

# HIGHLIGHTS

THE MONTHLY MAGAZINE *of* HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

July 2021



## **IN-PERSON WORSHIP RESUMES!**

*Donna & Fletcher Carroll greet Judy Coffman  
on Sunday, June 6*

*See more photos on pages 4-7*

# OUTDOOR WORSHIP

**Let's experience God's miracles in person ... join us for Outdoor Worship!!**

**Sunday, July 11 @ 9:30 a.m.**

**Sunday, August 8 @ 9:30 a.m.**

Face masks are NOT required, and we are singing!! Everyone is encouraged to bring lawn chairs. There will be a few chairs set up and available if needed.

Holy Communion is celebrated. Individual glasses are used for wine; these are available for pick up. Instructions for receiving the sacrament are included in the bulletin.

In the event of inclement weather, worship will be held in the sanctuary; face masks are required.

*NOTE: The livestream of both services can be viewed at [holytrinityakron.org](http://holytrinityakron.org), our Facebook page or YouTube channel.*

# Start With Why

We have, by the grace of God, survived the past 15 months of pandemic and social/political upheaval. Better than that, actually...we have grown and tried new things and worked hard to remain faithful to our mission while at the same time learning new techniques, new methods, and new requirements for getting that mission done. Thanks be to God.



*Pastor David*

Next step: we learn to grow into this new, hybrid, physical/digital culture which is the context in which we live. In fact, we've been in such a culture for quite a while. The Church (not just Holy Trinity, but the whole Church) has been slow to adapt to this reality. That's part of the reason why, since the mid-1950s, things like church affiliation and church attendance have steadily and (of late) quickly declined. The most recent data from Pew Research reveals that less than half of U.S. citizens...48%...now claim membership in any kind of religious organization. That percentage was 70% in 2000.

Note, however, that the world is not necessarily a happier place because fewer folks claim a role for faith in their lives. Quite the opposite. The need for love and acceptance and purpose and community and hope are all still there...hard-wired into our human genome. More than half of us just aren't looking for those answers in a religious context.

So here we are with this lovely mission statement...to bring Jesus to people through love and the Word of God. It seems to be just the right medicine for the afflictions and needs around us. But fewer and fewer people truly care about God or sense that their absence from religious practice has any real impact on their lives. So then...what shall we do?

First, we pray for the guidance and wisdom of the Holy Spirit. Nothing good will happen if the power of God is not evidently at work in and through us. And our awareness of that power always starts with prayer.

And second, we remember why we are here and why it matters and why we believe we are called to this holy work. "We love because God first loved us" the Apostle writes (1 John 4:19). We are here to love God and to love our neighbors as ourselves. We are not here to save the Church. (Too late. God already did that in Christ.) We are not here to cajole people into being part of the club. Rather, we are here to love God so that others can likewise fall in love with the God who already loves them. We are here to wake up to the stunning reality of God's grace for us that is so powerful and complete that the only responses we have are joy and gratitude.

Folks might think they don't need what the Church has to offer. Perhaps that's true. If all the Church has to offer is a Sunday morning pew and some committee meetings and financial anxiety, well...they probably don't need that. Frankly, neither do we. But if the Church is where the love of God is alive and if that's why we are gathered and sent to embrace our neighbors, then we've got good news to proclaim. If our love for God overflows in love and hope for our neighbors, then we've got bread to share in a starving world.

