



Trinity United Parish

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER | GLENBURN AND LANSFORD | DECEMBER 2022

Dear Friends,

Advent is here! It is one of my favorite church seasons. I love having the advent wreath and the decorations in the sanctuary, and I especially look forward to the excitement that builds up as we move closer and closer to the celebration of Christmas.

Advent is a time of waiting and preparing. How do you wait and prepare to celebrate the birth of the Christ child? Many of us love to decorate or bake or shop or participate in holiday programs and parties. All those things are wonderful. Yet, how do we prepare our hearts for the celebrate this amazing event – the birth of the Son of God – the moment when God chose to become human and live among us? Are we so busy making sure that everything is just right that we forget what is truly important this season?

I think I probably annoy my family every year at this time because it frustrates me how so much of the preparation and celebration of Christmas doesn't even involve Jesus. Turn on a radio station that plays holiday music and see how many of the songs will be Christmas carols about the birth of Jesus. You might be surprised that you will hear very few songs about Jesus. Take a look at the decorations – how often do you see the Holy Family. Now, don't get me wrong, I love Santa, cheesy Christmas movies, Christmas Villages, and more, but is there a way that we can embrace those things without pushing out Jesus?

The birth of Jesus changed the world. The birth of Jesus changed our lives. The birth of Jesus is not just some pretty story that we tell every year. It is the moment when salvation came to the earth. So, this season as we wait, may God open our hearts to the good news of Jesus and may God guide us to remember Jesus and not just all the other stuff. You might see this on decorations and cards, "Jesus is the Reason for the Season." It's a little cheesy but so true, and by the way, the season at least lasts until January 6th. So don't be in a rush to end your celebrations too soon. Have a blessed Advent.

Blessings,

Pastor Martha

Trinity United Parish

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www.trinityunitedparish.com

Office: 701-362-7922

Pastor's Cell: 701-833-1701

Join us for Sunday worship!

Glenburn 11 am

Lansford 9 am



Prayer List

For healing for Cody Zeltinger.

For healing for Gary Blowers.

For healing for Sonja Mickelson.

For healing for Ron Undlin.

For healing for Jim Weiler, Kallie
Stevens grandpa.

For healing for Braiden Gavere.

For healing for Gayle Bradley.

For healing for Bob Kosel.

For healing for Rodger Zurcher.

For healing for Briggs Lee,
grandson of Cal and Joellen Lee.

For healing for Bob Helming.

For strength and continued healing
for Amy Artz.

For healing and strength for Cole
Schlag and Tamara Zumbaum.

For healing for Cheryl Guidinger

Glenburn

Confirmation Worship Assignments:

Glenburn:

Powerpoint

December 4th Ava Stevens

December 11th Oakley Trueblood

December 18th Brodey Dotson

December 25th No Worship

Glenburn Community Christmas Program: Come join us on Wednesday, December 21st, at 6:30pm for our Annual Community Christmas Program. If you would like to donate come goodies for the event or help out in the kitchen, please let Pastor Martha or Karla know.

Kid's Club: Kid's Club is most Wednesdays, 3:30-5pm. Kid's Club is for any kids PreK – 6th grade. There are several ministry/volunteer opportunities in Kids' Club. Let Pastor Martha know if you can help out with snack or help during Kid's Club. There will not be any Kid's Club on the 28th of this month.

Glenburn Council Meeting: December 14th at 7:30pm

Holiday Boxes: The Food Pantry is looking for some help with their holiday boxes. The items listed below are what we are looking for to place in each box: Cranberries, Turkey Gravy, Cream of Mushroom Soup, Pie Crust, Sweet Potatoes, Pumpkin or Apple Pie Filling, and Stuffing.

Glenburn Needs List: Please donate these items if you are able: Paper Towels, Toilet Paper, Pine Sol, Bathroom Cleaners, Clorox Wipes, Hot Cocoa Packets, and Individual Coffee Creamers.

Glenburn Food Pantry: Our Pantry could use syrup, pancake mix, gravy, jelly, peanut butter, Hamburger Helpers, soups of any kind, and toiletries. Any non-perishable food, paper products, and monetary donations are always greatly appreciated. There is a cart in the back of the church. Thanks for donating. Contact Andrea Boschert or Michelle Peters with any questions. Clothes Closet: If you have anything to drop for clothing, please call Natasha Stevens, 833-2605.

Food Pantry & Clothing Closet Dates: Typically we are open on the 4th Wednesday of every month from 6:30-7:30 pm. You can drop off donations for the food pantry at the church, but if you would like to donate to the Clothing Closet, please contact Natasha Stevens (833-2605) before you drop off your donation. There are times when the Clothing Closet is full, and we don't need donations.

Backpack for Buddies Program: Is a program that will feed a student in need of food for the weekend. Non-perishable and easy to make foods needed. Examples: Oatmeal packs, veg. and fruit cups, mac n cheese cups, jellies, tuna packs, ramen noodles granola bars, etc. If you are interested in sponsoring a child, it costs \$360.00 per year. We currently have 62 students we are helping.

