

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

LEE HERBERG, INTERIM LEAD PASTOR

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

WEBSITE: WWW.TRINITYBISMARCK.COM

November 2019

A Song of Thanksgiving

Several years ago, *Gather*, the magazine for the women of the ELCA featured a Bible Study centered under the theme "*In Good Company: Stories of Biblical Women*". One issue was dedicated to Deborah, a judge in the early days of Israel, who was persuaded by Barak to lead 10,000 soldiers into battle. I marveled at her determination and vision.

In their earliest days the tribes of Israel were scattered and fragmented. They were not yet a single people, a single nation. But Deborah was a dynamic prophetess and a judge over the tribes of Israel. Unity, loyalty, and community increased under her charismatic leadership.

Deborah sang a song of thanks to the leaders of the people who had caught the vision of being Yahweh's people and to the people themselves for their faithfulness. A nation was being born.

Believing in the potential and ability of the people around you- as Deborah did- is like blowing air on the coals of a fire. It is one life feeding and being fed by another life; it is infectious and animating. Others know you believe in them by the confidence that is placed in them, the responsibility committed to their care, and the respect accorded their insight and instruction. Believing in others creates a community of co-equals. It makes the scattering of humanity into a gathering of community.

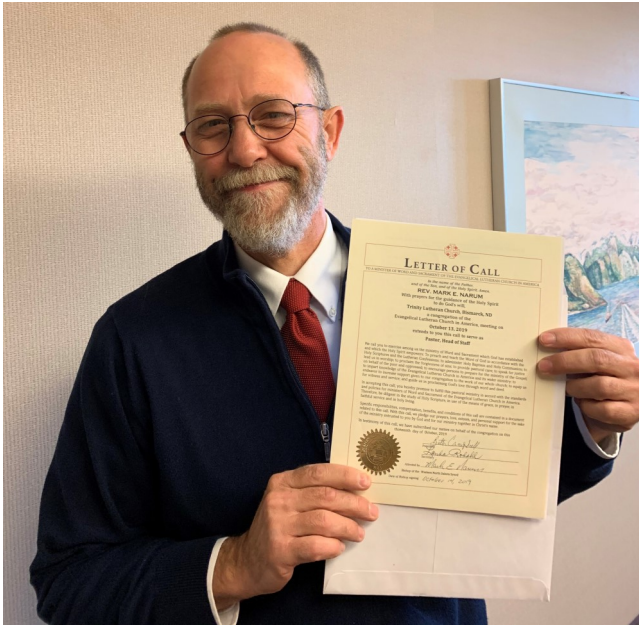
The church is a gathered people. We are the bony structures, sturdy muscles, and throbbing heart of a God still active in this world. We need each other. We *are* each other. And we are more than just we ourselves because of each other.

Thank you to everyone for being there for me in my short time here at Trinity. This Thanksgiving my daughter Mikaela and I are thankful for all of your care and connectedness. I have and continue to be thankful for your gracious welcome and helpfulness. You are a gifted and compassionate community of faith.

The exercise of living one's life is often the act of blowing a gentle breath of life across the vision and talent found in those around us. It is to inspire unity of faith and commonness of purpose. It is to walk faithfully with God alongside one another. It is to sit at table with one another, offering prayers and thanksgivings for the One who is "Yahweh" and who is among us "Emmanuel".

My prayer for a wonderful Thanksgiving to you and yours! Until next time,

Pastor Lee



Exciting News!!!

On Sunday, October 13 Trinity voted to call Pastor Mark Narum as our Senior Pastor and Pastor Mark has accepted that call! He will start at Trinity on February 24th, 2020.

Quilts sent to LWR

Our Trinity Quilters sent 241 quilts to Lutheran World Relief! They would like to extend a big thank you to the congregation for donations of fabric and bed sheets. The Quilters have some quilts for purchase. If interested, please contact Jan in the church office.

All Saints Day

Trinity will be celebrating All Saints' Day at worship on Sunday, November 3 and on Wednesday, November 6. All Saints celebrates the baptized people of God, living and dead, who make up the body of Christ. At worship you are invited to light a candle in memory of a special saint in your life who is now at home in the Lord. We invite you to join us at any of our worship services: Sunday, November 3rd at 8:30 a.m. or 10:30 a.m., or Wednesday, November 6th at 6:30 p.m.

