



May 14, 2008

### **Tonight: 7:00 pm Contemplative Eucharist**

*Come for some peace and quiet.*

Assisting Minister – Charles Fiore; Lector – Claire Evans

### **Attendance Last Sunday**

8:30 am = 26; 10:30 am = 118

## **New or Noteworthy**

**Come Next Sunday to Celebrate our Nameday, the Feast of the Holy Trinity at 10:30 a.m.**

### **CUBS HOME GAME NEXT SUNDAY, MAY 18**

**Take public transportation or arrive early**

**Parking is challenging**

**Cars parked at McDonalds on game day will be towed!**

### **SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

**Beginning May 25 (Memorial Day Weekend)**

**One service at 9:30 a.m.**

### **Sacred Dialogue on Race**

Sunday, May 18, 2008, is a Sacred Day of Dialogue on Race and Racism. On that day, the Metropolitan Chicago Synod, the ELCA and our ecumenical partners will begin a conversation on the state of racism and antiracism in our church and in our country.

The home page of the ELCA <http://www.elca.org/> is promoting the resources developed by the synod's antiracism team for use on this day. (The day is one of several rotating highlights on the ELCA homepage.) These resources are a gift to the entire ELCA.

Dialogues on race and racism are never easy. However, this sacred dialogue is the beginning of a conversation that we hope will engender a deeper sense of understanding and trust.

A sacred dialogue will enable us to jointly obliterate the fear and resentment that is ever-present when the topic of racism is broached.

A sacred dialogue will provoke meaningful and fruitful conversations regarding the formation of antiracist identities; regarding the eradication of the depressing, debilitating and hopeless state that is racism.

Please check out the rich variety of resources, essays and reflections at:

<http://anotherpebble.org/sacred-dialogue/>

Sunday, May 18, 2008 is only the beginning! We fully expect that day to be the start of a transformative process for our Church. We encourage you to begin thinking about how you can contribute to this conversation during the coming months and years.

*May the blessing of God give us strength for the journey,*

*May the Spirit of Wisdom give us vision for the road,  
May the love of Christ make us caring companions,  
As together we walk the path towards an antiracist church.  
Amen*



### **IT'S ALL IN THE DETAILS**

by Erika Robeck

What is it about Holy Trinity that makes it so special? After all, there are so many places to worship in this city, even in this neighborhood. There are many different ways to worship, even among Lutherans. Why is it that we choose Holy Trinity? For me, it is all about the details. When I moved to Chicago, I was at a loss as to where to start looking for a church. I checked the ELCA website, but there were so many listings that for an introvert like me, it was quite overwhelming. I knew that I was ready to find a true church home, not just a transition church where I attended but didn't really get involved. At the recommendation of my former campus pastor, I came to Holy Trinity, and after that first worship service, I knew I had found my home. This church had all the details just right.

Everything, from the processional to the recessional showed an amazing attention to detail. We don't have to process in every Sunday with the cross, but we do. We don't have to share Holy Communion every Sunday, but we do. All those details, from the ringing of the meditation bowl to the chanting of the liturgy, make worshipping at Holy Trinity a moving experience. When David Brackley occasionally fades the organ out to let us sing a hymn or part of the liturgy in harmony, it is so breathtakingly beautiful that it brings tears to my eyes. It is details like these that make Holy Trinity so special to me.

On one of my first Sundays worshipping here, our beloved Elvina Moen greeted me with a hug. She could have just shaken my hand and smiled, but she chose to give me a hug as if she'd known me forever, making me feel so welcome here. And that is what I hope our Expansive Faith campaign will do. Welcome everyone. Adding these important details to our church will show that we do welcome all. We could just say that we already have an accessible entrance in the garden, but it is hidden and not very safe or inviting. Instead, we are choosing to put a ramp where all who need it can use it. We could just leave space at the back of the sanctuary for those with wheelchairs. Instead, we are choosing to put in pew cuts along the central aisle, right in the middle so that everyone can be involved in worship. We don't have to do these things, but we do them because of what we want Holy Trinity to be: a place of welcome to all. For this reason, I have renewed my pledge to the Expansive Faith campaign, and I hope that you will join me in helping to add these details and make this place a home to all.

