

# TEMPO

NEWSLETTER  
FEBRUARY 2024

## Worship Services

9:30 AM Informal

11 AM Traditional

ASH WEDNESDAY

February 14—7 PM

MID-WEEK

LENTEN WORSHIP

👉 *Thursdays* 👈

February 22, 29

6-6:30 PM

Study and discussion

6:30-7:00 PM

*Holden Evening*

*Prayer by Marty*

Haugen



Reconciling in Christ



# HOLY TRINITY

LUTHERAN CHURCH  THOUSAND OAKS

## Pastor's note

### Jesus the Disrupter

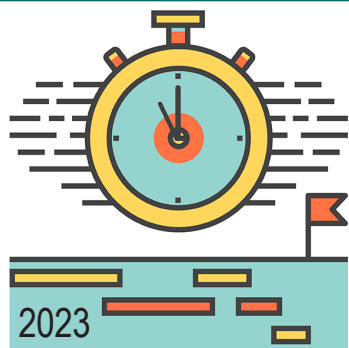
When we think about being disrupted, we probably tend to think of something negative. We might think of something that stops us from going the direction we want to go or takes us away from the time we want to spend doing something. We may think about something that is annoying or frustrating-- almost like a distraction.

But can there be good disruptions as well? What about the family member who is helping you pick out clothes and disrupts the choice of outfit you were going to get because they can see it is really not a good fit for you? Might that disruption save you some embarrassment? What about the friend who you are telling about a big purchase you are about to make and they raise the question of whether you really need it or not? Might that disruption save you some money? On a more extreme level, what about a police officer who disrupts your day by knocking on the door and telling you that you need to evacuate because a wildfire is raging outside the city? Might that disruption help save your life?

This year Lent begins the week of February 14. During the weeks that follow we will be exploring a study and sermon series based on ways that Jesus was a disrupter. We are doing this theme not to be annoying or to make people feel guilty or frustrated, although certainly when Jesus disrupts our everyday assumptions it can be challenging at times. Rather, we are doing this series because the kind of disruptions that Jesus causes are ultimately good news for those who are affected.

When Jesus healed people, he was disrupting disease. When Jesus cast out demons, he was disrupting oppressive forces. When Jesus fed the 5,000, he was disrupting hunger. If you would have asked the people who were sick, possessed, and hungry, they would have probably said that these disruptions were a good thing. These disruptions had dramatically affected these people's lives. They stopped these people from continuing in an unhealthy direction and

*Continued on page 15*



## TEMPO NEWSLETTER SUBMISSION & DEADLINE

Tempo Newsletter is a monthly publication with information provided by staff and members of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church. To contribute to the newsletter, please follow the submissions requirements listed below.

Contact Lynn Youngren,  
805 990-3006 text anytime,  
[youngrenpro@gmail.com](mailto:youngrenpro@gmail.com)

### SUBMISSION requirements

- + Articles/information due by 11 AM, on or before deadlines listed below
- + ONE article per email send to: [youngrenpro@gmail.com](mailto:youngrenpro@gmail.com)
- + Expect a reply that your email was received
- + Each email subject line should contain "HTLC newsletter" or "Tempo" and a **descriptive word** about its specific content
- + Check spelling and accuracy of information before sending
- + Send final versions of articles only
- + Late submissions may be held until the following month issue

### DEADLINES for 2023

Deadlines are usually on the THIRD THURSDAY of each month but sometimes they are adjusted due to holidays and printing schedules. Submissions are due no later than 11:00 AM.

### Due dates...

February 22 for the March issue  
March 21 for the April issue  
April 18 for the May issue  
May 23 for the June issue  
June 20 for the July issue

# HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

"To nurture Christ-centered lives that reflect God's love and grace in our local and global communities."

