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LAURA BRICKSON,
SCHOOL PRINCIPAL
NORM BETLAND
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MARGARET RASMUSSEN,
RELIGIOUS FORMATION
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(SAFE, CONFIDENTIAL LINE)

HOLY MASS IS CELEBRATED ON
THE WEEKENDS AT:
5:00 P.M. ON SATURDAY
9:00 A.M. ON SUNDAY
(9:00 A.M. LIVE STREAMED)

PLEASE REFER TO "THIS WEEK
IN THE PARISH" FOR THE TIMES
OF THE WEEKDAY MASSES

THOSE WISHING TO CELEBRATE
THE SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE
ARE ASKED TO CONTACT THE
PASTOR AT LEAST SIX MONTHS
PRIOR TO THE INTENDED DATE
OF THE CELEBRATION

ST. BERNARD'S CATHOLIC COMMUNITY
105 Knight Avenue North Thief River Falls, MN 56701
Parish (218) 681- 3571
School (218) 681-1539
www.stbernardstrf.com



Twenty-seventh Sunday
in Ordinary Time

October 8, 2023

You are the Lord of all!

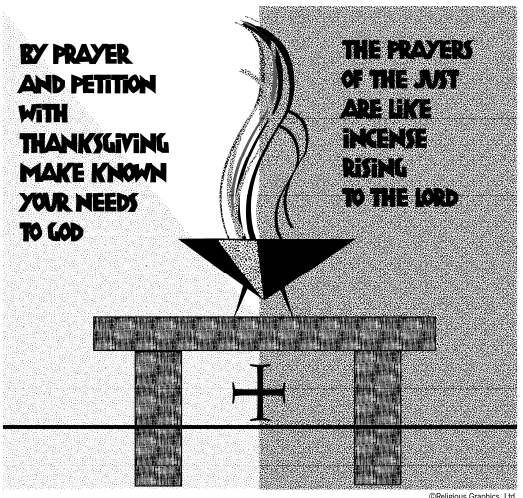
Greetings,

Away Much of October
I've mentioned this to many, but I am very sorry that I will be away most of October. I am not scheduling these kinds of conflicts now that I've been named Pastor, but they were scheduled prior to me knowing that I would be in a parish. I was working full-time in a very available travel heavy position, and these were on the calendar from that time. Some of the travel is for the National Eucharistic Revival, some is from National Eucharistic Preaching, and some of it was other personal travel with my parents and a few friends. Fr. Lambert will be available to celebrate the daily and weekend Masses and will be available through the parish office for other emergency care. The parish staff is preparing for my extended absence, and the office will continue in normal fashion, just without its Pastor. Maybe they will be happy about that, come to think of it.

Advancement Director

We are very pleased to announce that Charlie Vogel has accepted the position as the Advancement Director for the Parish, which includes the church and the school. He is finishing his obligations with current employer, but has already begun to do some onboarding with us. Charlie will be overseeing much of our mission advancement so that we can be a mission-driven parish. What is the mission? The mission is 13,658 souls in this parish territory, claimed for Christ Jesus and receiving access to Heaven. That's what the church exists for, and so that is our mission! We also have a physical plant that needs to be at the service of that mission, and a school which needs to be at the service of that mission, and so we have many needs to accomplish our mission. Charlie will be paying attention to grants, endowments, legacy gifts, stewardship, development, alumni relations, and so on.

Grace and Peace,
Father Vasek



THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH

9 Monday — Saint Denis, Bishop, And Companions, Martyrs; Saint John Leonardi, Priest
No Mass today
Jonah 1:1; 2:2,11—Jonah 2:3-5, 8 –Luke 10:25-37

10 Tuesday— Jonah 3:1-10 – Psalm 130:1-4,7-8– Luke 10:38-42
7:30 A.M. Confession
8:00 A.M. Holy Mass – Father John Burns Priestly Anniversary (Fr. Vasek’s dear friend and classmate)
8:30 A.M. –10:00 P.M. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
9:30 A.M. Staff Calendar Meeting
10:30 A.M. Holy Mass at Care Center +Francis Kazmierczak
3:00 P.M. Jesus and the Eucharist Bible Study– Pre-Kindergarten Room
5:00 P.M. Faith Formation Meeting
7:00 P.M. Pastoral Council Meeting
7:00 P.M. Knight’s of Columbus Meeting