## **Sunday, May 18, Holy Trinity**

*Though the word "trinity" is not found in the scriptures, today's second reading includes the apostolic greeting that begins the liturgy: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. In the gospel Jesus sends his disciples forth to baptize in the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit. More than a doctrine, the Trinity expresses the heart of our faith: we have experienced the God of creation made known in Jesus Christ, and with us always through the Holy Spirit. We celebrate the mystery of the Holy Trinity in word and sacrament, as we profess the creed, and as we are sent into the world to bear witness to our faith.*

**SUNDAY FORUM, 9:30 a.m.**

**May 18 -- Our Nameday: Holy Trinity**

On this feastday of the Holy Trinity come and reflect on what our name says about our congregation's identity and how the nature of a relational God can speak to contemporary Christians today. Led by Pastor Craig Mueller.

**Fair Trade coffee** along with chocolate bars, and tea, and note cards, will be available this Sunday, May 18 after both services.

**Sunday Morning Scriptures, May 18**

(see next Sunday's readings in the right column at [www.holytrinitychicago.org](http://www.holytrinitychicago.org).)

**Last Sunday's Sermon** May 11, 2008

Pentecost

Numbers 11:24-30; Acts 2:1-21; John 20:19-23

Pr. Craig Mueller

**GETTING SPIRIT**

It probably won't come as a surprise that I didn't play football in high school. But I was in the pep band. And I do remember well this rousing chant led by the cheerleaders. Perhaps you can be the other side and give me the liturgical response:

*We've got spirit, yes we do.*

*We've got spirit, how 'bout you?*

Can't you feel the energy, the optimism, the communal rush of pride? Whether you won the game or not, there was spirit. And you seemed to get that spirit by taking in the enthusiasm and ecstatic cadences of the cheer. You loved your team. You loved the game. You loved your school.

Here we are years later in a more subdued setting. Older and wiser. Perhaps a little jaded and cautious. And it's Pentecost. The third great festival of the Christian year. None of the trappings, traditions and sentimentality of Christmas. None of the crowds of Easter. Where is the spirit of this day? We've tried to plan a celebration filled with fiery colors, with flowers and rousing music, with prayers in other languages, with incense and banner, and even some dance. But the huge crowds are gathering several blocks east of here . . . for a baseball game.

Don't you want to stand outside on the sidewalk and shout to the crowds passing by on: We've got spirit, yes we do. We've got the "holy spirit," how 'bout you? But they might think we're holy rollers and we will dance in the aisles and speak in tongues. We're Lutherans after all. So we'll just keep the doors closed. Do our ritual and prayer. And get on with the day.

But what is this spirit that draws us together? What is this religious talk about the Holy Spirit and what is it?

In the Hebrew scriptures the word "spirit" can also be translated as "breath" and "wind." The spirit is the breath and wind that gives life to the people. At creation God breathes divine life into human beings and that's how you get the spirit, so to speak. Early on that spirit also seemed to rest on charismatic leaders—like Moses in our first reading. Here God takes some of the divine spirit from Moses and puts it on seventy elders who then prophesy. Leadership will be shared in a new way. They get some spirit for a purpose.

In our gospel the risen Christ breathes on the disciples. That's how they get the spirit. It is the spirit of the Risen Christ that calls them to service and to a ministry of reconciliation. Pentecost is the fulfillment of Easter.

In Acts there is a mighty wind, fire and tongues. When the people get the spirit, other languages flow from their lips. Yet the crowd that is gathered understands. They hear the gospel in their own language. This spirit unites people from every race and nation. And is a sign of God's promise for the end times: the Spirit will be poured out on all people.

So often we think of the Holy Spirit as living in that deep place within ourselves, within our hearts. That may be true. But Pentecost pushes the boundaries. Getting this spirit stirs things up. And gives us the gift of "the other." Something and someone beyond ourselves. Including people from every nation, race and tongue.

I have a four-star movie recommendation for you this Pentecost. It will touch and stir your spirit. It will fill you with wonder for the gift of the human family in all its diversity. The movie is: *The Visitor*. Now showing at a theater near you. Get there to get some spirit.

In the movie Walter Vale is without much spirit, sleepwalking through life after his wife's death. When he travels to New York for business he finds two undocumented immigrants living in his apartment there. These two hard-working Muslims are vibrantly alive, one plays the drum and the other sells jewelry on the street. But they don't have a visa. As Walter finds new spirit for his life through friendship and drumming he gets involved the plight of Tarek and Zainab.

