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The Episcopal Church of the Holy Nativity

828 W. Cherry Lane
Meridian, Idaho 83642-1619
(208) 888-4342

Sunday Services 10:00am



Monthly Message

from The Rev. Jennifer Anttonen

As Holy Week nears, the magnitude of Jesus sacrifice begins to fill my thoughts. I remember years ago in a Bible Study lecture hearing the horrific details of a crucifixion and being overwhelmed. For Jesus to choose that horrible death for me, for us, is often beyond my comprehension, yet the love it took fills my soul. To walk with Jesus a few hours this Holy Week and remember brings tears. And then Easter Day, when the agony is past, all sadness is cast away and amazing, abundant, grace filled love takes its place. Living in thanks for this love urges me on this journey in Christ again. May this sacrifice and gift of love move more deeply into your soul and may our lives be renewed in hope, grace, love and thanksgiving.

What is going on with the full time priest search? What happens when Jennifer and John leave for the summer? What will happen in the fall? I can imagine these are questions beginning to surface. First of all, there have been several meetings with Bishop+Jos about the priest search. The refresh of the rectory was his first priority for us and we are well on the way to accomplishing that priority. Vance Wegner has done a marvelous job of looking at what needs to be repaired and has gotten bids from a contractor for the work we can not do ourselves.

We are reviewing the past parish Profile to see what updates need to be made and what steps we should take to make the needs and wants at Holy Nativity clearly understood. We will share these updates with you. When John and I leave for Canada, at the end of May, all of the summer

Sundays will have scheduled supply clergy. We are such a loving community that there are no shortages of clergy wanting to supply. I am hoping we will have a Vacation Bible School over the summer to continue our growing ministry to children and youth. I can still be reached by telephone and email over the summer. You will probably have to leave a message but I will call you back. When we return at the end of August, I will again fully resume my ministry as Priest-in-Charge. John will continue as my "Gofer" ! We are on this journey with you until a full time priest is found.

May the love of God continue to fill Holy Nativity and spill out into the whole world.

Joy+,

Fennifer



Caring Connections Ministry

Members of the Pastoral Care Committee are beginning a new ministry. The congregation has been divided alphabetically into groups of about 10 families each. Each group has been assigned a Pastoral Care person. This person will be the Care Person for the group. If you miss church too many times, they will check in to see if things are okay. So, please let us know if you are going on vacation. If you have an emergency, call your person so we can help. As this ministry unfolds, we will discover new ways to help and serve. Who is your Care Person? They will be contacting you soon to let you know!



Healing Ministry on Sundays

In the past, healing prayer has been available at the back of the church near the votive candles. We are resuming this ministry and Gladys Clymens has offered to serve as coordinator of this ministry.

If you are interested in being part of this ministry, please contact Gladys at 208-284-3736.



Please Join Us!

We are entering a week of celebrating the holy mysteries at the heart of the Christian faith. This is what our faith is all about!

The service that everyone attends is Easter morning, and that is right and good - Easter joy is for all the world! But to know that joy more truly, we invite you to delve deeper into this week. The more worship services you are able to attend, the more you get to experience.



Palm Sunday

Sunday, April 2nd • 10AM

Maundy Thursday Service

Thursday, April 6th

- 6PM Soup Supper: A sign-up list is in the Parish Hall for all who are willing to provide food for this meal. All are welcome!
- 7PM Maundy Thursday Service

Good Friday

Friday, April 7th • 7PM

Easter Sunday

Sunday, April 9th • 10AM



Easter Lillies

A sign-up sheet is in the Parish Hall for all who would like to purchase an Easter Lily as a remembrance, a celebration, or acknowledgement. The suggested donation is \$10.00



Candy for Easter Egg Hunt

The traditional Easter Egg hunt is being planned for children on Easter morning. If you would be willing to donate candy to fill the eggs, please place the candy in the white basket just inside the Parish Hall.

Note: Candy needs to be in the basket by Sunday, March 26th.



Maundy Thursday Meal

We hope you plan to join us for the Maundy Thursday Soup Supper and Service. If you would be willing to help provide soup, rolls or a dessert for the meal, please sign-up in the Parish Hall, then join us for our feast. All are welcome!



Coffee Hour - Easter Sunday

Attention Coffee Hour Team Members. With the increased attendance on Easter Sunday morning, we need everyone to help by bringing something to share. Thank you in advance for helping us to make Easter morning extra special for everyone who attends.

