



Faith, Culver



First, Meadowlands



St. John's, Saginaw



St. Peter's, Canyon



MINISTER’S MESSAGE FROM DAVE’S DESK

About the time you receive this newsletter, we will be beginning a new church year with the season of Advent. Advent is what we in the Christian faith identify as a season of preparation. We usually associate the preparation of Christmas with shopping, presents, decorating, cooking, baking and Christmas trees. In our world of materialism, we often identify our preparations in terms of parties and celebration with family and friends as well as time off from work, rather than focusing on preparing for the birth of the Christ child.

It seems like stores put out their Christmas merchandise earlier every year. Let’s start selling Christmas stuff in July to beat the holiday rush. In a song written by Brave Combo, the lyrics say that the president was passing laws and gave a call to Santa Claus and said: “get those toy machines in high gear. The economy is in a slump, and I know what could pick it up. This year let’s have Christmas in July. We’ll have a summer Christmas! We’ll have one fun time unwinding in the summer sunshine and spending the yuletide down by the poolside.

How bizarre this would be for those who started the tradition of Advent and Christmas to see how we celebrate this today. Advent is observed in December and means “coming” During Advent we remember Jesus Christ first coming into this world. However, since Advent means coming, we also need to remember that Jesus is coming again, his second coming. At the start of this tradition, many remembered and celebrated the second coming more than the first when he was born. How bizarre to remember Christ’s first

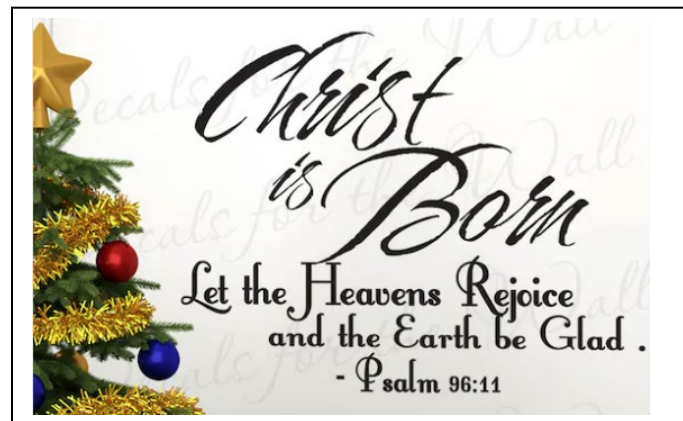
Advent but to forget his second Advent. Kind of like Christmas in July!!

Christmas is our celebration of God’s ultimate gift of love. God saw our pain, our devastation, our hopelessness, our brokenness, and our fragile love and he loved us so much that “...he gave his one and only son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.” Jesus is the greatest gift of Christmas, for you, for me, for everyone.

Wishing all who read this a very Merry Christmas from my family to yours!!

In God’s peace, Invite a friend – Minister Dave

~CLERGY SCHEDULE & CONTACT INFO~
Dave Erdmann, SAM (Synodically Authorized Minister), is our worship & faith life leader.
Days off: Mon & Sat.
He is always available for emergencies.
First contact: 218-391-7951 (cell)
Secondary number: 218-348-9720
Email: dwerdmann@gmail.com



~S.A.L.T. PARISH MEETING~

Next meeting: Dec. 7th, 6:30p at First
All are welcome!



Scan the QR code to be taken to SALT Website



Blue Christmas Worship Service

Wednesday, December 20, 2023

6:30 pm

Faith Lutheran Church, Culver

A service where we remember those for whom the holidays may not be joyful. They may be lonely, in mourning, feeling alienated or set apart from family, experiencing depression or sadness. We refocus on the true meaning of Christmas and the coming of the Christ Child.

UPCOMING EVENTS

December 24th Worship Schedule
Fourth Sunday in Advent
10:30 am St. Peter's, Canyon

Christmas Eve Worship Service
with Holy Communion
7:00 pm Faith, Culver

Both Worship Services will be live streamed on the SALT Parish Facebook Page



The Annual Cookie Sale & Pancake Breakfast! **December 2nd** at Faith!

9am – 1pm **\$5 dozen/loaf**

\$5 Pancake Breakfast

Quilt Sale, kid's activities & family photo backdrop. Bring a Friend!

