

Sunday, January 28, 2024 Fourth Sunday after Epiphany Welcome New Member, Edna Bonda Annual Meeting Sunday

Our mission, as God's people, is to **gather** in worship, **grow** in faith, and **go** in service in the name of our Risen Lord. **Our vision** – Sharing God's love, hope and healing.

Prelude: "Jesus Loves Me" arr. by Joel Raney

Welcome to Worship and Announcements

*Confession and Forgiveness:

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, creator of darkness and light, word of truth, wind sweeping over the waters.

C Amen.

P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

- P God, our rock and refuge,
- C we pour out our hearts before you. We have known you but have not always loved you. We have wounded one another and sinned against you. We have not always recognized the Holy Spirit dwelling in each of us. Remember your covenant. Renew your creation. Restore us, that we might proclaim your good news to all.

Amen.

P The voice of the Lord is upon the waters. God has spoken: The time of grace is now. In Jesus, the reign of God has come near. By the authority of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. You are God's beloved.

C Amen.



here, in new - ness and re - new - al. God the Spir - it comes to each. what it means in dai - ly liv - ing to be - lieve and to a - dore. be - lieve! we, who can - not live with-out dore vou! We you. we a -

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000 Music: ABBOT'S LEIGH, Cyril V. Taylor, 1907–1991 Text © 1979 and Music © 1942, ren. 1970 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

*Greeting:

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

***Kyrie**: (Setting 3 ELW)



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.

men.

^{*}Please stand as you are able.

*Canticle of Praise: (Setting 3 ELW)



^{*}Please stand as you are able.

*The Prayer of the Day:

P Compassionate God, you gather the whole universe into your radiant presence and continually reveal your Son as our Savior. Bring wholeness to all that is broken and speak truth to us in our confusion, that all creation will see and know your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

Kids Word for Advent: Pr. Jerry O'Neal

Our first reading is from Deuteronomy 18:15-20

Today's reading is part of a longer discourse in Deuteronomy, an updating of the law for the Israelite community as the people wait to enter the promised land. Here Moses assures the people that God will continue to guide them through prophets who will proclaim the divine word.

[Moses said:] ¹⁵The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own people; you shall heed such a prophet. ¹⁶This is what you requested of the Lord your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly when you said: "If I hear the voice of the Lord my God any more, or ever again see this great fire, I will die." ¹⁷Then the Lord replied to me: "They are right in what they have said. ¹⁸I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their own people; I will put my words in the mouth of the prophet, who shall speak to them everything that I command. ¹⁹Anyone who does not heed the words that the prophet shall speak in my name, I myself will hold accountable. ²⁰But any prophet who speaks in the name of other gods, or who presumes to speak in my name a word that I have not commanded the prophet to speak—that prophet shall die."

L Word of God. Word of life. C Thanks be to God.

Psalm 111: (Read responsively between Lector and Congregation.)

¹Hallelujah! I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart, in the assembly of the upright, in the congregation.

²Great are your works, O LORD, pondered by all who delight in them.

³Majesty and splendor mark your deeds, and your righteousness endures forever.

⁴You cause your wonders to be remembered; you are gracious and full of compassion.

⁵You give food to those who fear you, remembering forever your covenant.

⁶You have shown your people the power of your works in giving them the lands of the nations.

⁷The works of your hands are faithfulness and justice; all of your precepts are sure.

⁸They stand fast forever and ever, because they are done in truth and equity.

⁹You sent redemption to your people and commanded your covenant forever; holy and awesome is your name.

¹⁰The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; all who practice this have a good understanding. God's praise endures forever.

Our second reading is from 1 Corinthians 8:1-13

Paul is concerned about the way some Corinthian Christians use their freedom in Christ as license to engage in non-Christian behavior that sets a damaging example to other, impressionable believers. Christians have a responsibility to each other that their behavior does not cause another to sin.

