

Circuit Writer

June & July 2026

Dear friends,

This summer I will be sharing a series of messages called *Old Testament Stories from the Back Side*. We will be looking at selected Old Testament stories by entering them through the “back side”—through a unique starting point, a creative retelling, a new “lens,” or the eyes of a minor or unsympathetic character. I will also be offering a 9:00 am study on Sundays in the Sonrise Conference Room covering the same stories and characters in more depth. Here is the schedule. I encourage you to read these to become familiar with the stories.

June 7	The Second Sin	Genesis 3:1-13
June 14	The Importance of Naming Joseph	Genesis 30:22-24
June 21	Father’s Day Message	
June 28	Because My Mother Told Me	Exodus 2:1-10
July 5	250 Years of the USA	
July 12	Patron Saint of the Minority Report	Numbers 13:1-3, 25-33
July 19	Tragic Son, Tragic Father	Judges 11:1-6, 30-35
July 26	Honey in the Lion	Judges 14:5-14
August 2	Beauty and the Beast	1 Samuel 25:2-42
August 9	A Refugee at the King’s Table	2 Samuel 9:1-13
August 16	In Defense of Job’s Wife	Job 2:1-10
August 23	Jonah’s Christmas Story	Jonah 3:1-6,10 Matthew 12:38-42
August 30	God Is Better Than His Plans	Ruth 1:1-5; 4:13-17

I hope to see you in worship this summer at 8:00 or 10:30 am or online!

In Christ,
Pastor Joel

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Office Administrator
Belinda Van Dyke

**Director of Family
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Lisa Rhodes

**Where People
Believe, Belong &
Become**

**Missed worship?
A link to our Sunday
services can be
accessed on our
Facebook page!**





Coffee Time is every Tuesday morning at 9:30 AM. Join us for fellowship, coffee and snacks!



Pop Tabs are being collected in a cardboard Ronald McDonald House in the east coat room. Tab donations allow this charity to continue providing housing for children and their families while receiving medical care. We have almost a full container of tabs! Thank you to those who have been saving tabs!



Youth Group Lock-in June 19th – 21st

Buckle up for a great night of food, messy games, movies, snacks and lots of fun! Beginning at 8 p.m. all youth, grades 6th through 12th, are welcome to have a great night playing death ball, musical chairs of death and it's likely Lisa will pull out some games that will be sure to become favorites! Our lock in will conclude at 7 a.m. on Saturday morning! This is a cell-free event. Please bring your friends!

Summer Youth Group!

The youth group will meet during the summer for outdoor fun, snacks and Jesus time from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. During June, July and August, our lesson time will focus on listening for God in our loud world.

Youth Group meetings will be on June 10th and June 24th, July 29th and a back-to-school event. All youths going into 6th through 12th grade are invited to come!

Give to Mandan UMC via Electronic Fund Transfer

Download the user-friendly app on your smart phone. You may designate your gift utilizing the categories listed in the application. Please contact the church office if you have questions or need further information.

You can give through Vanco for any end of year giving. It will need to be given by Wednesday, December 31. Thank you for your generosity.

SAVE A LIFE



GIVE BLOOD

Blood Drive

The church blood drive will be Thursday, July 9 from 3:30-6 PM. Call or email the church office to sign up.

June Birthdays

1 Lisa Rhodes
 Anna Smith
 3 Berkley Kreidt
 5 Rebecca Olson
 6 Craig Kleven
 Renyn Tysver
 9 Kris Winckler
 8 Paulette Unrath
 12 Christopher Schlecht
 14 Riley Wetsch
 15 Mitzi Heim
 18 Bernadette Leingang
 Jessica Dirk
 22 Shylah Anderson
 23 Jordyn Wilson
 24 Clayton Fischer
 25 Kara Roberts
 Aiden Schlotman
 28 Arlen Ruff
 Kiara Rebenitsch
 29 Betty Gudmunsen
 30 Marlene Hulm
 Jay'Brielle Burch



June Anniversaries

1 Marc & Dee Taylor - 44 yrs.
 Rick & Kathie Peterson - 35 yrs.
 7 Brandon & Shelby Hauck - 7 yrs.
 9 Terry & Carla Forde - 53 yrs.
 Dennis & Faye Kroh - 53 yrs.
 13 Bill & Barb Franke - 55 yrs.
 16 Krista & Evan Laib - 14 yrs.
 18 Kelsey & Jason Kreidt - 10 yrs.
 19 Bob & Kathy Sougstad—44 yrs.
 Bob & Deb Samuelson - 33 yrs.
 26 Jodi & Kelly Sneva - 22 yrs.
 27 Rick & Sharon Tabert - 57 yrs.
 Al & Tiffany Peterson - 17 yrs.
 28 Clarence & Marilyn Hust - 61 yrs.
 Amy & Andrew Richter - 24 yrs.
 Audrey & Jeremy Helm - 23 yrs.



