



# Herald of Peace

June/July 2021

Peace Lutheran Church,  
1301 Ave. D, Billings, MT 59102

(406) 252-5504  
peacelutheranbillings.com

## ***Making Christ Available to All by Rejoicing, Renewing and Reaching Out***

Peace Lutheran Church Mission Statement

### **Leadership Directory**

Pastor: Rev. Will Sappington  
[prsappington@gmail.com](mailto:prsappington@gmail.com)  
office 252-5504 Home 647-8568  
Office Manager: Dean Jenson  
[peaceoffice1301@gmail.com](mailto:peaceoffice1301@gmail.com)  
252-5504  
Youth Director: Vanessa Stieger  
[peacecyouth@gmail.com](mailto:peacecyouth@gmail.com)  
office 252-5504 cell 698-5576  
Intern Pastor: Josh Wyman  
[internpeace@gmail.com](mailto:internpeace@gmail.com)  
252-5504

Treasurer	Steve Frank
Worship Accompanists	Robin Goodheart
	Sue Vigasaa
Bells of Peace	Julie Draeger
Altar Guild Treasure	Molly Johnson
WELCA Treasurer	Connie Hausauer

### **Church Council**

Dewey Anderson	656-1709
Julie Draeger	471-3932
Robin Felton	670-5573
Wendy Goodheart	670-5471
Tony Pecarina	679-3880
Jody Pierce	245-9936
Dan Quanbeck	861-0482
Melissa Sider	763-443-6539
Nate Sider	855-1025
Linda Strosky	697-3186
Nancy Taylor	670-0053

### **Peace Office Hours**

8am-12pm & 1pm-4pm  
Mon. Tues. Thurs. & Fri.

### **Worship Schedule**

**Saturdays: 5:00 pm**  
**Sundays: 10:00 am**  
**Sunday Channel 7 at 9:00 am**



**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**  
God's work. Our hands.



### **Blessings**

*The LORD spoke to Moses, saying: Speak to Aaron and his sons, saying, Thus you shall bless the Israelites: You shall say to them,*

*The LORD bless you and keep you;  
the LORD make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious to you;  
the LORD lift up his countenance upon you, and give you peace.  
So they shall put my name on the Israelites, and I will bless them.*

Numbers 6:22-27

I will miss you dearly. I am also excited to hear about what amazing things you do next.

I'm holding these two thoughts in tension these days. I've spent quite a bit of time reflecting on your call to me ten years ago and all the changes that have happened for you the people of Peace and for the Sappington family in the years that followed. We've grown. We've disagreed. We've welcomed. We've taught. We've learned. We've served. We've laughed. We've invited. We've said goodbye to beloved saints. We've mourned. We've celebrated. We've fed. We've shared.



## ***Prayer Concerns of those we prayed for May 2021***

### **We Believe in Prayer For praise and thanksgiving ...**

Elizabeth A. Eaton - Presiding Bishop, ELCA

Laurie Jungling - Bishop - Montana Synod;

### **For people around the world in need ...**

Needs of our neighborhood coping with

Covid - 19 virus

President Joe Biden (requested by Peace member)

Christine & Scotty Soileau – Quantico, VA. (member of Peace)

### **For illness or injuries .. of members**

Ken Peterson

Laura Quanbeck

Leroy & Gertie Gross

Bob Voight

Luella Ketterling

Lisa Grimsley

Ron Zech

Howard Albers

Doris Berg

Hank Tungstall - healing

LaWanda Sherseth - healing

John Modde - recovery

Kathleen Gregg - healing

Larry Heiser –

### **For illness or injuries .. of family and friends.**

Darlene Thompson

Renae Peterson - Ken Peterson's sister

Gary Boje - Darlene Thompson's brother , recovery

Denise- Bonnie Hovik Clausen's daughter in law

Kim Anderson - friend of Jo Pates, Illness

John & Rosanne Mode - John's son JC kidney cancer Chemo

John & Rosanne Modde - Rosanne's Wayne , bone cancer

Dorothy

Jim Zeiler, brother of Sharon Hedden, healing

Jenny - Rick & Barb Olson daughter, cancer

Malcom - 6 yrs. old with a brain tumor

Rako Zech & family, Ron's Zech son - cancer diagnosis

Gary Fink - healing

Ann Strecker - friend of Rick & Barb Olson - healing

Laura Fisher (Jodi Peterson's cousin) cancer

Shawn Hanser

Bud Leuthold - friend of Joy Lindberg leukemia

### **For those grieving...**

Clarice Beery and family on the death of her mother Lillian Boje

Connie Mantei and family on the death of her brother Rod Torgenson



**P**rayer Concerns is a published list of those on the prayer chain, who have given permission to publish their names. If you are interested in praying for these, as well as others, please join the prayer chain. They have leaders who call or email. Please call lone Bloom at 652-2441 or Lisa Grimsley (698-4121).