1 West Avenida de los Arboles  
Thousand Oaks, CA 91360-2939

805 492-1234 office [churchoffice@htlcto.org](mailto:churchoffice@htlcto.org) [www.htlcto.org](http://www.htlcto.org)

PASTORAL EMERGENCY – 805 492-1234, press 1

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Steve Hanke, Vice-president  
Brewster King, Secretary

Grace Nelson, Treasurer  
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Bernie Bauer  
Joan Eggert  
Marty Kreman  
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# WHAT'S INSIDE

Benefit concert in January ..... 11

Church office hours ..... 12

College Valentine's packages ..... 8

Contact us ..... 2

Deadline & submission requirements for Tempo Newsletter ..... 2, 8

Digital vs. hardcopy for Tempo Newsletter ..... 8

Disruptive Jesus ..... 4

Dorcas Quilting & Crafting Circle ..... 11

El Salvador thank you ..... 3

Fair Trade: Eating Medjool dates with Miriam ..... 10

In Memoriam: J. Roger Anderson ..... 5

Honey Tree Early Childhood Center ..... 13

Lenten mid-week service at a new time ..... 4

Library Corner ..... 9

Manna Conejo Valley Food Bank 10

Meditation Group ..... 8

Ossuarium update ..... 12

Pastor's note:  
Jesus the Disrupter ..... 1, 15

Thea Book Circle ..... 11

Tuesday Bible study for February 16

Valentine's Parent Night Out ..... 7

Welcome statement ..... 3

Worship volunteers ..... 14

Youth News ..... 6

- CYF Calendar
- College Valentine's packages
- Family Winterfest

## HTLC Welcome Statement

Holy Trinity joyfully extends Christ's love to all. We welcome everyone regardless of race, age, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, physical or mental health, faith, doubt, family composition, political affiliation, socio-economic status, or any other category that divides us. Christ taught us that loving is a never-ending process of growth and reconciliation. At Holy Trinity, we strive to love diversely and deeply. To all who have been marginalized, we will work to demonstrate that nothing can separate you from the love of God.

*"There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus."*  
Galatians 3:28.

## El Salvador thank you

Dear Holy Trinity friends,

Our sister church in El Salvador wanted to say thank you to everyone at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church. Here are some photos from Pastor Matias of their Christmas celebrations at Spirit of Joy Lutheran Church. You can see all the smiles and feel the joy these people felt. Thanks so very much for your loving support for these precious families.

Sheri Groenveld  
Community Outreach Ministry



# Lenten mid-week service at a new time

It has been the tradition of many Lutheran churches over the years to have a mid-week worship or study time accompanied by a simple meal to help mark the season of Lent in a special way and build a greater sense of community in the church. For Holy Trinity this has typically meant getting together on a Wednesday evening. This year, however, we are going gather on Thursday night instead.

This experiment came about after years of conversation around the idea sparked by a request from a number of our members who help with tutoring at a local elementary school on Wednesday nights. During Lent these folks missed Lenten mid-week worship because of the tutoring ministry. This year the timing finally felt right to make a change in the day we gather in order to allow these members to attend.

Thursday was the day that council agreed upon because there are often meetings on Tuesdays. The choir meets on Thursdays and perhaps some of the choir members might choose to come a little early and attend the brief worship and help lead singing on some of the nights.

The plan is to meet from 6:00–6:30 PM, for a short Bible study and light refreshments, which will then lead into *Holden Evening Prayer* by Marty Haugen from 6:30–7:00 PM. People can come to both sessions or one if they would like.

We hope you can join us for these special times during Lent as we see how it works for a season in order to include more people.

—Pastor Erik



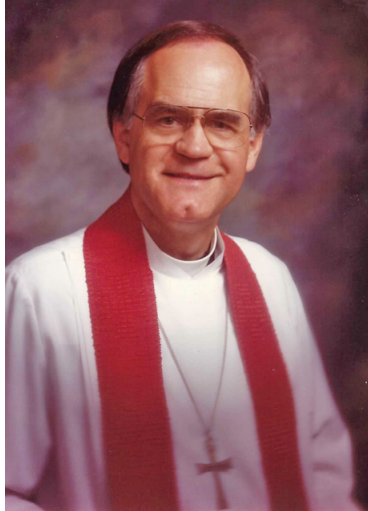
February 14 is Ash Wednesday, marking the beginning of Lent. During the Lenten season, join us as we explore what God’s design of just community can look like. Yes, we’re calling the theme “Disruptive Jesus” because over and over again, we see Jesus disrupting the brokenness of our world to bring healing and wholeness. We will go on a journey together exploring what a disruptive Jesus might look like in our world today. Along the journey, we hope to discover how we can live into our call as followers of Christ and be conduits of healing for the sake of the world. During Advent, we looked at spiritual practices that can ground us and carry us through the weariness in our world. With that spiritual grounding, we are able to see and engage the world with a different lens.

