



Herald of Peace

April 2019

Peace Lutheran Church,
1301 Ave. D, Billings, MT 59102

(406) 252-5504
peacelutheranbillings.com

Making Christ Available to All by Rejoicing, Renewing and Reaching Out

Peace Lutheran Church Mission Statement

Leadership Directory

Pastor: Rev. Will Sappington
prsappington@gmail.com
office 252-5504 Home 647-8568
Office Manager: Dean Jenson
peaceoffice@bresnan.net
252-5504
Youth Director: Vanessa Stieger
peacelcyouth@gmail.com
office 252-5504 cell 698-5576
Intern Pastor: Ann Bjorklund
internpeace@gmail.com
252-5504

Treasurer	Steve Frank
Organist	Robin Goodheart
Bells of Peace	Julie Draeger
Altar Guild Treasure	Molly Johnson
WELCA Treasurer	Connie Hausauer

Church Council

Anderson, Dewey	656-1709
Brown, Mike	855-1588
Draeger, Dave	698-1333
Finn, Susan	534-1860
Miller, Holli	656-6847
Pecarina, Tony	679-3880
Peterson, Bryan	671-1301
Sider, Melissa	281-7334
Strosky, Linda	661-2626
Welliever, Dean	652-9365

Peace Office Hours

8am-12pm & 1pm-4pm
Mon. Tues. Thurs. & Fri.

Worship Schedule

Saturdays: 5:00 pm
Sundays: 10:00 am
Education Hour: 11:00 am
Sunday Channel 7 at 9:00 am



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.



Tony Campolo is a Baptist preacher, teacher, and leader who tells fascinating stories to people. One of his stories centers around a time he was preaching in a lineup of other preachers. Pastor Campolo got done with his sermon and sat down looking at the next pastor up and challenged him to top what had just been preached.

Tony Campolo said that for the next hour the preacher meditated on the line, *Ī=hŋ: f]XUñz'Vi h'Gi bXUmŋ Vc-a]bÑ ' H\]g' dfYUMX Yf' ci h']bYX* the story of betrayal, desertion, and abuse in the last days of Jesus. This preacher drew parallels to what is happening in our world today with the despair we often feel when we see these events. And after every line he shouted, *Ī=hŋ: f]XUñz'Vi h'Gi bXUmŋ Vc-a]bÑ ' H\ Y' gYfa cb' YbXg' h\]g way:*



=hŋ: f]XUmH\ Y' X]gVd' Yg' UfY' ei Ygh]cb]b['K \ Uh\ Ug' \ UddYbYX' hc' h\ Y]f' ?]b['5bx' h\ Y' D\ Uf]gYYg' UfY' W' YVfUh]b[' H\ Uh' h\ Y]f' gVX Ya]b[< Ug' VYYb' UMX]Yj YX' ōi h' h\ YmXcb]b[_bck' =hŋ' cb'm: f]XUmGi bXUmŋ Vc-a]bÑ

Prayer Concerns of those we prayed for March 2019

We Believe in Prayer For praise and thanksgiving ...

Elizabeth A. Eaton - Presiding Bishop, ELCA
Jessica Christ - Bishop - Montana Synod;

For people around the world in need ...

New Members to come to Peace
Needs of our neighborhood
Visitors to Peace Food Pantry
President Donald Trump (requested by Peace member)
Christine & Scotty Soileau – Quantico, VA. (member of Peace)

For illness or injuries .. of members

Ron & Karen Johnson - on Karen's surgery
LaWanda Sherseth - healing
Annette Reich - Aspen View
Gary Broeder - healing
John Modde - recovery
Kathleen Gregg - healing
Lisa Grimsley - healing
Ken, Carol Hoefner and family
Larry Heiser –

Prayer Concerns is a published list of those on the prayer chain, who have given permission to publish their names. If you are interested in praying for these, as well as others, please join the prayer chain. They have leaders who call or email. Please call lone Bloom at 652-2441 or Lisa Grimsley (698-4121).

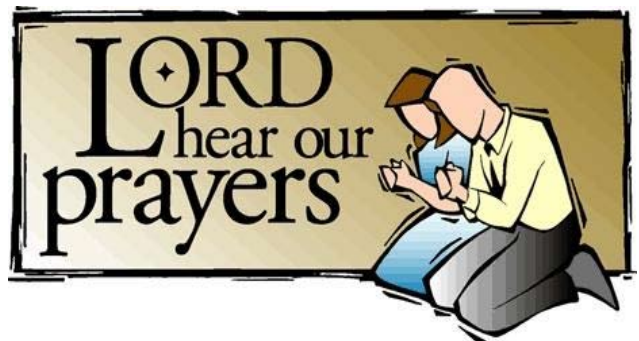
With sincere gratitude

Dear Pastor Will & Peace Congregation,
Thank you all so much for the care package! I always love all of the yummy goodies. I really appreciate you all thinking of me. Hope everyone is staying warm. Morgan Julian

Dear Peace Lutheran
Thank you so much for the amazing care package you all made for me! Each one has amazing food and I love the little notes in them.
Sincerely Mikel Julian

For illness or injuries .. of family and friends.

