

2024 FALL MINISTRIES CATALOG



650 240th St. North Liberty, IA 52317

Loving, living, and sharing Christ has long been our mission focus at Holy Trinity, and we have several ways for you to risk doing so over the coming program year!

This ministry summary of currently planned events will give you an idea of where you can connect with and invest in such ministries!

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

9:00am Sundays

We will kick off the new year with a 5-week sermon series called “Epistle of Straw.” It focuses on the Epistle of James, a book that Martin Luther dismissed, but later scholars have helped us appreciate anew. Pastor Tim and others will preach. Holy Communion is available to all attendees each week.

6:30 Wednesdays

WYN Worship centers around themes from the Catechism and understanding worship, the Apostles’ Creed, and the Lord’s Prayer, with the Ten Commandments coming next spring. Each week a lesson, a brief message, and Holy Communion will be regular features with breakout time in between.

On-Line and On-demand

Sunday services are lived-streamed on Facebook Live each week and available via YouTube on our website about an hour after each service ends.

Special Services:

- Bible Sunday (Grade 2 +) 9:00am Sept. 15
- Reformation Sunday 9:00am Oct. 27
- Confirmation Sunday 11:00am Oct. 27
- All Saints Sunday 9:00am Nov. 3
- Mid-week Advent services 6:30pm Wednesdays with WYN youth
- Intergenerational Christmas Play 9:00am Dec. 15 (final time TBD)
- Christmas Eve Worship 3:30 and 5:30pm Tuesday, Dec. 24

Worship Leadership Roles

Praise Team / Music Leaders

Sunday cantors and musicians are scheduled each quarter to serve on a rotating basis and typically gather to rehearse each week for an hour prior to the 9:00am service. Music links are shared in advance; sheet music is typically available weeks beforehand if needed. There is room for you? – join in! Contact tim@holytrinityNL.org if interested.

Tech Team

This capable crew are an essential part of our being able to host both in-person and virtual worship. Both adult and youth members rotate shifts between video mixing, running ProPresenter presentation software, and camera operation. Mark Stern is their chair; contact him at soxfan2766@gmail.com

Greeters

This team serves in pairs on a rotating basis in a vital hospitality role. They assure that the first face a worshiper sees is a warm smiling one! Interested? Contact office@holytrinityNL.org.

Welcome Station Hosts

This team serves on a rotating basis in a key role that helps us connect names and faces. They encourage all to use a personalized name tag or sign the guest register for timely follow-up contact. Interested? Contact office@holytrinityNL.org.

Communion Assistants

Holy Communion is the other central focus around which we gather. Each week 2-3 individuals are needed to serve it with a smile! Interested? Contact office@holytrinityNL.org.

Fellowship Servers

This team serves on a rotating basis to either prepare or serve prepared snacks and coffee after worship. We all know how important food can be to encourage conversation! Help us set the stage for connecting community. Contact office@holytrinityNL.org if you can use your gifts here!

Ushers

This important team of hospitable youth and adults share worship resources, answer questions, and assure that all feel at home in worship. They also count, collect the offering, and usher attendees forward for Communion. Contact office@holytrinityNL.org if you can serve on a rotating basis!

Lectors

The Word of God serves a central role in worship. Our lectors assure that it is shared and expressed in an accessible manner. It is important that we experience a wide variety of readers! Interested? Contact office@holytrinityNL.org.

Ministers of the Table

Our Ministers of the Table consists of servant-hearted individuals who collectively help to prepare the Communion Table each week, filling trays, slicing bread, and filling our altar candles with oil. Some duties on Sundays; others happen mid-week. Contact Nancy Grove at nancygrove54@gmail.com. We would love to include you!

Acolyte Team

Several of our young people from 2nd grade on up serve as part of our Acolyte Team on a rotating basis each week by bringing the light of Christ into our worship! Pastor Tim leads training each spring, but give him a shout earlier if you'd like to be a part in the meantime! tim@holytrinityNL.org

Liturgy is indeed “work of the people,” as its definition conveys! It really does take a village to make worship possible each week. See how you might use your gifts to make it all happen!

SUNDAY FAITH FORMATION

Sunday School (Preschool thru Grade 4) *(Sundays at 10:15 am)*

Children will gather each week from 10:15-11:00am, starting with opening singing in the sanctuary. Heather Mainprize will lead singing, Clay and Becky Peterson will introduce daily themes, and team-teachers will facilitate related lessons and crafts.

All grades will be using Group Publishing's "Simply Loved" curriculum, focused this quarter primarily on the kings of Israel and Judah, along with connecting stories of Jesus helping others.

If you'd like to serve as part of this team, contact Clay Peterson at clayton-petersen@uiowa.edu

*Break weeks: December 1st, 22nd and 29th

Adult Forums *(Sundays 10:15 – 11:00am)*

Adults of all ages, along with older youth, are invited to be part of hearty conversations each week in Room 4. Bring your coffee and treat to join in the gathering each week.

