

Holy Nativity Lutheran Church
95th Anniversary
1927-2022



We thank you for being a crucial part of
of helping us serve our Lord!

We are called by Christ, unified by the Holy Spirit, To grow
disciples, To spread the gospel!

95th Anniversary Celebration Agenda

Welcome	Gary Heckathorn
Prayer	John Pulley
Lunch Served	Called by table
Church History	Ken Mauer

Speakers

Roger Fink

Linda Scherer

Letter from Pastor Vince Hammel read by Ken Mauer

Letter from Pastor David Gehne read by Will Gehne

Pastor Zam Khai

Pastor Andrew Okai

Holy Nativity 95th Anniversary Committee

Reverend Andrew Okai
Ken Mauer
Eleanor VanGlarik

Pastors

Andrew T. Okai
Zam Khai

Senior Pastor
Assisting Pastor

Pastor's Staff

Janet Timms
Kirby Cuffley

Director of Music
Church Secretary

Officers

President - Gary Heckathorn
Vice President - Dave Bohning
Recording Secretary - Gloria Heise
General Funds Treasurer - Ligita Kelly

Financial Executives

Comptroller - Joe Ambrose Jr.
Financial Secretary - Lorna Wingate
Memorial Funds Treasurer & Secretary - Janet Flippo
Special Funds Treasurer - Deborah Heckathorn

Ministry Council Chairs

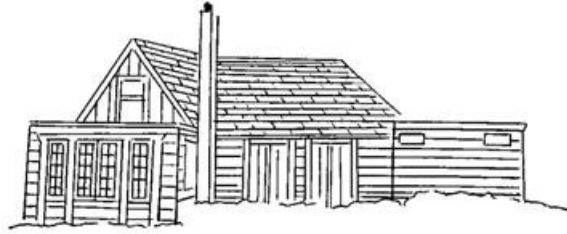
Worship Ministry Team - Dan Lohrmann
Property Ministry Team - Lloyd Geigley & Jim Harvey
Stewardship Ministry Team - Ken Mauer
Organist/Music Director - Janet Timms
Public Relations Ministry Team - Vincent Rigatuso
Fellowship Ministry Team - Eleanor VanGlarik
Mission and Outreach Ministry Team - Deborah Heckathorn
Christian Education - Eileen May
Women's Ministry Team - Ligita Kelly
Family Life Ministry - Karen Tsambikos

Elders

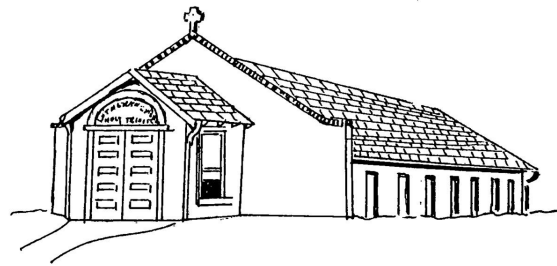
Head Elder - John Pulley

Will McFarland	John Schiller	Pastor Zam Khai
Dave Bohning	Steve Lohrmann	Gary Heckathorn

