

January 2012

nativity



An Epiphany Message From Nativity's Council

In the season of Epiphany, we as a congregation begin a new journey. We have said good-bye to Pastor Dave Nagler who has led us to be a church that truly "reaches out to all people with the love of Jesus Christ". We will miss his inspiring leadership, his thought provoking and insightful sermons and his warm friendship. We are proud he has answered God's call to do what is needed in a place less fortunate than our community and know that the people he goes to serve will be as blessed as we have been. We will have to give ourselves time to grieve the loss of our spiritual leader but also to appreciate the gifts he has left with us.

The church we have become is one seen by the community as an active and vital congregation who cares for those who find themselves on the fringes of our society. We help those that have to search for ways to put food on the table, find a way to warm where they sleep at night (be it indoors or outdoors) and those oppressed for one reason or another. Our ministry is one of inclusivity and caring for all people. I keep hearing from all of you that your wish for our future is to continue reaching out through our many ministries. Myself as well as the rest of the council share this wish. Although we will miss the leader who inspired us to begin these ministries, they will continue because this important work has been and will continue to be carried out by us: the members and friends of Nativity Lutheran Church.

One of our biggest strengths is that we are a congregation who works together for the good of people. We believe God works through us to help those in need. We will continue to do just that and together we can take our mission and ministry in to a new era. Our interim period is the time for us to look inward to assess what our talents, strengths and weaknesses are. It is a time to reflect on and possibly re-define who Nativity Lutheran Church is and who we want to be in the future. Dietrich Bonhoeffer wrote, "We must be ready to allow ourselves to be interrupted by God." God has indeed interrupted the life of our church as we know it and we need to be open to his counsel and will. Proverbs 3:5-6 reminds us to "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight." I have faith that taking this path together we will discover new gifts within ourselves and new gifts in a leader who celebrates with us the glory of God's good grace.

Peace,

Lisa

Lisa Bailey
President
Nativity Lutheran Church Council

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What's Happening . . .

Women's Lunch Bunch

The Women's Lunch Bunch will be meeting for lunch on Wednesday, January 18 at noon at the Olive Garden.

Taking Down the Christmas Decorations

We are needing volunteers to help take down the Christmas decorations in the church and the tree on Thursday, January 5 at 1:00 pm. Hope to see you there!

Pastor Dave & Ivy Nagler's New Address, After January 12

Pastor Dave and Ivy Nagler
3620 Camelia St.
San Bernardino, CA 92404
email:
dnagler24@hotmail.com
Phone: 541-350-4237

January Council Meeting

Council members will be having their next meeting on Tuesday, January 10, 2012 in the fellowship hall.

2012 Altar Flowers and Cookie Bakers

The 2012 altar flowers and cookie bakers sign up sheet is posted in the fellowship hall, please take a moment to sign up. Thank you.

Office Closed Between Christmas Eve and New Years Day

On Sunday, January 1, 2012
There will be only one service at 10:00 am.

Christmas Food Boxes and Tree of Giving

Thank you to everyone who supported the Christmas food boxes and the gifts from the Tree of Giving. Thank you to the shoppers and the packers and for the wonderful help with the Tree of Giving. Our church helped seven families this year have a very Merry Christmas. There was food to eat and gifts to open. All seven families arrived at the church last Friday, December 16 and filled their cars with your gifts. It was a wonderful sight. We wish all of you could have been there to watch the happy faces. Thank you and God bless you.

Bethlehem Inn

Please sign up for dinners to help serve Bethlehem this month (Friday, January 27). Thank you for your continued support.

Office Closed

The church office will be closed on Monday, January 16 in observance of Martin Luther King Day.
www.nativityinbend.com

Looking for Additional Support

Public Relations Ministry Team is looking for additional support from members? If you are interested in finding out what that entails, please call Don Senecal at 541-633-0854 or email at:
dons@bendbroadband.com.

Removal of the Christmas Tree

We need a few men to help with the removal of the Christmas tree from the sanctuary on Saturday, January 7 at 9:00 am. Remember to bring gloves, and possibly a saw, chain saw and a few tarps.

Pastor Dave and Ivy Farewell Gathering

On Wednesday, December 28 at 7:00 pm, everyone is invited to attend the farewell gathering for Pastor Dave and Ivy in the fellowship hall. Dessert and coffee will be served.



