



Holy Trinity
Lutheran Church

Engaged by Grace.

WEEKLY

Ministry Announcements for the week of February 8 - 15, 2026

Our Sunday Schedule

- 8:30 am – Morning Prayer with Communion
- 9:20 am – Church Fam Connect
- 10:00 am – Worship in-person and online at www.engagedbygrace.org
- 11:15 am – Annual Meeting of the Congregation
- 12:00 pm – Confirmation Class/High School Youth Group

New Ministry Opportunities

Annual Meeting is TODAY - Sunday, February 8

Holy Trinity's Annual Meeting will be conducted this Sunday, February 8 at 11:15 am. Copies of the 2025 Annual Report are available at the Info Center table for your review prior to the meeting. See you on the 8th!

Souper Bowl of Caring – Sunday, February 8

While the Big Game captures national attention, food insecurity remains a major challenge in the central Ohio community and throughout our country. For over 30 years, the Souper Bowl of Caring has been driving grassroots efforts using the energy of the big football game to illustrate the collective impact of tackling hunger locally. Since 1990, churches, schools and civic groups around the country have helped raise over \$163 million for almost 10,000 local charities around the nation and the world but the need remains. On **Sunday, February 8**, you're invited to help people that use the Lutheran Social Services' Champion Ave. food pantry. Every dollar donated to the pantry can provide \$4 worth of groceries. Please look for the soup kettles at church on Sunday, February 8 and make a donation to help tackle hunger!

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper – February 17

Save the date for Holy Trinity's annual pancake supper on **Shrove Tuesday, February 17 from 5-7 pm**. The church council will be making and serving pancakes and sausage to use up the fat before Lent begins the following day. There is no charge for the meal but a freewill offering will be received to benefit a local charity. We hope to see you on the 17th and invite a friend! Watch for more details coming soon!

Ash Wednesday Worship

The season of Lent begins on **Wednesday, February 18**. On that day, we will worship at Holy Trinity with the traditional imposition of ashes and Holy Communion at **11:45 am and 7:00 pm**. Please join us.

Midweek Lenten Theme – Belonging to Christ

How are YOU called to follow Christ?

What does it look like for you to belong to Jesus Christ? Not your pastor, or your professor, or your neighbor, or the leaders of your denomination, but you? How might your one-and-only life be patterned to align you with Christ? What pretense might you give up? What potential might open up for you as a disciple?

The book *Belonging* by Luther Seminary professor Dr Karoline Lewis will serve as a guide for our midweek Lenten reflections this year. Drawing on five keys to unlock the unique call of each disciple, we will all have opportunity to discover and apply a sense of Christian disciples that is authentic to each of us.

After the Shrove Tuesday Pancake supper hosted by Council on Shrove Tuesday, February 17, **Lent begins on Wednesday, February 18 with the imposition of ashes and communion at 11:45 am and 7:00 pm.** Then at 11:45 am on the next 5 Wednesdays, we will explore a different key to discipleship and different exercise in prayer while sharing a soup and bread lunch for Table Church. Each Wednesday service will also be recorded for those who would like to participate at a later time on Holy Trinity's YouTube channel.

Please indicate at the ministry signup table in the Gathering Space if we can order you a copy of *Belonging*. You can also order a copy here <https://www.amazon.com/Belonging-Unlocking-Potential-Disciple-Leader/dp/1791025838> or you can download it here <https://www.abingdonpress.com/product/9781791025830/>

Please sign up to contribute soup or bread for lunch during Lent at the ministry signup table.

Minnesota Church Leaders Speak on Local Conflict

With first-hand experience of the conflicts around immigration enforcement in Minneapolis over the last several weeks, the presiding Bishops of the Minnesota ELCA synods join the Presiding Bishop of the ELCA, the Rev. Yehiel Curry, to offer the video message linked below.

The message is straightforward and clear: While the challenges we face are real indeed, people of God will not grow weary — holding fast to the promise of Christ, that we are never alone while always on the way toward a new day of mercy, justice and peace.

You can view the entire five-minute video at the following website:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GX5LsIgUyI0>

Stewardship Corner

In His Sermon on the Mount, Jesus teaches that our heavenly Father expects moral behavior from His people. Moreover, He expects that behavior to be motivated by proper motives and attitudes. *“Live such good lives among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day He visits us”* (1 Peter 2:12). God is looking for us to do the proper things not because we want to please others, but so that God may be glorified. Paul wrote, *“We are not trying to please people but God, who tests our hearts”* (1 Thessalonians 2:4b). As redeemed people, we strive to do right, because God deserves nothing less from us. For more info about stewardship, contact Max Buban at maxmbuban82@gmail.com.

