



The In Touch

Volume 57, Issue 12

Our Mission: To Seek, Know, Love and Serve Christ in all Persons and in all Creation

From the Arch Deacon.....

Each year before Advent, Right Reverend Bishop Loya requires all his ECMN deacons to write a letter accounting for what has transpired in their 2022 vocation as deacons particularly important to their work and well-being. Describing my deacon work in the past two years at Holy Trinity, activities in the community, activities in ECMN, and activities in my personal life important to my work as a deacon are entailed in the letter.

We are fortunate in International Falls to be a Total Ministry Parish because *The Maker of Life* has called and invited all the baptized at HTEC to partner with our neighbors and join others who are working to make our community stronger, healthier, safer, and more just. My work as a deacon within the walls of our church and outside in the local and ECMN communities can only happen with the support of our beloved community directed by the *Great Spirit* and *Giver of Breath*. Therefore my letter to Bishop Loya outlined our shared ministry accomplishments working together as a team within the church and community.

Our Ground of Being has guided us to adapt during this time. We have taken John 3:8 to heart- “The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So, it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.” We prayed *The Prayer of Good Courage*:



“O God, you have called us
To ventures where we cannot see the end
By paths never yet taken
Through perils unknown
Give us good courage
Not knowing where we go then
To know that your hand is leading us
Wherever we might go. Amen.”

What HTEC has accomplished together with *The Spirits Hand* leading us since the fall of 2021 is amazing. Bishop Loya has visited us two times in the last two Septembers. We have worshiped, shared our Annual Meeting Parish Reports and TMT annual activities documents with him. We welcomed him with the finest hospitality to discuss our concerns and joys.

Because of his concern for our well-being and support for our faithful innovation and vitality as a parish, we received significant financial support from ECMN for building maintenance, flood relief and community outreach. We continued to take leadership roles in the Ukrainian Refugee Relief Dinner, the Northern Houseboat Fire Relief Dinner, Ruby's Pantry, the Rotary Welcoming Community Project, Servants of Shelter, Kids Christmas Shop, Backus Community Center, Backus Community Café, financial outreach to individuals and community organizations and planning the 16th Annual Christmas Day Dinner.

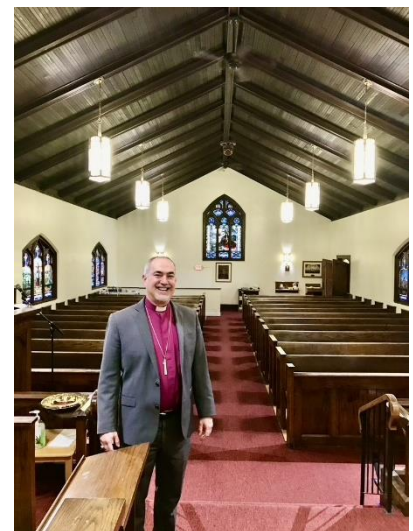
Bishop Loya invited us in his November 16, weekly newsletter: "To spend this next year deepening our discipleship. He believes the Holy Spirit is inviting us to set aside our anxiety about building the institution for a season, rediscover our vocation to be gardeners, and tend to our root system: deepening our relationship with Jesus through ancient practices and new experiments, through daily prayer and dwelling in scripture, through cultivating closer relationships with one another and with those closest to God's heart, the poor, marginalized, and suffering of the world. He is asking us to deepen our spiritual journey by digging more deeply into discipleship".

He also wrote, "Beloved, as we learn to garden again, I believe the Holy Spirit is inviting us to play in the dirt together for a while and see what God might grow as we partner with the Holy Spirit who, alone, orders the seasons of our lives, and who, everywhere, is causing new life to spring forth in the Episcopal Church in Minnesota".

I finished my annual letter to Bishop Loya with this: "It is a happiness and instructive for me to share my diaconal and personal experiences with you. Additionally I want you to know how important your leadership has been for encouraging our discipleship at HTEC and willingness to follow your direction and guidance after two years as our Bishop".

Respectfully submitted,

Archdeacon Reverend Leland H. Grim.





