



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!"*

November, 2023

"Earn.Save.Give."



You're probably used to hearing people in church talk about giving. But when was the last time in church that you talked about earning or saving? Is it unchristian to earn money? Is it wrong to save for ourselves and our families?

John Wesley didn't think so. Wesley, the Christian evangelist and founder of the Methodist movement, gave a remarkable sermon called "The Use of Money." In it, he said that the important thing isn't money itself but **how we use it**. Wesley's surprising advice still rings true today: earn all you can, save all you can, give all you can.

For four weeks, between October 29 and November 19, our church will experience an exciting stewardship program based on this advice, *Earn. Save. Give.: Wesley's Simple Rules for Money*, developed by popular author and pastor James A. Harnish. Each week we'll hear more about Wesley's surprising advice and be introduced to faithful Christians who, like all of us, struggle with money.

Here's a snapshot of this important upcoming series:

- October 29: *"We Don't Need More Money – We Need Wisdom"* When he could have asked for anything, Solomon asked God for wisdom. Wisdom is what we need in our lives of stewardship.
- November 5: *"Money – The Excellent Gift"* We will explore John Wesley's encouragement to live with a deep connection between our work and our faith, so that the ultimate purpose of our earning is to do the will of God.
- November 12: *"You Can't Take It with You"* Living in a culture of instant gratification, I want it when I want it, God calls us to save, and to save for the purpose of generosity.

In this Issue

Pastor Chad	1-2
Children, Youth & Family	3
Mission Corner	4
Core Team & Finance Updates	5
Church Announcements	6-7
Inclusion Starts with I	7
November Calendar	8

Continued on next page...

Pastor Chad continued...

- November 19: *"Charity? Or Stewardship?: The Witness of Zacchaeus and the Widow"*
Stewardship represents a radical reorientation of our whole life – including our finances – around our commitment to Christ.

On November 19 you will be invited to make a commitment to God and the church. This commitment will be a reflection of your stewardship – the radical reorientation of your whole life around your commitment to Christ and His church. I hope you'll join us on this journey.

In Christ-
Pastor Chad



All Saints Sunday is a day of celebration and remembrance for the saints, with the New Testament meaning of all Christian people of every time and place. In the United Methodist Church, All Saints Sunday is generally celebrated on the first Sunday of November (All Saints Day is November 1). This year, we will be remembering those considered to be saints by our church members and friends in a service of worship on **Sunday, November 5.**

Dorothy (Dot) Berggren (12/9/22)
JoAnne Wahl (1/14/23)
Kitty Mohr (1/27/23)
Greg Engelos (3/19/23)
Bette Wickman (7/3/23)
Verna Erickson (8/11/23)
Tom Grund (8/27/23)
Jodie Benson (9/12/23)



Thank you for donating **\$1,173 to Simpson Housing services** during the month of September to support their Build-Up Campaign for the NEW Simpson Community Shelter and Apartments.



Don Hartley/Otti Castriotta Memorial Garden



As of 10/25/23, 1485 pounds of produce and herbs have been donated to the CAP agency food shelf.

Thank you to our gardeners (and those donating from their personal gardens) for your dedication to this important ministry.

Our United Women in Faith want to thank you for the nine old cell phones and smartphones you donated recently that were given to Southern Valley Alliance. These phones can act as an emergency 911 phone, as well as offer access to the internet via Wi-Fi to use maps/GPS or order Uber/Lyfts. These phones can be a huge help to those in domestic violence situations.



Holy Trinity's United Women in Faith recently enjoyed a Fall Get-Together with the Lydia Zion UWF. Besides gathering for a delicious homemade soup luncheon, we donated specific items to a speaker present from the CAP Agency who filled their van and made the delivery. Our Minnesota Conference UWF President, Cindy Saufferer, was also a guest. We hope to plan more events in the future with our new friends and Sisters-in-Christ from Lydia Zion!



How Are You Standing?

