

October 2026

Volume 22, Issue 10

Parish Visitor

Belfield Lutheran Church · Daglum Lutheran Church · Medora Lutheran Church

Afraid

by [Jerry Ousley](#)

Have you ever been afraid? What a stupidly dumb question; of course you have. We all have. It's an emotion that comes to all of us when we are unsure of the outcome of the situation in which we have found ourselves. To clarify, there are some situations where being afraid can be a good thing. For instance, being afraid to touch the burner of a hot stove is good. If we touch it, we are going to get burned. Being afraid of a wild animal that is about to attack is a good thing because if it attacks us, we could be seriously or even fatally hurt. There are some things where being afraid is good.

Then there are times when our fear is unsubstantiated and even detrimental to our situation and sometimes even our lives. Timothy found himself in just such a pickle. He was serving as a pastor over the church at Ephesus, but because of his young age, he was experiencing fear. It wasn't fear of someone wanting to take his life, or fear that the congregation was going to thrust him out. He felt unsure of his authority and because a good deal of the people he was serving were either older than he, or perhaps had more education, he feared that he was inadequate and unqualified to be in charge of those who were his elders by age. The imprisoned Apostle had spoken of this in his first letter to Timothy but somehow he knew that it was still a problem for him. In [2 Timothy 1:7](#), Paul wrote, "For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind."

I've felt like that. I know, at one time or another, we all have. Perhaps not in the same situation of being over people, but we have all experienced the dread of feeling inadequate. It is an insecurity. In many cases, it may be simply a fleeting emotion. It passes and we continue on. But in other cases it could be nearly a sickness.

But aren't we told to fear God? Is that unhealthy? Not so, because in this instance, the word fear, refers to respect. Yes, we should have a very healthy respect for God. He may be our friend and He may be our Father, but as a holy and righteous God He demands respect. We should feel a sense of awe when we feel His presence with us. However, if you don't know God as Father then perhaps you have a good reason to be afraid.

Eighty-one times in the Bible we are told not to fear. Most were spoken by angels who had come to people for one reason or another. Their presence caused those who had been exposed to them to feel insecurity and unsure of what to expect. Before we pass judgement on those who have had this experience, stop and think, how would we feel? I think there would be a healthy sense of "what's going to happen next?"

Fear is one of the negative emotions in most cases. These negative emotions, when allowed to run rampant in our lives, can eventually cause physical results. That's why it is so important to see what the Bible has to say about this form of fear. First, Jesus said in [John 14:1](#), "Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me." He was telling us that instead of being troubled in our hearts, or being afraid, we can believe in Him just like we believe in God. Believing in Him can help us chase unhealthy fear from our lives.

[1 John 4:18](#) tells us, "There is no fear in love; but perfect love casts out fear, because fear involved torment. But he who fears has not been made perfect in love." John wrote a lot about love. He tells us that perfect love, but wait a minute ... how can we have perfect love? We are far from perfect and following the same reasoning, how can imperfect people love perfectly? The answer is, of course, we can't. There can only be one way – through Christ in us. When we allow Him to lead us then the love that flows from us, com-



SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- Welca Fall Supper
- LYO
- Confirmation Save the Date
- Women's Retreat

Join us for the 2025 BLE Fall Supper October 5th, 4:30-7:00 PM



ing from Christ, can be a perfect love. This perfect love expels fear and the torment that haunts us in that fear.

This chain of thought would be incomplete without seeing what our fear can be replaced with. Paul said that we aren't given the spirit (influence) of fear, but of power, love and a sound mind. Who wouldn't want power, love and a sound mind instead of fear? But once again, those qualities can only come through Christ. In Him we have the power we need, maybe not to work miracles but certainly power to overcome being afraid. Once again, love is to be a trait in us rather than being fear. Finally, a sound mind. The ability to think clearly; to reason correctly one hundred percent of the time – a mind that is free of the clutter that the devil throws in our direction. Wouldn't it be grand? But again, as in all of these things, only Christ can give us perfect power, perfect love, and perfect soundness of mind.

As always, we can only come to one conclusion. To overcome our fear, to calm our panic, our terror, our dread of what goes bump in the night, to chase away our tendency to be afraid – we must have Christ. We are compelled to know Him as our Savior.

