FAITH HERALD

Faith Lutheran Church 171 Lewis Lane Hamilton, MT 59840 406-363-2964 Office Hours: Monday – Friday 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. office@faithlutheranhamilton.org

God So Loved... 3.16 (2014)

A young woman came to our home one night. Brought up in a devout Christian home, only now that she's away can she recognize the narrowness of her family's faith and behavior. Now she's rejecting the confines of her religious upbringing, and it hurts. "I feel like I've lost everything," she confessed. "I don't know who I am."

A mother called. "What do I do?" she asked. "My daughter is seeing a guy who was raised in the church, but doesn't buy it now, so my daughter's questioning, too...maybe not the existence of *God*, but the truth and value of religion and church."

My passionate night visitor is rare. Disinterested adult children are common. Both often share a desire to teach common-sense values to their kids, but won't put up with the baggage common to most churches.

So who is Jesus today, and does he matter to them? I tell parents that until 1) their kids experience some sort of difficulty



and 2) they think church might have something helpful to offer their situation, not much will draw their kids back. You see, most 15-40-year-old Americans who've had anything to do with church have experienced it as a narrow-minded, pearly-gated community that preaches a God much smaller than their high school science classes and who has little to do with real life.

But from Abram on, God has chosen and called ordinary people to put living feet on faith and teach it to our kids—blessed to be a blessing, they say. We're called to live our real lives in the presence of the Holy and share that life-giving relationship with every nation of the earth—starting with our kids.

No guilt trips here. No dire predictions about the death of the church. Faith won't die...and neither will Faith (LC), at least not for a while. At the same time, God confronts in these stories about Jesus: Who Do YOU Say That I Am? What do YOU say and do about Jesus with your kids, grandkids, nieces, nephews, and neighbors?

How about we take John 3:16, what Luther called the Gospel in a nutshell, and unpack it so maybe we have an answer ready when we want it:

- **God so loved...** We're just gonna assume God for starters: a Creator, still present. Now, from Genesis to Jesus, God gives and loves and commands and weeps and threatens to give up on his people, but sticks around, living into his name: "The Lord of compassion and mercy, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love"(Ex. 43:6). The more often I read the Bible cover to cover, the more clearly I see the love of God in a dark world. God forgives the wrongs, rebellion, and sin of all who return to him. God lifts up the poor, strengthens the weak. That's the love of God for...
- **The world...** In John's Gospel, the world or *kosmos* is all that God creates, including people. But the world is dark, blind, suffering, opposed to God, misunderstanding God's message and ways. So...
- That God gave... No strings attached, to good and bad...God just gives...

- **His only Son**... People have a hard time with 'only son'. In Bible-speak, it means Jesus was *uniquely united*, 'one' like nobody else with the God he calls Father. They were like this (fingers crossed). And Jesus prays in John 17 that we'd share that kind of unity with God and others. It's why he comes—because to know God is eternal life (17:3). Sure, Jesus' unity could have included DNA. Many believe it did. Still, St. Peter's NOT at the pearly gates checking doctrine on this point. What matters is...
- That everyone who believes in him should not perish... "Believes in" is also a tough phrase. To believe God exists isn't enough. The book of James says demons believe God exists—so they're afraid. John's Gospel invites a different belief. When a basketball coach believes in a player, the coach knows that player's capabilities and puts that player in the game to do her thing, trusting she'll get the job done. When a player believes in her coach, she goes into the game knowing she's the one for the pass, the shot, the block, the play. When military personnel believe in their leader, they trust him with their lives and follow the riskiest orders.

That's how John wants us to believe in Jesus. *I believe* that if I do what Jesus says, he'll get me where I most truly want to go. Jesus is my coach, my sergeant. I don't understand much, but I believe in Jesus. It's enough.

- And I see that whoever believes in him **should not perish**... Now until the earth is no more, we'll be dying. But there are other kinds of perishing. Living half a life; letting others control our behavior or feelings; plodding through boredom, betrayal, bitterness, lies, anger, or fear; giving in to safety, comfort, or apathy instead of doing the right thing for us and others, instead GOING when God says go even though it might cost us.
- God doesn't want *anybody* to perish, **but have everlasting life**. The Greek word for physical life would by *psyche*. John uses *zoe*, which means heart, soul, mind, body, whole-person life. This is the kind of life powered by the Breath or Spirit of God Jesus spoke of in such confusing ways in John, chapter 3. Honestly, I think Jesus was trying to tick off the religious pro and make him think: Nicodemus, there's MORE out there than just following the rules! There's there is LOVE to be LIVED that means healing, feeding, crossing lines, giving till it hurts, challenging the system in dangerous ways. That kind of with-God life just might bless nations—it's REALLY LIVING that endures even if you crash and burn.