¹Now concerning food sacrificed to idols: we know that "all of us possess knowledge." Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up. ²Anyone who claims to know something does not yet have the necessary knowledge; ³but anyone who loves God is known by him.

⁴Hence, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that "no idol in the world really exists," and that "there is no God but one." ⁵Indeed, even though there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth—as in fact there are many gods and many lords—⁶yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist.

⁷It is not everyone, however, who has this knowledge. Since some have become so accustomed to idols until now, they still think of the food they eat as food offered to an idol; and their conscience, being weak, is defiled. ⁸"Food will not bring us close to God." We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. ⁹But take care that this liberty of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. ¹⁰For if others see you, who possess knowledge, eating in the temple of an idol, might they not, since their conscience is weak, be encouraged to the point of eating food sacrificed to idols? ¹¹So by your knowledge those weak believers for whom Christ died are destroyed. ¹²But when you thus sin against members of your family, and wound their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. ¹³Therefore, if food is a cause of their falling, I will never eat meat, so that I may not cause one of them to fall.

L Word of God. Word of life.

C Thanks be to God.

*Gospel Acclamation: (Setting 3 ELW)





*Gospel Reading: Mark 1:21-28

Forces that would bring death and disease have taken hold of a man, yet they recognize Jesus and know what his power means for them. Jesus commands these forces to leave and people are amazed at his authority.

- P The holy gospel according to Mark beginning with the 1st chapter.
- C Glory to you, O Lord.

²¹[Jesus and his disciples] went to Capernaum; and when the sabbath came, he entered the synagogue and taught. ²²They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes. ²³Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, ²⁴and he cried out, "What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God." ²⁵But Jesus rebuked him, saying, "Be silent, and come out of him!" ²⁶And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. ²⁷They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, "What is this? A new teaching—with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him." ²⁸At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.

- P The Gospel of the Lord.
- C Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon - Pr. Jerry O'Neal

*Hymn of the Day: "Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing" ELW 886

Public Domain



- 1 Oh, for a thou-sand tongues to sing my great Re-deem er's praise, 2 My gra - cious Mas - ter and my God, as - sist me to pro - claim,
- The name of Je sus charms our fears and bids our sor rows cease
- 4 He speaks, and lis-t'ning to his voice, new life the dead re-ceive



the glo - ries of my God and king, the tri-umphs of his grace! to spread through all the earth a - broad the hon - ors of your name. sings mu - sic in the sin-ner's ears, brings life and health and peace. the mourn - ful, bro-ken hearts re - joice, the hum - ble poor be - lieve.

- 5 Look unto him, your Savior own,O fallen human race!Look and be saved through faith alone,be justified by grace!
- 6 To God all glory, praise, and love be now and ever giv'n by saints below and saints above, the church in earth and heav'n.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt.

Music: Azмon, Carl G. Gläser, 1784–1829; arr. Lowell Mason, 1792–1872

*Welcome New Member!

- P Dear friends, we give thanks for the gift of baptism and for Edna Bonda, one with us in the body of Christ, whom we welcome as a new member into the life and ministry of this congregation.
- P With the whole church, let us confess our faith.
- P&C I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
 - I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.
 - I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.
- P In baptism, we are welcomed into the body of Christ and sent to share in the mission of God. We are called to live among God's faithful people, to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper, to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, to serve all people, following the example of Jesus, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth. Edna, sister in Christ, do you intend to continue in the covenant of your baptism among God's people in this place?

New Member Response: I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.

P People of God, do you promise to support and pray for our new member, Edna in her life in Christ?

Congregation Response: We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.

P Let us welcome this sister in Christ to this community of faith.

Congregation Response: We rejoice with you in the life of baptism. Together we will give thanks and praise to God and proclaim the good news to all the world.

*Prayers: (Congregation's response in bold type.)

L For our prayers today, I will conclude each petition with "God of grace," and your response is, "**receive our prayer**."

