

HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN NEWS

All are invited to worship and participate in the life of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church and to commune at God's table. We welcome all, regardless of religious background, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity, or life circumstances. We rejoice in the diversity of God's creation, which enriches, nurtures, and expands our life and ministry as followers of Jesus and as servants in the world. God's grace is for everyone! Holy Trinity Lutheran Church is a Reconciling in Christ Congregation.

Volume XXXIV NO. 1

January 1, 2012

Enneagram Conversation: Thursday, January 5 10:00am

Epiphany of Our Lord Worship and Children's Epiphany Pageant:
Thursday, January 5 6:30pm

"Un-Hanging" of the Greens: Saturday, January 7 11:00am

Food & Fellowship: Saturday, January 7 noon

Rocky Mountain Synod Middle School Youth Gathering:
Friday, January 13 – Sunday, January 15

Food & Fellowship: Sunday, January 15 noon

Mark Meyer's Ordination (pending congregational vote):
Sunday, January 15 4:00pm

Brown Bag Bookies: Tuesday, January 17 11:30am

Enneagram Conversation: Tuesday, January 17 7:00pm

New Beginnings Holden Evening Prayer with Holy Communion:
Thursday, January 19 6:30pm

Rocky Mountain Synod Theological Conference:
Monday, January 23 – Thursday, January 26

Financial Peace University: Saturday, January 28 9:00am

Annual Congregational Meeting: Sunday, January 29 12:30pm

Peace and grace to you in the name of our born savior, Jesus Christ.

As I write this article, I am aware that I smell of spit up, my sweatshirt does not say, “fa la la la”, and I have reverted to that habit of rocking even when I’m *not* holding a baby. In other words, I am filled with the peace and comfort derived from the promise of new and wondrous beginnings—both in the births of my new grandchildren, and that of our savior. Both are simple. Both are filled with love, and the promise of life ahead that remains to be unfolded.

I write from my daughter’s kitchen counter in New York where I look at my sleeping new granddaughter. In her genes are features that go back to generations I know, and generations I do not know, but who will be a part of her makeup nonetheless. All of these will be a part of who she is as she grows. Her first cousin down the road has many of the same genes, but appears completely different. Where she is delicate, he is an apparent bruiser. Born three days and fives miles apart, they will be close, and yet distinct. Their common denominator, beyond genetics, is their birth into the family of God.

As children of God, they are filled with the promise of countless generations of God’s children who know God’s love will accompany them no matter where they will go. Whatever they will encounter as they are weaned, step onto the school bus for the first time, move away from home, marry, and live the lives that will be uniquely theirs, they remain embraced by the born Christ who will walk before them. They have only to look up and ahead at their as yet unfolded futures, fearing not, because He walks ahead.

So it has been for me here at Holy Trinity. I am reaching the halfway point in my internship year. When I first arrived, this new beginning was filled with a myriad of unknowns. From unknown faces and names, to countless ministries, Holy Trinity represented for me the promise of continued growth and formation. You, God’s children, witness the promise of Jesus’ love and companionship wherever I go in this community. Your love and support travel with me on wings as I take time to be with my family. You are a generous people who feed many with your spirit of promise and abundant hope. I give thanks for you all in my life as I continue to journey into an unknown future.

“And God said let there be light and there was light.” Out of chaos, there is always the promise of peace in the light of Christ. We enter into a new calendar year shortly after beginning a new liturgical year. Both are filled with the promise of unlimited potential regardless of whether we can see where life’s journey will take us. Let us as God’s children give thanks for all the generations and experiences that are behind us, but are a part of us. And let us move forward into the New Year with the joy and promise Christ has brought us in his birth.

Terry Schjang, Pastoral Intern

FOOD & FELLOWSHIP

Saturday, January 7 at noon

**Come an hour earlier at 11am and get in on the fun of
“Un-Hanging” the Christmas Greens!**

Also, Sunday, January 15 at noon

Come! Eat! (Food is provided) Enjoy the company of others!

