



HOLY TRINITY
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

TRINITY TRIBUNE

feel the love!



September 2018 FROM OUR PRIEST-IN-CHARGE THE REV. DR. ROB CAVANNA

Dates to Remember

- 2 Labor Sunday
- 8 **9:00am Women's Group Meeting**
The Great Holy Trinity Fall Get Together/ Renew Sunday/ Blessing of Backpacks Day/Annual Parish Pot Luck Picnic hosted by all the Vestry.
- 9 National Back to Church Sunday and Free Flu Shot Clinic Day!
- 16 Bring your insurance card.
Vestry Meeting follows Coffee Fellowship in the church
Feed My Starving Children Ministry Day, 11:30 am to 1:30 pm. Sign up on the sheet next to the office.
- 22 Sweet Shoppe

The days of summer are slowly fading. State Fair time is when we are holding on to all the rest of summer that we can keep for a while. August at Holy Trinity was a busy month. We had a **"Green Eucharist" on Sunday, August 5, 2018. It was a very hot day and a beautiful one too.** The Contemporary Ensemble added so much to **the day's liturgy along with harp music played by Hannah Prange of Elk River. The focus of the liturgy was on the environment and all of God's creatures.**

August is also our month for the Meals on Wheels Ministry. Special thanks to Cheryl Ecklund (and Tim) for organizing this ministry and to all of you who brought food to shut-ins and needy people.

September is a month of renewal, rejuvenation and re-commitment to Christ and the Gospel. In the final analysis, the question we need to ask ourselves is: **"Am I choosing love?"** That's why this month I want us to focus on ways we can live for Christ that carry the same weight as dying for him. It may sound strange but each moral decision presents us with a unique moment of choice. **It's always the same question: Am I choosing love?**

"In truth, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains only a single grain; but if it dies, it yields a rich harvest." John 12:23-26

The twentieth century German theologian Dietrich Bonhoeffer focused much of his brilliant mind on the problem of ethics and particularly the problem of ethics in the face of violence. Bonhoeffer, having witnessed the take-over and transformation of Germany by the Nazi Party, knew and experienced violence, hatred and cruelty personally.

His theology proceeds, as does any really good theology, directly from his lived experience. In it, Bonhoeffer argued strongly and persuasively that there are no ethical principles – *none*; and that Jesus was not a teacher of morality. Yet Bonhoeffer argued that for the Christian there is simply one guide and one guide only: Jesus Christ. Each moral decision, Bonhoeffer said, presents us, as individuals, with a fresh and unique moment of choice. Each choice is a unique opportunity, to make a choice, unrelated to any choice we have made before, or will make hereafter. And that choice is about one thing and one thing only: Is what I choose consistent with my calling as a disciple of Jesus Christ or to put it another way: Am I, in this particular instance, choosing love? Always, the same question: Am I choosing love?

They haven't been much in the news lately but I remember an NBC news report in 2017 that there are nearly 200,000 Nigerian Christians threatened by Boko Haran, the radical Nigerian-based terrorist group. Boko Haran has pledged its allegiance to ISIS. Like a lot of other terrorist organizations, Boko Haran has been able to attract members not only because of the emergence of a particular brand of Islamic fundamentalist but also because of years of structural unemployment, government discrimination, corruption and violence. Its current violent policies intensified only after Nigerian security forces killed its leader in 2009.

How to Reach Us

- Address 1326 4th St.
PO Box 65
Elk River, MN 55330
- Office Hours Wed/Thurs/Fri
10:00am-2:00pm
- Clergy Office Hours Wednesday
10:00am-12:00pm
- Phone 763-441-5482
- E-mail office@holytrinityelkriver.org
- Website Holytrinityelkriver.org
- Twitter Robert Cavanna
- Facebook www.facebook.com/HolyTrinityElkRiver

Boko Haran is not the official name of this group at all. *Boko Haran* **literally means “no Western education.”** That name helped to clear up a lot of my own confusion around why this group has targeted students and particularly female students in their kidnapping sprees. For Boko Haran, Western education in particular and Western values in general, are pernicious influences threatening religious and gender-related tenets of their particular interpretation of the meaning of the *Koran*.

Of course, I’m saying this not to defend the group’s actions but only to remind us that in their particular ethical system these actions make perfect sense. They are not simply random acts of terror and violence. But rather they **are seen in the “Boko Haran world-view,” if I can use such an expression, as serving some higher faith-based good.**

We can all access deplorable reports about threats to people of faith throughout the world. Of course, the disgrace of people of faith killing other people of faith has a long, long history. As Westerners, it is easy for us to forget or ignore that Christians have been killing Muslims for more than a thousand years. Something not only disheartening but, I would say, unconscionable given that as Christians we claim to be the disciples of Jesus Christ. Jesus, of course, taught **non-violence and love for one’s enemies, both real and imagined.** This teaching is highly problematic given that this man of love and non-violence ended-up nailed to a tree. Being a disciple of Jesus can be a dangerous calling! Choosing discipleship and love can be very costly!

