



SEPTEMBER 2023 NEWSLETTER

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Monthly Message

A Letter from Rev. Jennifer Anttonen



By the time you read this we will be home, but I could not resist one more letter from the lake.

I’ve been thinking a lot about gratitude lately. A friend was saying how, after working at a company for years, he said, “Thank you“ to one of the workers who stocked materials in the back. He said the fellow was so pleased to be thanked. The next time, my friend went into the back to get some thing, the fellow immediately came up to him and asked him how he could help. Gratitude takes only two small words, but can make such a difference!

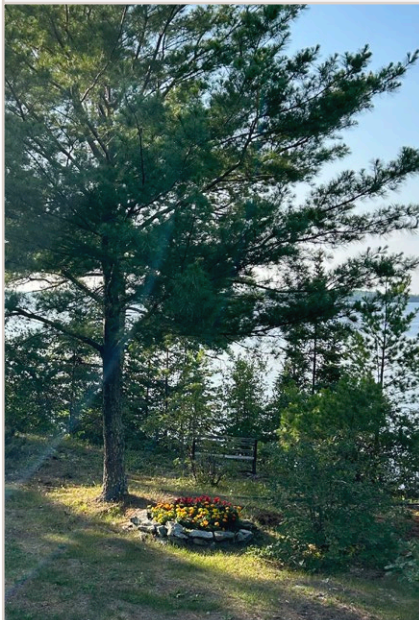
John and I are so very grateful for every summer we spend at the lake and are stewards of such an amazing place. We leave a thank you note to God on the counter each time we leave for the year. It sounds silly, but it is important to us.

As I reflect on the time here at the lake, I am so grateful to Mary Buchanan for carrying the extra load while I was away. Alice+ stepped in too, teaching acolytes, preaching, handling emergencies, and pastoral visitations. What a glorious church Holy Nativity is to have such dedicated servants and so very many other dedicated people!

Growing up, we were never allowed to play with a present someone gave us, unless we had written a thank you note. I made our kids do the same thing. Texts don’t count! Taking the time to write from your heart sends love into the world. And God is love. Try thanking God each day for the smallest things and see how your heart fills with love. Thank you all for allowing us this time away to refill our souls .

Joy+,

Jennifer+ (*John too!*)



**The Episcopal Church
of the Holy Nativity**

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

Sunday Services 10:00am



Bishop's Visit

Sunday, September 17th

This day will be an **especially wonderful time of celebration**. Not only will Bishop Jos be celebrating the Eucharist with us, but there will also be:

- Potluck Dinner
- Blessing of the:
 - Grotto
 - Memorial Garden
 - Renovated Rectory



Holy Nativity will provide chicken for the potluck dinner. Please bring a side dish or dessert to help complete our feast.

Be sure to mark your calendar and plan to join us on this special Sunday. It will be a wonderful day of celebrations!



Our 2023 Paradise Point Women's Camp crew . . . all smiles!

We understand they had a truly wonderful time together.

(From left to right: Pat Clarke-Kempf, Cindy Wolfenbarger, Tammie Bradley, Clare Barrett, Linda Czarkowski, Kay Grooms, Sue Pahlas and Judy Pierce).



It's time for PIE SUNDAY!

Sunday, September 3rd

Please bring a pie or dessert to share on Sunday, September 3rd. This is a fun little switch for coffee hour that everyone enjoys!

