

# THE HOLY POST

HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

"LOVING NOT JUDGING"

## A LETTER FROM THE PASTOR

BY PASTOR EMILY

*Introducing HTLC's core values!*

If you were at the January congregational meeting, you participated in an exercise meant to help us identify our core values. You named values that you thought characterized our congregation.

In February, the council met in retreat and narrowed those values to four that we think accurately describe our community.

Our four values are as follows: **Love, Worship, Inclusion, and Service**. We will use these values to help shape the scope of our work as Holy Trinity Lutheran Church.

February's article focused on LOVE; March's on WORSHIP. This month we'll focus on INCLUSION.

### Core Value #3: INCLUSION

If you were in worship on April 21, you heard a passage from the gospel of John about Jesus as the good shepherd. It's an image we're familiar with—from pictures of Jesus balancing a lamb on his shoulders to the 23rd psalm. What I've noted, however, is the expansive (i.e., *inclusive*) nature of Jesus' flock.

In John 10, Jesus talks about sheep existing elsewhere that he will bring into his fold. The flock is not defined, then, by clear cut boundaries. It's not a who's in/who's out scenario. The sheep belong to Jesus even after they're ever part of the immediate flock. In fact, if you pay attention to Jesus' ministry throughout all of the gospels, you'll notice that Jesus is always moving to margins or crossing a boundary when others refuse to do so. Jesus' ministry always includes the marginalized.

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## A LETTER FROM PASTOR EMILY (CONTINUED)

BY PASTOR EMILY HARTNER

How wonderful that we identify that same core value for ourselves. We are an *inclusive* congregation. Does that mean we always get along or always see eye-to-eye on things? Nope. It *does* mean, however, that we understand Jesus' love to be all inclusive.

As our invitation to communion states: This is Jesus' table. He made no exceptions and so neither do we. All are welcome here.

Questions or comments? Reach out to me!  
Pastor Emily



## VICAR UPDATES

BY VICAR DAVID KLUTTZ

New Sunday School Book Study: *A New Kind of Christianity: Ten Questions That Are Transforming The Faith* by Brian McLaren. Available from Amazon in multiple formats (paperback and hardback, Kindle, and Audible), the paperback is currently on sale on Amazon for 42% off. McLaren examines ten questions facing today's church—questions about how to articulate the faith itself, the nature of its authority, who God is, whether we have to understand Jesus through only an ancient Greco-Roman lens, what exactly the good news is that the gospel proclaims, how we understand the church and all its varieties, why we are so preoccupied with sex, how we should think of the future and people from other faiths, and the most intimidating question of all: what do we do next? Here you will find a provocative and enticing introduction to the Christian faith of tomorrow. We will begin our discussion of the preface and first 3 chapters (the first 30 pages):

1. Between Something Real and Something Wrong
2. The Quest and the Questions
3. A Prayer on the Beach

I hope you find this book to be as informative and insightful as I have. Feel free to invite others and enjoy the reading!

Vicar David

### **“Lunch & Learn” On Sunday, May 5, at 1 p.m., Corky Ingram Fellowship Hall**

Holy Trinity will host a free "Lunch & Learn" panel discussion on the topics of *inclusivity, affordable housing, and serving the unhoused and food insecure*. The panel will include the leader of Holy Trinity's Outreach Team (Linda Davis), two Roof Above directors (Danielle Thibodeau and Joe Hamby), and City of Charlotte Housing and Neighborhood Services staff person Miles Vaughn. Please check with Vicar David for more information.



## FELLOWSHIP/MEMBERSHIP UPDATES

BY DIANA JOHNSON

### **Save the date! Sunday, July 14th!**

We will celebrate Summer with another ICE CREAM SUNDAE SUNDAY! We will have all the toppings for you to make your sundae just how you like it, including sprinkles, chocolate syrup, caramel, peanuts, bananas and more! We will gather under the big tree alongside the church immediately following the service. See you there!

**Best wishes to Kristen!** Join us on Sunday, May 5 immediately after worship on the church lawn for cookies and lemonade to thank and honor our seminarian assistant, Kristen Mouritsen for her time and service with us!

**Save the date** to join us for a reception on the lawn for Vicar David on June 2. Vicar David has been with us since September and has been a very helpful and active participant in worship and in so many other church activities. From Outreach to Bible Study to Sunday School to worship assistant and more, we thank David for his time and talents as intern here at HTLC!

## PROPERTY

BY ROY JOHNSON

Updates since March Report:

- PC Godfrey change from heating to cooling completed on April 15th.

Activities in 2024:

- Plumber repaired stuck flush valve caused by water shut-off.
- Moved the front sanctuary pew to increase accessibility.

