

From the Pastor

Dear Church,

³Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴ I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, ⁵ for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind—⁶ just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you—⁷ so that you are not lacking in any gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. (1 Corinthians 1:3-7)

Thank you all for sending me off with so much love and care. Thank you for your many cards and gifts and well wishes. The Belfield picture was so thoughtful and will be a great reminder of my time with you. Thank you to Peggy at JP Frameshop for donating the frame on behalf of Daglum. Thank you to so many from Medora who shared personal gifts. ⁴ I give thanks to my God always for you.

I am thankful for those of you who are contributing to worship and who are committed to continuing your service to God! I am thankful for those who are continuing service to our young people in Sunday School and Confirmation. Please hold one another in prayer through this transition. I pray that your new pastor will arrive soon with just the right gifts to move you into the next chapter of your witness to Christ. Peace be with you always!

+ Pastor Dawn Busch



SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- Parish Extravaganza
- Giving Hearts Day
- February Youth Night
- February Calendar
- Newsletter Sponsorships
- Photos of Pastor Dawn's last service with the Parish





Belfield Lutheran Altar Guild Thank you to Doris Urban and Heidi Kukowski for serving in January Serving in February Linda Weiss and Sherri O'Brien Anyone Can Join the Altar Guild! See Jean Franklin for details.

"The Lord says, "I will guide you along the best pathway for your life. I will advise you and watch over you." - Deuteronomy 31:8



a Sermon by Parosyn Malkroski

January 12, 2025

Change is a word that we are all scared of and seek to avoid, even though we've all experienced some degree of it, whether it is something small like the bipolar weather of North Dakota or something life-altering like losing someone special. Change has been a prominent theme this past year for me, from graduating, losing some important people, stepping up to a prominent leadership role, to diving into a college lifestyle.

Everyone knows that college is designated to be a time of change. One of the most significant changes that comes with college is the fact that we have no parents around. Without the close watch of our parents, we are forced to rely on ourselves for the tasks we may have relied on them for: finances, cooking, cleaning, buying us clothes, and we have to learn how to balance that with designating time between academic and extracurricular activities. Or other changes, such as living with some random person you've never met. In this new atmosphere, facing these challenges, we can look for the opportunities God has put in front of us, whether it's trying out a club or even eating next to someone random at the dining center. And we make those everyday decisions that build up and



"For our present troubles are small and won't last very long. Yet they produce for us a glory that vastly outweighs them and will last forever!" -**Peter 1:6-7**

In our ongoing prayers...

Remembering those in our prayers: Steve & Denise Cowan, Sandy Simnioniw, Rick Wolfgram, Kim Shade, Emma Hlibichuk, Bert Salo, Christine Perrin, Denise Tibbs, Tom Adams, Randy Wolfgram, Duane Tessier, Shirley Olson, Gerry Suomala, Mary Knotts, JoAnne Suomala, Delores Roy, Cord Kessel, Halle Blain, Marilyn Oyhus, Mark Trechock, Craig McLaughlin, Johnny Syminow, Mindy O'Brien, Lincoln Lee Johnson, Josephine Shypkoski-Thompson

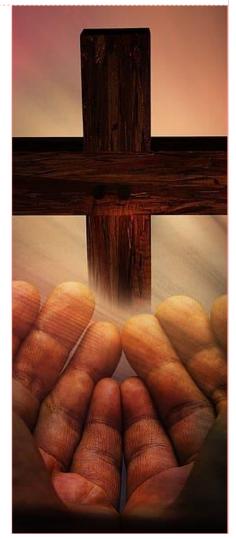
Please continue to pray for those who have lost their jobs, those with mental illness, those seeking Sobriety, those struggling with infertility, all troops & those working for peace in our world.

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

We are looking for...

Do you enjoy writing? If so, the Parish Visitor is looking for articles from you! As we wait for a new Pastor, the PV would like to publish your faith statements or special articles to fill the space previously written by the Pastor. If you are interested, you can email the PV at newsletter@belfieldlutheran.org. The editor's will review and publish as needed. The articles can be anonymous.



			February			2025
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Worship23Parish Extravaganza23@ St Bernard Parish Center3:30 am – Medora8:30 am – Medora9:15 am – Sunday School9:15 am – Sunday School6 Betfield Lutheran10:00 am – Betfield6:00 pm – Bible Study @Dwelle'sDwelle's	24	25 3:30 pm – Bible Study © Belfield Lutheran 8:00 pm – AA Meeting © Belfield Lutheran	26 3:30 pm – Sunday School © Medora Lutheran 5:30 pm – Confirmation © Belfield Lutheran 6:00 pm – AA Meeting © Medora Lutheran	27 7:00pm – Bible Study © Belfield Lutheran	28	

Raffle & Pie AUCTION

Purchase tickets and use them to bid on a variety of items. Raffle drawing will be held after the live pie auction. Need not be present to win.

