



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!"*

October, 2025



All things are possible with God

Holy Trinity has a wonderful story to tell – a story that has only deepened in the past year. A story of a church that is committed to affirming, serving, and advocating for all of God's people. A story of a church that is committed to feeding the hungry in our community – through our community garden, our bread oven, our partnership with SCA, Hope Café, and soon a food pantry. A story of commitment to our children and youth in this time of transition. A story of creating beautiful music as an offering to God. A story of a church family that loves and cares for one another and for the abundant blessings that God has given us.

At Holy Trinity we stand firmly in our tradition and yet we are changing as we discern God's will for us in these times. We are called by God to dream big, expect much, and commit ourselves to the ministry of Jesus Christ through our church. I am excited to share in the future amazing stories that our commitment will surely bring. As your pastor, it is also my responsibility to be open and transparent in sharing information relevant to the life of the church.

Presently Holy Trinity is operating at a significant financial deficit for the year, as we have for several years now. Your leadership team is reviewing our finances and all of our assets, and working to form creative partnerships to help fund our operating expenses. In recent weeks we have made adjustments to our administrative processes to become more efficient and transparent, and we have put hiring a kids' ministries coordinator on hold until we are able to narrow our deficit. Still, taking all of this into account, we are spending more than we are giving. Given the rapid changes in our world and in the church universal this is perhaps not surprising, but it also assuredly is not what Christ dreams for us and expects from us.

Continued on next page...

In this Issue

Pastor Leigh	1-2
Inclusion Starts with I	2
Church Announcements	3
Mission Corner	4
October 2025 Calendar	5

Change can be difficult but change also brings possibilities for new life. You can almost hear the church walls whisper: *“Remember that God’s abundance is limitless. Remember that God is able to accomplish things that exceed your wildest hopes and dreams. Remember that God brings new life through you.”* All things are possible with God! Surely God can fill this church with children and families through us. Surely God can use us to reach the lonely and the fearful in our community, and to care for one another. Surely God can feed the hungry through us. Surely God can meet the financial needs of our church through us. And when we give, *our* voices are heard whispering through the walls of our church and the hands of our people: whispers of blessing... whispers of God’s unconditional love... whispers of hope and great things to come.

Holy Trinity is a joy and a firm foundation in our lives in a time of great uncertainty, and it is a blessing to contribute to the life of our church in every way that we can. When we do this, we live out our values. This fall we will be sharing more financial detail and we will hold our annual stewardship campaign. Please be on the look-out for this information and opportunity. In the meantime, I ask you to pray and open your heart to God’s call for you in this season. And don’t forget to “Free Andrew Jackson” for ministry every month!

MedCity REFUGE

A Helping Hand in Rochester



2025 is a difficult time for trans persons, especially young people, to obtain gender affirming medical care. Minnesota Reconciling Congregations invites you to a learning event about MedCity REFUGE on **November 1 at 1 p.m.** MedCity REFUGE founder, Rev. Ana Wilson, will speak on how they support persons seeking gender affirming care in Rochester and how you can support this work in Rochester or your community. Attend in person at Christ UMC, 5th Ave SW, Rochester, MN 55902 or virtually (viewing instructions: <https://www.mnrcumc.org/>)

For more information, contact Carol Ottoson at 952-270-1916. Carol is going to this event and can also give rides if interested.

I recently attended a funeral for a woman who was one of the most hospitable people I’ve ever met. In her eulogy her daughter said that her legacy was not so much what she did in her life, but how she made other people feel. That has really stuck with me and caused me to think about how do I want to make other people feel? I came up with four words: valued, safe, seen, and loved. How do you want to make other people feel? What are your words?

It also caused me to think more broadly about Holy Trinity UMC. How do we want to make people feel when they enter our doors, whether they come here regularly or as a visitor? Do they feel valued? Do they feel safe? Do they feel seen? Do they feel loved? As a reconciling congregation, this absolutely should be our goal. To reach that goal we need to be intentional about how we welcome people with our signage, with our hospitality, and with our love. We are entering the final quarter of the year entitled *A Place at the Table* – a place where ALL are welcome – no exceptions! **Mark your calendars now for our third annual One Table Event, which will take place on Sunday, December 21 immediately after church.** Start planning now on what you plan to bring to share part of your history with others.

