



## Peace Lutheran Church

3340 Eleventh Avenue South,  
Great Falls, Montana 59405

**761-7343**

The Rev. Steven Schlund, Pastor

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**April, 2010**

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ Jesus,

Easter used to carry with it a lot of traditions in our culture. There were Easter parades, Easter bonnets, and new Easter clothes. Now, about the only tradition left is Easter eggs and candy from an Easter bunny.

In the last two issues of this newsletter, I shared with you a couple of beneficial Lenten traditions: fasting and a special emphasis on reading Scripture and prayer. These traditions were designed to draw our attention to the suffering and death of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of our sins. What about Easter? What tradition might draw our attention to the true meaning of Easter? How about a special greeting?

The bodily resurrection of Jesus Christ from real death and what it means for us is the true meaning of Easter for us as Christians. As important as Jesus' suffering and death were on the cross, they would mean nothing if Jesus did not rise from the dead. As St. Paul wrote, "if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins." (1 Cor. 15:17).

What is so important about the resurrection? The resurrection completes the crucifixion in God's plan of salvation. As Paul wrote in Romans, "He was delivered over to death for our sins and was raised to life for our justification." (Rom. 4:25) The crucifixion and resurrection are two sides of the same salvation coin. Crucifixion without resurrection is incomplete and invalid. It would be like a coin which has heads but no tails. It would be worthless.

Therefore, how we greet each other on Easter can be a good way of emphasizing the importance of the resurrection of Jesus Christ, as well as confessing the hope we have because of it. Instead of saying "Good morning!" on Easter or even a rather bland "Happy Easter!", use the ancient church greeting, "Christ is risen!" to which the person being greeted responds, "He is risen indeed!"

Easter is much more than new clothes or candy. It is even more than festival worship services and joyous hymns. Easter is all about God's work for us in Jesus Christ. Through His death AND resurrection, we have peace with God through the forgiveness of sins; new life through Jesus' death; and eternal life through Jesus' resurrection. How can we help but shout that out on Easter? How can we not greet each other with this good news on Easter and throughout the Easter season?

"Christ is risen!".....(say it now)

In our Living Lord,

Pastor Steven R. Schlund

**Everyone** who donated items for the Easter food baskets.  
**Members of Christ for the Deaf, elders, youth, and LWML** for sponsoring the Lent soup suppers in March.  
**John Birkholz** for your help with folding bulletins and newsletters.  
**The adult choir** for enhancing our worship services.  
**Karen Schaefer** for accompanying the adult choir.  
**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.  
**Shirley Coe** 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.  
**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.

Thank you to every one who helped make the re-do of the ceiling in the sanctuary a possibility. The support of the congregation, various boards, along with financial contributions and the man power to move and replace the pews AGAIN, is really appreciated. This project has really improved the acoustics in the sanctuary. The choir is again rehearsing in the sanctuary and not setting up the fellowship hall for rehearsals. Singing in there has been a joyful experience since the tiles were changed out.

*Kathy McIntosh*

## Holy Week

We invite you to continue the journey with Jesus to the cross and its conclusion during Holy Week with these special worship services.

### **Maundy Thursday April 1<sup>st</sup>**

*The Remembering Word*

Worship with Holy Communion

7:00 PM

Interpreted for the deaf.

### **Good Friday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>**

*The Fulfilled Word*

Service of Darkness

7:00 PM

### **Easter Sunday, April 4<sup>th</sup>**

Sunrise Service

6:30 AM

### **Easter Sunday, April 4**

*The Vindicated Word*

Festival Worship with Holy Communion

9:30 AM

Interpreted for the deaf.

## Constitutional Amendment CI 102

Members of Peace Lutheran Church are encouraged to sign the pro-life petition, Constitutional Amendment CI 102. It offers Christians a special opportunity to talk about moral truth about a God who created every person for a purpose. If 10% (50,000 signatures) of the voters in each of 40 legislative districts sign this petition, this constitutional amendment will appear on the November 2, 2010 general election ballot.