Lansford

Confirmation Worship Assignments:

Lansford:

	Powerpoint	Acolyte/Music
December 4 th	Callie Martin	Cade Undlin
December 11 th	Grady Nett	Eli Undlin
December 18 th	Evan Tarvestad	Dayton Tyler
December 25 th	No Worship	No Worship

Lansford Council Meeting: December 14th at 6pm

Parish

Confirmation We have our Confirmation Retreat this month on December 9th and 10th. We will be leaving from Trinity in Glenburn at 5:30pm on the 9th. We will return home mid-afternoon on the 10th. All the information that you need – packing list, cost, forms, etc.- can be found in the confirmation facebook group. Please contact Pastor Martha if your child cannot be there or if you have any questions or concerns.



Glenburn Food Pantry & Clothing Closet

Our Pantry could use (Be sure cans have a pop top)
Soups – chicken noodle, beef vegetable, tomato, Tuna, Chicken, Raviolis, Spaghetios, Pop Tarts, Fruit Snacks, Microwavable Meals, Ramen Noodles, Individual Juices, Granola Bars, Individual Snacks- pudding, fruit snacks, Rice Krispies, Cheez Its, Applesauce, Cup of Noodles, Oatmeal, Chili – Meat and Beans. Any non-perishable food, paper products, and monetary donations are always greatly appreciated. There is a cart in the back of the church. Thanks for donating. We NEED Plastic Bags. Contact Andrea Boschert or Michelle Peters with any questions Clothes Closet: If you have anything to drop for clothing, please call Natasha Stevens, 833-2605. Food Pantry & Clothing Closet Dates: Once every month from 6:30-7:30 pm.

Backpack Buddies Program

Our Backpack Buddies program will feed a student in need of food for the weekend. Non-perishable and easy to make foods are needed. Examples are: Oatmeal packs, veg. and fruit cups, mac n cheese cups, jellies, tuna packs, ramen noodles granola bars, etc.

If you are interested in sponsoring a child, it costs \$340.00 per year. We currently have 33 students we are helping.

Backpack 
BUDDIES

Because hunger doesn't end on Friday.



DECEMBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4 Worship Lansford 9am Glenburn 11am	5	6	7 Kid's Club 3:30-5pm GLB	8	9 Confirmation Retreat at Metigoshe Ministries	10 Confirmation Retreat at Metigoshe Ministries
11 Worship Lansford 9am Glenburn 11am	12	13	14 Kid's Club 3:30- 5pm GLB Lansford Council 6pm Glenburn Council 7:30pm	15	16	17
18 Worship Lansford 9am Lansford Christmas Program Glenburn 11am	19	20 Ruth Circle GLB 2pm	21 Kid's Club 3:30-5pm GLB Glenburn Community Christmas Program 6:30pm	22	23	24 Christmas Eve Services Glenburn 5pm Lansford 7pm
25 Merry Christmas No Worship Today	26	27	28 No Kid's Club	29	30	31

A MESSAGE FROM THE OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

December 2022

This Month's Writer: Paul N. Marsh, CFRE from GSB Fundraising

Finishing the Year Strong

Paul N. Marsh, CFRE GSB Fundraising

Did you know that donors in the United States give 35% of their gifts between Thanksgiving and New Year's Eve? And 10% are given in the last 3 days of the year? We want to make sure that your ministry is well-positioned to receive some of those gifts.

Even if you have just finished your stewardship appeal, there are still donors in your congregation who are able and willing to make a special year-end gift. Their favorite nonprofit organizations are soliciting those year-end gifts. Many donors don't even think about their church at the end of the year because no effort has been made to invite those gifts. The fundamental steps of informing, inspiring, inviting, and thanking still apply. So, when inviting end-of-year gifts, make sure that you are specific as possible about how those gifts will be used. Simply stating that "end-of-year gifts will be used to avoid a deficit this year" inspires no one. Highlighting a specific ministry that is changing people's lives for the better is far more inspirational and will excite your donors to be more generous.

At year's end, there are several special ways that donors choose to give. Taking time and making the effort to remind your donors through your general communication channels, of these methods can make a significant difference in the ministry of your church. These include:

- Giving a qualified charitable distribution (QCD), a form of gift that is given in place of the donor's required minimum distribution from their IRA. These donors must be 70 ½ years or older and can give up to \$100,000 per person annually in this manner.
- Some donors may wish to give gifts of stock to your church. Make sure that your congregation has a plan in place to receive stock and to sell it as soon as possible.

Other reminders are best delivered with directed personal communication, such as a letter or email.

- Invite your donors to complete their gift intents from last year on a timely basis, or to let the church office know if they will be unable to do so.
- Invite those who have given nothing to the church throughout the year to consider making a special year-end gift, again focused on a specific ministry.

Bringing these opportunities for additional generosity to the forefront will ensure that your ministry ends 2022 in a position of strength and ready to launch into an even better 2023.

Paul Marsh, CFRE is a consultant with GSB Fundraising and serves the Western North Dakota Synod as a stewardship resource person along with the Rev. Peter Reuss. Paul and Pete's contact information may be found on the Western North Dakota Synod's website.