

September 2014

FAITH HERALD

Faith Lutheran Church
171 Lewis Lane
Hamilton, MT 59840
406-363-2964



www.faithlutheranhamilton.org

Office Hours:
Monday – Friday
9:00am–1:00pm

office@faithlutheranhamilton.org



O Come, All You Faithful!!!

September 14: Rally Day & Back 2 Church Sunday

Celebrate the fall with your Faith Family! Gather for worship for young and old (9:30), kick off our childrens' ministry year with story, song, and Sunday School registration (10:45), clean up the home place (11:00 till noon. Wear your grubbies to church if you want/plan to get dirty!), grab a bite (12:00), and just generally enjoy being with God and each other (all morning!).

Outside work and tool list:

- Clean parking lot (flat shovels, brooms, wheel barrows)
- Trim Trees (shears, pickups/trailers for branches)
- Repair/Remove tree bases (?)
- Spray Fence Line (sprayer, Roundup—we do this last!)
- Sweep and Straighten (brooms, and ?)
- Enjoy each other (smiles, jokes, and lottsa love!)

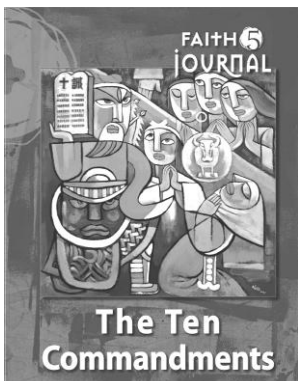


Confirmation 2014-2015: Head to the Heart Confirmation Ministry

Confirmation Kickoff: 6:30-8pm, Wed., Sept. 10
Parent/Guide Training: 6:30-8pm, Wed., Sept. 17



FAITH
INKUBATORS



Faith Lutheran's middle school ministry is awesome! Our 6th-8th graders and families enjoy Lutheran Christian basics grown in our kids through interactive games, media, conversation, and good group fun. This fall we add the resources of Faith Inkubators' H2H curriculum: cool journals that encourage family faith formation via the H2H Ten Commandments course.

Learn how to better support your kid and hold your home together on September 10 & 17, then we'll kick off the year on the 24th. Grub and Games comes up quick on October 1.

Kids! Invite your friends to Wednesdays at Faith!

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

Summer Highs, Fall Hopes

“Don’t cry for what is over. Smile for what has happened.”

~ 42-year-old cyclist, Jens Voight, facing his last Tour de France before retiring (thanks, Ross, for the great quote!).



What are your highs of the summer? Remember and celebrate again before they fade! At Faith Lutheran...

Twelve of us adventured to **Nicaragua**, braved rain and shine, and met and ministered among the villages around San Ramón. We saw our daughters at their very best—working hard and caring for every person they met. Way to go, Lauren, Hannah, Sydnee, & Madison!!! Way to go, moms Brooke, Christy, and Ali! The folks at Corner of Love cared for us every step of the way—we spent the days working hard and returned each night to a comfy bed and terrific food. Let Pastor Brenda know if you’re interested in serving in Nicaragua someday soon. Medical/ dental missions and construction work area always underway. Pics on p. 3.



Faith Lutheran flipped burgers and dogs and sweetened up the **Community worship and picnic** with skill and panache! Thanks to Heitmanns and Grothos and all who brought sweet goodies.

We held my FAVORITE **Vacation Bible School** ever in mid-July, hosting about 70 kids with dozens of volunteers, tons of great food, and four AWESOME FLBC counselors. Wednesday’s Como Lake picnic for made a real splash with everybody thanks to the Grotbo motorboat. Counselor Matt was my special hero: he noticed and cared for one of our special kiddos, and turned a hard situation into a wild success. Many others did just the same. I’m still deeply, deeply thankful and impressed.

AND as always **Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp** treated your kids oh, so well! Our area sent more than 25 kids to camp this year, and I joined a bunch of them August 3-8 for a fantastic week.

Like you, I’m still catching my breath, but WOW, what a great summer it’s been! Looking back at where I’ve been and what God’s done, fills my heart. I hope it fills yours!

This Fall we’ll celebrate our kids at kick off Sunday School on September 4, then Animate our Faith (see pages 4-5) beginning September 21.

~Pastor Brenda

God be with our college students as they head back to their studies this fall!