Steve Keeble has reported the following progress:

- We made a little progress on one of the classrooms in basement, getting them cleaned out.
- Discovered we still have dampness in that wall. I think we will have to address the the deep well outside, get that cleaned out and waterproofed.
- Linda Davis has bought a lightweight flag and pole which we will need to install soon.
- The dumpster gates need attention as well.



May 1	Kari Nguyen
May 3	Ryan Smith
May 6	Joyce Patterson
May 9	Brittany Tyler
May 12	Ian Hartner
May 13	Judith Sietmann
May 18	Joanne Marinaro
May 19	Declan Davis
May 20	Steve Schang
May 22	David Stewart
May 29	Thomas Reinke
May 31	Megan Allison



## OUTREACH 4JUSTICE TEAM

BY LINDA DAVIS AND VICAR DAVID

The Outreach Team will occasionally feature interesting stories from our Food Pantry visitors. Our first is:



The story of A.J.

A young man stopped by our Food Pantry on a rainy Tuesday morning in April. He came in the door, dripping wet, and introduced himself as A.J. He asked our names and asked how the food pantry worked.

He asked if he could get some small snack foods. A.J. told us he only had his backpack for storage. We, of course, told him he certainly could have some snacks. As a birthday treat, he had ridden his bike on The East Coast Greenway from Maine to Florida. He was now on his way home from Florida to Maine. He was planning to visit the Triad Area (Greensboro, Winston Salem, Durham) after leaving Charlotte. A.J. chose some granola bars, some that were his favorites, and a few bottles of water. We offered him a candy bag, but he told us he was allergic to milk chocolate and couldn't take one. After his thank yous and our good wishes, A.J. returned to the rain, hopped on his bike, and continued on his way up The East Coast Greenway.



### Keep Charlotte Beautiful

Keep Charlotte Beautiful brings neighbors together to help create a cleaner, greener, and more sustainable community.

[charlottenc.gov](http://charlottenc.gov)

*"I want to thank Kathy Groseclose, Laura Little, Caroline and Daniel Reinke, Sandy Seawright, Steve Schang and Pastor Emily for coming out to our first Adopt-a-Street trash pickup. It was nice spending the afternoon with you all! Thanks also to Linda for organizing this outreach event."*

-Angela Schang

P.S. Check out Daniel's flyer/report on the next page!

## PANTRY SCHEDULE FOR MAY 2024:

5.2.24	KATHY GROSECLOSE	LAURA LITTLE
5.7.24	CORKY INGRAM	PENNY KUHN
5.9.24	JIM SIETMANN	LYNN BUTTS
5.14.24	CORKY INGRAM	PENNY KUHN
5.16.24	LYNN SULLIVAN	KIM VAN PELT
5.21.24	CORKY INGRAM	PENNY KUHN
5.23.24	KATHY GROSECLOSE	LAURA LITTLE
5.28.24	CORKY INGRAM	GOLDA JAY
5.30.24	JIM SIETMANN	LYNN BUTTS



## Holy Trinity Lutheran Church Adopts a Street!

BY DANIEL C. REINKE

On April 28th, we had an amazing road clean-up of our adopted streets! Thank you to all who came out and we hope to see you next time. Pastor Emily has offered a prize for the oddest trash item - see our report from the April event for ideas!



\*\*\*not from the dog participating in the clean-up



\*\*left where they were found!



Top 10 weird things this time:

- Floss
- Dog sticker
- Scissors
- Fake torch\*
- Dryer sheets
- Tennis shoes\*\*
- Dog poop\*\*\*
- Cigarette package
- Handkerchief
- Wine bottle





Holy Trinity Lutheran Church  
HTLC'S OUTREACH TEAM INVITES YOU TO A

# SUMMER BLOCK PARTY BASH!



SATURDAY, JUNE 8



11 AM - 3 PM



HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN  
CHURCH, 1900 THE PLAZA



MUSIC!



FREE FOOD!



FREE GAMES AND  
CONTESTS!



FUN!!

MORE INFO:



[HTLCCHARLOTTE.ORG](https://HTLCCHARLOTTE.ORG)



704-377-5439



## WORSHIP MINISTRY

BY KATHY GROSECLOSE

Christ has risen! Alleluia!  
He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

We just want to say “Thank You” to all of you who had any part in our Easter Celebration this year. This includes breakfast workers, egg stuffers, placing the eggs for the children’s Egg Hunt, those who brought the beautiful flowers for the chancel and all that helped with decorating the sanctuary. But most of all, Thank you to everyone one that came to our Easter Celebration!