## Congregational News

### *A Day in the Life of the Intern*

*It is the Lord who goes before you. He will be with you;  
he will not fail you or forsake you. Do not fear or be dismayed.  
-Deuteronomy 31:8*

This text from the book of Deuteronomy comes at a pivotal point in the lives of the people of Israel. After journeying through the desert for 40 years, the people have finally reached the promised land, and are about to enter a new world. The leader who had brought them out of Egypt, and led them through the desert, Moses, has been told that he will not be entering the promised land with them. The people of Israel do not know what this promised land will look like, how the leadership structures will work out from this point on, or what to expect when they get to the other side. In hopes of preparing them for the journey that lies ahead of them, Moses leaves them with the message that is quoted above.

I will never forget when I first found out that my placement for internship was going to be walking alongside all of you here at Peace. When I first told Anna that we were going to be in Montana for the year, she was literally jumping for joy because she was so incredibly excited. I was thrilled with the placement as well. I had heard wonderful things from Melissa about the ministries of both Peace and St. John's, about the staff at both locations, and about how amazing the people were. While excitement was definitely the primary emotion I was feeling, there were some things that I was nervous about as well. Billings would be the furthest I had ever lived from my family and friends, and I had only spent one year living outside of the state of Minnesota. I had never been to Montana, and I had only ever even spent an hour or two in the Mountain Time Zone which was on a layover in Denver. I had never worked with an organization like St. John's, and I had never worked with a congregation the size of Peace. While I was incredibly excited to meet all of you, there were so many things that were unknown.

The message that Moses gave to the people of Israel held true for me as well in my move to Billings. The Lord did indeed go before me, and God met me in each and every one of you. You have been so incredibly welcoming, encouraging, and supportive during my time here. I have been overwhelmed by the love that I have felt in my interactions with you all, and I have seen God meet me in my interactions with each and every one of you. I have learned and grown in ways that I could not have imagined through doing life and ministry alongside you all, and I cannot thank you enough for the gift that this year has been.

Walking alongside all of you has taught me so much about what it means to be a Pastor, and about what it means to live out the calling that God has for each of us. Your heart for the neighbors and ways that you always step up to serve the people around you has been incredibly inspiring, and has warmed my heart. Your passion for worship, and experiencing different styles and liturgies has opened my eyes to new ways that God shows up in our midst. The community and relationships that you have formed together as a people of Peace Lutheran Church has been exemplary, and has set a high bar for what I hope the congregations I will serve in the future will look like. I want to give a special word of thanks to my internship committee who have done an incredible job of encouraging me, challenging me, and helping me to discern who God has called me to be as Pastor. To the Council, who has helped me to

## Congregational News

con't from pg. 1

Years ago you and I made promises to each other which are articulated in the Letter of Call that hangs in my office. On June 12, 2011 you pledged your prayers, love, esteem, and personal support for our ministry together. I promised to preach, teach, lead, proclaim forgiveness, provide pastoral care, speak for justice, and guide you in proclaiming God's love through word and deed. We have both kept our promises and I thank you.

I'm not very good at saying goodbye. I often end phone conversations with, "talk to you soon" or "catch you later." The hard part is that after June 13th I will not be your pastor any longer. I have to say goodbye to that role, that position, and to you. I will however be your fan and cheerleader. My prayer for the people of Peace is that you continue to live into your call as the people who bring light to the corners that are in shadows. I pray that you will continue to provide a safe place to all who desire to hear the good news of grace and mercy. I pray you will continue to be a teaching congregation in whatever form that takes.

You have an abundance of gifts. I look forward to hearing about all the ways you are using them.

I will ask for your prayers as well. I can't be the one to preside at baptisms, weddings, or funerals for you any longer, but I will be doing that work for your sisters and brothers in Christ in a new place. Your prayers have strengthened me over the years and I ask that you continue to lift me up as you pray for the wider church.

I began this final newsletter article with the blessing Moses' brother Aaron was commanded to use when blessing God's people. So, I say to you,

God has and will bless you. God has and will keep you.

God's face has been shining on you and everyone can see it in your love for all.

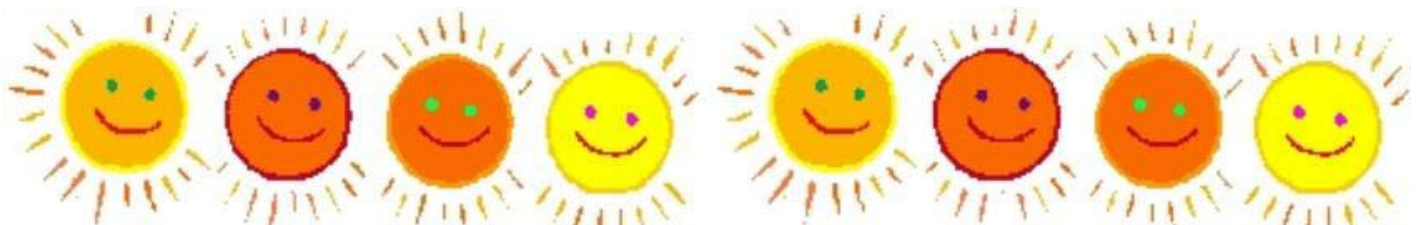
God's grace is manifest in you.

