

# HIGHLIGHTS

THE MONTHLY MAGAZINE of HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

July 2022



## **DLM Director Darlene Katz recognized for her work and faith**

*Pictured is Darlene Katz with Amanda Smith, Project Rise.  
See more photos on page 6*



# vibrantfaith

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## Video Devotions!

*Calling Now*, a video devotional experience from Vibrant Faith to explore your calling in daily life, discern God's calling in the process of transition, make connections between Scripture and God's calling, find new ways to express or live out calling in and beyond the church, and build community around calling themes. This is calling as it is meant to be explored, through the stories of our lives.

Each *Calling Now* devotional includes a brief video, Scripture passage or story, prayer, and reflection questions. **You will receive a new devotional video clip and reflection questions every Sunday afternoon.** You are encouraged to use them in your personal study or as a no-prep family devotion. You can also ask friends and family to partner for conversations around the theme as you gather for summer activities. The experiences were developed to be flexible.

Please register with an email address to receive a weekly *Calling Now* devotion. To register, please send your email to Rachel Núñez, Director of Faith Formation, at [rnunez@holytrinityakron.org](mailto:rnunez@holytrinityakron.org). You may also access the link via social media with the password provided to you when you register.

***Calling Now Video Devotions will continue through the end of the church year.***

# What is an Interim Pastor?

## *And what will she do?*

*"Anyone who welcomes you welcomes me, and anyone who welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me." (Matthew 10:40)*



*Pastor Becki Verbridge*

It is a privilege to be appointed Interim Pastor of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Akron by Bishop Laura Barbins and the Northeastern Ohio Synod Council.

I want to thank you for your warmth, hospitality, and grace during my first weeks at Holy Trinity. It has been a joy to begin to get to know you (and actually be able to associate some of your names with your faces)!

Some of you may be wondering what an interim pastor is. Interim pastors are ordained and serve as a "temporary shepherds," caring for congregations and overseeing their mission and ministry in the time between called pastors. Some, known as intentional interim pastors, are trained to assist congregations in reassessing their internal and external ministry contexts in preparation for a new call. This critical reflection is done for the benefit of Call Committees who are charged with describing their congregations and ministry contexts, and then identifying the pastoral leadership needed to move forward.

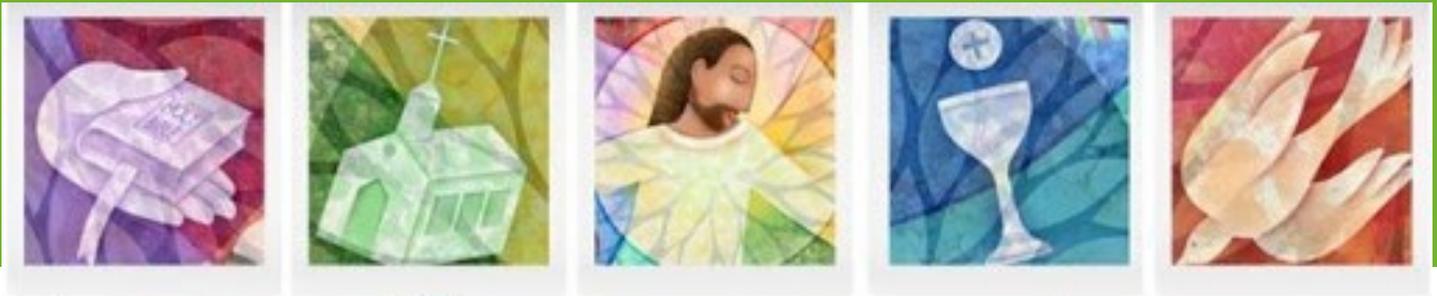
As an intentional interim pastor, I will not only preach and preside at worship services, provide pastoral care and support, and work with the staff and other leaders to provide general oversight of Holy Trinity's mission and ministry, but also lead the critical reflection that will benefit the call process.

Others of you may be wondering how long it will take to call a new pastor. The synod staff member who met with our Congregational Council two weeks ago said the average length of interim periods between called pastors is 18 months. Occasionally it is slightly less, sometimes it is a bit longer. Regardless, what ultimately leads to a successful call is committing to and working the interim process.

The critical reflection work will begin sometime in September. Between now and then, I will spend time getting to know you - the members of Holy Trinity - better as you seek to live out your historic congregation's mission in this time and place: "To bring Jesus to people, through love and the word of God." †

Blessings!

