

# Dwight - Mooreton Lutheran Parish

Faith Lutheran Church  
Dwight, North Dakota

Parish Website  
<http://www.flcmlc.org>



Mooreton Lutheran Church  
Mooreton, North Dakota

Parish E-Mail  
[faithmooretonlutheranchurch@yahoo.com](mailto:faithmooretonlutheranchurch@yahoo.com)



Rev. Gordon J. Lee, Pastor  
Cell Phone 701-367-2344



## December

Volume 52

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And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with fear. And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of a great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger." Luke 2:9-12

### Parish Candlelight Christmas Eve Worship

Sunday, December 24

4:00 p.m. Faith Lutheran Church - Dwight, ND

5:15 p.m. Mooreton Lutheran Church - Mooreton, ND



### Faith Sunday School Christmas Program

#### "Simply Christmas"

Sunday, December 10 at 10:30 a.m.



All are invited to attend, including family and friends of our Sunday School students.

A potluck dinner will follow the Sunday School program. Everyone is invited to join us for great food and fellowship.

Please bring 1 (or 2) large dishes to share.

Tertia will be on vacation from December 17-22.

Any information for the December 17th & 24th bulletins must be in by December 15.



### Mooreton Sunday School

#### Christmas Program

Sunday, December 24

during the Christmas  
Eve Worship service

All are invited to attend!

If you have any questions please  
contact Aimee Skovholt.



## CHURCH COUNCIL



Mooreton Council Budget meeting will be held  
December 6 at 7:00 p.m.

The Faith/Mooreton joint council meeting will be  
held December 13, 7:00 p.m. at Mooreton.

Faith Council Budget meeting will be held  
January 4 at 7:00 p.m.

Mooreton Annual Meeting & Faith Annual Meeting  
will be held on February 4 following their  
respective Worship service.

Dear Family of Faith Lutheran & Mooreton Lutheran,

As I write this letter to you, Thanksgiving is just around the corner and Christmas is fast approaching. I remember my parents lamenting that the older they got, the faster time went. Wow, but that is reality for me now. The hours and days just fly by!

I have appreciated the reprieve we've had from that first early snow and take note of each day where the temps have been above freezing and I still have green grass in my yard even though it is covered by at least a million beautiful oak leaves!

This year the season of Advent begins on December 3rd and continues the following 3 Sundays. This year is unique in that the fourth Sunday falls on Christmas Eve. This occurs only about every 6 or 7 years. Every year in our churches we hang an Advent wreath with 4 candles to symbolize each Sunday of the Advent season.

The lighting of these candles are a tradition I love. The meaning associated with each candle varies depending on which resource you use. One that I like is #1-phrophecy or hope, #2-faith #3-joy, #4-peace or love.

However, you choose to celebrate each candle, I encourage you to have an Advent wreath in your home. It doesn't have to be elaborate. A simple circle of four candles, taking a few minutes of family time on each Sunday with the lighting of a candle, and talking about how it is meant to prepare our hearts for Jesus's birthday can create memories and meaning for all of us. For the young ones, it can help them realize that Christmas is more than presents. For us older folks, it helps keep us focused on this sacred event of Jesus's birth. Yes, there are so many events to celebrate this Christmas season, but sometimes the simplest things like using an Advent wreath can create lasting memories for every age.

My prayer for each of you in this Holy season is that you will keep in your hearts the miracle of this tiny babe coming to earth to live among us, model how-to live-in love and make the sacrifice of dying on a cross for our sins. The ultimate gift to us, His resurrection.

Our family wishes each of you a blessed Christmas.

In Christ's love,  
Pastor Gordy



## Faith Altar Guild

December - Colleen & Terry  
January - Vaughan & Wendy  
February - Toviao & Linda  
March - Valerie & Diane



## Faith Sunday School News

**December 3** - Sunday School

**Saturday, December 9**

9:30 - 11:00 a.m. Program Practice

**December 10** - Sunday School & Christmas Program

With only a few practices left, please try to have your children attend as many as possible.

Thank you!



**YOUR YEAR-END**

**GIVING**

**MAKES A DIFFERENCE**

Faith Members:

Thank you so much to everyone who has supported the church throughout 2023.