Kyle Borgen (U of M)

Katie Exner (MSU)

Maddison Duchshere (Western WA)

Lauren Lawry (North Idaho College)



Seth Mason (UM Western)

Nichole Mitchell (U of M)

& Ben Peterson (U of M)

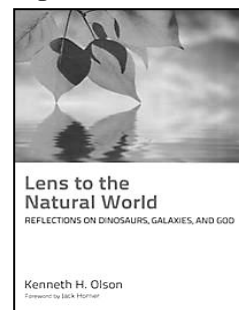


Montana Western Bulldogs

“Montana Synod Reads” Book Selection Chosen

At the Synod Assembly this year, Bishop Crist suggested that we do a "Montana Synod Reads." The book that she suggested that we all read is written by one of our own, Pastor Kenneth Olson. [Lens to the Natural World: Reflections on Dinosaurs, Galaxies and God](#), is a book about science and faith.

Its author is both a pastor and a research associate in paleontology at the Museum of the Rockies at MSU in Bozeman. The book addresses geology and paleontology, creation and evolution. It is a deeply thoughtful book full of insight. It would make an excellent study book for adults and teens, for women's groups and men's groups. Interested congregations could band together and invite Pr. Olson to come and speak as well. The book is published by Wipf and Stock and includes a forward by Jack Horner.



You may contact Pr. Ken Olson directly, krolson@midrivers.com, to purchase the book for \$23.00, which includes shipping.

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Nicaragua Memories...



Clockwise from top left: The June 2014 Corner of Love Team (Hannah Peterson, Jenn Dunn, Linda Beyer, Susan Wetzsteon, Lauren Kimzey, Abbey Dunn, Madison Murray, Brooke Kimzey, Pastor Brenda, Ali Murray, Sydnee McClendon, Christi Skelton. Lauren hands out “balloons.” Nelson Amador sees a young patient. Susan, Brooke, & Linda run the pharmacy. Hannah gives Katie Bosio’s running shoes a new owner.

Keep eyes and ears open for a Nicaragua Memories Sunday!



Pastor John Lund: john.lund@umontana.edu
396-4974, www.ecm.org

- **Emmaus Worship:** Wednesday nights at 7pm at University Congregational Church (405 Univ. Ave.) All are welcome. Starts Sept. 3rd
- **Engaging our Faith:** dinner, discussions and activities around the things that matter. Sunday nights at Emmaus House from 6-8pm: for all students and young adults. 532 University Ave. Starts Aug. 31.
- **Blackfoot River Floating Retreat:** Fri-Sun., Sept. 19-21: Two night camping at River Bend and one long float: for all UM students and other young adults. Cost is \$20.
- **Friends in Need:** We are starting up with our Friends in Need program to work on renovation and fix-up projects for low-income homeowners. We are looking for community volunteers as well as projects for the fall. Contact Keenan Weatherford (keenan.weatherford1@gmail.com).
- **Donations Needed: Emmaus Campus Ministry Oktoberfest Fundraiser: Friday, October 24th** at the Home Arts BLDG, Fairgrounds. Evening will include great food, people, live music, both silent and live auctions, and much fun. We are now seeking donations for live and silent auction items.

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animate

by Augsburg Fortress

FAITH

September – October 2014
FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH



Ready for a fresh look at faith? *Animated* conversations with friends and family? This fall, Faith Lutheran offers the ELCA's best new learning experience, **animate: FAITH**.

Ever wish you could talk with your kids, grandkids, or neighbors about your faith in ways that didn't scare them away or turn them off? *animate:FAITH* gives us practice thinking and talking naturally, positively, and comfortably about some spiritual biggies:

- 1) GOD: Faith is a Quest, Brian McLaren
- 2) RELIGION: Spirituality Is Not Enough, Lillian Daniel
- 3) JESUS: The Revolution of Love, Mark Scandrette
- 4) SALVATION: Abundant Life Now, Shane Hips
- 5) CROSS: Where God Is, Nadia Bolz-Weber
- 6) BIBLE: A Book Like No Other, Lauren Winner
- 7) CHURCH: An Imperfect Family, Bruce Reyes-Chow



"These sessions aren't meant to be lessons. They aren't meant to provide answers. They aren't meant to fit neatly into seven weeks and then be forgotten. No, these sessions are designed to raise questions. To flip established answers and assumptions upside down, to stick in the heads of participants for months and even years to come." (Facilitator's Guide)

Faith will focus on these topics in worship beginning September 22, followed by a large group DVD and table groups over coffee and refreshments in the Fellowship Hall. Not able to join us after church? We're looking for several homes and facilitators to host weekly small groups as well. Materials are simple to use and lead—no expertise required! About 1 ½ hours is plenty of time per session.

Hope to see you SOON!

