
Light in the Beartooths

MESSIAH LUTHERAN NEWS

Pastor Ben Cherland



*Oh beautiful, for spacious sky
for amber waves of grain
For purple mountain majesties
above the fruited plains.
America, America
God shed her grace on thee,
and crown thy good with brotherhood
from sea to shining sea.*

Text: Katharine Lee Bates

Music:: Samuel A. Ward

July, 2023

Dear Messiah,

It's been a long road into this new building. Over the last year, the rhythm of our transitions has been steady and quicker than we may have liked. Between the sale of our old building, moving in with Calvary, moving into our new building, and the myriad of things being figured out and adjusted and sometimes improvised, it is understandable that we might be feeling unsettled. What are you feeling right now, just months into this new iteration of your church - "Messiah"?

Change in worship has been steady. Introducing the hymnals with a new style of bulletin has been tricky and will be until we are used to worshiping with them. I have heard some frustrated mumblings among you and have a great deal of compassion for you - 'new' is often difficult and hard at first. Leading worship with these elements has been a trick for me, but I am committed to helping you and doing what I can to support your learning and your worship.

Another aspect of worship has shifted in a similarly profound way. During the season of Easter or Eastertide, we used a contemporary version of the Lord's Prayer. This was new for many of you and I heard a supportive word about it - that some of you "liked it better than the old one." In using this new translation for the Easter season, I simply wanted to open our ears to another way we can pray as Jesus taught us.

The differences between the versions are subtle but also profound. The main difference to me resides in two lines. Where the traditional version says "Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and Lead us not into temptation...", the newer version reads thus: "Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial..."

What I love about the old version is that we know it in our bones. Think of the hundreds of thousands of times you've said the Lord's Prayer. Most of you could recite it in your sleep. But I have questions about a welcoming church community in a new building talking about (praying about) trespassing. [Along with the Pope](#) in fact, I have questions about who the God is we pray to when we say "Lead us not into temptation." Does God lead us into temptation? The grace, love and mercy of God turn me away from this possibility, toward the newer translation of the Lord's Prayer.

Does God save us from the time of trial? I believe God walks with us into every trial that we face - never leading us, always accompanying us. This is what I pray when I say the Lord's Prayer. Since Eastertide, we have been praying both versions. I'm not sure if we should all pray the same one, though it might be easier for visitors if we stuck to one. But I ask you: How would saying the "other" feel to you? Let's pray about it.

Pastor Ben

Christikon Clips

July, 2023

Information for our Congregations



We are grateful for all the hard work that our Work Weekend crew accomplished!

Great group! Check out the pictures on our facebook page. Follow us: <https://www.facebook.com/Christikon>

Thank you to one and all!

It's not too late to register for camp this summer! Space remains in most youth sessions and in those for families and adults. You can register online at www.christikon.org or call us at the camp office for further information.

Special guest speakers become part of the Christikon life this summer during sessions for adults and families. Continuing Education Retreat (July 31-Aug 5) – we welcome our speakers Dr. Eric Meyer, Kent Claussen Gubrud and Paul Waldum – Go to our website for topics. Mountain Weekend (Aug 4-6) – watch our website for speaker(s) and topics as they become available.. Come spend a few days of relaxation, learning, and faith growth with us. Check out topic details on the website. www.christikon.org

Remember to pray for the staff and campers.

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

CHRISTIKON • 1108 24th Street West • Billings, MT 59102

406 656-1969 • secretary@christikon.org • www.christikon.org

SPECIAL OFFERINGS 2023

January.....Baretooth Cupboards

February.....Red Lodge Ice Rink

March.....St. John's United

AprilRed Lodge Pool

May.....Christikon

June.....Boys & Girls Club

July.....Lutheran World Relief

August.....Red Lodge Fun Run

September...Pastor's Discretionary

October.....DSVS

November....Campus Ministries

December.....Prison Ministries

Each month Messiah Lutheran supports a designated charity. If you would like to contribute to this cause, please designate "special offering" on your check or with your online gift.



Our Mission

Affirming God's love for all people, we work with Lutherans and partners around the world to end poverty, injustice and human suffering.

