



The Herald

April 2018

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church~Helena, Montana

"Growing in grace, walking in faith, serving in love"

Thank
you!

SPECIAL COFFEE HOUR 4/15

The bathroom remodel is finished!

St. John's would like to thank everyone who participated in the bathroom remodeling (Marv Olaf, Gerald Watne, Jens Jensen, Mark Blessinger, Vern Grimsrud, Wayne Olsen.)

They worked hard from ripping things out, rebuilding doorways, laying tile, and scrubbing. We sincerely thank you!

A special thank you to Charles Tielking who ordered and installed the plumbing fixtures with the help of his son Steve Tielking.

A special thank you to our snow removal crew this year-Vern Grimsrud and Ron Stegmann. We greatly appreciate all your hard work and dedication! As a small token of our thanks there will be a special coffee hour on Sunday, April 15th.

NEW PEW OFFERING ENVELOPES

The Council and Social Ministry Committees have discussed, reviewed and approved updating the pew envelopes. On the new envelopes, the "Social Ministry Outreach" line has replaced the former "Special Monthly Offering" lines on the pew envelopes and the responsibility for the choice of causes for the collected funds of Social Ministry Outreach special offering will fall on the decision of the Social Ministry Committee, with input from the congregation.



Please consider donating to the St. Johns Social Ministry Outreach Special Offering for April that will go towards helping Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp sustain its mission of sharing Christ's grace through meaningful relationships, shared adventures and purposeful service, with summer camp families and God's children of all ages. Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp is dedicated to the spiritual, physical, and emotional growth of each person. Bible Study themes are lived out each day through worship, drama, singing, small group Bible study, prayer, arts & crafts, campfire, and play as campers learn about and experience God's grace.

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MESSAGE FROM PASTOR BRAD:

CHRIST'S RESURRECTION AND THE MISSION OF THE CHURCH

Mark's account of Jesus' resurrection and the disciples response has two endings. The angel told the women that Jesus was resurrected and they were to tell the disciples Jesus would meet them in Galilee. The shorter ending says in Mark 16:8 that "The women went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid." Many scholars believe this is the original ending. It is short and to the point, as Mark tends to be.

The longer ending continues with the second half of vs 8. It tells of Jesus sending the disciples out "from east to west, telling the sacred and imperishable proclamation of eternal salvation. Luther uses Mark 16:15 in his catechism as a reason for baptism. It reads, "And he said to them, "Go into the world and proclaim the good news to the whole creation. The one who believes and is baptized will be saved, but the one who does not believe will be condemned." It speaks about believers speaking in new tongues and picking up deadly snakes that cannot hurt them. It also tells the story of Jesus ascension into heaven." Most scholars believe the longer ending was added later in the second century to give grounds of belief in Jesus' resurrection. The Greek and the stylistic differences in the longer version of the resurrection are significantly different from the rest of Mark's Gospel according to the textual evidence.

So in one version the women and disciples say nothing, in the other the Gospel is proclaimed to all. We know the rest of the story. The Gospel and the news of Christ's resurrection changed the world as the mission of the church flourished.

This causes us to ask, "How are we here at St. John's furthering the mission of Christ?" Are we saying and doing nothing, or are we proclaiming the Gospel in word and deed? It's important to reflect upon our mission because mission is central to the church. We have an opportunity to do this when we participate in a "Comprehensive Ministry Review " April 27-29. We asked that a team of folks from the Synod to help us reflect on our mission. A leadership team selected from St. John's is putting together a Ministry Profile ahead of time that tells about the congregation's activities and mission, our financial stewardship, our physical building and the community that we live in, and the outreach we are doing.

The team will interview several staff members and community leaders from outside of the church. They will meet with the leadership team to get their perspectives on the strengths and growth areas of the church. On Sunday April 29 they will worship with us and at the Adult Forum time will gather information and insight from congregational members. Following the Comprehensive Ministry Review we will receive a report summarizing what they have learned and we can use the report as we wish.

