

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church
Forum Topics
Academic Year 2015-2016

- **Sep 20, 2015** – A discussion on Pope Francis’ recently released encyclical on climate change, and on the ELCA DC Synod Assembly’s decision to issue a letter to Pope Francis calling for an ecumenical council. To read or skim the Vatican’s English translation of the encyclical, go to:
http://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/encyclicals/documents/papa-francesco_20150524_enciclica-laudato-si.html

To read Bishop Graham’s draft letter to Pope Francis, go to:
<http://metrodcelca.org/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2013/06/15SAfinalecumenical.pdf>

- **Sep 27** – Pastor Mike and Emma Gutzler present an installment in the on-going series, “Our Story” describing their biographical and faith journeys.
- **Oct 4** – Open discussion; Bring your articles to discuss.
- **Oct 11** – Planning Session; Columbus Day Holiday Weekend. Bring ideas for future forums this fall.
- **Oct 18** – Human Trafficking Awareness and Prevention. Ms. Liz Hoefer, Annandale United Methodist Church. The presentation, discussion, and Q&A, addressed the following:
 - What is human trafficking, and how does it manifest itself in Northern Virginia?
 - How do our Virginia laws address trafficking?
 - Where does trafficking take place?
 - Who are its primary victims, and what makes them vulnerable?
 - Who are the perpetrators, and how do they operate?
 - What can we do to help?
- **Oct 25** – The United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights. John English led the discussion, providing history, background and context for this far reaching document of which the United States is a signatory.
- **Nov 1** – Reconciled-in-Christ (RIC) Update with Matt Roberts and others from the Holy Trinity RIC committee.
- **Nov 8** – HT “Building the Future” Campaign. Pastor Mike and HT Church Council representatives provided updates and additional information on the “Building the Future” capital campaign, in preparation for HT annual meeting and consecration Sunday.

- **Nov 22** – HT’s own John Newton led the discussion: “Experiences in, and perspectives on, the country of Iran.” John provided first-hand experiences in Iran based on several years working and living there in different capacities including the Peace Corps and in media publication.
- **Nov 29** – Open discussion about the Thanksgiving season: “What are we thankful for?”
- **Dec 6** – “Mixing Religion and Politics,” Virginia state legislator and HT member, Jim LeMunyon, discussed how his faith motivates his work in the Virginia House of Delegates, and how people of faith engage the legislature for changes in Virginia law.
- **Dec 13, 2015** – “A Year Serving in the Middle East,” Ms. Clare McElaney, former HT member, daughter of HT’s former pastor Doug Ryniewicz, and a graduate of Fairfield University, related her first-hand experiences and perspectives from her year serving in the middle east with ELCA’s Young Adults in Global Mission.
- **Jan 3, 2016** – Holy Trinity’s World-Wide-Web presence. Greg D’Addario – HT Communications Coordinator, presided on the new HT website.
- **Jan 10** – Discussion of Pastor Mike’s “Year-end Questions” to the congregation.
- **Jan 17** – Open Forum Discussion.
- **Jan 31** – Homelessness in Fairfax County. Ms. Alisha Matlock, Director of Development at FACETS presented on: “The State of Homelessness in Fairfax County... and how we can each make a difference.”
- **Feb 7** – The Rev. Richard H. Graham, Bishop of the Metro DC Synod of the ELCA led the Forum discussion on Synod priorities.
- **Feb 14** – Rev. Ron Qualley, "The Impact of Servant Ministry –Outreach and the Local Church." Pastor Qualley was assisting Holy Trinity to review its historical and current budgeted benevolences.
- **Feb 21** – Pastor Philip Hirsch, Assistant to the Bishop and Director of Evangelical Mission for the ELCA Metro DC Synod, presented on “Best Practices of Growing Congregations.”
- **Feb 28** – Rob Young and Tracy Strunk led the discussion on HT’s Hypothermia Prevention Shelter 2016: The latest information and plans as HT’s shelter week begins that evening.
- **Mar 6** – Rob Young & Tracey Strunk on the Hypothermia Prevention Shelter Follow-up. Rob & Tracy led the discussion to review this year’s shelter experiences and what we learned.