Holy Nativity Throughout the Years



1927-1930

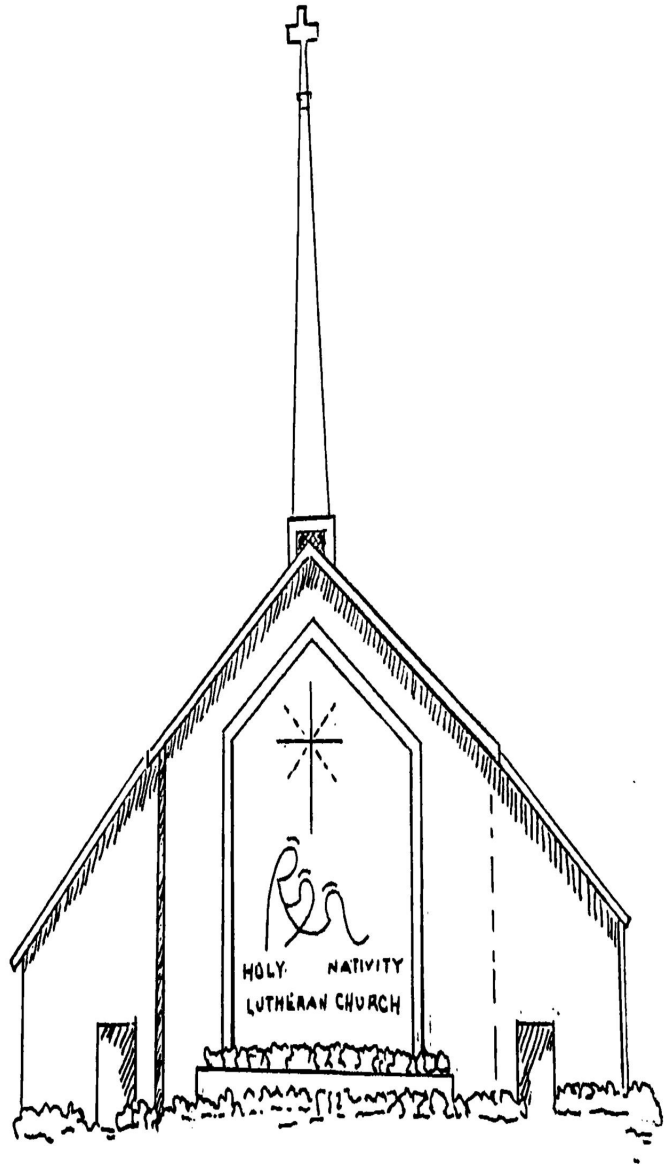


1930-1950



1950-1973

Holy Nativity Today



1973-2022

HIGHLIGHTS OF OUR CHURCH HISTORY

1927 February Organized as an independent Lutheran Congregation.
 1927 March First Sunday School service
 1927 April 10th First worship service held. Rev. Paul Roetling preaching.
 1929 Construction started on basement church.
 1943 Rev. Enno Schmooch accepted call and was installed as pastor.
 1947 Rev. Walter V. Roe accepted call and was installed as pastor.
 1950 Dedication of church of Linden and High view.
 1952 Christian Kindergarten began.
 1960 Property at Linden and Shelbourne purchased. (5.6 acres)
 1963 Rev. Albert Bielenberg accepted call and was installed as pastor.
 1967 Building plans on Linden and Shelbourne property.
 1973 March from "old church" to "new church".
 1975 Pastor Roger Fink called as pastoral assistant.
 1978 Rev. Arthur Scherer accepted call and was installed as pastor.
 1980 Fire destroys a portion of the church building.
 1981 Rededication of repaired and expanded building.
 1984 Rev. Gerald Reiter installed as Assistant Pastor.
 1984 Deacon Vincent Hammel installed as Holy Nativity's first deacon.
 1991 Establishment of three lay positions; Director of Education, Youth, and Outreach.
 1994 Rev. James Bredeson accepted call and was installed as pastor.
 1998 First Contemporary Service
 2001 Eric Sommer was installed as Holy Nativity's second deacon.
 2002 Visit from Synod President Kieschnick in the celebration of 75 years of existence.
 2003 March New Family Life Center dedicated.
 2003 Sept. Rev. Allen L. Behnke accepted call and installed as pastor.
 2006 Church YouTube Established
 2008 July Rev. Andrew Okai accepted to be interim Pastor
 2009 June Established our food pantry
 2009 June Pastor Andrew Okai called as Pastor of Holy Nativity
 2013 May New Outdoor Digital sign is approved
 2013 June Women's Ministry is established
 2013 Sep. Pastor Meilander joined HNLC
 2014 March Our Current Vision statement was adopted
 2014 April First Annual Golf Tournament at Willow Springs Golf Course
 2014 June Approval to replace roof and repair steeple \$65,000
 2014 Sep. Introduction of Pastor Cary Moorman
 2014 Sep. Tree of faith approved for church wall
 2015 April Passion play performed at church
 2016 April Fanning the Flame cottage meetings held
 2017 April Pastor Zam Khai and family joins HNLC
 2018 June Security Task Force Established for HNLC
 2018 June Food pantry served 147 families in 1st quarter of year
 2019 Jan. Live Stream on Facebook Established
 2019 Oct. Began recognizing Member of the Month
 2019 Nov. Honored Rev. Andrew Okai's 10th Pastoral Anniversary
 2019 Nov Replaced Church lights with LED bulbs
 2020 Mar. Church closed due to Covid-19 Pandemic
 2020 Mar. Switched to livestream and drive through communion
 2020 May 25 people allowed in Church due to pandemic
 2020 June 50 people allowed in Church due to pandemic
 2021 June Church allowed to reopen with mask restrictions
 2022 Jan. Church allowed to come back with masks being optional
 2022 April 24 HNLC's 95th Church Anniversary 1927-2022

