



THE TEMPO

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2025

SUNDAY WORSHIP

9:30AM INFORMAL

11AM TRADITIONAL

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



Evangelical
Lutheran Church
in America



California
Interfaith
Power
& Light

1 West Avenida de los Arboles, Thousand Oaks, CA 91360-2939
805-492-1234 office churchoffice@htlcto.org www.htlcto.org
PASTORAL CARE EMERGENCY - 805-492-1234, press 1

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SEPTEMBER

OFFICE HOURS

9:00 AM-2:30 PM

For assistance, please contact
Kathleen Sands
Church Office & Campus Operations Manager

805-492-1234
churchoffice@htlcto.org

GET SOCIAL WITH US



facebook.com/HTLCTO



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youtube.com/HTLCTO/



[@htlcto.bsky.social](https://htlcto.bsky.social)

YAG (Young Adult Group)

We'll be back to our monthly table talks on
September 7th in the church library.



**SEND FUTURE NEWSLETTER & SOCIAL
MEDIA SUBMISSIONS TO
COMMUNICATIONS@HTLCTO.ORG**

**DEADLINE FOR TEMPO SUBMISSIONS IS THE
THIRD FRIDAY OF EACH MONTH
(SEP 19 FOR OCTOBER TEMPO)**

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.

OUR LOCATION

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church is located on the original and ancestral homelands of the Mitsuqanaqan Ventureño Chumash Tribes and Peoples, and we give thanks for their presence here since time immemorial. We also wish to recognize and honor all our Indigenous siblings who have and continue to call this land their home. In making this acknowledgment, we are pledging not to forget them or their story, and to learn from them and our common history.



SEPTEMBER EVENTS AT A GLANCE

9/2, 9, 16, 23 & 30 – Tuesday Bible Study
9/4 – Zoom Meditation
9/7 & 21 – Fair Trade Sales
9/7 – YAG Table Talks
9/7 – First day of Faith Formation Programming
9/9 – Community Event
9/10 – Worship Arts Group Meeting
9/11, 18 & 25 – Meditation in the Church Library

9/14 – New Member Welcome
9/15 – T-Shirt Orders Due
9/18 – DORCAS Quilting and Crafting Circle
9/20 – Women's Bible Study
9/21 – Hearts and Hands Sunday 9:30am
9/29 – Thea Book Circle

PASTOR'S NOTE FROM PASTOR ERIK GRACE IN ACTION

As Martin Luther wrestled with what could make him right with God again after he had sinned, his great insight came when he realized salvation was more about what Christ had done, than what he had done. Luther realized he could never be perfect or good enough to somehow earn God's love. This is why it came as such good news to him that salvation wasn't about being good enough it was rather about receiving the free gift of grace.

The phrase that Luther came up with to describe this was that salvation is by grace alone, through faith alone. This didn't mean that Christians just kept on sinning or doing whatever they wanted because forgiveness was free. Rather, true faith naturally leads to and expresses itself in good deeds. Grace is the source of the gift of salvation. Faith is the reception. Good works are the response. Luther emphasized that it is impossible to separate faith and works, just as it is impossible to separate heat and light from fire. A dynamic, living faith will inevitably produce good works as a result of the free gift of grace that has been received.

This is why our Stewardship and pledge drive campaign theme this year is "Grace in Action." We will be exploring ways that we can be stewards or caretakers of the gift of grace we have been given by responding with acts of kindness, mercy, and justice through action and advocacy. Our campaign will kick off Sunday September 28 with three Sundays emphasizing this theme.

I am thankful for the many ways that I have witnessed grace in action during my time at Holy Trinity. While there are formal ways that we try and encourage this, there are many informal ways that people show little signs of grace in how they care

for one another. As a pastor, it has been my privilege to see these actions at Holy Trinity. I've seen it in a group of people helping to renovate and organize someone's apartment after they have been at a rehab facility. I've seen it in people showing up with food after another person has had surgery. I've seen it in a group organizing rides so a friend can get to their Dr. appointments. All of these are ways grace is shared and becomes evident through action.

Your gifts of time and financial support help to create a culture at Holy Trinity where grace is not only preached and taught, but also lived out in the daily lives of people in big and small ways. As we look again for your commitments in the coming year I hope you will continue to be moved to support this place called Holy Trinity and the good news it seeks to share.