And you truly live up to you name as bearers of God's peace. Share that peace.

Do not be afraid.

Thank you for everything. Until we meet again.

Will +





## Mission and Service News

### Mission & Service Committee Happenings

#### *Upcoming Mission & Service Opportunities to Watch For*

The Mission and Service committee hopes this article finds you staying well and healthy. There is still much uncertainty regarding how we will be able to serve as a congregation in the coming summer months. Here are the tentative Mission and Service opportunities for this summer. Please consider praying for where you can personally serve others, and pray for those that will actively participate.



**Family Promise-** As you know, Family Promise quarantined their client families this past year to keep them and the host church volunteers healthy. Starting in June, the churches will once again be active in providing help through meals and volunteers to spend the evenings and overnights with the families. This will be the same as in the past except the families will be housed at a static site at First United Methodist in downtown Billings instead of moving from church to church every week. If you have previously volunteered, would like to volunteer or would no longer like to help with Peace's week of Family Promise, please contact Debbie Sider (406-998-9861), Ann Barsness (406-839-0760) or Cinda Robbins (406-896-0715), so we can prepare for our first week of hosting later in the summer.

*Peace Lutheran's next hosting week for this static location is September 5- September 11. Our church contacts will be reaching out in the near future to gauge interest and availability of congregational members to volunteer.*



**Summer Challenge-** Mission and Service is challenging congregational members twofold this summer. Please strongly consider getting vaccinated if you have not yet and are able to. Also, please donate blood sometime this summer as there is a great need for donors. Only consider donating blood if it is personally safe to do so.



**Family Service Backpack Project-** Your school supply backpack filling skills will be needed by Family Service. This is a fantastic way to serve many families in our community. The specific date has not been set yet, but please watch for a date to be announced to fill backpacks at the end of July or beginning of August providing it is safe to do so.



**Adopt-a-Teacher-** Watch for more information to possibly assist teachers at Highland Elementary. This has been a date mid-August in the past.

*Summer is a time to recharge and catch your breath. Get outdoors and enjoy in God's wonderful creations. Please also reflect on how you can lend your time and the talents God has blessed you with in service to others. God bless!*

### Peace Quilters



The quilters had a busy month in May, We sent 17 boxes to LWR containing 32 quilts, 46 school kits, and 30 fabric kits. We have our last meeting for this year on Wednesday the 26<sup>th</sup>. We will be finishing up the work for this year,

It has been a productive year even though we had to wear masks and have breaks without coffee!! Next year will be back to normal. starting in September on the 1st Wednesday morning, See everyone then.

## Congregational News

**Goodbye Intern Josh** On July 24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup> we'll say farewell and Godspeed to Intern Pr. Josh during and after worship. As we celebrate the great year we've had with Josh we will share ice cream. Plan to be there!



**Congratulations to**  
Peace Lutheran  
Church 2021

**High school graduate:**

Jacob Pierce

**College graduates:**

Bryce Peterson



**New Member Weekend** June 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>! If you are interested in membership or joined in the last year, we would love for you to be a part of our new member weekend on June 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>. Contact Will for more information.



**We love singing our favorite hymns!**

Every summer it is our tradition to have you pick the sending hymn and we need your help. **Please send Will a note with your suggestion for a sending hymn** and we will do our best to make sure each one is sung this summer. You may find your suggestion as the opening hymn or hymn of the day!



**The call committee** has opened an email for members to email them if they have questions, comments, or concerns.

[peacecallcom@gmail.com](mailto:peacecallcom@gmail.com)

### Mid-Week Worship Service at Peace!!!

Everyone is invited to attend

Compline (night prayer) service  
The Second Wednesday of the month  
June 9 and July 7 at 7:00 p.m.

Holden Evening Prayer Service  
The Fourth Wednesday of the month  
June 23 and July 28 at 7:00 p.m.



*Compline Worship Service*

**Holden  
Evening  
Prayer**

**Marty Haugen**

## Worship News

### June/July Worship Themes

We return to the Revised Common Lectionary for the Summer and spend time in Mark's Gospel

(Sermon focus texts are in bold.)

