

TEMPO

NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2023

SUNDAY WORSHIP

9:30 AM Informal

11 AM Traditional

SHARE THE WEALTH

Stewardship Dinner

November 12

5:00 PM

SERVICE PROJECT

November 12

4:00 PM



Reconciling in Christ



HOLY TRINITY

LUTHERAN CHURCH  THOUSAND OAKS

Pastor's note

Practices of faith in the face of tragedy

It was the renowned theologian Karl Barth who said that Christians should “preach with the Bible in one hand and the newspaper in the other.” The spirit of this quote has to do with preachers being conscious of what is going on in the world as they are preparing for a sermon, or as people of faith look to share that faith with others. It has to do with keeping in mind current events while thinking how Scripture might speak to us today. It is a reminder that interpreting the ancient text needs to also be culturally relevant if folks are going to still engage with it, in the present time.

This quote came up the other week in a gathering I attended with other local Lutheran pastors. We were reflecting on the crisis in the Middle East and discussing how we might preach Sunday while acknowledging the devastating news coming from the conflict in Israel and Gaza. We talked about how because the situation and the history of the region is so complicated, perhaps the theme of lament might be appropriate.

Without having to get into the politics of the region, we could simply lift up the loss and destruction that violence brings on both sides. Lament is a part of the Biblical tradition that allows us to cry out to God when we don't know what else to do. Lament gives us permission to ask the hard questions and even express our anger towards God when we are upset when God seems to be allowing such a tragedy to happen.

Lament can also move us to action. Having empathy and feeling the sadness of a situation can be a motivator to offer help or assistance. As the conversation continued among the pastors, and we were giving voice to that feeling of helplessness in the face of such atrocities, one of my colleagues said that

Lament and acts of mercy, these are two tools that our faith tradition gives us when faced with tragedies.

Continued on page 13



TEMPO NEWSLETTER SUBMISSION & DEADLINE

Tempo Newsletter is a monthly publication with information provided by staff and members of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church.

To contribute to the newsletter, please follow the submissions requirements listed below.

Contact Lynn Youngren,
805 990-3006 text anytime,
youngrenpro@gmail.com

SUBMISSION requirements

- + Articles/information due by 11 AM, on or before deadlines listed below
- + ONE article per email send to:
youngrenpro@gmail.com
- + Expect a reply that your email was received
- + Each email subject line should contain "HTLC newsletter" or "Tempo" **and a descriptive word** about its specific content
- + Check spelling and accuracy of information before sending
- + Send final versions of articles only
- + Late submissions may be held until the following month's publication

DEADLINES for 2023

Deadlines are usually on the THIRD THURSDAY of each month but sometimes they are adjusted due to holidays and printing schedules. Submissions are due no later than 11:00 AM on each deadline day.

Due dates...

November 16 for the December issue
December 14 for January 2023 issue
January 18 for the February issue
February 22 for the March issue
March 21 for the April issue

HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

"To nurture Christ-centered lives that reflect God's love and grace in our local and global communities."

1 West Avenida de los Arboles
Thousand Oaks, CA 91360-2939

805 492-1234 office churchoffice@htlcto.org www.htlcto.org

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HTLC Welcome Statement

Holy Trinity joyfully extends Christ's love to all. We welcome everyone regardless of race, age, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, physical or mental health, faith, doubt, family composition, political affiliation, socio-economic status, or any other category that divides us. Christ taught us that loving is a never-ending process of growth and reconciliation. At Holy Trinity, we strive to love diversely and deeply. To all who have been marginalized, we will work to demonstrate that nothing can separate you from the love of God.

"There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus."
Galatians 3:28.



Holy Trinity Giving Tree

Look for the Giving Tree coming to the church narthex on Sunday, November 12. You will be able to pull a tag off the tree and support one of our important ministries at Christmas time. We will have Christmas cards ready for you, so you are able to give these gifts like we have done with Gifts of Hope in the past, basically a gift given in your name. It is a great present, and it doesn't need any dusting!

The three options are: 1) \$25 Target Card to go to the families in our tutoring program who are in need. You can either purchase a target card

or donate. 2) \$50 donation or more to help fund the \$3,000 needed for the teacher's yearly salary at our sister church in El Salvador. 3) Choose a toy for the Harbor House adopt a family program. Toys are due back to the narthex by December 3.

