



# Holy Trinity Lutheran Church

A congregation of the Evangelical  
Lutheran Church in America  
650 240<sup>th</sup> St  
North Liberty, IA 52317  
319-665-2200  
[www.holytrinityNL.org](http://www.holytrinityNL.org)

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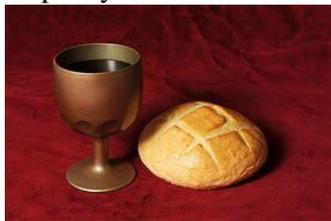
March 2018

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## CONVERSATIONS WITH FAMILIES AND PASTORS – FAMILY EXPERIENCE - FX



On Sunday, March 11, and Sunday, March 18, there will NOT be typical Children's Sunday School. Instead we will be offering – Family Experience – or FX during the Children's Sunday School Hour. Pastor Tim and Pastor Katie will be meeting with parents and children in the sanctuary for a special – FAMILY EXPERIENCE (FX) on the topic of the sacraments. This conversation is for families of Kindergarten on up! If your child would like to know more about baptism, come! If your child is asking to participate in Holy Communion, come! This is for the entire family. Please RSVP with Pastor Katie at [katie@hollytrinityNL.org](mailto:katie@hollytrinityNL.org) so we know the number of supplies we will need!



## SPECIAL SUNDAY MORNING SCHEDULE IN MARCH

- Sunday School for Preschoolers on March 11 and March 18 will be held as usual.
- Senior high Youth Sunday School will go to Keystone Living Center on March 4<sup>th</sup>, rest on the 11<sup>th</sup>, and meet for a meal packing planning session on March 18<sup>th</sup>.
- Youth Ministry on Wednesday, March 14 will meet for meal and worship only.
- Adult Sunday School on March 11 and March 18 will be held as usual with John Lancaster. The topic will continue to explore the sermon series, Meals with Jesus.

## **LOOKING AHEAD TO HOLY WEEK:**

- **Passion Sunday, March 25<sup>th</sup>** 8:15 & 10:45 a.m.  
Recall the story of Jesus' entry into Jerusalem and the final week of his life.
- **Maundy Thursday, March 29<sup>th</sup>** 7:00 p.m.  
Experience the story of His Last Supper with a special setting of Holy Communion
- **Good Friday, March 30<sup>th</sup>** 7:00 p.m.  
Mark the story of Jesus' crucifixion, with all of its accompanying emotional drama at Calvary
- **Holy Saturday, March 31** 9:00 a.m.  
Decorating for our Easter celebration
- **The Resurrection of our Lord, April 1<sup>st</sup>** 8:15 & 10:45 a.m.  
Join us for joyful Festival worship & breakfast in between services

## **“MEALS WITH JESUS” SERMON SERIES**



### **CONTINUES**

The Gospel accounts contain story after story of Jesus taking the time to sup with others – whether disciples, Pharisees, tax collectors, or prostitutes. Two meals, the Last Supper and the feeding of the 5,000, are recorded in all four gospels. In fact, meals feature so prominently in the gospels that scholars have commented: ‘Jesus ate his way through the Gospels.’ Herbert Anderson and Edward Foley even claim: ‘... they killed him because of the way he ate; because he ate and drank with sinners.’ Jesus revealed the Kingdom as he shared meals with others. And Jesus’ ‘fellowship meals’ are formative for the mission of the local church today.

What lessons do these significant chapters of Jesus’ life imply for us? Come join us – both on Sundays and Wednesdays, for two different experiences highlighting stories and lessons from Jesus’ life at table. Our mid-week services go from 6:30-7:15, preceded by a simple soup supper served up from 5:30-6:30 each week. The soup is being prepared on site this year; we will invite you to bring salads, breads, drinks, or desserts to round out the offerings. We hope that families will take turns with setup and cleanup each week. Proceeds from the free-will offering will be used to underwrite both outdoor ministry and mission trip experiences for our young people this summer. Chris Keyser and our preschool chef, Mindy Pickrell, are leading the cause!

## **PASTOR TIM'S PAGE**

### **HOLY TRINITY JOINS COVENANT FOR JUSTICE**

As alluded to in prior newsletters and the Annual Meeting in February, for the past year I have been actively engaged in the early work to establish Johnson County Interfaith Cluster, a network of faith and labor communities from throughout the county seeking to organize and voice a united commitment to seeking justice for all people in our midst. Prior monthly gatherings have included representatives from Protestant, Catholic, Islamic, Jewish, and Buddhist traditions as well as the Center for Worker Justice with broad racial diversity at its core.