11 Wednesday - Saint John XXIII, Pope—Jonah 4:1-11-Psalm 86:3-6, 9-10- Luke 11:1-4
7:00 A.M. Building And Grounds
8:00 A.M. Confession
8:30 A.M. Holy Mass +Virgil Burger
6:15 P.M. Jesus and the Eucharist Bible Study—Parish Hall
6:30 P.M. Grade 6 Religious Ed.– School Library & Computer lab
6:30 P.M. Grade 7 Religious Ed—Rectory Meeting Room
8:00 P.M. Men’s Prayer Group

12 Thursday– Malachi 3:13-20b– Psalm 1:1-4,6-Luke 11:5-13
No Mass—Fr. Vasek at Revival Meeting in Chicago
8:30 A.M.—10:00 P.M. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
9:00 A.M. Jesus and the Eucharist Bible Study—Parish Library
7:00 P.M. OCIA

13 Friday— Joel 1: 13-15;2:1-2– Psalm 9:2-3,6,16,8-9- Luke 11:15-26
7:00 A.M. KC Rosary
8:00 A.M. Rosary
No Mass—Father Vasek at Revival Meeting in Chicago

14 Saturday— Saint Callistus I, Pope and Martyr; Blessed Virgin Mary –Joel 4:12-21-
4:00 P.M. Confession
4:35 P.M. Rosary
5:00 P.M. Holy Mass—Pro Populo
Installation of Father Vasek as Pastor of St. Bernard’s—Reception in parish hall following Mass
Psalm 97:1-2,5-6,11-12-Luke 11:27-28

15 Sunday – Twenty–Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time—Isaiah 25:6-10a –Psalm 23:1-6-
8:00 A.M. Confession
8:10 A.M. Lauds
8:35 A.M. Rosary
9:00 A.M. Holy Mass +Beverly Oski Hayes
First Confession Enrollment during Mass—Parent Mtg Following Mass in church
10:15 A.M. Coffee & Rolls
10:15 A.M. Sunday School
11:00 A.M—Jesus and the Eucharist Bible Study—Rectory Mtg Room
6:00 P.M.—Jesus and the Eucharist Bible Study—Parish Hall Mtg Room
Philippians 4:12-14,19-20-Matthew 22:1-14

COMING WEEKS IN THE PARISH

October 14– 5:00 pm Installation of Father Vasek as Pastor of St. Bernard’s by Bishop Cozzens—reception following Mass.
October 15—9:00 am Mass—First Confession Enrollment
October 18 & 22—No RE or Sunday School—MN Ed. Week
October 31–4:00—6:00—Trunk or Treat
6:00 pm Holy Day Mass
November 1-7:00 am All Saints Day Holy Mass -Holy Day of Obligation
November- Thanksgiving Food Drive
November 8- EXALT
November 15-19-NCYC in Indianapolis



RELIGIOUS FORMATION NEWS

By Margaret Rasmussen
Margaret.Rasmussen@stbernardstrf.com

October 8–10:15 –11:15 am Sunday School—note new time!!!
October 11—6:30 pm Grades 6 & 7th RE
(7th Grade in Parish Rectory)
October 15– 9:00 am Mass First Confession Enrollment followed
by parent mtg. —more information coming in the mail.
10:15 am Sunday School
October 18—No Middle School RE—MN. ED. Week
October 22—NO Sunday School—MN. ED. Week
October 25– 6:30 pm Grades 6 & 8th RE
October 29– 10:15 am Sunday School
November 1—All Saints Day—Holy Day of Obligation
- 6:30 pm Grades 6 & 7 RE
November 5 10:15 am Sunday School
November 8—EXALT
November 12—10:15 am Sunday School
November 15- 6:30 pm Grades 6 & 8th RE
November 19-10:15 Sunday School
November 22 & 26 —No MS RE or Sunday School
Happy Thanksgiving!