If you are writing a check, please write the funds use in the memo line. At this time, you can give online via the HTLC online giving to El Salvador/Sister Church so that is also an option.

Happy Advent Season!
The Community Outreach Team
—Sheri Groenveld

TAKE NOTE!

The Staff Support Committee conducts reviews of all of our staff at the end of every year. If you have anything to share regarding staff, please contact Miriam Nakayama, miriamnakayama@gmail.com.

Thanks to everyone

who could come out and help with our Harbor House/Holy Trinity booth at the Thousand Oaks Street Fair on October 15!

—Pastor Emily



How does a weary world rejoice?

An Advent series in
Luke's Gospel

This Advent—which begins December 3—and Christmas, our worship services, children and youth events, devotions, and Advent calendars will all circle around the theme, “How does a weary world rejoice?” Looking at scriptures from Luke’s gospel we remember that Christ was born into a weary world. “King Herod ruled the land with a legacy of ruthlessness. The Romans treated the people of Israel with contempt, imposing harsh taxes and land seizures that forced many into subsistence farming. Poverty and destitution were pervasive. And yet, Christ was born, bringing good news of great joy for all people.

As Advent comes again to a weary world, we ask, ‘How does a weary world rejoice?’ From the opening chapters of Luke’s Gospel, we have found a few answers.

Advent 1: We acknowledge our weariness

Advent 2: We find joy in connection

Advent 3: We allow ourselves to be amazed

Advent 4: We sing stories of hope

Christmas Eve: We make room

Christmas 1: We root ourselves in ritual

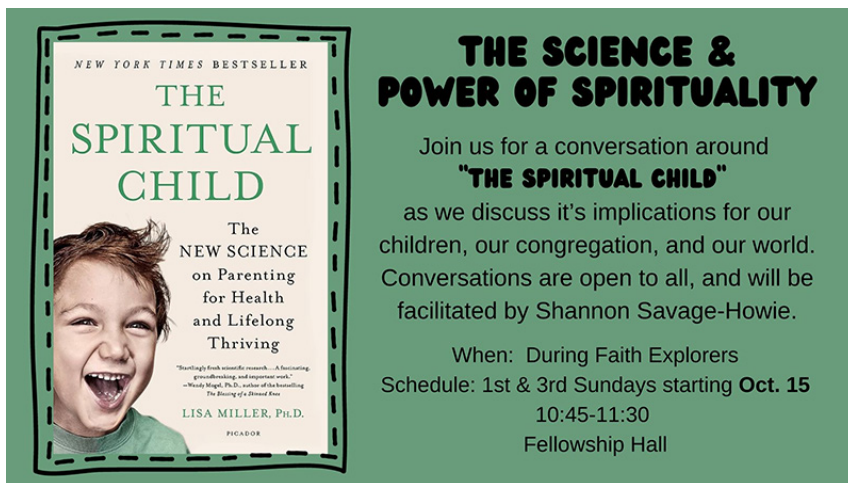
Christmas 2/Baptism of our Lord:
We trust our belovedness.

In the parallel birth stories of Jesus and John, joy arrives—despite trepidation, fear, or grief. In these stories, we find rhythms for rejoicing. As we move through our series, we hope to create space for acknowledging the weariness of our world while celebrating God’s closeness with great joy.

And so, this Advent, we will hold space for our weariness and our joy. We will seek a “thrill of hope” in our hurting world. We will welcome joy—even if, like the prophet Isaiah, we cry out for comfort (Isaiah 40:1). In this weary world, may we find many ways to rejoice.”

Printed devotion books and Advent calendars—for both kids and adults—are available starting November 19. You can also access the devotion booklet here: online.flippingbook.com/view/136123036/

—Pastor Emily



It's not too late to join! Are you a parent, grandparent, or someone who works with kids? Come join us

"The Spiritual Child presents the next big idea in psychology and parenting: The science and power of spirituality. Lisa Miller combines more than a decade of cutting-edge scientific research with broad anecdotal evidence from her work as a clinical psychologist, to illustrate just how essential spirituality -a personal relationship to a higher power such as nature, God, spirit, or the universe that is loving and guiding - is to a child's physical and mental health. The research shows that children who have a positive, active relationship to spirituality are:

- 40 percent less likely to use and abuse substances.
- 60 percent less likely to be depressed as teenagers.
- 80 percent less likely to have dangerous or unprotected sex.
- more likely to have positive markers for thriving and high level of academic success.