OFFICE NOTES

The church office is opened Monday through Friday 9:15 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. The next newsletter will go out July 23 at 1PM.

If anyone would like to become a member of Mandan United Methodist Church or need to transfer your membership from another church, call the church office.

VISITATION

Please contact the church office if you would like a visit in your home or in the hospital.

Graduate Recognition

Our high school graduates were honored on May 17th with the gift of a Bible and a reception after worship. We pray that they will let God guide them as they begin new adventures and walk new paths. Mandan UMC graduates for the Class of 2026 are Abby Landeis, Kristen Schneider and Kayda Newgard. Congratulation and God's blessings!!



Prayer Concerns

Deb Leingang Laske
Lorraine Hallendorff
Cathy Adams
Sandy & Matt Thorenson
Those receiving medical treatments
Those having surgery
Those mourning
Our Country's leaders
Families and friends with cancer
Those traveling
Military and their families
Several unspoken requests



Crafting & Sewing Social June 28th

Working on your hobbies can be fun, but if you craft or sew it can feel a little isolating. We have the antidote for all who would like to enjoy an afternoon of hobbies with your church family and friends!

The social will begin with a potluck at 11:30 a.m. for all who are participating. Please bring something to share.

After lunch, pull out your craft, sewing or other hobby! Everyone is invited to enjoy the afternoon! Below are just a few examples of crafts that travel well and work easily for the social:

Church Members in Care Facilities

Edgewood Vista Assisted Living Center

Marcie Zabel
Leah Jeromchek
Peachie McArthur
Lucille Risch
Amy Watson (Bismarck)
Joyce Gustafson

Miller Point

Jim Mellon

Baptist Home

Virginia Geist

Hay Creek Lodge Assisted Living-Bismarck

Ken Blazer

Sew
Knit
Weave Macrame
Cross stitch
Scrapbooking
Beading
Latch hook
Carving
Tying flies for fishing
Wood burning

Quilt
Crochet
Diamond Art
Embroidery
Card making
Jewelry creations
Coloring
Leather crafting
Etc.



Men's Group — will meet Sunday, June 21 and July 19 at 6 PM at the Church.



JULY BIRTHDAYS

- 2 John Markel
- 3 Bev Walth
Cheryl Horner
Belinda Van Dyke
- 4 Audrey Helm
- 5 Sean Donovan
- 6 Janice Winckler
- 7 Rick Peterson
- 10 Carolyn Desper
- 13 Aubrey Forde
- 14 Marcia Christian
- 16 Rylee Roberts
- 17 Steve Van Dyke
Kylie Heidrich
- 18 Ethel Samuelson
- 19 RaeLynn Craine
- 20 Iva Keller
Kayleigh Friday-Johnson
- 21 Kayla Kleven
- 22 Grace Peterson
Corbin Craine
- 25 Rebecca Friday-Johnson
Bobby Reeder
- 26 Sawyer Sougstad
- 27 Tiffany Peterson
Jeremy Helm
Kendl Newcomb
- 29 Jace Forde
- 30 Chris Heim
Chelsay Tysver
- 31 Virginia Geist

