

2025



Winter/
Spring
Ministries
Guide

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church
North Liberty, IA



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Love
Live
Share



Worship Schedule

Sundays at 9:00 AM

We will kick off the new year with a sermon series called “Salt and Light.” It focuses on the implications of our baptism and who we’re called to be. Pastor Tim and others will preach. Holy Communion is offered to anyone who wishes to receive it.

Wednesdays at 6:30 PM

WYN (Wednesday Youth Night) Worship centers around themes from the Small Catechism, specifically the Apostles Creed and the Ten Commandments. Each week has music, a lesson, a brief message, breakout time in age groups, and Holy Communion.

Online and On-Demand

Sunday services are lived-streamed on Facebook Live each week and available on YouTube or our website later in the day. Take-home communion kits are available at the church for anyone who would like to celebrate the Lord’s Supper with us online.

Special Services

Ash Wednesday	March 5th, 6:30 PM
Palm Sunday	April 13th, 9:00 AM
Maundy Thursday	April 17th, 7:00 PM
Good Friday	April 18th, 7:00 PM
Easter Sunday	April 20th, 8:00 and 10:00 AM
Pentecost	June 8th, 9:00 AM

Worship Leadership Roles

As Lutherans, we believe that worship is “the work of the people.” It takes many hands to make Holy Trinity a place of welcome and praise. Our goal is to have a cross-section of our community serve in leadership roles, inclusive of age, gender, and any category used to divide.

Greeters

This team serves in pairs on a rotating basis, making sure that the first face a worshiper sees is a warm, smiling one! Help us make Holy Trinity a place of authentic welcome.

Contact: office@holytrinityNL.org

Welcome Station Hosts

This team serves 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 a timely follow-up from the staff.

Contact: office@holytrinityNL.org

Fellowship Servers

This team prepares or serves prepared snacks and coffee after worship. Food is a wonderful means of connection and conversation. Help us create space for our community to support one another on Sundays.

Contact: office@holytrinityNL.org

Ushers

This team shares worship resources, answers questions, and assures that all feel at home in worship. They also count, collect the offering, and usher attendees forward for Communion.

Contact: office@holytrinityNL.org

Music/Praise Team

This team of cantors and musicians use their gifts on Sundays, typically gathering to rehearse each week for an hour prior to the 9:00am service. Music links are shared in advance, with sheet music available beforehand if desired.

Contact: tim@holytrinityNL.org

Worship Leadership Roles

All training is provided for each leadership role. We want to help you feel comfortable and confident in your chosen ministries.

Lectors

The Word of God serves a central role in worship. Our lectors share the word during worship, making sure it is expressed in a way that all worshippers can receive its message. It's vital that we have a variety of readers in this important ministry!

Contact: office@holytrinityNL.org

Communion Assistants

Holy Communion is the focus of our worship, sharing God through bread, wine, and grape juice. Each week 2-3 individuals are needed to serve it with a smile! We hope to have all genders represented as communion servers.

Contact: office@holytrinityNL.org

Acolyte Team

Youth aged 2nd grade and older may serve on our Acolyte Team, bringing the light of Christ into our worship by lighting the candles! Pastor Tim will lead a training this Spring for all youth that are interested.

Contact: office@holytrinityNL.org

Tech Team

Tech Team is an essential part of hosting our in-person and virtual worship. Both adult and youth members rotate shifts between video mixing, running ProPresenter presentation software, and camera operation. Reach out to Mark if you'd like to join in!

Contact Mark Stern: soxfan2766@gmail.com

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: nancygrove54@gmail.com

Church-Wide Events

Stone Soup Supper

Friday, January 24th from 5:00-7:00 PM

North Liberty Community Center, Lower Level

Join the members of the community for a delicious soup supper made by local restaurants. This annual fundraiser benefits the North Liberty Community Pantry. Minimum suggested donation is \$10.

Mardi Gras

Saturday, March 1st at 5:00 PM

Celebrate Mardi Gras with us before we enter into the Lenten season! The event will include a potluck, music, and activities for the whole family. Look for more details starting in February.

Men's Chili and Brews

Friday, April 4th

Join us for a men's event at the church, featuring a chili cook-off competition, brews, program, and fellowship.

Women's Retreat

Date/Time TBA

Join us for a women's event at the church, featuring a program, fellowship, and much more! Final details to come in the new year.

