CIRCUIT WRITER

November 2026

Mandan United Methodist Church
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Mandan UMC is on Facebook

Pastor
Rev. Joel Winckler

Office Administrator
Belinda Van Dyke

Director of Family Ministries
Lisa Rhodes

Missed Worship? A link to our Sunday Services can be accessed on our Facebook page!

Dear Friends,

What are you thankful for right now? November brings our national Thanksgiving holiday, along with cherished traditions of family, abundant meals, football, and memories from years past. I hope you enjoy all of them later this month. Yet gratitude is more than a holiday tradition; it is a practice for this very moment.

For what can you give God thanks in this very moment? Take time today to reflect on what is good in your life. Perhaps you are grateful for your health, your family, fulfillment in your vocation, or the safety and prosperity we enjoy in our country.

The apostle Paul offers this guidance in 1 Thessalonians 5:16–18, quoted here from the Contemporary English Version:

16 Always be joyful 17 and never stop praying. 18 Whatever happens, keep thanking God because of Jesus Christ. This is what God wants you to do.

God calls us to be joyful, to keep praying, and to remain thankful. That is not always easy, but these practices are vital to the health of our souls. Today, pause to name one gift, thank God for it, and carry that gratitude with you.



Sincerely in Christ,

Pastor Joel

November Birthdays

3 Mary Carter
Dawson McCowan
4 Nyla Schock
Ferne Eade
5 Roger Griffin
Cheryl Welk
Robby Samuelson
Jovi Hauck



8 Lindsey Schlatter
11 Dion Feigitsch
Hayden Forde
13 Vicki Griffin
Joan Trygg
Paysen Helfrich
14 Bertie Kroh
Lindsay Newcomb



16 Jack Kroh
17 Agnes Kegley
Bob Vander Vorst
Katy Keller
18 Jordan Laske
19 Dee Taylor
20 William Newcomb



22 Ellie Landeis
24 Rick Tabert
25 Scott Dau
Sheldon Landeis
26 Deb Ogan
Julie Bryant
Duane Helbling
27 Clifford Friesz

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.

November Anniversaries

5 Karie & Dwight Leingang - 5 yrs.
23 Dwight & Susan Keller
27 James & Fern Eade - 62 yrs.
28 Brad & Lorraine Hallendorff



OFFICE NOTES

The church office is open Monday through Friday, 9:15 AM to 11:30 AM. The next Newsletter will go out November 25 at 1 PM

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

CHARGE CONFERENCE - The Charge Conference will be Monday, November 9 at 6 PM. All are welcome to attend.

VISITATION

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



THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Dakotas-Minnesota Area

Bishop Lanette Plambeck
Resident Bishop

October 15, 2026

Dear Beloved in Christ,

Grace and peace to you in the name of Jesus Christ.

Through the prophet Jeremiah, God speaks to the people in exile: *"Seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you ... and pray to the Lord on its behalf, for in its welfare you will find your welfare." — Jeremiah 29:7*

What a powerful word for us as United Methodists across the Dakotas Conference. Jeremiah reminds us that our lives are bound together. When our neighbors flourish, we flourish. When a community grows stronger, the whole body is strengthened. When we invest in the welfare of others, we discover that God is also forming us more deeply in love, generosity, and joy.

That was the spirit behind our 2026 Annual Conference theme, "Created to Serve Joyfully." It is also the spirit I invite us to embody as we support the work of food sustainability at Spirit Lake Ministry (SLM) for this year's Thanksgiving Offering.

During the 2026 Annual Conference, SLM Directors, Kim and Paulette Paulson, shared some of the ways they are supporting food sustainability on the Spirit Lake Nation Reservation and their dream of having cattle that would become a source of meat for members of their community. Throughout this past summer, mission teams from across the country helped cultivate the seeds of this vision. They dug fence posts, built fencing, planted, weeded, harvested, and helped prepare the way for something more. What began as one faithful step — "Let's do fencing, because that's what we can do right now" — soon opened into new possibilities.

As they continued to share this vision, a neighbor offered to donate a cow to be processed into hamburger for families connected to *The Journey*, the worshiping community at Spirit Lake. This was an unexpected answer to prayer. Then another anonymous donor offered to cover the processing costs. Through these gifts, hundreds of pounds of meat can be shared throughout the year—week by week, meal by meal.

As God continues to open doors, the Paulsons are faithfully taking one step at a time towards this larger vision, including a plan to provide an ongoing meat source by purchasing two or three bred heifers, calving them out, and running them with their neighbor's herd. They are partnering with the tribal land-grant college and North Dakota State University Extension to teach nutrition and food preservation and working to secure funding for food dehydrators.

Spirit Lake's vision for food sustainability and seeking the welfare of their community is also deeply connected to Native tradition and identity. In the Ministry Center garden, children learn where food comes from by watching it grow. They taste green beans fresh from the vine and discover that healthy food can be joyful. They learn about the "Three Sisters" — corn, beans, and squash — a Native agricultural practice in which each plant supports the others. In that sacred wisdom, we see a beautiful image of community: each gift strengthening the whole.