In our culture, we are largely shielded from the harsh possibility of actually dying for Christ’s sake. It is, however, a very real possibility for Iraqi, Turkish, Indian, and African Christians as it has been for countless numbers of Christians ever since the beginnings of the church. But a hard fact I find difficult to grasp is that more Christians have died for the sake of the Gospel in the last hundred years than in all previous centuries combined: Armenians, Russians, a growing percentage of Middle Eastern Christians to give only a few examples. These accepted the challenge to die for their Lord, choosing love and discipleship in the face of hatred and violence.

So where does this leave us, the wealthiest, most privileged human beings, not just in the world, but in the entire history of the planet; citizens of a nation that has lost no more than two million people in all of its wars? To put that sad number in some perspective, Russia lost more than 25 million civilians alone in World War II. So where does this leave us, participants in a society in which nursing homes, hospitals, and popular culture can shield us from the fact of death?

I don’t think we should beat ourselves up for being so privileged but we need to ask ourselves seriously if there are ways of living for Christ that can carry the same weight as dying for him. The saints sometimes give us examples of this kind of life in Christ: Martin Luther King, Mother Theresa, Dag Hammarskjöld, Mahatma Gandhi, Jonathan Daniels and Desmond Tutu. But how can we live a life that even hints of equivalency to these?

We can begin by facing honestly the times we have denied our Lord by word or deed and refused to share the Gospel, refused to speak up or to act in ways that say something about him. Maybe it has even happened here, in this setting, in this place called Holy Trinity. **What about while on vacation or at home when we’re with members of our family or old friends?** Do we speak up about injustice or calls for violent retaliation against enemies both real and imagined or do we just shrug it off as too pervasive to deal with? Do we let words of prejudice slide by us, giving approval by our silence? **We don’t need to burst into flame like Jesus driving the moneychangers out of the temple, although this might work sometimes; but we do need to speak the truth in love to those closest to us, not seeking to inflate our egos by proving “you’re wrong, I’m right” but instead speaking** courageously and lovingly, letting our words or actions speak for themselves, trusting that they will reflect the Word made flesh and bring him to dwell in the moment or the situation. Do we choose discipleship? Do we choose love?

Death in Christ for us will primarily be putting our false self to death, letting the seeds of our selfishness and pride fall into the earth and die, and trusting that God, in mercy, will bring forth the fruit of the Holy Spirit within us and through us. Paul lists those fruits in his letter to the Galatians – those fruits are love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, tolerance, and self-control. To these we might add faith, hope, justice, non-violence in the face of violence and respect for the dignity of every human being.

Jesus said, “Anyone who loves his life loses it; anyone who hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and my servant will be with me wherever I am. If anyone serves me, my Father will honor him.” The kingdom of God turns this world’s values upside down.

To follow Christ means taking up our cross and following him by putting to death pride and the self-righteous of the false-self that interferes with our bringing Christ to others. It is when we do this repeatedly and live in obedience to the teachings of Jesus that there forms within us, in the context of our lives over an extended period of time, a

dwelling place for God. If we are faithful, we slowly begin to bear consistently God in our words and deeds. Like **Mary who was given the title "Theotokos" or "God-bearer" by the fathers of the Fourth Ecumenical Council (BCP p.864)**, we too become in reality – not in fantasy or the fiction of overweening sanctimoniousness – we, too, in some way begin to carry God within us.

And what does God do when this happens? "If anyone serves me, my Father will honor him." How does the Father honor us? Jesus gives us a clue in the fourteenth chapter of John's gospel: **"In my Father's house there are many places to live in." God the Father, who through Christ has created all things, begins to create us anew – that's otherwise known as redemption.** The Father honors us by giving us a dwelling place in the Body of Christ. As Paul lays out so beautifully in his passages about the Body of Christ and the ministries to be found in it, we are each called, and if we respond, we are shaped and formed, transfigured and recreated, to become all that God created us to become, a unique way of being like Christ our Savior and Lord.

When the grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it bears much fruit for the building up of the **Body of Christ, for the spreading abroad of God's love in the world, and for giving us a dwelling place in God here and now.** A dwelling place in God here and now is where we find blessedness in this life.

