



The Faith Herald

May 2018

*"Get up to a high mountain...
and lift up your voice with strength...
herald of good news!"
Isaiah 40:9*

171 Lewis Lane, Hamilton, MT, 59840

www.faithlutheranhamilton.org

office@faithlutheranhamilton.org

406.363.2964

Visit our office 9a-1p, M-F



A Fond Farewell!

Dear Friends of Faith, how I love you and will miss you!

When I began my work here (on April Fools day!), I began it with a Maundy Thursday invitation to take off our shoes, recognize that all of us stand on humble footing, and love each other “stinky feet and all,” because that’s how Jesus loves us first. My greatest gladness is that those of us who stuck it through those first hard days and those who’ve joined us since have grown in the joy and the ability to do exactly that. We’ve grown more able to see Christ in each other and our neighbors when it’s most unlikely. We’ve loved our neighbors (and sometimes our enemies) as best we could, stinky feet and all. This is a beautiful treasure from God’s own heart. Please receive this gift from God and share at Faith, in Hamilton, and beyond—this grace will multiply and grow beyond what you or I could possibly imagine! (*Matthew 25:14-30 & Ephesians 3:18-21*)

As I finish my time as your pastor, I offer these hopes for your life and work as persons and congregation. Don’t let them limit you (I only see “as in a mirror darkly”!), but let them open and challenge you to do your own thinking and praying with God:

BIG PICTURE

- **I hope you trust your council, each other, and yourselves.** You have a wonderfully smart, competent, and God-filled group of leaders and a great group of young and old congregants. By the help of God, you have all you need for a wonderful future!
- **I hope you keep receiving and sharing the love of God in Christ above all things.** It’s tempting and natural in crisis or transition to focus on structure and control. But four acts of love will carry you toward God, each other, and the world even through the changes ahead: Radical Hospitality, Fear-free Conversations, Genuine Humility, and Real Hope

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

for Real Life. Inside and outside churches, people long to be welcomed as we are, safe to be and say what's on our hearts and minds, surrounded by others humble enough to admit our imperfections, and focused on God's hope in our joys and sorrows. *LET GOD'S LOVE BE YOUR MAIN THING. ALWAYS.*

- **I hope Faith will seek out and welcome uncomfortable pushing and challenges** to what one former Convener claimed as Faith's cardinal rules: "Don't change" and "Don't spend." I've been easy, often bending to pressure not to talk money or push strategic change. Now, I hope you *LIVE INTO YOUR NAME, **FAITH!*** Exercise what Luther called "a living, daring confidence so sure and certain a person would stake their life on it a thousand times." Pray. Try. Fail. Succeed. Laugh. Trust!
- **I hope you loosen the purse strings.** FAITH HAS ALL THE MONEY IT NEEDS to attract the best pastor and keep the best staff. If you spend strategically and give generously, you have a very good chance for wonderful ministry in the present and amazing possibilities for the future. If you keep tightening the belt, expect slow decline.

SPECIFICS:

- **I hope you update the playground.** Young and old alike have dreamed of this. The Scandinavian dinner set money aside for this purpose for years. Bob and Rachel Gerloff would have loved to see it happen. Just do it. Have a little fun!
- **I hope you share the ministry of hospitality.** Keep greeting folks you don't know ("I don't believe we've met! How long have you been attending here?"), and keep sharing "crumpets" and conversation. I dream of more kitchen hosts to share the Hospitality Steward's work load. Lean on Deb to share that "duty and delight"!
- **I hope you keep loving and teaching kids!** From Nancy's "Little Kids" class, to the on-and-off "Middle Kids" coloring, through Confirmation and Sami's High School ministry, Faith has more kids and families involved than almost any other Lutheran church in Montana. Keep and grow these groups! Continue Kids' Talks in worship with sweet love and shameless bribery—you can do as well or better than me! Say yes when LaDonna asks—organization and volunteer support are her tough jobs. And try some new stuff: meals and learning through Workshops on Wednesdays (WOW) are working in other congregations and could be a great family or intergenerational event.
- **I hope you keep and grow our diverse worship menu.** We're ahead of the curve on music and tech in worship, and you can maintain and grow this, though you may well need to pay some musical talent to help out.
- **And update and grow the website.** It's Faith's front door, the first impression, the sign on the highway. Let it reflect your sweet character, strong mission, and competence!

