

December 2020



Volume 20, Issue 8

Parish Visitor

Belfield Lutheran Church • Daglum Lutheran Church • Medora Lutheran Church

FROM THE PASTOR

The weeks leading up to Christmas are a time of waiting. We have done so much waiting this year for a people who prefer instant gratification. Many have waited to get married or celebrate milestones or gather for funerals. Others have waited to enjoy the originally planned honeymoon or vacation. Some families have even waited to gather together for special occasions, in an effort to keep one another safe and healthy. Many worshipping communities in the country have not met together since March. Waiting is hard! It's certainly not fun to sit isolated...

I waited about a month longer than I might have pre-pandemic to meet the people of this parish. And, I am still waiting to be able to do some of the things in ministry that we might enjoy, like meals or fellowship time together in person. I hope that you are finding ways to create fellowship among those around you, or even family members across the country. As we wait together for this medical crisis to subside, remember that you are never alone. A promise from Paul in the letter to the Romans 8:38-39: "For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord."

Romans 8:18 I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. 19 For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; 20 for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope 21 that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. 22 We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains

If you would like to sign up to serve during worship in Belfield, please follow this link to sign up: <https://www.signupgenius.com/> Acolyte, Singing, Scripture Reading



SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- Food Pantry Christmas Box Distribution
- Longest Night/Blue Christmas Service
- Christmas Eve & Christmas Day Services
- Upcoming Meetings



until now; **23** and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. **24** For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes[p] for what is seen? **25** But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

Creation has been waiting for a very long time to be restored. Let us wait together with patience - not idle, but actively waiting with patience. We often use advent calendars and advent wreaths as countdown timers, building excitement with more calendar windows open, more delicious chocolate (if you have that kind), and more light with a new candle lit each week as we approach our Christmas celebrations. But they are more than countdown timers. They keep us active while we wait. The daily calendars give us something to do each day, and the advent wreaths add a bit more light to our space with each passing

A promise from Paul in the letter to the Romans 8:38-39: "For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord."

Belfield Lutheran Altar Guild

*Our thanks to Paulette
Dorval and Marina Redig
for serving in November*

*Serving in December:
Carmen Waldo and
Sue Willet*

*Join the Altar Guild!
See Jean Franklin for
details.*



week. We wait in patient anticipation of the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. Not simply the coming of the baby to a manger, but the healing of all creation in Christ's return.

In this part of the world, we wait with dormant branches and hibernating animals. We wait for the arrival of our Messiah who promises to bring peace on Earth. Peace be with you all in this time.

+Pastor Dawn





*Congratulations
Skye and Corey*



Skye and Corey Hutzenbeler were married on Friday, October 23rd at Belfield Lutheran Church. Please pray for them as they begin their married life together.



Congratulations

Ellie Lynn Redig And Dawsyn Philip Malkowski
Affirmed their Baptism's on Reformation Sunday
October 25th, 2020 at Belfield Lutheran Church
Please pray for their continued spiritual growth!



Sponsorship Matters!

The Parish Visitor is made possible by the generous financial contributions of monthly sponsors and those of you who send gifts as you are able.

Newsletter sponsorship gifts of any size are welcome and help lower our publishing fee.

Please send your newsletter sponsorship Contribution to:

Parish Visitor
Box 416
Belfield, ND 58622

Thank you in advance for your generosity!



18th Annual Parish Extravaganza

The 18th Annual Parish Extravaganza is scheduled for February 28, 2021.

We are not sure what the event will look like yet but at this time we are planning to do something. If you are willing to help this year or have a suggestion please email or call.

If you have questions, donations, or can help please call: Tami 701-290-4107
or email: telefson71@ndsupernet.com

UPCOMING MEETINGS

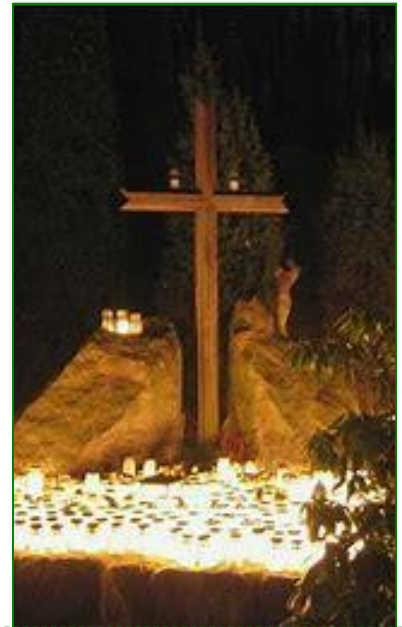
- Belfield Council Meeting 12/14/20
- Parish Council meeting in Belfield at 2pm 1/10/21
- Daglum Annual meeting 1/18/21
- Belfield Annual meeting 1/24/21
- Medora Annual meeting 1/31/21

In our ongoing prayers...