The Spiritual Child translates these findings into practical advice for parents, giving concrete ways to develop and encourage their children's well-being, as well as their own. The Spiritual Child is a provocative, conversation-starting book, and a pioneering new way to think about modern parenting."

Join Shannon Savage-Howie for conversation on Sunday, November 5, and 19, from 10:45–11:30 AM, in the Fellowship Hall. Upcoming conversations will focus on Chapters 1-3.

—Pastor Emily

"Share the Wealth" Service Project

On Sunday, November 12, from 4:00-5:00 PM, we will have a service project making health kits for Lutheran World Relief (LWR). You can be involved by bringing in items for our health kit service project. LWR distributes these health kits to people in need all over the world, including refugee camps and where there have been natural disasters. There is a box for collecting items in the entrance to the church sanctuary and the church office.

Below is the list of items for each kit which you can donate:

- 1 Bath-size towel
- 1 Adult toothbrush
- 1 Nail clipper
- 1 Sturdy hair comb
- 2 Bath-sized bars of soap

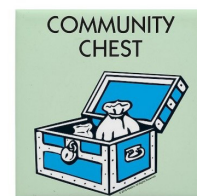
Free Dinner November 12

The service project on November 12, will be followed by a dinner at 5:00 PM in the church Fellowship Hall as a culmination of our Stewardship theme. If you don't feel able to help with the service project, please come at 5:00 PM for the dinner.

After dinner we will have some fun together playing "Reverse Monopoly" as a way of thinking how we might "share the wealth" as God calls us to do.

An RSVP is not required, but helpful so that we know how much food to get. RSVP to churchoffice@htlcto.org, to let us know if you are coming to the dinner.

—Pastor Erik





2024 ELCA Youth Gathering info

Youth Gathering Fundraiser information is on the way! Bob Ritterbush is donating some of his art and we'll be holding an auction soon. More information to come. Thanks Bob!!!!

Young Adult Group

For November, the Young Adult Group (YAG) is invited to join the "Share the Wealth" Stewardship Event and Service project at 4 PM on November 12. Maija Lynch is also hosting Game Night on November 18.

■ YOUTH NEWS ■ YOUTH NEWS ■ YOUTH NEWS ■ YOUTH NEWS ■



Poinsettias to decorate sanctuary for Christmas

CYF November Schedule

November 4

Youth Service event

November 5

Faith Explorers — 10:45-11:30 AM in the Fellowship Hall

Youth Group — 3-4:30 in the Youth room

All Saints Parade in between worship services

November 12

Confirmation Classes — 3-4:30

November 19

Faith Explorers — 10:45-11:30 in the Fellowship Hall

Youth Group — 3-4:30 in the Youth room

November 26

None!

—Pastor Emily

Turn in Pledges to Participate form by November 12!

This year's stewardship theme is "Share the Wealth." In the book of Ephesians, Paul writes that "God raised us up with Christ...so that we might be shown the incomparable riches of God's grace." There are many kinds of wealth that God has given us from a wealth of knowledge to a wealth of energy or resources that we are called to manage, not only for the benefit of ourselves, but also for the benefit of others. One way we can do this is through the church.

We hope you will participate in this campaign either through a financial commitment, a volunteer commitment or just letting us know that you plan to participate with Holy Trinity as your faith community for the coming year. We are hoping that most people will turn in their pledges by November 12, so that we can bless them the following Sunday. We look forward to your participation in the 2023 Pledge Drive!

On page 7 of this issue of Tempo Newsletter, you will find this year's pledge form which you can remove from the newsletter, fill out, and return by mail Or you can find the form online: <https://bit.ly/HTLC2024>. You can also use the QR code also provided on the form.

—Pastor Erik

Hi folks, it's that time of year again! If you would like to donate a poinsettia in honor or memory of someone or something, please put \$15 in one of the flower envelopes found in the back of the chairs or at the sign-in table. Place it in the offering plate or send it to the church office.