Dreams—Desires—Demands

The Western North Dakota Synod of the ELCA met in assembly this past spring in Minot, North Dakota under the theme "*The Kingdom of God is like...Dreams – Desires – Demands*". Rev. Dr. Phil Hirsch reminded participants to ask the important question, "What is God calling us to do?"

Rev. Mark Narum will begin his journey with us on February 24, 2020. What an exciting time in our congregation's history – to build upon the solid heritage of the past and to see the Holy Spirit's dreams, desires and demands of us in helping to usher in God's Kingdom in our congregation, community and world.

This year Stewardship Sunday will be on November 3rd, 2019 and Stewardship Wednesday will be on Wednesday, November 6th, 2019. Please prayerfully consider your response in helping Trinity to continually grow, develop, advance and build upon the remarkable gifts with which God blesses us.

Children & Youth

Gracia Johnson—gjohnson@trinitybismarck.com

Youth and Christian Education Coordinator

Senior High Youth Group

For youth in 9th through 12th grade. We meet Wednesdays in the lower youth room at 8:00 p.m. Come as you are for a time to relax and grow together in faith!

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 Thursdays from 11:00 to 1:15 starting October 3. Meals are provided by 4 ELCA churches in Bismarck including Trinity.

Thank You!

Thank you to all who helped at the Pumpkin Patch and Rummage Sale. We appreciate you SO MUCH! Watch the bulletin for totals from each fundraiser.



Paint Pour Event!

Monday, November 25 at 6:30 p.m.
at Art from the Heart Studios (311 N. Mandan St; Suite 4)
All ages welcome!
Cost: \$35 for a 12 x 12, \$15 for an 8 x 10
To Register: Contact Gracia at the church office.
We'll be using Christmas colors! Join us for a fun evening!

Check out all the happenings!

trinitybismarck.com



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Trinity Lutheran Church - Bismarck

The Banquet

Karla Eisenbeisz—karlabice@yahoo.com

Banquet Director



Adopt-a Block

The Adopt-a-Block Food Distribution Truck is doing well. We now are picking up from both Cash Wise stores at least twice each week, once each week at all 5 Dan's stores and Einstein Bagels and sporadically at Natural Grocers and Master Bakery.

On Wednesday, Oct. 9th we collaborated with Great Plains Food Bank for a "Pop-Up" effort during our Jeannette Myhre School serve. In addition to the product we collected from grocery stores, Great Plains brought in 6 pallets of product for us to distribute. That evening, in the wind, rain and snow we served a record 99 households. Extra product from that evening has also been coming to The Banquet for use internally and for distribution to our guests.

Numbers Served as of Oct. 9:

- **Households: 645**
- **Adults: 1,003**
- **Seniors Age 60 & up: 166**
- **Children 17 & under: 1,063**

If food pickups continue at the present rate Adopt-a-Block will have distributed well over 20,000 and perhaps closer to 30,000 pounds in product during the month of October. The money saved on this product is going directly to the bottom line of grocery bills.

Adopt-a-Block Ribbon Cutting

The Sept. 21 ribbon cutting at South Central High School was well received. The Bismarck/Mandan Chamber was on hand as was Great Plains Food Bank. Great Plains President Melissa Sobolic called the Adopt-a-Block Food Distribution Truck "groundbreaking" and the first of its kind in North Dakota.

Jim and Karla want to thank our Banquet Board members who were able to attend the event.

Stephen Ministry



Can Stephen Ministry help my friend or relative?

Occasionally, someone will tell a Stephen Leader that they know a person (a friend or relative) who is going through a tough time. The teller feels this person might benefit from having a Stephen Minister. How fortunate the hurting person is to have someone in his/her life who is aware of a need and who also knows about a possible source of support and comfort! There's just one catch...

The hurting person must want the help that is available. This means (1) the hurting person must ask for help, or, (2) the hurting person must agree to have the friend or relative refer him/her to Stephen Ministry. (Often this second choice is the most comfortable for the hurting person because many of us are reluctant to ask directly for help.) Stephen Leaders will not approach the hurting person with an offer of a Stephen Minister unless they are sure there is interest in such an offer.