I know I am not alone in getting caught up in *all the problems*. Sometimes problems are global and there is nothing I can do about them, sometimes they are personal and the responsibility to address them can feel overwhelming. Sometimes they are very real issues and sometimes I start imagining problems that don't yet exist (*why do I do that? Seriously, am I bored?*) The more I dwell on problems the more I crumple under fear and anxiety. I often say faith in God helps us in fearful times, but courage isn't automatic. I don't just overcome fear because I am a Christian. I can't deny problems exist because I believe God wins. Overcoming fear with faith takes some (ugh) discipline.

"Faith includes noticing the mess, the emptiness and discomfort, and letting it be there until some light returns." Anne Lamott

Not all problems are mine to solve or are even solvable. Sometimes I want to ignore these problems and other times I rush at them, throwing unhelpful solutions around in a panic instead of thoughtfully (and prayerfully) considering them. Faith is seeing the situation for what it is and trusting that even in darkness, light will come again. Faith means trusting God is working even before we see how (Prov 3:5).

"One way to pray in a fear-filled world is to choose love over anxiety, to open the door of the heart to dwell in the intimate presence of the One who loves us. When we begin to understand at a deep, spiritual level that we live surrounded by love and in communion with God no matter what the external circumstances, we can let go of the fear that lurks on the outskirts of our minds."
Henri Nouwen

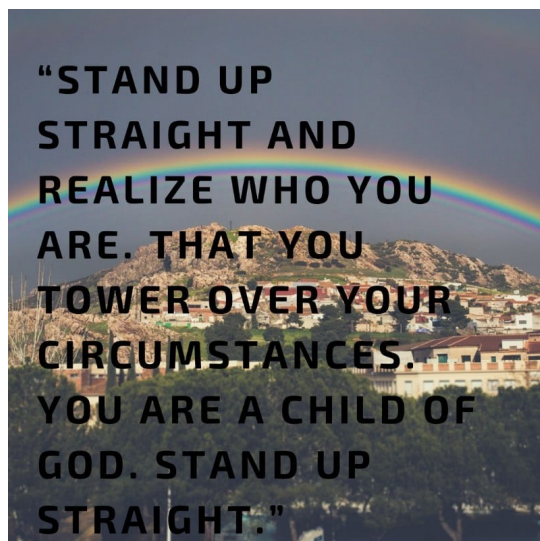
It is very common for me to feel overwhelmed and then realize it has been a while since I last dwelled with God. I don't mean time spent in worship, or studying the Bible, or praying the joys and concerns, I mean stopping and humbly turning the pockets of my mind and heart inside out, spilling all the problems I have picked up, and the worry I've

carried that I might not even be able to name, and offering it all to God, then with gratitude simply sitting and breathing in the love and compassion God promises that we are even now receiving. God's love is not a reward I earn for solving or avoiding problems, or a scarce resource I can only have when everything is going okay. Time spent in God's love heals and equips me for both the everyday and the oversized problems that come to us all.

"Stand up straight and realize who you are, that you tower over your circumstances. You are a child of God. Stand up straight."
Maya Angelou

Humility before God is good, and putting others ahead of ourselves is a radical Christian practice, but allowing bad news and problems in our lives or in the world to cause us to doubt that the sovereign God is in us and with us? Nope. Not godly at all. If we claim our identity as a royal priesthood (1 Peter 2:9), take up the armor of God (Eph 6:10-18), and choose God's gift of power, love and self-control over a spirit of fear (2 Tim 1:7), we can not only cope with fear, but we can also overflow with hope (Romans 15:13).

Meeting fear with faith is as simple and as hard as acknowledging our needs, letting them go and acknowledging our God, every day, and every moment. As a community of faith, we can help each other do this. Maybe we will find solutions, and even become solutions to problems in the world, or maybe not. But we will grow in relationship with God. Just be sure to stand up straight.



Continued above...

November Mission of the Month



About FMSC

Every year, millions of children die from preventable causes such as pneumonia, diarrhea, malaria and undernutrition. Hunger is still causing nearly half of deaths in children under 5 years old. From this data, we estimate at least 6,200 children die each day from causes related to undernutrition.

Feed My Starving Children (FMSC) believes hope starts with food. As a Christian nonprofit, FMSC is dedicated to seeing every child whole in body and spirit. FMSC works with food distribution partners that stay with communities for the long haul, empowering them to move from relief to development.