23RD CONVENTION OF THE WOMEN OF THE ELCA, SOUTHWEST CALIFORNIA SYNOD

2025 SOUTHWEST CALIFORNIA
WOMEN'S ORGANIZATION

WELCA FALL CONVENTION

ALL ARE WELCOME:
Celebrating Diverse Voices



Palm Garden
Hotel,
Newbury Park

REGISTRATION

Registration - \$80 pp
HOTEL: Single Occupancy
- \$155 pp per night
Double Occupancy -
\$85 pp pr night

**OCTOBER 10-11,
2025**

- Inspiring Bible study & plenary sessions
- Music, worship, and meaningful workshops
- Opportunities for renewal and connection



SCAN TO
REGISTER

California Lutheran
University,
Thousand Oaks

QUESTIONS? Julie Jensen | Convention Registrar
(805) 218-8416 | juujnsn21@gmail.com

REGISTER HERE

THANK YOU TROOP 1761

As you drive into the church parking lot on Sunday morning, take time to look at the Prayer Garden fence. Reagan Beaudine is a Scout who meets here on the Holy Trinity campus every Tuesday night. Reagan needed a service project to complete her Eagle Scout plan. I asked her if she would be willing to paint the fence surrounding our Prayer Garden. Reagan loved that idea and got to work. She rallied the troops (literally) and they gathered to paint the fence. She did a wonderful job with all of her friends and family members assisting. The fence looks great!

-Kathleen Sands



Troop 1761 in front of the Prayer Garden fence



scouts at work

VOLUNTEER TUTORS NEEDED FOR 2025-2026 SCHOOL YEAR

We tutor students grades 1-3 in literacy and math on Wednesdays from 6pm to 7:30pm during the school year from October through mid May for students who mostly have learned English as a second language. Many of the parents of the students are going to English classes at the same time. We tutor on the campus of Bridges Charter School on Calle Bouganvilla and Arboles. The classes will start on October 1 with an orientation on Wednesday September 24.

If you are interested in tutoring or just want to know more about it, email Dixie Hanson at dixhanson@gmail.com or call 805-368-5709.

THANK YOU FROM PASTOR ERIK

As many of you may know, my mom died on Memorial Day, May 26, of this year and we had the services for her on August 5. In the time in between her death and the memorial, I have received many cards, emails, and text messages offering condolences. I have also had many people check in with me on the church patio. I wanted to express my gratitude for all the words of support along with the prayers that were shared on behalf of my family and I. It is a privilege to be a part of a such a community and I really appreciate the spiritual care! -Pastor Erik

Thank You

HTLC WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Money, Stewardship and Generosity is our new theme for the fall. Join us for our first session titled "Money-what do we treasure?" We will meet on **Saturday, September 20, at 2pm** in the Fellowship Hall.

"From Genesis through Revelation, gold, silver and jewels serve as icons of God's goodness. And yet, the love of money is a powerful source of argument, lies and literal enslavement. King Solomon, famously, chose wisdom over treasure. Jesus, leaning on his mother's values, teaches his disciples to dig deep for real treasure."

Join us and share your thoughts on money, stewardship and generosity as we read stories of Jesus and our biblical ancestors.

RAY OF LIFE PROGRAM

Thank you to everyone who supported Holy Trinity's June fundraiser for the Ray of Life program. We collected over **\$1,000** for solar light kits and other essential supplies for Ukrainian refugees. Your generosity is very much appreciated. – Susan Salmore

DORCAS QUILTING SEPTEMBER GATHERING

Join us this month as we stitch together the colors of autumn. We will be working on bright cozy lap robes and quilts to bring warmth and cheer to those needing a joyful day.

We will meet **Thursday, September 18 at 9am** in the Fellowship Hall.

Remember every stitch we sew adds comfort, color and love to someone's life. Come and share the joy of giving.



TUESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

In September we will be continuing our discussion based on a book by Ron Rude, a retired ELCA pastor who served on the campus of the University of Arizona for many years.

In his book "Amending the Christian Story," Rude asserts that the current versions of the Christian faith are inadequate and more than this, they are fueling humanity's destructive behaviors towards the Earth's biosphere. Through the window of the natural sciences—especially astronomy, geology, evolutionary biology and paleoanthropology—Rude provides a fuller and more expansive view of God's story of life and God's story of Jesus while also engaging with the Bible.