The group **studies** God's word in various ways using peers, written authors, videos, and discussions about faith in their everyday lives.

Participants choose to **learn** from one another and from invited presenters and authors how to deal with vital issues affecting their lives today. Learning together helps to strengthen friendship bonds and can further the ministry within the community.

Participants are invited to share **prayer** concerns if they wish and are invited to keep one another in prayer during the week. (over)

Adult Forums (Sundays 10:15 – 11:00 am) continued

Sept 8, 15, and 22nd Tackling Tough Topics

Join us for our first adult forum series of the fall! On Sept. 8, 15, and 22, we look at ways in which we might approach a challenging topic or question. When someone says something (perhaps with good intentions) like "everything happens for a reason" or "God needed another angel" or you talk with someone and think "how can they think/believe THAT", how might habits of thinking or feeling (or even the tenets of our faith) impact our response? How might we sort through our reactions to these (and many other) types of challenging topics? Angie Weiler and Lisa Smith look forward prayerfully to exploring this with you. We'd love to have you join us from 10:15-11:00 in Room 4!

- Week 1: What are the habits of mind that can impact our thinking and responses?
- Week 2: What are the habits of our hearts or our feelings that might impact our thinking and responses?
- Week 3: Let's discuss some of these challenging statements/topics in light of our previous discussion

Sept. 29th Introduction to "The Epic of Eden": Gail Johnson

Gail Johnson will share an invitation to and preview of a potential upcoming 3-part Old Testament Bible study series on Sandra Richter's book, "The Epic of Eden." Shared via *Zoom*, she invites you to come explore the major themes of the Old Testament world and how it relates to history, geography, and the development of the Hebrew Bible as a whole. In addition, Gail will share her experience in a Lay School of Theology, where she became aware of this engaging book.

Oct. 6th Sharing our Stories: Ann Roller

In the first of a series that will be scattered throughout the year, Holy Trinity's Ann Roller will facilitate an active group conversation while sharing portions of her own faith journey. Come and learn how the Spirit has led Ann over the years

Oct. 13th and 20th God + Country w/ Pastor Tim

Over two consecutive Sundays, we will view and discuss the new Rob Reiner documentary entitled "God + Country," which explores the pervasive and growing

threat of Christian Nationalism, noting how it tends to undermine both our faith traditions and our democracy.

Oct. 27th and Nov. 3rd “Creation Myths” Extended: Pr. Ron Schardt

Building on his offering last spring, Pastor Ron Schardt will dive a bit deeper into his exploration of how the Bible’s creation stories have come to be and the implications for how we understand and regard our origins, along with implications for today.

Nov. 10th Sharing our Stories: “My Journey with Meditation”: William Eddy

William Eddy will share insights and experiences from his three decades of intentional meditation practice. Bring your questions and curiosities!

Nov. 17^t Sharing our Stories: Tim Stammeyer

Holy Trinity’s Tim Stammeyer will share details and reflections on his own journey of faith as well as leading a conversation about ways that each of us might do the same!

Nov. 24th Initial Inter-generational Christmas Program Role Review: Tim Stammeyer

Join us for an exciting opportunity to share the Christmas story as we do our first read-through and role assignment for our planned inter-generational Christmas program presented on Dec. 15th! We’ll be tapping into Tim’s extensive experience and energy to create a memorable re-telling of the Christmas story involving all ages and abilities! There should be a part for everyone, so come join in the fun!

Dec 1st and 8^t Rehearsals for an Intergenerational Christmas drama on Dec. 15th

Adults, youth and children alike will work together to craft a creative re-telling of the Christmas story and its foundational themes for our faith. *(to be presented Dec. 15th)*

Dec. 15^t A closing celebration of the Christmas drama performed in worship

Dec. 22 – Dec. 29 Holiday break

SEASONAL SMALL GROUPS

Live in Love (6:30-8:00pm Tuesdays, Sept. 3rd thru Oct 1st)

Location: Church

Duration: 5 weeks

Purpose: Community / Connections/ Learning

Facilitators: Tim and Lisa Smith (lsmith18@gmail.com)

This study is a great place to risk questions, share experiences, and deepen relationships, all while practicing essential skills. Based on David Brooks' most recent book, "How to Know a Person: the Art of Seeing Others Deeply and Being Deeply Seen." If you'd like to know more, e-mail Lisa at lsmith18@gmail.com.

Womens' Bible Study (9:30-11:00am weekly, Thursday, Sept. 12 thru Nov. 21)

Location: Church

Duration: 11 weeks

Purpose: Prayer / Study

Facilitator: Kathy Stickney (wckastickney@southslope.net
or 319-936-0231)

This study will explore "Christ in the Psalms," utilizing materials and a format designed by Stonecroft Ministries. User-friendly studies have at least a dozen loyal devotees. Texts for the study are available for \$5. No advance registration required. All are welcome.