St. Bernard’s Volunteers please complete the training below.
Safe Environment Training 2023-24

The new training for CMG Connect Safe Environment training is now available. The training includes a video message from Bishop Cozzens, Protecting Vulnerable Adults video, Code of Conduct, and Acknowledgment questions. The training will take approximately 30 minutes to complete.

Go to <https://www.crookston.org/secertification>,
In the middle of the page click on the yellow bar:
Go to sign in (upper right corner) please **DO NOT** create a new account. If you need your username let me know and I will get that for you. After signing in, complete your Safe Environment training requirement – A2 Safe Environment Curriculum on your main dashboard, click start to begin.

Please remember those who have asked for our prayers:

Jackie Hunt, Matthew Kaiser, Kaelyn Diaz,
Roger Amundson, Ron Winter, John Sherack,
Tom Super, Mary Hemstreet, Jim Breth,
Robert Walrath, Elliana Rose Viktora,
Donna Brouse, Tim Kramer, Christine Oliver,
Margaret Koldon, Luke Noreen, Sid Brouse,
Gale Schmitz, Tori Hovelsrud,
Pastor Jake Jacobson, Ray Hedlund

If you wish to have someone placed on the list OR would like a name removed, please call (218.681.3571). or send an email to margaret.rasmussen@stbernardstrf.com.

YOUTH NEWS

By Misty Mehrkens
Misty.Mehrkens @ stbernardstrf.com
FB: @st.bernardsyouthgroup IG: @st_byouth

In today’s Gospel, we can understand the landowner to represent God and the tenants as representing the sinful nature of humanity. The tenants steal the landowner’s produce for themselves and beat or kill those who come to gather the landowner’s produce. They represent the self-ish, greedy, cruel, and sometimes even violent nature that can be seen in our world. The landowner tries sending his own son (think about God sending Jesus into the world) to reason with the tenants, thinking that the tenants will respect the landowner’s own flesh and blood. But even the landowner’s son is not safe. This story is a dark reminder of the human tendency to turn away from God and focus on our own desires. Sadly, there are a lot of examples we can look at in today’s world where these sinful tendencies are preset. It might feel overwhelming to think about what we would have to do to stop or at least slow down the evil in the world, but as Jesus teaches us, we must try.

HOMEWORK: Choose one injustice in the world and do some research on it this week. Rights of workers? Racial injustices? Learn about the issues and know the facts. Write down a few ways you can make a difference in your daily life and plan to do them over the next few weeks.

We’ve had a fun couple of weekends for St. Bernard’s!



On September 16th, our youth group kicked off the year with our 6th Annual Progressive Hayride! It was a beautiful evening for a pot-luck, trails, bonfire and smores! Thank you to all the adults that chaperoned and helped with food and fellowship, to Pat Sagsveen for his

music ministry, to Fr. Vasek for joining us on such a great evening and all the youth that came along!

On September 24th, some of our youth attended the very first Diocese of Crookston Youth Conference in Bemidji. We enjoyed hearing from some powerful speakers such as Tanner Kalina, Sr. Elfie Del Rosario, Dana Catherine and Joe Melendrez. The theme was Forever Changed and we pray that the 14 participants from St. Bernard’s and the 450+ participants throughout the diocese were forever changed by going!




We share one cup, one bread the gift of life

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PROMISE TO PROTECT **PLEDGETO HEAL**

If you or someone you know has been a victim of sexual misconduct on the part of a priest, deacon, or individual representing the Diocese of Crookston, its parishes, or its schools, your first call should be to law enforcement. In addition, the diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator is available at 218-281-7895 (24 hour confidential number).

 Are you unable to leave your home to get groceries or other supplies? Do you know someone who cannot get out because they are sick or they are vulnerable? If so, the Knights of Columbus wants to help you and your loved ones. The Knights of Columbus will gladly pick up your shopping for you and deliver to your home. For more information please call Mark Christiansen at (218)556-0037.