Join us **Tuesdays at 10:30am** in the church Fellowship Hall to explore more about how this shift in Christianity could happen. Books can be purchased on your own or through the church office for \$20.00.

Here's the reading guide for September:

Sept 2 – Chapter 4 and 5 in Amending The Christian Story

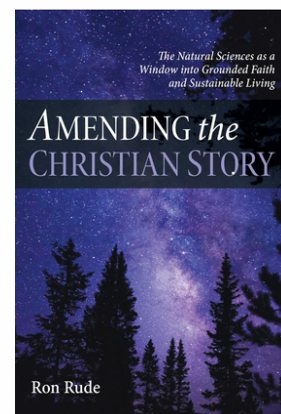
Sept 9 – Chapter 6 and 7

Sept 16 – Chapter 8 and 9

Sept 23 – Chapter 10 and 11

Sept 30 – Chapter 12 and 13

Oct 7 – Chapter 14, 15 and Epilogue

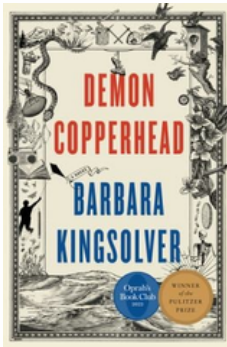


THEA BOOK CIRCLE

Demon Copperhead by Barbara Kingsolver, our summer read, a modern retelling of Dicken's David Copperfield, is set in Appalachia during the 1990 opioid crisis. The story follows Demon as he lives a life of poverty, addiction and loss. The novel won a Pulitzer Prize and is a most notable book of the decade. There are copies available in the TO Library, but a hold must be requested.

The group will meet **Monday, September 29** at 7pm in the Church Library.

At the September meeting we will be compiling a list of books to read for our future meetings. Bring the names of books you would like to include on the list.



A THANK YOU FROM TRINITY LUTHERAN, PASADENA

We recently received a thank you card from Trinity Lutheran in Pasadena because we gave a donation to them to help victims of the fire in Altadena. Trinity works with a non-profit serving folks in need in the greater Pasadena/ Altadena area. They also helped to house several people at the church for a time who had lost their homes. We appreciate your support in helping the ministry of one of our ELCA congregations on the frontlines of this disaster.



SEPTEMBER MEDITATION GROUP

Are you ready for the start of another school year? Even if you aren't in school, you probably feel the revving up of activities. Do you need some inner peace? Join us for an hour of meditation: 30 minutes of prayer, learning and discussion + 30 minutes of silence.

Zoom meditation is on **September 4**, the first Thursday. Contact Miriam at miriamnakayama@gmail.com for a Zoom invite. In-person meditation is **September 11, 18 and 25th**. We meet in the church library at 4pm until 5.

A quote from "The Door of Silence." by John Main, the priest who started the World Community of Christian Meditation that we are a part of:

...we learn in the silence and discipline of our daily meditation to travel beyond our own limitations into the limitless ocean of God's love.

Join us this September on an ocean adventure into God's love.

Blessings,
Miriam Nakayama



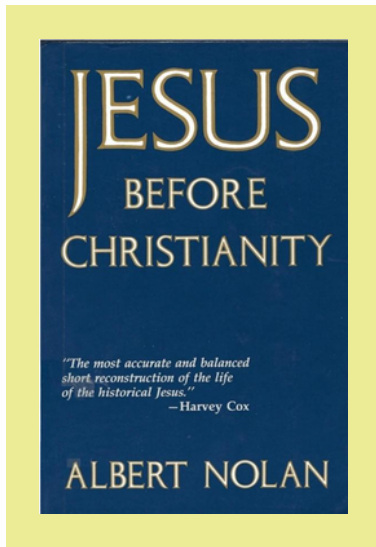
THANK YOU FROM GRACEFUL DIAPERS

Volunteers gave of their time in both July and August, handing out diapers to over 100 families at Graceful Diapers. This ministry takes place 1x per month. Holy Trinity Youth will be collecting diapers in October and volunteering at the pantry on November 1.



