

TRINITY TODAY

OUR CHURCH EXISTS TO **WELCOME** ALL PEOPLE INTO
RELATIONSHIP WITH **JESUS CHRIST** **EQUIP** PEOPLE WITH A
VITAL, LIVING FAITH **SEND** US INTO THE WORLD TO SERVE
IN **JESUS' NAME**

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH . 502 NORTH 4TH STREET . BISMARCK, ND 58501 . 701.223.3560

FAX: 701.223.3561. TRINITY@TRINITYBISMARCK.COM . 8:30 AM RADIO BROADCAST . 1270 AM (KLXX)

WEBSITE: WWW.TRINITYBISMARCK.COM

October 2017

God's Gift to Me; My Gift to God



When I was growing up, there were two things that my father would not talk about: how much money he made and who he voted for. No matter how much I would bug him, he would not reveal either fact: they were private. I have always been a bit disappointed about that. Not that I ever really needed to know who my father voted for, but because he was very good at handling money and providing for his family and I wish that I could have some of that knowledge.

Obviously, today nobody has a problem telling (and arguing about) who they voted for. But talking about money is still taboo. Money represents so many personal things to us . power, control, worth, freedom . that we don't want anyone seeing that deeply into our lives. The power and privacy of money creates an interesting phenomenon: I believe people really would love to have a chance to discuss money but don't dare to. I personally have encountered this on many occasions . the latest one being the very positive response to the Dave Ramsey Financial Peace classes at our church.

In the past couple months I had the privilege of meeting with a small group of people and planning our fall stewardship drive. It was stimulating to talk about what message we wanted to get across and the team settled on the theme %God's Gift to Me/My Gift to God.+ They wanted to emphasize that giving was not primarily about the church's many needs. It was about our need to give. Being generous is part of my growth. Setting a personal giving goal is a way of growing spiritually. That is why we settled on our theme and found this outstanding logo that wonderfully conveys the truth of giving.

In the logo we see God's hand placing treasure as a gift into my hand. This is the beginning of all thinking about our blessings . they are all freely given by God. Having been given this gift, how should I respond? Well, the logo also shows my hand offering that treasure back up to God. God blesses us not so we can hold on for dear life to all our possessions, but so we can share generously with others.

This fall you will have a chance to develop your personal giving goals for the coming year. These goals can be absolutely anything that spreads the blessings of your life . time, talent, or money. All are gifts and all are opportunities to share. What will your personal giving goal be for the coming year?

Musical Moments

Joanne Swonger · swonger@trinitybismarck.com
Director of Music and Worship

Reformation 500 Festival Worship Sunday, October 29th at 11 AM, Bismarck Event Center

The ELCA churches of Western North Dakota invite you to join together as a community of faith in worship to commemorate the 500th Anniversary of the Protestant Reformation. Festival worship will include uplifting music featuring organ, brass, bells, a large choir. A Reformation Band will play contemporary and blended worship favorites for preservice music. Synod Bishop Mark Narum will be preaching and together, we will share in the celebration of Holy Communion. Trinity will not be having worship or church school on October 29th so all can enjoy this once in a lifetime event!

Ushers/Communion Servers

Trinity is providing 5 Communion Servers and 5 Ushers to help at the Reformation 500 Worship Service. We need volunteers! A training session will take place at 10 AM on that day so you will know what to do. If you can be a Trinity volunteer and help, email Joanne!

Reformation 500 Choir

Join the Reformation 500 Choir on Sunday, October 29, at the Civic Center! At present, we need more ALTOS, more TENORS, more BASSES! Sing with other choir members from sister Lutheran congregations around the Bismarck-Mandan area and lift your voice in song! **Rehearsals will be:**

Tuesday, October 10, 7:00 pm - Good Shepherd

Saturday, October 21, 10:00 am - Trinity Lutheran

Saturday, October 28, 1:00 pm—Civic Center.

Email (swonger@trinitybismarck.com) to sing!

Crop Walk: October 8 at 1:30 p.m. on the steps of the Capitol Building

The purpose of the CROP Walk is to raise money for hunger. For more information see Gracia or email gjohnson@trinitybismarck.com

Children & Youth

Gracia Johnson · gjohnson@trinitybismarck.com
Youth, Family Life, and Christian Education Coordinator



Halloween Party

All Church School age kids and their families are invited to join us for a Halloween Party on Saturday, October 28 from 2 to 3 pm for some fun, games, and treats! Wear your costume and join us!

