

July 2011

First News



Pastor Brad Ulgenes
Pastor Michael O'Hearn
Mary Stevens~
Music Coordinator
(406) 265-5881

P.O. Box 66
303 6th Avenue
Havre, MT 59501

1luthvr@mtintouch.net
<http://www.flchavre.org>

Darcey Buerkle
Office Administrator
(406) 265-5881
(406) 262-3622 Cell#
Office Hours 8am-1pm
Monday-Friday
buerkled@itstriangle.com

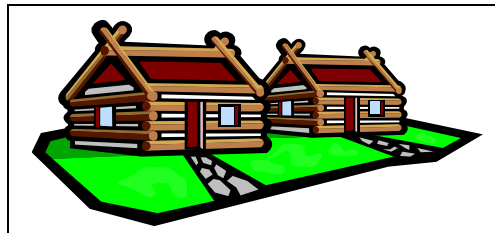


The Wed's, night "Drawn to the Word" event on July 6th has been canceled due to family complications of the presenter. We hope to reschedule the event in the future.

Pastor Bradn Buerkle, missionary to Russia, along with his family, will be here for a mission program on Wed., July 6th at 6:30pm. The worship service will be preceded by a potluck at 5:30pm. Pastor Bradn has been called to continue to serve the church in Russia but in a new way. Starting in Sept., Pastor Buerkle will be ministering in Siberia as a pastor of a Lutheran congregation in Novosibirsk, and will be supervising young pastors in the region. He will be employed by the ELCA but funded by a German Lutheran mission agency which has provided a grant to support his ministry.

FLATHEAD LUTHERAN BIBLE CAMP

Kids going to Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp should be at the church parking lot by 8:00am and the bus will leave by 8:30am. The kids will need to bring enough money with them for a meal on the way down to camp and on the way back from camp. The bus should arrive back in Havre around 7:30pm, Friday, July 15th, 2011. For questions please call the church office at 265-5881.



REMINDER

There will be one worship service at 9:30am starting May 29th through September 4th. We will Also have a Wed. night Worship Service at 6:30PM starting June 1, 2011 with a pie and coffee social at 7:15pm.

Mission Motto:

In faith sharing

God's love; In

Kindness serving

All.

Please note that if you have an address change, phone number change or an article for the First News or the bulletin or just need to correspond with Darcey please email it directly to her church email address of buerkled@itstriangle.com this will assure that it goes directly to her. Please do not use 1luthvr@mtintouch.net to correspond with Darcey. Thank you for helping out with this matter. If you have questions please feel free to call us at the church office 265-5881.



P
a
s
t
o
r

O
H
e
a
r
n

The Five Habits of Highly Spiritual Leaders 1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11 **There are five habits of highly spiritual people: They dream, scheme, team, lean and beam.** Business leadership guru Steven Covey's *The Seven Habits of Highly Effective People* (New York: Simon & Schuster, 1990) was a bestseller. Covey was preaching that principles and morals, values and accountability, actually belong in the office. None of the "seven habits" Covey touts are all that startling. They include: 1. Be proactive -- take initiative, be responsible. 2. Begin with the end in mind -- envision the outcome you want, while maintaining your values. 3. Put first things first -- allow your values to discipline your feelings and impulses. 4. Think win/win -- keep a "no-losers" attitude. 5. Seek first to understand, then to be understood -- focus on listening, not on replying. 6. Synergize -- enable more energy to be released than was put in. 7. Sharpen the saw -- cultivate yourself -- physically, mentally, socially, emotionally and spiritually. If corporate America was convinced that his message of moral transformation was the key to success and well-being, why are our churches still half-empty on Sunday morning? Could it be that we have lost our ability to communicate the essential transformative message at the heart of the gospel? Why is it okay to be principled and spiritually aware in the office Monday through Friday -- but Sunday morning is still reserved for, recreation, sports, an early golf game or a leisurely brunch. Perhaps it is time the church demanded more from its members than their physical presence on Sunday morning. The church must make it clear that it also demands spiritual leadership from every parishioner in the pew. The author of 1 Peter offered the Gentile Christians his own version of what was needed for them to successfully negotiate life in the midst of a hostile pagan culture. We might call these "The Five Habits of Highly Spiritual Leaders." The Christians 1 Peter addressed were faced with consequences more dire than a production slowdown or increased interest rates. Their very lives and future welfare were threatened by the fact that they dared to be Christians in an unbelieving world. While they might not have felt like it, these struggling, isolated, new-to-the-faith Christians were leaders. They were first-generation believers -- the beginning of the Gentile church in Asia Minor. 1 Peter understood how tense, how testing, how tender the cultural situation these Christians had to learn to thrive in. The "five habits" he suggests offered these believers a way to remain in the midst of a foreign culture, yet stand apart as members of the distinctive church community: 1. DREAMS -- Don't be afraid to dream God-sized dreams. Keep alert. Be attuned to everything happening around you without getting sucked into any of it. 2. SCHEMES -- Lead a disciplined life that your dreams may come true. Keep a clear head about your life and your life projects. Let both the invitations and the insults pass you by as you stay focused on God's plan and purpose for your life. 3. TEAMS -- Humble yourself in the realization that you can't do it alone or "go it" alone. Admit your weakness in wanting to go through life solo, and rely on God's strength as well as network with others. 4. LEANS -- Cast your anxieties on God. Believe in God's care, trusting in God's love. 5. BEAMS -- Constantly beam in on God's word for strength, steadfastness and confidence. Firmness in faithfulness, both individually and as a community, is a byproduct of marinating one's life in the Word of God. The first Gentile Christians struggling to maintain their identity and survive in a hostile culture must have learned successfully to adopt these "five habits" -- for they obviously inspired another generation to join them. Just as those first-century Gentile Christians had to learn to be spiritual leaders in order to survive and grow, so we too must be the spiritual leaders for all those generations of faith that will take us through the 21st century. See you in church,

Pastor Michael

Music Musings By Mary Stevens Music Coordinator~ First Lutheran

"Let the words of my lips and the meditation of my heart be acceptable to you, O God of my salvation." "Meditation of my heart." Meditation is a concept that is rather foreign to most people, but one that is well worth exploring. Meditation is more than thinking and pondering about something. Maybe it would be better to say that it is less than thinking about something. Meditation is quiet. Meditation is not thinking. Meditation is becoming so quiet that the whispers of God's Spirit can be heard. Meditation is a state of being, not of doing. So how does one learn to meditate? There are many methods. One of the most effective ways is to hum or say a word or phrase over and over in order to quiet the mind and purge random thoughts that intrude into the silence of meditation. As Lutherans, we have an advantage here. A good phrase for meditation is the "Lord have mercy" from our kyrie. Find a quiet spot and a comfortable position. Close your eyes and sing either aloud or silently to yourself "Lord have mercy." You can use the tune from one of our liturgies, or you can chant it slowly on a single pitch. Try to clear your mind and reach out toward God. When your mind wanders, bring it back to meditation by chanting "Lord have mercy" again. When you feel God's Spirit touch your spirit, don't analyze, don't think. Just be there in the moment. Chant "Lord have mercy" again. Stay there for awhile. End with an outpouring of thanksgiving to God. You may find that meditation comes easily, but it is more likely that it will be difficult at first, simply because it is so foreign. Don't expect to immediately be able to meditate for 20 minutes straight—start with five minutes and give yourself time and opportunity to expand it to whatever is comfortable. Like any skill, it takes practice and repetition. As your meditation skills progress, you will find it easier to get past the clutter in your mind and into a state of meditation and be able to grab a few moments of meditation at odd times and places throughout your day. You will find yourself looking forward to those times and opportunities for meditation. And may the meditation of your heart bring you into closer fellowship with God.

Preschool/Daycare News

The Preschool is accepting applications for the 2011-2012 school year. If you are interested please call 265-5883 and speak to Stephanie Borst Preschool and Daycare Director. The classes available are Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday afternoon from 1:00pm to 3:00pm.

The Daycare and Church Office will be closed on July 4th so the staff can spend time with family and friends as they observe Independence Day 2011.

Thank You VBS Staff

A special thank you to Kev Elletson and the members who helped make Vacation Bible a success. We want to thank the Scofield family for opening their home for housing, to all who furnished snacks, Shirlee Perrodin and her family, Pastor Brad & Elaine Ulgenes for hosting the camp counselors for activities and dinner, the Havre Parks and Recreation City of Havre for letting us utilize Pepin Park for our Vacation Bible School and to the following teachers: Alex Cole, Charlie Christianson, Lauren Scofield, Hillary Honadel, Dane Warp, Isaac Warp, Parker Filius, TC Flesche and Cody, Carlene and Cassie Rennick. We also want to thank Sherri Obrecht with Ben Franklin Crafts for donating a \$60.00 gift card for us to purchase crafts for the Vacation Bible School. It takes a lot of team work and preparation to put on Vacation Bible School so a **BIG THANK YOU TO ALL** for all your hard work and dedication to make this all happen. Thank you to all the Pastors' that continue to make this a success every year.



The staff of First Lutheran Church and Preschool and Daycare want to take the time to wish everyone a Happy and Safe 4th of July weekend.

Amazing Love—by Luanna Cheney

We who have been redeemed through the sacrifice of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ have much to be grateful for. Jesus told us in Matthew 28:20 "and be sure of this; I am with you always, even to the end of the age." John 3:17 tells us, "For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved." Remember when Phillip went to look for his brother and tell him about Jesus? Nathanael had doubted when Jesus told him that he knew Him. He asked, "How do you know about me?" Jesus answered, "I could see you under the fig tree before Phillip found you." Isn't it thrilling to know that Jesus sees and knows us? He understands all of our weaknesses and loves us just the way we are. He knows how great our need of Him is. He cares about us and for us. I can remember the day our little girl stood on tiptoes on my parents' couch and saw her reflection in the mirror. Excitedly she pointed and yelled, "Look!" The mirror sees me!" In the same way, I marvel that the God of creation, the giver of Life and all things, not only sees me but that He loves me unconditionally with the love that never changes. What He did through Jesus to save me is truly amazing!

Words of Great Value

By Sharon Lee Roberts

*How important is this thing called prayer?
Indeed, it calls to God who listens, cares,
His ear intent on every word that is said
Of fear, petition, anguish, sadness, dread.
He answers thus according to His will
And tells each heart, "Don't worry.
Peace. Be still."*

*What have the prayers of God's own
people done?
Loved ones regained health and wars
were won;*

*Attitudes were changed, loved prevailed-
Salvation and renewal found in jails,
Broken hearts were mended and set free;
Boldness was instilled; the blind could
see.*

*How important is this thing called prayer?
How disarrayed the world would be
If it weren't there.*

**Thank you to the following
Thrivent Financial members
who direct deposit their choice
dollars to benefit First
Lutheran:**

**Karla Bolken
Wayne Bolken
Lee Christianson
Brooke Donovan
Patricia Kane
Michael Tilleman**

Your gifts are appreciated!!!!!!!

July 2011 Church Calendar

"To Everything There Is A Season"



| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|---|--|--|---|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| | | | | | 1 AA 8pm ALANON 8pm | 2 |
| 3 Worship 9:30a Coffee Hour 10:30am | 4 Pastors Day off ACOA 7pm Happy 4 th Of July | 5 Cluster Text 1:30p Boy Scouts 7pm | 6 Worship 6:30pm Pie Social 7:15pm Bradn Buerkle Preaching | 7 Men's Bible study 6:30am Women's Bible Study & Lois Circle 1:30pm | 8 AA 8pm ALANON 8pm | 9 Sat. Sewing 9a-12p |
| 10 Worship 9:30a Coffee Hour 10:30am | 11 Pastors Day off ACOA 7pm | 12 Cluster Text 1:30p New Member Class 7pm Boy Scouts 7pm | 13 Care Center 10:30am Eagles 12:00pm Worship 6:30p Pie Social 7:15p | 14 Men's Bible study 6:30am Women's Bible Study & Lois Circle @ 1:30pm Boards 6:30p Council 7:30pm Caring Friends 3:00pm | 15 AA 8pm ALANON 8pm | 16 |
| Kids at | Flathead | Bible | Camp | | | |
| 17 Worship 9:30a Coffee Hour 10:30am | 18 Pastors Day off ACOA 7pm | 19 Cluster Text 1:30p Boy Scouts 7pm | 20 6:30pm Worship Pie Social 7:15pm | 21 Men's Bible study 6:30am Women's Bible Study & Lois Circle @ 1:30pm | 22 AA 8pm ALANON 8pm | 23 |
| 24 Worship 9:30a Coffee Hour 10:30am | 25 Pastors' Day Off ACOA 7pm | 26 Cluster Text 1:30pm Boy Scouts 7pm | 27 Worship 6:30pm Pie Social 7:15pm | 28 Men's Bible study 6:30am Women's Bible Study & Lois Circle 1:30pm | 29 AA 8pm ALANON 8pm | 30 |
| 31 Prayers for Healing Worship 9:30a Coffee Hour 10:30am | | | | | | |

Please note that the church office and Daycare will be closed on Monday, July 4th, 2011.

The whole daycare side of building including the gym will be closed for waxing and carpet cleaning July 1-4.

Bradn Buerkle will be here with his family to share at the Wed. night worship at 6:30pm. A potluck will take place prior to the worship service at 5:30pm.

Flathead Bible Camp is July 10-16. The bus will be in the church parking lot at 8:00am and will leave at 8:30am on Sunday, July 10, 2011. It will arrive back I Havre on Friday, July 15th, 2011 around 7:30pm.

July BIRTHDAYS AT FIRST LUTHERAN

July 2~ Brooke Jappe
Larry Jappe
Claire Stoner

July 3~ Shelley Nolan

July 4~ John Gilbert
Kari Gorder
Bradley Medlang

July 6~ Bernice Stilger

July 7~ Bonita Griggs

July 8~ Chris Gorder
Robert Ogden
Michael Sloan

July 9~ Jeremy Sapp
Darla Kuntz

July 11~ Randolph Christofferson
Karen Nave
Shelley Pfister
Kirby Sands

July 13~ Sophia Purkett
Kristina Zuelke

July 14~ Margaret Gorder
Niki Kurtz
Jacob Rowin

July 15~ Megan Ogden

July 16~ Barbara Freier
Betty Olson

July 18~ Roger Meredith

July 23~ DaNelle Bakke
Scott Hanson

July 27~ Diane Savasten-Getten

July 28~ Audrey Flynn
Clifford Jacobsen

July 29~ Virginia Kappernick

July 30~ Shirlee Perrodin

July 31~ Danica Medlang
Sandy Anderson

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

FIRST LUTHERAN RADIO SPONSORSHIP

I/we support the Radio Broadcast of First Lutheran's 11am worship service on 610 KOJM. We are in need of sponsors. Please prayerfully consider sponsoring a Sunday. If you have questions please call 265-5881.

- \$175 for one Sunday
 \$87.50 for 1/2 Sunday
 Other
 This is a monthly commitment



Name(s) _____

Address _____

_____ I/We give permission to have my/our name(s) printed in the bulletin and/or in the worship announcements as sponsors of that Sunday's radio broadcast.

July Funeral Committee- Chairs~ Teresa Spangelo~ 265-7788
 Karla Bolken~ 265-2587

Jay & Tammie Almas 265-7660
 Anna May Borst 265-4665
 Dave Carlson 265-7570
 John & Julee Christian 262-6999
 Greg & Marcia Durward 265-6907
 Scott & Kari Filius 265-1729
 Norm & Margie Gorder 265-5296
 Donna Mangold 945-1148

Roger & Wanda Meredith 265-8807
 Todd & Sherry Obrecht 945-3831
 Cliff & Chamene Plum 265-1697
 James & Trish Sands 265-9677
 Clint & Angie Twombly 265-1154

If you are not on a month for the funeral committee and would like to be on one or you thought you were on one but have not seen your name please call the church office at 265-5881 and we will be happy to get you on a month that fits your schedule.

Prayer Chain Update

Those who are awaiting surgery, hospitalized or recovering: Jasmine Christianson, Adam Borg, Gregg Carlson, Vickie Jacobson, Randy Sekora, Kasidee Kane, Gwen Keely, Jean Dudley, Sherm Ekness, Landon Doney, Michele and Ireland Mears, Debbie Dean, Judy Solomon, John Malley, Randy Allemeier, Karen Sloan

Prayers of thanks and joy: Those serving at Flathead Bible Camp Jacob Ulgenes and John Perrodin

Those at home: Dee Heltne, Bill Otto, Carolyn Richardson, Roger Phillippi, Ilert Hellebust, Delores Johnson, Herb Freier, Evelyn Patera, Ruth Meredith

Those who are in living facilities: John Buerkle, Jr., Edna Hess, Mary Meland, Eva Nelson, Muriel Otto

Those who are grieving: The families of Gary Porter, Errol Shulund, Steven Weigan(Ann, Katie, Meagan McKnight & Kylie), Dagny Carlson, Harold M. "Hap" Pleas, Elsie Bender, Lydia Maier, Leona Kutzler, Ellis Merrifield, Alan Haines, Herb Knutson

Those Serving In The Military: Chris Shields, U. S. Army-Iraq,

Aaron Nolan~AirForce-California, Kohl Bebee U.S. Army-Germany, John Joseph Kane, U.S. Marine Corp-Okinawa ,Japan

Prayers for military unit: 1-163 Infantry Battalion stationed in Iraq

Prayers For The Flood, Tornado and Fires Victims: All people living in the United States devastated by destruction of floods, tornados and fires, may there be peace for all the families and loved ones

Those Serving In The Peace Corp: Michelle Hockett~ Peace Corp~ Serving in Kazakhstan

Our thoughts and prayers are with Pastor O'Hearn, Pat and family as they attended the graveside memorial service for his father, Paul O'Hearn that was held June 8th, 2011 in Kennewick, WA.



Please note if you have someone that you would like put on the Prayer Chain to be listed in the bulletin and or First News please call Darcey in the Church Office at 265-5881 or email her on her church email at buerkled@itstriangle.com and she will be sure to get it on there.

Youth Board News

Happy Summer to all youth and families of First Lutheran Church.

The Youth Board is looking for new members, and ask you to prayerfully consider joining the board for the youth of our church. The Youth Board is charged with keeping youth active in our congregation, through bible camp, high school youth group and other activities. We meet once a month on council nights for planning and we work together to make sure the youth are represented well.

Bible Campers will board a bus on July 10 for Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp, returning on July 15th. Thank you for your support of their fundraising efforts throughout the year!

High School Youth will be camping out at Fresno June 24-26, at the main beach/Walleye campground. A Movie Night to enjoy the big screen in our youth room will be on Wednesday, June 29 from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. All high school youth including the recently confirmed and graduates are invited.

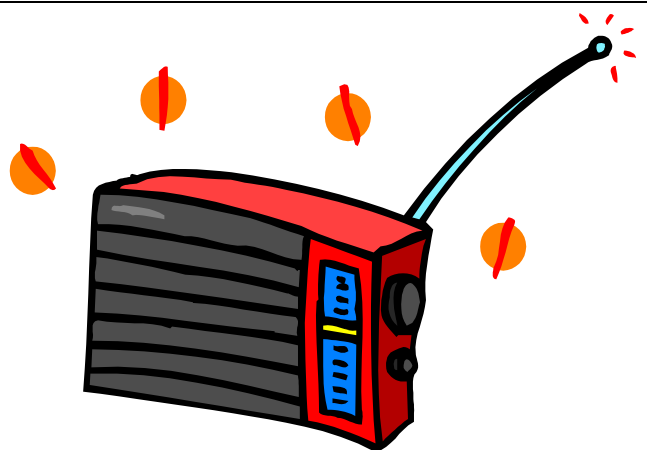
We would like to encourage all to attend the Downpour Festival in Great Falls, August 12-13. The David Crowder Band among other great Christian bands will be playing throughout the weekend. This is a FREE festival for all to attend. For more info, www.downpourfestival.com

In faith sharing God's Love;
In kindness serving all.
Your Youth Board

Downpour Festival
Great Falls, MT
August 12-13, 2011
"Christian Music Festival"
Cost: FREE
www.downpourfestival.com

High School Youth Group
MOVIE NIGHTS
Wednesday, June 29
and
Wednesday, July 27
7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Youth Room

It is with thankful hearts we remember Dagny Carlson and her many years of service to our church. Today we are especially grateful for the generous donation given to the church by her family in her memory. This money will be used to help continue our worship broadcast which meant to much to Dagny.



Words from the Bishop: God's work. Our hands.

Our Synod Assembly met June 3-5 under the theme "God's work. Our Hands." We were not the only synod with that theme. Indeed, it is the tagline used all over the ELCA. And our keynote speaker, the Rev. John Nunes, reiterated the theme as he shared his vision of being church together.

"God's work. Our hands." Is not just a slogan. It is really our marching orders. And in demonstration of it, we broke in the middle of the assembly and did hands-on-service projects. Together we cleaned and restocked local food shelves, knitted caps, crocheted prayer shawls, assembled infant and health kits, and worked on quilts for Lutheran World Relief. During the assembly we took an offering for Lutheran World Relief for God's work in relief and development overseas. And we heard local flooding updates and had an opportunity to make direct offerings to Lutheran Disaster Relief for local flood relief.

At our assembly we acknowledged the flooding that kept our Roundup pastor close to home instead of with us. And we acknowledged LDR's work last year on the Rocky Boy's Indian Reservation, in conjunction with Our Saviour's, and this year on the Crow Indian Reservation.

Other synods had similar experiences. In New England, the synod met in Springfield, Massachusetts, across the street from where a tornado had touched down that same week, destroying the homes of several newly resettled refugee families sponsored by the Lutherans, and taking the life of one. It was a powerful time to bring the church together in prayer and in service.

The Central States Synod, still reeling from the tornado in Joplin, Missouri, featured a cross made from timbers of the ELCA church building that was destroyed in the storm. Peace Lutheran's sign, and the cross were reminders of the devastation, and symbols of compassion and hope.

Since our assembly, flooding has continued across the state, and Rocky Boys is again inundated. We continue to pray for our neighbors in need and to respond to God's work with our hands.

If you want to make a gift to help out with international relief and development work, you may send it through the Montana Synod, marked LWR, or directly to Lutheran World Relief. If you want to make a gift to help out with local flooding, you can send it to the Montana Synod, or directly to Lutheran Disaster Response, marked Montana Flooding.

*Lutheran World Relief
PO Box 17061
Baltimore, MD 21298-9832*

*ELCA Disaster Response
39330 Treasury Center
Chicago, IL 60694-9300*

ASSOCIATION OF LUTHERAN CHURCH MUSICIANS

The ALCM National will meet in conference, July 31 through August 3, 2011, in Seattle, Washington. The conference will address the following question: Out of the abundance of worship music arrayed before us these days, how do we decide what to sing? This is not a new question. It is indeed ageless. Nevertheless we asked this very question of Paul Westermayer, Professor of Church Music at Luther Seminary, author of *Te Deum: The Church and Music* and the now available *Hymnal Companion to Evangelical Lutheran Worship*. At this summer's conference, he will moderate a discussion entitled: *Discernment: What music should we choose?* For more information, visit our website at www.alcm.org or call the ALCM offices at 1-800-624-2526.