**June 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup>**      Second Weekend after Pentecost      "A House United"

**Readings:** Genesis 3:8-15; Psalm 130; 2 Corinthians. 4:13-5:1; **Mark 3:20-35**

*What does it mean that we are all one family of God? Jesus claims his followers and disciples as his family in this text, and claims that a house divided cannot stand. How do we live out our calling as brothers and sisters in Christ?*

**ELW Setting #3**

**June 12<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup>**      Third Weekend after Pentecost      "A Growing Kingdom"

**Readings:** Ezekiel 17:22-24; Psalm 92:1-4, 12-15; 2 Corinthians. 5:6-10, 14-17; **Mark 4:26-34**

*What is the kingdom of God like? How should we describe it? This weekend we will hear words of hope and promise. We will hear words of life and abundance. We will celebrate and dream.*

**Pastor Will's Sending Service - Country Gospel**

**June 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup>**      Fourth Weekend after Pentecost      "Across to the Other Side"

**Readings:** Job 38:1-11; Psalm 107:1-3, 23-32; 2 Corinthians. 6:1-13; **Mark 4:35-41**

*Jesus and his disciples were crossing the sea to get to the other side when a storm began to rage around them, and the disciples were terrified. They woke Jesus who was asleep, and heard him proclaim Good News in the midst of their distress, "Peace! Be Still!"*

**ELW Setting #8**

**June 26<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup>**      Fifth Weekend after Pentecost      "Believing the Unbelievable"

**Readings:** Lamentations 3:22-33; Psalm 30; 2 Corinthians. 8:7-15; **Mark 5:21-43**

*Jesus was headed to heal the daughter of a Pharisee when he performs an unexpected healing along the way. What do we believe the love of our God can do in the world around us?*

**ELW Setting #10**

**July 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup>**      Sixth Weekend after Pentecost      "Nothing for the Journey"

**Readings:** Ezekiel 2:1-5; Psalm 123; 2 Corinthians. 12:2-10; **Mark 6:1-13**

*Sometimes we can feel called to live out our faith in ways we may not feel prepared for. How does Jesus prepare the disciples for their journey as they go out into the world to spread this love?*

**ELW Setting #4**

**July 10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup>**      Seventh Weekend after Pentecost      "The Death of John the Baptist"

**Readings:** Amos 7:1-15; Psalm 85:8-13; Ephesians 1:3-14; **Mark 6:14-29**

*This week, we read the story of a party and a promise gone wrong. What can we learn from the life and ministry of John the Baptist? What can we learn from this story that seems to interrupt the rest of the narrative?*

**ELW Setting #8**

**July 17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup>**      Eighth Weekend after Pentecost      "Healing the World"

**Readings:** Jeremiah 23:1-6; Psalm 23; Ephesians 2:11-22; **Mark 6:30-34, 53-56**

*The news of the miracles Jesus had been performing was spreading fast. People from all over the area would flock to him when they heard he was near. The love and grace of our God would not be kept silent, and would reach all corners of the world.*

**Country Gospel**

**July 24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup>**      Ninth Weekend after Pentecost      "It is I; Do not be Afraid."

**Readings:** 2 Kings 4:42-44; Psalm 145: 10-18; Ephesians 3:14-21; **John 6:1-21**

*In our text this week, we see Jesus feeding the 5,000 and walking on water. Jesus will do whatever it takes to bring peace, hope, and love to the people he meets. Where do the miracles of Jesus meet us in our world today?*

**Intern Josh Sending ELW Setting #10**

## Education and Youth News

### Youth Group Update

Who is ready for Youth Group? Peace Pals and Peace Youth is meeting outside of Peace every Wednesday! Peace Pals will begin at 5:30 PM and Peace Youth is at 7:00 PM! Come join us, we miss you!

### Vacation Bible School

Vacation Bible School is back this year! The week of June 7th-11th we will be meeting outside from 9:30 - 11:00 AM for an hour and a half of fun. For more details, you can visit [peacelutheranbillings.com/youth](http://peacelutheranbillings.com/youth) On our website, you will be able to find a registration form.

We will also be looking for volunteers to help the week run more smoothly. If you are interested in helping out, you can email Vanessa at [peacelcyouth@gmail.com](mailto:peacelcyouth@gmail.com)

### At the Movies with Peace Lutheran!

Bring a lawn chair and meet us in the Fellowship Hall for these five great movies! After each movie, we will have an activity and a discussion. Stay tuned for more details as we get closer to these dates. This is an all-ages event. Bring a chair, some snacks, and whatever you need to have an awesome movie experience!

### Movie Listings

#### June 13th

Frozen II

#### June 27th

Spider-Man: Into the Spider-Verse

#### July 11th

The Greatest Showman

#### July 25th

WALL-E

#### August 8th

Hidden Figures

### Nighttime Prayer

*Using wall-safe sticky tack, attach a glow-in-the-dark star to your wall or ceiling for each member of your family. Each night, turn off your lights so you can see the stars glow, and say this prayer before you go to sleep.*

God, you created the stars of night,  
countless lights that twinkle and shine,  
reminding us of the vastness of your love  
and the promise you made to Abraham that  
his family would continue for generations.  
Be with me, with my family,  
and with all your children,  
as we lie down to rest,  
to restore, to rejuvenate.  
Grant us peace in our sleep,  
so that we may wake in the morning,  
refreshed, recentered,  
and ready to embrace the day.  
Amen.

### Christmas Cookies in July (or June or August)

If you know me, you know I love all things Christmas and will not waste an opportunity to celebrate! Let's make some Christmas Cookies!

