



Peace Lutheran Church

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Great Falls, Montana 59405

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The Rev. Steven Schlund, Pastor

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February, 2012

Now and Later

February 2012

It has been an extremely mild winter in Montana and in many places across our country. The temperatures have been unusually warm and there has been very little snow. Most people see this as a good thing. After all, who really enjoys sub-zero temperatures and being buried in a ton of snow?

Some have rightly noted that what happens now will negatively affect what will happen later. Perhaps the comfortable temperatures now are signs of hotter and more uncomfortable temperatures this summer. Also, a lack of moisture now will hurt the farmers' winter wheat and possibly be the cause of serious forest fires in the summer.

Sometimes we look at our behavior like we do the weather. We only see the effects that it has on us now. However, our sinful behavior – even if it seems relatively harmless or enjoyable now – will have negative effects on us later. Christ will “judge the living and the dead” on the final day as we confess in the Apostles' Creed. Sin, no matter how harmless or even pleasant it seems now, will get us in trouble later: condemnation to hell for all eternity.

I think that many people who see the potential problems later because of what is happening now would be in favor of changing things now, even if it was a little uncomfortable. More moisture now would be a good thing, even if it meant a lot of snow. A good snow pack would be a good thing, even it meant lower temperatures.

In a sense, this is what we do during Lent. One of the big themes of Lent is: repent! This means to turn from sin now (which might be uncomfortable) and turn to faith in Jesus Christ for the sake of later. During Lent, we meditate on Jesus' suffering and death as He took our place under God's judgment and suffered the punishment for all of our sins. In other words, the judgment which was to come later has already occurred for all who trust in Jesus Christ. The Bible says, “Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because they have not believed in the name of God's one and only Son.” (John 3:18). Or, to put it in more positive terms, “Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life, but whoever rejects the Son will not see life, for God's wrath remains on them.” (John 3:36)

We have been declared not guilty now in the judgment which is to come later. We have received eternal life now which will be realized later. All of this has happened by God's grace through the person and work of His Son, Jesus Christ. Think of that while you commemorate Lent this year for that is what Lent is all about.

In Christ, our perfect Sacrifice,

Pastor Steven R. Schlund

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Everyone who donated baby items for the layettes that are taken to the hospital by Denise Combs.
Everyone who made fleece blankets for Denise Combs' layettes.
Everyone who UN decorated the church after Christmas.
Val Martin, Gloria Creek and Karen Schaefer for playing the organ during our worship services.
Pat Lewis for preaching while Pastor Schlund was in Fort Wayne.
Charlene Schottey and Loretta Walker for organizing the pictorial directory and the picture taking.
Arnie Gidlow for taking the group pictures.
All those who volunteer to teach Sunday school, Bible class, and midweek classes on Sundays and Wednesdays.
All those people who offer their time and talents to be the elected leaders in our congregation.
Idell Croskrey for changing the banners and paraments.
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.
Cindy Greenwood for decorating the bulletin boards.
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.

Ladies Bible study schedule

During these cold days of February a piping hot cup of tea or coffee is waiting for you at Bible study --- guaranteed to warm your insides! Join the FRIDAY LADIES BIBLE CLASS as they study the BOOKS of JEREMIAH and LAMENTATIONS. Bible study will be held February 3rd from 1:15 - 3:15 pm at the home of Marge Johnsten, 3000 8th Ave So. February 10th and 17th Bible study will be at Ann Nimmick's home 2327 15th Ave So.

Assisted Living Ministry continues with hymn singing and a devotion at the following locations. On Valentine's Day, February 14th ladies will meet at 11 am at Bee Hive Home #1, 2824 15th Ave So. Friday, February 24th the group will meet at 11:45 am for a no host lunch at JB's Restaurant, 1322 10th Ave So. Afterward they will go to Highgate House, 3000 11th Ave So. Come and share God's love and your smile with these assisted living residents!

