



Peace Lutheran Church

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The Rev. Joshua Reinke, Pastor

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"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,

They say that April showers bring May flowers, I am not sure what a snow shower in February will bring this month!

Yet it does remind me, as we continue this season of Lent, of what we have to look forward to at the end of Lent. Lent culminates in the greatest Feast of the Christian Calander: Easter, the day we celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord.

During this season we reflect upon why Jesus took on our flesh, why He became one of us. Why? Because of our great and many sins against God and other people. All of us are stained by sin. As Isaiah writes, they are like scarlet, red like crimson. We are stained fully and completely, in our thoughts, as we ponder inwardly the choice words that we would love to yell at the person who just rear ended us, or the child who is being defiant against our wishes. The very words that pour out of our mouths show the blood red corruption that we have, both those spoken in frustration, anger, rebellion, deception, and those known only to us. Even our deeds are filthy. We do nothing good, doing everything for our own self-gratification, no matter who it might hurt in the process. A stain, a blemish that, try as hard we can to remove it, we cannot.

How can our blemish be removed? Because of Jesus. He takes upon Himself our sins. He who knew no sin became sin for us. Upon the Cross, He bears the punishment of our sins, bearing the full wrath of God on our behalf. Because of Jesus' death and resurrection, our stained scarlet selves are made white as snow! Because of Jesus, we are fully and completely forgiven of every single one of our sins.

We are cleansed and given new life. We are justified by the work of Christ. He sends us the Holy Spirit, given to us through the waters of Holy Baptism. The Holy Spirit does His work and we are sanctified. Our thoughts, words, and deeds are turned, not inward to ourselves but outward to the needs and desires of our neighbors. In meeting their needs, we are living the holy lives that God has called us to. May we continue to do so until the day He calls us to His nearer presence and our blemished self is put to death forever.

Your Servant in Christ,
Rev. Joshua Reinke

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TO

Everyone who helps prepare, setup, and clean up after Sunday school and Bible study each Sunday

Everyone who donated items to Denise Combs for her infant layettes.

All of the ladies who came and made fleece blankets for Denise Combs.

Everyone who helps prepare, setup, and clean up after Wednesday Lenten potluck suppers.

Val Martin, Tristin Reinke, and Gloria Creek for playing the organ and piano during our worship services.

All those who volunteer to teach Sunday school and Bible class on Sundays.

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.

All of the men who volunteer to usher.

Cheri Magnuson for cleaning the Communion linens.

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.

Ladies Bible study

Hello March! Are you ready for the signs of spring? Aren't we always... What a favorite time of the year! Spring, summer, and autumn stretching ahead of us. Look for those first robins down by the river or in a hedge of bushes by the 15th. Blue birds will be along the gravel roads in the mountains, flying away from a fence post perch as you drive by on a sunny day. In town, watch for the first crocuses to bloom. In protected flowerbeds, the first crocus leaves were poking up through the snow on Ash Wednesday. Enjoy all these harbingers of spring as we gather together for the enriching Lent services on Wednesday evenings.

At last, the Friday Ladies Bible Class will resume their study of the book of Mark. Do come and join them when they meet March 1st, 8th, and 15th from 1-3pm at the home of Marge Johnsten, 3000 8th Avenue South.

Assisted Living Ministry with hymn singing and a devotion will be at the following locations. On Friday, March 1st from 10-10:45am they will be at The Lodge, 1801 9th Street South. On Friday, March 22nd join the no host lunch bunch at 11:45am at Wheat Montana Bakery and Deli, 1116 9th Street South. Afterward many will go to Highgate Senior Living, 3000 11th Avenue South.

Worship services will be held at two assisted living facilities. Pastor Reinke will be at The Lodge on Wednesday, March 13th at 2:30pm. On Monday, March 18th he will be at Highgate Senior Living at 1:30pm. Enjoy being a part of this outreach into our Great Falls community!

Vacation Bible School

Vacation Bible School dates have been set for **June 17 through 21, 2024 from 9AM to Noon**. Children through grade 6 are welcome to come and join us for crafts, study of God's Word, music, snacks, and play time! Children older than that are welcome to come and be helpers. If you are interested in helping in any way, please contact Linda Aguiar or Pastor Reinke.



Happy Anniversary!

