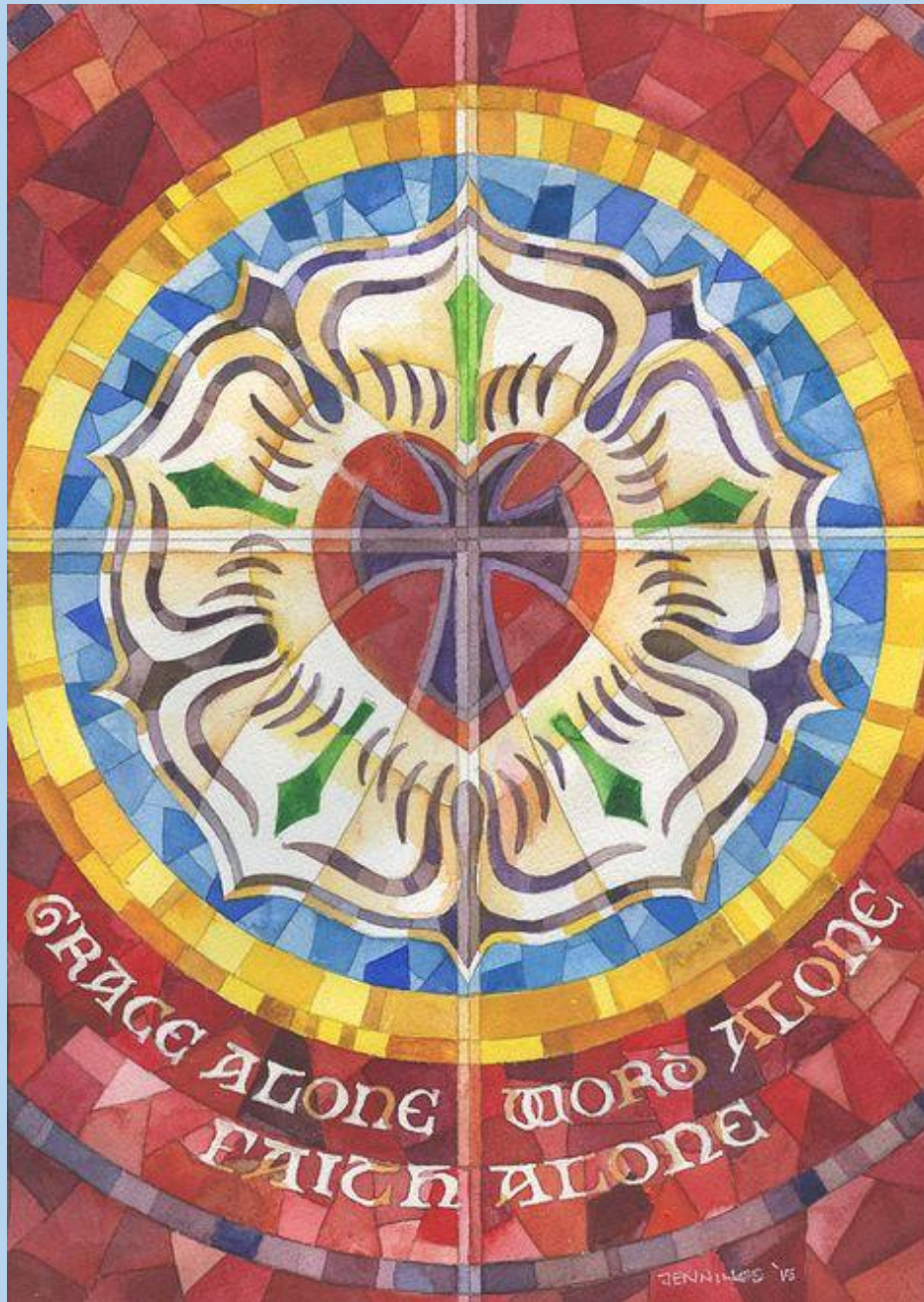


October, 2025

Light in the Beartooths

MESSIAH LUTHERAN NEWS

Pastor Ben Cherland



Reformation Sunday October 26

October, 2025

Dear Messiah,

Autumn is upon us! With the changing of seasons I usually try to take a closer look at the “state of things” – in my own life and the life of the church. So rather than writing to you about something theological, I thought I’d share some of the things happening around here that I’m excited about.

There is a growing number of newer faces on Sunday mornings these days, so it may be time for our next “new member” welcome. While we’ve kept the process of welcoming new members fairly simple in the past, I’d like for those interested in joining the church to gather. This would help us get to know each other and learn a little more about the church together. If you are interested in joining the church, or are curious about what membership means, reach out to me!

