

# Circuit Writer

MARCH 2026

## Luke 10:38-42

*Now as they went on their way, he entered a certain village where a woman named Martha welcomed him.<sup>39</sup> She had a sister named Mary, who sat at Jesus's feet and listened to what he was saying.<sup>40</sup> But Martha was distracted by her many tasks, so she came to him and asked, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her, then, to help me."<sup>41</sup> But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things,<sup>42</sup> but few things are needed—indeed only one. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her."*

Dear friends,

During this season of Lent, I am encouraging you to a holy time of self-reflection and increased spiritual disciplines. We live in a "noisy" world. Many things are distractions and seem important but we all can benefit from more time spent with Jesus. This year I have decided to take a break from Facebook during these weeks of Lent as a way for me to realign my time with God. My priorities have gotten out of whack and Lent is the time I am using to reevaluate and recalibrate. Do you have something you need to "give up for Lent" to do the same?

During these weeks of Lent, I also invite you to our special Wednesday evening study at 6:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall. I am leading us on a guided study of the Apostle's Creed. This foundational statement of our faith expresses the truth of what we believe and why we believe the way we do. I hope to see you there!

Pastor Joel

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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 10 AM. Join us for fellowship, coffee and snacks!

### **Lewis & Clark Elementary Outreach**

Lewis and Clark Elementary school, just two blocks from Mandan UMC, has many children and families who struggle with many necessities such as food, proper winter clothing and other needs.

For several years, our church family has provided snacks, food and winter meals. Recently their needs have changed and have given MUMC an opportunity to meet those needs. The list below are the current needs for Lewis and Clark families.

Snacks for school children: protein bars, granola bars, fruit snacks, small bags of nuts and fruit, snack crackers, and small bags of cereal, chips and cookies. Monetary funds to be used for winter snow gear are also being collected. Please mark your gifts for Lewis and Clark.



**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. Thank you to those who have been saving tabs!

### **TALENT SHOW AND KARAOKE**

**Thursday, February 26**

**7 PM**

Mandan UMC has talent! Share your gifts with us at this year's Talent Show & Karaoke night!

We want to see your performing arts – singing, dancing, reading and reciting. Please share your handiwork whether you sew, carve, embroider, paint or weld. Show off your talent and let us celebrate with you!

Karaoke will also be available, and we have a library as vast as the internet to find your favorite song.

Please bring snacks to share after the show! Sign up is on the clipboard in the east hallway.



## March Birthdays

2 Nicole Dahl  
 4 Parker Vander Vorst  
 5 Kathie Peterson  
 6 Ryker Kreidt  
 7 Bob Sougstad  
 Rayann Knoll  
 8 Leah Watson  
 10 Madelyn Dirk  
 11 Colter Helfrich  
 12 Brad Hallendorff  
 Charlet Feigitsch  
 Thomas Laib  
 16 Scott Watson  
 17 Jason Kreidt  
 19 Kathy Sougstad  
 20 Phil Purvis  
 Kelly Schlecht  
 21 Susan Keller  
 Dakota Sundahl  
 Kayda Newgard  
 26 Cheryl Loerch  
 Sarah Rixen  
 28 Codi Loerch  
 Russ Leingang  
 Huntley Kreidt  
 29 Ronda Mellon  
 Liam Forde  
 30 Carla Forde  
 31 Jim Mellon  
 Deanna Meissner



The church Blood Drive will be Thursday, February 26 from 3—6PM. Watch for texts and emails to get you signed up! Sign up to give blood and stay for the Talent Show!



## March Anniversaries

18 Cyndi & Bobby Reeder



### 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 March 26 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.

Belinda will be out of the office March 11-17 and March 23-24.

### VISITATION

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

**Six Week Lenten Study** on The Apostle's Creed During Lent at 6:30 pm in the Basement Fellowship Hall

**Men's Group** will meet on Sunday, February 22 at 6 PM. All men are welcome to attend.

**The Church Council** meeting will be Saturday, March 21 at 10 AM.

**Daylight Saving Time** begins Sunday March 8. Turn your clocks ahead one hour!



# Prayer Concerns

Joni Olson  
Jana Knoll-knee surgery recovery  
Wayne Frenzel  
Lisa Rhodes—hand surgery recovery  
Lorraine Hallendorff  
Sandy & Matt Thorenson  
Those receiving medical treatments  
Those mourning  
Our Country's leaders  
Families and friends with cancer  
Those traveling  
Military and their families  
Several unspoken requests