Sunday, February 23rd 9:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

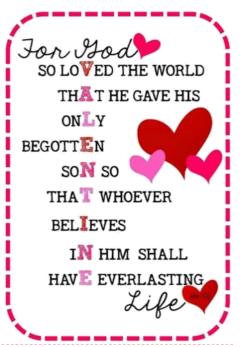
Serving a variety of soups, breadsticks & desserts! Live Pie Auction at 12:00 p.m.

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St. Bernard's Parish Center, 3rd Ave NE, Belfield, ND 58622 Annual Fundraiser for the BMD Lutheran Churches



eventually paint the picture of our life that we display to the people around us. While some of you won't experience these times for a while, others have stories about God's changes in their own lives especially when it comes to college. It's essential to take the opportunity when you see it. In our Gospel Reading today, John announces, "I baptize you with water, but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. At this point in Jesus's story, Luke describes the only people who know what Jesus will amount to are Mary, his mother, and John the Baptist. Throughout his ministry, many Jews failed to recognize who Jesus was and the miracles he was performing. Yet he changed the way we would interact with God completely. This is why we need to be

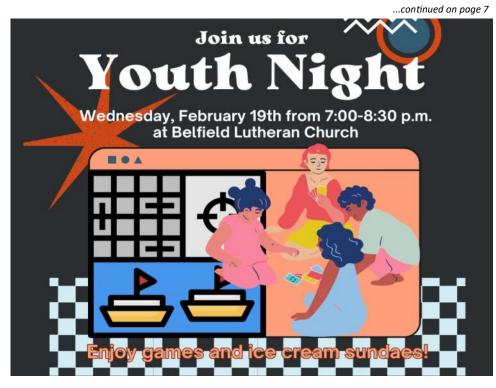


"Love is Patient, Love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. **1st Corinthians 13: 4**



open to and recognize the opportunities God puts in our lives. Otherwise, we never know how God will use the opportunities we will partake in. For example, without sitting by that random person in the dining hall, I never would've met some of my favorite people at college. I would've never been a State officer In the FFA if I had taken the opportunity God designed for me.

FFA State office is a position that a Graduating senior can run for at each State convention. And for a year, they take up the responsibility to represent the organization eve-



rywhere they go and help the state organization run as smoothly as possible. Last June, I was given the unique opportunity to run for a state office position. Running wasn't easy. We had two and a half days of straight interviews. All the while trying to maintain my habit of catching up with everyone I've met over the years in FFA and studying for my favorite contest meats judging, constantly walking back and forth multiple times a day between our interview rooms, up to our dorm, and the dining center, barely having time to eat. With all that stress, I lost 10 pounds that week, wondering if I was saying the right things, being in the right spot, talking the right amount, and not overstepping others. Yes, I could've reduced some stress by preparing a little more, but some of us know that preparation is not my strong suit, so I needed to do what I do best: improvise. After stressing over which one of my three speeches, I had brewed during the time I was at convention, I had to give a speech about myself to about 1500 people and by the literal grace of God it went well. I would've never imagined it being possible, but God gave me this challenge to confront my fear and turn it into something that will bring him glory. He gave me the opportunity to develop my public speaking skills knowing that someday I'll put those skills to good use sharing the gospel. This concept sounds a little familiar. Remember what the Prophet Isaiah said: "Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name; you are mine. 2 When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire, you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you". God promises to walk with us through the vast array of challenging circumstances. If we chose to take hold of that promise and God's guiding hand we can grow as people as he intended.

I'm telling you stories of this past years' changes and challenges because we are entering a new season of challenge trying to find a new pastor to lead our parish, that will change us. Sometimes during this season, we may feel lost or like we need to give up, but I can assure you that if we approach the situation with love, God will shine his light on what is right for our parish. What do I mean by approaching the problem with love? 1st Corinthians 13: 4-8: "Love is Patient, Love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others; it is not self-seeking; it is not easily angered, and it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, hopes, and always perseveres. Love never fails." It is essential to be patient when we are going through this process. If it is his will, he will provide. Remember to enter every situation with an open mind and express kindness. We cannot envy others who have leadership in their church but learn from

JESUS LOVES* YOU

*Conditions do not apply



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them. We must work together as we cannot be selfish. A team is what we need to succeed and ensure we do not dishonor our own. On this team, we must be slow to anger, protect one another, and let go of each other's past mistakes. We must trust the Lord to guide us through this season. Our hope in the Lord is what will help us persevere. This change we are going through will be challenging, but it will help us grow closer as a community. We must remember that one thing remains constant through all these changes. Hebrews 13:8 says Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever. Here with Jesus, A voice coming from heaven; you are my children beloved with you I am well pleased.

+ Dawyn Malknoski

Belfield Lutheran Church Daglum Lutheran Church Medora Lutheran Church

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Parish Visitor February 2025



Thank you to Medora Lutheran Church for sponsoring this edition of the Parish Visitor.



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) Thank you for your generosity!

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