The dates and leaders of the past and present only tell a very small portion of the "Highlights of Holy Nativity. It doesn't begin to reveal the changes and growth that so many of our members have experienced. It doesn't relay the personal identity that we have as a whole family, or as individuals. Time spent together will reveal the joy that comes through living and growing as a family; as God's family here in Arbutus. We hope that the joy we so readily receive from God might be passed on to you as we, side by side, experience God and each other .

First Events

Here are some items of interest in the history of our Congregation during the time of the organization of Holy Nativity.

The first baptism in the basement church was Carolyn Babetta Siebert. The last baptism in the basement church was David L. Buettner in May, 1949.

The Church was then torn down to make room for construction of the new church and it was noted that David Elseroad had to be baptized in the home due to the building of the new church. The first baptism at Linden and Highview was that of John Williams Adams, Jr., on March 12, 1950 and the last was Nikki Lynn Harvey on February 11, 1973. The first baptism at our present location was Tamara Eileen Hurley on April 7, 1973.

First Events

The first marriage recorded is that of Matthew Boring and Lillian Stamm on January 17, 1930. The first in the basement church was Harry Richardson and Elizabeth Niepraschk on September 23, 1936. The last wedding in the basement was Walter Hellman and Margaret Herzog on May 28, 1949. The first wedding in the new church at Linden and Highview was Richard Custy and Audrey Crawford on October 4, 1950. The last wedding at that location was John Owen and Carroll Lee Russell on January 16, 1973. The first wedding at Linden and Shelbourne was that of John Hartman and Susan Priebe on February 10, 1973 with scaffolds yet in place and the building incomplete.

Those Who Have Served



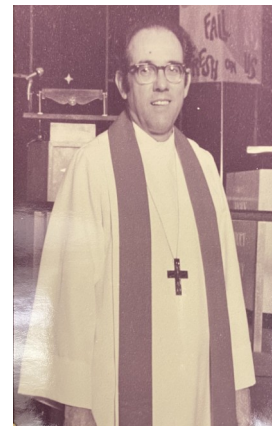
Reverend Paul Roetling
1927-1942 (deceased)



Reverend Enno Schmooch
1943-1947 (deceased)

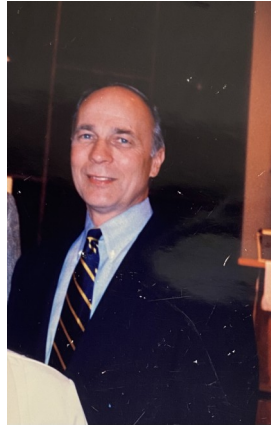


Reverend Walter Roe
1947-1962 (deceased)