HTLC LIBRARY BOOK REVIEW

by Brian McGuire



This month's book review is on Albert Nolan's "**Jesus Before Christianity**." The basic premise is that Jesus can be best understood not so much through historicity (which is scant) but instead by what can be imputed from his actions and words as reported in the four Gospels. The author examines the man before he became the object of Christian faith (thus the title) as represented by the organized Church.

Nolan devotes a chapter to Jesus' most notable acts—his healing. It can be interpreted that Jesus performed these miracles neither to draw attention to his ministry nor to prove that he was son of God (which is what I had always assumed); instead Nolan argues that he healed *because he had compassion for the afflicted*. He never refused to heal anyone. Nor did Jesus ever claim credit for his healing; his typical response was: "Your faith has made you well."

Jesus' compassion through healing acted as a counterweight to the shabby treatment the sick and handicapped received in Biblical Palestine. According to Hebrew belief, people were infirm because God wanted them that way. A birth

defect was bestowed on a baby as punishment for the parents' or ancestors' prior sin. Children and adults were stricken with afflictions as God's punishment for their own sins. In this creepy philosophy, **sick = sinner = outcast**. (This might explain why most of the medical doctors in that part of the Mediterranean were Greek—the Jews had no interest in healing people whom they deemed evil.) Therefore, Jesus' acts of *healing* could be construed as a metaphor for *forgiveness*, and perhaps even *rebirth*. One is reminded of that curious episode reported both in Mark and Luke in which a paralytic man was lowered through the roof to Jesus—who forgave him *first* and then healed him *after*.

Nolan outlines the rigid caste system of the Hebrews, namely the Sadducees, or chief priests, scribes, and elders (upper-class); Pharisees, Essenes, Zealots, and various professionals (middle class); and everybody else (the lower class majority). Those who could not afford an education were unable to learn Hebrew law and therefore could not be compliant with all the rules they didn't even understand. Here the equation becomes **uneducated = nonobservant = sinner = outcast**. These were written off as dirt. Others on the dirt list, besides the poor and downtrodden in general, included tax collectors, usurers, prostitutes, other sinners, herders or shepherds (go figure), non-tithers, and all non-Jews. Jesus himself, although of middle-class origin, was disparaged because he was from *Galilee* (equivalent to our San Fernando Valley?). We talk about oppression from the Romans; what the Jews did to themselves was far worse. On behalf of all outcasts, Jesus threw tradition aside. He went out of his way to associate with them and to minister to them. His words and actions spoke to the basic equality of all people—a concept both revolutionary and threatening to Hebrew status quo.

Book Review continued...

What emerges is the image of a man predominantly motivated by compassion for the downtrodden. Even the "Temple Incident" could be construed not so much as outrage against the pollution of a holy space or grand-standing for Jesus' own purposes (indeed it made him famous) as it was compassion for those being exploited and cheated. Remember the scene in which Jesus wept for Jerusalem—despite its treatment of him? He knew of the coming destruction of Jerusalem in AD 70 and again in AD 135. Compassion.

You'll enjoy the surprising interpretations and slants in Nolan's book that aid in fully appreciating Jesus as a person before he became JC Superstar.

FAIR TRADE

Being Proud to Be a Fair Trade Supporter With Miriam

I just returned from visiting my daughter in San Luis Obispo where I always have to stop at her Fair Trade store HumanKind. Last year was their 15th anniversary. We have had 11 Christmas Fair Trade Sales here at Holy Trinity through HumanKind. We have had record offsite sales for them! By buying their fair trade products we have helped them spend \$3,080,038 over the 15 years they have been in operation. That is \$3 million invested in fair trade enterprises, creating sustainable jobs for people who depend on selling their handcrafted goods. HumanKind's mission statement is "To create a fair trade marketplace that supports the efforts of producers who live in communities that have been negatively impacted by inequality and lack of opportunity. We strive to inspire our community to think critically about their purchasing power and the impact it can have in our world."

We are in the stages of planning another "Fair Trade

Christmas Sale," probably the Sunday before Thanksgiving so you can start your Christmas shopping in a world affirming way!

In the meantime, Nancy, Terri and I will have our fair trade wares of coffee, tea, chocolate and olive oil, out for sale on September 7th and 21st, the first and 3rd Sundays, between services and after the 11:00 service. Look for us by the entrance doors. I'll be wearing a fair trade dress that I bought at HumanKind.