~Pastor Brenda & the FLC Council

**NATIONAL
BACK TO
CHURCH
SUNDAY**

September 14, 2014

Invite a friend to Church...

- ✓ *Who do you know who could use a lift?*
- ✓ *Worship @ 9:30*
- ✓ **COMFY** pews!
- ✓ *Kid-friendly worship*
- ✓ *Friendly faces, and warm greetings*
- ✓ *Uplifting music*
- ✓ *Best cookies and coffee in town!*
- ✓ *Sunday School @ 10:45 or so*

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September 21: "God: Faith Is a Quest"

"...Who exactly is this God we worship? Is God a mighty fortress, solid and unchanging? Is God a mystical, unknowable force that floats around us like a vapor? How can we speak of faith if we can't even speak of God with any certainty? How can we chart a course through the often-murky waters of Christian tradition and find our way to God?"

September 28: "Religion: Spirituality Is Not Enough"

"What does it mean to be spiritual? Is it the same as being religious? ...Consider how the seeds of faith take root and thrive. What role does organized religion play in helping—or hindering—growth? In this age of religious pluralism, is it possible or even desirable to stick with our age-old traditions?"

October 5: "Jesus: The Revolution of Love"

"What if our churches became places where we practiced being like Jesus? What if we were serious about joining in with Jesus' revolution of love?" What if a Christian community functioned like a martial arts studio, a *dojo*—gathered to practice taking the kind of social and economic risks our master took, learning his values, his disciplines, his moves in the world?

Coming Up:

October 12, "Salvation: Abundant Life Now." October 19, "Cross: Where God Is." October 26, "Bible: A Book Like No Other." November 2, "Church: An Imperfect Family."


FLC Awards 14 FLBC Camperships:

This summer 25 of our youth and 5 adults attended Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp. Fourteen of those campers received matching camperships. Nearly \$2450 in matching funds was awarded. By all accounts, these kids had awesome spiritual adventures on the shores of Flathead Lake. Any of them would be delighted to tell you about it; just ask one! Thanks for your generosity, Faith Lutheran Church!



Acolytes To Be Recognized at Worship on Sept. 7th

Acolytes, please plan on attending worship on September 8th, when your service to our church will be recognized. After church, please stay for a refresher of your duties, and an "Aco-light" lunch! Not yet an acolyte? If you are in 3rd grade or older and wish to become an acolyte, please see Celeste Pogachar.



"...these sessions are designed to raise questions. To flip established answers and assumptions upside down, to stick in the heads of participants for months and even years to come."

-Facilitator's Guide

YOUTH NEWS

September Startup!

- Sept. 14** Rally Sunday, What's up with Sunday School?
- Sept. 17** Youth Group, 7-8:30pm
Munch on Hannah's cookies, catch up, plan our year
- Sept. 21** Youth Sunday
Check out *Animate: FAITH* over Sunday brunch (YUM!)
- Sept. 24** Youth Group, 7-8:30pm. Alana leads (YAY!)
- Sept. 28** SS ELCA Youth Gathering Info, Pr. Jason Asselstine, Asst. to the Bishop, MT Synod
- Oct. 1** Grub & Games, 6:30-8:30pm. PIZZA!!! Hannah, Aidan, & Sydnee lead. **Bring friends!**



ELCA YOUTH GATHERING

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA
JULY 15-19, 2015 DETROIT, MICHIGAN

The ELCA's HS youth gather every three years to worship, learn, and serve: 30,000 strong.

Faith's kids have the opportunity to make memories, friends, and faith changes for a lifetime! Costs run about \$1500 per person, and fundraising can help. Folks from Missoula and Western Montana are already planning to go.

Pastor Jason Asselstine from our Montana office will be with us Sunday, September 28, with all kinds of info and encouragement. Parents and kids, please come to Sunday School and see what it's all about! Or see www.elca.org/YouthGathering for more information. We can raise the \$\$\$ to do this!

Registration opens in mid-October, so we'll need to form our plans SOON!

In PB's Dreams: This gathering could be part of a three-year rotation including domestic or international mission trips AND a Hamilton/Corvallis tailored Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp off-site adventures. (for example: Nicaragua in 2014, ELCA Gathering in 2015, FLBC sailing/rafting 2016, Vancouver BC or Nicaragua mission 2017...)

IDEAS??? LET'S HEAR 'EM!!!

