



**April Fools!**  
April 2012

## Peace Lutheran Church

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**April, 2012**

The April 1985 issue of *Sports Illustrated* contained a story about a new rookie pitcher who planned to play for the Mets. His name was Sidd Finch, and he could reportedly throw a baseball at 168 mph with pinpoint accuracy. This was 65 mph faster than the previous record. Surprisingly, Sidd Finch had never even played the game before. Instead, he had mastered the "art of the pitch" in a Tibetan monastery under the guidance of the "great poet-saint Lama Milaraspa." Mets fans celebrated their teams' amazing luck at having found such a gifted player, and they flooded *Sports Illustrated* with requests for more information. In reality this legendary player only existed in the imagination of the author of the article, George Plimpton, who left a clue in the sub-heading of the article: "He's a pitcher, part yogi and part recluse. Impressively liberated from our opulent life-style, Sidd's deciding about yoga — and his future in baseball." The first letter of each of these words, taken together, spelled "H-a-p-p-y A-p-r-i-l F-o-o-l-s D-a-y — A-h F-i-b". (Alex Boese at [www.museumofhoaxes.com](http://www.museumofhoaxes.com))

April Fool's Day goes back to the 16<sup>th</sup> century when the Gregorian Calendar was introduced. In the new calendar, New Year's Day was moved from April 1<sup>st</sup> to January 1<sup>st</sup>. Communication was slow in those days and some people didn't hear about the change until several years later. Some refused to believe the news and continued to celebrate New Year's on April 1<sup>st</sup>. They were labeled as "April Fools". They were subject to practical jokes, sent on "fool errands", and received invitations to nonexistent New Year's parties. Thus, April 1<sup>st</sup> became a day for playing practical jokes on people by trying to get them to believe things that aren't real and shouting "April Fools" if they fall for them.

I find it interesting that Holy Week begins on April 1<sup>st</sup> this year. The week is full of events that seem to be one hoax after another which we are called on to believe. On Sunday, a peasant prophet rides into Jerusalem on a donkey and is proclaimed to be the king of the Jews. On Thursday, the Rabbi Jesus of Nazareth calls on His disciples to wash one another's feet. Or, better yet, He says that His body and blood are in bread and wine and are to be eaten and drunk for the forgiveness of sins. On Friday, the Son of God, the Creator of the World and the Source of Life, dies on a cross when His own creatures nail Him there.

As unbelievable as these potential "April Fools" jokes might be, the biggest whopper is saved for Sunday. This Jesus, crucified and dead on Friday, comes out of the tomb alive again. He had told His followers that He would do it. He also made the astounding promise that all who trusted in Him and His actions, rather than in themselves and their actions, would have their sins forgiven by God Himself and be able to do what Jesus did: rise from their graves and live forever!

The world delights in calling us "April Fools!" for believing in such outlandish things. And if these things are all hoaxes, then we are the biggest fools for believing them. If Christianity is without these miracles and is just a way to have peace of mind and a better life here, then it is as the Word of God declares, "If only for this life we have hope in Christ, we are to be pitied more than all men." (1 Corinthians 15:19).

But the Word of God continues, "But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep." Christ has left the tomb and come back to life. This means that all of these miraculous stories are true. All of His great promises are true. We have hope in Him for this life and for the life to come!

Have a blessed and joy-filled Easter celebration!

Pastor Steven R. Schlund

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**Everyone** who cooked, helped set up, clean, serve and donated desserts, crackers or bread for the soup suppers during Lent.

**Everyone** who helped set up, serve, cook and clean up for Esther Largent's funeral.

**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, Val Martin, 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.

**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.

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

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

**Cindy Greenwood** for decorating the bulletin boards.

**John Birkholz** for all of your work in the library at Peace.

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.

## “Life Quotes” from Lutherans For Life

“‘Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for Thou art with me.’ ... What gives meaning to these words? It is the Easter story of Christ's resurrection. He lives and walks with me. We know this is no sentimental thought, but an objective truth that God is God, and He uses this verse to comfort His children. Because He lives, we can face tomorrow with confidence.” *Rev. Homer Larson, speaker on the Christian Crusaders radio program – A “Life Quote” from Lutherans For Life* ·

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

## LWML

- ♥ **Our next meeting will be Tuesday, May 8 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 all 4 officers, president, vice-president, secretary and treasurer. Don't forget your Mite boxes!
- ♥ **Thank you to everyone who helped with the 2 soup suppers that we sponsored.** Funds from the first one went to Tammy Drummond and funds from the second one went to Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod spring tornado relief.
- ♥ **The Montana District Convention will be at Trinity Lutheran Church in Kalispell from April 27 through 29, 2012.** The registration fee will be \$65 per person. The speakers will be many and very interesting, including Gary Thies, from Mission Central; Director of Christian Education Jason Schleicher, from Manitoba VBS; and, as always, a humorous interrupter. Registration forms are in the current *Montana Missive!* Thank you to **Helen Lewis and Linda Aguiar** for volunteering to be our delegates!
- ♥ **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 19, 2012 this year.** Be watching for more details!