Yours in Christ's Fair Name,



Miriam Nakayama, Nancy Truex, Terri Kelly

MANNA CONEJO VALLEY FOOD BANK

HTLC donated 90 pounds of groceries to Manna Conejo Valley Food Bank in August. They are always very grateful for our church's generosity. The current Most Needed Items are:

1. Coffee or Tea
2. Boxed Mashed Potatoes
3. Canned Meat – Chicken or Spam
4. Flavored Rice – Rice-A-Roni
5. Canned Pasta Sauce
6. Shelf-Stable Drinks – Juice, Gatorade, Etc.
7. Canned Refried Beans
8. Canned Chili
9. Toilet Paper, Paper Towels, or Tissue
10. Condiments – Mayonnaise, Ketchup, Mustard, Etc.

Please place donations on the Manna table in the narthex.

Autumn Blessings,

Karen and Marty Kreman





The Honey Tree Office has been very busy registering new students, making changes to class registrations, and more.

Our campus beautification goals are being realized:

- The Honey Tree Mural is complete and is so lovely.
- New storage sheds allow us to streamline our campus and make it more presentable.
- New Honey Tree signs are coming soon.
- The new playground structure should be installed in September.
- Outdoor storage sheds will be repainted and repaired.

It is through the kindness and generosity of the Lindgren family that these projects have been made possible and we are so grateful!

We do have openings in our Parent 2s and a few spots left in our preschool classes. We have placed an advertisement on FaceBook and it has generated much interest.



What's the Buzz?
Honey Tree Early Childhood Center
2025-2026

We now provide ORGANIC SNACKS

We have a few spots available for Fall!
Call us for a tour!
(805) 492-1232

Looking for a slower introduction to preschool for your 2-year-old?

Parent/Two-year-old classes have spots available and meet once per week!

Honey Tree Early Childhood Center
Serving Conejo Valley for over 50+ years!
1 W. Avenida de Los Arboles, Thousand Oaks, CA 91360
(805) 492-1232

Our faculty enjoyed our yearly shopping trip to Lakeshore for classroom materials. They all do such a wonderful job creating warm and inviting classrooms! Our Open House/Meet Your Teacher was on August 28th from 11:00am-12:00pm. Teachers are excited to meet their incoming students and families.

God's Blessings to all,
Vickie Cass, Director

Upcoming Dates:

- Monday, August 25: First Staff Meeting
- August 25-29: Prep Week
- Thursday, August 28: Open House 11:00am-12:00pm
- Tuesday, September 2nd : First Day of School
- September 4 and 5: Parent Orientation

HOLY TRINITY T-SHIRTS

We've had a request for more t-shirts! Please place your order using this link by **September 15th**.



MATH IS HARD — BUT VOLUNTEERING IS EASY!

We are so thankful for the church members who assist in worship each Sunday morning. Ushers, Acolytes, Scripture Readers, and Communion Assistants play a vital role in making our services meaningful. Here's what each role does:

- Ushers greet church members as they arrive, hand out bulletins, collect the offering, and help organize communion.
- Acolytes light the candles as worship begins (and yes, you get to hold fire ✨).
- Scripture Readers read the lessons during the service.
- Communion Assistants assist with the bread and wine alongside the pastors.

Our volunteers often say that serving in this way makes worship more meaningful for them.

Okay, here comes the math part (brace yourself)...

- **Ushers:** We need 2-3 per service (9:30 & 11:00). That's about 16-24 ushers each month. (Some months have 4 Sundays, some months have 5 Sundays.)
- **Scripture Readers:** One at 9:30 + One at 11:00. That's 8-10 readers each month.
- **Acolytes:** Same math as readers → about 8-10 acolytes each month.
- **Communion Assistants:** Usually 2 per service (except sometimes 3: when Pastor Emily is assisting with Faith Explorers during the 11:00 service, then we like to schedule 3 communion assistants during that 11:00 worship service to assist Pastor Erik so that there are four people participating in communion). That works out to about 18-22 communion assistants each month.

☞ Add all that up (don't worry, I used a calculator), and we need somewhere between 50-66 volunteer

slots filled each month.

Right now, about 40 wonderful people are serving regularly, which means we could really use a few more helping hands.

MATH QUESTION OF THE DAY: How many more volunteers do we need?

