

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

MARK NARUM, PASTOR/HEAD OF STAFF; LEE HERBERG, PASTOR

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WEBSITE: WWW.TRINITYBISMARCK.COM

April 2020

Now the LORD said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. ² I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. ³ I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed." Genesis 12:1-3

Blessed to be a blessing – it is a fundamental fact of our faith. God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, by the power of the Holy Spirit has blessed you. Abundantly blessed you, and me, and everyone around us. Thanks be to God – who provides for all of our needs!

As I am getting to know people here at Trinity I am discovering an abundance of gifts. You may not recognize it (or maybe you do) but this congregation is overflowing with blessings. I am meeting people with incredible talents – teachers and tradesmen, compassionate care givers, musicians, talented bakers and cooks – the list goes on seemingly endlessly. The people here are a blessing. Thanks be to God!

I know people who keep a "Blessing Board" prominently displayed or others who keep a blessing list in their journal – a place to write down all of the blessings they notice. If you were to start such a practice what would put on your list? Who are the people that are a blessing in your life? Now here is a question to ponder – in what ways do you use your blessings to bless others?

God tells Abram he has been blessed to be a blessing to others. God is at work in the world, often times through people who use their God given gifts for the sake of others. God has given you the gift of time – you bless others through taking a moment to share a kind word, to listen closely to the concerns of another, to pray with a person in need. God has blessed you the gift of talents. You bless others through faithful work in the work place – such as a lawyer using their keen mind to help another plan. A teacher patiently working with a student until they understand a new concept. A chef, baker or cook who nourishes our bodies with excellent food. God has blessed us with treasure and we are called to share a portion of those blessings so ministry can continue to happen in God's name. No church thrives without generous people who faithfully support ministry which helps people grow deeper in their relationship with Jesus.

Blessings abound here at Trinity. I hope you notice all God is up to – blessing us so that we might be a blessing to others.

Pastor Mark

Special Easter offering

Our special Easter offering this year will be Heart River Bridges of Hope. Even though we are not gathering in person, we hope you will please contribute to this wonderful ministry. You can either send your donation to Trinity or directly to Heart River Bridges of Hope at 201 N 24th St. Bismarck, ND 58501.

Heart River Bridges of Hope is an outreach and re-entry ministry on behalf of the ELCA and the whole Church. As an expression of God's grace and love, this ministry provides youth on and off the campus of the North Dakota Youth Correctional Center with opportunities for worship, mentorship, wellness, and mutually enriching relationships. Trusting and believing that God heals and creates new life, our intent is to accompany and empower youth toward a future with hope.

Heart River Lutheran Church & Bridges of Hope

- serves the state of North Dakota
- provides youth on the campus of NDYCC with opportunities for relationship, faith exploration, and personal growth.
- works to build ecumenical, faith-based relationships with youth released from the Youth Correctional Center and congregations across the state.
- provides a community of mentors for young people looking for a fresh start after NDYCC.

Praying as Easter people

Often in our congregations the time of praying for the church, those in need, and all of creation bears a somber tone. Easter may be a season in which we pray with excitement, great joy, and even a little bit of fear of the unknown, as we look for what our resurrecting God is doing in the world. How do we express our great joy in the resurrection, especially when interceding for the sake of the world?

Our prayers of praise and thanksgiving during the season of Easter call us to live and move as children of God brought into the gift of new life. Even our intercessions can speak of the joy and excitement we have in anticipation of the great things God will bring to fruition. In the Easter season we pray with joyful anticipation because we are rooted in the sure sign of all God's promises fulfilled: the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Butter Braids have arrived!

If you would like to stop by and pick yours up, please call ahead. (223.3560) Thank you! We are closed on Fridays.

Prayer list

Prayer is an essential part of our faith life. As part of the body of Christ we are called to pray for others who are sick, hurting or in need of healing. With this in mind, we will be adding a prayer list to our bulletin. Names will be added only with the permission of the person being prayed for or an immediate family member. If you would like your name added to the list please let Jan or one of the pastors know. Please pray for: Elin Hoechst, Mike Hanson, Muriel Lippert, Margaret Fiechtner.