Contact... Pastor Brenda Satrum, Faith Lutheran, 406.381.1919
(cell). bsatrum@gmail.com

or Youth Minister Alana Cruse, St. Paul's Episcopal,
406.381.3534 (cell). ashortcruse@gmail.com



"...designed to raise questions. To flip established answers and assumptions upside down, to stick in the heads of participants for months and even years to come."
-Facilitator's Guide

September Worship Schedule:

Sept. 7 Celebration of Grace
Sept. 14 Now the Feast
(Back to Church Sunday & Rally Day)

Sept. 21 Praise Service
Sept. 28 Now the Feast and Celebration

Guest Preacher: Pastor Jason Asselstine, Assistant to Bishop of the MT Synod
(See page 8 for an introduction to Pastor Jason Asselstine)



ELCA Malaria Campaign Milestone Moment



Remember the quarters in M & M tubes that our youth started collecting more than a year ago? Well, every single quarter counts!

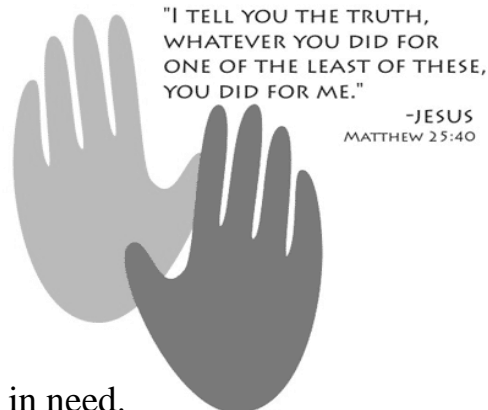
Thanks to you, we've hit another milestone! The ELCA Malaria Campaign has raised more than \$12 million so far-which means we're 80% of the way to our \$15 million goal. As of June 2, The Montana Synod has raised \$137,800.15, and we at Faith collected more than \$700 of that amount.

The ELCA's goal was to eradicate malaria by the year 2015 and we are well on our way! If you would like to contribute to getting us even closer to that goal, please designate your offering to "ELCA Malaria Fund".

From the Emergency Assistance Committee:

This has been a very busy summer for your Emergency Assistance Committee. As of August 19 there have been 17 assists since the first of June. There were 4 assists in June, 11 assists in July and as of Aug. 19 there have been 2 assists. There have been 7 rent assists, 8 power assists, 1 water bill assist and 1 purchase of wheelchair batteries. This brings the total assists so far this year to 38. Comparing the totals for the entire year of 2008 through 2013 we are on track to set a new record.

<u>Year</u>	<u>Total</u>
2008	38
2009	43
2010	15
2011	38
2012	35
2013	38
2014 SO FAR	38



Thank you, Family of Faith, for caring for your neighbors in need.
I'm sure that God is smiling down on all of you. ~ Nancy Osborn

A huge THANK YOU to Charley Larson for his work with the “Garden of Eatin’”!



Every Sunday, a table in the lobby has been loaded up with fresh produce thanks to his organization and donations.

From the bottom of our happy bellies, thank you Charley—and everyone—that donates produce and goods to the “Garden of Eatin’” Table.

It is much appreciated! The “Garden of Eatin’” is also looking for a new leader to run the table on Sunday mornings.

If you are interested, please talk to Charley.

The Lone Ranger Does Not Ride Again...

...But I saw on television... I got a text from her and it said... well on Facebook there... and Jesus said... Does this sound familiar? The media tells us one thing, my friends another, and the church another. What is the truth? Where do I go to find direction? Am I truly forgiven, especially since I have the same thoughts over and over again: forgiven by whom, for what, to be what, to do what?

Is this you? At one time or another we are all confronted with these or similar questions. And by nature we are looking for a silver bullet that will solve these problems and eliminate the questions. But I am afraid history continually shows how much mankind fails to learn from the past and how much mankind consistently repeats itself, plus life experiences tell us that there seems to be no simple answer.

Life does not have to be stumbling from one situation to another. There is a way. The way is tied up in the word “relationships”. If you are interested in exploring the importance of relationships, call the church or leave a note on a response card and indicate your interest. No names please, just the number of individuals is needed. If there is enough interest, more information will appear in future issues of the Faith Herald.



FLC Welcomes Pastor Jason Asselstine Sept. 28th



Pastor Asselstine is the newest member of the Montana Synod Staff and has served as Associate Pastor to congregations in Northwestern Minnesota (ya-sure-youbettcha), and Choteau, Montana. He grew up on a cattle ranch in California, attended Northern Arizona University in Flagstaff, and Trinity Lutheran Seminary in Columbus, Ohio.

Jason is married to Jennifer and together they have two children, Daniel (7th grade) and Taylor (4th grade). As a family they enjoy traveling and exploring new places and meeting new people. They live in Choteau, where they are involved in many community and social activities through church and 4H.