The good news:

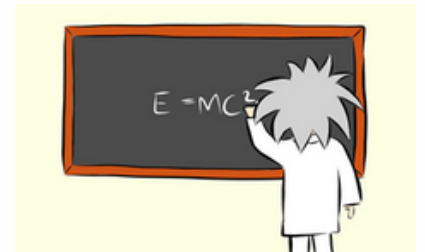
You don't need to be a math whiz to help. All it takes is volunteering one Sunday a month — one hour of your time. That's it.

And here's the best part: not only will you be serving your church family, many volunteers also say it deepens their worship experience and their connection to God in a powerful way.

So, if you've been waiting for the "right opportunity" to get involved... this is it.

Email churchoffice@htlcto.org to join the worship volunteer team. Make a "difference." ❤️

-Kathleen Sands



JOIN US FOR HEARTS & HANDS:

Worshipping Together, Serving Together at 9:30am on September 21st in the Sanctuary!



September 21st, 9:30am

At 9:30am worship, we will sing, learn, and grow together with a condensed worship time that more fully integrates all ages and includes a time of service -- giving back to our community!

COMMUNITY EVENT

The Ventura County Interfaith Community will be joining its friends at St. Demetrios' Greek Orthodox Church on **September 9th at 6:30pm** for Vespers under the guidance of Fr. Constantine Trumpower of Saint Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church. We'll gather at 6:30 PM at the church at 5575 Santa Rosa Rd in Camarillo. Following Vespers, Fr. Trumpower will speak briefly about the connections between the Jerusalem Temple, which was for centuries the center of Jewish worship, and Orthodox church architecture.

GATHERING AT THE GATE IN WASHINGTON D.C.

On September 15-17, I'm heading to Washington DC for a coordinated event calling on representatives/ELCA leadership and lay members to come to DC for a couple days of advocacy, education, and empowerment. Pastor Erik and I were both interested in going, but coordinated and decided that I will attend. We will have opportunities to speak to our representatives, take action, and offer support to our fellow Lutherans in their various contexts. To learn more about the event, go [HERE](#).

-Pastor Emily

CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILY

Registration for Children, Youth, and Family Events this year:

This form covers all Holy Trinity Sponsored Children, Youth, and Family events from Sept 1, 2025-August 31, 2026. htlcto.org/registration

Faith Explorers begins September 7th from 10:45-11:30 in the small side of the Fellowship Hall.

Please bring your kids and sign them in! This time is for Kindergarten through 5th grade kids.

Registered PreK/TK kids will receive faith-based take-home activities roughly 1x per quarter.

Middle School and High School Youth group will have a varied schedule this year. We begin on **September 7th** from 10:45-11:30 as well, and will typically meet at this time on the first Sunday of the month. We'll also have other gatherings in the evening, outings, and volunteer opportunities.

Check out this calendar for the full year of events! Our schedule is also available on the church website at htlcto.org/calendar.

Youth Group Schedule:

SEPTEMBER

Sun, 9/7: 10:45-11:30, start in Fellowship Hall
Thur, 9/11: Day of Service 5-7pm, Fellowship Hall
Sun, 9/21: 3-7pm, Meet at Underwood Family Farms and go back to the Abrahams to make dinner!
Sat, 9/27: Volunteer for the Harbor House Fundraiser

OCTOBER

Sun, 10/5: 10:45-11:30, start in Fellowship Hall
Sun, 10/12: 3-4:30, Youth Room
Sun, 10/19: TBD
Sun, 10/26: Trunk or Treat

Faith Explorers Schedule:

SEPTEMBER

Sun, 9/7: 10:45-11:30, Fellowship Hall
Thur, 9/11: Day of Service 5-7pm, Fellowship Hall
Sun, 9/21: Hearts and Hands Worship at 9:30am

OCTOBER

Sun, 10/5: 10:45-11:30, Fellowship Hall
Sun, 10/19: 10:45-11:30, Fellowship Hall

NEW PRAYER CONCERNS PROCEDURE

Prayer is an important part of our life at Holy Trinity. One tool that we use to help us in knowing what to pray for is the prayer concerns list where names or issues are put after we have prayed for them on a Sunday morning. Those of you who have been coming to Holy Trinity for awhile may know that we used to put the prayer list every Sunday in the back of the Sunday bulletin. In order to save paper, we are now listing the prayer concerns only on the first Sunday of the month. We are also putting the prayer list in the monthly Tempo where it was not listed before.