LWML

- ♥ **Our next meeting will be Tuesday, March 13 at 6:30 p.m. with a Bible study.** All ladies of Peace are invited and encouraged to come and join us! We will establish a nominating committee for the elections in May. Don't forget your Mite boxes!
- ♥ **Thank you to everyone who made fleece blankets or donated items for the layettes that Denise Combs takes to the hospital to be given to mothers who don't have clothes to put their newborn babies in to take them home.** Thank you, **Janet Kempf**, for organizing the event.
- ♥ **We will be hosting the Ash Wednesday soup supper at Peace on February 22 at 6 p.m.** Contact Amy Dorr, Becky Schlund or Elsie Huss if you would like to help in any way.
- ♥ **Remember to bring your new soap for Soap Sunday on the second Sunday of each month.** Soap collected will go to Lutheran World Relief. Thanks for your continued support.
- ♥ **Remember that Purple Pockets are due to Linda Aguiar at the end of March.** This money goes to mission work both locally and afar. Thanks for your continued support.
- ♥ **The Montana District Convention will be at Trinity Lutheran Church in Kalispell from April 27 through 29, 2012.** The registration fee will be \$65 per person. The speakers will be many and very interesting, including Gary Thies, from Mission Central; Director of Christian Education Jason Schleicher, from Manitoba VBS; and, as always, a humorous interrupter. Plan now to attend!
- ♥ **The Lutheran World Relief Drive will be May 19, 2012.** More details will be available as the time gets closer.



February Anniversaries

Feb. 4 Bernie and Phyllis Schaaf

Baptismal Anniversaries

February	1	Gene Davidson
	1	Brooke Bibler
	4	Rebecca Gerard
	4	Glen Marten
	8	Jamie Franczyk
	9	Connie Juden
	16	Megan Brien
	20	Barbara Clark
	21	Judy Klein
	22	Brandi Holefelder
	26	Jerry Geist



INCLUDE THESE PEOPLE IN YOUR PRAYERS:

The following people are experiencing health problems:

John Birkholz
Dick Berg
Esther Largent
Patsy Zvara

Our members who are away serving in the military are **Kurt Mueller** and **Michael Lewis**.

Cottage Meetings planned

The Elders of Peace Lutheran Church will be having Cottage Meetings on the 23rd of February from 6:30 P.M. to 9:00 P.M. These meetings are designed to assist you with any concerns, ideas, and a sharing of your faith. Get to know your Elder during this time. Everything we discuss with you will be confidential. Your Elder Chairman will be setting up rooms around the church where you can privately visit with your Elder. Coffee and snacks will be served in the fellowship hall where we will first meet. You can pick up an Elder Zone List on the table in the hallway. Your Elder is listed on this publication.

Remember, we are here to serve you. Please come and visit with us.

Bring Palm branches back

Palm branches from last year can be brought back to the church to be burned and used as ash for Ash Wednesday this month. Please bring them to the church office as your convenience.

Witness Workshop planned

The elders of Peace Lutheran in Great Falls are sponsoring an all day workshop on witnessing on February 18th beginning at 9 AM. The workshop's primary focus is on how to witness effectively and simply with 5 key words from John 3:16. The outline of the program allows for ample time to discuss and share ideas, and is not a "formula-based" method. A student handbook will be available and lunch will be served. Due to Pastor Schlund's travel and mine with business we are still working on details. We want to advise as many LCMS congregations in the north-central area of Montana as possible to expose and train our members on how they can become better ambassadors for Christ. We hope that you will use your ministries to connect with individuals so they are aware of this opportunity. If you have questions or need further assistance please contact the Peace office, Pastor Schlund or myself. Thanks in advance for your efforts and interest in this workshop.

Arnie Gidlow

mobows@mcn.net

406-468-9385

Everyday Witness



“Life Quotes” from Lutherans for Life

“I pray that as you move through Lent toward that empty tomb, that you will contemplate the awful price Jesus paid for you. I pray that you will rejoice and live in the victory Christ has purchased and freely gives. I pray that you will share the message of the value this gives to every human being.” *Rev. Dr. James I. Lamb, executive director of Lutherans For Life – A “Life Quote” from Lutherans For Life – www.lutheransforlife.org.*



Pulled Pork Benefit

Fundraiser to Assist - Help - Support a Friend-in-Need

TAMMY DRUMMOND

Tammy will be having a complete right hip replacement in early March of this year. She has limited deductible insurance, but not near enough to cover all costs of this procedure. She will be off work from 4 to 6 weeks, or longer while recovering and going through post therapy. Our Tammy does not have anyone providing for her, and will not have any income during this time. So please consider assisting, helping and supporting her until she can get back on her feet...Thank you! "Sometimes a person just needs a friend's hand to hold and a heart to understand"

Friday, February 10th 5 pm til 9 pm

Black Eagle Community Center

2332 Smelter Ave., Black Eagle

• *Silent Auction*

• *Live Dessert Auction*

• *No Host Full Service Bar*

Food being served, starting at 5:30: Pulled pork sandwich, slaw, baked beans, desserts. Hotdogs and Mac 'n cheese for the kids.