Our Vision

A healthy world forever flourishing in dignity and justice.

Our Values

Inclusive: Diversity and differences only make us stronger.

Disruptive: By challenging convention, we innovate and maximize the good we can do in the world.

Interconnected: Complex problems require comprehensive, integrated solutions. Our array of expertise, resources and networks makes possible the impossible.

Agile: Because the world changes rapidly, we move at the speed of change.

When a disaster hits — whether it’s a drought, tsunami or civil war — Lutheran World Relief works over months and years to provide humanitarian assistance and disaster relief to help people recover and adjust to new realities.

Natural disasters and conflict-driven emergencies ravage the lives and livelihoods of hundreds of millions of people each year. While emergencies affect people at all societal and economic levels, the world’s poorest suffer the most because they have the fewest resources to prepare for a crisis and the fewest resources to rebuild afterward.

We work hand in hand with vulnerable communities to help rebuild after disaster strikes as well as avoid or prepare for future disasters.

In the days and weeks after a disaster, we are on the ground helping to meet people’s immediate needs. And in the months and years following, we are dedicated to working with them to ensure that they can rebuild better and stronger than before.



Lutheran World Relief brings aid and resources to others with the knowledge that every person we work with is holy, created in the image of God to be joyful and flourish. We realize that we need others as much as they need us. We need their experience, their knowledge, and their vision, and so we commit to walking alongside them in times of hardship rather than trying to lead or dominate.

Lutheran World Relief’s work is a labor of love. We love, because God first loved us. God’s grace calls us and sends us out into the world to help our brothers and sisters living in poverty.

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Lutherans believe that God has a calling for every human being that allows us the opportunity to better serve both God and neighbor. It is Lutheran World Relief’s vocation to help people use their calling to the fullest extent.



REINVESTING YOUR GIFT, YEAR AFTER YEAR

THROUGH CORUS INTERNATIONAL'S IMPACT INVESTING FUND

"COFFEE IS THE LIFEBLOOD OF OUR COMMUNITY," says Wadamba Dison, who has grown coffee in the mountains of Uganda with his wife Nafuna Oliver for almost 20 years. Indeed, their coffee crop is what puts food on their table and provides for their six children.

But that's not all: The proceeds from their farm also fund the village school and allow the couple to take in other local children who have nowhere else to go. Wadamba and Nafuna work hard to grow their coffee at the highest quality, because they know how much their community depends on them.

They also know that the prices they get for their crops can be unpredictable, and rarely in their favor. When they can't sell their coffee at the prices they need, their losses threaten their farm and their family and reverberate through their village.

You can provide stability for coffee farmers like Wadamba and Nafuna through **GROUND UP INVESTING**. Your love will transform the lives of families by improving the quality of their crops and developing better access to markets that pay fairly.

What's more, your gift can yield a return that will be reinvested year after year so that you can break the cycle of poverty for more families.

**Because your support is more than a one-time gift.
It's an investment in the future.**

Watch an interview with Wadamba and Nafuna and learn more about Ground Up Investing at twr.org/ground-investing-llc.



GROUND UP INVESTING

Coffee ^{A N D} Conversation

Back to the beginning: **62 years in Africa**

During this exclusive virtual event on April 4, Faithful Neighbors enjoyed delicious LWR Farmers Market Coffee while hearing from program staff about your impact in east, central and southern Africa.

Here's a tiny fraction of the truly amazing information we learned.

Watch the replay at lwr.org/CandC



Your support installed a water system at an orphanage in Tanzania, providing clean drinking water and irrigation for gardens. Now the orphanage has more food to eat and sell, and girls no longer miss school to haul water.



You ensure survivors of sexual and gender-based violence in Kenya have holistic support while they rebuild their lives. This looks like medical care, housing, food, school enrollment for their children, counseling and spiritual support, legal referrals and more.



When families in the eastern region of the Democratic Republic of Congo have been driven from their homes by a volcano eruption and recurring violence the past two years, you have provided water filters, quilts, food and basic supplies, medical care, latrines and more.