4-6 Grade Retreat

A fun overnight of games, life story, and fun at Camp of the Cross near Garrison. The event starts at 7 pm on Friday, October 27 and ends at 4 pm on Saturday, October 28. Cost is \$35. Please see Gracia if interested by October 10.



Lunch @ First

A free meal for youth in grades 9-12 served at First Lutheran Church (across from BHS). Youth from all schools are invited. Lunch is served Wednesdays from 11:00 to 1:05 starting October 4. Meals are provided by 6 ELCA churches in Bismarck including Trinity.

Houston 2018



Trinity will be attending the ELCA Youth Gathering in Houston June 27-July 1, 2018. The Gathering is a 5-day event that happens every 3 years, involving inspirational speakers, fun music, interactive learning, and a hands-on effort to share God's love through serving others. We hope you will join us along with around 30,000 youth and their adult leaders from around the country! It is open to youth in grades 8-12. Please see the youth board in the lobby or Gracia for more information. Registration form with a \$150 deposit is due by Oct. 1. Watch the bulletin and email for dates on informational meetings.

Thank you!

The Trinity youth would like to express their thanks to Don Engbrecht, and the Elks Men's Chorus for the wonderful concert held at Trinity on Sunday, September 17. A free will offering was taken to benefit Trinity youth attending the ELCA Youth Gathering in Houston in 2018. Proceeds totaled \$457.00.



The Banquet

Karla Eisenbeisz · Sadowsky@trinitybismarck.com

Banquet Director



Stephen Ministry



Coming up – Stephen Minister Commissioning!

When God calls people to special ministry it is traditional that members of their community commission them for the work they will do. Trinity will commission three new Stephen Ministers at worship services on Wednesday, October 4 and Sunday, October 8. Pat Aune, Chuck Haugen, and Mike Reiner have completed their 50 hours of initial training and will join the current Stephen Ministers (Dan Gardiner, Cindi Offerman, and Steve Schilling) in providing support and Christian care to Trinity members who are going through a difficult time in their lives.

As a member of Trinity you are part of Stephen Ministry. First, thank God for what the Stephen Ministry program brings to our congregation. Pray for the Stephen Ministers and their care receivers and ask, as the Stephen Minister provides care, that God will provide the cure for the care receiver according to His will. Second, affirm the value of the Stephen Ministers by enabling them to use their skills. You may do this by accepting the care of a Stephen Minister or by identifying persons who are in need and suggesting they consider a Stephen Minister's care.

Who needs the care these Stephen Ministers are prepared to provide? A potential care receiver can be anyone who is going through a difficult time in life. Loss of a loved one, illness, a change in life circumstances (even a positive and hoped-for change) that causes disruption and requires adjustment.

Would the support and care of a Stephen Minister help you or someone you know through a difficult or frustrating time? If so, talk to one of the pastors, to a Stephen Leader (Karen Bottine, Margaret Fiechtner), or fill out the green Confidential Care Request card in the pew rack and drop it in the Confidential Care box at the Welcome desk in the lobby. Six Stephen Ministers are ready and waiting to walk with, comfort, and support you.

The Banquet continues to grow!

The Banquet Tuesday meals are up and running full force! We have gone from 150 to 250 meals in three weeks. Last week we served 845 meals total with the Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday meals! That is a significant amount and proves that this ministry is much needed in our community.

We are still looking for regular volunteer coordinators and security for our Tuesday and Thursday meals. Community volunteer involvement is unbelievably generous and the community need is tremendous! The Banquet would not exist without volunteers. If you feel this is something you could fit into your schedule once a month, please contact me at 202-4749.

If you are interested in hosting a Thursday meal and your business or church can't come up with the 30 volunteers, your group can be combined with other small groups. We don't want anyone or any group to pass up the opportunity to serve. You can get more information on our website www.bismarckbanquet.com.

Operation "Have a seat"

Trinity is working on adding accessible seating in our sanctuary so everyone can have a seat in church that feels just right!

Beginning October 1st, there will be a trial run of our proposed ideas so members can see and experience the new seating options for those who use walkers, power chairs, wheelchairs, or simply need a chair with greater support than a pew provides.

Check the display in the narthex for more information on the trial run of seating. A comment box will be available in October to receive congregational feedback. Thanks!