JANUARY ADULT FAITH EXPLORATION

Sundays 9:30am-10:30am in the Fireside Room

January 1	New Year Celebration
January 8	<u>Living the Questions:</u> The Myth of Redemptive Violence
January 15	Financial Peace University Overview
January 22	<u>Living the Questions:</u> Practicing Resurrection
January 29	<u>Living the Questions:</u> Reclaiming the World

HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

Please contact Holy Trinity Church Office, 303-798-1356, when:

- A member of your family is in the hospital
- You would like to have Home Communion
- You have a prayer request
- A family member dies
- Your home address, phone or email changes
- You would like a call or visit
- You have a joy or concern to share



Mission Moments

Updates from the Global Mission Committee



Haiti Outreach The Mission Committee is planning an immersion trip to Haiti in June of 2012. Please let Pastor Julie, Pastor Dave, Frank Jackson, Pastoral Intern Terry or a member of the Mission Committee know if you are interested.

Parlez-vous français? Nou pale Kreol? We will have an introductory French class beginning on the 8th of January after second service (about noon) to run for eight weeks. We will also add some Haitian Creole in preparation for our mission/immersion trip to Haiti in June. So come and learn some French. Come and brush up on that high school French. Come and learn some useful phrases for that dream trip to French speaking countries. Come and have some fun with a new language and stir up those brain cells. Please contact Frank Jackson for interest or information so we know how many for which to prepare.

THANK YOU

GIVE A SPECIAL GIFT

Thank you to everyone who supported the ministry of Adopt A Student .
Your gifts in support of the children of El Tronador are all greatly appreciated.

Social Ministry

Thank you Holy Trinity for supporting the LFS Angel Tree and the IHN guests with a burst of generosity and friendliness! Please read this note from the IHN family of four:

Dear HTL,

We would just like to say thank you to all who helped this last week to make our stay here so enjoyable. We know that you each gave of your time and hearts to make us feel welcome and at ease during our stay. Thank the Lord we now will be moving into our new home within a couple of weeks. We also realize that we would not be moving forward the way we are if it wasn't for loving, caring and compassionate people such as you. We always will hold you all deeply in our hearts for your huge part in our success.

Thank You All and May God Bless you all.

Sincerely, The Swain Family

BIBLE STUDY

Come join the conversation on Tuesdays as we let the Spirit move through us, challenging us and helping us to grow. Together we raise questions and share thoughts and insights about our weekly readings. From the literature of the Hebrew Bible through the New Testament epistles and Gospels—we explore what the living Word means to each of us today. Share or just listen. But come join us on **Tuesdays either at 10 AM or 6 PM** and “*be transformed by the renewing of your minds*” (Rom 12:2).

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR JANUARY

	January 1	January 8	January 15	January 22	January 29
First Reading	Isaiah 61: 10 - 62: 3	Genesis 1: 1 - 5	1 Samuel 3: 1 - 10 [11 - 20]	Jonah 3: 1 - 5, 10	Deut. 18: 15 - 20
Psalmody	Psalm 148	Psalm 29	Psalm 139: 1 - 6, 13 - 18	Psalm 62: 5 - 12	Psalm 111
Second Reading	Galatians 4: 4 - 7	Acts 19: 1 - 7	1 Corinthians 6: 12 - 207	1 Corinthians 7: 29 - 31	1 Corinthians 8: 1 - 13
Gospel	Luke 2: 22 - 40	Mark 1: 4 - 11	John 1: 43 - 51	Mark 1: 14 - 20	Mark 1: 21 - 28

Exploring Christianities

January 7 & 21, 9:00am, Fireside Room,

Lutheran Study Bible Challenge

If you can sponsor a new Lutheran Study Bible for one of the women at New Beginnings, please send a check to: New Beginnings Church, 111 Del Mar Circle, Aurora, Colorado 80011



MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 31 5:30PM - 7:30PM
NEW YEAR'S EVE

Early Bird Potluck Hors d'Oeuvres Party
Bring a snack and join us to ring in 2012.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 5 6:30PM
CHILDREN'S EPIPHANY PAGEANT

SATURDAY, JANUARY 7
UN-HANGING OF THE GREENS 11:00AM
FOOD & FELLOWSHIP 12:00 NOON

“Many Hands Make Light Work”

Helping Hands Needed: F3 Volunteers for events with food!
Are you interested in being “on the list” of those who can at times help out with setting up, cooking, or cleaning up after one of our fellowship events? We are compiling a list of those who might help out so when events are being planned we have a list from which to work. Interested? There is a sign up sheet by the upstairs kitchen or contact Steve Hall.