Children & Youth

Gracia Johnson—gjohnson@trinitybismarck.com

Youth and Children Ministry Coordinator

Family Faith Time

Wow! Do we miss you all here at the church! In the midst of the social distancing and time at home, we encourage you to take a minute out of your day or week for some Family Faith Time. You sharing your faith together as a family is so important to our kids and youth. Here are a few ideas:

- Faith 5—A family devotion time from Faith Ink. An email was sent out with a guide to families. Let Gracia know if you didn't get one.
- A couple of fun activities and devotions on the Apostles' Creed which we've been talking about this Lent will be coming soon by email.
- Simply pray together. Thank you God for...
- Watch for our church school moments on Facebook and email on Wednesdays and talk about them together.

Vacation Bible School!

June 1-4, 2020

6-8 p.m.

Age 4 to Grade 5

Register today!



Join us for Rocky Railway VBS this summer where kids will discover that Jesus' power pulls us through! Pick up a registration form at the youth board in the lobby or register online by going to the Trinity website (trinitybismarck.com), click on the 'children and youth' tab on top and then 'vacation bible school'. Volunteers are needed! Please see Gracia to help with this fun week!

Camperships

Because we believe in the value of Christian Camping, Trinity Lutheran Church will provide scholarships of \$150 to anyone enrolled in Trinity programs wishing to attend Bible Camp. If you require additional financial assistance to attend camp, please let us know. To receive your campership, contact Gracia at Trinity: 223.3560 or gjohnson@trinitybismarck.com.



Check out Camp of the Cross's summer camps at www.campofthecross.com.

Check out all the happenings!

trinitybismarck.com



Instagram
trinity_bismarck
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The Banquet

Karla Eisenbeisz—karlabice@yahoo.com
Banquet Director



Stephen Ministry



Thirsty???

We Get to Serve. It's the Dream Center Network call. It's what we are called to do. To serve others. To serve those in need. To serve God.

The Dream Center has another call to action. It's "Find a Need & Fill It." As we enter another new year and a new decade, the words "Find a Need & Fill It" have special meaning to many of us. Since May of last year, The Banquet has been part of the Dream Center Network. Since that time we have found a need for mobile food distribution and started our Adopt-a-Block Food Distribution program. Each week we gather food from area Cash Wise stores, Dan's Supermarkets, Natural Grocers and others for distribution to low income households in our community. This amounts to tens of thousands of pounds of food being picked up each month and distributed to the people that need it most. We found a need and are filling it!

In November, I worked with Great Plains Food Bank, Trinity, and the Homeless Coalition to host Project Service Connect. As the name implies, the event was an effort to connect those in need to services. Services provided included anything from haircuts to free clothing, financial and health and wellness checks. Over fifteen vendors participated in bringing much needed services to those in need.

Some might ask "What's next?" to which we would say "What's the need?"

The Banquet is about to embark on a very special mission. In 2019 we joined the Dream Center Network, started the Adopt-a-Block Food Distribution Truck and obtained our own 501C3 nonprofit status. As we enter a new year and a new decade we continue our mission. The mission is to find a new home for The Banquet. The Banquet at the Dream Center will become a reality. The search is on for suitable facility to become the Dream Center of Bismarck and for The Banquet to become "The Banquet at the Dream Center." We are also starting a capital campaign to help facilitate the expansion to a freestanding facility where we can in addition to a free hot meal 7 days per week, find some of our other community needs and fill them.

The Banquet has decided we will only be handing out to-go boxes from now, until further notice. This applies to our Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday and Sunday meal service. Adopt-a-Block has not been affected and we will continue providing groceries as per usual. If you or anyone you know is struggling during this difficult time, or is worried where their next meal will come from, please direct them to The Banquet or Adopt-a-Block. We welcome anyone and everyone, no questions asked. Please visit thebanquetnd.com for our hours, days and locations of service.

One of the first lessons Stephen Ministers learn during training is the value of a cup of cold water. Sounds simple, doesn't it? Just go to the kitchen, turn on the faucet, and you have water! No problem.

For Stephen Ministers, however, the "cup of cold water" represents the little things one person can do for another that can make a difference in that person's life. It may be the gift of listening. It might be accepting what is said -without judging or suggesting solutions. It might be the phone call just to ask "what did the doctor say?" In times of crisis we often look for big ways to help, when a small action might make a difference.