Epic of Eden *(start time and meet time via Zoom set by interested participants)*

Location: *via Zoom*

Duration: *3 weeks*

Purpose: *Community / Connection / Learning*

Facilitator: *Gail Johnson (gailrjohnson@gmail.com)*

Gail Johnson invites you to share a 3-part virtual Bible study via Zoom which covers Sandra Richter's engaging book, "The Epic of Eden." Come explore the major themes of the Old Testament world and how it relates to history, geography, and the development of the Hebrew Bible as a whole. This will be offered at a future date accessible to those interested.

Next Steps: *(10:15-11:30am Sundays, Nov. 3-17)*

Location: *Church*

Duration: *3 weeks*

Purpose: *Community / Connection / Learning*

Facilitator: *Pastor Tim (tim@holylrinityNL.org)*

If you are seeking a place to call your spiritual home, build healthy relationships with others seeking to grow in their faith, or simply want to know more about Holy Trinity and how best to get connected here, please consider being part of this fall's "Next Steps" series.

Pastor Tim will be facilitating discussion over topics mostly of your choosing on three consecutive Sunday mornings from 10:15-11:30am. We'll gather in person, after which those interested in officially joining the community will be officially received during a special worship opportunity in the weeks that follow. If you'd like to be a part in these conversations, please email Pastor Tim at tim@holylrinityNL.org.

Stay Tuned!: *Other groups to be announced throughout the year*

ONGOING SMALL GROUPS

Laugh Out Loud (9:00-10:00am Wednesdays)

Location: Church or occasional off-site

Purpose: Social / Service

Facilitators: Gail Johnson (gailrjohnson@gmail.com)

Lois Ludvigson (claytonlois@southslope.net)

Laugh Out Loud (L.O.L) is a weekly gathering of women who believe that laughter is good for the body and the soul and part of God's vision for our life together. Connections and support of one another through positive interactions and love for Christ allows participants to work together in service and outreach in the church community. Healthy fun is a key priority – whether it is a game, a project, or even an occasional round of "Laughter Yoga." Bring your morning coffee and join in!

Agapé Prayer Team: (9:00-10:00am, 2nd Tuesday of each month)

Location: Church

Purpose: Prayer / Study

Facilitator: Judy Taylor (jtaylor1720@gmail.com)

Agapé is a team open to all genders who regularly to pray for known needs of the congregation and the community. Always confidential, prayer submissions are submitted to the church office, to Pastor Tim, to the prayer table in Fellowship Hall, or placed in the offering plate in worship. The team also makes prayer shawls available for anyone to take for themselves or to give to someone needing comfort. There are also prayer reminder squares and hearts

Mens' Bible Study (9:30-10:30am Thursdays year-round)

Location: Church

Purpose: Study / Support

Contact: Pr. Ron Schardt (elrons62@gmail.com)

The Men's Bible Study Group gathers weekly to read, study, and discuss portions of the Bible, and to think about how the Bible informs our lives day by day. A secondary purpose and outcome is to establish personal bonds of friendship and trust as they share among themselves. Facilitators rotate on an availability basis.

Crazy 4 Quilts (1:00pm Wednesdays and off-site work)

Location: 880 Pheasant Lane, North Liberty

Purpose: Service / Social

Contacts: Lois Ludvigson (claytonlois@southslope.net)

Our prolific quilters have created and donated hundreds of fabric art quilts over the years by sharing them with Houses into Homes, Lutheran World Relief, Camp Ewalu, Mission Trip families and patients at Iowa Health Care's Pediatric Oncology unit.

Premise Keepers (8:00-9:00am Mondays year-round)

Location: Church

Purpose: Service / Social / Support

Contacts: Steve Roland (319-329-3623)

Clayton Ludvigson (319-621-4631)

Our Premise Keepers team has been a fixture at Holy Trinity since our beginning by gathering weekly for a quick blitz-clean of the church facility to ready it for mid-week ministries. Together, they tackle restrooms, windows, carpets, floors, trash, and dishes.

Best Buds Group (about every six weeks, days and times vary)

Location: Typically off-site at a member home or restaurant)

Purpose: Social / Support

Contacts: Evelyn Bollinger (evelyn.bollinger@mchsi.com)

This group meets occasionally as a source of listening, encouragement, perspective, and compassion for women who have been widowed, whether recently or in the past.