~ Free will offering taken at the door ~

If you would like to donate money, auction items, desserts, etc., or help in any way

Contact: **Bruce Kempf 868-0702** or **Janet Kempf 452-9259**

(make checks payable to:

Cascade County Chapter Thrivent Financial ®)

Our thanks to: Sean & Suzie Knox, Big Mouth BBQ, Black Eagle Community Center, Cascade County Chapter Thrivent Financial for Lutherans® and Peace Lutheran Church. The Sparkettes of Montana will perform at 6:30 p.m.

'A Lone Star in The Big Sky'



 **Thrivent Financial for Lutherans®**
Let's thrive!

<http://www.bigmouthbbq.us/> *matching funds donated by Cascade County Chapter

Farewell reception for Rev. Justin and Rose Herman

The members of Zion Lutheran in Power and St. John's Lutheran in Fairfield are sponsoring a farewell reception for their pastor Rev. Justin Herman and his wife Rose. The reception will be at Zion Lutheran in Power on Sunday, February 12 from 1 to 3 p.m. There will be a farewell card basket and money tree.

Thrivent Financial for Lutherans announces some changes in their Thrivent Choice Dollars

There will be some changes on the Thrivent website as to how you direct your Thrivent Choice Dollars in the year 2013. Throughout this year, you will be able to continue to direct Choice Dollars to any Lutheran entity and use the "recurring" button. In the year 2013 they will eliminate the "recurring" button so that you will have to go online or call Thrivent and direct your dollars more often during the year. Thrivent will also be increasing the amount of money that can be designated during the year of 2012. If you are a Thrivent member and have questions or need help with designating your money, please contact one of our congregational Advocates: Ruth Denning, 899-3147; Amy Dorr, 899-4050; or Diann Stevens, 453-1011. We are happy to help you with any questions or problems you may be experiencing.

Lent: A Time For Renewal

Lent is a time for renewal, or it serves no purpose at all. Lent is not a time for breast-beating, nor simply for reciting once again the history of the Passion. If that were all that Lent accomplished, it would be better to cancel Lenten services this year.

Lent has to do with repentance and renewal. It is a time when God's Spirit forces us to face who we are and what we have done, when God's Word breaks into our hearts with the message that we aren't meant to live as slaves of evil. Further, the message of repentance includes the cleansing power of the cross, which turns us around to face who we are in Jesus Christ and to see who and what we can become by his grace, power, and indwelling.

Join us on Wednesday evenings during Lent at 7:00 PM for worship services under the theme: *Lent: A Time For Renewal*. Soup Suppers will be served at 6:00 PM.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Theme</u>
February 22 nd (Ash Wednesday)	<i>A Time For Renewal of Servanthood</i>
February 29 th	<i>A Time For Renewal of Obedience</i>
March 7 th	<i>A Time For Renewal of Witness</i>
March 14 th	<i>A Time For Renewal of True Religion</i>
March 21 st	<i>A Time For Renewal of Priorities</i>
March 28 th	<i>A Time For Renewal of Godly Fear</i>

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Pastor Bruce Linderman is retiring on February 19, 2012 after 38 years in the ministry. We thank and praise God for Pastor Linderman's faithful service to our Lord.

You are invited to join us for a worship service and dinner to follow.

The service and dinner will be at:

4:00 pm on February 19, 2012
Holy Trinity Lutheran Church
102 North Weaver
Belgrade, MT

Free scrapbook day & potluck at Peace

Free scrapbook day & potluck at Peace on Saturday, February 25th starting at 1 p.m. Please come and join us and spend the day or just part of the day with us making new friends, enjoying each other's company, working on projects that you've been wanting to finish, whether it be a scrapbook, making a card for someone, or some other craft project. Please bring your favorite dish to share and I will provide coffee, tea, lemonade or juice. Let's have some fun, see you there! Please RSVP to Angelika Fisher at 231-1115. Thank you and God bless.