



# Morning Worship

## December 21, 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	Aaron Buchholz	
Advent Candle Lighting	Pastor Jack	
Hymn	“Angels We Have Heard on High” vs. 1	#278
Church in Confession	Bill Savage	
Call to Worship	Isaiah 9:2,6-7	
Congregational Songs of Praise	Praise Team	
Psalm Reading	Psalm 100	
Church in Prayer	Pastor Jack	
Offering /Offertory	Children Dismissed for Children's Church	
Preparation Hymn	“Good Christian Men, Rejoice”	#273
Scripture	Luke 2:1-21	
Message	Pastor Jack	
	The Day That Christ Was Born	
Closing Song	Praise Team	
Benediction	Romans 11:33-36	


For Your Convenience...  
There is Nursery available for parents with small children.  
**Thanks to this week's Volunteers - Sue M., Arlette B., Jan F.**  
**Next Week's Volunteers - December 28 - Jon & Ruth W.**  
**Children's Church Volunteers Today - Patsy Souter & Emma Buchholz**  
**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**  
Herreid Baptist, Herreid, SD  
John (Marisa) Swann, Pastor

**MBC Supported Missions**  
**Debbie Guimon (Uganda Mission)** - Debbie serves as Public Relations Coordinator for Soroti Orphan Assistance Project. SOAP is reaching out to the orphan children of Uganda with the Gospel and was organized for the purpose of providing a “living tool” to evangelize Uganda through church planting. As one of Uganda’s greatest and most overlooked living resources - orphans - are transformed into servants of God, they are becoming effective ministers to their own people reaching the un-reached masses in Uganda and beyond with the Gospel of Jesus Christ.


**Feed My Starving Children (FMSC)** - Feed My Starving Children believes hope starts with food. As a Christian nonprofit, FMSC is dedicated to seeing every child whole in body and spirit. FMSC works with food distribution partners that stay with communities for the long haul, empowering them to move from relief to development. The 2025 MobilePack took place January 7th-15th at Atonement Lutheran Church. The 8 day event packed 1,034,208 meals, feeding 2,833 kids for a year. Over the Fargo MobilePack’s 11-year history, it has packed more than 20 million meals. 2026 MobilePack dates are February 22-28 at the Red River Valley Fairgrounds.

**NAB Missionary of the Week**  
**Jake & Alison McGregor**  
**Kingdom Community in Lodi, California**  
For years, Jake and Alison have worked together as co-directors of One-Eighty Programs, an after-school program that has continually evolved to encompass the needs of teens and their families in Lodi. Kingdom Community grew out of this desire to welcome into God’s Kingdom all those who are standing on the outside. KC Groups meet weekly around particular missions, and all the groups gather twice a month at KC Praxis to share the stories of where God is at work. Pray that KC Groups will continue to be places of growth in service and that the celebration Sundays at KC Praxis will be life-giving to all present. For more information go to: [www.kcpraxis.org](http://www.kcpraxis.org)


## 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!!**





**Enjoy Christmas and  
New Years  
with your Families!**





**Watch your emails for details  
of upcoming events**





**“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!!* **Thank You!! MBC Youth Group**

## 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 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.

**MBC Church Family Praise**

- 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.


**Thank you** for the love and kindness you show to us and for the gifts you blessed us with for Christmas.  
It is a joy to labor together in the work of the church.  
We Praise God for what He is doing at Metropolitan!

**We wish you all a Joyous Christmas and a Blessed New Year!**


*The Svaleson family, Sue & Scott Mavis,  
Neal & Erica Anderson, Nancy & Clayton Harsch,  
Pastor Steve & LeAnn, and Pastor Jack & Tammy*



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, ask Arlette Buegel, Camille Heuer, or Sue Mavis.




**Ladies Daytime Bible Study**  
Tuesday afternoons, 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



**Women’s Bible Study** beginning **January 12th @ MBC**  
Monday evenings, 6:45 - 8:15pm  
**“Living Stones: A Study of 1 & 2 Peter”** by Michelle Lesley  
There is a sign-up sheet at the Resource Center

**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



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**

**Wednesday, December 24**  
6:30 pm Christmas Eve Service

**Thursday, December 25**  
*❄️ Merry Christmas! ❄️*

**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 November	96
Amount Needed Weekly	\$6,115
December 7, 2025	\$6,529
Online week of 12-7-2025	\$2,042
December 14, 2025	\$1,713
Online week of 12-21-2025	\$2,219

**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 . . .”

**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! ✓

**Upcoming Events**

**December 2025**  
24 - Christmas Eve Service  
25 - Christmas Day  
28 - No Sunday School  
31 - Praying in the New Year

**January 2026**  
1 - New Year’s Day  
4 - No Sunday School  
4 - Communion  
12 - MBC Prays  
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**  
Heidi Becker (Today)  
Annabella Hotchkiss (Wednesday)

**Friend of the Week**  
Hudson Weeks


**Caring Person for December**  
Camille Heuer



Metropolitan Baptist Church

2612 25th St SW Fargo, ND 58103  
701-237-6183  
mbcfargo@gmail.com \* www.mbcfargo.org





Luke 2:1-21

December 21, 2025