Overcome your fear. But do it the right way. Do it by accepting Jesus as your Savior. Only He can completely and entirely help you to overcome your fear. It could come instantly, or it could take the rest of your life. But in Christ, you don't be afraid!

Jerry D. Ousley is the author of "Soul Challenge", "Soul Journey", "Ordeal", "The Spirit Bread Daily Devotional" and his first novel "The Shoe Tree." Newer books include "Finality" and "Dividing God's Church." Visit our website at spiritbread.com to download these and more completely free of charge
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I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed to us. Romans 8:18

confirmation

Jett Oe
Landon Curun
Ivan Froehlich
Kaylee Froehlich
Irelynn Ross

Join us as we celebrate with
these students as they affirm
their baptism at
Belfield Lutheran Church.
October 11th, 2026

Belfield Lutheran Church

FALL SUPPER

Serving Swedish Meatballs, Mashed
Potatoes, Coleslaw, Lefse and Desserts

SUNDAY	4	OCTOBER
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SERVING 4:30 - 7:00 PM

St. Bernard's Parish Center
3rd Ave NE-Belfield, ND

In Loving Memory



Pamela Jo Koester, 61, passed away peacefully on Tuesday, September 22, 2026, surrounded by the love of her family. Pam's Celebration of Life Service was held Wednesday, September 30, 2026 at the Medora Community Center, Medora with Rebecca Kasian presiding.

Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord, and let Your perpetual light shine upon her. May her soul and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace.



2026 Backpack Blessings at Medora Lutheran and Belfield Lutheran Church

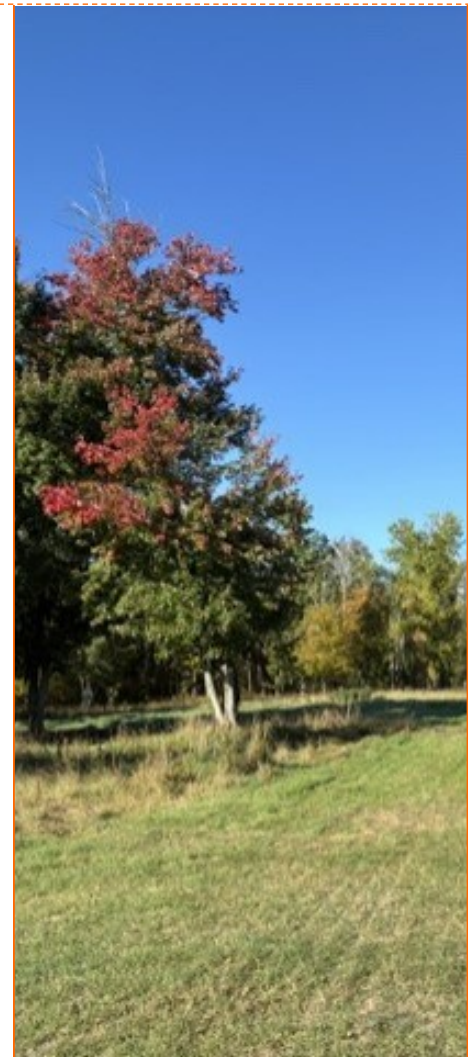


I can do all this through him who gives me strength. Philippians 4:13

In our ongoing prayers...

Remembering those in our prayers: The Family of Pam Koester, Daryl Potter, Milo Thompson, Doris Urban, Darianne Johnson, Nathan Nichols, Sandy Frenzel, Danielle O'Brien, Lynn Peterson, Barbara Hurt, Joey Berger, Harold Hugelen, Denise Tibbs, Donald Suomala, JoAnne Suomala, Kevin Kuntz, Kris Hastings, Diedra Hlibichuk, Sherri O'Brien, Rick Baxter, Bonnie Streitz, Robin Sandaker, Sandy Simnioniw, Tom Adams, Rick Wolfgram, Randy Wolfgram, Mary Knotts, Emma Hlibichuk, Christine Perrin, Dolores Roy, Cord Kessel, 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 including PFC Cole Potter, and their families & those working for peace in our world.



