



## Peace Lutheran Church

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[www.peacelutherangreatfalls.org](http://www.peacelutherangreatfalls.org)

June, 2011

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ Jesus,

This has been a wet spring. We have been inundated with water, either from the seemingly continuous rain or from the snow melting on the mountains. This has led to flooding in many places throughout the state of Montana. We have seen the power of water to destroy property and possessions. Thanks be to God no human lives have been destroyed by the power of this water.

The Bible shows the destructive power of water, as well. During the time of Noah, it rained harder and longer than we have experienced – 40 days and 40 nights. In addition to that, “all the springs of the great deep burst forth, and the floodgates of the heavens were opened.” (Gen. 7:11). The flood that resulted covered, not just a small territory, but the entire earth. In addition to the destruction of all property and possessions, all people were destroyed by the power of this water.

That is, all except eight people. Noah, his wife, their three sons and their wives were all saved from death and destruction. We can say that they were saved by the power of this water. The water buoyed them up as they sat in the ark and helped them rise above the death and destruction beneath them.

St. Peter sees a parallel between the action of water in the flood and the action of the water in Holy Baptism. In a sense, the water of Holy Baptism kills. It drowns our old Adam – our sinful nature which wars against God. Yet, it also saves. St. Peter writes in the third chapter of his first epistle, “In [the ark] only a few people, eight in all, were saved through water, and this water symbolizes baptism that now saves you also.” (1 Peter 3:20-21)

Holy Baptism saves us because it unites us with Jesus and all that He has done. (Romans 6:1-4). We are united with His death and thus receive the forgiveness of sins which His death has won. We are united with His resurrection and thus receive life which His resurrection guarantees. In fact, St. Peter writes, “[Baptism] saves you by the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at God’s right hand—with angels, authorities and powers in submission to him.”

The part of the sanctuary where the congregation sits is called the *nave* which is a Latin word meaning “ship”. The church is like a ship – an ark, if you will. As you sit in worship every Sunday (and, especially, as you view the baptismal font front and center in the nave), you are reminded that, despite the flood of evil, heartache, and pain which surround you outside, you are safe in the ark of the church through the water of Holy Baptism.

We pray that the flood waters in Montana recede soon without any death or further destruction. We rejoice that the saving flood waters of Holy Baptism support us always with death to our sinful selves and eternal salvation for the new people we are in Christ Jesus!

In Christ,

Pastor Steven R. Schlund

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Rebecca Higgins for your help with the homemade cinnamon and caramel rolls at the Easter breakfast.

Everyone who donated items for the rummage sale sponsored by the members of Christ for the Deaf.

Amy Dorr and Val Martin for setting up and decorating for the confirmation reception and Val for the cake.

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

Everyone who donated money for the CPH Arch books and the Mission walk for Sylvia Adams at the national LWML convention in Peoria, Illinois.

All those who volunteer to teach Sunday school, Bible class, and midweek classes on Sundays and Wednesdays.

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.

Jerry and Jody Geist and Angelika Fisher for cleaning the church.

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

Alice Schuman and 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.

## LWML

- ♥ The 34<sup>th</sup> Biennial LWML Convention is in Peoria, Illinois from June 23 – 26, 2011. “Being With Jesus – Living on the Edge” is the theme. Please keep this convention gathering in your prayers. Sylvia Adams from Trinity, Great Falls is the Central Zone delegate to this convention. Thank you to everyone who donated money for the CPH Arch books for the Gifts from the Heart, or to Sylvia for the Mission Pledge Walk for Mites.
- ♥ Our next meeting will be Tuesday, July 12 at 6:30 p.m. It will be a planning meeting. We are still in need of ladies who would be willing to serve as president, vice-president, secretary and treasurer of our society here at Peace Lutheran. If you are interested in serving the Lord and the members of Peace’s LWML society in this fashion, please contact Becky Schlund or Helen Lewis. 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!
- ♥ Thank you, Val Martin, for taking the Lutheran World Relief items to Billings.
- ♥ 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.

## Finances

The year to date budgeted amount through April 30, 2011 is \$51,371.11. What was given through April 30, 2011 is \$48,441.24. We are short \$2,929.87. Our Mission Commitment to the District is still short in the amount of \$3,150.00. The amount in Lutheran Church Extension Fund as of April 30, 2011 is \$24,179.23. LCEF loan balance as of April 30, 2011 is \$143,687.88.

## Vacation Bible School planned

July 18 thru 22 are the dates for Vacation Bible School this summer. The theme is Raindrops to Rainbows. Times have yet to be determined, and we are still in need of teachers. If you can help in anyway, please contact Donnalene McPartlin at 452-1602. More information will be available in the July – August newsletter and the Sunday bulletins. Mark your calendars now!