And from my heart, I hope you remember that this is my feeling and commitment toward each and all of you: ***"I thank my God every time I remember you,*** constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. ***I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ... And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight to help you to***

determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.” (From Paul’s letter to his friends in Philippi, 1:3-6 & 9-11)

Love always in Christ, Pastor Brenda

New address: 1130 Fairmount Ave., Shelton, WA 98584

Worship Notes for May



Sunday, May 6: **Celebration of Grace**, Pastor Jason Asselstine

Sunday, May 13: **ELW 3**, Mother’s Day

Sunday, May 20: **ELW 3**, Pentecost, WEAR RED

High School Senior. Recognition, Quilts

Sunday May 27: **ELW 3**, Holy Trinity



National Day of Prayer

Thursday, May 3, 2018, 12:00 to 1:00

Bedford Building, Hamilton

Hosted by the Ravalli County Ministerial Association (RCMA)

Investing in Hope... Transforming our Nation through Prayer!

“Making every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.” Ephesians 4:3.

Call to Worship

Looking for musicians willing to sing a call to worship (a cappella) from the back of the sanctuary on Sunday mornings. I have plenty of resources if you are in need. If you are interested contact Celeste.



A WARM Thanks!

The quilters would like to thank everyone who helped replenish the funds for purchasing the materials (batting, thread, fabric, etc.) we use in our quilting ministry. The month of March fundraising yielded over \$800. This will keep us quilting for the next couple years. THANK YOU!

Thank You and Congratulations

Our Lenten Project of Personal Care Kits for LWR was a huge success. **110 kits** were put together and packed on April 8. I would like to send out a great big THANK YOU to all who helped with the project--from donating items to putting the kits together and packing the kits in boxes. From preparing and serving the lunch to cleaning up. And a big THANK YOU to Thrivent for the Action Team Grant.



CONGRATULATIONS on a job well done! *Nancy Osborn*

Thank You to the members of Faith Lutheran

- 1) For the \$14,900 donation for Mission Support from the Montana Synod.
- 2) For the \$250 donation to help support FLBC and the summer camp ministry.



Camp Rally Day Thanks!

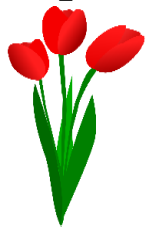
What a joyous morning Worship!! Thanks musicians for leading us in singing your favorite camp songs. And thanks, FLBC Delegates and Partners Club for hosting a yummy breakfast.

With Gratitude

Thank you, thank you to Thrivent Financial and all those who helped in big way and small to make the Easter breakfast a success. We earned \$934, to be used for college scholarships for our youth. *The Scholarship Committee*

Thank you to all who purchased the beautiful tulips for worship!

- ♥ In honor of Frank Pogachar and Maggie Doll, from Rod & Celeste Pogachar
- ♥ In honor of Roy Morris and Sylvia Lewis, and Eldon Hanson, from Kerry and Troy Hanson
- ♥ For Nick, Gwen and Gary Porter, from Sally Porter
- ♥ For our grandchildren Abigail, Austyn, Hank Sage & Eve, from Susan Wetzsteon.
- ♥ In memory of Richard & Marian Montgomery, from Bonnie & Jeff Montgomery.
- ♥ In memory of Win & Helen Montgomery, form Bonnie & Jeff Montgomery.
- ♥ In memory of Melvin Damrow, Fran Peterson, from Ann & Ross Damrow
- ♥ In memory of Florence Pallett, and Karin Higgin, from Lyn McKee
- ♥ In honor of Jack & Aras Marks, Roy & Colleen Richter, from Nancy & Cliff Marks.
- ♥ In memory of Patti Krasovich, from Karen Heller.
- ♥ In memory of Bruce Peterson from Susan Peterson.
- ♥ Huge thank you to Deidra Markette!