Making our way forward in this new day starts with remembering the reason why... and falling in love with God all over again. †



*Mary & Richard DeBerry*



*Daniel Probert*



*Sylvia Leddon*

# In-Person Worship Resumes!



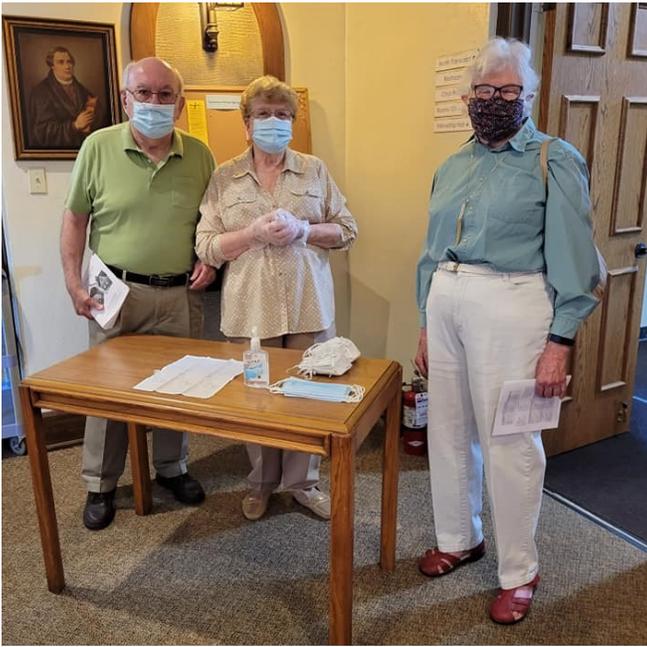
*Duane & Joann Aller*



*Velma Pomrenke*



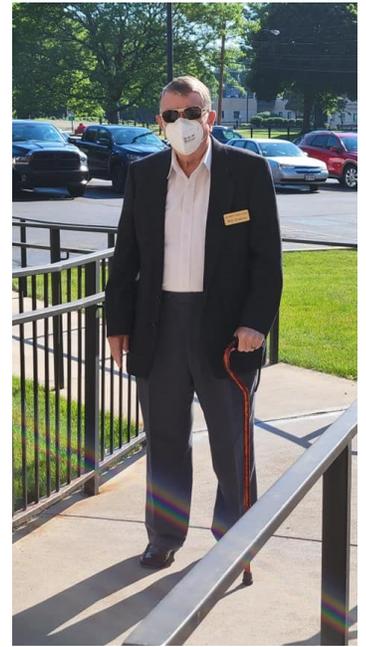
*Pam Marko*



*Fletcher & Donna Carroll with Sophia Morton*



*Molly Phelps*



*Bob Hoskins*

Holy Trinity began in-person worship on Sunday, June 6 ... the first time in 2021!! Of course, we also continue our live stream of Sunday worship which can be viewed through the website, our Facebook page or YouTube channel. But it was wonderful seeing so many people in person seated in the Sanctuary! If you wish to attend in person, masks are required. Seating in the Sanctuary is open on a first-come, first-serve basis beginning from the front of the nave. Those who are concerned about physical distancing are welcome to sit apart from others. All persons are asked to respect each other's desire for appropriate space. For more information regarding in-person worship, visit [holytrinityakron.org](http://holytrinityakron.org). †



*From left: Gregg Loesch, Gary Radanof and Pete Seltzer.*



*From left: Jacquie Wert, JD Sanders and Fred Rieman.*



*Stephen White*



*Dick Willet*



*Gregg Loesch (l) receives the communion wine poured by Tom Baumgardner from the pouring chalice.*



*Here is a sight not seen in a very long time! In-person worship resumed Sunday, June 6.*



*LEFT: Fred Rieman and Rachel Núñez talk during fellowship.*



*RIGHT: Pictured from left: Sylvia Leddon, Valerie Clark and Bob Keener.*

## **Fellowship Also Returns with In-Person Worship**

The weather was picture-perfect for our first outdoor fellowship! As is customary at Holy Trinity, individually wrapped refreshments were available for those who attended in-person worship on June 6, and wonderful conversations and fellowship were enjoyed by all. Fellowship time will be held outdoors following worship (weather permitting). †



*Our faithful leaders (from left): Pastor David Nevergall, Rachel Núñez and Deacon Ruth Anderson.*





# Faith Formation

## Sunday LIFT (Living In Faith Together) Summer 2021 – Journey Together

July Meetings will be via Zoom & In-Person @ 11 a.m. (see schedule below)