*Pastor Becki*



# Faith Formation

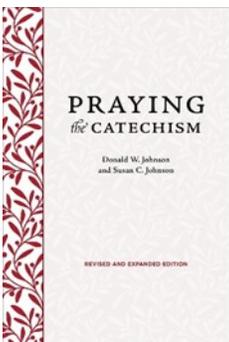


## New Mid-Week Offering beginning June 1 Devotion, Fellowship & Lunch Together

### *Praying the Catechism*

by Donald W. Johnson and Susan C. Johnson

**Wednesdays @ 11 a.m. June 1 – August 10**  
(our first meeting will be in the Chapel Lounge)



*Martin Luther's Small Catechism was written to help people gather in their homes to learn about their faith and to deepen their relationship with God. The catechism still works as a solid framework for that purpose. This devotional book is an attempt to restore the Small Catechism to the prayer room. It invites you to experience the catechism through a journey of prayer and meditation.*

Holy Trinity will be praying and mediating The Ten Commandments throughout the summer months. We will begin our time together with Scripture Readings, Time to Pause & Reflect, and Prayer. Following this 30 minute devotional gathering we will continue fellowship and discussion around the table while enjoying a salad lunch. †



## Join Us This Month!

**July 23 – Brandywine Falls Trail**  
Cuyahoga Valley National 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 [rnunez@holyltrinityakron.org](mailto:rnunez@holyltrinityakron.org) or call/text (330) 634-6597.

### *Looking ahead ...*

We've added more opportunities to gather for a short devotion, hike/walk together, prayer & blessing. Join us & bring a friend! †

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

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

# FAITH 5



## 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 link at [rnunez@holytrinityakron.org](mailto:rnunez@holytrinityakron.org) †

"God's work. Our hands." Sunday



**JOIN US** for a day of service

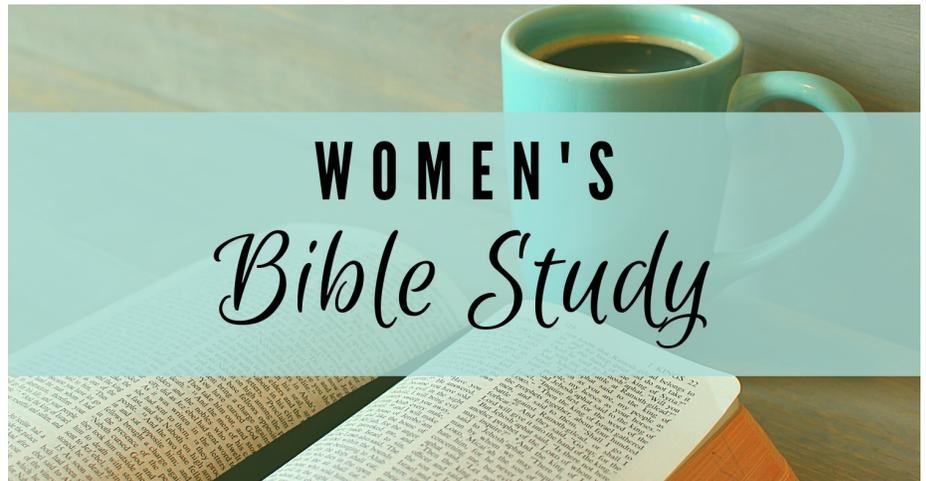
**Save this Date!**

**Sunday, September 11**

**Following Worship**

**More information**

**to come! †**



## WOMEN'S Bible Study

**Saturday, July 16 @ 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.

**Session 2: "Quilt cutting and piecing,"** explores how our lives and Christian communities come together into a cohesive whole, including people of all shapes and sizes, abilities and talents.

We will gather in the Memorial Garden at the church (Park Street/Cloister Entrance). Breakfast will be served followed by our study. In the event of rain, we will relocate to the Chapel Lounge. If you have any questions or need a copy of the study, call/text Rachel Núñez at (330) 634-6597. In case of rain, we will meet in the Chapel Lounge. †



**Sunday, August 14**  
**following worship**  
**Picnic Area, Rockynol**

We will meet at the Rockynol picnic area to discuss *Crossroads* by Jonathan Franzen. All are invited to bring a brown bag lunch and join in the discussion.

After the meeting the group will be going 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. †



# Congratulations to Darlene Katz!

## *Women's History Project 2022 Woman of the Year Award Recipient*

The Women's History Project of the Akron Area, a program of the Summit County Historical Society, honored nine local activists with its 2022 Woman of the Year Awards on June 15. Darlene Anderson-Katz, Director of Dare to Love More (DLM) Food and Resources, was presented with the Faith Award.