Jason is a life-long Lutheran and an avid archer and outdoorsman. He is passionate about his faith and loves telling people about the love of God in Jesus. He enjoys using words like “intentional”, “authentic”, and “beautiful”, and is a surprising mix of pastor, hunting guide, carpenter and philosopher. He loves people and the Church, and can’t wait to see what heaven is like.

“I am excited about this new opportunity to serve the people of Montana and northern Wyoming. The Congregations of the Montana Synod are filled with gracious people who desire to worship God, serve their neighbor and to be loved by a Pastor that shares God Word and Sacraments and is present in the holy times of life. I am blest to be able to have a small part in the process of supporting pastors and congregations as we seek to do God’s work with our hands.”

Faith Lutheran is excited & blest to welcome Pr. Jason!

From your Steward of Discipleship

The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ.

Ephesians 4:11-12

Greetings family of Faith Lutheran Church, as your steward of discipleship, I wanted to highlight some of the stimulating opportunities for involvement that we offer around learning and youth ministry here at Faith. I invite you to take a look at these opportunities and consider which areas you might want to get involved in. Involvement has its rewards. Blessings and Peace. ~Mark Livesay

Adult Programs

- Animate: Faith
 - A seven-session adult faith formation course using video, book and group discussion. Starting September 22nd, Sunday mornings and midweek.
 - Leaders: Pastor Brenda, Celeste Pogachar, & others
- I and Thou by Martin Buber
 - A book concerned with the aspect of relationships. Meeting on Sunday mornings at 11am, starting September 7th
 - Leader: Thurlowe Scudder

Youth Programs

Youth Council: Mark Livesay, Gwen Lawry, Jane Mason, Colter Mason, Emily Heitmann, Hannah Peterson, Pastor Brenda

- Youth Sunday
 - Youth have a strong presence in worship, as ushers, worship leaders, musicians to name a few.
 - Leaders: Jane Mason and Gwen Lawry
- Sunday School
 - The Sunday school program is for children kindergarten through Middle School. During the school year Sunday School meets from 11 am to 11:45 am
 - Sunday School Superintendent: Mark Livesay
- Vacation Bible School
 - A week long summer program for Preschool and School age kids. Counselors from the FLBC assist with the program.
 - Leaders: Celeste Pogachar, Linda Beyer, and Helen Volden
- Middle School / Confirmation
 - Leaders: Pastor Brenda
- High School
 - Meets Wednesday evenings for a variety of fellowship, and Christian education events.
 - Leaders: Pastor Brenda and Alana Cruse
- Scholarship Program
 - Scholarships are offered to High School Seniors and college students through an application process
 - Committee Members: Mark Livesay, Celeste Pogachar, Jacque VanDenburg

Family Programs

- Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp (FLBC): Faith Lutheran supports the FLBC, to provide a retreat for adults and children, offering fellowship, worship and Christian education in a nature setting.
 - Contacts: Celeste Pogachar. Brooke Kimzey and Colleen Southwick

Discipleship

Remember what Christ taught and let his words enrich your lives and make you wise.
Colossians 3: 69

Hold the Date

Look forward to these Discipleship Events

September

- September 7- I and Thou study with Thurlowe
- September 14 -Sunday School Registration and teacher introduction
- September 17- Middle School / Confirmation Program Begins
- September 17 -High School Program Begins
- September 21 -Youth Sunday / Backpack ties-kids bring your backpacks
- September 21 - Animate: Faith begins

October

- Sunday School, Youth and Adult Bible Studies continue
- October 12 -Youth Sunday

November

- November 2 -Rehearsal begins for Sunday School Christmas Program
- November 16 -Youth Sunday
- November 30- Thanksgiving Break, No Sunday School

December

- December 14 -Sunday School Christmas Program Presentation
- December 21 through January 4- No Sunday School

Servanthood Volunteer Spotlight

In July, our Vacation Bible School opened our doors to Hamilton and hosted over 70 children. It was a time of music, crafts, learning, and fellowship. A lot of volunteers made our VBS a big success: Celeste Pogachar, Linda Beyer, Helen Volden, Mark and LaDonna Grotbo, Ericka Dowd, Emily Heitmann, Brooke Kimzey, Hannah Peterson, Emmalee Patterson, Dianne Huhtanen, Anita Bell, and Pastor Brenda, and many others. Thank you for making the time and sharing your gifts with our kids.

You have done us a great service to the Hamilton community, so on behalf of all of us at Faith Lutheran, THANK YOU!