Any financial donations must be in to Tertia by December 28 in order to be credited to your 2023 Financial Giving Statement. This includes: general offerings, God's Acre, memorials, birthday offerings, etc. Thank you. If you would like to send a donation please mail it to:

Tertia Christensen  
17177 74th Street SE  
Wahpeton, ND 58075

## NO Worship Services On...

There will be no morning Worship services at Faith or Mooreton on December 24.

There will be no Worship at Faith or Mooreton on December 31.

Check out our YouTube Channel for previously recorded Worship services!

## Church Women



**Mooreton:**

Church Cleaning - Karen Helgeson

**Faith:**

Faith Church Women will meet December 7 at 6:30 p.m. for a Christmas Supper at Prante's.

Please invite your significant other! If you have never joined us before, now is a great time. We would love to see you!



# December



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>3 FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT - BLUE</b> 8:30 Mooreton Worship 9:30 Mooreton Coffee 9:40 M. Sunday School 9:15 Faith Sunday School 10:30 Faith Worship			6 7:00 p.m. Mooreton Church Council Budget Meeting <b>CHURCH COUNCIL</b>	7 6:30 p.m. Faith Church Women Christmas Supper at Prante's 	8	9 9:30 - 11:00 a.m. Faith Sunday School Christmas Program Practice 
<b>10 SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT - BLUE</b> 8:30 Mooreton Worship 9:30 Mooreton Coffee 9:40 M. Sunday School 9:15 Faith Sunday School 10:30 Faith Sunday School Christmas Program & Potluck			13 7:00 p.m. Joint Council meeting at Mooreton 			16
<b>17 THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT - BLUE</b> 8:30 Mooreton Worship 9:30 Mooreton Coffee 9:40 M. Sunday School 9:15 Faith Sunday School 10:30 Faith Worship						
<b>24 FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT - BLUE</b> 4:00 p.m. Faith Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship 5:15 p.m. Mooreton Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship/Mooreton Sunday School Christmas Program 						
<b>31 FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS - WHITE</b> <b><u>NO WORSHIP</u></b> 						

Our sympathies to Wendy Griffin on the death of her brother, Randy Williams. Please keep Wendy, Vaughan and Randy's family in your thoughts and prayers.

WITH DEEPEST  
*Sympathy*

**Mooreton Lutheran Fellowship Servers**

December 3	Kari Ward
December 10	Kristi Ford
December 17	Ruth Johnson
December 24 & 31	No Worship
January 7	Karen Helgeson



Dear friends,

I am writing this brief note to share some news that is very difficult for Wallyn and me to address. You may have noticed my absence from the pulpit on past Sundays and I think you deserve an explanation.

Some of you may have heard me say that after Wallyn and I returned from our trip to the Holy Land, and I had my second bout with Covid, I just could not get over being tired all the time.

My brother Alan said, “if you are experiencing what I am; it’s like you can’t get your oomph back.” It wasn’t until I visited my doctor for my annual physical and he said, “Pastor Lee, your hemoglobin is really low.” I asked if that could explain my constant battle with fatigue. He responded, “Absolutely. You are bleeding somewhere and we need to find where that is.” He set me up for a colonoscopy and an endoscopy which would enable a specialist to look at my esophagus. During the procedure he found a cancerous lesion and referred me for surgery the following Monday.

The surgeon removed, what proved to be, a cancerous mass at the “distal end of my esophagus.” He also checked my lymph nodes and sent the material in for examination.

The result looks promising. He appears to have gotten all the cancer out and is going to be doing a form of radiation therapy beginning in a few weeks. He told me that I needed to rest and give my body a chance to begin the healing process. I have also been set up to meet with an oncologist who will assist my surgeon in keeping an eye on the healing process and is going to try to understand why there are some abnormalities with my red blood cells, problems which are leading to my continuing sense of fatigue.