## June Anniversaries

June 9	Paul and Janet Rubino
June 12	William and Ruth Rozokat
June 14	Tom and Connie Croskrey
June 16	Gerald and Jill Keil
June 16	Gene and Fran Davidson
June 16	Gordon and Barbara Swaby
June 21	Mike and Carol Dawson

## Baptismal Anniversaries

June 2	Cathy Schoenthal
4	Alice Schuman
7	Joseph Furr II
7	Cheri Hirst
9	Alexis Geist
12	Daniel Widenhofer
12	Linda Aguiar
14	Angela Fletcher
16	Alicia Fletcher
16	Bernie Schaaf
18	Phyllis Schaaf
18	Jeremy Davidson
20	Will Inscore
21	Jessica (Talley) Nay
23	Meagan Croskrey
24	Dawn Grove
27	Marge Johnsten
28	Becky Schlund
29	Lisa Rubino
30	Aleshia Arensmeyer



INCLUDE THESE PEOPLE IN YOUR PRAYERS:  
The following people are experiencing health problems:

John Birkholz  
Colleen Carr  
Jo Flom  
Patsy Zvara

Our members who are away serving in the military are Michael Lewis and Jacob Meierhoff.

## Pastor on vacation

Pastor Schlund and his family will be in St. Louis for the marriage of the middle son, Andrew from June 9<sup>th</sup> through 23. If there are any pastoral emergencies, please contact the church office, your elder or Pastor .

## Dr. Paul Maier Seminar in Laurel

The LCMS congregation of St. John's Lutheran Church in Laurel invite you to a seminar entitled "Christianity and the Competition" with guest speaker Dr. Paul L. Maier on Saturday, August 27 from 9 a.m. to 3:15 p.m. The cost is \$20 if you register by July 15 and includes refreshments during coffee breaks and your noon lunch. More information and registration forms are in the church office.

## Ladies Bible study schedule

Summer has arrived and with it the FRIDAY LADIES BIBLE CLASS will recess from their in-home Bible study.

However, the Assisted Living Ministry continues leading hymn singing and devotions during these warm months. Please take time when you have opportunity to join the ladies at the Bee Hive 2328 15th Ave So on Tuesdays at 11am. They will meet at the Bee Hive June 14th, July 12th, and August 9th.

Highgate House located at 3000 11th Ave So will have the group on Fridays from 1:30 - 2:30 pm. Highgate activities are preceded by no host lunches. The group will meet at 11:45am on June 24th at Salad Creations 901 10th Ave So; on July 22nd at Rikki's Pizza & Pasta at 1220 9th St So; and on August 26th at Amy's Morning Perk at 910 9th St NW. These luncheons are becoming popular with spouses, out of town house guests, and children. Come along and join in the fellowship!

## Dedication festivities

Your brothers and sisters at The Church at Creston – Lutheran are pleased to invite you to The Dedication of their new facilities (Highway 35 and Lindsey Lane) 2 miles south of Creston or 6 miles north of Bigfork, on Pentecost Sunday, June 12, 2011. The schedule is 10:30 AM Celebration Worship Service of Dedication, 12 noon Celebration feast with a pig roast and all the trimmings, then at 2 PM Dedication Program and Open House. God has blessed us abundantly and has entrusted us with Christ's ministry here in the Fathead. Please plan to celebrate this exciting event with us.

## Trinity Lutheran Camp registrations are available

Posters are on the bulletin board listing all of the camps offered at Trinity Lutheran Camp in Bigfork on the Flathead Lake. Registration forms and more information are in the church office or online at [camptrinity@gmail.com](mailto:camptrinity@gmail.com).



Appleton, Wisconsin • Minneapolis, Minnesota  
800-THRIVENT (800-847-4836) • www.thrivent.com

During the year 2010, Thrivent Financial account holders designated \$ 6270 from their allocation of Thrivent Choice Dollars to Peace Lutheran Church. Some of these people are members of our congregation; others consider themselves friends of our church. These funds are a great blessing and allow us to complete some very worthwhile programs and projects. On behalf of Peace Lutheran Church, we extend a hearty ‘THANK YOU’ to everyone who chose to designate funds to our church.

The \$6,270 received from Thrivent Choice Dollars were allocated in accordance with the survey suggestions our members proposed last year.

The \$2804 cost of replacing the light fixtures in the fellowship hall has been authorized. One thousand dollars is designated to support evangelism outreach at the Montana State Fair Booth and the Farmer’s Market Booth. The remainder of the 2010 funds along with some of the potential dollars we will receive during 2011 have been authorized for the ceiling tile project in the fellowship hall.

Our congregation has the potential of receiving \$8,000 or more Thrivent Choice Dollars during 2011. We are asking for your suggestions of additional projects or programs that merit funding during the next year or so.