Death will come. We can be certain of that fact. But the life Jesus offers us means that we can experience God where we are now and in this particular moment. We can trust that we can know that blessedness now if we choose love.

Pray that we choose love when faced with moral decisions and that our choice is consistent with our calling as a disciple of Jesus Christ.

I hope that your summer was a relaxing and productive one. Our new program year promises to be one rich with many worthwhile experiences beginning with a Renew Eucharist on September 9, 2018. We will **also bless kids' backpacks** with the beginning of Sunday school as well as enjoy a delicious **"Pot Luck" Luncheon.** Please sign up on the sheet next to the office for the food you will bring to the Picnic.

On September 16, 2018, we will be celebrating National Back to Church Sunday and offering a free Flu Shot Clinic from 11:45 am to 2:00 pm. Please invite a friend or neighbor to church that day.

I could go on and on but continue to pray for me as I pray everyday for each of you. May God continue to bless and equip us to bring others to Christ and to this very special faith community - Holy Trinity! **We're on the** grow for Christ and each of you are making it happen. Have a richly filled month and stay well, be good of heart and let go, let God!

Devotedly in Christ,

Fr. Rob+

SR. WARDEN

SUE NAGORSKI

Hope to see you all at our upcoming Renewal/Rally Sunday and Church Picnic/Blessing of Backpacks and 1st Day of Sunday School.

Mark your calendars for September 9th. The vestry will provide the burgers and hotdogs. Side dishes, salads and desserts will be pot luck. There is a sign- up sheet so we don't all bring dessert. ☺

The ECMN Convention will be held in Mankato this year on September 14th and 15th. This year the Episcopal Church in Minnesota will continue with the mission opportunity of Engaging God's Mission of the Beloved Community, looking at it through a new lens: responding to the spirit's invitation.

Father Rob, Deacon Georgia, and I will be attending this year's event. Check out the website to see what it's all about. <http://episcopalmn.org/ecmn-convention>

Other Vestry news this last meeting included updates on the stained glass repair and the new sign. (almost there!) The current renter at the Quinn property will be moving out and the vestry will begin the search for a new tenant. If you know of anyone looking to rent please contact myself or Father Rob.

Fall Clean-up has been tentatively scheduled for September 30th. Stay tuned for more information on that! As always anyone who is able is welcome to help us "settle in" for the winter.

Enjoy the fall, soak up the sun, and as always, seek out the beauty that God lays before us each day!

Sincerely with the Grace of God,

Sue Nagorski

Please consider bringing a friend to church on September 16th for **National Back to Church Sunday!** It's a wonderful opportunity to share the many blessings we have as a church community at Holy Trinity.

We will have a final planning meeting Sunday, September 23rd after worship for our annual **Blessing of the Animals and Blood Drive** event to be held on Saturday, October 6th. This is not a Vestry or Women's Group event. This is everyone at Holy Trinity hosting a COMMUNITY EVENT ☺ and...

YOUR help is NEEDED!

- ☺ | People to grill and serve hotdogs
- ☺ | Setting up tents, tables, chairs, etc.
- ☺ | Cashiers
- ☺ | Raffle ticket sales
- ☺ | Greeters

If you are interested in crafts please consider using your talents by creating "animal themed" items to sell. There are flyers in the church hall available for distribution. Please help to circulate them throughout local communities. See me or Nancy Ingram with any questions.

Joyfully,

Kate

**HOLY TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF ELK RIVER NAMED A COLLECTION SITE FOR
LIONS RECYCLE FOR SIGHT PROGRAM**

Changing Lives, One Pair at a Time

In just about any home, one can find a pair of eyeglasses that are no longer being used. That same pair of eyeglasses can change another person's life.

Lions Recycle for Sight

That's why we started the Lions Recycle for Sight program. Everyone can help.

Throughout the year, Lions, Leos and other volunteers collect used eyeglasses and deliver them to regional Lions Eyeglass Recycling Centers (LERCs). LERC volunteers clean, sort by prescription strength and package the glasses. Recycled glasses are distributed to people in need in low and middle income communities where they will have the greatest impact.

Eyeglass Recycling – How You Can Help

Donate glasses and change someone's life. Imagine if you could help a child read. An adult succeed in his job. A senior maintain her independence. And provide a community with more opportunities to grow and thrive.

Everyday, our recycled eyeglass programs do all of this and more. Here's how you can donate glasses and help.

Drop Your Eyeglasses in Lions Collection Boxes

You can drop off your usable eyewear at Lions-sponsored collection boxes in your community. In Elk River, Minnesota, drop them off at Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, 1326 4th Street NW, Elk River, on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday between 10:00 am and 2:00 pm or on Sundays between 9:00 am and 12:30 pm.



