

December 2025

Volume 22 Issue 12



Parish Visitor

Belfield Lutheran Church · Daglum Lutheran Church · Medora Lutheran Church

From the Pastor

The month of December begins with Advent's darkness and ends with Christmas' joy. One pastor wrote, "Oh, how badly our people want to skip Advent and get right to Christmas!" But Advent has its purpose. Advent is a 4 week period of preparation before Christmas. "The discipline of Advent is holding back, waiting, trusting, being patient—even being powerless. We experience our need for God to do for us what we can't do for ourselves. But it's not a desperate waiting. Hope isn't wishful thinking, it's trust in what is already present but unseen. It's a discipline of waiting in trust: surrendering, being still, listening. It's also simply naming our need, our incompleteness without God." (Pastor Steve Gar-naas Holmes)

As we all know, time goes by so fast! It won't seem like long and the season of Advent will be over and Christmas will be upon us. The Savior's birth is second in importance only to his resurrection on Easter Sunday. After our 4 relatively short weeks of waiting, Christmas comes and we pull out all the stops to celebrate. Christmas tells the story of Jesus as the long-awaited King who has finally come to save us. Jesus, God's Son, the King of heaven and earth, is born in Bethlehem – the Son of God is a baby lying in a manger. God never ceases to surprise us!

So, in between the beginning of Advent and the start of Christmas there is space. This space is a gift to you for you to use as you see fit. Sometimes waiting can be active, filled with activities that help pass the time and prepare your soul to receive Jesus once again at Christmas. Sometimes waiting is passive, a time of inactivity to prepare you soul to receive Jesus once again at Christmas. Your Advent time of waiting and preparation will be unique to you. Just know that **God is with you** in what ever way you wait and prepare.

At the Church we have a few things taking place during this time between the start of Advent and the beginning of Christmas. You will see more details in this newsletter in the following pages. You are welcome and invited to be a part of these activities. On a more serious note, there will be a Longest Night Service at Peace Lutheran on December 21st. This service allows space to grieve on the darkest night of the year, even when we are surrounded by holiday "joy". The service begins at 4:00 pm. All are welcome to attend.



SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- Confirmation
- Christmas Services
- St. Lucia Celebration
- Choir Worship
- Sunday School Program

"I hereby command you: Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go." Joshua 1:9

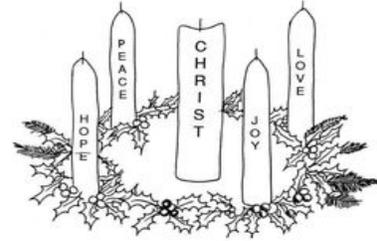


In December there is a emptiness and a longing. God is the one who fulfills our longing. The darkness of December is suddenly filled with the light of Christ who comes into the world to fulfill your deepest hope. Indeed, this is true joy.

May your Advent waiting and your Christmas celebration be filled with the awareness of God's presence.

With Peace,

Pastor Mike Pretzer




Belfield Lutheran Church is taking donations for Poinsettias. The suggested donation is \$25.00 and there is a signup sheet in the fellowship hall. Please write checks to Jean Franklin. Deadline is December 7th, 2025


*The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth. **Luke 1:14***



Shared Ministry Team

Belfield—Medora—Daglum Parish



Rebecca Kasian is serving as our Parish's SAM (Synod Authorized Minister). She has a full time chiropractic business alongside her husband caring for their 3 children. Rebecca is gracious to serve the 1st Sunday of the month & on 5th Sundays as needed.



Deacon Cheryl Lantz was recently ordained into Word & Service Ministry currently serving as the Chaplain for CHI St. Alexius Hospital. She assists our parish with visitation to those physically unable to join us in worship & leads worship on the 2nd Sunday of the month.



Pastor Dorothy Stein is currently taking a leave from call and teaching at the Middle School in Dickinson. She recently served as the Pastor in the Killdeer area. Pastor Dorothy joins us on the 3rd Sunday of the month leading worship & preaching.



