



Peace Lutheran Church

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October, 2010

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ Jesus,

The calendar says fall, but the weather (as I write this article) says summer. Which is right? The weather seems too changeable to tell us much about the season we are in. Sometimes that troubles us. We don't know how to face the day: jacket or coat, umbrella or not? We like stability in our world. We like to know how to face our daily lives.

Immutability (a fancy word for "unchanging") was one of the major issues which the Reformation addressed: does God change or not? Can we know how to face our daily lives or is each day an uncertain adventure?

Many people in Luther's day think that God acted on a whim. They thought that God was happy with them at some times and angry with them at other times. The only way for them to have some sort of assurance was to do enough good things so that God was happier more often with them than he was angry with them. Still, with all of their penance, piety, and good works, the spiritual lives of people in Luther's day were as stable as the weather in Montana on a late September afternoon – always changing and never certain.

The major purpose of the Reformation was not posting 95 Theses, doing away with indulgences, or starting the Lutheran Church. The purpose of the Reformation was to provide assurance and hope by giving the people something true and unchanging upon which to base their lives.

In the book of Malachi, it reads, "I the LORD do not change." (Mal. 3:6) At first glance, we may think, "Great! God is always going to be angry with us." It is true that the commands of God do not change, despite the massive moral changes in our culture and society. What was wrong in Malachi's time was wrong in Luther's time and is wrong in our time. It is also true that God's anger against sin and punishment of sin does not change. Sin always results in death and hell.

But the passage in Malachi continues, "I the LORD do not change. So you, O descendants of Jacob, are not destroyed." This passage brings great good news. It is not emphasizing God's unchanging condemnation, but His unchanging grace and mercy. Despite Israel's sin and faithlessness, God was good and faithful to His covenant. He would continue to forgive and restore His people despite their unworthiness.

God has made a new covenant with us (Jeremiah 31:31-33) in Jesus Christ. God has declared us to be righteous and holy in His sight because of the redemption earned for us by His death and confirmed for us by His resurrection. As the Scripture says, "This righteousness from God comes through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no difference, for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus." (Romans 3:22-24) That declaration of grace and mercy will never change. Sin cannot destroy it. Good works cannot enhance it.

Reformation Day (October 31st) falls on a Sunday this year. As we celebrate it, let's keep the focus where it belongs. It is not on the talent of Martin Luther or the rightness of the Lutheran Church. Luther erred at times and the Lutheran Church has undergone many changes. But God has not erred nor has He changed. He is pleased with you for the sake of Jesus Christ and always will be. Therefore, you can live life with confidence and face death with hope. For, unlike the weather in Montana, God's grace and mercy never change.

Happy Reformation Day!

Pastor Steven R. Schlund

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Everyone who participated and helped in any way on Rally Day.
All of the ladies who go to Benefis Skilled Nursing Center, Park Place Nursing Home, Bee Hive Home #4 and Highgate House for hymn singing and devotions every month.
Everyone who attended the LWML Fall Rally in Havre.
Ruth Denning and Elsie Huss for driving to the Rally in Havre.
Everyone who attends Family Night and helps with food preparation and clean up.
John and Karen Birkholz and Kelly Wiseman for your help with folding bulletins and newsletters.
Gloria Creek and Kathy McIntosh for playing the organ during our worship services.
All those who volunteer to teach Sunday school, Bible class, and midweek classes.
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.
John Birkholz for editing our worship service tapes each week for the service to air on Cable 7.
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

