

# THE GOOD NEWS

## THE NORTHWOOD-WASHINGTON LUTHERAN PARISH February 2025

### Washington Church Worship Ministers: Ushers: Chris Moore, Mary Gravdahl

The **youth** will be attending the Grand Forks Conference Youth Night at Red River High School in Grand Forks Wednesday, February 19. We will carpool from NELC.

### NELC Worship Ministers: Ushers: Jim Mutchler, Dave Sebekow

**Washington WELCA meets for a business meeting and quilting**, Monday, February 3 at 9 am. The 2025 WELCA booklets should be out soon.

The Lenten season and Easter are late this year. Ash Wednesday is March 5 which is the beginning of the Lenten season. The Confirmation students and parents are expected to help with the Lenten meals each week.



 **NELC WELCA**-will be having a business meeting at 10 am on Planning Monday, February 10. The 2025 WELCA booklets should be out soon.

**NELC Council meeting** Sunday, February 2 at 12:30 pm

**Washington Council Meeting** Sunday, February 2 at 12:30 p,

**Joint Council meeting** Sunday February 2 at 1:30 pm.



Please join us for lunch to celebrate  
**Blanche Thingelstad's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday!**



Sunday, February 23, 2025

2-5 pm

NELC basement  
No gifts, please.



## From Vicar Steve

By the time you read this, I will no longer be an intern. That status ended on January 31<sup>st</sup>, and I am glad to stay on for the time being, as the Authorized Minister for the Northwood/Washington Parish. The only thing left for me as far as school is to walk through graduation in June. It feels like a long journey. I first applied for seminary in spring of 2020 right as the pandemic began ravaging our world. That meant I spent my first year in completely online classes. The first in person thing I did was a travel class to Berlin, Germany in August of 2021 and that barely happened. Luther Seminary gave me the gift of being able to complete my education online with only a few requirements to be in person over the course of 4 ½ years. This allowed me to focus on my role as a full time youth minister at Sharon Lutheran, as well as being present for my family. Seminary didn't used to work that way, but I am glad the seminary has been open to new ways of doing things because it has allowed leaders from across the globe, and all different life situations to pursue their calling as Pastors, Deacons, Ministry Professionals and Professors.

I am currently writing this while in the call process. Churches who are looking for Pastors have the opportunity to interview me and show me their ministry sites now. This has brought many thoughts about where God is calling me. It also has made me think about the needs of the larger church and my place in it. The part of me that is having the hardest time with all of this is that in the end I feel like I have to disappoint people. There is only one of me. Part of me is also afraid. I am afraid that if I stay somewhere too long, I become complacent, or if I go somewhere brand new it won't be a good fit and will be a disaster. I've been serving the community of Northwood in some form for over 2 years now. It has been a truly enjoyable experience. You all helped me learn how to do what I do well. You let me fail in front of you and succeed in front of you. We have fostered a better sense of togetherness and I've seen all the people here find the ways in which they have gifts for ministry in this church and the wider world. No matter where God calls me this will always be a highlight of my career.

So, I ask you to pray for me, know there is a lot going on inside my head and heart right now, and to continue to support the ministry of the church no matter what the future holds. I will continue to always pray for you no matter which way the spirit moves. Right now, let's focus on what is next. We have much to celebrate and we have much to prepare for and I am excited to do it alongside the people of the Northwood/Washington Parish. Amen

-Vicar Steve

Northwood-Washington Lutheran Parish  
P.O. Box 394  
Northwood, ND 58267

Non-Profit Organization  
US Postage Paid  
Permit No. 3

Address Service Requested



#### STAFF OF NORTHWOOD-WASHINGTON LUTHERAN PARISH

Intern Minister	Steve DeKrey	Custodians	Les Wheeler &
Parish Assistant	Deb Aaland		Desiree McMillan-Washington
	Office number 701-587-5381		Deb Aaland-NELC
Organists	Joan Huso-NELC	Church E-mail	nelc@polarcomm.com

---

Pastor's office hours: 8 am -2:30 pm, Monday & Tuesday; 8 am—5 pm Wednesday;  
8 am—3 pm Thursday

Parish Assistant's office hours: 8:30 am to 3 pm Monday thru Friday

Sunday Worship services at Washington Church start at 9 am

Sunday Worship services at Northwood Evangelical Lutheran Church start at 11 am

The worship service is livestreamed on our website: [www.northwoodwashingtonparish.org](http://www.northwoodwashingtonparish.org)

NELC Council Members: Pete Antonson, Bob Bilden, Wade Bilden, Ed Bina, Nancy Hall, Nicole Korsmo, Karl Jodock, Angela Lyste, Tim Mutchler Jr., Amy Sheggerud

Washington Council Members: Annette Aird, Mary Gravdahl, Craig Hanson, Chris Moore, David Mullet, Cecil Tinderholt