- **Mar 13** – Ms. Autumn Orme, Director of Development, Lutheran Social Services of the National Capital Area, presented on, “Current Refugee Resettlement Challenges in our Area.”
- **Mar 20** – Dr. Gerald O. Barney, presented information he has acquired and shared his research and learnings on “Advance Medical Directives” and “Living Wills.”
- **Apr 3** – Dr. Casey Cook, Director of Holy Trinity’s music program led the discussion on the program’s elements, past, present and future.
- **Apr 10** – Terry and Linda Bathen presented in HT’s on-going series, “Our Story,” describing their personal, professional and faith journeys.
- **Apr 17** – Pastor Mike Gutzler led the discussion on “Christianity in the Post Modern Era.”
- **Apr 24** – Bring your articles to discuss: Open Forum.
- **May 1** – “A year in Rwanda.” Ms Sarah Brock, a former ELCA fellow of the Young Adults in Global Mission presented on her year living and working in the country of Rwanda.
- **May 8** – Forum Retrospective and Planning Session for 2016-17.
- **May 22, 2016** – HT Church Council presented a preview of the June 5 Congregational Annual Meeting.

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Academic Year 2014-2015

- **Sep 14, 2014** – Fall Introductory Session: What is HT Forum? What should it be? Communication to congregation? Learning? Suggestions for new topics; worthy news articles; potential presenters
- **Sep 21** – HT Pastoral Transition Team and 10-year Mission Ministry Team updates: Lynn Tedesco & John Bowen
- **Sep 28** – HT Sunday School: What's new at HT curriculum: Martha Kile and Heidi Merkel from the Sunday School team
- **Oct 5** – HT community Present & Future: State of the Congregation: Council President Dave Franke et al
- **Oct 12** – CROP Walk: Terri Fleck and HT Youth
- **Oct 19** – HT music ministry: Our strengths and opportunities for future growth: Dr. Casey Cook, HT director of music Holy Trinity's Director of Music.
- **Oct 26** - Greg D'Addario, HT's Web Manager: Communication - What/How/Why?
- **Nov 2** – HT Pastoral Transition: Mark Kerr and the Call Committee - Current Status - Process - Up-date.
- **Nov 9** – Reconciling-in-Christ: Matt Roberts and the HT RIC Team - A Process to prayerfully welcome the LGBT community
- **Nov 23** – “Our Task”: A Network of Young Adults - Enhancing the Human-Earth Relationship – to create a sustainable future for all in the Anthropocene. Presentation led by Ms. Sonja Potjewijd, Program Director of Our Task.
- **Nov 30** - Open Forum - Be Thankful!! - Why? - For What? - How?
- **Dec 7** - Brother's Brother Foundation (BBF): Mr. Richard Goddard. BFF promotes international health and education through efficient and effective distribution and provision of donated medical, educational and other resources - connecting people's resources with people's needs in 146 countries.
www.brothersbrother.org
- **Dec 21, 2014** - Open Forum: The Prince of Peace – “I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Counselor to be with you forever. Peace I leave with you; My peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.” John 14:16, 27 Message: “Fear Not.”

