

January Newsletter 2026



Church Staff

Pastor

Rev. Donald
Welmer

Pastor Emeritus

Rev. Gilbert Pingel

Administrative Assistant

Amy Sandy

Director of Music

Justin Hipp

Organist/Pianist

Anna Hipp

Custodian

Denise Topp

President

Adam Weidman

BCA Principal

David Topp

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

And Mary said,

“My soul magnifies the Lord,

and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,

for he has looked on the humble estate of his servant.

*For behold, from now on all generations will call me blessed;
for he who is mighty has done great things for me,
and holy is his name.*

*And his mercy is for those who fear him
from generation to generation.*

*He has shown strength with his arm;
he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts;
he has brought down the mighty from their thrones
and exalted those of humble estate;
he has filled the hungry with good things,
and the rich he has sent away empty.*

*He has helped his servant Israel,
in remembrance of his mercy,
as he spoke to our fathers,
to Abraham and to his offspring forever.”*

(Luke 1:46-55)

Mary's song isn't just for the Advent/Christmas season. It is a song for every season in the church year. We are reminded in her song of what Christ came to do, and the promises that he kept from the time of the Old Testament until the time of his second coming.

As you journey through this church year, take some time periodically to sing this wonderful song of Mary. Rejoice as Mary does, being reminded of our Savior who has come into the world and will come back into the world as the Son of Man.

We are always in anticipation and preparation of his second coming. Until then, let us remember his mercy and may we always turn to

him for our forgiveness. He always keeps his promises.

Your Servant in Christ,

Pastor Welmer

2 Timothy 1:7

.. for God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control

A growth mindset has been a focus of our BCA team this year. A spirit of power, love and self-control allows us to focus on what can be done if we are in the right spirit, which leads to the right growth mindset. As we set our hearts on the preparation of the celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ we should be thankful for His setting aside His power to become a human for us. His example, when we follow it, brings joy and peace to our lives.

As we gather with family and friends I pray that we can look at each other through the lens of what God gives in and through His son and lift each other up. Appreciate effort and encourage growth, even if it is a baby step that's a little wobbly and needs a helping hand.

May your time celebrating Jesus be filled with His power, joy, love and your self-control.

With a growth mindset,

David Topp

January Birthdays

Joy Gibbons	1/2
Melanie Kempson	1/3
Rick Sparks	1/3
Ashley Shamblin	1/8
Karl Dolloff	1/8
Benjamin Medeiros	1/9
Tim Hall	1/9
Greice Denzin	1/12
Debbie Wilson	1/13
John Aaron Jovaag	1/14
Steve Hale	1/18

Cindy Savor	1/18
David Kulisek	1/19
Marie Curle	1/20
Linda Cox	1/21
Ruth Schlie	1/23
Gracie Halloran	1/28
Cassidy Ledding	1/28
Roger Larson	1/30
Michael Powers	1/30

January Anniversaries

	Yrs
Deb Fuhrman-Smith & Sean Smith	39 1/8
Ted & Ashley Engel	14 1/27

Prayer Requests

Members

Michelle Bumgardner
 Rose Grob
 Karen Lawson
 Monty Simmons

Family of Members

James O'Connell (Pacenti)
 David Rittenberry (Curtis)
 Tim Stroud (Stroud)

Friends of Members

Cari Chittick (Morkert)
 Gene & Faye Edwards (Tyson)

Carol & Carl Anderson (*J. Anderson*)
Page Dover (*Stroud*)
Doug Emmer (*Emmer*)
Sherry Emmer (*Emmer*)
Lynn Erke (*Randall*)
Joshua Falloon (*Turner*)
Austin Martin (*Petty*)
Dusty Martin (*Petty*)
Valerie McMullen (*McMullen*)
Avery Morkert (*Morkert*)

Ava England (Anderson)
Jon Freese (Gatlin)
Charmaine Goines (Petty)
Jeff Hale (Bumgardner)
Lisa Hearn Cox
Stella Kuhn (McMullen)
Naomi (Randall)
Jollie Reeves (Simmons)
Amy Turner, Lilly &
Tabitha (Turner)

LONG-TERM

Members: Joan Ashton, Mariann Fretwell, Ingrid Hall, Carolyn Kempson, Ida Jane Larson, Walter Meyer, Peggy Moselage, Judy Nance, Paul Parker, Pastor Pingel, Stan Puterbaugh, David Ratchford, Pat Stroud

Non-Members: Eleanor Aramil (Piepenbrink), Robbie & Sue Barnes (Hyde), Bonnie Blair (Nance), Thomas Caines (Lowe), Bethany Dillard (Johnson), Kris Hall (Hall), Ashley & Jim Koss (Schlie), Bern Langley (Bumgardner) Mia Marine (Cox), Lloyd Miller (Uffalussy), Becky Whitfield (Bumgardner)



The Green Bag is once again in the Breakfast Room for anyone who may want to donate used or new outer wear for the homeless at the Chatt Foundation. Blankets, socks, hats & gloves are also welcome.

The Evangelism Committee will present three more modules of “Life in God’s Way,” a program from Concordia Center for the Family to assist church families. Twenty-two members participated in the sessions we had a few weeks ago with very positive response. The studies are designed to encourage discussion so we all learn together.

Based on the feedback we received, we will offer three modules as follows:

MARRIAGE	Tuesday, January 20, 2026
PARENTING	Tuesday, January 27, 2026
FAMILY DISCIPLESHIP	Tuesday, February 3, 2026

All meetings will start at 6:30 p.m.