Darlene Anderson-Katz's work with DLM Food and Resources caps a lifetime of benevolent work in the Akron community. From working with Shelter Care (residential program), American Greetings' Christmas Families Program, One Piece Ministries to DLM, Darlene has built on her faith to assist families in crisis. DLM is a collaboration of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Project Rise and One Piece Ministries. Darlene went from volunteer to director of the program, steering the group through the pandemic, offering help and hope to more than 100 families.

The other award recipients included:

- **Regina King and Denise Brandon** of West Akron Track
- **Virginia Wojno- Forney**, preservation activist working with many different organizations
- **Kathy Meyer** of Peace Together Choir and hospice nurse
- **Julia Perry**, great albeit forgotten composer of classical music
- **Lisa Mansfield** of Summit County Probate Court
- **Ellen McWilliams-Woods** of Akron Public Schools
- **Janis Worley** of Ronald McDonald House of NEO †



**Let's Celebrate!**

**FIVE YEARS for**



**DLM**  
FOOD AND RESOURCES

Join us for a month-long celebration in October!

More details to come.



And let us consider how  
we may *spur one another*  
*on toward love* and  
good deeds, not giving  
up meeting together,  
as some are in the habit  
of doing, but *encouraging*  
*one another*—and  
all the more as you  
see the Day approaching.

Hebrews 10:24-25



## Instatement of Interim Pastor

Becki Bowan Verbridge was officially installed as Interim Senior Pastor on Sunday, June 19. Pastor Becki has been serving churches in Northeast Ohio for 37 years. Although she retired from full-time ministry in the United Methodist Church after 30 years of service, she felt called to continue serving the church as a Transitional Intentional Interim Ministry Specialist. Pastor Becki was trained and certified in this emerging field, and has had the privilege of serving congregations in three denominations in the past seven years. †



***Pictured above:** Pastor Becki is installed by Rachel Núñez and Council Vice President Rick Kimble.*

***Pictured left:** Pastor Becki presents the bread and wine for communion.*

***Pictured right:** Pastor Becki gives the body of Christ to David Hart.*



**MARK YOUR  
CALENDAR**

You are invited to come and enjoy the fellowship of a congregational picnic and informal singing after worship at 11 a.m., August 7th. Hot dogs with buns and condiments, chips and drinks will be provided for the main course. Pav's Creamery Food Truck will provide ice cream treats for church members and members of the community on site. 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! †

## Upcoming Holy Trinity Events

Join us for these upcoming events ... opportunities for praising, loving and serving in Jesus' name.

### Congregational Picnic & Informal Singing

Sunday, August 7, following worship outdoors on the lawn  
*\*hosted by the Music & Worship Ministry Team (see above article)*

### Packing Teacher Supplies for Robinson CLC

Sunday, August 14, following worship in the Fellowship Hall  
We will be joined by teachers and staff from Robinson  
*\*hosted by the Outreach & Social Concerns Ministry Team (See pg. 22)*



**God's work.  
Our hands.**

**God's work.  
Our hands. Sunday**  
Sunday, September 11,  
fellowship worship  
in Room 202

Opportunity to serve with various activities.  
*\*hosted by the Faith Formation Ministry Team †*



## Pastor David in a New Role

For the Special Congregational Meeting on May 22, Pastor served as a member of the Stream Team and helped run the Zoom Meeting with Lorin Sickafoose (not pictured). Thank you both for a well-run meeting! †



*Special thank you cards and messages from the students, teachers and staff at Robinson Community Learning Center.*

**STREAMING  
TEAM**

And speaking of the Stream Team, the group  
**IS SEEKING OTHERS TO SERVE!**

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@holyltrinityakron.org](mailto:sdeluca@holyltrinityakron.org). †



# God's Grace is Enough

The Rev. Dr. Laura Barbins, Bishop of the NE Ohio Synod, has issued an invitation to congregations to take a four-week 'Sabbath.' Why? We work hard six days of the week. We get our work done. We make our preparations. Then on the seventh day we rest, and we let the graces of God wash over us.

As a church, we have been running from one thing to another for two years. We have been going non-stop and we are filled with anxiety. When we're highly anxious, we can't think or hear. We get caught up in cycles of panic and doing and doing and doing. But our doing seems to be going nowhere, and this causes more anxiety.

