



Herald of Peace

September 2018

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
Christensen, Randy	701-260-5016
Draeger, Dave	698-1333
Finn, Susan	534-1860
Miller, Holli	656-6847
Peterson, Bryan	671-1301
Sider, Melissa	281-7334
Strosky, Linda	661-2626
Strosky, Paul	661-2626

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.



"Blessings"

May God bless you with discomfort at easy answers, half-truths, and superficial relationships so that you may live deep within your heart.

May God bless you with anger at injustice, oppression, and exploitation of people, so that you may wish for justice, freedom, and peace.

May God bless you with enough foolishness to believe that you can make a difference in this world, so that you can do what others claim cannot be done.

- A Franciscan Blessing

What does it mean for us to be blessed? Writer Rob Bell cautions us to avoid connecting true blessing with things like getting that parking spot right in front of the store. There is a big difference between blessing and convenience.

When we dig into the story of God's people in the Old Testament we see that the people who are called, sent, and blessed are not the ones who get the prime parking spots and the best treatment. To be blessed by God comes with an awesome responsibility to share the message God has for all of God's children. To be blessed by God means that we raise our voices and extend our hands toward those who are ignored and persecuted.



Prayer Concerns of those we prayed for August 2018

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

Linda Strosky
Annette Reich - Aspen View
Gary Broeder - healing
Tina Fritz - healing
Phyllis McGrath - recovery
John Modde - recovery
Kathleen Gregg - healing
Donna Bangert - healing
Lisa Grimsley - healing
Ken, Carol Hoefner and family
Larry & Shirley Heiser –

For illness or injuries .. of family and friends.

Muriel Peterson - broken shoulder
Warren Peterson - healing
Gary Fink - healing
LaWanda Sherseth - healing
Katilyn - 15 year old with cancer
Ann Strecker - friend of Rick & Barb Olson - healing
Joan and Jerrie - Jackie Fayram sisters, memory loss
Nancy Ware - June Jenson's sister - cancer
Marissa - college student diagnosed with Leukemia
Laura Fisher (Jodi Peterson's cousin) cancer
Carolyn Campbell - diagnosed with breast cancer
Micah Hilario, son-in-law of Linda & Gary Branae, (Lois Gorseth riends) has been diagnosed with ALS
Shawn Hanser
Greg Goodheart
Bonnie & Kevin - healing and strength
Pr. Ellen Skatrud-Mickelson - healing
Emily - prayers for strength

Bob Miller - Rod Miller's father. stroke, surgery and recovery

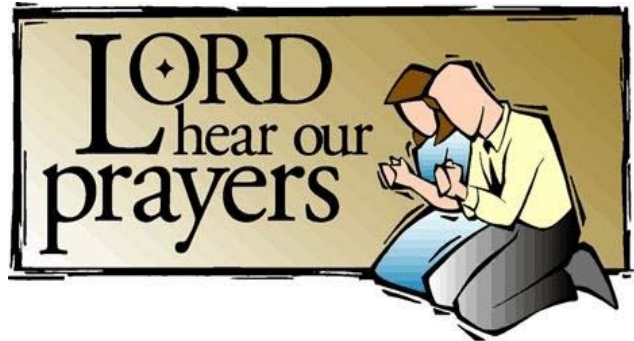
Tyler Berg - kidney illness

Kari - healing and strength

For those grieving...

Jim & Gerri Frasch on the death fo Jim's dad Ed Frasch

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 Members of Peace Thank you for paying for my camp fee for Christikon. I had a great time there. I had fun getting to know people and talking to people I did not know. I also had an amazing time playing hacky-sack. The overnight was also a great time. From Justin Pierce

Thank You for opening your doors to Eagle Mount's Day Camp again this year. We are grateful for you generosity in giving us a place to begin and end each day of our camp. Our participants had a wonderful year and are always sad to see camp end. Again Thank you for the use o f your church. See you next year!
Eagle Mount Billings

Congregational News

A Day in the Life of the Intern

Grace and peace to you from our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

I'm finally here...and I've discovered that there aren't many lakes here. I have discovered the beauty of the Yellowstone River, though. I really like fishing, so it's especially appealing for me. The Bible also takes about fishing. Matthew 4:18-19 says, "*As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea—for they were fishermen.*"¹⁹ *And he said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you fish for people."* This is when Jesus calls his first disciples.

