



Episcopal Church of the Holy Nativity



February 2025 Newsletter



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PLEASE PLAN TO JOIN US FOR THE

Bishop's Visit

Sunday, February 2, 2025



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 Beloved Holy Nativity family,

*"Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good;
His steadfast love endures forever."*

– Psalm 107:1

As we enter February, my heart is filled with gratitude as I reflect on the past year. February 1, 2024, marked my first day of service as your priest, and this month we celebrate our first anniversary together at Holy Nativity. The past year has been a testament to God's faithfulness and love as we have grown in faith and fellowship as a church family. Thank you all for your warm welcome, encouragement, and partnership in ministry. Let us continue to journey together, giving thanks to God and trusting in His plans for our community.

We are delighted to welcome Bishop Jos to Holy Nativity on the first Sunday of February. The Bishop's visit is always a special occasion, offering us the opportunity to reflect on our shared mission and to receive encouragement in our faith journey. Please make plans to attend this significant Sunday as we worship together and hear from our Bishop. Additionally, Bishop Jos will be spending a bit of time with the children right after the potluck. I hope this will be a wonderful opportunity for the kids to connect with our spiritual leader and explore new godly insights.

We extend our heartfelt congratulations to Linda Czarkowski and Ken Reglin, who have been elected as new members of our Vestry. We are confident that their gifts and dedication will bless our church in the coming years. At the same time, we offer our sincere thanks to Barbara Samperisi and Richard Jones for their faithful service on the Vestry. Their leadership and commitment have been invaluable to our church's growth and ministry. We also congratulate our new Diocesan Convention delegates: Bob Burnz, Gladys Clymens, Darlene Stattner, and Linda Czarkowski. Thank you for representing Holy Nativity at the Diocesan level. Your participation is vital as we contribute to the broader mission and ministry of the Episcopal Church.

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Bishop's Visit & Potluck

Sunday, February 2

The Bishop will be visiting Holy Nativity on February 2nd. We will be having a potluck that day immediately after the service.

Holy Nativity will provide the chicken.
Please bring a side dish or dessert to share.



Additionally, we're adding a great new twist. Bishop Jos will be spending a bit of time with the children of Holy Nativity to have a **Chit-Chat-Time Together**, right after the potluck. They will gather in the **All Saints Room**.



Monthly Message

from Father Shibu, Priest-in-Charge • *continued*

As we continue into this new year, let us keep our focus on Christ and the work He has called us to do. Whether through worship, outreach, or fellowship, may everything we do bring glory to God and further His Kingdom. Thank you all for your dedication and love for Holy Nativity. Together, we can achieve great things for His glory.

With gratitude and blessings+

Fr. Shibu Reginold Pananchikkal



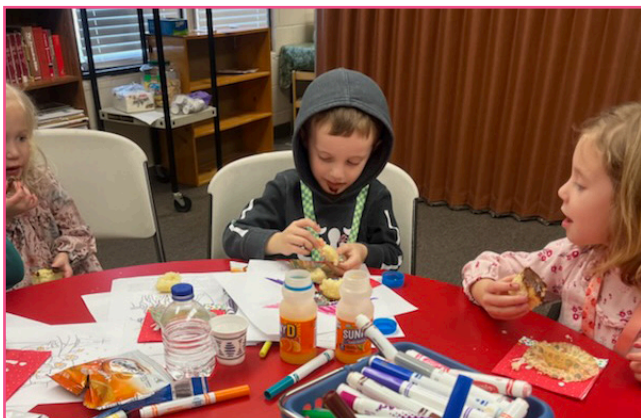
New Vestry Members and Delegates to Convention

At the Annual Meeting which was held on Sunday, January 12th, new vestry members were elected. They include **Linda Czarkowski and Ken Reglin**. We know they will be wonderful additions to the vestry and are very pleased to have them join the team. On the same token, we wish to extend our heartfelt thanks to **Barbara Samperisi and Richard Jones** for their years of service and dedication as vestry members. We have greatly appreciated all they have done.

Also elected at the Annual Meeting were the delegates to convention. They are **Linda Czarkowski, Bob Burnz and Gladys Clymens plus Darlene Stattner as Alternate**. We thank all of these individuals for their willingness to serve in this capacity.

A Delicious Epiphany Lesson

Rather than having one big “King’s Cake” for an Epiphany lesson. The Sunday School kids had cupcakes. Philip found the baby Jesus in his cupcake and won the crown!



Phillip with his crown and chocolate fingers



Joshua looks like he’s having a philosophical discussion.

