

HOUSE OF PRAYER LUTHERAN CHURCH

1470 S. Washington St., Bismarck, ND 58504

MONTHLY MINDERS

November 2019

Dear Friends in Christ,

"Every morning lean thine arms awhile upon the windowsill of heaven and gaze upon the Lord. Then, with this vision in thy heart, turn strong to meet the day."

Recently, these poetic words served as an inspiration that I was determined to put to the test. So, I retreated to one of my favorite places...a little room on the North side of my home...to spend some quiet devotional time. In this bright, window-filled room, I've often discovered a space that gives me renewed perspective about my life. More and more, I find myself seeking out this room as a refuge before beginning my daily activities. Just entering this place with a cup of coffee in hand, and sitting in my favorite chair, slows me down to a pace where I become more focused!

At first, it is a release just to mindlessly stare out the window, observing birds hopping nimbly around in the grass as they search for seeds from the bird feeder. Gradually, I find myself watching the impact of the wind softly caressing the branches of the shrubs and trees just beyond the windowpane. As my gaze soaks in an ever-increasing view, I notice clouds racing silently through the vastness of the sky, and I can't help but be filled with a growing sense of wonder and awe over all that God has created! With my heart rate and my mind traveling at a gentler pace, I'm already sensing how much more receptive...spiritually centered...and focused I am!

This morning, the ***"slow-down moments"*** I spent in my favorite chair drew my heart to a beloved hymn... ***"Great Is Thy Faithfulness"*** (ELW #733). As the words danced through my mind, I sensed a spirit of praise welling up within me that was pure gift:

"Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father; there is no shadow of turning with thee; thou changest not, thy compassions they fail not, as thou hast been, thou forever wilt be."

The message of these words warmed my heart and I soon found myself reading the Bible passage that served as inspiration for this hymn...

Like sunlight piercing through the clouds surrounding my heart, I read with new eyes...

"The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness."

(Lamentations 3:22-23)

I thought... "Surely, this was a Word sent to me direct from heaven!" It sounds so simple...seems so cliché. Yet, this morning, this good word cast light upon my spirit like a ray of sunshine, brightening the places deep within my soul that too often become overshadowed by this world's darkness! HOPE was reborn within my heart, today, all because of this experience.

Friends, I'm convinced all of us could use a regular dose of what I was privileged to discover in my ***"slow-down moments"*** this morning. The potential inspiration and spiritual strength to be gained is truly remarkable...and readily available to all of us!

BUT...such a blessing moment can just as easily escape us, especially if we convince ourselves we are too "busy" to slow down and embrace some silence.

Don't risk missing out on the restorative gift a few quiet moments spent with God can bring to your life, every day! Make it your mission this month to apply these inspiring words to your daily journey...

"Every morning lean thine arms awhile upon the windowsill of heaven and gaze upon the Lord. Then with this vision in thy heart, turn strong to meet the day."

You'll be so THANKFUL you did!

THANK YOU...THANK YOU...THANK YOU!

The outpourings of love so many of you shared with me during "Pastor Appreciation Month" are valued more than words can fully express. Your thoughtful words of encouragement, your generous gifts, and the special gestures of love you gave to me will be remembered and treasured. I thank God for YOU!

Pastor Dave



We're halfway through the first semester of Sunday School already!

We're focusing on the *Fruits of the Spirit* this year, a different "fruit" each month. Jane taught the kids a really fun "Fruit of the Spirit" song earlier this fall that they performed last month. This song has helped them all learn and remember them so well.

The kids are learning a monthly Bible verse again. They are also learning The Lord's Prayer (all kids); Ten Commandments (2nd-3rd grade); and the Apostle's Creed (4th-5th grade).

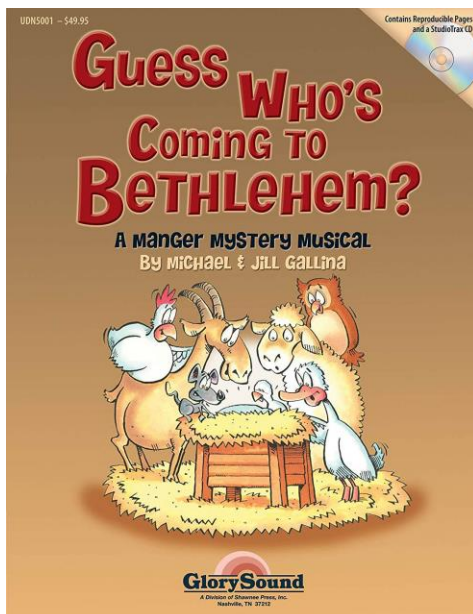
We used Sunday School donations to purchase new age/size appropriate tables and a room divider, repurposed some old chairs and are now housing our Pre-K kids in the fellowship hall. This allowed us to separate the grades into smaller groups and everyone is benefiting from this!