As I think about the similarities between my own fishing excursions and Jesus call to the disciples, I find some similarities. First, you don't necessarily know what kind of fish you'll catch. Jesus issued the call to those in the area. We hear more about those that answered the call, but not so much about those that didn't.

I have discovered that the river has a variety of fish and that the Billings area is the area where there tends to be a shift between warm water fish and cold water fish. I don't know what kind of fish might respond to my presentation. For fish, the thing they might be searching for might be a worm, a minnow, a leech, or a bug of some kind.

I think the presentation Jesus offers to us is love. That may look different for each of us depending on the current circumstances of our lives. It might be comfort in the midst of grief, healing from some type of illness, relief from financial stressors, or having someone to spend time with and to share, and sometimes it's that sense of overwhelming joy.

Just like the fish, we can choose to respond to the love we are offered through Christ Jesus. Jesus doesn't hit us over the head, telling us to believe. As we share Jesus, we can also recognize that not everyone will be receptive to the message of God's love... but we can still offer it. We can fish for people...

Happy fishing!
Intern Pastor Ann

With sincere gratitude

Dear Members and Friends of Peace Lutheran Church, Thank you so very much for your gift of \$1,046. to Lutheran World Relief. You join Lutherans from across the nation who work to break the cycle of poverty for people who live overseas.
Peace Jon Buuck

Wonderful Volunteers from Peace Lutheran, Thank you so much for your help in my classroom. It was really amazing! Please accept this donation as a small token of our great appreciation! Sincerely, Karen Marcotte Highland School

Dear Friends at Peace

On behalf of everyone connected with the Christikon ministry, thank you to those from your congregation who were involved in supporting Christikon ministry in the April 29, 2018 Benefit Auction. Bernie Mason, Kay Rossow, Erl Barsness and the Peace Quilters. With live and silent auction, and Sojourners and other gifts, the day raised over \$43,000. This provides significant support for our work with youth, with families and adults, the developmentally disabled, and "at risk youth" in Montana. We are indeed blessed! Again, thanks for your part in all this. Please continue to keep Christikon in your prayers.
Mark Donald

Congregational News

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August was my first full month back with you from Sabbatical and I was reminded immediately how blessed Peace is as a community. In August assembled 401 backpacks to give away, we made 420+ sandwiches for hungry people, we went to Highland Elementary to help teachers and office workers get ready to care for kids, we hosted Family Promise for a week, we hosted Eagle Mount for their day camps for developmentally disabled campers, and we had all the groups that call Peace home for their recovery meetings. Wow!

We are blessed not because of what we get. We are blessed because God has put us in a position to serve graciously. Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!

I like to think we are foolish enough to believe we do make a difference. I really love it when someone says, "it can't be done." Have you met the people of Peace? Just watch what God is doing through us.

Peace,
Will +

Starting September 16th everyone at Peace is invited to *Lift Off*!

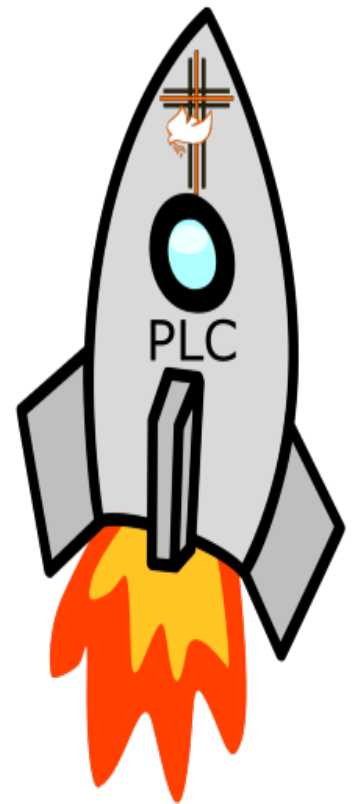
How does gathering in worship prepare us to go out into the world as *God's people*? How do we *Lift Off* in faith?

Every Sunday after worship (11:15-noon) we will gather together for a time of exploring what it takes to live as disciples.

Lift Off will be a time for kids led by Vanessa using great Bible stories and videos to see how faith grows.