Fellowship Dinners to resume in February



Dinners are held once a month. There can be multiple hosts each month to accommodate our growing church family.

If you desire to be a host, please complete a form (found in the Parish Hall). Additional host and guest information is included on the form along with “Guest Sign-up”.

The host provides the main course as well as beverages while the guests help out by providing appetizers, side dishes or desserts.

It’s a wonderful time of fellowship where friends can become better acquainted in a warm and welcoming casual atmosphere.

If you have any questions please contact:

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

Good times with good friends!

Join us for a **VALENTINE POTLUCK & BINGO**

**Friday, February 14th
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!** If you are willing to help by donating a prize for the Bingo games, it would be greatly appreciated.

This will be loads of fun for young and old. Bingo card **sets** are \$5 each or \$10 per family.

Proceeds from our Bingo games will go towards Be Our Guest Outreach where our dedicated volunteers provide nutritious meals for individuals in need on the 1st and 2nd Wednesday of each month.

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

Jerrold Horn

Treasurer

Sue Pahlas

Pledge Secretary

Bob Burnz

Church Musician:

Heidi Roberts

Office Manager:

Cindy Wolfenbarger

Fellowship:

Sandra Koerner

Sunday School:

Robin Horn

Altar Guild:

Clare Barrett

Middle School Outreach:

Holly Vondemfange

Meridian Food Bank:

Craig Vondemfange

Ministry Schedule

Mary Buchanan

Prayer Shawl Ministry:

Cindy Wolfenbarger

Women's Group:

Sue Pahlas

Worship:

Rev. Shibu Pananchikkal

Website:

Mary Buchanan

●●● MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR THESE UPCOMING EVENTS ●●●



Shrove Tuesday!

It's back!! Hot pancakes, sausages, bacon, eggs, coffee and juice. Come and join us as we enjoy these familiar favorites in celebration of Shrove Tuesday - prepared and served by the fabulous men of Holy Nativity.

Tuesday, March 4th

5PM - 6:30PM

In the Parish Hall

Delish!!!!



Mark your calendar for the ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE

Wednesday, March 5 • 7:00pm

During the service we impose ashes as a sign of penitence and as a reminder of our mortality.

Easter will be just around the corner, but until then, we have the Season of Lent through which to journey – a time for self-evaluation and reflection, and a time to ponder, pray, and discern what God is calling us to do next. *What is the Spirit whispering to you?*





IT'S GIRL SCOUT COOKIE SEASON!!

Lillian, daughter of Greg and Jennifer Dwight and granddaughter of Jacqueline Dwight, is not only a member of our parish, but also the Silver Sage Girl Scout Troop 100 and is selling Girl Scout Cookies.


“ I completed my Silver Award in September 2024. In addition to playing my violin for rescue/shelter cats and dogs, I donated 70 kitty flannel blankets, 150 catnip toys, and five dog beds which we sewed/made from donated supplies.

I completed the GIRLtopia VISIONARY Journey, which is a requirement before beginning the Gold Award. I am thinking about various possibilities. ”

“Thank you for supporting me last year. I would love to be your go-to cookie girl in 2025!”

2025 Cookies • \$6.00 per Box

If you would like to support Lillian, you can order cookies NOW in a variety of ways:

 **Email:** iddancingviolin1@gmail.com

If you order via Email, we will collect at time of delivery.

 **Phone/Text:** (208) 918-5013

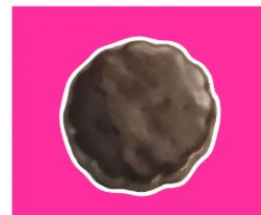
If you order via phone or text we will collect at time of delivery.

 **Order Online using your Credit Card: Visit**

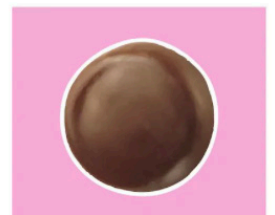
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Trefoils®



Thin Mints®



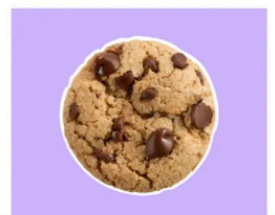
Peanut Butter Patties®



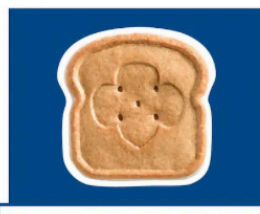
Caramel deLites®



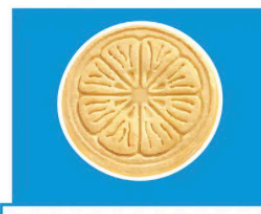
Peanut Butter



Chocolate Chip



Toast-Yay!®



Lemonades®



Adventurefuls®

Holy Nativity Apparel

We've had a few people ask about Holy Nativity Apparel and wanting to know how to order. The information and an easy link to the Eagle Ridge website (the local business that helped us set up our apparel shop) is located on our website.

