

First Quarter

Holmes/BC News

January 2026
2102—2nd Ave. N
Reynolds, ND 58275



A New Year and Back to “Normal” *After the Holidays the Regular Schedule Returns*

Thanksgiving into Advent into Christmas brings special services and many family gatherings. Though that is a wonderful time of the year we do enjoy getting back to a more regular schedule.

So, starting in January we'll be back to having our usual worship on First and Third Sundays. Most of those will have Beaver Creek at 9:00 am and Holmes at 11:00 am. There is an exception you can see below.

Beaver Creek Annual Meeting February 15 Please Note Time Swap!

On Sunday, February 15 Beaver Creek will worship at 11:00 am followed by a pot-luck and Annual Meeting. Holmes will take the earlier time of 9:00 am that Sunday. If you have something for the Annual Meeting please come or inform someone who will be there. And remember — everyone is welcome and encouraged to come.

Chaplain Mark is the preacher on the 15th and will also join in on the Annual Meeting.



ANNUAL MEETING

Take a moment and think

Is there someone who might want to get this newsletter? Someone who might be interested even if they aren't part of the parish now?

If you think of someone please check with them and then let Mark know. It's easy — and cheap — to get the newsletter via email!

Who Have You Told?

FOR PASTORAL CARE contact
a church leader or Chaplain Mark.

Chaplain Mark Ellingson
Cell: (218) 779-5707
mellingson56@gmail.com

What I've Been Thinking

Do You Hear God Calling?

“For we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.” Ephesians 2:10

“Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving.” Colossians 3:23-24

From summer into fall this year I have experienced the loss of a brother (Jim), a sister (Marie), a sister-in-law (Marcile) and even one of our beloved “granddogs,” Bunk. Amid the sadness there are so many stories. I have already told you several.

My sister, Marie, was a roommate with Marcile long before she came to know and date my brother, Leonard. Both Marie and Marcile were training to be teachers and both did some teaching. One time Marie brought her roommate to our home farm where Marcile met my brother. At that point the journeys of the two teachers changed.

My sister Marie had experienced Rheumatic Fever and was sent to college instead of working on the farm. There she found her calling — teaching. And she was a teacher for the rest of her career. Marie often shared with her church and her family that the sickness was a blessing because it led her to teaching.

Marcile, on the other hand, met my brother Leonard and became what she wanted — a farm wife. She raised two sons and helped Leonard raise crops for the feeding of the world. Marcile loved to do lots of things, but found contentment on the farm.

Two women, both called — but called uniquely.

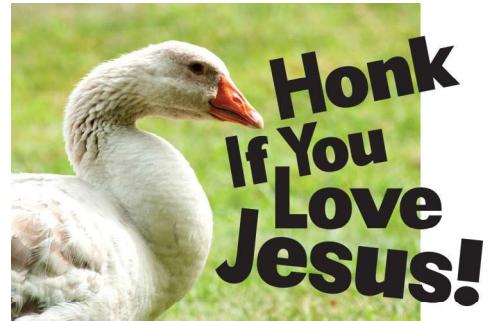
Let me tell you something else: you have been called! Perhaps you might scoff at that. Pastors and missionaries are called, but me? And to what? I'd be happy to have a longer conversation with anyone about that, but here's a couple things to think about.

What are you good at? This might be natural gifts like music, to comfort with speaking, to the training you have. You are called to use your gifts to honor God. When you do a good job at work, that honors God, as can being a good listening ear or visiting those who can't get out, to writing letters (no one writes letters so think what it means to get one) ...

When you do anything, pray. Make it just a simple prayer. “May I serve you Lord, in what I do.” We look to prayer to change or fix things. But more than anything prayer leads and changes us. As the verse above says, “It is the Lord Christ you are serving.”

Be thankful. Do we express our gratitude to God for being able ... well, able to do anything? For our voice, our legs, our job, our tasks? You might be surprised what you discover when you give thanks to the Almighty.

