

# Ripples

Stillwater Free Lutheran Church

“Sharing Jesus Christ with Our Neighbors”

1401 Church Drive  
Kalispell, MT 59901  
(406) 257-4614  
E-Mail Address: [stillwtr@cyberport.net](mailto:stillwtr@cyberport.net)  
[www.stillwaterlutheranchurch.com](http://www.stillwaterlutheranchurch.com)

Pastor Craig Scavo  
(406) 253-7003  
Associate Pastor Bryce Timmerman  
(701) 319-8295  
Office Hours: 9:00-2:00 Tues – Fri



SEPTEMBER

2023

## *From the Pastor's Desk*

Most of you know that Sherri and I had a pretty trying year, beginning last November. It seemed that nothing was going the way we thought it should! It was one crisis after another, and I was wondering – is this ever going to stop!

Then, Summer just appeared, and I was thinking – Yea, now we can maybe get a bit of rest! But of course, with summer in the Flathead, you must take advantage of the time, because before you know it it will be fall (and guess what – it is!)

Well, as everyone knows, we had a very busy Summer! We were blessed to be able to go on an Alaskan cruise – and just for the record, I recommend that everyone take one if they are able! The food was phenomenal, the service spectacular, and the company (Sherri) was absolutely wonderful! Then it was a whirlwind trip to Oklahoma to celebrate the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary with Faith Lutheran Church in Durant, and to see the Grandkids there! It was really wonderful, even with the difficulties we encountered!

Then it was back here for VBS – which was great – Thanks to all those who put in so much time and effort!

And, finally, some breathing room – maybe????

Anyway, as I was going over what to talk about, I was recently reminded about the Amazing Grace of God, even when we don't see or feel it in our lives. I was reading in Isaiah the other day, and reminded just how much God does care for us!

Isaiah 43:1-3a - But now thus says the LORD, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. For I am the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.

Notice verse 2, Doesn't say "if," but "when" you pass through the waters! Storms in our life ARE going to happen! Remember, God never promised us a rose garden! In fact, Jesus told us the exact opposite!

Being a believer doesn't mean we will be kept from hard circumstances, but that He will be there with us, even if we don't feel it!

Remember, Daniel still faced the lions. Joseph was still thrown in prison. Job still lost all he held dear. The disciples still faced persecution.

Interestingly, when storms come, they are accompanied with a sort of darkness or at least a dreariness.

We may reach out our hand in the darkness searching for a guiding hand. And Notice what God says to His people in Isaiah 41:13 - For I am the LORD, your God, who takes hold of your right hand and says to you, Do not fear; I will help you.

A story is told of a tender-hearted surgeon who was walking through the large ward of a big hospital when he saw a little girl with her eyes bandaged, in total darkness and in distress waving her little hand back and forth as if trying to grasp someone's hand.

The surgeon went up to her and grasped that outreaching hand. Instantly there was a change of attitude and a release of stress. The little one was comforted and became restful and contented.

The surgeon did not remove the bandages nor did the darkness give way to light; all he did was grasp her hand while still in the darkness.

That child could represent any one of us today. You may be in a spiritual darkness with a sense of loneliness, darkness and desolation, yearning for the touch of a strong hand and the sound a strong unwavering stable voice that echoes and vibrates through you, "Fear not; I will help you." And again, the voice thunders, "Fear not, I have called you by your name."

Suddenly, the lightning flashes and in the darkness and you get a glimpse, but you can clearly see the image of a man with an outstretched hand beckoning you to take His hand. Then you realize He was there all the time waiting patiently. With your hand in His, with His strong right arm He draws you to His bosom, you fill the heartbeat and the tears of an undying love flowing down His cheeks and you ask the question, "Why Me Lord."

That question is a double edge sword. On the one hand, it seeks answers for the storms in our lives. Why do I have to endure this! What did I do to deserve this! Is this a punishment! – I could go on and on, but you get the picture!

But – then there is the other side of the sword. When we ask Why me Lord, we must think of the Lord as Redeemer, and it becomes - Why me Lord, what have I ever done, to deserve even one of the treasures I've known? I know that it's for others, but is it really for me Lord? Did you really forgive me, Lord??? But God Himself says: Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have summoned you by name; you are mine.

