



## Peace Lutheran Church

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### Follow Jesus

In the children's game "Follow the Leader", the premise of the game is quite simple. Followers are to watch the leader and do everything the leader does, say everything the leader says, and go wherever the leader goes. If the leader stands up and you sit down, you are not following the leader. If the leader says "purple" and you say "orange", you're not following the leader. If the leader goes 100 feet to the north and you go 100 feet to the south, you're not following the leader. It doesn't matter if you tell the leader that you know the game very well, that you really like the game very much, that you did these different things because you felt they were better things to do than what the leader had done, or that you belong to a club that plays the game all the time. It's really quite simple: if you are not following the leader then you cannot win the game called "Follow the Leader".

Since the time of the apostles, Jesus has called people, including you and me, to follow Him. Following Jesus is much like the children's game: you do whatever Jesus does; you go wherever Jesus goes; and you say whatever Jesus says. The specifics of this are quite basic and Jesus explains them by saying, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me." (Matthew 17:24)

The amazing thing is that people want to follow Jesus, but not go where Jesus goes, do what Jesus does, or say what Jesus says. Who wants to deny their wants and desires? We want to indulge ourselves so that we not only have the basics of life but more and more luxuries. Taking up the cross means accepting suffering, pain, rejection, and perhaps much worse in the service of Christ. Who wants to do that? We wish to avoid suffering at all costs. We want people to like us, not reject us. We don't want to go where Jesus went. Jesus' journey took him to a cross. In short, we don't want to follow our leader and do what He does, go where He goes, or say what He says.

Yet, many in American Christianity who do not deny themselves, who are not taking up their crosses, and who have not gone the way that Jesus went, still think they are following Jesus because they were confirmed and know the Christian faith, because they have joined the Christian congregation, because they think they know better than God what constitutes Christian behavior.

There are real consequences for not following Jesus and it has nothing to do with winning a game. It is much more serious than that. It all has to do with your eternal destiny. Where will you end up? If you do not follow Jesus, then you will not arrive at the same place Jesus has arrived at, namely, heaven.

To follow Jesus means you need to be where Jesus is and can be found. Jesus has promised to be in His Word. Therefore, to be able to follow Jesus is to be in His Word – hearing it in Divine Service and reading it in your home. To actually follow Jesus is to turn your back on the culture of indulging and avoiding suffering and to go where Jesus is leading. Is it tough? You better believe it! It's much easier not to follow Jesus. In fact, Jesus says, "Enter by the narrow gate. For the gate is wide and the way is easy that leads to destruction, and those who enter by it are many. For the gate is narrow and the way is hard that leads to life, and those who find it are few." (Matthew 7:13-14)

The theme for our Wednesday evening Lent services is, "Follow Jesus!" Take time during the next six weeks to meditate upon what it means to follow Jesus and how to become empowered through His Word to actually follow Him. A simple soup supper will be served at 6 PM and worship begins at 7 PM. Come, let us follow Jesus together.

In Christ, our Savior and Leader,  
Pastor Steven R. Schlund

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**Everyone** who helps prepare, setup, and clean up after Sunday school and Bible study each Sunday

**All of the ladies** who came and made fleece blankets for Denise Combs.

**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.

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

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

**Matt Schlund** for changing the banners and paraments.

**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.

**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 Saturday, March 14 at 10:00 a.m. with a Bible study.** All ladies of Peace are invited and encouraged to come and join us! We will form a Nominations Committee for the elections that will be held at the May meeting. Remember your Mite Boxes!
- ♥ **Thank you to everyone who donated items and made fleece blankets for Denise Combs layettes.** She is soooo appreciative of us continuing to collect items every year. Thank you all for the many items that were given!
- ♥ **Remember that Purple Pockets are due to Linda Aguiar at the end of March.** This money goes to our missionaries **Rev. Andrew Schlund** in Mexico City and **Rev. Eric Stinnett** in Ethiopia. If you need a purple pocket, please see Elsie. Thanks for your continued support.

## Ladies Bible study schedule

Hello, March! This is a month when winter and spring struggle. With a heavy wet spring snow, nearby ranchers are out checking new calves, bringing hay to livestock, and making sure water is available. Though heavy wet snow can mean hardship and perhaps danger, Christian farmers and ranchers are grateful the Lord is providing much needed moisture for the land. All people need the Living Water that comes in abundance in God's Word during the penitential season of Lent. Pastor has prepared an enriching series of Wednesday evening services for us. Let us grasp the opportunity!