One of my favorite songs of all time is *For Everyone Born a Place at the Table* by Shirley Erena Murray. The lyrics cover everything from people needing clean water and bread to shelter, space, and a safe place for growing. Added to this are women and men, young and old, just and unjust, gay and straight. The final verse stresses that all should be able to live without fear and with the right to be free. The repeated refrain is “and God will delight when we are creators of justice and joy. Yes, God will delight when we are creators of justice, justice and joy!”

As we move through October, November, and December, we will celebrate the unending table of love, forgiveness, and grace. We will focus on immigrants, including our own immigrant experiences. We will remember that ALL are welcome at the table – the LGBTQ community, the neurodiverse community, the BIPOC community, people who are suffering from domestic violence, people who are suffering from bullying, and anyone else who needs to feel valued, safe, seen, and loved. **Remember, Inclusion Starts With I.**

Church Announcements...



United
Women
in Faith

October United Women in Faith Gathering

Tuesday, October 14th

2:00pm in Music Room by Church Office
(note location change!)

Join us for an

Introductory to "SOUL CARE"...

Feeling overwhelmed and in need of
a little soul care?

Afterwards we plan to visit Gail Landor at
New Perspective Senior Living.

Join us to bring a smile to Gail's face.

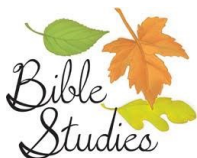
All women are invited to join
and learn about the projects we support,
and how you can be a powerful witness for God.
Please contact Sharon Dougherty at 612-280-2103
or Sandy Feldhake at 952-484-7868 for questions.

Lakefront Bible Study

October 7 & 21

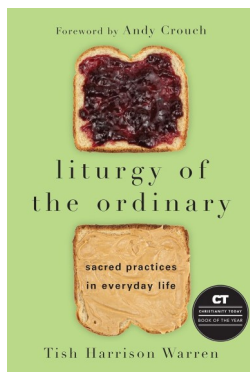
from 1:00-2:30pm

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.*

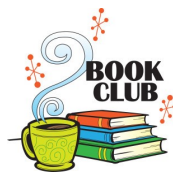
This is a non-denominational group.
Call Barb Bollinger with questions at 612-670-1847.

ALL ARE WELCOME! JOIN ANYTIME!



Don Hartley
Community Peace
Garden

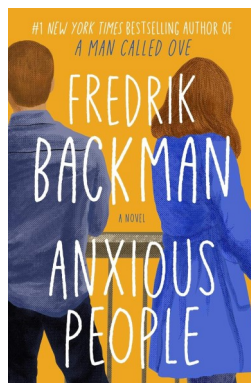
As of 9/23/25,
428 pounds of produce
have been donated to
the CAP agency food
shelf.



Trinity Readers
Tuesday, October 28
2:00pm Church Library

If you enjoy reading and discussing books, join us!

The book for October: **Anxious People**
by Fredrik Backman



*A failed bank robber takes a
group of strangers hostage
during an apartment open
house, leading to a series of
unexpected revelations and
connections as they navigate
their individual struggles and
search for redemption.*

Candy Crawl

Friday, October 31

10:00AM-1:00PM



Candy Crawl is a daytime trick-or-treat event for
Prior Lake's youngest residents. Start your Candy
Crawl at Prior Lake City Hall and make sure to stop
by Holy Trinity for a photo booth and lots of candy!
Volunteers are needed for this event. Please let us
know if you can help.



Holy Trinity will be celebrating "All Saints Sunday" on
November 2 during worship. We will be honoring
all loved ones who passed away in the last year. If
you have someone you would like to include, please
send an email to the church office by **Sunday,
October 26** and include the person's name, date of
death, relationship to you as well as their picture. In
addition, you are welcome to bring a memento
(picture, item, candle) to place on the altar on
November 2 to honor any other loved ones who
passed away more than a year ago.

October Mission of the Month



Emma Norton's mission is to provide transformational housing for women and families on their journey of recovery. As a housing first and harm reduction organization, they believe that housing provides the foundation every human being needs in order to make progress on life goals. Using The Sanctuary Model, they take a trauma-informed, whole-culture approach to providing advocacy and supportive services that help hundreds of individuals and families who have experienced homelessness—along with mental, chemical, and/or chronic health issues—reach their goals, restore their dignity and heal from the inside out.

