



## Peace Lutheran Church

3340 Eleventh Avenue South,  
Great Falls, Montana 59405

761-7343

The Rev. Steven Schlund, Pastor

Office: 761-7343

Home: 952-4567

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

Pastor Schlund: [Peacepastor@bresnan.net](mailto:Peacepastor@bresnan.net)

Peace's secretary: [Peacesecretary@bresnan.net](mailto:Peacesecretary@bresnan.net)

March, 2011

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ Jesus,

“You will not surely die” said the serpent in the garden. With that lie, the devil set into motion a chain of events which would bring about the death and damnation of all humanity – every man, woman, and child in God’s good creation. Like Eve, people who followed after her would be led into sin by being deceived into believing a lie. That sin would lead them away from God and gain for them, not the good things which the lie promised, but the judgment which God had threatened – death and destruction in hell.

God, out of His great love and mercy, intervened to save the pinnacle of His creation – the creatures He had created in His own image. He sent His Son, Jesus Christ to rescue those who had been ensnared by the lies of Satan. Jesus said, “I am the way and the truth and the life.” He would do battle with the devil whom He proclaimed to be “a liar and the father of lies.”

To free people from the lie of the devil which said that people are basically good, Jesus would have to proclaim the truth of God in calling people to repentance and faith. To free people from the lie of the devil which said there is no consequence for sin, Jesus would have to suffer God’s very real judgment against sin by dying on the cross. To free people from the lie of the devil which said that death is the end of all things, Jesus would have to rise from death and the grave to life and glory.

Jesus did all of these things. He defeated Satan. He overcame Satan’s lies. He won forgiveness of sin, renewed life with God now, and eternal life in heaven for every single human being who has lived, who lives, or ever will live.

But there is a problem. Not everyone enjoys these gifts from God. Some people are entrenched in guilt, whether they know the concept of sin or not. Some are living lives of hopeless despair. Some desperately fear death and do all they can to not think about it. Why is this? Many people still believe the lies from the father of lies and are kept from receiving God’s grace and mercy.

We think that, if we can just explain the Gospel clearly enough or if we are just friendly enough, or if we come up with the right slogan, right worship form, and so on, then people will flock to church to receive these gifts. But these are lies from the father of lies to deceive us and lead us away from the true answer.

What is the true answer? Speaking the truth of God’s Word – both the Law which condemns us in our sin and the Gospel which frees us from sin and all of its consequences – is our only hope.

In our Wednesday evening Lent services entitled, *Lenten Lies*, we will examine some of the lies which Satan uses to trap and deceive Christian and non-Christian alike. We will see how Jesus’ work during His Passion exposes those lies and frees us from them. Join us every Wednesday, beginning on Ash Wednesday, March 9<sup>th</sup> as we hear Jesus’ promise, “If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.” (John 8:31-32)

Pastor Steven R. Schlund

T

H

A

N

K

S

TO

**Everyone** who donated non-perishable food items for FISH.

**All of the members of Christ for the Deaf** who cooked, served and cleaned for the Valentine Dinner.

**Everyone** who participated in the Valentine Dinner.

**All of the ladies** who go to Park Place, Benefis Skilled Nursing Center and Highgate House to sing hymns and read devotions and minister to the shut-ins.

**Everyone** who attended the Witness Workshop.

**Elsie Huss** for all of your hard work in preparing and serving the food for the Montana District LWML BOD meeting on the last weekend of February at Peace.

**Everyone** who offered their homes and beds for the ladies of the Montana District LWML Board.

**Lorene Gotta** for hosting the Tupperware Shower for the Children's Receiving Home.

**Everyone** who donated or ordered Tupperware for the Children's Receiving Home.

**Gloria Creek and Karen Schaefer** for playing the organ/piano during our worship services.

**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.

**Jerry and Jody Geist and Angelika Fischer** 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.

**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.

## Women of Faith in Billings in April

Last April Pat Strand of Trinity, along with Val Martin, Angie Fletcher and Amy Dorr and two of Amy's daughters, attended Women of Faith in Billings. We had such a fun, encouraging time together that we reserved a block of seats for this year's event, Friday and Saturday, April 8 and 9, 2011. We would LOVE to have YOU in one of those seats next to us so that you can share with us in the experience that is Women of Faith. The nationally known Christian speakers will have you moved to tears one minute and laughing knowingly the next. Christian singing artists will bring your heart alive with music. It's a wonderful, uplifting, renewing time to share with your sisters in faith.

Women of Faith website [www.womenoffaith.com](http://www.womenoffaith.com) says, "Women of Faith is a faith-based women's organization encouraging women of all ages and stages in life to grow in faith and spiritual maturity through a relationship with Jesus Christ and an understanding of God's love and grace. Hundreds of thousands of women are meeting up in 29 cities across the U.S. for one-of-a-kind weekend events filled with laughter, music, drama, heart-tugging stories, and more."

