



The Herald

May 2018

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

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



SEMI-ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Our next congregational meeting will take place on Sunday, May 20th at 10:30 am in the Fellowship Hall. There are a few important items on the agenda, including the election of church council members.

IMPORTANT SUNDAYS COMING YOUR WAY

Sunday, May 6th: Confirmation Sunday

Sunday, May 13th: Last Day of Sunday School, Youth Led Service, and Sundae Sunday

Sunday, May 20th: Senior Sunday & Semi-Annual Congregational Meeting

VBS/DAY CAMP REGISTRATION

THIS CHANGES EVERYTHING! FOR BY GRACE YOU HAVE BEEN SAVED THROUGH FAITH, AND THIS IS NOT YOUR OWN DOING; IT IS THE GIFT OF GOD!

Come experience how the life-changing love of God in Christ—grace—changes everything! VBS/DAY Camp with FLBC is coming the week of June 18th-22nd! 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!



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MESSAGE FROM PASTOR BRAD: WAITING FOR NEW LIFE

Finally, it's here! Spring! The geese are honking! The tulips and daffodils are blooming! The grass is greening! The sun is shining again! It feels like this past winter we have been in CM. Russel's painting, "Waiting For The Chinook!" You remember it, with the emaciated cow, head down into the wind in a snow covered land, the wolves circling.

I wonder if that's how the disciples felt as they waited for the coming of the Holy Spirit. Jesus had ascended into heaven. Fifty days of waiting and wondering whether Jesus would send the Holy Spirit with power as he promised. But when it arrived...wow! What a rebirth! The Holy Spirit hailing down tongues of fire. New languages which the Spirit gave so all might hear the Good News of Christ's resurrection. 3000 souls converted and baptized!

May 21 we will celebrate Pentecost Sunday, the birthday of the church. A new season of the church year begins. We too are waiting like those early disciples, waiting for Jesus to come again with power and glory as he promised. It seems like before any time of rebirth, a time of waiting and preparing begins.

This spring we are getting our lawn ready, watering and fertilizing. Flowers will be planted . Dirt in the gardens is turned over to receive the seeds and plants. Pentecost is the season of planting and growing. God is preparing His church and disciples for the new birth that will be coming. In our own lives we go through seasons of waiting, times when nothing seems to be happening , so we wait. But Pentecost, like Spring, will come. Even now we see signs of new birth in our midst. So we plant and prepare so the Word may bear fruit in our lives, in the church and in the world. Finally, spring is Here!

Growing in Grace, Walking in Faith, Serving in Love,
Pastor Brad

SOCIAL MINISTRY NEWS

LENT SOUP SUPPER UPDATES

Thank you to those who attended the Soup Supper/Lenten Services and generously supported these wonderful causes. You are making a difference!

Feb 21	St John's Youth for ELCA Youth Gathering trip, \$867 raised
Feb 28	Intermountain, \$ 674 raised
Mar 7	Montana Synod House GF \$629.00 raised
Mar 14	Seafarers International House (NYC), \$410 raised
Mar 21	Senegal and The Gambia: Growing the Church, \$623.00 raised

The special offering for the month of May will go towards Florence Crittenton, a trauma-responsive, relationship based organization that provides residential and community services for young families. With your help, they continue to help build strong families and make brighter futures for our Montana communities—two lives at a time. Please place your offerings in the pew offering envelopes and check the Social Ministry Outreach box.

ST JOHN'S WOMEN OF THE ELCA NEWS

You're Invited to the Women's Summer Garden Party!

The Women of St. John's are having their dinner on Tuesday, May 8, beginning at 6:00 in the fellowship hall. The theme is Summer Garden Party. All women and girls are invited to a fun evening of sharing food, stories and fellowship.

Our featured speaker is renowned Montana historian Ellen Baumler of the Montana Historical Society. She will be sharing with us interesting stories about women and children in Montana.

Chicken and rolls will be provided. We ask you to bring a salad, side dish, or dessert to share. Please invite and bring someone with you to this first summer garden party of 2018! All are welcome!