Lift Off will be a time for adults where we will hear from a variety of voices and share how our faith impacts the world around us. We are lining up a guest speaker each month and the other weeks will be a time for your big questions and service opportunities. We already have two great guests lined up! We'll start *Lift Off* with Police Chief Rich St. John on September 23rd and Billings Gazette Editor Darrell Ehrlick with be our guest on October 7th. This is going to a fantastic time. Plan to be there.

We ground ourselves in the word of Jesus Christ in worship and we *Lift Off* into service for the week. Join us!



Worship News

September Worship Themes

We'll wrap up our journey through the Letters of John and then go back to Genesis on Rally Weekend! Join us!

September 1st & 2nd Fifteenth weekend after Pentecost

All One Family

Readings: Psalm 15; John 13:34-35; **3 John**

Guest preacher Vanessa Steiger will share the words of encouragement from 3 John. We are all part of the family of God. Let's live like it!

September 8th & 9th Rally Weekend

Flood and Promise

Readings: Psalm 146; Matt 8:24-27; **Genesis 6:5-22; 8:6-12; 9:8-17**

Family history can be messy. We don't like to talk about failures. But without realizing we've gone the wrong way we can never celebrate new beginnings. We are a people of promise! Come and listen!

September 15th & 16th Seventeenth weekend after Pentecost

Call of Abraham

Readings: Psalm 116:1-9; Matt 28:19-20; **Genesis 12:1-9**

God's call doesn't always fit our expectations...age, place, time...but God does equip those who are called.

September 22nd & 23rd Eighteenth weekend after Pentecost

Unfair

Readings: Psalm 54; Matt 5:11-12; **Genesis 39:1-23**

Talk about a mess! Joseph is sold into slavery by his brothers and now is imprisoned unjustly. How is this fair?!? In the midst of injustice Joseph is never alone.

September 29th & 30th Nineteenth weekend after Pentecost

Rescue

Readings: Psalm 19:7-14; Matt 2:13-15; **Exodus 14:5-7, 10-14, 21-29**

We all know a feeling of hopelessness. We all know a feeling of being trapped. We all should also know the reality of deliverance from hopelessness and being stuck. God has promised us that we will be delivered by God's power. Not our own. Let us walk with the people across dry land.



Compline Worship
Service

Mid-Week Worship Service at Peace!!!

Everyone is invited to attend

Compline (night prayer) service

The Second Wednesday of the month

September 12 at 7:00 p.m.

Holden Evening Prayer Service

The Fourth Wednesday of the month

September 26 at 7:00

**Holden
Evening
Prayer**

Marty Haugen

Mission and Service News

Upcoming Mission & Service Opportunities to Watch For

Fall is around the corner. As everyone settles into a new routine, please look for ways you personally serve others or pray for those that are.

Here are the Mission and Service Reaching Out opportunities for September.

September



All Congregation Day of Service/Rally Day- Join us on September 9th as we have our sandwich making blitz.

Any time opportunities- St. John's Lutheran Ministries is always welcoming volunteers to assist on their West End, Billings Heights and Laurel campuses. Volunteer opportunities include: bingo host, comfort cart attendant, elder khaver, friendly visitor, personal shopper, technology support, shopping companion, social hour host, social media ambassador, volunteer driver, and Wii bowling host.

New Volunteer Orientation is held every Thursday. You can contact Carissa Welch at 655.7727 or at volunteer@sjlm.org. Volunteers may also apply online at www.sjlm.org/volunteer.

Committee Volunteer Opportunities

Please give some personal consideration to exploring serving on one of the many committees that help the congregation of Peace Lutheran Church meet its mission of Rejoicing, Renewing, and Reaching Out. Assistance is always appreciated in helping plan the education and numerous events that take place at Peace all year.

New volunteers are always welcome and needed for the Peace Food Pantry. Many do not realize how much work and dedication goes into providing this valuable service for our neighborhood.

We hope that your summer was one to remember. Thank you to everyone who participated in any form of summer outreach. Please give consideration to serving others with the opportunities above.

God bless!



Peace Quilters

This year we will be meeting three times a month, starting Wednesday, Sept. 5th at 9:00 AM in the fellowship room. There are many finished quilt tops to be assembled and tied so many willing hands are needed. Also we need sewers to finish the hems. There are always many jobs to do to get started with a productive year. Looking forward to seeing everyone and hearing of all the adventures we had during the summer. Anyone wanting to learn to make mission quilts is welcome to join us. Coffee and cookies are ready about 10:30.