- **Jan 4, 2015** -- Access to Justice <http://www.afj.org> Forced Arbitration; National Employment Lawyers Association, Legislative & Public Policy Director Julie M. Strandlie. Incl: Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act; Fair Arbitration Now Coalition for ending binding arbitration. See: <http://www.fairarbitrationnow.org> <https://www.nela.org/NELA/> Alliance for Justice works.
- **Jan 11** -- Update: Pastoral Transition; Call, Welcome/Support Teams; Vitality; 10-yr Mission Ministry Teams; HT Capital Fund and Facility Repairs.
- **Jan 18** -- Rev. Dr. Gordon Lathrop - Elements of Lutheran Worship
- **Jan 25** – Advancing Girls’ Education; Aubryn Sidle, Director.
- **Feb 1** – My Story by Pastor Jane Halprin
- **Feb 8** – Hypothermia Week 2015: Rob Young and Tracy Strunk
- **Feb 22** – 30-hour Famine 2015: Terry Fleck/ HT Youth
- **Mar 1** – Open Forum: ELCA Web Page: A. Rulis
- **Mar 8** – Hypothermia 2015 Update: Rob Young and Tracy Strunk
- **Mar 22** – Our Story: Dick and Helen Myhre: 48 years at HT
- **Mar 29** – Joint session with HT’s Adult Education “Animate” Group: “Where God Is” by Nadia Bolz-Weber.
- **Apr 19** – Reconciling in Christ: Matt Roberts and RIC Team
- **Apr 26** – Mental Health for young people: Darcy Gruttadaro of National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Child & Adolescent Action Center
- **May 10, 2015** – Open session: Forum Review: Retrospective/Prospective

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church
Forum Topics
Academic Year 2013-2014

- **Sep 15, 2013** – Open Discussion: What is HT Forum? What should it be?
- **Sep 22** – “The Story” and Pastor Halprin and Dave Franke - change in church calendar/lectionary
- **Sep 29** – HT Music Program updates and vision: Dr. Casey Cook
- **Oct 6** – The HT Sunday School Program: New directions and “The Story”: Ms. Heidi Merkel and SS Supers. Also, Blessing of the Animals
- **Oct 13** – Reconciling in Christ (RIC): Update report: Matt Roberts.
- **Oct 20** - Community of St. Dymas: Pastor Gerry Rickel. - The Community of St. Dymas will celebrate its 30th Anniversary as a Congregation in 2014. CSD was the first of its kind in that it is an actual congregation inside a prison (now there are approximately two dozen) <http://www.stdysmasmd.org/>
- **Oct 27** - “Our Story”: Theresa and Chuck Hoyt
- **Nov 10** – Special presentation by **Dr. Diana Butler Bass** on “Trends, Challenges, and Ourlook in today’s church.” Dr. Butler Bass is a historian focusing on the history of Christianity and a leading voice in progressive Christianity. She is currently an independent scholar who writes broadly on American religion and culture.
- **Nov 24** – Update on modernizing communications at HT: Mr. Greg D’Addario
- **Dec 1** – Our Task: Ms. Martha Louisa Nowlan - Deputy Director of OT and Ms. Julia Schaefer-Gomez - Development Coordinator of Our Task. OT is an independent, non-profit network of young adults concerned about the Earth they will inherit. Ms. Schaefer-Gomez, holds a B.A in Anthropology from George Mason University, and an M.S. in Environmental Policy from Oxford University. She has conducted social science research in Washington, D.C. and Latin America, and has recently worked with the U.S. Department of Agriculture as an analyst and process reengineering consultant. Ms. Nowlan, Deputy Director of Our Task, graduated *magna cum laude* from SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry, in Syracuse, New York. She holds a B.S. degree in Environmental Studies, with concentrations in policy, planning, and law.
- **Dec 8, 2013** – Glories Happy Hats and The Glories HATS Project® - “Stay Healthy to Help Others”: Ms. Susan Khorsand, Executive Director. The Project is an adolescent service-learning initiative committed to decreasing social, economic and health disparities.

