

---

# Light in the Beartooths

MESSIAH LUTHERAN NEWS

---

Pastor Ben Cherland



Acts 2:1-21

<sup>1</sup>When the day of Pentecost had come, [the apostles] were all together in one place. <sup>2</sup>And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. <sup>3</sup>Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. <sup>4</sup>All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

June, 2023

Dear Messiah,

This spring, I've been going through my books. If you happen to stop by the pastor's office, you'll see that I have a large bookshelf full of them. If you can believe it, the volumes on that shelf don't even scratch the surface of the library I've collected over the last few decades. This is what you get if you go to seminary - be warned!

Sitting on my kitchen counter, I have books on emotional intelligence, reflections on the Christian life for young people, different translations of the bible, books on organizational leadership and liturgical guides for worship. On a bookshelf identical to the one in my office that sits in my living room, I have books of poetry, novels, fiction, non-fiction for days (!), books on theology, ecology, hiking guides, cookbooks and US histories of race relations. There are more books a few feet away under my coffee table, and yet more (still in the living room) under a little lamp stand table next to the couch. None of this includes the boxes, shelves and closet of the parsonage "office", or the spare volumes in my bedside tables and a bedroom closet shelf.

If you go through any kind of higher education program, you take on a kind of static electricity that attracts books and makes them stick. Have I read every book in my collection? I would wager less than 15% of them. But I "might" read them someday! Thus the conundrum of seeking knowledge outside of school in late-capitalism: knowing and learning is promised in "these" pages.

I am embarrassed about my relatively sprawling library. But the truth is, learning through books is a part of who we are as Christians, and especially as Lutherans. Truly, we are "People of the Book!" The founder of our faith was a scholar, someone whose life was lived through the study and reading of one book in particular - the Bible! Is that not true for some of us as well? His knowledge and faith grew from his engagement with scripture and many of the books of his age, as have the knowledge and faith of those who have engaged his writings, including us! Books are one way, an important way, for us to find our way through the world we navigate together.

And so, perhaps the time has come for me to shed some of these books in the hopes that they can bless the minds and imaginations of others, including the communities I serve. I wonder if the new location of Messiah Lutheran on Lower Continental drive would benefit from a library - from a space dedicated to reading, discovery and contemplation of the word. I wonder if such a space would be an aspect of our welcome, in which people can find voices in and outside the church that help them find their home with us.

As we continue to live into this new place, asking questions about who God has made us and who God calls us to be are important. The stirring of spirit I have experienced in the books I've acquired over the years is a reminder of the blessings we share in the journey we take through life as people of God. I invite you to think about the books that have blessed you, and the blessing they might be to others.

Pastor Ben

# Words from the Bishop:

## Wondering in the Spirit



*In those days I will pour out my Spirit, God declares. Acts 2:17, 18*

Pentecost Greetings to you in the name of the Holy Trinity as we welcome the coming of the Holy Spirit and celebrate the birth of Christ's Church this Sunday.

Last January, I wrote about liminal spaces. In her book *How to Lead When You Don't Know Where You're Going: Leading a Liminal Season*, Susan Beaumont describes the times and spaces that the church lives in today as "liminal," as standing in the threshold of an open door to something new but we haven't gone through yet. In this space, part of us stands in the former things, part in the future things, and part in the right now and here, the confusing and messy "this."

This threshold is not an easy space/time for us to live in. In this threshold between already and not yet, we find both anxiety of an unknown future and the grief of losing a dying past that felt stable (whether it was stable is another question). In the threshold, we feel pushed by some to go too quickly into something we feel we're not ready for yet or we feel held back by those clinging too tightly to something that doesn't work anymore.

And in this threshold we find God. In fact, it's in the liminal spaces, the times we aren't in control, the times of not knowing and uncertainty that we actually find ourselves closer to God than any other time.

The pouring of the Holy Spirit upon the disciples that Pentecost morning was definitely a liminal experience for them. Their self-constructed walls of future agendas, plans and judgments were torn away and they were brought face-to-face with what God was revealing to those around them through their own voices speaking unfamiliar tongues.