Crop Hunger Walk

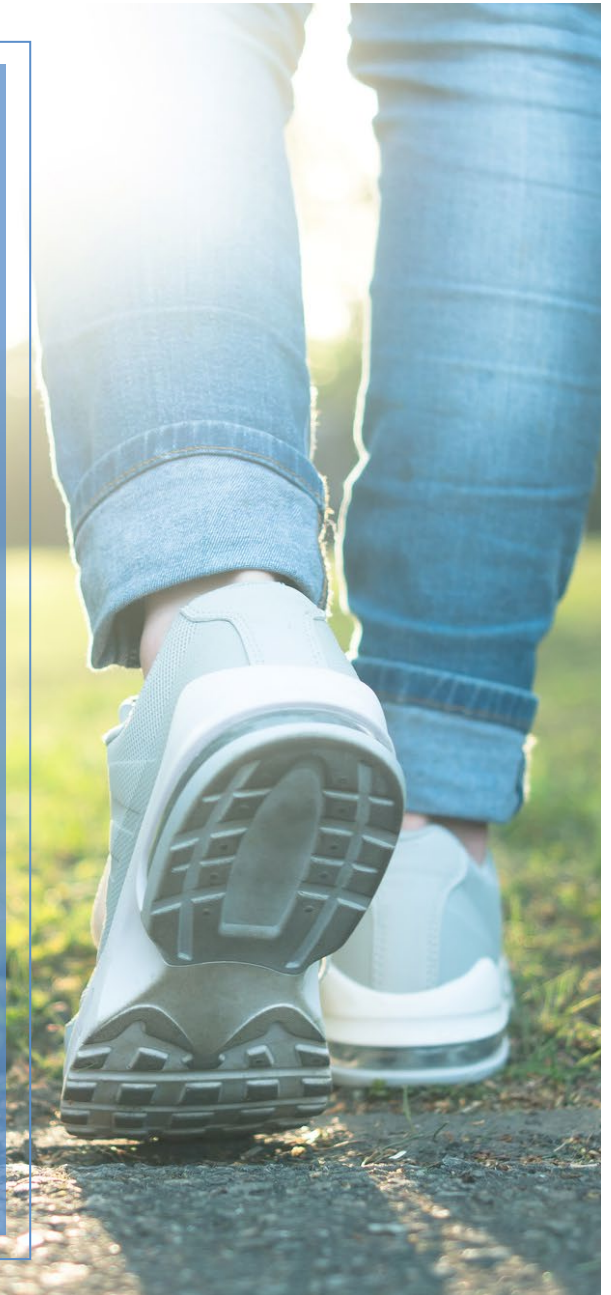
Sunday, October 16th

We will meet at Settlers Park in Meridian (corner of Ustick and Meridian Rd) around 11:45AM-noon. The distance around the park is approximately one mile. You may walk as many laps as you want, and bring your kids and dogs!

To register for our team, or donate online, go to:
events.crophungerwalk.org

- Login or register with Ada County/Boise Hunger Walk
- Join the "Holy Nativity" team or you may donate online
- You may mail donations to:
Cindy Wolfenbarger
1560 N. Ellington Way • Eagle, Idaho, 83616

Please let Cindy know if you will be walking so we don't leave without you.





Harvest Festival

Friday, October 6, 2023 • Starting at 6PM

With our traditional Chili Cook-Off

Homebaked Breads & Cornbreads • Apple Cider, Hot Cocoa, Beer & Wine
plus assorted Homemade Pies & Desserts

We will have a **silent auction** which is always fun. Plus some fun activities for the kids. The chili cook-off always has some delicious entries - we have some terrific cooks! Don't miss it!

Invite your family & friends!

Great Food • Games • Prizes • Fun





JULY 2023 TREASURER'S REPORT

Cash Balance		\$94,498.46
Accounts Payable / Bills		791.39
Balance After Payment		\$93,707.07

FUND BALANCES

Operating Reserve	\$9,737.71	
Be Our Guest	\$3,107.70	
Caring Closet Fund	\$2,162.83	
Children's Ministry	\$645.08	
2 Cents A Meal	\$1,661.36	
Building Fund	(\$3,199.76)	
Memorial Fund	\$40285.84	
Paradise Point	\$3,704.36	
Youth Mission	\$1,373.00	
Kitchen Improvements	\$7,808.56	
Music Fund	\$95.00	
Altar Guild Donation	\$1,090.73	
Landscaping	\$1,050.00	
Sound System	\$2,300.00	
Discretionary Fund	\$4,471.73	
Full Time Priest Fund	\$99,389.98	
Total		\$139,484.12