Here's what you'll need:

- 1/2 cup unsalted butter
- 1 cup sugar
- 2 large eggs
- 1 1/2 tsp. vanilla extract
- 1/4 tsp. salt
- 1/2 tsp. baking powder
- 2 3/4 cups all-purpose flour
- 5 drops red or green gel food coloring
- Holiday-colored nonpareil sprinkles
- Wax paper

**Find the instructions on what to do next  
on our website:**

**[peacelutheranbillings.com/youth](http://peacelutheranbillings.com/youth)**



## Congregational News



**T**he Intern Committee is hosting a Virtual Baby Shower for Josh and Anna and Baby Wyman. Here is the link to the registry. <https://www.babylist.com/baby-anna-wyman>. Colors for their nursery are light pink and light green/sage green. There will also be a basket for cards for those wanting to not use virtual outlets in the narthex. Josh and Anna's mailing address:

**815 Park Lane  
Billings, MT 59102**

### A Day in the Life of the Intern

con't from pg.3

further see what a difference strong leadership, and love for the community that they serve can make for a community. To the Men's Breakfast Bible Study who have helped me to see that God reveals God-self in different ways to different people, and how the Spirit shows up in laughter. And to Dean, Vanessa, and Will, whose love and passion for you all have shown up every single day I have been here, and who have taught me so much about what it means to lead through serving.

We are all entering times of transition right now, and I wanted to leave you with this word of promise. The Lord does indeed go before us into our unknown, and will not leave us as we enter into times and spaces that we may not have ventured into before. Our God will indeed be with us all, and the love and presence of our God will not fail or forsake us. While journeying into uncharted waters may bring anxiety and stress, do not be afraid or dismayed because the Spirit will continue to lead and guide us all toward life and peace. The God who went before me, and met me in all of you, goes before us now into our times of transition, and will meet us with love, grace, and a future no matter where we go.



You are invited to join us for

*Fellowship*  
&  
*Farewells*

Honoring

PASTOR WILL  
and the  
SAPPINGTON FAMILY

Immediately following Worship on:

Saturday June 12, 2021  
Sunday June 13, 2021

## Community News



2021

St. John's United  
**SUMMER**  
*Concert*  
SERIES

FREE • 7PM THURSDAYS

JUNE 24 WYNDSTONE BILLINGS HEIGHTS WYLIE & THE WILD WEST		JULY 15T THE CROSSINGS LAUREL, MT KYLE SHOE & THE WALK EM BOYS	
JULY 8 "GOOD DAY SUNSHINE" A BEATLES CELEBRATION	JULY 15 DRUM BROTHERS	JULY 22 THE LIL SMOKIES	JULY 29 LANEY LOU & THE BIRD DOGS
AUGUST 5 VICTOR WAINWRIGHT & THE TRAIN			

CORNER OF RIMROCK & SHILOH • Fred & Marie Miller Pavilion • CAMPUS OF ST. JOHN'S UNITED

APPROPRIATE COMMENSURATE COVID 19 PRECAUTIONS WILL BE FOLLOWED.

THIS SEASON THERE WILL BE NO ST. JOHN'S BBQ OR CONCERT OPENERS ON TOWN SQUARE.  
WELCOME TO BRING YOUR OWN PICNIC DINNER.  
FOOD TRUCKS AVAILABLE.

### Christikon Clips June 2021



We welcome our summer staff May 31st and the first session this summer will be our Developmentally Disabled Adults in June.

We are also in the midst of the Deck Re-build project. The demolition is completed and the prep work begun. We will continue into Work Weekend with the prep and then start building with crews each week in June with hopes for completion by mid June. We are in need of volunteers, skilled and partially skilled! We will provide housing and food. Please sign up by calling the office. Let's Re-Build the Deck!

**Campers!** There is still room in our on-site sessions. Please visit our website to register. [www.christikon.org](http://www.christikon.org)

We have a few trails spots available – call the office for availability. 406-656-1969

**Remember to pray for your congregation's ministry through Christikon** this summer, for the summer staff, and for all who join in the Christikon life.

*It is the mission of Christikon to awaken and nurture faith in Christ—exploring God's creation and the adventure of life together.*

**The greatest gift  
I ever had Came from  
God; I call him Dad!**

--Author unknown

**Fathers Day  
June 20th**



## Community News



### Words from the Bishop:

#### *“Calling”*

What does it mean to be called by God? This is a season of graduations, whether from college, high school or kindergarten, and many seniors or their parents may be wondering about what is next in their lives. “Where is God calling me to go? Who is God calling me to be? What is God calling me to do?” These are questions our graduates as well as many of the rest of us post-pandemic may be asking as we move through transitions in life.

One misconception church members tend to have is that only pastors and missionaries are called. Or that God calls us to only serve the church on Sunday mornings and gives us the rest of our lives with which to do whatever we want outside of the church. We as Christians have too often separated our callings into Church (which God cares about) and the rest of life (which we mistakenly think doesn’t really matter to God). But that’s just not true.