~Mark Livesay

Servanthood Immediate Needs

With the fall season upon us we are preparing for Sunday school. We are looking for input from parents and students to provide a more vibrant, meaningful and family centered Sunday school. A letter was sent to families to stimulate some thoughts and discussions along these lines. Please share your thoughts and ideas with Pastor Brenda and Mark Livesay

If you would like to get involved, we have plenty of opportunities, from help in with songs during the opening to crafts in classes to teaching a class or offering to assist a teacher or substitute teach.

Contact: Mark Livesay or Pastor Brenda



Is going to yard and garage sales one of your weekend activities? Can you find good deals? Help out Faith's Operation Christmas Child packing party by looking for Beanie Babies or other small stuff toys that are clean and in good condition for the Shoeboxes.

Donations of such items are greatly appreciated!



Operation Christmas Child

Jesus said, "Let the little children come to Me" (Matthew 19:14) and "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations" (Matthew 28:19). We can help to bring children to Jesus and make them His disciples when we fill a shoebox with gifts of love and the message of Jesus.

Operation Christmas Child (OCC) delivers these shoeboxes in over 140 nations around the world introducing children to God's love through our generosity and the gospel message that is provided with the shoebox. Faith Lutheran has participated in the OCC shoebox program for years. The last 3 years we have had a Packing Party to pack about 100 shoeboxes each year.

Items we still need to fill 100 boxes at the Faith Packing Party in November are:

- Bars of Soap (60 more)
- Toys suitable for boys and girls from ages 2-4, 5-9, and 10-14
- Soft, fuzzy, plush toys and/or dolls
- Coloring books, activity books
- Clothing like T-shirts, simple dresses, shorts, flip flops
- For older kids: sewing kits, tools, flashlights, small board games, cards
- Many more ideas are on a green sheet at church
- Hairbrushes and Combs (boys and girls) (40 more)
- Music makers
- Balls – soccer balls are popular
- Boxes of Crayons (25 more), Colored pencils, markers

If you are a crafty you could make bracelets, necklaces, key chains, cloth shoulder bags to carry things in, pillowcase dresses (patterns on the internet), knit/crochet toys/dolls, - the ideas are endless.

Your donations are greatly appreciated and serve as an act of discipleship that reaches around the world. And, just as important as donations is helping fill the boxes at the Packing Party! Please plan to attend and to help with packing boxes... it's fun and fellowship with a purpose!



Faith Lutheran Bible Camp News:

• Aug. 30 - Sep. 1: Labor Day Family Camp

Labor Day Family camp is a perfect way for families to enjoy the beauty of late-summer on Flathead Lake. Along with great programming and activities of a traditional camp experience, adults will also enjoy engaging sessions with Pastor

Ken Olson, author of the book, "Lens to the Natural World: Reflections on Dinosaurs, Galaxies, and God." Olson served Lutheran congregations for 37 years, and for the last 24 years he has been a Research Associate in Paleontology for the Museum of the Rockies at MSU Bozeman. For cost and registration information, please check out our website at www.flbc.net or call the office at (406) 752-6602.

• FLBC Annual Meeting Announcement and Gathering Pavilion Dedication

Meeting to be held at Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp on Saturday, October 4, 2014. Lunch will be served 12:15-1:00pm with the Annual Meeting to follow at 1:00pm. The Gathering Pavilion Dedication will be at 3:00pm.

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Church Council Meeting Highlights

- **BEST EVER BIBLE SCHOOL**

Over 70 kids participated in Bible School in July, and Pastor Brenda Satrum commented it was the "best ever" VBS she has been involved with. Mark Livesay noted that about 60 percent of the participants were from outside the congregation and about 40 percent local.



- **SAME WORK, SAME PAY**

Following ELCA recommendations, the Council agreed that pay for substitute preachers will be the same whether pastor or lay person. The Council agreed that pay of \$100 plus any mileage should stay the same.

- **WELCOME BACK, RICHARD!**

Richard Castor was hired as Church custodian. He formally held the position and was re-hire following the resignation of Ron Chaney. He is scheduled to work five-ten hours a week.

- **TAX EXEMPTION DENIED**

The property tax exemption on Faith House property has been denied by the Montana Department of Revenue. The impact on the FLC's budget in 2014 is about \$1300.

The exemption was denied based on the "use" of the structure, according to information from Debra Reesman, area manager for the Revenue Dept. Religious exemption is narrowly defined in statute, she said, and is limited to buildings and furnishings that are used for actual religious worship or for residence of the clergy.

