

C

URCH

THE MONTHLY MAGAZINE of HOEY TRINITY LUTHERAN



Bringing Jesus to People through Love and the Word of God

September 11 "God's work. Our hands." Sunday



JOIN US for a day of service

Serving others is one of the greatest things we have the privilege of doing! Join us in Room 202 for fellowship, food and service! We are preparing Birthday Bags for DLM and writing cards and notes for church members and friends. +

Our Need for Sabbath



Pastor Becki Verbridge

As it is, however, there still remains for God's people a rest like God's resting on the seventh day.

(Hebrews 4:9 CEB)

Sabbath is setting aside time for God. For centuries, the Judeo-Christian tradition has lifted up God's command to remember the sabbath day and keep it holy by establishing one day a week – a Saturday or Sunday – as God's time.

Sabbath values our ability to rest, not merely our ability to work. As Donna Schaper says in her book, *Sabbath Keeping*:

"Sabbath is a way of living, not a thing to have or a list to complete. Sabbath is a method for focus, rest, and play in a life otherwise dominated and tyrannized by scattered-ness, fatigue, and work. Keeping sabbath allows us to say **YES** to a life that is grounded in God's grace, and then to receive more than we could ever have imagined of rest and play. For sabbath keeping allows us time to love, and thus restores to us the joy of our salvation."

We sometimes forget that we are human beings not human doings. We were not made to go fast. We were made to live and love and be. As Schaper advises:

"The best way to keep sabbath is to slow down. It is to be where we are now when we are there, rather than letting our time be invaded by where we are supposed to be next. In a culture that demands more and more, faster and faster, sabbath is a spiritual form of disobedience. We slow down out of love for God our Creator, and out of respect for our creation."

Bishop Laura Barbins invited the congregations of the Northeastern Ohio Synod to observe a four-week sabbath this summer. Our Congregational Council has designated August for our congregational sabbath. We will intentionally suspend routine committee and ministry team business meetings to focus on the things we do as a congregation that nurture us spiritually.

- We will worship together in-person or on-line every Sunday at 9:30 a.m.
- We will gather for fellowship following worship.
- We will temporarily suspend on-line morning devotions and check-ins to make use of a specially prepared electronic daily devotional (hard copies will be available too) to help us not only better understand the "why's and what's" of sabbath keeping, but also to practice it.
- We will continue our normal church office hours schedule.
- We will join together for a congregation picnic following worship on August 7th.
- We will continue all of our outreach efforts to support those in our community.
- We will pack teacher supplies for Robinson CLC on August 14th and then enjoy a light lunch.
- We will meet together for Book Club on August 14th.
- We will meet together for our Hike & Seek events scheduled for Saturdays August 13th & 27th.
- We will hold Women's Bible Study on August 20th for a special off-site event.
- We will continue regular communications through our Midweek Word emails and Highlights magazine.

May our congregation experience the spiritual refreshment that comes from understanding that God's grace really is enough! †



Join us and enjoy the fellowship of a congregational picnic and informal singing after worship at 11 a.m., Sunday, August 7th.

Hot dogs with buns and condiments, chips and drinks will be provided for the main course. Pav's Creamery will provide ice cream treats for church members and members of the community on site. Yummmm! If you and your family wish to add something you enjoy eating with hot dogs, you are welcome to bring it to share amongst your family members. A few covered areas will be available. Feel free to bring your favorite lawn chair. Have fun playing Corn Hole, or bring your favorite lawn game to share! This event is hosted by the Worship & Music Ministry Team. †

NOTE: In the event of inclement weather, the church picnic will move indoors.

Occasional Choir on Mary, Mother of Our Lord Weekend

August 15 is the day the Church commemorates Mary, the mother of our Lord. Mary's role is not limited to giving birth to Jesus and mothering him in his childhood. In John's gospel, she is among the women standing near the cross; in Acts, she is among the disciples awaiting the gift of the Spirit. Through all that happened, she continued to see how God was at work through her son, keeping the ancient promises to her ancestors, brushing aside the rich and powerful, and focusing on those as poor and powerless as Mary herself.

