



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

Pastor Schlund: Peacepastor@bresnan.net

Peace's secretary: Peacesecretary@bresnan.net

May, 2011

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ Jesus,

Now what?

We built up toward our celebration of Easter for the past six weeks through self-denial and special subdued worship services. We had a glorious celebration of our Lord's resurrection on Easter morning. The church was packed for the festival service. We sang the familiar hymns. The choir sang. Great numbers of people streamed forward to receive the body and blood of our risen Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. It was a great celebration!

Now what? Will there be a let down? That's a good question. Does there have to be a let down? Not at all!

There is good news! The Church will be extending the celebration of Easter for 50 more days! The big paschal candle will remain lit in our chancel for these days as a reminder of the presence of the living Lord with His apostles after the resurrection! We will use the Easter greeting during this time: "Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!"

There is better news! The celebration of the resurrection and all that it means - forgiveness of sins, new life in Christ, and everlasting life in heaven - extends to every Sunday in the church year. On Easter Sunday, someone looked at the packed sanctuary and I heard them say, "We should have Easter every Sunday!" That is exactly the Church's intention. After Jesus' resurrection, the fledgling Christian Church changed its day of worship from the Jewish Sabbath (Saturday) to Sunday which they began calling "the Lord's Day". Why? Every Sunday was to be a mini-celebration of the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the grave as a reminder that, no matter how the past week had gone, the victory was still theirs in Christ.

The same is true for us today! Every Sunday is a celebration! Jesus is alive and present among us! His voice speaks to us in the reading and preaching of His Word! His resurrected body and blood are given to us to eat and drink in the Lord's Supper, thus strengthening us in the union we have with Him through Holy Baptism. No matter how defeated and depressed you might be from the past week, you celebrate every Sunday the joy and the victory that is yours through the death and resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Here is the best news! Our Sunday celebration is only an hors d'oeuvre. We look forward to the eternal Easter in heaven. One of our post-communion collects reminds us, "*Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of your Son's body and blood.*" We eagerly anticipate the time when we "*together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end.*" If you thought our Easter celebration was great, you haven't seen anything yet!

Easter Day! Every Sunday! The eternal Day of Resurrection! All are ours because Jesus has risen from the dead!

Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Pastor Steven R. Schlund

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TO**

Rebecca Higgins for your help with the Easter breakfast.
Youth for all of your hard work on the Easter breakfast.
Donnalene McPartlin and Brook Gerard for organizing the Easter breakfast.
The adult choir for enhancing our Easter worship service.
Karen Schaefer for accompanying the adult choir.
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.
Gloria Creek and Karen Schaefer for playing the organ 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.
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.

Cleaning Day planned

The trustees of Peace have set the cleaning day for **Saturday, May 7 at 9 a.m.** Mark your calendars now to join us as we do some deep cleaning of the Lord's House! Lunch will be provided.

LWML

- ♥ **Our next meeting will be Tuesday, May 3 at 6:30 p.m. with a Bible study.** All ladies of Peace are invited and encouraged to come and join us! We will be having election of officers. Don't forget your Mite boxes!
- ♥ **The 34th Biennial LWML Convention is in Peoria, Illinois from June 23 – 26, 2011.** "Being With Jesus – Living on the Edge" is the theme. Registration has begun! Registration forms are in the current issue of the *Lutheran Women's Quarterly*.
- ♥ **During the month of May,** we were going to collect items for the in-gathering at the national LWML convention in Peoria, Illinois. **Sylvia Adams**, from Trinity Lutheran in Great Falls is the Central Zone delegate to this convention. She flies out on Wednesday, June 22. Due to the cost of checking luggage with the airline, she has decided it would be better to support the Gifts from the Heart efforts of Concordia Publishing House with their Arch books program of 2 books for the price of one. Here's how it works: LWML members can purchase certain listed Arch books, in advance of the convention, for the special price of \$2 each. We will then give the order and the money to Sylvia, who will pre-order them by June 1st. When she gets to convention, she will go to the CPH booth, purchase and pick up her order of Arch books and take them to the Gifts from the Heart donation area! This will be simpler than trying to package and ship socks, towels and washcloths or other items to the convention. Sylvia can be reached by phone at 781-3911 or e-mail at pizzasis@bresnan.net. There is an order sheet on the bulletin in the hallway, if you would like to choose which books you purchase. Thanks for your continue support!
- ♥ **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.

Confirmation

There are 2 young members of Peace who will confess their faith and be confirmed at the 9:30 AM worship service on Sunday, May 15. They are **Natalie Gerard and Reilly Jacobsen**. There will be a reception in their honor sponsored by the youth group. We thank and praise God for these young members and pray that God would continue to lead and guide them in their walk of faith.

CLCD having rummage sale in May

Members of Christ for the Deaf will be having their annual rummage sale on May 13 and 14 at the parsonage, 2922 1st Avenue North. Anybody who wants to donate items for the sale can drop it in our office or have David Wise pick it up for you.

Ladies Bible Study Schedule

May brings spring time to Montana! As you think about planting your flower garden, remember the foothills and mountains are blooming with the Lord's wildflowers. Take an afternoon to drive up and see His display!

The FRIDAY LADIES BIBLE CLASS will complete the remaining chapters of LUKE. Join them for Bible study at the home of Marge Johnsten 3000 8th Av So from 1-3 pm May 6th and 13th. Plans will be made for next fall's Bible study, also.