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Go to our website: www.holynativitymeridian.org
2. Hover your mouse over the word **"Contact"** in the upper right corner.
3. You will see a drop-down menu appear for **Holy Nativity Logo Apparel** - click there, it will open our Apparel page.

Point to **Contact**

Holy Nativity Episcopal Church HOME ▾ BLOG ABOUT US ▾ NEWSLETTERS SCHEDULES **CONTACT ▾**

A Church Where All Are Welcome

Holy Nativity Logo Apparel

Then click on **Holy Nativity Logo Apparel**

Holy Nativity Apparel

If you need assistance ordering an item, please feel free to contact the church office and we'll be happy to help or you can email Mary Buchanan at mkbdesigninc@gmail.com for assistance.

Shirts | Sweatshirts | Polos

Holy Nativity has worked with Eagle Ridge Apparel to offer logo apparel with our name imprinted on each item. If you would like to order an item, they make the process very easy through their online shop. Click the link below to see the inventory and place your order.

Click the link below to get started

https://stores.inksoft.com/episcopal_church_of_the_holy_na/shop/home

...or, for now, you can click this link to Holy Nativity Apparel: [Click here](https://stores.inksoft.com/episcopal_church_of_the_holy_na/shop/home)



DECEMBER TREASURER'S REPORT

Operating Reserve Fund	13,094.71
Be Our Guest	4,414.85
Caring Closet	2,162.83
Children's Ministry	645.08
2 Cents-a-Meal	3,332.92
Building Fund	65,756.88
Memorial Fund	10,875.84
Paradise Point	3,936.77
Kitchen Improvements	8,808.56
Kitchen Improvements: New Dishwasher	1,146.76
Youth Ministry	2,670.11
Altar Guild Donation	1,661.58
Music	95.00
Landscaping	(500.00)
Sound System	13,049.00
Discretionary Fund	3,699.60
Full Time Priest Fund	67,678.06
Thanksgiving Baskets	160.00
Nampa and Meridian Irrigation	200.00
Christmas Families	361.56
Convention Donation	2,719.77
Poinsettias	114.22
Meridian Food Bank	290.00



- Val Anewalt. 2/1
- Janice Avera 2/2
- Rev. Laddie Tlucek 2/2
- Angelo Samperisi 2/4
- Robin Horn 2/5
- Judy Pierce 2/5
- Laura Ward 2/5
- Brady Mullin 2/11
- Chase McVay 2/12
- Al Crothers 2/14
- Steve Sanders 2/14
- Linda Morris 2/18
- Darlene Stattner 2/22
- Marsha Wegner 2/23
- Nancy Hellstrom 2/24
- Donna Lofton 2/36



- Jeff and Janet Willoughby 2/20
- Jerrod and Claudia Horn 2/21



Holy Nativity Teen Youth Group

Fun Activity at Wahooz

Saturday, February 8th • 11AM to 3PM

...and lunch is included!

We will meet at the church by 10:30 a.m., then make our way over to Wahooz for a fun-filled day together.

All expenses paid
...including lunch!

Wahoo!!!

If you haven't already confirmed your attendance, please be sure to do so by Wednesday, February 5th.

Contact: Judy Pierce (916) 397-4923



W.I.N.G.S.
Worship • Integrity • Nurture • God • Service

Episcopal Church of the Holy Nativity Vestry Meeting

January 15, 2025



The minutes of the November Vestry Meeting were approved by e-mail. The December Meeting was canceled due to illness.

Call to order: The meeting began at 7:00pm with a special guest.

Rev. Emily Van Hise: Rev. Van Hise joined the meeting by way of Zoom. She shared a prayer to begin her presentation. A Mutual Ministry Review is required by the Diocese for Fr. Shibu as he has been with us for a year. His employment date- is 2-1-2024. His Letter of Agreement needs to be updated. Mary Buchanan will begin this process immediately.

Meeting Resumed: Linda Czarkowski read the Prayer for Vestries at 7:14pm.