- **Jan 5, 2014** – My Story: HT Seminary student in Diaconal Ministry, Deb Haynes
- **Jan 12** - Lutheran Social Services National Capital Area: Ms. Summer Parrish, Director of Development and Lynn Tedesco, Board Member.
- **Jan 19** – Open Discussion: Prophets and Prophetic Voices
- **Jan 26** – My Story: Lynn Tedesco, HT
- **Feb 2** - ELCA Missionary Stephen Deal - 25th anniversary Iglesia Luterana Costarricense (ILCO)
- **Feb 9** - Hypothermia 2015 Team: Rob Young
- **Feb 16** – 30-Hour Famine: Terri Fleck and HT Youth
- **Feb 23** - Emily Thomas, Fairfax County Family Services, Area Agency on Aging, Volunteer Solutions
- **Mar 2** - Hypothermia Recap and Update - Rob Young et.al. 30-Hour Famine: update by HT Youth.
- **Mar 9** – My Story: 50 years in Journalism: Dr. Carl Stepp, UMd and HT.
- **Mar 16** – Funeral Preparations: Pastor Jane Halprin and Terry Bathen, HT.
- **Mar 23** – The Farm Bill: Ms. Anne Simmons
- **Mar 30** – Gun violence and the ELCA DC Metro Synod resolution on Safe and Responsible use of Firearms: Alfie Rulis
- **Apr 6** – Faith-based public policy: Marco A. Grimaldo, CEO & President, Virginia Interfaith Center for Public Policy, Virginia’s oldest nonpartisan faith-based advocacy group
- **Apr 13** – HT’s 10-yr Mission Ministry Team including HT’s Vitality Group and the 10-year Vision and Mission Ministries Team: Lynn Tedesco
- **Apr 20** – Rebirth: Easter-focused discussion
- **Apr 27** – Central America Eye Mission: Phil Loar and John & Mary Bowen
- **May 4, 2014** – Retrospective review of Forum for 2013-2014 years
- **May 11, 2014** – Preparatory discussion for the Congregational Meeting on May 18: Leaders of the HT Church Council

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church
Forum Topics
Academic Year 2012-2013

- **Sep 9, 2012** – Rally Day
- **Sep 16** - John Grutzik – on the HT Council’s retreat and initiatives generated as a result. John shares ideas on updating the Mission and Vision Plan for Holy Trinity and will listen to any concerns members would like to communicate to the Council
- **Sep 23** - HT Sunday School - Heidi Merkel and Supers - discuss transitioning from Pastor Margrethe’s leadership program to lay leadership, who the Supers are and what they do, and a quick overview of the Spark curriculum.
- **Sep 30** – HT Pastoral Vision: Pastor Jane Halprin
- **Oct 7** - Holy Trinity Youth - Terri Fleck and HT youth
- **Oct 14** - Holy Trinity Organ - Michael Hart
- **Oct 21** - Nambia part 1 - Pastor Jane on her participation in the Synod’s recent mission trip there
- **Oct 28** - Nambia part 2 - Pastor Jane
- **Nov 4** - Church Council Prep for Cong. Mtg.- John Grutzik
Agenda/Issues, Sunday Worship service, Mission and Vision Plan, Closing out 2011-12 budget, Q&A
- **Nov 11** – Young Adults: Rev. Amy Thompson-Sevimli. Rev. Thompson-Sevimli is Assistant to the Bishop of the Metropolitan Washington, D.C. Synod of the ELCA and was previously Associate Pastor at Resurrection Lutheran in Arlington, VA.
- **Nov 18** - Open Forum - Thanksgiving - thankful for what??, Family, Vocation/Occupation/Job, Health, HT community, Area living...
- **Nov 25** – ELCA Environmental Advocacy, Ms. Mary Minette, Director of Environmental and Rural Advocacy for the ELCA Washington Office: Current focus and how to get involved. Mary is a graduate of Stanford University and University of California Los Angeles, School of Law.
- **Dec 2** – Peace Corps in Togo: HT’s Ms. Maggie Person
- **Dec 9, 2012** – Caregiver Services <http://lssnca.org/lss/>: Ms. Kimberly Davis, Program Coordinator, Caregiver Services Department of Church and Community Ministries of Lutheran Social Services of the National Capital Area. People give selflessly to care for an aging loved one, but the added responsibilities can put

the care givers's physical, emotional, and spiritual health at risk. Caregiver Services partners with faith communities like yours to help ease the burden for caregivers by focusing on the health and well-being of the caregiver.