He called me! By Name! What a comfort in the dark and gloom!

So, what does it mean to be redeemed.

1<sup>st</sup>, it means that a cost was involved. I Corinthians 6:20, & 7:23 clarify how we were bought with a price. John 19:30 is where Jesus says to God "It is finished" which translates "paid in full"! Galatians 3:13 tells us that Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law having become a curse for us.

Peter says we were purchased – not with silver and gold, but with the precious blood of Christ!

Redeemed, means purchased with a price that we could not pay! And God has purchased us!

Next, redemption includes possession. Not just something owned, but prized above all else. Jesus demonstrated how much He values us when He died on the cross for you and for me!

The next thing this passage tells us is to not be afraid. That is a tall order! As we struggle through the storms around us we can't help but think of all the issues, problems, and things that are going wrong, and that makes us think about future problems that might come from this storm. We ask, will it ever end?

Even the Disciples had fear during the storms of their lives (Matt 14)! Noting that particular storm, Jesus walked out to the boat – remember that?, but He didn't do it till the fourth watch – sometime between 3-6 AM. The disciples left in the evening, so they fought the storm for quite a few hours before Jesus walked out to them. Does that mean He didn't care, or was just playing with them? Of course not – SEE REDEMPTION ABOVE!

God calls us by name and He wants us to remember His name. God will be with us as we face all of the things that threaten to consume us----things in nature, and even those who oppose us (Isaiah 43:2).

So, what do we do when faced with the fear of the storms around us?

We Remember His Name! What that means, is we remember who He is, and what He has done to redeem us!

As a matter of fact - this entire scripture declares that He remembers me and I am not forgotten. He never forgets me! I am never lost in the crowd. He Knows My Name!

So, as we head into fall, remember The creator of the Universe, Knows you – and has called you – BY NAME!

God Bless!

Pastor Craig

## Join Us For Our Midweek Programs

Wednesday, September 6<sup>th</sup> we kick-off our midweek programs for ages Kindergarten - 105!



- 5:30p - 5:55p Dinner is served
- 6p - 7p\* Kids Club! \*(note NEW time)
  - K - 2<sup>nd</sup> grader will meet with Miss Mary
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> graders will meet with Miss Lenka
- 6p - 7:30p Youth Group and Adult Bible Study

# Stillwater Youth Groupies

*The Youth are committed to serve the community through our strength in Jesus Christ.*

Man, I love this church! I normally start off with a couple of mediocre-bad dad jokes, don't worry I'll sprinkle them in throughout, so you have to keep reading, but I just want to say how much I truly love and appreciate this congregation! The apostle Paul talks about the importance of the body, Christ's kingdom on this temporary home, in his first letter to the Corinthians in chapter twelve. He compares the church to the human body and all the parts that it needs to function, which is literally all of them. This bridges into him talking about the importance of every part, verse 22 reads, "On the contrary, the parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable,". There are all these individual parts of the body that all are equally important, it's an amazing design, and a great comparison. Often times, or even all the time, we don't think about our pinky toe, or how our armpit will help us do anything besides scare people away when we raise our hands, but God doesn't make mistakes. No part of your body was made by accident, and the same goes for you, for every individual on this planet. I have a family member who lost a middle finger years ago, no it was not from road rage, but he talks about still feeling "ghost pains" and everything he didn't realize that he used all five fingers for. Something as little as six inches made a huge difference in his life, and it's the same way with the church. It may seem like your contributions are nothing, whether it be a little bit of time in one of our ministries or just a little bit of money in the offering plate, but you are needed and appreciated. We do not have a church without the people, and we can't all be "eyes" as Paul says, how will we be able to hear if there are all eyes. To get more specific, I think this is very evident at Stillwater and I want to encourage our great congregants to keep using your gifts, even if they seem useless and different than other people's gifts! I have used the quilts that the quilters make to witness to people. People have started coming to church every Sunday because they were invited to WMF, or because their kids are in our afterschool program. We have enjoyed a beautiful property that people want to come check out because people volunteer to mow the lawn, and landscape, and fix playground equipment. Rachel and I are able to go on youth outings and help out with extra stuff at the church because people are willing to watch our children and "relieve" us once in a while. I could go on, but we might have to borrow some trees (not from North Dakota), to finish out the newsletter, so these few examples will do. Thank you to all our members and attendees for making this a warm, loving family. Our church is growing, and though we should not get caught up in numbers because it only matters if we are preaching God's Word, I truly believe it is due to the fact that we are sharing Jesus Christ with our neighbors. Keep living your life for him, and being grateful for your gifts that you are able to contribute to the church with!