See you in church (or here in the virtual world),
Chaplain Mark



JANUARY

1 Dale & Sheri Fadley
 4 W.A. "Willy" Hamm
 6 Laurel Yates
 8 Tommy Sullivan
 9 Dennis Beine
 10 Marvin Klamm
 12 Arlen Klamm
 13 Gail Swanstrom
 15 Lisa Ivers
 16 Eric Burger
 18 Stephanie Melfeld
 20 Darrell Hart
 22 Stephanie Russell
 23 Patti Beine
 24 Michael Nienas
 27 Annha Hannasch
 31 Mark Lambrecht
 31 Nick & Kate Naujokas
 23 Katie Richardson
 24 Travis Bengs
 27 Emilie Brend
 31 Nick Naujokas

FEBRUARY

2 Sharon (Mrs. John) Klamm
 4 Calvin Holweger, Jr.
 7 Michael Webb
 8 Heidi Reiter
 8 Michael Klamm
 9 Greg Schroeder
 10 Brent Griffin
 11 Will Hahn
 11 John Klamm
 12 Casey Wollangk
 13 Alanna Ivers
 15 Bennett Grabanski
 15 Abraham Lincoln
 17 Abi Brend
 19 Norma Riedemann
 19 Josie Roeder
 19 Joan Bahr
 20 Natalie Karge
 20 Tallulah Ellingson
 22 Nathaniel Lange
 22 Haley Hayes
 22 Steven Ellingson
 24 George Washington
 24 Brian & Karen Schneider
 25 Steve Evanson
 25 Sheri Fadley
 25 Dennis Klamm
 25 Blaine Melfeld
 25 Elle Olson
 25 Carter Servance



January Holmes Anniversary Birthdays

FEBRUARY continued

27 Carole Bosch
 28 Faye Winters

MARCH

1 Nathan Klamm
 2 Jaret Webb
 2 Alexander Mehs
 8 Leigh Mehs
 10 Bradley Disrud
 11 Caroline Chapman
 11 Joshua Dahm
 12 Jim Yates
 12 Marsha Lange
 12 Brent & Shirley Griffin
 13 Jacqueline Salmonson
 14 Shelley Wold
 15 Janel Evanson
 15 Brian & Marilyn Reigel
 17 Brice Hendrickson
 18 Timothy Lange
 19 Kari Lange
 20 Wayne Roeder
 20 Kelly Winters
 23 Larry Klamm
 23 Aksel Roeder
 23 Thomas Lambrecht
 23 Kate Naujokas
 24 Jerry Bengs
 26 Holly Haug
 27 Mike Yaeger
 30 Linda Olson
 31 Carla Krueger
 31 Aaron Johnsen
 31 Bryna Keenaghan
 31 Cathy Hamm



Please let us know if there is an omission, an error or a needed subtraction to these lists! Thank-you!



Epiphany, which celebrates the coming of the Wise Men comes on January 6 and will be part of our January 4 services.



Some of What We've Been Praying For

Paul Lenz was back in the hospital for a bit and now taking infusions (antibiotics) to fully kill an infection.

Sarah Burger is having a mitral valve repair at Mayo Clinic on February 19.

Sara Ollman received a Pacemaker on December 17. The procedure went well, so now is healing.

Nancy Lyste was in and out of the hospital and feeling better.

Mark Lambrecht fell and broke his ankle in three places. Later on **Vickie (Roeder) Lambrecht** fell and broke her ankle (not as bad). Mark has surgery on Friday, December 26.

Lisa Ivers will be having foot surgery on December 29 and will be recovering after that for a time.

Randy Ness had back surgery last week and is doing well.

We will pray for anyone — well, anyone we know about! If you want a request listed here please give complete names and info.

And 40 Years Ago ...

Forty Years ago, in 1985 the Northwood Trojan Football team won the state championship. They had a reunion this fall and among the champions was Holmes own Kevin Bengs.



Beaver Creek Anniversaries

January

- 2 Annette Ulberg
- 7 Karen Ness
- 10 Alicia Johnson

- 13 Jason Ness
- 17 Adaley Ness
- 25 Tyler Tenneson
- 26 Erick Gronhovd
- 28 Annie Nagengast
- 31 Peter Ness



February

- 5 Emmitt Ness
- 6 Amanda Boyer
- 8 Leslie & Marci Johnson
- 7 Shaycee Johnson
- 17 Amy Sanda
- 22 William Ness



March

- 3 Jeff Johnson
- 5 Jeanette Summerville
- Randy Ness
- 8 Keith Johnson
- 11 Marci Johnson
- 13 Jim Ness
- 15 Jeremy & Alicia Johnson
- 17- Liza Enfield
- 22 Carole Pederson
- Adam Boyer
- 27 Scott Ness



Please let us know of changes.