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Sally Watts

Getting to Know Sally Watts

I was born September 30, 1942 in Elkhart, Indiana. Two days later I was adopted by Dorothy and Carl Gustafson. Mom and Dad had their name in for adopting a child for over ten years. The family doctor called and asked my Mom if she still wanted a baby, and of course she said, definitely yes. Two days later I was put in a basket and was sitting on a pew in Augustana Swedish Lutheran Church, where the first five pews were filled with Swedes directly from Sweden.

I graduated from Elkhart High School in 1960, and the following Fall went to Nursing School at Augustana Hospital, in Chicago, Illinois. Two years later I returned to Elkhart to work at Elkhart General Hospital. I got married in 1962 when my husband found out I was pregnant, he left, and joined the Air Force.

My son Jeffery was born on February 22, 1963. At the age of 36 I decided to go to college. I attended Indiana University in Ft. Wayne, Indiana. I graduated four years later with a degree in Marketing. We lived in Ft. Wayne for 10 years, then moved to Corpus Christi, Texas, where my son and his family still live.

I met my husband Roger, at a grocery store in the deli department. I found out he was my neighbor. We had our first date July 4, 1988 and were married December 30, 1988. I told him that I had been single for 25 years and the only way I would marry him, was to receive a carat diamond engagement ring and go to Europe on my honeymoon. Believe it or not, I got both.

Roger and I have been married 23 years and it seems just like yesterday. We've traveled across the U.S. on a motorcycle twice and enjoyed both times very much.

August 31, 2007 we retired. Roger as a conductor on Conrail and Amtrak for 40 years. I retired from the Tucson Country Club as receptionist. We sold our house and traveled for one year, in a new Excel fifth wheel.

Roger has three daughters, Lisa, Tracy and Vicky; eight grandchildren, living in Indiana. I have two grandchildren, 24 and 25 years old. They have both graduated from College. My Granddaughter, Tabitha lives in Delaware and my Grandson, Jeff lives in Corpus Christi.

I enjoy Nativity Lutheran, the members are very friendly. Singing in the choir is truly a joy. I am on the Altar Guild, Fellowship Committee. I was President of the Church Council at Dove of Peace in Tucson, Arizona for six years. I served as Youth Director at Elim Lutheran in Petaluma, California for three years, had a great time with the young people.





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Nativity Food Pantry Ministry Team

(July 1, 2011 through November 30, 2011)

During this period of time, we have served 616 families, which is an increase of 47% over the number served during the same period last year.

While we have increased the amount we have spent on purchasing food by 100%, we have distributed 2,417 bags of food which is an increase of 177%. This is made possible because we have associated with NeighborImpact which gives us some food at no cost, or sells it to us for just 14 cents a pound. Also, we have developed a relationship with vendors of tortillas and baked goods and receive large amounts of these at no cost. At the beginning of the previous year, we were only allowing one grocery bag of food per family per month. Now we are able to allow them several.

Our congregation has been very generous and contributions to the food pantry have increased by 79% as people have been encouraged to give money rather than bringing in food because we have been able to purchase at such low prices.

In addition to contributions we have received two grants: one was for \$1,000 from Thrivent Financial, and the other for \$2,500 of which we have so far received \$1,250 from FEMA United Way. The total increase in income was 165%.

We would like to thank the congregation for your generous support and the 15-20 volunteers that labor 130-150 hours each month to help those in need.

Attention Thrivent Members

If you have been notified that you are eligible to contribute Choice Dollars to a Lutheran Organization and you want to designate it to Nativity Lutheran Church, please let Bev Peterson know how you want that money assigned. Example: Ron Werner's Education Fund, Good Sam Fund, Choir, Youth, Food Pantry, etc. . . . Otherwise it goes into the general fund. Any questions, please contact Yvonne Johnson, Carol Palmer or Barbara Smith.

Stewardship Ministry Team

The Stewardship Team's mission is: "To help stimulate and promote generous giving of time, talents and treasures of all members". To that end, we encourage everyone to examine their relationship with Nativity Lutheran Church and the various missions, activities, events and programs that this most dynamic church provides for its members as well as the community at large and to actively participate in their promotion and progress.

