



INDEX

- Monthly Message from the Rev. Jennifer Anttonen..... 1-2
- Christmas Pageant2
- January Ladies Game Night3
- Eucharistic Minister Training.....3
- Valentine Bingo Party4
- Beautiful Altar Flowers.....5
- Vestry Meeting Minutes6-7
- Be Our Guest Thank You.....7
- Thank You Message from St. Vincent dePaul7
- Vestry Candidates.....Insert
- Treasurer's Report, Birthdays and Anniversaries Insert



**The Episcopal Church
of the Holy Nativity**
828 W. Cherry Lane
Meridian, Idaho 83642-1619
(208) 888-4342
Sunday Services 10:00am

May your cup overflow
with peace, love and pure
awesomeness today.



Monthly Message

from The Rev. Jennifer Anttonen

Thank you all who worked to make the Christmas and the Christmas Services so special! Thank you to the Altar Guild, Choir, Music Director, Church School teachers, Jackie Dwight and the children and parents who made the pageant possible, Ushers, Greeters, Office Staff, Readers, workers behind the scenes, tech people, Lay Eucharistic ministers, Acolytes, Carrie Magette and those who gave to the Giving Tree project, to the Be Our Guest workers, and those whose ministries are quiet and known only to them. A special thank you to Mary Buchanan and her multiple ministries as Senior Warden and designer of all the bulletins. You bless us all, and we thank you.

Coming up on Jan. 29th is our Annual Meeting, after church. This year it will be an especially important meeting as we begin the process, set out by Bishop +Jos, to hire a full time priest. At that meeting you will find out what is required of Holy Nativity. The members of the Vestry will also have an important role to play in this process and we will be electing three new members at that meeting.

It fills me with joy to be able to serve as your interim Priest at this time and getting to know so many more of you. May God continue to guide our way, inspire us in new ways and send us out into the world to share the love of God we experience at Holy Nativity.

Joy+,

Jennifer



ADDITIONAL NOTES | from the Rev. Jennifer Anttonen

Baptism • Jan. 8th

Sunday, January 8th we will be celebrating Holy Baptism. If you are interested in being baptized please let Jennifer+ know as soon as possible.

we will set future dates, times and discuss our study process. Please come join us!

Bible Study • Jan. 25th • 10am

On Jan. 25 we will begin a Bible Study Group at 10 a.m. on Wednesday mornings. We will meet in the dining room of the Church Rectory. It is open to men and women. At the first meeting

Annual Meeting & Potluck • Jan. 29th

The Annual Meeting is slated for Sunday, January 29th immediately following Sunday morning service. We will have our traditional potluck followed by the meeting. Chicken will be provided. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share.

WE HAD A TRULY WONDERFUL CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE;
“Touched by a Child. Touched by a King.”



Children’s Pageant with Mary, Joseph, 3 Wise Men, Shepherds and a little lamb



Touching narration



Wonderful music!

Ladies Time Out **GAME NIGHT**

Friday, Jan. 20th
6-8 PM
Parish Hall



Bring your favorite game (if you have one) and some finger food to share. We will play till we drop or 8 PM, whichever comes first.

There will be a sign-up sheet in the parish hall and an option to ask for a ride or volunteer to give a ride; hopefully the two will equal out. Come and share some friendly gaming.

Questions text Sue Pahlas 208-891-3258



Knitting Circle

Sunday, January 22nd

Bring your yarn and needles
and join this wonderful ministry.

Questions?

Cindy Wolfenbarger
(208) 890-3665



Eucharistic Minister **TRAINING OFFERED**

Saturday, January 7th • 10am-2:30pm
with brief lunch break



Have you wished you could serve as a Eucharistic Minister (EM)? Then here's your second chance for training to do just that. Any adult who is interested in this ministry is invited to attend this training. By Canon Law, EM's must also be "Communicants in Good Standing"— *we'll discuss this at the training.* For now, please just come.

Please Note:

All folks currently functioning in any of these roles are encouraged to attend these training sessions, regardless of previous training.

Please RSVP:

If you are planning to attend (or have questions), please email me or phone me so that I have enough handouts (even if you have spoken to me in church). If you are interested but can't attend the training scheduled for January 7th, please email or call me.



