

## Pastor's Letter

Dear Friends in Christ,

For all the experiences I've had in my life, I consider myself quite blessed. I've lived in small towns, very small towns, medium-sized cities, suburbs, rural towns, and urban areas. I've had friends, acquaintances and co-workers from all walks of life. I've never really understood divisions between people. Even in today's political climate – no matter what side you're drawn to, I still believe that we are called to love our neighbors because that is what Jesus teaches us.

In my hometown the city is divided by the river into Frenchtown to the south and the rest of the city. It's an arbitrary line as much of the area was "founded" by French fur traders and priests as early as the 1660s. However, all of that becomes irrelevant when we read further into the history of the area and realize that artifacts from around 5000 BCE can be found that belong to the Copper Culture indigenous peoples. Many places are divided like this because when they were "settled" the winning ethnic group claimed the land in their name. For better or worse. It happens all around the world. Urban areas are *still* feeling the effects of redlining\* today.

Jesus had this really great way of crossing imagined boundaries. He would go to places that others didn't expect him to go. He would hang out with "undesirable" or "unworthy" people. Of course, that term is dependent on the lens through which you look at people. The Jesus lens is much different than the human lens.

This Lenten season, we have been journeying through Luke's gospel. We've been looking at polarities and dichotomies with the intention of being transformed by the good news we see there. We have talked about intention and action, stranger and neighbor and faith and works. We have been talking about how to live our lives in such a way that we can make it all work together. We have seen that things are not as different as they seem. The arbitrary lines that are drawn are blurred by Jesus.

When Pastor Vivian, Pastor Stephen and I sat down to plan Lenten worship, we found this series and decided that it would be a good way to re-introduce our congregations and, perhaps, get us to work together because we have so much in common as siblings in Christ. I believe we all have a lot to learn from each other. We all have different gifts. In much the same way that the Samaritan taught others about being a neighbor and Mary taught Martha about what is best.

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Apr 6: We Say Yes Campaign ends
- Apr 13: Palm Sunday
- Apr 17: Maundy Thursday
- Apr 18: Good Friday
- Apr 19: Bunco
- Apr 19: Open Mic Night
- Apr 20: Easter Sunday
- Apr 26: Outdoor Spring Clean

# Holy Trinity Updates

---

*Pastor's letter continued*

This all leads me to wonder what Jesus would have to say. Do we trust him? Would he teach a parable about us? I don't have an answer. But I will end here to allow you all to ponder our Lenten lessons.

Blessings,

Pr. Jane

*\*Redlining is a discriminatory practice where services, particularly financial ones like mortgages and insurance, are systematically denied or made inaccessible to residents of specific neighborhoods, often based on race or ethnicity, rather than individual creditworthiness.*

## Mid-week Lenten Schedule

April 2      11:00 am at Luther Memorial & 6:00 pm at Mt. Hope

April 9      11:00 am at Luther Memorial & 6:00 pm at Mt. Hope

Holy Trinity is providing the Lenten supper on Wednesday, April 9 at Mt. Hope. A meal includes soups, salad, bread, dessert(s) and drinks. Mt. Hope will provide bowls, utensils, napkins and cups as well as pitchers and coffee pots. The meal begins at 5:00 pm. Please speak with Pastor Jane if you can help with food or beverages.



## Holy Week & Easter Service Times

We are an Easter people. The Risen Christ is always with you. Join us for Easter Sunday worship as we uncover and raise ALLELUIAS to our Savior. You are always welcome to continue your faith journey at Holy Trinity Lutheran.

April 13      9:15 am Palm Sunday @ Holy Trinity

April 17      12:00 noon & 6:00 pm Maundy Thursday @ Holy Trinity

April 18      12:00 noon & 6:00 pm Good Friday @ Luther Memorial

April 20      9:15 am Easter Sunday @ Holy Trinity

# Holy Trinity Updates

---



## Music Director

For the month of April, I wanted to concentrate on the word "community." Celebrating Easter, the Resurrection of Our Lord, is one of the primary reasons we have formed as a community of Christians, at Holy Trinity - it all really starts there. Common beliefs, common values, common purpose.

I have been living in New Berlin for the last year and a half; prior to that I was in Wauwatosa most of my life. I worked with a number of community organizations there, such as The Wauwatosa Women's Club and Tosa Farmer's Market (serving on boards for both). Taking part in a thriving community is exciting and endearing - it builds relationships, trust, accountability, cooperation, a sense of belonging and many other wonderful things.

In my work - inspired by the awesome organizations I've gotten to be a part of - I have done a lot of what I consider community building through music... Yes, building strong ensembles and programs - but also ensuring people get to know each other, show up for each other and care for each other.

I'm working on this same concept at Holy Trinity. The open mics have brought in a lot of people to the church who might not have never come through the doors otherwise - and as things progress there, more musicians are getting identified for service music opportunities (Paul, our new guitarist, came to us this way). We have a nice community of "regulars" who attend the open mics, already learning from and sharing with each other.

The storybook readings are allowing for the young ones at HTWA to do more together. Bringing back the choir is another way to engage and share in a sense of community. I hope to get some "fun" events going for musicians at HTWA soon, too - to build on this sense of camaraderie.

I appreciate the many other ways I see community happening around the church - through the different special projects, committees and events. And, I really appreciate how much the HTWA community does for the broader community around us. Keep it up - and let me know how music can assist in these visions.

Have a wonderful Easter season.

Allison M. Schweitzer

## Open Mic Night

**Saturday, April 19 ~ 7:00 pm**

Join Allison and local musicians in our lounge for a fun and free, family-friendly evening of music and fellowship. Come to just listen or to perform.

Refreshments too!

