

Peace Lutheran Church

3340 Eleventh Avenue South, Great Falls, Montana 59405 **761-7343** Rev. Joshua Reinke, Pastor Office: **761-7343** Fax: **452-3884 December, 2023** www.peacelutherangreatfalls.org

"Come now, let us reason together, says the LORD: though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall become like wool. Isaiah 1:18

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Winter is officially here. We have had one snowfall but now green grass. As I watched the snow blanket everything in white, I was reminded of Isaiah chapter one. As I see the green grass currently, I am reminded of the new life that the Lord gives to us through Jesus Christ.

It is amazing that our Lord covers our sins just as the snow covers the ground. Even though we have sinned much and greatly, our Lord does not hold our sins against us. He does not punish us as we deserve because the price has been paid. God took on our human flesh in Jesus Christ. God became man for us! In order to do what we could never do, pay the price for our sins. Jesus Christ paid the price for us on the cross of Calvary. He suffered, bled, died, and rose from the dead so that we could have the forgiveness of our sins and life forever with God. So that we could have peace with God.

We have these benefits because we have been connected to His death and resurrection by the waters of Holy Baptism. We are covered by His blood and given newness of life, just as snow gives way to green grass. At the font, we are washed in Jesus' blood and our sins are washed away. All of it, every single one is covered. The stains of our sins are made white as snow through the blood of Jesus Christ, as we are covered with His righteousness.

As we look forward to the celebration of Christmas, may we also remember why God became man. Remember the reason why. Why God became man in Jesus Christ, a babe, laid in a manger, for us and for our salvation. So that our sins could be as white as the fresh fallen snow, forgiven and redeemed.

Your Servant in Christ,

Rev. Joshua Reinke

Everyone who helped with the Thanksgiving Day meal at the church.
Everyone who helped with the memorial service for Richard Schottey.
Tristin Reinke, Val Martin and Gloria Creek for playing the organ during our worship services.
Elsie Huss for changing the banners and paraments.
Bob Fletcher 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.

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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.



Dec. 12 Bob and Liz Ellesch

- Dec. 28 Peter and Ly Doscher
- Dec. 30 Emich and Sieglinde Steinke

Baptismal Anniversaries

December 4

- 4 Jacob Meierhoff 19 Kristen Jacobsen
- 22 Ganetta Ryster
- 23 Donnalene McPartlin
- 29 Ernie VanVleet
- 29 Reilly Jacobsen
- 30 Nicholas Birkholz

Ushers for December

- 3 Mitch Martin Kevin Aguiar
- 10 Darrell Greenwood
- Arnie Gidlow
- 17 Pat Lewis
- Tyler Denning24 Mitch Martin
- Lyle Onstad
- 31 Arnie Gidlow Pat Lewis



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

Ben Aagaard – 10 year old with liver cancer Marylan Dallum, Fort Benton Jody Decker – Fort Benton Michael Drummond – Lupus Rev. Mark Grunst of Billings who has Lewy Body disease Connie Juden Rev. Erich Kaelberer – ALS Bruce Kempf – health issues Becky Schlund, MS Steven Schlund, Parkinsons Van Oman family – Fort Benton

We pray for the family of **Richard Schottey** who died November 15, 2023.

Advent Devotion Booklets

Lutheran Hour Ministries provides us with devotion booklets each Advent. They are available on the table in the hallway. Please take one and enjoy!



Ladies Friday Bible Study

Advent is here! Let us rejoice as we celebrate and remember how our Savior came into the world taking on human flesh to save us from sin. Take advantage of every opportunity to speak of the real reason to celebrate Christmas. Let us also take advantage of every opportunity to worship, as we prepare our hearts for Christmas.

Friday Ladies Bible Class is in recess for the month of December.

Assisted Living Ministry will celebrate Christmas with hymn singing and a devotion with the following schedule. On Friday, December 1st from 10:00-10:45am they will be at The Lodge, 1801 9th Street South. The increasingly popular no host lunch will be held at Jaker's, 1500 10th Avenue South on Friday, December 15th at 11:45am, followed by singing at Highgate Senior Living, 3000 11th Avenue South. Pastor Reinke will hold a worship service at The Lodge at 2:30pm on Wednesday, December 13th. He will celebrate worship at Highgate Senior Living at 1:30pm on Monday, December 18th. Share the joy of our Savior's birth with these dear people!

Advent Service Schedule

We are having Advent Worship Services each Wednesday at 7 PM. There is also potluck dinners served at 6 PM. The theme this year is *Peace Came to Earth*.

Christmas Service Schedule

Holiday Worship Service is as follows: Sunday, Fourth Sunday in Advent -Sunday, Christmas Eve Service -Sunday, Christmas Eve Service -Monday, Feast of the Nativity Service -

10:00 AM - Peace Lutheran with Holy Communion
3:00 PM - First Lutheran in Fort Benton
7:00 PM - Peace Lutheran
10:00 AM –with Christ Lutheran for the Deaf and First Lutheran with Holy Communion

Monday, December 25 – OFFICE CLOSED

There will NOT be a New Year's Eve Service but beginning at 7 PM there will be a Family Fun Night with games and food and fun for everyone!

LWML

- ♥ December 2, Saturday, at 10 AM, we will be decorating the church and putting up the Christmas Tree! We will also be switching the deaf classroom with the preschool room and doing any cleaning that needs to be done. All are welcome to come and join us!
- ♥ December 16, Saturday, at 11:00 AM, we will have a baking day at the church!. We will be baking the goodies that will be handed out when we go caroling on Sunday, December 17 at 1:30 PM. Please meet at the church at 1 PM and we will decide our route for caroling. All are invited to join us!
- **During the month of January,** we will have a Baby Shower for Denice Combs who gives baby layettes to the mothers at Benefis who have babies but have no clothes to put on them. You may bring new or clean,



- gently used baby items and place them in the box provided. We will also be making fleece blankets that will be given to Denice Combs.
- Our next meeting will be Saturday, January 13 at 10 a.m. with a Bible study. Please note the day and time change!! If you want to make a no sew fleece blanket during our meeting, please bring a 1 ¹/₄ yards of any fleece material with you and we will show you how! All ladies of Peace are invited and encouraged to come and join us! Remember your Mite boxes!