

# 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 4<sup>TH</sup> STREET . BISMARCK, ND 58501 . 701.223.3560

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August 2020

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One of my childhood memories is the excitement of one particular Christmas gift. I was young - maybe a second or third grader. My older brother and I received a set of Walkie Talkies from our parents – I was sooooo excited. After opening them I was already beginning to imagine all of the adventures the two of us could engage in around the farm. As the evening wound to an end mom sent us upstairs to bed. With newly opened gifts in hand we headed upstairs – hard wooden stairs. Half-ways up the staircase my Walkie Talkie slid off the top of the gifts I was carrying and landed hard on the steps. It looked fine on the outside – but inside the crystal had shattered. We had never even gotten to use these precious gifts and already mine was hopelessly broken. I still remember how devastated I was.

There are many things, which when broken may never mend. An expert seamstress can fix a rip in a piece of clothing but the scar will always be there. A broken piece of pottery might be able to be glued together but the crack will always be there.

Why all this talk of broken things? Last month Pastor Lee, in this space, wrote about the infrastructure needs of our church. We are just beginning to learn the scope of repairs needed. New windows in what has been called the education building. A new air handling system for the sanctuary. New heating and cooling controls for the entire building and more. These repairs will come with a substantial price tag. Nothing will happen until the Property Committee has thoroughly vetted the projects, council has reviewed it, members of the congregation have been informed and then voted on how to proceed. Here is my point – people are going to have different opinions. There will be deep discussion. In the midst of all of it we need to remember we, as a church, are the body of Christ. In the midst of conversation, discussions and even debate we need to tend to our relationships – our unity.

Our unity in Christ is essential for the future of the ministry. Our care and respect for one another needs to be central. Once relationships are broken or strained there is always the danger that they might never be restored. Nothing is worth such an outcome.

So, we pray for the process moving forward. Pray for wise guidance, honest conversation and caring concern for each member of the body of Christ.

God Bless,  
Pastor Mark

## Summer reflections

Summer is a great time to reflect on how God continues to make a claim on the beloved community of the church against all odds. God's persistence in the life of the church is truly a treasure! Accounts of Jesus forming his followers through storytelling and with mighty acts inspire us to persevere and even flourish.

Jeremiah the prophet was compelled to speak even though he had no assurance that his words would have any effect. The great fertility of God's word produces fruit like rain promotes crop growth. In Jesus' parable of the wheat and weeds, we are to shine like the sun even when weeds are planted because God is the gardener and God will reap what is sown.

Jesus promotes a singular focus on what he calls the "kingdom of heaven." Parable after parable speaks about glorious things coming from a small seed, a little yeast, or a treasure hidden in a field. Jesus brings the abundance of God to a hungry crowd with just a little bread and a couple of fish. God works in small, hidden things here and now. What are the gifts that we have received that look small but really are not small? What treasures are hidden in our communities that spark the imagination to see the kingdom of heaven right in front of us?

The Lectionary texts this summer reveal a sense of awe in Jesus' command of wind and wave, his healing power, and his own identity as the one who saves. Notice the disciples' fear of the storm at sea and their mistaking Jesus for a ghost. Notice Peter, the "Rock," sinking into the water before being pulled out by the hand of Jesus. And then see how those in the boat worshiped Jesus. Weaving this narrative into our own patterns of fear and doubt, how might we be reassured by Jesus' attention to the fearful, terrified ones in the rocking boat? How do we experience Jesus attending to our doubts? How can we receive his power and presence in the tumult of our lives, and how does such receiving lead us to worship?

The beloved community we call the church is continually being shaped by its attention to the word of God. Each day our baptismal callings are formed in Christ for life. Despite our setbacks, misunderstandings, or distractions, God continues to come close. The prophet Isaiah declares that "the LORD will comfort Zion; he will comfort all her waste places, and will make her wilderness like Eden, her desert like the garden of the Lord". We are given a precious gift through Christ's life, death, and resurrection. We find renewal in this gift in the summertime as we live into the kingdom of heaven.

Dear people of God,

How incredibly blessed we are to be the recipients of your Easter special ask! And we are grateful to all those who donated the many baby items for the soon-to-be moms in our Bridges of Hope program! Thank you! Thank you!

God bless you!

Heart River Lutheran Church and Heart River Bridges of Hope

## Children & Youth

Gracia Johnson—gjohnson@trinitybismarck.com

Youth and Children Ministry Coordinator

## Vacation Bible School!

August 3-6

7:00—7:30 p.m.

In Person or At Home

Age 4 to Grade 5

Sign Up Today!

Join us for Rocky Railway VBS this summer where Jesus' power pulls us through! For more info or to sign up, contact Gracia at gjohnson@trinitybismarck.com.