ALSO, if there are special birthdays or anniversaries (someone is 90 or has been married for 60 or such) please let us know so that we can mention that in this space!

ALSO, if someone has died or needs prayer, don't hesitate to share.

Remember Holmes Harvest? Here's What Happened After Support Sent to Food Pantries at Hatton, Northwood and Thompson

We received thanks from all three food pantries which are posted at Holmes. The note to the right illustrates the good we were able to do!

Feeding the hungry is also an emphasis of the Dakotas Conference so our Superintendent was impressed!

Beaver Creek also donated to the local food pantry. You can hear more about that, and other missional giving, at the Annual Meeting in February.



Dear Holmes Fellowship People,

When I saw the return address on the envelop was Holmes United Methodist, I thought "Oh, that nice women's group is maybe giving us a donation". But when I opened the envelop, read the letter and saw the amount of the check, I nearly fell over! WOW! What a blessing you have given the Food Pantry.

Thank you, Thank you, Thank you!
Thank you Harvest Leavitt Auction
This gift will keep our shelves filled
for a long while.

Mary Mitchell
Thompson Good Pantry

CHANGE YOUR
Clocks

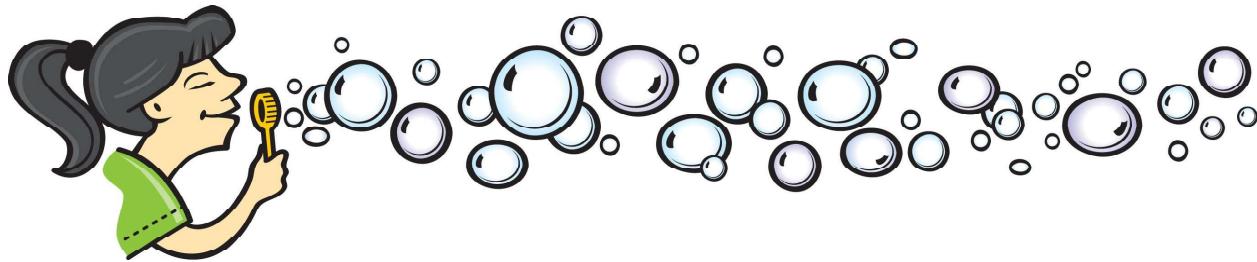
Daylight Savings Time
Begins Sunday, March 8

Upcoming Worship Schedule

Our regular worship schedule is the first and third Sundays

Normally Beaver Creek is at 9:00 am and Holmes is at 11:00 am.

January 4	9/11 am	Worship at Both (Mark)
January 18	9/11 am	<i>Worship at Both (Jim)</i>
February 1	9/11 am	Communion at Both (Becky)
February 15	9/11 am	<i>TIME SWAP! Holmes at 9:00 and Beaver Creek at 11:00 (Mark)</i>
March 1	9/11 am	Communion at Both (Jim)
March 15	9/11 am	<i>Worship at Both (Becky)</i>
March 29	10 am	Holmes with Pastor Jim & Jayanthi
April 2, 3 & 5 are Easter Services!		



Poinsettias at Holmes

A Poinsettia in memory of Eva Lenz and Norman Sieg given by Peggy, Ruby and Larry Sieg family.

A Poinsettia in memory of Mae (Olson) & Carl Lutz and Ethel (Lenz) and R.H. Sieg given by Peggy, Ruby and Larry Sieg family.

A Poinsettia in memory of Dwight Ollman by Peggy Kieras.

A Poinsettia in memory of Donald & Dorothy Ollman by Peggy Kieras.

A Poinsettia in memory of Henry & Adeline Ollman and Frank & Emma Strutz by Peggy Kieras.

A Poinsettia in memory of Kevin Anderson and Eugene Bengs given by Tammy Anderson.

A Poinsettia in memory of Ross Lange given by Veronica Knoll.

