



Peace Lutheran Church

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July-August, 2014

Let's Go Camping!

July & August 2014

Camping is an extremely popular activity (some would say “way of life”) for many people in Montana. Growing up in the midwest where camping isn’t as popular, I’ve tried to figure out the appeal. I think the appeal is two-fold: what camping allows you to go from and what camping allows you to go to.

Camping allows you to get away from the city. Although Great Falls isn’t a huge city, all the traffic, noise, and congestion can weigh on us. Even if you don’t live in the city, camping allows you to get away from whatever pressures and problems you experience at home.

Camping in Montana allows you to get to many beautiful sites. There are many big places like Glacier National Park to enjoy. But there are also local places such as Tiber Reservoir, Holter Lake, Gibson Reservoir, and others which are enjoyable, as well. Even when you don’t have the scenery of a national park, you can enjoy the fact that you are camping. Rain or cold can diminish one’s enjoyment of camping, but I bet it can’t do away with it.

I hear people excitedly talking about camping – how much they’ve enjoyed camping and how much they look forward to camping. Suppose you encountered someone who said, “I don’t need to go camping. I can google some pictures of Glacier on my computer to look at. I can cookout on my grill. And I can sleep out in a tent in my backyard. Why do I need to expend the time and money to go camping?” You would probably look at that person funny. Although he may be getting some of the elements of camping, he is not getting away from it all, nor having the full camping experience. It’s just not the same.

Going to church is a lot like going camping. Attendance at Divine Service is never intended to be merely a sterile obedience to a religious commandment. Divine Service is to fulfill in our spiritual lives what camping fulfills in our physical lives.

As camping helps us get away from the physical cares and concerns of physical life, Divine Service is designed to help us get away from the cares and concerns of our spiritual lives – guilt, fear, doubt, worry and so on. These things can make us just as weary and tired as any physical problem.

As camping helps us get to the place that refreshes us physically, Divine Service helps us get to that which will refresh us spiritually. Jesus said, “Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.” (Matthew 11:28-29) Divine Service gives us Jesus. Jesus removes our burdens of sin and guilt in the confession and absolution. Jesus speaks words of forgiveness and encouragement in His Word and in the sermon. Jesus gives us rest for our souls and peace when He feeds us with His body and blood in His Supper.

Can you do all of this at home? Some of the things you can and some you can’t. Like camping out in your backyard gives you some of the elements of camping but not the full experience, so in reading the Bible and praying at home you get some of the benefit but you miss out on the fullness of what our Lord wants to give you in the Divine Service. And, while rain or cold might impact our camping experience but not ruin it, an unfamiliar hymn or a dull sermon can impact our worship, but cannot ruin our worship or keep us from getting all the gifts our Lord has in store for us in the Divine Service.

So, let’s go camping – physically and spiritually – to campgrounds and sanctuaries. Let’s get away from whatever pressures us and wearies us and get to that which refreshes us and gives us peace. Both body and soul will surely benefit greatly.

In Christ,

Pastor Steven R. Schlund

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Everyone who donated to the Baby Bottle Campaign for Echoz Pregnancy Center. People at Echoz love giving tours and explaining everything if anyone is interested in taking a look at the building and the organization.

Val Martin for directing Vacation Bible School.

Everyone who donated items to be given to Helping Hands down at First English Lutheran Church.

Val Martin and Loretta Walker for organizing this project.

Everyone who helped, taught, sang or did crafts for Vacation Bible School.

All of the people who go to Benefis Skilled Nursing Center, Park Place Nursing Home, Bee Hive Home and Highgate House for hymn singing and devotions every month.

Gloria Creek and Val Martin for playing the organ during our worship services.

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.

Angelika Fisher for cleaning the church.

All of the ladies and gentlemen who stay after and clean the kitchen after Bible study.

Cheri Magnuson for cleaning the Communion linens.

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 Tuesday, July 9 at 6:30 p.m. It will be a planning meeting.** All ladies of Peace are invited and encouraged to come and participate in the planning of the coming year's activities and servant event projects. Many new and exciting ideas will be talked about and planned!
- ♥ **The Fall LWML Retreat will be at Camp Utmost, between Lincoln and Missoula, on September 26 and 27. Cost is \$55 per person.** Plan now to attend! Registration forms are in the current issue of *Montana Missive* or in the church office.

Youth Activities

COME OUT AND HAVE SOME FUN WITH CARNIVAL GAMES AT PEACE'S CONGREGATIONAL CAMP IN BIGFORK AUGUST 14 -17, 2014! We hope you will be coming to join us for a great weekend of relaxation and refreshing FUN! The youth group will be hosting an afternoon of water races, games and other fun where you can win some great prizes.