Currently serving his 8th year with Peace Lutheran Church in Dickinson & St John's in Richardton. Prior to his current call, Pastor Mike served 21 years in northern ND. Pastor Mike is our emergency contact for pastoral care and point of contact for baptisms, weddings, or funerals. He leads worship for our Parish on the 4th Sunday of the month.





2025 Confirmation at Belfield Lutheran Church

Congratulations to Kaleb Eugene Romanyshyn



Kaleb Eugene Romanyshyn was born August 4, 2011 in Dickinson, ND. John & Jerica Romanyshyn are his parents. Kaleb was baptized October 2, 2011 at Belfield Lutheran Church, Belfield, ND. His baptismal sponsors are Michael & Kayla Romanyshyn Jenna Freidt, and Andrew Skurupey.

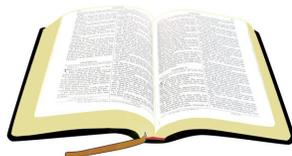
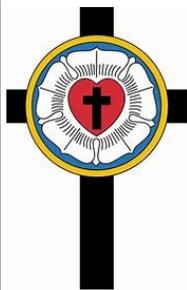
Kaleb's favorite Bible verse is Joshua 1:9
"I hereby command you: Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go."

Noah is his favorite person and Noah's Ark is his favorite story in the Bible.

Kaleb's favorite hymn is "Jesus Loves Me".

Kaleb's Faith Statement

God helps me when I need him the most. He helps me through when times are tough. He also helps bring us closer together no matter if you are friends, family, cousins or everyone in the community, because without God none of us would know each other. I also think that when we spend less time worrying about phones and more of what is around us, we get to see what we have been missing out on, like meeting new people, seeing things we haven't seen before and spending more time with the ones we love most in our life. There will be a day when they will no longer be with you to talk to. There are also times when you have some good days and some bad days but no matter what, you will still have God in your life. I think a few ways my faith will continue to grow will be to help people find God in their life or to find more ways to help in the church and the community.





Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. Luke-2:11

Christmas Eve WORSHIP SERVICES

Daglum Lutheran Church

December 21st at 11:45 a.m.

Medora Lutheran Church

December 24th at 4:30 p.m.

Belfield Lutheran church

December 24th at 5:00 p.m.



December 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
		8:00 pm – AA Meeting @ Belfield Lutheran	3:30 pm Wednesday School @ Medora Lutheran 5:30 pm - Confirmation @ Belfield Lutheran 7:15 pm—Choir Practice @	7:00 pm – Bible Study @ Belfield Lutheran		1:00 pm—Badlands Ministries Camp Christmas @ Badlands Ministries Bible Camp
7 Worship 8:30 am – Medora 10:00 am – Belfield 11:45 am - Daglum 2:00 pm – Bible Study @	8	8:00 pm – AA Meeting @ Belfield Lutheran	10 3:30 pm Wednesday School @ Medora Lutheran 5:30 pm - Confirmation @ Belfield Lutheran 7:15 pm—Choir Practice @	11 7:00 pm – Bible Study @ Belfield Lutheran	12	13
14 Worship 8:30 am – Medora 10:00 am – Belfield with Choir Presentation & St Lucia Celebration 2:00 pm – Bible Study @ Dwelle's	15	8:00 pm – AA Meeting @ Belfield Lutheran	17 5:30 pm Wednesday School Christmas Program & Soup Supper @ Medora Lutheran 5:30 pm - Confirmation @ Belfield Lutheran	18 7:00 pm – Bible Study @ Belfield Lutheran	19	20
21 Worship 8:30 am – Medora 10:00 am – Belfield 11:45 am - Daglum Christmas Eve Service 2:00 pm – Bible Study @ Dwelle's 4:00 pm - Longest Night Service @ Peace Lutheran, Dickinson ND	22	8:00 pm – AA Meeting @ Belfield Lutheran	24 Christmas Eve Worship 4:30 pm - Medora Lutheran 5:00 pm - Belfield Lutheran	25 Merry Christmas	26	27
28 Worship 8:30 am – Medora 10:00 am – Belfield 2:00 pm – Bible Study @ Dwelle's	29	8:00 pm – AA Meeting @ Belfield Lutheran	31 Happy New Year	 <p>Tess Mylnar will be celebrating her First Communion in December. The exact date is unknown at this time, but please watch the bulletins for updates.</p>		



Join us for the
2025 Wednesday School Children's
Christmas Program

MEDORA LUTHERAN CHURCH

Wednesday, December 17th
at 5:30 p.m.