“C102 amends the due process section of the Montana Constitution to define ‘person’ as used in that section to include every human being regardless of age, health function, physical or mental dependency, or method of reproduction from the beginning of the biological development of that human being. It directs the legislature to implement this definition by appropriate legislation.”

# LWML

- ♥ **Our next meeting will be Tuesday, May 11 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 elections. Don't forget your Mite boxes!
- ♥ **Thank you to everyone who donated items for the Easter food baskets for needy members of our congregation.**
- ♥ **Because the Lutheran World Relief Drive isn't until May 1,** we will continue collecting items through April for much needed health kits to be sent to Lutheran World Relief. Items for a health kit are
  - ✓ **One hand towel; dark color recommended;**
  - ✓ **One washcloth; dark color recommended;**
  - ✓ **One bath-size bar of soap, any brand, in its original wrapping;**
  - ✓ **One toothbrush, in original wrapping;**
  - ✓ **One sturdy comb, wide tooth preferred;**
  - ✓ **One metal nail file, or nail clippers with file attached;**
  - ✓ **Six band-aids, preferably ½" to ¾"**
  - ✓ **NO TOOTHPASTE.**
- ♥ **The Montana District LWML Convention will be April 16 – 18, 2010 in Helena at First Lutheran Church. Registration forms are in the Montana Missive. National President Jan Wendorf will be the key note speaker and Brook Gerard and Cindy Super.** Young Women Reps to the National Convention will give their presentations of the convention. Registration forms are in the *Montana Missive* or in the church office. Mark your calendars now and plan to attend!
- ♥ **The officers** that will be elected at the District Convention are Treasurer, Recording Secretary, VP of Human Care, VP of Servant Resources, Nominations – Elections Chair and Junior Pastoral Counselor. Please prayerfully consider serving at the District level. For more information or if you are interested, contact **Pam Kercher at 406-259-1820.** Pastor Schlund will be the Senior Pastoral Counselor and Ruth Denning is the President of the Central Zone, so you would have someone to travel with to the Board meetings twice a year!
- ♥ **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 1, 2010 this year.** Be watching for more details!

## Finances

The year to date budgeted amount through February 28, 2010 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.**

## Ladies Bible study schedule

How meaningful our Lenten services have been! Early April brings Holy Week. We are grateful for faithful pastors who spend many hours of preparation, so that we may hear God's Word and receive Holy Communion.

Often is the comment during the FRIDAY LADIES BIBLE CLASS, "This passage certainly ties in with last Wednesday's Lenten service or last Sunday's sermon." We hope more ladies will join the group as they continue the study of John's letters.

Ladies will NOT meet for Bible study on April 2<sup>nd</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>. On April 16<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> they will meet from 1 -3 pm at Marge Johnsten's, 3000 8th Ave So.

Tuesday, April 13<sup>th</sup> from 11 - 11:30 am the ladies will meet at Bee Hive Home #2, 2824 15th Ave So for Easter hymn singing and a devotion. April 30<sup>th</sup> they will meet at 11:45 at Jaker's, 1500 10th Ave So for a no host lunch, followed by hymn singing and a devotion at Highgate House. Come and share the Easter joy!



## April Anniversaries

April 8	Ron and Diane Steffens
April 9	Bill and Dorothy Neuman
April 10	Ken and Jeanne Huttinger
April 18	Bill and Jane Hering
April 21	Richard and Amanda House
April 27	Harry and Colleen Carr

## Baptismal Anniversaries

April	1	Don Brown
	1	Grace Eby
	1	Dennis Creek
	2	Karen Birkholz
	3	Gordon Swaby
	5	Alex Schuman
	8	Carol Thurston
	8	Esther Largent
	10	Michael Davidson
	12	Gary Creek
	12	Ruth Lowden
	13	Raiden Nelson
	14	Ethan Southard
	15	Pamela Brown
	21	Jessica Keyser
	23	Bridger Wayman
	24	Cameron Jensen
	25	Tanner Keil
	25	Barbara Swaby
	26	Darrell Greenwood
	26	Allison Mead



### INCLUDE THESE PEOPLE IN YOUR PRAYERS:

The following people are experiencing health problems:

**John Birkholz**  
**Colleen Carr**  
**Jo Flom**  
**Bill and Jane Hering**  
**Eva Lou Knorr**  
**Patsy Zvara**

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

**Justin Talley** is in Jalalabad, Afghanistan now.  
**Kurt Mueller** is redeployed to Iraq, near Baghdad for 7 to 8 months.