I can say in Jesus I meet a God I can believe in. When Jesus says God loves me, I believe him. When Jesus says, "Go," at least *sometimes* I believe in him and in myself and I go—to find myself and others blessed.

Friends of Faith, I challenge you: consider what it means for you to believe in Jesus, how he keeps you from perishing, who he calls you to be, what you can do and say for others.

Look around. Do you have family, friends, or acquaintances who don't much know or care for God and church? Are they **perishing** *now* or missing the durable, deeply joy-filled, blessing-the-nations life God has in mind? Blessings that they might, in some dusty corner of their life, be longing for?

For that matter, are you? Am I? In prayer on Wednesday, I heard God loves me no matter what. God invited me never to condemn myself or anybody else. It felt like God said to get up and go and really live—and maybe engage with some young adults. I'm a good spiritual conversation partner, and I long for an evening rooftop with awesome seekers!

Friends, what do you hear from God today? And who do YOU say that he is?



The Greatest Story Holy Week at Faith 2014

Palm Sunday, April 13, 9:30am. Kids parade with palms (meet in the fellowship hall before worship) and sing for the coming king. **Easter Egg Hunt** at Sapphire Lutheran Homes leaves at 11:00am.

Every Tribe and Nation, Community Palm Sunday Service, 6pm, Cornerstone Bible Church (Fairgrounds Rd). Experience the palms and the passion with Hamilton's family of faith. (See page 11)

Maundy Thursday Family Passover, April 17th, 6:00pm, FLC. Relive Jesus' Last Supper and the Church's first Communion. We'll share a traditional Jewish Passover meal, including kid-friendly teaching around the symbols of Passover and their connections to the Lord's Supper. This experience completes First Communion Instruction for 4th-5th graders.

Good Friday, April 18th

- Liturgical Good Friday worship. Noon, Saint Paul's Episcopal.
- **"Who Do You Say That I Am?"** Choral Cantata, 7pm, Faith Lutheran Church. (See page 10)

Easter Sunday, April 20.

- **FESTIVAL WORSHIP at 8:00 & 10:30am.** Celebrate new life—eternal life! Choir, the best hymns of the year, and the best sermon PB can deliver. Invite your friends and neighbors! No Sunday School, but plenty of...
- **BREAKFAST, 9:15.** Bring the whole family. Freewill offering supports FLC college scholarships. Served by Faith's kids and scholarship recipients.





Communion Instruction Sunday Night, April 6, 6-7:30

First Communion on Maundy Thursday, April 17, 7:00pm

Fourth through eighth graders and their parents join up to learn about Jesus' Meal. Whether you're learning for the first time or reviewing and growing deeper, this course is a GREAT experience! It's fun and highly interactive, ending with a traditional Passover Seder (the "first last supper") on April 17. RSVP to Pastor Brenda.

Helping Adolescents Cope with Loss

April 10, 12-3pm Marcus Daly Hospital, Room B Lunch provided, Pre-register if possible

LIVE via Streaming Video Webcast and discussion. Questions can be submitted on line during program

Focuses exclusively on the issues that adolescents face as they cope with loss. See full program details at <u>www.hospicefoundation.org</u>

To register or for more information: Doug Peterson, Hospice Chaplain (406)363-6503 <u>dpeterson@mdmh.org</u>



WOW!!! Confirmation Sunday is May 4

Enjoy your soup suppers, folks! And turn in 3 presentation notes out of the 5 "Faith Matters" sessions. Confirmation CLASSES are all done for the year. Yay!!! 8th Graders will be talking to Pastor Brenda from now through Easter about their final presentations, given to our congregation (yes, really!), on Confirmation Sunday, May 4.

The Project: 1 Peter 3:15 says "always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have." If a friend or classmate asked why you are a Christian, what would you say? Write your answer in "elevator speech" form: 100 words or less for the congregation on Confirmation Sunday. (Don't worry—I'll help you with it in your interviews!)

The Planning: For 8th Grade Confirmation, Sunday, April 27, 11:00am.

Everybody come to the sanctuary and plan for cake and flowers, pictures, and all the rest.

The Practice: Wednesday, May 1, 6:30pm. We'll run through your presentations and make sure everybody's comfortable.