- **Jan 6, 2013** - The "Lamb Center": Mr .John MacPherson, Executive Director.
- **Jan 13** – China 2012: "Bronze Age to Birds' Nest": Al and Alfie Rulis on their 2012 trip.
- **Jan 20** - Open Forum - Prophets, Prophetic voices, MLK Jr., Presidential Inauguration, Your Issue
- **Jan 27** – HT's Music Program: Vision for HT: Dr. Casey Cook
- **Feb 3** – Volunteer Outreach Programs at Holy Trinity: Ms. Katherine Search
- **Feb 10** – Hypothermia Prevention at HT: Mr. Rob Young of the HT hypothermia program and FACETs
- **Feb 17** – The 30-Hour Famine: Ms. Terri Fleck and Holy Trinity Youth
- **Feb 24** – Hypothermia week at HT: Anne Simmons, Marcia Ihnen, Heidi Merkel. Also Debbie D'Addario, Matt Roberts - Sunday Morning Ministry Team - Sunday Morning Worship
- **Mar 3** – Hypothermia Update - Rob Young et.al. Also: 30-Hour Famine: HT youth
- **Mar 10** - 18 years of Eye Care International missions in El Salvador: Phil Loar, John & Mary Bowen, Pastor Jane Halprin.
- **Mar 17** – "Our Task" : Ms. Monica Moore - Program Coordinator - Our Task Implications of our current societal paradigm ("Plan A") and what continuing with "business as usual" means for young people and future generations. She will also explore some alternate environmental plans, known as "Plan Bs. Learn too about the OT 2013 Earth 2100 Conference, being held this July at George Mason University
- **Mar 24** - Palm Sunday Suzanne Stierwalt
- **Apr 7** - LSS Lutheran Social Services of National Capital Area: "Compassion in Action": Rich & Anne Kauzlarich, LSS volunteers and Summer Parrish LSS Director of Development and Communications
- **Apr 14** - HT Council President, John Grutzik, and members of the Church Council: Issues for the upcoming Congregational meeting including budget, the Sunday Morning Ministry Team, other Council initiatives.
- **Apr 21** – Communication at HT: Update by Greg D'Addario

- **May 5** - Volunteer Ministry at HT helping those outside of HT: Katherine Search
- **May 12, 2013** – HT Mission Endowment Fund (MEF) Opportunities – Mr. Terry Bathen. Also, Ms. Alice Benson, the Regional Gift Planner for the ELCA Foundation serving the DC Synod will discuss gift planning tools available through the ELCA Foundation and the MEF. Discussion to include planned and major legacy gifts to assist the Foundation in reaching out to the community and the world, alleviating poverty, sponsoring missionaries, funding seminary scholarships and supporting ELCA congregations

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church
Forum Topics
Academic Year 2011-2012