## Back to School Blessing

Wednesday, August 19 at 6 p.m.: In Person Outdoor Worship  
Sunday, August 23 at 8:30 a.m.: Livestream Online Worship only—no in person.

Sunday, August 23 at 10:00 a.m.: In Person Outdoor Worship



All students teachers, and school staff (including college) are invited to join us for a special back to school blessing as we begin this unusual year. The blessing will take place during the services listed above. Everyone is invited to bring their backpack or bag to the outdoor worship services, but it is not required to take part in the blessing.

A gift will be given as part of this blessing. If you are not ready to worship in person with us yet we invite you stop by the church anytime after August 12th to pick up the gift. Then you can watch the online worship and present the gift to your child (or spouse or friend for teachers & staff) during the blessing.



### CAMP OF THE CROSS NIGHT WITH THE LARKS

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 12 | GATES OPEN: 5:35 PM | FIRST PITCH: 7:05 PM  
BISMARCK MUNICIPAL BALLPARK | 303 WEST FRONT AVENUE | BISMARCK, ND

#### THE HOME RUN PACKAGE

\$12 BLEACHER SEAT  
+  
LARKS HAT (\$17 value)  
= \$12

#### THE GRAND SLAM PACKAGE

\$12 BLEACHER SEAT  
+  
LARKS HAT (\$17 value)  
+  
90 MINUTES ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT  
= \$20

**PURCHASE YOUR TICKETS AT: [larkstickets.com](http://larkstickets.com)**

**USE PROMO CODE: Cross**

**GROUP LEADER: Janis Sloka III**  
**SALES REP: Aaron Guerrero**  
**EMAIL: [aaron@larksbaserball.com](mailto:aaron@larksbaserball.com)**  
**PHONE: 701-595-7523**

We are taking over the ballpark! Join the rest of us as we head to the ballpark for Opening Night! To purchase your tickets, head on over to [larkstickets.com](http://larkstickets.com) and use promo code "Cross." We only have a limited block of tickets, so grab yours today! The deadline to purchase is August 5.

# The Banquet

Karla Eisenbeisz—karlabice@yahoo.com  
Banquet Director



Adopt-A-Block is a year old! Over 2,500 households served since inception and households include about 5,000 adults and about 4,000 children.

If you or someone you know could use a little help with the grocery bill, stop over and see us. Whatever money saved on groceries can be used for other life necessities like rent, car repairs, gas, clothing, medications, etc.


**DREAMCENTER**  
BISMARCK



## Adopt-a-Block Food Distribution

As part of The Banquet's affiliation with the Dream Center Network we introduced the Adopt-a-Block program. The Dream Center Adopt-a-Block Food Distribution Truck visits 6 locations each week distributing grocery product to those in need. You will be asked to fill out a short intake form at the Adopt-a-Block truck location-it's easy!

Money Saved On Groceries  
Means More For Life's Other Necessities.

**Help for Today & Hope for Tomorrow**

**Monday 4:30-6pm**  
**South Central High School**  
East Parking Lot  
406 S. Anderson St. Bismarck

**Wednesday 4:30-6pm**  
**Jeannette Myhre School**  
East Parking Lot  
919 S. 12th St. Bismarck

**Friday 4:30-6pm**  
**Tatley Place**  
(Just South of Tatley Meadows)  
Corner of West London Ave. & Manchester Street Bismarck

**Tuesday 4:30-6pm**  
**Lewis & Clark School**  
South Side of School  
600 14th St. NW Mandan

**Thursday 4:30-6pm**  
**New Song Church**  
Parking Lot  
3200 N. 11th St. (Behind Menards)

**Saturday 3-5pm**  
**River of Hope Church**  
Parking Lot  
1996 43rd Ave. NE Bismarck

For information contact Jim Barnhardt at 701-955-2150 or e-mail [jimbarnhardt@msn.com](mailto:jimbarnhardt@msn.com)



**Thank You to Our Partners:**

**Bismarck Emergency Food Pantry**  
**River of Hope Church**  
**Jack's Food Pantry**

# Stephen Ministry



**But...**

We aren't the only ones who have feelings of fear, anger, despair, or uncertainty during life's difficulties. The writers of Psalms experienced these same feelings, and expressed their feelings to God in very specific terms: *How many are my foes! Many are rising against me...* (Psalm 3:1). In Psalm 10, the writer describes how the wicked treat others (the "poor" and "helpless") and wonders why God is "standing far away". Again in Psalm 13 the writer asks God: *Will you forget me forever?*

What intrigues me about these and other Psalms that lament injustice or cry for help is that they also include a "but", a "yet", or a "still" -- a reminder that God is present and does know the concerns of His children. In Psalm 3:3 the writer in fear for his life also remembers *But you, O Lord, are a shield about me...* In Psalm 10, the writer who despairs at the actions of the wicked also remembers that God does see these actions (verse 14), that God will *hear the desire of the afflicted* (verse 17), and *...do justice...* (verse 18). And in Psalm 13 the writer remembers that God's love is *steadfast* (verse 5) and that God has *dealt bountifully* with the writer (verse 6).