If anyone is interested in ordering flowers for a particular Sunday, please check the calendar that is in the narthex (next to the door). Please sign up for the Sunday you would like to order flowers, then check with Kathy G. or Karen in the church office if you need help with setting this up.

The Worship Team: Kathy Groseclose, Laura Little, Kim and C. J. Van Pelt and Steve Allen



### SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

- 9:30 AM ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL
- 10:00 AM CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL  
OR  
CHILDREN'S CHOIR
- 11:00 AM SANCTUARY WORSHIP

(SUNDAY WORSHIP YOUTUBE LINK)

[HTTPS://M.YOUTUBE.COM/CHANNEL/UCROJYPR2ELTCPJ87J0SPK0G](https://m.youtube.com/channel/UCROJYPR2ELTCPJ87J0SPK0G)

### MAY WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

	<u>Assisting Minister</u>	<u>Acolyte</u>	<u>Communion Assistant</u>	<u>Lector</u>
<b>May 5</b>	Kristen Mouritsen	Thomas Reinke	Donna Jones	Matilda Gawf
<b>May 12</b>	David Kluttz	Isaac Jay	Golda Jay	Bill Larsen
<b>May 19</b> (Pentecost)	David Kluttz	Matilda Gawf		Matilda Gawf
	<u>Crucifer:</u> Lilith Martina	<u>Streamers:</u> Luke Reinke		
	<u>Book Bearer:</u> Santosh Prabhu	<u>Banner:</u> Jadon Roger		
<b>May 26</b> (Holy Trinity Sunday)	Matilda Gawf	Santosh Prabhu		Roy Johnson
	<u>Crucifer:</u> Lilith Martina	<u>Torchbearers:</u> Jadon Roger, Santosh Prabhu		



## FINANCE AT A GLANCE

BY TIM OWENS

March 2024				
	March	March YTD	Budget YTD	Over (Under) Budget
Income and Expenses:				
Contributions	21,901	58,530	44,310	14,220
Rents & Building Use	4,000	11,800	12,025	(225)
Interest Income	1,417	1,417	1,392	25
Other Income	114	352	125	227
Total Income	27,432	72,099	57,852	14,247
Budgeted Expenses	19,446	64,451	63,806	645
Net Income (Loss)	7,986	7,648	(5,954)	13,602
Assets and Liabilities as of February 2024				
General Fund			97,880	
Dedicated Funds			19,862	
Endowment Fund			93,977	
Total Assets			211,719	
Note			126,856	
Payable - Home Mission (Boiler)				



# MAY 2024 CALENDAR

## FOR MOST CURRENT UPDATES, VISIT [HTTPS://HTLCCHARLOTTE.ORG/CALENDAR](https://htlccharlotte.org/calendar)

			<b>1</b> 11:00am Bible Study/Lunch	<b>2</b> 11:00am Conference Clergy Lunch, Fellowship Hall	<b>3</b> 6:00pm Plaza Home Tour Parking	<b>4</b> 9:00am LSC, Library 10:00am Plaza Home Tour Parking 5:00pm Girl Scouts, Fellowship Hall
<b>5</b> 9:30am Adult Sunday School 9:30am Adult Study Group 10:00am Children's Sunday School 10:15am Choir Rehearsal 11:00am Worship 12:30pm Reception for Kristen Mouritsen 1:00pm Lunch and Learn, Fellowship Hall	<b>6</b> 6:00pm ARTS+ Class, Fellowship Hall	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> 11:00am Bible Study/Lunch 6:30pm Pride, Fellowship Hall	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b> 9:30am Adult Sunday School 9:30am Adult Study Group 10:00am Children's Sunday School 10:15am Choir Rehearsal 11:00am Worship	<b>13</b> 6:00pm ARTS+ Class, Fellowship Hall	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> 11:00am Bible Study/Lunch	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> 9:00am LSC, Fellowship Hall
<b>19</b> <b>Pantry Sunday</b> 9:30am Adult Sunday School 9:30am Adult Study Group 10:00am Children's Sunday School 10:15am Choir Rehearsal 11:00am Worship 1:00pm Congregational Council Mtg 2:00pm ARTS+, Sanctuary	<b>20</b> 6:00pm ARTS+ Class, Fellowship Hall	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> 11:00am Bible Study/Lunch	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b> 9:30am Adult Sunday School 9:30am Adult Study Group 10:00am Children's Sunday School 10:15am Choir Rehearsal 11:00am Worship	<b>27</b> Church Office Closed for Memorial Day	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> 6:00pm ARTS+ Recital, Sanctuary and Choir Room	