Bishop Laura's idea is for us to take a sabbath. Take four weeks this summer and stop. In your congregational life, just stop. This means holding no meetings and putting our bible studies on hiatus. Let our service projects lay fallow. Don't publish a newsletter. Let our brains, our hearts and our spirits rest ... just find a way to rest.

This rest will spark our imagination and reinvigorate our ministries. This rest will be infused with the graces of God. Sunday worship does need to continue and very possibly some important projects. For those involved with these activities, make them as easy as possible. This sabbath will help all of us get re-centered and rest in the power of Christ through prayer and reflection.

Remember, God's grace is sufficient. When we stop and breathe and listen and let God's grace wash over us, we will see things in a new way. When we're rested in the Lord, we'll find new energy and new creativity through the Spirit of Christ.

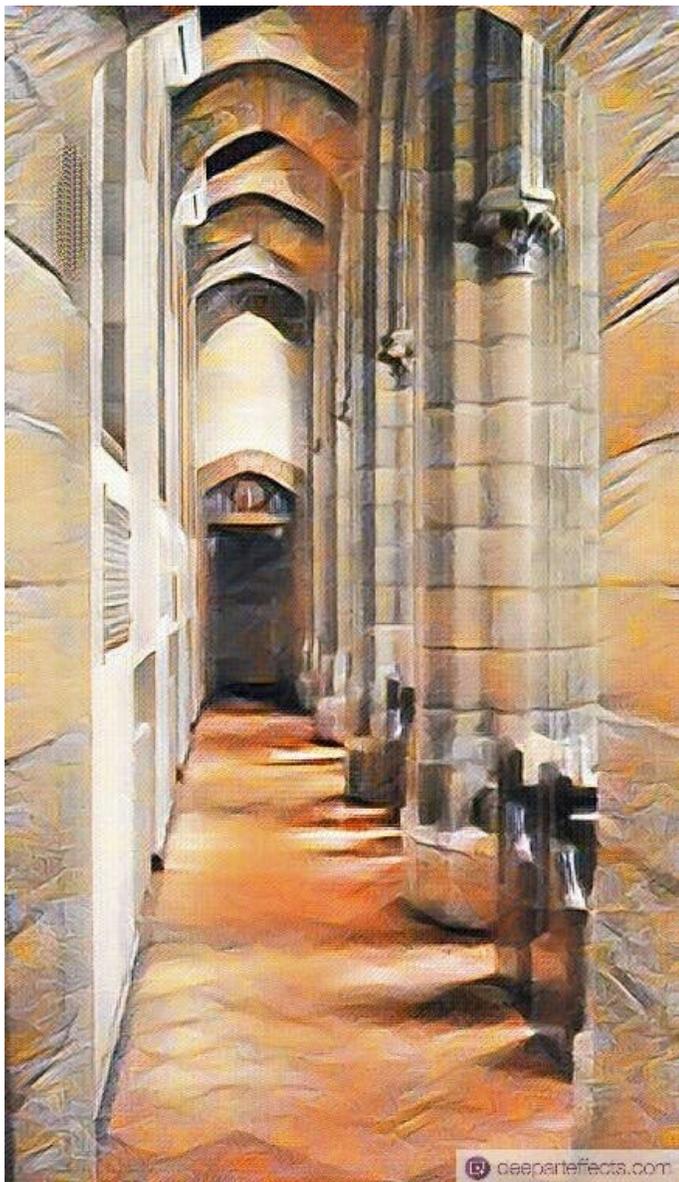
This idea of a taking a four-week Sabbath was accepted by Congregation Council and will be observed August 1-31. The idea is not for a suspension of ministries, but simply shifting out of hyper-drive for a month. For example, ministry teams and committees that do not have urgent business are encouraged not to meet in August. The understanding is that worship, essential business, outreach, and special projects will continue. We will simply try to "simplify" church life for a month. Watch for more details in the coming weeks about this four-week sabbath. †

# ARTS @ HOLY TRINITY

## 2022-2023

### 39th Concert Season

*Akron's only series featuring award-winning virtuosi,  
ensembles and instructors free to the public*



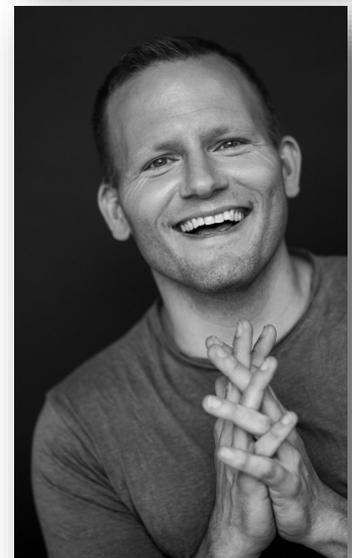
**Sunday, September 18, 4 p.m.**

**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 - *From Elegance to Extravagance* - explores opposing pairs of French and German composers of the romantic 19th and early impressionistic 20th centuries.