Loretta - Marge Peterson's sister in the hospital
Malcom - 6 yrs. old with a brain tumor
Butch - Intern Ann's father - healing
Rako Zech & family, Ron's Zech son - cancer diagnosis
Lisa Miller - Bonnie Clausen's friend reoccurrence cancer
Warren Peterson - healing
Gary Fink - healing
Ann Strecker - friend of Rick & Barb Olson - healing
Joan and Jerrie - Jackie Fayram sisters, memory loss
Laura Fisher (Jodi Peterson's cousin) cancer
Micah Hilario, son-in-law of Linda & Gary Branae, (Lois Gorseth friends) has been diagnosed with ALS
Shawn Hanser
Greg Goodheart
Bonnie & Kevin - healing and strength
Emily - prayers for strength
Bob Miller - Rod Miller's father. stroke, surgery and recovery
Kari - healing and strength
Bud Leuthold - friend of Joy Lindberg leukemia
For those grieving...
Kathleen Gregg & family on the death of her sister Marilyn Bateson



Dear Peace,
Thank you so much for the treats! They were delicious. Thanks for thinking of me!
Sarah Popp

Congregational News

A Day in the Life of the Intern

I was having a conversation with a congregation member one evening. We were talking about how those who aren't around others much often talk quite a bit when there is someone to listen. We agreed that most of us are like that...that we like to be listened to. We can learn a lot about others when we take time to listen, too. We can get a glimpse into their lives: things they have experienced, the things they have been through, what it was like for them to grow up the way they did, to learn about the things that are important to them, things they have overcome, and what brought them to this time and place...

I was reminded of the song "I Love to Tell the Story" by Arabella K. Hankey (1866)

*I love to tell the story of unseen things above,
Of Jesus and His glory, of Jesus and His love;
I love to tell the story, because I know 'tis true,
It satisfies my longings as nothing else would do.
I love to tell the story,
'Twill be my theme in glory,
To tell the old, old story
Of Jesus and His love.*

We are fortunate to have the opportunity to be able to hear the stories of Jesus through scripture. During the Lenten season we have been spending time hearing and reflecting on the things Jesus taught and how he lived his life. He taught about relationships: a relationship with God and relationships with others. In his relationship with God, we see him continually communicating through prayer. In relationships with others, Jesus shares how we can best live with others and that we can do that best when we love others.

Many of us know the story already, and we know that it culminates at Easter, but there still anticipation as the story is told...and maybe it's because we know that we are ultimately affected by the story and its outcome that we look forward to hearing it again. We get a glimpse of the challenges Jesus faced, how they sometimes parallel our own, and that we sometimes identify with various individuals in his stories and parables. We are woven into this story because it pertains to each of us because we are the objects of Jesus' love, forgiveness, and grace. And even though this story began thousands of years ago, we are a part of it today. Let us hear the "old, old story" and tell the "old, old story"...



Easter Lilies: This year we will be ordering Easter Lilies, colorful mums, and cyclamen as flowers for our Easter Festival Service. from Gainains. They have offered us a discounted price of \$25.00 for foil wrapped with white ribbon lilies and \$22.50 for foil wrapped mums & cyclamens. Please use the sign up sheet on the table in the library area. *If you would just like to contribute any amount for the purchase of Easter flowers place check in the offering plate with "Easter Flowers" in the memo line.* Thank You

This year again we ordered our Palms for Palm Sunday worship from Eco - Palms through Lutheran World Relief. If you would like to help with purchase of palms please let Dean know in the church office.



Join us after worship on April 7th for Lift-Off time with Ward 4 Councilwoman Penny Ronning. She'll be sharing about how her faith informs her civil leadership and also about her work fighting human trafficking.

Congregational News

con't from pg. 1

• =hlg: f]XUm< Ylg \Ub[]b['cb'h\Y'W'cgg: YY']b['Zcf'gU_Yb'Vm\]g: Uh\Yf '@Zh'U'cbY'UbX'
 • Xn]b['7Ub'bcVcXmgUj Y'\]a 3'Cccc\ '=hlg: f]XUm6i h'Gi bXUm]g'Vta]bN
 • =hlg: f]XUmH\Y'YUf'h\ 'hfYa V'Yg'H\Y'g_mi[f'ck'g'XUf_'A mi?]b['m]Y'Xg'\]g'gd]f]h
 • =hlg: f]XUm< cdY']g'cgh'8YUh\ \Ug'k'cb'G]b\Ug'Vt'bei YfYX'UbX'GUhUblg' 'i gh'U'Ui [\]bN
 • =hlg: f]XUm> Ygi g']g'Vi f]YX'5'gc'X]Yf'ghUbXg [i UfX'5bX'U'fcW_]g'fc'YX']bhc'd'UWY
 • 6i h'hlg: f]XUm=h]g'cb'm: f]XUmGi bXUm]g'U'Vta]bN