**GRIEF GROUP
MEETS EVERY 1ST & 3RD SUNDAY.**

SUNDAY, January 1 at noon & SUNDAY, January 15 at 9:30am

Let us love one another-Stephen Ministry

When life throws us one of those challenges- death, divorce, unemployment, illness, a change in our life circumstances, the love of God is there to surround and sustain us and this can come to us through the loving and caring provided by a trained Stephen Minister. If you or someone you know could benefit from one-on-one care giving please talk to Margot Wright either by calling her at 720-427-8352 or leaving her a note in the church office.

“Beloved let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God” 1John 4:7

Prayer Ministry

Weekly Prayer concern sheets are available by the church office each week of the month printed on the same color so you can keep up with a month's worth of prayer concerns. This process will also streamline the office part of the work. As it notes on the green sheets each week in your bulletin, we will keep a prayer request in bold in the bulletin for two weeks. It will remain on the green insert for four weeks. After that, if you want it to stay on the green sheet longer, please fill out a new green sheet and let us know the duration of your prayer concern. We continue to invite you to join in praying for all those listed on your green bulletin insert. So go take a look at what's going on with Prayer Ministry.



Holy Trinity Lutheran Preschool

December was filled with fun in the preschool! We had a birthday party for Jesus, a Parent's Night Out for parents to go out on the town while we watched the kids, and a Holiday Camp the week before Christmas!

We wanted to thank all of you who had a part in making the Advent Wreaths that you shared with our families. We heard lots of comments about them being wonderful additions to their decorations. We also heard from families that they had never heard of the tradition, so we got to teach our families a little more about the Advent season. What a great way to spread the word about Jesus at this time of year.

We are adding SIX new families to our preschool group this month so we are busier than ever! Thank you all for your support throughout the year. Your donations, time and prayers for our ministry mean the world to us.

Finally, January is registration month. Can you believe we already have to prepare for the 2012-2013 school year? We are adding a Jr. Kindergarten class for the fall, too! If you know of families with preschool-age children that are looking for a preschool, we would love to have them.

Contact Us

For more information or a tour of our school,
contact Tracy Seul, Director of Preschool Ministry, 303-797-6345,
or visit our website at **www.holytrinitylutheranpreschool.org**!

Holy Trinity Lutheran Preschool
6322 S. Lakeview St., Littleton, CO 80120



Children's Epiphany Pageant

Again, this year the Children's Epiphany Pageant will take place during worship on **THURSDAY, JANUARY 5** at 6:30 PM.

Children of all ages are invited to reenact the Christmas Story as we celebrate the day of Epiphany, a commemoration of the Magi's visit to baby Jesus. A cookie and cocoa reception will follow in the Fireside Room.

Children are invited to rehearse the pageant on **Sunday Jan. 1** at 9:30. Attendance at the rehearsal is **NOT** required to be in the pageant.

King Soopers Gift Cards

Our senior high youth are selling reloadable King Soopers gift cards to raise money for youth activities. Every time a card is refilled our youth group will receive 5% of that purchase. The cards may also be used at King Soopers and Shell gas stations. Thank you for supporting our high school youth!

Though it may not look like camping season outside right now, summer will be here sooner than you think! That means it's time to start thinking about your summer plans. How about planning your family's summer around camping at Rainbow Trail Lutheran Camp? Rainbow Trail is part of the overall outdoor ministry program of the Rocky Mountain Synod of the ELCA. This upcoming summer's theme is "It's All About Grace". The ministry that Rainbow Trail provides is a tremendous experience that cannot be duplicated! Please try to register immediately, as camp fills fast. Register online at RainbowTrail.org or contact Caitlin & Josh Nelson with any questions.

Childcare: Did you know that Holy Trinity offers **FREE** childcare every Tuesday night from 5:45-8:45, so that parents can attend Bible study, meetings, or work on other projects related to the ministry of Holy Trinity.

Financial.....Peace

Those two words normally do not go together. But, in the Financial Peace University course they do.

55% of Americans worry about money. Are you in that 55%? You could also be one of the Americans that are not in that percentage but would like to know more about investing, insurance and different ways to purchase things.

Holy Trinity is excited to offer our third FPU course.

The cost per individual or couple is \$93.00.

You will receive a workbook, audio CD library, Dave Ramsey's best-selling book, budgeting forms, FPU envelope system and bonus CD-ROM.

The following are direct quotes from attendees from our 1st FPU course:

“The class exceeded our expectations. It taught us many basic skills to improve our financial situation. We wish we would have taken this course about 15 years ago.”