Participation in the first sessions is not a prerequisite, so please plan to join us for any or all of these sessions.

We hope to offer child care so couples with children can attend these sessions. We are currently looking for volunteers to help with the child care.

Sign up sheets will be posted in early January. For additional information please contact Pastor Watson or Robert Campbell.

OUTSIDE WORK DAY SUNDAY, JANUARY 11

Your help is needed in cleaning out the lower lot after the 11:00 church service next Sunday.

A dumpster will be next to the lot for easy disposal.

If staying from the 11:00 service, please bring your work clothes, gloves and shoes to church!

All workers will be treated to lunch.

Due to the nature of the work, we apologize that children cannot participate.



Volunteers to run the AV equipment for Sunday morning services are needed immediately. If you can help, please contact Adam Weidman.

ELDER GROUP LIST

Wonder who your Elder is?

Check the notice board in the Coffee Room!

WANTED

Help for
Building &
Grounds
& A/V

REWARD:
The Lord's Blessings

Grounds Committee

This committee is currently manned
by one person: Michael Stephens,
chair.

Able-bodied people desperately
needed to help with current tasks
within the church. Please contact
Michael Stephens to help.

The Altar Guild invites you to join them in removing the
Christmas decorations from the church Saturday, January
10 between 9:00-noon.

In my
dream
world,
fabric is
free and
quilting
makes you
thin!



Quilting!

Our quilters
meet at 10:00
on the 3rd
Tuesday of the
month. Why
not join them
and see what
quilting does
for you!



*Ladies' Fellowship
meets at 6:00
on Thursday, January 15, at
Portofino's on Ringgold Road.*



Men's Fellowship
meets at 6:30 on
Thursday, January 15,
at Rib & Loin on
Brainerd Road.

BCA

BELVOIR CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

JAN. 27

KINDERGARTEN OPEN HOUSE



- ✓ Tour the school
- ✓ Meet teachers
- ✓ Review curriculum
- ✓ Ask questions

Guided Tours

Q & A

Learn More about
Infants - 8th too!



423-622-3755

BCALIONS.org

January Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
JANUARY 2026				1 <i>Happy New Year!</i> Office Closed	2 Pastor out of town	3 Pastor out of town
4 <i>2nd Sunday after Christmas</i> LWML Mtg Box 8:30 Divine Service 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Divine Service Pastor out of town	5 Pastor out of town	6 <i>Epiphany</i> 9-2 Food Pantry 1:30 Bible Class 6:30 Christian Ed Meeting	7	8 10:00 LWML 12:00 Evangelism Meeting at Armando's, N. Lee Hwy	9	10 9-12 Altar Guild take down Christmas decorations
11 <i>First Sunday after Epiphany</i> 8:30 Divine Service 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Divine Service	12 Meetings: 6:00 BCA Board	13 9-2 Food Pantry 1:30 Bible Class Meetings: 6:00 Elders 6:00 Parish Fellowship 6:00 Social Ministry	14 6:30 Church Council Meeting	15 6:00 Ladies Fellowship at Portofino's in Ringold 6:30 Men's Fellowship at Rib & Loin in Brainerd	16	17
18 <i>Second Sunday after Epiphany</i> Food Pantry Offering 8:30 Divine Service 9:45 Sunday School w/ Choices Sanctuary of Human Life	19 Newsletter & Calendar Deadline	20 9-2 Food Pantry 10:00 Quilters 1:30 Bible Class 6:30 "Life in God's Way" Seminar - Marriage	21	22	23	24
25 <i>The Transfiguration of Our Lord</i> Food Pantry Offering 8:30 Divine Service 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Divine Service	26	27 9-2 Food Pantry 1:30 Bible Class 6:30 "Life in God's Way" Seminar - Parenting	28	29	30	31

January Worship Assistants

January 4 8:30

Organist Anna Hipp
 Assistants Jeff Anderson
 Frank Streufert
 Ushers David Topp
 Kurt Piepenbrink
 Altar Guild Linda Cox
 Michelle Bumgardner

January 4 11:00

Organist Anna Hipp
 Live Stream Charlie Simmons
 Assistants Townley Team
 Ushers Barber Team
 Altar Guild Marcie Little
 Acolyte Eradesa Stroud

January 11 8:30

Organist Anna Hipp
 Assistants Jeff Anderson

January 11 11:00

Organist Anna Hipp
 Live Stream Vacant

	Frank Streufert
Ushers	Tony Seiberlich
	Ralph Meissner
Altar Guild	Ralph Meissner

Assistants	Townley Team
Ushers	Barber Team
Altar Guild	Jodie Hyde
Acolyte	Ruthie Vinson

January 18 8:30

Organist	Anna Hipp
Assistants	Steve Kempson
	Jim Post
Ushers	Chris Douglas
	David Topp
Altar Guild	Patty Chewning

January 18 11:00

Organist	Anna Hipp
Live Stream	Eric Turner
Assistants	Townley Team
Ushers	Barber Team
Altar Guild	Carla Brooks
Acolyte	Jackson Barber

January 25 8:30

The Transfiguration of Our Lord

Organist	Anna Hipp
Assistants	Ralph Meissner
	Jim Post
Ushers	Kurt Piepenbrink
	Tony Seiberlich
Altar Team	Linda Cox
	Michelle Bumgardner
Acolyte	Eradesa Stroud
Crucifer	

January 25 11:00

Organist	Anna Hipp
Live Stream	Adam Weidman
Assistants	Townley Team
Ushers	Barber Team
Altar Team	Carla Brooks
Acolyte	Audrey Hipp
Crucifer	Colin Hipp

 Website