We have had two Sundays so far where worship has been led by myself and a lay member. These “Assisting Ministers” are folks willing to help lead our community in worship. While so much happens behind the scenes to make worship organized and meaningful each Sunday, these folks are up front helping to lead. As “the work of the people”, it’s wonderful to co-lead the liturgy with different people. If you’d like to learn more about doing this with me, (again) reach out to me!

This month I will be calling together all those interested in being part of the Congregational Care Team. This is a group of folks who want to help our members keep in touch with the church. In our busy lives, distractions from our church life together abound. Getting a phone call reminding you that your church remembers you and wants to know how life is going can be a welcome “touch” in the midst of it all. Look for announcements regarding that meeting where we’ll get this ball rolling.

Here are a number of other things coming this fall:

- Pastor’s Bible Study will be transitioning soon to a study of liturgy based on the question: What is the soul story being told by each element of the liturgy. This may turn into an adult forum series early next year but it’s likely to be a meaningful study.
- The Worship & Arts Committee is looking at the possibility of including some built-in bookshelves to establish a dedicated library. We’ll be looking for submissions of books that might be meaningful to Messiah, so keep your eyes open for that.
- Handbells on loan from First Lutheran in Havre have been used in rehearsals. Christmas music in September has been remarkably welcome with these brass bells. They hold a lot of promise for a special holiday season as Advent approaches.
- Community UCC, Calvary Episcopal and Messiah are going to be offering a joint Thanksgiving Service and community wide potluck on Sunday November 23rd. We will be hosting and providing the meat, and the other churches will be contributing the Potluck to the meal. We’ll be looking for all the help we can get in this three-church community offering. Look for more info soon.
- Our three churches will also be holding three Advent Midweek Services in December that will include lunch. Look for announcements regarding locations in the bulletin and coming newsletters.

There is a lot happening at Messiah. I hope you’ll consider investing some of your time in the life of your church. We are blessed by your presence at this Great Feasting Table, and Christ our host bids you come – not only for our life together, not only for the sake of the world, but for you.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Pastor Ben". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly stylized font.

October, 2025



Do you want to help mothers and babies through Lutheran World Relief?

We have been collecting cotton flannel sheets and yardage to be made into diapers. These diapers then become part of the baby care kits which are donated to Lutheran World Relief. Heretofore, Pastor Paul and his wife, along with Sunne Lutheran Church in Wilton, North Dakota, have been doing the sewing and assembling of these kits. We would like to begin making diapers and assembling the baby care kits here in Red Lodge.

The diapers are fun and easy to make, no sewing experience is necessary. Everyone can help, including kids! Please contact Dianne (406-425-3222) and we'll get rolling.

10/3 Todd Daily
10/4 Alecia Benton
10/7 Kathy Benton
10/11 Aiden Moore
10/22 Vance Thuesen
10/23 Kathy Kreatz
10/24 Al Stuber



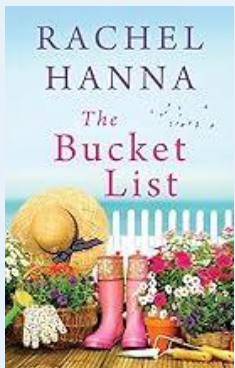
10/03 Vince & Mary
Ames
10/04 Leanne & Mark
Mullaney
10/26 Chris & Kathy
Benton

Messiah Charity Quilters would love your help from 1pm—3 pm each Monday. Everything is provided except your sewing needle and a pair of scissors. We will teach you what you need to know.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

If you are interested in making prayer shawls, please contact Pat Thompson or Mary Ames. If you are in need of a prayer shawl, please contact Pat Thompson, Mary Ames or Pastor Ben.

WOMEN'S SAFARI BOOK CLUB



Date: Oct. 16
Time: 3:00 pm
Book: The Bucket List
Author: Rachel Hanna
Facilitator: D.J. Rosekelly
Location: Home of Martha Crofts

Contact host, Marla Ebel, at
406-664-3178 for more Information

Did you know?

Messiah has a puzzle library! It is located in the bookshelf in the hallway. There are 100, 500, 1000 piece puzzles and more. There are several new puzzles, too.

Let's keep in touch!

If email is not your favorite way of receiving communications from the church, please talk to Dianne in the office and let her know how you prefer to be contacted.



October, 2025

Member Spotlight

By Dianne Milleson



Paul Schauer is in the spotlight this month. If you are wondering why you don't see him around here more often, it is because his full time residence is in beautiful Wilton, North Dakota!

What do I know about Paul? He is compassionate and generous. He has a great sense of humor. He drives an ambulance and is skilled in emergency medicine. He loves dogs. He can play the piano and he can cook for a crowd which he has done for us when he made us his Crispy Chicken with all the fixins and his world famous Swedish meatballs with lingonberry sauce. He also serves the church as our treasurer. Oh, yes, and he is a Bison fan.

