

July/August 2026



Volume 23, Issue 7

Parish Visitor

Belfield Lutheran Church · Daglum Lutheran Church · Medora Lutheran Church

From the Pastor

When I was the worship leader and preacher in the BDM Parish on the last Sunday of June, we read in the gospel of Matthew about Jesus encouraging us to "give a cup of cold water to one of these little ones," (Matthew 10:42) Jesus was encouraging hospitality and welcome. So we talked about what "cups of cold water" look like in terms of our hospitality and welcome today. Perhaps it looks like equality, freedom, equal pay, equal health care, non-judgment. Perhaps it looks like mercy, listening, care, compassion. Perhaps it looks like love. It can also look like the fruits of the Spirit. Here is a list: mercy, compassion, love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, and generosity.

As the dog-days of summer roll in and we experience the hotter days of the summer in July and August, we will be thinking a lot about cups of cold water. And as you do, I hope you also think about God's call to offer, not only a cup of cold water, but all of these other things to those around us. Try to receive someone who has wronged you with mercy. Try to welcome someone hurting with a listening ear. Receive someone who is struggling with generosity and grace. Share God's love with those around you.

After worshipping with your parish on the last Sunday in June, I read a devotion on the gospel reading for that day. It's called, Cup of Water, written by Pastor Steve Garnaas-Holmes. It, along with other devotions can be found on his website unfoldinglight.net. Here is what it said:

Cup of Water

You can be a flower by the side of the road.
You can be a fountain for whoever passes by.

You can be a lighthouse where the coast is uncertain.
You can be a handrail, a park bench, an umbrella.

You can be the voice that does not jeer,
that calms, encourages, or thanks.

"Whoever gives even a cup of cold water
to one of these little ones will not lose their reward." (Mt. 10:42)

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- Vacation Bible School
- Synod Wrap Up
- Pavilion Dinners
- Pancake Breakfast
- Women's Retreat
- Finding Confidence



Weather Report

The sky's the limit.
Led by favorable winds,
opportunities for grace will abound.
Though the world is partly cloudy,
expect to radiate warmth
and light.

Steve Garnaas-Holmes

Unfolding Light

www.unfoldinglight.net

Published June 25, 2026

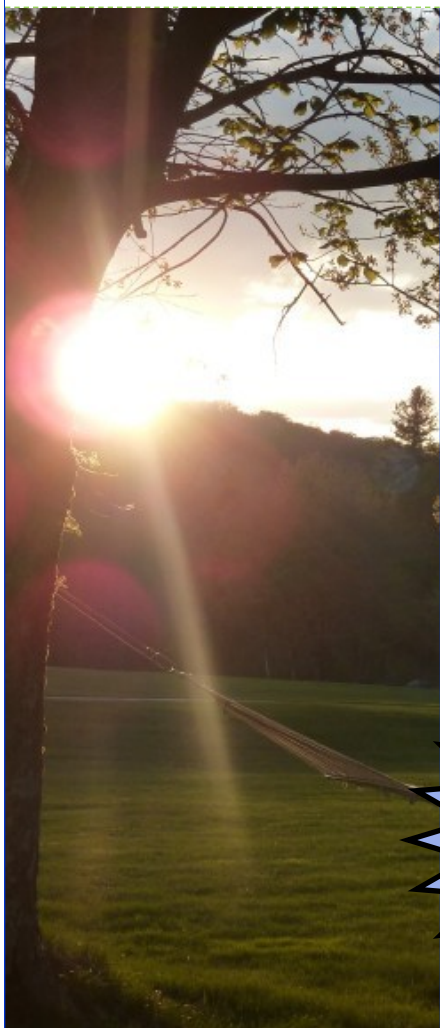
So, as the rest of the summer plays itself out, I hope you can see the opportunities before you to offer a cup of cold water in whatever way, shape, or form it is needed.