Always Being Made New:

The Campaign for the ELCA

Approved by the 2013 ELCA Churchwide Assembly in Pittsburgh, this fiveyear, nearly \$200 million campaign will:

- Increase this church's capacity to support congregational renewal and the planting of new congregations
- Form and support new lay, ordained and global leaders for mission
- Encourage and form lay youth and young adult leaders
- Support this church's disability ministry
- Bolster our commitment to walk with global companion churches in shared witness
- Expand our efforts to address poverty and hunger

While the campaign was approved in the 25th anniversary year of the forming of the ELCA, this also is our moment to look toward the next 25 years and boldly respond to the needs of God's creation with a living, daring confidence in God's grace. *Always Being Made New: The Campaign for the ELCA* — the first of its size and scope in the history of this church — gives each of us the opportunity to make a transformational impact on the ministries of our church. Together, as 4 million members of the ELCA in nearly 10,000 congregations and 65 synods, we are one church with a call to do God's work throughout the world.

Through this campaign, we can expand our mission capacity and achieve things on a scale and scope that we could never do alone. Through this campaign, we can do more. Together, we are *called* to do more, and in responding to this call, we will continue to live out God's promise of always being made new, and to use our hands — and all that we have been given — to do God's work.

- See more at: http://www.elca.org/Our-Work/Campaign-for-the-ELCA#sthash.Zi3MAcFC.dpuf





Montana Synod House Project

It's time for the Montana Synod (our denominational headquarters in Great Falls) to build a new home! A capital fund drive is just beginning to fund a new office building—a hospitable, green, tech-friendly home for our Bishop and staff as well as the meetings and work of our people and neighbors.

We're seeking a contact at Faith to help move their efforts (as well as the ELCA's) along. Read on! Might you be interested in championing this cause? Pastor Brenda

From Bishop Crist's Epiphany 2014 letter to Montana's congregations:

Our current building, constructed in the early 1970's, served us well for decades. But as many who have visited us have noted, it is no longer adequate for the present, let alone the future. As Pr. Cliff Gronneberg wrote: "I was glad to hear that a decision has been made to proceed with the plans for a new synod office building. I am quite confident that there is enough support in the congregations to raise the necessary funds."

We are calling our project the Synod House, because we want it to reflect the welcoming we associate with a home, not an office. In the next weeks and months as we roll out the campaign, we invite you to consider prayerfully how you will respond to the invitation to participate.

Aware that it is possible to become distracted with bricks and mortar, we are [also] designing our campaign so that a tithe goes to the Montana Synod's Mission Venture Capital Fund. The MVCF offers grants to congregations and ministries of the Synod to experiment with innovative mission ventures, reflecting the strategic benchmarks of the Montana Synod. (That is, to 1. Meet the future boldly. 2. Serve the world, especially the poor and those in need. 3. Deepen faith and witness. 4. Promote unity. 5. Strengthen congregations.)

World Malaria Sunday — April 27

World Malaria Day is coming up on April 25, and it's another great opportunity to do something big for the ELCA Malaria Campaign. For the last several years, the ELCA observed World Malaria Day by dedicating an entire week to raising funds and awareness for our companions' programs. To date, we have joined hands in 12 African countries to help fight malaria, and we have seen great progress. This year, let's make it 13.

We are looking to you and members of this church to help take the ELCA Malaria Campaign work into the next country – Namibia. If we raise \$250,000, we'll have



enough to kick-start programming in Namibia, the last country in our rollout plan.

Will you join thousands of ELCA members across this church and millions of people around the world in taking action?

We are already making a difference in 12 countries across Africa. Together, I know we can make it 13.

In Christ's service,

Jessica hipp Hacker

Jessica Nipp Hacker Coordinator, ELCA Malaria Campaign

Faith with and for kids...

LIYF! LIFE IN YOUR FAITH

For God's Sake, Get a LiYF! 🙂

- April 2: 6:15 Soup & "What Happened to Harold?" (Dementia)
- April 9: 6:15 Soup & "Not in Hamilton!" (Human Trafficking)
- April 16: No Youth Group—Holy Week
- April 17: 6:00 Maundy Thursday Family Passover Meal
- April 19: Easter Breakfast Setup, time TBA
- April 20: Easter Sunday Scholarship Breakfast
- April 23: Youth Group, 7-8:30, FLC
- April 27: Bible Camp Sunday/Youth Service
- April 30: Youth Group, 7-8:30, FLC



WOW, People!!! The WRAP.

St. Paul's and Faith kids (14 of them!) and people raised about \$3,500 to feed hungry kids and bring water and development opportunities to communities in Africa, South and Central America, and other areas of the world affected by famine, poverty, and war.

While we were at it, we broke up ice and cleaned storage rooms at the Poverello Center (they NEEDED it!), helped out at Ronald McDonald House, and built bunks and cleaned up at the Union Gospel Mission's recovery house. Folks are doing amazing things to give others a hand!

ROAD TRIP...