The group rate is \$89 per person for the event. You're responsible for your lodging (at least Friday night) and meals (lunches are provided). The event begins at 10:00 a.m. Friday and ends at 5:00p.m. Saturday (with breaks long enough for shopping trips)!

Contact our group leader, Pat Strand, at 727-4420 or [kstrands@bresnan.net](mailto:kstrands@bresnan.net) to register or get more information. Please consider joining us April 8 & 9!

## Finances

The year to date budgeted amount through February 28, 2011 is **\$26,724.00**. What was given through February 28, 2010 is **\$22,352.67**. **We are short \$4,371.33**. Our Mission Commitment to the District was short for February in the amount of \$1,050.00. The amount in **Lutheran Church Extension Fund** as of February 28, 2010 is **\$29,737.24**. **LCEF loan balance as of February 28, 2010 is \$170,459.76**.

## Trinity's LWML Lenten Prayer Service and Brunch

You are invited to the Prayer Service and Lenten Brunch sponsored by the ladies of the LWML at Trinity Lutheran. It will be **Saturday March 12 at 10 a.m.** in the church basement. Please RSVP to Sylvia Adams at 727-9525 or the church office at 452-2121.

# LWML

- ♥ **Our next meeting will be Tuesday, March 1 at 6:30 p.m. with a Bible study.** All ladies of Peace are invited and encouraged to come and join us! Don't forget your Mite boxes!
- ♥ **Thank you to everyone who donated items for the troops in Afghanistan and the children of Afghanistan.** The items will be shipped early in March.
- ♥ **Thank you to everyone who donated non-perishable food items for FISH.** Eighty pounds of food was given to FISH in February. Thank you, **Diann Stevens**, for taking the food to FISH.
- ♥ **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.
- ♥ **The Lutheran World Relief drive will be on May 21, 2011 this year.** Be watching for more details!
- ♥ **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. Registration begins March 1, 2011. Registration forms are in the current issue of the *Lutheran Women's Quarterly*. Gifts from the Heart will be collected at Peace during the month of May. Be watching for shopping lists!

## Ladies Bible study schedule

March will see the FRIDAY LADIES BIBLE CLASS in the last chapters of their study of the BOOK of LUKE. It has been a rewarding and enriching study. The group invites you to join them for Bible study at the home of Ann Nimmick, 2327 15th Ave. So. from 1-3 pm on March 4th, 11th, and 18th.

Assisted Living Ministry will be held in March on the following dates. Tuesday, March 8th at 11 am ladies will be at the Bee Hive Home at 2328 15th Av So for hymn singing and a devotion. Friday, March 25th at 11:45 am the group will meet for a no host lunch at Jaker's, 1500 10th Ave. So. After lunch they will go to Highgate House 3000 11th Ave. So. for hymn singing and a devotion. Come and join in the fun and fellowship with sacred music ministry!



### March Anniversaries

Mar. 3	Hank and Kathy Politz
Mar. 23	Brant and Donna Hasbrouck
Mar. 24	Jeff and Shari Blomgren
Mar. 24	Charlie and Cheri Hirst
Mar. 29	Bruce and Janet Kempf

21	Joshua Schule
22	Clarissa Shaffer
23	Natalie Gerard
25	Aedan Lewis
25	Lucile Back
25	Judy VanVleet
26	Tyler Denning
27	Janet Rubino
28	Margie Gettel

### Baptismal Anniversaries

March	2	Charlie Fisher
	3	Stacey Jensen
	3	Stephanie Blomgren
	4	Elizabeth Becker
	4	Elizabeth Paul
	4	Amber Schoenthal
	5	Mitch Grove
	6	Derek Wayman
	13	Val Kraenzel
	17	Kevin Aguiar
	18	Nichole Wright
	20	Michael Drummond
	20	Leah Huttinger
	20	Cheri Magnuson



**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 **Kurt Mueller, Michael Lewis, and Jacob Meierhoff.**

**Justin Mann, grandson of Bruce and Janet Kempf, is in Afghanistan.**

## ***Lenten Lies* is the theme for Lent services beginning March 9th**

*Lenten Lies* is the theme for our Wednesday evening Lent services in 2011. During Lent, we remember that Jesus came to die to save us from our sins and gain everlasting life for us in heaven. But do we ever remember where our sin comes from? Sin happens because the devil fools us. We sin because the devil gets us to believe a lie. During our observation of Lent this year, we will consider some of those lies as we also consider the answers of Jesus who is "the way, the truth, and the life." Join us for these special services on Wednesdays during Lent beginning on Ash Wednesday, March 9<sup>th</sup>. Each evening begins with a soup supper at 6:00 PM. Worship begins at 7:00 PM. All services will be interpreted for the deaf.