News of Invite Ministries

New Prayer Concerns:

Michael Cochran, recovering from surgery for a fall and broken leg

Tom Kochheiser, Phil Kochheiser's brother, undergoing heart surgery on February 9

Removed from the Prayer List:

Dave Kriska, recovering well from heart surgery

Mehri Davis, Susan Poling-Jones's neighbor's daughter, at home recovering from a stroke

Prayers for Our Members:

Genie Craven, at home following a recent hospitalization

Marge Markowich, at First Community Healthcare Center, recovering from a stroke

Dale Svendsen, recovering at home, following surgery

Brian Johnson, at Harrison on 5th, recovering from several falls

Wes Jones, at home, undergoing treatment for lymphoma
Peter Ward, dealing with back issues
Joanne Duncan, recovering from various medical issues
Miriam Ringquist, at Dublin Retirement Village
Floradelle Pfahl, at Ganzhorn Suites

Prayers for Our Family and Friends:

Chuck Jentes, Jill Banicki's father, recovering from major surgery
Joe Berkemer, Matt Berkemer's uncle, undergoing chemotherapy
Phyllis Bliss, friend of Holy Trinity, undergoing kidney dialysis twice/week
James Gildea, Shirley Boyd's friend, recovering from a fall that fractured vertebra in his neck
Betty Mak, Shirley Boyd's friend, undergoing daily home dialysis
Pom, Na Brown's friend, recovering from a seizure
Violet, Carolyn and Clyde Cramer's neighbor's 8-year-old granddaughter, diagnosed with leukemia
Joe Stone, Genie Craven's son-in-law, dealing with the result of neck surgery
Abby Moeller, Kristin Farley's friend's 14-year-old daughter, recovering from an ATV accident
Tim Curry, Bev Farrell's brother and JoAnn Curry's brother-in-law, struggling with Parkinson's
Melissa, Sue Ferguson's daughter, diagnosed with colon cancer
Pamela, Barb Keller's daughter, hospitalized following emergency surgery for a dog bite
Alan Greiner, Barb Keller's brother, dealing with multiple serious medical issues
Rodney Larson, Don Larson's brother, diagnosed with cancer
Randy Isaacson, Anna Lynch's father, dealing with health challenges
Jerry Markowich, Pastor Dave Markowich's brother, hospitalized with an infection
Mary Ortwine, Pastor Dave Markowich's sister, undergoing health tests
Jan Attanasio, Janet Maxwell's friend, diagnosed with ALS
Squire Aschinger, John & Judy McKittrick's nephew, diagnosed with cancer
Kathy Poling, Susan Poling-Jones's friend, diagnosed with cancer
Lucas, Susan Poling-Jones and Tony Jones' nephew, recovering from seizures and a brain bleed
Heidi McCarthy, Susan Poling-Jones' friend and mother of 3 children, undergoing radiation for breast cancer
Ben Souders, Susan Poling-Jones' friend's son, diagnosed with bipolar disorder
Lois Rozenquist, Susan Setterlin's friend, battling non-operable lung cancer
Leia Kaufman, Suellen Sharp's cousin, in the ICU at Riverside
Caitlyn Carey, Matt & Suellen Sharp's sister-in-law, diagnosed with cancer
Amy Lavoie, Becky Warnement's cousin, battling a recurrence of lung cancer
Those affected by natural disasters, the Armed forces, victims of terror, and all those on the margins of society most vulnerable to unrest, oppression and exploitation.

News of Embrace Ministries

Holy Trinity Hot Topic Happy Hour – Public Health

Sunday, February 22 5:30-7:00 pm with childcare

Heidi Welch will share insights on current efforts by Health Impact Ohio, where she serves as Chief of Strategic Engagement and Operations, to collaborate on improving access to quality and equitable health and social services for Central Ohio's most marginalized communities.

Jasmine Garnes, CEO of 3rd Shift Warming and Cooling Center at First English Lutheran Church, will share experiences in running a 24-hour shelter on the near East Side of Columbus.

Dan Sharpe, Vice President of Community Research and Grants Management at The Columbus Foundation, will discuss the current state of nonprofit needs in the city and how we can share resources to support them.