As we celebrate Christ embodied in human form, we pray for God's blessing on the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

Loving God, we pray that your example of teaching with confidence and authority builds up your church in love. May all church leaders and teachers honor your instruction and model your inclusive ways. God of grace,

receive our prayer.

Renewing God, we pray for all of creation, that waterways flow clean and clear, natural spaces are protected, and our planet is healed. Let us commit to thoughtful care of the earth. God of grace,

receive our prayer.

Justice-seeking God, we pray for those in government and community leadership, that they lead with honor and mindfulness. May they remember their covenants and be upright in their ways. God of grace,

receive our prayer.

Compassionate God, we pray for all in need, especially those who have known rejection, any who struggle with long-term illness or chronic pain, those without access to safe housing or health care, and any who suffer, especially those we now name either aloud or in the silence of our hearts (pause). God of grace,

receive our prayer.

Still-speaking God, we pray for our congregation, for its artists and musicians, for its educators and caregivers, that all gifts are used to care for those in need and to live out your example of accompaniment, gospel witness, and love. God of grace,

receive our prayer.

God of love and light, we give thanks for our many faithful volunteers of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, especially to all of you who share God's love through hospitality by preparing food and serving meals to those in our congregation and our neighbors. God of grace,

receive our prayer.

Eternal God, we remember all who have been teachers, mentors, and companions in the church and in our lives. We trust that all who have died rest in your loving care. God of grace,

receive our prayer.

Knowing the Holy Spirit intercedes for us, we offer these prayers and the silent prayers of our hearts in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

Amen.

*Sharing the Peace:

- P The peace of Christ be with you always.
- C And also with you.

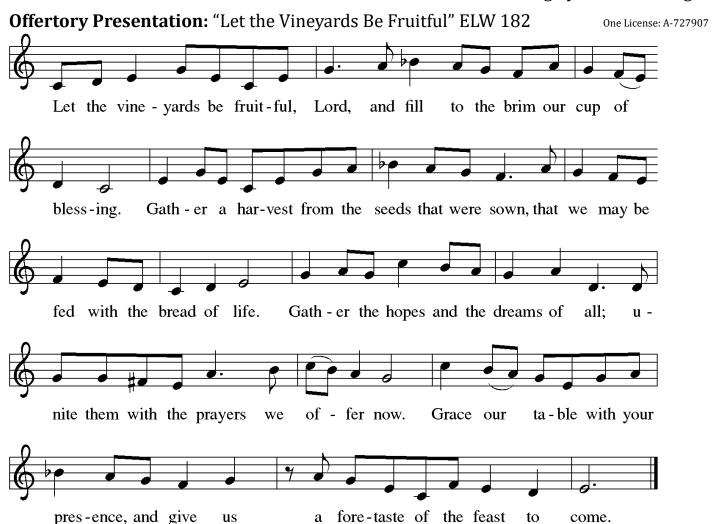
Offering:

If you would like to give electronically, you may

- 1. Download the ELCA Giving App from Google Store or Apple Play, or
- 2. Go to our website www.holytrinitylutheranchurch.com and click on the green "Give" button.
- 3. Using your bank's online BillPay features.

Thank you for your support of Holy Trinity and our ministries!

Offertory Music: "Taste and See the Goodness of the Lord" arr. by Thomas Keesecker - Sung by the HTLC Singers



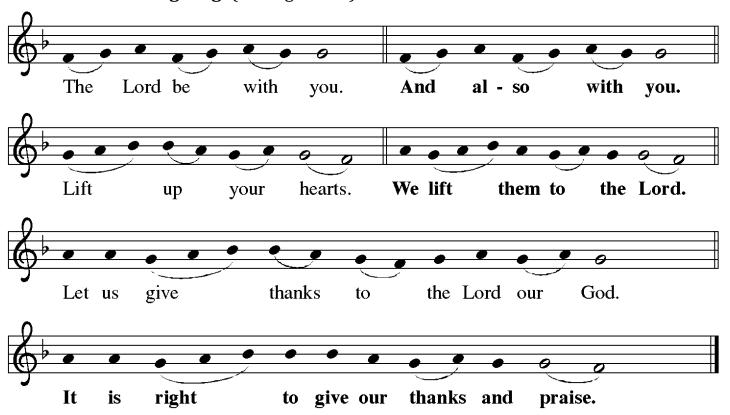
*Offering Prayer:

L Blessed are you, Holy One, for all good things come from you. In bread and cup you open heaven to us. Meet us at this table, that we receive what we seek and follow your Son, Jesus, in whose name we pray.

C Amen.

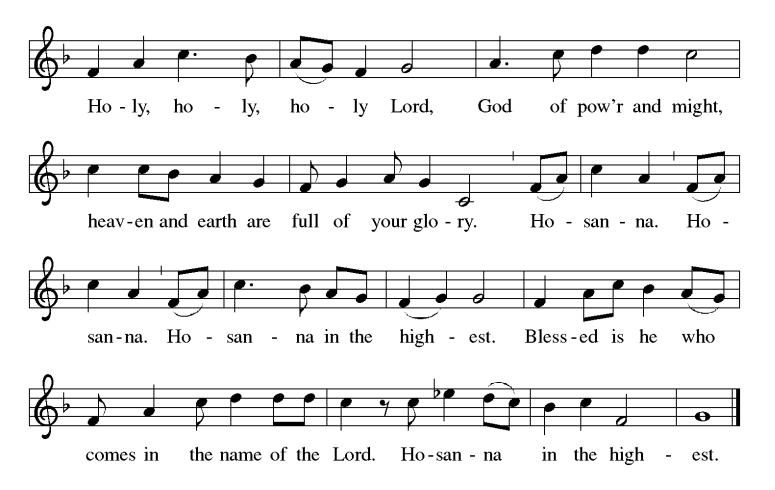
*Please stand as you are able.

*The Great Thanksgiving: (Setting 3 ELW)



P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ.

By the leading of a star he was shown forth to all nations; in the waters of the Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son; and in the miracle of water turned to wine he revealed your glory. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



P Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:

Blessed are you for the birth of creation.

Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.

Blessed are you for your promise to your people.

Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.

Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.

Blessed are you for your Son Jesus, the Word made flesh.

(The Words of Institution will be said in Spanish, then English.)

P La noche en que fue entregado, nuestro Señor Jesús tomó pan y dio gracias; lo partió y lo dio a sus discípulos, diciendo: Tomen y coman; esto es mi cuerpo, dado por ustedes. Hagan esto en memoria mía.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

De igual manera, después de haber cenado, tomó la copa, dio gracias y la dio a beber a todos, diciendo: Esta copa es el nuevo pacto en mi sangre, derramada por ustedes y por todo el mundo para el perdón del pecado. Hagan esto en memoria mía.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

- P Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:
- C Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.
- P With this bread and cup we remember your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth. We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection. We look with hope for his coming.
- C Come, Lord Jesus.
- P Holy God, we long for your Spirit. Come among us. Bless this meal. May your Word take flesh in us. Awaken your people. Fill us with your light. Bring the gift of peace on earth.
- C Come, Holy Spirit.
- P All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel, Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

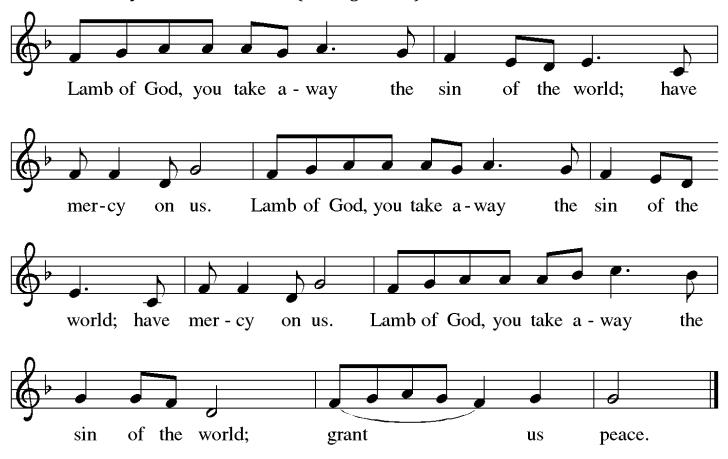
*Lord's Prayer:

- P Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us. (Lord's Prayer)
- All Our Father, who art in Heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy Kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day, our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

*Invitation to Communion:

P At Jesus' table, heaven and earth are joined as one. Come and see.

Communion Hymn: "Lamb of God" (Setting 3 ELW)



Distribution:

This is the Table of Grace for all who belong to Christ and seek his gifts of forgiveness, life and salvation. We extend to you all that we have in the Lord Jesus and invite you to his Holy Supper. Those communing with us who haven't been baptized and desire God's gifts of forgiveness, life and salvation in Holy Baptism are invited to talk to the Pastor. Communion is continuous as we kneel at the altar. White grape juice is offered as an alternative to wine. Communicants come to the altar down the center aisle, fill in the communion rail from left to right and return by the side aisles.



Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, b. 1919

Music: NOW, Carl F. Schalk, b. 1929
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*Post Communion Blessing:

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

All Amen.

*Post Communion Prayer:

L Giver of every gift, Christ's body is our food, and we are Christ's body. Raise us to life by your power for the benefit of all and to your glory, now and forever.

C Amen

*Sending Call and Response:

- L God's work!
- C Our hands!
- L God's love!
- C Our hearts!
- L God's story!
- C Our voices!

*Benediction:

- P "Barocha" Michael Card
- C Amen.



Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748, alt.

Music: DUKE STREET, attr. John Hatton, d. 1793

*Dismissal:

- L Go in peace. You are God's beloved.
- C Thanks be to God.

Annual Meeting and Meal in Fellowship Hall All Are Welcome!

Announcements for January 28, 2024

This week's Prayers: Please keep the following people in your prayers:

Carol O'Neal

Christa DelSorbo

Karen Wenger

Kent Windmiller, Karen Wenger's brother

David and Jensy Engle, Susie Peterson's parents

Liz Collins

Helen Merz

Angie Kidd and her son, Evan

Janis Foster, Shirley Foster's daughter-in-law

Jenni Sanderfer's aunt, Sandy Morrison

Matthew Santoni

David Calvin

Roberta Debolt

Chuck Cook

Stephanie and Rich Thompson

Maria and her family in Ukraine

Dan Haynes

John Paul Metzcar

Mary Broughton

For all who are sick and suffering

Serving in Worship Today:

Acolyte: Micah Smith

Usher: John Huff and Jim Suding

Greeter: Marla Suding

Lay Worship Leader, Lector, and Communion Assistant: Becke Bly

Altar Guild: Amy Norris and Diane Scholer

Birthdays and Anniversaries for January 28-February 3, 2024:

Birthdays:

January 31 - Richard Lewellen February 2 - Linda Cougill

Anniversaries:

No anniversaries on record.

Calendar of Events for the Week of January 28:

Sunday, January 28 - Bible Study/Sunday School (9am) and Worship (10am) followed by Annual Meeting & Meal

Monday, January 29 - Bible Study (10am), and Choir Practice (4pm),

Tuesday, January 30 - Walking Group meets (9am), Staff Meeting (9:30am), and Binding Ties Group (10am)

Wednesday, January 31 - Better Together Wellness (6pm)

Friday, February 2 - Better Together Wellness (8:30am & 10am)

Saturday, February 3 - Step Aerobics (9:30am)

Flowers at the Altar:

(If you would like to purchase a \$10 flower arrangement to decorate the altar, please fill out the flower chart on the closet door in the lobby/narthex and make sure to fill out a slip and put the slip in the envelope with your check or money and put it in the offering plate or send it to the church office. Thank you.)