We invite females of any age to make a musical offering on Sunday, August 14. Come to the sanctuary at 8:30 a.m. to prepare a simple song for worship. All are welcome! For details, contact Deacon Ruth at the church office. †



Pictured above: The Female Occasional Choir sang during worship on August 15, 2021: (l-r) Madeline, Abigail and Amanda Mormino; Connie Archbold, Dana Eckert, McKayla Ferguson, Deb Zudell-Dickey, Frederica Cohen. Pictured near the font: The youngest members of the Female Occasional Choir, Penny and Ellie Esworthy, with their grandmother, Debbie Spencer.



Teacher Supplies Packing Day

Sunday, August 14, following worship Fellowship Hall

The start of school will be here before we know it! For the seventh year, Holy Trinity is again partnering with Robinson Community Learning Center (CLC) to continue it's support of the students, staff and families. And part of that support is providing each teacher, counselor and intervention specialist with the supplies they need for a successful start to the new school. We will be joined by several teachers from Robinson CLC on August 14 for Packing Day, so be sure to come and serve!!

We are looking at other ways to support Robinson CLC: providing a meal at the Open House, providing new books for special recognition activities, renewing two software program subscriptions for reading and math, providing food boxes for needy families for over winter break, and supporting Leadership 360, a student leadership club. Please see a list of upcoming activities on page 7.

Additionally, Holy Trinity will continue its support of the Robinson Family Resource Center. A new project for this upcoming school year is providing and stocking a Blessing Cabinet. This cabinet will contain much-needed items for Robinson families to take and use as needed. This will be a tremendous help to families who oftentimes run short at the end of the month and need a little assistance. The items to be stocked in the cabinet include laundry supplies, paper towels, toilet paper, tissues, cleaning supplies, feminine hygiene items, trash bags, and non-perishable and microwavable meals to name a few. Holy Trinity will keep the cabinet stocked and FRC staff will monitor and distribute the items to families. †

Prayer Ministry



The coordinators of our Prayer (List) Ministry are introducing a new system to better manage this important work of our church. The names of individuals added to our prayer concerns list will appear in Holy Trinity's worship bulletins for four weeks, along with the name of the person who added them. Although they would then cycle off the list, we would be glad to add them for another four weeks upon request. Additions and updates can be given to any one of our coordinators: †

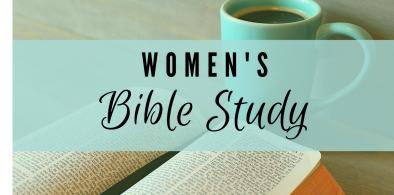
> Sally Richenbacher ohrick@windstream.net

Rachel Nunez rnunez@holytrinityakron.org

Pastor Becki Verbridge bverbridge@holytrinityakron.org



Faith Formation



Saturday, August 20 @ 9 a.m.

Crafted in Christ – A Summer of Rest and Renewal (Gather Magazine) by the Rev. Katie Hines-Shah

For summer 2022, participants will enjoy a three-session Bible study that uses the concept of quilting to explore rest, renewal and Christian community. We'll discuss Old and New Testament readings as we consider the patterns we follow and how the pieces of our lives and communities are bound together in Christ. While no actual sewing experience is required to complete the study, participants can opt to create a quilting project as a lasting reminder of their time together.



We will gather in the meeting room at Porchlight Coffee for breakfast followed by our Session Three of the Study, Crafted in Christ by Katie Hines Shah. If you need a copy of the study or have any questions, please contact Rachel Núñez, Director of Faith Formation at <u>munez@holytrinityakron.org</u>, call/text (330) 634-6597. †



Join Us This Month!

August 13 – F.A. Seiberling Nature Realm (Summit County Metro Park)

August 27 – Cascade Valley Oxbow Trail (Summit County Metro Park)

We will gather at the entrance of the park for a short devotional reading before walking the trail(s) at your own pace. We regather after 35 minutes for a brief discussion and blessing. Questions? Contact Rachel Núñez, Director of Faith Formation, email <u>rnunez@holytrinityakron.org</u> or call/text (330) 634-6597. †



The hikers from July 23, pictured clockwise from upper left: Rich Williams, Jacinto Nunez, Manny Nunez, Don Parsisson, Diane Chambers, LJ Kimble, Amy Indorf and Rachel Nunez.