5g; cXlg'dYcd'Y'k'Y'Xc'bch'g\m'Uk'UmZf'ca 'h\Y'\UfX'h\]b[g'Uf'ci bX'i g'VYWU' gY'k'Y'_bck 'h\Uh'
 bch'cb'm]g'Gi bXUmVta]bN Vi h'j Yf'mcZhYb'h]g'U'fYUXm\YfY''Gi bXUm]g'\YfY'k\Yb'k'Y'gYY'
 U'ghfUb[Yf'k]h\ 'h\Y'YmYg'cZ'7\]f]gh''Gi bXUm]g'\YfY'k\Yb'k'Y'k'U_]b'U'k'Umh\Uh'df'cWU]a g'
 the stone has been rolled away and death has been defeated. We do not shy away from
 standing with our friends, neighbors, and peo-
 d'Y'k'Y]Y'by Yf'a Yh'VYZcfY']b'h]a Yg'cZ' hf]U''
 We know how the story of Easter changes ev-
 erything.

We are journeying closer to Jerusalem and to
 the cross. We will watch and wait with
 >Ygi g'K Y'k]''a ci fb''=hlg: f]XUm

6i h'h\Uh]g'bch'h\Y'YbX''Gi bXUm]g'Vta]bN

Peace,
 Will +





HOLY WEEK

Maundy Thursday
April 18th 6:30 pm Potluck meal w/ communion



Maundy Thursday



GOOD FRIDAY

Good Friday Ecumenical Worship
April 19th 7:00 pm 13th Street Christian Worship held at First Presbyterian Church with our neighboring communities of faith and mission partners; St. Stephen's Episcopal Church and First Presbyterian Church

Easter Sunday
April 21st

7:00 am Easter Sunrise Worship
9:00 am Festival Worship with Holy Communion
10:30 am Festival Worship with Holy Communion



He is RISEN

Worship News

April Worship Themes

We journey with Jesus toward Jerusalem. We hear cries of "hosanna" and cries of "crucify him!" Then we hear, "Do not be afraid." This is the season that changes everything.

(Sermon focus texts are in bold.)

April 6th & 7th Fifth Weekend in Lent "To Me"

Readings: Psalm 126; **Matthew 25:31-46**

The cliché says, "I'll know it when I see it." Jesus tells us that is not how the kingdom of God works. We don't often recognize Jesus in our midst because Jesus takes on the face of those we'd rather not see at all. Who are we serving? Is it Jesus?

April 13th & 14th Palm/Passion Weekend "Who is this?"

Readings: Psalm 31:9-16; **Matthew 21:1-17**

Jesus continues to give people a glimpse of who he is.

April 21 Resurrection of Our Lord/Easter "Empty!"

Readings: Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24; **Matthew 28:1-10**

This is the day that starts in sorrow and ends in jubilation. Join us for worship at 7am, 9am, or 10:30!

April 27th & 28th Second Weekend of Easter "Gone but not forgotten"

Readings: Psalm 150; **Matthew 28:16-20**

Jesus reminds the disciples that he is always with them...and he's always with us, too.

Lenten Worship Schedule

During the season of Lent we will gather each Wednesday evening for soup supper at 6:00 pm. Worship will begin at 7:00 pm.

Apr. 3rd Psalm 32

Soup Host: Mission and Service
Offering - Amani for Africa

Apr. 10th Psalm 126

Soup Host: Men's Breakfast
Offering - Freedom in Christ Prison Ministry



Mid-Week Worship Service at Peace!!!

Everyone is invited to attend

Holden Evening Prayer
Service

The Fourth Wednesday of
the month April 24 at 7:00

**Holden
Evening
Prayer**

Marty Haugen

Thank you goes out to all who helped make our Lenten Soup Suppers a success. *There are still 2 soup suppers remaining April 3 and 10.* We enjoyed the different soups, desserts and the fellowship of others who we worked with and shared our meal. Thank you to everyone who made it possible.



Mission and Service News

Mission & Service Update

The Mission and Service committee continues to offer many opportunities to serve others. Please consider praying for where you can personally be doing God's work with your hands, and pray for those who will actively participate.

Here are the upcoming Mission and Service opportunities.

