

May 2011

First News



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

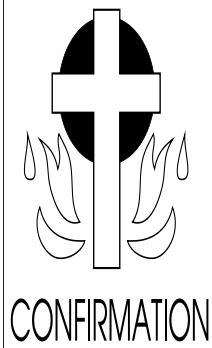
P.O. Box 66
303 6th Avenue
Havre, MT 59501

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

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

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.

*In faith sharing
God's love; In
Kindness serving
All.*



New Member classes will begin on May 3rd and run every Tues. until May 24th. Please see Pastors' Brad or O'Hearn Or you can call the church office at 265-5881 for more information.

Confirmation Sunday at First Lutheran

Confirmation will take place on Sunday May 15th at the 8:30 and 11:00 A.M. worship services. A reception for the confirmands will take place at 9:45 A.M.

The following confirmands will affirm their baptism upon completion of requirements: Gunnar Aageson, Michael Bakke, Dakota Christianson, Kieran Dahle, T.C. Flesche, Rachel Majeres, Trey Scofield, and Carlene Rennick.

"Confirmation is a pastoral and educational ministry of the church which helps the baptized child, through Word and Sacrament, to identify more deeply with the Christian community and participate more fully in it's life and mission."

Graduation Senior Sunday

Sunday May 22nd, 2011 is Graduation Senior Sunday at First Lutheran Church. This will take place at the 8:30am worship service. Please join us for this wonderful day as we send our 2011 graduating class from Havre High on new endeavors. **Graduation at Havre High will take place on May 29th at 4:00pm.**

Those graduating are:

Bryan Almas, Curran Anderson, Kelsey Bakke, Teresa Buerkle, Haley Buettner, Danielle Dryden, Taylor George, Kristian Honadel, Brooke Jappe, Kaylee Schubert, Kim Shields.

CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATING CLASS OF 2011

First Lutheran will be having a garage sale on May 21st, 2011. If you have nice used items that you would like to donate to the church please contact or see Doris Halverson at 265-7425 or see her at church. We will gladly accept items from your garage, crafts, baked goods to sell with coffee. Sale to be extended on Sunday at Boxcars parking lot.



HE IS ALIVE!

P
A
S
T
O
R

O'
H
E
A
R
N'
S

C
O
L
U
M
N

Mary Magdalene had reason to be especially grieved by Jesus' death. Luke tells us in his Gospel that Jesus had cured Mary of "evil spirits" (Luke 8:2). She then became one of his followers and supported his ministry. But what makes Mary memorable is that she was there at the end. All four Gospels record her presence in their accounts of the resurrection. John tells us that Mary discovered the empty tomb and ran to tell the others, who came and saw for themselves (see John 20:1-9). Then the others went home. Except Mary. She remained at the tomb, weeping. And that is where she met the risen Christ.

Mary was a witness to the Good News because she was there, she was paying attention and she recognized Jesus when he spoke to her. And because she was available and aware, she had the privilege of announcing to the disciples that Jesus was alive.

Like Mary, we as believers are witnesses to the living presence of Christ. What greater thing has been entrusted to us? The realization that Jesus is living in us and working in the world is a message of hope, and hope is a precious commodity in a skeptical and materialistic world. We are to steward that hope and be an encouragement to others. We cannot be very effect in our proclamation of the gospel unless we are witnesses and participants in the Good Friday-Easter event in the life of Christ. (See Romans 6:4) The death and resurrection of Jesus Christ becomes real for us as we embraced him by faith and dedicate our lives to his service. Our faith is not in a historical model. It is in a living Lord. This sense of the aliveness and nearness of God must permeate our lives. See you in church!
Pastor Michael

Music Musings By Mary Stevens Music Coordinator~ First Lutheran

What does this song mean? That question is heard a lot by high school music festival participants. What does this song say? What are you trying to communicate to your audience? Sometimes the answer to that question is hidden in lyrics that are difficult to understand or in lyrics that may seem to say one thing but may actually say just the opposite. One duet I accompanied at District Music Festival was a song called "Didn't My Lord Deliver Daniel?" On the surface, the lyrics seem to imply that God delivered Daniel and therefore God will deliver me. However, further evaluation revealed a much different interpretation. Didn't my Lord deliver Daniel, and why not every man? He delivered Daniel from the lion's den, Jonah from the belly of the whale. And the Hebrew children from the fiery furnace, and why not every man? I set my foot on the Gospel Ship, and the ship begins to sail. It landed me over on Canaan's shore, and I'll never come back no more. Didn't my Lord deliver Daniel, and why not every man? So, according to the song, God delivered Daniel. God delivered Jonah. God delivered the Hebrew children from the furnace (presumably Shadrach, Meshack, and Abednego from Daniel chapter 3.) Then comes the question: "Why not every man?" What exactly is that question asking? Our "happily ever after" preference assumes that the question is rhetorical: That if God delivered Daniel, Jonah, and the Hebrew children, then God is able and willing to deliver every man. It doesn't take many years of living to know that God does not deliver everyone. Why not? The second verse, "I set my foot on the Gospel Ship..." reveals a little more of the true intent of this song. The ship sailed and landed the singer on Canaan's shore. What is Canaan's shore? It is heaven—the life after death. In other words, the singer died and has suddenly realized that God did not deliver him in the same way that God delivered Daniel and the others. Why not? Rather than being a song of assurance and victory, this is a song of bewilderment and betrayal. "God, you did not deliver me! Why?" No answer is given. It is one of the unanswered questions of faith. God could have delivered me but chose not to do so. Why? Life is full of those questions. It is a dangerous lie to pretend that those questions and circumstances do not exist. It is a question that will probably never be answered on this earth. It is a question that tests the limits of faith. Will I believe and trust in God even if deliverance never comes? Even if my marriage fails in spite of my prayers? Even if my child dies for no apparent reason? Even if illness strikes me or one of my loved ones? When you face these struggles, read the Psalms. You will find that you are not alone in your confusion and anger. Didn't my Lord deliver Daniel? And why not every man? Let me know if you find the answer.

Preschool/Daycare News

The Preschool and Daycare will be closed on Memorial Day May 30th, 2011 so the staff can spend time with family. For questions please contact Stephanie Borst at 265-5883.

First Lutheran Preschool will be having their end of the year programs in the Sanctuary on May 25th @ 10:30am, 11:00am and 2:15pm and on May 26th @ 10:30am for more information please contact Director Stephanie Borst at 265-5883.

The last day of Preschool will be May 27th. If you have questions please contact Stephanie Borst, Preschool/Daycare Director at 265-5883.



Daily bedtime prayers

Prayer as part of a bedtime routine, physicians say, also can serve as a tool for healthful sleep. Steven Zorn, a sleep bedtime habits and restful evening behaviors can help children and adults more effectively transition their minds toward sleep. Parents can introduce bedtime prayers to their children at any age by: **Reciting a simple verse.** Young children often are quick to memorize simple poems and short prayers, so don't be surprised if your son or daughter quickly learns a bedtime verse by heart. You can find ideas for prayers in a variety of children's books, including *Now I Lay Me Down to Sleep- Action Prayers, Poems and Songs for Bedtime* by Debbie Traftan O'Neal. **Blessing Others.** The end of each day is an ideal time to thank God for people who make our lives special. Asking for God's blessing on others- from "God bless Grandma" to "God bless Fluffy the cat"- is one way parents can introduce the concept of praying for others as



*Give unto the Lord the glory due his name;
Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.
Psalm 29:2*

Church News

The church office will be closed on Memorial Day, May 30th. For questions please call the church office at 265-5881. Darcey will be out of the office on May 27th and the 31st.



MEMORIAL DAY

What does Memorial Day mean to you? Is it putting out your flag because that's what everyone does? Is it barbecuing with friends and having an extra day off? Is it swimming in the pool or taking your first vacation of the year? Often we get caught up in taking holiday breaks and we often forget what the holiday is all about. There are several holidays throughout the year that I could care less about but Memorial Day and Veterans Day are definitely two that I think we need to remember for more than just spending time with friends and family. So what does Memorial Day mean to me? Memorial Day is a day where I can remember all of the many blessings that have been poured down on me by God that have been protected by countless deaths of our armed forces. Today I remember all of the fallen heroes and their families that have sacrificed so much for me to do what I do each and every day. Memorial Day is a day where we can remember the countless heroes that fought for our freedoms somewhere...fought to preserve our God-given blessings and never came home to be able to enjoy those freedoms themselves. Most of us cannot even begin to understand what it takes to be one of those heroes. I am not sure that I could be one. It takes a special person. It takes a person willing to die for his or her country. We cannot fathom what those fallen heroes went through in their sacrifice for us. It's not just a movie or a story. It's something that really happened to each of our fallen. And let us not forget the heroes who continue to fight for our freedoms heroically each and every day! Fly your flag proudly and know why you are doing it. Also remember that the fun you experience on Memorial Day came at a price! Let's appreciate that price! Let's remember our armed forces and show them our love for them and for our great Country that they gave so much to protect!

May 2011 Church Calendar

"Dew Is To The Flowers What Gentle Words Are To The Soul"



| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--------------------------------|---|--|---|---|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 Worship 8:30a & 11:00 am | 2 Pastors Day off ACOA 7pm | 3 Cluster Text 1:30p New Member Class 7pm Boy Scouts 7pm | 4 | 5 National Day Of Prayer @ Town Square 12pm serv. MB study 6:30am WB Study 1:30pm | 6 AA 8pm ALANON 8pm | 7 |
| 8 Worship 8:30a & 11:00 am | 9 Pastors Day off ACOA 7pm | 10 Cluster Text 1:30p New Member Class 7pm Boy Scouts 7pm | 11 6:00pm 8 th Grade Confirmation Pictures 7:00p Banquet | 12 Boards 6pm & Council 7pm MB study 6:30am WB Study 1:30pm | 13 AA 8pm ALANON 8pm | 14 Sat. Sewing 9a-12p |
| 15 Worship 8:30a & 11:00 am | 16 Pastors Day off ACOA 7pm | 17 Cluster Text 1:30p New Member Class 7pm Boy Scouts 7pm | 18 Care Center 10:30am Eagles 12:00pm | 19 MB study 6:30am WB Study 1:30pm | 20 AA 8pm ALANON 8pm | 21 |
| 22 Worship 8:30a & 11:00 am | 23 Pastors Day off ACOA 7pm | 24 Cluster Text 1:30p New Member Class 7pm Boy Scouts 7pm | 25 Preschool Program 10:30a, 11am and 2:15pm | 26 Preschool Program 10:30am MB study 6:30am WB Study 1:30pm | 24 AA 8pm ALANON 8pm | 28 |
| 29 Worship 8:30a & 11:00 am | 30 Memorial Day Church Office Closed ACOA 7pm | 31 Cluster Text 1:30pm Boy Scouts 7pm | | | | |



YOUTH GROUP NEWS BY JEFF DIBBLEE

ALL YOUTH FISH GATHERING WILL TAKE PLACE AT BEAR PAW LAKE ON MAY 1ST!!! WE WILL GET STARTED AT 1:00 PM AND GO UNTIL DARK. BRING YOUR FRIENDS. BRING YOUR MOM & DADS. BRING YOUR MENTORS. HECK, YOU CAN EVEN BRING YER DAWG.

BOATS AND FLOATABLES WELCOME (you can get closer to the fish ya know) CHECK YOUR LICENSES AND BRING SOME BAIT. WE WILL HAVE SNACKS.

HOPE TO SEE EVERYONE THERE FOR A GREAT "SPRING BREAK" EVENT. For more information; contact Jeff Dibblee @ 265-6987 or 945-1632.

MAY BIRTHDAYS AT FIRST LUTHERAN

- 1) Jasmine Chagnon
- 3) Clint Widdekind
- 4) Damon Anderson
- 5) Scott Sheppard
- 6) Amber Billy
Ciaran Courtnage
Thomas Flesche
- 7) Horace Borchert
- 11) Cynthia Erickson
Gretchen Garrahan
Jerry Morse
Alexander Winn
- 14) Jeannie Schlotfeldt
- 16) Amber Odegard
- 17) Tamara Barkus
- 21) Herb Freier
- 22) Greg Bailey
- 23) Linda Hinebauch
- 24) McKade Billy
Jessie Kuhn
Mary Sheppard
- 25) Carolyn Richardson
Judith Solomon
- 26) Jon Stoner

27) Wes Anderson
Kevin Johnson

28) Robert O'Leary
Hank Tweeten

29) Susan Lowen
Arletta Nicholson



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.

Council and Boards~~May 12th, 2011

Boards will meet at 6:00pm in the Fellowship Hall and Council at 7:00pm in the Fireside Room.

May Funeral Committee- Chair~ Jackee Morse 394-2373

Jan Allemeier 265-2949

Sharlyn Bakken 265-5829

Randolph Christofferson 265-4847

Darrel & Natalie Hannum 262-9130

Scott & Karla Geda 265-9591

Kevin & Lorraine Johnson 265-5960

Elmer & Vickie Kutzler 265-6313

John & Linda Malley 265-5375

Wanda Meland 265-1280

Lee & Jackee Morse 394-2373

Karen Nave 265-6527

Sondra Pepin 265-3233

Pr. Michael & Pat O'Hearn 265-0165

Leroy & Jan Petterson 265-7186

Lorren & Gayle Schlotfeldt 265-2160

Jerry Zorko 265-1813

Prayer Chain Update

Those who are awaiting surgery, hospitalized or recovering: Lorraine Durbin, Maureen Cicon, Tom Leonard, Pete Reiter, Michelle Carper, Jasmine Christianson, Kayo Knudson, Adam Borg, Mark, Tera Gorecki, Gary LaValley, Tim and Debbie Flathers, Gregg Carlson, Vickie Jacobson, Randy Sekora, Kasidee Kane, Gwen Keely, Jean Dudley, Sherm Ekness, Landon Doney, Michele and Ireland Mears

Prayers of thanks and joy: Judy Daughenbaugh for receiving a new kidney, Travis and Darlene Cline on the birth of their baby boy

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: Dagny Carlson, John Buerkle, Jr., Edna Hess, Mary Meland, Eva Nelson, Muriel Otto

Those who are grieving: The families of Alan Haines, Herb Knutson (Joel Knutson's father), James Chadwick, Raymond "Pete" Clausen, Alice Peterson, Delores Dibblee

Those Serving In The Military: Chris Shields, U. S. Army-Iraq, Aaron Nolan~AirForce-England, Kohl Bebee U.S. Army-Afghanistan, John Joseph Kane, U.S. Marine Corp-Okinawa Japan

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

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

Thanks for all you do!

We want to extend our sincere thanks to those were part of our Lenten services. We appreciate these readers who were part of the "Conversations With Jesus" mini-dramas: Lee Christianson, David Rice, Cliff Plum, Gary Hillson, Serena Dawson, Pastor Brad and Pastor Michael.

Thank you to our musicians who did a wonderful job helping to lead the Ash Wednesday and Holden Evening Prayer Services: Lauren Scofield, Mary Stevens, Pat O'Hearn, Karen Nave, Michael Dahle, and Brooke Donovan.

Finally, we especially thank all who worked so hard to make the Christian Seder Meal an inspiring night: Chamene Plum, Stella Willson, our youth, the Fellowship committee, the choir and those who brought food or supplies for the Seder Meal.

Emergency Housing and Assistance Grant Received

First Lutheran Church in conjunction with the Greater Havre Ministerial Association has been awarded a **Domestic Hunger Grant for \$3000** from the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America for the purpose of assisting applicants who need emergency housing assistance with rent or heating due to financial stress caused by unemployment, illness, domestic violence, and poverty issues. An applicant may receive one time assistance of \$150 for emergency housing needs. The applicants are interviewed by the Salvation Army on behalf of the Havre Ministerial Association. Once the need is verified and the participant is accepted, a voucher is sent to First Lutheran which sends out a check directly to the landlord or power company. At least one third of this assistance in the past has gone to help women with children struggling with family issues, including domestic violence. Here is another way that First Lutheran and our Hi-line community benefits from being a part of a larger church, the ELCA. First Lutheran Church is making a difference in the lives of needy families and is known on the community grapevine for giving concrete help for real needs through this program and our "Good Samaritan Fund." The face of Christ is seen in the faces of the poor as we "do unto the least of these."

Mary Stevens Honored For Volunteer Work

Mary Stevens, our Coordinator and Director of Music Ministry here at First Lutheran, has been recognized for two prestigious awards for outstanding and faithful community service and volunteerism.

In January she was awarded the Havre High School Booster Club's **Dr. Jim Elliot Award**. This award is given to a person who volunteers and has displayed outstanding service and support of the students, faculty and programs at Havre High School. Mr. Pat Ryan, Havre High School Choir Director, in nominating Mary said of her:

"For the past five years, Mary has accompanied the high school choirs at every concert they have performed in – around fifty performances, including district and state music festivals. Mary's professionalism, humbleness, and personal integrity make her an excellent role model for our students.

Although Mary receives a small wage for her accompanying, she frequently puts in many hours work "off the clock" and is always available to rehearse with individual student solo and ensembles. She devotes countless hours to rehearsing with students during music festival season, and takes time out of her busy life to attend district and state music festival where she accompanies many Blue Pony students.

I can think of few others who have touched the lives of so many Havre High School students, and so frequently. Without Mary's volunteerism and incredible talents, our choirs would suffer. I am grateful to Mary for sharing her talents and wonderful spirit with our students."

This spring the Montana Health Care Association presented Mary Steven with the **2011 Outstanding Adult Volunteer of the Year** award at their conference in Helena. Mary has volunteered at the Northern Montana Care Center, playing the piano for church services and putting on mini-concerts for over 20 years.

Mary initiated a music therapy program and often uses her harp to play at the bedside of patients who may be dying, suffering from pain, or agitated. Mary says, "Music has a purpose in everyone's life. It is more than just entertainment. It is so powerful in helping people deal with their emotions. Music helps relax and in turn heals the body. It nurtures emotional and spiritual health. It touches the very center of the being."

We congratulate Mary on receiving these wonderful awards. We are proud of her for receiving these commendations. Her ministry of music extends far beyond our church into our community. Her dedication and skill is greatly admired. She is a servant of Christ who exemplifies our mission motto, "In faith sharing God's love...in kindness serving in love." May God continue to share his love through your ministry, Mary, and continue to touch many hearts! Congratulations Mary!

Mary Stevens will have her annual Mary's Piano Recital on May 14th at 11:00am at the church.