I think this process, like a health check-up with a doctor, will help us intentionally reflect upon the health and mission of St. John's. It will give us an overall summary of the mission and ministry of St. John's, will help us clarify our core values, assets and strengths, and will give us perspectives from an "outsider's view" on current and future mission opportunities. The church is about mission, being a witness to Christ's death and resurrection. The church council asks for your prayers and support as we undertake this "Comprehensive Ministry Review." Blessings on your Easter Celebration!

Working with you in the mission of Christ,
Pastor Brad

ST JOHN'S WOMEN OF THE ELCA NEWS

MULTIPLE MEANINGS: LEARNING FROM OTHER INTERPRETATIONS

SESSION FOUR: THE PRODIGAL SON (LUKE 15:11-32)

The Morning and Evening Circles meet on April 24 for the final session in the four-part series that focuses on multiple meanings. We have been examining ways in which Bible stories can mean different things to different people. This month we are going to look at the parable of the Prodigal Son and consider how this story is understood by Lutheran believers in different parts of the world.

APRIL NEWS AROUND ST. JOHN'S AND THE SYNOD

COMPREHENSIVE MINISTRY REVIEW

We are planning a Comprehensive ministry review led by Pastor Peggy Paugh Leuzinger from the Montana Synod and her team which is scheduled for April 27 – 29th at St. John's.

On Saturday, the Synod review team will meet for 30 min. sessions with each of our staff and then spend the day (from 9:30 – 5:00) with our leadership team.

The ministry review team will attend worship on Sunday morning, and join in a congregational forum in which the congregation will be asked to respond to a series of questions and be able to ask questions of the ministry review team.

The ministry review team from the Synod plans to come back in late May to present the report to our leadership team and council during a 2 hour meeting. The report is typically about 15 pages long and reviews what happened, what was said and summarizes what was learned

END OF YEAR HELP FOR QUILTERS

On Wednesday, April 4th at 6:30 pm we will assemble the school bags in conjunction with Midweek Connection kids and adults. We need muscles to help pack up, weight, and carry the boxes.

The quilters are asking for help on the following dates in May. On May 9th we will box up, label, and weigh the quilts. Hands and muscles are needed! On May 11th we need help at 10:00 am to move all the school bag boxes and quilt boxes out to the curb. The truck arrives around 10:30 am-11:00 am and we will load it. Muscles are REALLY needed again. Many hands make light work. Thank you for all your help and support for these two great projects. God's Work, Our Hands!

FAMILY PROMISE UPDATE

Thank you to everyone who volunteered to host during St. John's next scheduled host week, from April 1 through 8. Although Family Promise is firmly in the black, after the success of the Comfort Food Challenge, there is still some work to be done before we can begin admitting families to the program – which means that St. John's will not be hosting Family Promise during the week of April 1 through 8. If you were looking forward to hosting and cannot wait until our next scheduled week – which is July 22 through 29, please consider becoming a "roving volunteer." These are volunteers willing to host at other churches. If you have any interest in becoming a "roving volunteer," please send your name and contact information (phone number and email address) to Rebekah French at frenchrj@yahoo.com.

ST. JOHN'S BOOK CLUB

The St. John's Book Club will meet on Wednesday, April 18 from 1:30 to 2:30 at the Lewis & Clark County Library, in the small conference room. Mary R will lead discussion of *Death in a White Tie* by Ngaio Marsh.

