

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

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WEBSITE: WWW.TRINITYBISMARCK.COM

November 2020

"For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

Matthew 6:21

I hope by now you have heard or read about the generosity journey Trinity Lutheran has undertaken. It is a journey focused on growing as stewards of all of God's gifts – time, talent and treasure. This fall we are focusing on being generous with the treasure God has gifted us with – in other words our money.

A journey begins with a single step and it can last an entire lifetime. Different people are in different places along the generosity journey; some are just beginning, others are taking a rest along the trail and still others continue the trek they've been on for years. It makes no difference where you are; we just invite you to the journey.

Generosity is a faith practice. It grows out of an understanding that all we have has come from God's gracious hand. It is an understanding that as we give back we also grow deeper in our faith. Read the verse above; it invites us to understand that where we put our treasure will have a future focused impact.

If you are just beginning a generosity journey understand this – whatever you give, do it with a joyful heart. It will be received gratefully. Sometimes people ask, "But how do I begin?" It is as simple as deciding how much you would like to give to Trinity each week or month. Maybe it is \$1 a day, or \$10 a week or \$50 a month. Whatever you decide, fill out an **Intent Card** and submit it to our Financial Administrator Julie. As easy as that, your generosity journey has begun.

If you have been on this journey for awhile you could consider taking one step up. Some people figure out what percentage of their income they are giving and increase it by one-half of one percent or by a full percent. Others decide just by adding a dollar amount. Either way works but we would ask that you fill out an **Intent Card** and share it with Trinity's Financial Administrator Julie Schaffner.

During the month of October you have heard stories of how people's lives have been impacted by Trinity's ministry. Do remember the story of Hannah, a youth Trinity helped send to Bible Camp who now serves as SALT Staff at Camp of the Cross. Her passion for teaching other kids blossomed because of the generosity of Trinity members. Trinity's Christ centered ministry matters. Join us in our campaign to gather 200 **Intent Cards** this month.

Blessings on the Journey,

Pastor Mark

Why are they called Intent Cards and not Pledge Cards...

The language change to Intent Card is intentional. We want you to know you are sharing your intentions for the coming year. It is possible that your circumstances might change in the coming year like they did for many this past year. It is possible you might move, have a change in health or even lose your job. If that happens what you had "intended" can easily change.

Pledge is more formal word, which often leave people feeling burdened almost as if they have signed a contract. Intent lets us know what your intentions are at this moment which helps us plan boldly and confidently for ministry in Christ's name in the coming year.

Congregational Relationships

Heather Baumann—baumann@trinitybismarck.com

As we have been talking about Stewardship, I am brought to a verse in the book of Romans. Paul is talking about us being a living sacrifice to God. He writes in Romans 12:6-8 how we all have been given different gifts so we can do those things well. In verse 7 he says "If your gift is serving others, serve them well. If you are a teacher, teach well."

We want to give each one of you an opportunity to use the gifts God has given in the many ministry opportunities we have here at Trinity. As we serve or minister to others it emotionally and spiritually recharges us. It gives us a deeper meaning to life as a servant of Christ. It helps us to discover our purpose. I could tell you story after story of how serving/ministering has changed my life and so many others.

Take a moment and check out our Ministry Opportunities link on our website.

Quilts sent to LWR

Our Trinity Quilters sent 236 quilts and 5 blankets to Lutheran World Relief in October. Job well done!

The Quilters are Bev Blumhagen, Nancy Erickson, Linda Evenson, Donna Hegle, Pat Murray, Cathy Nelson, Helen Nelson, and Ramona Wanner.

Thank you to the following people for moving the boxes from the Quilting Room to the Nursery: Heather Baumann, Richard Lucas, Terry and Cathy Kristensen, Matt McMerty, William and Sydney Bauman, and Bob Wefald.

Thank you to Loren Dally, Mike Hanson, Dean Morast, and Troy Zander for loading and transporting the 56 boxes of quilts and blankets to Midwest Motor Express on Thursday, Oct. 15th.