The offering that we collect at Sunday School this fall will be given to the *United Way Backpack Program*. We've collected over \$600 already with a goal of \$1000. THANK YOU to all who've contributed! Each backpack costs about \$5 and they go home every week to kids in need in the Bismarck Public School system. \$1000 will pay for a LOT of backpacks!

Jane and Marea have been teaching the Christmas program songs the last two weeks. We are looking forward to singing on *Praise & Thanksgiving Sunday (November 17th)*, learning the Christmas story and performing the Christmas program on December 15th.

Thank you for your continued support of this program!
Coordinator

Michelle Hintz, Children's Ministry



*Our Christmas program,
"Guess Who's Coming
to Bethlehem?"
will be performed on:*

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15th
10AM Worship**

*"Guess Who's Coming to Bethlehem?" is a heartfelt, fun,
and moving Christmas musical. The animals in the
Bethlehem stable have been informed of the coming
Messiah, but they aren't quite sure who it will be.*



HOUSE OF PRAYER YOUTH NEWS

Winter Ski Retreat

Red Lodge MT

January 17-20, 2020

Youth Grades 6-12

\$50 deposit due November 20th.



Christmas Brunch **Fundraiser**

Sunday, December 15th

Serving 9 am – Noon

Join us for food & fellowship.

Free Will Donation.



HOW CAN YOU SUPPORT OUR YOUTH?

Dan's Supermarket Direct Your Dollars Fundraiser



We will be collecting Dan's Supermarket shopping receipts. For every \$150,000 we get in receipts we earn \$1,000.

Do not alter or cut your receipts and put them in our "Youth Barrel" in the narthex.



Badlands Pizza Fall Fundraiser

Pizzas will be here

Wednesday, Nov 13th.

Pizzas can be picked up from

4:30-6:30 on Nov. 13th &

on Sunday morning Nov. 17th.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!!





**JOIN US FOR OUR ANNUAL
THANKSGIVING EVE WORSHIP SERVICE
and
PIE SOCIAL**

Wednesday, November 27, 2019 - 6:30 PM
(Pie Social immediately following our Worship!)



*Sign-up to share a favorite pie with us!
A clip board inviting your “tasty” offering will be circulated in Worship.*

2019 CHRISTMAS QUILT RAFFLE



Tickets: \$2 each, or 3 tickets for \$5

Drawing on Dec. 7, 2019

House of Prayer Lutheran Church

Advent Brunch

1st Place – Large Quilt

2nd Place – Set of Four Seasonal Table Runners

3rd Place – Small Quilt

Only 500 tickets will be sold

(Permit # 19-00165)

Need not be present to win



HOUSE OF PRAYER SAYS... “THANK YOU!” to all of our volunteers who are helping to deliver “Meals on Wheels” to the shut-in members of our community throughout the month of November. Your willingness to share some of your time and energy in this meaningful way has been a blessing to many!



STAY TUNED FOR THESE UPCOMING EVENTS:

Veterans Day Worship – November 10 – 10 AM

“Service of Praise & Thanksgiving” – November 17 – 10 AM

Christ the King Worship – November 24 – 10 AM

Thanksgiving Eve Worship & Pie Social – Nov 27 – 6:30 PM

Give Thanks & Praise

"PRAISE & THANKS" Sunday

November 17 @ 10:00 AM

Do you play piano? (Share a favorite number with us!)

Do you sing? (Offer to sing a solo, or join another for a duet!)