April 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	We
<p>1 EASTER SUNDAY 6:30 am-Sunrise Service @ Kleffner Ranch 9:30 am-Festival Easter Worship 10:30 am-Easter Brunch</p>	<p>2 PASTOR AWAY AT PASTOR'S CONFERENCE 4/2-4/7 6:00 pm-Venture Scouts</p>	<p>3 10:30 am-Staff Meeting 5:15 pm-Evangelism 7:00 pm-4H in Fellowship Hall</p>	<p>4 9:00 am-Noon-Quilts MIDWEEK CONNECTION 5:30 pm-Communion 6:30 pm-Service Projects Kits</p>
<p>8 9:30 am-Worship 10:30 am-Sunday School, 10:30 am-Adult Forum with Dr. Sarah Fenton</p>	<p>9 6:00 pm-Venture Scouts 6:30 pm-Bells Rehearsal</p>	<p>10 10:30 am-Staff Meeting Noon-Finance Committee Noon-WOSJ's</p>	<p>11 9:00 am-Noon-Quilts 1:30 pm-Executive Meeting MIDWEEK CONNECTION 5:30 pm-Communion 6:25 pm-Worship w/ Prayers 7:00 pm-Bible Study</p>
<p>15 THANK YOU COFFEE HOUR 9:30 am-Worship 10:30 am-Sunday School, Adult Forum, Fellowship 10:30 am-Social Ministry Committee</p>	<p>16 6:00 pm-Venture Scouts 6:00 pm-Men's Group 6:30 pm-Bells Rehearsal</p>	<p>17 10:30 am-Staff Meeting 6:30 pm-Church Council</p>	<p>18 9:00 am-Noon-Quilts 1:30 pm-Book Club MIDWEEK CONNECTION 5:30 pm-Communion 6:25 pm-Worship w/ Prayers 7:00 pm-Bible Study</p>
<p>22 9:30 am-Worship 10:30 am-Sunday School, Adult Forum, Fellowship</p>	<p>23 6:00 pm-Venture Scouts 6:30 pm-Bells Rehearsal</p>	<p>24 9:30 am-Circle at Touchmark 10:30 am-Staff Meeting 7:00 pm-Evening Circle</p>	<p>25 9:00 am-Noon-Quilts MIDWEEK CONNECTION 5:30 pm-Communion 6:25 pm-Worship w/ Prayers 7:00 pm-Bible Study</p>
<p>29 9:30 am-Worship 10:30 am-Sunday School, Adult Forum, Fellowship</p>	<p>30</p>		

Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>alters SECTION ty Meal oject/School</p>	<p>5 7:00 pm-Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p>
<p>alters Committee SECTION ty Meal w/communion y (all ages)</p>	<p>12 1:30 pm-Music & Worship 2:30 pm-Memorial Committee 7:00 pm-Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>13 3:00 pm-Communion Service at Masonic Home MT SYNOD YOUTH WEEKEND @SJLC 4/13-15 →</p>	<p>14</p>
<p>alters @LCPL SECTION ty Meal w/communion y (all ages)</p>	<p>19 7:00 pm-Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p>
<p>alters SECTION ty Meal w/communion y (all ages)</p>	<p>26 7:00 pm-Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>27 5:30 pm-Fellowship Friday at Perkins COMPREHENSIVE MINISTRY REVIEW →</p>	<p>28</p>



VBS/DAY CAMP REGISTRATION

Hard to believe but VBS/DAY Camp with FLBC is coming the week of June 18th-22nd! Call the office now to save your spot as there will be a cap on registration this year. Program offerings include: full-day program for kids entering 1st grade through 6th grade (9am-3pm) for \$40; a morning program for kids ages 4-5 (age 4 by Sept. 10th & 9am-noon) for \$25; the option (for an extra daily fee) for early drop-off & "after VBS" childcare (3pm-5:30pm). The week will end with a family BBQ on the lawn on June 22nd at noon. Kids love this fun and life changing week of worship, games, study, and crafts!

ST. JOHN'S HOSTING MT SYNOD YOUTH EVENT APRIL 13TH-15TH

Kids from all over the state will be taking Helena by storm on April 13th and we will be providing the host site and simple meals. It should be a fun weekend of community building, games, service projects, and worship. All Middle School & High School students are invited to participate and we will cover your registration fee. We could use extra help with meal prep and providing cookies/bars/snacks. Please speak with Gretchen or contact the office for more details.

CARDS 4 KIDS

MANY THANKS to all of you who purchased greeting cards over the last few months to support the CARDS 4 KIDS ministry. A total of \$504.00 was raised (including Christmas) for our youth programs here at the church. General Assortment card packages of 12 are available upon request for \$5. I appreciate your donations of recycled and/or new greeting cards, envelopes, stickers, rubber cement etc...A box for donations is located in the Narthex. Cards 4 Kids will return during the holidays!!
BIBLE HERO SUPERSTARS!!!



BIBLE SUPERHEROS

This month the Sunday School kids will have a "Take Home" art project!! Paper cutouts will go home April 8 to be decorated as a favorite person from the Bible. You're encouraged to be very creative and have fun doing this as a family activity. The "Superstar Heroes" will be displayed on the Youth Bulletin Board in the Fellowship Hall.