Random Acts of Writing

Are you someone who enjoys readings that spark your intellect or cause you look at things a little differently? Then this book might be for you. *Random Acts of Writing* is written by Mark Molldrem, a retired ELCA pastor who finished his career in Beaver Dam, WI. He is the brother-in-law of a good friend of mine who I met while teaching in Alaska. Mark wrote this book but then was diagnosed with brain cancer before he could promote it. He is recovering now and is looking forward to writing more and continuing his philanthropic work. Check out the book and ordering info in the narthex or talk to *Linda Beyer*.

The annual Assembly of the Montana Synod of the ELCA will be held June 1-3, 2018, at the Best Western Heritage Inn in Great Falls, Montana

This year the assembly will again be in Great Falls and is a Theological Conference. The theme is our benchmark "Support Congregations." Our Churchwide representative is the Rev. Brenda Smith, Program Director of Faith Practices and Book of Faith Initiative, who works in the area of evangelism. Our keynote is Linda Bobbitt, who works with Congregational Vitality. The Assembly will feature workshops and dedications of the Synod House. Faith Lutheran's representative to Synod Assembly will be Colleen Southwick, Celeste Pogachar will also attend.



Join Sapphire Lutheran Homes For Free Concerts, All Music at 7PM

501 N. 10th Street, Hamilton

Bring your lawn chair or blanket, Family Friendly

- ♪ Friday, June 22: Sapphire Blues
- ♪ Friday, June 29: Who Dat Band, fireworks at dusk.
- ♪ Friday, July 6: Showdown
- ♪ July 13: Cold Hard Cash
- 🎭 Tuesday, August 14 @ 6pm: Shakespeare in the Parks **Macbeth**
Call 406-363-2800 or go to sapphirelutheran.org for more information



SAVE THE DATE!

July 9-13

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

at Faith Lutheran

Hosted by FLBC counselors

This Year's Theme: "Jesus Changes Everything"



FLBC News & Notes

Summer Camping Season Begins June 17th

Camp brochures are located on the counter outside the church office.

Register for camp before May 1 and receive a \$25 discount

Bring a friend who has never been to camp before and save \$200!

Matching Camperships available. Please contact Celeste and she will put a copy of the application form in your box.



- **Thrivent Members!** Thrivent Choice dollars make a big impact at FLBC! If you are a Thrivent member, choose Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp 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.
- **FLC Camperships.** Kids and adults your church pays up to half your camp registration! Pick up the form on the counter outside the church office, or contact Celeste Pogachar for more information.

Retreats, Events, and Updates:

For additional information about these great upcoming retreats and events, check out their website at www.flbc.net. There is still time to register, but act fast!

May 25-28: **FREE** Thrivent Memorial Day Family Work Retreat

Bring your family and help camp prepare for the summer season during this FREE retreat, thanks to Thrivent Financial! There are projects for all ages and abilities. This is also a great way to introduce your children to camp and meet summer staff members!



June 1-3 FLBC Women's Retreat \$145

Enjoy plenty of free time for relaxation including boating, yoga, massages and space for time alone. We're excited to welcome Dr. Courtney Wilder, professor of religion at Midland University in Nebraska. She will be sharing about **"One Woman, Many Jobs: Living out our Multiple Vocations"**.
Please register not later than 7 days prior.

Looking for a summer job?

FLBC is hiring support staff. If you are interested, please contact the camp office @ 406-752-6602

Camp Volunteer Applications!

FLBC has many volunteer jobs for willing hands and hearts: kitchen, cleaning, maintenance, office help and more. Consider being a camp grandparent or nurse/doctor this summer! Enjoy the beauty of the outdoors while contributing to a very worthwhile ministry. Information and application forms are online at the www.flbc.net, [406-752-6602](tel:406-752-6602). or contact Celeste at the church.

RV or Campers to Borrow This Summer??

We are looking for a couple of recreational vehicles or campers to borrow this summer to house occasional guests or our summer staff. If you have one that could spend the summer at camp, please contact Kim in the office at [406-752-6602](tel:406-752-6602) or office@flbc.net. It would be needed mid-May to mid-August.