Utilizing the following scriptures, we will examine the ways God’s justice is beautifully holistic, and how Jesus disrupts our world to...

- ◇ create **Community Care** — Leviticus 19:11-16 & Luke 3:7-14
- ◇ build **Social Connection** — Psalm 113 & Luke 14:7-14
- ◇ have **Sabbath Rest for All** — Deuteronomy 5:12-15 & Matthew 11:28-30
- ◇ **Balance Resources** — Deuteronomy 5:1-11 & Matthew 6:19-34
- ◇ **Create Safety Nets** — James 2:14-26 & Matthew 25:31-40
- ◇ and **Break Down Bias** — John 18/19

—Pastor Emily

# In Memoriam



## J. Roger Anderson

July 12, 1935 – December 24, 2023

“Do not let your hearts be troubled.” John 14:1

Roger was born in Spokane, WA, on July 12, 1935, and baptized on September 9, 1935. At age 5, he moved with his family to Watertown, MN, where he did most of his growing up. Through his church activities at Luther League, choir, and Bible camp, he felt the call to become a pastor and after attending Gustavus Adolphus College he went to seminary in Rock Island, Illinois. Along the way he met Beverly, the love of his life. They sang together in the Gustavus Choir and began to dream of a life together.

Roger and Beverly married on July 18, 1959, and their first year of marriage was spent in Los Angeles, CA, where Roger served his internship at Angelica Lutheran Church. His first call as pastor brought him, Beverly, and son Craig to Sunset Lutheran Church in San Francisco, CA. Daughter Laurel was born during those years.

In 1967, Roger accepted the call to Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in Thousand Oaks, CA, where he served for 11 years. During those years, son Mark was born. While at Holy Trinity, Roger helped establish Boy Scout Troup 761 as well as the Honey Tree Early Childhood Center. In the fall of 2023, Honey Tree celebrated its 50th anniversary.

In 1978, the call from the LCA Pacific Southwest Synod in Los Angeles came for Roger to serve as an assistant to Bishop Lloyd Burke. In 1987, Roger was elected to serve as the Bishop of the newly formed ELCA synod. After serving as Bishop, a call came in 1994 from Lord of Life Church in Sun City West, AZ, to serve as Senior Pastor. He retired in 2000.

In 2015, Roger and Beverly moved back to Thousand Oaks to be closer to their family. They re-joined Holy Trinity and were active in worship and fellowship events. Roger was also a part of the Ossuarium Task Force and was instrumental in the pre-sale campaign that will make the project possible.

Roger is preceded in death by wife Beverly, and brother Chuck.

A Celebration of Life was held on January 13 at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, in Thousand Oaks, CA.

Memorials preferred in lieu of flowers to the Holy Trinity Lutheran Church Ossuarium Fund or the El Salvador/Sister Church Fund. Checks can be made out to Holy Trinity Lutheran Church or given online at <https://www.htlcto.org/give>.

# CYF January Schedule

## February 4

Faith Explorers—10:45-11:30 AM, in the Fellowship Hall

Youth Group—3:00-4:30 PM in the Youth room

## February 10

Valentine's Parent Night Out

## February 11

Confirmation Classes—3-4:30 PM

## February 14

Ash Wednesday

## February 18

First week of Lent

Faith Explorers—10:45-11:30 AM, in the Fellowship Hall

Youth Group—3-4:30 PM in the Youth room

Family Winterfest! Register at [Ircchome.com](http://Ircchome.com)

## February 25

Second week of Lent

None. Congregational Meeting at 12:15 PM (Hybrid)

—Pastor Emily

# College Valentine's Packages

We're making college care packages! Want to help? Here's how:

1. If you have a kid in college who is a member of our congregation, please send your college student's address to [pastoremilyp@htlcto.org](mailto:pastoremilyp@htlcto.org) so we can send them a Valentine's College Care package.
2. If you'd like to sponsor shipping, please Contact Pastor Emily. The cost to mail is \$17.10 per box.
3. Come help with the Valentine's parent night out on February 10.
4. We need supplies for the care packages. Sign up using the QR code or contact the church office.