Circles Meet on May 22

The Morning and Evening Circles are between Bible studies in Gather magazine. The May issue offers a devotional on hospitality entitled All are welcome. The Morning Circle meets at Touchmark at 9:30 am with Janice Larison and Ela Shields as hostesses and Noma Middlestead as study leader. The Evening Circle meets at 7:00 pm at church with hostess and leader to come forward and volunteer. Please feel welcome to come to either meeting and join us.

MAY NEWS AROUND ST. JOHN'S AND THE SYNOD

QUILTERS END OF YEAR UPDATE & END OF YEAR HELP FOR QUILTERS

Because of the wonderful support from our congregation, we will be shipping 200 quilts and 192 school bags overseas on May 11th. 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. A special thank you, again, to Liz Schroeder for sewing all the school bags and to Mildred Twingley for sewing 91 quilt tops at home. Quilters also have an additional 50 quilts for projects in town and around the state. Summer garage sales will be here soon. Please look for used flat sheets of any size, nice cotton material for quilt tops, and macramé cord, denim, corduroy, or any heavy weight material for the school bags. Thank you for all your help and continued support. Linda & Mildred

ST. JOHN'S BOOK CLUB



The St. John's Book Club will meet on Wednesday, May 16 from 1:30 pm to 2:20 pm at the Lewis & Clark County Library, in the small conference room. Mait will lead discussion of Crossing to Safety, by Wallace Stegner.

IT IS NEVER TOO EARLY TO PREPARE FOR THE FALL FEST!!!

As you go to summer garage sales please be on the lookout for: extra large baskets, filler/ribbon, Christmas cookie jars (IN PERFECT CONDITION/NO CHIPS!!) We will be speaking to groups in the church this summer about themes....if you have an idea let us know!! We will also have items available for basket making at the August "Brunch On The Lawn". We are looking for young people to assist with kid's games and crafts the day of the FALL FEST which is scheduled for SUNDAY, OCTOBER 28 in the afternoon. Please remember that donations of auction items can be a single item and does not have to be a basket. Any questions this summer please don't hesitate to talk to one of us on the committee.

Janice Larison~Ela Shields~Miki Wilde

May 2018

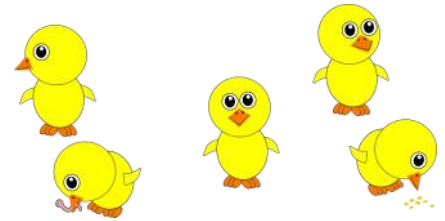
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed
		1 10:30 am-Staff Meeting 3:00 pm-Memorial Service for Dr. Bob Whitesitt 5:15 pm-Evangelism Committee 7:00 pm-4H in Fellowship Hall	2 9:00 am-Noon-Quilting MIDWEEK CONNECTION 5:30 pm-Communion 6:25 pm-Worship 7:00 pm-Study ***Last Midweek Communion for school year
6 CONFIRMATION SUNDAY 9:30 am-Worship 10:30 am-Sunday School, Fellowship 5:00 pm-Linda Mosness Studio Recital	7 6:00 pm-Venture Scouts 6:30 pm-Bells Rehearsal	8 10:30 am-Staff Meeting Noon-Finance Committee 6:00 pm-Women of St. John's Banquet	9 9:00 am-Boxing of the Gospels 1:30 pm-Executive Meeting
13 YOUTH SUNDAY & CHICK SUNDAY 9:30 am-Worship 10:30 am-Sundae Sunday 	14 6:00 pm-Venture Scouts	15 10:30 am-Staff Meeting 6:30 pm-Church Council	16 1:30 pm-St. John's Lamentations @LCPL
20 SENIOR RECOGNITION & SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING 9:30 am-Worship 10:30 am-Semi-Annual Meeting 1:00 pm-Connie Conley & Dodie Walsh Studio Recitals	21 6:00 pm-Venture Scouts 6:00 pm-Men's Group	22 9:30 am-Circle at Touchmark 10:30 am-Staff Meeting 7:00 pm-Evening Circle	23
27 PASTOR AWAY 9:30 am-Worship 10:30 am-Fellowship	28 MEMORIAL DAY OFFICE CLOSED 	29 10:30 am-Staff Meeting	30

Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>alters SECTION ty Meal</p> <p><i>Connection for the</i></p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4 GRETCHEN AWAY</p>	<p>5</p>
<p>the Quilts Committee</p>	<p>10 1:30 pm-Music & Worship 2:30 pm-Memorial Committee</p>	<p>11 10:00 am-Loading of Quilt Boxes onto the truck 2:30 pm-Dodie Walsh Studio Re- hearsal 3:00 pm-Communion Service at Masonic Home</p>	<p>12</p>
<p>Book Club</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p>
	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p>
	<p>31 6:00 pm-Eston Falley Senior Recital</p>		



THE CHICKS ARE COMING

Chick Sunday is May 13th. Did you know that buying ten little chicks can make a big difference?? When they are just months old, these chicks begin to lay eggs, which make nutritional meals for families who are hungry. The many eggs are often enough to allow a family to start a small business by selling them for additional income. Our young Sunday School children will be selling chicks on Sunday, May 13th to send the monies to ELCA Good Gifts to help families in poorer countries. Our lesson is God's Work. Our hands...large or small! Please stop by their booth downstairs at the coffee hour that Sunday.



YOUTH SUNDAY AND SUNDAE SUNDAY

Celebrate our last week of Sunday School with our youth on Sunday, May 13th. The children will lead us in worship and our 3rd-6th grade class will give a special presentation during the sermon on their model that they have been working hard on since January. Everyone is invited to a special coffee hour following the service. Thank you to our wonderful teachers this year—Janice Larison, Betty Olaf, Amy Smiedala, Jodee Alm, Brent Bushnell, Jenny Taylor, and Connie Conley (music).

VBS & SUMMER NEEDS

June is going to be a busy month here at St. John's and we could use some extra help during VBS and while the youth group is in Houston attending the 2018 ELCA Gathering. Please speak with Gretchen or contact the office if you are available to help with the following:

- Providing housing for FLBC Counselors during VBS
- Providing lunch during VBS for 5 counselors
- Providing healthy snacks for VBS
- Helping with crafts and/or snacktime
- Helping with the Family BBQ on Friday, June 22nd for VBS
- Office help during VBS (June 18-22) and during the Gathering (June 25-29, July 2-3)

THANK YOU!

Thank you to everyone who pitched in behind the scenes at our MT Synod Youth Weekend April 13th-15th. Your donations of homemade cookies, granola bars, brownies, snacks, and help with making a homemade lunch on Saturday were much appreciated!



In Our Prayers...

On The Occasion of Their Confirmation:

Grayson Alm and Heath Caldwell

On the Occasion of Their Baptism:

Calvin James Rider

For Healing:

For those suffering devastation from hurricanes, earthquakes, forest fires, and violence, Hailey Dunk, Jean Buckingham, the Northern Cheyenne and those adversely affected by the snow, Esther Fuehrer, Violet Kerr, Randy Holmes, The Bernstein Family, Debbie (Barb Muir's daughter), Jim Kembel, Jim Moe, Dave Hanson (Mildred Twingley's Son-in-Law), Zoe B., Barb Knutson, 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:

Dr. Bob Whitesitt, Beccki Watkins, Marie Hanson, John Bakke, Mary Jo Ronshaugen

For Those In Residential Living Centers, Extended Care Or Homebound:

Pat Tyanich, Esther Fuehrer, Bob Hanson, 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)



May Birthdays

1 Zoey Wall
2 Bing Crosby
3 Connie Conley
Justice Gard
Liz Schroeder
6 Jennifer Wintersteen
7 Gary Johnson
8 Andrea Scherting
9 Sydney Carlson
14 Betty Lou Gunstone
15 Dillon Schulz
16 Caitlin Field
Devin McGee
18 Paula Blessinger
Les Timmer
Celeste Valle
21 Heath Caldwell
Willow Daughetee
Nora Johnson

24 Zoe Erickson
25 Claire Bebich
26 Mariah Adsem
Jarrett Alm
27 Cliff Roessner
28 Sam Erickson
31 Bill Harant
Aaron Paulsen



May Anniversaries

3 Kent & Dorothy Lindsay
6 Paul & Dawn Valle
17 Randy Rake & Sarah Fenton
20 Merwin & Sandra Barrows
28 Todd & Jean Branscum

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 1000 Helena Avenue
 Helena, MT 59601

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 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

Last Midweek Connection for the school year is May 2nd

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 May is Florence Crittenton*