Contact Rachel Núñez, Director of Faith Formation for meeting instructions, [rnunez@holymtrinityakron.org](mailto:rnunez@holymtrinityakron.org), call/text (330) 634-6597



Our theme for this summer is Journey Together. We will follow a path to learn about how we can trust God, grow in our faith, and be a community together. On our journey we will learn more about the books of the bible, we will learn what we call the fruit of the Spirit, we will learn more about the disciples who followed Jesus, we will learn what it means to be the church, and we will focus on how we can pray for those in the world around us! †

- July 4 **No Class Meeting** – you are encouraged to Journey Together with friends and family outdoors enjoying a nature hike and/or picnic together.
- July 11 **Discovering the Disciples** – the first disciples of Jesus were called to follow Jesus and use their gifts. (11 a.m. via Zoom)
- July 18 **Becoming Disciples** – we are called to use our gifts to follow Jesus and be disciples. (11 a.m. in Chapel Lounge)
- July 25 **Nature Hike** – Journeying Together at F.A. Seiberling Nature Realm, 1828 Smith Road, Akron 44313  
We will meet at 11 a.m. in the Nature Realm Visitors Center Lobby

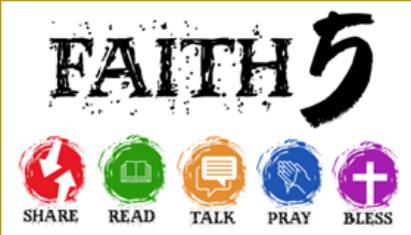
## New Mid-Week Study July 2021

We gather at 11 a.m. via Zoom Meeting to discuss two articles published in Living Lutheran June/July 2021 issue, [www.livinglutheran.org](http://www.livinglutheran.org)

- **July 7 & 14 – Stewardship: A disciple’s path** by Robert C. Bezard  
How well do you care for and use everything that God has given you – not just possessions and wealth, but relationships, creativity, special talents, intelligence, time, vocation: everything? Using all our gifts wisely and for godly purposes is what being a steward is all about. And it’s the key to being a disciple.
- **July 21 & 28 – Where all may dwell** by Robert C. Bezard  
Following the example of Jesus, Christians have always responded to the physical and spiritual needs of people they encounter. Addressing the need of the vulnerable in Winston-Salem, N.C., the Dwelling takes an immersive and particularly integrative approach. What can the rest of the ELCA learn from them?



If you do not have a hard copy of Living Lutheran Magazine, digital copies of the above articles along with discussion questions are available. Please contact Rachel Núñez, Director of Faith Formation, [rnunez@holymtrinityakron.org](mailto:rnunez@holymtrinityakron.org). †

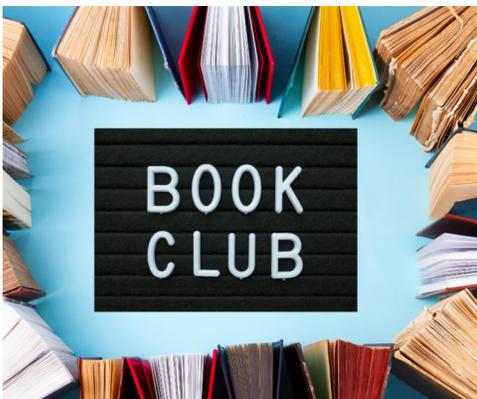


## Weekly Check-in during COVID-19

Fridays @ 9 a.m. via Zoom

We gather via Zoom for a time of sharing, scripture reading, talking, prayer, and blessing.