A Poinsettia in memory of Roberta Klamm, Robert & Alvina Klamm and sisters Joyce Johnson and Colleen Fischer by Neal Klamm.

A White Poinsettia in memory of recently lost Family members — Jim Ellingson, Marie Ellingson & Marcile Ellingson by Mark & Betty Ellingson

A White Poinsettia given in honor of grandchildren Tucker, Gavin, Tallulah & Magnolia by Mark & Betty Ellingson



Ash Wednesday Comes on February 18

Parish Service at Holmes

Ash Wednesday is the official beginning of Lent which leads up to Easter and the Resurrection of our Savior. This year the service, which will include the imposition of ashes, will be at 7:00 pm at Holmes. This is a parish service.

We are welcome to join the Lenten Services at St. John starting the week after Ash Wednesday. Chaplain Mark will likely lead one of those services.

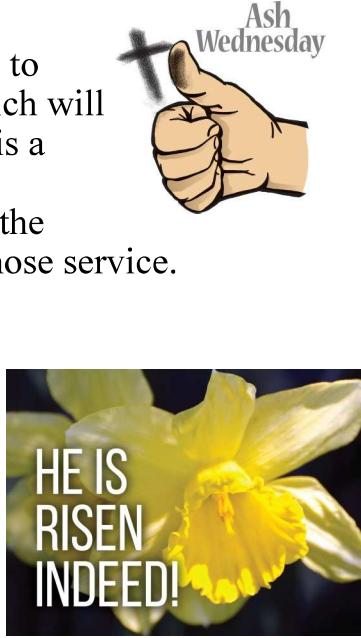
If You are Wondering About Easter, it is Coming the First Week of April

Easter won't be happening during this first quarter of 2026, but very soon afterward. This is what will happen the first week of April

Thursday, April 2 — Holy Thursday Worship including communion at Holmes

Friday, April 3 — Good Friday Worship including communion at Beaver Creek.

Sunday, April 5 — Easter Sunday Worship at both churches.



Northern Lights

Our area had a spectacular display of Northern Lights this fall. Many of you likely saw them or saw pictures. But did you see a picture like the one to the right?

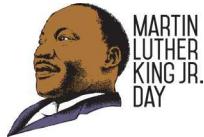
This is the Beaver Creek Church in a photo taken by Laura (Johnson) Foss. If you need to ask the name of the artist who painted the sky, I don't know what to say!



Upcoming Special Days

Even January, February and March have special days — and not just Lent and Easter.

Martin Luther King Day is January 19. King was the key leader who helped challenge the segregation and Jim Crow laws of the south and the general problem of racism.



 Valentine's Day is February 14. Yes, there was a St. Valentine, a 3rd century Roman priest martyred for his faith. Some of the romantic notions around him come from legends that he married couples forbidden by Claudius.

St. Patrick was credited with bringing Christianity to Ireland and converting thousands. He was taken as a slave in Ireland but escaped and became a priest and returned to Ireland later. The Shamrock was his way of teaching about the Trinity.



Yes, spring will come again (and again). Spring will officially come on March 20 at the Vernal Equinox which is one of two dates when the sun is directly over the equator making day and night nearly equal for many.

Have You Liked Our Facebook Page?

Our NEW Parish Facebook page for parish announcements is "Holmes-Beaver Creek." If you have trouble finding it let Mark or Sara O know.

The original Holmes page will still exists and will be used for streaming most Holmes Sunday services.

Use the QR code below to find the new page.

By doing this you will have access to announcements and schedule!



The Editor's Corner

What Happened to Journalism?

My first college training was as a journalist. I thought I might be a newspaper writer or even be on TV. I was taught to be fair, to check facts and to avoid exaggeration.

What happened to that?

There are news shows which are fair and balanced in what they say, not suggesting anything not in line with facts.

Then there is Social Media. Fair? Balanced? Not so much. Here's a couple of things to watch for.

First, an assertion is not evidence. Someone can say anything, but if it is not backed up by facts, beware of sharing or even believing it.

Second beware of exaggerated headlines. A title which is an expression of opinion is just that — an opinion.

Third, don't get all your information from one place. Read something with which you disagree just to better understand.

—MSE