What a great month of August the youth group had! Thank goodness I have my calendar right next to me because there was so much awesomeness involved that I can't even remember any of it off the top of my head, but we can also credit that to old age. The youth were able to participate in helping with VBS, paintballing, a service project for one of the congregants, and a separate boys/girls weekend "mini-retreat". We were able to take a group of 14 paintballing at Tim and Marla Bartholomew's on the 12<sup>th</sup> of August, and nothing bonds you quite like welts and eating paint. On Wednesday the 23<sup>rd</sup>, six kids showed up to help split and stack wood at Leo Gallis' house, and it was very uplifting to see all the teens really get in to helping him out and working hard together. That weekend was then the split boy/girls time where the girls had a spa night in town and the boys had a manly spa night in the woods. Thank you very much to the Wilhelm's for letting the girls turn their house into a nail salon (everyone should check to see if Danny's nails are done). After the girls had their awesome night with Rachel, I took six boys out into the woods and brought most of them back! We got to go up to Sylvia Lake where we tent camped and enjoyed and talked about God's wonderful creation that we get the wonderful privilege to see every day living where we do! That wrapped up our summer group and now school year youth group is starting up on September 6<sup>th</sup>! A new year of youth group comes new reminders because even I forgot all the details. Youth group ranges from 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade and goes every Wednesday from 6-7:30 with supper starting at 5:30 for whoever's interested! We are going over a new curriculum this year emphasizing student leadership! If you know anyone in this age range that is looking for a youth group home or would like to come check ours out, I happen to know who they could talk to! Also starting in September is confirmation, which traditionally is for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders, but can be for anyone in high school looking to be confirmed somewhere or just looking to learn more about why they believe what they believe! My phone number is in the bulletin and I work at the church, so it shouldn't be too hard to get a hold of me if you are interested in either of these!

To reiterate what I said in the top paragraph, thank you for all you do for me and my family as a congregation, Stillwater is truly our family. As we move forward into the new school year, please pray with me for all upcoming ministries starting. Pray for strength as the winter months can sometimes bring a "lull" in energy, pray for wisdom as there are many new people starting at our midweek programs, and most importantly, pray that this is still a place of worship and Christ's love for all those who walk through the door. Keep fighting the good fight for Jesus and happy school year, especially for the parents!

God Bless,

Bryce Timmerman

## Have You Ever Wanted to Learn Something New?



A lot of learning is about to take place at Stillwater!

We have many talented people in the church and want to ensure we have opportunities to share those talents. We can also be lifelong learners, taking classes for a new hobby or skill, or to just

find out about a topic we know little about. In addition, it will be a fantastic way to make good use of our activity center. Of course, getting to know others in our church community will be an added blessing beyond measure.



A extensive list of potential classes has been compiled. It's brainstorming—a compilation of all kinds of ideas but is a starting point. It will be posted at church soon, so people may indicate interest in taking a class or classes, as well as indicating whether they would be available to teach or assist with a class. Classes of interest that are not listed may be added.

This takes a bit of planning, so for now we will start with 3 classes and will build from there. **Look for this exciting opportunity to begin in September.**

**Save the Date**

**Sunday, October 15, 2023**

**Harvest Dinner and Activity Center Dedication**

**Special Guest - Mike Brandt**



# Women's Retreat

Fall is just around the corner...that means it's time to gather for our annual women's retreat! Early has graciously opened her home again for this event.

## Friday, September 22<sup>nd</sup>

5:30 pm Gather at **Standing Bear Lodge**

6:00 pm Yummy taco salads

8:00 pm Game

9:00 pm Devotions (bring your bible)



## Saturday, September 23<sup>rd</sup>

8:00 am Light breakfast

9:00 am **Spiritual Journaling** by JayCee.

