

OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

1326 1st Ave N
Great Falls, MT 59401

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Our Savior's

News FROM THE PEWS

OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
Great Falls, MT

January 2018

As the calendar turns another page and we look forward to 2018, I find myself still reflecting on the four areas of focus from Advent, 2017: patience, silence/speech, hope and family. What might 2018 look like with a little more...

Patience - learning to be a little slower at getting annoyed or irritated having to wait for things like stoplights, or folks who walk or talk slower, or folks who need a helping hand, or meetings that don't seem to go quite as expected. Might we have a kinder, gentler year?

Silence/speech - practicing that difficult task of listening, really listening, twice as much as talking. And then making each thing we say count. Might we have a year of better comprehending the needs of our neighbor?

Hope - hanging on fervently that what we desire to happen really will or can, trusting Jesus really is the savior of the world who really does care about each of us, loving us unconditionally. Might we have a more future-looking year instead of lamenting the way it used to be?

Family - not only those who are blood relatives, but the family of God, made possible through baptism and the work of the Holy Spirit. We really do have brothers and sisters in every nation of the world! Might we have a more understanding, giving year by remembering we are family with those we may never meet on this earth?

The unfolding of 2018 is uncertain. Yet, God holds us each day. May this reminder bring you peace and comfort. Happy New Year - can't wait to make it one of the best yet!!! Blessings. Pastor Anna

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Annual Meeting

Mark your calendars for the Congregation's Annual Meeting on Sunday, January 28, following worship. The agenda will include voting on the 2018 Budget/Spending Plan and on nominations to council and other committees. Also on the agenda will be voting for the first approval to the proposed amendments for Our Savior's Constitution.

Mark your calendars for either January 14 or January 21 following worship to attend one of these meetings to discuss the proposed budget and constitution amendments, to ask questions or give feedback, prior to voting at the annual meeting on January 28.

Please get your annual reports to Emily, Parish Administrator, by January 3rd (preferably by email, if possible).

LivingLutheran Magazine

The informational magazine of the ELCA, *LivingLutheran*, comes to several homes each month. For \$8.95, the cost of a year's subscription, you can keep up with information, events, stories, and more from around the globe that pertain to ELCA Christians. If you already receive the magazine, payment of \$8.95 is now due. If you would like information on how to get the subscription, please contact Emily in the office.



From the Library

Looking for some inspirational reading? Some new books have been donated to the library that might pique your interest:

- Six Hours One Friday by Max Lucado
- Run for Freedom by Sigi Oblander
- Unto the Hills by Billy Graham



Prayer Partners

January 29th will be the week for switching prayer partners for the next three months. What a joy it is to pray for someone - and especially fun when they may not know it is you. Would you like to have someone specific to pray for daily during the next quarter? No expectations except to pray. Please let Pastor Anna know by January 25th you would like to be included (please know there are no assumptions made that you wish to be included).

Our Savior's Lutheran

CONTACT INFORMATION

Pastor Anna Merritt pastor@oslgreatfalls.org
Parish Administrator, Emily Durazo office@oslgreatfalls.org

Office telephone: 727-4304
Office fax: 727-4331
Web Site: www.oslgreatfalls.org
Office Hours: Monday through Friday
9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

STAFF

Anna Merritt	Pastor (H - 836-7464)
Emily Durazo	Parish Administrator
Harlan Orham	Treasurer
Ellen Forslund	Worship & Music Director
Madeleine Folkerts	Accompanist
Terry Lee	Custodian

COUNCIL

Mike Kunka	452-1663	President
Laura Vanni-Kelly	870-2946	Vice-President/ Human Concerns Secretary
Linda Lassila	452-0565	
Odetta Arcand	268-8567	Education
Wende Curry	750-5004	Education
Pastor Anna	836-7464	PR & O
Bob Fox	453-2989	Property & Finance
Jon Hogenson	788-4167	Worship & Music
Fred Martens	268-1431	Property & Finance
Teagan Olson	761-7696	Youth Member
Jerry Ramstead	761-6639	Parish Life
Harold Spilde	761-5009	Stewardship

JANUARY SERVICE GROUP

Richard & Nancy Hamill	Leila Ingman
David & Stacey Hansen	Diane Jenkins
Elaine Hanson	<i>* name is the month's coordinator</i>
Jim & Kathy Hill	
*Marjorie Hill	
Jon Hogenson	
Juanita Hogenson	



Blessings to all who celebrate birthdays in:
January!