- ➔ **All Congregation Day of Service/Family Promise set-up-** Join us April 14 for our next round of sandwich making and setting up for the guests from Family Promise. We are always looking for new volunteers to assist with the week of hosting families. Please see anyone from the Mission & Service Committee for more information on how you can help.
- ➔ **PEEP, PEEP, PEEP.....THE CHICKS ARE BACK!** A \$1 donation buys a chick through the ELCA Global Barnyard program for a family in a developing nation. Celebrate Easter by once again participating in this fun outreach project of baby chicks! Chicks will be sold April 13th & 14th, and Easter morning. Buy one (or several since they're small!) and help a family escape hunger for good.
- ➔ **Christikon Benefit Auction-** this event is scheduled at the Billings Depot on April 7th. This is a great way to support this ongoing mission.
- ➔ **Quilt & Soap Shipment/Offering-** An offering to Lutheran World Relief will be taken the weekend of the Quilt Blessing in May to help with shipment costs of quilts and soap to disaster areas. It costs Lutheran World relief \$2.50 to ship each quilt to a disaster area.

As a friendly reminder, all committees could always use new volunteers. Consider exploring the numerous committee opportunities available at Peace Lutheran.

Our next event for hosting Family Promise is April 14th through 20th. If you would like to help with meals, set up, take down, laundry or staying overnight in the church on Wed. 17th, and Sat. the 20th, It would be greatly appreciated. A board will be available to sign up in the hallway. If you have any questions, I will find the answer for you. Please call me. Thank you for helping the homeless achieve and sustain their independence!! God's Blessing on you all. Debbie Sider New phone number 406-998-9861



Questions you might have about Family Promise

1. When I sign up to bring a meal, do I have to follow a certain menu?
No, our guests will love anything you decide to make.
2. Can I bring it to church or cook it at church?
Either way.
3. When do I come to church for the dinner and how long do I need to stay?
Be at the church at 5:30 when guests arrive. Dinner at 6 (or soon after). One of the three persons signed up for a part of the meal stays at church till 8 p.m. or whenever the overnight hosts show up. Usually, it is the one who brings the main dish but you can talk amongst all three of the volunteers to confirm who can come later and stay till 8 p.m.
4. Do the guests help clean up after dinner?
Yes they wash their own plates, etc.

Congregational News

Doughnuts and Coffee; What a great time of fellowship we have after Sunday worship with Coffee and Doughnuts. We are looking for sponsors each week to defray the cost of the Doughnuts. The cost is \$32 per week. If you are interested the sign-up sheet is located in the narthex. Thank you!!



Spring cleaning has begun! If you are missing a kitchen item, please check the table by the coat rack in the Fellowship Hall. Any items not claimed by Sunday, April 14 will be tossed or donated. Thanks.



Everyone is invited Thursdays at 9 am for our mid-week / mid-morning Bible study. All are welcome to join for this weekly dive into God's word. We have started in the book of Romans. If you have questions contact Will.



Do you want to dig deeper into the word? Join us April 3rd at 7pm as we begin our study of the Gospel of Matthew. [No Bible study April 17th] All are welcome!

This Bible study will be meeting on the 1st & 3rd Wednesday of each month at 7pm.

Save Your Stamps- Congregational Life committee is asking that if you shop at Albertsons and are not collecting stamps for the Farberware Promotion please consider asking for the stamps with every \$10 purchase. We will then use those stamps for helping families who are moving out of Family Promise in setting up their new household. Please put the stamps in the envelope outside of the church office. This promotions lasts until May 21st Thank You



Easter Breakfast- The menu will include cinnamon rolls from Caramel Cookie Waffle Co., juice, coffee and fruit. Breakfast will be served from 7:30 am - 10am. All donations will go to the Peace Food Pantry.



Christikon Clips April 2019

The annual **Christikon Benefit Auction – “Peak of Hospitality”** will be held on **Sunday, April 7, at the Billings Depot, 4-7 p.m.** Food and beverages will be available, and of course, some of the finest artistry in both a live auction and a silent auction, including a variety of hand-made quilts, original art work, gift baskets, Livingston Condo Weekend, jewelry, CAT Skid Steer Rental, Big Sky Condo and much, much more. We'll also be seeking special support for our Sojourners Camp for at-risk youth. Admission at the door is \$15. Hope you will come and join the fun!



Adults and families: Check out the special focus fSpend some time in a lovely mountain setting with some of the most-fun-to-be-with people, at our Work Weekend May 24-27, Continuing Education Retreat for rostered ministers, interested lay people and their families, July 29-Aug. 1, Mountain Weekend August 2-4. It's also possible for adult groups to schedule a backpack trip – just call us at 656-1969 to schedule. Watch for your brochures in the mail and at your church soon.

It is the mission of Christikon to awaken and nurture faith in Christ—exploring God's creation and the adventure of life together.

Congregational News

Church E-mail Addresses



Pastor Will

prsappington@gmail.com

Church Office

peaceoffice@bresnan.net

Intern Pastor

internpeace@gmail.com

Youth Director

peacelcyouth@gmail.com



Bible Studies

The Regular schedule for Women's Circles returns:

Ruth Circle meets on the second Tuesday at 11:30 am at Hardees on 24th

Martha Circle meets on the third Wednesday of the month at 10:00 am in the fellowship hall

Deborah/Katie Circle meets Second Saturday at 10:30 am at Peace

Check out the web site:

peacelutheranbillings.com. Web site is updated with, up to date calendar, newsletter in color, Youth page, and photo page.