Even if you have never journaled or have journaled for years, come with an open mind for learning. JayCee has decades of experience, and we are all sure to learn something new. Journals provided.

11:00 am Brunch with chicken salad sandwiches, veggies and dessert

12:00 pm Prayer

1:00 pm **Be Artsy Fartsy with Neila!**

She will teach us how to make a beautiful necklace.

2-3:00 pm Wrap and cleanup—making sure everything in Early's home is back in order and adjourn.

Please plan on attending this event Friday evening and/or Saturday.

- Please bring a sleeping bag or sheet/blanket, pillow, towel, and washcloth if you plan to spend the night.

You will no doubt discover God's blessing spending time in fellowship with other Christian women.



# VBS 2023    *Keepers of the Kingdom*

**Huzzah!** (That means "hooray!") is how we welcomed our VBS kids each day to *Keepers of the Kingdom* where they enter a world of castles and kings and queens and dragons and epic battles!

We started off the week with 16 kids but ended the week strong with 30 kids hearing about the saving grace of Jesus.

Our Bible verse theme for the week was from Ephesians 6:10-17

<sup>10</sup> Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. <sup>11</sup> Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. <sup>12</sup> For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. <sup>13</sup> Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. <sup>14</sup> Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, <sup>15</sup> and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. <sup>16</sup> In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. <sup>17</sup> Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

We reminded the kids that the bible says to be strong "in the Lord," and to be "in the Lord," that they needed to be part of God's good kingdom and rely on God to help them be spiritually strong. He gives his children special spiritual armor to wear in the spiritual battles.



As we spent the week together learning about standing strong in God's truth, we also got the chance to meet a boy or girl living in a different part of the world. Our offerings each day were collected to go to the Children's Hunger Fund to help children who are living in poor conditions and don't have enough to eat. The kids heard that for just .25 cents, they could provide 1 meal and the best part is that each of them can help. "Alone, we can do so little; Together, we can do so much!" Not only do families receive much needed food, but they get to hear about Jesus, too!

The kids saw the realization that they have the ability to make a difference! We were able to send a check to the Children's Hunger Fund in the amount of \$280 which equates to providing 1,120 meals!

God provided the perfect team members. We are thankful for everyone for sharing their time, talents, and Jesus throughout the week.

- Christian Ed Team: Kim Clarke, Tina Harris, Karen Hartle, Karen Van Scoten
- Registration, offering counter, helper - Elaine Lessor
- Welcome and Prayer - Pastor Craig and Bryce Timmerman
- Opening Assembly Skit - Ashley Dieterich, Lavonne West, Karen Van Scoten
- Troupe Leaders and helpers
  - 4 & 5 year olds - Sherri Scavo, Rose Askvig, Lori Switzer
  - Helpers - Emily Hartle, Eliana Earll
  - K & 1<sup>st</sup> grades - Debbie Hartle      Helper - Alexis Lessor
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> grades- Susan Shea      Helper - Makynlee Meyer
  - 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> grades - Vicki Wilhelm

- Song Leaders - Debbie Hartle, Matti Hartle, Emily Hartle, Makynlee Meyer, Alexis Lessor
- Royal Trainers - Kim Clarke, Early McWhorter, Karen Berosik
- Griffin's Games - Lori Switzer, Nikki Suho and John Hartle
- Rizran's Science, Tessa's Treats - Karen Hartle and Matti Hartle
- Rizran's Crafts - Lavonne West, Judy Karboski, Linda McGrew
- Closing Assembly Drama - Matti Hartle, John Hartle, Emily Hartle and Alexis Lessor

During their Royal Trainers time (bible time), it was determined that 7 kids did not have a bible available to them at home. We were able to send them home with a bible.



We reminded the kids that they want to be strong in the Lord. That they can do this by reading and obeying God's Word, praying, memorizing Scripture, singing to God, and going to church. These are some of the ways to stay strong in the Lord. Stand firm!

**HUZZAH!**

# Stillwater Library News

Time for the kids to be going back to school and the adults maybe, having a bit more time to read. I noticed that there have been books in the return box which means some books are being read! That's fantastic!

We have a very good selection of books, fiction and nonfiction to read. And more are being donated every month! Please take time to come to the library and see what is available. Our shelves are overflowing with great books. We may have to put some of them out for sale.

