

**From the pastor's desk**  
By Pastor Leroy Aufenkamp



a shout of freedom such as the world has never heard before".

For the last six thousand years, sin and the ruler of the world's system (Satan) has been strangling people, binding them in addictions, hatred, fear, diseases/sicknesses, etc. Paul, in Romans 8:22-23 wrote, "For we know that the whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain together until now....waiting for...the redemption of our body."

There is a day in the not too distant future when Satan's stranglehold on this world and on humanity will be broken forever. His defeat was assured at the Resurrection of Jesus, but his final end awaits. When that day finally arrives, when humanity and all creation is finally delivered, "there will be a shout of freedom such as the world has never heard."

Every year when Jesus' birth is remembered and celebrated we are looking at the pivotal moment in human history when God's plan began to unfold and mankind's freedom was assured. The devil fought against Him from the earliest days of His life, beginning when Herod sent soldiers to Bethlehem to kill every boy two years and younger.

During Jesus' years of ministry in Jerusalem and Judaea numerous attempts were made on His life and many plans were formulated to make that happen. But it was not until He had completed His earthly ministry that He yielded Himself to be crucified.

In Revelation 14:2 John "heard a voice from heaven as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of a great thunder...." It was the sound of freedom, which shall soon become reality.

**Prism of prose**

2024  
By Clint Van Camp

What would your annual report look like for 2024? Mine would include this column over the past year in Drayton's favorite newspaper. Purpose was brought to bear with the writing. Much of my writing spawned out of moments of communion with God. These moments most often came in quiet time. It resulted in a spontaneous prayer, in words of song, or putting words on paper. My writing has become a time of fulfillment in Jesus Christ. Peace comes to an individual the more he or she is fulfilled.

the Cross and our own place as His disciples. We give thanksgiving and praise for all Jesus Christ has done in our lives.

My year included three trips to Lakewood Park Bible Camp. One trip was for a men's advance, the second was for a church family gathering, and the third was for a fifty-plus retreat. These were times of great worship. There was awesome music with songs of praise. The speakers at each event did not disappoint in numerous sessions of spiritual teaching and encouragement. All were filled with kingdom building life principles. These principles were displayed through the life, ministry, death, and resurrection of Jesus. The momentum for peace builds in our life when we live out the way Christ has taught us.

The year included time with family. There were some great fish fry's dished up by my nephews. The walleye doesn't get any better. Then I visited with Brother Paul and his family. The

fellowship included stops at Target Field for a Twin's game, a little league ballpark, and then CHS Field to see the St. Paul Saints. One day we went on a family shopping spree at an Asian mall. Other special occasions this year were shared with my church family in worship, midweek Bible studies, and concerts like TobyMac and the Collingsworth Family.

This is a snapshot of my 2024. It was a year of increasing faith in Jesus Christ and building relationships with God's people. It is in these things where a fulfilled life experiences peace. With another Christmas behind us we have a few days to reflect on what the next year might bring. May it bring fulfillment;



**Reverse snowbird**

By Duane H.H. Lyon



also as I remembered when my big brother taught me to tie my shoes. We were at the side steps outside our parents bedroom and he handed me Dad's big black work shoe. He slowly tied the shoe and now he delivered my instructions. He then started running a loop around the house after promising to beat me up when he returned if I failed. He was tired of tying my shoes for Sunday School.

He never beat me or anybody else up. "Flipper," which was his nickname, was a gentle soul and a born leader. He grew up to become an electrical engineer and new construction Project Manager. Like my late father he took the employees no one else wanted and put confidence in them, transforming the throw-aways and so called disposable employees. Flipper and Dad were everything I never was. I tied that shoe!

I toured my childhood home and my parents former bedroom recently where Flipper borrowed that shoe for the first time in 50 years. The current owner has been there 28 years. Only hours after my visit little brother told me Flipper had departed earth. Life always evolves into memories, cherish both. Love, Duane.

1968  
By Duane H.H. Lyon

I remember 1968, a year so great, I was 8

I watched my dad remodel the Jordan Grocery store putting in a new floor and more, formerly the US Post office in my home town of thirty, six in our red brick house

I rode with granddaddy to the bowling alley in his dirty tan Torino car so he could vote for a man named George Wallace for President

I remember on December 3, we watched Elvis shake his pelvis in a special 68 television show

For a Christmas present, I received a bicycle with a teddy bear in the banana seat sissy bar ready to roll

Lyon is an international poet

**ATTEND THE CHURCH of your choice this Sunday**

Wednesdays 7 p.m. Bible Study at Tisdale Manor, conducted by Jon Dryburgh, lay minister of the Drayton Lutheran Parish. Everyone welcome.