I feel blessed to call him my friend. Now here is what Paul has to say for himself.

Back in 1991, after backpacking in the Hell Roaring plateau area, I said to myself, "I'm going to retire out here some day."

My name is Paul Schauer. I'm married to LeeAnn Domonoske-Kellar. While we've been married for almost six years now, we've known each other for nearly 30 years. We each have two adult children (Emma and Eric for me. Brandon and Tanner for LeeAnn). Plus, I have a sort-of-adopted son, Cory.

Over the years (before LeeAnn and I married), I've hosted 13 exchange students and have fostered 22 mostly 7-12 graders.

While our primary home is in Wilton, ND, we are back and forth to Red Lodge all the time. I bought our home on N. Platt back in 2018 - before LeeAnn and I were dating. Back then my plan was to retire in Red Lodge, but then this thing called "love" happened and plans changed.

LeeAnn and I enjoy traveling. I've been on 5 of the continents. Sometimes I've been a tourist and other times I've been studying Lutheran World Relief projects or representing the Western ND Synod at meetings.

Before I retired, I was the pastor of Sunne Evangelical Lutheran Church, a country church of 400 members. I served there for almost 30 years. Prior to that I was in a small congregation for five years.

October, 2025

One of my favorite activities over the years was leading groups of 7-12 graders into the Absaroka-Beartooth Wilderness on backpack trips. For 25 years we took kids into the backcountry. Climbed lots of mountains (non-technical). I think I know the backcountry better than I know Red Lodge.

For 29 years, I have been a volunteer driver for the Wilton Ambulance Service. Prior to that, I drove for the ambulance in the little town just down the road from where we live now. LeeAnn is the director of our ambulance squad. Yes, that is how we met. You really get to know each other when you are coming back from a 2am tragic ambulance call.

Our dogs are the highlight of our lives. We have three labs (Cooper, Moose, and Otis Frederick) and a rescue mix with lab and husky (Peaches). Moose, at 130 pounds, thinks he is a lap dog. Cooper doesn't travel, but the other three come back and forth to Red Lodge.

We love Red Lodge and we love Wilton. Go Bison!

This church depends on our volunteers. Please know that your efforts are appreciated! Whether you help in the kitchen, participate in the services, clean or help with keeping the grounds nice, we love and appreciate you.



Attention all Crafters & Vendors

St. Agnes Parish Council of Catholic Women -

Altar Society invites you to participate in our
28th Annual Craft Fair on Saturday October 18, 2025

9 am - 3 pm at

St. Agnes Catholic Church
corner of 11th & Word Street
Red Lodge MT

For registration forms & information contact: Kathy at
406-446-1628, leave a message if no answer, leave a message with your name & number.

Your call will be returned.

We welcome any new & interested crafters/vendors
who would like to share their products or items to sell.

Messiah Calendar—October, 2025

<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
5 Worship 10:00 am Chimes 11:30	6 Great Books 9:30 am Quilters 1:00 pm	7 Bible Study with Pastor Ben 6:00 pm	8 Church Council 6:00 pm	9	10	11
12 Worship 10:00 am Chimes 11:30	13 Columbus Day 	14 Bible Study with Pastor Ben 6:00 pm	15	16 Safari Book Club 3:00 pm	17	18
19 Worship 10:00 am Chimes 11:30	20	21 Bible Study with Pastor Ben 6:00 pm	22 Worship Committee Meeting 11:00 am	23	24	25
26 Reformation Sunday Wear Red Worship 10:00 am Chimes 11:30	27 Great Books 9:30 am Quilters 1:00 pm	28 Bible Study with Pastor Ben 6:00 pm	29	30	31 	

October, 2025

Council Corner

MESSIAH CHURCH COUNCIL CORNER

Greetings and Blessings!

Your Messiah Church Council met on September 10th at 6 pm.

You can find the full report in the member section of our website or by requesting a copy from our Administrative Assistant. Financial Reports may be requested from the Office.

Summary of the September meeting:

Pastor Ben drove to Havre to pick up a set of hand bells Messiah will be able to use this winter.

The lettering has been installed on the side of our church building

Pastor Ben and Linda have been working on the Stewardship letter. Talks from congregational members are scheduled for Sundays in October.

Council has been discussing a Thanksgiving meal for the community along with the Episcopal Church and the Community Church. November 23 at 5 pm was chosen.

Linda presented a financial comparison of actual spending to 2025 budget. On August 31, approx. 67% of the year has passed and we compared actual spending to 67% of the budgeted amount.