—Pastor Emily



## Family Winterfest

February 17-19, 2024

Learn more and register at [Ircchome.com](http://Ircchome.com)

# Valentine's

## PARENT NIGHT OUT SAT, FEBRUARY 10

Drop your child off in the Holy Trinity Fellowship Hall for games, dinner, and activities. Our main activity is making Valentine care packages for college students!

Drop off: 5pm | Pick up by 8pm.

Ages attending: 3-11 | Ages 12-18 are invited to volunteer

Cost: \$35 for 1 child, \$50 for 2+

We will have at least 2 adults and multiple youth to help lead games and make sure your children are having fun!  
(Adult leaders are background checked by the church)



### Games

We will divide kids into groups based on age.



### Dinner

Pizza, fruit, water, lemonade. Please put dietary restrictions on registration form.

If you prefer to send a dinner with your child, that is fine too.



### Movie

A short movie for some chill time.



### Valentines

Make Valentine Care Packages for college students

REGISTRATION REQUIRED AT  
[HTTPS://BIT.LY/3TWY96C](https://bit.ly/3twy96c) OR USE THE QR CODE.

1 W AVENIDA DE LOS ARBOLES, THOUSAND OAKS  
PASTOREMILY@HTLCTO.ORG | 805-492-1234



## Meditation Group

Soon it will be springtime and a time of growth! The quote from John Main from The Way of Unknowing is about growth.

*Growth needs planting and rooting and it also needs cultivation.*

*Meditation because of its highly practical orientation leads us day in and day out to cultivate the life of the spirit, to return to that rootedness in our centre.*

Come join us every Thursday at 4 PM, whether you are a beginner or an experienced meditator.

February 8, we meet via Zoom at 4 PM. If you would like a Zoom invite, contact Miriam, [miriamnakayama@gmail.com](mailto:miriamnakayama@gmail.com). We meet in-person in the church library, through the double doors by the office, at 4 PM on February 15, 22, and 29. Watch for your growth!

—Miriam Nakayama



## Digital vs. hardcopy for Tempo Newsletter

When my wife and I were first looking at coming to serve at Holy Trinity, one of the first things that impressed us was Tempo Newsletter. Thanks to the good work of Lynn Youngren, Tempo Newsletter almost had the feeling of a mini-magazine and Holy Trinity was ahead of many other churches I had experienced in that it had a nice digital layout as well, which we could see on the website.

We want to continue this tradition of our church publication, but as is happening in many organizations, we are looking at going more digital. This is because we can no longer get our bulk rate on mailings, so it is more expensive to send out the newsletter. In addition, we want to continue to be more “green” in not using more paper than we need.

That being said, we want to make sure our communications are still getting to church members so if you would prefer the hardcopy, we will make the effort to get it to you. If you don't let us know you still want the hardcopy, we will assume that the electronic version is okay and eventually take you off the hardcopy mailing list.



**Please let us know if you still want the monthly hardcopy version of Tempo Newsletter sent to you by mail. Contact [churchoffice@htlcto.org](mailto:churchoffice@htlcto.org).**

Feedback is appreciated as we look to move into this new process. Above all, we want to know if you are getting the church communications so you can feel connected to the community and know what is going on. Thanks!

—Pastor Erik



Read all ABOUT it!

# Library Corner

In the church library this month, we are again featuring books for Black History month—we wanted to include January AND February. There are many beautiful appealing children's books that are for adult reading, too. You can even read them while you are standing up browsing through the library. Please stay tuned for our next library event!

In the mean time, if you are ever in the library, check out [Martin Luther - An Illustrated Biography](#) by Peter Manns. It should be featured on the counter by the window. Brian McGuire found it during a library event and liked it enough to even write a review!