—Elsa Fowler



2024 Pledge to Participate

Name(s) _____

Preferred Pronouns (optional) _____

Phone (mobile) _____

Email _____

☐ I/We plan to commit to practicing our faith with the community of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church for 2024

I give Holy Trinity Lutheran Church permission to include my contact information in the password-protected online and printed church directory. ☐ YES ☐ NO

We would like to participate in the following areas (INDICATE TIME PREFERENCE)

☐ Reader ☐ 9:30 AM ☐ 11:00 AM ☐ EITHER SERVICE

☐ Communion Assistant..... ☐ 9:30 AM ☐ 11:00 AM ☐ EITHER SERVICE

☐ Usher ☐ 9:30 AM ☐ 11:00 AM ☐ EITHER SERVICE

☐ Altar Guild

☐ Join a Life Group—A *Life Group* is a small gathering of people (6-12) who meet together for encouragement, connection, and spiritual growth.

2024 Financial Commitment

☐ I/We plan to pledge:

\$ _____ per week OR

\$ _____ per month OR

\$ _____ per year

Use this link to access
the online Pledge to
Participate form:
<https://bit.ly/HTLC2024>



☐ I/We intend to give, but will not be pledging at this time

☐ I/We would like information about including Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in our will, trust, or as a beneficiary of our life insurance policy

☐ I/We would like to receive the monthly Tempo newsletter by:

☐ Mail ☐ Email ☐ Both

“God raised us up with Christ...in order that in the coming ages we might be shown the incomparable riches of God’s grace, expressed in kindness to us in Christ Jesus.” Ephesians 2:6-7 (NIV)

Please return form on or before Sunday, November 12

Meditation Group

In this month of Thanksgiving, here is a quote from John Main's The Heart of Creation.

The mystery of God is one of infinite generosity, a pouring out of infinite love and we have to prepare our hearts to make them as generous and as loving as we can. So as we say our mantra, we let go of our thoughts plans and problems in order to clear the way for God.

So we let go of our thoughts! A paradox to give thanks by not having thoughts???? Come and discuss this with the meditation group! We meet by Zoom at 4:00 PM on the first Thursday of each month; November 2, this month. Email miriamnakayama@gmail.com for a Zoom invite. We meet in person in the church library, right next to the church office, through the double doors at 4:00 PM on November 9, 16 and 30. We do not meet on Thanksgiving Day.

Yours in Christ,
Miriam Nakayama

Celebrating Fair Trade Christmas Sale with Miriam November 5, 9:30 AM–1 PM, patio!

It's back! HumanKind is able to have an offsite sale this year, and my daughter Katie is back with a carload of Fair Trade Christmas goodies and more.

Decorations, ornaments, candles, bags, baskets, jewelry, books, socks, scarves, food items and I could go on and on. Check their website, humankindslo.org, for all you can order online. Katie can only bring so much in one vehicle. If you order online you get free shipping and a 10% discount. Use code HTLC2023. This is valid until 12/18/2023.

Nancy, Terri, and I will be at the Fair Trade Counter near our church front doors on November 12 and 26, between services to sell our coffee, tea, chocolate and olive oil. Hope to see you there!

Bring your Christmas Gift list on November 5 to make three people happy: your recipient, the artisan and yourself! Your shopping has become easy and convenient! And it helps the world!

Gratefully yours,
Miriam Nakayama, Nancy Truex, and Terri Kelly



**TEMPO
DEADLINE
THURSDAY**

newsletter

**NOVEMBER 16
11:00 AM**

SEE PAGE 2 FOR SUBMISSION
DETAILS



We will be open
for sales and
conversation
between services on
the following dates.

Fair Trade sales
Sunday, November 12 & 26

Fair Trade

Women's Bible study— “Holy Places: Pilgrimage”

Our November Bible study is Saturday, November 18 at 2 PM in the Fellowship Hall. We continue with the third session of Holy Places titled “Pilgrimage.” Pilgrimage, a journey to a sacred place, is a spiritual practice with a long history in Christianity (and many other religions). In the Bible, pilgrimage is not only about the destination,

but also about the “holy place” of the journey itself. Considering the journey of the Magi, the walk to Emmaus, and Jesus’ arrival in Jerusalem, we’ll ponder how pilgrimage can inspire, challenge, and transform our faith and our lives. All are welcome!