- ♥ **Thank you to everyone who attended the meeting and Bible study in September.** Thanks to Janet Kempf for leading us in the business meeting and the Bible study in Val's absence.
- ♥ **LWML Sunday will be October 3.** LWML will have a display on the bulletin board with some historic facts and information about where the Mites go and some of the projects and events that we have sponsored locally, nationally and around the world. Thank you to **Linda Aguiar and Elise Huss** for organizing the display. The LWML worship service will be used for the 9:30 service and altar flowers will be given.
- ♥ **During the month of October, we will be collecting items to give to the Children's Receiving Home.** Their "Wish List" is on the bulletin board and there are copies for you to pick up and use as shopping lists on the table in the hallway. Thank you for your continued support of LWML and the local community.
- ♥ **Our next meeting and Bible study will be Tuesday, November 9 at 6:30 p.m.** All ladies of Peace are invited and encouraged to come.
- ♥ **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 August 31, 2010 is **\$103,924.45**. What was given through August 31, 2010 is **\$94,018.64**. **We are short \$9,905.81**. Our Mission Commitment to the District has not been met for August in the amount of \$1,050.00. The amount in **Lutheran Church Extension Fund** as of August 31, 2010 is **\$27,927.09**. **LCEF loan balance as of August 31, 2010 is \$161,453.02**.

"Life Quotes" from Lutherans For Life

"Abortion kills children, harms women, degrades humanity, and assaults the Lord of Life. The Christian cannot view abortion as 'just another issue.' It overrides all issues. The value and dignity given human life by God's creating and redeeming hands compels the Christian to take advantage of every opportunity to remind their fellow Christians of this and to take action in the public square to restore our nation once again to a nation that respects the right to life. *Rev. Dr. James I. Lamb, executive director of Lutherans For Life* **Lutheransforlife.org / 888-364-LIFE**

Montana District Pastors' Conference

Montana District Pastors' Conference will be hosted by Peace Lutheran Church on Tuesday, October 19th to Thursday, October 21st. All are invited to the Opening Vespers Service on Tuesday, October 19th at 7:30 PM.



October Anniversaries

- Oct. 10 Kevin and Kristen Jacobsen
- Oct. 12 Conn and Naomi McKelvey
- Oct. 15 Bill and Elsie Huss
- Oct. 16 Bill and Jill Southard
- Oct. 17 Vern and Ruthi Pankratz
- Oct. 18 Justin and Adrian Talley
- Oct. 23 Henry and Alice Schuman
- Oct. 30 Ken and Amy Steinke

Baptismal Anniversaries

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|---------|----|--------------------------|
| October | 1 | Jonathan Keyser |
| | 1 | Lyle Onstad |
| | 1 | Tom Croskrey Sr. |
| | 2 | Gloria Creek |
| | 3 | Molly Jacobsen |
| | 4 | Sarah Ostlund |
| | 6 | Matha Karagiosis |
| | 7 | Jessica (Lindsay) Bobick |
| | 7 | Joan Sivumaki |
| | 9 | Don Smith |
| | 10 | Rick Johnsten |
| | 14 | Ruthi Pankratz |
| | 14 | Josh Talley |
| | 17 | A.J. Hirst |
| | 19 | Chris Magnuson |
| | 19 | Sarah Eby |
| | 20 | Connie Croskrey |
| | 21 | Lisa Deffinbaugh |
| | 21 | Lucas Wayman |
| | 23 | Karen Schaefer |
| | 23 | Shari Blomgren |
| | 27 | Lee Henselin |
| | 28 | Ruth Denning |
| | 31 | Ruth Rozokat |

National Life Chain Sunday

We are encouraged to build a Life Chain on **Sunday, October 3 from 1:30 to 3 p.m.** Meet at the east end of Holiday Village Mall to pick up a sign. One hundred people standing 100 feet apart on the north and south sides of 10th Avenue will build over a mile long witness for God, and the sanctity of human life! For more information call Jim and Barb Going at 761-2716 or 727-4878.

Fall cleaning day set

A fall cleaning day has been set for **Saturday, October 9 at 9 a.m.** We will be putting away the fans, winterizing the exhaust fan, cleaning windows and refrigerators and much more! Come for as little or long as your schedule will allow. Lunch will be provided.



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

- John Birkholz**
- Colleen Carr**
- Jo Flom**
- Eva Lou Knorr**
- Patsy Zvara**

Our members who are away serving in the military are **Brandon Anderson, Michael Lewis, and Jacob Meierhoff.**

Justin Talley is in Jalalabad, Afghanistan. **Kurt Mueller** is redeployed to Iraq, near Baghdad. **Justin Mann**, grandson of Bruce and Janet Kempf, who is also in Afghanistan.