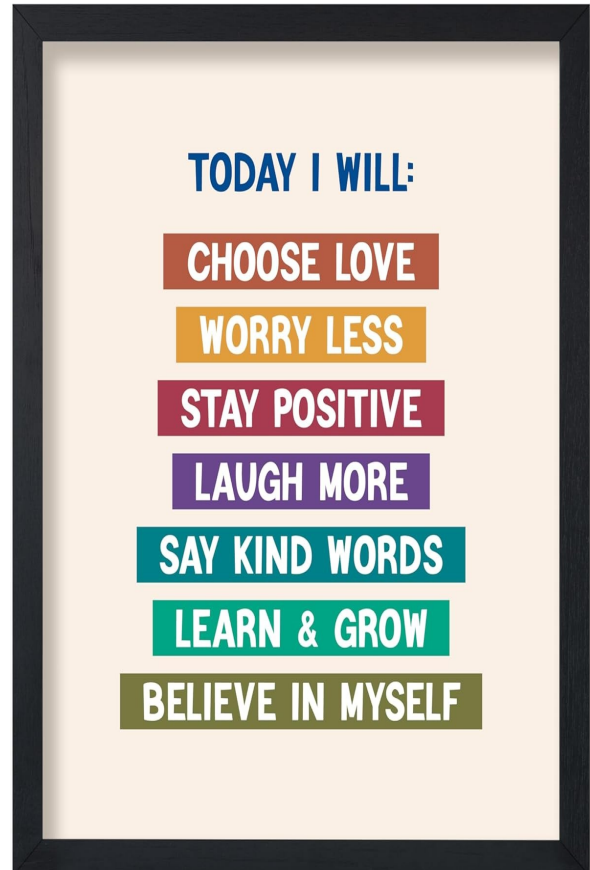


Sunday School Class during the Summer

Pastor Joel will offer a Sunday Bible study this summer at 9 a.m. for all who would like to attend. Please consider making this study a part of your summer worship schedule. It begins June 7.

July Anniversaries

- 7 Scott & Leah Watson -19 yrs
- 8 Bob & Kristen Vander Vorst—31 yrs.
- 12 Scott & Ann Dau—58 yrs
- 13 Kara & Garret Roberts—18 yrs
- 24 Sarah & Ryan Rixen—16 yrs.
- 25 Arlen Ruff & Rene Bryan—45 yrs.
- 31 Ronda & Jim Mellon—33 yrs.
Brandon & Erica Newgard—22 yrs.
Josh & Negan Neuberger—17 yrs.





Rain Forest Falls Vacation Bible School July 13th through July 16th

This July we will be exploring the True Nature of God and show kids what it means to be rooted in relationship with God, their safe place in life's storms!

VBS begins on Monday, July 13th as we step through the mist into Rainforest Falls, overflowing with wild waterfalls, towering trees, and colorful creatures. Beneath a canopy of chattering birds and howling monkeys we will learn how to have a personal relationship with God, their Creator. The adventure will conclude on Thursday evening, July 16th.

Each night at VBS, supper will be served at 5:30 p.m. Our kid-friendly menus allow our families to have a home cooked meal together and we can get to know our guests!

Worship begins at 6 p.m. Crews will travel through each station learning through games, music, crafts, stories and videos. We will wrap up each evening with Canopy Closing. Preschoolers at Paradise Preschool will have an abbreviated schedule with fun, learning and new adventures.

Online registration will be available by June 1st. Keep your eyes peeled for more information!

Children going into 1st grade through 5th grade will be in the crews

Children three years old through kindergarten will enjoy the Paradise Preschool

Pray that God uses Rain Forest Falls to do amazing things in the lives of the families attending!

The volunteer sign up will be available soon. Whether you prefer to lead from the front or work behind the scenes, there are plenty of ways to serve. Don't miss out on the fun as we introduce the children to Jesus through crafts, music, games, snacks, story and scripture! **The volunteer meeting will be July 8th at 6:30 p.m.**

Supplies, sponsorships and monetary gifts are needed to help keep our VBS cost-free to each child who comes through the door of our church during the week of Vacation Bible School. Keep a look out for the supply and sponsorship bulletin board mid-June! Thank you for your generosity!

Important VBS dates:

Wednesday, July 8th @ 6:30 p.m. VBS Volunteer meeting

Thursday, July 9th & Friday, July 10th @ 6:30 p.m. VBS Work Nights

Sunday, July 12th @ 11:15 a.m. Set up for VBS

Monday, July 13th through Thursday, July 16th Supper @ 5:30 p.m. VBS @ 6 p.m. to 8:30 p. m.

Sunday, July 19th @ 10:30 a.m. VBS Closing Worship

Rainforest Falls was designed with more than fun in mind—it's a faith-driven adventure rooted in helping kids grow in their relationship with God. Discover the heart behind this year's program, from the biblical depth to the immersive storytelling that makes faith stick