Right now, when we are encouraged to maintain a "social distance" or even to self-quarantine, the cup of cold water may be what someone needs – a phone call just to ask "how are you?" or "can I pick up something for you when I go to the grocery store?" When personal contacts are reduced, most of us need some reminder that we do exist and that we are valued.

Do you have a cup of cold water you could share with someone? It may be the best thing you can give.

Each of us can minister to others, but if you or someone you know could benefit from the care of a Stephen Minister contact one of the Stephen Leaders (Margaret Fiechtner, Karen Boutine) for more information.

Scholarship deadline changed

The deadline for Trust Fund scholarship applications has been changed to April 30.

RUMMAGE SALE NOTICE

Due to lack of storage, we are no longer collecting rummage items until close to the week of our sale which is May 8 & 9. Items may be brought to the Community Center starting April 29. Thank you for your cooperation!

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

February 2020

	Month Actual	Year-to-date Actual
Income	\$55,868.80	\$130,045.03
Expenses	\$58,004.95	\$123,304.19
Income less expenses	\$ (2,136.15)	\$ 6,740.84

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

502 NORTH 4TH STREET
BISMARCK, ND 58501

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Celebrating Easter when our hearts are stuck in Lent

Having witnessed how Christ's death and resurrection are God's age-old prophecy and promise fulfilled, the disciples devote themselves to prayer while they wait for a new promise, the Advocate whom Jesus will send. As the Easter season unfolds before us this month, we cling to the presence of the Holy Spirit, who keeps us in the way of Christ, as we are called into a heightened awareness of the work that God is doing now, among us and throughout the world. It is that same Holy Spirit who guides our praying, and even utters prayers on our behalf when we do not know what to pray (Romans 8:26). This Holy Spirit flows from the fearful and joyful hearts of believers out into a needy world.

Newsletter mailing

We will no longer be mailing the newsletter to every home. If you would like it emailed to you, please call the church office. It is also available on our website and in the Narthex. If you are not able to view it that way, and would like a copy mailed to you, please notify the church office.

Join us Online! Our Schedule

Videos will be posted on our Facebook page and at trinitybismarck.com under 'Media – Trinity YouTube'.

- Thoughts of a Prairie Pastor Monday at 10 am
- Congregational Updates Tuesday at noon (if necessary)
- Church School Wednesday at 10 am
- Wednesday Worship at 5 pm
- Congregational Updates Friday (if necessary)
- Bible Study Saturday with Pastor Brian Knutson of St Luke, Wishek
- Sunday Worship at 11 am (edited version)

Sunday 8:30 am – Radio Broadcast – join us on 1270 Super Talk or the 'listen live' link on this website.

Sunday 8:30 am – Live Stream on our Facebook page.

Bulletins are posted on the website.

We are happy to partner with St. Luke in Wishek & Grace Lutheran in Driscoll.

Trust Fund Spotlight



Corona virus Scare!

The world is facing a terrible ordeal with the corona virus. It affects every aspect of human existence. We now have social distancing, cancelled worship services at the church, and a true concern for social welfare. Trinity has endeavored to place the safety of its parishioners at the forefront, and yet there are far reaching detriments to good planning. How will the church maintain its status in light of reduced attendance? Are people willing to consider other means of offering in the interim? Much of the budget comes from weekly giving and without services to provide that means of giving; how can we go forth?

Trinity has the ways and means for parishioners to provide their much needed offerings electronically. It is similar to the ways that one may pay their water bill, cable bill or credit card bills. We need to ensure that when this crisis has abated, Trinity will still be there for us. In like manner, the Trust Fund can be managed electronically as well. Many of our contributions come from remote locations, without fear of contracting a nasty virus. Often times, contributions come in the form of bequeathed donations in wills or other legal forms.

In this time of turmoil, we must all remember that God is our strength and support. He will guide us through this time of crisis; and bless all of us with His grace and mercy.

If you have questions about contributing to the Trust Fund or the Endowment Fund, talk to a Trust Fund Committee member: Susan Weiland, Dan Welsh, Richard Hansen, Dwight Offerman, or Susan Ronning.



Holy Week Schedule

Maundy Thursday, April 9
Worship at 6:30 p.m. on 1270 AM

Good Friday, April 10
Worship at 6:30 p.m. on 1270 AM

Easter Sunday, April 12
Worship at 8:30 a.m. on 1270 AM