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SCAN ME

Go to <http://bit.ly/StBGive>
Or use the QR code to go directly to the St. Bernard's giving webpage.

This can be used for parish, school, weekly Masses, or anything that is set up for giving!

Search for **myParish** on the App Store or Google Play to download our app today!



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Our Northland Diocese, official publication of the Diocese of Crookston since 1946, is available via eOND, an electronic newsletter full of the latest and biggest news of our local Church! In addition to monthly print issues delivered to household mailboxes, eOND arrives to email inboxes twice monthly. Each eOND offers local, national and world news published digitally between print issues, as well as local monthly commentary. Parishes pay an annual subscription rate of \$15.67 per household for all services but opt-in is required for eOND. Subscribing is as simple as providing your name and email address so do not delay! Visit >> www.crookston.org/subscribe

The Mass schedule we have been using for summer (**Sat 5PM; Sun 9AM**) will continue as the normal Mass schedule throughout the entire year.



New to the parish and not registered? Need to update your address or discontinued your landline? You can register or update your information on our website at stbernardscc.org or call 681-3571.

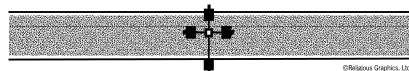


St. Bernard's Church is Offering Online Giving. For additional information, or to sign up, visit our website: www.stbernardscc.org

SUNDAY STEWARDSHIP

Sunday — October 1, 2023

Weekly Offertory Total.....\$ 9,491.25
Weekly Offertory Budget.....\$ 11,231.00



St. Bernard's Building Campaign

Pledged to Date: \$ 3,453,275.59

Received to Date: \$ 3,112,307.10



DAA Appeal.

If you are interested in making a first-time gift or are considering a second gift, you may pick up an appeal envelope in the gathering space of our parish or scan the code! Thank you for supporting the 2023 Diocesan Annual Appeal.

Please have your items for the bulletin in to Norm by Tuesday Noon. norm.betland@stbernardstrf.com



The good news of this Gospel is that all we need to do is let God tend us and bring us to produce good fruit. All we need do is be faithful; God will take care of the rest.

Please help St Bernard's SVDP to bring the love and mercy of Jesus to those who feel left out and abandoned.

DONATIONS NEEDED

Can you help??

St. Vincent de Paul needs your help with household items for two new families. Items needed: 4 beds and bedding, two couches, small kitchen tables and chairs, and other living room items. Please contact Dave at 218-416-1963 if you can help.

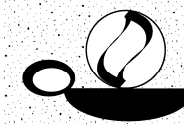


KC's COATS FOR KIDS

October 14, 2023

10am-12 pm

Lincoln High School Commons
Donations can be dropped off in the large box in east entrance of St. Bernard's Church Thank you!



PRAY
ALWAYS

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Eucharistic



Adoration

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is open to anyone who would like to come to pray or be in the presence of Jesus. If you would like an hour of your own, contact Arlene Thune at 218.681.1740
Adoration: Tuesdays & Thursdays 8:30-10 pm
Fridays during Lent—9:30 am—10:00 pm



Please join us to pray the Patriotic Rosary and the Divine Mercy Chaplet for peace in our country, from 5 to 6 pm on the last Thursday of each month.



1st Friday/Saturday Adoration

Join here <https://bit.ly/1stFSAdoration>

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
7:00 pm Friday—8:00 on Saturday on the First Friday/Saturday of each month.



Volunteers are needed to serve Coffee & Rolls after the 9:00 am Sunday Mass during Sept.- May. Please consider helping in this ministry. Contact Julie Peterson for more information and to sign up. 218-686-8599 Thank you!



Worldwide Marriage Encounter

A **Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend** renews the promises you made to each other on your wedding day. Experience an enrichment for your marriage that will make your good marriage great! The next available Weekends are Oct 6-8, 2023 in Buffalo, MN and Oct 28-29, 2023 in Alexandria, MN. Early registration is highly recommended. For more information visit our website at: northmnwwme.org or contact Miki at applications@northmnwwme.org or 507-227-8229.