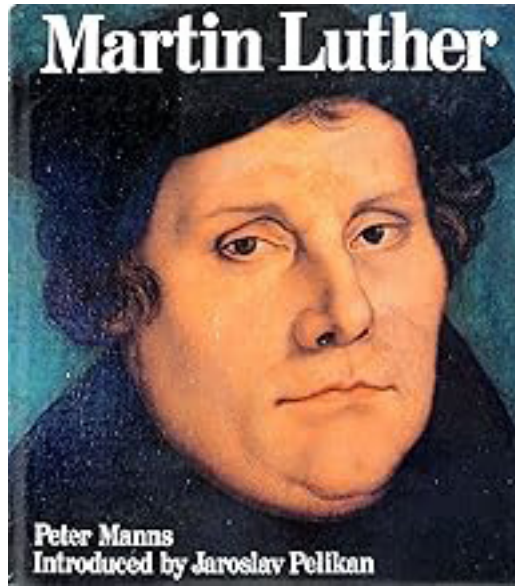
— Miriam Nakayama

## BOOK REVIEW

In early 16th century Europe, the Renaissance was making its impact not only in art and architecture but on science, enlightenment, and the rise of humanism. Against this backdrop the established church was rife with superstition, corruption, and the exploitation of all things sacred. A Matthias Grünewald painting could be considered a metaphor for the oppressive religious climate in its stark contrast with the roots of faith:

*“Against a background of darkest night, Christ rises from the grave in a blinding aura of light. Threatening darkness and the supernaturally blazing light clash irreconcilably. The light does not illuminate the darkness and the darkness does not conquer the light. But the glaring light makes the darkness even darker . . .”*

The world was ready for the Reformation. *Martin Luther – An Illustrated Biography* by Peter Manns is one of several books in the HTLC Library on the life of the founder of the Lutheran Church and instigator of the Reformation. It was donated to



the library by Pastor Larry Johnson. The book envelopes the story of Martin Luther within the politics of the Holy Roman Empire—roughly modern-day Germany, but neither an empire, Roman, or holy—and its relationship with Rome. The book traces certain personal and religious crises in Luther’s monastic life at the Augustinian Monastery in Erfurt that formed the basis for his disputes with the established church and that ultimately gave us the Reformation. The recent advent of the printing press permitted Luther’s pamphlets, letters, sermons, theses—and most importantly his translation of the Bible into German—to quickly reach mass audiences and influence public thinking.

The Reformation was uneven and messy. We see a German monk almost singlehandedly fighting Rome: determined, frank, and sometimes coarse. Certain of his statements might make the modern reader uncomfortable—magnified by the fact that so much of Luther’s writing has survived to be scrutinized. And bear in mind that this was the Middle Ages. Heresy was still punished with burning at the stake, and Luther put his own life at considerable risk.

If one gets bogged down in some of the doctrinal discussions (such as whether contrition is essential for absolution), the text of the book is punctuated by sets of beautiful color illustrations of portraits, photographs of churches and locales, sacred art, and amusing woodcuts (the medieval version of political cartoons) that make the book come alive.

This book is for you if you want to delve deeply into the story of our church’s founder.

—Brian McGuire

# Manna Conejo Valley Food Bank

## Souper Bowl!

It's that time of year for the annual Souper Bowl of Caring! HTLC is registered at [TackleHunger.org](http://TackleHunger.org) to participate in collecting for our local food bank which is Manna Conejo Valley Food Bank.

For fun, "vote" for your favorite Super Bowl team by putting your donations next the team's name, on the wooden table in the narthex. Last year, it was hard to decide which team had more donations, but, similar to the actual game, the Kansas City Chiefs won by a last minute donation.

## Manna's Top Priority Items

1. Dry/Uncooked Rice or Pasta
2. Canned Soup - All Kinds
3. Canned or Jarred Spaghetti Sauce
4. Canned Meats - Tuna or Chicken
5. Canned Chili or Stew
6. Hot or Cold Cereal
7. Canned Pasta - Ravioli/SpaghettiOs
8. Canned Fruit - All Kinds
9. Shelf Stable Drinks - Almond Milk, Fruit Juice, Soft Drinks, Sports Drinks
10. Boxed or Instant Potatoes

So come show support for your favorite team as we donate to Manna. For our HTLC Souper Bowl, we're rooting for the wooden table to be overflowing with soups, pastas, cereals...