Pastoral Ministries

Weddings: Alyssa Gregg & Devon Streeper, Jesse Kottenbrock & Renae Fettig

Baptisms: Jacob Glen Leno, Jonah Isaiah Wilkens, Bentley Gerald Kaiser, Riley Monte Roe, Tacey Daniel Wetzel, Mason William Behrens, Nikolas Bennett Gipp, Jace Duane Gardiner, Kaiden Allan Kuntz

Funerals: Delores Synstegard, Violet Nelson, Amy Loeb, Clem Fowler, Ed Hendricks, Martin Pitzer

Your gifts

Julie Schaffner · Schaffner@trinitybismarck.com Financial Director

August 2017

	Month Actual	Year-to-date Actual
Income	\$ 50,256.46	\$439,648.96
Expenses	\$ 60,957.52	\$489,566.21
Income less expenses	<u>\$(10,701.06)</u>	<u>\$(49,917.25)</u>

Electronic Giving - Trinity offers the option of Electronic Contributions as a simple way to contribute. This would allow you the freedom from worry or concern whether you are out of town, on vacation or wondering how to budget your contributions. Please stop by the office to fill out the form.

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

502 NORTH 4TH STREET

BISMARCK, ND 58501

PASTOR STEVE SATHRE

PASTOR PAUL SCHICK

NON-PROFIT ORG
U.S.
BISMARCK, ND
POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 419

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Women's Ministries



Bible Study leaders

- The leaders meet with a pastor the first Tuesday of each month at 4:00 p.m. If you plan to attend, please call Jan in the church office prior to that day.



Rummage Sale

The fall Rummage Sale will be held in the Community Center on Friday, October 6 from 8:00 a.m.-5:30 p.m., and

Saturday October 7 from 8:00 a.m.-noon.

Please note: We do not accept electronics or exercise equipment. Proceeds go to the youth.

Beer and Hymns fall kickoff!

October 9, 7-9 PM:

Join us the second Monday of October for a night of hymn singing, beverages, and fun!

These events take place at the Harvest Brazilian Grill in Mandan, (308 W Main St). All persons 21 and over are welcome!

Note: After October, Beer and Hymns will return to being held the 1st Monday of each month.

TRINITY ORIENTATION CLASSES

We will be accepting new members on Sunday, November 12 during the 10:30 a.m. worship service for all new members, both those being confirmed and those transferring from another Lutheran congregation.

We extend an invitation to you to take part in our new member orientation classes from 7:00-8:00 p.m. on Tuesday, October 24, and Tuesday, October 31 in the Triniteen Room downstairs.

We urge you to attend at least one of the two classes in order to join Trinity this fall. Classes will be offered again in the spring.

Trust Fund Spotlight



Planning for the Future...

As I write, the cooler weather has just made the first Fall announcement. By the time you read this, Fall will be official according to the calendar. That means it's time to finish thinking and begin acting on the to-do list-items that must be addressed before the end of the calendar year.

Do you intend to make a gift to the North Dakota Tax Credit Endowment Fund (the Endowment Fund) at Trinity this year? If your answer is yes, consider making that gift now, rather than waiting until the end of the year. If you give now, your gift will begin to earn income sooner, and you will avoid the end-of-the-year busy time in the church office.

Just to remind you

The minimum gift is \$5,000 given within one calendar year to any one entity (such as Trinity's Endowment Fund) and the maximum is \$25,000 (or \$50,000 for a married couple). The total gift may be given at one time during the year, or as several smaller gifts that total at least \$5,000.

The tax credit is 40% of the charitable deduction allowed by the IRS, up to a maximum of \$10,000 per year per taxpayer (so the net cost to you will be less than the amount of your gift).

The credit can be carried forward up to 3 years if it cannot be used completely in one tax year.

To make a gift to the Endowment Fund, pick up a copy of the Gift Agreement forms in the church office. A copy of the forms will be returned to you for your tax records after they have been signed by a member of the Trust Fund Committee. If you make several gifts to the Endowment Fund during the year, complete a separate Gift Agreement for each gift.

All gifts to Trinity's ND Tax Credit Endowment Fund must be given without restrictions. If you wish to restrict your gift to a specific purpose, it may be given to the Trust Fund, but it will not qualify for the ND Tax Credit.

If you have questions about providing financial support to Trinity through either the Trust Fund or Endowment Fund, talk to a Trust Fund Committee member: Richard Bjornson, Karen Boutine, Richard Hanson, Dwight Offerman, or Susan Weiland.