Church Council has designated August for our congregational sabbath.

As such, Morning Devotions on Facebook LIVE, Midweek Study and Friday Check-In & Prayer have been suspended for the month of August. All will resume in September, so plan to join us! Also, routine committee and ministry team business has been suspended so we can focus on the things we do as a congregation that nurture us spiritually. †



Sunday, August 14

following worship & Teacher Supplies Packing

After the teacher supplies packing event for Robinson CLC, the group will go to the Akron Main Library at 2 p.m. to hear author Judy Orr James discuss her book Akron Family Recipes: History and Traditions from Sauerkraut Balls to Sweet Potato Pie. Please contact Diane Chambers or Amy Indorf with any questions. †



Support for Robinson CLC & FRC

Holy Trinity partners for the 2022-2023 school year

There are several upcoming activities for which volunteers are needed. If you've not had the chance the serve this important ministry, please consider getting involved in some capacity. You'll be glad you glad!

- **Packing Teacher Supplies** *Sunday, August 14, following worship* Join us in the Fellowship Hall for fellowship, food and service. See article on page 5 for details.
- FRC Health & Wellness Drive-Thru *Thursday, August 17, 4-5:30 p.m.* Help check-in families as they arrive and distribute materials. Volunteers need to arrive at 3:30 p.m.
- **Robinson CLC Open House** *Thursday, September 1, 3-5 p.m.* Help prepare and serve a meal to students and their families and help distribute materials at the Holy Trinity table. Volunteers need to arrive at 2:15 p.m.
- Annual Fathers Walk *Thursday, September 22, 7:30-8:30 a.m.* Welcome fathers as they arrive and help staff the Holy Trinity 'Donuts for Dads' table and pass out donuts. Volunteers need to arrive by 7:30 a.m.
- Blessing Cabinet *launches in September* This new initiative helps to provide families with needed items throughout the year. Items include: paper products, laundry and cleaning supplies, personal care items, feminine hygiene products and microwaveable meals. Donations are needed throughout the year.
- **FRC Family FUN Nights** *monthly throughout the school year* Help prepare and serve meals to families in attendance. Times vary; details will be shared in Midweek Word and in the Highlights.
- Halloween Spooktacular *TBD in October* Help prepare and distribute candy bags at this fun event. Costumes are optional! Look for details in Midweek Word and in the Highlights.

To sign up or with questions, contact Sandy DeLuca, (330) 703-4870. +

DLM by the Numbers

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, DLM Food & Resources has continued to operate and provide food boxes, personal care items along with cleaning supplies, and laundry items to those families involved with Project RISE and others who are in need. Clothing is given to those who inquire.

During the months of June and July, DLM Food & Resources served the following ...







965 Individuals







Girl Scouts Give Back

Members of Girl Scout Troop 91358 are among the latest volunteers to serve at DLM. Last month, the girls helped fill the food boxes with produce and non-perishable food items. They also helped prepare hygiene bags (pictured on next page). Troop 91358 has been meeting at Holy Trinity, and now serve at DLM. †

Pictured at top: DLM staff Stefan Katz and Regina Graphenreed give directions to the girls.

Pictured middle and bottom: The girls help prepare the boxes and place broccoli inside.





Let's Celebrate! FIVE YEARS for



Join us for a month-long celebration in October! More details to come.





Pictured at top and above: Shelves filled with personal care items ... not nearly enough to meet the need.

Pictured at right: Jacquie Wert (l) and a volunteer help unpack broccoli to place in the food boxes.