Thank you all for the beautiful quilt. It's perfect and I've been using it every night since I received it. I will be very thankful to use during the winter to keep me warm! Thank you Sydney Overstreet

Ministry of the Month

Volunteer Expectations:

- Volunteers for the Food Pantry have a 2-hour time commitment which includes one of the following times:
Monday – 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.,
Thursday -- 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. or
Friday 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.
The time period for Wednesday evening is 1 hour, 5:00 – 6:00 p.m.
- Volunteers should feel comfortable visiting with the individuals who visit the pantry in need of food. Those visiting the pantry sign the register, providing some specific information.
- Volunteers replenish food on the shelves as the shelves are emptied with groceries from the storage in the basement. We have a cart for this purpose by the elevator in the basement.
- Volunteers may sign up to take a regular shift, or as a fill-in when someone with a regular shift has to be gone.

Current Volunteers:

Barb and Rick Olson – Thurs. 10 am– noon
Bernie Mason – Friday 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.
Carol Fortune – Fills in as she is available.
Jo Ann Hartman – Frequently fills in when needed.
Paul & Linda Strosky – Took the Monday p.m. time during the school year.
Paul Strosky & Howard Albers took the Wed. evening time during the school year.
Debbie Hedrick
Roger Schatzke -- Our wonderful shopper of grocery bargains. He has had the responsibility of purchasing much of the food that goes on the shelves with the donated money. Roger has also contributed many hours in moving the groceries around when more space is needed for Family Promise.

Peace Lutheran Church ELCA



Our Food Pantry needs your help! Donating just 2 hours of your time each week will be a rewarding and meaningful way to help provide food to people and families in need. On a personal level, it has provided a healthy boost to my self-confidence, self-esteem and life-satisfaction. What can feel better than knowing you helped!

Honestly, "volunteering" is a 2-way street. It has benefited me as much as those we serve. Providing a simple bag of groceries to a person in need, knowing it has given them one less thing to worry about is touching. Watching a child's face light up when they can pick their own favorite box of cereal or new book to read is heart-warming. And let's not forget the importance of "lending an ear" when needed. Many who walk through the door want to share a little of their personal story or simply have someone to talk to who cares. For example:

— Joe, who has a difficult time walking but will take a bus from the South side and often entertain us with one-line jokes, dates of important events and bits of his life in the military.

— A couple who lives in a tent in the backyard of his mother's house and wonders what they will do when winter comes.

— A grieving gentleman who lost his wife to cancer in July. He didn't take much food but definitely needed a hug.

— A 55 year old woman who stopped by for a bag of food before heading to the doctor to find out if she had thyroid cancer.

— A grandmother, raising 4 of her young grandchildren and having a hard time making ends meet.

— A mother of 2 young children who is now living out of her car.

— A recovering drug addict who is enjoying the taste of food again.

— An elderly man who often stops by on his way home from dialysis.

— A man, so humbled by having to ask for help that he wanted to give me what was probably the last \$3.00 in his wallet.

— Cecelia, plagued with many medical issues and has a landlord that is less than kind. She has been without a full-sized refrigerator for years and relies on a small dorm-size model.

We are providing a very necessary service in our community. Just know, without a doubt, your help will have an impact. Any help, no matter how small will make a difference.

"Giving frees us from the familiar territory of our own needs by opening our mind to the unexplained worlds occupied by the needs of others." Barbara Bush

God Bless,
Barb Olson

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.

September Serving group

Kathy Simek, chair
George Simek
Jessica Otis
Katy Wolfe
Jodi/Bryan Peterson
Nancy/Louis Taylor
Marilyn Beery
Juanita/Robert Snyder
Hannah/Tony Pecarina