Karen and Marty Kreman

# Eating Medjool dates with Miriam

Thank you Holy Trinity for buying so many boxes of dates from Equal Exchange! I am on my third order! I was so inspired by the Zoom I participated in about the co-op program that creates these date boxes, I had to order some. The co-op offers a training program in Jericho. Young adults are trained to produce and package these dates, which are locally grown. Jericho is in Palestine and the job opportunities for young adults are very limited these days. With this program, they are given hope to learn a skill and have a job! There isn't a lot of hope coming out of the Middle East these days, so I grabbed onto this hope, too, and so did a lot of others! We can at least buy dates to help this Fair Trade Co-op! The dates come in a box of 17.6 oz. They are big meaty dates. We are selling them for \$12 a box. One member even bought a box to treat the Tuesday morning Bible study class, since we are studying the book Bethlehem: Biography of a Town by Nicholas Blincoe, which is near Jericho where the dates are grown.



In February, we are offering fair trade products on February 11 and 25. Come see us at the counter by the double doors of the sanctuary, between services and after the 11:00 AM service. You can also contact Miriam, [miriamnakayama@gmail.com](mailto:miriamnakayama@gmail.com) or if you see her at church, tell her what you want to buy!

Covering you with prayers for a fair sunny February, Miriam Nakayama, Nancy Truex, and Terri Kelly



Fair Trade

# DORCAS QUILTING and CRAFTING CIRCLE

Dorcas will meet on Thursday, February 15 at 9:00 AM in the Fellowship Hall.

We were able to create some heartfelt Valentine comfort quilts to brighten up some lives. One of the hospice recipients of a quilt was so moved by seeing it on her bed asked, "can I touch it?" She now proudly caresses and admires her pretty new quilt.

Please consider coming and helping us make shawls, caps, and quilts with the colorful fabric and yarn we have available.

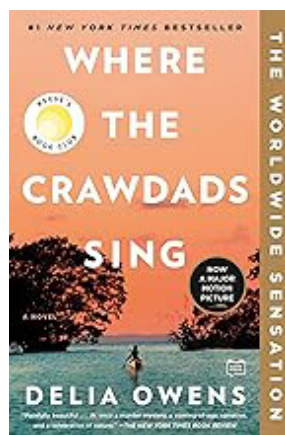
— Sally Johnson

# THEA BOOK CIRCLE

The February book is Where The Crawdads Sing by Delia Owens. This best seller is a coming-of-age of a young girl as she grows up isolated in the marshes of North Carolina. Ten copies of the book are available through the Thousand Oaks Library Book Club in a Box.

The group will meet on Monday, February 26 at 7:00 PM in the church library.

— Sally Johnson



## CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

PRESIDENT'S DAY

Monday  
February 19

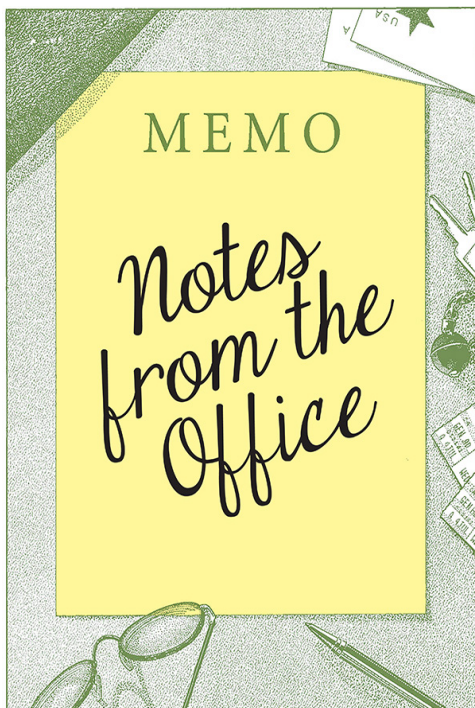


*Anna Kovaleva, pianist, Nina Wong, church member, and Elena Kovaleva, violinist*

## Benefit concert in January

Holy Trinity hosted the Kovalev Benefit Concert on January 13, 2024, to raise money for Anna's education. All the money raised is going to support Anna Kovaleva's scholarship so she can finish her music degree which she began in Moscow. Anna's family fled Russia when the war broke out with Ukraine and are now in the process of seeking asylum within the US. Our church members thought the duo was amazing and \$2,900 was raised!