**2022-2023**

**39th Concert Season**

*Akron's only series featuring award-winning virtuosi, ensembles and instructors free to the public*

**Sunday, October 23, 4 p.m.**



**Bálint Karosi, organist**

Since winning the International Bach Competition in Leipzig in 2008, Dr. Karosi has been recognized as one of the leading interpreters of the music of J. S. Bach worldwide. He is one of the few organists in North America to improvise regularly in recitals in authentic Baroque style, which is informed by his research in Baroque improvisation techniques of the 17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup> centuries. His opera, *Lonely Hearts*, won the "Most Dramatic Opera" award and audience vote at the 2020 Contemporary Opera Showcase at the Hungarian State Opera. Karosi is also an acclaimed conductor and clarinetist.

**Friday, December 2, 7:30 p.m.**

**A Procession  
of Advent  
Lessons  
& Carols**



Musicians from Holy Trinity and the Akron community present *Savior of the Nations, Come* – an Advent/Christmas hymn festival arranged by Michael Burkhardt, with readings from the pen of Dietrich Bonhoefer. This event will feature the winner of a Jr./Sr. High composition contest, with a festive reception (including live music by pianist Joe Leaman) held in honor of the recipient. For contest details, visit [artsholytrinity.org/contest](http://artsholytrinity.org/contest).

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*We thank our presenting sponsors and foundation supporters*



The book symbol indicates a community outreach activity. The artists generously agree to share their talents and experiences with students at our partner schools, Robinson CLC and Firestone CLC, as well as with other local organizations. Our sincere thanks to the generous donors and in-kind contributors who help make these outreach opportunities and paired concerts possible. Visit our list of recognized underwriters, donors and sponsors at [artsholytrinity.org](http://artsholytrinity.org).

# ARTS @ HOLY TRINITY

**2022-2023**

**39th Concert Season**

*Akron's only series featuring award-winning virtuosos, ensembles and instructors free to the public*

**Sunday, February 19, 4 p.m.**

**Sunday, March 12, 4 p.m.**



## Alice McAllister Tillman, soprano

*with Maurice Draughn, pianist/harpist*

## Bengisu Gokce Quartet\*



This ensemble features award-winning artists with roots from around the globe: Bengisu Gokce (Turkey) – violin, Nacho Gonzalez Nappa (Uruguay) – guitar, Anastassiya Petrova (Kazakhstan) – piano, and George Lernis (Cyprus) - drums/percussion.

The quartet will perform standards from *Great American Songbook*, as well as ragtime, bossa nova and Latin selections with a fresh, acoustic touch to the jazz tradition.

Alice McAllister Tillman is known for her ability to perform a diverse range of literature spanning many genres. Her solo recitals include art songs, operatic arias, spirituals, musical theater and jazz. She is frequently engaged in oratorio and symphonic presentations. A long-standing member and now Artistic Director of the award-winning Brazeal Dennard Chorale, Tillman loves teaching K-post-graduate students.



*This concert will be given in honor of Joan and Ted Lettvin, co-founders of Great Lakes PAA (Great Lakes Performing Artist Associates).*

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This season, we are proud to offer two 'Meet-the-Artist' Meals that afford a delicious ticketed dinner, a small intimate gathering, and preferred seating for the concert. *These events are designated by an (\*) asterisk.*

Sunday, May 21, 4 p.m.



## Hymn Festival with Bruce Neswick, organist

A celebrated improviser and composer of organ and choral music, Mr. Neswick performed for numerous church music conferences, including the Association of Anglican Musicians, Westminster Choir College Summer Session, and the Sewanee Church Music Conference, among others. He was a featured recitalist in several national conventions of the American Guild of Organists (AGO).



This hymn festival includes musical forces from local AGO chapters, Holy Trinity, and the Akron community.

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### View Concerts In Person or Online:

All Arts @ Holy Trinity concerts will be LIVE STREAMED at [artsholytrinity.org](http://artsholytrinity.org) and can be viewed LIVE in person at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 50 N. Prospect Street, Akron. Doors open 30 minutes prior to each event. For safety guidelines, please visit [artsholytrinity.org](http://artsholytrinity.org).