If you are the concerned friend or relative, encourage the hurting person to request a Stephen Minister. If this person is interested, but reluctant to take the step of asking for help, ask your friend/relative, "*Would you be willing to have me refer you to the Stephen Leaders?*" If your friend/relative agrees, you can then contact a Stephen Leader and make a formal referral. A Stephen Leader will then make an appointment to explain Stephen Ministry more fully to the hurting person and assess whether this type of support and comfort is appropriate for the person.

What can you do for your friend or relative who is hurting? You can give support, encouragement, and comfort, often just by being a good listener. You can also take the steps described above to connect this person to Stephen Ministry for additional Christian support and comfort. Contact one of the Stephen Leaders (Margaret Fiechtner, Karen Botine) for more information.

Your gifts Julie Schaffner — Schaffner@trinitybismarck.com Financial Director

YOUR GIFTS

September 2019

| | Month Actual | Year-to-date Actual |
|----------------------|-----------------|------------------------|
| Income | \$54,611.19 | \$521,127.11 |
| Expenses | \$62,198.18 | \$513,654.49 |
| Income less expenses | \$ (7,586.99) | \$ 7,472.62 |

Electronic Giving - Trinity's 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.

Kiosk Giving - A Giving Kiosk has been installed in the Lobby and is up and running for your convenience. The process for giving to Trinity's General Offering (member or non-member) and Ministries can be done using the Kiosk. **Note:** Trinity is charged an administrative and per transaction fee (e.g. Trinity receives \$96.80 from a \$100 donation).

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502 NORTH 4TH STREET
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INTERIM LEAD PASTOR, LEE HERBERG
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90th Handel's Messiah at Trinity Sunday, November 24th at 7:30 p.m.



For this special 90th annual performance, we welcome back to the podium guest conductor, David Fandrich. David is currently the Director of Worship and Music at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in Ankeny, Iowa.

The community chorus, soloists, and chamber orchestra will bring this glorious music to life in praise of the Prince of Peace! We are blessed and grateful for this amazing tradition!

Tickets are available in the church office or at the door. Come and invite a friend or neighbor to join you!

Volunteers needed for reception

Help is needed for the Messiah reception on November 24. Volunteers are needed to help serve the reception and individuals are needed to bring cookies and bars. Sign-up sheets are in the Narthex.

Thanksgiving worship

Please join us for worship on Thanksgiving Eve, Wednesday, November 27th at 6:30 p.m., as we uplift grateful hearts to the one who created us, loves us, and blesses us with all good gifts.

A Pie Social will follow worship. Please bring your pie to the Community Center prior to worship.

Pastoral ministry

Baptisms:

Rowan James Andrews
McKenzie Elizabeth Middleton
Lily Olivia Lorz
Drake Warren Rambousek.

Head Custodian and Facility Manager

Job description/application is available on our website.

Trust Fund Spotlight



Who Knew???

When the Trust Fund was established by Trinity in 1987, hopes were high that having this fund would encourage Trinity's members to invest in future faith-building opportunities that no one could see at the time the gift was given. Early disbursements of income were to radio broadcasts (from the restricted Jasman gift) and the first scholarship in 1992. In the past 30 years income from the Trust Fund and the Endowment Fund (established in 2014) have grown to where the Trust Fund Committee can consider support for projects and activities totaling more than \$70,000 per year.

One of the projects this year will be to continue to provide internship stipends to encourage high school musicians to sing in the annual *Messiah* performance. This is an important event in Bismarck-Mandan, but many of the faithful singers are growing older and may not have many "singing years" left. We hope encouraging young singers to become part of this 90-year tradition will build the next generation of singers who return year after year for this beautiful and meaningful start to the Christmas season.

What projects or activities will be introduced in the future? We don't know, but with income from the Trust Fund and Endowment Fund, Trinity will be in a position to provide support that will help us WELCOME, EQUIP, and SEND. So, in this month of Thanksgiving, consider giving a gift to allow this worthy effort to continue.

If you have questions about making a gift to Trinity through either the Trust Fund or Endowment Fund, talk to a Trust Fund Committee member: Richard Bjornson, Karen Botine, Richard Hansen, Dwight Offerman, or Susan Weiland.



Newsletter costs

Newsletter mailing costs continue to rise. If you would like to have the newsletter emailed to you, please call Jan in the office or contact her at sparrow@trinitybismarck.com with your email address.