

# TRINITY TODAY

OUR CHURCH EXISTS TO **WELCOME** ALL PEOPLE INTO  
RELATIONSHIP WITH **JESUS CHRIST** **EQUIP** PEOPLE WITH A  
VITAL, LIVING FAITH **SEND** US INTO THE WORLD TO SERVE  
IN **JESUS' NAME**

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November 2011

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## A GIFT AND A PLEDGE – STEWARDSHIP 2011

Trinity is a church with energy and resources for mission and a hope for the future. That is what our Call Committee reaffirmed as they began a search for our next pastor. They found that it was not hard to develop a list of talking points which could convince a new pastor that Trinity was a great place to do ministry. Our worship and music, our commitment to youth, our caring ministries, and our outreach to the community are all at the heart of what makes Trinity great. This is only possible because of the generosity of Trinity's members. Now is the time of year to make certain that this wonderful ministry is on a good financial footing. We are asking for your help in two ways.

### 1) A YEAR-END GIFT

It looks like we are about \$15,000 short of our expenses for the year. Our financial analysis shows this to be the result of two factors. First, we had some unexpected repair expenses for the air conditioner and sanctuary lighting. We also had to do landscaping to prevent water damage in the basement. Second, giving has been down a bit from what we had budgeted. **Therefore, we are asking you to make a special one-time gift to help us finish the year in good shape.** You will receive a mailing soon with an envelope enclosed. Please bring this to the special celebration services on November 16 & 20.

### 2) A PLEDGE FOR 2012

Already the church council is preparing a budget for Trinity's ministry next year. God has set before us another year of grace full of opportunities and plans. There is much to be done, lives to be touched, and the Gospel preached through word and deed. **Now is also the time we ask for your pledge of financial support to make these dreams possible.** You will receive a mailing with more information to help you make a pledge for 2012. We ask you to carefully consider your part in our ministry and bring your pledge card to worship on November 16 & 20.

## CELEBRATE!

Join us for worship, celebration, and food when we bring our gifts and pledges to offer them to God during the special events we have planned.

**Wednesday, November 16** – Join us before worship for a light supper of home made soup and fresh bread beginning at 5:30 pm in Fellowship Hall.

**Sunday, November 20** – Join us for a light brunch in Fellowship Hall following each service.

# Musical Moments

Joanne Swonger—[swonger@trinitybismarck.com](mailto:swonger@trinitybismarck.com)

Director of Music and Worship

## ALL SAINTS CELEBRATION

Our All Saints Celebration will be during worship on Wednesday, November 2<sup>nd</sup> and Sunday, November 6<sup>th</sup>. After receiving communion, all will be invited to light a candle in memory of a saint who has brought light and love to your life.

That afternoon you are also welcome to join Pastor Steve at each of the cemeteries where he will pray with you at the graves of your loved ones. Meet him at the entrance of Sunset at 1:00; the westernmost gate of Fairview at 2:00; and the chapel at the Veterans Cemetery at 3:30.

## THANKSGIVING

Join us for a blended worship service on Thanksgiving Eve, Wednesday, November 23<sup>rd</sup> at 6:30 p.m. as we uplift grateful hearts to our Creator and Lord. If you have something you would like to share as special music for this service, please contact me.

## CHRISTMAS EVE

Do you love Christmas music? Why not plan on singing with the Chancel Choir at the 11 p.m. Christmas Eve worship? Put us on your calendar and join us for 7:00 Thursday evening rehearsals in December!

## TAX BREAK FOR RETIREES: DONATING IRA ASSETS TO TRINITY

RS rules mandate that individuals age 70 1/2 and older take required minimum distribution (RMD) from their IRA each year, regardless of whether the income is needed. In 2011, IRA owners age 70 1/2 or older can donate up to \$100,000 tax free to charitable organizations.

These annual withdrawals are subject to ordinary income taxes. By making a charitable contribution from your IRA, you can satisfy your RMD amount without reporting additional taxable income. This provision may be especially attractive if you don't need IRA income to meet current living expenses.

Donating IRA assets can be a financially rewarding strategy for both you and Trinity in 2011 (the provision may not exist in 2012).

If you need further information, contact Julie Schaffner at 223.3560.