- **Sep 11, 2011** – Open forum - 10th anniversary of 9/11. How did life change? How did faith influence that change?
- **Sep 18** – Casey Cook, Director of Music will discuss his faith and the life of music to which it has led him.
- **Sep 25** The Lutheran Volunteer Corps: Sue Gaeta, Director of Development for LVC (will also preach). Several current volunteers will also be present to discuss and answer questions.
- **Oct 2** HT's John Grutzik discusses his personal sense of religion and how it has collided with politics to shape his vocation, and his sense of volunteerism for the next generation. John works in the U.S. Senate Recording Studio which broadcasts the coverage of the U.S. Senate on C-SPAN2. He is an active member of his Civic Association and Scouting. He is also a member of Holy Trinity's Council.
- **Oct 9** Eric Chancellor - from Missouri to Director of Bell Choirs at Holy Trinity
- **Oct 16** El Salvador: HT members, Phil Loar, Charles/Gracia Luoma-Overstreet, Jen Davis, Pastor Margrethe, who were part of the MWDC companion synod delegation to El Salvador in August will describe their experiences celebrating the 25th anniversary of the Iglesia Luterana Salvadoreña (Salvadoran Lutheran Church) and their visits to various Salvadoran Lutheran communities and congregations.
- **Oct 23** KAIROS: Rev. Russ Siler, the KAIROS Palestine Document (will also preach) KAIROS - the opportune time and/or place, the right time to say or do the right thing. A discussion on the 2009 December 11, Kairos Palestine Document, a statement of Christian Palestinian church leaders on the situation in the Holy Land, calling on churches around the world to say a word of truth and to take a position of truth with regard to Israel's occupation of Palestinian land. The First Kairos statement was issued in 1985 by a group of black South African theologians that challenged the churches' response to the vicious policies of the Apartheid state. Pastor Siler worked as an assistant to the Rev. Munib A. Younan, Bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land, from 2003 to 2007. Bishop Younan is one of the signatories of the Kairos Document and is the current president of the Lutheran World Federation. Pastor Siler also served as the pastor of the English-speaking congregation of the Lutheran Church of the Redeemer in the Old City of Jerusalem. One can study the Kairos document which can be downloaded from the World Council of Churches website at <http://www.oikoumene.org/gr/resources/documents/other-ecumenical-bodies/kairos-palestine-document.html>. You may also want to visit the Kairos Palestine website <http://www.kairospalestine.ps>

- **Oct 30** HT Church Council - Holy Trinity:Today/Tomorrow

Nov 6 “501 Church/Young Adults”: Wendy Moen, Pastor at First Trinity DC, (will also preach). 501 Church is a community of young adults coming together to discuss and connect with God and each other.

- **Nov 13** HT’s Eleanore Marcy - "Eleanore will speak about her efforts towards spiritual encouragement of combat vets." Eleanore attended the BRAC / Military Ministry Workshop scheduled on October 29th. The Workshop was for congregations interested in opening their doors to military members and families in the community, building connections on nearby military bases, or deepening awareness about vocation and service. Senior military speakers addressed "building a bridge" between our civilian and military communities and some of the local BRAC moves.
- **Nov 20** HT Congregation Meeting: Leona Badger, Jeri Hesson, Beth Search of the ‘Secret Visitors’ program will discuss their findings and ideas regarding effective hospitality.
- **Nov 27** The Farm Bill: HT’s Ms. Anne Simmons - will discuss the status of Farm Bill legislation. Sustainability - Food - Food Stamps - or ‘sausage’
Anne is Senior Policy Advisor for the Democratic staff of the House Agriculture Committee
- **Dec 4, 2011** ELCA DC Synod Bishop Graham (will also preach): The Rev. Richard H. Graham was elected to a six-year term as bishop of the Metropolitan Washington, D.C. Synod of the ELCA on June 8, 2007, by the 2007 Synod Assembly. He took office on September 1, 2007, and was installed on October 14, 2007.
- **Jan 1, 2012** Hit by Lightning: Ever wonder what it would be like to be hit by lightning? See a 30 min documentary on the recent experience of two Arlington residents out walking and being struck by lightning. They survived after extended stays in the ICU Burn Center of Washington Hospital Center. Their luck, pluck, and love comes through strongly. HT’s Dr. Jerry Barney and Vincent Gaito co-producers.
- **Jan 8** Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service, Eli Hernandez, Assistant Director for Outreach. Eli brings a wealth of expertise to Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service’s mission of welcome.
- **Jan 15** Martin Luther King, Jr. Moral Rights, Human Rights, Civil Rights
In April 1963 Dr. Martin Luther King was arrested and jailed in Birmingham, Alabama. While in jail he wrote a long letter to a group of white clergymen who called Dr. King’s involvement in the Birmingham Campaign “unwise and untimely”. What were the circumstances surrounding these events in 1963? Almost 50 years removed from 1963 do modern day movements such as the Arab Spring and Occupy Wall Street share anything in common with the

injustices and responses to those injustices as described in Dr. King's "Letter from Birmingham Jail"?