To the Life Center Passion Play Saturday, April 12, 3pm

We'll leave from SAINT PAUL'S at 1:00pm so we can save seats while the kids play games. Pizza Hut afterwards. Parents and families welcome. Drivers needed. Contact Alana (info below) to sign up or help out. Year-End Grub and Games Wed. May 7, 6:30-8:30

Grillin' and playing Capture the Flag, a scavenger hunt, or...? AWESOME CRAZINESS!



Easter Breakfast, 9:15 am

Faith's Easter Breakfast is BOTH a great way to enjoy each other on Easter Morning and the main fundraiser for our college scholarship fund. Middle schoolers help with setup and decorations on Saturday (keep an ear out for

times), high school and college students pitch in to cook, serve, and cleanup on Sunday. Details TBD, but plan on a tasty celebration of a brand new day!

> **Contact...** Pastor **Brenda Satrum**, Faith Lutheran, 406.381.1919 (cell). <u>bsatrum@gmail.com</u> or Youth Minister **Alana Cruse**, St. Paul's Episcopal, 406.381.3534 (cell). <u>ashortcruse@gmail.com</u>

FLBC News:

• <u>Mother Daughter Tea:</u> Sunday, April 13th from 2- 4pm at Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp. FLBC's annual Mother-Daughter Tea is a wonderful way for women and girls of all ages and faiths to spend time together in service and fun. The afternoon will include a tea cup craft activity along with a service project, as



The afternoon will include a tea cup craft activity along with a service project, assembling gift bags of baby items for the Hope Pregnancy Center. Cost: \$10/person, RSVP by April 7th to 406-752-6602 or <u>office@flbc.net</u>

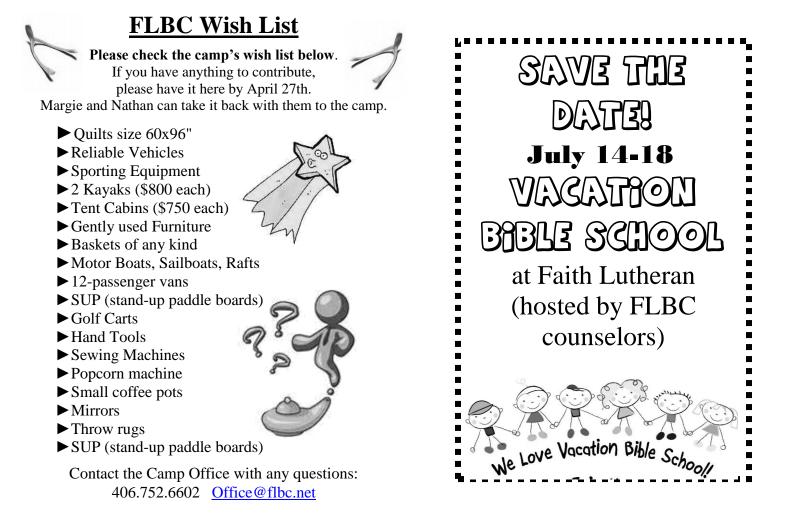
- <u>Mother's Day Brunch:</u> Make plans for brunch by the lake! FLBC is hosting a beautiful Mother's Day brunch on Sunday, May 11th, 10am 2pm. Call today to make your reservations 406-752-6602 / email: <u>office@flbc.net</u>. Suggested donation: \$18/adult, \$10/child ages 5-14, under 5 free. All profits to be donated to Women in Recovery and camperships. RSVP by 5/9.
- May 1st is the deadline to apply to be a Camp Grandparent. There is no charge to attend, and you don't need to have grandchildren of your own to apply, and you don't need to have a grandchild attending Camp. Application forms may be found on-line at <u>www.flatheadlutherancamp.com</u>, or contact Celeste for a hard copy. If you have questions, visit with Margie Fiedler when she comes to Faith for Camp Rally Day. Celeste and Rod Pogachar are going to be camp grandparents the week of June 22-27. Anita and Keith Bell will be camp grandparents the week of Aug. 3-8
- May 24-26 is the Memorial Day Work Retreat. Help spruce up the camp for summer use. Handy (and no-sohandy) men, women, and families are invited to help with projects large and small to improve the camp facility. There is also plenty of time to enjoy the great outdoors and evening campfire, and did I mention that the food at the camp is FABULOUS? THANK YOU Thrivent Financial for your sponsorship again this year. There is no cost to attend, but please RSVP to the office at <u>office@flbc.net</u> or (406) 752-6602 to reserve your spot today.
- Join the FLBC Partners Club! Those individuals who partner with Fathead Bible Camp, committing to give a minimum of \$150 per year! That's only \$12.50 per month; in a calendar year...This money goes to supplement campers and camperships, so that EVERYONE can go to camp. Did you know that the average cost for a child to go to camp is \$700? Partners help us keep the fee way below this amount! Prayerfully consider becoming a Partner today. Give your gift in honor of someone...they will love this gift from you! Please talk to Margie about this when she visits on April 27th. There are Partners Club Brochure on the counter outside of the office, and more information available online at www.flbc.net.
- Are you a Thrivent member? Thrivent Choice dollars make a big impact at FLBC! If you are a Thrivent member, choose FLBC to send your Thrivent Choice Dollars. Don't forget, you must choose your recipient each time since the "reoccurring" option has now ended. THANKS so much! Current Choice Dollars expire March 31st, so be sure to direct them to FLBC today!
- Keep updated on Camp activities! Sign up on the camp's website, <u>www.flbc.net</u> to receive monthly e-newsletters.