If you missed the concert, you can go to our church website to watch the recording. Donations can be made to "Holy Trinity Lutheran Church." In the memo line write: For the Kovalev Family.



## Church Office Hours

**9:00 AM–2:30 PM**

For assistance contact

**Kathleen Sands**

Church Office & Campus

Operations Manager

**805-492-1234**

***churchoffice@htlcto.org***



## Ossuarium update

Our project to create a final resting place for the ashes of loved ones who have died is moving forward. After a six month campaign to gather pre-sales, we have raised over \$90,000 for the project! You may recall that our goal was to raise \$60,000, so we have gone far above our expectations. Thank you to everyone who helped to raise awareness of the project and who made a timely commitment to participate in purchasing a niche for themselves or a loved one.

Before Christmas we were able to secure the 2023 pricing on the Ossuarium structure by getting our down payment and contract to Eickhof, which is the company out of Minnesota who we have been working with in order to obtain the kind of structure we are looking for. Eickhof has been in business for over 35 years and they have columbaria or ossuarium structures in almost all 50 states. They have installed them at churches, cemeteries, higher learning institutions, retirement communities, homesteads and Buddhist temples. To learn more about this company you can go to <https://eickhofcolumbaria.com/>.

Our next step is to employ a landscape architect who can help us with the official design as well as assist us in making sure we are accurately completing the application in order to get a Special Use Permit from the city. We have connected with a local architect from Moorpark and are waiting to see what his bid is like before deciding to move forward with his firm.

Once the design and permit are secured we will be getting bids for the foundation, the landscaping, and the fencing to go around the Ossuarium. According to Eickhof, the Ossuarium should be built by next October or November. It is our hope that the other pieces will fall into place so we will be able to receive it at that time.

—Pastor Erik



# Honey Tree Early Childhood Center



Honey Tree students and staff are happy to be back on campus after the Christmas break. The focus in classrooms is on the season of winter. Students are learning about polar animals and their habitats. Teachers have been making fake snow for students to play with in sensory bins.

Students will make valentines for their families in February, and they will enjoy class parties where they exchange valentines with their friends.

Classes will continue going to Chapel Time, and pastors will also be visiting the classrooms each month during the remainder of the school year.

We have been receiving many phone calls from parents of prospective students and scheduling tours of the school. Registration for the 2024/2025 school year will take place in February. Below is the schedule with registration dates and times. Current Honey Tree families receive priority as well as church

members. Please contact the Honey Tree office for more information or if anyone is interested in doing a tour, 805-492-1232, [honeytreeecc@gmail.com](mailto:honeytreeecc@gmail.com).

We wishing good health, peace and God's blessings to everyone in the new year.

Julie Riedel  
Director

## Honey Tree Registration 2024/2025 School Year

Who	When	Where/How
HTLC members	After February 8	Call or email Honey Tree office
Current Honey Tree students Entering Parent/Twos classes	After February 8 or when enrolling older sibling	Honey Tree office
Current Honey Tree Students Entering Three-Year-Old classes	February 8-14, 9:15 AM	Current Parent/2s classes during play yard time or Honey Tree office
Current Honey Tree Students Entering Kindergarten/TK classes	Tues, February 20, 9:00 AM	Outside table, Honey Tree office
Current Honey Tree Students Entering Four-Year-Old TK classes	Wed, Th, February 21, 22, 9:00 AM	Outside table, Honey Tree office
Honey Tree alumni students	Fri, February 23, 9:00 AM	Call Honey Tree office
New students in the community	Tues, February 27, 9:00 AM	Call Honey Tree office