Church Council Minutes

The approved church council minutes are available at the bulletin board outside the church office. Thank you

Find us on facebook:
Peace Lutheran Church, Billings MT

Simply Giving Program - Would you find it helpful to have your offerings taken from your bank account as you do other monthly drafts? Thrivent Financial for Lutherans sponsors a program called Simply Giving which offers this service for people who wish to have offerings transferred electronically to Peace Lutheran Church account. For those who travel, this is particularly helpful in keeping up with their intended offerings, and it will keep you from having to make up the difference later. Contact the church office for more details.



Congregational Life Committee

The Congregational Life Committee is responsible to touch the lives of the people of Peace Lutheran Church by involving them in the life and ministry of the church. One of the most visible responsibilities is fellowship following worship services. We moved from asking service committee members to bring cookies, etc., to providing doughnuts from the IGA. So, the duties have been reduced and only one or two people are needed for each Sunday. We will continue to assign monthly service committees as we have done in the past. If we have a potluck or other congregational function during the month, the committee may be asked to help. A committee chairperson will be assigned each month and will ask committee members to help with the fellowship/coffee following Sunday worship.

April Serving group

Joan Brown, chair
Mike Brown
Doris/Dewey Anderson
Mary Jo/John Greenfield
Kathy Aslakson
Carol Hauge
Mary/Frank Mosdal
Barb/Rick Olson
Randy Christensen
Barb/Jim Shaver

Congregational News

2018 Circles & Bible Studies:

Everyone is welcome!

Martha Circle

*Meets Third Wednesday, at 10:00 am
in the Fellowship hall*

Deborah-Katie Circle

*Meets 2nd Saturday at 10:30 am
at Peace*

Ruth Circle

*Meets second Tuesday at 11:30 am
at Hardees on 24th*

Peace Lutheran Church Council

President - Dewey Miller

Vice President - Dean Welliever

Secretary - Linda Strosky

Dewey Anderson - Abundant Life, Executive

Mike Brown - Abundant Life, Property

Dave Draeger - Worship

Susan Finn - Congregational Life

Holli Miller - Congregational Life

Tony Peccarino - Youth/Education

Bryan Peterson- Mission & Service

Melissa Sider - Youth/Education

Linda Strosky- Mission & Service, Executive

Dean Welliever - Property, Executive

Men's Breakfast and Bible Study

Meets every

**Wednesday at 6:30 am in the
Fellowship Hall. New-comers
and one-timers are
always welcome**



Boards/Committees

St John's Ministries

Rich Robbins

Rhonda Sappington

Christikon

Vanessa Steiger

Kaia Sappington

Mike Brown

Lutheran Center

Rhonda Hanson

Debbie Sider

Shepherd Cluster

Joan Brown

Bonnie Hovik Calusen

Endowment Trustee

Ed Popp

Molly Johnson

Bernie Mason

Rhonda Hanson

Dean Welliever

Nominating Committee

Dewey Anderson

Melissa Sider

Paul Strosky

Erl Barsness

Dave Draeger

Questions about Council Activities? If

you have any questions or comments
regarding any council action - pending or
complete - please contact

President Dewey Anderson

Vice-President Dean Welliever

RELIEVE EDITORIAL STRESS:

**TURN IN
YOUR ARTICLES
EARLY!**

RE M I N D E R :

**DEADLINE FOR
NEWSLETTER
ARTICLES IS**

April 21st

Catch
Worship
Service
Broad-
cast on
Community
Channel 7
Sunday Mornings
at 9:00 am



Education and Youth News

On April 24th, the schedule for Peace Pals will go back to normal. Kids in Pre-School through 5th grade may join us from 5:30- 6:30 PM for music, bible story time, and games.

‡ † " o @
 † " o ‡
 †
 ‡



Attention Easter Egg Hunters:

Make sure you join us for the Easter Egg Hunt after the 9:00 and 10:30 AM services on Easter Sunday. There will be plenty of Easter Eggs for everyone of all ages!

There will also be an Eye Spy game for kids to play during worship. Make sure you find Vanessa before the worship service to get the details!

Easter Sunday is April 21st

Vacation Bible School

Registration is live! You can register at peacelutheranbillings.com or by contacting Vanessa at:
peacelcyouth@gmail.com or
 406-698-5576

You can also head to our Facebook page to find additional information.

Peace Lutheran Church, Billings, MT



This year's theme is:
Search and Rescue

We never have to feel lost. God is always on our side. This year at Vacation Bible School, come hear a few stories about being found.