LSI Day on the Hill

Tuesday, March 11th

Join members of Holy Trinity as we travel to the State Capitol in Des Moines to hear about legislative priorities that align with our faith. Opportunities to meet with representatives will be available. Lutheran Services of Iowa will host the event.

Church-Wide Events

Meal Packing Event

Saturday, March 29th, 9:00-3:00

Join us at the church to pack hundreds of meals to be distributed to hungry children across the globe. This meaningful, life-giving opportunity is coordinated through Meals from the Heartland.

Easter Breakfast

Sunday, April 20th, 9:00 AM

On Easter Sunday, join us for a breakfast between our 8:00 AM and 10:00 AM morning services. This free meal is open to all worshippers. The breakfast will be held directly after the first service. Plan to celebrate with us!

Field of Dreams Concert

Saturday, June 7th at 7 PM, Kernels Stadium

Join members of our church community in this family-friendly outing to the Cedar Rapids Kernels Stadium to watch Orchestra Iowa play the soundtrack to the iconic movie, *Field of Dreams*. The movie will be played on the big screen in the outfield. Ticket and transportation information will be available later in the Spring.

Mini-Golf

Date in July, TBA

Join members of our church community in this family-friendly outing to play mini-golf at Airport International Golf Course in Cedar Rapids. This free outing includes ice cream!

Drive-In Movie

Date in August, TBA

Join us at the church for a drive-in movie, either offered in the parking lot or in the sanctuary. A free movie and snacks will be provided at this family-friendly event.

Sunday Faith Formation

Sunday School (Preschool - 4th Grade)

Sundays at 10:15 AM

Children gather each week from 10:15-11:00 AM, 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, connecting stories of Jesus with helping others.

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

Break Weeks: March 16th and 23rd, April 20th

Adult Forum

Sundays from 10:15 AM - 11:00 AM

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 our everyday lives. Participants learn how to face the vital issues affecting our lives today. Meeting together helps to strengthen friendship bonds that furthers our collective ministry. Participants are invited to share prayer concerns if they wish and to keep one another in prayer during the week. You are invited to join us every week or just the weeks you are able. Else Schardt graciously organizes the forum. You can contact her at elron62@gmail.com.

Wednesday Youth Night (WYN)

Youth 5th grade - High School

Wednesdays, 6:30 - 8:00

Starting January 8th

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. This year, our focus is on the Apostles Creed and the Ten Commandments. Our goal is to help our youth appreciate both the roots of their faith and its implications for their lives ahead, giving them opportunities to affirm their baptism in the process.

Suzanne Schloss leads our **High School** youth as they gather weekly to share stories, highs and lows, and insights. Service projects are also available to encounter our faith through giving to others. Our High School group is assisted by Jenny Bisgard and Kathy Stapleton. Relationship-building is front and center each week.

Led by Annika Hauan and a team of volunteers, snack is available each week for all youth.

Break weeks: March 19th and April 16th

We're always looking for adults to help make WYN a success. Please contact Pastor Tim at tim@holytrinitynl.org to learn how you can support this vital ministry.

Vacation Bible School (VBS) and Day Camp

“True North: The Northern Lights in Alaska”
July 14th - 18th, 2025

You are invited to join Holy Trinity’s VBS and Day Camp Teams to create a memorable week of learning about God, singing/dancing to fun songs, doing science experiments, crafts, games, and snacks! All children participate in these themed based activities in the mornings. VBS campers are 3 yrs old to 5th grade. VBS Crew Leaders are 6th grade to High School. Trained Crew Leaders guide their VBS younger campers and get to fully participate in every activity. Adults serve as Station Leaders and support during mornings. Parents of our campers are invited to the finale on the last morning!

Day Camp starts after the morning VBS time on July 14 to 17, 2025. Day Campers are 1st grade to 5th grade and will experience camp fun guided by EWALU Staff. Day Campers 6th grade to High School will have time with Adult Leaders to grow in their faith and serve others.

Please contact us to join this fun! We need helpers in the 2 weeks before July 14 to help decorate the church. Our goal is for more of our little kids to sign up for VBS. Invite your classmates and neighbors! If you were a Crew Leader or a Day Camper in the past, we’d love to have you back this summer.

Registration will be from May to July. Sign up early!