Peace's Anniversary month

It has been 2 years since we celebrated our 50th Anniversary as a congregation on October 12, 2008. It seems appropriate to remind ourselves of the many blessings that God has bestowed on us. We can be thankful that the true Word of God is still being preached, that we have faithful members and officers, that there are volunteer teachers for Sunday school and midweek classes. We can be thankful for the new addition to our church, for our choirs and organists. God has truly blessed the members of Peace throughout these 52 years and has promised continued blessings thru His Word and Sacraments.

*Laura Brandt
Historian*

Montana Lutherans for Life Fall Conference

The Montana Chapter of Lutherans For Life will hold their fall conference on October 16 at Trinity Lutheran Church in Kalispell. The overall seminar goal is to abandon the sexual education model presented to us in society and to reinstitute the biblical purity model in our churches, families and country. The featured speaker will be Audrey Werner, an RN who is a national speaker regarding the lies surrounding sex education and has provided helpful information for maintaining optimal health. Registration is \$20 and will be used exclusively to offset the expenses of this seminar. There are no formal registration forms, so just call Trinity Lutheran Church at 406-257-5683 with the number of people attending. Payment can be made at the door. All are welcome!

Central Circuit Reformation Service at Peace Lutheran

The congregations of the Central Circuit of the Montana District will be gathering to celebrate Reformation Day on Sunday, October 31st at Peace Lutheran Church in Great Falls. After an inspiring worship service, there will be a potluck dinner. All are invited to bring food to share. Bring also a dessert for the dessert auction. The offering from the worship service and the proceeds from the dessert auction will go to help support the unfunded missions of the Montana District: Indian Ministries at Circle of Life Lutheran Church in Lame Deer with Pastor Dennis Bauer and Parke Timber; Crow Lutheran Church at Crow Agency with Pastor Dan Jacobs; and the Chaplain Gale Everson at Montana Developmental Center in Boulder. Join us on October 31st for a time of worship, fellowship, and the support of God's mission within the Montana District.

Ladies Bible Study Schedule

The crisp month of OCTOBER is beckoning you to join the FRIDAY LADIES BIBLE CLASS for a hot cup of coffee or tea and Bible study. The group will finish 2 and 3 JOHN and begin a new study of the GOSPEL OF LUKE. Bible study will be held October 1st from 1-3pm at the home of Ann Nimmick, 2327 15th Ave So. On October 8th, 15th, and 22nd ladies will meet from 1-3pm for Bible study at Marge Johnsten's, 3000 8th Ave So.

Tuesday, October 12th at 11am hymn singing and a devotion will be held at Bee Hive Home #4, 2320 15th Ave So. On Friday, October 29th at 11:45 am ladies will meet for a no host lunch at Maple Garden Restaurant, 5401 9th Ave So, followed by hymn singing and a devotion at Highgate House. Take a break from leaf raking and join in the fun!

Wee Disciples



Creation is such a wonderful Bible truth to share with children and families and provides a basis of many other Bible concepts through the year.

Preschool, K-1, Childcare and After-school Care all have near capacity enrollment. We give God all the glory for this blessing.

You are always invited to come and read with children, play, or just listen!!

Our big events this month are Dinner Theater and Harvestfest.

Dinner Theater is on **Saturday, October 9** and is our one big outreach/fundraiser of the year. The Mansfield Room at the Civic Center will be the site and we will enjoy songs and fun by children and we will serve a spaghetti meal. You are welcome to join us anytime from 4:30 to 7:00. We will have a silent auction – our thanks to Chuck and Judy Lively, Vi Biberdorf and many more who have donated items. We have received several interesting and yummy items from Wee Disciples families and the community. We would really appreciate your participation in any way.

For **Harvestfest** on **Sunday, October 31**, a light meal will be served at 5:45, followed by story time and game booth activities. We would love help with cookie decorating, face painting, fishing booth, crafts, golfing, apples-on-a-string, bean bag toss, or add a new activity for this year. Please see the sign up sheet on the kiosk or the bulletin board downstairs. Contact Peggy with any input or questions.

God's Blessings,
Wee Disciples Staff