Email Rachel Núñez, Director of Faith Formation, for a copy of the text and Zoom access instructions at [rnunez@holytrinityakron.org](mailto:rnunez@holytrinityakron.org) or call/text (330) 634-6597. †



## Holy Trinity Book Club Sunday, July 11, 1 p.m. Rockynol Picnic Area

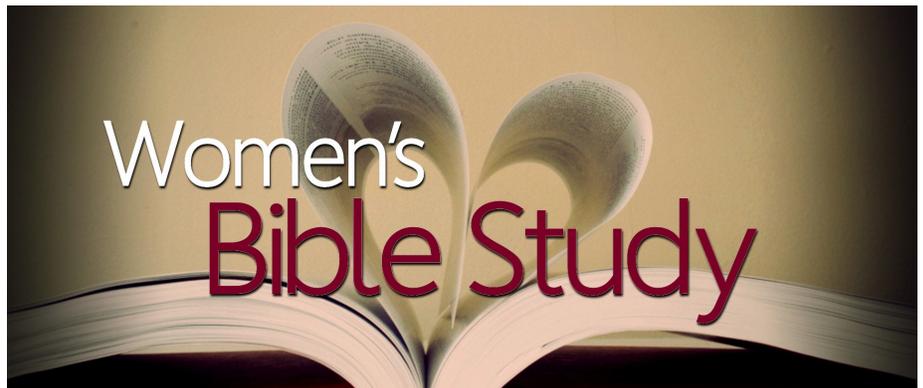
(Behind the garages)

We will be discussing

*A Tree Grows in Brooklyn*  
by Betty Smith

All are invited to bring a brown bag lunch and join in the discussion. Please contact Diane Chambers or Amy Indorf with any questions. †

NOTE: In the case of inclement weather, the group will meet in the Scharf Library.



## Saturday, July 24 @ 9 a.m. In-Person

Host: Velma Pomrenke

Rockynol Apartments Outdoor Picnic Area  
1148 W. Market Street, Akron

Continental Breakfast will be served

*\*If it rains, the group will meet at Holy Trinity in Room 202*

### Just L.I.F.E. (Liberation Is For Everyone!)

#### Session Two: Just Truth

*From Gather Magazine, July/August 2021 Issue*

This three-session summer Bible study series is inspired, in part, by Jesus' proclamations: "If the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed" (John 8:36) and "I came that they might have life, and have it abundantly" (John 10:10). If you need a copy of the article, please contact Rachel Núñez at [rnunez@holytrinityakron.org](mailto:rnunez@holytrinityakron.org). †



## Bedtime Stories & Prayers

Sunday Evening @ 7 p.m. via Facebook LIVE

(All books read are published [beamingbooks.com](http://beamingbooks.com))

July 4 *When Day Is Done* by Natalee Creech

July 11 *You Are So Wonderful* by Jacqueline J. Lewis

July 18 *God's Protection Covers Me* by Amy Houts

July 25 *Huggle Wuggle, Bedtime Snuggle* by Della Ross Ferreri



The Luther & Lager Hour will return later this summer!

## 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.

In June, DLM served the following ...



138 Families



527 Individuals



261 Children



# DLM

FOOD AND RESOURCES



*Private Wilbert unloads food to DLM intern Alexas Squibb.*



*From the Ohio National Guard are Private Barnes (l) and Private Wilbert ... thank you!*

## National Guard has been Vital to DLM

We are grateful to the Ohio National Guard for supporting our Foodbank's COVID-19 response. These members contributed to the network of hunger-relief partners in many ways, including providing delivery service for Foodbank orders and volunteer support at food distributions. Their deployment is coming to an end on Friday, July 2. Thank you for continuing to serve the community. As always, we are grateful for your partnership. †

### A Note About Donations for DLM

To keep a better handle on donations, DLM is currently NOT accepting random donations. If you would like to donate to DLM (and we hope you do!), please contact Darlene Katz at (330) 376-5154 or at [danderson@holytrinityakron.org](mailto:danderson@holytrinityakron.org).

Darlene will work with you to schedule a day you can bring in your items. Volunteers will be scheduled accordingly to help sort and organize everything.