“We also liked the workbook and all the tools it provides to help us work through and towards financial peace. The discussion time after each CD was valuable to engage in conversations, different ideas and suggestions from others, and generally to support each other through this journey.”

The course begins on Saturday, January 28, 2012. The class begins at 9:00 a.m. and ends at 12:00, noon. **Babysitting will be provided.** We meet every other Saturday for a total of 7 gatherings. You do not need to be a member of Holy Trinity to attend.

We were amazed as to how the time flew by and we were doing our last class. We found that doing the course every other Saturday was beneficial for people's busy schedules.

Dave Ramsey is a funny, motivational and caring presenter. Every Saturday we all got a good belly laugh. Come, bring a friend, have some fun while learning about finances or just a better way of life. Use the knowledge you gain from this course to teach others about financial peace or encourage others to take the course.

Come and find out what this quote from one of the CD means,
“Uh, you're below the line this month”

Please call, Kim Wermerskirchen with questions, concerns and scholarship opportunities.

See how to turn the corner from charity to justice at
Faith Advocacy Day 2012!

Join others from many different faith communities and be encouraged to keep advocating on behalf of the poor and disenfranchised in Colorado! Our voices together are stronger than our individual voices.

Monday, February 20, 2012, 9:00am - 2:00pm, History Colorado Museum, 1200 Broadway. Because it is a holiday, street parking is free that day.

Special guest speaker will be Miguel de la Torre from Iliff School of Theology. Hear the legislative priorities for Colorado Council of Churches, Colorado Interfaith Voices for Justice, Lutheran Advocacy Ministry - Colorado and Jubilee Ministries. Learn how to engage more members of your faith community to participate.

Registration cost is \$25.00 by Wednesday, February 15, 2012. Includes lunch. Register on-line at www.lam-co.org or mail registration to Lutheran Advocacy Ministry, 455 Sherman Street, Suite 160, Denver, CO 80203. Phone (303) 777-6700 or (800) 525-0462

Registration email: whobbs@rmselca.org website: www.lam-co.org
Questions: Brad Wood, Lutheran Advocacy Ministry, bwood@rmselca.org

You are invited!

The New Beginnings Church of the
Denver Women's Correctional Facility
is worshipping on the outside too.

The next Holden Evening Prayer with Holy Communion is
Thursday, January 19 at 6:30pm, Holy Trinity Lutheran Church

New Beginnings visits are scheduled for February 24, 2012 and May 18, 2012. Would you like to worship at the New Beginnings Church at the Denver Women's Correctional Facility with Pastor Emily Cardin? Please see Pastor Dave, Pastor Julie, Pastoral Intern Terry, Jan Harvey or Herm Jantzen for information and forms.

Don't miss this inspirational worship experience!



BROWN BAG BOOKIES



Tuesday, January 17, 11:30am - 1:00pm

Our January book is “*The Forgotten Garden*” by Kate Morton. This mysterious, enchanting novel of a little girl lost takes us on an unforgettable journey through generations and across continents as two women try to uncover their family’s secret past.

Bring a friend! Bring your lunch! Bring your curiosity!

Come whether you’ve had time to read it or not.

Questions? Call Florence Van Bebber

Join us for Enneagram Conversation at Holy Trinity.

We meet in the Fireside Room.

We will meet **Thursday, January 5 at 10:00am** and
Tuesday, January 17 at 7:00pm.

Everyone is welcome to come and learn even if you don’t know about this powerful tool for spiritual growth.

You don’t need any prior experience with the Enneagram to participate as this is a conversation designed to serve as both a learning and sharing time. Everyone who wants to explore how the tool of the Enneagram can be used for personal and spiritual growth is welcome. Invite your friends and neighbors! Questions? Talk with Pastor Dave or Margot Wright.

Chancel Choir Music Ministry

Are you looking for an opportunity to Praise Our Awesome God?

The **Chancel Choir** is looking for you. New singers are always welcome and needed for this rewarding music ministry program.

- Choir rehearsals are every Thursday, 7:15pm – 8:45pm
- The choir supports Sunday worship alternating between 8:00am and 10:45am services, excluding the second Sunday of each month.

Please join us and share your love for Holy Trinity and Sing Unto the Lord. Feel free to contact Jackie Macheel, or any Chancel Choir member.