Finances

Our giving in May 2014 is \$8,572.20 and our expenses for May were \$10,918.59. The general fund balance at the end of May is \$12,464.08. As you can see, the need for people to continue giving is very great!

Vacation Bible School set

Crucified is the theme for the 2014 Vacation Bible School which will run from July 14 – July 18. The daily schedule runs from 8:45 AM to 11:30 AM. There will be worship, Bible stories, games, snacks, and other fun. For more information and for online preregistration, go to our website at www.peacelutherangreatfalls.org.



State Fair and Farmers Market Out Reach

If you are interested in working at the Farmer's Market or the State Fair Booth, please contact Arnie Gidlow at mobows@mcn.net or 406-468-9385. The Farmer's Market is each Saturday morning from 8 a.m. to 12 noon. The State Fair will be July 25 – August 3, 2014.



July Anniversaries

July 2	Jerry and Jodi Geist
July 5	Pat and Helen Lewis
July 7	Karl and Angel Mueller
July 12	Bill and Ruth Lowden
July 14	Ken and Lyla Meske
July 16	Bruce and Barbara Clark
July 17	Gary and Cathy Schoenthal
July 18	Rick and Marge Johnsten
July 18	Richard and Darlene Brandt
July 19	Ben and Shirley Coe
July 23	Lyle and Tara Onstad
July 31	Steve & Becky Schlund

Baptismal Anniversaries

July	1	Andrew Onstad
	2	Shirley Coe
	3	Mason LaPlante
	4	Kurt Mueller
	5	Sharon Panasuk
	7	Richard Schottery
	8	Nolan Croskrey
	11	Helen Lewis
	11	Saville McDaniel
	16	Darlene Brandt
	16	Matthew Schlund
	19	Eric Fletcher
	19	Jan Neiffer
	20	Pat Lewis
	22	Ann Clutter
	23	Beate Neumann
	25	Faith Guderjahn



INCLUDE THESE PEOPLE IN YOUR PRAYERS:

The following people are experiencing health problems:

John Birkholz

June Foard, June Meier's daughter

Jane Hering

Pamela Schaaf, Bernie and Phyllis Schaaf's daughter battling ovarian cancer

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



August Anniversaries

August 5	Michel and Nancy Wayman
August 6	Jim and Jeanette Talley
August 6	John and Karen Birkholz
August 7	Ken and Laura Brandt
August 15	Karl and Amy Dorr
August 16	Dan and Jessica Martin
August 17	Kevin and Linda Aguiar
August 17	Don and Deloris Brown
August 18	Kirk and Debbie Davey
August 29	Nathan and Bernie Hough
August 30	Scott and Ann Schuman
August 30	Carl and Carol Kangas
August 31	Scott and Aleshia Arensmeyer

Baptismal Anniversaries

August	1	Lori Symonsbergen
	1	Joe Marten
	3	Nathan Hough
	10	Daniel Schaaf
	11	Kevin Jacobsen
	12	Ed Ostlund
	12	Bruce Clark
	14	Susan Knoll
	16	Ken Brandt
	17	Zachary Greenwood
	19	Cameron Hough
	19	Tina Brown
	22	Cody Erickson
	24	Don Meierhoff
	25	Loretta Walker
	29	Charlene Schottery
	29	Brook Gerard

Help needed

There are many flower plots around the church building that are in need of weeding and tender loving care. Even if you don't have a green thumb, please feel free to come by whenever your schedule allows and spend some time clearing away debris and pulling a few weeds. We hear many compliments from our neighbors and the people walking in the area each year. Let's continue to beautify this neighborhood by taking care of our property and keeping it looking loved!!

Ladies Bible study schedule

At the end of June the FRIDAY LADIES BIBLE CLASS completed their study of the BOOK of REVELATION. It was terrific and so enriching! The Bible study portion of the group's activity will dismiss for July and August. Plan to join the group on September 5th when they begin a new topic of study.

Assisted Living Ministry will continue during the summer with hymn singing and a devotion at the following locations. Ladies and gentlemen will meet on Tuesday, July 8th and Tuesday, August 12th at 11 a.m. at Bee Hive Home #1 at 2816 15th Ave So. On Friday, July 11th and Friday, August 22nd there will be no host lunches at 11:45 a.m. for the group before they go to Highgate House, 3000 11th Ave So. The July lunch will be at the Bar S, 5100 North Star Blvd. The August lunch will be held at Chili's Restaurant, 1420 Market Place Drive. Do you have children at home this summer? Bring them along for whatever part fits your schedule. Do you have company? Invite them to "drop in" for the lunch and/or singing. Know that everyone is welcome! God blesses the assisted living residents through His Word and song. That is the group's goal, knowing His Word never fails.