Now don’t get me wrong. God indeed calls people to serve Christ’s Church and its mission in a variety of ways: pastors, deacons, LPAs, musicians, council officers/members, committee members, youth leaders, chaplains, Stephens Ministers, Bible study leaders, theologians, teachers, and the list can go on and on. I give thanks for each one of you who continue to serve faithfully in these callings across the church in the MT Synod and the ELCA. Your ministry is very much appreciated!

But we need more! The church is currently in great need of people to serve the church as pastoral leaders. In particular, the need for pastors and LPAs to serve congregations in the Montana Synod is overwhelming.

At this moment, we have far more openings in congregations than we have available pastors to fill those openings. And this is happening across the church in many denominations. We as church together are going to have to find innovative and creative ways to do ministry that might involve changing how we think about what it means to

be church in order to fulfill God’s ongoing call to proclaim the gospel, equip followers of Christ, and serve the neighbor in these places.

But in the meantime, we need more people to listen for and seriously consider the Holy Spirit’s call to be a pastoral leader. There are so many ways to seek ordained ministry now, for example the three candidates who went through the TEEM program and will be ordained in the next two months. Congratulations Tim Tharp (Savage/Skarr), Wendy McAlpine (Sunburst) and Cheryl Muncy (Joplin) and thank you for your willingness to serve the mission of Christ’s gospel in the MT Synod!

There’s also the LPA program in the MT Synod which is going to start up again in the fall and will only be getting stronger as we prepare lay leaders to serve their congregations. Thank you to all of our LPAs who contribute to the life of the church in so many ways. We in MT wouldn’t be where we are without you!

In the end, though, Jesus’ call to follow him directs us out from the church into the world in which we live. In and through the church we are empowered to live as disciples -- “followers of Christ” -- in every nook and cranny of our lives, no matter where we are, who we are, or what we’re doing.

The Spirit’s call does send us into our congregations to be nourished, equipped, encouraged and inspired by the gospel message of “new life in Christ for you.” But then we are called out of our congregations to bring Christ’s gospel into our communities, our state, our nation, and our world whomever we are, and whatever we say, think, feel and do.

So as we emerge from the limitations of the pandemic, think about what God may be calling you to seek, be and do with your lives to serve Christ’s gospel. And may the Holy Spirit inspire you always to follow Jesus’ call wherever it may lead.

God’s blessings be with all who are graduating this season as you transition into the next part of your lives.

Bishop Laurie



## Congregational News



### Church E-mail Addresses

#### Pastor Will

[prsappington@gmail.com](mailto:prsappington@gmail.com)

#### Church Office

[peaceoffice@bresnan.net](mailto:peaceoffice@bresnan.net)

#### Intern Pastor

[internpeace@gmail.com](mailto:internpeace@gmail.com)

#### Youth Director

[peacelcyouth@gmail.com](mailto:peacelcyouth@gmail.com)

### Check out the web site:

[peacelutheranbillings.com](http://peacelutheranbillings.com). Web site is updated with, up to date calendar, newsletter in color, Youth page, and photo page.



### Church Council Minutes

The approved church council minutes are available at the bulletin board outside the church office. Thank you



**Find us on facebook:**  
Peace Lutheran Church, Billings MT

**Simply Giving Program** - Would you find it helpful to have your offerings taken from your bank account as you do other monthly drafts? Thrivent Financial for Lutherans sponsors a program called Simply Giving which offers this service for people who wish to have offerings transferred electronically to Peace Lutheran Church account. For those who travel, this is particularly helpful in keeping up with their intended offerings, and it will keep you from having to make up the difference later. Contact the church office for more details.



### Congregational Life Committee

The Congregational Life Committee is responsible to touch the lives of the people of Peace Lutheran Church by involving them in the life and ministry of the church. One of the most visible responsibilities is fellowship following worship services. We moved from asking service committee members to bring cookies, etc., to providing doughnuts. So, the duties have been reduced and only one or two people are needed for each Sunday. We will continue to assign monthly service committees as we have done in the past. If we have a potluck or other congregational function during the month, the committee may be asked to help. A committee chairperson will be assigned each month and will ask committee members to help with the fellowship/coffee following Sunday worship.

### June Serving group

Ann Barsness, chair  
Erl Barsness  
Leah Bick  
Dorothy Hanson  
Cammy Lien  
Delia Schiff  
Kaia/Will Sappington  
Bob & Jan Bakko  
Sharon Hedden  
LaWanda/Lee Sherseth  
Wendy Goodheart  
Robin Goodheart

### July Serving group

Congregational Life Committee



**The Church  
Office has a new  
e-mail address.**

[peaceoffice1301@gmail.com](mailto:peaceoffice1301@gmail.com)



# Congregational News

## 2020 Circles & Bible Studies:

Everyone is welcome!