As an outgrowth of the Gamaliel Network and Quad Cities Interfaith, the effort is chaired by Pastor Tony Smith of New Creation International Church in Iowa City. We have already had several representatives participate in weeklong community organizing training and have successfully worked with the Iowa City Council to actively pursue recent incidents of hate crimes in that community. Our Visioning Council collectively signed the group covenant in February and invited all within the congregation to do the same on Feb. 25<sup>th</sup>. A public Covenant ceremony was held at New Creation Church on Feb. 27<sup>th</sup>.

Jim Aldeman has also participated in this effort and seeks to continue. If you would like to join Jim and I in furthering this cause, please talk with us and come be part of our monthly conversation! I am proud that Holy Trinity is counted among the “early adopters” of this effort and pray that our actions will live up to our voiced commitment! Thank you for your investment.

Sharing the Mission, Pastor Tim

### **“NEXT STEPS” SERIES BEGINS APRIL 15TH<sup>th</sup>**

If you are seeking a place to call your spiritual home, build healthy relationships with others seeking to grow in their faith, or simply want to know more about Holy Trinity and how best to get connected here, please consider being part of this spring’s “Next Steps” series.

Pastor Tim will be facilitating discussion over topics mostly of your choosing on Sunday, April 15<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup>, and 29<sup>th</sup> with child care available and a parallel series may tentatively take place on Monday eves (4/16, 4/23, and 4/30) from 7:00-8:15 p.m. if needed. At the conclusion of both series, those interested in officially joining the community will be officially received a special worship opportunity in coming weeks.

If you’d like to be a part in either series, please email Pastor Tim at [tim@holyltrinityNL.org](mailto:tim@holyltrinityNL.org) !

## **CONGREGATIONAL MEETING AFFIRMS PROPOSED BUDGET; EXTENDS PASTOR KATIE'S CALL TO FULL-TIME**

2018 is ripe with promise, and the congregation leaned into that with confidence at the Annual Congregational Meeting on Feb. 4<sup>th</sup>. Together, you elected Cara Oldham as the new Visioning Council secretary, re-elected Eric Weiler and Jack Fratzke to their officer positions, approved a newly rebalanced staffing model, and unanimously extended Pastor Katie's call to a full-time basis. We also voted to approve a nearly \$380,000 Ministry Fund budget, which includes a continued advance paydown of our existing mortgage debt, in addition to funding ministries, servant experiences, and mission support beyond the congregation. The congregation also asked the Council to explore the establishment of a Building Fund, intended for the reception of designated gifts toward the construction. The Council is following up on that request, seeking to discuss it with informed intentionality. Many thanks to all who attended for your investment, and to our child care staff for their extra patience with our extended session!

## **IT'S NOT TOO EARLY! PLAN TO REGISTER FOR CONFIRMATION CAMP – WEEK OF JULY 8**

It's definitely not too early to start thinking about summer! Holy Trinity's week of Confirmation camp at EWALU in Strawberry Point for all youth currently in grades 6-8 will be July 8-13, and we truly hope that all of our youth will be able to participate! Registration forms are now available both on-line and at church. Because of your strong stewardship response, a partial registration subsidy for all campers again this year! Ask Pastor Tim for details!

## **MEAL and WORSHIP HELP SOUGHT FOR LUTHERAN CAMPUS MINISTRY IN MAY**

A small team of individuals has been helping to lead music at Campus Ministry's Thursday night worship. If you'd like to be part of a team that provides a meal to 25-35 students in May, please let Bryce Henson ([ybahenson@yahoo.com](mailto:ybahenson@yahoo.com)) know. Or if you'd like to help lead the brief worship service at 6:30pm each 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday, let Pastor Tim know with enough lead time that we can equip you for the task!

[tim@holyltrinityNL.org](mailto:tim@holyltrinityNL.org).

## HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP

What a great year so far, and there's so much more to come! Holy Trinity students meet on Sunday mornings at 9:30 a.m. in the fellowship area and then head over to AlphaGraphics for small group discussion, activities, and devotions. The second Sunday of every month, the group meets at Holy Trinity and then travels to Keystone Retirement Community to play games and socialize with residents. (In March, we will go the first weekend.) On Wednesday evenings 6-8 p.m., middle and high school students (a.k.a. "The Crew") meet at the Garage for a lite meal followed by small group discussion and time to hangout and socialize. New students are always invited to join any or all of these activities.

**Coming up!** Youth are leading the Meal Packing Event at Holy Trinity on Saturday, April 7th, and we'd love middle and high school students to help with planning, setup, packing and clean up. Stay tuned for more information on how you can get involved closer to the event.