Special Blessings to all our
September Birthday Trinitarians!

- | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|
| 02 — Dorothy Jones-Kennison | 21 — Rebecca Svoboda |
| 05 — Larwuah Pshorr Russell | 25 — David Raitz |
| 07 — Joanie Nichols | 26 — Tom Wilson |
| 08 — Sue Nagorski | 28 — Danny Liberto |
| 13 — Adelle Robinson | 29 — Olive Taylor |
| 18 — Debbie Krogman | 30 — Torney Marshall |

JR. WARDEN TIM ECKLUND

Our fall clean up will be on Sept 30 after Sunday Service (weather permitting). The renter in the Quinn House is out so the House is vacant. We may need some help getting a few things fixed.

Jr. Warden, Tim Ecklund

EDUCATION MOLLY LIBERTO

Please join us on Sunday, September 9th for our 1st day of the 2018-2019 Sunday School Year. If you are interested in helping out, please contact Molly.

Thank you!
Molly Liberto



Altar Guild

Gail Weber
612-850-4250

Meals on Wheels

Call or see
Cheryl Ecklund
763-443-8637

Senior Choir
and Contemporary
Ensemble Singers
and Musicians

Call or see
Bea Bastyr
763.441.4068

Chalice
Bearers
Acolytes

Contact the Church office

Feed My Starving
Children

Entire parish
Contact the Church Office

Women's Group

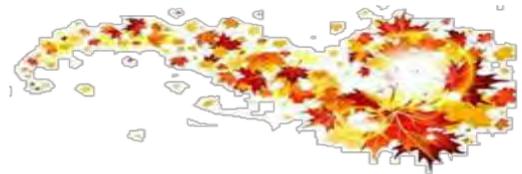
Call or see
Linda Krieger
763-441-7072

**Men's
Group**

Call or see
Ben Bastyr
763.441.4068

Feast Days in September

- 14 Holy Cross Day
- 21 Feast of St. Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist
- 29 St. Michael and All Angels



Looking Ahead to October:

10/6 - Blessing of Animals/
Blood Drive/
Complimentary Lunch

“You Belong Here” Sunday, September 16, 2018

Join thousands of churches and be a part of the national movement to invite everyone in America back to church. Holy Trinity is a participant! You will be given brochures to give to your friends and neighbors inviting them to Holy Trinity on September 16th.

National Back to Church Sunday is the national movement of churches reaching out to their community. In 2018 we hope to see over 10,000 participating churches who are sharing the message “You Belong Here” with every home in their community because the need has never been greater.

“Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God.” – Romans 15:7



The “You Belong Here” message is designed to encourage the never-churched “nones” and “dechurched” people in your community to come to church to find a community of people who are growing together spiritually, who are applying their faith to everyday challenges and who help and support one another as well as the community at large.

FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN MINISTRY DAY



SATURDAY, September 22, 2018, 11:30am-1:30pm. Won't you join with other Trinitarians to pack food for starving children around the world?

Sign up sheet is on the table next to the office.



Contemporary Ensemble and Sr. Choir Rehearsal

Thursdays, Sept. 6, 13, 20, 27

Contemporary Ensemble Rehearsals	6:30 pm
Sr. Choir Rehearsals	7:30 pm





HOLY TRINITY
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Ministry Rota

If you are unable to fill your volunteer position, please make your own substitution and leave word with the office. Thank you!

<u>Ministry</u>	<u>Sept 2, 2018</u>	<u>Sept 9, 2018</u>	<u>Sept 16, 2018</u>	<u>Sept 23, 2018</u>
Greeter:	Marilyn Bina	Jeanne Simonson	Sherrill Newberg	Ann Wedl
Child Care:	Alex Stewart	Alex Stewart	Alex Stewart	Alex Stewart
Usher:	Dick Anderson**	Dan Krieger**	Adrian Russell	Wally Kaminsky
Acolyte:	Eric Anderson**	Deb Krogman	Wiltie Russell	Jon Lloyd
1st Reader:	Gail Weber**	Daryl Herrmann	Gail Weber	Ken Schultz
2nd Reader:	Carl Newberg	Jane Lindenfelser	Kate Hansen	Mary Dare
Prayers:	Sherrill Newberg	Ken Schultz	Marion Marshall	Eric Hawkins
Chalice 1:	Kate Hansen	Molly Liberto	Linda Krieger	Julie Raitz
Chalice 2:	Mary Dare	Scott Svoboda	Marion Marshall	Jane Lindenfelser
Counter:	Jennifer Warner	Deb Krogman	Molly Liberto	Linda Krieger
Coffee:	Joyce LeClaire	Rally Sunday	Scott Svoboda	Kate Hansen & Marilyn Bina

** Change from previous bulletin **

Our Mission Statement



Holy Trinity is a diverse and multi-cultural, growing, and dynamic church that sees and supports Christ in all persons.

