



## Peace Lutheran Church

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

### “Expect It!”

Last week (October 26) was my birthday. I used to expect many things on my birthday: gifts & cards from my family, a birthday cake from my mom (and later on my wife), and things like that. I no longer expect those things. Many of the family members who sent gifts and cards have died. The lack of a birthday cake is the result of a necessary diet. However, there is one thing I have never expected on my birthday and which I did receive this year: snow. Past experience told me it would not happen. Common sense told me it couldn't happen. I mean, it's October for crying out loud.

I should have expected it though. Past experience is not necessarily a reliable predictor of future experience. I am now living in Montana where any month is good for snow. It's a whole new experience. Common sense doesn't rule out the rules of meteorology. The weatherman and weather women had predicted snow, based on what they had studied and learned.

I thought of this while still enjoying our pre-Halloween snow on the ground and preparing our worship services for November. As you know, the church year winds down in November before beginning a new church year in Advent. The themes of many of the Scripture lessons have to do with the end of the world, Judgment Day, and what is to come after that.

Many people expect the coming of the end of the world and a judgment day about as much as I expected snow in October. Their past experience tells them that nothing will change. Their common sense tells them that the world will go on in the future as it has in the past.

However, a change is coming. It is a change which our past experience has nothing to tell us about because it has never happened before. It is a change which our common sense, corrupted by sin, could not possibly see coming. Jesus Christ is returning in glory to judge the nations and to bring His people home with Him in heaven.

Like a big snowstorm in October, we don't expect this to happen. There are two reasons for this. First, sin and the temptation to sin draw our attention away from our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and focuses on the material world around us. Secondly, we may not be ready because it will occur at a time when we least expect it. Jesus warns us, “Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.” (Matthew 25:44)

Are you to be ready for such a monumental event? The Word of God tells us how to be ready for the end of the age and the judgment that is coming. It encourages us to remember that we have been brought into God's family through the waters of Holy Baptism. We have forgiveness for all of our sin because of Jesus' death on the cross. We have the sure and certain hope of resurrection and eternal life because of Jesus' resurrection from the dead.

We don't need anything more, but we do need to focus our attention on that which we have lest we forget. Therefore, I encourage you in the Sundays of November to come and hear the Word of our Lord as He prepares us for His return. The return of Christ will be the emphases in our Bible readings, messages and, hymns. Remember that on Wednesday evenings during December, we will also have special opportunities to focus in on our Lord's coming as a child and his return as Judge in our Advent services.

When your focus is on the Word of God as your point of reference for experience and what makes sense, you will not only be ready for Christ to come, but eager as well. You will long to hear Jesus say to you, “Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.” (Matthew 25:34) And you will enjoy something rarer than October snow and more wonderful than anything you've ever experienced: eternal life with our Lord Jesus Christ and all of His people who have gone before us. Expect that!

In Christ,  
Pastor Schlund

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TO

**Helen Lewis and Ruth Denning** for putting up the LWML display in the hallway.

**Cheri Magnuson** for the getting the flowers for the altar for LWML Sunday.

**Everyone** who donated treats for our fellowship time for LWML Sunday.

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

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

**Everyone** who attended the LWML Fall Zone Rally at Trinity and donated food items for the Whittier food pantry.

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

**Angelika Fisher** for cleaning the church.

**Everyone on the Prayer Chain** for their time and prayers.

**Everyone** who has donated treats for our fellowship time.

**Everyone** who cleans the kitchen after Bible study on Sundays and Wednesdays.

**All of the men** who volunteer to usher.

**Everyone** who counts the offering.

**Cheri Magnuson** for cleaning the Communion linens.

**The 4 ladies** who came and cleaned on cleaning day.

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.

## Ladies Bible Study Schedule

With grateful hearts the month of November is embraced! Our national holiday of Thanksgiving helps the country focus on themes Christians highlight year round -- appreciating God's daily blessings of "our daily bread" and the joy of family. When someone greets you with, "Happy Thanksgiving," give them a Christian reply, such as, "God's blessings on your Thanksgiving celebration!"

The FRIDAY LADIES BIBLE CLASS is always thankful to gather around God's Word for fellowship and Bible study. They would love to have you join them as they continue through the short but important book of JUDE. Join them on November 1st, 8th, and 15th from 1-3 pm at the home of Marge Johnsten, 3000 8th Ave So.