—Dixie Hanson

A poster for an Interfaith Thanksgiving Service. The title "Interfaith Thanksgiving Service" is in large, stylized green and maroon fonts. To the left, the theme "Theme: 'I Have a Dream'" is written in a script font. Below the title, the date and time "November 22nd, 7pm" and "processional begins at 6:50pm" are listed. The location "St. Jude's Catholic Church, 32032 W. Lindero Canyon Rd., Westlake Village, CA., 91361" is at the bottom. The poster is decorated with autumn leaves, pumpkins, and a lit candle in a jar.

**Interfaith
Thanksgiving
Service**

Theme:
"I Have a Dream"

November 22nd, 7pm
processional begins at 6:50pm
St. Jude's Catholic Church
32032 W. Lindero Canyon Rd.,
Westlake Village, CA., 91361

Christmas Eve & Day

Sunday, December 24th, Christmas Eve

Advent 4 Service (Dec. 24): One Morning Service at 11am

Christmas Eve Candlelight Services:

5pm - Family Service led by Praise Band

7pm - Choir and Organ + Communion

9pm - Soloists & Organ + Communion

Monday, December 25th, Christmas Day:

We will send out a short video via email, instagram/facebook on Christmas morning to celebrate.

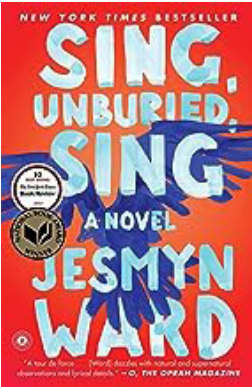


Dorcas Quilting & Crafting Circle

The group is busy with holiday fabric, making quilts for the Christmas season that bring so much comfort and joy. We are grateful to Marty Schwalm for designating Thrivent Choice Dollars and purchasing the batting and warm flannel necessary for winter quilts. Jean Kammerer gifted the group with several colorful quilts that she so lovingly made. We continue to receive thank you messages and notes from folks and families that so enjoy the handmade quilts and scarves. They brighten up many a life!

We will meet on Thursday, November 16 at 9:00 AM in the Fellowship Hall.

—Sally Johnson



Thea Book Circle

Sing, Unburied, Sing a novel by Jesmyn Ward (National Book Award Winner) is the read for November. The book deals with three generations of a struggling Mississippi family and their hard times, difficult relationships, and spiritual depths on a trip to a prison. The book is a Book Club in a Box selection and 10 copies are available.

We meet on November 27 at 7 PM in the church library.
—Sally Johnson.

Ossuarium project update



In May of this year we launched a pre-sale campaign to see if we could fundraise the cost of an Ossuarium to place in what is now the Bishop’s Garden between the church office and sanctuary. An Ossuarium is a structure that provides a final resting place for a person’s cremated remains after they have died. We launched this campaign as a way of exploring whether this might be a service to people in the congregation and a ministry to folks in their grieving process as well as a more affordable alternative to what many funeral homes provide. There is a model currently next to the sanctuary which gives you an idea of the size and the look of the structure.

Pre-sale packets have been put together and continue to be available

in the entrance to the church. So far nine outer niches have actually been purchased at \$4,000 a piece for a total of \$36,000.

Seven inner niches have sold at \$1,000 each which brings the total to \$43,000. That puts us over half-way toward the goal of \$60,000.

The deadline for reaching our goal is November 30, which means if you are interested, we need to hear from you soon otherwise the project might not go through.

If you are interested in purchasing a niche as a resting place for your ashes or your loved one’s ashes after you are gone, contact the church office, 805-492-1234 or churchoffice@htlcto.org. Below are the prices for the niches.

—Pastor Erik

Schedule of Fees—2023

Pre-sale (Good until November 30, 2023)

Niche \$4,000

A Niche is a compartment on the outside of the Ossuarium where one or two designated urns can be placed.

Ossuary vault \$ 1,000

The Ossuary Vault is in the center of the Ossaurium where multiple soft urns can be placed for different people.



FAIR TRADE GIFTS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

HumanKind Fair Trade is a non-profit retail shop, with a mission to support artisans in developing countries. Shop fair trade and discover handmade gifts including holiday decor, home goods, greeting cards, accessories, and apparel for men and women.