12/2 ~ Brent Schlieff

12/7 ~ Charlie Klatt

12/13 ~ Alexander Kennedy

12/15 ~ Bill Bertram

12/15 ~ Jim Davison

12/19 ~ Alan Wright

12/20 ~ Nora Karlstad

12/20 ~ Byrne Johnson

12/28 ~ Sara Kennedy

12/31 ~ Ladd Corrin



12/14 ~ Dixie Juel (Day)

12/30 ~ Mark Grim



Christmas Kid's Shop

Kids - come shop at Holy Trinity (820 4th Street)

Thurs 12/1 ~ 5-7 pm, Sat. 12/3 ~ 10-1 pm

Tues. 12/6 ~ 5-7 pm, Thurs. 12/8 ~ 5-7 pm

Sat. 12/10 ~ 10-1 pm

Christmas Eve Service ~ 4 pm

Christmas Day 10:00 ~ am



**THE 16th ANNUAL
COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS DAY DINNER**

ELKS LODGE #1599

SUNDAY DECEMBER 25, 2022

**FREE MEAL AVAILABLE FROM 12 NOON TO 2 PM.
CALL 218-240-5125 OR EMAIL ravenlhg@gmail.com
TO VOLUNTEER.**

GOOD WILL DONATIONS GRACIOUSLY ACCEPTED

**THE BACKUS COMMUNITY CAFÉ CHRISTMAS DAY DINNER FUND
BACKUS COMMUNITY CENTER, 900 5TH STREET, INTERNATIONAL FALLS, MN 56649**

Dec '22 Sunday Service Lay Responsibilities

Dates	Celebrants	Acolytes	Lectors & Lessons	Greeters
<p>4</p> <p>Holy Eucharist 10:00 am 2nd Sunday of Advent</p>	<p>Rev. Dr. Samantha Crossley Deacons: Lee Grim or Melanie Mattsen</p>	<p>Lee Grim Or Melanie Mattsen</p>	<p>Molly Pavleck</p>	
<p>11</p> <p>Holy Eucharist 10:00 am 3rd Sunday of Advent</p>	<p>Rev. Dr. Samantha Crossley Deacons: Lee Grim or Melanie Mattsen</p>	<p>Lee Grim Or Melanie Mattsen</p>	<p>Erik Strand</p>	
<p>18</p> <p>Holy Eucharist 10:00 am 4th Sunday of Advent</p>	<p>Rev. Dr. Samantha Crossley Deacon: Lee Grim or Melanie Mattsen</p>	<p>Lee Grim Or Melanie Mattsen</p>	<p>Tricia Brennard</p>	
<p>24</p>  <p>Holy Eucharist 4:00 pm Christmas Eve</p>	<p>Rev. Dr. Samantha Crossley Deacon: Lee Grim or Melanie Mattsen</p>	<p>Lee Grim Or Melanie Mattsen</p>	<p>Jeanne Corrin</p>	
<p>25</p> <p>Lessons & Carols 10:00 am</p>  <p><i>Merry Christmas</i></p>	<p>Rev. Dr. Samantha Crossley Deacon: Lee Grim or Melanie Mattsen</p>	<p>Lee Grim Or Melanie Mattsen</p>		



December 2022



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3 Altar Guild Carolyn & Molly
				Kids Christmas shop 5-7		Kids Christmas shop 10-1
4	5	6	7	8	9	10 Altar Guild
Holy Eucharist 10:00 a.m.		Kids Christmas shop 5-7		Kids Christmas shop 5-7		Tricia Kids Christmas shop 10-1
11	12	13	14	15	16	17 Altar Guild
Holy Eucharist 10:00 a.m.	Ruby's Pantry 5:00 - 6:30 ?	Vestry meeting 6:45 pm				Tricia
18	19	20	21	22	23	24 Altar Guild Donna & Karen
Holy Eucharist 10:00 a.m.	Newsletter Deadline (Mel)					 Christmas Eve 4:00 Service
25	26	27	28	29	30	31 Altar Guild
Lessons & Carols 10:00 a.m. <i>Merry Christmas</i> 						Donna & Karen