### In-Person Concert Notification:

Safety guidelines will be reviewed and amended as needed for each concert as pandemic conditions dictate. Please check [artsholytrinity.org](http://artsholytrinity.org) for up-to-date information.



2022-2023 Season:

*Renewal*

Oct. 20-23 | Winds of Change

All-instrumental program of riveting chamber works

featuring virtuoso flutist Emi Ferguson

Dec. 1-4 | Rejoice: Cantatas for Advent

Joyous cantatas by J.S. Bach performed by an all-star

group of singers and instrumentalists

Feb. 24-26 | Enchanted Island

Soprano Sherezade Panthaki sings Rameau,

Clérambault and Montéclair

Apr. 21-23 | Isabella's Renaissance

Featuring international guest artist Anna Danilevskaia

with music from the court of Isabella D'Este



LD's acclaimed web-series SalonEra returns for a third season. Six FREE episodes and a new audio-only podcast will premiere between September and April!

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find subscription & ticket info at  
[lesdelices.org](http://lesdelices.org)

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Les Délices is a proud Artist in Residence  
at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church

# Happy Retirement



What a wonderful send-off for Pastor David & Karen Nevergall!

**Pictured left (from left):** Annmarie Demko, Pastor David, Rachel Núñez and Deb Ickes. **Pictured bottom left:** Alexa Sandmann (l) with Emily Wolverton. **Pictured bottom center:** Velma Pomrenke (l) with Deborah Marks. **Pictured bottom right:** Pastor David with Darlene and Stefan Katz.

Opposite page: **Pictured at top:** A special blessing for Pastor David and Karen that involved the entire congregation. **Pictured middle right (from left):** Frederica Cohen, Emily Hall and Marshall Thomas. **Pictured bottom right (from left):** Diane Chambers, Don Parsisson, Annmarie Demko and Rachel Núñez. **Pictured bottom left:** Pastor David giving his final sermon at Holy Trinity. **Pictured middle left (from left):** Bob and Linda Kempke with Dick Willett. †







## Choirs Celebrate Pastor David & Karen Nevergall

Handbell and Trinity Choir members celebrated Karen and David Nevergall on June 2 with delicious food, original songs, memories, tributes, and gifts. †



## Thank You for 3,207 Days

From his first day on September 1, 2013 to his last on June 12, 2022, Pastor David guided this congregation for 3,207 days. Thank you for your dedicated service to Holy Trinity and your unwavering love of Jesus Christ. *Pictured above: Judy Hoshek (l) with Pastor David at his Instatement in September 2013. Pictured right: Council President John Guran gives remarks to Pastor David on his final day, June 12, 2022. †*





Dear Friends in Christ,

We are so grateful for the generosity of the send-off you gave us this past Sunday. We are already looking forward to a series of wonderful "date nights" to dinner and the Cleveland Orchestra during their upcoming Severance Hall season. We thank you for the cash purse, for the joy of a beautiful final worship service among you, and for the warmth and love you shared with us and with our family.

We are grateful, too, for the opportunity we have had to dance with you over these past nine years. God has granted us good and significant work to share through this time, even with its challenges. And we look forward to seeing where God will be leading you next.

To that end, you remain in our prayers. God's peace be with you all.