*"Youth Group is a great way to get closer to kids at church and meet new people."*

*"The lock-in was really fun! I got to know everyone a lot more. I'm really glad I went."*



*"It's fun to go to Keystone and play games with the residents."*

*"I always know there are people to support me and people that I can talk to."*

Youth Group students and kids at the babysitting fundraiser on February 17th, which was followed by a (super fun, good food, high energy, some sleeping) lock-in.

**SIGN-UP FOR MEAL  
PACKING AT  
[HTLCHUNGER.ORG!](http://HTLCHUNGER.ORG)**

# VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL AND DAY CAMP



**One Week –  
two amazing ministries each day!**

**Vacation Bible School at Holy Trinity  
July 16-20 9:00-11:30 a.m.**

- Preschool children through 5<sup>th</sup> Grade (*entering grade in the Fall 2018*)
- Students in Grades 1-5 are invited to enroll in Day Camp following VBS.
- Register online at [www.holytrinityNL.org](http://www.holytrinityNL.org) or at the church office.
- Parent/guardian of children 3 years old entering Preschool in the Fall of 2018 must be on-site during VBS. All children must be potty-trained.
- Recommend \$25 per student for VBS supplies.
  - Please make checks out to Holy Trinity Lutheran Church with VBS/DC in memo.
  - Mail checks and forms to Holy Trinity, 650 240<sup>th</sup> Street, North Liberty, IA 52317
  - Registration due by July 8.

***Volunteers are Needed!*** Youth in 6<sup>th</sup> grade up and adults with gifts and passion for youth ministry are needed to join the team for a fun-filled and meaningful week of Vacation Bible School. VBS will be from 9:00-11:30 each day. Families are invited at 11:05 each day to be part of the VBS Closing. We will have VBS/Day Camp Family Celebration on **Friday** immediately following our morning ministry.

- Station Leaders – teach one lesson each day rotating with a different group of children every 20 minutes. Curriculum and supplies provided (*Prep time. 5-10 hours week of VBS - each morning for entire VBS.*)
- Crew Leaders – Adults walk alongside of Pre- Schoolers through 5<sup>th</sup> Graders as they learn more about God’s love (No prep time. Training July 9 and/or 16)
- Assistant Crew Leaders - 6th grade - 8th grade students who will walk alongside Adult Crew Leader and crew. (*VBS only, students may wish to be an assistant crew leader for Day Camp as well.*)
- Supply Team – coordinate the many supplies that are needed for each station. Lists to be provided. Shopping and coordinating time. 10 Hours.

## **Day Camp at Holy Trinity with Camp EWALU**

**July 16-20, 9:00-4:00 July 21 9:00-11:30  
with closing celebration 9:00-4:00 (VBS  
and Day Camp)**



- Day Camp is run by and with Camp EWALU counselors. It will be a time of worship, prayer, fun, fellowship, and lots of laughter.
- Students bring their own lunch each day.
- Register online at [www.holytrinityNL.org](http://www.holytrinityNL.org) or at the church office.
- Registration is \$80 per student (includes VBS).
- Make checks out to Holy Trinity Lutheran Church with VBS/DC in memo.
- Mail checks and forms to Holy Trinity, 650 240<sup>th</sup> Street, North Liberty, IA 52317
- Registration due by July 8.
- *All Day Campers are automatically registered for morning Vacation Bible School and Day Camp.*

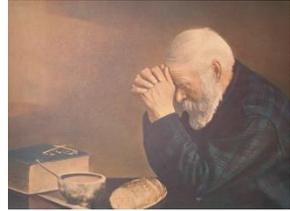
Day Camp officially begins each day at 11:30 and runs until 4:00 with on-site and off-site ministry. *Students are automatically enrolled in morning VBS if they are signed up for Day Camp. However, if parents wish they may communicate with Pastor Katie to opt out of the morning VBS and attend Day Camp 11:30-4:00 p.m.*

### ***Volunteers are Needed!***

- Team Coordinator – manage overall needs and support of Day Camp.
- Host for Counselors – coordinate the hosting of camp staff overnights.
- Crew Leaders – adults to assist with camp staff. Training July 9<sup>th</sup> and/or July 16
- Assistant Crew Leaders - 6<sup>th</sup> grade - 8<sup>th</sup> grade students who will walk along-side an Adult Crew Leader/Camp Counselor and crew. *(Day Camp only, students may wish to be an assistant crew leader for VBS as well. Limit first 10 students).*
- Supply Team – coordinate the many supplies need for counselors. 10 hours.