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 - Holli Miller

Vice President - Melissa Sider

Secretary - Linda Strosky

Dewey Anderson - Abundant Life, Property

Mike Brown - Abundant Life, Property

Randy Christensen - Abundant Life

Dave Draeger - Worship

Susan Finn - Congregational Life

Holli Miller - Congregational Life, Executive

Bryan Peterson- Mission & Service

Melissa Sider - Youth/Education, Executive

Linda Strosky- Mission & Service, Executive

Paul Strosky - Youth/Education

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

Jerilyn Dukart

Vanessa Steiger

Kaia Sappington

Lutheran Center

Debbie Sider

Kay Rossow

Shepherd Cluster

Bonnie Hovik Calusen

John Goodheart

Endowment Trustee

Gary Broeder Ed Popp

Molly Johnson Bernie Mason

Rhonda Hanson

Nominating Committee

Questions about Council Activities? If

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

President Holli Miller

Vice-President Melissa Sider

RELIEVE EDITORIAL STRESS:

**TURN IN
YOUR ARTICLES
EARLY!**

RE M I N D E R :

**DEADLINE FOR
NEWSLETTER
ARTICLES IS**

September 20th

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



Education and Youth News

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Join us after Worship on Sundays beginning on September 9th to Lift Off your week. We will be gathering together in conversation around the table.



Throughout the year, we will be hearing from different guest speakers, doing intergenerational activities, and getting to know each other better through conversation.

All are welcome (kids and adults) to come check it out! Bring a question to the table and a listening ear.



Confirmation

We will be starting Confirmation back up on Wednesday, September 12th.

Anyone 6th grade and above is welcome to join us for our Wednesday night meetings beginning at 7:00 PM. We are beginning with the Small Catechism and moving into the Lutheran background.

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September 5th- Sloppy Joes

September 12th- Soup and Sandwich

September 19th- Chili and Cinnamon Rolls

September 26th- Hot Dish

Worship Nights are in Bold

All are welcome to join us for dinner on Wednesday nights between Peace Pals and Peace Youth at 6:30 PM.

Halloween Carnival

The Halloween Carnival will be taking place on:

Friday, October 26th

We are already taking donations! Candy for Trunk or Treat, volunteer time, decorations, etc.

If you have something for the Carnival that you would be willing to donate, please get in contact with Vanessa.

Friends,

Welcome back to another school year! I am excited to navigate with you yet again this year.

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Peace,

Vanessa

Community News

Words from the Bishop:

Fire, Faith and Food

As I write this, much of the Montana Synod is blanketed in smoke. It comes from the fires in Glacier, it comes from the fires in Yellowstone. It comes from the fires in Wyoming and Montana. And it comes from the fires in California, Oregon, British Columbia. If ever we thought that what we do doesn't affect others, that what others do doesn't affect us—smoke and fire prove that to be wrong.

Once upon a time people were advised to travel to the West to get better air to breathe. Now, with the combination of environmental regulations that have cleaned up urban air, and the ever-increasing number of fires that burn in the west, the formerly pristine western air rivals cities across the globe with the worst industrial pollution. Air pollution is an equal opportunity toxin. It doesn't care if you are rich or poor, native or white, old or young. Of course, people with more resources can seek ways to protect themselves—masks, air conditioning, medications. As always, the poor are the most vulnerable to the long and short-term effects of smoke in the air.

Our church, the ELCA, has been on record since 1993 with a social statement: "Caring for Creation: Vision, Hope and Justice." Although the statement is 25 years old, it is remarkably prescient. As a church we are committed to taking better care of the earth. And we are committed to justice. The statement says:



"The earth is a planet of beauty and abundance; the earth system is wonderfully intricate and incredibly complex. But today living creatures, and the air, soil and water that support them, face unprecedented threats. Many threats are global; most stem directly from human activity. Our current practices may so alter the living world, that it will be unable to sustain life in the manner we know."

The statement promises:

"We will play a role in bringing together parties in conflict, not only members of this church, but also members of society at large. This church's widespread presence and credibility provides us a unique opportunity to mediate, to resolve conflict, and to move toward consensus."

We have an opportunity to come together as persons of faith to discuss climate change and seek tools to empower care of creation. The Montana Association of Christians, along with the Montana Faith and Environment Coalition, are sponsoring a conference on "Faith, Science and Climate Action," October 12 and 13 at the Emerson Center in Bozeman.

Keynotes and breakout groups will give participants an opportunity to explore climate justice, health issues, solar infrastructure, food security, congregational first steps.