March Anniversaries

- Mar. 6 Gary and Tami Creek
- Mar 23 Brant and Donna Hasbrouck
- Mar 24 Jim and Brenda Lee
- Mar 29 Buck and Ann Goldhahn

Baptismal Anniversaries

- March 3 Belinda Aguiar
- 3 Stephanie Blomgren
- 10 Arnie Wirth
- 14 Tristin Reinke
- 17 Kevin Aguiar
- 20 Michael Drummond
- 20 Leah (Huttinger) Taylor
- 20 Cheri Magnuson
- 23 Hailey McPartlin
- 23 Natalie Gill
- 25 Alix Johnson
- 25 Judy VanVleet
- 26 Tyler Denning
- 27 Jared Dudden
- 27 Janet Rubino
- 28 Joshua Reinke
- 29 Patrice MacDonald
- 30 Stacie Jensen

**Designate Your Thrivent Choice Dollars
by March 31st!!**

Ushers for March

- March 3-----Lyle and Andrew Onstad
- March 10 -----Arnie Gidlow
----- Jeff Blomgren
- March 17 ----- Greg Franczyk
----- Peter Doscher
- March 24 ----- Mitch and Taylor Martin
- March 31 ----- Tyler Dening
----- Pat Lewis

Camp Dates

Dates for camp have been set as **August 15 through 18, 2024!** It's a Thursday through Sunday. Since this is an election year, we will be discussing our Lutheran / Christian identity and its role in politics. Pastor Reinke will be leading the discussions. Plan now to come and join us for some fun in the sun!



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

- Ben Aagaard** – 10 year old with liver cancer
- Marylan Dallum** – health issues - Fort Benton
- Jody Decker** – health issues - 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
- Rachel Manley** – cancer
- Eloise Morehead** – health issues
- Becky Schlund** - MS
- Steven Schlund** - Parkinsons
- Charlene Schotney** – health issues
- Van Oman family** – health issues - Fort Benton

Wee Disciples Fund Raiser

Every third Tuesday of the month, you can help raise funds for Wee Disciples by eating at Fuddruckers! Just tell them that you want to be included in the fund raiser for Wee Disciples between **5 and 9 PM on March 19**, and Fuddruckers will give 20% of your total ticket to Wee Disciples!

Youth Easter Schedule

Saturday 3/30/24
3 p.m. to 6 p.m.
Crafts, decorating and preparing food.

Sunday 3/31/24
5:45 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.
Prepare, serve, and clean up breakfast

Congregation

Easter breakfast
7:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.
Cost: free will donation

Any questions or concerns please contact Kaye at
406-750-0658



Holy Week Worship Schedule

March 24 is Palm Sunday and begins Holy Week

We will have a palm processional in addition to our Divine Worship Service.

March 28 is Maundy Thursday and we will celebrate the Seder Meal with Communion at 6 PM.

Please sign up on the sheet posted if you would like to participate in the meal. There will be a potluck meal also.

March 29 is Good Friday and we will have a Service of Darkness at 7 PM.

March 31 is Easter.

There will be a Sunrise Service at 6:30 AM.

The youth will serve breakfast from

7:30 AM to 9:30 AM.

Then there will be Divine Worship Service with Holy Communion at 10 AM.

LWML

- ♥ **The 3rd Annual Parade of Tables will be Saturday, March 9 from 11 AM to 1 PM.** If you would like to host a table or just come and enjoy the time, please contact President Val Martin.. Our guest speaker will be 2 people from 1000 In Action, an organization of people helping stop child abuse. Come and hear these speakers and learn about the important work that they are doing for this cause. More information about them is on their website at 1000inaction.org. Tickets are on sale now and are \$8 each. Please see **Ruth Denning, Val Martin, or Toni Nivens** to get tickets and be placed at a table.
- ♥ **The LWML Montana District Convention will be held April 26 through 28, 2024 at Mount Calvary Lutheran Church in Polson, Montana.** The Keynote and Banquet Speaker is Deb Burma, noted bible study author, and the LWML representative is Debby Yocky, LWML Public Relations Director. Registration cost is \$80, which includes Friday supper, Saturday lunch and banquet. Forms are on the table in the hallway. Please plan now to attend!!
- ♥ **Remember that Purple Pockets are due to Elsie Huss at the end of March.** This money goes to our missionary **Rev. Eric Stinnett** and the seminary there in Ethiopia. If you need a purple pocket, please see Elsie. Thanks for your continued support.
- ♥ **Our next meeting will be Monday, May 13 at 6:30 p.m. with a Bible study.** All ladies of Peace are invited and encouraged to come and join us! We will have the election of officers at the May meeting. Remember your Mite Boxes!