The pouring of the Holy Spirit upon us is a liminal experience as well. In fact, as followers of Christ who have been filled with the Spirit in our baptisms, every day is a liminal experience of wondering in awe and fear about what God may be doing next in our lives and the lives of the Church. Contrary to what some thought, there is not going to be a post-pandemic stability. We're still standing on the threshold between former things and new possibilities, a time of both worry and wonder. And we may be standing there for a while.

It is in these times of liminality that the Holy Spirit can better break through our closed and frightened minds, hearts and wills. As our reliance on our own ways, goals and identities is peeled back layer by layer, we can begin to see more clearly God's presence with us and the new things that God has been, is and will be doing among us. We see through a glass dimly, for sure, but with open eyes, hearts and wills, we can see.

And not only does God appear more present to us during this time, but our Spirit-given faith (trust) tells us that "God is Able." This sermon title from Martin Luther King Jr. continues to resonate with me: that God is indeed able. I think we forget that at times and begin to believe it is all up to us. But God is able to bring abundance out of scarcity. God is able to bring hope out of despair. God is able to bring life out of death. God is able to do all this and more again and again.

It's in the liminal spaces that the Holy Spirit enters into our lives, sometimes with violent winds and tongues of fire, often with still small voices of witness to the new life in Christ every moment of every day. It's also in the liminal times that we need to cling to the promise that God is with us and is able to make change in us and through us whether we feel it or not.

As we celebrate Pentecost this week, I am offering my thanks to you for your ongoing work of equipping for the ministry of the Gospel in your liminal places across the Montana/N. Wyoming Synod. Thank you for the many resources, including the financial resources, you have shared with the synod, the ELCA and our ministries over the past year so that we can better equip you. Thank you for your time, energy, commitment and willingness to persist and be resilient in the many ways you have been called to serve Christ and his Church wherever you are located.

With gratitude for the power of the Spirit pouring through you to serve the world,

Bishop Laurie

## Christikon Clips

June, 2023

### Information for our Congregations



**We're excited to welcome our first fulltime Assistant Director, Taryn Hauglie, to the leadership team.** She starts June 1, and summer staff report the next day for the start of Staff Training.

Our first campers arrive on the 19th.

**Family Adult Camps:** We welcome Dr. Eric Meyer who is an Associate Professor of the Theology Department at Carroll College to the Continuing Ed Retreat along with Pr. Kent Claussen Gubrud of Christus Victor Lutheran Church in Apple Valley, MN and Paul Waldum instructor at MSU Bozeman and professional artist from Livingston, MT. Watch for more details coming on our website. Mountain Weekend – watch for more information on our website.

Register at [www.christikon.org](http://www.christikon.org).

**Campers!** There is still room in our on-site sessions. Please visit our website to register. [www.christikon.org](http://www.christikon.org)

We have a few trails spots available – call the office for availability. 406-656-1969.

**Remember to pray for your congregation's ministry through Christikon** this summer, for the summer staff, and for all who join in the Christikon life.

**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 24<sup>th</sup> Street West • Billings, MT 59102

406 656-1969 • [secretary@christikon.org](mailto:secretary@christikon.org) • [www.christikon.org](http://www.christikon.org)

## SPECIAL OFFERINGS 2023

January.....Baretooth Cupboards

February.....Red Lodge Ice Rink

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

April .....Red 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.

### A Vision for Quilting at Messiah

Messiah's quilters are so excited to have a quilt room where we can work on our charity quilts. We hope you and your friends from the community come join us!

Here are some projects we are doing or plan to do:

Quilt in the evenings so day time workers can join us

Hand quilt for more than one day a week

Tie LWR quilts for nine months a year instead of four

Mini lessons for kids and for adults

Make up and donate fabric kits; part of LWR vocational training.

What are your ideas?

Join us in the quilt room each Monday at 1:00p.m. Everyone is welcome, not just Messiah folks. Call Barb 446-4121 or Mary 446-1745. Bring your thimble and scissors and let hand quilting, pretty fabric and companionship relax and refresh you.