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2014 FLBC T-shirt Design Challenge! Share your creativity today!

Do you have an idea for an FLBC t-shirt design? Share your creativity today! We'd love to see it! Email your design to <u>office@flbc.net</u> between now and April 5th, and you might just see it on our apparel this year. It could be a general design, one based on the summer theme "Living in God's Time," or a day camp design. Submissions will also be displayed in the dining hall this summer to share your creativity! Contact the office if you have any additional questions.

Thank you for sharing your ideas! All ages are welcome to participate!



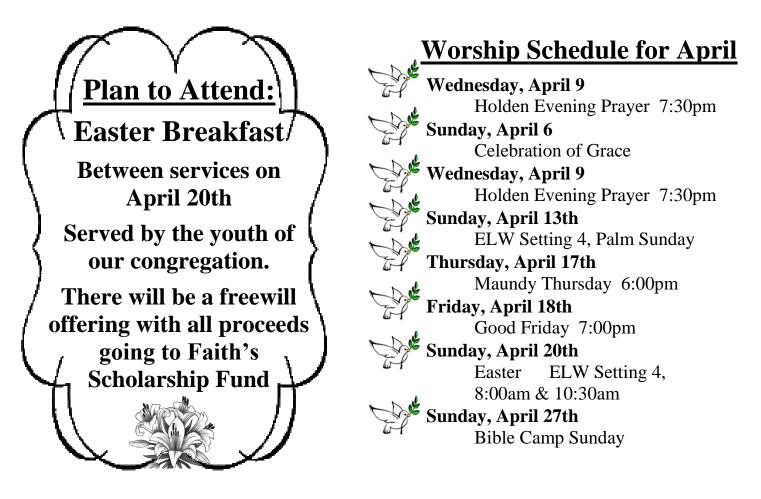
Bible Camp Sunday April 27

• Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp, the best Lutheran outdoor ministry in the West (in your pastor's lessthan-humble opinion), hosts Christ-centered camping for people of all ages with specialties in choir, climbing, sailing, backpacking, whitewater rafting and more.

Brochures are available by the church office, or visit FLBC online at www.fblc.net for a look at some amazing opportunities. And don't let the money scare you! We have generous camperships available! Pick up an application on the counter outside the office.

• On April 27, camp representatives Margie Fiedler and/or Nathan Clements will join us for worship and Sunday School. Our youth will serve in worship as readers, ushers, and greeters, we'll enjoy Bible Camp tunes, and hear about one of the strongest Lutheran camping ministries in the country. If you haven't signed up your kid/s for their FLBC experience yet, this will be the day to do it! Remember, deadline for the early bird discount is Thursday, May 1st.

April 27th is also World Malaria Day. In the past two years, our children have partnered with the camp to raise A LOT of money for the ELCA World Malaria Campaign. A special offering will be taken that Sunday, which will be spilt between FLBC and the ELCA World Malaria Campaign.





Emmaus Worship: Every Wednesday at 7pm at UCC church. (405 University Ave.) All are welcome!

Dinner and Discussion: Sundays, 6-8pm: 532 University Ave., interactive conversations around life and faith.

Emmaus Lunch: <u>Thursday, April 10th</u>: Pastor Jim Hicks, Christian Life Center, Missoula, "Understanding the Pentecostals" Many of us don't know much about Pentecostal Christianity in terms of history, beliefs, traditions or practice. Jim has graciously agreed to join us to share about the Pentecostal tradition. 12noon - 1:30. Lunch will be provided.

The Well: Our mid-20's to mid-30's young adult group: Painting the Stars: a 7-week study of evolution, science and theology: every Saturday at 10am through April 5 (brunch is included!!)

