

Holiday Holmes/BC Update

November 2025
2102—2nd Ave. N
Reynolds, ND 58275



CHRISTMAS SEASON

November 16 is Thanksgiving Service

The worship services at Beaver Creek and Holmes on Sunday, November 16 will focus on gratitude. The service will look a little different (OK, a *lot* different). If you are thankful for anything come! If you can't think of anything, come.

Holmes is still collecting items for the food pantries.



December 7 Celebrates Advent

December 7 is the second Sunday of Advent. Come to worship at our regular times (Beaver Creek at 9 am and Holmes at 11 am). We will be singing the songs of the season and celebrating the First Advent (coming) of Jesus, our Savior.



AND Holmes Charge Conference also.

All Holmes folks is invited to come to church at 9:30 am on December 7 for Charge Conference. This was postponed from earlier. Our District Superintendent, Kris Mutzenberger, will be with us. We will be sharing with her what Holmes is up to, and she will tell us about Annual Conference happenings.

Full Newsletter Out by January 1, 2026

The Full Quarterly Newsletter will be out at the end of December. This will include January-March Birthdays and Anniversaries and new year schedule.

Do you have something you'd like to share with everyone? Send it to us!

Holmes BC News

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Christmas Eve Worship

Celebrate the birth of Christ with your family at church on Wednesday, December 24.

Beaver Creek at 4 pm.

Holmes at 6 pm.

Weather permitting, we'd like to see many there!



Christmas is a Time ... for Grieving

Following Christ into the Joy of His Coming Doesn't Mean Grief Just Disappears



“And now, dear brothers and sisters, we want you to know what will happen to the believers who have died so you will not grieve like people who have no hope.”
I Thessalonians 4:13 NLT

Most of you know that I lost my brother, Jim, and my sister, Marie, this summer. How could you not know since I keep bringing them up and wanting to tell stories? That's called grief, at least in my case. So, get used to it. God created us with a great capacity for love, and, it follows, a deep likelihood to feel loss.

My greatest resources in dealing with grief are my faith in Christ and support from those around me. I've also received – and I've had before – many grief resources. All of them are good and will touch people in different ways. In my case, some things are particularly clicking with me during this time. For what it's worth, let me share them. Who knows, maybe someone else can relate.

1. All grief is unique. I wouldn't compare my grief with someone else's. Each might be similar but also not. Since we are all individuals that means our grief, our way of expressing it will not be exactly alike. We can relate to others who mourn, but I stop short of saying, “I understand.” I probably don't.

2. Grief is lifelong. I know that grief doesn't just “go away.” With time it becomes part of who we are and the hurt fades somewhat. I still occasionally think about and miss my parents who have been gone for decades. I don't want to forget them.

3. Grief is work. It is a mistake to simply think we can wait out grieving. We will, at times, need to do something about it. Writing helps me. Talking does too. Even though I've led grief groups it was important for me to attend a hospice memorial service. See William Worden's “Tasks of Grief” for a better explanation.

4. Your grief belongs to you – and other's grief belongs to them. When I'm with other who are grieving, such as at the dozen or so funerals I've had this year, it is important not to “steal the show.” People need to be allowed to grieve. While something which has happened to me might help me relate, I can't put my “stuff” on center stage. I appreciate it when someone mentions my brother Jim or sister Marie by name or shares a memory. Others also like to hear stories about their loved ones.

5. Express your grief or it will express itself. In our country sharing our grief hasn't always been encouraged. Often people felt they should bury it somewhere and “be strong.” I've observed that grief which doesn't find expression in a service, in words or similar ways will shout out its presence in other, not so good ways.

Well, I don't know about you, but I feel better. Thanks.

—Chaplain Mark (see you in church!)

(If you would like some material on how to face the holidays as you grieve, please let me know!)