

# Light in the Beartooths

MESSIAH LUTHERAN NEWS

April 2011

*Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,*

*Happy Easter! Merry Easter! Have a nice Easter! If Easter is just about a new spring outfit, jelly beans, chocolate bunnies, and a family dinner with egg salad sandwiches for days, then these three trite greetings are appropriate. In church the traditional exuberant Easter greeting is "Christ is Risen" and the response is "He is risen indeed!" So April 24, Easter Sunday, Christians around the globe will shout it from their church rooftops; but what does the resurrection of our Lord mean to you? For most Christians it does lead to a faith that we too will be resurrected from the dead. But then the follow up question is what does the resurrection of Jesus mean in my, your life today? Does Easter rock your world?*

*It was not a good Friday as Jesus had been crucified, died and buried. As Matthew tells the story, early Sunday morning Mary Magdalene and another woman named Mary went to the quiet, peaceful cemetery to sit Shiva and say a proper good-bye to Jesus. In the midst of their grief, a violent earthquake suddenly shakes Jerusalem. Perhaps this is symbolic of the way Jesus' resurrection would rock the whole world and shake up the world's understanding of God's power over death! The women came to the tomb and saw a dazzling bright angel of the Lord sitting there! God is at work here. The huge stone was rolled away, not to let Jesus out, but so that the women could look inside and see the empty tomb. The angel speaks, "Don't be afraid, Jesus, whom you seek is not here, he is risen!" With that pronouncement, the women's lives were changed. This wasn't a time for mourning, this was not an ending, this was a beginning of a whole new world. A world in which resurrection is real. A world in which death is conquered and destroyed.*

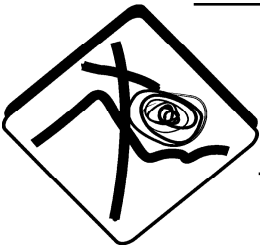
*Easter rocked the world! Death no longer has the last word! The angel's first words to the women at Jesus' tomb were "Do not be afraid!" For humankind the greatest threat we face in the future is death. The fear of death controls our lives much more than we realize. This fear dictates what and how much we eat, what activities we engage in, where we live, how many insurance policies we buy, etc. The fear of death makes us worry about every pain, ache, and birthday that passes, but Paul reminds us the resurrection of Jesus takes the sting out of death. If Easter means anything it is that there is life beyond the grave.*

*So, if you believe in the resurrection of the dead and the life everlasting, what difference does that make in how you live your life today? The tomb couldn't hold Jesus and part of the angel's message was Jesus is risen and has gone out ahead of you into Galilee. I hope and pray that you and I aren't entombed in fear of death, but freed to go out into our neighborhoods, at work, school, camping, fishing, volunteering, making a difference for the sake of the one who gave his all and his life for all that as he was risen, we to might live a new life and be raised on the last day. Christ is risen! He is risen indeed!*

*Pastor Kim*



**Christ is Risen! He is Risen Indeed!**



## WORSHIP SERVICE CHANGES AT MESSIAH

Starting on **Sunday, April 3** Messiah Lutheran will have **1 service** on Sundays. Here is the schedule:

**8:45 AM** Choir Practice

**9:30 AM** Worship

**10:30 AM** Coffee & Sunday Forum following end of service.

## HOLY WEEK AT MESSIAH

**Thursday, April 21**

**7:00 PM** Maundy Thursday Service

**Friday, April 22**

**12:00 Noon** Good Friday Service

**Sunday, April 24**

**7:30 AM** Easter Worship

**8:30 AM** Easter Brunch

**9:30 AM** Easter Worship



## EASTER AT MESSIAH



There will be an Easter Lily sign up at Messiah. If you would like to have a lily in church for Easter please fill out a form on the sign up chart. The cost should be about \$6.00.

There is also a sign up for the Easter Brunch that will take place between the two services Easter morning at about 8:30 AM. Please sign up for a bread or fruit that you would like to share that morning.

### TUESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

**April 5th 9:00 AM** - Messiah

**April 12th 9:00 AM** - Messiah

**April 19th 9:00 AM** - Bridge  
Creek

### APRIL FORUM TOPICS AT MESSIAH

**TIME:** 10:30 AM or at the end of service

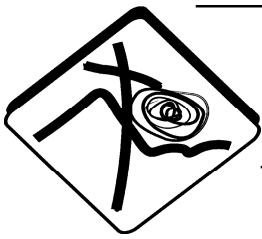
**April 3** David Trost from St. Johns Lutheran Ministries

**April 10** "The Lazarus Effect" - the remarkable transformation of HIV+ people (DVD)

**April 17** Biblical Storytelling

**April 24** No Forum - (Easter Sunday)

Leanne Mullaney, Chair of Education



## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- 4/2 Pat Peterson  
Marian Anderson
- 4/3 Dave Biersdorf
- 4/6 Lavonne Ervin  
Eva Wilker
- 4/9 Mason Daily
- 4/11 Mack Sowa
- 4/14 Lydia Buescher  
Judy Henrickson
- 4/16 Helen Norby
- 4/19 Kelsey Benton
- 4/20 Hannah Benton
- 4/21 Chris Benton
- 4/22 Katie Atherly  
David Schilling
- 4/24 Chris Atherly
- 4/28 Gladys Clark
- 4/30 Lauren Mullaney  
Vev Lee Spencer



## Happy Anniversary

- 4/3 Kathy & David Schilling
- 4/21 Martie & Kurt Brenne
- 4/22 Shirley & John Overton
- 4/23 Joan & Dick Kyro



Prayer Concerns

## Please Remember In Prayer

*Bev Urbaniak's nephew Bruce Gilmer; Andrea Holmen's cousins George & Jackie Hanke; Pastor Ron Jensen; Margaret Tjeltveit; Pat Peterson; Ed Cardoza; Judy Prinkki; Eileen Luoma; Suzanne Zenz; Josh Wilker; Tony Fair a classmate of Peter Christ; Peggy Smith; Toivo Lantta; Liz Westhaeffer; David Jurkovich; Don Lindall; Jeri Kyner's mother Dot Englebright; Cecil Gabrian and family; Rick Koski; Liz Westhaeffer; Bob Goehringer; Cole Gairrett; Sue Prather's Aunt Ann Lohof; Edna Collins and Art Urban.*

**PRAYER REQUESTS:** *If you would like to be on either the telephone or email prayer chains and are not currently receiving prayer requests, please contact Mary Lou Maryott at 446-2594. To start a prayer request, contact Mary Lou Maryott by phone at 446-2594 or Judy Streets by email at [messiahprayers@gmail.com](mailto:messiahprayers@gmail.com). Please make sure you have accurate information and permission from the person you are calling about.*

## APRIL BOOK CLUB

**BOOK:** The Forgotten Garden by Kate Morton

**DATE:** Thursday, April 28

**TIME:** 7:00 PM.

**PLACE:** Gina Farnham

**FACILITATOR:**

Gina Farnham



## INNKEEPERS FOR APRIL

Our leaders for April are Shirley and John Overton.

John Overton.

Their team members are Sharon & Dave Biersdorf; Lavonne Ervin; Dolly & Jim Koski (fill in); Kathy, Molly & Jacob Kreatz and Barb & Jim Ochiltree.

Confirmation classes this month are Wednesdays April 13 and April 20 at 2:45 PM. Our study will be the Apostle's Creed and we will work on our "Faith Journey" project.



## CARE CENTER WORSHIP

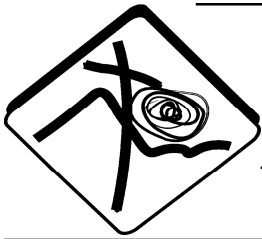
Come worship, sing, pray, hear the Word and celebrate Holy Communion with residents of our local long term care centers. Services are 30 minutes.

**10:00 AM Monday, April 4**  
Bible Study at Cedar Wood

**2:30 PM Thurs, April 28**  
Worship at Cedar Wood Villa

## KNIT TOGETHER

We are starting up our **Prayer Shawl Ministry** with Mae Karina. We will meet at **1:00 PM Thursday, April 7 at Cedar Wood Villa**. Come join the fun, even if you don't knit.



## Christikon Clips

Information for our Congregations

**Youth campers:** There's a "special deal" available: **Bring a friend to camp with you for free (well, nearly).** Bring a friend who has never been a Christikon youth camper before. You pay the regular camp fee; your friend pays only the \$50 deposit. While some camp sessions are getting full, it's not too late to send your registration.

**Adults and families:** Spend some time in a lovely mountain setting with some of the most fun-to-be-with people, at our Work Weekend May 27-30, Mountain Weekend 1 July 6-12, Mountain Weekend 2 July 22-24, and the Continuing Education Retreat for rostered ministers, interested lay people and their families, July 25-28. It's also possible for adult groups to schedule a backpack trip – just call us at 656-1969 to schedule!