The Crookston Diocese welcomes all couples to a free Natural Family Planning Introductory Session presented by Laura Golden, FCP and Sarah McKeown, CFCP.

Here you will learn the Creighton model and will be provided with responsible parenthood instructions for achieving pregnancy, avoiding pregnancy, and monitoring fertility and cycles. Laura and Sarah will also provide you with real solutions to problems such as infertility, PMS, miscarriages, reproductive health concerns, and more! Please enjoy this introductory session and feel free to reach out to holyfamilynfp.com for more information or any questions you may have. For any questions with registering please feel free to email cjohnson@crookston.org. When: **Oct. 12, 7:30-8:30pm**



The Knights of Columbus Annual Fall Exemplification of the Fourth Degree is Saturday, October 28th at the Arrowwood Resort & Conference Center in Alexandria, MN.

If you have considered going from 3rd to 4th Degree, this is a great opportunity to do so. The 4th Degree is the Patriotic Arm of the KCs. Please contact me if you would like more information and I will send it to you. The Council and Assembly will pay part of the regalia cost. Fellow Knights, if you or someone you know has regalia such as swords, gloves or baldricks, and would be willing to donate them back to the council, it would be very much appreciated. This would help our new 4th Degree Knights. KC Supreme is asking that our roster be updated with current member information. Please send your information to me at rmalokofc@gmail.com Thank You & God Bless Randy Malo Grand Knight

Fall Festival
Turkey & Ham Dinner
Adults—\$15.00 Kids \$6.00

Polka Mass at 10:30 am

Sunday October 29th, 2023
12:00 pm—5:00 pm

Raffle, Bingo at the Mall
701 Pacific Ave.
Drawings at 5:00 pm
Need not be present to win.



Intercession

“Therefore, Lord, remember at this time all for whom we make this offering to you” (Eucharistic Prayer III). No one is forgotten in the Mass: not the saints in heaven, nor our fellow pilgrims on earth, nor those who have gone before us in death. In the Eucharistic Prayer we pray for our Pope and Bishop by name. We pray too for “the clergy, those who make the offering, those gathered here, your entire people, and all who seek you with a sincere heart” (Eucharistic Prayer IV). We pray for “those who have died in the peace of your Christ and all the dead whose faith only you have known” (Eucharistic Prayer IV). In every Mass we rejoice to name “Mary, the most blessed Virgin Mother of God.” We remember the Apostles, the Martyrs, and all the saints. Our Eucharistic intercession is immense and all-embracing. Like Jacob’s ladder it stretches from earth to heaven. “And behold, the angels of God were ascending and descending upon it” (Genesis 28:12). Catholics request the celebration of Masses for the departed, for the needs of the living, and for special intentions. There is no greater comfort in times of sorrow, no surer help in time of need, no higher joy in times of blessing than the Mass.



Through him, and with him, and in him

“Through him, with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, almighty God and Father, forever and ever. Amen.” The climax of the Eucharistic Prayer is a *doxology*, a word of glory. Praise blossoms on the lips of the priest and is sealed by the “Amen” of the people. The entire Eucharistic Prayer flows into this one moment, like a river into the sea. We acknowledge that every good thing descends to us from the Father through Christ and, through Christ, “in the unity of the Holy Spirit,” we return to the Father “all glory and honor.” The priest alone, or in a concelebrated Mass the principal celebrant together with the concelebrating priests, sings or says the final doxology, lifting high the paten with the host and the chalice. The people’s solemn acclamation, “Amen,” signifies their complete adhesion to everything said by the priest. This is the true elevation fulfilling the psalmist’s mysterious words: *“What shall I render to the Lord for all his bounty to me? I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord . . . in the presence of all his people” (Psalm 115:12-13).*