The Family of Ryan Rogina · Malinda, Rayshea & Alexis · Leo Heinrich
Lori Heinrich · Chunks Frits · Dale Ott · Rose Wanner · John Wagner · Daryl Potter
Rhaynon Urban · Chandler Nichols · Kim Duenow · Sharleen Stigen · Marilyn Oyhus
Barbara Hurt · Bennette Mansfield · Mark Trechok · Mindy O'Brien and family
Matthew Elefson · Janeen Nichols · Rose Marie Andreas
Lori Weisenberger and Family · Paulette Dorval and the Family of June Haugrud
All those with Covid 19 illness and exposure · St. Benedict's, Evergreen and all
nursing homes and assisted living facilities

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 belfieldlutheran@gmail.com



"After listening to the king, they went on their way. And behold, the star that they had seen when it rose went before them until it came to rest over the place where the child was." - Matthew 2:9

Christmas Eve Worship Schedule

MEDORA · 4:30 PM

(AT THIS TIME OUR LIMIT WILL BE 20 PEOPLE IN THE SANCTUARY WITH MASKS REQUIRED AND A POTENTIAL FOR OVERFLOW TO THE BASEMENT)

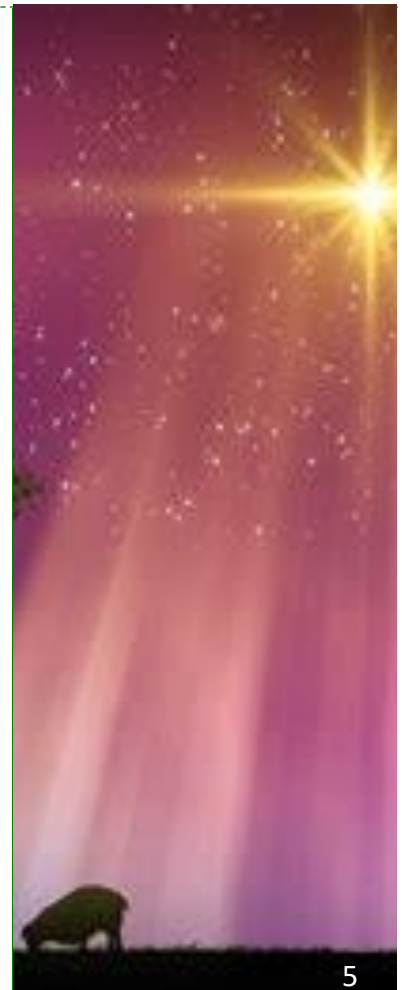
BELFIELD · 7:00 PM & 9:00 PM

10:00 AM CHRISTMAS DAY

(AT THIS TIME OUR LIMIT IS 40 PEOPLE IN THE SANCTUARY WITH MASKS REQUIRED AND OVERFLOW TO THE FELLOWSHIP HALL OF 15-20 DEPENDING ON FAMILY SIZES)

ALL SERVICES WILL BE LIVE STREAMED AND POSTED FOR VIEWING AT YOUR CONVENIENCE.

***SUBJECT TO CHANGE – PLEASE CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE OR CHECK THE WEBSITES OR FACEBOOK PAGES FOR UP TO DATE INFORMATION**