Giving is not always about money. Of course, money is essential to the operation of any church in any community, but we each also have talents that can be huge assets in helping others. Being involved is a big part of being alive. Talking to people on the phone to reassure and cheer is a talent not all people have, but which is very important. Being able to greet people when they walk in the door on a Sunday morning seems simple, but it is also very important because first impressions mean a great deal to strangers as well as long-time church goers. Pulling weeds in the parking lot doesn't seem like much, but think how much brighter and cleaner everything looks when the job gets done. Can you sing? Join the Choir. Can you play an instrument? Offer to play during service some time. Do you have young children? Bring them to Kids Night Out. Do you want to help the hungry? Come help the beautiful people at the Food Pantry. Take a look at the teams we have set up at Nativity and contact the team leader for more information about how you can get involved.

Gifts of money are also important to the health of Nativity. An effective way of sharing is through your estate. My wife Corky and I recently made out our wills. In them, a percentage of our estate is left to Nativity Lutheran Church. We just had our wills drawn up by Neil Bryant and stated that a percentage of our assets were to go to Nativity. If you are thinking about having your will done or if you already have a will, won't you please think about including Nativity? It is a gesture of love and faith in a church that has stood the test of time (and floods!) and deserves to be supported. For information on how you can go about gifting Nativity through your wills, please call Don Senecal at 541-633-0854 or Dave Nissen at 541-815-9455 or Kirk Sandburg at 541-389-2679 or Mike Brown at 541-388-6802. We can also give you suggestions on other ways of giving and sharing your wonderful gifts with everyone at Nativity Lutheran Church. Thank you and God Bless.

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Treasurer's Report November 2011

	November	Fiscal Year-to-Date
Income:	\$24,451.64	\$121,592.41
Expenses:	(\$24,417.77)	(\$123,635.68)
Net Income (Loss):	\$ 33.87	(\$ 2,043.27)

Balances as of 11/30/11

Chase Checking, New:	\$ 4,492.99
Chase Checking, Old:	\$ 1,813.46
Petty Cash:	\$ 200.00
Less to be transferred to DF MM:	(\$ 9,965.34)
Total Available Funds:	(\$ 3,458.89)

Balance of DF MM bank account:	\$13,998.52
Amount to be transferred in:	\$ 9,965.34
Total of all Restricted/DF's:	\$ 23,963.86

NOTES:

We are 42% of the way through fiscal year July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2012. Income stands at 39% collected and expenditures stand at 40%.

I am double checking with Yvonne Johnson about Thrivent Choice monies, but there may be up to \$2,796 available as budget income that I put into designated because I wasn't sure where

it was supposed to go. Whatever the final figure is will reduce the amount needed to cover DF.

I decided to move the Head Start Maintenance Fund income and expenses from budget to a Designated Fund for better tracking so you may notice that that line item has disappeared from last month's report.

Bev Peterson

Thank you to all of you who donated in memory/honor of loved one(s) by "purchasing" poinsettias this Christmas season. Appropriately, the money collected will be donated to the Food Pantry.

Given By	In Memory/Honor Of
Mary Hogan	Dad & Mom
Elaine Mikkellborg	Uncle Deck
Lynne Fitzwater	Family & Friends
MaryJean Bestwick	Family Members
Pat Paris	Phil
Don & Corky Senecal	Our Mom's

Happy Birthday to You ...

January 3	Marcia Modean	January 16	BettyLou McBride
January 4	Carol Palmer	January 17	Annika Nissen
January 5	Mary Aasland	January 20	Barbara Kramer
January 6	Brent Peterson	January 23	Mark Foster
January 7	Carrie Kennedy	January 24	Audrey Robeson
January 8	Holly Bailey	January 25	Helen Proctor, Pat Simning
January 9	Curt Koland, Darwin Maxwell	January 26	Aubrey St. Clair
January 11	Caliahna Staskal	January 27	Lisa Pike, Marci Padgett
January 12	Walt Larkins	January 28	Annaleise Hollingsworth
January 14	Alice Guttchen	January 29	Kegan Johnson
January 15	Cindy Jarvis	January 30	Jon Basham

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What's Happening for Youth

NYC & element

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

It was great to spend the past few weeks ushering in the Christmas season with you all. From the choir cantata to Decembierfest, the children's play to candlelight communion services- all worked to create a perfect prelude to the day when we celebrate Jesus' birth.