## Finances

We began the new year of 2012 with a deficit in the checking account of \$6,467.35. Our giving in February, 2012 is \$10,525.13 and our expenses for February were \$13,988.87. The amount NOT in our checking account at the end of February is \$10,548.01. The **Lutheran Church Extension Fund** loan balance as of February 29, 2012 is **\$77,927.31.**

# Ladies Bible study schedule

April brings us Holy Week and on the 8th a glorious Easter celebration! The LADIES FRIDAY BIBLE CLASS will meet for Bible study on April 13th from 1:15 - 3:15 pm at the home of Marge Johnsten, 3000 8th Ave So. The following week on April 20th ladies will meet at Ann Nimmick's home, 2327 15th Ave So.

Assisted Living Ministry with hymn singing and a devotion will be held at these locations. Tuesday, April 10th at 11 am ladies will gather at Bee Hive Home #1, 2824 15th Ave So. On Friday, April 27th at 11:45 am they will meet for a no host lunch at the Food Court at the Holiday Village Mall on 10th Ave So. Later the ladies will go to Highgate House, 3000 11th Ave So. Share the RESURRECTION JOY with the assisted living residents as we lead them in singing the glorious Easter hymns!



## April Anniversaries

April 8 Ron and Diane Steffens  
April 9 Bill and Dorothy Neuman

## Baptismal Anniversaries

April	1	Don Brown
	1	Grace Eby
	1	Dennis Creek
	2	Karen Birkholz
	3	Gordon Swaby
	5	Alex Schuman
	8	Carol Thurston
	10	Michael Davidson
	12	Gary Creek
	12	Ruth Lowden
	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

## Cleaning Day planned

The trustees of Peace have set the cleaning day for **Saturday, May 19 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.

## Peace's library is open!

The church library is open for business, for browsing or for borrowing. See John Birkholz with questions or for an appointment.



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

**John Birkholz**  
**Margie Gettel**  
**Jane Hering**  
**Patsy Zvara**

Our members who are away serving in the military are **Kurt Mueller and Michael Lewis.**

We pray for comfort for the family of **Esther Largent** who died March 22.

## Voters meeting set

**Mark your calendars now for the next congregational voters meeting and potluck on Sunday, May 20 at 12 noon.** We will have election of officers and discussing some important issues. If you are interested in serving the Lord as an elected official of Peace Lutheran Church, please contact Chairman Darrell Greenwood a.k.a. "The Prez".

## A Biblical Tour of Israel & Jordan:

**October 15-25, 2012 will be an Experience of a Lifetime!** A complete tour of Israel & Jordan plus many extras such as visiting Christmas Lutheran Church in Bethlehem, a cruise on the Sea of Galilee, going up to Mt Nebo where Moses died, Petra and much more! Arrangements can be made for departure from any airport. Rev Darold Reiner (LCMS) (Former LWML International Counselor) is leading this tour from Kalispell, MT. Contact him at 406-890-1149 or [reiner@centurytel.net](mailto:reiner@centurytel.net) for a full brochure.



# HOLY WEEK WORSHIP SCHEDULE

**Holy Week: A Time For Renewal** Join us in the coming week as we journey with Jesus to the cross and the empty tomb for special worship services under the theme A Time For Renewal

Maundy Thursday, April 5<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM: *A Time For Renewal of Christian Unity*  
(interpreted for the deaf)

Good Friday, April 6<sup>th</sup>: at 7:00 PM: *Tenebrae: A Service of Darkness*

Easter Sunday, April 8<sup>th</sup>

Easter Vigil Service: 6:30 AM

Easter Breakfast: 7:30 AM – 9:00 AM

Easter Festival Service with Holy Communion: 9:30 AM *A Time For Renewal of Hope*  
(interpreted for the deaf)



## Bring Easter lilies

We will NOT be ordering Easter lilies this year, but you are welcome to bring an Easter lily by Saturday, April 7 and it will be placed on the altar for Easter morning. After services on Sunday, feel free to take the plant home with you! Thank you!



## Members of Christ for the Deaf sponsor rummage sale

The annual rummage sale that is sponsored by members of Christ for the Deaf will be May 18 and 19 at the parsonage, 2922 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue North. If you have items to donate, you may bring them to the church and place them in the office for the deaf. If you items that need to be picked up, please contact David Wise and he will make arrangements to come and get them. Thank you for all of your help and participation in this endeavor.

## Save the Date: VBS!!

Vacation Bible School for this summer is set for July 9 through 13, 2012. The theme is "River Of Life". We are in need of class teachers, craft teachers, music leaders, and food preparers. If you can help in any way, contact Donnalene McPartlin at 452-1602. The children will appreciate your help and so will Donna!