Pr. David & Karen

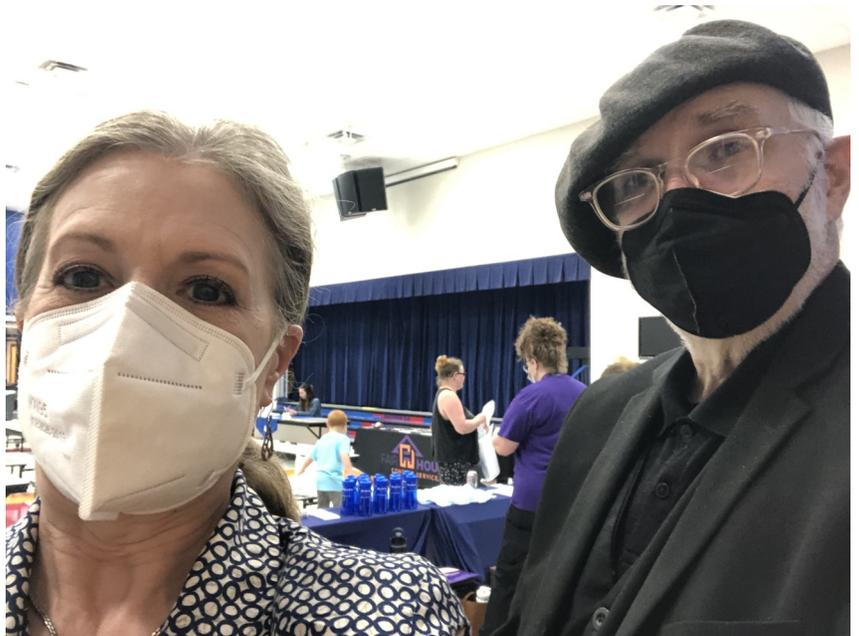


## Banners in the Making

The beautiful banners that are displayed in the Sanctuary during various seasons throughout the church year are due the efforts of the Liturgical Arts Committee. These banners add a vibrant splash of color to the space while reminding us of the meaning and importance of the season. †

*Pictured above left:* Liturgical Arts Committee Chair Molly Phelps holds a dove-shaped piece of material.

*Pictured above right:* Committee member Jacquie Wert adheres pieces of materials to a banner for Pentecost.



**Summer Safety Showdown at Robinson CLC** ... Thank you to Deacon Ruth Anderson and Marshall Thomas for serving at the Summer Safety Showdown event at Robinson CLC on May 26. †



## Women's Bible Study in the Memorial Garden

It was a beautiful day, so why not meet outdoors? That's exactly what Women's Bible Study did ... they gathered in the Memorial Garden on June 18. †

*Pictured top left: Rachel Núñez with Amanda Archbold. Pictured at left (from left around the table): Maria, Molly Phelps, Velma Pomrenke, LJ Kimble, Amy Indorf, Lesli Eisenhart, Connie Archbold, Deacon Ruth Anderson, Teresa Bohland, and Amanda Archbold.*



**Hikers & Seekers Together!** Summer is the perfect time to enjoy God's creation. In June, the group of 'Hikers and Seekers' gathered for two hikes on June 11 and 25. †

*Pictured above left are those who hiked June 11 (from left): Velma Pomrenke, Deacon Ruth Anderson, Jacinto Núñez, Karen Nevergall, Don Parsisson, Diane Chambers, LJ Kimble, Rich Williams, Amy Indorf, and Rachel Núñez in the foreground. Pictured above right are those who hiked June 25 (from left): Deborah Marks, Rich Williams, Amy Indorf, Rachel Núñez and Frederica Cohen.*

# Liska Scholarship Awarded



*Jovana Djuric with Elizabeth Liska.*

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church is pleased to announce that graduating Senior Jovana Djuric is the recipient of the 2022 Ernie Liska Memorial Scholarship. She will receive \$1,000.

In memory of Ernest (Ernie) W. Liska 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 who plan to earn a college degree, university degree, or become certified in a vocational/ building trade and aspire to utilize their education to serve their community. Applicants must be a current high school senior attending an accredited high school administered by Akron Public Schools and who reside in the City of Akron.

Ernie Liska's life was focused on service to others. Likewise, Jovana Djuric understands the importance of giving back to her

community. Throughout most of her high school years, Jovana volunteered at a local elementary school where she assisted teachers in the classrooms and served as a mentor to the children. And just like Ernie, Jovana is very active in her church with helping to plan cultural fairs and other church activities.

And she's a brilliant student! Jovana graduated from Akron Early College in May with a 5.0 GPA. She was also Valedictorian of her graduating class of 102 students. In addition, Jovana also graduated from The University of Akron with an Associate's Degree in Arts. While at Akron Early College, she was a member of the National Honor Society where she served as Treasurer and President of the fundraising committee. She was also a member of the Yearbook Club and was active with other clubs and organizations at school.

When asked what receiving the Ernie Liska Memorial Scholarship means to her, Jovana replied, "I'm very honored to receive this scholarship. It will certainly help me reach my goals of not only furthering my education but also of becoming a doctor." Jovana plans to attend The University of Akron this fall and will major in Bio Pre-Med.