All Saints' Day services

On Sunday, November 1, at 8:30, 9:30, and 10:30 a.m., and Wednesday, November 4, at 6:00 p.m., we will celebrate the lives of those saints who now rejoice in the presence of Christ.

During communion we will have an opportunity to light a candle in memory of loved ones who have gone before us in faith. You are welcome to attend any of the above services and light a candle in memory of a loved one.

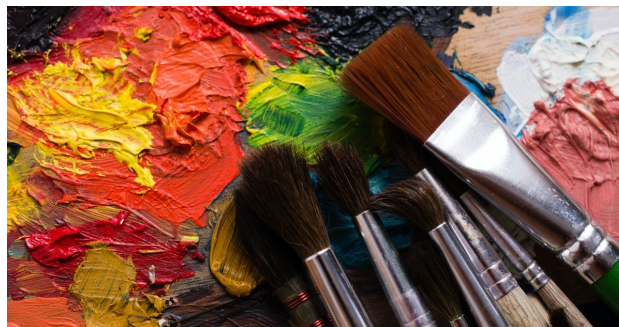
Children & Youth

Gracia Johnson—gjohnson@trinitybismarck.com

Youth and Children Ministry Coordinator

Senior High Youth Group

For youth in grades 9-12. We'll be meeting once or twice a month on Wednesdays at 7:15 p.m. If interested, contact Gracia and watch your emails!



Painting Event

Our Fellowship Board is hosting a Painting Event! Here are the details:

- Theo Art school will be here to lead it.
- At Trinity on November 1, 2020 from 1:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m.
- Fellowship Hall, where social distancing will be followed
- To help us social distance, we are limiting this event to 20 people.
- All participants are strongly encouraged to wear masks
- All ages and skill levels welcome.
- The cost for the event is \$15.00. We will be painting a fall theme picture.
- To register, go to trinitybismarck.com and click on events.

Church School

Church School continues both in person and online. Our online church school is a video link emailed to you each week you can watch when it works for your family. Contact Gracia to be added to the email list.

Check out all the happenings!

trinitybismarck.com



Instagram
trinity_bismarck
Trinity Lutheran - Bismarck



Facebook
Trinity Lutheran Church - Bismarck



You Tube
Trinity Lutheran—Bismarck

The Banquet

Karla Eisenbeisz—karlabice@yahoo.com
Banquet Director



MAKING IT OFFICIAL!

After an exhaustive property search, 1805 Park Avenue has been chosen as the home of Dream Center Bismarck.

The Banquet, presently based at Trinity Lutheran, will be the meal ministry "hub" of the facility. The Dream Center Adopt-a-Block Food Distribution ministry along with other ministries will be located in the facility.

Dream Center Bismarck founder Jim Barnhardt says "In addition to meeting the needs of low income residents of our community, it's our goal to put an end to some of the generational dysfunction so prevalent in today's society. We will collaborate with existing entities as much as possible to make this a community effort to better the lives of the people we serve".

A Spring 2021 building construction start is anticipated.

There are presently about 65 Dream Centers in the United States as well as several international Dream Centers. Each Dream Center is committed to finding unmet community needs and filling them. FIND A NEED & FILL IT!



Messiah

Unfortunately, due to Covid-19, there will be no Messiah performance this year.

Stephen Ministry



In secret...

When I'm finally forced to confront the box of "stuff to be sorted and (maybe) filed somewhere" I frequently find interesting bits of writing. Sometimes these are full magazine or newspaper articles, sometimes sentences, and sometimes just a couple of words, but I clipped them out because they were thought-provoking. One of these items recently found its way to the top of the box – "*Pray for people behind their backs.*" When someone we know is going through a tough time, we will often tell that person, "*I will pray for you.*" We pray for friends and family, but how often do we pray for people we don't know?