What are the "buts", "yets", and "stills" that remind you God is present in your life, even in the midst of whatever difficulties are weighing you down right now? How might Stephen Ministry help you or someone you know during this time? If you have ideas, please contact one of the Stephen Leaders (Karen Botine, Margaret Fiechtner) and share your views.

## Trust Fund awards scholarships

The following Trinity members have received scholarships in the amount of \$250:

Madison Braun—Minnesota State University  
Taylor Fix—University of Minnesota  
Katie McCabe—UND  
Brenna Olsen—UND  
Ava Pfeifer—Concordia College  
Lauryn Hinckley, Concordia College  
Bailee Schell—MN State Community & Technical College  
MacKorey Schell—MN State University  
Mason Stotz—Concordia College  
Sydney Sundsbak—Bismarck State College

## Your gifts Julie Schaffner — [schaffner@trinitybismarck.com](mailto:schaffner@trinitybismarck.com) Financial Director

### June 2020

Income  
Expenses  
Income less expenses

Month	Year-to-date
Actual	Actual
\$47,771.09	\$347,603.47
\$54,122.60	\$346,911.14
\$ (6,351.51)	\$ 692.33

**Electronic Giving** – During this unprecedented time, Trinity continues to provide support and ministries for its members and those non-members seeking guidance, food and spiritual direction. We thank all those who have joined in this mission by providing financial support. Now we ask for your continued financial support. On Trinity's website [www.trinitybismarck.com](http://www.trinitybismarck.com), we have updated and simplified different ways to give electronically. The DONATE button allows you to give a recurring or one-time donation, donate using PayPal or credit card. If you have questions or need assistance with electronic giving, please feel free to call Julie Schaffner. Thank you again for your continued financial support.

# TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

502 NORTH 4TH STREET  
BISMARCK, ND 58501

MARK NARUM, PASTOR/HEAD OF STAFF; LEE HERBERG, PASTOR  
CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

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

## 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 a.m.
- Congregational Updates Friday (if necessary)
- Bible Study Saturday with Pastor Brian Knutson of St Luke, Wishek

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

Sunday 8:30 a.m. – 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.

## Pastoral Ministry

### Deaths

Corbyn Peterson  
Hazel Sinness  
Edward Becknell Jr.

## Gifts and Memorials

**In memory of Muriel Lippert** by Ken and Linda Evenson (Music Fund); Bob and Susan Wefald (Memorial Fund); Steve and Paula Schilling (Music Fund); Marc and Margaret Fiechtner (Trust Fund); Mike and Sandi Ranum (Trust Fund); Wayne and Lois Swenson (Memorial Fund); Bob and Jan Baumann (Messiah Fund.)

**In memory of Dennis Delzer** by Bob and Susan Wefald (Memorial Fund); Steve and Paula Schilling (Memorial Fund); Neil and Kathy Person (Memorial Fund); Friends of Dennis (Memorial Fund); Linda Delzer and family (Memorial Fund.)

## 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 Arlys Bracht, Kristin Shaw, and LeRoy Walker.

## Trust Fund Spotlight



### Building Maintenance...

Trinity is "property rich" with both interior square footage and external green space and parking, but having buildings that range in age from the early 1930's to the late 1960's brings challenges. These challenges include keeping everything in good working condition and, over time, making the operation of our property more environmentally "green."

This is why the Trust Fund committee has designated some of the Trust Fund income for the **Building Maintenance** account. In past years, this account has paid for new cove lighting in the sanctuary and new lights in the church school classrooms, foundation repairs and replacement of leaking windows in the 1930's building, a commercial water heater, and a snow blower. Most recently, the Trust Fund paid for extreme costs for snow removal, new lighting in the Sanctuary, increased Audio/Visual capabilities and other projects. Having income in the Building Maintenance account for projects such as these takes some pressure off the general budget of the church.

Gifts to the Trust Fund are invested and only the income from these investments is spent. Do you have questions about any of the Trust Fund activities? Talk to a Trust Fund Committee member: Richard Hansen, Dan Welsh, Susan Ronning, Dwight Offerman, or Susan Weiland.

## Check out all the happenings!

trinitybismarck.com



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