

Gold Hill Evangelical Lutheran Church

934 Placer Street
Butte, MT 59701
(406) 723-4242
pastorgoldhill@gmail.com
churchoffice@goldhilllutheran.org



**Empowered by the Holy Spirit,
United to Serve**

The Nugget E-News

August 3, 2020

Gold Hill News

Constitutional Review Task Force



A Constitutional Review Task Force will be appointed this year to review and align our Gold Hill Constitution with the Synod's Constitution and will be comprised of five members. If you are interested in serving on this committee please call the church office (723-4242) and let Mary know.

Sack Lunch Ministry

If anyone would like to make sack lunches for the homeless outside of Gold Hill, please let Kim Mickelson know. There are funds available for reimbursement for this ministry. Lunches can be made at home and someone will pick them up for delivery to the homeless.

Call Kim Mickelson (498-4402) or Mary in the church office (723-4242) if you wish to participate in this ministry.



Campfire Devotions



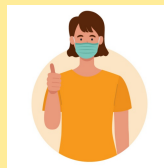
Gold Hill and Gloria Dei will hold a campfire devotion at Gold Hill on the 4th Wednesday of the month at 6:00 pm (next one's August 26th) while the weather holds. Please bring a lawn chair and join us! We will be practicing social distancing and using masks when social distancing isn't possible.

Weekly Devotions

Weekly devotions are offered by Pastor Carrels and Pastor Sarah on Facebook every Wednesday evening. Go to Gold Hill's Facebook page to join in.

Looking for ushers and lectors

The Worship team is also looking for folks who can help usher or lector for outdoor services on Sundays. If you feel called to this ministry, please let Mary or Pr. Carrels know (723-4242), or talk to Chris Ketchum.



Help with cleanup after services

The Worship team is looking for people to help with clean up after services on Sundays. Please call the church office (723-4242) to sign up if you can help out, or talk to Chris Ketchum (team leader) on the Worship team.

Calendar:

**Executive Committee
meets at 5:30 PM
Tuesday, August 4**

**Worship Service
Outdoors:
North Parking Lot
at 9:30 AM
Sunday, Aug. 9nd**

+++++

**Bible Study
Opportunities:**

**Group Study
every
Thursday
at 7:00 AM
Perkin's
Restaurant**

LINKS:

[Click here to visit our growing website](#)

[Click here to visit our FB page and "like" us](#)

[Click here to support the Butte Furniture Bank](#)

[Click here to visit our Church Library Page](#)

**CHURCH COUNCIL
2020**

**Mike Lawson-
President**

**Curt Quist -
Administration Director**

**Revonda Stordahl -
Treasurer**

Montana Synod News

Words from the Bishop: Peace Be With You

"The peace of Christ be with you." The worship leader announces this on Sunday mornings and we all respond in kind. And then we share the peace. Not just any peace but God's peace, Christ's peace, the peace of the Holy Spirit.



But what are we sharing when we share "the peace of Christ?"

Peace is often envisioned as the absence of conflict. Even in Scripture, peace can be portrayed as an absence of fighting or war where people feel safe from threats to their person or community. No killing, no violence, no screaming, yelling, bullying, angry voices raised louder than other angry voices. For some, peace is imagined simply as safety and security from harm.

Certainly that is one appropriate way to think of peace, at least peace in this world. But does safety truly equal peace, especially peace in Christ?

I'm reminded of a parable I found roaming about Facebook a few years ago: There was once a town that became very afraid of people coming from outside and doing violence. A few people had been murdered by outsiders recently and they were scared. So in their anxiety, the townspeople decided to build a wall around their city. When the wall was built, some of the people felt safer but others pointed out that bad people could still manage to slip through the gate, so they walled that up too. Now most people felt safe but a few worried that killers could climb up and drop over the wall, so they built a roof over the whole town, putting bars on any of the small windows that were still in the wall. Standing together in the gloom they had to admit that they all felt safe. The threat had been real and they had responded. But then, from somewhere in the darkness, a little boy asked "can I go outside and play?"

Is this walled city the peace of Christ? I don't think so. It may be safe but it's ruled by fear. And I'm pretty sure God's peace involves play.

In fact, according to Jesus, peace is not the absence of something at all. Peace is something that Jesus gives to us: himself in the Spirit. "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid." (Jn 14:27) Because, as he promised earlier, "I will not leave you orphaned. I am coming to you."

Peace is a way of life, a type of character, a way of being in Christ. Christ's peace fills us with his own presence and strengthens us for those unsafe and difficult times that will come. Peace is comforting but not in the way we often think. Comfort in Latin means "with fortitude" - to stand in a non-anxious way, uncontrolled by our fear, against the threats of the world through our faith in God. Peace is standing with Jesus in the boat as he cries, "Peace. Be still!" to the winds of life.

It's only in the peace of Christ that true peace can be found. The peace of Christ is not merely an absence of conflict. As long as the world resists God's peace, there will be division and conflict and sometimes great risk must be taken to work for God's peace on earth. To quote Dietrich Bonhoeffer: "There is no way to bring peace along the way of safety. For peace must be dared! It is the great (ad)venture. It can never be made safe."

For the next couple of weeks starting August 4, I'll be on vacation, going out with the peace of Christ you've shared with me while seeking the peace that I can receive from God. My vacation won't always be "safe" since I'll be hiking and biking (pray "no bears!"), but I do hope to find a peace away from email, internet and phone that will allow for some rejuvenation in body, mind, spirit. [No worries. The rest of the staff will be around to assist any with needs.] And I promise that whatever peace God gives me, I will share with you upon my return.

Ultimately, God's peace is something relational, something that exists in the

Peggy Graving -
Secretary

Julie Corbin -
Spiritual Growth Ministry
Team Leader

Chris Ketchum -
Worship Ministry
Team Leader

Lynn Aniksdal -
Leadership Ministry
Team Leader

Dale Schultz -
Outreach Ministry
Team Leader

Pastor Marlow Carrels

connection we have with each other in Christ through the Holy Spirit. This peace allows us to be intertwined with God, neighbor and creation in faith, hope and love.

And in the end, God's peace is something we really can't comprehend completely. As Paul writes, "And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." (Phil 4:7) The peace of God is beyond anything we as humans in this world can understand. But in Christ, we can find a measure of God's peace even now, that through the Spirit will be multiplied beyond our comprehension.

Let us pray: "Gracious and forgiving Savior, we know that alone we cannot come to your peace. Please give us your peace and fill us with the wisdom to be the peace for the world that you call us to be in you."

The peace of Christ be with you all!

Bishop Laurie

Gold Hill Lutheran Church Welcomes You!

Are you looking for a place to connect with a faithful community, grow in faith, and put your talents to work in serving others? Look no further, we welcome you at Gold Hill Lutheran Church! To learn more about the mission and ministry of Gold Hill Lutheran Church, please contact us at 406-723-4242.