Please list your suggestions below and return the form to one of the

Peace’s Congregational Advocates:

Diann Stevens, Amy Dorr and Ruth Denning.

Thanks for your help and input!

Name (optional)

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Suggestions:

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_

## Newly elected officers installed

During the Worship Service on Sunday, May 22, newly elected officers of our congregation were installed. We pray God’s blessing upon them. They are Karl Dorr, Pat Lewis, Dan Higgins, and Kevin Aguiar as elders. Amy Dorr, Diann Stevens, and Ralph Gotta as trustees, and Gloria Creek as Director of Finance.

## Sign up for Farmer’s Market and the Montana State Fair booth

Sign-up sheets are posted for the Farmer’s Market and the Montana State Fair booth. The Farmer’s Market is every Saturday morning beginning June 4. Set up is at 7 a.m. The Market goes from 8 a.m. to 12 noon. The Montana State Fair goes from July 29 through August 6. Anyone interested in working either or both of these events is encouraged to sign up. For questions or more information, please contact Arnie Gidlow at 468-9385. Thank you to all of these people for their dedication and service to the Lord and the members of Peace Lutheran. May God bless you in your service to Him.



To all District Pastors, Congregations, and Schools:

Below is an email from Jeremy Chamber, the principal of Martin Luther School in Joplin. He has provided an update on the situation, as well as a list of needs, which has been highlighted in yellow.

Dear Friends,

I finally have internet at home which means I can type on my laptop instead of on my phone. I want to give you a better update on Joplin. This information could change.

First of all, as stated earlier, all of our students, families, and staff are safe.

Mrs. Doner - Math Teacher - Lost their home and vehicles

Mrs. Robertson - Second grade teacher - lost their home and vehicles

Mrs. Randles - Preschool teacher - lost their home and vehicles (Husband is Joplin fire chief)

Mrs. Billings - Art teacher - severe damage to home

Miss Thorne - Kindergarten Teacher - Damage to home

Mrs. Cook - Science Teacher - Lost her brother

Pastor and Karen Mech - Parsonage has damage

Church - Will need new roof

School - Possibly new roof, will need boiler repairs, needs new hot water tank, broken window, playground fence needs repairs, air conditioners need repairs.

12 church families lost their homes

8 school families lost their homes

A number of church and school families had severe damage to their homes.

The school is safe for us to use as a hub for our community. Donations of food, water, clothes, toiletry, medical supplies, etc. are being collected at school. Thanks to St. Paul's Lutheran in Farmington, MO, We are using our school as a medical clinic staffed with doctors and nurses from Farmington. We are providing meals at school for emergency personnel and for families within the community. We are also taking meals on Gators to the tornado struck area for anyone who needs them.

Many churches and schools in the area are helping us with this awesome task. We have been involved in "search and rescue" and helping with families salvage what they need. Also, we are providing pastoral care for our community at school and in the devastating areas.

Volunteers from all over the country are helping in this effort. We know Martin Luther School will be used all summer long to help our families and the community. We understand we may have a lot of donations but this is just the beginning.

We are in this for the long haul.

We are all very humbled by your offers, support, and prayers. This has meant a lot to me personally especially during these long days of little sleep.

Many of you are calling or emailing me about how you can help. I apologize for not replying. There is no email at school at this time. Listed below are a few ideas on how your ministry can help Joplin.

Gift Cards - JC Pennys, Wal-mart, Lowes (not Home Depot - destroyed), gas cards, Target, Sears, etc.

Monetary gifts for families and teachers

Monetary gifts for families to off-set tuition - many families lost jobs and it's too early to tell if and when they will rebuild.

Toys

Letters of encouragement to give to families as we distribute food, water, and other items into the community

Gatorade/Powerade - if you are close to Joplin

Any type of devotions which help families cope with this disaster

Donations may be sent to the school:

Martin Luther School  
2616 Connecticut Ave.  
Joplin, MO 64804

Or you may use my home address:

Jeremy Chamber  
2878 Southern Hills Drive  
Joplin, MO 64804

If you have other ideas or have been through a catastrophe before and have other suggestions of how to help, please let us know. Don't hesitate to call or email. We are trying to plan long term but currently we are doing things day by day as needs arise.

We extend a very special thank you to the principals, staff, and families at Lockwood Lutheran, Freistatt Lutheran, Springfield Lutheran, and Farmington Lutheran schools. By the way, Farmington is five hours away. A crew arrived Tuesday, and another crew led by their principal Andy Sherrill arrived today.

Please continue to pray and drop words of encouragement. I will post them on a bulletin board for people to find comfort.

In His Guidance,

Jeremy Chamber, Principal  
Martin Luther School  
Immanuel Lutheran Church  
Joplin, MO  
417-624-1403 Ext. 3