Quilt by John Flynn



Quilt by Mary Ames





- [facebook.com/LuthWorldRelief](https://facebook.com/LuthWorldRelief)
- [instagram.com/luthworldrelief](https://instagram.com/luthworldrelief)
- [twitter.com/LuthWorldRelief](https://twitter.com/LuthWorldRelief)
- [youtube.com/LutheranWorldRelief](https://youtube.com/LutheranWorldRelief)

# WHERE DID LWR QUILTS & KITS GO IN 2022?



**462,262**  
**QUILTS & KITS**  
 IN 19 COUNTRIES

- 220,317** QUILTS
- 1,650** BLANKETS
- 94,060** PERSONAL CARE KITS
- 90,860** SCHOOL KITS
- 46,560** BABY CARE KITS
- 8,815** FABRIC KITS
- 31,950** FACE MASKS

COUNTRY	SHIPPING WAREHOUSE	QUILTS	BLANKETS	SCHOOL KITS	PERSONAL CARE KITS	BABY CARE KITS	FABRIC KITS	MASKS
ANGOLA	Maryland	18,480			9,890	4,950	1,230	
ARMENIA	Maryland	12,375					1,230	
BURKINA FASO	Minnesota	14,760		4,480	9,100	4,480	4,180	4,400
DIJIBOUTI	Minnesota	10,080		15,360				
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC	Minnesota			15,360				
GEORGIA	Maryland	36,960						
GUATEMALA	Minnesota	7,200			21,700	7,200		
HAITI	Minnesota	8,640			2,800			
JORDAN	Maryland	7,280		5,500				
LEBANON	Maryland	15,180		8,000	6,900	4,200	1,230	
MALI	Maryland	22,440		5,000	4,830	3,150	205	6,250
NIGER	Minnesota	11,160		5,760		3,840		4,400
PERU	Minnesota	15,840			7,000			
POLAND	Maryland	11,520		2,500	7,360	3,480		
SIERRA LEONE	Minnesota	10,800			7,000	3,840		4,400
SOUTH SUDAN	Maryland	3,630	1,650	13,000	3,220	2,100	820	6,250
SYRIA	Maryland			6,500	5,908			
TANZANIA	Minnesota	7,920		6,400		6,080		
UKRAINE	Maryland	6,072		3,000	8,280	3,240		6,250
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>220,317</b>	<b>1,650</b>	<b>90,860</b>	<b>94,060</b>	<b>46,560</b>	<b>8,815</b>	<b>31,950</b>

*This shipping information is from LWR's 2022 fiscal year (Oct 2021 - Sept 2022).*

June, 2023

## SPECIAL OFFERING



**BOYS & GIRLS CLUB  
OF CARBON COUNTY**



### Mission

The Boys & Girls Club of Carbon County's mission is to enable all young people, especially those who need us most, to reach their full potential as productive, caring, responsible citizens.

### Vision

Our vision is to be the leading provider of youth development programs to meet the needs of our young people and to improve the lives of children.

### History

In the spring of 1993 The Beartooth Front Forum was created based on the belief that when we all work together for the good of the community, powerful results are sure to happen. A subcommittee recognized the need for a structured activities program and a place for kids to go to be safe, meet friends, and grow.

### Timeline

**1994** Boys & Girls Club of Red Lodge and the Beartooth Front was founded as a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization and opened its doors at St. Agnes Catholic Church.

**1995** Club was based out of a shed for the summer.

**1996** Uncle Milty's Drive In became the Club's new home while its own Club House was under construction.

**1997** Club finally had their own home, 24th W 9th St.

**2006** While the Club started out serving 4th grade and older, by 2006 services were expanded to include K-12.

**2019** Boys & Girls Club of Carbon County celebrated their 25th anniversary!

June, 2023

## COUNCIL CORNER

Council met on Tuesday, May 23. Highlights are below. Full minutes can be found on our website in the member's section.

- Setting 3 will be used in Worship through the summer. Songs have been chosen, with some familiar ones included. Worship on the land is scheduled for the last Sunday in July and August, provided we have volunteers willing to help set up and tear down the tent.
- A new furnace was purchased for the 30 year old furnace at the parsonage and will be installed in the coming weeks
- A 3 part series on hospice will be held on June, 11, 18 and 25 presented by Jim Johnson (postponed until Fall).
- New member information luncheon will be held on June 11.
- Innkeepers is expanding to include an Alter Guild and a Board of Usher. Volunteers are needed for both. Contact Marla
- New hymnals will be stickered and ready by June 11.
- A group is working on a landscaping plan to include a well.
- An MOU (memorandum of understanding) is being drafted with Meadowlark Children's Center
- Ideas were presented for getting community participation in quilting and using the quilting room more often and at different times

## BUILDING UPDATE

- Finishing work continues and is wrapping up.
- Dirt will be moved next week for the final grading.
- The trailer will be moved and the property picked up next week.
- A punch list of unfinished or overlooked items is on a clipboard in Dianne's office.
- Watch for a "Wishlist" here next month!