Mark your calendars to join the Assisted Living Ministry to be held on the following dates. Ladies will meet at the Bee Hive Home 2328 15th Av So on Tuesday, May 10th at 11 am for hymn singing and a devotion. Friday May 20th at 11:45 am ladies will meet for a no host lunch at Maple Garden 5401 9th Ave So. Afterward they will go to Highgate House located at 3000 8th Ave So for hymns and a devotion. What joy to hear some of the residents singing harmony during some of the more familiar hymns! Come and join them!



May Anniversaries

May 1	Leonard and Eva Sivumaki
May 2	Lucas and Andrea Holzheimer
May 9	Robert and Ellen Marten
May 10	Mitch and Val Martin
May 10	Mike and Cheri Magnuson
May 14	Dan and Kim Schaaf
May 14	Bill and Rose Bristol
May 19	Dan and Dawn Grove
May 20	Earl and Nancy Garnes
May 22	Tom and Melissa Weaver
May 24	Leah and Gregory Taylor
May 25	Greg and Kaye Franczyk



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.**

Justin Mann, grandson of Bruce and Janet Kempf, who is coming home from Afghanistan.

Baptismal Anniversaries

May	2	Tari Flom
	3	Benjamin Schuman
	4	Doug E. Braulick
	5	Candice Schaaf
	8	Logan Geist
	9	Kevin Schottery
	10	Cindy Greenwood
	12	Laura Brandt
	12	Felecia Eby
	13	Dan Higgins
	13	Bruce Kempf
	16	Thomas Croksrey Jr.
	17	Kristen Hirst
	17	Lyla Meske
	18	Erica Brown
	21	Madeline Creek
	25	Shane Keil
	27	Meredeth Swaby
	28	Nora McKelvey
	29	Courtney Johnson
	31	Michael Widenhofer
	31	Ann Nimmick

Take Off Pounds Sensibly

"Take Off Pounds Sensibly" is a non-profit organization established in 1948, to encourage men, women, and anyone 7 yrs. and up to eat healthy. We have established a new chapter that meets at Peace Lutheran on Friday mornings at 9 a.m. with a weigh-in. For more info, contact Lorene Gotta at 952-1085.

Wee Disciples



We are thankful for the resources provided to us by our LCMS leaders. We have access to these materials to share with our families each month. This month I felt it was especially helpful – not just for Wee Disciples but for each of us as we pray for children and all the ‘children of the Heavenly Father’ in our lives.

I encourage you to be praying caregivers. Pray, asking God to help you as care for and teach these precious children of God. Pray, asking God to surround these little ones with His care and protection. Pray, asking God to make and keep each one as His own redeemed child of God. May what was said of Samuel and God’s own Son, Jesus, our Savior, be said of your children too. “Now the young man Samuel continued to grow both in stature and in favor with the Lord and also with man” (1 Samuel 2:26 ESV). “And Jesus increased in wisdom and in stature and in favor with God and man” (Luke 2:52 ESV).

Pray! First of all pray thanking God for the gift of this child. When God gives you a child, He is giving you the special gift of joining with Him in the creation of a new life. I’m sure you looked in awesome wonder at your precious baby following the birth.

Pray! Knowing this child is a gift of God and truly belongs to Him. Just as Hannah dedicated Samuel to serve God, we pray you desire that she/he becomes God’s very own child through the gift of baptism. In Baptism God claims your child as His very own, washes away her/his sins because of what Jesus has done, gives her/him the gift of faith that will need to be nurtured. This beginning has God’s promise of living with Him for all eternity.

Pray! Ask God to give you the wisdom and patience to discipline this child. Parenting is not an easy task! You will need God’s help as you learn to balance giving freedom to move and explore and setting boundaries so your child will not be in danger. Remember discipline means to teach, guide or nurture, not to punish.

Pray! Ask God to help you be a good example for your child. Baptism is the beginning of a life-long relationship with Jesus. Attend worship regularly. In worship we hear God’s Word which is food for our faith. Plan now to spend time with your child sharing God’s Word as well as modeling prayer.

Pray! Ask God to help you choose friends who have children the same age as yours who share the same Christ-centered values. Nurture these relationships. God will bless you as you carry out this responsibility and privilege.

“Reprinted with permission of LCMS School Ministry.”

You are invited to our graduation time on June 2nd at 6:30 to celebrate with the children and families as our school year comes to a close.

We are very excited that many students will be returning to Wee Disciples for their summer activities. We ask that you pray – for the children, staff, families, volunteers, and so many congregation members and community members that reach out and share experiences this summer. We will have increased numbers some of the summer but will return to our lower enrollment in the fall – striving to listen to the plans the Lord has for us.

Finances

The year to date budgeted amount through March 31, 2011 is **\$39,283.79**. What was given through March 31, 2011 is **\$34,602.42**. **We are short \$4,681.37**. Our Mission Commitment to the District is still short for the past 3 months in the amount of \$3,150.00. The amount in **Lutheran Church Extension Fund** as of March 31, 2011 is **\$25,197.55**. **LCEF loan balance as of March 31, 2011 is \$144,345.83**.

“Life Quotes” from Lutherans For Life

“The Bible tells you that God in love designed your very existence. Psalm 139 says, ‘For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother’s womb. I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made’ (NIV). You can be sure, wherever you go and whatever happens to you, that your Creator loves you dearly.” *Rev. Mark Jeske, speaker on “Time of Grace” – A “Life Quote” from Lutherans For Life –*

www.lutheransforlife.org