This is the heart of Jeremiah's invitation. We do not seek the welfare of our neighbors from a distance or from a place of superiority. We seek it because God has woven our well-being together. As Spirit Lake grows stronger — as families are nourished, children learn, mission teams serve, and Native traditions are honored — the Dakotas Conference is strengthened too. We become more faithful. More connected. More joyful. More fully the body of Christ.

This Thanksgiving, I invite you and your congregation to give generously to the Thanksgiving Offering in support of Spirit Lake Ministry Center food sustainability. Your gift helps nourish families, welcome mission teams, grow gardens, preserve food, support ministry partnerships, and strengthen a hopeful future.

Friends, this is what it means to serve joyfully: to seek the welfare of our neighbors, to trust that our flourishing is bound together, and to join the Spirit's work already unfolding among us.

With thanksgiving and hope,

Bishop Lanette Plambeck

Bishop Lanette Plambeck, Resident Bishop
Dakotas-Minnesota Episcopal Area of The United Methodist Church

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Gifts to the 2026 Thanksgiving Offering can be mailed to:
Dakotas Conference of the United Methodist Church
1331 W. University Ave., P.O. Box 460
Mitchell, SD 57301

Online donations can be made through the link to this QR Code:

PRAYER CONCERNS

Diane Frenzel's daughter, Angie has cancer
Tyler Ruff, back issues
Warren Rhodes
Lisa Rhodes
Malinda & Willow Althoff
Lorraine Hallendorff
Cathy Adams
Sandy & Matt Thorenson
Those traveling
Our Country's leaders
Military and their families
Kristen Schneider
Tose receiving medical treatments
Families and Friends with cancer
Unspoken requests
Bertie & Jack Kroh's daughter, Sandy
Larry Leingang
Marilyn Welk
Marlys Friesz & family in the loss of her sister
Those in long term care centers
Colleen Macbeth's friend Darlene



Church Members in Care Facilities

Edgewood Vista Assisted Living Center

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

Miller Point

Jim Mellon

Hay Creek Lodge Assisted Living – Bismarck

Ken Blazer



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. 6 lbs. will take care of one night for someone staying at the Ronald McDonald House. **Thank you** to those who have been saving tabs!!

Go Big!

Go big or go home! Bigger is always better! Is larger necessarily the best way to celebrate Christmas? Our children and youth will be exploring these theories this year during the Christmas program.

The Sunday School Christmas program will be held on Sunday, December 20th at 10:30 a.m. worship service. All children and youth are welcome to take part in the program. Practices will begin on Sunday, December 6th at 9 a.m. and will continue each Sunday during Sunday school. Please contact Lisa for more information.

Wednesday, November 11th is Veteran's Day, a time to honor all those who served or continue to serve in the Armed Forces. Wonderful After School program, supper and youth group will not meet on this day.

Friday Nite Lite
November 20th

Food, fun and games are the highlight of Friday Nite Lite! All youth sixth through twelfth grade are welcome to bring their friends on November 20th from 7 to 11 p.m. We'll leave the LITE on for you!

Wonderful Wednesday After School program, supper and Youth Group will not meet on Wednesday, November 25th. Have a blessed Thanksgiving!!

Trunk-or-Treat



Thank you to all who took part in the Trunk-or-Treat event on Wednesday, October 28th! All who hosted trunks and tables, donated candy or funds, set up or cleaned up and filled candy bags played an important part in this large outreach event!

Thank you to the Youth Group for hosting the children's carnival! The kids enjoy the opportunity to play and win!

A special thanks to Darlene Swanston for manning the kitchen and serving our hungry guests!

November 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Daylight Savings 8 a.m. Worship 9a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Worship	**2**	**3 Election Day** 9:30 a.m. Coffee Time	**4** 3 p.m. Wonderful Wed 5:45 p.m. Supper 6:30 p.m. Youth Group	**5** 10 a.m. Bible Study	**6** 	**7**
8 8 a.m. Worship 9a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Worship 12:30 p.m. Pastor Joel at Edgewood	**9** **6 p.m. Charge Conf.** 	**10** 9:30 a.m. Coffee Time	**11 Veteran's Day** No School 	**12** 10 a.m. Bible Study **3:45-6:30 p.m. Blood Drive** 	**13**	**14** 
15 8 a.m. Worship 9a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Worship **6 p.m. Men's Group**	**16**	**17** 9:30 a.m. Coffee Time 5:30 p.m. Staff Mtg.	**18** 3 p.m. Wonderful Wed 5:45 p.m. Supper 6:30 p.m. Youth Group	**19** 10 a.m. Bible Study	**20** **7- 11 p.m. Friday Nite Lite**	**21**
22 8 a.m. Worship 9a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Worship	**23** 	**24** 9:30 a.m. Coffee Time	**25**	**26 Thanksgiving** No School 	**27** No School	**28**
29 1st Sunday of Advent 8 a.m. Worship 9a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Worship	**30**					