

December 15th, 2024 E-Newsletter

Christmas Worship Services

Blue Christmas Service

Sunday, December 15th @ 6 p.m.
Community Center

Reminder

While Advent is a season of hope and Christmas is a season of joy, we know that not everyone feels hopeful or feels like celebrating. Some of us are just overwhelmed during this time of year. Join us for a time of quiet worship and prayer - a time where you are welcome to slow down, a time where you can feel whatever you are feeling, a time where you can connect with God.

There will be sung liturgy, carols & Taize songs, guided prayer and candle light. This intimate service will be held in the Community Center which means it will not be livestreamed. Contact Dr. Jason Thoms if you have any questions. Click here to check out the [Facebook event](#).



Christmas Eve Service with Holy Communion & Candlelight

Tuesday, December 24th @ 3 p.m., 5 p.m., & 10 p.m.
Sanctuary

Not one, not two, but THREE opportunities to gather for Christmas Eve Worship! All three include the story of Christmas in scripture, old/new carols, a sprinkle of special music, celebration of Holy Communion and a message.

The 3 p.m. & 5 p.m. services will feature a brass ensemble who will help us celebrate in song! At the 10 p.m. service, the mood will be a little quieter, but just as festive as we hear the story of Jesus' birth.

Cozy Christmas Service

Wednesday, December 25th @ 10:30 a.m.
Sanctuary

Christmas morning worship is a great way to start the day, focused on Jesus, the Word of God made flesh. Carols, scripture and a message are all part of this service . Come in your pajamas or other comfortable clothes - even Pastor Martha will be in pajamas. There will be hot cocoa and cookies. You can bring your own travel mug to use if you have one.

Click on the images to enlarge.

**CHURCH SCHOOL
CHRISTMAS
PROGRAM**

Wednesday, December 18
@ 6 p.m.

..... ❖

Sunday, December 22
@ 10:30 a.m.




*Christmas
Worship Services*

December 24
Christmas Eve worship:
3 pm, 5 pm, 10 pm
*Holy Communion + Candlelight

December 25
Cozy Christmas worship:
10:30 am
*Holy Communion



502 N 4th St
Bismarck, ND 58501



Recent Announcements

Christmas Season Worship Times:

Dec. 15 - *Blue Christmas* worship - 6 p.m.
 Dec. 24 - *Christmas Eve* worship - 3 p.m., 5 p.m., 10 p.m.
 Dec. 25 - *Cozy Christmas* worship - 10:30 a.m.
 Jan. 1 - No Worship

Office Closed Dates:

December 24, 25,31
 January 1

Special Christmas Offering

Reminder

It has been a tradition at Trinity that a special offering is taken during the Christmas Season. This year council has designated Heart River Bridges of Hope as this year's recipient. Bridges of Hope is a ministry of Heart River Lutheran Church, which worships on the campus the Youth Correctional Center in Mandan. This congregation has a history of sharing the Good News of Jesus with the youth who are housed at the correctional center. Recently women have also begun to be housed on the same grounds, so Heart River's ministry has also expanded to these women.

Their Bridges of Hope Ministry works to engage those who are incarcerated but also provides after care resources, as well as support for the families of those who are incarcerated. If you would like to make a donation, you can write a check, drop it in the offer plate or mail it to Trinity and in the memo line write: Heart River Bridges. Blessings and thanks for your generosity.

New Chairs

Trinity's Fellowship Hall has new chairs. Several months ago, some members of the congregation asked that a special fund be created so that new chairs could be purchased. The blue chairs had been gifted to Trinity after a couple of decades of use at Good Shepherd. They were a good short-term solution. Now it is time to replace them.

If you would like to "buy a new chair" you can drop a check in the offering plate or at the office. In the memo line of the check please write "Chairs." We estimate that \$35 will cover the cost of a chair with tax. Thank you for your support!



Christmas Baking Needed

Reminder

Christmas goodies will again be shared with people on our Holiday Delivery List. Please bring your baked goods to the church office **no later than 5 p.m. on Wednesday, December 18th**. We will gather the goodies in the Conference Room and sort them after worship that evening. If you are able to help deliver some baked goods please let Klarissa know. *Please limit your donations to cookies and bars.* Thank you for blessing others in this way for the Holiday Season!

“What Shall I Give Him?” Dakota Pro Musica Concert

December 20th - 22nd
Various Churches

Dakota Pro Musica is presenting their 4th Annual Lessons and Carols for Advent and Christmas services December 20th - 22nd. The event follows the traditional Nine Lessons and Carols liturgy created over 100 years ago at Kings College at Cambridge in England. There are scripture readings that tell the story of the prophecies of the coming Messiah, the story of Jesus' birth and the coming of the Wisemen. Each reading is followed by a choral anthem or carol which reflects on the scripture.