Vacation Bible School

June 3rd-7th

9:00 AM- 12:00 PM



REFUEL MEALS

April 3rd- Soup Supper

April 10th- Soup Supper

April 17th- No ReFuel

April 24th- Pizza

May 1st- Tacos





**Search and Rescue
Peace Lutheran Church
Vacation Bible School 2019
June 3rd-7th 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM
Free Shirt Deadline: May 24th**

Parent/Guardian Name: _____
 Street Address: _____ City/State: _____ Zip: _____
 Home Phone Number: _____ Cell : _____
 E-mail Address: _____
 Allergies: _____

) <=>9ID , =CDE 17? :	/7DE 17? :	- :@9:C	(=CE<97G ? ? \$99\$GC	T-D<=CE 3-H:' 63 0 " 6 0 * " 6 / " 3 0 " 0 * " / " 5 /	** - C79: +@E:C=@; ,7>> I19	. A ? : Church	, C=:@9 2 :BF:DE We try to honor one friend request
1.							
2.							
3.							
4.							

Preschool Parents: We ask that participants have completed at least one year of Pre-School to attend Vacation Bible School.

PARENTS: We ask all parents to volunteer in our program in some way. There are a variety of options to accommodate your schedule and to ensure the success of our program. Group Guides and Guide Assistants need to commit to the entire week. For all other roles, please indicate which days you are available. Please indicate your 1st, 2nd & 3rd choices!

Indicate 1 st , 2 nd & 3 rd choice	Days	Volunteer Position	Indicate 1 st , 2 nd & 3 rd choice	Days	Volunteer Position
	All week	Group Guide			
	All week	Group Assistant Guide		Before VBS	Home Projects/Prep Work
		Craft Assistant		Sun. 6/2 1:00-3:00	Set up Day
		Games Assistant		Mon- Fri 8:30-10:00	Registration & Records Help
		Snack Assistant		Fri. 6/7 11:30-1:30	Take Down/Clean up
		Outreach Assistant		Fri 6/7 11:00-1:00	BBQ Help

Congregational News

Billings to host Big Sky Handbell Festival

On April 26 and 27, musicians from Montana and Idaho will come together for the 2019 Big Sky Handbell Festival. bellissimo!, an ecumenical handbell choir, is the host choir. Other Billings handbell choirs attending are Peace Lutheran Church, King of Glory Lutheran Church, Trinity Lutheran School, and Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd.



During the two days, handbell choirs come together and practice songs in mass to perform in a concert. A nationally known composer or conductor is hired to work with the group. This year, the conductor is Matthew Compton. Matthew is a young, up and coming conductor and composer/arranger.

The Big Sky Handbell Festival will be held at Rocky Mountain. There will be a free concert Saturday, April 27th at 7:30 PM at the Fortin Center.

SAVE THE DATE

All Women are invited to Women of the ELCA
Beartooth and Shepherd Cluster
Spring Gathering

Saturday, May 4, 2019

Emmanuel Lutheran
Shepherd Montana

Registration and Coffee 9 - 9:30am

Meeting begins 10 - 11:30 am

Penny Ronning, keynote speaker

Noon - Lunch and Basket Raffle

2pm Closing Worship and Installation



BEHOLD,
CHRIST HAS RISEN!

Walk MS: Billings April 27th

Ending multiple sclerosis for good will take all of us. Walk MS helps us team up with friends, loved ones and co-workers to change the world for everyone affected by MS. Together, we become a powerful force. And with every step we take, every dollar we raise... we're that much closer. 1 and 3 mile routes available. Start and end at St. John's Pavilion. Raise \$100 and get a Walk MS T-shirt.



We are pleased to announce the launching of our membership Glass Recycling Program with GO Unite! If you remember, this program will help youth-at-risk here in our community. We have reached out to several other local non-profits that provide basic needs for teenagers who have life altering circumstances and just need a little extra help.

Glass Recycling at SCRaP



The proceeds from the program will be used to provide scholarships and basic essentials for local high school students that are in need of financial assistance. The program also provides part time work for students to gain employment and community service skills.

The glass we recycle will be used for creative art and crushed into sand which can be used for sandbags and non-structural concrete applications.

Membership Details:

One-time fee of \$25, and \$5 drop-off fee every time you bring your glass to us. The \$25 will allow SCRaP to purchase 2 blue recycle bins. You will receive one and when you bring your recyclable glass, we will exchange an empty tub with your full one.

Type of glass we take:

CLEAN food jars, beverage, wine, beer and alcohol bottles (please remove any plastic or aluminum bottle seals). No need to remove labels. We will also take the corks, metal and plastic lids. Tubs that have uncleaned jars and bottles will be refused.

Register at <http://scrapinbillings.com/glassrecycling/> so we can order the tubs, then stop by our Annex (1702 1st Ave N) to pick up your tub and visit our recycling program.

Community News

Words from the Bishop:

Lent—Let's serve the world, especially the poor and those in need!

In Lent we are challenged to push beyond our comfort zone and help others. Many congregations have special projects, special ministry emphases in Lent. Our Savior's Lutheran church in Columbia Falls is highlighting a different children's ministry or outreach each week in Lent. It is an opportunity for congregation members to learn about the issues children face in our communities, and to make financial contributions. Our Savior's is serving the world.