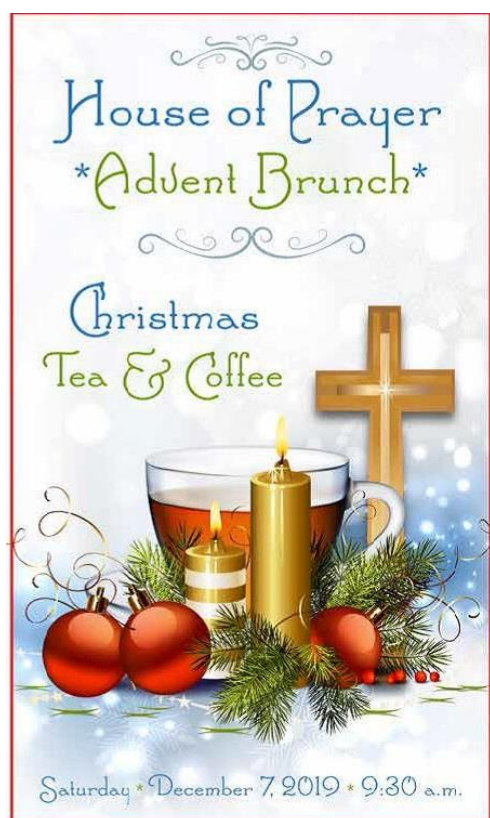
Do you play an instrument? (Why not share a tune with us?)

Do you have a favorite melody you'd like to hear? (Tell us about it!)

Visit with Pastor Dave or Rhonda about your thoughts for Nov 17...**SOON!**
Let's fill this special day with joyful music in praise of our God!

House of Prayer's Women of the ELCA
welcome your THANKOFFERINGS at our
"PRAISE & THANKSGIVING" Worship!

(Baskets will be circulated during the Offering on November 17th to receive your gifts. "Thank You" for your generous response.)



WELCA ADVENT BRUNCH

Saturday, December 7th, 2019

9:30 a.m.

Tickets \$7.00/Person

(Children 12 & Under - \$4.00)

Tickets can be purchased
after Sunday Services

Come, eat, and enjoy the fellowship of
friends and family during this
Christmas season!



HOUSE OF PRAYER WELCOMES OUR "NEWEST" FAMILY!

On Sunday, October 27th, 2019 we were pleased to receive into membership, our newest friends: Katie Beverley and children, Charlie, Emma & Leela! We hope you will take some time in the coming weeks to introduce yourself to this special family who have embraced our faith family as their own.



Once again, House of Prayer is purchasing a limited number of poinsettias to display during Christmas Eve Worship. Please stay tuned for further details.

THE LEGEND OF THE POINSETTIA

A charming story is told of Pepita, a poor Mexican girl who had no gift to present the Christ Child at Christmas Eve Services. As Pepita walked slowly to the chapel with her cousin Pedro, her heart was filled with sadness rather than joy. "I am sure, Pepita, that even the most humble gift, if given in love, will be acceptable in His eyes," said Pedro consolingly.

Not knowing what else to do, Pepita knelt by the roadside and gathered a handful of common weeds, fashioning them into a small bouquet. Looking at the scraggly bunch of weeds, she felt more saddened and embarrassed than ever by the humbleness of her offering. She fought back a tear as she entered the small village chapel.

As she approached the altar, she remembered Pedro's kind words: "Even the most humble gift, if given in love, will be acceptable in His eyes." She felt her spirit lift as she knelt to lay the bouquet at the foot of the nativity scene. Suddenly, the bouquet of weeds burst into blooms of brilliant red, and all who saw them were certain that they had witnessed a Christmas miracle right before their eyes.

From that day on, the bright red flowers were known as the Flores de Noche Buena, or Flowers of the Holy Night, for they bloomed each year during the Christmas season and thus, the legend of the poinsettia was born.



AID, Inc.
Help Center & Thrift Shop

FREE COMMUNITY
**THANKSGIVING
MEAL**



Serving buffet style starting 11:30 – 1:30 Thanksgiving Day

First Lutheran Church 408 9th Street NW Mandan
To VOLUNTEER
Call by Nov 20
663-1274 Ext. 18

Enjoy a turkey dinner with all the trimmings

*Don't spend Thanksgiving alone - come and
be with friends and neighbors.*

Goodwill donations will be accepted.

Rides to the dinner can be requested.
NO MEAL DELIVERIES OR TAKE-OUTS.