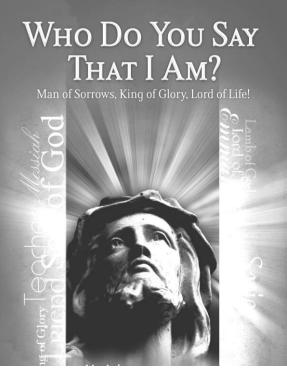
Friends in Need: Emmaus Campus Ministry has been blessed by many gifts and we want to pay it forward. We're looking for maintenance, fix-up, painting, or clean-up projects for elderly, disabled, or low-income homeowners who are connected to our partner churches in any way. Please contact our office Emmaus Campus Ministry <u>emmaus.montana.office@gmail.com</u> or Pastor John.

Year-end BBQ, May 14th 5:30-7:30 at Emmaus : All students, family, church members, faculty, clergy and friends of Emmaus are welcome to join us as we close our school year and honor our graduates.

Emmaus Needs: A nice couch for an upstairs apartment

WHO DO YOU SAY THAT I AM? April 18, 2014 Good Friday Evening Service 7:00pm

As Jesus went on the way with his disciples He asked them, "Who do people say that I am"? ~ Mark 8:27



The question resulted in a wide range of answers, depending on the perspective of the responder. For those who had observed His life-changing impact upon their own lives He was the *Messiah, Emmanuel*. For those who witnessed him healing the sick and raising the dead to life, He was the *miracle worker* whose gifts denied explanation. To the skeptics and those who doubted his authority, He was a *deceiver*, a *charlatan*. On His triumphant entry into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday He was the *King of Glory*. For the faithful few who were present at his crucifixion, He was a *Man of Sorrows*. And for those who witnessed the resurrected Christ, He was the triumphant *Lord of Life!* The question is not restricted to first-century citizens. It is a valid question that demands a response from us today as we reflect on Christ's life and impact on our lives.

This year our <u>Good Friday Service</u> will be held on <u>Friday</u> <u>evening, April 18th at 7:00</u> at Faith Lutheran Church. The service will be presented in "cantata" form, a collection of monologues with accompanying choral arrangements that ask us to ponder the question "Who Do <u>YOU</u> Say That I Am"? It is the prayer of the many talented musicians and choir members who are participating in the arrangement, that the story of grace through the words and

music of this work will encourage you to reaffirm your belief and echo the response of the Roman officer standing near the cross as Jesus died: *"Truly this was God's Son!"*

Please join us for what will be a reflective and inspiring evening of sharing Christ's journey to the cross, along with a triumphant finale to the *Lord of Life* on Easter Sunday.





If you have Choice Dollars from 2013 hanging around, they must be allocated by the end of March. You can do this online or by phone.

~ Linda Beyer

Every Tribe and Nation

A Community Worship Celebration on Palm Sunday April 13, 2014, 6:00-7:30pm Cornerstone Bible Church, Fairgrounds Road

Experience the passion of Jesus for you and every person of every nation! Gather in Christ across church divisions and dogma to worship God and love the world. Bring the family!



Contact Pr. Ed Pomelear to volunteer: epomelear@rmbible.org or 363-3390.

We are delighted to announce that The Choir of the West will tour Washington & Montana this Spring

Thursday, April 10 at 7:30pm St. Paul Lutheran Church Missoula, MT



The 40-voice ensemble will present a varied program entitled "...seeking light and beauty". The tour repertoire features works by Morten Lauridsen, Brian Galante, Henk Badings, Samuel Barber, Robert Kyr & Moses Hogan, among others. PLU faculty artist Oksana Ezhokina joins the choir during the first half of the program and will also perform works for solo piano by Johannes Brahms. Dr. Brian Galante, Acting Director of Choral Activities, conducts the program. For more information about The Choir of the West and our April 2014 tour, please visit our website: <u>www.plu.edu/choir</u>. Help us spread the word about our upcoming tour!

We hope to see you at one of the performances!

Pastor (ex-officio)	Rev. Brenda Satrum	381-1919	brenda@faithlutheranhamilton.org
President/Convener	Scott Southwick	363-4365 cell 360-8694	southwick.scott@gmail.com
Communication	Ann Wright	777-6901	annkatmontana@earthlink.net
Discipleship	Mark Livesay	961-5362	livesay m@msn.com
Fellowship & Hospitality	Jack Davis	369-0775	JADavis1348@q.com
Finance	Darrin Heitmann	363-0492 cell 370-4521	powertrip@cybernet1.com
Outreach	Renee Huddleson	777-7035	reneeahuddleson@msn.com
Property & Grounds	Aubrey Larson	777-2018	alarson1931@msn.com
Worship	Karen Heller	363-4738	mtmama@cybernet1.com

The Stewards of Faith 2013 Church Council

Church Staff Members

Rev. Brenda Satrum	Pastor
Adrienne Patterson	Office Manager
	& Financial Secretary
Jacque VanDenburg	Bookkeeper
Ron Chaney	Custodian
Celeste Pogachar	Music/Worship
	Coordinator
Church Phone:	(406) 363-2964

Care for Military Families

The American Legion supports the families of deployed servicemen and women through care packages to spouses and kids left at home.