**United Methodist Church**  
Pastor Gary Johnson  
**Drayton**  
203 North Main Street  
Sunday School, 9 a.m.  
Sunday Worship at 10 a.m.  
Broadcast on KXPO  
1340 AM at 10 a.m.  
**Humbolt**  
Sunday Worship at 9 a.m.  
**Pembina**  
Sunday Worship at 10:30 a.m.

**New Life Assembly of God**  
Rev. Leroy Aufenkamp  
Assembly Schedule:  
9:45 a.m. Sunday School (age 2 through adult)  
10:45 a.m. Morning Worship Service  
**Drayton Lutheran Parish**  
Lay Minister Jon Dryburgh  
**Skjeberg Lutheran Church**  
Rural East Drayton  
Worship at 9 a.m.  
Sunday School at 10 a.m. (preK - 8th grade)

**Telen Evangelical Covenant Church**  
Pastor  
218-455-3868  
Sundays:  
9:30 a.m. Family Worship Celebration  
10:30 a.m. Fellowship and Refreshments  
11 a.m. Sunday School for All Ages

**Drayton Lutheran Church**  
209 South Main Street  
Worship at 10:30 a.m.  
Church School, Wednesday Evenings at 5:30 p.m.

**St. Edward's Catholic Church**  
Rev. Robert A. Wapenski  
Weekday Mass: Monday, 7 p.m.  
Wednesday and Friday, 8:30 a.m.  
First, third, and fifth weekend  
Sunday, 8:30 a.m. Mass  
Second and Fourth Weekend  
Saturday Vigil, 5 p.m.  
Sunday Mass 10:30 a.m.

**Trinity Lutheran Church**  
Rev. Daniel M. Provost  
"Church of the Lutheran Hour"  
9:00 a.m. Worship Services  
10:00 a.m. Sunday School  
Main Street - Drayton

**Assumption Catholic Church of Pembina**  
Weekday Mass: Tuesday & Thursday, 5:30 p.m.  
Saturday, 8:30 a.m.  
First, third, and fifth weekend:  
Saturday Vigil, 5 p.m.  
Sunday Mass: 10:30 a.m.  
Second and Fourth Weekend:  
Sunday Mass, 8:30 a.m.



If you see changes that need to be made to any of the above listings, please contact us at editor@valleynewsandviews.com

Greetings Dakota friends and neighbors, I hope you had a wonderful Christmas and a blessed New Year. I went to my bank, like many others just before Christmas, and noticed everyone had a colorful Christmas party hat on except one teller. Without much thought I asked her, "where's your hat?" I instantly realized for one reason or another Christmas wasn't so very Merry for her.

My older brother passed away last month and I must confess I'm struggling a bit myself. Tears covered my face when I heard the news. My little brother broke the news to me just like when my sister passed away a decade ago. Sweet memories came

*Time change*  
By Duane H.H. Lyon

The change people plan range widely

To lose weight or become great?

To rush into new a relationship or wait!

To live original or imitate

Some searching, some hiding, others finding or trying at forgetting, the rest departing

Six decades have went by and I still miss the peanut butter and molasses sandwiches Mrs. Buchanan the cafeteria worker made, when I was in first grade

Does a river ever change its direction?

The New Year is here, happy 2025!

Lyon is an international poet

**'MENTAL HEALTH' CON'T FROM PAGE 7**  
across the eight regions to those in need. Additionally, Fargo, Bismarck, Minot, Williston, and Jamestown provide 24/7 short-term residential, walk-in care. Contact your regional Human Service Center behavioral health clinic for assistance.

Winter is here, but there is still time to get your flu vaccine.

Schedule your flu shot today at the Rural Health Clinic by calling 701-284-7555!

First Care HEALTH CENTER

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**New resource for prevention efforts**

HHS has also launched a Suicide Fatality Review Commission and a dashboard, offering near real-time data on suicide trends across the state. Both of these initiatives are intended to help North Dakota behavioral health leaders, local public health units and other care providers, better learn how to support individuals in crisis and support suicide prevention.

**Be prepared, take action**

This holiday season, North Dakotans can make a difference by being proactive, recognizing warning signs, and knowing how to act. Together, we can ensure no one feels alone or without hope.

**If you or someone you know is in crisis, call or text 988 today. Help is free, confidential, and available 24/7.**