I may have a brief encounter with someone who is less than pleasant to me. I could let this darken my day, or I could say in my heart, "*God, that person must be having a bad day. Please take care of him or her.*" I might also have the experience of unloading the grocery cart and then having someone say, "*I'll take that back for you.*" I will thank that person, but I may also pray that the person who was courteous to me will experience kindness from someone else.

Prayer is an important topic in Stephen Minister training, but you don't need to be a Stephen Minister to use prayer as a way of making connections with others even without knowing who they are or what their specific needs are.

What can you do to give support to those whose lives touch yours physically or through the media that may be your main sources of information and connection during this time of social distancing? Why not try doing something "sneaky"? Pray for people behind their backs!

Thanksgiving worship

Please join us for worship on Thanksgiving Eve, Wednesday, November 25th at 6:00 p.m., as we uplift grateful hearts to the one who created us, loves us, and blesses us with all good gifts.

There will be no Pie Social this year.



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

September 2020

Income

Expenses

Income less expenses

Month Actual
\$54,726.73
\$61,892.15
\$ (7,165.42)

Year-to-date Actual
\$510,421.27
\$528,643.22
\$ (18,221.95)

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, 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.

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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

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Our fall schedule

8:30, 9:30 & 10:30 a.m. worship indoors open to the public.

- * Social distancing will be in place using every other pew.
- * We will strongly encourage all worshippers to wear masks while in the building.
- * We will encourage all worshippers to leave immediately after worship—or move to their Connections Group or Sunday School gathering.
- * There will be no fellowship.
- * Pews will be sanitized after worship.
- * At this time there will not be congregational singing inside.

Wednesdays

5:15 p.m. meal offered weekly for worshippers.

6:00 p.m. worship indoors open to the public.

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

- Thoughts of a Prairie Pastor— Sunday at 7:30 a.m.
- Congregational Updates Friday (if necessary)
- Bible Study Saturday with Pastor Brian Knutson

Sunday 8:30 a.m. – Radio Broadcast – join us on 1270 Super Talk or the 'listen live' link on this website. You can also Live Stream on our Facebook page. Bulletins are posted on the 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 many thousands of dollars per year.

This year, the Trust Fund authorized funding for the internship of a very deserving young man for us and another congregation in the Western Synod. We welcome Colin Neuarth into our fold and pray that he will become an outstanding pastor for some deserving congregation. We also authorized payment to close out the grant for de-stratification fans for funds not authorized by this grant. Trinity will be a safer place to worship as a result of this grant and additional funding from the Trust Fund.

What projects or activities will be introduced in the future? We don't know, but with income from the Trust Fund, Trinity will be in a position to provide support that will help us WELCOME, EQUIP, and SEND.

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 Hansen, Dwight Offerman, Dan Welsh, Susan Ronning or Susan Weiand.

Pastoral Ministry

Baptisms

Emmersyn Loriena, daughter of MacKenzie and Corey Dutchuk
Easton Grant Hertz, son of Chelsi and Kyle Hertz

Deaths

Sarah Marchus; Rhoda Pederson; Fred Schilling; Paula Swanson

Church yard clean-up

Thank you to the following people who helped with cleaning up the church yard on Saturday, October 10th:

Mark Burman, Loren Dally, Margaret Fiechtner, Ray Hagle, Dan Klinger, Marijke Leibel, William Leibel, Chris Narum, Lochlan Narum, Mark Narum, Nadalie Narum, Don Peterson, and Sandra Peterson.

A big thank you to Lois Swenson for bringing her delicious home made doughnuts!

Gifts and Memorials

In memory of Vi Lutness by Harley and Margaret Swenson. (Memorial Fund)

In memory of Doug Jessen by Harley and Margaret Swenson. (Banquet)

In memory of Dick Roe by his family - Julie, Steve, Sue, and Tom. (Banquet)

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, LeRoy Walker, Ken Thomsen, Wendy Schweitzer, Larry Thompson, Clint Fuller, Dennis Erickson, and Donna Burns.