For VBS, contact director Lyn Petersen: lynbriannatedani@yahoo.com

For Day Camp, contact director Deb Abels: abels.deb@gmail.com



2025 Summer Camp

EWALU

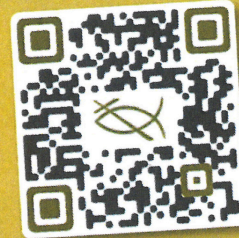
Camp & Retreat Center

As a Lutheran outdoor ministry, Ewalu offers a variety of programs all summer for youth in grades 1 to 12, guided by trained counselors. Adults and younger kids can join in with Family Camp and Grandparent Camp! **NEW "tiered pricing" helps make camp more affordable, too. No child is turned away for reasons of financial need—contact our office for details.**

REGISTER NOW!

See all our programs, the summer schedule and pricing online:

www.ewalu.org/Summer-Camp



More questions? Check out our FAQs at the link above, or contact the camp office at Office@ewalu.org or 563-933-4700.

EARLY DISCOUNTS

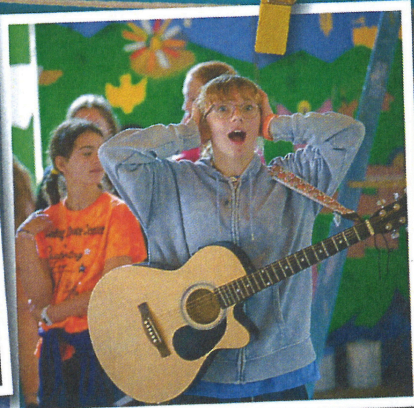
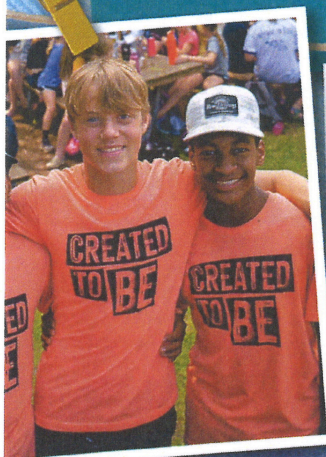
Register by FEBRUARY 28 and take \$40 off all full-week overnight youth programs (take \$20 off shorter and family programs).

Register by APRIL 15 and take \$20 off full-week overnight programs (\$10 off shorter programs).

Details online. Works with any tier!

This year's theme

GOD'S WORD COMES NEAR



Adult Forum Offerings

January 5th

Winter Warm-Up

January 12th

“The Image of God” with Pastor Ron Schardt

January 19th

Reconciling in Christ Information Session

January 26th

Reconciling in Christ Information Session

February 2nd

Holy Trinity Annual Meeting

February 9th

BESMART Presentation on Gun and Child Safety

February 16th

Family Caregivers Center Presentation

February 23rd

Mental Health Advocacy Team Presentation

March 2nd

Speaking Out: Advocacy for our State and Country

Adult Forum Offerings

March 9th - April 13th

Lenten Series with Tim and Pastor Tim



Our Lenten Adult Forum series this spring will utilize a series of short video interviews to help shed light on the growing humanitarian crisis for Palestinians in Gaza and the Holy Land. Facilitated by Gabe Aelabouni, a Palestinian ELCA pastor who recently returned to the U.S. after some years in Jerusalem, our prayer is that we open our ears to the realities, obstacles, and opportunities that continue to impact lives both in this region and throughout the world.

Easter (No Forum)

April 27th

Larry and Kim Kudej Share Their Stories

May 4th

Meditative Practices with William Eddy

May 11th

Topics in Theology with Pastor Ron Schardt

Seasonal Small Groups

Tattoos on the Heart Book Study

Tuesdays, January 28th - February 25th, 5 Sessions

6:30 - 8:00 PM at the Church

Want to know more about our faith and social justice? Ready to be inspired by true stories of compassion at work? Join Tim Stammeyer in a book study of *Tattoos on the Heart*, a national bestseller by theologian Greg Boyle, founder of Homeboy Ministries in Los Angeles. Through stories of current and former gang members, and the ways their experience points to the radical love of Jesus, we will explore how these themes are relevant to us in the here and now. Email Tim at stammeyer@holytrinitynl.org to sign-up.

Women's Bible Study

Thursdays, Starting February 20th, 9 Sessions

9:30 - 10:30 AM at the Church

Kathy Stickney will lead a Women's Bible Study focused on "God's Love Through You" in First John. The study book cost is \$6.00. NLT Memorial Bibles are free. All the Bible references are keyed to the page numbers in the Abundant Life Bibles. Please contact Kathy Stickney to reserve a study book at 319-936-0231.