The Church Council contended that the exemption should be allowed since all proceeds from the rental unit are specifically ear-marked for the extended mission of the church. The Council adopted a Resolution to that effect and forwarded to the tax officials.

The final decision was made by Linda Sather, of the Property Assessment Division of the Revenue Department in Helena. The tax officials did leave the door open, however. Ms. Reesman noted that "should the use of the property change in the future to meet requirements, please contact this office and we will be happy to assist you with completion of a new application."

~ Submitted by Aubrey Larson, Steward of Building and Property



Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America

News:

Lutheran Campus Ministry staff recently gathered for our National Staff Gathering in Nebraska. It was a wonderful event to celebrate our ministry among students, faculty and staff at colleges and universities across the country on behalf of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

At the closing banquet, **Pastor John Lund was named the recipient of the 2014 Joseph Sittler Award.** Named in honor of this good friend of campus ministry, the award recognizes those who have used the written word to interpret the work of campus ministry to the broader church. Pastor Lund writes 4-5 articles each year for a variety of newspapers and magazines. All of his articles address issues that are important to our contemporary culture, and focus on the intersection between faith and life as viewed by a Lutheran Campus Pastor. An example of John's written material is a recent article entitled "Reimagining Faith Life for Millennials" (Missoulian, 6/7/14).

**Congratulations, Pastor John Lund, recipient
of Lutheran Campus Ministry's 2014 Joseph Sittler Award!
Way to go! We're proud of your work!**

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

Josh Snodgrass

Come enjoy music from one of the Northwest's most gifted Gospel Fingerstyle guitarists as he plays instrumental renditions of popular worship songs, hymns and everything from Blues to Bluegrass.



The Remington Of Sapphire Lutheran Homes

*Tuesday, September 16th 7:00 pm
841 Running Creek Road, Hamilton, MT
406-363-2800
www.joshsnodgrass.com*



2nd & 4th Tuesdays (Sept.-May)
9:15-11:30am

Bitterroot Calvary Chapel
700 N. 4th Street
Hamilton, MT 59840
(406) 363-3431

facebook.com/groups/HamiltonMOPS

Come Join Us!



The following is a post that was recently posted on the Friends of Faith Facebook page. It's printed in this month's Herald with permission by Heidi Kestrel and by numerous requests.

Hi. We - the people of this church community - have a lot of sick and or struggling family right now. Celeste had surgery this past week. Her dad is healing from a stroke and working hard in rehab. Kerry's mom is sick. My mother in law is not at all well. Caregivers are faced with difficult decisions. Marriages are stretched to the limit. I'm not pointing this out to ask for help, really. More to bring to your attention that there are many among us who struggle. You're not alone in the hard times. You have a family here. We have a family here. Don't we? Can we lean on each other? Offer an extra hug if hugs are okay. Take a few extra minutes in prayer for somebody or maybe make a double recipe and deliver dinner to somebody? It doesn't need to be a big thing. I know that for me, it can make a huge difference when somebody asks how I am doing and then can hear me if I'm honest and tell them that I'm having a hard time. Just those few minutes it takes to connect make a really big difference. I know we're all human. We all hurt. We all struggle. We're all in this (life) together. So reach out your hand with me, won't you? To a neighbor, a friend, your husband or wife, a teen, a child, our pastor . . . Let's tell each other what we mean to each other. Let's take those extra few seconds and look into each other's eyes when we greet each other. Let's reach inside and find the courage it takes to meet the other person where they are. Yes, it might be outside of what you find comfortable. That's okay. That is where growth happens. I'll dare. Will you?



KITCHEN TABLE CONVERSATIONS ON THE END OF LIFE

2-part workshop: Tuesday, September 23 & 30
11:30-2:00pm ~ lunch included ~ free of charge

St. Paul Lutheran Church, Everyone is welcome!
Registration by Sept. 18th strongly encouraged but not required, 549-4141. Kathy and Brian Derry, facilitators

The Conversation Project is dedicated to helping people talk about their wishes for end-of-life care. Check out www.theconversationproject.org for more information.



FREE COMMUNITY DINNERS



Starting September 8, 2014 at Cornerstone Bible Church
280 Fairgrounds Road, Hamilton, MT
Mon, Tues, & Thurs evenings, serving 5:30- 6:30 pm
Everyone welcome

Provided by area Churches & Community Groups in cooperation
with Family Shelter of the Bitterroot, Inc.

THANKS ALL AROUND FOR A WILDLY SUCCESSFUL VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL WEEK!