Pastor Kendra Wilde is not only a pastor at Our Redeemer's Lutheran Church in Helena, she is also the President of MAC (Montana Association of Christians.) One of the primary things that MAC does is take the voices of Christian people to the Montana State Legislature. (Wyoming has a similar setup, through the Wyoming Interfaith Network.) Pastor Kendra and other faith leaders, both clergy and lay, speak at hearings, write letters, write op eds, and work hard to keep the voice of neighbor love alive and well in the midst of complicated discussions in the legislature. MAC is serving the world.

Loni Whitford, President of Our Saviour's, Rocky Boy, and Secretary of the American Indian and Alaska Native Association of the ELCA, brought her daughter and friends and colleagues to a Rally for Medicaid Expansion in Helena on Saturday. An EMT on the Rocky Boys Reservation, she sees the effect of health care, and she sees what the absence of it can do. As a tribal member she knows that health care is a treaty right. And she also sees that it is a human right. Loni, through her advocacy, is serving the world.

Many Lutheran congregations have soup suppers during Lent, and take up an offering for hunger-related causes. ELCA World Hunger, Bread for the World, local food pantries and meal programs are among the many ways that congregations reach out in the love of Jesus to their neighbors far and near. They are serving the world, especially the poor and those in need.



The Cape Orange Diocese, our companion synod in South Africa, works to share the good news of Jesus Christ in the poorest communities. Displaced from the choice areas during the Apartheid era, the church moved to the margins, and worked tirelessly for justice. Now, more than 2 decades since the official end to Apartheid, the church continues to work with the aftermath—racism, and economic inequality. The Cape Orange Diocese is serving the world, especially the poor and those in need.

Jack Siemens is an LPA, and President of Harlem Lutheran Church, where he is also serving as a Synodically Authorized Ministry in the absence of a pastor. He also preaches at Dodson Lutheran on a regular basis. In addition to his all-consuming church work, Jack runs the Harlem Food Bank, an outreach to hungry neighbors. Jack Siemens serves the world, especially the poor and those in need.

Spirit of Life serves the inmates in the Fort Peck Tribal Institution, with Pastor Christine Holler-Din-smore. Both women and men receive pastoral and liturgical services, as well as encouragement and strength for their lives as they are released. Spirit of Life offers unconditional love and hope to people who have been rejected by society. They welcome prayer shawls, warm socks, and skirts. Spirit of Life serves the world.

This week NRIT is offering 2 opportunities to attend a continuing education event on "Theology of the Land." Professor Eric Meyer of Carrol College will explore biblical and theological concepts through which Christians can understand and deepen their relationship to the land and fellow creatures. NRIT is serving the world that God so loves.

How is your congregation serving the world, and especially the poor and those in need this Lent? I'd love to be able to share your stories.

In Christ,
Jessica Crist, Bishop



April
2019

1 Remember in prayer the eight young people working alongside our companions in Argentina and Uruguay as part of the ELCA Young Adults in Global Mission program. Remember also Krystle Moraska and Ignacio Madrussan, YAGM country coordinators; Caitlyn Melillo, Horizon intern; and Alberto (Gustavo) Driau, ELCA regional representative for South America.

2 Give thanks for the coming of spring, with its stirring of new life, its blossoms and flowers, and its lengthening days filled with light. Pray for those who are suffering, feeling hopeless or experiencing depression, that their spirits will be lifted and refreshed by the changing season, the care and encouragement of others and the newness we have in Christ.

3 God is our source of strength and forgiveness all day long, every day. Be glad, rejoice and shout for joy!

4 Pray for the churchwide officers, synod bishops and other elected members of the ELCA Church Council as they gather for discussion, discernment and decision-making, that they might guide, support and provide leadership for the churchwide organization and our church.

5 Pray that, as the body of Christ, we are able to perceive Christ in one another, affirm each other as new creations in Christ, and venture together into our communities and the world as bearers of the gospel and as witnesses to what God is doing in the world for our sake.

6 Give thanks for those who help care for our infants and children — grandparents and relatives, nursery attendants, day care workers, preschool teachers and babysitters.

7 Pray that we resist judging the offerings and contributions of our brothers and sisters in Christ and that, instead, the Holy Spirit moves us to encourage and affirm one another in being generous in sharing what we have — time, money, resources, wisdom, skills and spiritual gifts — with our neighbor.

8 Spring and summer bring severe weather and flooding to some regions of our nation. Pray that congregations, neighbors and communities will work together to create disaster-response plans and will gather resources to share in the event of a disaster. Pray for the safety and well-being of those who face the impact of storms, and give thanks for the work of Lutheran Disaster Response, faith-based agencies and other organizations as they bring care, hope and healing to our neighbors in need.