Registration information is online at [www.holytrinityNL.org](http://www.holytrinityNL.org) or contact the church office at 319.665.2200. Contact Rachel Salamo at [rlynnosalamo@gmail.com](mailto:rlynnosalamo@gmail.com) for more information or scholarships.

## PRAYER PAGE UPDATE



- Pray for millions who are at tremendous risk of starvation due to the growing famine in **South Sudan, Somalia, Nigeria, and Yemen.**
- Pray for those civilians still attempting to flee violence in **Myanmar, Syria, and Congo**; seeking refuge in Europe, the U.S. and elsewhere.
- Pray for **Lenora Witzenburg**, sister of **Phyllis Cabbage**, responding remarkably after her recent cancer treatment.
- Pray for **Stan Vander Linden**, undergoing treatment for chronic cardiac arrhythmia.
- Pray for **Mary Jo Meiners**, recovering from a second hip replacement surgery.
- Pray for **Kay Olthoff**, who began cancer treatment recently.
- Pray for **Roland Williams**, April Roe's father; receiving hospice care.
- Pray for the family of **Will Kohn**, who died last month after complications related to his new diagnosis of lymphoma.
- Pray for **Jason Atkinson**, hospitalized with cardiac difficulties.
- Pray for **Laurel Hibbard**, beginning a new cancer therapy regimen.
- Pray for **Julia Baird**, currently hospitalized in pediatric intensive care.
- Pray for **Scott Horn** (Kristin Stoll's brother), living with the implications stomach cancer.
- Pray for all those known to be expecting, including **Matt and Stacy Meseck, Chris and Cari Anderson, Jesse and Mallory Cunningham, and Jonathan and Hilary Humphrey.**
- Celebrate with **Jake and Emma Schutte** upon the arrival of newborn twin girls – **May and Liv**, who arrived on Feb. 6<sup>th</sup>.

## WORSHIP ASSISTANT SCHEDULE

Please look at your calendars for April, May, and June and provide the office ([office@holytrinityNL.org](mailto:office@holytrinityNL.org)) your conflict dates. Altar Guild should let Nancy Grove know of their availabilities. Scheduling will begin soon with final copy before Holy Week. If you would like to join the worship assistants, let the office know in what capacity you would like to serve!

There is a link to Sign-up Genius on the church homepage to sign-up to serve as a worship assistant at the Lenten services.

## **CRISIS CENTER NEWS**

In 2011, John's two-year-old daughter died suddenly as a result of medical malpractice. Though it was not his fault, he felt he had failed as her protector and provider.

He tried to continue working at P&G, but a beeping noise on the factory line sounded too much like a heart rate monitor and triggered his PTSD. For a time, he contemplated suicide, but thinking of his three living children gave him the strength to keep going.

John's disability check adds up to less than one-third of his former income. He, his wife, and their kids live in a four-bedroom apartment in North Liberty. The rent takes up a majority of their family income.

In January, when they were threatened with a disconnect notice for their water, money from Emergency Assistance paid the bill in full. John feels fortunate his kids are taken care of and continue to attend a great school. He hopes to continue his healing process to the point he can safely return to work.

In January, the Emergency Assistance Program provided 76 housing and utility assists for those in our community. Of those, 20 were for rent/deposits for new housing, 17 were electric bills, and 39 were water bills.

Individuals wishing to donate may write a check out to The Crisis Center with "Emergency Assistance" in the memo line. Please place them in your offering plate or send them directly to The Crisis Center:

The Crisis Center  
1121 Gilbert Ct.  
Iowa City, IA 52240-4528

**Thanks again for your ongoing support of The Crisis Center's  
Emergency Assistance Program**

### **Is a pilgrimage to the Holy Land on your bucket list?**

Join other faith-filled folks on a 10-day venture to Israel, Jordan and Petra with Pastors Rodney Bluml, St. Paul (Anamosa), Wade Reddy, Wayne Zion (Monticello), and Linda Livingston, Ascension (Marion) next February, 4-16, 2019. See <http://www.cvent.com/d/wtqvx8> for more information on costs and itinerary.

## DID YOU KNOW....

...**Fred Rogers's show** for children, Mr. Rogers' Neighborhood, was radical when it began in 1962. His message of making a place for everyone in the neighborhood is still relevant. In an early episode, King Friday, who ruled the Neighborhood of Make Believe, attempts to build a wall around his kingdom to forestall change. Rogers's life will be the subject of an upcoming movie



starring Tom Hanks as Rogers. “If Protestants had saints,” commented religion writer Jonathan Merritt, “Mister Rogers might already have been canonized” (*Washington Post*, January 30).