The ladies and gentlemen who serve in Assisted Living Ministry with hymn singing and a devotion will meet at the following locations. On Tuesday, November 12th at 11 a.m. they will gather at Bee Hive Home #2, 2816 15th Ave So. The monthly lunch bunch will dine Friday, November 22nd at 11:45 a.m. at Hardee's, 2615 10th Ave So. After lunch many will go to Highgate House, 3000 11th Ave So. Come and join them as they lead the residents in songs of thankfulness and praise to the Lord, who so richly showers His blessings!

## LWML

- ♥ **Our next meeting and Bible study will be Saturday, November 9 at 10:00 a.m. NOTE THE DATE AND TIME CHANGE!** We will have a guest speaker from St. Vincent DePaul regarding the homeless in Great Falls and how to help them. All ladies of Peace are invited and encouraged to come and join us!! Remember your Mite Box!
- ♥ **On Saturday, December 7, at 10:00 AM,** we will be decorating the church for the Christmas season. People young and old are asked to come and help for as long as their schedule will allow.
- ♥ Remember that the ladies of LWML will be sponsoring the first Advent Soup Supper on Wednesday, **December 4.** If you would like to help in anyway, please contact LWML Co-Presidents Helen Lewis or Ruth Denning.
- ♥ **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.



## November Anniversaries

Nov. 1 Vic and Carol Scheuffele  
 Nov. 6 Michael and Crystal Lewis

## Baptismal Anniversaries

November 4 Val Martin  
 9 Brenna Hasbrouck  
 9 Andrew Schlund  
 11 Pastor Steve Schlund  
 11 Michael Lewis  
 15 Kaylee Lewis  
 22 Katherine Onstad  
 22 August Birkholz  
 22 Josie Ryster  
 24 Betsy Wirth  
 24 – Arianah Bilskemper  
 26 Alan Brown



### 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  
**Wallace Martin**, Mitch's brother under Hospice Care  
**Jane Nicolaus**, cancer  
**Sarah Ostlund**, in rehab for PT  
**Christine Wallace**, former LWML Montana District president, final stages of cancer

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

### Deacons for November:

**Arnie Gidlow/Kevin Aguiar**

### November ushers:

3 – Kevin Aguiar and Tyler Denning  
 10 – Pat Lewis and Greg Franczyk  
 17 – Matt Schlund and Mitch Martin  
 24 – Dennis Nivens and Darrell Greenwood

# Thanksgiving Day Worship Service at Peace

We will once again have a **Thanksgiving Day Worship Service at 10:30 a.m.** on November 28. It is the Order of Matins without Communion. During the service there will be a non-perishable food offering that will be taken to the Great Falls Rescue Mission. Following the service, we will also have a meal for families of Peace who want to come and join us. There is a sign-up sheet posted and a tentative menu. Please sign your name and the number of people in your family and indicate what you will be bringing to add to the meal. We all have sooo much for which to give thanks!

## Year-end statement change

Members who would like their year-end giving statements sent to them via email are asked to send an email to the treasurer at [plctreasurer@charter.net](mailto:plctreasurer@charter.net). Per IRS rules, we can no longer put them in mailboxes. They are to be mailed or emailed. This saves the church some stamps. Also, if you want offering envelopes, please let Arnie know so he can order the correct number. People who write checks do not need envelopes. We only need to order envelopes for those who give cash. Thank you for your help! If you have any questions, feel free to contact Treasurer Arnie Wirth.

## “Life Quotes” from Lutherans for Life

**November 4** “How can we remain silent when life itself is in question? Standing firm and trusting in Jesus Christ, the Lord and Savior of life, and being willing to use our voices to speak up and share the truth about the value of human life are so very important as the world crumbles around us.” *Virginia Flo, Lutherans For Life Regional Director of Minnesota – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • [www.lutheransforlife.org](http://www.lutheransforlife.org)*

# **Nursing Home Ministry needs your help!**

A ministry providing devotions and hymn singing has been provided weekly over a number of years for residents both at Benefis Extended Care Center and Park Place Nursing Home. Currently, there is a need for volunteers to help with this service.

The weekly schedule is as follows:

**Benefis Skilled Nursing Center –**

**Tuesday 10:15 to 10:45 a.m.**

**Park Place Nursing Home –**

**Thursday 10:00 to 10:45 a.m.**

If you would like to help in this ministry of love, please contact Alice Schuman at 761-6657.