This event is a beautiful, contemplative, and joyous celebration of the Christmas season and is perfect for the whole family. Dakota Pro Musica is presenting the service at Assumption Abbey in Richardton on December 20th, Cathedral of the Holy Spirit on December 21st, and First Lutheran Church of Mandan on December 22nd. Contact Jason for questions.

Decorating for Advent and Christmas

Past Event: Wednesday, December 4th @ 6:35 p.m.

Thank you to all the helping hands with Christmas & Advent decorating around the church! We are thankful for the many helpers on Wednesday who helped with the large tree, wreath and outdoor nativity scene. Special shoutouts go to Just For Kix dance team and Michele for decorating the tree in the Community Center, Sherry Feist and family for decorating the 2 trees in the entryways, Jim Lewis for spending several hours checking the lightbulbs on the trees and the wreath, and to several of our Quilters who faithfully update the display case in Fellowship Hall for each season.

There is still time to get your poinsettia donations in. Order forms and payments are due Monday, December 16th. Thanks to all of you for helping us prepare to have a festive holiday to celebrate our Savior's birth!



Poinsettia Donations

We are now receiving donations for our Christmas display of poinsettias. We will be purchasing 36 poinsettias this year. Poinsettias can be ordered for Trinity shut-ins, as well as for those who wish to take a plant home **after Christmas worship**. If there are more than 36 poinsettia donations, the funds will go to our 2024 offering benevolence, Heart River Bridges of Hope. Poinsettia donations are \$17. All donations and accompanying dedications will be listed in the

Christmas bulletins & E-News. Turn the form & your payment into the office or offering basket **by Monday, December 16th**.

Children & Youth

Gracia Johnson - Youth and Children Ministry Coordinator; gjohnson@trinitybismarck.com, ext. 5

Youth Happenings

We have many fun youth opportunities throughout the year! Information is also available on our website. Click on images to enlarge. Questions? See Gracia.



Mission Trip 2025

July 27th - August 2nd

Duluth, MN

Reminder

High School Mission Trip 2025! We're headed to Duluth for a week of service, faith, and fun July 27th – August 2nd! We'll be fundraising to help cover the cost.

This trip is for youth currently in grades 8-12. Registration form with \$150 deposit is **due by January 15th**. See Gracia for more info.



Stephen Ministry

Submitted By: Karen Botine

We remember...

Holiday gatherings can be the time when the empty chair at the table is most noticeable. Families who have special traditions surrounding a holiday can find the tradition needs to be tweaked, deleted, or at least thought about prior to the event.

One family had a tradition of exchanging little “family” gifts at breakfast on Christmas morning, and one family member always requested new socks. This became a family joke – why did the person always need new socks? Did the washer “eat” more of this person’s socks than of anyone else’s? And what kind of socks would be in the package – dress socks, sports socks, lounging slipper-socks, funny socks? Everyone looked forward to the unwrapping of these packages.

After the late fall death of this family member there was discussion about continuing the Christmas

gift tradition. Would the lack of sock gifts be a painful reminder of their loss? Eventually they decided to continue the tradition, AND to have a pile of sock gifts at the table where the departed family member always sat. And so they did. It was a bigger pile of socks than in previous years, and an opportunity for everyone to remember, to laugh a little, to shed a tear or two.

But – what happened to the socks after breakfast? The family had already decided that the socks would be donated to those who need them. I know this is a true story because I was asked to deliver the socks to Ministry on the Margins, where they were welcomed and quickly distributed.

Sometimes it's difficult to decide whether to continue traditions that will be a reminder of the person who is gone or to do something different (and hope that this change will cause fewer painful reminders of the one who isn't present). Or – to do a little of each option. Whatever you choose, the family holiday gathering can be a time to remember and to give thanks for a life that had an impact on you. Who will you remember with thanks this Christmas?

Your Gifts

Chelsa Kinsella - Financial Director; kinsella@trinitybismarck.com, ext. 7

Electronic Giving - Trinity offers the option of Electronic Giving 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. Giving forms are available in the office, at the Welcome Center or on Trinity's website.

We have also updated and simplified our website www.trinitybismarck.com in aiding you to give towards Trinity's Capital Campaign. The GIVE PLUS area on the left allows you to give a recurring or one-time donation using a credit card. If you have questions or need assistance with electronic giving, please feel free to call Chelsa @ 223-3560. Thank you for your continued financial support.