# CHILDREN & YOUTH

Gracia Johnson—[gjohnson@trinitybismarck.com](mailto:gjohnson@trinitybismarck.com)

Youth, Family Life, and Christian Education Coordinator

## TRINITY YOUTH TO ATTEND NATIONAL ELCA EVENT

Trinity has 10 students registered for the ELCA Youth Gathering in New Orleans this coming July. The ELCA Youth Gathering is held every 3 years and will draw over 35,000 youth and adult leaders. What a great opportunity for our youth to share the love of God with others from across the US! To attend this amazing event will take some funds—about \$1000 a person. In the coming months you will see several youth fundraisers. Please support our youth and help them get to this great gathering. Donations are always welcome as well. Keep our youth in your prayers as they prepare for this opportunity to grow in their faith.

### HELP MAKE PIZZAS ~ SAVE THE DATE!



We have arranged for a working fundraiser at Pizza Corner in Valley City, ND. We will be taking a bus to the Pizza Corner factory and make pizzas for a six hour shift. In return (if we have at least 40 volunteers), each volunteer will earn \$8.50 per hour that will go toward the youth trip to New Orleans. That equates to over \$2000 for a morning of work. Additionally, this is an excellent opportunity for fellowship with other members of our congregation. If you can help us out, we would appreciate it very much. Space is limited so, please sign up early.

We plan on departing from the church via bus at 6 a.m. on Saturday, January 21, working our shift from 8 to 2 p.m. and then returning home around 4 p.m. Pizza Corner will be providing lunch (of course it will be pizza) and soda. We will also have snacks on the bus to enjoy.

There will be a sign up sheet out closer to the event. Everyone 14 years old and older is welcome to come. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact Gracia Johnson at the church office 223-3560, or Sheila Roehrlich at 471-2123. Thank



# YOUR HEALTH

Kathy Nordquist—nordquist@trinitybismarck.com

Parish Nurse

## GEAR UP BEFORE YOU HEAD OUT



If you think it's important for kids to wear helmets while riding bicycles but not as important for adults to wear them, think again. Adults can suffer head injuries while bike riding just as kids can. So before you venture out, take a look at these bicycle helmet tips from the Mayo Clinic.

### Choosing your helmet

- The helmet you choose should have seal of approval from the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC), American National Standards Institute (ANSI) or Snell Memorial Foundation.
- When trying the helmet on your head, it should not be able to move greater than one inch front to back or side to side. Use the sizing pads included with the helmet to get a more secure fit.
- Make sure the straps don't block your vision. Also, choosing a white or brightly colored helmet will help other motorists and cyclists to see you.

### Wearing your helmet properly

- **Straighten it**—The helmet should fit flat on the top of the head, covering the top of the forehead and not tilting forward or backward.
- **Strap it**—The chin strap should be fastened just below the chin.
- **Size it**—Remember, use the sizing pads for a secure fit and make sure the helmet doesn't rock in any direction.

# STEPHEN MINISTRY



## My friends are tired of listening....

Talking to a close friend about your problems or concerns at a time of crisis can be helpful, but what happens when you still need to talk and your "audience" is ready to move on to something else? Generally conversations are 50-50 – we take turns talking and the focus shifts from you to me and back again. That may not be the right balance to give the comfort you need when you are hurting.

A Stephen Minister is trained to listen, to focus on your concerns, and to give you time to tell your story, even when you need to repeat it again and again before you can lay it aside or come to terms with it. Does this sound like the kind of care you need? If so, contact Pastor Sathre or one of the Stephen Leaders (Karen Botine, Margaret Fiechtner, Susan Wefald) for more information about receiving care from a Stephen Minister.

## MINISTERIAL ACTS

**Weddings:** Steven Pierson and Melanie Morris

**Baptisms:** Colton Hoiby, Anthony Abdallah, Evangelina Abdallah, Jax Abdallah, Andrew Helbling, Crosby Walcker, Cadan Hausauer, Paxton Wetsch

**Deaths:** Sylvia Umber, Martha Balliet



**DAYLIGHT-SAVING TIME ENDS  
NOVEMBER 6!**

# YOUR GIFTS

Julie Schaffner—schaffner@trinitybismarck.com Financial Director

Happy fall! As I sit in my office, looking out the window, I marvel at the gift of beauty given to me and wonder the price of such beauty. God has truly blessed us with his gifts; let us in turn give of our gifts. Year-to-date, Trinity is experiencing a \$14,470 deficit in budget due mostly in part by decreased income. The monthly expense is below budget by \$13, 917; \$21,557 to date. We are asking you to prayerfully consider an increase in your donation to help offset this deficit in budget. Thank you to all the members of Trinity for your continued financial support, and may God continue to bless you and our 'family' here at Trinity.