**FOR THE TIME BEING, PLEASE DO NOT PLACE ITEMS FOR DLM IN THE CLOSET AREA ACROSS FROM ROOM 202. †**



## Music Leaders Gather for Fellowship

More than 20 HTLC music leaders gathered for a time of fellowship June 3rd. The gathering featured a surprise baby shower for soprano Hannah Miller and her husband Matt (left).



## Fellowship in the Memorial Garden

Those who attended the virtual Midweek Study that recently ended gathered for lunch and fellowship on June 23 in none other than the Meditation Memorial Garden. The weather was perfect, and what a wonderful backdrop this space was for this gathering ... the calming background sound of the fountain and the ambiance of the beautiful flowers and garden greenery. †

*Pictured above (standing from left): Frederica Cohen, Sylvia Leddon, Joan Derrig, Velma Pomrenke, Sylvia Hackbarth, and Amy Indorf. Seated and in the forefront are Tom Baumgardner and Rachel Núñez.*



# Drive-Thru Event at Robinson



**LEFT:** 'Master griller' Gregg Loesch.

**RIGHT:** Marshall Thomas, Lor Breyley and Rachel Núñez busily assemble and wrap the hamburgers.

**MIDDLE RIGHT:** Lor Breyley and a Robinson teacher greet a family as they pick up their meals.

**BOTTOM RIGHT:** Sandy DeLuca (l) and Deacon Ruth Anderson.

**BOTTOM:** Vehicles are lined up for the Drive-Thru Resource Fair hosted by the FRC.



Holy Trinity partnered with the Robinson Family Resource Center (FRC) to provide a meal for their Drive-Thru Resource Fair on May 27. But this was no ordinary meal ... no siree!! Holy Trinity's 'master griller' Gregg Loesch stepped up and grilled nearly 250 hamburgers to perfection in three hours ... unbelievable! And putting these burgers together along with the rest of the meal were Deacon Ruth Anderson, Marshall Thomas, Rachel Núñez and Lor Breyley. A special thank you goes to Rachel and the folks from the Faith Formation Ministry Team who put together special packets filled with faith activities the children can do over the summer. Holy Trinity has helped the FRC to provide meals each month throughout this past school year. †



# Ernie Liska Memorial Scholarships Awarded

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church is pleased to announce that the Ernie Liska Memorial Scholarship is being awarded to three Akron Public Schools graduates, each receiving \$1,000.

**Mikayla Perryman** (pictured center) graduated in May 2021 from North High School. She served as President of DECA (Distributive Education Clubs of America) and participated in the school's Ambassador Program. Mikayla represented North High School on the Student Board for Akron Public Schools, and she was member of National Honor Society. She also ran for the track & field and cross-country teams. In addition, Mikayla was instrumental in helping to organize a blood drive at her school and volunteered to serve food to the homeless in the community. Mikayla plans to attend Kent State University in the fall and study fashion design. When asked what receiving the Ernie Liska Memorial Scholarship means to her, she replied, "I'm very honored to receive this scholarship. It will certainly help me reach my goals of not only graduating from college with a degree in fashion design but starting my own clothing line."



*Elizabeth Liska is pictured with the three 2021 Ernie Liska Memorial Scholarship Recipients.*

**Elijah Humphrey** (pictured right) also graduated in May 2021 from North High School. He played basketball and ran track all four years of high school and was captain for both teams his Senior year. He ran 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> team All-City in track, winning 1<sup>st</sup> team All-City in multiple events, and competing in district and regional competitions for the 110 hurdles. Elijah participated in DECA (Distributive Education Clubs of America) where students learn and practice leadership skills such as goal setting, consensus building, and project management. And he competed at the State level twice for his school's team. Elijah commented, "Receiving this scholarship means so much because it's enabling me to continue my education which will lead to a bright future." Elijah will attend The University of Akron in the fall to study business administration.