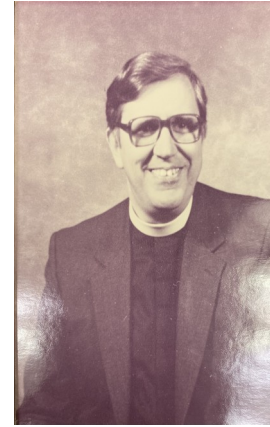


Reverend Albert Bielenberg
1963-1978

Those Who Have Served



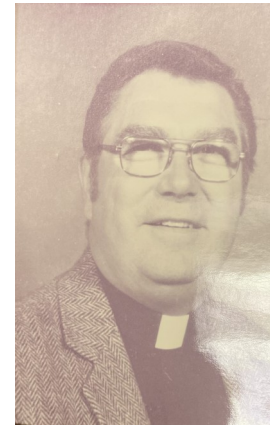
Reverend Dr. Roger Fink
1975-2006



Reverend Arthur Scherer
1978-1993 (deceased)



Reverend Vince Hammel
1984-1997

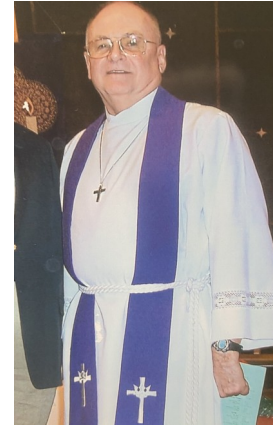


Reverend Gerald Reiter
1985-1990 (deceased)

Those Who Have Served



Reverend Jim Bredeson
1995-2003



Reverend Allen Behnke
2004-2007



Reverend Andrew Okai
2008-Present

*"Then I will give you shepherds after my own heart, who will lead you with
knowledge and understanding."
-Jeremiah 3:15*

The Stained Glass

CHRIST is the WAY and the LIGHT as well as the TRUTH and the LIFE! The illuminated cross whose rays reach out into infinity has been conceived abstractly, yet will be easily recognizable to all who seek and to all who have found the spiritual answer to man's existence through belief in Christ.

From the center Cross other crosses appear to emanate one after the other pervading not only this world. but also the universe. The blues and purples through the design not only attempt to convey the feeling of limitless space, but also the eternal mystery of the love of Christ and the workings of the Holy Spirit. The Red represents the ever-present God with us on earth (browns) and the yellow give an uplifting feeling and hope.





The windows tell a story about the life and work of Christ. Beginning on the organ side in the front we have the Nativity with Christ represented in the Christmas rose (red) and this leads us into His baptism (shell) with the sky opening up and the water flowing (blue). The coming of the Holy Spirit and His saving work among us is depicted by the dove (blue). This brings us into the Sacraments and God's gifts in field and vineyard that become gifts of Bread and Wine, Body and Blood - gifts of forgiveness, life and salvation for the Church. Yet, the great gift was that His Son came to die! Sometimes that was not clearly seen, but that purpose unfolded more and more as Christ lived and preached among men. The large rear window reminds us of the events of Maundy Thursday and Good Friday. Jesus committed Himself into the care and keeping of God. In a last Supper Christ gave us Himself, and upon a Cross He died for the sins of the world. On the Linden Avenue side, the windows then pick up the theme of resurrection and life and eternal life. This again is seen by the colors used and by the symbols interwoven. Christ conquers and Christ rules and Christ lives and reigns, one God forever. Christ is indeed King and this is the message in the crown and the cross which stands in relationship to the world.

Jean Jacques Duval, master designer of stained glass windows, was born in France and studied at Ecole Des Arts Decoratifs in Strasbourg and at the School of Sacred Arts in Paris before coming to the U.S. in 1950. Since then he has completed over two hundred commissions for churches, synagogues, and residences all over the U.S., including the windows in the Vatican Pavilion at the 1964 World's Fair in New York. Duval's designing is always assured and bold and well integrated with the architecture of the building. His credo is succinctly stated: "Integrity of design within the limits of the medium, Sensitive expression of a spiritual message in architectural terms, opportunity for creative drama, utilizing the idiom of our own culture and era."



Depending on the season, the sky outside shines through and tells a beautiful story with changing colors. Yet the message remains the same. Where there is God, there is light and beauty. There is hope.



*HOLY NATIVITY LUTHERAN
CHURCH THANKS YOU FOR
JOINING OUR 95TH
ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION!*



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