



Morning Worship

December 14, 2025

Seeking to glorify God in all things through His son Jesus Christ.

Worship Service 10:30am

Metropolitan Baptist Church warmly welcomes our visitors today. If you are visiting with us, please fill out the card located in the pew/rack and place it in the offering plate so we can get to know you better.

Call to Gather	"Emmanuel"	#243
Welcome / Announcements		Pastor Steve
Advent Candle Lighting		
Hymn	"The First Noel" vs. 1	#265
Church in Confession		Clayton Harsch
Call to Worship		John 1:1-5,14
Congregational Songs of Praise		Praise Team
Psalm Reading		Psalm 99
Church in Prayer		Pastor Jack
Offering /Offertory	Children Dismissed for Children's Church	
Preparation Hymn	"Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You"	#271
Scripture		Matthew 1:18-25
Message		Pastor Jack
Closing Song	"What Are You Afraid Of?"	Praise Team
Benediction		Numbers 6:24-26

For Your Convenience...

There is Nursery available for parents with small children.

Thanks to this week's Volunteers - Myndi F., Tammy & Caleb B.

Next Week's Volunteers - December 21 - Arlette B., Jan F.

Children's Church Volunteer Today - Jennifer Kastl

Thank you for silencing your cell phones during the Worship Service. Quiet Bags are hanging in the library next to the video rack.

The Church in Prayer

NCA Pastors and Ministries of the Week

First Baptist, Eureka, SD

Pat (Jody) Russell, Pastor

MBC Supported Missions

Alan & Judy Steier (Barnabas Int'l) - The Steiers minister from their home in Delaware; closer to a daughter and family. They've used new ways to communicate over the past several years for their conversations with fellow missionaries and mission organizations; continuing to connect via email and video chats. Alan recently made a trip with other Barnabas International colleagues to Indonesia, taking Shepherd's Apprentice training to Indonesians who care for Indonesian workers sent out with the Good News. Twelve participants took part in the training. For more information see the Steier's recent newsletter in the Missionary Pouch in the entryway.

Park Christian School - A Christ-centered kindergarten through 12th grade school. Strong academics, competitive athletics, expressive fine arts, and inspiring Christian emphasis combine to provide a positive, nurturing environment where students prepare for success in college and in life. Chapels, class devotions, and a variety of Bible studies, service opportunities, and events inspire students in their walk with the Lord. Spiritual Emphasis Week (fall) and Spiritual Emphasis Day (spring) provide concentrated times of discovering biblical truth and life application. A student's experience includes an 80-hour Bible-practicum often igniting their ministry passion and use of their spiritual gifts. See more at: <http://www.parkchristianschool.org>

NAB Missionary of the Week



Dr. Rick & Debbie Bardin

NAB Missionaries in Cameroon

Rick and Debbie have been serving as medical missionaries for nearly their entire careers, but they didn't start serving at Mbingo Baptist Hospital in Bamenda, Cameroon, until 2010. Rick is a board-certified medical doctor in Internal Medicine and Pathology, and Debbie is a staff nurse. She takes great joy in praying with her patients and talking with them about Jesus.

Pray the patients at Mbingo to be able to get to the hospital for the care they need and for the light of Christ be evident to all.

For more information go to: nabonmission.org/missionaries/dr-rick-debbie-bardin

Youth News

MBC Family & Friends:
Please consider hosting a
Youth Group Supper
Sunday evenings, 5:00 - 7:30pm.
A schedule is posted on the
Youth Bulletin Board
for the opportunity to sign up.
Thank You!!

Change to Make a Change The Youth Group Missions Donation Box is located in the back of the sanctuary. Drop your spare change or donations in the box to help us make a change in the world through missions; for future Youth Mission trips.

Every penny helps!!

Enjoy Christmas and
New Years
with your Families!