FMSC meals are developed by food science and nutrition professionals to supplement nutritional needs and reduce problems with malnutrition. Nutrition allows children to grow, thrive and develop to their full potential.

The process is simple. Donations given by people just like you fund the meal ingredients. Volunteers hand-pack the meals. Meals are donated to FMSC food partners around the world, where kids are fed and lives are saved!

HTUMC will be participating in a meal packing event at FMSC in Chanhasen on

Saturday, November 4 from 9:00am-10:45am.

Come and help pack lifesaving meals! You'll make it possible for FMSC to send nutritious meals to children around the world.

Kids (ages 5 and up) and adults can hand-pack nutritious MannaPack meals specifically designed to assist in reversing and preventing undernutrition. Families are encouraged to sign up together.

Sign up NOW: https://bit.ly/HT_fmsc_2023

Help us spread the warmth this season by donating your new and gently used hats, mittens, gloves & scarves! We will be supporting **Hats & Mittens**, an organization that provides over 25,000 sets of hats, mittens, gloves & scarves annually to over 150 organizations across the Twin Cities and 7 metro counties.

We will collect these items **throughout November** (look for the collection box in the Narthex)

Check out: www.hatsandmittens.org

Facebook: Hats & Mittens



More than 34 million people in the U.S. face hunger or lack access to healthy food. Closer to home, nearly one in every 10 adults in the Dakotas and Minnesota have reported there is sometimes or often not enough to eat for their household. There are people in every one of our communities who face the very real struggle to make ends meet and provide for their families. Some of our beloved United Methodist siblings are likely among them.

Let us come together to make a tangible difference in the lives of our neighbors in need. **We hope you'll join Holy Trinity in participating in our Dakotas-Minnesota Area 2023 Thanksgiving Offering: Five and Two**—as in the story of Jesus taking five loaves of bread and two fish and feeding 5,000.

Holy Trinity would like to challenge all of our members and friends to **donate \$5** (or any multiple of \$5) to FMSC (our November Mission of the Month) and also **2 food items** to R.O.C.K. (our October Mission of the Month which will continue through November.) Let's experience the joy of participating in this expression of ministry, modeled by the boy who shared what he had and saw that it was enough to feed those hungering.

Core Team and Finance Updates...

The Core Team met on Monday, October 23. Highlights of the discussion included:

- The new sign: The Core Team considered feedback on the design from five people who sent comments in by email or text and two people who attended the meeting in person. The design was altered to reduce its size to 4' x 4' and eliminate one of the images (the new Holy Trinity logo). They discussed the possibility of adding the new logo to existing permanent signs. The approved design is shown at right.
- Finance: Insurance costs went up steeply and quotes from new agencies are being compared. An option for Venmo for the church is in process but slow, due to a technical snag.
- Upcoming: There are an amazing number of events at Holy Trinity, or where Holy Trinity will be helping in the community in November! Please watch for updates and read your newsletter carefully for ways you and your family, friends and neighbors can be involved.



The next Core Team meeting will be at 6:30pm, Monday, November 20. If you feel called to serve on Core Team or one of our other leadership teams (Staff Parish Team or Trustees) or would like to know more about being involved in any other way please reach out to any staff or email the office! Full minutes of Core Team meetings can be found at <https://htumc.org/core-team/>

Finance Update as of September 30, 2023

Operating Income	2023 Budget	2023 YTD	percentage	Variance
Pledged	\$171,866.00	\$128,359.96	75%	\$43,506.04
Regular Unpledged	\$27,000.00	\$26,542.00	98%	\$458.00
Gifts	\$5,000.00	\$3,893.14	78%	\$1,106.86
Plate	\$3,800.00	\$2,535.50	67%	\$1,264.50
Misc	\$4,400.00	\$3,037.14	69%	\$1,362.86
interest from accounts	\$30,000.00	\$40,700.00	136%	-\$10,700.00
Designated Gifts		\$10,000.00		-\$10,000.00
Total income	\$242,066.00	\$215,067.74	89%	\$26,998.26
Operating Expenses				
Administrative & Salaries	\$91,000.00	\$67,094.54	74%	\$23,905.46
Pastoral Ministries	\$102,498.00	\$86,064.06	84%	\$16,433.94
Apportionments	\$32,953.00	\$24,714.00	75%	\$8,239.00
Property & Maintenance	\$48,906.00	\$45,228.12	92%	\$3,677.88
Program Ministries	\$8,644.00	\$2,010.81	23%	\$6,633.19
Total Expenses	\$284,001.00	\$225,111.53	79%	\$58,889.47
Net Operating income/Loss	-\$41,935.00	-\$10,043.79		-\$10,043.79