- **Jan 22** Stewardship - John Grutzik leads the discussion centered around the spiritual act of giving and how that affects the mind and body of the being and the church
- **Jan 29** "Just Neighbors": Mr. Dave Franke. Just Neighbors Immigration Legal Services is a non-profit organization founded in 1996 by several pastors and attorneys of the United Methodist Church to develop a practical response to the legal challenges that low-income immigrants face in the United States. Today, the mission of Just Neighbors is to provide immigration legal services to low-income immigrants and refugees of all faiths and nationalities through offices located in Northern Virginia.
- **Feb 5** Sojourners: With Sojourners' Interns Nicole Higgins and James Colton as guest speakers. Sojourners is "a committed group of Christians who work together to live a gospel life that integrates spiritual renewal and social justice." Nicole and James will share how they express their passion for the gospel through their work with Sojourners.
- **Feb 12** Hypothermia Prevention Response Program: Ms. Deb Haynes and HT Hypothermia Team Leaders will discuss HTLC's upcoming week to host the shelter from February 26 – March 4. They will discuss what's new in the program; and give an update on the state of homelessness and affordable housing in Fairfax County.
- **Feb 19** Youth of Holy Trinity: HT high school youth and adult leaders discuss the upcoming "30 Hour Famine" to share information about what they will be doing for this event and how it is part of our hosting of the Hypothermia Shelter.
- **Feb 26** Hypothermia week: "Equality," and "Inequality," what do they mean? What would Jesus say/do? God hoped for justice, // But behold, injustice; // For equity, // But behold iniquity! // Woe to those who add house to house // And join field to field, // Till there is room for none but you // To dwell in the land! Isaiah 5:7-8
- **Mar 4** Youth of Holy Trinity and the Hypothermia Prevention Response Program. Follow up on both programs.
- **Mar 11** Bread for the World - Rev. Lamarco Cable Mid-Atlantic and Central Southern Regional Organizer. A collective Christian voice urging our nation's decision makers to end hunger at home and abroad.
- **Mar 18** Refurbishing HT's pipe organ: Refurbisher, Michael Hart, of the Di Gennaro-Hart Organ Company on "My work and my faith."
- **Mar 25** Campus Ministry - Rev. Ray Ranker, the Lutheran Chaplain at the University of Maryland, College Park.

- **Apr 1** International parental child abduction: Ms. Kris Luoma-Overstreet Learn about and discuss what the U.S. government does to help resolve sensitive cases that involve the most fundamental of children's and parents' needs.
- **Apr 8** Open Forum on the Easter theme
- **Apr 15** Cuba 2012: Judy and Arnold Baker discuss their recent trip to Cuba and the U.S. "People-to-People" Program. They will share stories, pictures and impressions of Cuba. They met artists, educators, doctors, nurses, Cuban and U.S. government representatives, pastors, musicians, dancers, community organizers, and ordinary citizens to learn more about current conditions and challenges.
- **Apr 22** Holy Trinity Council members preview the annual congregational meeting on April 29 centering around the annual budget for the church's fiscal year starting June 2012 through May 2013. HT budget priorities, the houses, long-term planning, and possible new initiatives. They will address questions, concerns, and comments. Please join us for an informative discussion of Holy Trinity's future.
- **Apr 29** Lutheran Services for America: Deacon Katherine Miller-Holland, Director of Church and Community Ministries for Lutheran Social services of the National Capital Area and Coordinator of Lutheran Disaster Response. She is a graduate of Trinity Lutheran Seminary.
- **May 6** The "Arab Spring": Ms. Tania Kamal-Eldin focuses on Egypt. What gave rise to it? Where is it going? The US role? Ms. Kamal-Eldin has been an independent film producer for nearly two decades, producing documentaries, short films, educational, musical, theatrical, and installation videos. She has been working on a documentary of events in Cairo, particularly as seen from the perspective of women. Living and working extensively in Cairo, Egypt, has been conducive to her awareness of environmental issues. Tania will lead the 2012 Our Task Intern Program. She was born in Egypt. Her father is Egyptian and her mother is an American-Norwegian Lutheran from Iowa. She holds an M.F.A. UC San Diego; M.Sc. London School of Economics; and a B.A. Univ. Pennsylvania.
- **May 13** Lutherans Concerned: Dr. Phillip Moeller, Director of International Programs of Lutherans Concerned/North America and on the Board of Directors of the St. Paul's Foundation for International Reconciliation. Lutherans Concerned/North America (LC/NA) works for the full inclusion of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender Lutherans in all aspects of the life of their Church and congregations.
- **May 20, 2012** The HT Vitality Committee: Terry Bathen and Pastor Margrethe Klieber