Our Father

“And I when I am lifted up will draw all men to myself” (John 12:32). Drawn to Christ, we dare to pray as he taught us, calling God “our Father” (Matthew 6:9). The Lord’s Prayer opens the Communion Rite. “Pray then like this,” said Jesus (Matthew 6:9). By means of his prayer, *“the Spirit helps us in our weakness, for we do not know how to pray as we ought” (Romans 8:26).* *“Give us this day our daily bread” (Matthew 6:11).* In the petition for daily food we express, above all, our hunger for the “Bread of Life” (John 6:48). We ask too for purification from sin — *“Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us” (Matthew 6:12)* — so as to approach in holiness the holy mysteries of Christ’s Body and Blood. The priest introduces the Lord’s Prayer; all sing or say it together with him. After the last petition, “but deliver us from evil,” the priest alone continues in a prayer for deliverance “from every evil” and for peace. The people conclude with a doxology. The Roman Missal provides a simple chant for the invitation, the Lord’s Prayer itself, the prayer that prolongs it, and the doxology.



With praise and thanksgiving to God
St. Bernard’s Catholic Church invites
you to join us for the

Rite of Installation of
Fr. Craig Vasek
as Pastor of
St. Bernard’s Catholic Church

Saturday, October 14th, 2023
5:00 pm Mass

**Presided by the Most Reverend
Bishop Andrew H. Cozzens**

All are encouraged to attend Mass on
Saturday evening to celebrate Fr. Vasek.
A reception in the Parish Hall will
immediately follow Mass.



PraySing

Hello faithful Saint Bernard's families! We will be starting a revised monthly youth centered Mass on the 1st weekend of the month. These Masses will be a time to showcase our students and youth within our parish community. The elementary and teens of our parish and school will be able to take part in the service by doing jobs such as greeters, readers, commentator, petition readers, altar servers, ushers, gift bearers, or singers in the choir. Below you will find information regarding sign up for each Mass.

The dates for the Masses and choir practices are as follows:

Elementary Mass

Sunday, October 8 @9:00 a.m.

Saturday, December 2 @5:00 p.m.

Sunday, February 4 @9:00 a.m.

Sunday, April 7 @9:00 a.m.

Sunday, April 28 @9:00

(First Communion)

Choir Practice

Wednesday, Oct. 4 from 3:30-4:30

Wednesday, Nov. 29 from 3:30-4:30

Wednesday, Jan. 31 from 3:30-4:30

Wednesday, Apr. 3 from 3:30-4:30

Wednesday, Apr. 24 from 3:30-4:30

Teen Mass (Practices-TBD)

Sunday, November 5 @9:00 a.m.

Saturday, January 6 @5:00 p.m.

Sunday, March 3 @9:00 a.m.



Elementary Qr Code



Teen Mass QR Code

Email: cindy.dallmann@stbernardstrf.com beth.zerr@stbernardstrf.com

SignUpGenius: <https://bit.ly/SBYouthMass>



ST. BERNARD'S SCHOOL

Scholarship RAKE-A-THON

2023

On Friday, October 27, the students from St. Bernard's School in collaboration with the Knights of Columbus in Thief River Falls will be raking lawns of seniors and others in the community who need assistance. This as an opportunity for our students to help those in need. It is a tangible way for the children to live out the mission of the school and "Go Make a Difference."

Residents who receive this service are nominated by church, school, and community members. Usually they are seniors, or families who have experienced illness, loss, or other hardships. A final selection is made by the Rake-A-Thon committee. The school hopes to serve approximately 5-10 homes this year. The students in grades Kindergarten through 5th grade will rake yards, while the preschool and prekindergarten students spruce up the area around the school and church.

St. Bernard's theme, "Go Make a Difference" was inspired by the Steve Angrisano song by the same name. Service is a key component St. Bernard's School where students ask, "How can we 'Go Make a Difference' in ourselves, our school, our family, our community, and our world?"

Support the Scholarship Fund

Through your generous Rake-A-Thon sponsorship, you can "Make a Difference" in the life of a child by contributing towards the St. Bernard's Scholarship Fund. This way we can work together to ensure a quality St. Bernard's education for ALL children! Just mail or drop off your donations at the school office 117 Knight Ave. N., Thief River Falls, MN 56701, place the donation in the Sunday collection (clearly marked Rake-A-Thon or Scholarship, or donate online at <https://www.stbernardsc.org/give-online> Go to Online Giving at the bottom of the page and then the Rake-A-Thon button. Thank you so very much for all of your support for St. Bernard's School!