Please contact Sharon Klakken of the American Legion (544-8774) or let our office know if you are or if you know of such a family to access this helpful service.

Pray for our Military

Please remember our family and friends that have joined the military & are defending our country each and every day. Keep them in your thoughts and prayers. Especially remember those close to our family here at Faith Lutheran:

- Lt. Colonel Mark Huhtanen, son of Dale and Dianne Huhtanen, serving at Fort Hood, TX
- S/Sgt Anthony Hunter, grandson of Carl Swanson, serving in Texas
- · Mike Hebert, grandson of Don and Shirley McGourty, US Army, serving in Jolliet, IL
- Major Timothy Spaulding, nephew of John Trangmoe, Air Force, Wright-Patterson AFB, OH
- Tech Sgt. Andy Wetzsteon, son of Susan and Lonnie Wetzsteon, serving at Eileson AFB, Fairbanks, AK
- · Eric Joiner, grandson of Bob and Marge Mathison, Army, serving in Afghanistan
- Sgt. Carl J. Selby, grandson of Clara Felton, serving in Hutchinson, KS
- Tony Robertson and Gretchen Robertson, brother and sister-in-law to the Beyers, serving in Alaska
- Dea Ross, niece of Craig Hurlbert & granddaughter of Dea & Bill Hurlbert, Navy, stationed in Afghanistan
- Anna Mitteness, granddaughter of Morrie and Ann Mitteness, Cpl US Marines Corps. Now at the Marine Station in Yuma, AZ, doing communications repair.

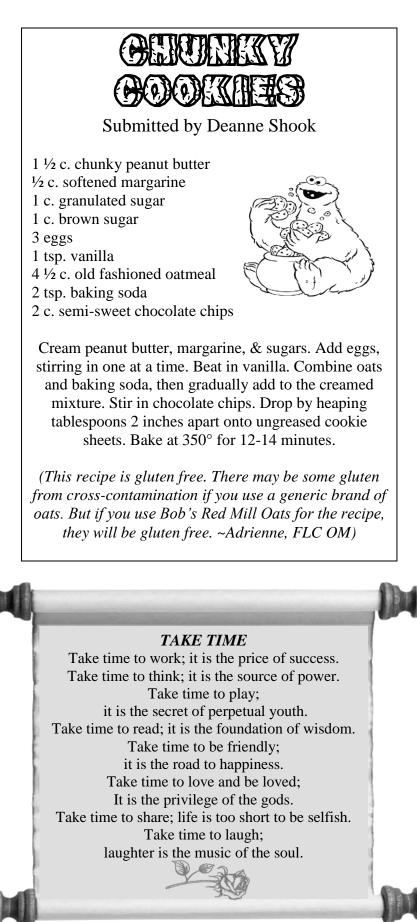


<u>Apríl Bírthdays</u>

Julie Swanson	April 6
Shirley Sorenson	April 8
Katelyn Bitterman	April 9
Kyle Borgen	April 9
Dixie Montgomery	April 9
Sandra Price	April 9
Charles Patterson	April 10
Royal Beyer	April 12
Brooklyn Dowd	April 13
Arden Butt	April 15
Barbara Anderson	April 16
Amanda Basnaw	April 17
Melissa Luebbert	April 17
Bud Holmlund	April 19
Deb Cathey	April 21
Susan Rose	April 21
Thurlowe Scudder	April 21
Ellen Gaulke	April 23
Nicole Lawry	April 23
Emily Heitmann	April 24
Robert Mahon	April 24
Jenny West	April 24
Carol Mitchell	April 26
Ellen Schilke	April 26
Seth Mason	April 29
Kirsten Bull	April 30
Abbey Dunn	April 30
Annil Squart Pag	

April - Sweet Pea





With Gratitude:

To all of the kids who send cards to the homebound people: How thoughtful of you to be so nice. Thank you so much. It brightens the day! ~ Denise Linnell

Dear Sponsors,

Thank you for sponsoring me for the 30-hour famine. It was such a good experience.

One kind of funny thing happened when Hannah and I were packaging pinto beans. While we were working, Brooke said she wanted to suck on a bean because she was so hungry. It was hilarious, but made us more aware of real hunger.



Thank you again, Quoia Anderson Dear Friends,

Thank you for your recent \$13.00 contribution to Lutheran World Relief. You gift to LWR brings help to some of the world's most impoverished families in 35 countries worldwide.