With Peace,

Pastor Mike Pretzer

This is the day the lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Psalms 118:24



Belfield Day Camp

July 20 - 23, 2026

Belfield Lutheran Church

Monday - Thursday | 10am - 3pm

Thursday | 2pm Closing Worship

**2026 VBS
at BLC \$20/child
Plus a Packed
Lunch**

Go to the BLC website for
registration and additional
information.

www.belfieldlutheranchurch.org

Finding Confidence through Transition

It's hard to remember that I am not alone. I have a support system of friends, family, and community, all just a call away. Sometimes people are busy and can't answer, and sometimes they don't know what to say to help you best in your situation. Why do we not rely on GOD more? Relying on the Lord is a hard concept to grasp. To rely on someone, especially someone who is almighty, someone who created the universe, someone who is limitless, you would think it would be easy. He is the best listener, the best motivator, the best comforter, our counselor, and the perfect Father, yet we still try to depend on worldly things to satisfy us. I've seen this pattern throughout my two decades on this earth. There are days when I feel so confident in my own ability that I don't even open my Bible in the morning. I go out, focus on the day, and try to handle everything on my own. Then I al-

bring. How I am currently learning to lean on our savior is to say yes to his challenges. Open your Bible before you open your day. If your phone is the first thing you open in the morning, your day will be consumed by what it offers. It doesn't have to be long; give him what you can. Lean into the "uncomfortable" as comfort is where the enemy lies, and God calls you to grow through adversity. For those who are going through changes, such as going to college or entering the workforce, or are new to a community, surround yourself with people who are seeking the Truth. Find your confidence in Christ!

Sincerely,

Dansyn Malkowski

*The flowers appear on the earth; the time of singing has come, and the voice of the turtledove is heard in our land.
Song of songs 2:12*

ways seem to come back at the end of the day with my tail between my legs, wondering what went wrong, while my Bible is still sitting unopened on my desk. It's in those moments when I realize where my priorities truly lie that day that I try to rely on myself more than I rely on the Lord. How do I change this? Matthew 6:33 says, "Seek first the Kingdom of God and his righteousness and all these things will be added to you." How can I give him more of myself? How do I make him my #1 priority? While perfection can only be attained by God's only son, who was sent down to model it, we can still strive to be more like him. Throughout Jesus' life, he shows us what true devotion looks like. First, he specifically sought time alone with himself and God. Then he found time for his inner circle. Then, in his community, he found God in other people and things. He pointed out what God has done in their lives and what a relationship with him could

Belfield Lutheran Altar Guild

Thank you to Sharon Braun and Doris Urban

for serving in June

Serving in July

Jean Franklin

Serving in August

Jenna Beck & Julie Newton

Anyone Can Join the Altar Guild!

See Jean Franklin for details.



**YOUR HELP IS NEEDED WITH
AUDIO & VIDEO
DURING WORSHIP AT BLC**

**No experience
Required and training is easy!**

**It's easier than running your smartphone!
Contact Darnyl Malkowski if you are interested.**





Nearly 300 members of the Western North Dakota Synod gathered in Watford City for the WND Synod Assembly May 29th – 31st. The theme for the 2026 WND Synod Assembly was based on Luke 10:1-9 and focused on “Walking Together.” As people of faith who call the congregations of this synod their faith home, we are called into relationship and sent into the world two by two. At this year’s assembly, we gathered for worship, holy conversation, and faithful decision making. We were invited to deepen our connections, strengthen our common life, and recommit ourselves to God’s mission of healing, hope, and peace in our congregations, communities, and across western North Dakota. Please visit [2026 WND Synod Assembly](#) for more information.

*As long as the earth endures, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night will never cease. **Genesis 8:22***



2026 WOMEN'S RETREAT

SEPTEMBER 11-13TH

BADLAND'S MINISTRIES

Contact Jean Franklin for more information or to RSVP
The cost is estimated to be \$100/person

"She is clothed with strength and dignity, and she laughs without fear of the future." Proverbs 31:25

Congratulations to Lisa Lewton, the new Synod Elect Bishop

The Rev. Lisa Lewton was elected as the new Western North Dakota Bishop on the 4th ballot of the 2026 Synod Assembly. Rev. Lewton has served at St. John's Lutheran Church in Dickinson for the past 19 years. Rev. Lewton and her husband, Marcus, have three children: Tom, Sam, and Karis. We give thanks for Rev. Lewton and the other candidates who were willing to allow their names to go forward in the election process at the assembly.