LWR's work in Africa dates back to 1961, and – thanks to God's grace and your generosity – this legacy will continue until we're no longer needed.

The bottom line? Your monthly gifts:

Allow LWR to build on programs funded by government and other large grants

Enable a quick response when disaster strikes or unexpected needs arise

Create tailored programs for unique communities

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

The next Coffee and Conversation event will be held Tuesday, October 3, 2023. Details to follow!



SUMMER CONCERT SERIES



FREE • 7PM THURSDAYS
TITLE SPONSOR MISSION RIDGE

JUNE 29 THE CROSSINGS, LAUREL BAND OF DRIFTERS
OPENER: TAMMY BRADLEY STAPLES

JULY 6 SJU CAMPUS THE PACK RATS
OPENER: TOM BLANKENSHIP & JOHN COOKE

JULY 13 SJU CAMPUS JOHN ROBERTS - Y PAN BLANCO
OPENER: CHUCK HOLLAND & JASON MAHONEY

JULY 20 SJU CAMPUS THE CORE
OPENER: ELANA HAYDEN

JULY 27 SJU CAMPUS HELLROARING
OPENER: CORY LEONE JOHNSON

AUGUST 3 WYNDSTONE, HEIGHTS JESSICA EVE
OPENER: ANGIE LANGEIRS & ELISA OLSON

FOOD TRUCKS AVAILABLE
WELCOME TO BRING YOUR OWN PICNIC DINNER



COUNCIL CORNER

Council met on June 20th. Full minutes can be found in the member section on our website when they become available or sent to you by email if you request them.

- Income is lagging expenses year-to-date. This is expected given the new building and unforeseen needs. We anticipate that this will balance out by fall.
- 43 kids were served through “Lunch in the Sun”.
- Our first new member informational luncheon went well. Thanks to those who helped with the meal and to those who stayed to attend. We continue to add new ideas for welcoming folks and caring for our current members. See the new Board of Ushers article.
- Worship on the land will be held only on July 30th this summer. We will need sturdy individuals to help with setting up the tent and carrying tables over.
- We retained Worker’s Comp through State Fund vs switching to a new policy.
- We have received leads for the custodian position and hope to hire someone in the next week or so. Thanks to those who are cleaning in the “interim.”
- Thanks for all the recent yard work done at the parsonage and for mowing the extra lot!
- Look for exciting new things to come this year: Men’s breakfast, a pastor-led Bible study, game nights and more.
- Megan reported that things are moving along for Meadowlark Children’s Center. She is in the process of getting licensed by the State of Montana and has been signed. She shared that she needs 8 nap blankets and was hoping our quilters might be able to help with that.

A Special Thank you to all our volunteers!

This congregation is truly blessed to have so many people generously offering their time and talents to make our church and worship experience special. Heartfelt Thanks to each and every one!



July, 2023

Welcome Meadowlark Childcare!

Moving in now—Hoping to begin operation by the end of July

Meadowlark is dedicated to providing quality care to children 0-6yrs of age. As a small facility, they can provide individualized care for every child.



Play Based Learning

Child Centered

Creative Curriculum

Meadowlark understands the strain that paying for childcare costs puts on many working families. To help offset this expense, diapers, wipes, and USDA approved meals of breakfast, lunch, and PM snack are included in tuition.



Care is offered 8AM-5PM

Monday through Thursday at

Messiah Lutheran Church

912 Lower Continental Drive

Red Lodge, Montana 59068

MCC is currently engaging in community surveys to find out how best they can expand services in the future.

General Questions? Email Meadowlark @
director@meadowlarkchildrenscenter.org

July, 2023

What's goin' on at Messiah?

Pastor Ben greeting Laurie and Andy Grygiel at the front door Sunday morning.



David Tilton being welcomed by ushers Martha Crofts and Marla Ebel.



Communion—All are welcome for it is the Lord's table, not our table.



New hymnals and new bulletins being distributed by ushers, Suzi Hansen and LaVonne Ervin.



Paul Schauer and Andrea Holmen playing duets on the new piano.



Dick Crofts shared his musical talents with us in Andrea's absence.

