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**Fall Yard Clean-up**  
Saturday, Nov. 16th · 10AM



**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 Father Shibu, Priest-in-Charge



Dear Holy Nativity Family,

As we enter the month of November, filled with the excitement of Thanksgiving celebrations across America, we have much to look forward to within our own church community.

This month will be packed with activities, including our **annual Holiday Bazaar** and the launch of the **Stewardship Campaign** for 2025. I encourage you all to pray for our **Diocesan Convention**, which will be held on November 8-9 in Pocatello.

It’s hard to believe we have just two more months until the end of the year, time certainly flies! Yet, as I reflect on the past months, I am filled with gratitude and excitement for all the wonderful things happening at Holy Nativity.

One of the most special moments recently was the blessing of our **new Teen Youth Group room**. This space is now dedicated to our youth, providing them with a place of comfort, peace, and fellowship. It’s inspiring to see how God is working in the lives of our young people. Additionally, we’ve seen tremendous growth in our Sunday School, and I want to express my **heartfelt appreciation to our devoted Sunday School teachers** and parents for their incredible support and commitment.

Another blessing has been the opportunity to visit nearly **12 homes** over the past two months. I’ve been warmly welcomed by our parishioners and have spent meaningful time with each family. These visits have been a reminder of the love and hospitality that define our church community.

As we prepare to celebrate Thanksgiving, let us take a moment to reflect on all the blessings God has given us. In Philippians 4:6-7, Paul encourages us to pray about everything and give thanks to God. Indeed, we have so much to be thankful for our growing community, the friendships we cherish, and the opportunities to serve one another. I pray that each of you will experience a season of gratitude and joy, and I wish you a blessed life in Christ.

With love and thanksgiving,

*Fr. Shibu Reginold Pananchikkal*

## 2025 Stewardship Campaign

# Holy Nativity “Roundup”



It is that time of year when we focus on Stewardship.

**Generosity is a hallmark of our Christian identity.** There comes a time in each of our lives when Jesus asks us to do something extraordinary: to follow Him and be generous of our time, talent and treasure. The spirit of stewardship is not merely a sense of obligation, but a profound act of worship that aligns our hearts with God’s priorities.

Just think of all the **wonderful things** Holy Nativity is accomplishing with your faithful support:

- **A revitalized Teen Youth Group program** with a great new teen room
- **Rapidly growing Sunday School**
- **Helping Hands Ministry**
- **Expanded Bible Studies**
- **Priest Home Visits**
- **Sanctuary enhancement** with beautiful arch and new cross.

In the weeks to come, you will be hearing more from the Stewardship Committee about our Annual Pledge Drive. **Letters have been placed in your church mailbox / folder.**

**As a side note** — extra letters and pledge cards are available in the Narthex. So if you misplace your pledge card, no worries. Extras are there for you to pick up at your convenience.



Great Stewardship Skit by Angelo Samperisi and his faithful steed

May our stewardship become a powerful witness to the world, of our faith and the amazing work of the Holy Spirit within us.







*“Tis The Season”*  
**HOLIDAY BAZAAR**

Get a start on your Christmas shopping with beautiful and unique hand-made gifts made by local artisans.

**Dates & Times:**

- **Friday, November 1 | 10am—5pm**
- **Saturday, November 2 | 9am—5pm**
- **Sunday, November 3 | 10am—Noon**

And don't forget that our kitchen staff would truly appreciate home-baked pies and cookies to sell during the event. If you are willing to help with this effort, please bring your baked items to the kitchen Friday or Saturday morning. Thank you!



Questions? Please contact Gladys Clymens (208) 284-3736

Are you interested in being a part of the

**PASTORAL CARE TEAM**

Holy Nativity has had a Pastoral Care Team for about a year. Currently, we have 11 members that are assigned to about 10 parishioners each.

Holy Nativity's Pastoral Care Team is a vital component of our parish, serving as a compassionate and dedicated group of individuals committed to supporting the spiritual and emotional well-being of our members. As a member of this wonderful ministry team, you would be entrusted with the privilege of walking alongside fellow members, offering a listening ear, a comforting presence, or determining if practical assistance is needed during times of need (i.e., surgery, illness, loss, etc.).