## 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.

## 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

### Sunset Prospera

Chloe Leingang

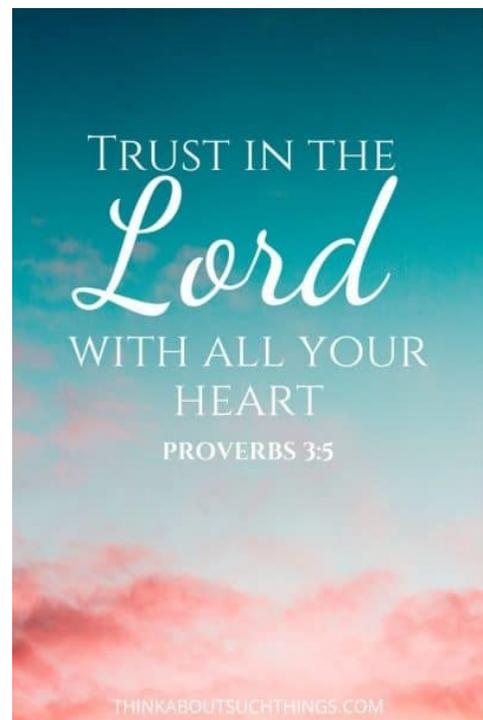
### Baptist Home

Virginia Geist

## Friday Nite Lite March 20

Come join us for Friday Nite Lite! Bring your friends and enjoy games, snacks and plenty of tasty food! Did we just list food twice? Yes, we did!

All youth sixth through 12<sup>th</sup> grade are welcome to join the fun from 7 to 11 p.m. Come late or leave early, is needed – just come! We'll leave the LITE on for you!



## Costa Rica Mission Trip

### Costa Rica Mission Trip

Early Tuesday, January 13<sup>th</sup>, twelve eager members of Crew XIV took off for Costa Rica. Our team included ten members of Mandan UMC, Marcy Dawson from New Salem and Pastor Ken Adams from Wahpeton. The team arrived in San Jose ready to meet and serve the people of the Harvest Tabernacle through Hearts and Hands for Jesus.

The following day, we traveled to Limon which would serve as our home base as we worked at the church performing maintenance, painting, preparing for Vacation Bible School, and assembling school bags to be distributed to the children and youth. Abby Landeis, assisted by Sheldon Landeis, Hayden Forde, Austin Wetsch and Jacob Baumann, taught a soccer camp for the children. Missy Wetsch, Kailey Seedorf, Grace Peterson and Marcy Dawson taught a first aid class.

Our hotel was bordered by the ocean, and we spent much time enjoying the view as we ate our meals and enjoyed free time. Our day off was spent in Puerto Viejo touring a rescue for animals, shopping and mmswimming. Sally, the missionary for Hearts and Hands for Jesus, was our guide and chauffer along with her sister Sue and Marsha our colorful driver.

God worked through the people of Harvest Tabernacle to touch our hearts and lives. We had the opportunity to work with them, guide them through Sunday school, give them the school supplies we had packed and traveled with from North Dakota, and hold their children.

Pastor Herbert, the minister at Harvest Tabernacle, led our team through the building projects. Machetes are the tool of choice for everything from cutting holes for doorknobs to slicing fruit for us to taste. Several members of our team worked with Pastor Herbert on the retaining wall at the church. From mixing cement on the street using a garden hose from the church to repurpose doors, he worked patiently to show us how to do much with the little they have.

We were blessed by their hospitality as they opened their homes and hearts to us. Our team left a piece of our hearts in Costa Rica as we journeyed home. Greeted by a one-hundred-degree temperature difference and an enthusiastic welcoming party, we knew our lives were changed forever.

Our Costa Rica Mission Team is very grateful for the support and prayers of our church family at Mandan UMC. Our fundraising efforts were always met with your generosity. Thank you for the school supplies and backpacks. Seeing the excitement in the eyes of the children as they wore their backpacks home was a God sighting! Enough money was raised for the trip, with extra funds left over to jump start the next

### Happy birthday to YOU! Sunday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>

The Fellowship Committee is bringing back the church-wide birthday celebration! Join us for a potluck at 11:30 a.m. on Sunday, March 22<sup>nd</sup> followed by party games and birthday cake. You will be seated with other people whose birthday is in the same month.

A sign up will be available in the east hallway for cake bakers!