The movie *The Visitor* invite us to consider the gift of "the other:" the stranger, the person or part of ourselves we might not have otherwise come in contact with. As these unlikely people become friends we are touched by the human spirit in us all, even as we ponder the role of immigrants and refugees in our post-9/11 world. And a spirit is stirred up that wants to bang a drum, to dance, to raise a ruckus and to stir things up in the world, in the church, and in our lives.

This divine spirit, this spirit of life, this Holy Spirit, is let loose at Pentecost. As Christians we say that this spirit is poured out on us in baptism. That it enlivens at the table of risen Christ. We say that it is fire and wind and breath and energy. It is red hot and passionate. It is the spirit that makes us alive and filled with desire for God, for life, for love, for justice, for all good things.

Surely we get this spirit when we gather together as the people of God. It seems to come to us in community. The Spirit isn't just mine, it's ours. *We've got spirit, together, we do.*

But now that this spirit is set loose in the world, there's no stopping it. I conclude with these words of Edwina Gately:

*Once upon a time we captured God and put God in a box and we put a beautiful velvet curtain around the box. We placed candles and flowers around the box and we said to the poor and the dispossessed, "Come! Come and see what we have! Come and see God!" And they knelt before the God in the box. One day, very long ago, the Spirit in the box turned the key from the inside and she pushed it open. She looked around in the church and saw there was nobody there! They had all gone. Not a soul was in the place. She said to herself, "I'm getting out!" The Spirit shot out of the box. She escaped and she has been sighted a few times since then. She was last seen with a bag lady in McDonald's. (from "Prophetic Mission")*

## Upcoming Events and Opportunities

**Mendelssohn's Elijah** with the Chicago Bar Association Symphony Orchestra and Chorus with HTLC's own Brian von Reuden singing the role of Elijah and Greg Zinkl as a violist in the symphony. Thursday, May 22, at 7 p.m., St. James Cathedral in the Gold Coast, 65 E. Huron. See flyer on the bulletin outside the Holy Trinity office for ticket information

### Kids Art Show!

Children of Holy Trinity: Get out your crayons, your Play Dough, your paints, scissors, markers and whatever else you like to use to create a piece of art! And then share with us what you've

done. Holy Trinity's Sacred Space will be used from May 18-June 30 for children's art. The art will debut May 18 in the social hall with refreshments and artists on hand with their works. Art exhibit cards will be available in the narthex (beginning Sunday, April 20) that can be filled out and put with each piece of art (Child's name: Tommy; Age: 2 1/2; Medium: crayons; Title: "Mommy and Me"; Artist's statement: "This shows how much I love to be with Mommy"; Value: priceless!). There is no limit on the number of pieces each child may exhibit, and they may be picked up after June 30. Items may be brought to the church and stored in Pastor Miller's office beginning April 20.

### Lakeview Action Coalition Convention

Monday, June 16, 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. Anshe Emet Synagogue, 3751 N. Broadway, at Grace. Child care available. We hope 15 or more Holy Trinity members will attend! At the convention we will forward our vision for a community where the police work with the community to assist those most in need; a community that includes a diversity of housing opportunities; a community in which people have access to the health care they need, regardless of their income; a community where the people work together and support each other.

### Lakeview Pantry Needs

Dear Neighbors:

Perhaps you have heard that there is a serious shortage of food donations to our Chicago area pantries. The LakeView Pantry, which feeds our area homeless and working poor, alone has seen an 80% reduction in the amount of food donated in the past year, that leaves a lot of families without enough food or proper nutrition. Please consider a donation to whatever extent you can. The pantry accepts food donations as well as long as they are nutritious and properly packaged.

Thank you.

Jill Peters, President, Southport Neighbors Association (SNA)

*Checks may be written to Holy Trinity with "Lakeview Pantry" in the memo line. There is also a basket at the back of the church for food donations to the pantry.*

## Next Week at Holy Trinity

SUNDAY, MAY 18 -- *Holy Trinity*

8:30 am Holy Eucharist (Nave)  
9:20 am Choir Rehearsal (Annunciation Room)  
9:30 am Sunday School (Passavant Hall)  
9:30 am Forum: *Our Name Day* (St. Mark's Room)  
10:30 am Holy Eucharist (Nave)  
1:20 pm *Cubs Home Game*

MONDAY, MAY 19

TUESDAY, MAY 20

WEDNESDAY, MAY 21

7:00 pm Contemplative Eucharist (Nave)

THURSDAY, MAY 22

FRIDAY, MAY 23

SATURDAY, MAY 24

SUNDAY, MAY 25 -- *Lectionary 8 -- Time after Pentecost*

9:30 am Holy Eucharist (Nave)

### COMMEMORATIONS FOR THE WEEK

**Sunday, May 18 -- Erik, King of Sweden, martyr, died 1160**

Erik is considered the patron saint of Sweden. As king of that nation, he tried to bring peace in the region, and to spread Christianity in Scandinavia. He was also known for his attempts to

make fair laws and to protect those who were poor or sick.