In 2023, they served 313 individuals, with 50 percent identifying as BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, People of Color) and all very low income. Overall: 61% of all clients maintained housing for one year or more and 87% of all clients completed one or more goals on their stability plans.

Holy Trinity's United Women in Faith invites you to help!

EMMA NORTON Annual Winter Coat + Gear Drive

We are seeking donations of:

***New and like-new coats in both men and women's styles in all adult sizes**



- *Kid snowpants**
- *Kids and adult sizes of:**
 - warm socks
 - gloves/mittens
 - snow boots

Please place donations in box located in Narthex
no later than Sunday, October 12
These donations help Emma Norton clients.
Thank you for your generosity!

Thank you!

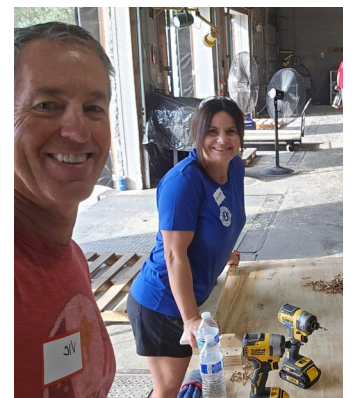
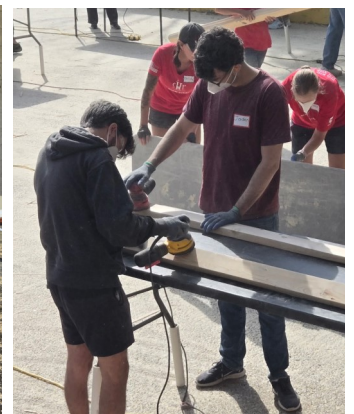
Thank you for donating **\$874**
as well as lots of mac & cheese
and snacks to Reaching Our
Community's Kids (R.O.C.K.)
during the month of August.



On Saturday, September 13, 6 members from Holy Trinity helped build 75 beds with Sleep in Heavenly Peace! Great work team!



Pictured above: Mark Chant, Deanna Hawkins, Rene Meyer, Vic Noer, Jaden Chant, and Devin Chant.





OCTOBER 2025

Holy Trinity UMC

(952) 447-2990

office@htumc.org

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
			1 4pm Bells Rehearsal 7pm Choir Rehearsal	2 11am Care Team Meeting 6pm Veterans AA at the parsonage	3	4
5 9:30am Worship/ Live-Stream	6 4-6pm Hope Cafe 7pm Al-Anon in fellowship hall	7  1-2:30pm Lakefront Bible Study 4-6 Hope Cafe 7pm CoDA at the parsonage	8 4pm Bells Rehearsal 7pm Choir Rehearsal	9 6pm Veterans AA at the parsonage	10	11
12 9:30am Worship/ Live-Stream 4-5:30pm 8th/9th Confirmation 5:30-7pm Sunday Funday (7th-12th)	13 12-6 SCA Winter Clothing Distribution 7pm Al-Anon in fellowship hall	14  United Women in Faith 2:00pm UWFaith 12-6 SCA Winter Clothing Distribution 7pm CoDA at the parsonage	15 4pm Bells Rehearsal 7pm Choir Rehearsal	16 6pm Veterans AA at the parsonage	17	18
19 9:30am Worship/ Live-Stream	20 4-6 Hope Cafe 6:30pm Core Team Meeting 7pm Al-Anon in fellowship hall	21 1-3:15pm Quilters  1-2:30pm Lakefront Bible Study 4-6 Hope Cafe 7pm CoDA at the parsonage	22 4pm Bells Rehearsal 7pm Choir Rehearsal	23 6pm Veterans AA at the parsonage	24	25
26 9:30am Worship/ Live-Stream	27 4-6pm Hope Cafe 7pm Al-Anon in fellowship hall	28  2:00pm Trinity Readers 4-6 Hope Cafe 7pm CoDA at the parsonage	29 4pm Bells Rehearsal 7pm Choir Rehearsal	30 6pm Veterans AA at the parsonage	31  HAPPY HALLOWEEN 10am-1pm Candy Crawl	

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

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

Church website: www.htumc.org



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