**Mary Winer** (pictured left) graduated in May 2021 from the National Inventors Hall of Fame STEM High School, Akron. She helped to establish the Diversity Club at her school and served as marketing leader and president. She also participated in the Robotics Club, Art Club and was a member of National Honor Society. Mary has a love for animals and altruistic service. So, she combined the two and has volunteered at Herps Alive Reptile Rescue since 2015 and helped to develop 'Repti-Help,' a website guide on reptile care. Mary hopes to soon publish a book about the 26 species of frogs. When asked about the Ernie Liska Memorial Scholarship, Mary shared, "Going to college is such an incredible gift, one that I don't take for granted. This scholarship is allowing me to pursue my passion, and I am so grateful." Mary plans to attend Ohio University in the fall and study graphic design.

In memory of Ernie and his devotion to God, country and service to others, Holy Trinity established The Ernie Liska Memorial Scholarship in 2019 to provide financial assistance to high school Seniors graduating from any Akron Public Schools who plan to earn a college degree or become certified in a vocational/building trade. As a way to memorialize Ernie Liska and ensure funding continues for The Ernie Liska Memorial Scholarship, donations are appreciated and welcome. To give online, please visit [holytrinityakron.org](http://holytrinityakron.org). Checks, payable to Holy Trinity Lutheran Church (memo line – Liska Scholarship), can be dropped off or mailed to the church. Thank you! †



## July Birthdays

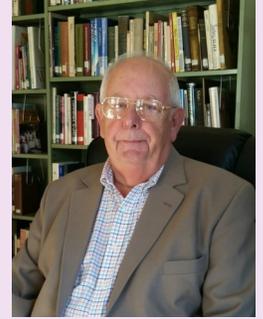
'Happy Birthday' to the following members who are celebrating birthdays this month!!

- July 1 – Jacinto Núñez
- July 2 – Josephine Ameling
- July 4 – Elliott Esworthy
- July 4 – Tom Parry
- July 7 – Adeline Anacki
- July 7 – Graham Jones
- July 7 – Mary K. Wilson
- July 8 – Colin Richenbacher
- July 13 – Linda Vowles
- July 15 – David Erickson
- July 15 – Diana Shanafelt
- July 16 – Stephanie Andrews
- July 16 – Emily Wolverton
- July 17 – Katherine Archbold
- July 18 – Ryan Bader
- July 19 – Tim Anderson
- July 20 – Julia Seiberling
- July 21 – Matthew Birch
- July 21 – Joseph Hancock
- July 22 – Lily Gosorn
- July 22 – Carol Mason
- July 22 – Emma Oberdorfer
- July 24 – Paul Berthold
- July 28 – Cheryl Gates
- July 28 – Elizabeth Liska
- July 29 – Adeline Andrews
- July 30 – Patricia Keller
- July 30 – Mara Lakins

*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.*

## Memorial Service for Bob Leddon

The Holy Trinity congregation is invited to join Bob's family for a memorial service on Saturday, July 17, 2021 at 11 a.m. The service will be held in the church sanctuary followed by the interment of ashes in the Memorial Garden and a lunch in the Fellowship Hall. If you are not able to attend in person, the service will be livestreamed at [holyltrinityakron.org/funeral](http://holyltrinityakron.org/funeral). †



## Environmental Tips

Confused about what to recycle and what to do with certain items? Some areas that need emphasis are:

- DO recycle these items: plastic bottles and jugs (throw away caps), paper, cartons, cardboard, aluminum and metal cans (wash out; labels can be left on).
- Aluminum is on the recycle list but pie pans are NOT as the machine reads them as cardboard and they go in the wrong bin. Aluminum foil is too small and should NOT be recycled.
- Glass is NO longer a marketable item. Cuyahoga Falls is the only community that still recycles glass since they pay their hauler to take it.
- DO NOT recycle these items: yard waste, gardening pots or containers, pizza boxes, containers with food residue, plastic toys and plastic wrap.



Always recycle! But when in doubt, throw it out! Other recycling opportunities:

- **Target** – take out containers, glass, cellphones, and ink cartridges (libraries, office supply stores take these cartridges as well).
- **Petitti's Nursery and Garden Store** – plastic gardening pots.
- **Grocery stores** – plastic bags: bread, zip top, dry cleaning, bubble wrap.