Martha Crofts greeting Dolly and Al Stuber.



Messiah Lutheran has volunteered to help support the Carbon County 4 H Club with providing a dinner on Friday July 28 at the County Fairgrounds. We provide the food and serveware and serve everything and then clean up.

Your help is needed and appreciated. Please call Barb Ostrum at 406-446-4121 to let her know how you can help...with food preparation, serving between 4 and 8 in 2 hour shifts and/or clean up. All funds raised go to support 4 H projects such as scholarships to attend various camps as well as state council meetings. And some kids need financial assistance with their competition registrations. Thank you!

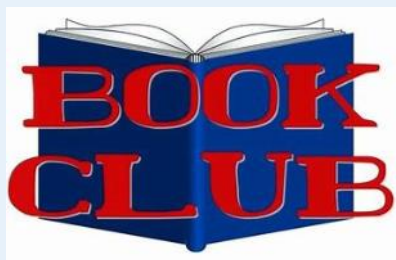


- 7/07 Beverly Urbaniak
- 7/09 Katrin Chandler
- 7/16 Jack Ervin
- 7/19 Jacob Kreatz
- 7/24 Mary Ames
- 7/25 Renee Gildehaus
- 7/29 Sally Gildehaus
- 7/30 Seth Ebel
- David Jurkovich
- 7/31 Dianne Milleson

As more and more people are using the church, before you schedule a meeting, please check in with the office to be sure your desired meeting time is available.



WOMEN'S SAFARI



Date: July 20, 2023
 Time: 7:00 pm
 Book: The Kitchen House
 Author: Kathleen Grissom
 Facilitator: Martha Crofts
 Location: Kim Elsberry's Home
 Contact host, Marla Ebel,
 at 406-664-3178 for more information.

Messiah Chimes rehearses weekly following Sunday worship. Including substitute ringers, sixteen participants hone their musical and team skills toward enhancing worship music. Look forward to their harmonious sounds later this summer. And, by all means, contact the church office should you wish to participate.



Cotton flannel sheets and yardage are still needed

We are collecting cotton flannel sheets and yardage for Pastor Schauer's wife, LeeAnn, to be made into diapers for Lutheran World Relief. Sheets can be used and stained because they will be cut up and the unusable parts will be discarded. Let's see if we can help out with this very worthy endeavor.

INNKEEPERS FOR THE BALANCE OF 2023

July

Kathy Kreatz

Shannon Downing

Donna Downing

Dianne Milleson

Dick & Martha Crofts

Allen & Suzi Hansen

August

Marla Ebel

DJ Rosekelly

Jim & Jeri Kyner

Robert and Sue Leaverton

Peter & Carol Boyum

Beverly Urbaniak

September

Lavonne Ervin

Bob & Andrea Holman

Karin Harridge

Kim Elsberry

Lee & Nancy Woods

October

Sue Leaverton/Katrin Chandler

Jim & Dolly Koski

David Jurkovich

Lauri & Andy Grygiel

Linda & Todd Daily

Barb Ostrum

November

John & Brook Flynn

Mary & Vince Ames

Rob and Brandi Mettes

Don Lindall

Chris & Kathy Benton

December

Kathy Kreatz

Shannon Downing

Donna Downing

Dianne Milleson

Dick & Martha Crofts

Allen & Suzi Hansen

*Those members with highlighted names are “captains” for their designated month

Please consider serving as an Innkeepers volunteer. Innkeepers share the following duties: prepare communion, change paraments according to the church seasons, decorate the church altar with flowers and greenery, fill the baptismal font, read during worship, and provide refreshments for fellowship hour.

Messiah Church Council

P.O. Box 1330 912 Lower Continental Dr.

