



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 – June, 2012

Your Trip to the Holy Land

May/June 2012

As I write this I am preparing for my trip to Israel. When you read this, I shall be there. Many of you have asked me about the trip and wished me well. Some of you have even expressed a sanctified envy by saying you wished that you, too, could make a trip to “the Holy Land”. I have good news. Such a trip is already scheduled for you

Beginning in Genesis 12, God made a covenant with Abraham in which He promised land to Abraham and his descendants as part of the promises regarding the coming Savior. This “promised land” is roughly equivalent to what we know today as the nation of Israel. While this land was very real and the descendants of Abraham occupied it for hundreds of year, the “promised land” meant much more than simple real estate. It was symbolic of the final promise and final destination of God’s people.

The Hebrew people from the time of Abraham up until the time of Moses were nomads. They had no permanent home. They were looking for the permanent home which God had promised them. In the famous “Faith Chapter” (Hebrews 11), the author elaborates on this:

They only saw [the promised things] and welcomed them from a distance, admitting that they were foreigners and strangers on earth...If they had been thinking of the country they had left, they would have had opportunity to return. Instead, they were longing for a better country—a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared a city for them. (Heb. 11:13-16)

What we refer to as “the Holy Land” is not morally better than any other country. The word “holy” is used to mean “set apart”. “The Holy Land” was the land set aside for God’s Old Testament people. But it was never intended to be a permanent dwelling. The people were always looking for the heavenly country and the heavenly city which God had prepared them.

We are in the same situation. God has given us a beautiful earth on which to live with many blessings to make life enjoyable. However, it was never intended to be our permanent dwelling. The heavenly country and the heavenly city were meant for us, too. Our sin kept us locked out of “the Holy Land”. Death prevented us from entering the “Holy Land.”

Jesus took care of that. On the night before He died, Jesus said, “My Father’s house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am.” (John 14:2-3) Jesus prepared a place for us by offering His life on the cross for the removal of our sins. Jesus opened the way to that place by rising from the dead. Because Jesus rose from the grave to life, so also, we, too, shall rise from our graves, become alive, and make the trip to the heavenly “Holy Land” which Jesus has prepared for us.

If you think my 10 day trip to the visit the nation of Israel and the city of Jerusalem – the so-called “Holy Land” – is something, you haven’t seen anything yet. Our visit to the true Holy Land and the new Jerusalem will be beyond our ability to imagine and will last forever. We will see what John saw in the book of Revelation

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea. I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Now the dwelling of God is with men, and he will live with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God.” (Rev. 21:1-3)

See you in “the Holy Land”!

Pastor Steven R. Schlund

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TO

Everyone who donated lilies to enhance our Easter Worship Services.

Youth for all of your hard work on the Easter breakfast.

Tom and Connie Croskrey, Kristen Jacobsen and Brook Gerard for organizing the Easter breakfast.

Tom and Connie Croskrey, Kristen Jacobsen and Brook Gerard for organizing the lock-in over the Easter weekend, especially Tom for staying with the kids all night!!

The adult choir for enhancing our Easter worship service.

Jill Keil for directing the adult choir.

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, 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.

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.

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

- ♥ **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 officers. Don't forget your Mite boxes!
- ♥ **The next planning meeting will be Tuesday, July 12, 2012 at 6:30 p.m.** This is the meeting that we plan the coming year's activities, events and projects. Plan now to come and be a part of the planning process!!
- ♥ **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!

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.

Shredathon at Peace Lutheran in May

The Cascade County Chapter of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans is sponsoring an event to help you avoid identity theft. Clean out your old tax records and obsolete or outdated financial account statements containing personal information and bring them to the Shredathon. This service is available to all the members and friends of the Lutheran churches in Cascade County. (Household and church parish records only, please. No business records.) Watch your old records being shredded, and then enjoy some food and fellowship. We will serve shredded meats, shredded lettuce, shredded cheese and of course something sweet.

When: Tuesday, May 8, 2012

From 3:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Where: PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

3340 11th Avenue South

(Shredding in the parking lot, food & refreshments in fellowship hall)

This event is sponsored by the Cascade County Chapter of Thrivent Financial Board of Directors and Thrivent Financial Representatives Karl Dorr and Don Lee.

Ladies Bible Study Schedule

What a joy to experience spring, and May is the heart of spring! After a long winter of sleep, nature awakens as the trees leaf out, flowers blossom, and gardening begins. While all these delightful spring activities are seen in town, do take time in May to drive to the foothills or mountains, where the Lord's flower garden is in full bloom!

While enjoying the beauty of spring, take time with the FRIDAY LADIES BIBLE CLASS as they continue studying the Books of Jeremiah and Lamentations. Bible study will be held May 4th and 11th from 1:15 to 3:15 p.m. at the home of Marge Johnsten, 3000 8th Av So.

Assisted Living Ministry with hymn singing and a devotion will take place at these locations. On Tuesday, May 8th at 11 a.m. ladies will meet at Bee Hive #1, 2824 15th Avenue South. On Friday, May 18th the group will meet for a no host lunch at 11:45 a.m. at Salad Creations, 901 10th Avenue south. Afterward they will go to Highgate House, 3000 11th Avenue South.