9 Pray that we are energized to continue to work toward the goals and priorities identified in ELCA Future Directions 2025, helping our church to journey faithfully and effectively together in the years ahead to do what God is calling us to do.

10 Pray for congregations, Lutheran Services in America organizations, ecumenical partners and community agencies that support men and women in prison and those reentering society, encouraging their faith and hope and caring for their families. Pray for the development of resource networks, services and places of grace and acceptance for those seeking to rebuild their lives after prison — spiritually, socially, emotionally and economically.

11 Thank God for our special relationship with the United Church of Christ, a full communion partner with the ELCA since 1997. Pray for the church, its members and its leaders, and pray that together we find strength and new resources for the work of sharing the gospel and serving our neighbor.

12 Remember in prayer the service and witness of the 10 young people serving alongside our companions in Hungary and Serbia as part of the ELCA Young Adults in Global Mission program, and the Rev. Rachel Eskesen and Zachary Courter, YAGM country coordinators for Central Europe.

13 Pray that the fulfillment of God's promises and great love for us will permeate our thoughts and replace our sorrow and tears with joy.

14 Palm Sunday Pray that, in the telling and retelling of the story of Jesus' passion, we capture a sense of God's boundless, sacrificial love for us that renews and deepens our faith.



April
2019

15 Give praise and glory to God for the humility and sacrifice of Christ Jesus on the cross, that we might know and experience true love and life, now and eternally.

16 Reflect prayerfully on what the cross means to you, what we proclaim when we make the sign of the cross on ourselves or others, and how God turns an instrument of torture and death into a symbol of God's power and love and our new life in Christ Jesus.

17 Give thanks for our many opportunities to read, hear, study and reflect on the word of God — during worship, in Bible-study groups, at ELCA gatherings and events, in many languages, and using our dog-eared, marked-up Bibles at home.

18 Ask God to inspire and equip us, through the work of the Spirit, to be servants in the world who exemplify and follow the teaching, actions, humility and sacrifice of Jesus, who commanded his disciples and us, "Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another."

19 *Good Friday* Pray that our faith be uplifted and strengthened in the knowledge that God shows us mercy and grace, and that we understand the depths of our weakness and the darkness of humanity through the suffering and death of Jesus, son of God.

20 Pray for the relief of all in the world who suffer, that they might experience healing, hope and God's presence in their life and circumstances.

21 *Easter Day* There's good news for everyone — Christ is risen! Alleluia! Through the life, suffering, death and resurrection of Jesus, God has broken every human restraint of sin, hopelessness and death; we are set free to live life anew with joy, gratitude and love. Give thanks and praise to God!

22 Pray that faith in Jesus Christ, the risen son of God, will give us the courage and enthusiasm to share the good news with the world, trusting that all who believe will be transformed by God's gift of love and forgiveness.

23 God has given us this and every day to live with purpose, freedom and boldness in the world as redeemed children of God. Search for new, prayerful words and expressions to celebrate and be glad today!

24 Give thanks for choirs, musicians, rock bands, organists, cantors and handbell choirs that share their creative gifts in praise and glory to God and invite us to express our faith and joy through diverse styles of music.

25 Pray for the work and advocacy of our church, partner organizations and communities that address the root causes of violence and respond to the people and communities it affects. Pray that we remain committed to our convictions expressed in the ELCA social message on "Community Violence" no matter where our pursuit of justice and peace might lead us, or how long it might take to bring about meaningful change.

26 Remember in prayer the leaders, voting members and others gathered for the assemblies of the Alaska and Northern Texas Northern Louisiana synods, that the Spirit will strengthen, guide and encourage them in doing God's work in the world, proclaiming the gospel and growing the church.

27 Pray for the service and witness of the Revs. Kirsten Fryer and Michael Parker, ELCA missionaries accompanying our companions in Egypt, as they work with the seminary community, refugee advocacy and support, and an international congregation in Cairo.

28 We can all relate to the apostle Thomas, who questioned Jesus and asked for proof that God was alive and well in the world. Pray that the Holy Spirit will fill us with faith in God's loving presence and activity in the world, even when we are doubtful, curious, weak or confused.

29 When we do God's work in the world, we share in the resources, assistance and commitment of many partners, including the Lutheran World Federation, the World Council of Churches and the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA. Thank God for our partners and companions.

30 Consider how our lives manifest God's love and mercy each day; ask God's forgiveness for times when we have fallen silent about our faith or failed to let our witness shine brightly in the world.

Peace Lutheran Church

Non-Profit Organization
1301 Avenue D
Billings, MT 59102-3196

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



**God's Work.
Our hands.**

Maundy Thursday

Potluck with Holy Communion

April 18th 6:30 pm

Good Friday

13th Street Ecumenical Worship

Service at First Presbyterian

April 19th 7:00 pm

Easter Festival Worship services

April 21st

Sunrise service 7:00 am

9:00 am and 10:30 am

with Holy Communion



**Schedule
of Worship for
Holy Week**