FLBC Wish List

- ✓ **Arts & Crafts:** mosaic tiles, construction paper, acrylic paint, staplers, scissors, crayons, markers, pottery wheel
- ✓ **Cleaning, Maintenance, & Garden:** Large, quality tarps, ratchet straps, bag-less vacuum cleaners, rakes, hammers, pitch forks, trowels, shovels, commercial-grade washer and dryer, duct tape, work gloves, any and all garden tools, hand tools, garden hoes, lawn mowers, snow blower, kitchen towels
- ✓ **Vehicles (in good working order):** 4-wheel drive truck, van or minivan, "new" cars for year-round staff and day camp teams
- ✓ **First Aid Supplies:** Band-aids, gauze, wraps, alcohol swabs
- ✓ **Camping/Program:** Draw-string bags (made from rip-stop nylon, or a willingness to make them), fishing lures, pedal boats, digital camera, Go-Pro camera, kayaks, snow sleds, irons, ironing boards, thick oven mitts
- ✓ **Office Supplies:** Locking filing cabinets, SD memory cards, micro-SD memory cards, tablet PCs or iPads, scotch tape, postage stamps, copy paper
- ✓ **Other:** treadmill in good working condition



Faith's Thrivent Representative is
Julie Kieckbusch-Jones
406-728-9255
julie.kieckbuschjones@thrivent.com



MAY and JUNE Youth Page

MAY

❖ Wed May 2 Youth Group 6:30pm @ FLC

Making chocolates with Wildflower Confections!

❖ Wed May 9 Welcome Confirmants! Youth Group 6:30pm @ FLC

Welcome Confirmants! This evening we will be getting to know our incoming freshmen. **This is an important night of fellowship for the younger kids and leadership for the older.** We will be doing more chocolate making with Wildflower Confections!



❖ Wed May 16 Year End Family BBQ 6:00pm @St. Paul's

BBQ to share food and fellowship at the end of another successful year! All members of the congregation are encouraged to come and join in the food and games!

Starts at 6pm!

FLC families please bring salads, desserts, or beverages.

❖ Sun May 20 Senior Sunday

This is the last Youth Sunday until the fall, and it will be a celebration of our Seniors! **If you have memorable pictures of our seniors you would like to share please get them to Samantha by Sun May 13!**

❖ Wed May 23 Pre-finals Week Dinner and Study Group 6:30pm @FLC

Youth come enjoy a special meal and fellowship before diving into the intensity of the finals of finals! If a study session breaks out that's cool.



❖ Sun May 27 HHS Graduation 3:30pm @HHS

Hamilton seniors: **Jacob Heitmann, Nicole Denton, Seth Basnaw, Royal Beyer, and Sam Bosio**

❖ Wed May 30 NO YOUTH GROUP (FINALS)

JUNE

❖ Sat June 2 CHS Graduation 11am @CHS

Corvallis senior: **Walker Buhler**

❖ Sun Jun 3 Laser Tag and Finals Survival Party

2017-18 High School Youth can invite one friend each, but **the sign-up deadline is Wed May 30.** Trip includes 2 games of laser tag. 10 tokens, soda, and pizza. We will all meet at FLC by 11am, and return around 3pm. **Looking for adult leaders who can drive and like to play laser tag!** Call Sam at 370-8025





Highlights of March Council Meeting

Summary of Significant Actions

- Motion to approve provisional operation of all existing FLC committees identified in the constitution but not in compliance with para B4.06 of the FLC bylaws until the requisite continuing resolution can be enacted under C14.01 of the constitution.
- Motion to approve appointment of Rod Pogachar to the Mutual Ministry Committee, appointment considered to be provisional until MMC is compliant to B4.06 of the by laws, (and once MMC is compliant, will become permanent for the full term of appointment), was approved.
- Motion to approve Jennifer Larson to the Memorial Fund Committee was approved.
- Motion to approve purchase of Servant Keeper membership data base software, for not more than \$750.00, was approved.
- Motion for the council to initiate a formal review of the constitution, by laws, organization and functions related to FLC staff, council, stewards, committees, and volunteer positions to insure that the best interests of the congregation are being met, was approved.
- Motion to authorize Ross to acquire (hire) supply pastors to cover Sunday worship services at a pay rate of not more than \$150.00/hour and for other pastoral requirements at a pay rate of not more than \$30.00/hour, for a time commencing May 7, 2018 and for 90 days henceforth, was approved.

Highlights of April Council Meeting

Summary of Significant Actions

- Motion to approve changes to Endowment Committee bylaws (the description in the FLC bylaws that governs the Endowment Committee) as appearing in the body of minutes below passed.
- Motion to approve credit card access procedures that enable Stewards to assign a list of names authorized to use the FLC credit card passed.
- Motion to place the entire \$200K proceeds from the Koch estate in a Thrivent program at a better interest rate than available from a bank passed.
- Motion to appoint Ross as the primary executive for day-to-day operational decision making at FLC until a new pastor is called was approved.
- Dean and Paul will formulate an initial outline of an FLC Master Plan that will address time horizons nominally identified as 5, 10, 20 and 40 years. The council will iterate discussion over the next 2-3 months and when the plan(s) are sufficiently mature, the council will hold an offsite meeting focused on finalizing the Master Plan for approval by the congregation.
- Paul will coordinate a list of questions produced by members of the council to present to Rev. Asselstine prior to his scheduled appearance at worship service on May 6. Paul will pass these to Ross who serves as the FLC interface with the synod concerning the call process, until the Call Committee is formed.

From Your Steward of Worship: **TRANSITION NEWS**

Our Council continues to prepare for what's ahead of us in the calling of a new Pastor. I am pleased to update everyone on two decisions that have been made to date.

- On **Sunday, May 6**, Pastor Jason Asselstine, Associate to the Bishop in Great Falls will be presiding over **our** worship service. The importance to this is that Pastor Asselstine is our primary "Transition" contact within the ELCA throughout our Call selection process. As such he will be heavily involved with the Council and Call Committee. The Council will be meeting with Ps Asselstine to get the process started, and I'm trying to confirm he would be available during our post-service fellowship to answer any questions you may have. This is a fortunate and awesome opportunity for us to get started and I encourage all of you be here on **Sunday, May 6**.
- Pastor Mick Gray has graciously agreed to become our Supply Pastor during our search. Pastor Gray will continue to provide the Gospel readings, Sermon message, and assist with Communion as he has done in the past. In addition, he is willing to provide Pastoral Care to those members who request such service. Such requests should be made to the church office who will in turn contact Pastor Gray. Pastor Gray's services will remain in effect until ended by vote of the Council, or upon notification from Pastor Gray that he is unable or unwilling to continue.
- Nominations for Call Committee will be closed on April 30. The Council will be selecting the six (6) member Committee from the list of those names submitted at their Council meeting on May 16.

Pastor Brenda's last service with us was on April 29. There will be many holes to fill after she leaves, but I am encouraged by the efforts of so many people to make this transition efficient and successful while we diligently pursue calling a new Pastor.

Yours in Faith, *Ross Damrow*

Stewards & Staff of Faith Lutheran Church

President/Convener	Darrin Heitmann	363-0492	powertrip@cybernet1.com
Discipleship	LaDonna Grotbo	460-1994	Obtorg4@yahoo.com
Fellowship & Hospitality	Deb Cathey	218-8394	debnkenwow@gmail.com
Finance	Dean Drake	777-7010	Deandrake87@gmail.com
Communication	Paul Walczak	360-4662	kazclaw@msn.com
Outreach	Jennifer Murillo	529-9138	jmurillo@gmail.com
Property & Grounds	Marlin Lewis	391-1270	lewism@hsd3.org
Worship	Ross Damrow	381-1318	rdamrow011@gmail.com
Worship Coordinator	Celeste Pogachar	239-3952	celestepogachar@gmail.com
Youth Director	Samantha Fife	370-8025	fifedrivel@gmail.com
Office Administrator	Nancy Parish	363-6691	office@faithlutheranhamilton.org
Bookkeeper	Heather Wintergerst	363-2964	office@faithlutheranhamilton.org
Custodian	Richard Castor	363-2964	