Food provided courtesy of DAN'S SUPERMARKET





Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27COMMUNION..... 8:45 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM WORSHIP 11:00 AM Coffee - QUILTERS	28 10:00 AM QUILTERS 3:30 PM Just For Kix	29 7:00 PM TOPS	30COMMUNION..... NO CONFIRMATION 9:30 AM BIBLE STUDY 6:30 PM WORSHIP	31	1	2 3:30 PM Sarah Wentz & Jaydon Berg Wedding
3COMMUNION..... 8:45 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM WORSHIP 11:00 AM Council Brunch	4 10:00 AM QUILTERS 7:00 PM WELCA Board Meeting	5 7:00 PM TOPS	6 9:30 AM BIBLE STUDY 6:30 PM Confirmation - Lesson #4 6:30 PM WORSHIP 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	7 6:00 PM Boy Scouts	8	9
10 8:45 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM WORSHIP 11:00 AM Coffee - YOUTH	11 VETERAN'S DAY - OFFICE CLOSED 10:00 AM QUILTERS 3:30 PM Just For Kix	12 7:00 PM TOPS	13COMMUNION..... 9:30 AM BIBLE STUDY 6:30 PM Confirmation - Lesson #5 6:30 PM WORSHIP 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	14 6:30 PM CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING	15	16 9:30 AM WELCA Bible Study
17COMMUNION..... 8:45 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM WORSHIP - PRAISE & THANKSGIVING SUNDAY 11:00 AM Coffee - WELCA	18 10:00 AM QUILTERS 3:30 PM Just For Kix	19 7:00 PM TOPS	20COMMUNION..... 9:30 AM BIBLE STUDY 6:30 PM CONFIRMATION - SERVICE EVENT 6:30 PM WORSHIP 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	21 7:00 PM Missouri Valley Quilters	22	23
24COMMUNION..... 8:45 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM WORSHIP 11:00 AM Coffee - QUILTERS	25 10:00 AM QUILTERS 3:30 PM Just For Kix	26 7:00 PM TOPS	27 NO CONFIRMATION 9:30 AM BIBLE STUDY 6:30 PM WORSHIP 7:30 PM NO Choir Rehearsal - PIE SOCIAL	28 THANKSGIVING - OFFICE CLOSED	29	30



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 8:45 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM WORSHIP 11:00 AM Coffee - CELEBRATION SUNDAY	2 10:00 AM QUILTERS 3:30 PM Just For Kix 7:00 PM WELCA Board Meeting	3 7:00 PM TOPS	4 COMMUNION 9:30 AM BIBLE STUDY 6:30 PM Confirmation - Lesson #6 6:30 PM WORSHIP 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	5	6	7 9:30 AM WELCA ADVENT BRUCH 11:30 AM CHRISTMAS DECORATING
8 COMMUNION 8:45 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM WORSHIP 11:00 AM Coffee - YOUTH	9 10:00 AM QUILTERS 3:30 PM Just For Kix	10 7:00 PM TOPS	11 9:30 AM BIBLE STUDY 6:30 PM Confirmation - Lesson #7 6:30 PM WORSHIP 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	12 8:00 AM GREAT PLAINS FOOD BANK 5:00 PM Leap Ahead Preschool Christmas Program 6:00 PM Boy Scouts	13	14 9:00 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL PROGRAM PRACTICE 9:30 AM WELCA Bible Study
15 8:45 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM 10:00 AM WORSHIP 11:00 AM Coffee - WELCA	16 10:00 AM QUILTERS 3:30 PM Just For Kix	17 7:00 PM TOPS	18 COMMUNION 6:30 AM CONFIRMATION - FELLOWSHIP/SERVICE EVENT - CHEER BASKETS 9:30 AM BIBLE STUDY 6:30 PM WORSHIP 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	19 6:30 PM CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING 7:00 PM Missouri Valley Quilters	20	21
22 COMMUNION 8:45 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM WORSHIP 11:00 AM Coffee - QUILTERS	23 10:00 AM QUILTERS	24 COMMUNION CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE - 4 pm, 6pm & 10pm	25 CHRISTMAS DAY - NO CHURCH EVENTS - OFFICE CLOSED	26	27	28
29 8:45 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM WORSHIP	30 10:00 AM QUILTERS 3:30 PM Just For Kix	31 7:00 PM TOPS	1 NO CONFIRMATION 6:30 PM WORSHIP 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	2	3	4