Stephen Minister Training Update:

Please pray for our Stephen Minister trainees as they continue to enhance their caregiving skills. This past week, they had the first of two sessions on "Distinctively Christian Caring," focusing on the essentials of using their Christian faith in caring for hurting people and learning practical ways to live out the reality that "The Stephen Minister is the caregiver, and God is the Curegiver."

Quilt Squares Are Cut!

Quilt squares are cut and ready for your pick-up in the lounge. We need people to make simple quilt tops of 48 squares (6x8). Write to Nancy Carlson at ncarlson@bsu.edu with questions. Thanks!

Annual Meeting and Pitch-In Meal Today following worship

Congregation Annual Meeting will be called TODAY following worship in fellowship hall.

During this meeting we will elect 2024 Council Members, approve the 2024 proposed budget, vote on two proposed by-laws, possibly vote on the building project and answer any questions regarding the annual reports from the various ministries of Holy Trinity. More information on the next page.

Congregation Council Election Sunday, January 28, 2024

In accordance with Holy Trinity's Constitution, the Congregation Annual Meeting will be called on Sunday, January 28, 2024 following worship in-person with the purpose of electing 2024 Council Members, approval of the 2024 proposed budget, vote on two proposed by-laws, and possibly vote on the building project and answer any questions regarding the annual reports from the various ministries of Holy Trinity.

C12.02.01 of the Constitution state that notice of candidates must be given by the nominating committee at least two weeks prior to the meeting. C12.02.02 states that the congregation may nominate additional candidates providing that the nominees have agreed to stand for election and the names of such nominees are submitted to the Secretary of the congregation no later than 5 days in advance of the election.

The nominating committee submits the following names for the election:

Member-At-Large [to elect 2]:

Linda Reynolds: My name is Linda Douthitt Reynolds. My husband, Bruce, and I have been married 32 years. We have two children together, a daughter, Kathleen and a son, Breck. When I married Bruce, I was also blessed with three awesome stepchildren, Bruce Jr., Rob, and Amanda. Together we have 13 grandchildren and 10 great grandchildren with one more on the way. Both of us come from large families, so we very much enjoy our family times together.

I worked at Borg Warner for 19 years in various office positions. After a period at home rearing children, I returned to work at North View Elementary School. I started as an Instructional Aide, then worked in the library for 7 years and spent my last 11 years as the school secretary before retiring. Before becoming members at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, I attended Lutheran Church of the Cross. I was a Sunday school teacher, and I helped with summer Bible school when my children were young. In the next years I was involved with the Kids Hope Program as a mentor, a prayer partner and spent 5 years as the director. I served a term as the Worship Deacon and helped with other projects when I was available.

I am looking forward to becoming more involved here at Holy Trinity and getting to know all of you better.

Bill Hoodlebrink: My name is Bill Hoodlebrink. I was born in Woodville, Ohio. I attended Solomon Lutheran School. I've been married to the love of my life, Bonnie for 66 years. We have 4 grown children. We started attending Holy Trinity in early 2022 and officially joined Holy Trinity in January 2023. Holy Trinity has become my church home, which I really love and getting to know everyone is something I really enjoy.

Thank you to the Nominating Committee: Dawn-Marie Oberly, Roger Hollands, Gwen Carey, Paula Gregory and Chuck Cook for their work and for our nominees' willingness to serve!

Proposed By-Law Changes

Below are the two proposed by-law changes that the congregation will vote on at the Annual Meeting:

- C11.02.01 Should an officer be elected after serving no more than one year as an officer or member of the council, their term shall be three years, provided that the officer terms be staggered as mentioned in C11.02 above.
- C12.02.04 Should a council member be elected after serving no more than one year as an officer or member of the council, their term shall be three years.