Amidst an oppressive Roman Empire, God came to dwell with the people and hope was born into the world. As Christmas trees are taken down and decorations are placed in storage, my prayer for 2012 is that we remember this Christmas message: hope finds us in the darkest places.

For our middle and high school youth, we'll kick off the New Year with an opportunity to talk about our mission, purpose, and how we live out this message of Christmas hope. Come join us!

Monday Nights at Common Table kick off for our high school students on January 9th and Middle School Youth Group resumes on Wednesday, January 11th. I look forward to seeing you all soon!

In Peace,

Ron Werner, Jr.
Director of Youth Ministries

c. 541.598.6650
e. Ron@nativityinbend.com



Children's Youth Ministries

Can you believe another Christmas and year are over and a brand new year lies ahead. Bonnie and I want to thank all those who helped us with our Happy Birthday Jesus Party, our Christmas play, cookie exchange, and Christmas Eve service. Thanks also to parents who supported us by bringing their children out to these events. We especially thank Mary Bryant for writing and directing our Christmas play.

We also would like to thank the children of Nativity for making such beautiful card trees that we gave to some of our members who needed some extra encouragement. The kids had a blast making them.

Now we look forward to 2012! Our first Family Fun Night will be Wednesday, February 2 when we will have our second annual chili cook-off and indoor winter games. Come and join us from 5:30-7:00 pm. Please call the church office by Monday, January 31 to tell us how many are coming so we know how to plan. If you have further questions, Call Dee at 541-389-9202.

If you have a hobby or skill you would like to share with our kids some Wednesday, please talk to or call Bonnie Norris at the church or Dee Engel. We would love to have you share with us.

Happy New Year!

Dee & Bonnie

January 4 5:30-7:00pm
January 11 4:00-5:30pm
January 18 4:00-5:30pm
January 25 4:00-5:30pm
February 2 5:30-7:00pm

No Family Fun Night
KNO: Dance Class
KNO: Dance Class
KNO:
Family Fun Night:
Chili Cook-off &
Winter Games

The People of Nativity Staff

Director of Youth Ministries

Ron Werner
ron@nativityinbend.com

Children's Director of Ministries

Dee Engel
dee@nativityinbend.com

Office Administrator's

Corry Hollingsworth/Bonnie Norris
at corry@nativityinbend.com

Web/Facebook Site

Bjorn Peterson
c.bjorn.peterson@gmail.com

Minister of Music

Jon Basham
jon@nativityinbend.com

Music Director

Aisea Taimani
Aisea@nativityinbend.com

Accompanist

Judith Herron
mjherron@bendbroadband.com

Bookkeeper

Bev Peterson
bev@nativityinbend.com

Church Council

President

Lisa Bailey 541.350.9196

Vice President

Marci Padgett 541.420.8878

Secretary

Dave Nissen 541.815.9455

Treasurer

Larry Johnson 541.383.3730

Scott Johnson
541.788.3486

Bill Rodgers
541.317-3953

Alyce Van Til
541.318.4836

Nole Kennedy
541.610.4931

David Fredstrom
541.389.3339

Peggy Lindsay
541.318.8897

Don Senecal
541.633.0854

Ann Ross
541.617.9280

For more information,
please visit our website at
www.nativityinbend.com

Mutual Ministry

Brad Bailey
541.419.6982

Sue Jorgenson
541.388.3635

Mary Aasland
541.771.8145

Pat Paris
541.318.5505

Justin Iverson
541.350.7565

Office Hours (541.388.0756)

9:00 am to 3:00 pm

Fridays until noon

Ron: Monday - Thursday

Corry: Mon, Wed & Thurs

Bonnie: Tuesday & Friday

Worship and Educational

Opportunities

Sundays:

9:00 am - Informal Worship Service

9:15 am - Junior Church

11:00 am - Formal Worship Service

Mondays:

6:00 pm - NYC (high school)

Wednesdays:

10:00 am - Morning Bible Study

4:00 pm - Kid's Night Out
(elementary)

5:30 pm - element (middle school)

NATIVITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
60850 BROSTERHOUS ROAD
BEND, OR 97702

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



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