Soup Supper to Follow

Merry Christmas

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Isaiah 9:6



PLEASE JOIN US FOR A

*Santa Lucia Celebration
& Choir Worship*

December

14

10:00 a.m.

**BELFIELD
LUTHERAN CHURCH**

*We can't wait to see you!
Please join us for coffee &
cookies after worship.*



In Memory of....



Joseph "Joe" Lee Treib of Belfield, North Dakota, passed away on November 5, 2025, at the age of 69. Born on August 21, 1956, Joe was a man of quiet strength, deep loyalty, and a steadfast western spirit that defined both his life and his character. Joe's Celebration of Life Service was held Saturday, November 15, 2025 at Belfield Lutheran Church, Belfield, with Rev. Mike Pretzer as officiant. Inurnment took place at Greenhill Cemetery, Lemmon, SD.



Jason "Petey" Allen Bird was called home by The Lord on Thursday, October 30, 2025. Jason's Celebration of Life Service was held Thursday, November 6, 2025 at Ladbury Funeral Service, Dickinson with Pastor David Jenkins as officiant. Military Honors will be provided by the Dickinson American Legion Post 3 Honor Guard. Interment will take place at the North Dakota Veterans Cemetery, Mandan. Visitation will be one hour prior to the service.

*"And the angel answered her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, an the power of he Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God." **Luke 1:35***

In our ongoing prayers...

Remembering those in our prayers:

Barbara Hurt, Harold Hugelien, Donald Suomala, Joey Berger, Kevin Kuntz, Diedra Hlibichuk, Sherri O'Brien, Rick Baxter, Kris Hastings, Bonnie Streitz, Debbie Baca, Robin Sandaker, Barb Newton, Sandy Simnioniw, Tom Adams, Rick Wolfram, Randy Wolfram, Emma Hlibichuk, Denise Tibbs, Christine Perrin, Duane Tessier, Shirley Olson, Gerry Suomala, JoAnne Suomala, Mary Knotts, Dolores Roy, Cord Kessel, Halle Blain, Marilyn Oyhus, Craig McLaughlin, Lincoln Lee Johnson, Mindy O'Brien, Josephine Shypkoski-Thompson

Please continue to pray for those who have lost their jobs, those with mental illness, those seeking Sobriety, those struggling with infertility, all troops and their families & 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

Belfield Lutheran Altar Guild

**Thank you to Shelly Haugtvedt and Shanae Gawryluk
for Serving in November**

Serving in December Amanda & Rubi Johnson

Anyone Can Join the Altar Guild! See Jean Franklin for details.



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

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 December 2025

TO:

December 2025 Worship Schedule

7	8:30 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 11:45 a.m.	Medora Worship Belfield Worship Daglum Worship
14	8:30 a.m. 10:00 a.m.	Medora Worship Belfield Worship
21	8:30 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 11:45 a.m. 4:00 p.m.	Medora Worship Belfield Worship Daglum Christmas Eve Worship Longest Night Service Peace Lutheran Church
24	4:30 p.m. 5:00 p.m.	Medora Christmas Eve Worship Belfield Christmas Eve Worship
28	8:30 a.m. 10:00 a.m.	Medora Worship Belfield Worship First Communion Celebration

If you can't join us in person, please join us online. You can find us on the Medora Lutheran or Belfield Lutheran Facebook Pages.

Merry Christmas

Sponsorship Matters

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

Thank you for your generosity!