<b><u>Date</u></b>	<b><u>Theme</u></b>	<b><u>Text</u></b>
March 9th (Ash Wednesday)	" <i>You Know Best</i> "	Luke 22:1-6
March 16 <sup>th</sup>	"You Have To Be A Rock"	Matthew 26:40-41
March 23 <sup>rd</sup>	"Sit Back and Wait"	Matthew 26:57-58
March 30 <sup>th</sup>	"A Little Is All Right"	Matthew 26:69-75
April 6 <sup>th</sup>	"Church Leaders Are Always Right"	John 18:28
April 13 <sup>th</sup>	"Entertainment Is Always Good"	Luke 23:4-9
April 21 <sup>st</sup> (Maundy Thursday)	"Only Bread and Wine"	Matthew 26:26-28
April 22 <sup>nd</sup> (Good Friday)	"Death Is Always Bad"	John 19:30

## **Fat Tuesday around the corner**

Fat Tuesday is also known as Mardi Gras Day (In French, *mardi* means "Tuesday" and *gras* means "fat".) or Shrove Tuesday. The word "[shrove](#)" is derived from the Latin *scribere*, meaning "to prescribe penance," a fitting description for the day before Lent. Pancakes somehow became associated with this day, perhaps because people needed to use up the eggs and lard that were forbidden during Lent.. It is a day when people eat all they want of everything and anything they want as the following day is Ash Wednesday, the beginning of a 40 day period of fasting and self -denial for Christians. Our annual Fat Tuesday party will be held at the parsonage, 2922 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue North, on Tuesday, March 8<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM. Bring your own brats, buns, beverages, and a dish to share! Please sign up on the sheet posted on the bulletin board.

## **Congregational Assessment coming soon**

The elders of Peace and Pastor Schlund have been crafting and developing a project over the past 5 months that we have referred to as a congregational assessment for our church. An assessment is kind of an intimidating word, most often used when a county person comes around and looks at your property and gets information that will usually cost you more taxes. Think of an assessment, like a check-up if you go to a doctor or taking your vehicle into a shop. In both cases, information is gathered, things are examined and then if there are problems a possible solution can be worked on. What the Board of Elders wants to understand better is not your blood pressure or if any of your belts are cracked, but what is happening in the hearts and minds of those that attend Peace.

What are your hearts and minds experiencing and feeling personally, within our Synod, and Peace Lutheran Church specifically? The elders and pastor have selected 6 questions that we hope will help us find out your feelings and opinions about worship, what aspects of Peace Lutheran Church are spiritually working well for you, what needs that are not being met and finally a personal evaluation of each of us in our role of being in God's family at Peace Lutheran Church. We hope our Peace family will be honest and frank in sharing anonymously what attitudes, values, concerns and positive experiences they have had a Peace Lutheran Church. We encourage each adult member to fill out this assessment. Answers can be as short or as lengthy as you wish. We hope that you will contemplate and thoughtfully describe your current spiritual state and well-being. This project and its answers should not be seen as a referendum on any office, person or doctrine viewpoint, but will be an aid to the Board of Elders in leading the spiritual life of our congregation in the future.

# Wee Disciples



We have a set of goals as we go about the many tasks of our lives in the many areas we work and serve. We want to share with you the ministry and goals of Wee Disciples. Our joyful ministry is to bring the loving message of Jesus Christ to our children and their families.

Our goals are to:

- Help children see God's active hand in their lives.
- Help children know and believe that they are a child of God.
- Help children see how God provides and nourishes their faith: sanctification.
- Help children see how they fit into God's plan: creation.
- Help children see the work of Jesus as Lord and loving Savior: redemption.
- Help children experience God's unconditional positive regard through us.
- Create classroom rituals, classroom environments, and responsive interactions that integrate faith concepts throughout the day.
- Integrate God's words and concepts into all the learning in our classroom themes.

CM Connections "Nurturing Nursery" is published on the Web by the LCMS District and Congregational Services, Children's Ministry, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, 1333 S. Kirkwood Road, St. Louis, MO 63122-7295. 1-800-248-1930; [www.lcms.org/children](http://www.lcms.org/children)

One reason to review our goals is that we are beginning registration for our 2011-12 classes and 2011 summer time. Summer at Wee Disciples is a bit different. We welcome school children for more of a camp atmosphere and continue with the younger ages as usual, but we look for extra learning activities that take them outside for fun and exercise. Secondary goals are required to participate in the STARS program administered by the Dept. of Health and Human services. The Best Beginnings STARS to Quality Program is a voluntary quality rating improvement system that aligns quality indicators with support and incentives for early childhood programs and early childhood professionals.

Another goal at Wee Disciples is to involve families – one step toward that goal is to offer the Thrivent program – Parents, Kids and Money Matters. This free educational workshop, designed for you and your child age 6 to 10, will be held at Trinity Lutheran Church on Friday, **March 18 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.** We will enjoy pizza and soda prior to the workshop. Contact any of the Wee Disciples staff or the church office for more information.