~CULVER QUILTERS~

If you would like to support our quilt ministry, Our supply needs list includes Cotton Fabric (any sized pieces) Thread, Batting, Flat sheets (Dbl., Q or K size), Cash donations can be given to Faith's WELCA. Thank you!
Culver Quilter's Meet Mondays at Faith 10:30am

~NEWSLETTER DEADLINE~

Deadline for the Nov. issue: 2nd Sun of Month: Dec. 10th

To mail information to Misty: 1236 County Rd 4 Wrenshall MN 55797 Or email to: Bergman.misty22@gmail.com

~~RUBY'S PANTRY~~

5577 Cromwell Park Dr, Cromwell, MN
 2nd Thursday of the Month, Dec 14th, 2023
 9:00 – 10:30 am

5007 Maple Grove Rd Hermantown, MN
 2nd Tuesday of the Month, Dec. 12th, 2023
 5:00 – 6:30 pm

2300 E Skyline Blvd (Copper Top Church)
 3rd Thursday of the Month, Dec. 21st, 2023
 4:30 – 6:00 pm

Bring your own boxes/baskets for food. (\$25) cash donation at the door is appreciated.
 Everyone is welcome!!! For more information call 651-674-0009 or visit www.rubyspantry.org

Bentleyville Tour of Lights

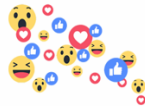
Open nightly 5pm-9pm Sunday – Thursday Friday
 – Saturday 5pm – 10pm
 Free Walk Through Light Show! Parking is \$10 car

Men's Breakfast, December 15th, 8am
 Country Corner, Hwy 2, Brookston



Sunday Morning Livestream

SALT Parish Facebook Page
 10:30 am



Bulletins will now be available for The Livestream. The link will be posted on the Parish Facebook page or the bulletin can be accessed at saltparish.org/bulletins

S.A.L.T. COUNCIL

President	Stan Lamb	345-8328
Vice President	Ginny Richmond	
Secretary	Amber Schwartz	
Treasurer	Misty Bergman	

Church Contact People

Church	President	Phone
Faith	Dale Neuman	345-6334
First	Ginny Richmond	742-1724
St. John's	Carolyn Collum	729-6008
St. Peter's	Fred Zorn	591-0978

What is Advent?

Advent is the season of waiting and preparing for the birth of Jesus. The season of Advent is a time of prayer and reflection, and a time to prepare ourselves for the coming of Jesus.



How can you prepare during the season of Advent?

A Christmas Prayer

May you be filled with the wonder of Mary, the obedience of Joseph, the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds, the determination of the magi, and the peace of the Christ child.
 Almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit bless you now and forever.

-Ray Pritchard

NEWSLETTER STAFF

Editor: Misty Bergman **Website:** Beth Erdmann
Circulation / Mailing Coordinator: Christine Wolvin
Thank you to our volunteer mailers!!!

Celebrating the holidays with a person living with Alzheimer's

The holidays are often filled with opportunities for togetherness, sharing, laughter and memories. But they can also bring stress, disappointment, and sadness. A person living with Alzheimer's, or another dementia may feel a special sense of loss during the holidays because of the changes they have experienced. At the same time, caregivers may feel overwhelmed maintaining traditions while providing care.

Adjust expectations.

- Call a face-to-face meeting or arrange for a group discussion via telephone, video chat or email for family and friends to discuss holiday celebrations. Make sure that everyone understands your caregiving situation and has realistic expectations about what you can and cannot do. No one should expect you to maintain every holiday tradition or event.
- Give yourself permission to do only what you can reasonably manage. If you've always invited 15 to 20 people to your home, consider inviting five for a simpler meal. Think about having a potluck dinner, asking someone to order and bring dinner, or asking others to host.

Involve the person living with Alzheimer's.

- Involve the person in safe, manageable holiday preparation activities that they enjoy. Ask them to help you prepare food, wrap packages, help decorate or set the table. (Avoid using candies, artificial fruits and vegetables as decorations because a person living with dementia might confuse them with real food. Blinking lights may also confuse the person.)
- Maintain the person's normal routine as much as possible, so that holiday preparations don't become disruptive or confusing. Taking on too many tasks can wear on both of you.
- Build on traditions and memories. Your family member may find comfort in going caroling, but you may also experiment with new traditions that might be less stressful or a better fit with your caregiving responsibilities, such as watching seasonal movies.

Adapt gift giving.

- Advise people not to give gifts such as dangerous tools or instruments, utensils, challenging board games, complicated electronic equipment or pets.
- Depending on the person's abilities and preferences, involve them in gift giving. For example, someone who once enjoyed baking may enjoy helping to make cookies and pack them in tins or boxes. Or you may want to buy the gift so that the person can wrap it.
- If friends or family members ask you what you'd like for a gift, you might suggest a gift certificate or something that will help make things easier, like housecleaning; lawn, handyman or laundry services; restaurant gift cards; or a scheduled visit with the person for an afternoon so you can have some time off.
- Provide people with suggestions for useful and enjoyable gifts for the person, such as an identification bracelet or membership in a wandering response service. Or suggest comfortable, easy-to-remove clothing; favorite music; photo albums of family and friends; or favorite treats.

Try to be flexible.

- Celebrate over lunch or brunch, rather than an evening meal, so you can work around the evening confusion (sundowning) if it sometimes affects the person living with dementia.
- Consider serving nonalcoholic drinks and keeping the room bright.
- Prepare for post-holiday letdown. Arrange for in-home care so you can rest, enjoy a movie or have lunch with a friend, and reduce post-holiday stress and fatigue.