**We are seeking additional members to be a part of this team.** It does not take a lot of time and current team members are available to guide you in this effort. We do meet occasionally with Fr. Shibu to make sure we are keeping in touch.



**We will be having a meeting during coffee hour on Sunday, November 10th**

Cindy will hand out directories with each assignment. If you are unable to attend the meeting, she will get the list to you.

**Questions? Please contact Cindy Wolfenbarger 208-890-3665**

## Thanksgiving Food Box Program • 2024



The Thanksgiving Food Box program is a family-to-family act of charity. By making a contribution, we share the tradition of Thanksgiving with families in need.

Last fall, the St. Vincent de Paul society distributed enough turkeys with all the trimmings to provide complete Thanksgiving dinners for about **13,300** people. The society works with Boise and West Ada School District counselors to provide Thanksgiving dinners to over 450 of the districts' poorest families. This year, as the country sees rising costs of living, the need continues to be great.

Every autumn, Holy Nativity has joined efforts with St. Vincent de Paul and other area churches in the Thanksgiving Food Box Program. **The cost to fill a single Thanksgiving food box that feeds a family of 4-6 is \$80.**

If you would like to help in this effort, please make a contribution by **Sunday, November 17th** noting "Thanksgiving Food Box" on the memo line of your check or if donating cash, indicate this on the outside of an envelope. Our donations will be collected and donated in time to help families in need.



If you have questions or want more information, please contact Angelo Samperisi (714) 381-8028 • [anbasamperisi@yahoo.com](mailto:anbasamperisi@yahoo.com)

# Fall Yard Clean-up

The annual Fall Yard Clean-up has been scheduled for **Saturday, Nov. 16th • 10AM**

We have requested that the Girl Scout Troops come to help with this effort, but we also need help from our parishioners. Many hands make light work.

**Please help!**



A sign-up sheet will be in the Parish Hall for all who are willing to help out.

**COFFEE, COCOA AND DONUTS WILL BE PROVIDED. THANK YOU SO MUCH!**





# Interested in running for Holy Nativity Vestry or 2025 Convention Delegate?

The Episcopal Church of the Holy Nativity will elect two new Vestry members, three new Diocesan Convention Delegates, and one Convention Alternate at the Annual Meeting scheduled for **January 12, 2025**. New Vestry members will serve a three-year term beginning February 1, 2025.



## WHAT IS THE VESTRY?

The Vestry is the lay governing body of Holy Nativity. It helps define the mission of the congregation, selects the rector of the Church, ensures effective organization, and manages the Church's resources and finances.

## RESPONSIBILITIES OF A VESTRY MEMBER

A Vestry member serves a three-year term, serves as a liaison to at least one other Church committee or ministry group, attends Church and Church events on a regular basis, and supports the annual stewardship campaign through pledging and raising funds. Candidates must be able to fulfill all of the requirements of the office.

## RESPONSIBILITIES OF A DIOCESAN CONVENTION DELEGATE

A Diocesan Convention Delegate attends church regularly, supports the annual stewardship campaign and supports the ministries of Holy Nativity.

## IF YOU WISH TO HAVE YOUR NAME ADDED TO THE SLATE OF CANDIDATES

If you are interested in running for a position on the Vestry, or Diocesan Convention Delegate, please submit your application by providing your name and contact information as well as a paragraph stating why you wish to become a member of the Vestry or Convention Delegate.

▶ **Email your information no later than Tuesday, November 26, 2024 to Mary Buchanan, Senior Warden [mkbdesigninc@gmail.com](mailto:mkbdesigninc@gmail.com)**

Names of individuals wishing to be considered, along with their paragraph stating why they wish to become a member of the Vestry or Convention Delegate, will be included in the December newsletter for review and consideration by the Parish prior to the Annual Meeting on Sunday, January 12, 2025.

## Christmas Music & Glass Hearts



at Meridian Meadows Assisted Living Facility  
December 15th • 1:30 p.m.