### **Martha Circle**

*Meets Third Wednesday, at 9:00 am  
in the Fellowship hall*

### **Deborah-Katie Circle [Suspended]**

*Meets 2nd Saturday at 10:30 am  
at Peace*

### **Ruth Circle [Suspended]**

*Meets second Tuesday at 11:30 am  
at Hardees on 24th*



## Men's Breakfast and Bible Study

**Meets every  
Wednesday at 7:00 am in the  
Fellowship Hall. New-comers  
and one-timers are  
always welcome**

**Meeting on Zoom**

## Questions about Council Activities? If

you have any questions or comments  
regarding any council action - pending or  
complete - please contact

President Tony Pecarina  
Vice-President Julie Draeger

RELIEVE EDITORIAL STRESS:

**TURN IN  
YOUR ARTICLES  
EARLY!**

RE M I N D E R :

**DEADLINE FOR  
NEWSLETTER  
ARTICLES IS**

**July 15th**

**Catch  
Worship  
Service  
Broad-  
cast on  
Community  
Channel 7  
Sunday Mornings  
at 9:00 am**



## Peace Lutheran Church Council

President - Tony Pecarina

Vice President - Julie Draeger,

Secretary - Linda Strosky

Dewey Anderson - Abundant Life, Property

Julie Draeger - Worship

Robin Felton - Youth & Education

Wendy Goodheart - Worship

Tony Pecarina - Youth & Education

Jody Pierce - Youth & Education

Dan Quanbeck - Abundant Life

Melissa Sider - Youth & Education

Nate Sider - Youth & Education

Linda Strosky - Mission & Service

Nancy Taylor - Mission & Service

## Boards/Committees

### St John's Ministries

Rhonda Sappington

Holli Miller

### Christikon

Kaia Sappington

Mike Brown

Erl Barsness

### Lutheran Center

Debbie Sider

Kay Rossow

### Endowment Trustee

Ed Popp

Molly Johnson

Bernie Mason

Rhonda Hanson

Dean Welliever

### Nominating Committee

Paul Strosky

Ann Barsness

Lois Gorseth.



## June 2021

1 Give thanks for the ELCA's commitment to being an inviting and welcoming church that reflects and embraces the diversity of our communities and the gifts and opportunities it brings. Pray that we will always be learning and reforming, discerning how to do God's work in a diverse world, and inviting and equipping one another for this essential work.

2 Pray for seasonal workers who depend on summer income for their livelihood, that they will find safe, fulfilling employment that pays a fair wage. Pray that we will express our gratitude and respect for their work and service.

3 Remember in prayer the leaders, voting members and others gathering online for the assemblies of the Upstate New York and North Carolina synods, that the Spirit will strengthen, guide and encourage them in choosing leaders, proclaiming the gospel, growing the church, serving our neighbor and doing God's work in an ever-changing world.

4 Remember in prayer the leaders, voting members and others gathering online for the assemblies of the Western North Dakota, Southwest California, Central/Southern Illinois, Montana, Delaware-Maryland, Metropolitan Washington, D.C., South Dakota, Central States, Southern Ohio, Allegheny and Lower Susquehanna synods, that the Spirit will strengthen, guide and encourage them in choosing leaders, proclaiming the gospel, growing the church, serving our neighbor and doing God's work in an ever-changing world.

5 Remember in prayer the leaders, voting members and others gathering online for the assemblies of the Nebraska, Northeastern Pennsylvania, Southwestern Texas, Southeastern and Metropolitan Chicago synods, that the Spirit will strengthen, guide and encourage them in choosing leaders, proclaiming the gospel, growing the church, serving our neighbor and doing God's work in an ever-changing world.

6 Remember in prayer the leaders, voting members and others gathering online for the assembly of the Southwestern Minnesota Synod, that the Spirit will strengthen, guide and encourage them in choosing leaders, proclaiming the gospel, growing the church, serving our neighbor and doing God's work in an ever-changing world.

7 Give thanks that — through grace, faith in Christ and obedience to the will and ways of God — we are embraced as children of God, siblings in Christ.

8 Pray for nations experiencing repeated waves of COVID-19 infection and communities impacted and struggling, and pray that their health care workers, medical facilities and efforts to vaccinate as many people as possible will slow the pandemic.

9 Pray that we will be patient and attentive to how God answers our prayers and speaks to us, especially in ways we do not seek or expect.

10 Remember in prayer the leaders, voting members and others gathering online for the assembly of the Southwestern Pennsylvania Synod, that the Spirit will strengthen, guide and encourage them in choosing leaders, proclaiming the gospel, growing the church, serving our neighbor and doing God's work in an ever-changing world.

11 Remember in prayer the leaders, voting members and others gathering online for the assemblies of the Grand Canyon, Northeastern Ohio, La Crosse Area, Indiana-Kentucky, and Northwestern Pennsylvania synods, that the Spirit will strengthen, guide and encourage them in choosing leaders, proclaiming the gospel, growing the church, serving our neighbor and doing God's work in an ever-changing world.

12 Remember in prayer the leaders, voting members and others gathering online for the assemblies of the New England, Virginia and Northeastern Iowa synods, that the Spirit will strengthen, guide and encourage them in choosing leaders, proclaiming the gospel, growing the church, serving our neighbor and doing God's work in an ever-changing world.