Watch your emails for details
of upcoming events

Prayer & Praise Items

"First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people."
I Timothy 2:1 ESV

- Pray for **Cameroon** due to the civil unrest that continues. Pray for God to bring peace to the country.
- Pray for the **Russia-Ukraine** conflict. Pray for peace.
- Pray for **Israel**. God's will be done. Pray for peace and rebuilding.
- Pray for the **leadership** of our country, state, and city. May they see their need for a Savior and seek Him!
- **Continue to pray for salvation** for all those we know who need the Lord; family members, friends, co-workers, and neighbors.
- Continue in prayer for those in our church family, and others, facing health issues: **Morris Peterson, Arlene Franchuk, Sherry Buchholz, Gail Biby, Larry Crooks, Arlene Palm, Karen Parrott, Ron Parrott, Kevin Preston, Jacque Ulstad, Darlene Wahl, Waltraut Wolff, Elmer Ackerman, Tammy Bluel, Linda Moser, Bob Weier, Glenn Burrell, Steven Kieffer, and Joan Frey.** Pray for peace, comfort, continued strength, and healing in each of their circumstances.
- Pray for the **MBC's Upcoming Activities**: Christmas Cantata, Christmas Eve Service, Praying in the New Year.
- Pray for the **Wahl/Harsch family** in the loss of **Claude's brother, Collin**. Pray for peace and comfort.
- Praise for this season of celebrating the Birth of our Savior and the Worship of our Lord!

Announcements

For anyone interested in Baptism - Pastor Jack will be having an informational meeting after worship, 12:30pm, **January 4th** in the Chapel. If you have any questions, see Pastor Jack. Baptismal Class is required for children prior to baptism.

Holiday Food for Families: Thank you to those who signed up to bring items for the Holiday Food For Families baskets and helped with distribution. Praise God!

Thank you for helping in this joyous and compassionate outreach ministry to others.



"A Christmas Gathering" Christmas Cantata
The Cantata will be this evening at 5:30pm
The Preschoolers will also be performing



Christmas Program Fellowship - immediately following the Program
Requesting that all families bring one dozen cookies or bars to share.
Serving Groups 2 & 3 bring one dozen sandwiches to share,
Groups 2 & 3 will also help with serving and clean-up



Announcements Continued



Leaders and/or Listeners Needed - see Janet Kirsch



~ Upcoming Events for this Holiday Season ~

Christmas Eve Service, 6:30 pm, Wednesday, December 24th
Praying In The New Year, Wednesday, December 31st, 8:00 pm until 8:00 am, Thursday, January 1st, praying in 2026
Please join us in celebrating the birth of Christ and anticipating what the Lord has for us in the New Year!



NCFCA Christian Speech & Debate Tournament - January 15-17, 2026
at Salem Church, 1111 30th Ave. So., Moorhead, MN - Moorhead, MN Qualifier
Volunteers needed to judge, No previous experience needed, Training provided
The Bluel and Anderson families are both involved in this event.
Questions: moorheadjudges@ncfca.org



Annual Business Meeting & Lunch - January 18, 2026

following the Morning Service, Meeting @ 1pm

Each family is asked to bring a main dish to share.

Families A - K bring a salad ~ L - Z bring a dessert

Serving Group 1 will help serve and Group 4 will help with clean up.

Annual Reports are due to the office by Wednesday, January 7th

... Trustee Board

Ladies, and High School girls, if you would like to participate in **"Secret Prayer Sisters" 2026** pick up a form at the Resource Center. Fill it out and place it in the basket at the Resource Center or in the church office by **Friday, January 2nd**.



New Secret Sisters will be given to you in early January. Please don't miss out on this ministry in our church. It's a wonderful opportunity to encourage each other throughout the year.

Also - There is a Sign-Up for **Caring Person for 2026** - sending cards for Birthdays, Anniversaries, Member/Family of the Week, encouragement, etc. If you have questions, feel free to ask Arlette Buegel, Camille Heuer, or Sue Mavis.

2026 Feed My Starving Children, FargoMobile Pack

February 22nd - 28th at the Red River Valley Fairgrounds

To Volunteer or Donate go to <https://fargopack.org>
beginning December 11th



Please register yourselves; as a family, group or individual



Ladies Daytime Bible Study

Tuesdays, 1:00-2:30pm at MBC, beginning January 6th

Studying Lisa Whittle's, "Body & Soul"

There is a sign-up sheet at the Resource Center

A Special Thanks to **Ervin and Waltraut Wolff** for providing the **Poinsettias** adorning the sanctuary and foyer for Christmas!!

MBC Family - **Thank you** for gifting me with meals, visits, prayers and practical help following my surgery and recovery. They were very much appreciated.