Brooke Flynn distributed the 2025 Churchwide Assembly Constitutional Amendments. She also distributed Chapters 10 – 11 from the new version of Messiah's Constitution which has been approved by the Council but not yet voted on by the Congregation. There was discussion. Council agreed to accept the Amendments per the ELCA Guidelines. It was moved and seconded that no change be made Item to 10.02 in the new version of Messiah's Constitution. Motion passed. Linda Daily and Brooke will work on the timing of presenting the new constitution with Amendments to the congregation, scheduling a congregational meeting to vote on the constitution, followed by congregational ratification at the Annual meeting and submission to the Montana Synod.

Our next regular Church Council Meeting is on **Wednesday, October 8th at 6:00 pm.**

I wish you a wonderful fall!

Katrin Chandler, Messiah Church Council President

Mark your calendar!

10/5/2025 Stewardship month kick off

10/19/2025 The updated Constitution for Messiah Lutheran Church is available for review. Please contact Dianne at the church office.

11/23/2025 Congregational Meeting after the Sunday church service to vote on the 2026 Messiah Spending Plan and to vote on the updated Constitution for Messiah Lutheran Church.

Hebrews 4:16: Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please write your prayer requests in the prayer request book in the gathering area.

We ask that you re-submit requests at the first of each month if they are still desired
Or contact the church office at 406-446-2430 or email requests to redlodgemessiah@gmail.com
with specific information and permission from the person you are adding.

This month the people of Messiah are praying for,

Claudia B, Jackie Cordill, Hannah Gonzales, Nancy Knudson, Dolly Koski, Rick and Sandy Koski,
Doug & Mary Lair, Jacques Odegaard, Adam Reeves, Carlos Ramalho, Sadie Sceva, Guynema Terry,
Josh Wilker, and Madison

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.

January Bare Tooth Food Bank
February
March St. John’s Ministries
April LWR Quilters
May Christikon
June Boys and Girls Club

July Red Lodge Pool
August Red Lodge Fun Run
September Pastor’s Discretionary
October DSVS
November Campus Ministries
December the CART

FROM DSVS

"DSVS provides direct client services, including a free and confidential 24-hour Helpline; emergency shelter; transitional housing; food and transportation; hospital, police and court accompaniment and support; assistance in applying for orders of protection and crime victim compensation; one-on-one crisis counseling; assistance with documenting stalking or abusive behavior; legal advocacy; and referrals to other social service agencies. Our mission is to empower those impacted by violence and foster healthy relationships. We provide services in Carbon and Stillwater Counties in south-east Montana and our educators provide our violence prevention curriculum called Power Up, Speak Out! in schools across Montana and nationwide."

SAVE YOUR SUDS

a community ministry of kindness

Save Your Suds is a ministry that was started by Calvary Episcopal Church in June of 2023.

The purpose of the program is to spread kindness in our community by helping people pay for their laundry expenses at Rock Creek Laundromat.

Owner of the laundromat, Jim Moore, generously donates the cost of washing. He provides us with a key to the washing machines that allows us to bypass the need for quarters or credit cards.

The cost of drying is covered by donations from the Episcopal Church Women and from parishioners from Calvary.

Volunteers run the program which is held on the first and third Sundays of every month from 5-7p.m.

Each week a bin is provided to that week's volunteers.

The bin is outfitted with the following items:

Detergent, Dryer sheets, Washer key and instructions for the use of the key, Quarters for the dryers, Clipboard to record number of loads and amount of quarters used

Members of the community have become somewhat dependent on the SYS program and are very appreciative of the help. This is a wonderful way to support our neighbors and spread kindness in our community. Calvary would love to have our friends from Community UCC and Messiah join us in this essential ministry. To volunteer, please contact Kathie Wilson at: grgtlv@aol.com



October, 2025

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: Off

Tuesday : 9:00-4:00

Wednesday: 9:00-3:00

Thursday: 9:00-3:00

Friday: 9:00-4:00

Saturday: Off

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.



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
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President	Katrin Chandler	406-290-4263c	katregcha@gmail.com
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Vice President	Roy Olpin	360-888-7733	roy_olpin@hotmail.com
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Secretary	Brooke Flynn	406-656-0173	flynnquilt@gmail.com
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Treasurer	Paul Schauer	701-391-0584	pschauer62@gmail.com
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Education	Maria Gibson	727-744-4630	mgibson@wdmoffice.com
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Family Life/Volunteer

Coordinator	Martha Crofts	239-643-3027c	marthacrofts@gmail.com
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Outreach	Sandy Moe	218-341-0283	sandra.moe@rocky.edu
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Property	Kathy Kreatz	406-425-1595	kkreatzgmail.com
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Stewardship	Linda Daily	406-426-0841	lindatodd94@yahoo.com
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Worship	Dianne Milleson	406-425-3222	dmille46@gmail.com
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Other Important Contact Information

Computer	Gwen Williams	406-425-2401	(Text Gwen Only)
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Ministerial Ass'n.	Bryan Lowen	406-860-5571	(financial assistance to the community).
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