

Peace Lutheran Church

Annual Report 2011



CHRISTIANS

Caring for each other

Peace Lutheran Church Annual Meeting Agenda

February 12, 2012

Mission Statement

Saved by Grace through the gift of Faith, we are called by God to serve and proclaim His word.

- I. Call meeting to order
- II. Opening devotions ó Pastor Duffey
- III. Approval of Treasurer's Report
- IV. Approval of 2010 Annual Meeting minutes held on February 20, 2011
- V. Approval of Committee Reports
- VI. Old Business
 - a. Other old business to be brought forward
- VII. New Business
 - a. Presentation of 2012 proposed budget
 - b. Election of Church Council members
 - i. Outgoing members ó
 - c. Delegates
- VIII. Other Business to be brought forward
- IX. Announcements
- X. Closing Prayer

Peace Lutheran Church Annual Meeting

Sunday, February 12, 2012
Belgrade, Montana

OPENING DEVOTIONS

L: The grace of Our Lord Jesus the Christ be with all of you.

C: **And also with you.**

L: The word of the Lord from John chapter 15: *Jesus taught his disciples, "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine grower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch can not bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing...."*

The word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

HYMN "The Summons" (next page)

L: Let us pray: God of promise and peace, grant us a vibrant and faithful congregational life rooted deeply in Your word. May we bear fruit worthy of your grace given to us. We pray,

C: **Come Holy Spirit.**

L: Fill us with wisdom and understanding, counsel and might, knowledge and love, and fill us with a spirit of joyfulness. We pray,

C: **Come Holy Spirit.**

L: We thank you for your leading during this past year. Continue to guide us as we look for new ways to serve you in all that we say and do. We pray,

C: **Come Holy Spirit.**

L: Give all the members of this congregation the assurance that they have faithfully walked this past year in Jesus' summons to follow and may the community be blessed by that faithful following. We pray,

C: **Come Holy Spirit.**

L: In a sure and certain hope we ask that you continue to guide us into new endeavors of mission and ministry here in our communities in the Gallatin Valley and out into the whole of your creation. Guide us this day also in the decisions that lie before us as Peace Lutheran Church. We pray,

C: **Come Holy Spirit. Amen.**

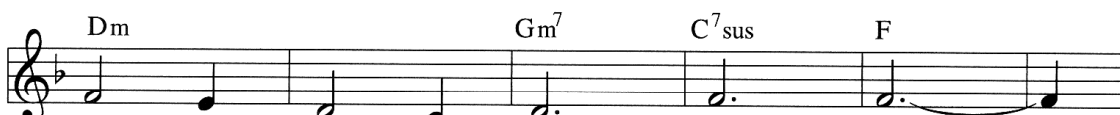
The Summons



1 "Will you come and fol - low me if I but call
 2 "Will you leave your - self be - hind if I but call
 3 "Will you let the blind - ed see if I but call
 4 "Will you love the you you hide if I but call
 5 Lord, your sum - mons ech - oes true when you but call



your name? Will you go where you don't
 your name? Will you care for cruel and
 your name? Will you set the pris - 'ners
 your name? Will you quell the fear in -
 my name. Let me turn and fol - low



know and nev - er be the same?
 kind and nev - er be the same?
 free and nev - er be the same?
 side and nev - er be the same?
 you and nev - er be the same.



Will you let my love be shown, will you let my
 Will you risk the hos - tile stare, should your life at -
 Will you kiss the lep - er clean, and do such as
 Will you use the faith you've found to re - shape the
 In your com - pa - ny I'll go where your love and



name be known, will you let my life be
 tract or scare? Will you let me an - swer
 this un - seen, and ad - mit to what I
 world a - round, through my sight and touch and
 foot - steps show. Thus I'll move and live and



grown in you and you in me?"
 pray'r in you and you in me?"
 mean in you and you in me?"
 sound in you and you in me?"
 grow in you and you in me.

CLOSING

L: Marked with the cross of Christ forever,

C: **we are claimed.**

L: Marked with the cross of Christ forever,

C: **we are gathered.**

L: Marked with the cross of Christ forever,

C: **we are sent.**

L: Marked with the cross of Christ forever, we are claimed, gathered, and sent

C: **for the sake of the world.**

L: Let us pray: Direct us, O Lord, in all our doings with your most gracious favor and further us with your continual help, that in all our works, begun, continued, and ended in you, we may glorify your holy name in all the world and finally, by your call and mercy, obtain everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: **Amen.**

L: I now declare the Annual Meeting of Peace Lutheran Church closed in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

L: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

MINISTERIAL ACTS 2011

BAPTISMS

Kelton Eugene Simkins	April 3
Raegan Mae Swenson	April 24
Bentley Anne Allmendinger	May 10
Isabella Turner Molyneaux	August 21
Sebastian Cooper Lappe	August 28
Cedric John DeCock	September 18
Shelby Eleana Clark	October 9
Bryleigh Jean Larson	November 13
Taylin Alexis Taylor	November 13
Kameron Kyle Sando	December 4

CONFIRMATION

Ben Gruss	October 20
Andrew Erickson	October 20
Jessica Johnson	October 20
Theresa Leininger	October 20

WEDDINGS

Aaron Paulson & Alisha Barck	June 24
Casey Currey & Suzanne Bink	August 6
John Hook & Amanda Erickson	August 13
Ben Fliss & Jessica Hespen	September 2

FUNERALS/DEATHS

Janice Peccia	August 9
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TRANSFERS IN

Andrew & Tracey Bolich	January 30
Blaise & Brooks	
Jordan & Cassandra Garrison	January 30
Thomas & SharlaRae Kuka	January 30
Gary & Connie Paulson	January 30
Lee	
Gary & Debbie Porter	January 30
Randall, Steven, & Kristen	
Michael & Joy Spinella	January 30
Jerry & Karlene Swenson	January 30
Karl	
Stan & Doreen Olean	April 10

TRANSFERS OUT

Rock & Kristen Swenson	February 11
Wynn & Eric	

MEMBERSHIP AND CONGREGATIONAL STATISTICS

	BAPTIZED	CONFIRMED
MEMBERSHIP ENDING 2010	376	260
 <u>MEMBERS RECEIVED</u>		
Baptized ó Child	10	
Confirmed ó Youth		4
Transfer	23	20
TOTAL	409	284
 <u>MEMBERS REMOVED</u>		
Death	1	1
Removed/Transfer	4	2
TOTAL	5	3
 MEMBERSHIP ENDING 2011	 404	 281

AVERAGE ATTENDANCE FOR 2011		AVERAGE TOTAL
January 1 st through May 22 nd	8:30 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	96
May 30 th through September 4 th	9:00 a.m.	71
September 11 th through December 18 th	9:00 a.m.	112

Special Services were not included in the above figures:

Ash Wednesday	82
Wednesdays in Lent (Average)	32
Maundy Thursday	32
Good Friday	49
Easter 8:30 a.m.	164
Easter 11:00 a.m.	97
Pr. Bob Coughlin's Ordination	130
Thanksgiving Community Worship	67
Wednesdays in Advent (Average)	39
Christmas Eve Barn Service 6 p.m.	80
Christmas Eve Candlelight Service 8 p.m.	183
Christmas Day	24

PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH
General Fund
Income & Expense Statement- Actual vs. Budget

	<u>Actual 12/31/11</u>	<u>Budget 2011</u>	<u>(Over) / Under Budget</u>	<u>Budget 2012</u>
INCOME:				
Local Giving	\$ 132,747.00	\$ 143,993.00	11,246.00	\$ 176,400.00
Facilities Rental - Preschool	5,400.00	5,400.00	0.00	5,640.00
Facilities Rental - SDA	7,500.00	7,500.00	0.00	7,500.00
Housing Equity	3,000.00	3,000.00	0.00	3,000.00
Sunday School	83.00	-	(83.00)	-
Directed Benevolence	3,570.00	1,500.00	(2,070.00)	3,000.00
Thrivent Choice	479.00	-	(479.00)	500.00
Interest	3.00	-	(3.00)	-
Other Income	2,034.00	-	(2,034.00)	-
Total Income	<u>154,816.00</u>	<u>161,393.00</u>	<u>6,577.00</u>	<u>196,040.00</u>
In-Kind Income	5,283.00	-	5,283.00	-
EXPENSES:				
Benevolence (10% of local giving for 2012)				
Directed Benevolence	3,569.00	1,500.00	(2,069.00)	3,000.00
LCMC Benevolence	2,000.00	2,000.00	-	2,000.00
Local Benevolence	4,642.00	4,606.00	(36.00)	7,784.00
Nat'l/World Benevolence	4,642.00	4,606.00	(36.00)	7,785.00
Total Benevolence	<u>14,853.00</u>	<u>12,712.00</u>	<u>(2,141.00)</u>	<u>20,569.00</u>
Management				
Office				
Office Equipment	1,334.00	2,000.00	666.00	2,000.00
Office Supplies	2,520.00	1,500.00	(1,020.00)	2,500.00
Other Expenses	50.00	500.00	450.00	100.00
Postage	496.00	1,000.00	504.00	400.00
Total Office	<u>4,400.00</u>	<u>5,000.00</u>	<u>600.00</u>	<u>5,000.00</u>
Property Care				
Contract Services	2,326.00	2,700.00	374.00	2,700.00
Supplies	1,866.00	1,200.00	(666.00)	1,200.00
Repairs - Parsonage	619.00	300.00	(319.00)	300.00
Repairs - Church	992.00	1,000.00	8.00	1,000.00
Piano Care	458.00	450.00	(8.00)	450.00
Utilities - Church	9,362.00	10,000.00	638.00	10,000.00
Total Property Care	<u>15,623.00</u>	<u>15,650.00</u>	<u>27.00</u>	<u>15,650.00</u>
Property Tax - Church	128.00	200.00	72.00	200.00
Insurance	3,193.00	3,000.00	(193.00)	3,950.00
Total Management	<u>23,344.00</u>	<u>23,850.00</u>	<u>506.00</u>	<u>24,800.00</u>

Pastoral Ministry				
Salary	40,145.00	40,143.00	(2.00)	40,143.00
Book Allowance	1,000.00	1,000.00	-	1,000.00
Business / Professional	1,000.00	1,000.00	-	1,000.00
Car Allowance	4,400.00	4,400.00	-	4,400.00
Furnishings Allowance	1,500.00	1,500.00	-	1,500.00
Continuing Education	-	525.00	525.00	525.00
Housing Equity	2,400.00	2,400.00	-	2,400.00
Health & Disability Insurance	13,411.00	12,900.00	(511.00)	13,500.00
Pension	5,266.00	8,950.00	3,684.00	8,950.00
Property Tax - Parsonage	3,044.00	2,900.00	(144.00)	3,400.00
Utilities - Parsonage	2,824.00	3,000.00	176.00	3,000.00
Worker's Compensation	910.00	800.00	(110.00)	900.00
Total Pastoral Ministry	75,900.00	79,518.00	3,618.00	80,718.00
Personnel				
Salary - Janitorial	2,990.00	3,060.00	70.00	3,060.00
Salary - Secretarial	14,148.00	13,770.00	(378.00)	13,770.00
Salary - Youth Director	-	10,600.00	10,600.00	10,600.00
* Salary - Co-Pastor	5,000.00	-	(5,000.00)	22,343.00
Tax - FICA	1,520.00	1,500.00	(20.00)	2,000.00
Tax - Medicare	328.00	370.00	42.00	500.00
Tax - MT Unemployment	294.00	400.00	106.00	600.00
Workers Compensation	715.00	650.00	(65.00)	1,000.00
Total Personnel	25,057.00	32,013.00	6,956.00	53,873.00
Programs				
Conferences / Meetings	662.00	2,000.00	1,338.00	2,000.00
Church Publicity	1,516.00	2,500.00	984.00	2,500.00
Congregational Life	-	-	-	300.00
Faith Chest	1,100.00	-	(1,100.00)	1,000.00
Library	186.00	200.00	14.00	200.00
** Manic Monday Mission	-	-	-	2,500.00
Parish Education/Sunday School	1,786.00	1,800.00	14.00	1,800.00
Scholarships	-	600.00	600.00	600.00
Stewardship	255.00	400.00	145.00	400.00
Temporary Pastors	300.00	1,200.00	900.00	500.00
Outreach	764.00	1,500.00	736.00	1,500.00
Worship / Music	2,271.00	2,500.00	229.00	2,500.00
Youth	350.00	300.00	(50.00)	280.00
Total Programs	9,190.00	13,000.00	3,810.00	16,080.00
In-Kind Expenses	-	-	-	-
Total Expenses	\$ 148,344.00	\$ 161,093.00	\$ 12,749.00	\$ 196,040.00

* Co-pastor salary is at 1/4 time from 1/1/12 - 6/30/12, and 1/2 time plus 50% benefits from 7/1/12 - 12/31/12
No housing or health insurance benefits are included

** Manic Monday annual costs are estimated at \$5000, the program costs are covered thru May 2012.
Estimate is for Sept - Dec 2012. 2013 Estimate will be \$5000.00.

PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

December 31, 2011

General Fund Account - Cash Flow

	<u>Year-To-Date</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>% of Budget</u>
	<u>1/1/11 - 12/31/11</u>	<u>YTD</u>	<u>YTD</u>
General Fund Beginning Balance	\$2,607.56		
Income:			
General Fund Income	157,215.48		
In Kind Giving	0.00		
Total Income	157,215.48	162,120.00	97%
Expense:			
Benevolence	14,853.10	13,740.00	108%
Office/Property Management	23,345.06	23,856.00	98%
Pastoral Ministry	75,900.56	79,524.00	95%
Personnel	25,056.34	32,016.00	78%
Programs	11,309.92	12,984.00	87%
In Kind Expense	0.00		
Total Expense	150,464.98	162,120.00	93%
Transfer (to) Building Fund - 2011 Rents	(12,287.50)		
Transfer from Building Fund	3,000.00		
General Fund Balance 12/31/11	\$70.56		

Special Donations Account

Special Donations Fund Balance 01/01/11	\$	5,167.43		
Special Donations	\$	16,430.52		
Special Fund Disbursements	\$	(12,310.72)		
Special Donations Fund Balance 12/31/2011	\$	9,287.23		
Special Donations Account Balances:				
	<u>01/01/11</u>			<u>12/31/2011</u>
	<u>Balance</u>	<u>Donations</u>	<u>Disbursements</u>	<u>Balance</u>
Charitable Lead Annuity Trust	-	5,040.00	-	5,040.00
Community Gardens	226.56	2,221.00	(1,891.16)	556.40
Defibrillator	230.00	-	-	230.00
Endowment	3,207.27	19.98	(2,526.00)	701.25
Memorials - Peace Gardens	(1,075.32)	5,145.00	(3,345.53)	724.15
Men's Breakfast	620.89	60.00	-	680.89
Manic Monday Lunches	125.00	750.00	(875.00)	-
Mission Fund	50.00	628.00	-	678.00
(Misc - New Directory)	-	30.00	-	30.00
New Dishes	-	71.54	-	71.54
New Hope Lutheran Mission	-	2,400.00	(2,120.00)	280.00
Nursery	295.00	-	-	295.00
Total Special Donations Account Balance	\$ 5,167.43	\$ 16,430.52	\$ (12,310.72)	\$ 9,287.23

Building Fund Account

Building Fund Balance 01/01/11	\$	9,991.87
Transfer from General Fund		12,287.50
Transfer to General Fund		(3,000.00)
Building Fund Donations		36,941.97
Building Fund Disbursements		(36,715.00)
Building Fund Balance 12/31/11	\$	19,506.34

2011 Benevolence - 8.5% of Local Giving - as of 12/31/11

LCMC	\$	2,000.00		
Local Benevolence				
Gallatin Valley Food Bank		1,547.00		
Family Promise		1,547.46		
Habitat for Humanity - Gallatin Valley		1,548.00		
National/World Benevolence				
Lutheran World Relief		1,547.00		
InterVarsity Christian Fellowship		1,547.00		
Lutheran Disaster Response		1,547.00		
Directed Giving (World Hunger, Chaplain's Fund, Belgrade Ministerial Assoc., Cat/Griz offerings, etc)		3,569.64		
Total 2011 Benevolence	\$	14,853.10		

Total Local Giving thru 12/31/11	132,746.59	
	8.5%	
Total Benevolence as of 12/31/11	11,283.46	
Directed Benevolence giving	3,569.64	
TOTAL 2011 Benevolence	14,853.10	

**2011 Benevolence is 8.5% of all local giving, which is divided between LCMC & 6 chosen recipients.
Directed giving is above & beyond the 8.5%

PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH
Endowment Fund
December 31, 2011

Endowment Fund	Date	Amount
Balance December 31, 2010		40,520.40
Contributions	2011	0.00
Interest Earned	2011	510.00 *estimated
Interest Distribution to Special Fund	2011	0.00
Balance December 31, 2010		<u>41,030.40</u>

Special Fund - Endowment	Date	Amount
Balance December 31, 2005		0.00
Distribution from Stock Fund	6/2/2006	2,170.56
Capital expenditure - parsonage	7/17/2006	(408.00)
Mission expenditure - Bolivia trip	7/25/2006	(1,100.00)
Distribution from CD Interest	6/11/2007	1,466.28
Outreach expenditure - Manic Monday	9/24/2007	(200.00)
Mission expenditure - Kansas trip	3/6/2008	(375.00)
ELCA mission exp - Christikon	8/18/2008	(500.00)
Distribution from CD Interest	2008	1,632.49
Deposit from CD Interest	2009	965.97
Outreach expenditure	6/15/2009	(50.00)
Outreach expenditure - Bracelets	10/15/2009	(440.00)
Distribution from VB CD Interest	12/31/2010	44.97
Peace Garden expenditure	5/3/2011	(2,526.00)
Distributio from VB CD Interest	6/30/2011	19.98
Balance December 31, 2011		<u>701.25</u>

2010 interest not redeemed	\$	518.33
2011 interest not redeemed	\$	510.00
Memorial fund MM not redeemed	\$	1,955.00
Current Sp. Fund Endwmt Balance	\$	<u>701.25</u>
Final 2011 year-end estimate:	\$	<u>3,684.58</u>

Memorial Fund - Money Market	Date	Amount
Balance December 31, 2005		<u>1,731.44</u>
Balance December 31, 2006		<u>1,809.02</u>
Balance December 31, 2007		<u>1,898.44</u>
Balance December 31, 2008		<u>1,950.71</u>
Balance December 31, 2009		<u>1,950.71</u>
Balance December 31, 2010		<u>1,955.00</u>
Balance December 31, 2011		<u>1,955.00</u>

Endowment Fund Investments						
<u>Certificates of Deposit</u>	<u>Original Basis</u>	<u>Balance 12/31/2010</u>	<u>2011 Contribution</u>	<u>2011 Int. Income</u>	<u>2011 Distribution</u>	<u>Balance 12/31/2011</u>
Thrivent CD - purchased 06/05/06 2.67%, maturity 05/05/12	24,343.00	24,833.90	0.00	360.00	0.00	25,193.90
Thrivent CD - purchased 06/27/06 2.52%, maturity 05/27/12	10,000.00	10,165.70	0.00	150.00	0.00	10,315.70
Valley Bank CD - purchased 12/24/07 1.00%, maturity 06/21/12	5,000.00	5,002.47	0.00	40.00	(40.00)	5,002.47
Total Certificates of Deposit	<u>39,343.00</u>	<u>40,002.07</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>550.00</u>	<u>(40.00)</u>	<u>40,512.07</u>

**Peace Lutheran Church Annual Meeting
February 20, 2011**

Bob Coughlin led those attending in singing Amazing Grace and Sing a New Song.

Council President Bruce Sorensen called the annual meeting to order at 11:17 a.m. Pastor Duffey led the opening devotions.

A handout on the Endowment Fund funds was added to the treasurer's report. The treasurer's report was presented. A motion for approval was made by Gretchen Carrels and seconded by Rick Keller. The motion passed unanimously.

The minutes of the 2010 annual meeting were presented. A motion for approval was made by Dennis Bechtold and seconded by Tim Pipinich. The motion was passed unanimously.

Old business

- ☼ John Gillis mentioned that the benevolence distributed in 2010 was the most contributed that can be remembered.
- ☼ Thank you to the Council members that finished their term: Diane Oddy, DeAnne Smith, Kris Bell and Tom Gruss

New business

- ☼ Presentation of 2011 proposed budget. A motion for approval was made by Rick Keller and seconded by Tim Pipinich. The motion was passed unanimously.
- ☼ Election of Church Council members, voted by acclamation: Tim Pipinich, Lisa Duffey, Nancy Vitarius, Tom Gruss.
- ☼ Delegates: no need for delegate nomination in LCMC. Bob Coughlin recommends that Pastor Bill & Karen Duffey attend the LCMC Gathering held each year in October. Anyone may attend this Gathering ~ Wynne Gillis would like to attend in 2011, if her schedule allows. Peace Lutheran will pay the registration of those attending from PLC.
- ☼ Discussion of the Passing of the Peace during service. A congregational member asked that this be done at the end of the service. Many people had concerns that this is an integral part of the service. Pastor Duffey will be working with the Worship & Music team to determine the placement of the Passing of the Peace.
- ☼ The facility is in need of repair and updates: the doors of the building will be a priority. Other things mentioned were the flooring of the bathrooms in the hallway, enlarging the hallway, office space, sanctuary carpeting and a new roof. Bruce Sorensen recommends having a one year, five year and ten year plan of improvements.
- ☼ Teams (formerly committees) welcome new members from the congregation.
- ☼ Peace Lutheran is hosting the statewide LCMC Women's convention on April 16.
- ☼ The motion to approve the revised Constitution and By-laws was made by Dennis Bechtold and seconded by Cheryl Bechtold. The motion was passed unanimously.

Gretchen Carrels moved that the annual meeting be adjourned and Bob White seconded. The motion was passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 12:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Vickie Streich
Council Secretary

PASTOR BILL'S REPORT

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Much has been accomplished this past year at Peace Lutheran Church. Many of the twenty available garden spots were utilized this past year, some are already reserved and we are hoping that all twenty garden spots will be in use next summer.

The Peace Garden was further developed throughout the summer with grass sod being laid, the path lined with gathered Belgrade rock, many different kinds of flowers brought from home flower gardens and planted, and all of this was made possible by the unselfish work of many members of the congregation. And more work will be done this coming summer to keep the Peace Garden as beautiful as it was this past summer and fall.

Pastor Bob Coughlin was Called, Ordained, and Installed as Quarter-time Pastor here at Peace Lutheran Church though I am sure he is providing us with more time than that. Pastor Bob has brought fresh insight to how we do ministry here at Peace and will continue to be a good addition to the staff.

Sandi Joubert continues her excellent work as Office Assistant for Pastor Bob and me. Sandi keeps both of us on track throughout the year, but especially during the very busy times of the Church Year.

The wooden front doors were replaced with glass doors by Andyø Glass (Andy & Debra Mitchell-Briggs), and they have been a very welcomed change for our church building for they allow a lot of natural light to enter both entry-ways and people can see those coming and going so no one is now hit by opening doors. The other doors in the building will be replaced soon also.

The church roof shingles have been replaced as of mid-December, 2011 and I appreciate what Curt Hickey and his co-worker accomplished and their fixing of other potential roof leaks that they discovered when they removed the old shingles.

With increased attendance during the Advent and Christmas Seasons, the Sanctuary was re-configured to allow for a more comfortable seating arrangement, it is a work in process so adjustments will be made as they become apparent.

As a member of the Association of Churches in the Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ, we continue to emphasize our commitment to be about **MISSION FOR CHRIST** in our congregation, in the communities in which we live, in our country, and in our world. And we continue our emphasis on developing **DISCIPLES FOR CHRIST** who will go and develop more **DISCIPLES FOR CHRIST**, thus multiplying the growth of those who faithfully follow Godø Grace, Love, and Commandments.

Let us grow in our Faith Maturity, let us be in the Word, and let us encourage one another in being Personal Active Witnesses of our Faith in Christ Jesus so that others may be encouraged to do the same.

Grace and Peace be with you!!!

Pastor Bill.

PASTOR BOB'S REPORT

With just over four months under my belt as a pastor, ordained and called to Peace Lutheran Church, I am reflective on what has brought me to this point.

Dianne and I have been members of the PLC community for 17 years, finding it to be a people who strive together to be the Body of Christ in the world. We have seen firsthand how the church has ministered to us and others in time of need. Over the years, it has been a place of support for us and others who have sensed the call to mission and ministry. Together, we have made difficult decisions to stand firm on the Word of God while finding ways to be active in outreach to our local the community.

Throughout our involvement with PLC, I had often felt the nudge toward the pastorate, but the obstacles to the way forward were daunting. I also have had a challenging position with InterVarsity Christian Fellowship which demanded a great deal of my time and attention. I wasn't quite ready to step away from a ministry to which I had committed over 30 years.

Our affiliation with Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ opened new opportunities for me to reconsider my call to the pastorate. A shift in my responsibilities with IVCF gave me the freedom to commit time in a new ministry venture. It felt like the perfect window of opportunity. To sweeten the idea, PLC was ready to take on someone to help carry the load of pastoral responsibilities. God seemed to be making a way.

I am grateful for the congregation's support and encouragement to invite me to step into the position of co-pastor. The ordination and installation service was a special moment that will be a significant marker in my life journey. Not only did I feel loved and cared for, I had a growing conviction that I was doing the right thing. Yet, I must admit, that it is taking some time to get used to my new role and being referred to as "Pastor."

Thank you for inviting me and welcoming me into this role by providing what I need - setting up office space, providing clerical robes and stoles, giving instruction, and having patience as I learn my new role. I think we're learning together. I have discovered what a wonderfully devoted staff we already have at PLC. It has given me a renewed enthusiasm for mission together as the church of Jesus Christ. We have the commitment and the resources to be used by God to be world-changers. Let's move forward together.

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Bob

PRESIDENTS REPORT

Dear Peace Lutheran Members

Less is More. Seems a strange statement to begin a report with but it says a lot with how PLC has been operating this past year. Much has happened and continues as many folks in our congregation have found the freedom to do many things as missions in our community, congregation, and the world. Every one's hard work and dedication is much appreciated. Say THANK YOU to these folks!

Youth leaders have risen from our membership and have done an awesome job! We have a co-pastor. Maniac Monday and family promise continue on a regular basis. The gardens are a part of the community. Our pastors go to Townsend weekly. PLC gives moneys quarterly to local charities that members selected. Sunday school classes and confirmation classes continue to get larger. We share our facilities with another church family and preschool. I know there are more but it is refreshing to see what can happen when Jesus and The Word are in the lead.

Thanks to All of you for your confidence!
Bruce Sorensen,
President

ALTAR GUILD

The Altar Guildí .who are we and what to do we, anyway? Well, we are a group who perform many behind the scenes duties. You could call us the ðProp and Set committeeö or maybe even ðthe Roadiesö, who work backstage to prepare for the important sacraments of communion and baptisms. We prepare the altar with paraments to reflect the Church Season and adorn it with flowers (quite often from our membersøgardens). Basically, we ensure that everything on the altar is ready for worship (i.e. candles, communion service, offering plates and special offering cups). We prepare and clean up communion service and are involved in arranging for acolytes and preparing them for service.

We also prepare for baptisms and contribute items to be included in the Faith Chests that are presented to the family.

We handle the Cradle Roll for newly baptized babies under 3 years old to offer communication with the child and parents every six months for three years. Currently, those include the following:

Kal Michael Wubben	Cooper John Montgomery	Cohan Cade Taylor	Tanner Riley Gilmore
Dani Jo Larson	Karsen Rio Bramlette	Alyonna Rae Garrison	Brooks Patrick Bolich
Ngozi Mae Akukwe	Jacey Mae Smith	Kelton Eugene Simkins	Raegan Mae Swenson
Bentley Anne Allmendinger	Cedric John DeCock	Shelby Eleana Clark	Bryleigh Jean Larson
	Taylin Alexis Taylor		

We decorate the altar with flowers at Easter from orders we get from members of the congregation. We also plant red geraniums in front of church for the season of Pentecost. We provide corsages for the confirmands on Confirmation Sunday.

Currently, we are group of women, however, we do not discriminate. There is no special talent or gender required. The sole requirement is the desire to serve in a quiet, gentle way. Quite often, it seems the only time a member of the congregation might become aware of what we do is IF it didnø get done! And that suits us just fine. Soí .if you have a desire to give and be of service in a capacity that doesnø require being in front of people or knowing how to play an instrument, give thought to joining usí .the more, the merrier and the lighter the work.

2011 FINANCIAL REPORT/ PEACE LUTHERAN ALTAR GUILD - Submitted by: Virginia Sorensen

STARTING BALANCE Jan. 2011	\$273.91
Income	+ 542.00
Expenses	- 468.02

ENDING BALANCE Dec. 2011 \$347.89

<u>Income:</u>		<u>Expenses:</u>	
Altar Flowers	\$ 60.	Altar Flowers	\$ 84.34
Easter Flowers	212.	Easter Flowers	212.00
Given by Church Family	270.	Faith Chests	171.68
Church members	\$120.		
Serving funeral meal	150.		

In 2010, we met three times to discuss various aspects of our service and to delegate the duties and services mentioned above. If anyone is interested in being a part of the Altar Guild, please contact Nancy Vitarius or any of the members.

Thanks to Kris Bell for calling acolytes every month.

Thanks to Carol White and Audrey Vitarius for baking communion bread.

Thanks to Cindy Gee for arranging flowers for the altar.

Thanks to Gretchen Carrels and Debra Durham for making Baptismal napkins.

Thanks to Virginia Sorensen who acted as treasurer.

Thanks to Karen Duffey for sending out the Cradle Roll.

And, thanks to all members who served faithfully: Gretchen Carrels, Judy Beagley, Kristy Rieger, Virginia Sorensen, Karen Duffey, Carol White, Audrey Vitarius, Cindy Gee, Jodi Robbins, Marilyn Megaard, Debbie Porter, Heather Geiger and Nancy Vitarius

Submitted by Nancy Vitarius

COMMUNITY GARDEN

The Community Gardens had a slow start due to our wet, wet spring. Ten of the twenty gardens were reserved. Out of the 10 gardens used ~ 5 were from people living in the apartment complex south of the gardens. Everyone that put in a garden had wonderful success. The Youth of PLC had one garden and donated the produce to the Food Bank. The one problem we ran into was from the basketball bouncing into the gardens behind it when people were shooting hoops. This year we were able to move those people to other gardens that were open and leave those gardens empty. We have one garden reserved for 2012 from a gentleman from the apartment complex that had such good luck in 2011.

We worked with other Lutheran Churches in the valley that had community gardens to get a grant from Thrivent. Peace Lutheran Church received \$500 to be used towards the Peace Community Gardens that will be used as seed money for improvements, supplies, and additions.

Thank you to everyone that adopted a garden by donating \$100. This money is put into our reserve along with the Thrivent Grant money. Plaques were put on the plots that were adopted with the information of who adopted the garden plot and if it was in memory of a special person. Paul Joubert removed the plaques this fall (to protect them from the winter weather) and they will be replaced in the spring. If you are interested in adopting a garden plot (there are still a few available) or in reserving a garden plot for 2012, please contact Sandra Joubert in the church office for more information.

Respectfully submitted by,
Sandra Joubert

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

The Congregational Life team concentrates on our life as a family at Peace Lutheran Church. The team is working on a new church directory that will easily be updatable. The team changed the prayer request form in the bulletin and is exploring forming a prayer team at Peace to meet regularly to pray with purpose. The team has organized speakers for Wednesdays at Peace: ROC Wheels, Troy and Megan Paulson, Cindy Ellis (Kids for Kuwaa), and Kirk Haas. Other activities include organizing the Family Ministry teams and the Salt and Pepper dinner program. If you have any ideas for ways for the congregation to connect throughout the week, please contact a member of the team (Lisa Duffey or Diane Oddy). Thank you.

EDUCATION

Round-up Rally Sunday launched our PEACE LUTHERAN SUNDAY SCHOOL in September. Sunday School includes classes from PreK through Adult Forum. The registrations in classed PreK through 12th grade are 45 students. The average attendance is 36 students. Activities include Music ministry with Jackie Currey and Dianne Coughlin. The students go to their classrooms for Bible lessons, crafts, and games. Their teachers are Lisa McCurley, Dawn Pipinich in PreK-K; Kay Cavanaugh, Debbie Briggs in 1st-2nd; Val Ross, Gayle Clifford in 3rd-4th; Jinx Sorensen, Paula & Doug Johnson in 5th-6th; and Tiina Smith, Tom Gruss, Glyn Ross in 7th-12th grades. Students in PreK-6th grades have Library activities once a month. Their mission projects are Gallatin Food Bank offerings, Adopt-a-Sox Military Personnel Christmas stockings, and KIDS4KUWAA water filters fund raising. The youth classes have done cleanup projects and raised money to buy Christmas presents for Family Promise families. The curriculum used for these students is One Room Sunday School and Rock Solid. Teaching materials, curriculum ideas, and holiday and seasonal materials are stored in the Sunday School Room.

The CHRISTMAS SUNDAY SCHOOL PROGRAM was scheduled in a different way this year. During the Advent Sundays, each Sunday School class did a Christmas presentation of music, readings, and costumes for their Christmas messages. Their performances were great! Thanks to the Jackie Currey, Dianne Coughlin, and their Sunday School teachers, many positive comments were made for this new schedule!

“Shake It Up!” was the theme for our summer Vacation Bible School held June 13-16th.

Whitney Gruss planned and carried out this VBS. She and her cooking crew stirred up a lot of fun for the students. Thanks to all the volunteers who helped with this VBS!

THE HOLY COMMUNION CLASS, taught by Pastor Bill in September and October, was attended by Chase Bell, Colton Koosman, Eric Lee, and Abby Kabalin. This class is for 3rd graders to know about and carry out the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper. It was held right after school on Wednesdays; Pastor Bill had snacks and lessons at the Church. The students received their personal Bibles during Worship Service after the class was finished.

On Advent Sunday, November 27th, Sandi Joubert planned and set up make-and-take Christmas crafts for all Peace members to do, during Sunday School time. Thanks to the Sunday School teachers, the Middle and High School students, and Peace members who helped Sandi with this ADVENT EVENT!

As you read, many thanks are due to Peace congregation members for their parenting, time, work, and donations! The education of our Peace Lutheran children and youth could not happen without our LORD'S GUIDANCE AND GRACE!

Submitted by
Judi Beagley

LIBRARY

Peace Lutheran Library received new and new donations that brought it a positive and roomier atmosphere in 2011. Thanks and appreciation to all of you members who gave and worked to make this happen for our Library!

Most of the old shelves were taken out and new ones from the closed Borders Bookstore were put in and up; thanks to Dave Lanzendorf and the other men who helped him! This new arrangement makes the checkout and check-in system easier to use, plus, adds more shelving space. Your donations of the variety of books for children and adults so helped to keep our Library interesting.

Claudia Leake and Laura Carter have helped get the books accessed and cards into the Card Catalog for you; a big thanks to these ladies! This Card Catalog helps you find out if we have the book or the author you are seeking.

This past year has also seen the circulation of your books increased! This is the main goal of our Library! The children's and adult's books are checked out, but a needed goal for 2012 is the circulation of the youth's books, which are housed in the Youth Room. Another 2012 goal is to use the recently freed-up time to more thoroughly take care of the Library's needs.

Your librarian
Judi Beagley

MEN'S BREAKFAST & BIBLE STUDY

Wednesday Mornings at 6:30 AM, at Peace Lutheran Fellowship Hall, all men are welcomed to attend whenever they can for Breakfast. It is a time of good Fellowship and sometimes we even find time to discuss a Bible Study Topic.

The Men's Breakfast Group sponsors a couple of meals for the whole congregation during the year. **Fat Tuesday Meal** is on the Tuesday before Ash Wednesday and **Christmas Breakfast** is on the Saturday morning before Christmas Eve.

The Men's Breakfast Group has also handled several large projects which take a variety of skill sets which the men have, and they have also provided substantial funds to cover some of the expenses of those projects.

Respectfully Submitted,
Pastor Bill.

OUTREACH & MISSION TEAM - Team Members: Bob Coughlin, Val Ross

The Outreach and Mission Team strives to help keep the members of PLC faithful to our calling to be salt and light in the world. Our purpose is to ignite outreach that is local and world-wide, let people know what we do, actually do it, and invite everyone to join us.

We have been getting the word out about PLC through newspaper announcements and the Worship Directory which is annually included in the Chronicle and placed in each hotel/motel in the Gallatin Valley. We also have been working on an updated brochure for visitors.

Our greatest witness is in what we do to love others. In the past year, PLC has been actively investing in the following outreach ministries with their time, talents and treasure:

- ❖ Family Promise ó youth raised funds and bought Christmas gifts for 2 families, continued partnership with Hope Lutheran to host families.
- ❖ Habitat for Humanity ó housed visiting volunteer teams who worked on local housing projects, provided a work team of skilled laborers for a spring building project in Bozeman.
- ❖ Manic Monday ó serving a hearty and healthy lunch to up to 140 high school students in a safe, welcoming environment each week during the school year.
- ❖ Gallatin Valley Food Bank ó participated for the second year in ð1000 Gardensö which donated over 250 lbs. of fresh produce and participated in Crop Walk to raise money and awareness for those in need.
- ❖ Community Gardens ó provided 20 garden plots for families and individuals in the community and congregation, half of which were ðrentedö in its first year of operation.
- ❖ Youth ministries that involve kids and families who are not members of PLC like PeaceMakers after school program and Vacation Bible School.
- ❖ Kids for Kuwaa ó Sunday school kids raised awareness and funds to purchase 13 water filters for children in Liberia, West Africa.
- ❖ Collected building supplies, sponsored and commissioned Kristen Haas to a short term mission to Tanzania, Africa to work with women and children. Extra funds were used to also help purchase a motorcycle for a Tanzanian pastor.
- ❖ Benevolence ó PLC committed 8.5% of its overall giving to ministries outside of the congregation. Those included: Gallatin Valley Food Bank, Family Promise, Habitat for Humanity, Lutheran World Relief, InterVarsity Christian Fellowship, Lutheran Disaster Response. An additional \$3,500 was distributed through directed giving to World Hunger, the Chaplinø Fund, Belgrade Ministerial Association, campus ministry, youth funds, and multiple one-time collections.

We continue to discover many ways that we can be involved in Christø mission. Thank you for your support of these and many other efforts. Consider giving your time to one or more of these ministries in the upcoming year. If you are interested in serving on the O-M team, we welcome new members to help us continue to wisely invest in Godø kingdom. Letø keep PLC a ðmissionö congregation!

Respectfully Submitted,
Pr. Bob Coughlin & Val Ross

PEACE GARDEN

Spring 2011 brought much anticipation to our Peace Garden area. The front 1/3 of the area was planted with bulbs and sprinkled with wildflower seed. The wait was well worth it--the tulips/daffodils/crocuses bloomed wonderfully followed by a spectacular display of wildflowers through the summer. Praise God for His beautiful creation.

The outside perimeter of the area was fenced thanks to John Gillis and his friends at Eagle Fence. Several gardening enthusiasts (Cindy Gee, Julie Mattson, Marlyn Madison, Vicki and Mike Streich, and Diane Oddy) met throughout the summer to clean the areas in the Peace Garden and prepare it for the next phase. Paul Joubert used his landscaping toysø to extend the sprinkling system and move LOTS of dirt.

Trees and scrubs were planted and edging placed. One night in August 20 volunteers laid 1600 square feet of sod and put down landscape fabric/landscape mulch throughout the new area. The transition was amazing-----truly God's hands were with us.

The rest of the planting season was spent finishing the walking path, planting more bulbs, and most of all, marveling at the blessing of this area. We have received so much positive feedback from the neighbors/church members.

Next season our plan is to complete a labyrinth in the sod area if we collect enough bricks.

The costs of the garden have been covered by the memorial funds received over the last years and some donations. We still have a couple more spots we would like to put trees if you would like to donate.

Come to the Peace Garden --- to laugh, cry, talk, sing or just be with our wonderful Creator.

Respectfully submitted,
Diane Oddy

PEACE RE-PIECERS

2011 was another busy and rewarding year for the Peace Re-piecers. One of our main goals is quilts, school kits, etc for Lutheran World Relief. Thanks to a donation of used linens, mattress pads and comforters we were able to make a large supply of quilts. Thanks to the generosity of Peace members in giving fabric and supplies for fabric kits, layettes, health and school kits (plus the Sunday School kids assembling the kits) we made 63 quilts, 19 health kits, 23 sewing kits, 66 school kits and 13 layettes. Thank you for all your help.

Excerpt from Berniece Stulc's letter she is the coordinator for LWR pick-up for the western 1/3 of Montana. "It never ceases to amaze me that you all are very generous with your time, talent and treasure. This year (2011) we were very concerned that all the quilts and kits would not fit into the BIG MIGNIGHT EXPRESS, but thanks to some good men, they managed to get it all included. The truck driver was cautioned to tell those on the receiving end to "be sure to stand back when they open the door." With all the tornados and floods in our own country some of your generosity may be needed very close to us. Please keep these folks in your prayers." The total packed on that truck was 802 layettes, 241 fabric kits, 1784 quilts, 3 boxes of soap, 505 health kits and 403 school kits for a total of 11,448 pounds---WOWWW, that's over 5 tons from 1/3 of our state. God has blessed us and lives in our hearts.

Re-Piecers also made quilts and crafts for our Peace Lutheran family. This year, with the knitters, we made 12 graduation quilt/afghans, 5 baby quilts and 5 quilts for other projects. The re-piecers participated in the first Mission Fund store project. Once again we are blessed with crafty, talented people. Donations appeared from unknown sources "thank you" and through support from our Peace Lutheran family we met our goal of \$600 to start the Mission Fund. These monies will be used in the future when God presents us with a mission to help in His work.

Respectfully submitted,
Diane Oddy

SALT & PEPPER DINNERS

Salt and Pepper dinners are an opportunity to get acquainted with the other members of Peace Lutheran. Each year, starting in January, there is a sign-up list for those interested in participating in this program. Teams, usually 3 or 4 families, are assigned toward the end of January and from then until the end of the year these individuals meet at each other's home or at the church to dine together, developing deeper personal relationships. In 2011 we had 4 teams with 11 families participating.

Respectfully submitted,
Diane Oddy

SERVANTS OF PEACE

The Servants of Peace again served as four smaller groups with a leader for three months. This allowed more serving and social contact between the women and a fair load of work for the Servants. A hugely-big THANKS to the leaders of these groups for all the work they did to carry out the serving of sharing the joy; they are **Gayle Clifford, Tiina Smith, Ione Gruss, and Judi Beagley**.

The Servant activities were making, serving, and cleaning up after meals and refreshments in Fellowship Hall for Advent and Lent Soup Suppers, Clean-up Day, Belgrade Ministerial Lunch, Memorial Services, and other activities. The Servants also made and delivered food to homes for Casserole Care.

This coming year, 2012, **Karlene Swenson** will be the overall leader of the Servants of Peace. She has graciously and willingly agreed to serve as the planner-generator, paper work and records manager, coordinator, and such with the Leaders of the four groups.

Respectfully submitted by
Judi Beagley

SHAWL MINISTRY

Our aim is to have shawls or lap throws available to the congregation, to be given out to anyone in need of being wrapped in God's love. This year in conjunction with the Peace Re-Piecers we gave blankets to students that graduated from high school and blankets for baptisms. We met on Thursday's at 7 p.m. at our homes. We had a wonderful addition to our knitting group of Wanda Feddes in Townsend. Wanda made it to Belgrade once this fall; she normally sent her finished blankets to Peace via the pastor. She sure keeps us supplied in baby blankets, throws and shawls. Thank you, Wanda!!

If you would like to participate in the Shawl Ministry and need more information, patterns, etc. just give me a call. If you don't know how to knit or crochet, but would like to learn come we will arrange a time that works for you. This is a wonderful ministry for anyone that is homebound. To learn more about this outreach you can go to <http://www.shawlministry.com/> where there are patterns, prayers, stories, tips, ideas, and many more links. **Total for 2010 - 27 quilts, throws and baby blankets**

Respectfully Submitted by,
Sandra Joubert

WORSHIP & MUSIC COMMITTEE

Peace Lutheran is extremely blessed with good musicians who willingly share their talents with the congregation, from those who play instruments, to those who use their voices in the choir we THANK YOU! And to the whole congregation membership who make Sunday Worship so enjoyable with adding your voices in praise of God in the singing and in the responsive readings.

The Worship Committee meets every second Tuesday of the month, unless otherwise scheduled. Each Sunday worship is planned around the Scripture readings for that Sunday and the musician's availability for that date. The Worship Committee is an exciting group, full of ideas and suggestions for making each Sunday Worship carry the message of God's love and grace to all who attend.

The Worship Committee is always on the search for members to share their love of God and music during the service, so please contact any of us or one of the pastors, so that instrumental or vocal praise of God can be planned and placed in the Worship bulletin.

Members of the Worship Committee are: Virginia Sorensen, Debra Briggs, Nancy Vitarius, Wynne Gillis, Karen Duffey, Bill Roesener, Pastor Duffey and Pastor Coughlin

YOUTH & FAMILY TEAM

Team Members: Tom Gruss, Tim Pipinich

What a great and productive year we have had with the Youth of Peace in 2011! Many people in our congregation have stepped up to help with this most important of ministries, and we are grateful for everyone's support. Here is a brief list of the items that we have had fun with in 2011.

- *Youth Encounter in Billings, MT: 4 youth and leader attended and had a great time.
- *Peacemakers group started & this group serves 4-7 grade students every Wednesday after school from 3:30 & 5:00. Each week brings a variety of bible lessons, devotions, food, games and service projects. Multiple Moms of Peace have grouped together to make this program work, along with Judy Beagley and Pastors Bob & Bill. The group is open to all kids that want to come, members or not.
- *Youth planned, shopped, cooked and served a full breakfast meal to the entire congregation at Easter Time. There was an offering taken, funds to the Youth fund.
- *Youth planted and cared for one of the Peace Community Garden plots, with all produce grown donated to the Food Bank.
- *Youth were a huge part of putting on and helping with VBS.
- *Flathead Bible Camp: 3 youth attended a week of Flathead Bible Camp in July, they loved it completely! They are now the best walking advertisements for the Camp, as they continue to tell their friends how much fun it was!
- *We floated the Madison River in August
- *Youth had the dime-toss booth at the Belgrade Fall festival. There was a good turn-out of youth this year to man the booth. About \$250 was raised.
- *October saw a successful Lock-In at the church on Halloween weekend, with a large group of kids, having lots of food, movies, and doing a straw-bale maze.
- *Youth organized a team for Bowling For Kids Sake for Big Brother Big Sisters. They collected donations, then topped it off with bowling. Over \$640 was raised directly for BB/BS.
- *Lefse was made in November. This is one of the biggest fundraisers for the youth. While this is a huge effort requiring many people, the youth were present in great numbers, and a huge help. Over \$1500 was raised for the youth fund
- *Youth planned, shopped and cooked again for a Christmas breakfast for the entire congregation. Over \$500 was raised in the offering. This was put 100% towards Christmas gifts for 2 Family Promise families.
- *Youth shopped for and wrapped presents for 2 Family Promise Families. Over \$800 was spent, which had been raised with the Christmas breakfast, as well as time put in at other jobs, such as working and cleaning at the Sorensens.
- *Middle/High School youth organized a project to make Christmas Ornaments for all of the younger Sunday School kids. This project was totally planned & driven by the youth.
- *On-going activities like Wii tournaments and Wednesday night food during confirmation.

The youth have been busy, and have had lots of activities. We continue to see more kids showing up for events, both members and non-members. They have worked hard to raise money, both for donation to great causes, as well as for their own activities. And they are learning great lessons about hard work, generosity, and selflessness.

These activities would not happen without lots of time from the parents at Peace. We have had some new folks helping this year. They have seen a need, and stepped-up. They are all a blessing! While we would still welcome a paid Youth Director, and are always on the look-out for the perfect candidate, we are confident that the program is healthy, robust and growing with the help of many hands. And we are all so proud of the amazing group of kids that we are blessed to work with on a regular basis.

This is a great program, and is reaching a lot of great kids. We can always use more help, is this a team you see yourself on? If so, talk to any team member. We are excited about 2012!!

Respectfully Submitted
Youth & Family Team
Tom Gruss, Tim Pipinich

CHRISTIKON

Serving on behalf of **Peace Lutheran Church Belgrade, Montana** and thirty-three other congregations in south-central Montana and northern Wyoming.



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

Christikon was founded and continues to operate as an arm of ministry for your congregation. As a member of Lutheran Bible Camp, Inc., your congregation shares in owning the camp. We hope this report gives you an idea of what your congregation is doing through the camp. In 2011, Christikon served 289 youth campers (who were joined by 38 pastors and lay advisors during youth sessions). That number included 17 at-risk kids in our special *Sojourners* session coordinated by Pastor Eric Thorson, Julie Donald, Aldin Barnes and Anne Christ. In addition, we hosted 102 family and adult campers, and 49 developmentally disabled adults (who were joined by 4 volunteer workers). Led by the pastor/director and 21 young adults who served as our summer staff people, our guests shared 2,417 camper days in the Christikon life. People from member congregations were joined by others from Minnesota, North and South Dakota, Wisconsin, and Washington. In addition to Christikon programs, two of our member congregations rented Christikon facilities for their own programs in August, September and October.

Our annual Spring **Benefit Auction** at the Billings Depot raised over \$27,500 for our ministry work, plus generating \$10,475 in direct gifts to support our *Sojourners* Camp for at-risk youth. The 2012 Auction is scheduled for April 29. Christikon is so blessed in its member congregations who also provide ongoing annual **support** for the camp’s work. Together with gifts from individuals, this support to be used where needed enables ongoing facilities renewal and helps keep camper fees within reach of nearly everyone. During 2011, Peace contributed \$100.00 in memory of pastor Herb Knutson, an average of \$0.39 per confirmed member. Thank you!

Christikon has now completed six decades of service as an outdoor ministry of the church. Next summer will be our sixtieth season of using what was formerly a guest ranch to bring people together with the gospel of Jesus Christ. We enter our seventh decade with thanksgiving and hope. Brochures for the 2012 season will be coming your way in January. Registration (as well as making contributions) can even be done online at www.christikon.org. And watch the Christikon poster in your church building for announcements and updates on plans for the season ahead. **We give thanks** for Christikon’s partnership with Peace, and we look forward to being found faithful workers on your behalf in the year ahead. Encourage your young people, your pastor, and adults who work with youth to attend at least one of the many opportunities for kids at Christikon. We hope we’ll see more people from your congregation involved in the several opportunities for adults and families. Consider using our facilities for a retreat.

And keep praying for us.

Your servant in Christ,
Bob Quam, Pastor/Director