# HOSPICE VOLUNTEER ROUNDUP

**Wednesday & Thursday  
June 21 & 22  
8am-4pm**



Beartooth Billings Clinic values our devoted hospice volunteers and their commitment to individualized patient and family care.



- 1-2 hours per week
- Flexible schedule
- No experience necessary



**PLACE:** Beartooth Billings Clinic  
By June 16 - Seating is Limited  
**RSVP:** Lanette Dalley, LCSW Hospice  
**CALL:** 406-425-4842



**Beartooth Billings Clinic**  
Real People. Exceptional Care.

Community Owned.

2525 N Broadway | Red Lodge | [BeartoothBillingsClinic.org](http://BeartoothBillingsClinic.org)

## HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

- 6/02 Brooke & John Flynn
- 6/07 Barbara & Jim Ochiltree
- 6/19 Jeri & Jim Kyner
- 6/27 Andrea & Bob Holmen
- 6/27 Dick & Martha Crofts
- 6/28 Dolly & Jim Koski

## Cotton flannel sheets and yardage 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.

## WOMEN'S SAFARI BOOK CLUB



**DATE: June 29**

**Time: 7:00 pm**

**Book: All the Flowers in Paris**

**Author: Sara Joi**

**Facilitator: Andrea Holmen**

**Location: DJ Rosekelly's Home-**

**Contact host, Marla Ebel,**

**at 406-664-3178 for more information.**

Messiah Chimes has been on Spring Break since ringing in the festival of Easter. Soon, they will resume rehearsals. Now is the time for all potential participants to "ring in" by connecting with Martha or Dick Crofts. We welcome all music readers as regulars or substitutes, church and community.



**INNKEEPERS FOR THE BALANCE OF 2023**

**March/August - Lavonne Ervin**

Bob & Andrea Holman  
Karin Harridge  
Kim Elsberry  
Lee & Nancy Wood

**April/September - Marla Ebel**

DJ Rosekelly  
Jim & Jeri Kyner  
Robert and Sue Leaverton  
Peter & Carol Boyum

Shilo Moncada  
Beverly Urbaniak

**May/October - Barb Ostrum**

Jim & Dolly Koski  
David Jurkovich

Lauri & Andy Grygiel  
Linda & Todd Daily  
Katrin Chandler

**June/November - John & Brook Flynn**

Mary & Vince Ames  
Rob and Brandi Mettes  
Don Lindall  
Chris & Kathy Benton  
Melinda Berry

**July/December - Kathy Kreatz**

Shannon Downing  
Donna Downing  
Pat & Jeanett Keifert  
Dianne Milleson  
Dick & Martha Crofts



**Volunteers Needed!**

Lunch in the Sun is being offered again after a hiatus of several years. The Red Lodge Pool is opening so organizations are asked to provide nutritious sack lunches. I have Messiah signed up to begin the program.

I am asking for volunteers to sign up to put together the sandwiches, wash any fruit and put the lunches into the bags. This will need 4 volunteers starting at 10:30 at our church kitchen. Then 2 of the volunteers will also take the lunches to pool side and have the children pick them up starting at 11:30. Distribution usually takes an hour. The dates are June 5 and 7 and 9.

Please phone Barb Ostrum at 406 446-4121 to volunteer and which date or dates will work for you. Thanks for providing some great lunches for our youth.

I am sure we will have other weeks to again create and distribute lunches later in the summer.

Barb Ostrum



# Messiah Church Council

P.O. Box 1330 912 Lower Continental Dr.