MONTHLY RECURRING EXPENSES

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

September Birthdays



- Sandra Long 9/3
- Linda Burnz. 9/5
- Marc Fox, Sr. 9/8
- Erin Benson. 9/14
- Michael Henninger. 9/16
- Michele Munayirji 9/18
- Heidi Roberts 9/20
- Melissa Fujioka-Burnz 9/22
- Barney Carlson. 9/23
- Brian Galbreath. 9/23
- Sierra Bush 9/26
- Mary Buchanan 9/27
- Heather Feeney 9/28
- Faye Pulley 9/28

September Anniversaries



- Dean and Gale Nehrig. 9/7
- Lee and Mary Clausen. 9/14
- Dennis and Heather Feeney 9/19
- Paul and Robin Horn. 9/20
- Brian and Stephany Galbreath. 9/29



**Do you want to volunteer at the Pride Event
Saturday or Sunday, September 9th or 10th?**

to be held at Cecil D. Andrus Park
601 Jefferson Street

(across from the State Capitol)

Please join our parish and the Episcopal Diocese of Idaho in supporting our LGBTQ+ sisters and brothers in Christ and this year's annual Pride Parade and Festival.

We need YOU! *(We really do.)*

There are several ways to help. Please volunteer to staff our booth for a two-hour timeslot (greatest need) on either Saturday or Sunday or attend the rally on the Capital steps and march in the parade with your fellow Episcopalians on Sunday morning. We also need adults to carry parish banners for each church and youth (middle school or older) to march in front with our Episcopal Pride banners. Youth are also invited for a lunch hosted by St. Michael's Youth Pastor after the parade.

A link has been created where people can sign up to volunteer for a two-hour shift working at the Episcopal booths during the Pride event weekend or walking in the parade on Sunday morning.

[Click here - to sign up](#)

Questions? You may email: dioceseofidahopride@gmail.com

Pride Event Fingernail Polish

One of the ways that Holy Nativity is helping to support the LGBTQ+ Pride event is to provide colorful fingernail polish.

It was explained that during this event, as the polish is applied, it can be a very reaffirming action that conveys Holy Nativity's respect, acceptance and care for LGBTQ+ individuals. In short, it is an easy way of providing compassionate, supportive pastoral care in a visible way.

Vance reported that he delivered 85 bottles of fingernail polish that were donated by our congregation. Are we great or what?!?!?



Vestry Meeting Minutes

August 30, 2023 | 7:00PM | Library



The meeting was opened at 7:00pm with Sandy Koerner reading the Prayer for Vestries.

FINANCIAL:

Mike Magette presented the Financial Statement. The checking balance, after current bills is \$93,707.07. Total cash in designated line items is \$139,484.12. Total cash is \$233,191.19.

The Mortgage Loan balance is \$142,000. We are currently paying \$2251 monthly, which is \$150 more than the required payment.

Mike explained that we do not accrue interest on our account and would like to purchase CDs in order to gain some interest. The Vestry agreed to purchase a CD for \$50,000 for 7 months at an interest rate of 4.55% which would be a \$1,327 gain. If all goes well, Mike thinks the mortgage can be paid off in 2026 with available funds.

The line item currently named Youth Mission will now be listed as Youth.

PRIEST'S REPORT:

Jennifer has tried to contact Emily VanHise concerning the progress of arrangements for the Annual Convention which is being held at Holy Nativity. No returned call.

A funeral service for Sam Votaw will be held on October 20 at 5:00. Then Eastern Star will be serving the dinner after the service. Jennifer will not be available at that time. Alice will be officiating. Sandy will coordinate with the Votaws.

The "Be Our Guest" ministry needs two, light weight, water proof signs. Vestry approved purchase.