COMING

July 8th - BLC WELCA Pavilion Dinner

July 20-23rd - VBS at Belfield Lutheran Church

August 22nd - Belfield Lutheran Church Pancake Breakfast

August 26th - Parish Pavilion Dinner

October 19th - Blood Drive at Belfield Lutheran Church

Watch for news about Sunday School at BLC and Medora LC this fall!



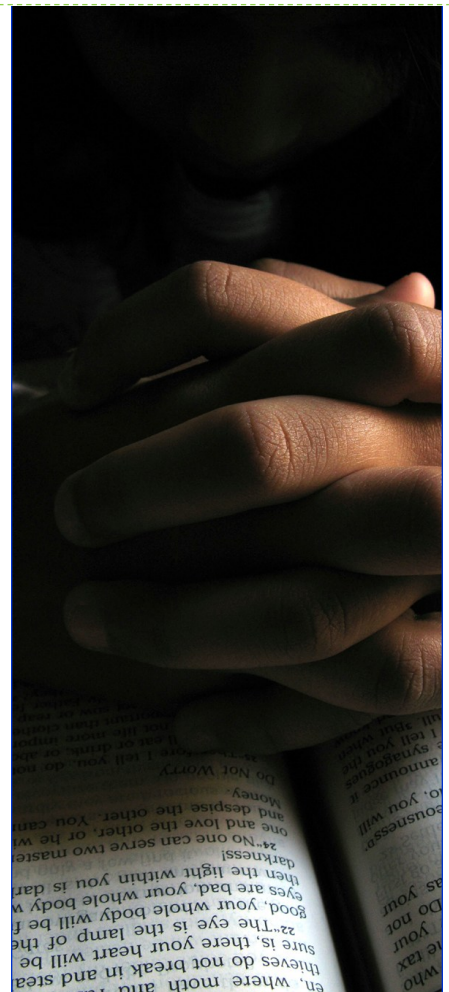
It was you who set all the boundaries of the earth; you made both summer and winter.
Psalm 74:17

In our ongoing prayers...

Remembering those in our prayers: Whitley Novak, Marley Novak, Danielle O'Brien, Lynn Peterson, Barbara Hurt, Joey Berger, Harold Hugelen, Donald Suomala, Kevin Kuntz, Diedra Hlibichuk, Sherri O'Brien, Rick Baxter, Kris Hastings, Bonnie Streitz, Robin Sandaker, Barb Newton, Sandy Simnioniw, Tom Adams, Rick Wolfgram, Randy Wolfgram, Emma Hlibichuk, Denise Tibbs, Christine Perrin, Shirley Olson, JoAnne Suomala, Mary Knotts, Dolores Roy, Cord Kessel, Halle Blain, Marilyn Oyhus, Craig McLaughlin, Lincoln Lee Johnson, Mindy O'Brien, Josephine Shypkoski-Thompson, those who have lost jobs, those seeking Sobriety, those struggling with infertility, all troops, their families, and those working for peace in our world.

Please help us keep this prayer list active.

To add a loved one to the prayer list for next month's issue, please fill out a prayer request slip during worship, making sure to indicate your desire to have the request published in the newsletter, and place it in the offering basket or email us at newsletter@belfieldlutheran.org



August 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 Worship 8:30 am – Medora 10:00 am – Belfield 11:45 am - Daglum	3 6:00 pm - Shared Ministry Meeting via Zoom	4 8:00 pm – AA Meeting @ Belfield Lutheran Church	5	6 7:00 pm – Bible Study @ Belfield Lutheran Church	7	8
9 Worship 8:30 am – Medora 10:00 am – Belfield	10	11 8:00 pm – AA Meeting @ Belfield Lutheran Church	12	13 7:00 pm – Bible Study @ Belfield Lutheran Church	14	15
16 Worship 8:30 am – Medora 10:00 am – Belfield 11:45 am - Daglum	17 6:30 pm – Belfield Council Meeting @ Belfield Lutheran	18 8:00 pm – AA Meeting @ Belfield Lutheran Church	19	20 7:00 pm – Bible Study @ Belfield Lutheran Church	21	22 8:00M—10:00am Belfield Lutheran Pancake Break- fast @ Belfield Lutheran
23 Worship 8:30 am – Medora 10:00 am – Belfield	24	25 8:00 pm – AA Meeting @ Belfield Lutheran Church	26 5:30pm — 7:00pm BDM Parish Pavillion Meal	27 7:00 pm – Bible Study @ Belfield Lutheran Church	28	29
30 Worship 8:30 am – Medora 10:00 am – Belfield 11:45 am - Daglum	31					



Meet Megan, our newly hired Office Assistant & Custodian!