Shop Online

Free shipping and 10% off your
order with discount code

HTLC2023

valid through 12/18/2023

WWW.HUMANKINDSLO.ORG

Shop In-Person

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 5

9:30AM - 1:00PM

HumanKind's Christmas ornaments and decor will be
available for purchase at the church on this day only.



974 Monterey Street, San Luis Obispo, Calif. - 805-594-1220 - humankindslo.org



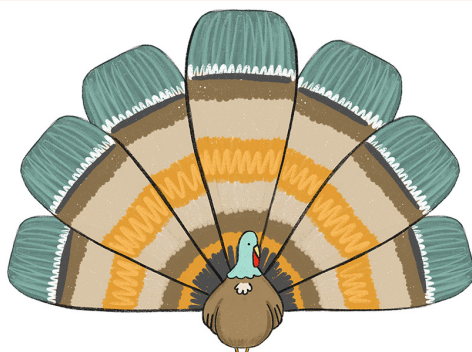
Thank you!

Dear Dorcas Circle,

It was with honor that Joan Cressman presented me with a Military Veterans quilt recently. I served in the Navy during Vietnam from 1966 to 1968. Over 55 years ago.

Although it is too warm for the summer months, I will surely use it during late fall and winter. As a Navy Veteran, using Navy terminology, THANK YOU TO ALL THE LADIES OF DORCAS-SEWING CIRCLE for being my OUTSTANDING church family.

*Faithfully, spiritually in
Christian Fellowship,
Dennis Hardy*



GIVE THANKS



Church Office Hours 9:00 AM–2:30 PM

For assistance,
please contact

Kathleen Sands

Church Office & Campus
Operations Manager,

805-492-1234

churchoffice@htlcto.org



CHURCH OFFICE
CLOSED
for
THANKSGIVING

Thursday & Friday
November 23-24

Honey Tree Early Childhood Center

Student artwork depicting bats, cats, and spiders is adorning Honey Tree classrooms. Fall is in the air and students have been excited to learn about the parts of a pumpkin and how our bones form a skeleton. Every student picked a pumpkin from the Honey Tree "Pumpkin Patch" and had their picture taken by Brenda Russett, who has been the Honey Tree photographer for over 20 years. Brenda is able to capture the students natural smile and personality with her funny antics and positive energy. Parent-Teacher Conferences took place in October. Firefighters from a local station brought their truck to the school for our kindergarten class to experience. Pastor Erik visited classrooms.

Honey Tree Board met on October 24. This year's board members are Jane Narramore and Darin Erickson (Co-presidents), Robin Slattum (Secretary), Susan Tolle, Nina Wong, and Angela Carr (former Honey Tree teacher). We welcome our newest member, Calla Chevalier (former Honey Tree Director). Current Honey Tree teacher, Susan Randolph, is our board staff representative.

November curriculum themes include fall leaves, woodland animals, and the first Thanksgiving. Students will enjoy a feast with friends and learn about Pilgrims and Native

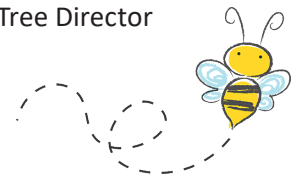
Americans/Indigenous People.

The kindergartners will be taking a field trip to the nearby Trader Joe's grocery store.

Honey Tree provides young children the opportunity to grow physically, emotionally, intellectually, creatively, and spiritually. Our teachers provide a welcoming place where families can bring their children and know they are safe and cared for. Their hard work and dedication to educational ministry has touched the lives of countless children and their families. We are thankful to Holy Trinity for creating and supporting our school, which provides age appropriate learning and growth in an environment of Christian love and care for all those who come through our doors.

Julie Riedel

Honey Tree Director



Dates to Note

November 3

Faculty meeting

November 10

Veteran's Day

November 20-24

Thanksgiving break

Pastor's note—continued from page 1

something the church could do is one of the things it has been good at doing throughout the centuries which is acts of mercy. When crisis occurs, the church has often been one of the entities on the frontlines.

In a recent webinar I was reminded that our ELCA Lutheran Church is engaging with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land. One of the Lutheran Palestinian pastors was sharing how many of the those seeking safety in Gaza are going to Christian churches to find refuge, and how many of the hospitals in the Gaza are run by Christian denominations.