Mary will check further on the Holy Nativity shirts that would be available by Convention time.

Vance assured Jennifer that the linoleum left over from the master bathroom in the Rectory will be enough to redo the other bathroom also.

There is some painting to be done in the Rectory. Mary

and Carl have made arrangements to do some painting. Others are welcome to help.

Instead of doing a Ministry Fair this year, Jennifer would like to have the person in charge of a ministry do a short outline of duties during Announcements each Sunday. Ministry Minutes.

The Church Divinity School of the Pacific is offering graduates a "2 year Cure". They are partnering with Trinity Wall Street in paying these graduates \$60,000 a year when they are placed in a church. Jennifer will speak to Bishop Jos about the feasibility for our church.

SENIOR WARDEN:

Mary let us know that 5 members have signed up for the EFM classes. The fee each year is \$430. The Diocese contributes \$100. Mary would like the church to contribute \$200, leaving \$130 to be paid by class members. This would amount to \$1,000. Jennifer agreed to pay \$500 from her discretionary fund and Mike suggested we take \$500 from the Operation fund. Vestry agreed. This would be for the first year.

Mary has completed the Grant forms for money to purchase a new Commercial dishwasher. It was voted upon and approved by the vestry to move forward.

JUNIOR WARDEN:

Vance reported that the trees along the street have been trimmed.

The abandoned car has been towed. The Parish Hall doors have been repaired and refinished. Two stools have been purchased for the kitchen. Power washing of the church building has been done, but the product used was not appropriate. Residue needed to be power washed off which was done by Vance. Vance spoke to Kenny Brown of Kenny Brown PWSI about the LumaBrite product used. He agreed this was not the proper product to use. He is

August Vestry Meeting *(cont'd)*

willing to be available to assist us. The gutters were cleaned out, and one unblocked by Vance with help from Richard and Marsha. The three trees on the north side need to be removed. They are causing problems and shading the Blue Spruce. This project will be delayed for a little while.

Phil Street and Becky Rowell have been doing a lot of work on the gardens and lawn. Thank You!!

RCS Commercial Cleaning, our cleaning service has not been completing the tasks as outlined in our contract. Vance will once again set a meeting date with Alex, Mary and himself to discuss the deficiencies.

Pride Celebration: Lots of fingernail polish has been collected. Volunteers are still needed for the Episcopal Booth shifts.

Intermountain Gas has informed us that an inspection needs to be done on our gas fittings, etc. Vance will make the appointment to have them come to do the inspection.

One of the Air Conditioners for the south side of the Sanctuary has frozen up and cannot be repaired. The units are 51 years old. A bid was submitted to replace the two furnaces and the air conditioning unit, condensers and assorted things for \$24,831. The Vestry discussed the need to reduce our carbon footprint, exploring the several options available. The furnaces will still be functional so we have time to consider options. Vance and Jon will work on this project.

Vance will order the other driveway markers.

There is water damage to the outside walls of the education wing. Integrity of the cinder blocks has been damaged, causing them to start to deteriorate. Vance will get three bids as this needs to be fixed.

FELLOWSHIP:

Sandy reminded the Vestry that the Holiday Bazaar will be held just before the Convention. We have usually held a Harvest Festival, featuring a Chili Cook-off, Silent Auction and Craft project for the children. We set October 6th for this event.

CHURCH MUSICIAN:

Cindy had suggested that we consider a raise for Heidi Roberts, our music director. Mary would prefer to wait until January to consider this as we typically renew her annual contract then.

Karen brought a suggestion from a member of the congregation to include more hymns from the hymnal from time to time. Jennifer will speak to Cindy as she chooses the music.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:16 by saying the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted

Karen Ryker



We will be starting Sunday School on Sunday, Sept. 10th. Please invite your neighbors, friends and family who have children!

Thank you to all the teachers who have offered to help out again this year! We appreciate each of you more than you know.

LEADERSHIP TEAM

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