Next Steps

Sunday, February 9th, 16th, and 23rd

After Worship at 10:15 AM

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 spring's "Next Steps" series. Pastor Tim will be facilitating discussion over topics mostly of your choosing over three gatherings. We'll meet in person, after which those interested in officially joining the community will be 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@holytrinityNL.org.

Seasonal Small Groups

Lenten Small Group: “Life Together”

Wednesdays, March 12th - April 16th, 6 Sessions

6:30 - 8:00 PM at the Church

You're invited to join a 6 week small group conversation on Wednesday nights. We will use some brief videos from Kate Bowler focused on topics such as interdependence, precarity and gratitude, followed by discussion questions and an invitation to journaling. Although the videos were originally produced during the pandemic of 2020, the messages still feel quite relevant for our lives, both in our relationships with one another and our relationship with God. If you have questions or would like to join, please contact Lisa Smith at lsmith18@gmail.com. She looks forward to the chance to hear your stories and insights as we share this time together.

Growing in Grace A 15 Year Anniversary Gala

Saturday, May 17th at 5:00 PM

Did you know that 2025 marks Holy Trinity’s 15th year as an organized congregation? To celebrate, we will be hosting a garden-themed gala for our community, enjoying an evening together and reflecting on all the good work of God and our members. Stay tuned for more information! We would love to have you join us.

We are in need of people to help plan and run the event! Please contact Tim at stammeyer@holytrinitynl.org if you are able to contribute to this exciting milestone.

Ongoing Small Groups

Scrubs and Scripture

Various times throughout the year

Join in on a new small group for those who work in health care! Whether you are a provider, therapist, nurse, medical assistant, or work in a similar capacity, this group is for you. Fellowship and encouragement will be offered on various days and times throughout the year. We know your schedule can be unpredictable! Be on the look out for more information to come. We look forward to supporting you in your health care vocation. Contact Tim at stammeyer@holytrinitynl.org to get connected.

Laugh Out Loud

Wednesdays, 9:00 - 10:00 AM at the Church

Laugh Out Loud (L.O.L) is a weekly gathering of women who believe that laughter is good for the body, the soul, and is part of God's vision for our life together. Through positive interactions and love for Christ, LOL 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! While this is an ongoing group, you're welcome to join at any time. Contact Gail at gailrjohnson@gmail.com or Lois at claytonlois@southslope.net for more information.

Premise Keepers

Mondays, 8:00 - 9:00 AM at the Church

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. Afterward, they have a time of fellowship and catching up on the events of the week. Contact Clayton at 319-621-4631 or Steve at 319-329-3623 for more information.

Ongoing Small Groups

Crazy 4 Quilts

Wednesdays, 1:00 PM

Lois' House: 880 Pheasant Lane, North Liberty

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. If you are interested, there is a sewing machine for you! Contact Lois at claytonlois@southslope.net to join in.

Men's Bible Study

Thursdays, 9:30 - 10:30 AM at the Church

The Men's Bible Study Group gathers weekly to read, study, and discuss portions of the Bible, thinking about how scripture informs our lives day by day. They also strive to establish personal bonds of friendship and trust through intentional sharing and connection. Facilitators rotate on an availability basis. Contact Pastor Ron Schardt at elrons62@gmail.com to join.

Best Buds Group

Various Times and Places, Every Six Weeks

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. Contact Evelyn Bollinger at evelyn.bollinger@mchsi.com for more information and to get connected. New members are always welcome.

Bunco Group

Various Places, 6:30 PM, Every Six Weeks

Intergenerational fun sharing the game "Bunco" meets about every six weeks at 6:30 PM. Contact Marie Empey at mariekh27@gmail.com to join at any time throughout the year.

Ministry Teams

Prayer Shawls and Squares

Dedicated members of the Holy Trinity community create prayer shawls, squares, stones, and other items to spread the love of Christ with others, especially those experiencing illness or grieving. These materials are available at the back of the church, and all are encouraged to take them for themselves or a loved one. Contact Sandy Cronbaugh at scronbaugh@southslope.net for more information.

