

#### **Peace Lutheran Church**

3340 Eleventh Avenue South, Great Falls, Montana 59405

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"Now on the first day of the week..." John 20:1

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

How much difference does three days make? Well that depends on your perspective does it not? For an adult, it does not seem all that long. Days come and days go by rapidly. For a child waiting for Christmas, it seems like the days can drag on forever until the day comes. For an infant in the womb, the longer that they can spend in the womb the better, even if it is only for a day. That can make a world of difference, sometimes making the difference between life and death.

How much difference does three days make for us as Christians? It is the first day of the week. Three days earlier, Jesus had been arrested, tried, and condemned to death. The women, and John, followed, watching at the foot of the cross as Jesus suffered, bled, and died. They watched as He was anointed with oil and spices, wrapped in the strips of cloth, and laid in the tomb. They watched as the stone was rolled into place with a final scrape and thud. And now?

Now, the stone has been rolled away. The women are pondering what this means as Mary runs to tell the other disciples. The women see and hear the Angel state, "Come and see the place where He lay." Jesus is no longer in the tomb. Peter and John see the empty grave cloths lying there. What does this mean? Jesus is no longer dead but alive again! The price Jesus paid on the cross of Calvary has been accepted by God the Father as satisfactory. God's wrath has been fully taken away from you. All of your sins have been forgiven, the price has been paid forever. Through the waters of Holy Baptism, God connects you to Jesus' death and resurrection from the dead. He cleanses you of your sins, lays them with Jesus in the tomb, and raises you to new life in Jesus Christ, our Lord.

How much difference three days make! Jesus is taken from death to life everlasting, and so are you. This is what happens for us in our Baptisms. God connects us to Jesus' death and resurrection. We come dead in our sins and trespasses, are buried with Christ, and we rise with Him to newness of life.

What a great reason to rejoice and marvel over what our God has done for us! This Eastertide, may our Alleluias ring without end, until that day when we sing them around the throne of grace forever and ever.

Your Servant in Christ, Rev. Joshua Reinke Everyone for cooking, setting up, cleaning, serving and donating soup, rolls, crackers, bread and desserts for the soup suppers during Lent.

Val Martin, Gloria Creek and Tristin Reinke for playing the organ and piano during our Worship Services.

Angelika Fisher for cleaning the church.

Everyone on the Prayer Chain for their time and prayers.

Everyone who has donated treats for our fellowship time.

All of the men who volunteer to usher.

Cheri Magnuson for cleaning the Communion linens.

Elsie Huss for changing the banners and paraments.

This list is not inclusive. Please accept our apologies if we have missed giving you credit for serving the Lord in any fashion. We know that the Lord knows your service to Him.

## **LWML**

- ◆ Our next meeting will be Monday, May 17 at 6:30 p.m. with a Bible study. All ladies of Peace are invited and encouraged to come and join us! We will be having election of all officers. Remember your Mite boxes!
- ▼ The Lutheran World Relief Drive will be May 8, 2021. More details will be available as the time gets closer.

# Ladies Bible study schedule

In mid-March the CDC sent out new guidelines for those who have been vaccinated for Covid-19, allowing people to gather in small groups without masks or distancing. At this writing, it is felt that it is safe to resume the FRIDAY LADIES BIBLE CLASS. The first meeting will be a review of the first seven lessons of the book of EPHESIANS completed a year ago. This is a good time for new friends, who have received the vaccine, to join the study! Don't be bashful! In April the group will gather at 1 PM on the 9th, 16th, 23rd, and 30th at the home of Marge Johnsten, 3000 8th Avenue South. In the event that these plans change, please consult the Sunday bulletin or the church office. Praise the Lord for this new opportunity!

# Nominating committee needed

The Board of Directors is forming a nominating committee to help with the congregational elections that will happen at the **Spring Voters meeting on May 2 at 12 noon**. If you are interested in helping in this committee and serving the Lord in this way, please see Chairman Darrell Greenwood.

# **Spring Voters meeting set**

The Board of Directors has chosen **May 2 at 12 noon** as the Spring Voters Meeting. There will be a potluck meal at 12 noon and the meeting will begin around 12:30 PM after we eat. We will have the election of officers. Those positions that will be elected are vice chairman of the congregation, elders, trustees and treasurer. If you would like to serve the Lord and the members of Peace in any of these positions, please contact Chairman Darrell Greenwood Or Pastor Reinke.



### April Anniversaries

April 12 Jeff and Vonnie Blomgren

## Raptismal Anniversaries

April

- 2 Karen Birkholz
- 8 Carol Thurston
- 11 Vic Scheuffele
- 12 Gary Creek
- 26 Darrell Greenwood
- 26 Pat Bliss
- 26 Hunter Denning
- 28 Cheryl Walker



#### **INCLUDE THESE PEOPLE IN YOUR PRAYERS:**

The following people are experiencing health problems:

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**Michael Drummond** – Lupus

**Rev. Mark Grunst** of Billings who has Lewy Body disease

Connie Juden

Rev. Erich Kaelberer – ALS

Ed and Sarah Ostlund, in assisted living in Billings

Becky Schlund, MS

Steven Schlund, Parkinson's

**Christine Wallace. former LWML Montana** 

District president, cancer

## Wee Disciples Fund Raiser

Every third Tuesday of the month, you can help raise funds for Wee Disciples by eating at Fuddruckers! No coupon necessary! Just mention Wee Disciples and they will donate 20% of your meal proceeds to them! Easy! Go between **5 and 9 PM on April 20**!

### **Amazon Smile**

Pastor Reinke has created an Amazon Smile account to raise funds for Peace Lutheran. Here is the link https://smile.amazon.com/ch/81-0305082.

Shop from this link on Amazon, and a portion of what you spend with be donated back to Peace. This link is also on our Facebook page. If you go there, you may just click on the link and it will take you to Amazon. Thank you!

## **Family Night resumes**

On **Wednesday, April 7** Family Night will resume with an Italian themed potluck meal at 6 PM. Pastor Reinke will lead us in a study about the iconology of the church. The students in midweek classes will join us for this study. Why do we have paraments? Why do the paraments change color? What do the different colors of the church year mean? Come and join us as we learn the answers to these questions and so much more!

# Flowers Anyone?

Do you have perennial flowers in your garden that need thinning? The church has need of them for the large sunny flowerbeds. Contact the church office if you have something to share.

## **Life Quotes from LFL**

"Hang on to Jesus, my dear friend. In Him and Him alone is true life—both now and forever. Though God's work in the world may be hard to understand sometimes, we rejoice and celebrate as we look forward to all that He has in store for us." *Rev. Dr. Oswald Hoffman, The Lutheran Hour – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life* • *lutheransforlife.org* 

"Death is the one thing no Christian has to do on his or her own. Jesus has already been through suffering and death before us. He knows the way through death and the way back to life, too. Our friends and family cannot go with us—but Jesus can. He will never let go of our hands. And He will bring us back to life with Him because He has promised, and He will never lie." *Dr. Kari Vo, Lutheran Hour Ministries — A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life* • *lutheransforlife.org*