If we have missed anyone's birthday, please call the Church Office.

Ryan Bredeson	1/01	Gwen Swedberg	1/19
Lisa Schaffel		Judy Ericksen	1/20
Lance Amato	1/03	Soren Fiske	
Erica Chauvet	1/05	Ron Long	
Bill Larson	1/06	Cori Erickson	1/22
Chester Knab	1/07	Tiler Lewis	1/23
Tim Sanne	1/08	Rebecca Andersen	1/25
Lorraine Myhr	1/09	Brayden Burks	
Shane Pacini	1/11	Bonnie Knight	
Joshua Kirkhart	1/14	Jon Hogenson	1/26
Jennifer Molyneaux		Lynne Turville	
Sarah Putzker		Carole Miller	1/27
Teresa Shumaker		Trista Lassila	1/28
Bruce Maurer	1/16	Johnny Wiench	
Brandon Graff	1/18	Angie Goroski	1/30



Book Club

The next Book Club gathering is Monday, January 29th, at Pat Tessmer's home. The book for January is Little Fires Everywhere by Celeste Ng.

Ladies: Let's Do Lunch

Come and enjoy lunch, fellowship, and one another's company at the next "Let's Do Lunch" on Thursday, January 11, 11:45 am, at Lippis Kitchen, 705 Central Ave. Please let Pastor Anna know you plan to attend by Monday, January 8th (this is very important so that there are seats available for everyone). See you then!



Thank you!!!

What a wonderful Advent and Christmas season (even though there are still several days to go!!!) Please know I appreciate all the extra time and energy spent by so many to make this a joy-filled time. And thank you for your generosity to me personally. It is a joy and honor to serve with you at Our Savior's. Y'all amaze me! Many prayers for a blessed and joyous 2018.



Community Quilting

Join with others for a time of quilting for needs around the world at New Hope Lutheran church, Monday, January 8, from 6:00-8:00 pm. There is something for everyone from tying to sewing.



Youth

Confirmation begins again on Wednesday, January 3rd from 6:30-7:45 pm. We will be meeting at First English Lutheran Church, 726 2nd Ave N.

J.A.M. 2.0 begins on Wednesday, January 3rd, 6:15-7:15 pm, at Our Savior's.

Mark your calendars for the next Youth Gathering with Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp Counselors on Sunday, January 14, from 1:30-2:45pm.



For Your Information

Emily, Parish Administrator, will be out of the office January 23-29. Volunteer office hours will be in effect for the duration, 9:00 am-12:00pm. If you would like to volunteer while Emily is away please call the church office!

WOMEN'S SPRING RETREAT

April 20-22, 2018 Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp

SAVE THE DATE! Plan now to attend the WOMEN'S SPRING 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 opens January 8, 2018. Check out www.imluchurch.org/womensretreat for more details, to get on our mailing list and to register! Hope to see you there!



OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH FINANCIAL REPORT

November 2017		YEAR TO DATE	
Beginning Balance	-6,982.84	Beginning Balance	0
General Offerings	14,489.58	Offerings YTD	175,395.24
Disbursements	16,894.93	Disbursements YTD	184,783.43
Ending Balance	-9,388.19	Ending Balance	-9,388.19

CHANGE FOR CHANGE

The November total was \$139.74

Thank you for your generosity!



ROOF UPDATE

The balance owed to the Mission Investment Fund as of October 31 was \$9,482.04. The monthly payment is \$543. We are so close!