Jacque Ulstad

This Week

Today

9:15 am Fellowship
9:30 am Sunday School
10:30 am Morning Worship
5:30 pm Christmas Cantata & Fellowship

Wednesday, December 17

6:25 pm Awana Check-in
6:25-8:10 pm Awana

Metropolitan Staff

Jack Bluel	Senior Pastor
Steve Burrell	Pastor of Outreach & Evang.
Nancy Harsch	Worship Coordinator
Neal & Erica Anderson	Youth Coordinators
Sue Mavis	Administrative Assistant
Office Hours: Tuesday-Friday	8:30am-3:00pm

Attendance & Giving

Avg. Attendance for December	99
Amount Needed Weekly	\$6,115
November 30, 2025	\$4,017
Online week of 11-30-2025	\$20
December 7, 2025	\$6,529
Online week of 12-7-2025	\$2,042

Are you continuing to read the MBC Evangelism & Outreach Minutes?

Watch your email, weekly on Tuesday mornings, for an inspiring, short thought to motivate and enhance your witness.
"One Thing You Can't Do In Heaven . . ."

Upcoming Events

December 2025

14 - Christmas Cantata & Fellowship
24 - Christmas Eve Service
25 - Christmas Day
31 - Praying in the New Year

January 2026

1 - New Year's Day
4 - Communion
13 - Board Meetings
18 - Annual Meeting w/ Lunch following Worship

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Morning Prayer - 9am - Chapel  
Next Meeting January 25, 2026

## Recognitions

### Birthdays

Mark Mehl (Today)  
Clayton Harsch (Wednesday)  
Sherry Buchholz (Saturday)

### Friend of the Week

Kourtney Kieffer

### Caring Person for December

Camille Heuer

## 2:42 Groups

December  
Thurs., Dec. 18 6:00pm Wolff

Pastor Steve will be Out of the Office  
December 17th - 21st

**Christmas Card Exchange:** MBC gives you the opportunity to share your Christmas cards with friends of our congregation. **This is totally optional.** Your cards may be placed in the Mailboxes in the hallway, and can be picked up anytime throughout the month of December.

Address labels are available in the Church Office for \$2.00

Please check out the SAMPLE 2026 Directory at the Resource Center.

See sign for more details - or ask Sue Mavis. Thank You!

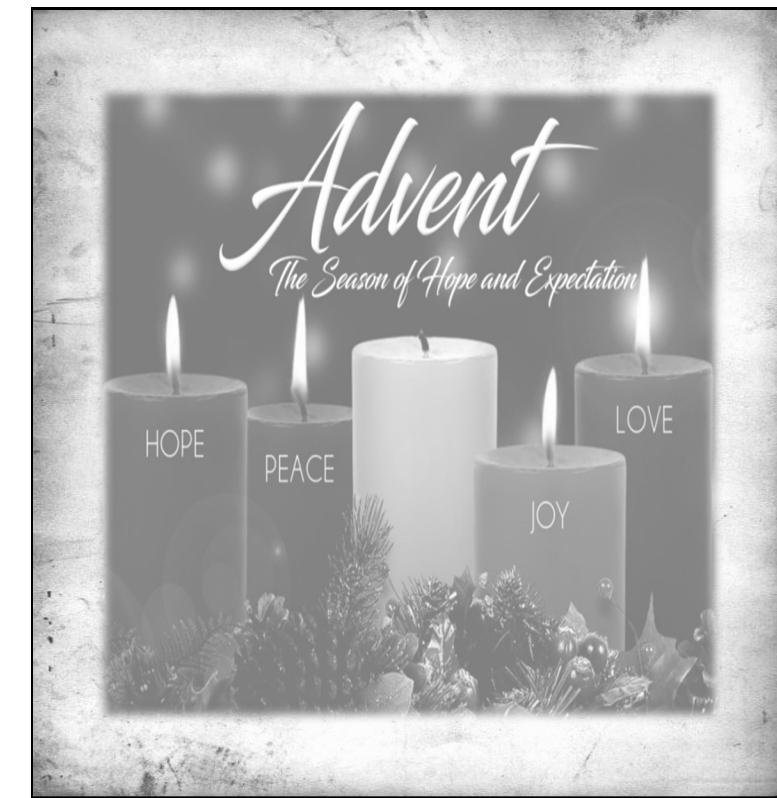


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*Matthew 1:18-25*



*December 14, 2025*