

## Pastor's Corner

### New year, new faith

This is your first newspaper of 2020. Are you curious about what this new year will bring? I think one of the best ways we can embrace a new year is by being intentional about what we want to achieve and receive in the next 365 days. I hope becoming more faithful is on your list. The gifts of deepening our faith are many. The benefits of what a strong faith can give you, and what it can add to our world are beyond measure. Here's a prayer in pursuit of a growing faith.

#### A Prayer of Renewal for a New Year:

Creator God, a new year dawns, let me embrace it. The gifts have been unwrapped, the Christmas cards

opened and displayed, the good food enjoyed, and holiday socializing is drawing to a close. I start a new chapter. I pray, let 2020 be a year of greater faith. Forgive me my sins. Forgive my indulgence in things and habits that are empty or harm us. Forgive my neglect of the people who matter most, and who need me most. Make me new. Creator God, I am yours. Re-make me continually, so that your image might shine brighter in me. Your world needs more Christ-light and so do I. Amen.

Isaiah 43:18-19 "Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old. I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the

wilderness and rivers in the desert." New beginnings are constantly possible. We can welcome or resist new chapters in our lives. If we allow ourselves to remain stuck, to continually look back, or relive old pains, we make it more difficult for ourselves to heal. It is work to be ready for what God is doing next in our lives. Part of stepping through a new door, is being willing to close the last one.

So I pray, whatever you need to release from 2019 or from years long ago, lay it at Jesus' feet. Walk freely into this new year. Let God lead. Everything is possible with God!

Rev. Elaine Sweet is a pastor at Rugby-Leeds Lutheran United Parish.

#### Obituaries (cont. from page 5)

### Philipina "Penny" Bertsch

Jan. 26, 1930 - Dec. 22, 2019



Penny Bertsch, 89, Minot, passed away Sunday, December 22, 2019, at Unsong's Assisted Living Facility in Minot surrounded by her loving family.

Philipina Gertrude Hager was born January 26, 1930, the daughter of Joseph and Johanna (Scheet) Hager, in Esmond, ND. She was raised and educated in Balta, ND.

Penny was united in marriage to Sebastian "Sy" Bertsch June 6, 1949, in Balta, ND. They made their home in Minot prior to moving back to Balta for a short time. Penny worked as waitress in Rugby and Minot. After settling in Minot, her days were filled with raising their six children. Sy passed away August 9, 2013.

She was a former member of St. Leo's Catholic Church in Minot and was a member of Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church, Minot. Penny was extremely devoted to her faith and saying the Rosary daily was very important to her.

She enjoyed sewing, quilting, baking and dancing. After relocating to the farm south of Minot, she took up gardening and raising chickens. Money raised from selling her eggs was used to purchase Christmas gifts for all her grandchildren and in later years her great-grandchildren.

**Surviving family includes:** children, Ronald (Marilyn) Bertsch, Lake Havasu, AZ, Debra New, Brooklyn Center, MN, Lynn Bertsch, Minot, Kelly (Colleen) Bertsch, Minot, Karri (John) Kurtzweil, Raleigh, NC, and Troy (Kristi) Bertsch, Minot; 19 grandchildren, Ret. Lt. Cmdr. Greg (Jennifer) Bertsch, Greta (Lance) Powell, Col. Anthony (Jessica) New, Amanda (Jonathan)

Bergstrom, Aimee (Sean) Combs, Annie New, Adam New, Alexandra Zickermann, Eric (Nicole) Bertsch, Heidi (Nathan) Nordstrom, Haylie (Scott) Shorb, Kristin (Bill) Kokot, Kayla (Chad) Haugeberg, Kelsey (Scott) Martin, Katherine (Adam) Cooper, Hannah Kurtzweil, Thomas (Lauren) Kurtzweil, Andrew (Allison) Bertsch, Alan Bertsch; 26 great-grandchildren, Joey, Karrie, Anna, Drake, Samantha, Maxwell, Miles, Isaiah, Alysia, Madison, Jackson, Emerson, Jenna, Kaine, Kendall, Caitlyn, Natalie, Emily, Cooper, Malik, Miss Ellie, Oliver, Eloise, Allie, Tatum, Brody; step-great grandchildren, Trey and Jon; step-great-great grandson, Aaron; brother, John Hager, Harvey; sisters, Helen Miller, Buffalo, MN, and Tina Brengman, Parrish, FL; brothers-in-law, Robert Weigel, Minot, Wally Bergland, Arizona; and numerous nieces, nephews and cousins.

**Penny was preceded in death by** her parents; husband of 64 years, Sebastian; daughter-in-law, Lynn Marie Bertsch; grandson, Timothy Bertsch; brother, William Hager, siblings and their spouses, Katherine Ripplinger, Mary and Roy Carlson, Delores and Jack Dutenhafer, Julie Berglund, and Rose Weigel; sister-in-law, Eleanor Hager; brothers-in-law, Joe Miller and Harris Brengman.

**Mass of Christian Burial:** Saturday, December 28, 2019, at 10:30 a.m. at Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church, Minot.

**Interment:** Rosehill Memorial Park, Minot, ND.

**Visitation:** Friday from 5 to 7 p.m. at Thompson-Larson Funeral Home, Minot.

**Vigil Prayer Service:** Friday at 7 p.m. at Thompson-Larson Funeral Home, Minot.

**Memorials:** are preferred to donor's choice.

Those wishing to sign the online register and share memories may access the online obituaries section at [www.thompsonlarson.com](http://www.thompsonlarson.com).

## North Dakota ends 2019 with fewer than 100 traffic fatalities as Vision Zero expands

Preliminary reports indicate that North Dakota had 98 motor vehicle fatalities in 2019 – a total that, if it goes unchanged, would be the first time in 17 years the state has recorded fewer than 100 traffic fatalities. Gov. Doug Burgum thanked the agencies involved in the Vision Zero traffic safety initiative for making a difference and expanding their efforts during the past year.

Since the comprehensive Vision Zero initiative was launched in 2018 by the North Dakota Department of Transportation (NDDOT), Highway Patrol and Department of Health, traffic fatalities in the state have decreased from 116 in 2017 to 105 in 2018 to a preliminary total of 98 in 2019, which would be the lowest total since 97 traffic fatalities were recorded in 2002. It will take up to 30 days to finalize the 2019 total as crash reports and investigations are completed.

"The only acceptable number of deaths on North Dakota roads is zero, and every year that we move closer to that goal represents important progress, because

these aren't just numbers – they're people's lives, and every life matters," Burgum said. "We're grateful to our Vision Zero partners for their dedication to keeping everyone safe and secure, and to the traveling public who have heeded the initiative's emphasis on personal responsibility, including driving sober and distracted-free, buckling up and slowing down."

This past year, Vision Zero was expanded with additional safety measures including more highway safety engineering systems, law enforcement equipment and programs; the establishment of highway safety corridors; crash data improvements and dashboards; and Vision Zero Schools, a new peer-to-peer program in high schools.

"We must keep in mind that lives lost on North Dakota roads are family, friends and community members," NDDOT Director Bill Panos said. "Of the 98 fatalities, approximately 47% were not wearing their seat belt. Seat belts are the single most effective safety device to prevent death and

injury in a motor vehicle crash. We are working to establish a culture of personal responsibility where motor vehicle fatalities are recognized as preventable and not tolerated, because when it comes to those we love, zero is the only acceptable number of lives to lose."

Of the 98 motor vehicle fatalities in 2019, 42% were alcohol-related and 25% were speed-related. Victims ranged in age from 3 years old to 93 years old, and 83% were North Dakota residents. By mode of transportation, 74 of the fatalities were in a passenger vehicle, 11 were motorcyclists, five were pedestrians, four were on all-terrain vehicles (ATVs) and two were bicyclists. One fatality involved a train and 14 involved commercial motor vehicles.

"Vision Zero's ongoing success requires strong partnerships and buy-in from the public," said Col. Brandon Solberg, superintendent of the Highway Patrol. "If every driver and passenger chooses to buckle up, and every driver obeys speed limits and traffic laws and drives sober, the vast

majority of traffic fatalities would be eliminated. Preventable human behavior contributes to 94% of motor vehicle crashes. Personal responsibility is the foundation of Vision Zero."

Vision Zero continues to educate through various mediums about the importance of passenger safety and dangers of speeding, distracted driving and impaired driving, including a new "Not Funny" campaign that stresses the importance of always driving sober or finding a sober ride.

"Parents play a vital role in keeping their children safe on the road, no matter the age," State Health Officer Mylynn Tuft said. "Parents should talk often with their young drivers about alcohol, lack of seat belt use, distracted driving, speeding, and driving with passengers. Young children should always be buckled in a car seat that is installed correctly and appropriate for their age and size."

For more information, visit <https://visionzero.nd.gov/>.

— Office of N.D. Governor Doug Burgum

### Court

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pleaded guilty to a B misdemeanor charge of driving while license privilege is suspended. He was ordered to pay \$500 in fees.