December 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 8:00 PM-AA Meets @ Belfield Lutheran	2 5:30 PM-Belfield Confirmation	3 7:00 PM – Bible Study @Belfield Lutheran. The first 1/3 of the movie "The Chosen" Everyone Welcome	4 8:00 PM-AA Open Meeting at Medora Lutheran Church	5
6 COMMUNION WORSHIP 8:30 AM-Medora 9:15 AM-Belfield SS 10:00 AM-Belfield 11:45 AM-Daglum 6:30 PM-Acts Bible Study @ Dwelle's - RSVP	7	8 8:00 PM-AA Meets @ Belfield Lutheran	9 5:30 PM-Belfield Confirmation	10 7:00 PM – Bible Study @Belfield Lutheran The second 1/3 of the movie "The Chosen" Everyone Welcome	11 8:00 PM-AA Open Meeting at Medora Lutheran Church	12
13 WORSHIP 8:30 AM-Medora 9:15 AM-Belfield SS 10:00 AM-Belfield 6:30 PM-Acts Bible Study @ Dwelle's - RSVP	14 6:00 PM-Belfield Council Meets	15 8:00 PM-AA Meets @ Belfield Lutheran	16 5:30 PM-Belfield Confirmation	17 Food Pantry Christmas Box distribution in Belfield 7:00 PM – Bible Study @Belfield Lutheran The third 1/3 of the movie – "The Chosen" Everyone Welcome	18 8:00 PM-AA Open Meeting at Medora Lutheran Church	19
20 WORSHIP 8:30 AM-Medora 9:15 AM-Belfield SS 10:00 AM-Belfield 11:45 AM Daglum 6:30 PM-Acts Bible Study @ Dwelle's - RSVP	21 7:00 PM-Longest Night/ Blue Christmas Service- Online Only	22 8:00 PM AA Meets @ Belfield Lutheran	23 No Confirmation	24 Christmas Eve please see announcement in the Newsletter for times and places for Christmas Church Services.	25 Christmas Day 8:00 PM-AA Open Meeting at Medora Lutheran Church	26
27 WORSHIP 8:30 AM-Medora 10:00 AM-Belfield 6:30 PM-Acts Bible Study @ Dwelle's - RSVP	28	29 8:00 PM-AA Meets @ Belfield Lutheran	30 No Confirmation	31 New Year's Eve		



Gospel Seeds

WESTERN NORTH DAKOTA SYNOD

WNDSYNOD.ORG

DECEMBER 2020

A MESSAGE FROM BISHOP CRAIG SCHWEITZER

"Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing." 1 Thessalonians 5:11

This affirmation from the Apostle Paul was part of worship recently. It was something that has stuck with me in ways I did not expect. And in ways that one verse of scripture heard during a worship service rarely does. Encourage one another. Really? Build up each other. Huh? As indeed you are doing. Wait a minute Paul, seriously?? Have you seen social media lately? Have you heard the news or read a newspaper? Encourage? Build up?

I was a bit confused and more than a little challenged by Paul's affirmation. Whenever this happens, it often sends me into a time of silence. A time sitting in stillness with these sacred words. So that's what I did. And in the stillness my eyes were once again opened to the many ways and places we are indeed encouraging one another and building each other up during a year that is unlike any other in our lifetime.

We are gathering in community for worship – either in-person or online. We are praying for one another through email, text messages and phone calls. We are feeding one another through sacraments or a delivered meal. We are crying with one another as the effects of COVID-19 impact every facet of our life. We are encouraging one another when many of us are just plain exhausted from yet another Zoom meeting. We are building each other up so the good news of Jesus can be shared with every child of God placed before us.

Sisters and brothers in Christ of the Western North Dakota Synod – you indeed are doing these things. I've already witnessed it in my short time serving as your Bishop. In this season of thanksgiving, I simply want to say...thank you! AND – let's keep going. Let's keep encouraging and building and praying and serving and loving because that is what God is calling us to do as followers of the risen Savior Jesus.

Happy Thanksgiving and blessed Advent be with you. And may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you always.

Bishop Craig Schweitzer



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

Belfield Lutheran Church
Daglum Lutheran Church
Medora Lutheran Church

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December 2020

TO:



December 2020 Worship Schedule

6	8:30 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 11:45 a.m.	Medora Worship Belfield Worship Daglum Worship
13	8:30 a.m. 10:00 a.m.	Medora Worship Belfield Worship
20	8:30 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 11:45 a.m.	Medora Worship Belfield Worship Daglum Worship
24	4:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 9:00 p.m.	Medora Worship Belfield Worship Belfield Worship
25	10:00 a.m.	Belfield Worship
27	8:30 a.m. 10:00 a.m.	Medora Worship Belfield Worship



**THERE WILL BE A LONGEST NIGHT/
BLUE CHRISTMAS SERVICE ON
DECEMBER 21ST AT 7:00 PM
PLEASE JOIN US ONLINE ONLY**