Personal Care Items in High Demand

Not only does DLM Food & Resources provide fresh produce and non-perishable food each month to families, it also provides hygiene kits as well. There is an ongoing need for personal care items for infants, children and adults. Items such as shampoo, conditioner, body wash or soap, toothpaste and toothbrushes, deodorant, baby shampoo and lotion, body wipes as well as feminine hygiene items. There is no community resource or place to obtain these items like food can be gotten from the Akron Canton Regional Food Bank. This is why there is such a need, and we thank you for supporting this effort through the recent series of Love Offerings. Donations are needed throughout the year. Please see Darlene Katz if there are questions. ‡



Playground Clean-Up

The outdoor playground had been overgrown with foilage and weeds. Not anymore!! Staff from the Chick-fil-A in Cuyahoga Falls spent a few afternoons

cutting down overgrown shrubbery and pulling and yanking out weeds. Now there is a clean outdoor space for everyone to enjoy!

Staff from Chick-fil-A volunteered several weeks with DLM earlier this summer while their store was remodeled. †

Pictured at top:

A Chick-fil-A staff member pulls overgrown weeds.

Pictured at right: Chic-fil-A staff picks up debris.

Pictured below: A Chick-fil-A staff member cuts down the overgrown shrubbery.









Do You Like to Cook?

If you like (or love) to cook, we have a great way for you to serve! And, even if you don't, you can serve, too! Twice each month, there is a group of 10-12 staff and volunteers who help pack more than 200 food boxes and personal care kits for DLM Food & Resources. You can imagine how hungry these folks get!

To help keep them going and to show our appreciation for their hard work, a simple meal is provided. **Volunteers or groups are needed to provide a meal on August 5 and 19 and September 9 and 23.** The meal could include breakfast casseroles, sloppy joes or even deli trays could be brought in. If cooking is not your thing, monetary donations are much appreciated.

Women's Bible Study and the Faith Formation Ministry Team have been providing meals for the last year. We invite others to get involved to support this important ministry! If you are interested or have questions, please contact Rachel Nunez at (330) 634-6597. †

STREAMING Join the Stream Team!

No matter your age or skill level, you can serve with this ministry! It's a great opportunity to grow, learn and give back to others literally around the world! Training is provided. Please contact Sandy DeLuca at (330) 703-4870 or at sdeluca@holytrinityakron.org. †

Les Délices Artistic Director Debra Nagy Receives the Laurette Goldberg Award

Early Music America (EMA) has named Les Délices Artistic



Director Debra Nagy as the 2022 recipient of the Laurette Goldberg Award for Outstanding Achievement in Early Music Outreach for her work on SalonEra. SalonEra, produced under the aegis of Les Délices, is an early music webseries that serves a global audience of classical music enthusiasts. Inspired by recent social unrest and the restrictions of the COVID-19 Pandemic, SalonEra is produced remotely, bringing together regular

contributors and special guests whose personalities, perspectives, and contributions set the stage for fascinating conversations and fulfilling artistic exchange. Since Sept 2020, SalonEra has premiered 29 original episodes, 80 remote musical collaborations, and created feature opportunities and paid micro-engagements for over 60 artists. In 2022-23, SalonEra anticipates producing 6 new video episodes and will launch a companion audio podcast.

The prestigious award, bestowed by the EMA Board of Directors, is named for Laurette Goldberg, a fixture of the Bay Area music scene, founder of Philharmonia Baroque Orchestra, and a fierce champion of early music education and outreach. Says Nagy, "It's an honor to receive this award named for such a creative, passionate, and dedicated community builder and early music advocate, Laurette Goldberg. My colleagues and I at Les Délices have worked pretty tirelessly over the last few years to develop SalonEra and our other virtual outreach programs and we are very passionate about using this work to elevate diverse voices and repertoires and to expand general audiences for early music. While the music we love to share may be old, we remain committed to utilizing new formats and technologies to meet listeners and viewers where they are - whether that's on a computer, tv, phone, or through live performance in the community." +



Les Délices Collaborates with West Side Catholic Center Poets for New Episodes of Music Meditations

Les Délices is pleased to announce the release of three new episodes of LD Music Meditations featuring the original work of writers from the West Side Catholic Center's 2021 Poetry Group.

A total of seven poems by four writers (Mike Dayton, Mildred Dixon, Dalin Evans, and Joyce Nichols) are included in the new LD Music Meditations series, which reflects on themes of "Personal Growth," "The Moment," and "Otherness."