## Fort Benton Corner

Thank you, **Pat Lewis, Lay Assistant to the Pastor**, for leading worship and Bible class each Sunday during March. Your dedication, time and effort are very much appreciated!

**Rev. Wade Harr will be here to celebrate Holy Communion with us on Easter Sunday, April 4.**

The following is the Holy Week Schedule for First Lutheran Church :

**Palm Sunday** (March 28<sup>th</sup>) – Service with Palms at 10:00 AM

**Good Friday** (April 2<sup>nd</sup>) – Service of Darkness led by Rev. Wade Harr at 7:00 PM

**Easter Sunday** (April 4<sup>th</sup>) – Easter breakfast at 8:30 AM followed by Festival Service with Holy Communion led by Rev. Wade Harr at 10:00 AM.

Join us at this most holy time for these special worship opportunities!

If you have something you would like to have in a Sunday bulletin or the monthly newsletter, please contact Ruth in the church office at 761-7343 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday thru Friday.



## Youth activities

Join the Youth Group on Easter morning as we serve breakfast from the Bread of Life Café!

We will be serving a variety of breads that you can build into your own breakfast sandwich. We will feature, eggs, bacon, sausage, and cheese for your pleasure. Bread choices will include croissants, bagels, biscuits, and English muffins. We will also have an a la carte menu!

Breakfast will be served from 7:30 to 9:00 AM on Easter morning! We hope that you will plan to join us!

## Voters meeting set

**Mark your calendars now for the next congregational voters meeting and potluck on Sunday, April 25 at 12 noon.** We will have election of officers. If you are interested in serving the Lord as an elected official of Peace Lutheran Church, please contact Darrell Greenwood.

# Wee Disciples



We are in the midst of the Easter season and we are sharing with the children the power of that event. I would like to share some thoughts from the Lutheran Portal:

You and I, the children who we care for and teach (*at Wee Disciples and Sunday School*), and their parents see glimpses of Jesus' resurrection power as we hear and read the stories from Scripture. Through faith, we are sure that Jesus' resurrection power will take us to heaven. Because Jesus lives we, too, will be with our Lord and Savior for eternity. "Because I live, you also will live" (John 14:19).

The one who has the power to be raised from the dead, the very Son of God, the one who sits at the right hand of the Father, the Prince of Peace, the one with the power to perform miracles and transform lives-wants to have a personal relationship with you and me. This Jesus, who has incredible positional power, wants to connect with simple folks like us. He rose victorious from the dead so that we likewise, could claim that same victory when we face death. "Reprinted with permission of LCMS Children's and Family Ministry."

We are watching as God leads us through changing times, times of opportunity and blessing. We have two new administrators, Sadie Ondick and Wanell Fahrer who will work with childcare staff and children. We pray God's blessings as they begin this new area of service. We also welcome Melissa and Sandy as new staff members.

If you are interested in any of the programs here at Wee Disciples, please contact us at 771-7882.

Debbie Lee, Director

To: Congregations of the Central Circuit

Re: Circuit Forum to discuss upcoming Synod Convention Proposals

The upcoming LCMS Convention in 2010 appears to be one of the most challenging conventions to come along in quite a while.

The Blue Ribbon Task Force of the Synod is proposing quite a number of changes to our Synod that range from changing the name of "The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod" to changes in the way of gathering funds from congregations to realigning Districts and to creation of regions as well as lowering the number of delegates attending a Synod Convention by 50%. These are just a few of the proposals that will come up at this Convention.