Here is a snapshot of where we stand versus this year's budget. We have taken another \$20,000.00 from Ed Jones accounts and moved them to the operating fund. We are still around \$10,000.00 below our budget. One reason for this is that our insurance company doubled our annual premium.

Patrick is getting quotes from other insurance companies, and should have them in two weeks. At that time Chad, Vic and Patrick will review them and determine which quote best fits the needs of the church.



United
Women
in Faith

United Women in Faith Gathering for NOVEMBER

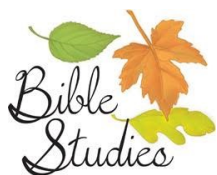
We believe love in action can change the world.

Tuesday, November 14 at 2:00pm

-Meet in Fellowship Hall at the church-

Executive Director Bethany Tjornhom from the local
FISH Network will join us to talk about the
organization. You won't want to miss her
presentation! Join us as we support local & global
missions and gather for fellowship, devotions,
prayer, study & mission business.

Please contact Sharon Dougherty for questions at
sdsrdougherty@gmail.com or 612-280-2103.



Lakefront Bible Study

November 7 & 21

from 1:00-2:30pm

Lakefront Plaza Commons Room

The group is currently studying the book
Common Ground by Amberly Neese.

The 2nd study will be on the book *Beatitudes From
the Back Side* by J. Ellsworth Kalas.

Both books are available on Amazon.

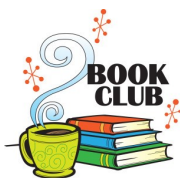
This is a non-denominational group. All are welcome!

Call Barb Bollinger with questions at 612-670-1847.

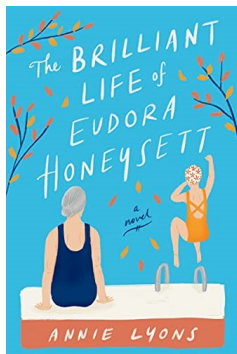
Trinity Readers

Tuesday, November 28

1:30pm at the Parsonage



If you enjoy reading and discussing books, join us!



The book for November:

***The Brilliant Life of
Eudora Honeysett*
by Annie Lyons**

*A moving and joyous novel about
an elderly woman ready to
embrace death and the little girl
who reminds her what it means
to live.*

Buy Nothing Holiday Swap and Shop Event

On **Saturday, November 11th**

we are opening our fellowship
hall to the community for a
Buy Nothing Holiday Swap
and Shop Event!

All are welcome to attend.



A fun day of swapping and shopping for the
holidays! Bring your new or gently used toys, winter
outerwear and winter holiday decorations to share
with the Buy Nothing community. Items brought
should fit in one of the following categories:

1. Infant & Toddler - toys, gifts & outerwear
2. Younger Child (4yo-8yo)- toys, gifts & outerwear
3. Older Child (9yo-13yo) - toys, gifts & outerwear
4. Teen - gifts & outerwear
5. Family Friendly books/puzzles/games
6. Winter Holiday Decorations & Gift wrapping
supplies

Drop off times are 9am-2:30pm

Swap & Shop times are 2pm - 4pm



This is a totally free event for everyone
participating! Please feel free to bring items and/or
shop alongside the community.

Any items left over after the event will be donated.

Contact Tanya Alemu with any questions:

alemufamily2000@gmail.com / 763-267-3611

Holy Trinity Gear is HERE & READY to order!

Holy Trinity gear is now available to order in
multiple colors, styles and sizes.

Check out some sample items in the Narthex.

Orders can be placed online here: [https://
fbcompaniesmn.com/collections/church-pride](https://fbcompaniesmn.com/collections/church-pride)

If you need help ordering, please stop by the church
office for assistance.



Inclusion Starts With I...