Many thanks to the Lund family, Karen Berosik, and Darlene Askvig, for all their donations and to some, who have just dropped some books off on our library desk to add to our shelves. Pray that Darryl finds just the perfect bookshelf for our needs soon! We've had to spread the introduction of new books out over the summer because there have been so many! And we are thankful!! Be sure to check them out!

The following books will be found on the nonfiction shelves:

**The Case for the Real Jesus** by Lee Strobel, a journalist who investigates current attacks on the identity of Christ. (Zondervan)

**The Case for Faith** by Lee Strobel, a journalist who investigates the toughest objections to Christianity. (Zondervan)

**A Daily Guide to Knowing God** by Lud Golz, "presents a manual with daily readings designed to be catalysts for meditation and worship based on biblical truth" taken from The New American Standard Bible, The Living Bible, NIV New Testament. (Tyndale House Publishers)

**Meditations for the Satisfied Soul**

**Bible Readings for Caregivers** by Betty Syverson

**Our Daily Bread Bible Source Book** by Dave Branon

**The Bare Bones Bible Handbook** by Jim George –10 Minutes to understand each book of the Bible

**Brush Up Your Bible** by Michael Macrone, an informative and entertaining guide to understanding the most famous words, phrases, and stories of the Old and New Testaments (Cader Company)

**30 Life Principles** by Charles Stanley a study guide for growing in knowledge and understanding of God.

**All About Jesus** the single story from Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John

**Counseling Through Your Bible Handbook** by June Hunt, provides Biblical hope and practical help for everyday problems.

**The Story** with a forward by Max Lucado and Randy Frazee, presents a visual timeline of The Story of the Bible, Bible characters and events from Genesis to Revelation. The book has text taken from the NIV Bible, and reads like a novel.

**Hearts of Fire** by The Voices of the Martyrs, a nonprofit, interdenominational organization dedicated to assisting the persecuted church worldwide. This is a collection of eight women in the underground church and their true stories of costly faith. This is a must read! (VOM Books)

**Unfinished** by Richard Stearns, is the sequel to The Hole in Our Gospel. Max Lucado states, “The world is not the way God wants it. Hungry families. Malnourished kids. Just when I dare think my work is done, Rich reminds me we are just getting started.” (Max Lucado)

**Having a Mary Heart in a Martha World** by Joanna Weaver, “an invitation for every woman who feels she isn’t godly enough, loving enough, or good enough. It’s about finding intimacy with God in the Busyness of Life.” (Joanna Weaver)

**Traveling Light** by Max Lucado tells of the promise of Psalms 23. We all lug loads we were never intended to carry. Fear. Worry. Discontent. Learn to release some of those burdens. (Max Lucado)

**From Pearl Harbor to the Pulpit** by Charles R. Hembree “This book tells of the Christ who can change hate to love and sorrow to joy.” (Charles Hembree)

**The Richest Man Who Ever Lived** by Steven K. Scott “ King Solomon was an extraordinary leader... His legacy to us is the Holy Spirit-inspired collection of wisdom we call Proverbs. ...Scott has mined Solomon’s wisdom for practical insights to help you succeed God’s Way.” (Matt and Laurie Crouch)

**Surprised by the Power of the Spirit** by Jack Deere “Deere provides a strong biblical defense for the Spirit’s speaking and healing ministries today.” (Zondervan Publishing House)

**Strike the Original Match** by Charles Swindoll is about rekindling and preserving your marriage fire. (World Wide Publications)

**My Life as a Bush...and My Heart for Imitating Jesus** by John Morgan, renowned presidential impersonator. “Through his experiences in pretending to be the president, John grew to better understand what it means to ‘impersonate’ Christ, and why our ultimate goal in life should be to be more like Christ.” (Gov. Mike Huckabee)

The following Bible Journal books (to use and keep) will be in our Bible Study cabinet. Please write in them and keep them.