Please return your project by April 22!!!

APRIL MIDWEEK CONNECTION

Midweek Connection resumes April 4th with a community picnic in the fellowship hall at 5:30 pm followed by a service project with the St. John's quilters. The regular schedule of a community meal at 5:30 pm, Worship at 6:25 pm, and study at 7:00 pm will resume on Wednesday April 11th and will run through May 2nd.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS...

On The Occasion Of Their Baptism:

Brecken Clay Bignell

On The Occasion Of Their First Communion:

Lila Elizabeth Conner, Lauren Rose Eckdahl, Blake Marie Lieberg

For Healing:

For those suffering devastation from hurricanes, earthquakes, forest fires, and violence, Esther Fuehrer, Jean Buckingham, the Northern Cheyenne and those adversely affected by the snow, Violet Kerr, Randy Holmes, The Bernstein Family, Debbie (Barb Muir's daughter), Doug and Beccki Watkins, Jim Kembel, Jim Moe, Dave Hanson (Mildred Twingley's Son-in-Law), Zoe B., Kris Olson, Lester Anderson, Luke Almas, the children at Intermountain, for those who are alone, for those who suffer from depression, and for all who seek health and wholeness

For The Family And Friends Of Those Who Mourn:

Mary Jo Ronshaugen, Theresa Lindgren, Donna Muffick, Karen Sloan

For Those In Residential Living Centers, Extended Care

Or Homebound: Pat Tyanich, Esther Fuehrer, Bob Hanson, Dr. Bob & Evelyn Whitesitt, Ken Bolland, Annie Stegmann, Jean E. Mundinger, Ada Harlen, Maury Knutson, Marge Mihelish, Audrey Anderson, Irene Crawford, Dan Brosten (in Columbia Falls), Phillip Kerr, Doris Crider

Missionaries: Willie, Anne, and Micah Langdji in Cameroon;

Mark and Marina Dotson in Russia

Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer.

(Romans 12:12)



April Birthdays

1	Eric Bryson	19	Mark Langdorf
2	Janice Forseth		Thomas Morrow
	Donna Angstman	21	Joshua Barrows
3	Bob Hanson	26	Ellen Livers
4	Merwin Barrows		Randy Rake
	Kurt Keiper	27	Braden Scherting
	Don Magnus	28	Madisyn Gard
7	Danielle Timmer		Alyson Rake
	Elaine Ulgenes	30	Garth Grimsrud
8	Carly Smiedala		
9	Donna Campbell		
10	Larry Shields		
12	Mark Blessinger		
15	Bill Mattfeldt		
16	Hildegard Anderson-Folgany		
	Pam Bourassa		
	Curt Nichols		
17	Luella Elverum		
	Marlene Swenson		
18	Jolene Bebich		

April Anniversaries

30 Ken and Joyce Ludtke



"The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you; the Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace."

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St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church
1000 Helena Avenue
Helena, MT 59601

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St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church

"Growing in grace, walking in faith, serving in love"

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Pastor email: pastor@helenastjohns.org
Like us on Facebook!

Worship Services

Sunday

9:30 am-Worship with Holy Communion
10:30 am-Sunday School, Adult Forum, Fellowship

Wednesday

5:30 pm-Dinner in the Fellowship Hall
6:25 pm-Worship with Holy Communion
7:00 pm-Bible Studies For All Ages

Office Hours

9:00 am-1:00 pm
Monday-Friday

Ministering at

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church

Witness to the Gospel	Members of SJLC
Pastor	Brad Ulgenes
Organist	Dodie Walsh
Choir Director	Connie Conley
Bell Choir Directors	Renee Slocum Christina Tielking
Director of Youth & Family Ministries	
Office Manager	Gretchen Munding
Treasurer	Karen Hicks
Financial Secretary	Randy Rake
Missionaries	Anne & Willie Langdji, Cameroon Mark & Marina Dotson, Russia
Sexton	Pat Gober

*St. John's Social Ministry Outreach Offering
for April is Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp*