

# September *focus*

ST PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH  
202 BROOKS STREET  
MISSOULA, MONTANA  
SEPTEMBER 2021

## The *Gary Turbak Memorial* *Back-to-School Clothing* *Project - 2021*

### 35 Years of School Clothes for Children in Need

It was a banner year for the Back-to-School Clothing Project!! Praise the Lord! We had \$13,000 to spend on clothes for more than 450 children in our valley! Half of the money came from the following businesses: 1<sup>st</sup> Security Bank, 1<sup>st</sup> Interstate Bank, Clearwater Credit Union, Thrivent, Dillards, WalMart, Town Pump, United Way, and the Washington Foundation. Eight churches collected “tons” of socks and underwear.

About 270 children came to the church for clothes – many more than last year! The boxes of clothing left over were picked up by Colleen Lehman from the Missoula school district. She took them to Family Resource Centers in various schools where they will be distributed to children in need. Approximately 150 more children will get clothes at their schools, so this project will

help clothe more than 400 children this year!!

Thank you to the more than 30 people who volunteered MANY hours to carry out this event. A special thank you to Sheila Gray for shopping for most of the clothes, Vickie Schend for purchasing the shoes, Debbie Allison & Sharon Tandberg for handling online grant applications, Karen Sitte who tallied the money & bookkeeping, and Elaine Ryan who helped with the bulletin & newsletter notices. Thank you to so many people who donated money and prayed to make this wonderful event possible!

It was a rewarding experience for all involved! Thank the Lord for giving us the opportunity to help so many grateful people in our community.

*Jan Turbak*

## Church Events

- **MEN'S BIBLE STUDY BRUNCH** will resume on Thursday, September 2, at 12:00 pm in Room # 210, the Fellowship Room. All men are welcome to join in this study. Questions? Please call Pastor Chris, 549-4141, ext 221.
- **WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY** of the book of Matthew will begin Thursday, September 2, at 1:00 pm in Room # 208. The study will continue on the first and third Thursdays of each month. All women are welcome and encouraged to study and share the gospel of Matthew. If you have questions, visit with other women who have attended this study or contact Hazel Sorensen at 544-5913 or Betty Rude at 543-3219.
- **FALL FAITH FESTIVAL** after the 11am service, Sept. 12th The Children, Youth and Family Committee invites everyone to join in the fun. There will be food, games, prizes, and desserts. This free event will be held outside and is an intergenerational event meant for people of all ages: young folks and the young-at-heart. If you're interested in volunteering or donating a dessert or prize, please contact [volunteer@stpaulmissoula.org](mailto:volunteer@stpaulmissoula.org).

See page 5 for more **Church Events**

# Generosity and Joy for All Seasons

*Mini Workshop set for Sunday, September 26, 10:00 am, in the Lower Level Fellowship Hall*

Explore ways to engage in charitable giving to support the missions, programs and visions of non-profit organizations near and dear to you and your family. Watch a role play of a conversation between a charitable gift planner and an interested donor. Then enjoy a Q

and A to open creative and joy-filled ways to *leave a legacy.*

This mini workshop will be led by Doug and Grace Schroeder Scott – Live to Give, LLC. Grace serves as Senior Development Consultant for Flathead Lutheran Bible

Camp. Doug founded HeartWise Generosity, LLC and is a highly-committed volunteer for FLBC. The Schroeder Scotts are passionate about philanthropy and love to share the *joys of opening gifts!*

## Women's Fall Retreat

Register by **September 7** to get the **EARLY BIRD RATE** for the **WOMEN'S FALL RETREAT**, October 15-17, 2021, at Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp. Motivating Speaker, Fun, Fellowship, Service Projects, and Music, Great Food (no cooking)! Bring a friend! Registration and details at [www.Impluchurch.org/womensretreat](http://www.Impluchurch.org/womensretreat) Questions? Contact Nancy Solum at 406-240-0023 or [WomensSpringRetreat@gmail.com](mailto:WomensSpringRetreat@gmail.com) (Sponsored by Women of the ELCA Five Valleys and Great Divide Clusters) Deadline to register is September 30. If you would like a ride to this event, call the church! We have a member who is driving and can take riders.

## Take a Closer Look at the Stained Glass Window in the Chancel

As you sit in the sanctuary and gaze up at the stained glass window, have you ever wondered what this special window is telling you? I stood studying the write up in the back of church to gain a better understanding of the stories the window tells.

The overall theme of the window is *Prayer*. The dominant figure represents our Lord., the recipient of our supplications, as he might have stood on the mount. He concludes his sermon with his exhortations to prayer, lettered at the base of the center column. The words are very small in the presentation, but they state: "Ask and it shall be given you, seek and ye shall find and knock and it shall be opened unto you."

Our Lord is in the middle panel. Shown throughout the side panels are modern day listeners, who are all praying. The medallion in the lower left corner is devoted to Old Testament prayer, represented by David kneeling before the Ark.

The bottom, far righthand corner features the New Testament represented by Saint Paul kneeling before the vision, praying "that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith."

In the early 1950s considerable reconstruction had taken place as the church rebuilt the sanctuary, added the stained glass window, mounted the chancel wood carvings that are now at the rear of the worship area, and improved the basement. Also, two offices were constructed.

**See Stained Glass page 8**



Photo by Mark Gorseth



# Pastor's Pen

My message this month lifts up a letter received from our fellow brothers and sisters in Christ in the American Indian Alaskan Native Lutheran Association. The letter in its entirety is below (please read it).

Colter Murphy, our Director for Children, Youth, and Family, will be working on a special orange banner project that will help to remember and honor the 251 plus children whose remains were recently discovered in a mass grave. The orange banner will be hung in the sanctuary as humbly requested. The color orange has special significance as does the connection to those who grieve and suffer.

We are reminded in scripture to bear one another's burdens. "Bear one another's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ." (Galatians 6:2) The Law of Christ is to Love. One act of love is to remember and honor, and that we can do in this small way. Another act of love we can do is to hold the victims' families in our prayers as they deal with past trauma and grief. One more act of love is to work for equal respect and justice for all peoples, especially those of color and cultures that are different from our own.

The letter:

## AMERICAN INDIAN ALASKA NATIVE LUTHERAN ASSOCIATION

July 23, 2021

Greetings in the name of our Creator, in the name of Jesus, Savior of all. We speak to you all today on behalf of the Indigenous people throughout North Americas. We come with sad hearts at the news of 215+ children of the Kamloops Residential School whose remains were recently found in a mass grave and of the children of the Rosebud Sioux whose bodies were returned to their homeland this past week. They are being remembered by many by the color orange.

The color orange is symbolic and came from the inspiration of a survivor of that era, Phyllis Webstad, who stated that when she was a 6-year-old girl arriving at a residential boarding school, she was stripped of her clothes which included a new orange t-shirt her grandmother had gifted her and was never given back. The orange shirt/color now symbolizes how the church and the schools they administered took away the Indigenous identity of the children in their care.

In honor and memory of the children of the First Nations people and of our Native children who never made it home, and for those still living the nightmare imposed on them as children of Canada and the United States we humbly ask our brothers and sisters of the church to hang an orange banner in the sanctuaries of your churches for 225 days. In remembrance and lament of each child that was thrown into those graves, and those yet to be discovered we honor each of their lives.

Please grieve with us and remember us as the Indigenous people of this land who are going through a very sad and heartbreaking time in our collective psyche. We invite all our Christian brothers and sisters, in solidarity with us, to honor all our First Nations and our Native children that never made it out of residential schools by hanging an orange banner for 225 days.

We now call on the Church to acknowledge and confess its complicity in all the atrocities committed against the Indigenous peoples of North America and throughout the world where western Christianity colonized Indigenous peoples. Please stand in partnership with us for the children.

The true history of the western church in America has been participation in acts of ethnic cleansing, genocide through warfare including biological and chemical, sterilization, depletion of our main food source, the taking of land and resources for personal gains. We ask you, the ELCA Church and Bishops Church leaders and congregations to support our people in remembering the children.

Many Tribal nations have had church groups offer apologies on behalf of their ancestors, which is well and good, but that only serves to assuage any feelings of guilt or shame for them and does not bring about true repentance. So in light of these past gestures we call upon the churches serving in the United States to advocate the U.S. Government to fully acknowledge all the atrocities it has committed against the indigenous peoples of this land now known as the United States of America and for the future of Christianity in Indian Country.

Wopila

In Christ,

# Ice Cream Social at Franklin Park

Sometime back in July, Marge Samsoe approached me and asked if there were any upcoming events she could use one of her Thrivent Action Grants for. I told Marge we should throw an ice cream social in a park somewhere, and she agreed. I got to work making the arrangements: renting the pavilion at Franklin Park and ordering a large amount of ice cream from Big Dipper.

On the evening of the event I arrived early with Marge to get things set up. We had some fun figuring out where to place a banner Thrivent sent us without the use of tape (note to self: always bring tape to events!). When we tried setting out bowls and napkins, the wind had other plans in mind and sent us chasing after them in the grass. Amy Glaspey arrived with lawn games in tow, and soon enough we had enough folks in the pavilion to call ourselves a proper ice cream social!

We had three flavors: Mexican chocolate, vanilla, and huckleberry. I was in charge of scooping, and I took my role seriously. I wore gloves, used hand sanitizer, and wore a mask while serving the scoops. We had several choices of toppings. Many folks had never heard of Mexican chocolate and were pleasantly surprised to taste the cinnamon mixed into the chocolate. Huckleberry was our most popular ice cream. The containers of ice cream stayed mostly frozen through the event, although by the end things were looking a little soupy.

Sharon Wilson's grandkids came and brought their swimsuits to play on the splash deck at the park. It was so funny to see Margo spring through the jets of water and come out the other side with a big smile. After everyone was full of ice cream, quite a few of the kids went off to the playground as well. It was a beautiful evening in the park for both fun in the water and on the swingset. I got to meet some new faces as well: Bridget Baxter, her husband Marcus and their daughter Bristol. Marcus is a fisherman like me and Bridget has excellent taste in sunglasses.

Laura Curry's parents were in town from Minnesota, and it was terrific to talk with them. Their other daughter, Anna, served as a Young Adult in Global Mission with me in 2017. While I was living in Cambodia, she was living in South Africa. Anna and I became friends during the events held in Chicago before and after our year of service. It was great to talk to her parents and to hear about how Anna is doing living in Chicago.

All told, the event was a great success. Everyone had plenty of time to chat, play, and eat ice cream. We even shared some ice cream with our neighbors at the park, and I gave away a few bowls to the folks playing horseshoes next to us. Sharing ice cream, conversation, and laughs together was the connection and community we all needed that week. I saw glimpses of the Kingdom of God in chocolate ice cream smiles smeared on kid faces and in pleasantly surprised smiles of strangers offered ice cream. Thanks be to God for cold, sweet treats during the summertime!





# Church Events

- **FALL RUMMAGE SALE September 9 and 10**

The Fall Rummage Sale is set for Friday, September 10, from 8 am until 3 pm and Saturday, September 11, from 8 am until noon if we feel we can safely manage the Health Department guidelines.

Rummage items may be brought to the Lower Level Fellowship Hall of the church beginning Sunday, September 5, between 11 and 1 pm and on Tuesday and Wednesday from 9 am – 12:00 pm. Sale set-up begins on Thursday, September 9 at 8:00 am. We really need more helpers for this event. Please contact Betty Rude, 543-3219, if you can lend a hand.

- **WOMEN OF SPIRIT book group**

**Monday, Sept. 13th, 7:00 pm Room # 208**

Our first book for fall is GOD HAS A DREAM by Desmond Tutu. We meet weekly and discuss a couple chapters at a time. All women are welcome; if you have questions, please call Jan Turbak at 251-3649.

- **CLAY STUDIO OF MISSOULA CLASS**

**September 17th at 4pm**

Learn how to handbuild your own unique clay creation with the instruction of the experts at Clay Studio of Missoula. This class is intergenerational and open to anyone from St. Paul, but space is limited to 10 participants. If you're interested in attending, contact Colter ASAP:

[colter@stpaulmissoula.org](mailto:colter@stpaulmissoula.org).

- **CONFIRMATION KICKOFF September 19th at 6pm**

Calling all confirmation students and their parents! This first confirmation class of the year will be a chance to meet Colter, talk about confirmation this year, and learn about what a "Trekker" is. Confirmation is offered for those in 6th-8th grade and will meet most weeks during the school year for faith formation, education, and fellowship.

- **GROW KICKOFF September 22nd at 5:00pm**

GROW is St. Paul's weekly time for kids in grades K-5 to learn about their faith and have fun together. GROW looks similar to what many know as Sunday School, but meets on Wednesday evenings instead. We invite parents to attend our first session to learn more about GROW and sign up to help through the rest of the fall.

## Huge Thank You to Family Promise Volunteers

Another St. Paul rotation at The Meadowlark is in the books and it went very smoothly! Thank you to all the faithful volunteers who so willingly come forward every 3 months to provide service to the 31 families currently living in the housing center. We especially appreciate the 3 new volunteers who joined the team. Our next opportunity to serve will be Nov. 15 - 21. See you then!!!

**Providing Food & Serving Dinner:** Karen Umbaugh, Melodee Burreson, Bonnie Ritzschke, Betty Rude, Donna Koch, Janet Kenter, Ingrid Davis, Candy Patrick, Lynne & Dave Dickman, Jen Cuaresma, Jan Turbak, and Steph Gerard

**Overnight Hosting:** Cathy & Earl Owens, Debbie Allison, Pastor Chris, Phil Stauffer, Vicke Schend



**LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF**

**Our neighbors in Haiti** Our neighbors in Haiti urgently need our congregation's love.

A devastating 7.2 magnitude earthquake struck our neighbors in Haiti on August 14 – a brutal blow to this impoverished country still recovering from the disastrous 2010 quake and fighting a surge of coronavirus infections. Within days, Tropical Storm Grace battered children, women, men and seniors struggling to survive outside or in flimsy, makeshift shelters. The death toll has climbed to over 2,100 people with more than 12,000 injured. Tens of thousands of families are homeless. Churches, schools, health care clinics and hospitals have collapsed. The risk of cholera and other illnesses

spreading quickly due to contaminated water is extremely high, as is the spread of COVID-19 with people cramped so closely together.

Our partners from Lutheran World Relief are on the ground in Haiti right now assessing needs and sharing the love of U.S. Lutherans. Our congregation can help. Your emergency gift will provide neighbors in Haiti with emergency food, clean water and lifesaving medical care. You'll also help distribute urgently needed medical supplies, hygiene kits, tarps for emergency shelters, and other vital disaster relief provisions.

Please give now at [www.lwr.org/GiveHaiti](http://www.lwr.org/GiveHaiti) or you may write a check to St. Paul Lutheran, designate "Haiti" on the memo line, and drop the check in the offering plate or mail it to the church. Thank you.

# FLBC'S FALL HARVEST FESTIVAL & AUCTION

## SATURDAY, OCTOBER 9TH, 2021

@ Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp  
550 Lutheran Camp Rd., Lakeside MT 59922

**An event to help make camp financially accessible to all!**

*Following the FLBC Annual Meeting at 2:30, join us for the Fall Harvest Festival & Auction events!*

4 PM - 5:30 PM    Silent Auction, Happy Hour, & Appetizers

5:30 PM            Dinner served

6:15 PM            Live Auction & Program

*Silent Auction closes after program*

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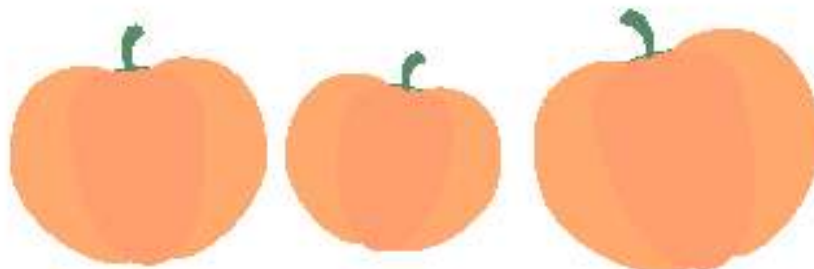
**Individual Tickets: \$30 each**

**Table Package (8 tickets): \$200**

*(Kids 16 & Under are free; activities & dinner for youth from 4-7 PM)*

Contact FLBC at 406-752-6602 to purchase tickets, or visit  
[one.bidpal.net/flbcauction/](http://one.bidpal.net/flbcauction/) to buy tickets online and browse our online auction  
items (online bidding opens 10/1/21 and ends 10/10/21).

*Visit [flbc.net](http://flbc.net) to view the full schedule for October 9th, which includes the FLBC annual meeting.*



406.752.6602 | [office@flbc.net](mailto:office@flbc.net)



# September 2021

St. Paul Lutheran Church

Missoula, Montana

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
A memorial Service for Bob Bakke is set for <u>Thursday, September 2, at 2 pm, at Garden City Funeral Home.</u>				1 2 12:00 Men's Bible Study Brunch 1:00 Women's Bible Study	3	4
5 10:00 In-person and Livestreamed Worship 11:00 -1:00 Rummage Items may be dropped off in the Lower Level	6 LABOR DAY HOLIDAY	7 9 - Noon Rummage Sale Items may be dropped off in LLFH	8 9 - Noon Rummage Sale Items may be dropped off in LLFH	9 9:00 Rummage Sale Items may be dropped off 9:00 Rummage Sale Set Up  12:00 Men's Bible Study Brunch	10 8:00- 3:00 Rummage Sale	11 8:00 -12:00 Rummage BAG Sale 12:00 Clean Up; people with pickups or vans are especially needed
12 9:00 In Person Worship 11:00 In-person and Livestreamed Worship <b>12:00 Fall Faith Festival</b>	13 5:00 Stephen Ministers  7:00 Women of Spirit, Rm # 208	14	15	16 12:00 Men's Bible Study Brunch  1:00 Women's Bible Study	17 4:00 Clay Studio Class RSVP to <a href="mailto:colter@stpaulmissoula.org">colter@stpaulmissoula.org</a>	18
19 9:00 In Person Worship 11:00 In-person and Livestreamed Worship 6:00 Confirmation Kickoff	20 7:00 Women of Spirit, Rm # 208	21 6:00 Church Council	22 5:00 GROW Kickoff for grades K-5 Room # 210, Fellowship Room	23 12:00 Men's Bible Study Brunch	24	25
26 9:00 In Person Worship 10:00 Generosity and Joy for All Seasons, LLFH 11:00 In-person and Livestreamed Worship	27 5:00 Stephen Ministers 7:00 Women of Spirit, Rm # 208	28	29 5:30 GROW for grades K-5 Room # 210, Fellowship Room	30 12:00 Men's Bible Study Brunch	<b>Philippians 4:6-7</b>  <sup>6</sup> Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, <b>with thanksgiving</b> , present your requests to God. <sup>7</sup> And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.	

ST PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH  
202 BROOKS STREET  
MISSOULA, MONTANA 59801

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See page 2 for **Women's Fall Retreat** registration details.

## PrayGround Open Again

After careful consideration, the CYF committee chose at their last meeting to reopen the PrayGround during worship. To help kids from different families minimize contact with each other, there will be marked spots on the floor where they can sit and play during worship. All kids will still be required to wear masks.

### **Stained Glass**, continued from page 2

Pastor Gordon V. Tollefson lead the dedication program on October 26, 1952. My family and I were present.

A number of years ago, an effort was made to improve the lighting of the stained glass window at night because the single light originally installed was not giving it enough illumination. Renny Malach and Ron Mueller installed four lights on a frame outside of the window, considerably increasing the visibility of this special piece. The Women in Mission funded the project.

Pastor Chris told me that he has received many comments from members and visitors about the stained glass window. "They feel it is a focal point of their worship," Pastor Chris said.

For anyone who would like to brush up on the message told by this window, there is a framed writeup below the carved medallions at the top of the stairs in the entrance to the worship area.

Gary A. Sorensen

## **St. Paul Lutheran Church**

202 Brooks Street, Missoula Montana 59801

Phone: 406/549-4141 Fax: 406/327-0496

[www.stpaulmissoula.org](http://www.stpaulmissoula.org)

Email: [stpaul@stpaulmissoula.org](mailto:stpaul@stpaulmissoula.org)

**Sunday In person and Online Worship: 10:00 am**

click on [www.stpaulmissoula.org](http://www.stpaulmissoula.org)

**Wednesday Worship 4:00 pm on MCAT channel 189**

**Pastor, Chris Flohr**

**Campus Pastor, John Lund**

**Pastor Emeritus, Joe Wahlin**

**Office and Parish Adult Education Associate, Elaine Ryan**

**Director of Music & Organist, Tod Trimble**

**Children, Youth, and Family Director, Colter Murphy**

**Choir Director, Erik Heuchert**

**Volunteer Coordinator, Sharon Tandberg**



**Evangelical Lutheran  
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.



# *Crazy About Quilting & Crafting Retreat*

**November 4-7, 2021**

**\$220/person (Thurs-Sun) // \$205 (Fri-Sun) // \$75/day (Commuter)**

*Non-refundable \$75 deposit due by October 21<sup>st</sup>, 2021*

Bring your quilt and craft projects and work alongside friends old and new on the west shore of Flathead Lake. FLBC will also be providing opportunities to learn new skills! Evening devotions, worship and plenty of time for conversation with delicious meals and cozy accommodations will make for a relaxing weekend away.



Retreat begins with dinner at 5:30pm on Thursday (check-in is from 3-6pm) and ends with 10am brunch on Sunday (check-out by 2pm).

## **2021 REGISTRATION**

**Crazy About Quilting & Crafting Retreat // November 4-7, 2021**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Attendance option: \_\_\_\_ Thursday - Sunday (11/4-11/7) \_\_\_\_ Friday - Sunday (11/5-11/7)

Commuting: \_\_\_\_ Thursday \_\_\_\_ Friday \_\_\_\_ Saturday \_\_\_\_ Sunday

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Roommate Request: \_\_\_\_\_

Please list any dietary restrictions, severe allergies or housing needs: \_\_\_\_\_

**Registration & \$75 non-refundable deposit due by October 21<sup>st</sup>, 2021.**

Register online at [flbc.net](http://flbc.net), email this form to [office@flbc.net](mailto:office@flbc.net), or mail to FLBC 603 S Main St., Kalispell, MT 59901

A list of what to bring and a schedule will be sent to you prior to the retreat.



**406.752.6602 • 603 South Main Street, Kalispell, MT 59901 • [office@flbc.net](mailto:office@flbc.net) • [www.flbc.net](http://www.flbc.net)**





# Preparing For Christmas *Family Advent Retreat*

**December 3 - 5, 2021**

*Cost: Ages 12+ = \$178; 4-11 = \$89; 3 & under = free  
Non-refundable \$75 deposit/person due by November 19th, 2021*



Prepare for the Christmas season by taking intentional time to slow down and enjoy the season. Make awesome crafts, cut your own Christmas tree, and soak in time for worship and prayer this Advent. Families of all shapes and sizes are welcome to come, get away and relax at FLBC!



Retreat begins with dinner at 6:15pm on Friday (check-in is from 5-6pm) and ends with brunch and worship on Sunday.

## 2021 REGISTRATION

Family Advent Retreat // December 3-5, 2021

Name(s) & Age(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Roommate Request: \_\_\_\_\_

Please list any dietary restrictions, severe allergies or housing needs: \_\_\_\_\_

**Registration & \$75 non-refundable/person deposit due by November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2021.**

Email [office@flbc.net](mailto:office@flbc.net) or mail to FLBC 603 S Main St., Kalispell, MT 59901

A list of what to bring and a schedule will be sent to you prior to the retreat.