<u>September 2011</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Income	\$57,688.91	\$41,848.98	\$(15,839.93)
Expenses	\$57,688.88	\$43,770.94	\$ 13,917.94
Income less expenses			\$ (1,921.99)
<b>Year-to-date</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Actual</b>	<b>Difference</b>
Income	\$519,200.19	\$483,172.36	\$(36,027.83)
Expenses	\$519,200.19	\$497,642.70	\$ 21,557.49
Income less expenses			\$(14,470.34)

# TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

502 NORTH 4TH STREET  
BISMARCK, ND 58501  
PASTOR STEVE SATHRE

NON-PROFIT ORG  
U.S.  
BISMARCK, ND  
POSTAGE  
PAID  
PERMIT NO. 419

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

## WOMEN'S MINISTRIES



**Lutheran World Relief**—Thank you to everyone who contributed and made items for the kits which were shipped via Midwest Motor Express to the Minneapolis warehouse. We were short scissors and pens, which were purchased with a \$20.00 donation. As a result, the following kits were shipped: 52 quilts; 38 baby care kits; 71 school kits; 41 personal care kits.

**Fall Potluck**—The ladies potluck was held with a good assortment of hot dishes and salads. A report on the Triennial Convention was given, along with a sing along and good fellowship. Don't forget to set aside some time on Presidents Day 2012 for a new project. It will be a challenge for all ladies.

**Thank Offering**—The offering received goes to the ELCA headquarters. It is used to support all the activities in connection with the church-wide women. There will be Thank Offering envelopes in the pew racks which can be placed in the offering plate that day or the following Sunday. This is your opportunity to acknowledge all the blessings you have received this past year.

**Women's Coordinating Council**—Dec. 6, 3:00 p.m. At this meeting, money accumulated throughout the year will be distributed. Each unit needs to send a delegate. Also, a brief report on the cluster meeting at Steele will be given.

**Bible Study**—First Tuesday every month at 4:00 p.m. in the Conference Room. The study is based on Mark. The pastor presents the lesson and it is open to anyone who chooses to come and lasts one hour. It is also presented in the "Gather" Magazine, which can be ordered from Augsburg. It is \$12 for 10 issues. A Companion Bible is also available listing all Bible references for each month. Cost is \$4 plus handling. Call 800-328-4648. This year's study is especially well written and easy to understand.

**A Challenge**—A new year is approaching. How about becoming an active Circle member? Jan, in the church office, has a list of all Circle members with information as to time

and place. We are sorry there are no evening Circles. You would be most welcome in any Circle you choose.

**Greeting Cards and Napkins** will be available in the Lobby the first Sunday in November until Christmas. All have scripture verses and proceeds go to various Trinity projects.

## THE BANQUET

**Tudy Fennern**—[fennern@trinitybismarck.com](mailto:fennern@trinitybismarck.com)  
Banquet Director



**"Ministry is God acting through the people  
of God for the life of the world"**

Just as the guests who come to the Banquet come from all walks of life, so do the volunteers who come to prepare and serve the meal. These people are the "ministers." They are the means through which the church has always been presented to the world.

We are called to the task, and are confident that even our most simple acts of caring are commissioned by God. The Banquet ministry is an opportunity to be identified with Jesus Christ and his concern for the poor. Christ is among us in what we say, in what we hear, in what we think, in our being and in our doing. Our actions define us. It is in the company of the less fortunate—the hungry, the thirsty, the stranger—that God is to be found.

When we talk about presence, we have to understand compassion. Compassion is a way of connecting with the "other" so that they know that we share life and joy and pain that comes with life. This is not always easy. When we start to celebrate the things that connect us as humans, rather than dwell on that which divides us, we find a path toward reconciliation—a path that leads to a more abundant life.

Our task is to become a message, to be a living reminder of God's divine presence. Our challenge is to value every person. Then all people can begin to recognize their own value and, in turn, we recognize the power of the Spirit within us.