

Light in the Beartooths

MESSIAH LUTHERAN NEWS

October 2011

“O DAY FULL OF GRACE”

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Sing it with me now - “Zacchaeus was a wee little man and a wee little man was he. He climbed up in a sycamore tree, for the Lord he wanted to see. And when the Savior passed him by, he looked up in the tree, and he said, “Zacchaeus, come down from there! For I’m going to your house today, for I’m going to your house today.”

This little ditty comes out of the Bible story found in Luke 19:1-10. Zacchaeus was the local chief tax collector, not a rookie IRS agent, rather the Roman government big kingpin who developed a ponzi scheme that made him hated as much as Bernie Madoff. Zaccheaus was anything but a cute, likeable fella of short stature. He worked the system collecting taxes, skimming off the top, fleecing everybody in town, all the while becoming filthy rich! Money can’t buy you happiness, and no doubt Zacchaeus had no friends, was seen as the worst kind of sinner, avoided like the plague and must have been as lonely as the Maytag repairman.

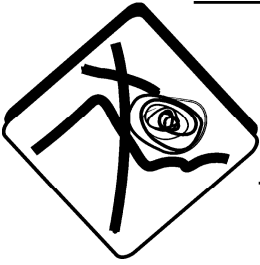
And here comes Jesus parading down the street with followers and onlookers. Zach climbs up a tree to see Jesus and lo and behold the parade stops at the base of the tree and Jesus invites himself over to Zach’s home for dinner! Scandalous! No upright, self respecting, God fearing, law abiding, religious person would under any circumstances set foot into a tax collector’s home and then dine with him! For Zacchaeus, short on friends and stature in the community, this was a *Day full of Grace* as Jesus went against all socio-religious convention befriending not only the chief tax collector, but the one viewed by the community as the chief of sinners!

Ain’t grace amazing, wonderful, life changing, cause for a parade! While that was so for Zacchaeus, it was not so for the community as they grumbled, not mumbled, but complained indignantly! Jesus you must be outta your tree waltzing into our town and lives treating the tax collector and sinner(s) like he’s one of us!

Don’t you wish you could have been a fly on the wall that evening and heard the conversation between Jesus and Zacchaeus. I wish the Bible recorded their conversation because whatever occurred, Zacchaeus became a changed man. Now instead of the chief ponzi operator, Zaccheaus became the chief economic stimulus for the entire community returning stolen funds not at the Jewish law rate of restitution of the money plus 20%, but at a 400% rate! And as if that wasn’t enough response he began charitable giving with half his annual income going to the poor! Zacchaeus went way beyond the religious law and requirements, his heart and way of life was changed 180 degrees! Now he saw people in need rather than people to rip off.

Jesus announced “today salvation has come to your house Zaccheaus!” And of course, guess what? Jesus comes to yours and my house too, bringing grace that changes folks from being greedy to generous, from selfish to selfless, from cheating hearts to thankful hearts. Pretty radical, even scary, this Jesus and his amazing grace and the new kind of life he brings. Thanks be to God for each day full of grace!

Pastor Kim



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Sunday Forums

begin after Worship each Sunday.

All are welcome!

October 2 - Televangelist Pat Robertson became the object of scorn and criticism recently for a controversial response he gave on his TV show to a question about whether a man whose wife has Alzheimer's disease should divorce her to pursue a relationship with someone else. Some commentators, however, thought his answer showed that he was honestly struggling with the clash between rules and the realities of life.

At Sunday Forum, we will consider what it means to make decisions about the complicated circumstances life brings us, especially when those circumstances suggest responses that conflict with the seemingly unchanging rules of living a Christian life.

October 9 - Ride bicycles 3,700 miles and raise \$84,000 for cancer research. Join a Teen Gospel Rock Band and bicycle 200+ miles in six days while performing back-up for seven performances. Bicycle 3,546 miles around Montana to end in Massachusetts.

Recreation or mission? The answer(s) might surprise you. Allen and Suzi Hansen will speak about their experiences on bicycle at Sunday Forum. Come join us—youth are welcome!

October 16 - "Living in God's Grace" - Luke 15:11-32 Who is it? The prodigal son or the loving father?

October 23 - "Living under God's Grace" - Luke 12:22-34 "God doesn't care just about how much you give away. God cares just as much about how we care for and use that which we keep for ourselves." *Pastor Chick Lane*

October 30 - "Domestic and Sexual Violence Services" Guest Speaker Ed Lambrecht from the local DSVS

Please join us after the Service.