Maundy Thursday Soup Supper

Thursday, April 6th • 6PM

Please mark your calendar and join us for this special meal. A sign-up list is in the Parish Hall if you would be willing to help provide soup, rolls or dessert.

All are welcome!

Bring your family and friends then join us for the service immediately following.



Flowering The Cross

On Easter morning, as is our tradition, the children of Holy Nativity will come forward and flower the cross.

If you have flowers that you would be willing to bring for this celebration, please bring them that morning. Remember if you will, to please cut the stems short so that they work more easily when placing them onto the cross.

Thank you!

Fellowship Dinners

Saturday, April 15th • 5 - 8PM



ALL ARE WELCOME!

On Saturday, April 15th Judy & Carl Pierce will be hosting our first church Fellowship Dinner.

So, you may be asking:

What is the purpose of a Fellowship Dinner?

The answer quite simply is that physically eating together as Christians in small group gatherings symbolizes our spiritual fellowship with one another and can cultivate lasting friendships within our church community. It is an opportunity to welcome each other into the fellowship of Christ or simply put "MEAL TIMES" are "GOD TIMES." A time of sharing and conversing among each other.

Dinners are to be held once a month preferably on the 3rd Saturday to maintain consistency. There can be multiple hosts each month to accommodate our growing church family.

If you desire to be a host, forms are available in the parish hall for you to complete. Additional host and guest information is included on the form along with "GUEST SIGNUP" where guests are able to sign up for a hosted meal.

**If you have any questions
please contact:**

Judy at 916-397-4923 or
Carl at 916-837-4953.

*Good times with
good friends!*



FEBRUARY 2022 TREASURER'S REPORT

Cash Balance		\$89,948.92
Accounts Payable / Bills		906.91
Balance After Payment		\$89,042.01

FUND BALANCES

Operating Reserve	\$8,662.71	
Be Our Guest	\$2,924.35	
Caring Closet Fund	\$2,162.83	
Children's Ministry	\$645.08	
2 Cents A Meal	\$1,055.99	
Building Fund	\$15,049.60	
Memorial Fund	\$2,161.28	
Paradise Point	\$3,296.30	
Youth Mission	\$1,373.00	
Kitchen Improvements	\$8,018.56	
Music Fund	\$95.00	
Altar Guild Donation	\$1,090.73	
Landscaping	\$1,050.00	
Sound System	\$2,300.00	
Discretionary Fund	\$4,213.41	
Full Time Priest Fund	\$91,395.48	
Total		\$145,494.32

MONTHLY RECURRING EXPENSES

New Commercial Loan	\$2,251.00	
Priest	\$1,760.68	
Total		\$4,011.68

APRIL Birthdays



- Jennifer Erickson 4/1
- Harrison Galbreath 4/4
- Christian Hungate 4/9
- Pat Clarke-Kempf. 4/11
- Ryan Richards. 4/11
- Stephanie Wheeler 4/12
- Jennifer Hotzman 4/13
- Sherry Meyers. 4/16
- Jon Anson 4/27
- Clay Lisle 4/19
- Rob Burnz 4/24
- Karen Ryker 4/26
- Timothy Domka 4/28
- Jonathan Mullin 4/28
- Dennis Wolfenbarger 4/28



APRIL Anniversary

- Jerry and Donna Lofton 4/30
- Richard and Lorraine Bowring 4/30

Episcopal Church of the Holy Nativity
FEBRUARY VESTRY MEETING

March 22, 2023 | 7pm | Library



Cindy Wolfenbarger opened the meeting at 7:01 p.m. with the Prayer for Vestries.

Minutes: The February minutes were approved by email.

Treasurer's Report: Sue Pahlas is our new church treasurer. She has begun training with retiring treasurer Donna Lofton, and Sue's signature will be added to our checking account with U.S. Bank. February was a very good month. The total income for the month was \$22,554.07, and the total expenses were \$13,759.15, for a net income of \$8,794.92.

The excess income over expenses is due to some parishioners paying their pledges in advance. The total income year to date is \$42,363.55, and the total expenses are \$28,291.17, for a year to date net income of \$14,072.38. The U.S. Bank Loan balance is \$151,521.40.

Priest's Report: Jennifer Anttonen+ announced that she has received a \$1,000.00 check from Diane Berger, which she is depositing into the priest discretionary fund, and she inquired about the current balance in this fund. Jennifer+ also announced that she and John have retired as chaplains for retired clergy so that she can focus her energy on serving as priest for Holy Nativity. They plan on making their annual summer trip to Canada, but there are plenty of supply priests who enjoy serving at Holy Nativity. Regarding our journey toward calling a full-time priest, Jennifer+ mentioned the importance of having a voice in the search process by writing a parish profile and developing a procedure to follow with the goal of being pro-active. Jennifer plans on serving at Holy Nativity as long as this process requires.

Senior Warden's Report: Mary Buchanan has received a reply to her letter to the Diocese of Idaho regarding financial assistance with the rectory renovation project. The Diocese has agreed to help with the costs for appliances but wants details

regarding the expenses. She also announced that she has ordered a new processional cross, which will be used for the first time on Easter Sunday. Jennifer+ is planning to bless this cross, and she will invite the congregation to participate. Mary also reported that she has designed a new website for Holy Nativity after completing the training session using Word Press. Finally, Mary announced that Kelly Matson has stepped down from arranging contracts with organizations seeking to use our facilities for meeting space, and Mary is seeking a candidate to manage building contracts and fee schedules.

Junior Warden's Report: Vance Wegner reported that he is working on the plans for the annual Spring Clean-up Day, which is scheduled for Saturday, April 29th, from 9:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. Jackie Dwight has made arrangements for the two Girl Scout troops to participate, and Jon Anson is making his trailer available to haul off the leaves and branches. He also reported that he has delayed action on the removal of four trees by Timberline Tree Service, but that he will see that this is done in the near future.

Fellowship Report: Sandra Koerner was contacted by the Ada County Sheriff Employees' Association about the annual Shop with a Sheriff Back to School Event to help qualifying children get ready to go back to school. The vestry decided to announce this event to the congregation to see if anyone would be interested in making a contribution through the church. Sandra also had presented information about purchasing an AED (defibrillator) from Idaho CPR, an organization that also conducts training classes on how to use this device should an emergency situation occur. The vestry asked her to get more prices from other suppliers, and Jennifer+ requested that she also contact the Red Cross about training classes.

Outreach Report: Barbara Samparisi reported that Carl Pierce is proposing a plan for home dinners. The way this would work is that once each month the host(s) would prepare a main dish and invite parishioners that they don't know to their home for dinner. Everyone who is invited would bring a dish to share. The vestry thought that if Carl and Judy Pierce wanted to host such a dinner, they were free to do so.

ACTION ITEMS

Locking Up After Choir Practice: Richard Jones has noticed that Heidi Roberts is always the last person to leave after choir practice, and she locks up the church building. He is concerned for her safety. The vestry suggested that Heidi park her car next to Cindy Wolfenbarger's car in the back parking lot, and that Heidi and Cindy lock up and leave together once everyone else has left the church building.

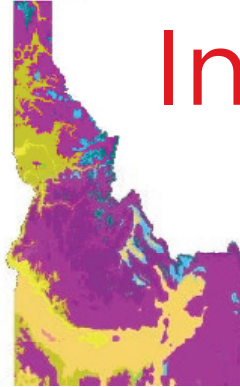
Rectory Renovation: Vance Wegner has written a work plan for basic renovations to the rectory to make it suitable to house a priest and family members when we are ready to call a full-time priest. Vance then asked three contractors Orion Sorensen, Tyler Anderson, and Toby Lindsey, to submit estimates for the completion of this work. The vestry approved the work plan with several revisions, and the vestry thought that Tyler Anderson would be the best fit for completing this renovation project.

The meeting ended at 9:08 p.m. with the recitation of the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Vance Wegner

LEADERSHIP TEAM

Bishop of Idaho: The Rt. Rev. Jos Tharakan	Ministry Schedule: Mary Buchanan
Interim Priest: Rev. Jennifer Anttonen	Sunday School: Carrie Magette
Assisting Priest: Rev. Alice Farquhar-Mayes	Altar Guild: Clare Barrett
Church Musician: Heidi Roberts	Food Bank: Richard Jones
Senior Warden: Mary Buchanan	Fellowship: Sandra Koerner
Junior Warden: Vance Wegner	Women's Group: Sue Pahlas
Finance Chairman: Mike Magette	Worship: Rev. Jennifer Anttonen
Treasurer: Sue Pahlas	Newsletter: Mary Buchanan
Office Manager: Cindy Wolfenbarger	



Interfaith Climate Festival

Sunday, April 23rd from 2-5PM

Congregation Ahavath Beth Israel
11 N. Latah Street • Boise, ID



- Music
- Food
- Creation care from various faith traditions.
- Sustainable systems.



Want to host a station?
Have questions?

Please email:
Idaho.IPL@gmail.com