Red Lodge, MT 59068

Church: (406) 446-2430

Church email: [redlodgemessiah@gmail.com](mailto:redlodgemessiah@gmail.com)

Pastor's email: [pastorbencherland@gmail.com](mailto:pastorbencherland@gmail.com)

Website: [www.redlodgemessiah.com](http://www.redlodgemessiah.com)

---

<b>Pastor</b>	<b>Ben Cherland</b>	<b>646-708-1389c</b>	<b><a href="mailto:pastorbencherland@gmail.com">pastorbencherland@gmail.com</a></b>
<b>President</b>	<b>Linda Daily</b>	<b>406-426-0841c</b>	<b><a href="mailto:lindatodd94@yahoo.com">lindatodd94@yahoo.com</a></b>
<b>Vice President</b>	<b>Rob Mettes</b>	<b>972-922-9909</b>	<b><a href="mailto:rmettes@live.com">rmettes@live.com</a></b>
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Brooke Flynn</b>	<b>406-656-0173</b>	<b><a href="mailto:flynnquilts@gmail.com">flynnquilts@gmail.com</a></b>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Kim Elsberry</b>	<b>406-425-0967</b>	<b><a href="http://kelsberrybresnan.net">kelsberrybresnan.net</a></b>
<b>Education</b>	<b>Martha Crofts</b>	<b>239-784-4261</b>	<b><a href="mailto:marthacrofts@gmail.com">marthacrofts@gmail.com</a></b>
<b>Family Life</b>	<b>Marla Ebel</b>	<b>406-426-8277c</b>	<b><a href="mailto:dmebel@live.com">dmebel@live.com</a></b>
		<b>406-664-3178</b>	
<b>Outreach</b>	<b>Barb Ostrum</b>	<b>406-446-4121</b>	<b><a href="mailto:hobin727@gmail.com">hobin727@gmail.com</a></b>
<b>Property</b>	<b>Lavonne Ervin</b>	<b>406-446-3086</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>Stewardship</b>			
<b>Worship</b>	<b>Dianne Milleson</b>	<b>406-425-3222</b>	<b><a href="mailto:dmille46@gmail.com">dmille46@gmail.com</a></b>

---

## **Other Important Contact Information**

<b>Financial Secretary</b>	<b>Donna Downing</b>	<b>406-425-3742c</b>	<b><a href="mailto:downing.donna@gmail.com">downing.donna@gmail.com</a></b>
		<b>406-446-0164</b>	
<b>Bookkeeper</b>	<b>Vickie Elfering</b>	<b>406-425-1952c</b>	<b><a href="mailto:vickieelfering@gmail.com">vickieelfering@gmail.com</a></b>
<b>Computer</b>	<b>Gwen Williams</b>	<b>406-425-2401</b>	<b>(Text Gwen Only)</b>

June, 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

Rick & Sandy Koski

Jim & Linda Lian

Bill & Lois Miller

Kathy Mills

Shilo Moncada & Kingston

Dick & DJ Rosekelly

Christian Strickland

Al & Dolly Stuber

Josh Wilker

Eva Wilker

### **PRAYER REQUESTS**

**For prayer requests, contact the church office at  
406-446-2430 or [redlodgemessiah@gmail.com](mailto: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	3
4 Sing through Hymns 9:15 Holy Trinity Sunday Worship 10:00 am Ushers Meeting Following worship	5 Quilters 1:00 pm	6 Women's Bible Study 10:00 am	7	8	9	10 DSVS Clergy Training at Messiah 12:30-3:00
11 Sing through Hymns 9:15 Worship 10:00 am New Members Luncheon following worship	12 Quilters 1:00 pm	13 Women's Bible Study 10:00 am	14	15	16	17
18 Sing through Hymns 9:15 Father's Day Worship 10:00 am	19 Quilters 1:00 pm	20 Women's Bible Study 10:00 am Church Council 4:30 pm	21	22	23	24
25 Sing through Hymns 9:15 Worship 10:00 am	26 Quilters 1:00 pm	27 Women's Bible Study 10:00 am	28	29 Safari Book Club 7:00 pm	30	

June, 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](http://www.redlodgemessiah.com)

**Facebook:** Messiah Lutheran

**Email: General:** [redlodgemessiah@gmail.com](mailto:redlodgemessiah@gmail.com)

**Prayer Requests:** [redlodgemessiah@gmail.com](mailto:redlodgemessiah@gmail.com)

**Pastor Ben:** [pastorbencherland@gmail.com](mailto: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 to accommodate those who are chemically sensitive to fragrances and other scented products.