The W.I.N.G.S. Teen Youth Group, along with the help of Darlene Stattner, will be **making glass hearts on Saturday, Nov. 9th** with a very special purpose. They will be taking them to an Assisted Living Facility here in Meridian on **December 15th** and giving the hand-made hearts to residents there as Christmas gifts.

Not only that, but they will also be singing Christmas Carols. **What a heartwarming Outreach effort** for our youth, as they share in the love and wonder of this special time of year through music. **We are so proud of our youth!**



## NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER EVENTS:

**Saturday, November 9th • 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.**

**Outreach Project - Making glass ornaments with Darlene Stattner**, Holy Nativity Parish Hall. These ornaments will be made with love with a Christmas theme in mind, and later delivered in person by the teen youth group to a senior living facility.

**Sunday, November 24th • after the service**

**W.I.N.G.S. Teen Youth Group Meeting** in the W.I.N.G.S. room following the service.

**Sunday, December 15th • after the service**

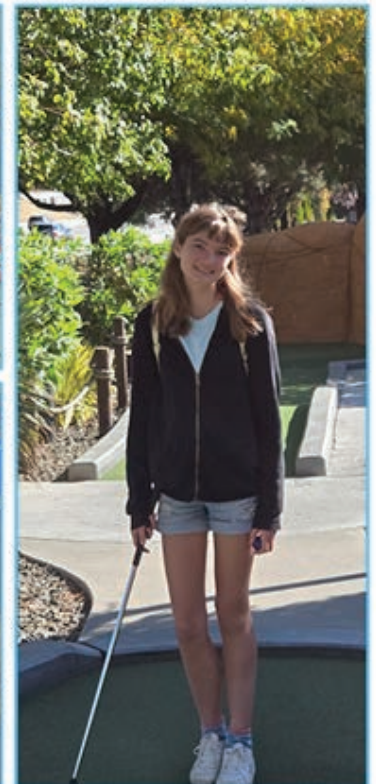
**Field Trip to a Meridian Meadows Assisted Living Facility.** Chaperons and teens will travel to a local senior living facility to hand out the glass hearts to seniors that they made in November. While there, they will also sing Christmas Carols. We will leave after coffee hour from the church parking lot. We will return to the church parking lot at a time to be determined.





# Teen Youth Group MINIATURE GOLF

Saturday, October 5th, our Youth Group had a fun time at Wahooz playing Miniature Golf, followed by lunch. It was a beautiful day filled with sunshine and loads of smiles!





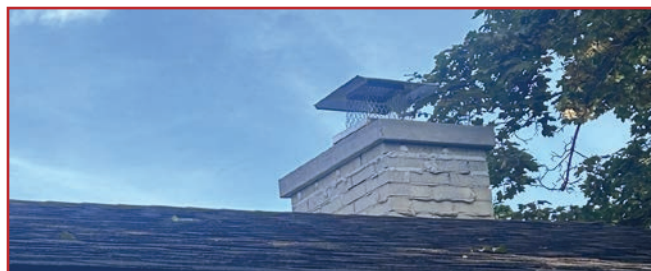
## The Wegner's Are So Very Generous & Thoughtful!



Vance and Marsha Wegner are truly amazing individuals in every way. They have such giving hearts and an inspiring spirit of compassion that has not gone unnoticed.

Not only have they spent untold hours doing repairs and maintenance here at Holy Nativity, but they also recently took it upon themselves to assure that the fireplace in the rectory was safe to be used. To that end, they had repair work done on the chimney after a safety inspection, then delivered a load of firewood, not to mention purchasing and donating a cast iron firewood rack, beautiful fireplace mesh screen, fireplace tool set and kindling bucket.

With this very generous gift, Fr. Shibu and his family can enjoy the warm glow of a fire throughout the winter, and we can all be thankful that we have such caring members of our congregation, doing all they can to help our priest and family stay warm through the winter months ahead.