The FRIDAY LADIES BIBLE CLASS is another opportunity to be enriched with God's Word. They will be studying Ephesians on March 6th, 13th, and 20th from 1-3pm at the home of Marge Johnsten, 3000 8th Av So. On a cold day it's always warm, when friends gather around God's Word.

Enriching the lives of many housebound residents is the Assisted Living Ministry with hymn singing and a devotion. Ladies and gentlemen will gather at 11 a.m. on Tuesday, March 10th at the Bee Hive Home #2, 2816 15th Ave So. Join the group on Friday, March 27th at 11:45 a.m. for a no host healthy lunch at Wheat Montana, 1116 9th St So. After lunch many will go to Highgate House, 3000 8th Av So for an hour of joyful song. If you are not out checking cattle--- come and join the fellowship with these residents!



## March Anniversaries

Mar. 6 Gary and Tami Creek

## Baptismal Anniversaries

March	3	Belinda Aguiar
	3	Stephanie Blomgren
	8	Tom Masske
	10	Arnie Wirth
	17	Kevin Aguiar
	20	Michael Drummond
	20	Leah (Huttinger) Taylor
	20	Cheri Magnuson
	23	Hailey McPartlin
	23	Natalie Gerard
	25	Aedan Lewis
	25	Judy VanVleet
	25	Carol Kangas
	26	Tyler Denning
	27	Janet Rubino



### INCLUDE THESE PEOPLE IN YOUR PRAYERS:

The following people are experiencing health problems:

- Michael Drummond** – Lupus
- Rev. Mark Grunst** of Billings who has Lewy Body disease
- Connie Juden**
- Rev. Erich Kaelberer** – ALS
- Gary Lindstrand**
- Wallace Martin**, Mitch's brother under Hospice Care
- Jane Nicolaus**, cancer
- Ed and Sarah Ostlund**, in assisted living in Billings
- Becky Schlund**, MS
- Steven Schlund**, Parkinsons
- Eddie Somerfeld**
- Christine Wallace**, former LWML Montana District president, final stages of cancer

One member who is away serving in the military is **Michael Lewis**.

## Ushers for March

### Deacon is Mitch Martin

March 1	-----	Arnie Gidlow
	-----	Tyler Denning
March 8	-----	Greg Franczyk
	-----	Kevin Aguiar
March 15	-----	Lyle and James Onstad
March 22	-----	Eric Fletcher
	-----	Pat Lewis
March 29	-----	Mitch Martin
	-----	Dennis Nivens

## Wee Disciples Fund Raiser

Every third Tuesday of the month, you can help raise funds for Wee Disciples by eating at Fuddruckers! Present the coupon, which can be found on the table in the hallway, between **5 and 9 PM on March 17**, and Fuddruckers will give 20% of your total ticket to Wee Disciples!

## Peace Hospice Volunteer speaker at Trinity

Trinity Lutheran LWML is inviting all men and women to listen to Sara Graft. Sara is the coordinator for the Peace Hospice volunteer program. She will be giving a PowerPoint presentation. This presentation will on **March 14<sup>th</sup> at 10 AM at Trinity Lutheran**. 1226 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue North.



## *Follow Jesus!*

As Christians living in a hectic and often evil world, it is easy to become discouraged and lost. Jesus has called us to follow Him through the trials and tribulations of this life to everlasting life in heaven. But being devoted to the priorities of this world and having the desire to satisfy ourselves can distract us from following Jesus. How do we follow Jesus? Where do we follow Jesus? What does following Jesus involve? Join us on Wednesday evenings during this Lenten season as we meditate upon the way to "Follow Jesus!" Each Wednesday will have a soup supper at 6:00 PM with worship at 7 PM.

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|----------|------------------------------------------------------------|
| March 4  | "Follow Jesus.... With Faithfulness" – Matthew 26:47-54    |
| March 11 | "Follow Jesus... With Self-Control" – Luke 22:54-62        |
| March 18 | "Follow Jesus... With Loyalty to the Truth"-Matt. 27:11-26 |
| March 25 | "Follow Jesus... With A Repentant Heart" – Luke 23:39-43   |
| April 1  | "Follow Jesus... With A Bold Confession"-Mark 15:37-39     |

Thank you to the groups that have stepped forward and signed up to host soup suppers. We are in need of sponsors for March 18, 25 and April 1 (No fooling!). If you or your group would like to host a soup supper, please sign up on the calendar in the Fellowship Hall.