The Rev. Alice Farquhar-Mayes

Phone: (208) 850-5027
(it's okay to leave a message)

Email: scotclass1@msn.com

Join us for a
**VALENTINE
BINGO PARTY**



Saturday, February 11, 2023
beginning at 5pm

We'll have a potluck featuring:

- Homemade Chili or Soup
- Cornbread and Rolls
- Desserts (*of course*)
- Beverages

**Then to top off the evening, we'll play Bingo!!!
Complete with great prizes!**

**So bring a friend, your family, your neighbor.
This will be loads of fun for young and old.**

Proceeds from our rousing Bingo games will go towards the Priest fund.



ALTAR FLOWERS

In Celebration • For Thanksgivings • In Remembrance



Beautiful flowers add so much!!

So, beginning in January 2023, you may make a contribution to the Altar Flower Fund and specify that you would like to have flowers placed on the altar for a certain Sunday:

- As a celebration of someone's birthday
- As a celebration of an anniversary
- As a celebration of a graduation
- In honor of an accomplishment
- As thanksgiving for blessings
- In remembrance of a loved one

We will place an **announcement in the bulletin insert** indicating that altar flowers have been given by you in celebration of..., thanksgiving for... or remembrance of... You get the idea. Then our talented Kay Grooms will assure the beautiful arrangements are in place on the specified Sunday.

How do you reserve a date?

Step #1:

Send an email to: **Darlene Stattner** (Office Staff) at [dstattner@gmail](mailto:dstattner@gmail.com)

Indicating:

- Which date you prefer
- What you are celebrating, or who you are remembering
- The amount you wish to contribute

Step #2:

Place an envelope in the offering plate with your contribution for flowers. **Suggested amount is \$50**, but there is no limit - so if you're wanting roses for example, you would need to make a larger contribution.

So to start...which date would you like?

- Sunday, January 8th
- Sunday, January 15th
- Sunday, January 22th
- Sunday, January 29th

Episcopal Church of the Holy Nativity DECEMBER VESTRY MEETING

December 28, 2022 | 7pm | Library



Mary Buchanan opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. with the Prayer for Vestries.

Minutes: November minutes were approved by email.

Pre-Convention Planning Report:

Matt Wheeler had submitted a written list of recommendations for repairs and polish in the nave, parish hall, and parking lot. His written report also included technology upgrades to meet the higher level of expectations consistent with the hosting of the Diocesan Convention in the fall of 2023. Matt met with the vestry to answer questions. The vestry accepted his report for consideration and also suggested that the new Tech Support Officer from the Diocese evaluate our worship and meeting space early in 2023 to recommend technological upgrades.

Treasurer's Report:

The cash balance after current bills is \$81,706.89 and the fund balances are \$119,036.78. Total income for October was \$14,867.90, which was \$3,493.28 above planned giving. The net income for October was -\$411.98, which was -\$1,555.46 under budget, mostly due to a mowing bill that arrived late and a delay in making the second deposit for the month because of the holidays. Year to date net income is \$29,428.71, which is \$24,630.79 over budget, primarily due to a one-time anonymous donation of \$42,000.00 which was deposited into the building fund to defer paying an assessment to the Diocese until the funds are spent.

Priest's Report:

Priest Fund: Jennifer Anttonen+ recommended that the \$42,000.00 anonymous donation received in October and deposited into the Building Fund be moved to the Full Time Priest Fund. The Diocese also defers payment of assessments for donations to the Full Time Priest Fund until the funds are spent. Jennifer+ also reported that John Anttonen's brother is donating some shares of stock to the Full Time Priest Fund. The stock will be sold before the end of the year, and the estimated proceeds from

the sale will be approximately \$25,000.00. After these two donations are deposited, the total balance in the Full Time Priest Fund will be approximately \$88,520.00. Jennifer+ and Mary Buchanan will be meeting with Bishop Jos Tharakan this coming Tuesday to report on progress that is being made toward the calling of a full time priest to serve at Holy Nativity.