Pray for our Military

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

- Mike Hebert, grandson of Don & Shirley McGourty, US Army, serving in Colorado Springs, CO
- Lt. Col. Timothy Spaulding, nephew of John Trangmoe, Air Force, Wright Patterson AFB, OH
- Master Sgt. Andy Wetzsteon, son of Susan & Lonnie Wetzsteon, serving at Nelli's AFB, Las Vegas, NV
- Anna Mitteness, granddaughter of Morrie & Ann Mitteness, Cpl US Marines Corps. Now at the Marine Station in Yuma, AZ, doing communications repair.
- Capt. Alex Stephens, MD, grandson-in-law of Dale and Clairice Brady, serving in the Middle East
- Capt. Kyle Frazer, son of Larry & Nancy Hansen, serving at Fort Polk, LA.
- Master Sergeant Will Rollefson, nephew of Larry Hansen, Special Forces, Seattle, WA.



Pray for At-Home Members and Friends...

Ruth Dillon, Joann Engbrecht, Bertie Senn, Morry Mitteness, Clara Felton, Virginia Rotering, LaVonne Beers, Carl Swanson, Pat Berglund, Bob Mathison, Smitty Smith, Steve, and all suffering from chronic pain. children without a safe place to live; Sally C., Adrienne P., Bonnie, Carol A., Casey, Livia Ney, Ronnie, those with depression, all in recovery, Richard Southwell (motorcycle accident), Melody & Nick Giacomino, Jen W, & Heidi, Cindy C, Stacey M, Cat,e Jim Carrington, Cathey C., Lynda B., Lynda R., Jaden D.



LOST AND FOUND

Please check the lost and found for any items you may have left behind.

The lost and found is in the lobby on a table by the water fountain. Items left unclaimed by the end of the month will be donated

RECYCLERS!

If FLC is to continue recycling office paper, post Pastor Brenda. We need a volunteer to pick up our recycling monthly. Contact the church office if you would be willing to help.

Save Faith money by requesting your Faith Herald via email!

Each mailed Herald costs 71 cents. Please let us know if you would like it in your IN BOX rather than in the mailbox.

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

Return Service Requested

Address Label Here

May



Dates to Remember

May 1: FLBC early Summer Camp registration deadline.
May 3: National Day of Prayer
May 6: Pastor Jason Asselstine visits
May 9: Youth Year End Party!
May 13: Happy Mother's Day!
May 16: Council Meeting 6:30pm
May 20: Senior Quilt Sunday, Last day of Sunday School, Pentecost
May 28: Memorial Day, office closed

The Synod Offices have finally moved into the Synod House!

Address: 3125 5th Avenue South, Great Falls, MT 59405 Phone: 406-452-1461

Birthdays

<i>Cliff Marks</i>	<i>May 1</i>
<i>Katie Exner, Nancy Osborn</i>	<i>May 3</i>
<i>Maxwell Buhler, Will Heitmann</i>	<i>May 4</i>
<i>Anita Bell, Bob Mathison</i>	<i>May 5</i>
<i>Deidra Markette</i>	<i>May 6</i>
<i>Lavonne Beers</i>	<i>May 8</i>
<i>Greg Mitchell, Nancy Marks</i>	<i>May 8</i>
<i>Nathan Brady</i>	<i>May 13</i>
<i>Danielle Harden</i>	<i>May 14</i>
<i>Morry Mitteness</i>	<i>May 15</i>
<i>Tracy Walczak</i>	<i>May 16</i>
<i>Tom Anderson, Judy Griffin</i>	<i>May 18</i>
<i>Donna Jakobson</i>	<i>May 18</i>
<i>Sage Beyer</i>	<i>May 22</i>
<i>Darrin Heitmann</i>	<i>May 23</i>
<i>Lucas Brady</i>	<i>May 24</i>
<i>Dick Hoeben</i>	<i>May 28</i>
<i>Pete Seifert</i>	<i>May 29</i>
<i>Walker Buhler</i>	<i>May 31</i>