The Lutheran World Federation also has a hospital which has worked with those hospitals being affected by the bombings. It isn't located in Gaza, but it is located in Jerusalem. The Augusta Victoria Hospital (AVH) is a medical center, providing health care services and other health programs since 1950. The hospital was established in partnership with the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) as a major medical facility to care for Palestinian refugees following the 1948 conflict.

Licensed for 171 beds, AVH is the second largest hospital in East Jerusalem and located at the top of the Mount of Olives in East Jerusalem. The hospital has several centers of care including Comprehensive Cancer Care (Chemotherapy, Radiotherapy, Palliative Care, and oncology surgery for adults and children), Kidney Care Dialysis, Skilled Nursing and Long-term Care. In order to complete the continuum of care, the hospital also reaches the local community through outreach programs, including the Mammography and Diabetes mobile clinics. If you would like to learn more about the hospital or donate to support it you can go to: www.avh.org.

Lament and acts of mercy, these are two tools that our faith tradition gives us when faced with tragedies. They are practices that can move us to hope when there doesn't feel like there is much hope left. They are practices which acknowledge the truth of atrocities while not letting violence have the last word. They are also a reminder that even though we may not know why God allows such horrible things to happen, through Jesus we know that God is still with those who suffer.

—Pastor Erik

Manna Conejo Valley Food Bank—Calling all turkeys!

Manna is gearing up for Thanksgiving and has a big need for TURKEYS!

So, on Saturday, November 11, from 9:30–11:30 AM, please donate a turkey—fresh or frozen, under 12 pounds—at our Holy Trinity Lutheran Church parking lot by the roundabout. We can then drive the turkeys over to Manna immediately after! They also asked for fresh potatoes, fresh yams, and fresh cranberries, too.

In October, HTLC donated 98 pounds of food to Manna.

Top Requested Items

1. Canned / Jarred Spaghetti Sauce - All Kinds
2. Canned Soup - All Kinds
3. Flavored Rice - Rice A Roni
4. Canned Meats - Tuna - Chicken - Other
5. Canned Chili - Stew
6. Hot Cereal / Cold Cereal
7. Coffee - Tea - Hot Chocolate
8. Canned Fruit - All Kinds
9. Boxed / Instant Potatoes
10. Drinks - Almond Milk - Fruit Juices - Soft Drinks

Please leave your shelf stable donations on the wooden table in the narthex.

But bring your TURKEYS and fresh produce on Saturday, November 11!

Grateful for HTLC,
Karen and Marty Kreman

Fall forum— History of the Chumash

Celebrate November and Thanksgiving! Come to the Fall Forum on November 5, to learn about the History of the Chumash in the Conejo Valley!

Native Americans helped the Pilgrims survive. We usually celebrate Thanksgiving to honor that relationship, but there is a lot more to learn about this history.

Beverly Folkes, a member of the Chumash/Ventureño Tataviam tribe, has interesting stories to share about the history and culture of her ancestors who inhabited the land on which the Holy Trinity community lives, worships and prays today. Beverly sits on the Board of Directors of the Chumash Indian Museum, 3290 Lang Ranch Parkway, Thousand Oaks, chumashmuseum.org.

This forum will be held in the Fellowship Hall from 3-5 PM on Sunday, November 5. We will have prayers and a land acknowledgement around the peace pole—where there is a plaque in Chumash—before we start. A land acknowledgement is a ritual to show gratitude to the land and acknowledge the Indigenous peoples from whom the land was stolen.

Come for interesting knowledge! And of course, there will be snacks!

—Miriam Nakayama



Fall Forum— Thank you Dr. Essien and Dr. Chesnut

We thank Dr. Utibe Essien, Assistant Professor of Medicine, David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA and Dr. Treise Chesnut, Practicing

Physician, Internal Medicine for a very informative presentation and conversation around racial disparities in healthcare. As NJ encouraged all of us, we will strive to carry this knowledge with us and share it with others to help create change in our communities.

—Pastor Emily



Update

Conejo Interfaith Refugee Welcome Team— welcome Susan Salmore & Shawn Howie

Welcome Susan Salmore and Shawn Howie who are now the Holy Trinity representatives to the local Interfaith Refugee Team.