Megan and her family moved to Belfield a year and a half ago from Georgia. Her and her husband, Tyler have 4 children. She also is a para at the Belfield Public School. In her free time, Megan enjoys spending time together as a family especially in the outdoors. She's a very talented baker and has become known as such with her bakery side business.

We are so happy to have her on staff! Please welcome her when you see her around.

Thank you to
Jeremy & Shirley Binstock
for sponsoring this edition of the
Parish Visitor
In Loving Memory of their Son,
Jordan Binstock

Newsletter sponsorship gifts of any size are welcome and help lower our publishing fee. Printing and mailing fees are around \$350 per issue.

Please send your newsletter sponsorship Contribution to:

Parish Visitor—Box 416, Belfield, ND 58622

You can also donate online:

[support | belfield-lutheran \(belfieldlutheran.org\)](mailto:support@belfield-lutheran.org)

Thank you for your generosity!

2026 Wednesday Night Pavilion Meals

5:30-7:00PM

Adults \$10.00

Children 6-12 \$5.00



June 10 th	Danielle O'Brien (Varsity Girls & Boys Basketball)
June 17 th	Belfield Auxiliary Legion
June 24 th	Catholic Daughters
July 1 st	
July 8 th	Belfield Lutheran Church WELCA
July 15 th	Belfield Baptist Church
July 22 nd	Ukrainian Culture Institute
July 29 th	WCAG
August 5 th	Sugar & Spice
August 12 th	Knights of Columbus
August 19 th	Kelli Kessel-BHS Close up
August 26 th	BDM Parish (BDM Lutheran Parish)
September 2 nd	Choice Bank—Appreciation Meal

Call 701-575-4235 ext. 2 to schedule

**Please join us Wednesday's
this summer at the Belfield
Pavilion Dinners!**

**Serving July 8th, 2026 will be
the Belfield Lutheran Church
WELCA**

**Serving August 26th, 2026
will be the BDM Lutheran
Parish**

**If you are able to help bring
salads or deserts, and are also
able to help at one or both of
the Pavilion meals, please
email us at**

newsletter@belfieldlutheran.org



JULY 2026



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2 7:00 pm – Bible Study @ Belfield Lutheran Church	3	4
5Worship 8:30 am – Medora 10:00 am – Belfield 11:45 am – Daglum	6 6:30 pm – Belfield Council Meeting @ Belfield Lutheran	7 8:00 pm – AA Meeting @ Belfield Lutheran Church	8 5:30pm —7:00pm Belfield WELCA Pavillion Meal	9 7:00 pm – Bible Study @ Belfield Lutheran Church	10	11
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BELFIELD LUTHERAN CHURCH

PANCAKE BREAKFAST



SATURDAY, AUGUST 22ND

FREE WILL OFFERING

Serving from 8:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

COME AND EAT BEFORE THE PARADE!

506 2nd Ave NE, Belfield, North Dakota

Belfield Lutheran Church
www.belfieldlutheran.org
Medora Lutheran Church
www.medoralutheranchurch.org
Dalum Lutheran Church

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July/August 2026

TO:

July 2026 Worship Schedule

5	8:30 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 11:45 a.m.	Medora Worship Belfield Worship Daglum Worship
12	8:30 a.m. 10:00 a.m.	Medora Worship Belfield Worship
19	8:30 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 11:45 a.m.	Medora Worship Belfield Worship Daglum Worship
26	8:30 a.m. 10:00 a.m.	Medora Worship Belfield Worship

August 2026 Worship Schedule

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9	8:30 a.m. 10:00 a.m.	Medora Worship Belfield Worship
16	8:30 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 11:45 a.m.	Medora Worship Belfield Worship Daglum Worship
23	8:30 a.m. 10:00 a.m.	Medora Worship Belfield Worship
30	8:30 a.m. 10:00 a.m.	Medora Worship Belfield Worship