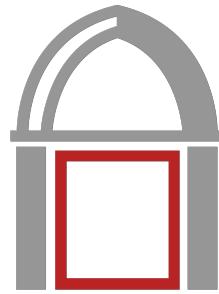


2025-2026 Impact Statement



WORSHIP & MUSIC

- Founded in 1868 and established in 1904 at its home on Central Park West near Lincoln Center, Holy Trinity sits at the forefront of music, liturgy, and service in New York City. Under the leadership of Pastor Timothy Weisman, attendance and membership continue to grow since the pandemic, and as of October 2025, we average about 72 people on Sunday mornings. Each of our services is also beautifully live streamed for those who cannot attend in person, with an average of 20 households watching live on YouTube and hundreds more watching during the week, totaling well over 30,000 views per year. In 2025, Holy Trinity welcomed six new members to the congregation and celebrated six baptisms and six weddings.
- Holy Trinity's Preaching Residences invite clergy to stay as guests in the Parish House in exchange for sharing their gift of preaching with Holy Trinity. Preachers this year have broadened our understanding of the work of the Lutheran church around the country and the world and have included Bishop Rick Jaech, retired Bishop Jim Hazelwood, the Reverend Dan Beirne of Global Refuge, the Reverend Ben Hogue of the ELCA Office of the Presiding Bishop, and the Reverend Cricket Cooper.
- Under the leadership of Austin Philemon, Director of Music, the music at Holy Trinity continues to thrive. The Parish Choir sang multiple world premieres, as well as cantatas including J.S. Bach's "Jesu, meine Freude" with Bach Vespers and Johann Pachelbel's "Christ lag in Todesbanden" at Easter. We also welcomed a new composer-in-residence, Elizabeth Gartman, who has taught composition students at Holy Trinity in exchange for bringing us a new choir anthem, a new mass setting, and later this year, a new solo organ work.
- In 2025, Holy Trinity commemorated the 500th anniversary of Martin Luther's "Deutsche Messe" by premiering Elizabeth Gartman's "The New Liturgy of the Holy Trinity," the first new mass setting commissioned by Holy Trinity since 1986, and the first-ever complete new musical setting of Luther's mass.
- Bach Vespers concluded its 57th season in April, which featured an expansion of the guest artist program with experts including Reginald Mobley, Ruben Valenzuela, Maura Tuffy, Rick Erickson, and Samuel Gaskin. The cantata services enjoyed their best attendance since before the pandemic, with particularly strong attendance for the Magnificat in December, Good Friday, and Easter Sunday.
- Under the leadership of Director Robby Meese, the 58th season of Bach Vespers features a stellar roster of guest artists including Anthony Trecek-King (Handel & Haydn Society), Morgan Mastrangelo (Boston Lyric Opera), Kearstin Piper Brown (Metropolitan Opera), Shunske Sato (Netherlands Bach Society), Harry Bicket (English Concert, Santa Fe Opera), Kelly Hall-Tompkins ("New Yorker of the Year" - New York Times), and Christine Brandes (Florida Grand Opera). The current season also features a performance of Bach's Goldberg Variations played by Austin Philemon and brought to life by London-based synthesizer duo Agnes Cameron and Kat Macdonald, paying homage to trans composer Wendy Carlos's *Switched-On Bach* series, combining Holy Trinity's history of LGBTQ+ advocacy with its commitment to the music of J.S. Bach.
- Holy Trinity's Architectural Task Force has assembled an impressive team led by Acheson Doyle Partners Architects, and over the summer, members of the task force presented a fourteen-week series of temple talks introducing the priorities and possibilities inherent in this once-in-a-generation project that will not only bring the first major pipe organ designed specifically for the music of Johann Sebastian Bach to New York, but make way for a stunning transformation of our nave, including replacing the flooring and adding a

larger, accessible chancel, new seating, air conditioning, and a columbarium. As of October 2025, pledges to the Bach for the Big Apple Campaign have eclipsed \$1.7 million.

- Holy Trinity also completed important deferred maintenance in the summer of 2025, including cleaning out the gutters and downspouts, and repairing and restoring our 120-year-old copper spire (flèche), which had been allowing water to infiltrate the attic and sanctuary. The spire now gleams in the sunlight!
- Holy Trinity continues to develop and improve its systems for safety and security, including an AED for medical emergencies and additional cameras. In October 2025, Holy Trinity will roll out a new Emergency Response Plan in the unlikely event of an active threat.

SERVICE & ADVOCACY

- Holy Trinity's Saturday lunch ministry, named H.U.G., continued with in-person lunches in the Community Room. On average, 30 people gather each week to enjoy a hot meal and choose among warm clothes and nonperishable food items. Homeless Ministry is an extension of H.U.G., with volunteers taking sandwiches, basic toiletries, and warm clothes to our neighbors living on the streets and avenues of the Upper West Side.
- Holy Trinity's Community Living Room meets the needs of those who are food and/or housing insecure, particularly those who choose not to participate in the city's shelter system. We provide gracious space for our neighbors to stay cool or warm up, watch television, and relax; to enjoy a hot, hearty sit-down meal; take a hot shower and wash and dry a load of laundry; and access free Wi-Fi, charging stations, and computers. Over the past year, attendance has tripled, with 30-40 people participating each week.
- Holy Trinity will send a total of \$10,000 for our 2025 Mission Support to the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). These funds support new churches, educational programs, ELCA Disaster Response following natural disasters, and ELCA World Hunger initiatives that feed people across the globe.

COMMUNITY LIFE

- Pastor Tim continues a weekly Bible study each Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. on Zoom, and we have a lively group with robust conversations. Topics this year have included a nine-month study called "The Paul Crawl," a look at the writings, goals, and theology of the Apostle Paul, and the "Esther-vention," a reading of Esther.
- Holy Trinity celebrated the fifth anniversary of Pastor Tim with a month-long celebration in March which culminated in a celebratory coffee hour (and trivia game) marking the occasion.
- Pastor Tim spoke at the 40/35 firehouse at 66th & Amsterdam for their annual remembrance of the lives lost on September 11, 2001. Holy Trinity has had a special relationship with the 40/35 since Pastor Bob Scholz ministered to the Cavemen on 9/11, and Pastor Tim continues that 20+ year tradition.
- Holy Trinity welcomed a new ChaShaMa studio artist-in-residence this year, Konstance Patton. Konstance has welcomed nearly 50 artists, ranging from ages 5-80 through her doors over the past year to teach them painting and sculpture in the basement of the Parish House.
- Holy Trinity hosted a number of community partners this year, including ongoing partnerships with House of Time, Choral Chameleon, Empire City Men's Chorus, Juilliard415, Noise Catalogue, and Launch Science Camp, as well as new long-term partnerships with Metropolitan Ivy Tutoring and the New York Classical Guitar Society. We have also welcomed the famed Cantus vocal ensemble, TENET Vocal Artists, CAKE Zine, the Oberlin Obertones, the National Children's Chorus, BlackBox Ensemble, Boreas Quartet, the Hungarian Cultural Institute, Ensemble Meliora, and six twelve-step meetings each week. Holy Trinity has at least one ongoing community partnership using space in the church six out of seven days each week.