LD Music Meditations combines poetry and music to bring soul-soothing and life-affirming art in one's day. The series can be accessed as a podcast (available wherever you get your podcasts) and by telephone hotline at 216-859-5800. Each 3-7 minute episode in the series begins with poems set to music from Les Délices' performance archives and concludes with prompts for mindfulness or guided listening.

Les Délices launched LD Music Meditations in April 2021 as a barrier-free community wellness program that bridges the digital divide. LD Artistic Director Debra Nagy explained the idea behind the project. "Before the pandemic, Les Délices partnered with library branches, homeless shelters, and senior centers to bring their free programs into

Continued on page 14 ...







Sunday, September 18, 2022, 4 p.m.

Jessica Tong, violinist & Michael Sheppard, pianist

Canadian violinist Jessica Tong has garnered international acclaim, having been a top prizewinner at the Eckhardt-Gramatté Competition, the Toronto Symphony, Canadian Music and Yellow Springs International Chamber Music Competitions. She has previously served as first violinist of both Vinca and Larchmere String Quartets, and is currently the Violin Professor at the State University of New York at Fredonia and Chamber Music Director of the Composers Conference at Brandeis University.

Pianist Michael Sheppard was the winner of the prestigious American Pianists Association Classical Fellow Award — a designation that led to the release of a critically acclaimed solo recording by Harmonia Mundi in 2007. He gives masterclasses, teaches regularly and plays with some of the top singers and instrumentalists around the US, working at both the Peabody Institute of Music and the Baltimore School for the Arts, sharing his love and understanding of music and the artistic process with future generations. Sheppard is also a conductor and burgeoning actor.

This program explores opposing pairs of French and German composers of the romantic 19th and early impressionistic 20th centuries.

WATCH LIVE STREAM artsholytrinity.org

ATTEND IN-PERSON Holy Trinity Lutheran Church

50 N. Prospect Street, Akron

Doors open 30 minutes prior. For details and updated safety guidelines, please visit artsholytrinity.org.



A ticketed (\$25) Meet-the-Artist Meal is served at 6 p.m. following the concert. For further details, visit artsholytrinity.org or call the church at (330) 376-5154.

Funding for the 2022-2023 Arts @ Holy Trinity provided by









artsholytrinity.org



'Happy Birthday' to the following members who are celebrating birthdays this month!!

August 2 – Ruth Rieman

- August 4 Catherine Wolverton
 - August 5 Richard Hoskins

August 10 – Sylvia Leddon

August 10 – Laura Snelson

August 10 – P. Andrew Spanninger

August 11 – Abigail Anacki

August 11 – Donald Spencer

August 14 – Tyler Rieman

August 17 – Morgan Isenhart

August 17 – Beatrice Moxon

August 17 – Donald Perrine, III

August 17 – Karen Snyder

August 21 – Molly Phelps

August 22 – Margo Krugger

August 22 – Dan Seiberling

- August 23 Stephen White
- August 24 Daniel Probert

August 26 – Dana Eckert

August 26 – Kathy Tiemann

August 28 – David Lupo, Jr.

August 31 – Sarah Wolverton

If you want to include your birthday in a future issue of the Highlights, please contact Annmarie Demko at (330) 376-5154. NOTE: This list only includes known birthdays.

Les Delices Collaboration ... continued from page 12

the community. With Music Meditations, we wanted to create a safe space for respite or reflection and we wanted that art experience to be able to be

freely and privately accessed with or without an internet connection."

Cleveland's West Side Catholic Center (WSCC) is a non-traditional collaborator for an arts organization like Les Délices. A private, not-forprofit agency that provides food, clothing, shelter, and advocacy for men, women, and children in Greater Cleveland, Les Délices reached out to WSCC initially as a means to spread the word about the LD Music Meditations.



"Then we learned about their Expressive Arts program and the WSCC 2021 Poetry Group," explained Nagy. Designed and led by artist and writer Meredith L. King through a creative partnership with Cuyahoga Arts and Culture and the Center for Performance and Civic Practice, ten adventurous poets formed the West Side Catholic Center 2021 Poetry Group and met weekly from August to October with the goal of creating their own book of original poetry. With additional support from Resource Center Manager, Barbara Taylor and Jesuit Volunteer, Megan Chelling, Nagy met with the poets, shared Les Délices' music, and helped them record their work for inclusion in the Music Meditations series.