Save the Date for Vacation Bible School – Sunday, June 14 – Thursday, June 18

If the winter weather has you dreaming of summer, make sure VBS is in your plans. Kickoff will be Sunday, June 14 and continuing daily Monday-Thursday from 9:00-11:30 am. Children ages 3 years-fifth grade are

invited to attend. Students going into sixth grade and older are invited to volunteer. Watch for more information and registration coming soon!

News of Empower Ministries

Empowerment Shelf – February 2026

By Elizabeth Sammons with love from Neighbor-to-Neighbor

Dorothy Height, *The Origin of Others*, and *Someone Like Me* are Neighbor-to-Neighbor's books of note for this month. This literature intends to expand our awareness, theology and/or acceptance of diverse viewpoints. We hope you'll discover how these writings from various generations embrace what it means to be human and to walk in spirit. ...

Dorothy Height by Lyons, Kelly Starling

Growing up as a Black girl in the 1920s and 1930s, Dorothy Height was denied access to a local swimming pool, as well as admission to Barnard College. But she persisted in pushing for change and became a seminal figure in both the civil rights and women's rights movements. She went on to win the Presidential Medal of Freedom. For third-grade readers and up.

The Origin of Others by Morrison, Toni

What is race and why does it matter? What motivates the human tendency to construct Others? Why does the presence of Others make us so afraid? America's foremost novelist reflects on these themes and more in this collection of essays, drawing on her own memories, as well as history, politics, and especially literature and its representations of race.

Someone Like Me by Arce, Julissa

This best-selling young writer shares her story about her journey to belong in America while growing up undocumented in Texas. For grades 6-9 and older readers.

Ministry Calendar at Holy Trinity for February 8 - 15, 2026

Sunday, February 8, 2026

8:30 am – Morning Prayer
9:20 am – ChurchFam Connect
10:00 am – Worship in-person and online at www.engagedbygrace.org
11:15 am – Holy Trinity Annual Meeting
12:00 pm – Middle School Confirmation/HS Youth Group

Monday 6:30 pm – BSA Troop 555

Tuesday No Events Scheduled

Wednesday 10:15 am – Preacher's Bible Study
1:30 pm – WELCA Esther Circle

Thursday 5:30 pm – Supper at Church
6:00 pm – Children's Choir
6:30 pm – Bell Choir
7:30 pm – Sanctuary Choir

Friday 6:00 pm – Troop 555 Lock-in

Saturday No Events Scheduled

Sunday, February 15, 2026

8:30 am – Morning Prayer
9:20 am – ChurchFam Connect
10:00 am – Worship in-person and online at www.engagedbygrace.org

The Holy Trinity Staff:

Pastor: Steve Wachtman (steve.wachtman@engagedbygrace.org)
Preschool: Molly Capuano and Jackie Newlon (directorhtcdp@gmail.com)
Administrator: Laura Hudson (laura.hudson@engagedbygrace.org)
Minister of Music: Joshua Brodbeck (joshua.brodbeck@engagedbygrace.org)
Director of Faith Formation: Noelle Fox (noelle.fox@engagedbygrace.org)

Holy Trinity Schedule of Worship Servers – February 2026

Date	Time	Welcome Center	Assisting Minister	Lay Reader	Ushers	Communion Assistants	Livestream	Bread Bakers	Communion Team
Feb. 8	10:00 am		Lynn Anderson	Lynn Anderson	Doug Myser Skip Duncan	Peg Steele Susan Setterlin	Jared Forts		Joanne Duncan Terri Michael
Feb. 15	10:00 am	Benson Ross	Keith Townsend	Tim Hudson	Dan Perry AC Cochran	Carolyn Cramer Chris Pryor	Noah Fox	Nancy VanFossen	Nancy VanFossen Lynn Anderson
Feb. 22	10:00 am		Peg Steele	Karen Larson	John Gray Matt Sharp	Karen Larson MJ Neiman	Mark Abell		Suellen Sharp Nancy Riley

Sunday Worship Texts

Sunday, February 8 – Psalm 40; John 4:48-5:18 **Healing Stories**

Sunday, February 15 – Psalm 27:1-4; John 9:1-41 **The Man Born Blind**

Holy Trinity Ministry in Action – Game Night February 1, 2026



For mobile giving options, scan code below with your phone's camera or go to <http://www.engagedbygrace.org/offering>



Holy Trinity Lutheran Church
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