- Jamie Lynn Baker, of Rugby, pleaded guilty to driving while license privilege is suspended. She was ordered to pay \$250 in fees.

- The court dismissed a driving while license privilege is suspended charge against Angela Bernadette

Salmon (Fargo).

- Becky Jo Janssen, of Bismarck, pleaded guilty to an A misdemeanor charge of failure to properly tag big game. She was ordered to pay \$575 in fees.

- Merle M. Chase, of Belcourt, pleaded guilty to driving while license privilege

is suspended. He was ordered to pay \$250 in fees. He was sentenced to 10

days' confinement at HACTC with 10 days suspended.

## Advertising Deadlines Tuesday at 12 Noon

Box display ads, classifieds, cards of thanks, birthday, anniversary, wedding, and baby announcements

The Tribune 776-5252  
219 S Main Ave • PO Box 385 • Rugby

## Advertising Deadline Tuesdays at Noon

advertising@thepiercecountytribune.com - 776.5252



Lose a loved one?  
Send obituaries to:  
**pctobits@thepiercecountytribune.com**

**In need of a chiropractor?**  
See our professional director today

**PUBLIC NOTICES**  
The North Dakota State Assessment on the use of tax dollars since both 4/30/2019  
Public and Legal Notices are also available for viewing on our website: [www.thepiercecountytribune.com](http://www.thepiercecountytribune.com)  
Just look for our "Public Notices" tab. They can also be found and read on any device at: [www.ndpublicnotices.newzgroup.com](http://www.ndpublicnotices.newzgroup.com)

## PUBLIC NOTICES

**NOTICE**  
Notice is hereby given that the Pierce County Commission will hold a public hearing on January 7, 2020 at 9:00 A.M. in the commission room of Pierce County Courthouse, 240 2nd St SE, Rugby, ND for a conditional use permit requested by Fisher Sand & Gravel for an "aggregate mining operation", located in the SW4 of Section 3 Township 153 North, Range 73 West.

Karin Fursather  
Pierce County Auditor-Treasurer  
(December 28, 2019; January 4, 2020)

**ATTENTION WHEAT GROWERS**  
An election to seat a Pierce County representative to the North Dakota Wheat Commission will take place on January 16, 2020, at 1:00PM, during the Agriculture Improvement Assoc. Annual Meeting at the Dakota Farms, 308 US-2, in Rugby, ND.

**ELECTION**  
Persons who are residents of the county and have been actively engaged in the production of wheat are eligible to vote. A Wheat producer must be present to vote but need not be present to be elected.

For more information contact the North Dakota Wheat Commission at (701) 328-5111.  
(January 4-11, 2020)

**INVITATION FOR SEALED BIDS**  
Sealed Bid Auction for the purchase of the commercial property described

**Former Premier Tire and Lube Building**  
The North 110' of Lots Four (4) and Five (5), and the North 110' of the East 40' of Lot Three (3), all being located in Block One (1) of Pierce County Plat No. 6-78 to the City of Rugby, North Dakota, according to the plat thereof.

**Date/Time:** January 20, 2020 - Bids must be received in the office of Administration no later than 2:59 p.m.  
Bid opening begins at 3:00 p.m.

**Location:** Heart of America Medical Center  
800 South Main Ave  
Rugby, ND 58368

For more information please contact  
Ron Biggs, Maintenance Director at 701.776.5455 ext. 2220

**Seller has right of refusal on all bids.**  
(January 4-11-18, 2020)

**ATTENTION BARLEY GROWERS**  
The North Dakota Barley Council election for Pierce County will take place on January 16, 2020, at 1:00PM, during the Agriculture Improvement Assoc. Annual Meeting at the Dakota Farms, 308 US-2, in Rugby, ND.

**ELECTION**  
Each person, landlord, tenant, husband and/or wife who planted Barley in 2019 or intends to plant Barley in 2020 and who has not claimed any barley tax refund within the past year (except for duplicate payments), are eligible electors and can be candidates.

For more information contact the North Dakota Barley Council at (701) 239-7200.  
(January 4-11, 2020)

Legal Notices run every week in The Pierce County Tribune.  
Please call 701-857-1920 or email [legals@thepiercecountytribune.com](mailto:legals@thepiercecountytribune.com)

Legal Notices run daily in the Classified Section of the Pierce County Tribune  
If you have a legal notice to be published, please call 701-857-1920 or email [legals@thepiercecountytribune.com](mailto:legals@thepiercecountytribune.com)