

United Parish

801 Main , Box 175

Bottineau, ND 58318

Facebook

We are on the web

www.unitedparishbottineau.com

Newsletter News:

Send unitedparishbottineau@gmail.com

Deadline for Nov. Newsletter is Nov. 29th

Church office - 228-2800

Secretary - 228-8123

Pastor's cell 605-870-1453

Please let the church know if you have a e-mail address

Pastor Hours are

Monday-8:30-12, 1-4:30

Tuesday & Thursday 8:30-12, Afternoon visitations

Wednesday-8:30 -12

Fridays off



Confirmed on Sunday, November 21, 2021 were Kooper Allard, Will Mercer, Jacob Sand, Trevor Bernstein and Tyler Bernstein.

New members join the church were Jean Carver and Maryann Sappington.

Up Beat

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER
UNITED PARISH
DECEMBER 2021

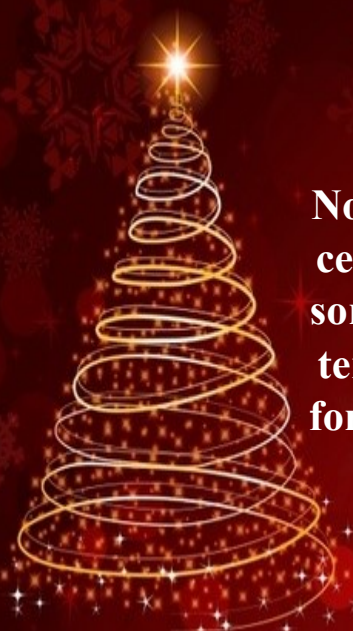
The Bottineau Area Ministerial Association has been selected as one of the participants in Joseph's Community Health Foundation's "Twice Blessed" program. The theme of "Twice Blessed" is "You donate. We double." In other words, Twice Blessed will double the donations given for the Bottineau Area Ministerial Association with a minimum of \$2500. If the minimum is raised, Twice Blessed will double all donations (including minimum required) up to \$4000. The money raised will be given "to demonstrate compassion and care for individuals and families in need by providing assistance with basic needs such as medical care, housing and food through the community Caring Program."

Churches belonging to the Bottineau Area Ministerial Association are joining in the effort: St. Marks Catholic Church, Metigoshe Lutheran Church, Grace Lutheran Church, the United Parish and First Lutheran Church.

One of the requirements for "Twice Blessed" is that personal checks are required. They want individual contributions rather than group donations. That is why we are asking for a special donation rather than simply going through Parish Council to ask for a gift. Please make your donations to "Twice Blessed."

There has been some confusion regarding "Twice Blessed." St. Andrews Hospital has also been selected as a participant. Their request is separate from that of the Bottineau Area Ministerial Association.

Please consider contributing on behalf of the Bottineau Area Ministerial Association. The moneys collected will be used for people in need after all other avenues have been exhausted. Remember the words of Jesus, "Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me."



**The Cheerbox
Mitten Tree
will be up from
November 21st thru De-
cember 12th. Help keep
someone warm this win-
ter with your donations
for mittens, gloves, caps,
scarves and socks.**

Thank you.



**Christmas
Baskets
Bids on the
Christmas
Baskets will close
after Church on
December 12th.**

**There will also be
some baked goods**

available.

The Legend of the Poinsettia'

Maria and Pablo lived in a tiny village in Mexico. Because Christmastime at their house did not include many gifts, Maria and Pablo looked forward to the Christmas festivities at the village church with great joy and anticipation.

To honor the birth of Christ, the church displayed a beautiful manger that drew crowds of admirers. Villagers walked miles to admire the manger, bringing lovely, expensive gifts for the Baby Jesus. As Maria and Pablo watched the villagers place their gifts in the soft hay around the manger, they felt sad. They had no money to buy gifts for their family and no money to buy a gift for the Baby Jesus.

One Christmas Eve, Maria and Pablo walked to the church for that evening's services, wishing desperately that they had a gift to bring. Just then, a soft glowing light shone through the darkness, and the shadowy outline of an angel appeared above them.