Bunco Group (about every six weeks, days and times vary)

Location: Typically off-site at a member home

Purpose: Social / Support

Contacts: Marie Empey (majmpnav@gmail.com)

Intergenerational fun sharing the game “Bunco” meets about every six weeks at 6:30pm; games will resume in October / November (stay tuned)

MINISTRY TEAMS

Facilities Team *(typically every other month on Thursdays 6:30-8:00 pm)*

Location: Church
Purpose: Capital Planning / Facility and Grounds Care
Contacts: Bill Gelhaus (bgelhaus@west-branch.k12.ia.us)

Our Facilities Team is full of servant hearts who work together to assure the timely care and maintenance of our facility and ministry site. They seek to welcome and utilize the gifts of all members in the process. They review contracts, plan and tackle projects, do regular upkeep, and assure lawn care and snow removal are in place.

Stewardship Team *(typically every other month and more often in fall)*

Location: Church
Purpose: Mission Interpretation / Gift Invitation and Utilization
Contacts: Eric Weiler (eweiler@southslope.net)

Our Stewardship Team works to intentionally challenge and invite members of all ages to review and celebrate our mission, encourage stories, and plan an annual Fall Stewardship Appeal. It is their work that helps us assure we are putting our best feet forward for Christ's mission each year!

Mission Trip Team *(typically select Wednesday eves; one entire week each summer, with commitments needed each November)*

Location: Varies, typically out of state
Purpose: Community / Advocacy / Service
Contacts: Pastor Tim (tim@holytrinityNL.org)

Each summer, we seek to send an intergenerational crew of adults and high school youth on a mission across cultures and time zones to do basic construction projects for residents who need such help. Working through other agencies, we are matched with needs and typically need a "1-to-5" adult to youth ratio. Sign up by November.

Mental Health Advocacy Team (typically certain Monday eves from 6:30-8:00pm)

Location: Church

Purpose: Support / Advocacy

Contacts: Angie Weiler (aziesma@kirkwood.edu)
Kris Frisbie (krisfrisbie@southslope.net)

The primary purpose of the team is to advocate for those who are directly impacted by mental health issues—personally or through close personal relationships. Additionally, our intent is to support individuals who want to understand how to respond to friends, neighbors, or acquaintances who are experiencing mental health issues. The team does not provide mental health services, such as treatments, therapy, or counseling. Instead, it promotes the availability of local, regional, and national resources.

Vacation Bible School / Day Camp Team (week of July 14))

Location: Church

Purpose: Learning / Community

Contacts: Lyn Petersen – VBS (lynbriannatedani@yahoo.com)
Deb Abels – Day Camp (abels.deb@gmail.com)

Holy Trinity works hard each summer to create a memorable week of learning, catchy songs, crafts and service for children age 3 – Grade 5. All children participate in theme-based morning activities, and older children stay for an afternoon of continued fun guided by EWALU camp staff, along with our own gifted youth mentors and adult volunteers. It's a great leadership opportunity for our older youth.

Wednesday Night Youth (WYN) (6:30-8:00pm on Wednesdays; Starts Sept. 11)

Location: Church

Purpose: Learning / Community / Service

Contacts: Deb Abels (Club 56) (abels.deb@gmail.com)

Pastor Tim (Confirmation) (tim@holyltrinityNL.org)

Suzanne Schloss (High School) (suzschloss@southslope.net)

Each week, dozens of young people come together to worship, connect, grow and serve together.

5th and 6th graders (Club 56) join Deb Abels and Angie Weiler for lessons, crafts, games and much more.

*Pastor Tim leads our **Confirmation** team, which includes consistent small group guides who help connect youth to each other and explore each week's lesson further. This year, we focus on the elements of Luther's Small Catechism together. Our goal is to help them appreciate both the roots of their faith and its implications for their lives ahead, giving them opportunity to affirm their baptism in the process.*

*Suzanne Schloss facilitates our hearty **High School** youth as they gather weekly to share stories, highs and lows, and insights while some weeks they engage in specific training or servant projects. Assisted by Jenny Bisgard and Kathy Stapleton. Relationship-building is front and center throughout!*

- **An essential parent orientation meeting for WYN youth families will be from 6:30-7:30pm Wed., Sept. 4th. Please plan for one parent to be present such that we can adequately have our bases covered for the following Wednesday and beyond!**

Wherever you choose to join this “team sport” that is the walk of faith, we look forward to YOUR presence and gifts. Please also keep all these ministries in your prayers.

A Blessing: For beginnings and endings....

Blessed are we who take a minute
to look over our shoulder
at all we learned from what was,
the people we became,
the people who loved us into becoming.
The peace that came with familiarity

Blessed are who trust this timing,
and who open our hearts anew
to change, to new friends, to hope.
Nervous, maybe heavy-hearted,
but brimming with gratitude for a life
so beautiful that it hurts to say
goodbye

Blessed are we, turning our eyes ahead
toward a new path not yet mapped.
God, give us courage to take this
next step,
and enough for the one after that, too.
Remind us that you have gone before,
and behind, and around,
and are with us now.

In our leaving, in our arriving,
in our changes, expected or shocking,
surprise us with who we might
become.