Jessica Crist, Bishop

Luther's Lodge

As a local supporter for Luther's Lodge (formerly The Lutheran Center) we are asking for your help. Due to costs, we have discontinued the professional laundry services used at the Lodge. We are now in need of the following and are asking for donations from individuals or churches. For now this is what we need the most: bath towels, hand towels, and wash cloths (preferably new, but gently used would be acceptable), sheet sets with pillow cases, either matching or solid white. Sizes needed are for queen, full, and twin beds.

Also, in the past all local Lutheran churches have been responsible for a deep cleaning one month per year. Peace Lutheran's month is the month of June..

Community News

Christikon Clips

It's completed! Our exceptional staff has gone back to their lives outside of camp, the campers are preparing for school to start, and we begin the planning for 2019. It has been a blessed adventure!



We hosted campers from **Minnesota, South Dakota, Washington, Wisconsin, Wyoming, California, Illinois, Iowa, Pennsylvania, Arizona, Idaho, DC, Tennessee and Montana.** Wonderful opportunity to connect with people from these out of state congregations and forge long lasting friendships sharing the Christikon experience.

Our special guest speakers, Dr. Phil Jamieson and Dennis Trotter led sessions on stewardship and fundraising at our CE Retreat and Mountain Weekend. Pastor Phil Wold led sessions on "The Parables of Jesus - Listening for the Surprise" at the first Mountain Weekend.

Fall Retreats: We have retreats scheduled into the middles of October with just a couple of dates still available. Bring your group and enjoy fall in the mountains!

Capital Campaign: We begin renovation on Blackfoot Lodge and a complete rebuild on the South Bathhouse beginning in August thanks to our generous donor support. **If you have not received a Capital Campaign packet, please contact the office and one will be sent to you.**

Thank you for your prayers for Christikon this summer, for the summer staff as they are called back into the world newly equipped to share their mountaintop experiences, and for all who have joined in the Christikon life. We ask for your continued prayers and support.

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

Rally Day is September 9th!

Join us for worship on September 8th or 9th and on Sunday after worship join us for our Rally Day of Service! We'll have projects for all ages.



Family Promise Of Yellowstone Valley is proud to announce our fourth annual "drive out homelessness" golf tournament on September 28, 2018. Family Promise would like to invite your congregation to sign up a team this year to participate. This event offers participants a fun filled day, while raising awareness and critical funding for our most vulnerable and needy families. \$500 for a team of four. To sign up simply gather teams of four, fill out the registration form in the brochure, on the bulletin board, then return it to the Family Promise office either by mail or in person at 10 S. 26 street feelings 59101.

Payments can be made by check, Online from website



Family Promise
of Yellowstone Valley

www.Familypromiseyv.org donation link or at the door of the event. Should you have any questions on our golf tournament please contact Lisa Donnot at 406*294-7432.

2018 Annual Dinner and Fundraiser "Gathering at a Common Stream."

Our Annual Dinner in support of United Campus Ministry's work at MSUB will be held Tuesday October 2nd. The event will take place in the Great Room at City College (3803 Central Ave) starting at 5:30 p.m.

Over dinner we'll share stories about UCM from students and Rev. Welch. A silent and live auction will be held. Tickets are \$50 and can be purchased by sending a check to UCM at MSUB at 1500 University Dr Billings MT 59101. Churches can purchase a table of 6 for \$400 and will receive special recognition.

Rev. Marc Stewart, Conference Minister of the Montana Northern Wyoming Conference of the United Church of Christ is our keynote speaker. He will share his experiences in crossing the religious and social divides of our time with his talk "Gathering at a Common Stream."



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!!



Saturday Night Celebration Potluck Join us on the third Saturday of the month September 16th. We will have a potluck meal following worship service. Come bring a dish to share and celebrate with us.



Do you want to dig deeper into the word? Join us September 5th and 19th at 7:00 pm as we begin our study of the Gospel of Matthew.

Women and men, young and old are welcome!

Intern Committee Update

Every year we have amazing Peace members that volunteer to support and guide our seminary intern. This year we are blessed to have another great group. As you are praying for the Gospel of Jesus Christ to be communicated through Intern Pastor Ann's time here please also lift up her committee. Chuck Sider, Molly Johnson, Sharon Schatzke, Joan Brown, Vanessa Steiger, and Bryce Peterson are serving on the intern committee this year. Great thanks to them for their service!

Your help is needed in getting information on all College students. The office needs mailing address's for college student.



Please call Dean in the church office or leave information on office desk.