Red Lodge, MT 59068

Church: (406) 446-2430

Church email: redlodgemessiah@gmail.com

Pastor's email: pastorbencherland@gmail.com

Website: www.redlodgemessiah.com

Pastor	Ben Cherland	646-708-1389c	pastorbencherland@gmail.com
President	Linda Daily	406-426-0841c	lindatodd94@yahoo.com
Vice President	Rob Mettes	972-922-9909	rmettes@live.com
Secretary	Brooke Flynn	406-656-0173	flynnquilts@gmail.com
Treasurer	Kim Elsberry	406-425-0967	kelsberrybresnan.net

Education	Martha Crofts	239-784-4261	marthacrofts@gmail.com
Family Life	Marla Ebel	406-426-8277c 406-664-3178	dmebel@live.com
Outreach	Barb Ostrum	406-446-4121	hobin727@gmail.com
Property	Lavonne Ervin	406-446-3086	N/A
Stewardship			
Worship	Dianne Milleson	406-425-3222	dmille46@gmail.com

Other Important Contact Information

Financial Secretary	Donna Downing	406-425-3742c 406-446-0164	downing.donna@gmail.com
Bookkeeper	Vickie Elfering	406-425-1952c	vickieelfering@gmail.com
Computer	Gwen Williams	406-425-2401	(Text Gwen Only)

July, 2023

Every Tuesday
Women's Bible Study
10:00 a.m. In person and online via Zoom
Contact Andrea Holmen at 406-425-2657 if interested

Ongoing Prayer Concerns

Lowell Anderson, Emma Balsam, Manuel Cabanas,
Lenny Erickson, Brooke Feister, Jesse Graves,
Andrea Holmen, the family of Pastor Ron Jensen
Jim & Dolly Koski, Rick & Sandy Koski,
Jim & Linda Lian, Bill & Lois Miller, Kathy Mills,
Shilo Moncada & Kingston, Dick & DJ Rosekelly, Christian Strickland, Al & Dolly
Stuber,
Louanna Swainston

PRAYER REQUESTS

**For prayer requests, contact the church office at
406-446-2430 or redlodgemessiah@gmail.com
with specific information and permission from the person you are adding.**

Messiah Calendar—June, 2023

<u>Sunday</u>	<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>	<u>Saturday</u>
						1
2 Sing through Hymns 9:15 Worship 10:00 am	3 Quilters 1:00 pm	4 	5	6	7	8
9 Sing through Hymns 9:15 Worship 10:00 am	10 Quilters 1:00 pm	11 Women's Bible Study 10:00 am	12	13	14	15
16 Sing through Hymns 9:15 Worship 10:00 am	17 Quilters 1:00 pm	18 Women's Bible Study 10:00 am Church Council 4:30 pm	19	20 Safari Book Club 7:00 pm	21	22
23 Sing through Hymns 9:15 Worship 10:00	24 Quilters 1:00 pm	25 Women's Bible Study 10:00 am	26	27	28 4H Benefit Dinner 4:30 - 8:00 pm	29
30 Sing through Hymns 9:15 Church on the Land Worship 10:00	31 Quilters 1:00 pm					

July, 2023

Messiah's Mission:

“Live by Faith, Share Christ's Love, Be a Voice of Hope”

HOW TO CONTACT US AND STAY IN TOUCH:

Office Hours: Administrative: Mon-Thurs. 11 am - 3 pm

Messiah Lutheran Church phone: 406-446-2430

Administrative Assistant, Dianne Milleson's cell phone:

406-425-3222

Pastor's Office Hours:

Monday: 9:00-4:00

Tuesday : 9:00-4:00

Wednesday: 9:00-3:00

Thursday: **OFF**

Friday: 9:00-4:00

Saturday: 12:00-4:00

Sunday: 8:00-12:00

Pastor's Cell Phone: (646) 708-1389

Church Address: P.O. Box 1330

912 Lower Continental Dr.

Red Lodge, MT 59068

Website: www.redlodgemessiah.com

Facebook: Messiah Lutheran

Email: General: redlodgemessiah@gmail.com

Prayer Requests: redlodgemessiah@gmail.com

Pastor Ben: pastorbencherland@gmail.com

Sunday Worship Service:

10:00 a.m. Worship



In an effort to make Messiah comfortable and welcoming for everyone we ask that you refrain from using strong personal scents or perfumes.

Thank you.



Fragrance Free Zone
Health care or accommodations that are chemically sensitive to fragrances and other scented products.