SCAN ME

Would you like your lawn cleaned?

Please call the school office at 218-681-1539 or email laura.brickson@stbernardstrf.com if you would like to be considered or want to make a recommendation of someone in the Thief River Falls area who could use our help. Please contact us as soon as you can because the slots will fill up quickly.



DELICIOUS

Loaded Spud Fundraiser

October 24th

@ The Legacy Event Center
16458 160th Ave NE, TRF



SCHEDULE

Arrival/Social

Try the specialty drinks!

5:30-6PM

Welcome/Serve

Welcome Guests/Spud Buffet

6PM

Presentations

Center Update/Guest speakers

6:45 PM

Thank You/Dismissal

Please consider donating to the continuation of our services to women/families of NW MN.

8PM

Come Celebrate 25 years of service with the LifeCare Pregnancy Center and hear our story!
WE NEED YOUR HELP!

BAKED POTATO BAR

Chili

Pulled Chicken

Queso

Cheddar Broccoli

Shredded Cheese, Bacon, Sour Cream, Butter, etc.



LifeCare
Pregnancy Center
A Pregnancy & Parenting Resource Center

Greetings,

You may have already heard of the LifeCare Center and our Mission. This letter is to, in a sense, reintroduce ourselves and our services and request your help in raising funds to continue assisting women and advocate for the unborn. We are a charitable, non-profit organization that serves abortion vulnerable women in 6 counties: Kittson, Marshall, Pennington, Polk, Red Lake and Roseau.

Our Mission at the LifeCare Pregnancy Center is to provide positive alternatives to abortion and change the lives of women by educating them to make life-affirming choices that will have a positive effect on their future, their families and the community in which they live. We accomplish this by working with families from conception through the infancy of their child.

We provide women of all ages and marital status a safe, compassionate location if they find themselves pregnant and in need of support and counsel. We can assist clients by confirming pregnancy via self-administered pregnancy tests and by providing life sustaining options, resources and support to them and their partner. We also offer education and coaching through the first years of their child's life via our pregnancy and parenting classes, life skills lessons, and parent support groups.

Our Center has faced a fair share of battles the last few years and your support will allow us to continue serving women and families who choose to protect innocent life. In March of 2020 our Center fell under state Covid-19 regulations and had to essentially shut down direct, in-house support to our clients. We were able to continue with virtual education and counseling, and countless material pick-ups, but this strained the relationships our staff build with vulnerable clients and they definitely felt the loss. Covid also cancelled our annual fundraising banquets and events for the following three years. The loss of this direct donor support was felt immensely. Our Center relied heavily on state funding it received through the MN Positive Alternatives (to abortion) Grant for our client education, material support (such as diapers/wipes, food/formula, cribs, car seats) and overhead to simply keep the lights on.

Then came May 2023, when Governor Walz decided the State of Minnesota would no longer support the protection of innocent fetal life, and he, with the Senate and House, voted to eliminate funding for the Positive Alternatives Grant beyond June 30, 2023. The very grant we have relied so heavily on.

Additionally, as some may have heard, just four days after losing our grant funding, our Center suffered a huge building disaster. Water damaged much of our client material supplies, ultrasound machine, and the building structure itself, to the point that an immediate decision to relocate was needed. Whether this location is temporary or permanent remains to be seen, along with the services and support we can provide, as we are working on a very short-term budget that is unsustainable without monetary donations from supporters like you.

So, we ask that you please take this consideration to heart, whether you can personally attend our upcoming Baked Potato Fundraiser (see included Flyer) or provide a direct gift to help us continue with our good works and ensure women and families can provide for the beautiful life they chose to protect.

Finally, if you are interested, one of our organization members can present our Ministry and Mission to your committee members, youth groups or congregation. Please contact our office to schedule a presentation so that we may continue to show, by words and actions, the love of Jesus to all who come through our doors and to offer help and hope to those in need.

Thank you for your time and May God bless you richly today!

The LifeCare Pregnancy Center Staff