### SEPTEMBER TREASURER'S REPORT

Operating Reserve Fund	11,637.71
Be Our Guest	5,328.85
Caring Closet	2,162.83
Children's Ministry	645.08
2 Cents-a-Meal	2,120.80
Building Fund	10,752.88
Memorial Fund	6,825.84
Paradise Point	4,559.51
Kitchen Improvements	8,808.56
New Dishwasher	1,146.76
Youth Ministry	2,565.50
Altar Guild Donation	1,470.73
Music	95.00
Landscaping	1,050.00
Sound System	2,450.00
Discretionary Fund	5,024.60
Full Time Priest Fund	89,003.19
Thanksgiving Baskets	130.00
Nampa and Meridian Irrigation	200.00
Christmas Families	0.00
Capital Campaign HVAC System	(138.00)
Convention Donation	9.77
<b>Balance</b>	<b>\$155,849.32</b>



### November Birthdays

- Claudia Horn. . . . . 11/2
- Kelly Mattson . . . . . 11/3
- Jeff Willoughby. . . . . 11/5
- Annamarie Lavieri . . . . . 11/7
- Diedre Votaw . . . . . 11/12
- Almon Smith. . . . . 11/15
- Bill Bulen. . . . . 11/16
- Orve Hendrix . . . . . 11/16
- Grant Sutherland . . . . . 11/17
- Andrew Benson . . . . . 11/18
- Adrian Lane . . . . . 11/18
- Becky Rowell . . . . . 11/18
- Hayley Bowring . . . . . 11/24
- Steven Loveland. . . . . 11/26
- Athmika Reginold. . . . . 11/26



### November Anniversaries

- Mike and Carrie Magette . . . . . 11/7
- Darwin and Mary Buchanan . . . . . 11/14
- Adrian and Heather Lane . . . . . 11/28
- Steven and Kaitlyn Loveland . . . . . 11/30



## VESTRY MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, October 16, 2024

All Saints Room | 7PM



**Minutes:** Minutes of September meeting were approved by e-mail.

**Call to Order:** Meeting called to order a 7:00pm with Mary Buchanan reading the Prayer for Vestries.

### Financial • Jerrod Horn:

- **2025 Budget:** Jerrod presented a preliminary budget for 2025. There will be some slight increases for Coffee Hour, utilities, property insurance and other incidentals.
- **The Stewardship Committee** has set a goal of \$220,000.00. We are trending to be over-budget for income this year, so this figure is very attainable. We need to refinance the loan for our mortgage in 2025. Jerrod will begin the process after the first of the year. The Vestry will be given up-to-date financials later. They are not available at the time of this meeting.

### Priest Report • Fr. Shibu:

- **Facebook / Instagram:** Fr. Shibu expressed a concern about continuing with our present Facebook account. He would like to see a new account made as well as making an Instagram account for the church and youth group. A new Facebook account would be able to track the demographics of the people viewing the site. Instagram is used more universally and Fr. Shibu said that he can set that up. Fr. Shibu has asked that he be provided with the names of those parishioners watching services on Zoom.
- **Wegner's Generosity:** Vance and Marsha Wegner have delivered a trailer load of firewood to the Rectory, their gift to Fr. Shibu and family. Many thanks to the Wegners.
- **Thanksgiving Vacation:** Fr. Shibu will be taking a Thanksgiving vacation on November 24th thru the 29th. Fr. Laddie will cover during this time.

- **Outreach Effort for Richard Norris:** The church was contacted by Richard Nourse, an elderly man living close to us. He has an extensive collection (over 3000) of Nativity Scenes that he wanted to donate to us. Fr. Shibu, Amritha and Linda Czarkowski visited Richard and found him living in difficult circumstances. Most of the home is full of Nativity scenes. We will take a good share of the Nativity scenes. We do have some already and they are stored in the benches in the Parish Hall. We need to decide where we can store this gift and how to use them. The Vestry would like to organize a work party to clean and organize his home. We need to contact the family who lives in Utah to get permission. It would be good to honor Richard at a church service.