Donate

Pie Social

Past Event: Wednesday, November 27th

Thank you to all who helped make homemade pies for our Pie Social. The pies were shared after our Wednesday worship service the evening before Thanksgiving. This was a nice way to share some fellowship with one another after our thanksgiving service.



Congregational Relationships

Ministry Opportunities

Ministry Opportunities at Trinity are available digitally. Please sign up to serve as Scripture Readers, Ushers, Greeters, Communion Servers and Tech online. **Sunday Readers should sign up**

If you haven't served before or are not sure what type of opportunities are there for you, please fill out the "Ministry Opportunity Form." Click below and you will be contacted about

by the Thursday before by 10 a.m. (Holiday serving. weeks may vary). Click below to sign up.

Sign Up

Ministry Opportunity Form

Collection Items



Bismarck Lions Glasses

Drop off prescription glasses at the office. We will contact Bismarck Lions to come and collect them.



RMHC Pull Tabs

Pull tabs can be dropped off at the office or placed in these houses to be delivered to Ronald McDonald House.

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. 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 this list, please contact the office or let one of the pastors know.

Please pray for: James Kalbfleisch, Terry, Dick, Wendy, Alan & Louise.

Pastoral Acts

Baptisms

Funerals

Weddings

Gifts & Memorials

In memory of Julie Roe given by Patrick & Kathryn Lewis, Harley & Margaret Swenson, Byron & Eunice Dokken, (Radio Broadcast Fund); Michael & Renae Baltzer, Robert & Bonnie Johnson, Audrey Solheim (Trust Restricted Music Fund); other family & friends (Campership Fund).

Special Christmas Offering

Submitted By: Pastor Gail Hagerty

Heart River Bridges of Hope



A ministry touching the lives of many has been chosen as Trinity's Special Christmas Offering recipient – Heart River Bridges of Hope. Pastor Gail Hagerty oversees the ministry and shares the following:

Heart River Bridges of Hope is grateful to be the focus of Trinity Lutheran's Special Christmas offering this year. Bridges of Hope is an ecumenical outreach ministry of Heart River Lutheran Church. The ministry seeks to bridge the gap between incarceration and return to the community for youth incarcerated at the North Dakota Youth Correctional Center and adult women incarcerated at Heart River Correctional Center. Both are located on the campus in south Mandan where members of Heart River Lutheran Church gather to worship with residents of the correctional facilities.

Bridges of Hope begins building community with those incarcerated through regular worship and activities like a book club, games nights in the cottages where folks are incarcerated, lefse making, potlucks, gifts of quilts, and special events throughout the year. Relationships are formed and no one is released into the community without information about the Bridges of Hope desk at Ministry on the Margins, the re-entry dinner hosted by Trinity Lutheran, and contact information for Pastor Gail Hagerty.

More than that, youth leave with a fresh start kit – a backpack with the items, large and small, that they will need in the first days after release. Adult women have access to a clothing and hygiene pantry which is now managed by the facility with support from Bridges of Hope. Youth receive a new pair of sneakers to assure them Bridges of Hope will journey with them. Everyone receives a small gift card to help with immediate needs.

The message – we're one community, made better and stronger when we share God's unconditional love.

Heart River Lutheran is a tiny congregation. The incarcerated folks who join us to worship can't provide monetary support, and the work of Bridges of Hope requires funding, involvement, and continual prayer. Thank you, Trinity Lutheran!



Radio Broadcast/Livestream Sign-Up

We are currently accepting sponsorship donations for 2025. The sign-up sheet with open dates and information forms are located in the Narthex. The cost is \$250 for each Sunday. Please turn in the additional form with your payment - *it is helpful to receive payment up front*. This has been a great blessing for people to stay connected with worship at Trinity when they aren't able to be here in person. Thank you for the many people that have supported this ministry. Please contact Klarissa if you have any questions.

Upcoming Events



Re-Entry Meal & Support

1st Thursday of the month @ 6:30 p.m. - 8 p.m.
Fellowship Hall

We hold a re-entry meal with time for fellowship and support for people who are in re-entry and their families once a month.

We meet on the first Thursday of every month. We will continue to partner with Ministry on the Margins for this project. If you would like to help with this project, contact Pastor Martha.

Civic Chorus Christmas Concert

Sunday, December 15th @ 4 p.m.
Sanctuary

Reminder

The Bismarck-Mandan Civic Chorus conducted by Dr. Tom Porter will perform their Christmas Concert at Trinity again this year. They will perform in the Sanctuary on Sunday, December 15th @ 4 p.m. This is a free concert where a freewill donation will be taken. Click here for the [Facebook event](#).