By Carol Ottoson

Every year I marvel at how quickly time flies as we move into November, with Thanksgiving and Advent on the horizon. November is Native American Heritage Month, which will be the I Team focus. We are also planning a **field trip to Hočokata Ti Cultural Center on Saturday, November 18th**. We have reservations for a guided tour at 10:30 am. The cost is \$7.00 per person. You will pay at the door. We will have a sign up at church, or the sign-up genius link is https://bit.ly/HocokataTi_tour_Nov18. **Sign up needs to be done by November 10th**. Carpools will leave the church at 10:00, or you can meet us at the Cultural Center by 10:15. All are welcome! Displays and other opportunities to learn about Native American Heritage will be available. Both the Minnesota History Center and the Minneapolis Institute of Arts also have Native American programs and displays this month. **Conversations in the Parsonage will be Sunday, November 19th**. November 20th is Transgender Day of Remembrance, which honors the memory of the transgender people whose lives were lost in acts of anti-transgender violence. Materials will also be available to help us to observe this day. Remember, Inclusion starts with I.



**Saturday, November 11
9:00am-12:00pm**

The trustees will be organizing some church cleaning projects inside and outside of the church building.

Any and all volunteers are welcome!

Rain or Shine!

Bring rakes to do outdoor work, and/or cleaning supplies to wash windows and light fixtures inside.



A note to our faithful Communion Servers...

Thank you for serving with such care and joy at the Lord's altar. You are a very important part of our Communion Service and a blessing to all of us!

Sharon Dougherty
Communion Lead

thank you

**Daylight
Savings Time
ends Sunday,
November 5.
Turn clocks
back 1 hour!**



THANKSGIVING

All things
we receive from God
work together
for good.

We praise
and thank Him
in trials and
triumphs,
scarcity and
plenty,
knowing He sends
exactly what we need

—Nancy Spiegelberg



November 2023

Holy Trinity UMC

(952) 447-2990

office@htumc.org

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
			1 8:30am Moment of Prayer 6:15-7pm 7th/8th Confirmation Class at the parsonage 7pm Choir Rehearsal	2 6pm Veterans AA at the parsonage	3	4 9:00am-10:45am FMSC 
5  9:30am Worship/ Live-Stream 	6 9:30am AA at the parsonage 7pm Al-Anon at the parsonage	7  1-2:30pm Lakefront Bible Study 7pm CoDA at the parsonage	8 8:30am Moment of Prayer 6:15-7pm 7th/8th Confirmation Class at the parsonage 7pm Choir Rehearsal	9 6pm Veterans AA at the parsonage	10	11 9am-12pm Church Cleanup 2-4pm Holiday Swap and Shop
12 9:30am Worship/ Live-Stream 10:30am I-Team Meeting	13 9:30am AA at the parsonage 7pm Al-Anon at the parsonage	14  United Women in Faith 2:00pm UWF Fellowship Hall 7pm CoDA at the parsonage	15 8:30am Moment of Prayer 6:15-7pm 7th/8th Confirmation Class at the parsonage 7pm Choir Rehearsal	16 6pm Veterans AA at the parsonage	17	18 10:30am Hočokata Ti Cultural Center Tour
19 9:30am Worship/ Live-Stream 10:45am Conversations in Parsonage 	20 9:30am AA at the parsonage 6:30pm Core Team Meeting 7pm Al-Anon at the parsonage	21 1-3:15pm Quilters  1-2:30pm Lakefront Bible Study 7pm CoDA at the parsonage	22 8:30am Moment of Prayer 7pm Choir Rehearsal	23  6pm Veterans AA at the parsonage	24	25
26 9:30am Worship/ Live-Stream	27 9:30am AA at the parsonage 7pm Al-Anon at the parsonage	28  1:30pm Trinity Readers 7pm CoDA at the parsonage	29 8:30am Moment of Prayer 6:15-7pm 7th/8th Confirmation Class at the parsonage 7pm Choir Rehearsal	30 6pm Veterans AA at the parsonage		

Holy Trinity United Methodist Church



16150 Arcadia Avenue SE
Prior Lake, Minnesota, 55372

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

Pastor: Rev. Chad Gilbertson
(952) 356-4616 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."*