On behalf of everyone at LWR and those we serve, again... many thanks!



In Christ, Jeff Whisenant Interim President and CEO

Thank you to the wonderful FLC members that have allocated their Thrivent Choice Dollars to Faith Lutheran Church! We greatly appreciate your generosity!

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS ARE NOW AVAILABLE

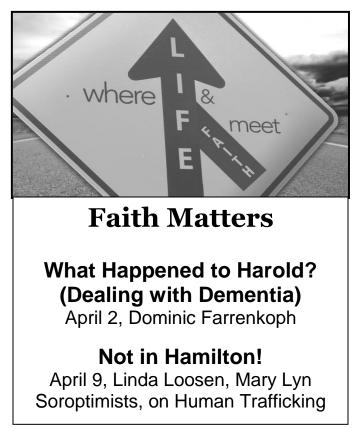
The Faith Lutheran Scholarship Committee will begin accepting applications for the 2014-2015 school year. High School seniors, or anyone enrolled in a secondary educational institution for the fall 2014 term may apply. Applications are available on the counter in the church lobby and are

due back to the church office by Tues., April 15th. If you would like an electronic copy of the application, please contact the FLC office at office@faithlutheranhamilton.org

Donations to Faith's Scholarship Fund are always welcome! They can be left in the church office, included with your regular offering envelope, or received at the Easter Breakfast. If you have any questions, please contact any member of the scholarship committee:

Celeste Pogachar (239-3952) Mark Livesay (381-5172) Jacque VanDenburg (363-5393)

Faith Lutheran Church is a family of God built on love: Worshiping, welcoming, and serving in Christ's name.



One Last Thing:

Printed with permission from the blog, "Kiss the Fiddler", by Heidi Kestrel

On the Death of Hate

Fred Phelps, founder of the Westboro Baptist Church, has died. He and his church are known for their hateful and inflammatory speech and actions, specifically that "God hates fags" and that "fags" will "burn in hell."

Who Do You Say That I Am?

Sundays @ 9:30am & Holy Week (times below)

Resurrection & Life April 6, 5 Lent, John 11



Palm-Passion Sunday April 13

Maundy Thursday Family Seder April 17, 6:00pm

Good Friday Noon Liturgy @ St. Paul's

"Who Do You Say That *I Am?" Cantata April 18, 7:00pm, FLC*

Sunday of the Resurrection April 20, 8:00 & 10:30am Breakfast @ 9:15

The overwhelming response from the gay and lesbian (and bi, trans, queer, and questioning) community has been one of reactive hate. For this, I am so, so sad.

Let us not trade hate for hate. This makes us no better than he. Let God be his judge. I hope this sad and angry man has finally found the "peace that passeth all understanding". I hope God welcomed him with warm and open arms, just as we hope God will welcome each of us.

I understand. I really do. Gays and lesbians, our friends, families, and supports, have been deeply hurt by this man and his followers. And, I am so, so saddened by the overwhelming response of hate this morning. When you are so hurt, it's easy to hate. Please though, try to let yourself breathe through it. Go ahead and feel it. Get angry. Then use that anger to focus your action. Become an agent of change and growth instead of spewing hateful sentiment. Please...

Let this be the death of this hate.

Faith Lutheran Church 171 Lewis Lane Hamilton, MT 59840 office@faithlutheranhamilton.org

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Dates To Remember

- **†** 4/2 Soup Supper & "What Happened to Harold?" Presentation
- **†** 4/6 Outdoor Ministry, Confirm. Planning (11am), & Communion Instr. (6pm)
- **+** 4/9 Soup Supper & "Not in Hamilton!" Presentation
- **†** 4/12 Youth to Passion Play (3pm showing; meet at FLC at 1pm)
- **†** 4/13 Palm Sunday, Easter Egg Hunt, Community. Meal Prep,
- **†** 4/14 FLC serves Community Meal (5:30pm)
- **+** 4/15 **Faith Herald Deadline!!**
- **†** 4/17 Maundy Thursday Passover Seder & Communion (6pm)
- **†** 4/18 *FLC Office Closed*, Good Friday Liturgy @ St. Paul's (12noon), Good Friday Cantata (7pm)
- **†** 4/20 *Happy Easter!* Worship (8am & 10:30am), Breakfast (9:15am)
- **†** 4/24 Great Big Folding Party (10am)
- **†** 4/27 Bible Camp Sunday, Sapphire Worship (6:15pm)
- **+** 4/30 8th Grade Confirmation Practice (6:30pm)
- **+** 5/1 **Early Bird Discount Deadline for Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp**