

The Light

Gloria Dei Evangelical Lutheran Church



"I will not leave your orphaned; I am coming to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live." John 14:18-19

Pastor's Page ...

When I first adopted my dog Berkeley (almost 21 mos. ago!) I proudly declared that I would never, ever, ever allow him to sleep on my bed. Ever. So, I made sure to buy him the best of the best dog beds, plenty of toys, and a crate when necessary to deter him from the thought of sleeping in my room.

Of course some of you made jokes and fake bets as to how long it would take before I relented in my declaration and allowed Berkeley onto the bed. (Well, approx. 14 months, for those of you who were counting at home.)

I'll admit, I've grown to like having my dog sleep next to me. The reminder that I'm not completely alone in the house, though I highly doubt my lovable, friendly Berkeley would ever guard me against an intruder. The way in which he has become my furry alarm clock, precisely waking me up with his wet nose on my face at 6:35am on the dot everyday in order that he may be fed and taken outside. The way that he will cuddle up next to me, a soothing presence when I lie awake with anxiety in the middle of the night. Even the way that he'll look at me if I'm up later than normal at night as if to say, "Well, is it bedtime, yet?"

Because as much as we all may enjoy our times of quiet and solitude and being alone (or at least those of you who are introverts like myself), there is a great comfort in having another around, whether that other is a pet, or a spouse, or child, or friend, or whomever your "other" may be in your life.

We were not made to be islands unto ourselves, but rather made to live life in community with one another. It's one of the joys and perks that come from being a part of a church community. A gathering of people who meet at least once a week (sometimes multiple times during the week) for a time of worship, or bible study, or fellowship.

And while we know that our own human-formed communities aren't perfect and can be susceptible to back-biting, hurt feelings, cliques, and the like, God promises that he will be with us, always. Both when we are part of our communities as well as when we are apart from our communities. For in Christ's incarnation, God so desired to dwell with and even in his creation that you and I can never be alone. And in Christ's death and resurrection, we have been given the proof that nothing in all of creation can ever separate us from him (not even death or the gates of Hell) or from his love, grace, and mercy.

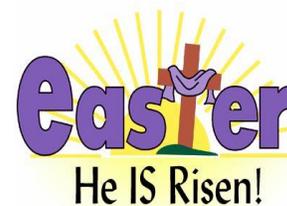
May you during this Easter season (yes, it's still Easter until Pentecost on June 4th!) feel, know, and believe that Christ is with you, always. Through good times and in bad. And that because Christ lives, you also will live.

Peace,
Pastor Martha

May
2017



ELCA



2300 Florence Avenue
Butte, MT 59701
Pastor Martha
McCreight
Office: (406) 723-9182
office@gloriadeibutte.org
pastor@gloriadeibutte.org
www.gloriadeibutte.org
Worship: 10:30 a.m.

UPCOMING EVENTS AT GLORIA DEI

May 2--- 7:00PM Music and Worship Committee
May 3--- 10:00AM Box Up Quilts
May 7--- LAST DAY OF SUNDAY SCHOOL
May 8--- Noon WELCA Executive Committee Meeting
May 9--- 7:00 PM Church Council
May 10—7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal
May 11—7:00 AM Men’s Bible Study
 11:00 AM WELCA
May 14—Mother’s Day
May 17 – Noon Stewardship

May 23—11:30 AM Altar Guild
May 24 – 7:00 Choir Rehearsal
May 25—LAST DAY of Men’s Bible Study
May 28—WORSHIP AT 9:30

SUNDAY ADULT BIBLE STUDY TEXTS

May 7th

Acts 2:42-47
Psalm 23
1 Peter 2:19-25
John 10:1-10

May 14th

Acts 7:55-60
Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16
1 Peter 2:2-10
John 14:1-4

May 21st

Acts 17:22-31
Psalm 66:8-20
1 Peter 3:13-22
John 14:15-21

May 28th

Acts 1:6-14
Psalm 68:1-10; 32-35
1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6- 11
John 17:1-11

Men’s Bible Study Thursday at 7:00 AM at Perkins.

WELCA Bible study, every 2nd Thursday, is a video series called “Loved by God.”

Synod Assembly is happening on **June 2nd – June 4th**. Gloria Dei needs two representatives from the congregation to serve as voting members. The assembly this year will be held in **Great Falls, MT** and time commitment would be from late afternoon Friday – late morning on Sunday.

The church will pick up any lodging/mileage/food expenses that are incurred and which are not covered under the registration fees.

Any individual and/or couple interested in being this year’s voting members, please see Pastor Martha ASAP.

President Notes

I’ll be honest with you: I had second thoughts about becoming Council President. We all have God-given talents, and I have my share, but leadership and vision are down the list a ways.

I had a boss once who had the charisma and strength of General Patton. My coworkers and I followed him and respected him without question. It was only after he retired and I got his job, I found out that the very traits we admired the most were the same ones that frustrated upper management to the point of distraction.

During my time in that position, I did my best to balance decisiveness and vision with transparency and consensus-building. I intend to bring this balance to the Gloria Dei Council, and hope it works for all of us.

When I look around the table at council meetings, and around the sanctuary on Sunday mornings, I see a close-knit, energetic family of believers. After a little prayerful soul searching, I agreed to take the Council President position, and I also pray that together we can continue to be effective instruments of God’s will.

God’s Work, Our Hands!
Ross

SERVICE COMMITTEE PROJECTS



Marlene Head	May 2 nd
Jordan Jense	May 2 nd
Yvonne Tempel	May 2 nd
Bob Bentley	May 5 th
Darrell McDaniel	May 6 th
Kathy Sharon	May 6 th
Dan Trudnowski	May 7 th
Sharon Sanders	May 9 th
Diane Arntson	May 10 th
Lydia Perusich	May 11 th
Don Bentley	May 16 th
Haley Tempel	May 19 th
Brett Bentley	May 20 th
Kathleen Scott	May 20 th
Alfred Johnson	May 22 nd
Delores Murto	May 24 th
Alex Cass	May 30 th



Skip and Diane Arntson May 5th

Sandwiches for the Needy - Sign up sheet is in the Narthex! Our next scheduled date is May 10th and 25th. We need people to not only make lunches but bring supplies such as lunch meat, fruit, and lunch snacks (packaged sweets, or cookies). If you have an questions contact Janel Morgan 490-7945



SERVICE COMMITTEE REQUEST

FOR LWR QUILT AND KIT SHIPPING FUND

Once again this year, Gloria Dei members have joined hearts and hands in sewing over 190 quilts and assembling 40 Baby Kits, 50 Personal Care Kits, 72 School Kits and 8 Fabric Kits to be distributed to people in need by Lutheran World Relief. For families who have lost everything due to a natural disaster or violence, small items of comfort – a warm quilt, a bar of soap, a set of pencils – let them know someone overseas cares!

Thanks to the love and commitment to these projects, our quilters and others have turned ordinary items into tangible symbols of extraordinary love for people who may feel they've been forgotten by the world.

This wouldn't have been possible without the countless hours that Doris Schultz spent sewing more than 80 receiving blankets, 160 diapers (and we have some leftover for next year), 35 baby gowns and 25 pairs of pants for our Baby Kits. We are also thankful to Thrivent Financial and the Thrivent Action Teams that were formed. Although we have the luxury of loading our quilts and kits onto a donated truck destined for the LWR warehouse in Minneapolis, costs to deliver quilts and kits overseas must be absorbed by LWR.

HOW CAN YOU HELP? Donate to LWR's QUILT AND SHIPPING FUND! LWR's Approximate Cost to Deliver Quilts and Kits Overseas: 1 Quilt: \$2.25; School Kit: \$1.40; Health Kit: \$2.65 (*Includes the cost of toothpaste to go with the health kit); Fabric Kit: \$1.00; and Baby Kit: \$1.30. If you weren't able to help sew quilts or contribute items for kits, here's an opportunity to help get those items to those in need!

Support the **Lutheran World Relief QUILT AND SHIPPING FUND** today! Simply write a check to Gloria Dei and note that it's for LWR's QUILT AND SHIPPING FUND! All of the completed quilts and kits will be displayed for the Quilt and Kit Blessing on April 30 and envelopes will be available for your donations on that day also.



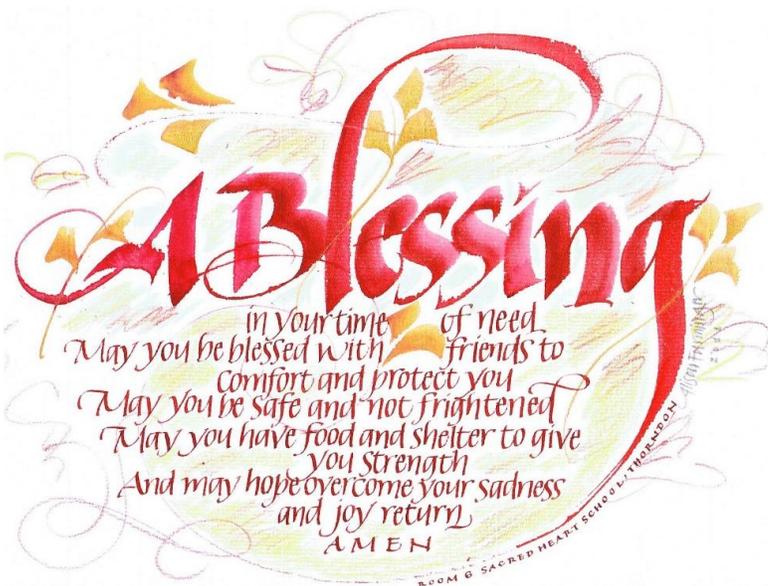
May WELCA Cookies

Bev Becker
Midge Bentley
Delores Stringer

For those of you that hated to miss the April WELCA meeting and New Hope Pregnancy Center Program, you are in luck! A family emergency prevented our speaker, Ruth Adams, from presenting her program in April so she wants to come in May. Of course we said YES! Ruth will be our luncheon speaker on Thursday, May 11 and will share information on what New Hope offers for programs and services. Thanks to Thrivent and Doris and Florence's hard work, Ruth will take a car full of much needed items back with her to New Hope!



The Bible Study and short business meeting are held in the library at 11 a.m. If you can't make that portion, please consider joining us for the lunch and program at noon in the small fellowship hall. Lunch will be provided by WELCA and the executive committee. If you have questions, please contact Marilyn Krause at 490-7486 - hope to see you there!





WOMEN'S SPRING RETREAT

May 5-7, 2017

Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp

SAVE THE DATE! Plan now to attend the WOMEN'S RETREAT. Motivating speaker, Fun, Fellowship, Service projects, Music, Great food (no cooking!)

Bring your friends, daughters, mothers, granddaughters (14 and up) along for a fun, restful, spirit-filled weekend on beautiful Flathead Lake.

Registration open! Register online (credit cards accepted) or use attached registration form.

Check out www.Impluchurch.org/womensretreat for more details, to get on our mailing list and to register!

Flathead Lake Bible Camp Blessing Bags

Please help me to fill our bag (located in the church library). Bags may be filled with many things, such as: cleaning supplies (brooms, dustpans, cleaning wipes); arts and craft supplies (paint, color crayons, old candles, white shirts and socks for tie-dying); office supplies (printer paper, stamps, envelopes); kitchen items (pot holders, aprons, paper towels, ziplock bags, utensils); and maintenance items (rakes, shovels, hammers, nails, screwdrivers). These are just a few examples of how we can fill the BAG OF BLESSINGS TO BENEFIT FLBC.

For more information contact Bob Bentley. Bob is currently serving on the Board of Directors for the Flathead Lake Bible Camp.

Gloria Dei's week up at FLBC this summer will be: July 30th – August 4th.

The earlier that you sign up for camp, the cheaper that it will be.

Gloria Dei will be offering camperships to all those in need of financial assistance for camp.





Thrivent Member Network - Northwest Region,
InFaith Community Foundation & Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp
cordially invite you to attend:

Charitable Gift Strategies for Individuals & Families

Benjamin Boline, J.D., InFaith Community Foundation Charitable Gift
Planner, will share ways you can maximize support to charities and causes
reflecting your values.

- Learn ways to save taxes, create an income and achieve your charitable goals;
- Create a donor-advised fund to practice family philanthropy and support multiple charities with one gift; and
- Be strategic in your giving for maximum charitable support and tax deductions.

Hosted by your local Thrivent Financial Representative,

Wednesday, May 10 - 12:00 noon to 1:30 p.m.
Gloria Dei Lutheran Church – 2300 Florence Avenue – Butte, MT 59701
Butte, MT 59701
Please RSVP by May 1 by calling Alexis at 406-214-2096

Refreshments will be served.

Alexis at Thrivent – 406-214-2096

InFaith Community Foundation is a national charity with a mission to serve donors, spread joy and change lives.

Charitable giving can result in significant tax, legal and financial consequences. Because the Foundation cannot give legal or tax advice, you are strongly encouraged to consult with your personal legal and tax advisors. InFaith Community Foundation is independent of Thrivent Financial and its financial associates.

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No products will be sold or gifts solicited.

inFaithFound.org p 800-365-4172

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