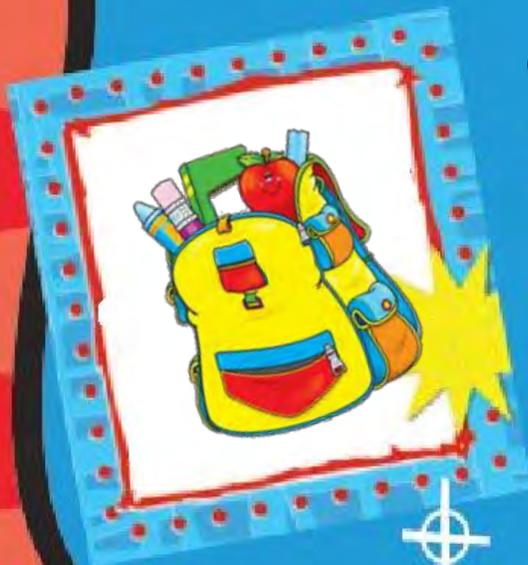
HOLY TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH			HTEC VESTRY MEMBERS		
Priest-in-Charge	Fr. Rob Cavanna	320-339-4852	Senior Warden	Sue Nagorski	612-868-9263 C
Deacon	Rev. Georgia Steele	651-338-7346	Junior Warden	Tim Ecklund	763-276-1434 H
Parish Admin.	Jen Haag	612-685-6139	Service	Dick Anderson	612-812-2581 C
Director of Music	Bea Bastyr	763-441-4068	Liturgy	Kate Hansen	763-441-6061 H
Head Usher	Dan Krieger	763-441-7072	Education	Molly Liberto	763-742-2692 H
Altar Guild Chair	Gail Weber	612-850-4250	Evangelism	Nancy Lloyd	763-370-9598 C
Women's Group Co-Chairs	Linda Krieger Kate Hansen	763-441-7072	Pastoral Care	Christine Peterson	612-968-3445 H
Men's Group Chair	Ben Bastyr	763-441-4068	Treasurer	Jeff Nagorski	763-234-5000 C
Youth	Molly Liberto	763-742-2692	Vestry Clerk	Joyce LeClaire	763-263-7740 C

The Great Holy Trinity Fall Get Together!

Bring the kids!
Bring the family!

Sunday, September 9, 2018 – 10:00 am

Renew Worship Service and Backpack Blessing



Opening Day of 2018-19

Sunday School and Picnic

Register by calling office
at 763.441.5482 or in
person on any Sunday.



HOLY TRINITY
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Feel The Love!

1326 4th Street NW, Elk River, MN 55330 • holytrinityelkriver.org • 763-441-5482



facebook.com/HolyTrinityElkRiver



September 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Every Sunday: 10:00 Eucharist and Sunday School 11:15 Fellowship						1
2 The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost	3 Labor Day	4	5 10:00M-12:00PM Fr. Rob's office hours and Fr. Rob by appointment	6 6:30 Contemporary Ensemble Rehearsal 7:30 Sr. Choir Rehearsal	7	8 9:00 am Women's Group Meeting Parish Hall
9 The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost/Sunday School Resumes/Renew Sunday/ Backpacks Blessing/ The Great Holy Trinity Fall Get Together/Annual Parish Pot Luck Picnic	10	11	12 10:00M-12:00PM Fr. Rob's office hours and Fr. Rob by appointment	13 6:30 Contemporary Ensemble Rehearsal 7:30 Sr. Choir Rehearsal	14 Holy Cross Day	15
16 The Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost/ National Back to Church Sunday/ You Belong Here/Free Flu shot Vestry Meeting	17	18	19 10:00M-12:00PM Fr. Rob's office hours and Fr. Rob by appointment	20 6:30 Contemporary Ensemble Rehearsal 7:30 Sr. Choir Rehearsal	21 Feast of St. Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist	22 11:30am-1:30pm Feed My Starving Children Ministry at the Coon Rapids location
23 The Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost/Sweet Shoppe	24	25	26 10:00M-12:00PM Fr. Rob's office hours and Fr. Rob by appointment	27 6:30 Contemporary Ensemble Rehearsal 7:30 Sr. Choir Rehearsal	28	29 St. Michael and All Angels
30 The Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost/Fall Clean-up						

MN Convention 2018



HOLY TRINITY
EPISCOPAL CHURCH