Peace's Congregation Camp 2014

Members of Peace Lutheran are sponsoring a congregational camp **August 14 through 17, 2014** at Trinity Lutheran Camp in Bigfork, Montana. The cost for the camp is \$45 per person or \$90 per family, if paid by August 1, 2014. Registration forms are in the church office. Plan now to come and join the fun!!

“Life Quotes” from Lutherans For Life

“God has put us into community, into church and family and state precisely so that we will learn to love our neighbor, so that we will set aside the delusion of autonomy and our selfish desires to serve our neighbor ... (Romans 14:7) ... To be the Lord's, to belong to the Lord Jesus Christ, is to love the weak, the wretched, the burdensome, the annoying, the stinking, the foolish.” *Rev. Christopher Esget, Immanuel Lutheran Church, Alexandria, Virginia* – A “Life Quote” from Lutherans For Life · www.lutheransforlife.org

Block Party at Peace

Join us for the 5th annual Peace Lutheran Church Block Party on July 13th at noon as we reach out to our neighborhood with the love of God in Jesus Christ. This is a time of fun and fellowship. The church will supply hamburgers and hot dogs, buns and drinks. Bring “finger food” (chips, cookies, etc.), lawn chairs and games. We will be inviting the people in our neighborhood to join us so that we might get to know each other. It will be an afternoon of good food, fun and games for all ages. Don't miss it!





BASEBALL GAME

The 4th Annual Cascade Chapter Thrivent Financial Baseball outing at Centene Stadium, is scheduled for **Sunday August 24, 2014 at 1:00 PM** when the Voyagers take on the Missoula Osprey.

The Great Falls Voyagers staff has reserved a suite for our group to enjoy a meal at 12:15 PM and then view the game starting at 1:00 PM. The meal this year will consist of pulled pork or Bratwurst sandwiches, potato salad, baked beans, coleslaw, cookies and a Pepsi. This package (food and game ticket) usually cost \$18 for adults and \$15 for children (age 3-12). The Cascade Chapter is making this event available to you for \$8 per adult and \$5 for children. **There will be 150 tickets available on a first come, first serve basis.** Tickets will be available starting July 30, 2014. For tickets or for more information contact Marie at Karl Dorr's office, 750 6th Street SW, 727-1151, Monday 10 AM to 2 PM, Wednesday through Friday 9 AM to 1 PM, or contact Ruth in the church office, or call Ken Meske at 868-3579. Checks should be made out the Cascade Chapter of Thrivent. We look forward to a wonderful afternoon of fellowship and the enjoyment of a great baseball game...Play Ball!



High school graduates



Mikaela Grove graduated from Highwood High School. When asked what her future plans are she answered: "I am attending Montana State University beginning this fall. There I will major in dietetics along with a double minor in coaching and history. I also plan to take some Bible classes from the Bible College there."

When asked what her summer plans are, she answered:

"My summer plans are working for a family outside of Highwood and also preparing for college."

Cameron Hough graduated from Great Falls High School. When asked what his plans for the future are, he answered: "Going into the Navy."

Jessamy Blomgren graduated for Belt High School.

July, 2014

Applying Biblical Teachings

“For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive what is due him for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad” (2 Cor. 5:10).

You should do good things, for you will be held personally accountable for how you lived, for what you did, and for how you used God’s blessings. You will have to stand before Christ and give an account. You should know that for the good things you have done, you will receive rewards and be given a higher position. God is watching you; He is keeping a record. You should do what is right and give.

Often, this is how we view our relationship with God when it comes to our living. We are tempted to fall into a trap of legalism that harms and even destroys our relationship with our God. We begin to do that which is good for ourselves to fulfill God’s Law and to secure our salvation.

Christ came into the world for us. He lived the perfect life for us. He died for us and rose from the dead for us. He ascended to heaven and intercedes for us. Christ has secured our salvation for us — there is nothing more we can do.

The result of faith, worked by the Holy Spirit, is everlasting life in heaven. When we stand before the judgment seat of Christ, the good works we have done in Christ will be evidence of our faith. The faithful’s countless failures are buried in God’s forgiveness, and only the good deeds done in Christ are remembered. In humility, believers will receive the pronouncement that they have performed true service for Christ.

“Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?’ The King will reply, ‘I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me’” (Matt. 25:37-40).

Yes, we will be judged by our works because they are evidence of our faith. These works are not ones of duty or for merit. These works are simply outward expressions of love flowing from the love of Christ. In Christ, we do that which benefits our fellow man, expecting no personal or eternal gain. By the power of the Gospel, we are generous in giving of our money and wealth. We give evidence of our faith by our generosity and by our good works.