Agapé Prayer Team

2nd Tuesday of the Month, 9:00 - 10:00 AM at the Church

Agapé is a team open to all members who meet regularly to pray for known needs of the congregation and the community. Always confidential, prayer submissions are given to the church office, to Pastor Tim, to the prayer table in Fellowship Hall, or placed in the offering plate in worship. Contact Judy Taylor at jtaylor1720@gmail.com to join in on this important ministry.

Reconciling in Christ

The Reconciling in Christ (RIC) Program is a public way for faith communities to see, name, celebrate, and advocate for people of all sexual orientations, gender identities, and gender expressions in the Lutheran church. The RIC Program is made up of congregations, synods, colleges, seminaries, outdoor ministries, and other Lutheran organizations. Over the next 18 months, our Council is proposing that we invest in an intentional exploration of this process, such that we might afterward discern whether we are ready to become an RIC congregation. Adult forums on Jan. 19 & 26 will introduce the concept, and we may then vote at our Annual Meeting on our readiness to pursue this in 2025.

More information can be found on the Reconciling Works website at www.reconcilingworks.org/ric.

Ministry Teams

Facilities Team

Every Other Month on Thursdays, 6:30-8:00 PM at the Church

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. Contact Bill Gelhaus at bgelhaus@west-branch.k12.ia.us to join in!

Stewardship Team

Every Other Month and Other Times as Needed

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! Contact Eric Weiler at eweiler@southslope.net to get involved.

Mental Health Advocacy Team

Select Monday Evenings and Other Times as Needed

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. Contact Angie Weiler at aziesma@kirkwood.edu or Kris Frisbie at krisfrisbie@southslope.net to get connected!

Additional Resources

Prayer Kits

As a faith community, we are focused on supporting families in our midst, in all their various forms. We also believe that our faith doesn't just happen inside our church walls. Prayer and conversations in homes can be the most influential place of learning about God. One way we can support you, whether you live alone or with others, is through prayer kits. These kits include instructions and resources to help guide your time of prayer. The kits can be checked out for a week at a time.

Johnson County Interfaith Coalition

JCIC is a caucus of faith communities focused on building a multicultural faith-based organization that advocates justice for the residents of Johnson County, IA, as well as for those who live beyond it. For more information, visit their website: www.jciciowa.org.

Southeastern Iowa Synod

The Southeastern Iowa Synod of the ELCA is a network of congregations and ministry partners who are called to share God's love in Jesus Christ. The Southeastern Iowa Synod is comprised of 135 congregations in 38 counties in the southeastern part of the state. Holy Trinity is a member church of the synod. For more information, visit their website: www.seiasynod.org.

Pastoral Care

Illness, Crisis, and Immediate Assistance

Please call the church office or Pastor:

Office: (319) 665-2200, Pastor Tim: (319) 743-8483

Pastoral Visits

Pastoral visits are available for a variety of needs, including illness, surgery, hospice, and end of life care. Contact Pastor Tim or the church office to schedule a visit.

Prayer

Staff and members are happy to pray for you and the needs of your loved ones. Contact the Church Office (office@holytrinitynl.org), Pastor Tim (tim@holytrinitynl.org), and/or the Agape Prayer Team (Judy: jtaylor1720@gmail.com), to be added to the prayer list, either publicly or privately.

Pastoral Care

Baptism

If you would like to have your child baptized, or would like to be baptized yourself, please contact Pastor Tim at tim@holytrinitynl.org. We would love to share Jesus' grace with you through the waters of baptism. Opportunities for education and questions are available.

Weddings and Marriage Preparation

Congratulations on your engagement! Pastor Tim is happy to talk through marriage preparation, wedding planning, and ways the church can support you, whether your wedding is at the church or offsite. Contact tim@holytrinitynl.org to get the process started.

Funerals

We will walk alongside you during this difficult time of grief. We will help you plan and implement a funeral service for your loved one and celebrate the promise of God's gift of mercy and grace. Please contact the church office or Pastor Tim for immediate assistance.

Staff Contacts

Pastor Tim Smith
tim@holytrinitynl.org

Tim Stammeyer, Program Coordinator
stammeyer@holytrinitynl.org

Richard Tiegs, Office Administrator
office@holytrinitynl.org

Visioning Council

Starting after the Annual Meeting in February

Emily Lenhart, President

Larry Kudej, Vice-President

Steve Empey, Secretary

Jack Fratzke, Treasurer

Isaac Blackwell, At-Large

Ken Morse, At-Large

Kristin Stoll, At-Large

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church

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North Liberty, IA 52317
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