Another part of our prayer concerns procedure is that we are going to try and update the list once a quarter or four times a year instead of just once a year. We are trying this because the list can start getting kind of long and the prayers are not updated. For example, people come home from the hospital or have recovered from a surgery, but the list doesn't get updated so it may sound like there is concern when things may have improved.

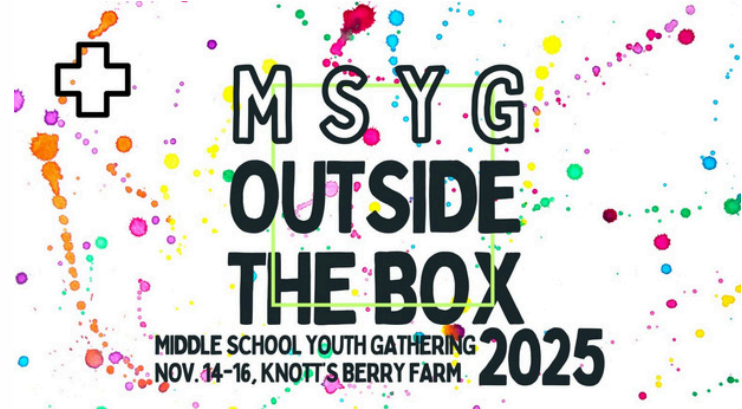
Please know that we want to keep praying for a concern if it is needed, so if you see a name or something else has been taken off the list and you would like it to be back on, just let the church office know and we can get it back on.

Thanks for your understanding as we try this new procedure and let us know if you have any feedback on the process.

-Pastor Erik



MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP GATHERING AT KNOTTS BERRY FARM NOV 14-16



All 6-12th grade youth are invited to attend the Middle School Youth Gathering. 10th-12th graders can come participate in the leadership track.


ENROLL

SEPTEMBER 11TH SERVICE EVENT

September 11th Service Event: Come make meals for Harbor House – all youth are invited to come help!

9/11 Day Of Service

Sign Up Genius:



Sack Lunch Packing for Harbor House & Notes for First Responders

September 11th

All Youth Please Come and Attend!!

5:00-7:00 PM

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church
1 East Avenida De Los Arboles, Thousand Oaks, California

Sponsored by: Women's Interfaith Network
Contact Information: womensinterfaithnetwork@aol.com

SEPTEMBER PRAYER REQUESTS

PLEASE KEEP THESE PEOPLE IN YOUR PRAYERS

For all those affected by the school shooting in Minneapolis

For all the families who are affected by the shootings in New York and in Reno

For the family of Andrew Canepa, the owner of Side Street Café in Newbury Park, who was killed in the random shooting in Reno

For a ceasefire in Gaza

For all those affected by the tragic flooding in Texas

For Larry & Sally Johnson as they recover from COVID

Dennis Hardy's friend Adam, for peace, comfort, and healing of digestive system problems after a hospital stay

Aislinn Smalling, the daughter of Ralph & Jill Smalling, who was recently diagnosed with breast cancer

David Althoff Jr., son of Victoria & David Althoff, as he struggles to recover from a life-threatening infection

Barbara Warkentien for healing

Monica Jacinto Reza, friend of Chris Erickson, who went missing while hiking in Angeles Forest

Sarah King, sister to Maggie Becker, as she recovers from surgery

Dalores Munhall, Sophia Munhall's grandma, for healing

Celia Aguilar, for recovery and healing

Dan Kelly, Terri Kelly's husband, for continued healing

Lori O'Neil, for healing after surgery

Hai To, friend of Pastor Emily & Joe Ebert

Sara, as she battles cancer (a friend of Tracy DiPippo)

Betty Gracey (Matt Miller's mom) as she's battling cancer

Pastor Joy Coltvet, for healing

Laurie Morrow, for healing after surgery

Larry Goehner, Pastor Erik's dad, for improvements in his health

Barbara (friend of Jean Kammerer) as she is facing difficult treatment for cancer

Dominic Cartum, for healing from back surgery

Amos Sykes (friend of Desta Goehner) for healing

Evonne Larson, for healing

Mallory Rees (sister to Julie Frumin) for healing, comfort, and peace

Adrian Macias, a friend of the Frumin's

Lynn Green, Conor Whalen's grandmother, for healing

Anita Londgren, for healing

Dalila Bravo, for healing from a brain tumor

Robert, Axel Olsson's friend

Max Beaman, father of Stacey Beaman, for healing

SEPTEMBER PRAYER REQUESTS CONTINUED...