Women of the ELCA News



- **MINISTRY IN ACTION - -**

CHRISTIAN SERVICE: Wednesday, January 4 at 9:15am, Fellowship Hall

LYDIA: Mondays, January 9 & January 23 at 1:00pm, Fireside Room

PIECE: Thursday, January 12 at 1:00pm, Fellowship Hall

New stitchers are always welcome! Sewers are especially needed to top stitch quilt squares. The sewing can be done at Circle or at home.

If interested in learning more details, contact Shirley Streich,.

You may join any of the Circles at a time convenient for you.

Donations of fabric, sheets, and yarn are very much appreciated.

- **Bible Study Circles - -**

WELCA Bible Study Leaders: Monday, January 9 at 9:30am, Fireside Room

EVANGELICA: Wednesday, January 11 at 9:30am, Fireside Room

JOY: Monday, January 16 at 1:00pm, Fireside Room

RUTH: Wednesday, January 18 at 9:15am, Fireside Room

All Are Welcome!

- **WELCA Board Meeting - -**

Monday, January 9 at 10:30am

~ GOD'S WORK OUR HANDS ~

TURN PLASTIC GROCERY BAGS INTO MATS FOR THE HOMELESS!

Recycle your bags by placing them in the containers in the room near the elevator on the parking lot level.

If you are interested in getting involved with making the mats or any part of this ministry, call Bev Mundil.

LUTHERAN FAMILY SERVICES OF COLORADO

Save the Date for a Rainforest Rendezvous with Lutheran Family Services of Colorado at the Wildlife Experience on Saturday, April 21, 2012. Join us for an evening of cocktails, an adventurous auction, incredible feast and overall WILD time! Proceeds from the annual gala will benefit the programs of LFS, offering help and hope for children, families and older adults.

Thank You to everyone who supported LFS on Colorado Gives Day!

Your generosity was overwhelming - we received 301 individual donations for more than \$84,000. Your gifts will help us reach more vulnerable children and families in our community. Overall, more than \$12 million was raised for Colorado charities – a great day for Colorado!

Care Management Solutions (CMS) is a program of Lutheran Family Services of Colorado and serves individuals over the age of 55 and their families. CMS' services are specifically designed to support older adults and their families as they wrestle with aging related issues. This month, Care Management Solutions is lifting up the value of counseling services for seniors and their families. Many people believe that feeling "blue" or "nervous" is a regular part of aging. It is not. CMS has trained and licensed clinical social workers to help you sort out feelings and help you feel better. We accept Medicare and many other insurance plans and have a sliding scale fee rate to make the service affordable to all. Call 303-922-3433 to talk with our counselors.

TOUR SPAIN AND PORTUGAL

Pr. Don and Margaret Hinchey have led many tours throughout Europe and the Middle East over the years and they would invite you to join them for April 10 - 20, 2012 for a 10-day tour of Spain with an optional three-day extension to Portugal. Tour the Christian sites of this ancient land, marvel at its art, architecture, culture, and culinary delights, and all for a very reasonable price! For further information, call the Hinchey's.
Viva Espana!

Holy Trinity Staff

Marcia Bollman.....Liturgical Coordinator
Debbie Boyer.....Administrative Secretary
Edwin Castro.....Custodian
Clarence Leslie.....Pastor Emeritus
Jackie Macheel.....Chancel Choir Director
Julie McNitt.....Associate Pastor for Youth/Family Ministry
Kent Mueller.....Jubilate Handbell Choir Director
Dave Palma-Ruwe..... Senior Pastor
Terry SchjangPastoral Intern
Kristen SchwartzChild Care
Tracy Seul.....Preschool Director
Don Woodring.....Sexton
Margot WrightPastoral Care Coordinator

2011 HOLY TRINITY CHURCH COUNCIL

Dale Andersen	Finance
Shirley Banister	Social Ministry
David Cortez	F3
Mike Goman	Stewardship
Dave Lone	Building and Property
Randy Mark	Global Mission
Jan Mason	Vice-President / Personnel
Bevie Raitz	Youth
Beth Rietz	Secretary
Tom Rigby	President
Gretchen Sproles	Worship
Mary Lou Zentner	Memorials

Complete Church Council minutes are available in the church office.
The next Church Council Meeting is Tuesday, January 17, 2012.

Stay connected with the work of the Rocky Mountain Synod and the ELCA,
visit: www.rmselfca.org and www.elca.org.



**Holy Trinity Lutheran Church
Rocky Mountain Synod**

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

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WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Thursdays at 6:30pm

Sundays at 8:00am & 10:45am

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