### Sr. Warden • Mary Buchanan:

- **Altar Backdrop Construction:** The Altar backdrop is nearly complete. Several generous donations have been made, leaving at this time \$1930 left to cover the cost. Richard moved; Cindy seconded, that we use funds from the building fund to cover the balance due. Carried unanimously.
- **Vestry Positions:** There will be two vestry positions to be filled at the Annual meeting. Those interested in a Vestry position need to submit a Bio to the Vestry. These applicants need to have been members for at least one year. **It was decided to have the Annual Meeting on January 12th.** This will be announced in the Newsletter.
- **Vehicles Parked for Hours:** We have had vehicles using our parking lot during the week, just parking or loitering. This is concerning with Anvid and Athmika coming and going from the Rectory. The police have been called once, but vehicle was gone. The license number was given to the police. Putting up Security



cameras was discussed. Jerrod will investigate some systems that may work for us. Jon said he was working on signage warning of the penalty for illegal parking. The City of Meridian has guidelines.

- **IEF Foundation Representative Visit:** Janet Hasson from Idaho Episcopal Foundation, (IEF) has let Mary know that some churches are incorporating IEF presentations during their Lenten Luncheons. Various topics could be advice on wills, trusts, etc. Janet will be here on December 8th to present materials to those interested.
- **Shirts for Holy Nativity:** Linda Burnz has asked about ordering tee shirts and sweat shirts for parishioners. Jerrod brought up that St. Stephens has done this for their church family online. Mary will investigate this and report back. This brought up the subject of changing our Logo from what we are using now to one that reflects Holy Nativity. Mary had designed one years ago but did not use it. Mary shared a picture of this logo and the Vestry thought it was one that we should use.

#### **Jr. Warden • Phil Street:**

- **Fall Clean-up:** Phil Street. It is time to schedule a Fall Clean-Up. In the last two years the Girl Scouts have not shown up like they used to. They have use of the building free of charge with the understanding that they help with Clean-Up days. Mary will reach out to the Scout leaders to remind them of this agreement. Fall Clean-up Day is scheduled for November 16th from 10:00am to noon.
- **Irrigation Pump Repair:** The irrigation pump needed to be repaired at the cost of \$2,000. A replacement pump could cost \$5,000 to \$6,000.
- **Fire Inspection:** We are due for our annual Fire Inspection. This will be done in November. Fire Extinguishers are already checked and certified.
- **Janitorial Service:** Cleaners are doing better. All work paid for has been completed. Cindy brought up a couple of concerns and Phil will check into it. The women's restroom has a bad odor, and the floor is not clean looking.

**Quickbooks Software Update:** Jerrod and Sue will be in the office next Wednesday to upgrade the church computer to the new Quikbooks program. We will have 4 licenses.

**Communion Protocol:** It was noted that typically, the congregation stands until they go up for communion and then return to their pew at which time they may be seated. It was decided that Vestry would remain standing and perhaps that will encourage more to remain standing. We realize that several people are not able to stand for any length of time. "Stand as you are able" has always been understood.

Meeting adjourned at 8:38pm with the Vestry reciting the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Karen*

Karen Ryker, Vestry Clerk

## **LEADERSHIP TEAM**

### **Bishop of Idaho:**

The Rt. Rev. Jos Tharakan

### **Priest-in-Charge:**

Rev. Shibu Pananchikkal

### **Senior Warden**

Mary Buchanan

### **Junior Warden**

Phil Street

### **Finance Chairman**

Jerrod Horn

### **Sexton**

Richard Jones

### **Treasurer**

Sue Pahlas

### **Church Musician:**

Heidi Roberts

### **Office Manager:**

Cindy Wolfenbarger

### **Fellowship:**

Sandra Koerner

### **Ministry Schedule:**

Mary Buchanan

### **Sunday School:**

Carrie Magette

### **Altar Guild:**

Clare Barrett

### **Middle School Outreach:**

Holly Vondemfange

### **Food Bank:**

Richard Jones

### **Women's Group:**

Sue Pahlas

### **Worship:**

Rev. Shibu Pananchikkal

### **Website:**

Mary Buchanan