**Resource ----ReWorks (330) 374-0383 or [summitreworks.com](http://summitreworks.com).  
House Hazardous Waste Facility in Stow on Graham Road is now open. †**

## Worship Stewards

Date	Readers	Livestream
Sunday, July 4 9:30 a.m.	Tom Baumgardner	Alex DeLuca
Sunday, July 11 9:30 a.m.	Jacquie Wert	Bob Foutty
Sunday, July 18 9:30 a.m.	Frederica Cohen	Ann Lawson
Sunday, July 25 9:30 a.m.	Gregg Loesch	Ann Lawson

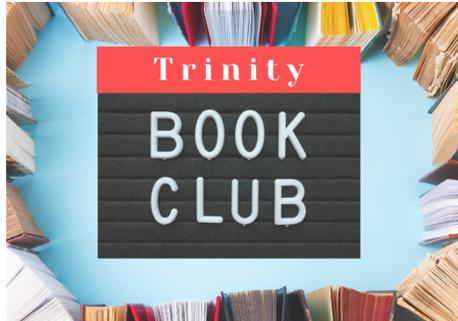
# WELCOME TO ONLINECHURCH

**SUNDAY**

## SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE

9:30 am. In-person or Online  
Details at [holyltrinityakron.org/return](http://holyltrinityakron.org/return)

**SUNDAY**



Sunday, July 11 @ 1 p.m.

**SUNDAY**



Bedtime Stories & Prayers  
Sunday Evening, 7 p.m.  
Facebook LIVE

**M-T-W-H-F**

## DAILY DEVOTIONS

Weekday mornings | 8 a.m.  
Facebook LIVE



**TUESDAY**

## Prayer MEETING

Let's lift each other up in prayer!

Tuesday @ 1 p.m.  
Facebook LIVE

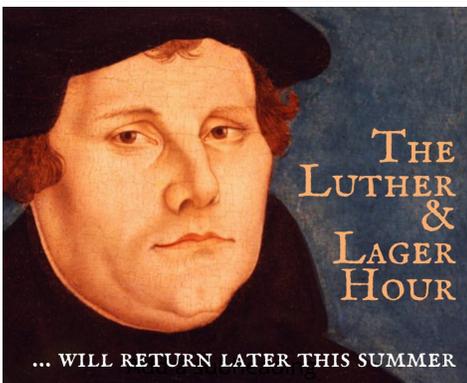
**WEDNESDAY**



## Midweek Study

Wednesday @ 11 a.m. via Zoom

**THURSDAY**



**FRIDAY**

## FAITH 5



CHECK-IN & PRAYER  
Friday @ 9 a.m. via Zoom

**SATURDAY**

## Women's Bible Study

Saturday, July 24, 9 a.m.  
In-Person Gathering  
Hostess: Velma Pomrenke

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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 - Judy Eisenhart  
Altar Guild - Sophia Morton  
Archives - Ricki Ethington  
Book Club - Diane Chambers & Amy Indorf  
Communion Assistants - Deborah Ickes & Marcy Nagy  
Family Promise - Gregg Loesch  
LINKS - Elizabeth Liska  
Memorial Garden - Judy Samuelson  
Parish Nurse Ministry - Sally Richenbacher  
Prayer Chain - Sally Richenbacher & Wanda Clark  
Renaissance Team - Bob Keener  
Readers - Nan Riemenschneider  
Robinson CLC - Sandy DeLuca  
Sound System - Lorin Sickafoose & Joe Moxon  
St. Bernard Hot Meals - VACANT  
Ushers - Gregg Loesch  
Women's Bible Study - Velma Pomrenke

**Highlights** is a publication of:  
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**Deadline for articles is the 15th of each month.**

E-mail information to: [highlights@holytrinityakron.org](mailto:highlights@holytrinityakron.org)

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Mailing: *TTT's & Anmmarie Demko*

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