13 When we read the parables of Jesus, we sometimes default to rote explanations of their meaning. Pray that we will hear and read Scripture with hearts and minds open to learning, insight and fresh connection to our daily life.

14 Give thanks for ELCA resources that nurture our faith and spiritual growth during times of physical distancing, including Living Lutheran magazine, blogs and newsletters, daily Bible readings and ELCA World Hunger's at-home vacation Bible school program guide.

15 "So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!" Give thanks and praise to God for reminding us that we are made new each day through God's mercy and grace.

16 Pray for the Spirit to inspire us to create and share new expressions of our faith and theology through art, music and writing that speak to all generations and the diverse contexts of people in our communities.



**June  
2021**

17 Give thanks all day long to God for God's unwavering love and the joy and hope it stirs within us, which overflows to the people around us.

18 Remember in prayer the leaders, voting members and others gathering online for the assemblies of the Northern Illinois and Caribbean synods, that the Spirit will strengthen, guide and encourage them in choosing leaders, proclaiming the gospel, growing the church, serving our neighbor and doing God's work in an ever-changing world.

19 Remember in prayer the leaders, voting members and others gathering online for the Upper Susquehanna Synod Assembly, that the Spirit will strengthen, guide and encourage them in choosing leaders, proclaiming the gospel, growing the church, serving our neighbor and doing God's work in an ever-changing world.

20 Pray that God's power, presence and love will ease our fears and uncertainties, calm the storms in our lives and strengthen our faith so that we will be bold and tireless disciples who do God's work in the world, share the gospel and serve our neighbor.

21 Remember in prayer fathers who strive to be loving, caring, wise and influential parents, including fathers who are new parents or single parents, who are deployed in the military or incarcerated, or who experience separation from family while traveling for their work.

22 Give thanks and praise for God's great works and attention to our prayers, both when we are alone and when we gather as a community of faith.

23 Pray for the 300-plus health and human service organizations of the Lutheran Services in America alliance, which serve 6 million people every year across our country in response to God's call to love our neighbors of all ages, needs and circumstances.

24 We acknowledge that it is not always easy to follow Christ, bear the gospel or do God's work in the world. Give thanks that together, as siblings in Christ, we can turn to one another with our burdens and receive support and encouragement.

25 Pause today and take in the wonders of God's creation. Give thanks for the joy, wonder and awesome complexity of nature and the universe, and ask God to help us be mindful, responsible and respectful stewards of creation.

26 Remember in prayer the leaders, voting members and others gathering online for the South Carolina Synod Assembly, that the Spirit will strengthen, guide and encourage them in choosing leaders, proclaiming the gospel, growing the church, serving our neighbor and doing God's work in an ever-changing world.

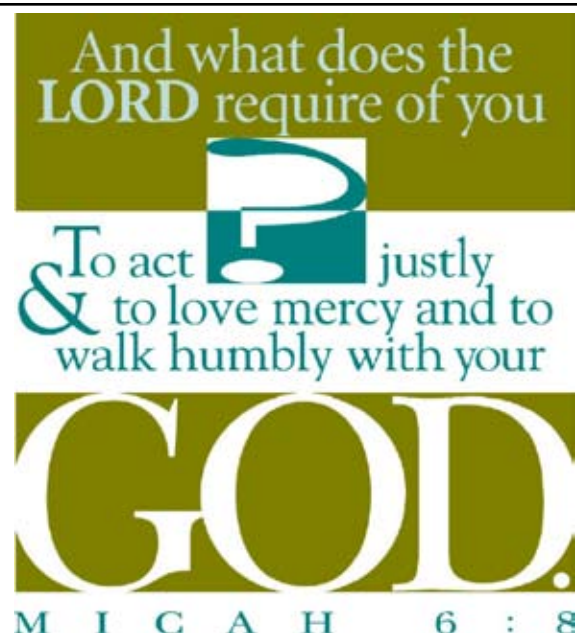
27 Pray that we will serve our neighbors and invite others to believe and to join our communities of faith without bias, judgment, hesitation, obstruction or condition.

28 Pray for God's strength, comfort and vision when we are weary or overwhelmed or cannot see beyond times of despair; ask the Spirit to fill us with faith, hope and empathy so that we can support, care for and encourage our neighbors who are struggling.

29 Guided by the generous, compassionate and kind actions of Jesus, ask the Spirit to fill us with eagerness to work together and share our abundance with our neighbors so that all will have the resources, food and opportunities needed to thrive and be well.

30 Ask God to help us reflect on our nation, its history, its institutions and this church with honesty, humility, repentance and gratitude, united in our vision and determined to be more just, equitable, inclusive and responsive to our neighbors in need.

July Prayer Ventures were not available at publishing time. Please find on the web at <http://www.elca.org/en/Resources/Prayer-Ventures>



# Peace Lutheran Church

Non-Profit Organization  
1301 Avenue D  
Billings, MT 59102-3196

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



*God's Work.  
Our hands.*

**June/July 2021**



*June July 2021*