

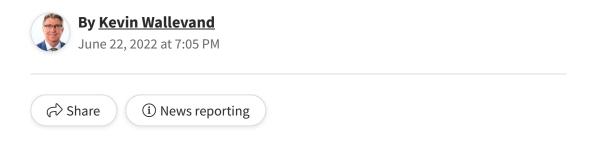
## **NEWS NORTH DAKOTA**

## Norman Lutheran Church near Kindred marks 150 years this weekend

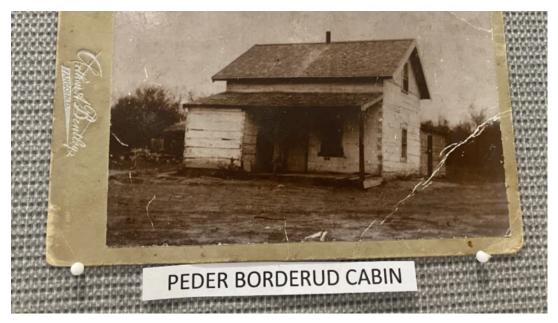
It started with a handful of North Dakota farm families from Norway. This weekend, descendants of those pioneer settlers are throwing a party for one of the state's oldest congregations.



Norman Lutheran Church is celebrating its 150 year anniversary. Activities are scheduled starting Saturday, June 25. Ryan Longnecker / WDAY News



Kindred, N.D. — It all started in an old log cabin south of Horace,



Picture of small cabin where church services were once held. Contributed / Norman Lutheran Church

"It is my home. My home church," said Arlene Haux, a longtime organist who is now retired.

Haux had family that settled there in 1880.



A map of Dakota Territory with a picture of a small cabin once used for Norman Lutheran Church. Contributed / Norman Lutheran Church

Norman Lutheran Church near Kindred mar...

Melvin Anderson is 99. He is the oldest member of Norman Lutheran Church. He remembers a church with a wood stove, going to church while his Dad was serving in World War I and getting to church from the farm using horses.



A picture of women and children who were part of the congregation of Norman Lutheran Church. Contributed / Norman Lutheran Church

The weekend of June 25, people are flying and driving from across the region and nation as Norman Lutheran Church — one of the oldest churches in North Dakota — marks 150 years. There is a run, hayride, cemetery tour and afternoon program scheduled Saturday, with a special anniversary church service set for Sunday.



Picture of of a previous Norman Lutheran Church Contributed / Norman Lutheran Church

"(There are) so many people wanting to move into the area, and so there's a lot of young families that are coming in, and it's really exciting," said Norman Lutheran Church Pastor Katie Kringstad. "It's vibrant (and) it's a joyful place to be."

Four pictures of different versions of Norman Lutheran Church. Contributed / Norman Lutheran Church

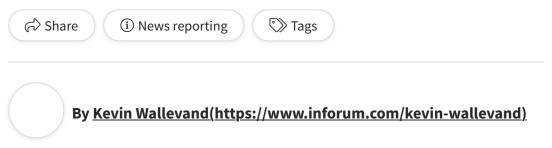
Being a country preacher back in the day wasn't a moneymaker. WDAY News looked at church records, and the pastor there made \$400 a year.

Cameron Mitchell is a seventh-generation member at Norman Lutheran, and Wesley Nelson had ancestors who started coming to the church in 1876.

Picture of Norman Lutheran Church congregation from a long time ago. Contributed / Norman Lutheran Church

"This was home to me, (...) I always feel that way," Nelson said. "I can't get adjusted to living in the big city. I call Fargo a big city."

From its humble start in a log cabin, through two churches burning to the ground, the congregation prepares for the church's 150th celebration with hopes of another 150 years to come.



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