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Christmas Caroling

Saturday, December 21st @ 12 p.m.

Bismarck Area

We had such a nice time Christmas Caroling last year that we decided to do it again! We will meet at Trinity @ 12 p.m. to briefly rehearse and have some treats. Then we will carpool to a few Nursing Homes to sing. You are encouraged to wear Christmas sweaters and holiday gear to help spread some cheer!

Schedule:

- Rehearse & Treats at Trinity - Community Center @ 12 p.m.
- Missouri Slope - 4916 N Washington St. @ 1 p.m. in the Halls (3rd floor)
- Edgewood Village - 3124 Colorado Ln @ 1:45 p.m. in the Chapel
- Baptist Health Center - 3400 Nebraska Dr @ 2:30 p.m. in the Chapel



All ages and abilities are welcome. You are welcome to also bring portable instruments. We are also encouraging special music this year... especially at our final stop at Baptist Health Center, they have asked us to perform a bit longer in the chapel. *If you have some sheet music for a song you have prepared, please bring that with and we will try to work it in.* See Klarissa for questions.



Lend a Hand Ministry

Next Meeting: Thursday, January 9th @ 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Fellowship Hall

Lend a Hand Ministry enjoys some coffee and fellowship before breaking out into small groups to help with projects that care for the building. No special skills are required. All are welcome!

They meet the 2nd Thursday of each month @ 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Please contact our Facility Manager, John Brintnell, at brintnell@trinitybismarck.com if interested.



Bible Journaling

BIBLE JOURNALING IS A WAY TO COMBINE YOUR LOVE OF SCRIPTURE WITH YOUR CREATIVE TALENTS.

ALL ARE WELCOME:
GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH
3RD TUESDAY OF THE MONTH
5:30 - 7:00

Bible Journaling

3rd Tuesday of the month @ 5:30 p.m. - 7 p.m.
Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

Join us for Bible Journaling – where scripture & creative expression meet. We meet at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church on the 3rd Tuesday of the month @ 5:30 p.m. - 7 p.m. All ages are welcome! Come & check it out! See Gracia with questions.

Grief Support Group

1st Saturday of the month @ 10 a.m. in Conference Room

Contact Pastor Martha with questions at HarriSon@trinitybismarck.com

Support Group

for Parents of Children Struggling with Mental Health Issues

2nd Saturday of the month @ 9:30 a.m. in Conference Room

Contact Pastor Martha for questions at HarriSon@trinitybismarck.com

MEN'S GROUP

3rd Saturday of the month @ 8 a.m. in Fellowship Hall

- Faith
- Fellowship
- Breakfast
- All are Welcome

Contact Pastor Mark with questions at Narum@trinitybismarck.com

Serving Hands Group

- Service group that meets once a month
- Gather to do small projects that help our surrounding community
- All ages are welcome

Contact Pastor Martha for more information.

Ministry Partners



WND Synod

Missouri Slope

Check out available job openings here:
www.missourislope.com/careers

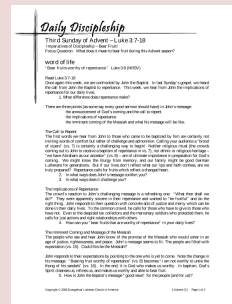
Check out their digital newsletter here:
<https://missourislope.com/hilltopper/>

Ministry on the Margins

Ministry on the Margins is always looking for volunteers for their food pantry.

For information and to sign up visit:
www.ministryonthemargins.org

ELCA Daily Discipleship
Click on the image to open the Daily Discipleship shared on the ELCA's [website](#).



Worship Schedule

Sundays

8:30 a.m. Traditional Worship
10:30 a.m. Blended Worship

Wednesdays

*Dinner is served @ 5:15 p.m. before worship.
6 p.m. Contemporary Worship

We are happy to partner with Grace Lutheran in Driscoll.

Bulletins are posted on our [website](#) under [Bulletins](#) or click below:

[Bulletins](#)

Radio Broadcast

Sunday 8:30 a.m. Radio Broadcast on 1270 Super Talk or the [Listen Live](#) link on their [website](#). You can also click below:

[Listen Live](#)

Video Worship Links

Videos are posted on our [Facebook Page](#) and on our [YouTube Page](#).

- Congregational updates posted as necessary.
- Trinity To Go posted weekly by a pastor.
- Livestream available for worship services.



Head of Staff, Pastor Mark Narum
Pastor Martha HarriSon

701-223-3560
502 N 4th St. Bismarck, ND 58501

[Contact Us](#)

Trinity Lutheran Church | www.trinitybismarck.com





Try email marketing for free today!