New Vestry members:

Linda Czarkowski and Ken Reglin are the newly elected members of the Vestry. Mary welcomed them and briefly explained the duties of a Vestry member in our Parish.

Financial Report • Jerrod Horn:

Jerrod reported that income for last year was 162% of budget, mostly donations and designated funds. Expenses were a bit higher, due to repairs to our aging facility. We have about \$300,000.00 in cash on hand. The roof that was replaced many years ago has now depreciated to a point where it should not be included as a church asset, so Jerrod will remove this item from church assets. The mortgage needs to be refinanced, by January 2026. This is a complicated process involving the Diocese. It was determined that we need to have an appraisal of the property done. We have a parishioner, Will Votaw, who works in this field and may be able to help in that regard.

Treasurer • Sue Pahlas:

Sue reported that she has met and will meet again with Barb Rudin at the Diocesan office for assistance with the new QuickBooks program we are using. Fr. Shibu, Sue, Jerrod and Mary have access to the program.

Priest's Report • Fr. Shibu:

Christmas Pageant: Fr. Shibu expressed how much he enjoyed the children's Christmas Eve service and how amazing it was. He would like to add similar programs during the next Christmas season. He will meet with the Sunday School teachers to see what can be done, perhaps in October. He would like to see the Fellowship Dinners reinstated beginning in February and he called upon the Vestry to take the lead in this.

Bishop's Visit: The Bishop will be visiting on February 2nd. Fr. Shibu thought it would be a good idea for the Sunday School children to meet with the Bishop after the service to chat and ask any questions they have. He will check with the Bishop.

Summer Camp: The new Directors of Paradise Point joined us for worship this past Sunday and during the Annual Meeting assured Fr. Shibu that Holy Nativity could have two or three days for a Paradise Point Camp. There may be other options for this. We will first look into cost.

Janitorial Services: The janitorial service has not been cleaning for two weeks. Apparently, they have been ill. It is imperative that the church be in pristine condition for the Bishop's visit. Phil stated he would touch base with them.

Senior Warden • Mary Buchanan:

Audio System Update: Mary Buchanan met with representatives of Clearwater Audio & Video and Valiant Integration Audio companies to get bids to upgrade our sound system. Clearwater has not yet submitted their bid. Valiant submitted their bid for \$11,383.09. Mary will contact Clearwater and request they submit their bid in the next few days. When this bid is received, the Vestry will have a quick meeting to decide which company to use. Jacob from Valiant did reset our current system and indicated that it is too complicated for what we need and very old which makes repairs difficult.

New Office Computer: Richard Bowring has offered to purchase a new computer with Windows 11 installed for the office as well as pay for the office phone service. Thank you, Richard!

Valentine’s Day Bingo: Valentine’s Day Potluck and Bingo Party is scheduled for Friday, February 14th. This will be a fundraiser for the Be Our Guest ministry. Soup will be served again.

Refurbish Bathrooms: The bathroom in the Parish Hall is in sad shape. The floor needs to be replaced. It was suggested that the partition in the women’s room be taken out to give more room. Painting needs to be done, also. Phil Street will get bids for this work.

Junior Warden • Phil Street

Phil Street reported that the gutters will be cleaned on Friday.

Security Cameras:

Three cameras have been purchased. Jerrod will install one in the Parish Hall and 2 outside the building. More can be added later if there is a need.

No Parking Signs:

Jon Anson and Phil Street will determine the best location for these signs after the meeting.

Be Our Guest:

Linda Czarkowski reported that she has picked up “tax exempt” forms to submit to the State. Costco

has a different system and that will be addressed with them. Different stores, restaurants have donated items in the past (before Covid). BOG does get dessert items from the Meridian Food Bank.

Meeting Adjourned: 8:28pm with the Lord’s Prayer

Respectfully submitted,

Karen

Karen Ryker, Vestry Clerk



Special Vestry Meeting

January 19, 2025 • 11:10am

Present: Mary Buchanan, Fr. Shibu, Linda Czarkowski, Cindy Wolfenbarger, Sandra Koerner, Ken Reglin, Jon Anson, Jerrod Horn and Karen Ryker.

This meeting was called to review the bids for the Sanctuary Sound system that were received. Clearwater Audio’s bid was \$13,104.85. This bid included replacing small speakers located around the perimeter of the Sanctuary.

Valiant Integration’s bid was \$11,383.09, but did not include replacing speakers because we did not specifically ask for this to be included.

Jerrod Horn made the motion to accept the bid by Valiant, Ken Reglin seconded. The motion was passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 11:18am