New Member Gatherings in September will be on the 8th and 9th at 3pm. Come for a time with Pr. Will and Intern Pr. Ann of conversation. New members will be welcomed September 15th and 16th during worship!

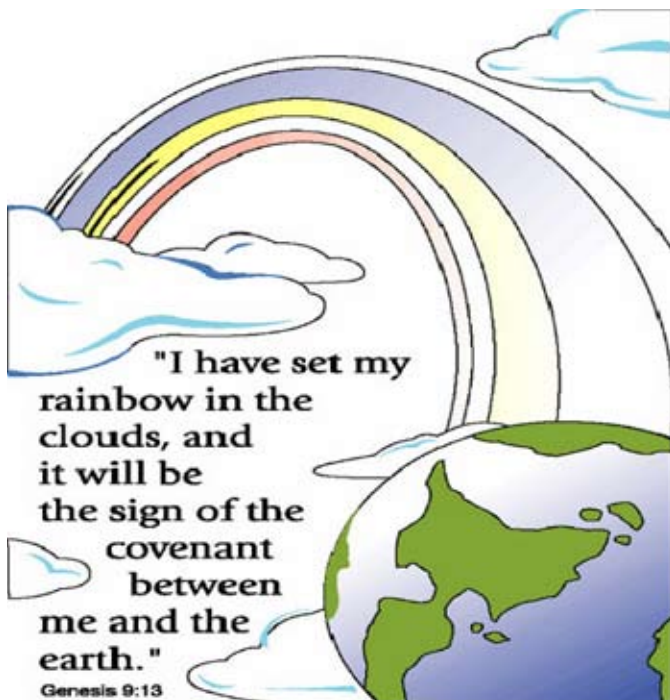


FOOD DONATION WEEKEND September 1st & 2nd

We will be collecting for the **Peace Food Pantry,** This month there is especially a need for single-serving canned fruit, canned meals with pull top lids, soup, cereal and granola bars.



Bells of Peace will return to rehearsals beginning Sept. 12th at 5:30 pm. New ringers are welcome any questions please call Julie @ 471-3932





September 2018

1 Give thanks that we are a church that values, seeks and works to build connections and partnerships in our communities and globally for doing God's work together using the abundance of assets, skills and diverse perspectives we have as the body of Christ.

2 Traditions in the church can help guide and enrich our faith and worship, and they can sometimes present boundaries and stumbling blocks. Pray our traditions and religious practices are dynamic, meaningful and reflect our theology, Scripture, ministry contexts and prayerful discernment of what God is revealing to us today.

3 Labor Day On this day we pray for and recognize the work people do for the benefit of society and the sustenance of their families. Pray all have fair, safe work, are renewed through times of sabbath, and find joy and fulfillment in their labor; pray for all those who seek employment and for the well-being and care for people who are unable to work.

4 ELCA campus ministry has a presence at more than 180 state and private colleges and universities with cooperating congregations in campus ministry at an additional 400 campuses nationwide. Pray for leaders and congregations serving students, faculty and staff, and for Lutheran Campus Ministry Network's work of strengthening and sustaining ELCA campus ministries.

5 Give thanks for the rich partnership and relationship we have with The Episcopal Church, a full communion partner with the ELCA since 1997. Pray for the church and ask God to further our respect for one another and work together sharing the gospel and serving our neighbor.

6 Pray, as followers of Christ, that we are bold examples and practitioners of civility, respect, truth, justice and empathy for our neighbor in everything we do and say, in every place and circumstance.

7 Remember in prayer young adults beginning a year of service with the Young Adults in Global Mission program; pray the Spirit will equip, sustain and encourage them as they work alongside companion churches and organizations in communities around the world.

8 Pray for seasonal workers who are seeking new employment and places to live, that they are affirmed for their gifts and service and find employment with fair wages, affordable housing and welcoming, supportive communities and congregations.

9 Ask God to sharpen our awareness of when we demonstrate favoritism in our relationships, ministry and daily life, and reassure us of the grace and forgiveness we have in Jesus Christ freeing us to confess our prejudices and strive to change for the sake of doing God's work in the world – without bias.

10 Give thanks to God for the season of fall with its new beginnings, abundant harvests that feed the hungry and rhythms of change in nature that move us to reflect on God with awe and praise.