Our church has a long tradition of welcoming refugees, starting with Vietnamese families who came to Los Angeles in the 1970s, and continues today. The Conejo Interfaith Refugee Team was started in 2016, when faith groups led by the Women's Interfaith Network helped local Syrian and Afghan war refugees. This ecumenical group is supported by member churches, synagogues, the Islamic Centers, secular groups, and individuals. They supply used furniture and new supplies to set up housekeeping. They provide rides to appointments, translation, and help navigating the bureaucratic immigration maze, and small cash grants or gift cards. Referrals come from U.S. Government or United Nations partner resettlement agencies or local sources, like the school system. Most of our families are resettled in the San Fernando Valley. Over the years hundreds of people have been welcomed.

As of 2022, the United Nations estimated 108 million people are displaced, and 35 million are refugees and migrants—40% are under 18. War, drought, flood, fire, earthquake, poverty, and violence uproot people from their homes. Families all over the world are seeking refuge in Europe and the United States.

—Jean Kammerer

Sunday Worship Volunteers

- November -

	9:30 Readers	9:30 Ushers	9:30 Communion Assistants
Nov 5	Colleen Windham-Hughes	Brian Carr Angelea Carr	Dale Adrion Laurel Engstrom
Nov 12	Darin Erickson	Bernie Bauer Sue Bauer	Beth Goodnight Colleen Windham-Hughes
Nov 19	Dietmar Wagenknecht	Steve Hanke Ron Klassen	Don Morrow Laurie Morrow
Nov 26	Steve Hanke	David Balsley Jeanne Balsley	Desta Goehner Karie Lynch

	11:00 Readers	11:00 Ushers	11:00 Communion Assistants
Nov 5	Christopher Gilstrap	Sandy Samuels George Williams	Ellen Hall Kathy Lindgren
Nov 12	Miriam Nakayama	Yvonne Bernschneider Sandy Samuels	Dixie Hanson Nina Wong
Nov 19	Nina Wong	David Feigel Ellen Feigel	Denna Heerema Terri Kelly
Nov 26	Ginny Connell	Joan Cressman Dixie Hanson	Sandy Samuels

Church office ● churchoffice@htlcto.org ● 805-492-1234





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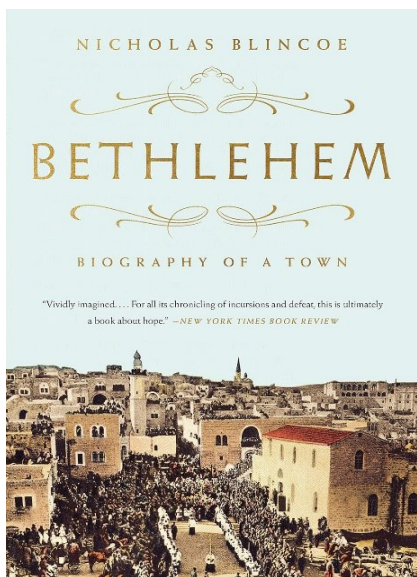
Return service requested



2023



Tuesday Bible study in November



Beginning on Tuesday, November 14, we will be starting a new Bible study based on the history of Bethlehem. With the city being such a big part of the Advent

and Christmas season, as well as with the events happening in the Middle East, this seemed like a good time to dig deeper in the background of a place which is so familiar to Christians and yet we may know so little about.

Bethlehem is so suffused with history and myth that it feels like an unreal city, even to those who call it home. For many, Bethlehem remains the little town at the edge of the desert described in Biblical accounts. Today, the city is hemmed in by a wall and surrounded by forty-one Israeli settlements and hostile settlers and soldiers.

In his book, [Bethlehem: Biography of a Town](#), Nicholas Blincoe tells the

town's history through the visceral experience of living there, taking readers through its stone streets and desert wadis, its monasteries, aqueducts, and orchards to show the city from every angle and era. His portrait of Bethlehem sheds light on one of the world's most intractable political problems, and he maintains that if the long thread winding back to the city's ancient past is severed, the chances of an end to the Palestine-Israel conflict will be lost with it.

The book is \$20. You can still attend even if you don't purchase the book. If you would like reminders for Bible study or to participate via Zoom, contact churchoffice@htlcto.org.

—Pastor Erik