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church Forum Topics Spring 2011

- **Mar 6, 2011** HT Hypothermia Shelter week: Ms. Deb Haynes reports
- **Mar 13** The ethical and professional issues associated with release of documents by WikiLeaks. Discussion lead by Mr. Charles Luoma-Overstreet.
- **Mar 20** Infectious disease transmission: HT's Judy English, and advisor to government officials on the transmission of infections, discusses issues important to humanitarian and healthcare workers providing relief assistance during disasters.
- **Mar 27** HT Youth on issues of concern to high school students.
- **Apr 3** Reducing the environmental footprint of the Pentagon building: Ms. Angeline Cione shares stories of front-line, hands-on work dealing with waste water, solid waste, toxics, and other waste from the Pentagon building.
- **Apr 10** HT Church Council: Update in preparation for May 15 Congregational meeting. Topics to include Living the New Creation Vision, Stewardship program plans, and a financial update.
- **Apr 17** Developing public recreational trails on private property in Appalachia to stimulate regional economic development: John English of HT will discuss his work on this project
- **May 1** Paul Culler of Fair Trade Winds will talk about breaking the cycle of poverty by connecting artisans and farmers in developing countries with access to markets in developed countries
- **May 8** - Public service, why he got into it, how he makes it work with his other 'normal' activities, and issues/interactions with his faith: HT's N.Virginia Representative to Richmond, Mr. Jim LeMunyon
- **May 15** Living with mental illness: Ms. Jeri Hesson shares her personal story about living with a severe mental illness and achieving recovery and transformation. Questions will be encouraged throughout the presentation. The hope is that others suffering from mental illness, or family members of those suffering, will not only be encouraged that recovery is possible but will also learn that it is different for each person. National Association for Mental Illness (NAMI)
- **May 22** -- Open Forum - unanswered questions from previous forum sessions, new questions, next Fall, etc.
- **May 29** Memorial Day Weekend. John Bowen, Becky Fleck - Synodical Conference report

- **Jun 5** Interfaith Prayer & Meditation - general group discussion with Pastor Margrethe Klieber
- **Jun 12** Learning from other faith traditions - Kelsang Varahi - resident teacher from the Vajrayogini Buddhist Center -prayer and meditation practice in the Buddhist tradition.
- **Jun 19** The Interfaith Meditation Initiative: Mr. Andrew Stern, Founder and Staff President of IMI
- **Jun 26** Learning from other faith traditions - Bhavan Schinde - with the Hindu Temple
- **Jul 3** Learning from other faith traditions - Rabbi Ita Paskind - Congregation Olam Tikvah - prayer and meditation in the Jewish tradition
- **Jul 10** Open Forum - discuss past presentations
- **Jul 17, 2011** Learning from other traditions - Terry Snowball - Wisconsin Ho-Chunk & Prairie Band Potawatomi nations - National Museum of the American Indian (NMAI), Repatriation Coordinator