Faith Lutheran Church was the place to be during the week of July 14-18. We had record attendance (74 kiddos ages 3-12), energetic FLBC counselors, loads of great helpers, our favorite camp songs, cool crafts, yummy food, rowdy games and water day. We learned so much about “Living in God’s Time” through worship and bible study. We generously donated supplies to Operation Christmas Child.

BIG THANK YOU’S for:

- Kitchen crew, led by Helen Volden
- Craft Queen Linda Beyer and her assistants Emily and LaDonna
- Preschool wranglers Ericka Dowd and Nancy Osborn (there were 22 of those energetic little critters!)
- Great middle school and high school helpers: Bryce, Allie, Lauren, Quoia, Ani, KaSondra, Emmalee, Hannah, Kimberley, Nicole
- Pastor Brenda and Grotbo family for organizing Como Lake fun for our teenagers
- Adrienne, our newsletter publisher
- Many awesome grown-ups who offered extra eyes and hands wherever they were needed

In addition to being a wonderful blessing for our youth here at Faith, Vacation Bible School is a generous outreach to the greater Hamilton community. 60% of those 74 children who attended VBS are not from Faith Lutheran and many of them have no home church. One parent (not from Faith) of three children remarked to me that her kids attend many local vacation bible schools, and they never miss ours, because Faith’s VBS is “head and shoulders above the rest”!

What a remarkable ministry! Thanks to those of you who loaned an awning, brought a snack, slipped me a little cash, and just said “yes” when I asked.



Congregation of Faith Lutheran Church, your generosity is humbling. Thanks so much for making this special week possible! ~Celeste Pogachar, VBS Superintendent

With Gratitude:

Thank you quilters for the beautiful Mary Engelbreit quilt you gifted me with upon my completion of LPA training (and my birthday!)

It is so soft and warm, plus it matches many things in my house! And thank you, my sweet husband Rod, for organizing coffee hour to honor my achievement!

Celeste



Dear Faith Lutheran,

Thank you all for the support you have given me over my life. It is an honor to be a part of such an amazing faith, with such great people. I'm truly blessed.

Thank you all so much from the bottom of my heart.

Sincerely,
Mathew Turley



Dear Faith Lutheran Church,

Your gift of \$406.50 helps make it possible for all children to attend camp. Thank you for your care and prayers, and being a part of the "great cloud of witnesses" who surround our campers with love!



In Christ's Service,
Margie Fiedler
FLBC Exec. Director

Thank you to the generous people of Faith Lutheran that direct their Thrivent Choice Dollars to FLC!

Throughout the summer, we have received \$228 of Choice Dollars from our awesome members!

Thank you so much!



September Birthdays

<i>Gladys Simonds</i>	<i>September 1</i>
<i>Terri Beyer</i>	<i>September 3</i>
<i>Tanner Hanson</i>	<i>September 3</i>
<i>Vicki White</i>	<i>September 7</i>
<i>Ann Damrow</i>	<i>September 8</i>
<i>Jewell Steele</i>	<i>September 8</i>
<i>Robert Steinhoff</i>	<i>September 12</i>
<i>Mable Pyle</i>	<i>September 13</i>
<i>Barbara Heitmann</i>	<i>September 17</i>
<i>Emma Mitchell</i>	<i>September 18</i>
<i>John Trangmoe</i>	<i>September 18</i>
<i>Eric Larson</i>	<i>September 20</i>
<i>Daniel Li</i>	<i>September 20</i>
<i>Beth Bitterman</i>	<i>September 21</i>
<i>Kathy Owings</i>	<i>September 21</i>
<i>Jack Davis</i>	<i>September 22</i>
<i>Kylie Davis</i>	<i>September 24</i>
<i>Carolyn Larsen</i>	<i>September 25</i>
<i>Jim Owings</i>	<i>September 25</i>
<i>Quinn Larson</i>	<i>September 26</i>
<i>Rylee Auch</i>	<i>September 27</i>
<i>Wanda Huddleson</i>	<i>September 29</i>



Aster

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Dates To Remember

- 9/1 Happy Labor Day! (*Faith Office Closed*)
- 9/7 Community Meal Prep.
- 9/8 Community Meals Resume
- 9/10 Confirmation Kick-Off
- 9/14 Back to Church Sunday, Rally Day
& Work Week Kick-off
- 9/16 Faith Herald Deadline
- 9/16 Josh Snodgrass Concert
- 9/17 Confirmation Parent Mtg.
- 9/21 Animate: Faith Begins
- 9/28 "Gods work. Our hands." Sunday
and Guest Preacher, Jason Asselstine
- 9/30 Faith Herald Folding Party



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