**Get on board!** The annual **Christikon Benefit Auction – Quilts and Whole Lot More** comes on Sunday, **May 1, at the Billings Depot, 4-7 p.m.** Food and beverages will be available, and of course, some of the finest artistry in both a live auction and a silent auction, including hand-made quilts, use of a condo in Big Sky, Vikings and Twins tickets, a gourmet dinner for 6, a pool party on the Rims, a fishing/float trip on the Big Horn River, fine art work, and gift baskets. We'll also be seeking special support for our Sojourners Camp for at-risk youth. Admission at the door is \$10. Information and tickets available at our web site.

**It is the mission of Christikon to awaken and nurture faith in Christ —**

*exploring God's creation and the adventure of life together.*

**CHRISTIKON • 1108 24<sup>th</sup> Street West • Billings, MT 59102**

406 656-1969 • [christikon@aol.com](mailto:christikon@aol.com) • [www.christikon.org](http://www.christikon.org)



## STEWARDSHIP

"There is nothing you can do to make God love you more. There is nothing you can do to make God love you less."

--Philip Yancey, "What's So Amazing About Grace"

Howard Young, Chair of Stewardship

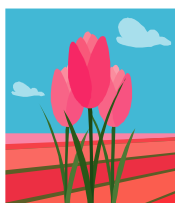
## INFORMATION FROM COUNCIL

Messiah Lutheran certainly enjoyed having Dr. David Lose speak to congregants and guests at the dinner and then the Sunday service on Jan 8 and 9. This special event occurred because our congregation and members contributed \$10,000 to the seminary. If we wish to have a special speaker again this next year, we will need to contribute \$6000 more by June 30, 2011 to meet that \$10,000 mark (The seminary's fiscal year is July 1 to June 30).

## THANK YOU TO MESSIAH FRIENDS

I want to express my deepest thanks for all of your prayers, your wonderful cards, your thoughts and concerns and the beautiful flowers that were sent for my Mom, Edna Hoffman's funeral celebration on February 28. What an amazing family of friends here at Messiah. My mom will be missed but she is in a better place with God.

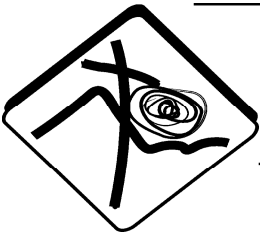
Blessings to you,  
Kathy Schilling and Family



## BEARTOOTH CLUSTER

Women of the ELCA of the Beartooth and Shepherd Clusters will hold their spring event at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Laurel, MT on **April 2, 2011**. Registration and coffee will begin at 8:45 AM. Our theme is from John 4:14-15. "**Women at the Well**". Cindy Watkins Ellis will speak on her experiences digging wells for water in Liberia. Lunch will be served. All women are welcome to attend.

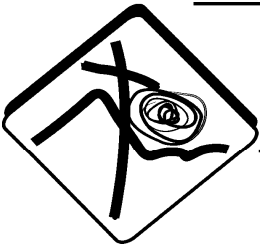
**JoRae Sarsten, Secretary –Treasurer of Beartooth Cluster**








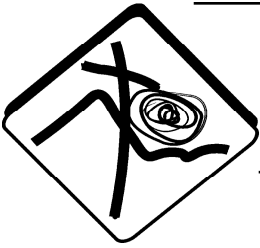
## FAMILY, FAITH, FUN & FELLOWSHIP FOR 2011

Call Gina at 446-9818 if you have ideas for the months with ??? (More updates as the month gets closer.)

DATE	TIME	PLACE	WHAT	BRING
March 11	7:00 PM	Jim & Lee Bujold	Billiards, board game & darts	Snack / drink of choice
April ?	??? <i>To Be Decided</i>	??? <i>To Be Decided</i>	??? <i>To Be Decided</i>	??? <i>To Be Decided</i>
May 13	6:00 PM	??? <i>To Be Decided</i>	Host a progressive dinner	??? <i>To Be Decided</i>
June 10	7:00 PM	Chateau Rouge Fellowship Room	Game exchange	Snack / drink of choice
July 23	12:00 Noon	Wild Bill Lake	Potluck Picnic	Whatever you like
August ?	??? <i>To Be Decided</i>	John & Shirley Overton	??? <i>To Be Decided</i>	??? <i>To Be Decided</i>
September ?	5:00 PM	St. Agnes	Fall Festival Dinner	Dessert or Salad
October 28	7:00 PM	Chateau Rouge Fellowship Room	Halloween Party Play Rummy Royal	Snack / drink of choice
November 18	??? <i>To Be Decided</i>	??? <i>To Be Decided</i>	Mystery Dinner	??? <i>To Be Decided</i>
December 9	5:30 PM Social Hour 6:00 PM Dinner	Bridge Creek	Christmas Party	Goofy Gift Exchange



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<p><b>Red Lodge AA Meets Wednesdays, Fridays &amp; Sundays At 7:00 PM At Messiah</b></p>		<p><b>KEEP THIS DATE</b>  <b>Christikon Benefit Auction</b>  <b>Quilts &amp; Much More</b>            4:00 PM Sunday, May 1            Billings Depot</p> 			<p><b>1</b>            Pastor's Sabbath</p>	<p><b>2</b>  <b>8:45 AM</b>            Women of the ELCA Spring Event in Laurel</p>
<p><b>3</b>  <b>8:45 AM</b> Choir Practice  <b>9:30 AM</b> Worship  <b>10:30 AM</b> Sunday Forum</p>	<p><b>4</b> <b>8:00 AM</b>            Men's Breakfast            Bible Study—  <b>bring 2 doz. cookies</b>  <b>6:00 PM</b>            Drummers</p>	<p><b>5</b> <b>9:00 AM</b>            Women's Bible Study @            Messiah</p>	<p><b>6</b> <b>8:00 AM</b>            5 Minute Prayers  <b>6:00 PM</b>            Community Lenten Service at The Community Church/Soup</p>	<p><b>7</b> <b>1:00 PM</b>            Knitting at Valley View with Mae Karina</p>	<p><b>8</b>            Pastor's Sabbath</p>	<p><b>9</b></p>
<p>Pastor Kim on vacation Mon April 4-Thurs April 7. Emergency Contact: Pastor Robert Leaverton at (406)-321-2980.</p>						
<p><b>10</b>  <b>8:45 AM</b> Choir Practice  <b>9:30 AM</b> Worship  <b>10:30 AM</b> Sunday Forum</p>	<p><b>11</b>  <b>8:00 AM</b>            Men's Breakfast            Bible Study   <b>6:00 PM</b>            Drummers</p>	<p><b>12</b>  <b>9:00 AM</b>            Women's Bible Study @            Messiah</p>	<p><b>13</b> <b>8:00 AM</b>            5 Minute Prayers  <b>1:30 PM</b>            WELCA            Bible Study at Margaret's Home  <b>2:45 PM</b>            Confirmation</p>	<p><b>14</b></p>	<p><b>15</b>            Pastor's Sabbath</p>	<p><b>16</b></p>
<p><b>17</b>  <b>PALM SUNDAY</b>  <b>8:45 AM</b> Choir Practice  <b>9:30 AM</b> Worship  <b>10:30 AM</b> Sunday Forum</p> 	<p><b>18</b>  <b>8:00 AM</b>            Men's Breakfast            Bible Study   <b>6:00 PM</b>            Drummers</p>	<p><b>19</b>  <b>9:00 AM</b>            Women's Bible Study @            Bridge Creek</p>	<p><b>20</b>  <b>8:00 AM</b>            5 Minute Prayers   <b>2:45 PM</b>            Confirmation</p>	<p><b>21</b>    <b>7:00 PM</b>            Maundy Thursday Service</p>	<p><b>22</b> Pastor's Sabbath    <b>12:00 Noon</b>            Good Friday Service at Messiah</p>	<p><b>23</b></p>
<p><b>24</b>  <b>EASTER</b>  <b>7:30 AM</b> Worship  <b>8:30 AM</b> EASTER BRUNCH  <b>9:30 AM</b> Worship</p> 	<p><b>25</b> <u>Articles due for May Newsletter</u>  <b>8:00 AM</b>            Men's Breakfast            Bible Study  <b>6:00 PM</b>            Drummers  <b>6:00 PM</b> Faith and Light</p>	<p><b>26</b> <b>9:00 AM</b>            Women's Bible Study @            Bridge Creek   <b>4:00 PM</b>            Church council</p>	<p><b>27</b> <b>8:00 AM</b>            5 Minute Prayers</p>	<p><b>28</b>  <b>2:30 PM</b>            Cedar Wood Villa Worship   <b>7:00 PM</b> Book Club at Gina Farnham's Home</p>	<p><b>29</b>            Pastor's Sabbath   <b>Confirmation Retreat</b>            April 29-May 1</p>	<p><b>30</b>   <b>Confirmation Retreat</b>            April 29-May 1</p>



## HIGHLIGHTS OF THE COUNCIL MEETING ON TUESDAY, MARCH 22

President Barb Ostrum opened by welcoming all Council members and thanking them for their willingness to serve.

The financial information included the following:

1. The General Fund giving for February was up over \$1,550 from February 2010;
2. General Fund expenses for February were within budget and exceeded income by \$2,000;
3. The year-to-date comparison of General Fund giving versus General Fund expenses reveal that expenses are exceeding giving by \$1,982.69;
4. A \$4,250 check was written to Luther Seminary, \$2,000 coming from the Luther Seminary Scholarship line item, \$1,000 from American Lutheran in Billings and \$1,250 from member giving;
5. Council authorized an additional \$5,000 payment from the LIB account on the principle of the mortgage;

Council agreed that the final \$2,000 payment from the Luther Seminary Scholarship budget line item should be made before the end of June 2011 to ensure that Messiah reaches the Luther Seminary \$10,000 annual giving level and therefore be entitled to another faculty visit (similar to Dr. Lose's visit).

Messiah received thank you letters from Luther Seminary and the Montana Synod for its support for the ministries for both organizations.

Committee reports were received. The Council endorsed the Worship Committee's recommendation to return to a one service format effective the first Sunday in April. The Holy week schedule was outlined and it was noted that the Good Friday worship service will be at noon rather than in the evening. The Outreach committee is still developing summer activities which will use the Hwy 212 land and is following up an international water well missionary project. The Education committee has finalized the Sunday Forum topics through the end of this year's programming (May 1<sup>st</sup>).

Jim Ochiltree will be working with a team of congregational members to develop an E-Bay sale project through the LIB On-going Support group.

Barbara Ostrum was acknowledged for receiving the DSVS volunteer of the year recognition.

Remember, a copy of the Approved February Council Minutes is posted in the narthex of the Church for your review.

### FEBRUARY 2011

#### GENERAL FUND FINANCIALS

**FEB Income:** \$9,189.00

**Feb Expense:** \$11,171.69

YTD Income: \$19,842.88

YTD Expense: \$21,478.59



### LIGHT IN THE BEARTOOTH (LIB)

Initial Cost of the Land \$550,000.00

**Feb Income:** \$6,026.00

**YTD Income:** \$21,476.00

**Feb Principle Payment:** \$12,500.00

**Feb Interest Payment:** \$3,125.97

**2-28-11 Mortgage Balance:** \$140,125.99

*Messiah Lutheran Church  
P.O. Box 1330 19th & Adams  
Red Lodge, Montana 59068*

## ***April 2011 Newsletter***

*(Return Service Requested)*

### ***HOLY WEEK WORSHIP SCHEDULE***

***Thursday, April 21 7:00 PM Maundy Thursday Service***

***Friday, April 22 12:00 Noon Good Friday Service***

***Sunday, April 24 Sunday Resurrection of Our Lord***

***7:30 AM Worship Service***

***8:30 AM Easter Brunch***

***9:30 AM Worship Service***



#### **OFFICE HOURS AT MESSIAH**

***Monday: 8-1 PM***

***Tuesday: 8-1 PM***

***Wednesday: 8 - Noon***

***Thursday: 8 - Noon***

***Friday: Office Closed***

#### **MESSIAH'S MISSION**

***To know Christ***

***To make disciples***

***To send out***

***To make Christ known***

#### **MESSIAH'S VISION**

***To become a growing congregation of Christ's  
disciples who make a difference by living out our  
faith daily, active in love.***

#### **HOW TO REACH MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH**

***Pastor Kim Wilker @ 406-446-4466***

***Church Phone: 406-446-2430***

***Church Address: 723 S. Adams***

***Mailing Address: P.O. Box 1330***

***Red Lodge, MT 59068***

***Website: [www.redlodgemessiah.com](http://www.redlodgemessiah.com)***

***Email: [churchoffice@180com.net](mailto:churchoffice@180com.net)***

***Sunday Choir Practice: 8:45 AM***

***Sunday Worship Service: 9:30 AM***