Jennifer+ also announced that a Bible Study has been added to the schedule for 10:00 a.m. every Wednesday, beginning on January 25th, meeting in the rectory dining room. She also mentioned that she will be working with Mary Buchanan to draft and sign a contract between herself and the church. Finally, she requested that seven committees be formed to encourage more parishioners to become active in the life and ministry of Holy Nativity. These committees are as follows: Outreach, Buildings and Grounds, Pastoral Care, Worship, Office Staff, Church School, Altar Guild, and Fellowship.

Senior Warden's Report:

Mary Buchanan announced that Donna Lofton will be retiring from her position as church treasurer. Sue Pahlas has accepted an invitation to serve as the new church treasurer. Donna will be working with Sue to make a smooth transition, and Mike Magette will be supporting Sue in this ministry.

ACTION ITEMS

Annual Report:

Mary Buchanan suggested that the annual report about ministries of the church be posted on line and the annual financial statements be printed and handed out at the annual meeting in January. Her recommendation was approved by the vestry.

Proposed Budget for 2023:

Mike Magette presented a proposed budget for 2023, which he reviewed with the vestry line by line. The vestry made several recommendations for revision. The revised proposed budget will be presented to the congregation at the annual meeting on January 29th for approval.

Episcopal Church of the Holy Nativity DECEMBER VESTRY MEETING | *Cont'd*

Vestry and Convention Candidates:

Three candidates have met the requirements to be presented to the congregation at the annual meeting for election to replace the three retiring vestry members. These vestry candidates are Cindy Wolfenbarger, Karen Ryker, and Richard Jones. Candidates for the Diocesan Convention will be nominated and elected at the annual meeting.

Office Copier:

At the last vestry meeting, Jon Anson presented an analysis of the cost for the copier service, since the amount the church was being billed had increased significantly from April through October of this year and was running over budget. Mary Buchanan followed up by contacting Allied Business Solutions to determine how the monthly bill was being calculated, since there is a variance between our records and their bill. After several telephone conversations, emails, and a personal visit to Allied at their business location, Mary discovered that the church was being billed on the basis of an estimate rather than an actual meter count. It was determined that Holy Nativity was owed a substantial credit adjustment. Nonetheless, the following bill was still in error. Mary then asked for a bid from Fisher's Office Equipment, and they offered a lease for \$179.00 per month that includes delivery, installation, unlimited training, and a maintenance contract. The vestry decided to accept the bid from Fisher's and to end the lease from Allied.

The meeting ended at 9:30 p.m. with the recitation of the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Vance Wegner



Be Our Guest Meals:

A big "Thank you" to the ladies who do the B.O.G. meals and all those who helped put the Christmas bags together for the guests.

Each guest received a 50# bag of food supplies and treats. A total of 80 Christmas Bags were prepared and distributed! What a wonderful ministry to our community!

From St. Vincent de Paul Society

Thank you to the Episcopal Church of the Holy Nativity for participating in the 2022 St. Vincent de Paul Thanksgiving Food Box Project!

Together, we distributed over **2500** food boxes, turkeys, potatoes, etc., that served nearly 12,000 adults and children in our community. Thank you for the monetary contributions that were used to purchase food. Thanks for more than 600 project volunteers. Thank you everyone for sharing in this family-to-family charity event.

Mel McLenna
St. Vincent de Paul Society
Thanksgiving Food Box Program

LEADERSHIP TEAM

Bishop of Idaho: The Rt. Rev. Jos Tharakan
Interim Priest: The Rev. Jennifer Anttonen
Assisting Priest: The Rev. Alice Farquhar-Mayes
Music Director: Ms. Heidi Roberts
Senior Warden: Mrs. Mary Buchanan
Junior Warden: Mr. Vance Wegner

Finance Chairman: Mr. Mike Magette
Treasurer: Mrs. Donna Lofton
Office Manager: Mrs. Cindy Wolfenbarger
Ministry Schedule: Mrs. Mary Buchanan
Sunday School: Mrs. Carrie Magette
Altar Guild & Flowers: Ms. Clare Barrett

Food Bank: Mr. Richard Jones
Fellowship: Mrs. Sandra Koerner
Women's Group: Ms. Sue Pahlas
Worship: The Rev. Jennifer Anttonen
Newsletter: Mrs. Mary Buchanan