# Worship Volunteers February

9:30 AM INFORMAL WORSHIP

11:00 AM TRADITIONAL WORSHIP

## Informal Worship

	<b>Feb 4</b>	<b>Feb 11</b>	<b>Feb 18</b>	<b>Feb 25</b>
<b>Reader</b>	Dale Adrion	Darin Erickson	Dale Adrion	Darin Erickson
<b>Communion Assistants</b>				
	Dale Adrion	Karie Lynch	Dale Adrion	Laural Engstrom
	Steve Hanke	Colleen Windham-Hughes	Beth Goodnight	Lily Bowden
<b>Usher</b>	Jeanne Balsley	Kurt Hartman	Kurt Hartman	Brian Carr
	David Balsley	Ron Klassen	Ron Klaussen	Angela Carr

## Traditional Worship

	<b>Feb 4</b>	<b>Feb 11</b>	<b>Feb 18</b>	<b>Feb 25</b>
<b>Reader</b>	Miriam Nakayama	Dietmar Wagenknecht	Nina Wong	Christopher Gilstrap
<b>Ushers</b>	Yvonne Bernschneider	Joan Cressman	Ellen Feigal	Joan Cressman
	Joan Cressman	George Williams	David Feigal	Sandy Samuels
<b>Communion Assistants</b>				
	Denna Heerema	Dixie Hanson	Joan Cressman	Ginny Connell
	Miriam Nakayama	Terri Kelly	Nina Wong	Ellen Hall

***VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!***  
***Please contact the church office***

Church office ● [churchoffice@htlcto.org](mailto:churchoffice@htlcto.org) ● 805-492-1234

**Pastor's note—  
continued from page 1**

turned them around to something new. Then there was the time when Jesus died and rose again which was a disruption of death itself. This is the Gospel message that the Christian faith is centered on, and which can affect anyone, even today, who learns of its promise.

As we explore the ways that Scripture and the story of Jesus can disrupt patterns and behaviors we may feel uncomfortable at times. This is because we may be a part of the systems to which the Bible is bringing a challenging word. We hope that you will still be open to this word, however, even if the challenge Jesus brings is kind of annoying or frustrating or turns the world a little upside down, because in the end, Jesus disrupts with a purpose. Jesus disrupts to bring the world to a better place where things are better for everyone.

—Pastor Erik

*If you are up to a “disruption” in your week during Lent, you can join us at Holy Trinity on Thursday nights from 6:00 – 7:00 PM for a brief Bible study on our topic followed by worship with Holden Evening Prayer.*

GRACE, *mercy* and  
PEACE from *God* the Father  
and from  
Jesus Christ, the Father's Son,  
will be with us in  
*truth and love.*

2 John 1:3, NIV





## Holy Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

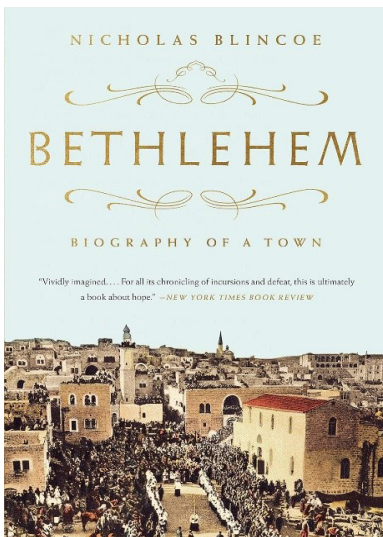
1 West Avenida de Los Arboles  
Thousand Oaks CA 91360-2939

805 492-1234 office churchoffice@htlcto.org www.htlcto.org

Return service requested



## Tuesday Bible study for February



In January the group who regularly meets for Bible study decided that doing two chapters at a time in the book Bethlehem: Biography of a

Town, was too much because each chapter covered a lot of history. The decision was to go with one chapter per week instead. Because of this, we will continue with this book through the month of February. You are welcome to join us and jump in where we are, even if you haven't been participating so far.

If you would like reminders for Bible study or to participate via Zoom, send a message to [churchoffice@htlcto.org](mailto:churchoffice@htlcto.org) and we will put you on the email list for Bible study. We meet Tuesday mornings at 10:30 AM in the church library.

### Reading guide for February

#### **February 6**

Chapter 9—Jordan

#### **February 13**

Chapters 10—Israel

#### **February 20**

Chapter 11—Palestine

#### **February 27**

Chapters 12 & 13—The Future for the Settlers and The Future for Bethlehem

—Pastor Erik