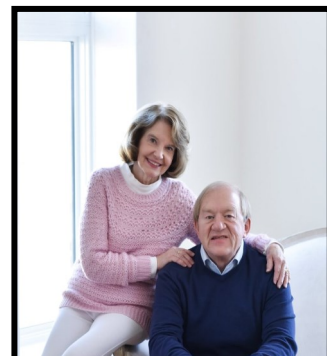
This has served as a “wake-up” call for me and led me to decide, with input from Wallyn and our children, to retire from my call to Mooreton Lutheran and Faith Lutheran on January 31, 2024.

It has been a difficult time in my life, but I believe it is what God is calling me to do. I feel incredibly blessed to have served here since February 4, 2004. I feel deeply connected to each of you and your families. I have been honored to baptize your children, confirm so many young people in their faith in the Risen Christ, perform many weddings and so many funerals of our loved ones.

I haven’t made this decision easily; but I believe it is in the best interests of our congregations and myself as we journey into our futures.

Know you will always be in my prayers, as well as Wallyn’s. God bless you and thank you for your call to be your pastor these many years.

Love in Christ,  
Pastor Gordy



# December Birthdays

December 4	John Thomas Retzer
December 5	Aaron Mennis
December 5	Brynlie Hegseth
December 6	Dalton Praska
December 7	Linda Hopkins
December 8	Chris Meyer
December 9	Alec Helgeson
December 10	Brennan Skovholt
December 10	Jackson Rowland
December 13	Caiden Anderson
December 18	Josh Griffin
December 18	Brandon Ward
December 18	Kaylee Bakken
December 19	Elizabeth Fischer
December 23	Randy Ford
December 27	Pastor Gordon Lee
December 29	Jennifer Siemieniewski
December 30	Perry Score
December 31	Wallyn Lee



If we missed your birthday, please let us know. We may not have your birthday on file. Thanks!

## SEEKING A KING Finding Grace

2023 COMMUNITY CHOIR & ORCHESTRA  
CHRISTMAS CANTATA

*Saturday* DECEMBER 9 | 7pm  
*Sunday* DECEMBER 10 | 2pm

NDCSCS CULTURAL CENTER  
BREMER BANK THEATRE

Karen Hendrickson PIANO      Kent Loken DIRECTOR      Bill Dablow NARRATOR

*free admission*



With the winter season upon us please check the Parish website, Parish Facebook page or KVLV for information about weather related cancellations.



### Parish Social Media

These sites will allow you to stay up to date with Parish news, schedule changes, and watch Faith Worship services live. Please be sure to bookmark, like, follow and subscribe.

Parish Facebook private group: <https://bit.ly/3EQUQUV>  
OR search "Faith Lutheran-Mooreton Lutheran Church News"

Parish Facebook Page for Live Stream Services:  
<https://bit.ly/3pH0QUe> OR search "Faith Mooreton Lutheran Parish"

Parish YouTube Channel: <https://bit.ly/31L6dd7>  
OR search: Faith Lutheran - Mooreton Lutheran Parish

Have you considered switching to receiving this newsletter via e-mail? The newsletter is typically emailed out as soon as it is completed. This means most months you will receive it early! Also, no more worrying about what you did with your copy, simply check your inbox. If you would like to make the switch please contact Tertia. 701-640-4856 or [tertiakyle@yahoo.com](mailto:tertiakyle@yahoo.com)



### Birthday Giving

Faith Members...

Do you remember how exciting it was when you were little to bring your birthday pennies to Sunday School, 1 for each year old you were, and put them in the Church bank? As we grow older we find ourselves thankful for each year that has gone by. One way of showing our thankfulness is to help support our Church. When it comes time to celebrate your birthday please consider giving a Birthday Thanksgiving Offering to the Church. \$1.00 for each year of your age. For example, 40 years old=\$40.00. You can give this offering directly to Tertia or place it in the offering plate in an envelope and mark it "Birthday Offering"

Birthday Offering

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### December Ushers

Mooreton: Brad & Joey Glarum  
Faith: Vaughan Griffin



\*\*\*Information for the weekly bulletins is due to Tertia by **Wednesday's at noon.**  
\*\*\*Information for the January newsletter **must** be in to Tertia by **December 15.**



Dwight - Mooreton Lutheran Parish  
316 Hill Street  
Dwight, ND 58075