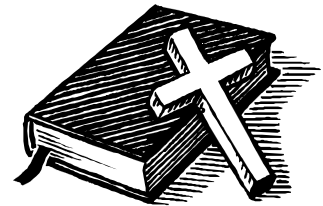
LONG TERM CARE MINISTRY

Come join with our friends and neighbors for worship. This month's schedule includes:

2:00 PM October 27

Worship at
Cedar Wood Villa

Please note the new time!



Innkeepers for October

Innkeeper Leaders

Barb and Jim Ochiltree
446-1856

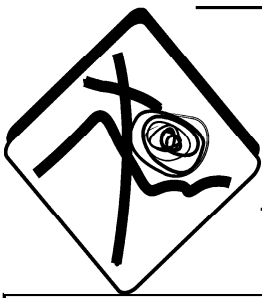
Stan and Gina Farnham
446-9818

Allen and Suzi Hansen
(774)273-1463

Howard and Karen Young
446-9136



Thank you to the Innkeepers!



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HAPPY OCTOBER BIRTHDAY!

- 10/2 Shinta Clark
Jim Ochiltree
- 10/3 Nani Clark
Todd Daily
- 10/4 Alecia Benton
- 10/7 Kathy Benton
- 10/8 Chris Richardson
- 10/11 Wesley Thompson
- 10/14 Kelly Jones
Kelsey Jones
Doug Scheafer
- 10/15 Candis Thompson
- 10/20 Manuel Cabanas-Holmen
- 10/22 Vance Thuesen
- 10/23 John Clark
Kathy Kreatz
Dan'l Donges
- 10/24 Al Stuber
- 10/31 Willie Clark

October Anniversaries



- 10/3 Vince & Mary Ames
- 10/4 Leanne & Mark Mullaney
- 10/15 Laura & Harry Hollman
- 10/18 Al & Dolly Stuber
- 10/26 Chris & Kathy Benton
- 10/28 Jack & Sue Prather

A MESSIAH VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL REPORT



I was a helper for Messiah Vacation Bible School this summer. My nana, Terri Wilker, was the story person. I had fun this year. And I liked this VBS more than any other year. The snacks were really good and the Arts and Crafts were fun. It was especially Fun being on the land because every day we got to feed the horses. I liked being part of the stories and playing 'Hide and go Sheep". I played the part of the wolf and tried to catch the sheep (kids) before Eva, (the good shepherd) could save them. The funniest part of my week was when Nana fell into the creek while trying to catch Noah's Ark. A big fat snake crawled across her hand and she yelled. We laughed so hard. The songs were fun and I still have some of them stuck in my head. Thanks for a good time...

Tess Sorrells
Age 11, Danbury, Connecticut



photos by Andrea Holmen

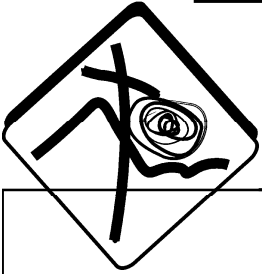
PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER:



PRAYER REQUESTS: Jeri Kyner's mother, Dot Englebright, Bev Urbaniak's nephew Bruce Gilmer, Andrea Holmen's cousins George & Jackie Hanke, and her uncle Clarence, Pastor Ron Jensen, Margaret Tjeltveit, Pat Peterson, Eileen Luoma, Suzanne Zenz, Josh Wilker, Peter Christ's classmate Tony Fair, Toivo Lantta, Cole Gairrett, Bill & Norma Alberta, John & Nani Clark's granddaughter's mother Jamie Schwellenbach, Joel Hardy's father Warren, Herb & Myrna Hunt's granddaughter Heather Watts, Brooke Feister's friend Juanita Keck, Harry Hollman's mother Alice Hollman Lins, Dolly Koski's cousin, Tracey Valentine, Jim Koski's cousin's wife, Sandy and Gina Farnham's friend, Daisy Henckel and baby, Myrna Hunt's friend's granddaughter, Christina Townsend, Nancy Smith, Misa Carlson, and Vince and Mary Ames.

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 Jeri Kyner at 446-3323. To start a prayer request, contact Jeri Kyner by phone at 446-3323 or Judy Streets by email at messiahprayers@gmail.com

Please make sure you have accurate information and permission from the person you are calling about.



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Living in God's Grace in the Montana Synod of the ELCA

Living in, with and under God's grace each day, we respond with grateful hearts through the ministry and mission we share as a synod.

We do God's work with our hands through

- the talents and skills of laypeople and rostered leaders in congregations;
- the gifts and skills of laypeople and rostered leaders whose congregations support their involvement in synodical ministry;
- the ministry of those who are called to specialized service outside congregational walls;
- the ministry of our bishop, his assistants and the synod support staff;
- cooperating as congregations to enable broader ministry.

We support our shared ministry through

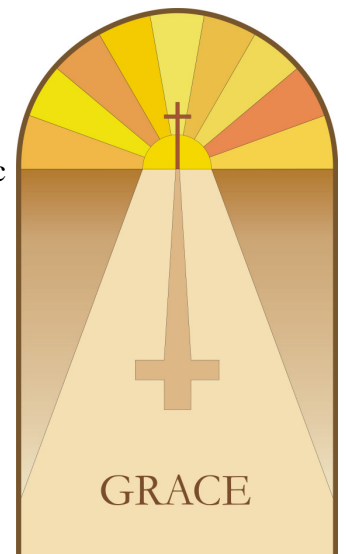
- Mission Support dollars, gifts from individuals, endowments and wills;
- holding each other in prayer;
- staying with each other, even in difficult times;
- raising up new leaders and faithful church members;
- sending people out to witness, serve and accompany our neighbors throughout the world;
- the Resource Center.

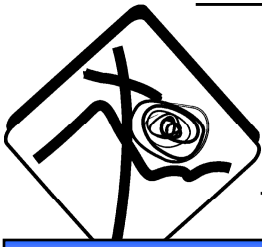
Montana Synod Statistics

130 Congregations...over 37,000 members...12 Clusters...185 pastors...13 Associates in ministry...67 Lay Pastoral Associates...23 people in candidacy preparing for future church leadership...Annual budget \$952,316

Synod Ministries, Agencies, Institutions, and Partners

Christikon Bible Camp, Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp, Upper Missouri Ministries Outdoor ministry, Campus Ministry at Montana State University and University of Montana, Concordia College, Pacific Lutheran University, Luther Seminary, Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary, Northern Rockies Institute of Theology, Kogodus Renewal Ministries, Montana Association of Churches, Wyoming Association of Churches, Lutheran Social Services of Montana, Freedom in Christ prison congregation, St. John's Lutheran Ministries, Immanuel Lutheran Communities, Sapphire Lutheran Home, Valley View Lutheran Home, Rocky Boy Reservation, Allegheny Synod ELCA partner Synod, Evangelical Lutheran Church in southern Africa Cape Orange Diocese, and the Montana Lutheran Youth Organization (see www.montanasynd.org for links to each of these listed)





SIMPLYFYING STEWARDSHIP

Money Will Buy

a bed but not sleep;
 books but not brains;
 food but not appetite;
 finery but not beauty;
 a house but not a home;
 medicine but not health;
 luxuries but not culture;
 amusements but not happiness;
 religion but not salvation;
 a passport to everywhere but
 heaven.

The Voice In the Wilderness, quoted in Discipleship Journal, Issue 53, 1989, p. 21

Preventable. Treatable. Now.

The [ELCA Malaria Campaign](#) was officially launched on Aug. 15 at the [2011 Churchwide Assembly](#). Members of this church will work together to raise \$15 million to help contain malaria worldwide..

Visit elca.org for more information

October Book Club

The book for October is “My Stroke of Insight” by Jill Bolte Taylor. The book club will meet at 7:00 PM on October 20 at the home of Karen Young and the Facilitator will be Marla Ebel.



October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month

Domestic violence hurts our daughters, sisters, mothers and aunts—it hurts all of us. You can help end domestic violence by taking a stand against it. Please support and help survivors of domestic violence and encourage your friends and family to do the same.

Talk to your children and teach them that violence against women is wrong speak out when you witness violence, whether physical, verbal or emotional. Consider volunteering at or donating to the local domestic violence program.

To learn more about preventing domestic violence or for additional information about how to help a friend or family member in an abusive relationship, please call Domestic and Sexual Violence Services at 446-2296.

If you or someone you know is in an abusive relationship, call the **Helpline at 425-2222**

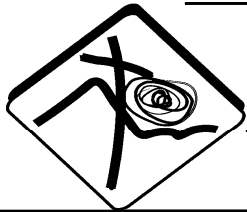
Domestic and Sexual Violence Services (DSVS)

P. O. Box 314

Red Lodge, Montana 59068

406-425-2222 (24-hour helpline)

406-425-2296 (Office)

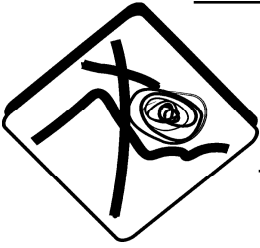


Calendar

OCTOBER 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 8:45 AM Choir 9:30 AM Worship 10:30 AM Sunday Forum	3 8:00 AM Men's Breakfast Bible Study	4 9:00 AM Women's Bible Study Group @ Bridge Creek	5 8:00 AM Five Minute Prayers for Messiah	6 1:00 PM Knitting at Cedar Wood Villa with Mae	7 Noon Luncheon with Ruth Urban at Farnhams	8 11:00 AM Memorial Service for Art Urban at Messiah followed by luncheon.
9 8:45 AM Choir 9:30 AM Worship 10:30 AM Sunday Forum 5:00 PM Fall Festival Dinner at St. Agnes	10 8:00 AM Men's Breakfast Bible Study	11 9:00 AM Women's Bible Study Group @ Bridge Creek	12 8:00 AM Five Minute Prayers for Messiah 1:30 PM WELCA	13	14	15
16 8:45 AM Choir 9:30 AM Worship 10:30 AM Sunday Forum	17 8:00 AM Men's Breakfast Bible Study	18 9:00 AM Women's Bible Study Group @ Bridge Creek	19 8:00 AM Five Minute Prayers for Messiah	20 7:00 PM Book Club at Karen Young's	21	22
23 8:45 AM Choir 9:30 AM Worship 10:30 AM Sunday Forum	24 8:00 AM Men's Breakfast Bible Study	25 9:00 AM Women's Bible Study Group @ Bridge Creek 4:00 PM Church Council	26 8:00 AM Five Minute Prayers for Messiah	27	28	29
30 8:45 Choir 9:30 AM Worship 10:30 AM Sunday Forum	31 8:00 AM Men's Breakfast Bible Study					

**Red Lodge AA meets Wednesdays, Fridays & Sundays
at 7:00 PM at Messiah.**



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Highlights of September Council Meeting

Financial Report: YTD income through August 2011 is \$80,139.84. Expenses are \$87,827.69. Difference is a negative \$7,687.85, primarily because of basement bathroom repair at the parsonage and the Council voted to pay ahead the contribution to Luther Seminary for \$2,000 in order to qualify for a speaker (as we did last January).

Light in the Beartooths contributions have totaled YTD \$60,303.00. Loan balance is \$100,025.99. Contributions to the Driveway replacement total \$1,890.00.



Fall Family Festival dinner is set for Sunday October 9 at 5:00 PM at St. Agnes' Church. A great spaghetti dinner is planned. Please come and bring a salad or dessert.

Luther Seminary thanked Messiah for our financial contribution supporting Peter Christ.

Jennifer Coutts, our accompanist, thanked Messiah for her gift.

WOMEN'S LUNCHEON FOR RUTH URBAN

The Women of Messiah's Bible Study group are hosting a luncheon for Ruth Urban and her family at the home of Stan and Gina Farnham on Friday, October 7 at Noon. The luncheon is potluck; please bring a salad or dessert.

Please call Gina Farnham if you plan to come. 446-9818



Messiah Annual Fall Harvest Dinner O Day Full of Grace

Who: Families, Singles, Youth, Adults, Kids, Friends of Messiah

When: Sunday, October 9, 5 PM

Where: St. Agnes' Catholic Church

What: Food, Fellowship, Music and Fun!



August LIB Income	\$12,262.00
YTD LIB Income	\$60,303.00
The following payments were made on the LIB loan 8/31/11	
Quarterly Interest Payment of	\$1804.59
Principal Payment of	\$16,700.00
Current Mortgage Balance is now	\$100,275.44
LIB Checking Account Balance is	\$114.00

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

OCTOBER 2011 Newsletter

Return Service Requested

Christmas Kids' Shoppe

Christmas Kids' Shoppe is less than two months away...on December 3 and 10. So as you are cleaning out closets and corners, save your terrific treasures and keep them at your homes. The church basement room is rather full. Present plans are to begin set up on Monday November 28 about 9AM. We will have signup sheets available in mid November. Pass the word as well to friends and neighbors and family. Thrivent Financial of Carbon County has pledged to give us \$200 for purchasing men and boys' gifts as we always have fewer of those donations. This is such a great event that Messiah gives our community. I know it will be another successful year...thanks to you all.



Messiah's

Mission:

*To know Christ
To make disciples
To send out
To make Christ
known*

HOW TO REACH MESSIAH

Church Phone: 406-446-2430
Church Address: 723 S. Adams PO Box 1330
Website: www.redlodgemessiah.com
Email: churchoffice@180com.net
Pastor Kim Wilker 446-4466
Sunday Choir Practice: 8:45 AM
Sunday Worship Service: 9:30 AM

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.*