For artists: limit of 3 songs or 10 minutes

Sign up on site: first come, first served

Small amp, keyboard and one vocal mic provided



# Holy Trinity Updates

---

*we say*  
**YES!**

The **Connect & Serve** surveys mailed in March are due back by April 6. Either drop off at the Welcome Desk or send back to church via regular mail or email photo or scan.

Please keep in mind that the boxes you check are not a firm commitment or assignment. They're simply an indication of willingness to serve. You'll be contacted by area leaders to provide more information, arrange for training if necessary, and will receive other communications to provide actual sign-up opportunities down the road. Many areas, especially Sunday worship service tasks, can be signed up for the week or two prior. So, the natural concern about making a commitment further out in time with an uncertain personal schedule can be alleviated.

If you're not a regular in-person Sunday attendee, that shouldn't deter you from indicating areas of interest. There are areas that don't require Sunday attendance, including some that can be done from home - the Prayer Chain is a great example. THANKS FOR SAYING YES!

## Mt Meru Coffee

Ever wonder if you would like a flavored coffee, but don't want to buy a full bag? Well, check out the Mt Meru kiosk. One pot sample bags are on sale for \$2.00 each.

Also, starting in April, we will feature a flavor of the month. Barb Wilke has tried all the flavors, and enjoy them all. Hazelnut is her favorite. She hopes you will find a favorite too. Bags are still \$12.00.

Purchasing Mt Meru Premium coffee is the single most important way to support thousands of family coffee farmers in Tanzania. Your purchase helps families send their children to school, provides clean water, support local cooperatives and villages, offer food relief and support local clinics and hospitals.

## Women's Ministry Events

**Bunco** continues each month on the third Saturday. Each month we collect items and monetary gifts for specific organizations. So far this year, we have donated items for moms and babies at New Beginnings, collected monetary gifts for The American Heart Association and food and personal hygiene items for Hope Ministries. Thank you for your support. We hope to see you at Bunco for fun and fellowship!

Speaking of fun and fellowship. Save the date...Saturday, May 3. We are hosting a spring card workshop. **Flower Frenzy!** You will make and take home six floral themed cards. The class is free. There will be a free-will offering to help offset the cost of supplies. Stay tuned for more information.

*"Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works. And let us not neglect our meetings together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of His returning is drawing near." Hebrews 10: 24-5*

# Holy Trinity Updates

---

## Weed it and Reap!

Dumb pun to get you thinking about this year's **Outside Spring Clean**. Again, we will be trimming, digging, cutting, planting, mulching and "playing" in dirt to get Holy Trinity ready for the summer season. Our grounds continue to display the care we take in making our church welcoming to our members and the community. If you aren't able to "play in the dirt", why not feed or encourage those who are, both are needed. Join us on Saturday, April 26 from 9:00 am-12:00 noon (May 3, rain date.) Lunch and snacks provided. Sign up in the narthex for a day of fellowship! And remember: **Give a weed an inch and it'll take a yard!**



## @the LABYRINTH SNEAK PEEK

Yes, summer will be upon us soon and planning is underway for the 2025 season of Live @ the Labyrinth. Save the dates, we've got some awesome groups joining us!

- **Thursday, June 19** – Fourcast Acoustic is back for another great performance of 70's & 80's classic rock
- **Thursday, July 17** – The J Ryan Trio joins us with a great mix of jazz, swing, 70's 80's, motown, gospel and blues
- **Sunday, August 17** (*in conjunction with the annual church picnic*) – B.D Greer, an award-winning jazz vocalist joins us with her group bringing timeless classics to life, with songs from the legendary Peggy Lee, Etta James, and more.

*Stay tuned, lots more information to come...*



to the **Snow Team** for attending to the lots, entrances, and walks this winter:

Dan Brienzo  
John Devine  
Jeff Ferstadt  
Randy Franke

Terry Gabriel  
Tim Harty  
Pete Milosevich  
Jim Scheidegger



# Holy Trinity Updates

---

## Dartball Season Ends in...

...last place. Our 2024-2025 dartball season ended with Holy Trinity in last place. The year end tournament was held on February 22 and we came in last place for that as well. However, we had food, fellowship, and fun with the other seven teams in our league.

Due to members leaving the team, we will not be playing next year. However, we hope to establish a new team in the future.



## AREA EASTER EGG HUNTS

- Join the fun! Gethsemane Lutheran Church, 13200 W Greenfield Ave, Brookfield) is hosting an Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 12 at 1:00 pm. Stop by to hunt for eggs and take your picture with Mr. & Mrs. Bunny. Please bring your own basket or bag.
- All are welcome to Luther Memorial Church, 2840 S 84<sup>th</sup> St, West Allis, for their annual Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 19 from 10:00 -11:00 am followed by lunch featuring hot dogs & juice.



# March Review



Small but mighty – Choir & Wind Ensemble



Church Council Installation on March 9



Ms Allison & Music Storybook Time



Indoor Spring Clean on March 1







# Holy Trinity Lutheran Church

11709 W Cleveland Ave  
West Allis, WI 53227

414-321-0700

[htoffice@holyltrinityelca.info](mailto:htoffice@holyltrinityelca.info)

[www.htwa.church](http://www.htwa.church)

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
Milwaukee, WI  
Permit No. 905

Electronic Service Requested



Connect with us on  
Facebook:

[facebook.com/htwa.church](https://facebook.com/htwa.church)

## Have You Moved or Will You Be Temporarily Away?

Please notify the church office (see  
contact info above)



## Join us for Holy Week

*Palm Sunday ~ April 13*

*Maundy Thursday ~ April 17*

*Good Friday ~ April 18*

*Easter Sunday ~ April 20*

*times & locations listed inside*