...**High school teachers and students** are uncomfortable addressing the realities of slavery and, as a result, students are ignorant about this dark side of American history. In a multiple-choice survey of 1,000 high school seniors, only 8 percent gave the correct answer to a question about why the South seceded from the union (it was to preserve slavery). The Southern Poverty Law Center has published a resource for teachers called *Teaching Hard History: American Slavery* (*NPR*, February 4).

...Analysis published in *Clinical Psychological Science* shows that the **iGeneration—those born after 1995**—are much more likely to have mental health issues than their older millennial predecessors. The researchers attribute this decline in mental health to the ascendance of the smartphone. Youth who spend five or more hours online are 71 percent more likely to have one suicide risk factor—depression or thinking about, planning, or attempting suicide—than those who spend less than an hour a day. Teens who spend more time on their smartphones and less time with friends in person had the greatest tendency toward depression (*The Conversation*, November 14).

## March 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			28 9:30 a.m. Small Group 5:30 p.m. Lenten Meal 6:30 p.m. Worship 7:15 p.m. Focus Groups 7:45 p.m. Music Rehearsal	1 9:30 a.m. Bible Study 6:00 p.m. Lutheran Campus Ministry Meal and Worship	2 6:30 p.m. Women's Gathering	3 Pastor Tim Sabbath
4 8:15 a.m. Worship 9:15 a.m. Fellowship 9:30 a.m. Sunday School for All Ages 9:30 a.m. High school youth to Keystone 10:45 a.m. Worship 11:45 a.m. Fellowship 5:00 p.m. An Evening Out	5 8:00 a.m. Premise Keepers 9:30 a.m. ♡2♡ Group 10:30 a.m. Staff Mtg 7:00 p.m. Troop Meeting 7:00 p.m. Men's Group	6 6:30 p.m. Visioning Council	7 9:30 a.m. Small Group 5:30 p.m. Lenten Meal 6:30 p.m. Worship 7:15 p.m. Focus Groups 7:45 p.m. Music Rehearsal	8 9:30 a.m. Bible Study	9 Pastor Katie Sabbath	10 9:00 a.m. In God's Arms (Quilting)  Pastor Tim Sabbath
11 <b>Daylight Savings Begins</b> 8:15 a.m. Worship 9:15 a.m. Fellowship 9:30 a.m. FX, Sunday School, and Adult Class 10:45 a.m. Worship 11:45 a.m. Fellowship	12 8:00 a.m. Premise Keepers 9:30 a.m. ♡2♡ Group 10:30 a.m. Staff Mtg	13	14 9:30 a.m. Small Group 5:30 p.m. Lenten Meal 6:30 p.m. Worship 7:15 p.m. Focus Groups 7:45 p.m. Music Rehearsal	15 9:30 a.m. Bible Study 6:30 p.m. Facilities Team	16 Pastor Katie Sabbath	17 Pastor Tim Sabbath  1:00 p.m. EWALU An- nual Meeting
18 8:15 a.m. Worship 9:15 a.m. Fellowship 9:30 a.m. FX, Sunday School, and Adult Class 10:45 a.m. Worship 11:45 a.m. Fellowship	19 8:00 a.m. Premise Keepers 9:30 a.m. ♡2♡ Group 10:30 a.m. Staff Mtg	20	21 PRAY, FAST, ACT 9:30 a.m. Small Group 5:30 p.m. Lenten Meal 6:30 p.m. Worship 7:15 p.m. Focus Groups 7:45 p.m. Music Rehearsal	22 9:30 a.m. Bible Study 9:30 a.m. Bishop Burk's Pre-Lenten Worship for Pastors 6:30 p.m. Communica- tions Team	23 Newsletter Deadline  Youth Re- treat with LCM	24 Youth Retreat with LCM
Pastor Tim out of the office						
25 <b>Palm Sunday</b> 8:15 a.m. Worship 9:15 a.m. Fellowship 9:30 a.m. Sunday School for All Ages 10:45 a.m. Worship 11:45 a.m. Fellowship	26 8:00 a.m. Premise Keepers 9:30 a.m. ♡2♡ Group 10:30 a.m. Staff Mtg 3:30 p.m. Keystone Visitation	27 6:00 p.m. Johnson County Interfaith	28 9:30 a.m. Small Group <b>NO WORSHIP</b> 7:30 p.m. Music Rehearsal (tentative)	29 <b>Maundy Thursday</b> 7:00 p.m. Worship with Holy Communion 8:00 p.m. Music Re- hearsal (tentative)	30 <b>Good Friday</b> 7:00 p.m. Worship	31 9:00 a.m. Decorate for Easter