During the summer months, Bible study will be in recess. However, Assisted Living Ministry will continue with the following schedule:

Bee Hive Home #1 at 11 a.m. – June 12th, July 10th and August 14th.

Highgate House preceded by lunch at 11:45 a.m. at the following locations:

June 29th – Bar S Restaurant, 5100 North Star Blvd.

July 27th – Five Loaves Coffee House, 4117 2nd Avenue North

August 24th – Prime Cut, 3219 10th Avenue South.



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
Margie Gettel
Jane Hering
Patsy Zvara

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

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	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

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 discuss 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".

Christ for the Deaf 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 1st 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.

Attention all Youth!

We want to see you out on the water. The Youth Group of Peace Lutheran Church will be hosting a weekend retreat on May 18-20. This event will be a great opportunity for fun, food and fellowship at the church on Friday night. Saturday morning, we will work together helping to clean up the Lords house and grounds, and then it's off to the river for an afternoon float. Saturday evening we will plan for a potluck and outdoor activities at Odd Fellows Park, down at the river. The retreat concludes after worship on Sunday morning. The event is intended for youth ages 13-18. It should be a lot of fun! Look for a sign-up sheet that should be coming out soon, or you can contact Brook Gerard (brook.gerard@malmstrom.af.mil) or Tom Croskrey (tom@croskrey.org) for more information.

Save the Date: VBS!!

VBS is coming up-July 9-13. It will be in the morning from 9 am to 11:30 am. The children that attend VBS would appreciate it very much if you, the adults of Peace Lutheran Church, would donate your time as teachers during this time. Teachers are needed for crafts, music, snack/recreation and classroom time. Please consider how you will be helping the young people of the congregation during the week of Vacation Bible School this summer. Thank you very much for your help.

Finances

We began the new year of 2012 with a deficit in the checking account of \$6,467.35. Our giving in March, 2012 is \$9,949.30 and our expenses for March were \$11,601.98. **The amount that Peace's checking account is in the red at the end of March is \$12,200.69.** The **Lutheran Church Extension Fund** loan balance as of March 31, 2012 is **\$76,881.89.**

“Life Quotes” from Lutherans For Life

Mother's Day – May 13 - “Thank God for His gift of Christian motherhood, because those who have been blessed through it enjoy priceless spiritual treasures and are given the privilege of serving the Lord in His kingdom.” *Rev. Mark Gullerud, Redeemer Lutheran Church, Bowdle, South Dakota* – A “Life Quote” from Lutherans For Life · www.lutheransforlife.org

Pastor Schlund Gone

Pastor Schlund will be gone from April 21st to May 3rd on a trip to Israel. If you are in need of pastoral ministry during his absence, contact your elder or Pastor Gerald Paul at Trinity Lutheran Church 452-2121.

Ascension Day service planned

Ascension Day will be on Thursday, May 17th. We will have a special worship service to celebrate this joyful occasion on that evening at 7:00 PM. There will refreshments served afterwards. Mark this on your calendar and join us for this special event.

Sign language class to begin in the fall.

Pastor Schlund will be teaching an American Sign Language class beginning in the fall of 2012. If you are interested in learning sign language, please contact him.

Why Do Bad Things Happen to Good People? is a study of the Book of Job which will be the new topic for the Adult Bible Class, beginning on May 6th. In studying the life of Job, we will take up such topics as: Why do bad things happen to Christians? Does God punish His people? How are we to understand and deal with suffering. All are invited to join us for this pertinent and interesting study on May 6th.

As the children of Pastor and Jane Nicolaus we are contacting your congregation to help us celebrate our father's retirement this coming June 24th. We would like to put together a book of letters, notes and cards from the people he has served over the years. If you would like to join us in honoring him in this milestone in life we would love to have you send a message, note or card of well wishes for his retirement or fun stories from his time with you. Our plan is to compile these messages into a book to be presented to him on his final service. If you would like to include something in this book you can mail it to:

Sarah Petrik
205 14th Ave SW
Sidney MT, 59270

Or email it to petriks94@hotmail.com (please put in subject line **Pastor Nicolaus** or I will be leery to open it up!)
Please send notes by June 3rd

We appreciate your willingness to be a part of Dad seeing how God has used him in his time of ministry.



*Happy
Anniversary!*

June Anniversaries

June 9	Paul and Janet Rubino
June 12	William and Ruth Rozokat
June 14	Tom and Connie Croskrey
June 16	Gerald and Jill Keil
June 16	Gene and Fran Davidson
June 16	Gordon and Barbara Swaby
June 17	Andrew and Kelsey Schlund
June 21	Mike and Carol Dawson

Baptismal Anniversaries

June 2	Cathy Schoenthal
7	Joseph Furr II
7	Cheri Hirst
9	Alexis Geist
11	Katie Heidrich
12	Daniel Widenhofer
12	Linda Aguiar
14	Angela Fletcher
16	Alicia Fletcher
16	Bernie Schaaf
18	Phyllis Schaaf
18	Jeremy Davidson
20	Will Inscore
21	Jessica Nay
23	Meagan Croskrey
24	Dawn Grove
25	Erin Heidrich
27	Marge Johnsten
28	Becky Schlund
29	Lisa Rubino
30	Aleshia Arensmeyer