Les Délices plans to create and share two additional series of LD Music Meditations in 2022-23. They hope to work with a variety of community partners to distribute and spread the word about the program as well as to curate the poetry. Organizations interested in partnering with Les Délices on a similar project should send inquiries to info@lesdelices.org or call 216-302-8404. †

Worship Stewards

Date	Readers	Livestream
Sunday, August 7 9:30 a.m.	Linda Vowles	Alex DeLuca
Sunday, August 14 9:30 a.m.	Marsha Asente	Ann Lawson
Sunday, August 21 9:30 a.m.	Mike Ameling	Ann Lawson
Sunday, August 28 9:30 a.m.	Frederica Cohen	Ann Lawson

Hoy Trinity Lutheran Church presents this FREE full-day training!



We invite you to join us for an introduction to ministry that we believe can equip your congregation for the exciting and revitalizing work of reaching its community more effectively with and for the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Saturday, November 12 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Holy Trinity Lutheran Church 50 N. Prospect Street, Akron

<u>Advance registration required.</u> Register at holytrinityakron.org/events

*Lunch & beverages provided.

Guided by the gospel imperative to "Go and make disciples of all nations," the ministry of Invite Welcome Connect equips and empowers individuals and congregations to practice



evangelism, hospitality, and connectedness. Invite Welcome Connect's founder, Mary Parmer joins us for this <u>FREE</u> allday training to share the deep truths of this ministry as well as practical steps to assess your faith community and begin implementation. This is not a one-size-fits-all plan. It is tailored to the culture of your congregation, thereby assuring your members will feel comfortable with the program and process.



ABOUT THE TRAINER ... Born and raised in the deep South (Natchez, Mississippi), Mary Foster Parmer is the Creator & Founder of INVITE WELCOME CONNECT, a transformational ministry of evangelism, hospitality and belonging. Mary is the author of the award-winning book, Invite Welcome Connect: Stories & Tools to Transform your Church.

Mary Parmer's personal call to work with congregations in evangelism and congregational development is borne out of her spiritual gift of exhortation (encouragement), her love of people, and her passion for welcoming the newcomer and empowering the laity. Mary's passion is helping congregational leadership understand the importance of personal invitation, welcoming folks, hearing their story, recognizing their gifts, and then connecting them to ministry. Mary believes that the ministry of the laity is best carried out when individuals discern their own spiritual giftedness and then are empowered and equipped to live into their baptismal covenant by offering their individual gifts and talents to God.



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HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

Praising. Loving. Serving in Jesus' name.

Mission Statement:

The mission of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church is to bring Jesus to people through love and the word of God.

Vision Statement:

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church is a faith community grounded in God's word, called to worship and committed to serve as disciples of Jesus Christ.

Address & Phone:

50 N. Prospect Street Akron, Ohio 44304-1273 (330) 376-5154 holytrinityakron.org

Groups & Activities

Acolyte Coordinator - VACANT Altar Guild - Deb Ickes Archives - Ricki Ethington Book Club - Diane Chambers & Amy Indorf Communion Assistants - Deborah Ickes & Marcy Nagy Family Promise & OPEN M - Gregg Loesch LINKS - Elizabeth Liska Memorial Garden - Sonya Nagle Men's Bible Study - VACANT Parish Nurse Ministry - Sally Richenbacher Prayer Chain - Sally Richenbacher/Wanda Clark Renaissance Team - Bob Keener Readers - Nan Riemenschneider Robinson CLC - Sandy DeLuca Stream Team - Bob Foutty Ushers - Gregg Loesch Women's Bible Study - Velma Pomrenke

2022 Cabinet

Care & Fellowship - Rachel Núñez Faith Formation - Amanda Archbold Finance - Lesli Eisenhart Outreach & Social Concerns - Gregg Loesch Personnel - John Stefanik Property - Dan Detwiler Welcome—Bob Foutty Worship & Music—Frederica Cohen & Ron Nockengost Council Liaison - Rick Kimble

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