Please hold all of these families in prayer as they continue to grieve the loss of their loved one. The families and friends of:

| | | |
|------------------|---|--------------------------|
| Carolyn Altrock | Jim Gucciardo | Wini Nichols |
| Mark Anderson | Mark Hoops | Brian Popa |
| Zoe Arnwine | Brad Janowitz | Ronda Reuss |
| Gene Ashmore | IlaJean Kragthorpe | Frank and Joyce Schaible |
| Randy Churchill | Lily Kreider | Pat Sladek |
| Ginny Connell | Allen Kubes | Dick Stone |
| Don DePerro | Irene Kubes | Della Vivien |
| Dennis Dillworth | Rubi Lawler | Bill Voight |
| Cheri Erickson | Karen Lindgren | Roger Walters |
| Maryann Ferrari | Eric Lysdal | Ilsa Wollman |
| Kendall Fortner | Margaret Maclead | John York |
| Ken Fowler | Lorie Miller & Eileen Packer | Gladys Parker |
| Jane Jones | Frank Nausin, former pastor of Holy Trinity | Rose Kreider's Cousin |
| Joy Goehner | Fred Hanke | Harry Taplin |
| | | Adam Grether |

God is Good. Hear our Prayer.

CONFIRMATION UPDATE

1. This program is written for all 8th and 9th graders. I will also be welcoming any interested high schoolers who want to attend. We have many high schoolers who are new to the traditions of the Lutheran church. This year, they will be given the opportunity to participate.
2. Confirmation is now a 6-week program. We will meet on Wednesdays for 6 weeks straight. Sept 17-Oct 22 from 6-8pm. One absence is allowed. An info session will take place September 3rd (Zoom) at 7pm.
3. The classes will culminate with Confirmation Sunday on Reformation Day (October 26th this year)
4. Why the change? Regular attendance over the course of 3 years is not working. Based on feedback from a contingent of parents, having a

- focused program in a shorter span of time feels like a more functional commitment. Education focused on living into our baptismal identities will continue throughout middle and high school.
5. Interested in being a mentor to an 8th/9th grader? Or have a recommendation of someone who might be a good fit? Submit their/your name using this link.

 **REGISTER NOW**

WORSHIP ARTS GROUP

What is the worship arts group? Every quarter or so, we get together to look at our worship plans for the season, and to develop communal art projects related to what we are doing in worship and as a congregation. Come join us on **September 10th at 5:30pm** in the church library to learn more and be a part of the fun! Need a zoom link? Email Pastor Emily at pastoremily@htlcto.org.



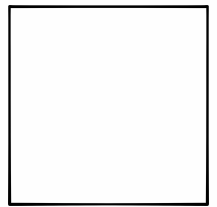
Holy Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

1 West Avenida de Los Arboles

Thousand Oaks CA 91360-2939

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

Return service requested



SEPTEMBER 2025

ALTAR FLOWER DONATIONS

If you would like to purchase and donate flowers for the church altar, please fill out **THIS FORM** or follow the instructions below.

1. **Sign Up:** Visit the Flower Chart located on the kiosk in the narthex and select the date you would like the flowers to be placed on the altar.
2. **Payment:** The cost is \$45. Please write "Flowers" on the memo line of your check to ensure proper allocation or use an Altar Flower Envelope, available in the narthex. Kindly make your payment by the Wednesday prior to your selected date to allow ample time for ordering.
3. **Bulletin Note:** Email your dedication and any color preferences to churchoffice@htlcto.org by noon on Wednesday to be included in the Sunday bulletin.
4. **Pickup:** After the second service, you are welcome to take the flowers home.



September Fun Fact!

Out of all 12 months of the year, September is spelled with the most letters. It contains nine letters, and it happens to be the ninth month of the year. No other months have the same amount of letters as their number in the calendar year.