Maria and Pablo were afraid, but the angel comforted them, instructing them to pick some of the short green weeds that were growing by the road. They should bring the plants to the church, the angel explained, and place them near the manger as their gift to the Baby Jesus. Then just as quickly as she had appeared, the angel was gone, leaving Maria and Pablo on the road looking up into the dark sky. Confused but excited, the children filled their arms with large bunches of the green weeds and hurried to the church.

When the children entered the church, many of the villagers turned to stare. As Maria and Pablo began placing the weeds around the manger, some of the villagers laughed at them. "Why are those children putting weeds by the manger?" they asked each other. Maria and Pablo began to feel embarrassed and ashamed of their gift to the Baby Jesus, but they stood bravely near the manger, placing the plants on the soft hay, as the angel had instructed.

Suddenly, the dull green leaves on the tops of the plants began to turn a beautiful shade of red, surrounding the Baby with beautiful blooms. The laughing villagers became silent as they watched the green plants transform into the lovely star-shaped crimson flowers we call poinsettias. As they watched the weeds bloom before their eyes, Maria and Pablo knew they had no reason to be ashamed anymore. They had given the Baby Jesus the only gift they could--and it was the most beautiful gift of all.

Today, poinsettias are a traditional symbol of Christmas, thanks to young Maria and Pablo and their special gifts to the Baby Jesus. -- By Stephanie Herbek



A country preacher decided to skip services one Sunday to spend the day hiking in the wilderness. Rounding a sharp bend in the trail, he collided with a bear and was sent tumbling down a steep grade. He landed on a rock and broke both legs.

With the ferocious bear charging at him from a distance, the preacher prayed, "O Lord, I'm so sorry for skipping services today. Please forgive me and grant me just one wish—make a Christian out of that bear that's coming at me!"

At that very instant, the bear skidded to a halt, fell to his knees, clasped his paws together, and

December Birthdays

2 – LeAnn Bremner

2- Clairen Jostad

4 – Lucy Mercer

5- Riley Bremner

6-Julie Russell

11 – Helen Patterson

12 – Karol Patterson

15 – Skyler Patterson

22 – Edna Peterson

25 – Peggy Marsden

27 – Rhonda Mund

28 – Beth Sluder

30 – Milla Cote

31 – Charly Anderson

Anniversaries

5 – Paul & Rhonda Milbrath

27 – Ron & Marsha Martin

God's Not Deaf

Two young boys were spending the night at their grandparents' house the week before Christmas. At bedtime, the two boys knelt beside their beds to say their prayers. The younger one began praying at the top of his lungs:

"I PRAY FOR A NEW BICYCLE..."

"I PRAY FOR A NEW NINTENDO..."

His older brother leaned over, nudged him and said, "Why are you shouting? God isn't deaf." to which the little brother replied, "No, but Grandma is!"

Actual children's versions of Christmas Carols:

"...sleep in heavenly peas";

"Joy to the world, the Savior rains";

"This is he whom Sears of old...";

"Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plane";

"While shepherds washed their socks by night

United Parish Building Fund

Presbyterian Church -

Shirley Romfo - Ron & Marsha Martin

Sharon Marquardt

United Parish Memorial Fund

Les Christian - David & Faye Bernstein

Mary Rothman

Sharon Marquardt

Shari Turner

Bill & MaryElise McKay

Shelly & Bruce Bullinger

John & Peggy Gregg

Ruth Guest - Donna Stanley

United Parish Quilters Fund

Shirley Romfo - Linda & David Kyle



Thank you to everyone who worked at the Food Pantry on November 17th. There was a good turnout from our church. Also thank you to everyone who brought bars and Clairen Jostad for the dinner.

Thank you to Pat and Evon for getting all the food for the Thanksgiving Dinner and everyone else who contributed and worked. Special thanks to the Kippen families and Sands for their skills at cooking. Thank you to Thrivent for the cards. Thanks to Our Saviors for the desserts.

Thank you to Pat for decorating the church for the Advent Season. Do a great job!