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 mailed to 50 N. Prospect Street, Akron, Ohio 44304. †



## Follow & Like Us on Social Media

Thank you to everyone who frequently comments or shares our social media posts on Facebook. But many of you haven't clicked the FOLLOW or LIKE buttons for the Holy Trinity page. It's important to click both so those who follow and like you will learn about Holy Trinity and the important work we are doing. Plus, our goal is to exceed 1500 followers by the end of the year. Is there any reason why you can't help us reach our goal? Be sure to hit the FOLLOW and LIKE buttons on Holy Trinity's Facebook page. †



If you're not receiving our emails, it's probably because we don't have yours! If you want to receive our weekly Midweek Word and other important communications, please send your email address to Sandy DeLuca at [sdeluca@holytrinityakron.org](mailto:sdeluca@holytrinityakron.org). If you're not sure if you're on our list or if you have changed your email address, please feel free to contact Sandy to verify. †

Thank  
You!

## A Word of Thanks

We have been blessed by the tireless efforts of our handbell and vocal choirs during this past pandemic year. Maintaining safety and comfort levels was a priority, and we gratefully acknowledge each person's flexibility and patience through it all. The ensembles take a well-deserved break this summer. Please take a moment to thank our music leaders in the coming days. †



*The steeples are nearly touching the sky!*

**SAVE THE DATE!**



## Teacher Supplies Packing Day

**Sunday, August 14, following worship  
Fellowship Hall**

Yes, it's only July, but 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 to continue its 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 a 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.

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. †



## July Birthdays

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

- July 1 – Jacinto Núñez
- July 2 – Josephine Ameling
- July 4 – Eliotte 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 20 – Julia Seiberling
- July 21 – Joseph Hancock
- July 22 – Lily Gosorn
- July 22 – Emma Oberdorfer
- July 24 – Paul Berthold
- 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.*

## My Calling is for the Sake of Others

Loving and Illuminating God,

We seek to be discerners to your call in and through relationship,  
 We seek to be listeners to your call in and through community,  
 We seek to be perceivers of your presence,  
 We seek to have our senses awakened to connect our power to purpose,  
 We seek to connect our gifts to graces,  
 We seek to connect our talents to our theories of change,  
 We seek to connect our treasures to tables that serve others,  
 We seek to enliven our calls for the sake of others.  
 We come to you asking for you to enliven our communal callings,  
 Enliven our calls to build more than we tear down,  
 Enliven our calls to mend more than we fray,  
 Enliven our calls to edify more than we criticize,  
 Enliven our calls to co-labor with you,  
 Enliven our calls to, with, and in community,  
 Enliven our spiritual formation, our theology, and our calls.  
 We need your power in a world that deems some powerless,  
 We need your love in a world that deems some unworthy,  
 We need your provision to meet the needs of the world,  
 We need your healing for our minds, bodies, spirits,  
 We need your restoration for our land and creation.  
 Enliven us God in accordance to the calls on our lives,  
 Enliven our ministry inside and beyond the walls of the church,  
 Enliven our witness and evangelism,  
 Enliven our penchants for justice and freedom,  
 Enliven our participation in bringing forth a new heaven and Earth.  
 God, remind us of Jesus' life, death, and resurrection, which fulfilled Scripture,  
 And its connection to our calls to follow Christ.  
 Illuminate the crosses we are to carry,  
 Allow us to say yes, and send us.  
 Amen. Amen.

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## Worship Stewards

Date	Readers	Livestream
<b>Sunday, July 3 9:30 a.m.</b>	Rachel Núñez	Lorin Sickafoose
<b>Sunday, July 10 9:30 a.m.</b>	Frederica Cohen	Ann Lawson
<b>Sunday, July 17 9:30 a.m.</b>	Deb Ickes	Alex DeLuca
<b>Sunday, July 24 9:30 a.m.</b>	Tom Baumgardner	Alex DeLuca
<b>Sunday, July 31 9:30 a.m.</b>	Tom Baumgardner	Alex DeLuca

## Trinity Highlights

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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

### 2022 Church Council

President, John Guran  
Vice President, Rick Kimble  
Secretary, Valerie Clark  
Treasurer, Lesli Eisenhart  
Paul Anacki  
Connie Archbold  
Frederica Cohen  
Bob Hoskins  
Fred Rieman  
Pastor Becki Verbridge

### Holy Trinity Staff

Interim Senior Pastor, Becki Verbridge  
Director of Faith Formation, Rachel Núñez  
Director of Music Ministries,  
Deacon Ruth Anderson  
Parish Secretary, Annmarie Demko  
Financial Secretary, Jim Minisall  
Communications Coordinator,  
Sandy DeLuca  
DLM Director, Darlene Katz  
DLM Operations Manager, Stefan Katz  
Maintenance Coordinator, Bruce Mansour  
Sexton, Vince Simmons

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