St. Bernard's Catholic Church
in Belfield is hosting their Fall Bazaar on
Sunday, October 11 at their Parish Center
3rd Ave NE, Belfield ND

A roast beef and chicken dinner will be served from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

A free will offering will be taken.

A Country Store will be open at 11:30 a.m.

There will be children's games, a cakewalk, and a candy wheel
from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. and bingo from 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.

The day will conclude with the raffle drawing at 4:00 p.m.



2026 LYO – OCTOBER

In Mandan, ND October 16-18th, 2026

Middle School
October 16-17

High School
October 17-18

building your faith
1 Corinthians 3:11

DON'T MISS LYO 2026

Middle School: October 16-17
High School: October 17-18

Baymont Mandan • 2611 Old Red Trail • Mandan, ND

*But be sure to fear the Lord and serve him faithfully with all your heart; consider what great things he has done for you.
1 Samuel 12:24*



My heart has heard you say, "Come and talk to me." And my heart responds, "Lord, I am coming."
~ Psalm 27:8

BLC Women's Retreat
Rescheduled to Saturday, November 14th, 2026

Enjoy a Bible Study, Music, Crafts, Good Food, Fun and Fellowship

Registration, coffee and rolls 9:00 a.m.

Lunch will be provided.
The retreat will run until about 3:00 pm

Belfield Lutheran Altar Guild

Thank you to Carmen Waldo and Anna Ross for serving in September.
Serving in October Wendy Baumgarten and Shelly Dukart
Anyone Can Join the Altar Guild! See Jean Franklin for details.

October 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 7:00 pm - Bible Study @ Belfield Lutheran	2	3
4 Worship 8:30 am - Medora 10:00 am - Belfield 11:45 am - Daglum 4:30 pm - Belfield Fall Supper @ St Bernard's Parish Center	5	6 8:00 pm - AA Meeting @ Belfield Lutheran	7 3:30 pm - Wednesday School @ Medora Lutheran 5:30 pm - Confirmation @ Belfield Lutheran 7:00 - Choir Practice @ Belfield Lutheran	8 7:00 pm - Bible Study @ Belfield Lutheran	9	10
11 Worship 8:30 am - Medora 10:00 am - Belfield	12	13 8:00 pm - AA Meeting @ Belfield Lutheran	14 3:30 pm - Wednesday School @ Medora Lutheran 5:30 pm - Confirmation @ Belfield Lutheran 7:00 - Choir Practice @ Belfield Lutheran	15 7:00 pm - Bible Study @ Belfield Lutheran	16 LYO (JH) in Mandan	17 LYO (JH) in Mandan LYO (HS) in Mandan
18 Worship LYO (HS) in Mandan 8:30 am - Medora 10:00 am - Belfield 11:45 am - Daglum	19 6:30 pm - Belfield Council Meeting @ Belfield Lutheran	20 8:00 pm - AA Meeting @ Belfield Lutheran	21 3:30 pm - Wednesday School @ Medora Lutheran 5:30 pm - Confirmation @ Belfield Lutheran 7:00 - Choir Practice @ Belfield Lutheran	22 7:00 pm - Bible Study @ Belfield Lutheran	23	24
25 Worship 8:30 am - Medora 10:00 am - Belfield	26	27 8:00 pm - AA Meeting @ Belfield Lutheran	28 3:30 pm - Wednesday School @ Medora Lutheran 5:30 pm - Confirmation @ Belfield Lutheran 7:00 - Choir Practice @ Belfield Lutheran	29 7:00 pm - Bible Study @ Belfield Lutheran	30	31

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

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Parish Visitor

October 2026

TO:

October 2026 Worship Schedule

4	8:30 a.m.	Medora Worship
	10:00 a.m.	Belfield Worship
	11:45 a.m.	Daglum Worship
11	8:30 a.m.	Medora Worship
	10:00 a.m.	Belfield Worship
18	8:30 a.m.	Medora Worship
	10:00 a.m.	Belfield Worship
	11:45 a.m.	Daglum Worship
25	8:30 a.m.	Medora Worship
	10:00 a.m.	Belfield Worship

**Thank you to
Jodie Lindley**
for sponsoring this edition
of the Parish Visitor

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