**Wednesday, May 21 -- *Helena, mother of Constantine, died around 330***

Influenced by her son to become Christian, Helena (or Helen) lived an exemplary life of faith. She is also remembered for traveling through Palestine building churches on the sites she believed to be associated with Christ's life.

**Saturday, May 24 -- *Nicolaus Copernicus, died 1543; Leonhard Euler, died 1783; scientists***

These two men were both scientists who helped to explain the wonders of God's universe. Copernicus is best known for promoting the idea that the sun, not the earth, is at the center of our solar system. Euler was one of the founders of pure mathematics, and contributed to many other fields.

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**In our prayers**

Those in need of God's special care: Ron Bogan, Susan Brinskelle, Connie Kleingartner, Jan Boden's father, Walter Boden; Rick Boyum's mother; Jen Hopwood's father, Ed Istwan; Lynn Horn's mother, Lucille Horn; Kristin Kenefick's father, Ed Kenefick; Emily Snyder's grandfather; Neil Noel's sister, Norma; Carol Schickel's niece, Teagan Grace and Carol's father, Bob Worthington; Our soldiers in and the people of Iraq.

Our bishops, Mark and Wayne; our pastors, Craig and Michelle; our Congregation Council and leaders. Our companion synod, the Central Diocese of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Southern Africa, and their bishop, the Right Reverend Ndanganeni P. Phaswana. Interfaith Refugee and Immigration Ministries; Lakeview Action Coalition; The Night Ministry; Holy Family Ministries; Lakeview Pantry; Christian Peacemaker Teams, Reformation Lutheran Church (South-side); Metro Chicago Synod Anti-Racism Team (Barbara Wahler and Ken Duckmann are members.)

Those who celebrate: Geraldine Kruse, Rick Boyum, Chris Bender and Alejandro Urbina who celebrate their birthdays this week; Jonathan DeSouza and Heather Brandon-DeSouza, who celebrated their wedding anniversary last week; Christopher and Wendy Stelter who celebrate their wedding anniversary this week.

**BIRTHDAYS**

05/18 Geraldine Kruse  
05/22 Rick Boyum  
05/22 Chris Bender  
05/24 Alejandro Urbina s

**BAPTISMS**

None this week

**ANNIVERSARIES**

5/14 Jonathan DeSouza and Heather Brandon-DeSouza  
5/17 Christopher and Wendy Stelter

**Serving This Sunday, May 18**

**8:30 AM**

PRESIDING MINISTER: Pr. Craig M. Mueller  
ASSISTING MINISTER: Jason Glombicki  
READER: Alison Ferrari and Jason Glombicki  
USHER: Chris Bender

**10:30 AM**

PRESIDING MINISTER: Pr. Michelle L. Miller  
PREACHING MINISTER: Pr. Craig M. Mueller  
MINISTER OF MUSIC: David R. Brackley  
ASSISTING MINISTER: Jason Bense  
CRUCIFER: Greg Zinkl  
BANNER BEARER: Jason Glombicki  
INCENSE: Joel Cruz  
COMMUNION ASSISTANTS: Greg Zinkl and Ann Sanders  
READERS: Carol LaHurd and Keith Waltrip  
TRUMPETERS: Greg Duncan and Craig Mueller  
USHERS: Matt & Heather Kissling, Kristin Schwiesow  
GREETER: Marji Shannon  
SACRISTAN: Kerry Tupper  
ALTAR PREPARATION: Drew Knobloch  
NURSERY ASSISTANT: Elvina Moen  
COFFEE HOSPITALITY: Carol and Ryan LaHurd

HOLY TRINITY E-NEWS is the weekly electronic newsletter of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Chicago. To unsubscribe, to request additional subscriptions or to submit announcements, contact us at [rbuzzard@htchicago.org](mailto:rbuzzard@htchicago.org)

All prayer requests should be sent to: [rbuzzard@htchicago.org](mailto:rbuzzard@htchicago.org)

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