The pastors of the Central Circuit all agree to have a "CIRCUIT FORUM" at which discussion can take place regarding some of these proposals as well as giving a chance to congregational members to express their disagreement or consent to the proposals being generated. In this way both delegates from our Circuit - Mitch Martin from Peace, Great Falls and Rev. Eric Stinnett from Stanford/Denton/Lewistown will hear straight away the thoughts and concerns of members from the Central Circuit.

The CIRCUIT FORUM is being planned for Sunday, May 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm at Trinity Lutheran, Great Falls. Rev. Eric Stinnett will give a presentation on the proposals and lead a discussion regarding them. If one would like to have a copy of all the proposals, please ask your pastor to download a copy for your reading.

God's blessings to all of you during this Lenten and Easter season of the church!

In Christ's Service,  
Kent C. Stenzel, Pastor  
Circuit Counselor, Central Circuit  
Montana District LCMS

# “Life Quotes” from Lutherans For Life

“Your loved ones who died trusting in Christ are at home with the Lord. They have been moved from poverty-stricken lives to be possessors of wealth that cannot be measured. We, too, can know that as the years fly by, we have an eternity before us that knows no end...It took a cross and an empty tomb to give us a basis for our salvation. It takes a divinely inspired Word that says, ‘Because He lives, I too shall live.’ This is the message of Easter.” *Rev. Homer Larson, speaker on the Christian Crusaders radio program Lutherans For Life – [www.lutheransforlife.org](http://www.lutheransforlife.org)*

## Easter

The day we celebrate Jesus becoming alive from the dead is traditionally called Easter although the word Easter has no special Christian meaning. It comes from the Middle English word **Ostern** - meaning the direction from which the sun rises. More typical among early Christians was the name Pascha derived from **Pesach**, the Hebrew word for Passover. Easter is the oldest holiday in the Christian Church. It has been celebrated since the early second century. Easter has had no fixed date since 325 A.D. when it was decreed that Easter was to be on the Sunday that followed the first full moon after the spring equinox. Easter can occur between March 22 and April 25th. Jesus’ resurrection from the dead is the most important event for Christians. It is the guarantee that all of God’s promises - forgiveness, new life, and heaven - are true! The Christian Church traditionally has its day of worship on Sunday, not because it is the Sabbath, but to commemorate Jesus’ resurrection from the dead every week!

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### ***COME AND JOIN***

**The MONTANA DISTRICT of the  
International Lutheran Laymen’s League for their  
61<sup>st</sup> Annual District Convention  
St. Paul Lutheran Church, 125 C Street,  
LEWISTOWN, MT  
*Friday April 23 and Saturday April 24, 2010***

**A weekend of Bible study, an ingathering of new underwear for the Orphan Grain Train, and sharing of current and future activities of LHM and Int’l LLL by Region 12 Governor, Bill Snow are planned. Learn what is happening around the state with other men’s groups and zone LLL groups. Christian fun, food, and fellowship will be the weekend fare. July 23-24, 2010 is the league’s International Convention in Omaha, NE. A celebration of Pastor Ken Klaus’ ministry as Speaker of The Lutheran Hour will be held.**

**Harold Gessner will be speaking about the Orphan Grain Train Friday evening. He is coming prepared to take an OGT load back to Bottineau, ND. If you have something to donate to OGT and plan to bring it to Lewistown, advance notice would be appreciated to keep the Gessner’s informed as to the number of items.**

**The Montana District LLL officers encourage congregations around the state to contact them regarding their role in being able to do mission work without leaving home. The task is to collect new underwear in the original packaging to be sent or brought to the convention in Lewistown for the Orphan Grain Train. The Gessner’s plan to bring a van and a trailer to haul donations back to ND—so let’s show them our support! Perhaps your congregation wants to plan an “Undie Sunday” as an easy way to do mission work without leaving home!**

Registration forms are in the church office or on the bulletin board in the hallway.