11 Sing, shout and whisper praises to God, our creator, hope, help and advocate for the poor, hungry, ill, imprisoned, forgotten and oppressed; our inspiration, guide and example.

12 Give thanks for people who work the land and oceans to feed themselves and the world; pray for people living in regions suffering from draught, soil unable to sustain agriculture and changing climate, and ask God to help us find ways to exercise generosity with our resources and food while working together for appropriate and lasting solutions to agricultural problems and hunger.

13 Pray we never lose sight of people – our neighbors and brothers and sisters in Christ – who live in poverty and that we serve as trustworthy advocates and friends who are generous with our resources and care, respectful, value the gifts of all people and are committed to ending poverty and hunger everywhere.

14 Give thanks for the service and leadership of our retired rostered ministers, and pray they continue to respond to God's call to new opportunities – even in retirement – for sharing their gifts, wisdom and experience in their communities, the church and world.



September 2018

15 National Hispanic Heritage Month Give thanks to God for the gifts, contributions and rich cultural diversity of our Latino brothers and sisters, and pray for the growth and vitality of the 147 Latino ministries of the ELCA as they share the gospel, equip leaders and serve their neighbors.

16 How do we describe Jesus? We pray that through our baptism and the work of the Spirit we are imprinted with a deep understanding and faith in Jesus as the son of God, the one true messiah – our salvation, hope and light.

17 Remember in prayer the Rev. David and Alecia Brondos, ELCA missionaries working with theological education in Mexico; the Rev. Meghan Brown Saavedra, YAGM country coordinator for Mexico; and the young adults serving alongside our companions in Mexico as part of the Young Adults in Global Mission program.

18 In the midst of the hurricane season and increasingly unpredictable weather, pray for regions of our nation and world susceptible to severe weather and natural disasters; pray for those who are recovering and rebuilding in the wake of disasters, especially where resources and long-term assistance are sparse.

19 Ask God to help guide and temper our words and the manner in which we speak to others so that our speech and tone serve to bless, demonstrate concern and encourage rather than injure, condemn, belittle or divide.

20 Pray for refugees and immigrants everywhere, asking God to grant them safe passage and the diligent support of advocates, caring companions and welcoming congregations and communities.

21 The ELCA and The Episcopal Church are committed to prayer, fasting and advocacy addressing cuts to public programs that are vital to hungry people who are living in poverty. Remember to pray for these concerns, our leaders and people in need on the 21st of each month through December 2018.

22 Pause what you are doing, look around and listen to the concerns and joys of your heart; talk with God about what catches your attention or weighs on you.

23 In this time when power, position and wealth seem to wield more influence and attract more attention than humility, service and generosity, we ask the Holy Spirit to keep us centered in the heart and mind of Jesus, remind us of what God values and direct our attention to people – today and throughout history – who exemplify Jesus' compassion and concern for humanity.

24 Pray the Holy Spirit continues to reveal to us the value and meaning of accompaniment – walking together with Lutheran, ecumenical and interfaith sisters and brothers around the world.

25 Give thanks for God's attentiveness to our prayers – spoken in every language, whispered or silent.

26 Pray for ministry candidates and their families as they await assignment and for those who are involved in the assignment process of helping leaders move forward in their response to God's call to ministry and service – wherever it may lead them.

27 We hold in prayer our leaders gathered for the Conference of Bishops, that they be inspired and sustained by the Holy Spirit for the work of guiding our church in its mission in a complex and changing world that continues to yearn for hope, reconciliation, purpose and good news – the very things we know and experience through Jesus Christ.

28 Pray for faith in God's ways and wisdom, a wisdom that is pure, peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and compassionate acts, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy.

29 Michael and All Angels The mystery of angels – God's messengers – is alive in Scripture and experienced in the world throughout history. Give thanks for all spiritual beings created by God to worship and praise God, fight against evil, protect and help us, and convey to us God's word and will.

30 Give thanks for the diverse and sometimes surprising ways in which members of the body of Christ do God's work in the world and for how the Spirit equips us uniquely for serving our neighbor in unexpected situations and places.

Peace Lutheran Church

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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



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



Rally Weekend

September 8th & 9th

Saturday Worship 5:00 pm

Sunday Worship 10:00 am

Service Opportunities

begin at 11:15 am Sunday