

A joint newsletter from the Minnesota congregations of:



Faith, Culver



First, Meadowlands



St. John's, Saginaw



St. Peter's, Canyon



MINISTER’S MESSAGE FROM DAVE’S DESK

Well, Christmas has come and gone and by the time you read my newsletter article, some of you may have already removed all traces of Christmas from your house. Christmas is a time of year that many put their best foot forward for those who are in need and we do our best to live out our Christian faith of loving God and loving our neighbor. Unfortunately, for some, when the Christmas season is past and in the rearview mirror, too often many go back to their old ways. Some will treat others with little or no respect and now that Christmas is over, they can fend for themselves. Is that what we are taught in our Christian faith? Is that what the bible teaches us? I recently read a story that I’d like to share with you that has similarities to the Christmas story but points out human close mindedness.

It was the winter of 1926, an age when narrow-mindedness and bigotry still had power in many places. A woman from Chicago named Thelma Goldstein decided to go to Florida for her first real vacation. She was not familiar with the area, and she unknowingly drove to a restricted hotel in North Miami. “Excuse me,” she said to the man at the desk. “My name is Mrs. Goldstein, and I’d like a small room for two weeks.” “I’m awfully sorry,” he replied, “but all of our rooms are occupied,” Just then, she noticed a man checked out at the counter next to them. “What luck,” said Mrs. Goldstein. “Now there’s a room,” “Not so fast madam. I’m sorry, but this hotel is restricted. No Jews allowed.” “Jewish?” she said, “Who’s Jewish? I happen to be Catholic.” The man at the desk said, “I find that hard to believe. Let me ask you, who was the Son of God?” She answered, “Jesus the Son of Mary. “Where was he born?” “In a stable.” The man pressed on, “And why was he born in a stable?” With her eyes flashing, she said, “Because

a schmuck like you wouldn’t let a Jew rent a room in his hotel!”

In this world, at the present time, there will be those who do not recognize us for who we are or respect us. Nevertheless, we are children of the King. We have a royal future, so we tolerate any rejection we experience in the world, knowing that the King himself was rejected. We tolerate it easily enough, for the Bible says, “Here is a trustworthy saying: If we died with him, we will also live with him; if we endure, we will reign with him.” (2 Timothy 2:11-12).

This year, let us live out the Christmas story 365 days a year. Not just Thanksgiving to Christmas. Let all around us see that we are made in God’s image and live as God’s representative in a broken world. Let’s be an example and eliminate bigotry, racism and hatred and instead give help where help is needed without judgement. Remember, God is depending on us!

**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: Jan. 7th, 6:30p at First
All are welcome!

Newsletter Coordinator Wanted

Would like someone to help Christine transition out of this roll she has held for many years. It only takes about two hours of your time and a great way to help the S.A.L.T. Parish stay connected. Please reach out to Christine Wolvin if you would like to help.

Girl Scout Troop Meeting Dates at Faith from
5-7pm

Men's Breakfast, Dec. 18th, 8am
Country Corner, Hwy 2, Brookston



May your 2026 be filled with moments
that turn into beautiful memories.



UPCOMING EVENTS



The Health and Wellness team has scheduled another evening of learning on January 21 at Faith, Culver. The evening will begin with a soup supper at 5:30pm followed by a presentation titled: "Deeply rooted; tending to our bodies, minds and Spirits." It focuses on stress relief, self-care, coping skills and self-compassion.

The presentation will be led by Joy Hensel, our Synod representative for Health and Wellness. You don't want to miss this!

~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 Jan. issue: 2nd Sun of Month: Jan. 11th

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, Jan. 8th, 2025
 9:00 – 10:30 am

5007 Maple Grove Rd Hermantown, MN
 2nd Tuesday of the Month, Jan. 13th, 2025
 5:00 – 6:30 pm

2300 E Skyline Blvd (Copper Top Church)
 3rd Thursday of the Month, Jan. 15th, 2025
 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.

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	Amber Schwartz
Vice Pres.	Ginny Richmond
Secretary	Mindy Lindor
Treasurer	Misty Bergman

Church Contact People

Faith	Dale Neuman
First	Ginny Richmond
St. John's	Carolyn Collum
St. Peter's	Fred Zorn

NEWSLETTER STAFF

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

Happy New Year 2026 Inspiration for Christians

As we step into 2026, Christians are encouraged to reflect on the past year and look forward to the new beginnings it brings.

Sending out Christian New Year messages goes beyond tradition. When you text a friend or speak with them add “May God’s grace cover you in 2026”. You’re doing something different than wishing them “good luck” or “best wishes”.

You’re reminding them that God holds their future. You’re pointing them back to His Faithfulness in the past year, even if it was hard. You’re speaking biblical truth over their life instead of generic positivity that fades by mid-January.

Christian New Year Messages also give you a chance to testify. When you share Scripture-based hope with someone who doesn’t know Christ, you show them that believers have a different foundation. Our confidence for the coming year doesn’t rest on our own strength or circumstances-it rests on a God who never changes, whose mercies are new every morning, and who holds all our days in His hands.

With that, “May God’s Grace cover you all in 2026”!

Why did the minister start the New Year’s sermon with a ladder?

Because he wanted the congregation to start the year on a high level.

Health & Wellness Page

Health and Wellness an evening of Learning on January 21st, at 6:15 pm with soup supper prior starting at 5:30pm at Faith Lutheran in Culver.

Joy Hensel will be presenting on: Deeply rooted; tending to our bodies, minds and Spirits." It focuses on stress relief, self-care, coping skills and self-compassion.

You won't want to miss out on this!!

Holistic wellness is a comprehensive approach to health that recognizes the interconnectedness of various aspects of life, including physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual wellbeing. It goes beyond merely treating symptoms and instead focuses on nurturing the whole person. This approach is rooted in the understanding that our thought, feelings, and beliefs can significantly impact our overall health.

Holistic wellness is an approach to health that considers the whole person, addressing physical, mental, emotional, social, and spiritual components of well-being. It's rooted in the understanding that all these aspects are interconnected and influence overall health. This comprehensive perspective goes beyond treating isolated symptoms, instead focusing on caring for the entire individual.



January 2026



Faith, Culver



First, Meadowlands



St. John's, Saginaw



St. Peter's, Canyon

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28	29	30	31	1	2	3
	Follow SALT PARISH on Facebook for devotionals from Minister Dave (Tue - Fri at 9:30a) and live Sunday Services at 10:30am.			Happy New Year! 2025		
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
8:45 Worship Faith 10:30 Worship First	Culver Quilters 10:30am Faith		Parish Council Mtg 6:30pm @ First	St. John's Church Council 6:00pm		
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
8:30 Worship St. John's 10:30 Worship St. Peter's	Culver Quilters 10:30am Faith	Faith Church Council 4:15pm			Men's Breakfast 8am Country Corner ☕ Brookston	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
8:45 Worship Faith 10:30 Worship First, Council after Service	Culver Quilters 10:30am Faith Martin Luther King Jr & Inauguration Day		H & W evening of Learning, soup supper at 5:30p, presentation 6:15p	Health & Wellness 6:30pm @ Faith		
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
8:30 Worship St. John's 10:30 Worship St. Peter's	Culver Quilters 10:30am Faith					
1	2	Notes				
Invite a Friend to Church		Health & Wellness meetings are the 4th Thursday of Jan, Mar, May, July, Sep, Nov, 6:30pm @ Faith		Fall SALT Sister's Retreat 2026 will be October 1st- 4th at Camp Vermillion.		

S.A.L.T. Churches
5697 Hwy 7
Culver, MN 55779

Return Service Requested

S.A.L.T. Parish Churches
Faith Lutheran, Culver
First Lutheran, Meadowlands
St. John's, Saginaw
St. Peter's, Canyon

LOCAL POSTAL PATRON

****For More information****
Please check the following:
Website: saltparish.org



S.A.L.T. PARISH: Seeking to Share Christ to ALL
Through love, encouragement, prayer, serving, worship, study, giving, and invitation.

Sunday Worship Service Times and Locations:

Date	Worship Service Schedule
Jan 4th	8:45 Worship Faith, 10:30 Worship First
Jan 11th	8:30 Worship St. John's, 10:30 Worship St. Peter's
Jan 18th	8:45 Worship Faith, 10:30 Worship First, Council to Follow
Jan 25th	8:30 Worship St. John's, 10:30 Worship St. Peter's

Minister Dave Erdmann 218-391-7951

Facebook: [SALT Parish](#) Faith Lutheran Church First Lutheran Church
Website: www.saltparish.org St John's Lutheran St Peter's Lutheran