusion Starts with I—by Carol Ottoson

I am so proud to be part of a church that has embraced being a Reconciling Congregation. Although the Reconciling Movement was formed as a response to the long-time United Methodist Church's restrictions and harm to the LGBTQ+ community, we have broadened its reach to all marginalized communities. That is the purpose of our Quarterly Emphases, with monthly discussions within that emphasis.

In July, we began the *Let's Think Differently* quarter. We placed our focus on *Disabilities* then and are moving into focusing on *Memory Loss* in August. We will complete this quarter with *Neurodiversity* in September. I am a storyteller at heart. It is one of the reasons that I became an English teacher. I love stories of all kinds. Interestingly enough, I am now somehow involved in writing a book! Yes, I'm as surprised as you may be, but the journey started innocently enough with a podcast I did with two former students earlier this year about the play *Our Town*. It can be found on <https://courageouswordsmith.simplecast.com/episodes>. It was released in March and is entitled "*Revisiting Our Town*." A dear friend, Janell Marmon, heard the podcast and contacted Amy Hallberg, the podcast host, about co-writing a book on Janell's journey through dementia. She has been diagnosed with Cerebral Small Vessel Disease, and the symptoms have been increasing over the past six months or more.

Janell and I have been friends for over forty years, and she knows of my journey with my mother's Alzheimer's Disease. Mom was officially diagnosed in 1998 and died in 2006. She actually had been physically healthy throughout most of her journey, but she was not able to live alone by 1999 and was in assisted living for a year before being transferred to a nursing home in 2000. Although she didn't know who any of her children were (my dad died in 1976), she was actually pretty happy most of the time and only became pretty much bed-ridden her last year of life. I had to realize that she wasn't "suffering." We were. Mom taught us early on that we can't control what happens to us; we can only control how we respond. She was actually relieved

when she was diagnosed because she didn't know what was happening to her brain and thought that it was her fault somehow.

I know that there are many members and friends of Holy Trinity who have walked or are continuing to walk through the dementia journey with a loved one. The book that we are working on will be our parallel journeys with dementia. We are in the early stages, but we are hoping that it will shine a light onto the reality that many of us face. Working with Janell in the midst of her journey has been eye opening and beautiful in its own way since she is willing to share so much. The I Team is planning on sharing as many resources as we can on dementia during the month of August, and we are hoping to have a program on **August 24th**, either during worship or during the coffee hour after church. We are also looking for suggestions on how to be of service to the people in this congregation who are currently on this road. I remember my one wish when my mom was on this journey was that her friends wouldn't forget her, that they would just meet her where she was. Unfortunately, that wasn't her reality at the time. Remember, **Inclusion starts with I.**



Continued above...





August 2025

Holy Trinity UMC

(952) 447-2990

office@htumc.org

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 9:30am Worship/ Live-Stream	4 4-6pm Hope Cafe 7pm Al-Anon at the parsonage	5 1-2:30pm Lakefront  4-6 Hope Cafe NIGHT to UNITE! 6:00pm-8:00pm 7pm CoDA at the parsonage	6	7 11am Care Team Meeting 6pm Veterans AA at the parsonage	8	9
10 9:30am Worship/ Live-Stream	11 4-6 Hope Cafe 7pm Al-Anon at the parsonage	12  United Women in Faith 12:00pm UWfaith Picnic (Wilds Park) 4-6 Hope Cafe 7pm CoDA at the parsonage	13	14 6pm Veterans AA at the parsonage	15	16
17 9:30am Worship/ Live-Stream	18 4-6 Hope Cafe 7pm Al-Anon at the parsonage	19 1-3:15pm Quilters  1-2:30pm Lakefront Bible Study 4-6 Hope Cafe 7pm CoDA at the parsonage	20	21 6pm Veterans AA at the parsonage	22	23
24 9:30am Worship/ Live-Stream Memory Loss Awareness	25 4-6pm Hope Cafe 6:30pm Core Team Meeting	26  2:00pm Trinity Readers 4-6 Hope Cafe 7pm CoDA at the parsonage	27 7pm Choir Rehearsal	28 6pm Veterans AA at the parsonage	29	30
31 9:30am Worship/ Live-Stream						

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



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