4 copies of **Revelations**, the New King James Version

4 copies of **Romans** NIV

New to our fiction shelves:

**Do You Believe** by Travis Thrasher. “A heart-stirring, faith-affirming novel about how God works in the lives of those who believe, based on the major motion picture.” (Howard Books)

**A Picture of Love** by Beth Wiseman, one of a series in The Amish Inn Novels, “true love blooms from the deepest of wounds.” (Zondervan)

**Joshua** by Joseph F. Girzone “Here is a profoundly moving, deeply inspiring book that no reader will ever forget... Joshua has universal appeal and is a true exercise in spirituality.” (Collier Books)

**The Next Person You Meet in Heaven** by Mitch Albom. A sequel to the Five People You Meet In Heaven, “this book reminds us once again that all endings are beginnings--we only need to open our eyes to experience them.” (Harper)

So many outstanding books! We hope you can find something that inspires you!

Blessings and Happy Reading!

Susan Shea and Meri Putzler



## Attention all crafters and shoppers!

We have an exciting new opportunity for you to sell your handcrafted items and to shop for unique Christmas gifts.

**Stillwater Christmas Shoppe**

**Saturday, December 2nd from 9-3:00**

We have room for approximately 36-38 vendors. Approximate costs to sell will be \$30-40, depending on table space. If you wish to consider selling but don't feel you have enough to sell, consider buddying up with a friend. Vendors will need to submit a few photos to ensure quality, that products are in keeping with Stillwater's Christian values, as well as ensuring a show that offers a nice variety for shoppers. Specific details will follow.

Mark your calendars for this fun-filled event!

See Suzanne Tutvedt, Karen Berosik or Gayle Lantto with questions.



# After-School Program



We are now a week into school and things are going strong! We have 20 kids enrolled this year ranging from kindergarten to eighth grade. All kids will be present come mid September when the kindergartners start going full-time. We have many returning faces along with several new ones! This year we are learning about the armor of God and therefore we are memorizing Ephesians 6:10-18. I have implemented a homework time during the first hour which has actually been received quite well by both students and parents! Thank you again to all of those who are giving of their time and donations of food! I have high hopes for this school year of new relationships being formed and the word of God being planted and continuing to grow in little hearts!

Gods blessings~Ashley

## *Feeding the Flathead*

We served 119 guests! 58 people stayed and ate inside, and we plated up 61 meals to go on Monday, August 28 at Bethlehem Lutheran! Our menu this month was Chicken Pot Pie with biscuits, salade with ranch, apple or cherry turnovers and a Rice Krispy treat.

It was certainly a very busy night serving and could not have done it without the enthusiastic help of Ann M., Darlene A., Vicki W., Tami H., Blake, and Trey H.

The meal was very much appreciated by all there.

Thank you to those who helped cook, serve and clean-up!

Serving Him,  
Ann Martinson



# Stillwater Book Club

Our next book discussion on Sept 8, at 10:30 a.m. will be **The Lincoln Conspiracy** by Brad Meltzer. Please note the change in meeting date as the 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of the month for this book only. (Sept. 1 was a holiday weekend.) This story begins before Abraham Lincoln was elected President of the United States, when southern slave owners didn't want to have an abolitionist in the White House. Meltzer puts the well-researched history in a very interesting and readable format. Please join us as we discuss this little-known event in history.



The following is a list of the books we have scheduled for the rest of the year.

Oct. 6        One Thousand White Women    by Jim Fergus

Nov. 3        The Boys in the Boat        by Daniel James Brown,

Dec.1        The Beautiful World        by Susan Rohrer

Blessings,

Meri Putzler

# Building Project Report

Praise God! The parking lot paving is finished and thanks to God a \$ 50,000.00 gift was recently received from a very generous donor which ensures we have the funds to pay for the paving. Once again God has blessed with the financial gifts just when we need them. Rick Martinez has installed additional snow breaks on the activity center roof and Early McWhorter continues landscaping with the placement of colored rocks in the transformer area and around the church, as well as potted flowers. We thank God for Rick and Early and the blessings they are to our church family and this project!

Hagestad Painting plans to have the painting and sealing of the patio, drive-thru portico and east entrance completed by the first of September. Kalispell Electric hopes to install the patio lights in the first week of September and the patio rain gutters will be installed September 14 by Gurgis Gutters.

We're almost to the end folks! In 2016 the building committee established a "Five Year" goal to have the project completed by the end of 2021. The first order of business was fundraising since the congregation decided there would be no borrowing of funds or taking out a loan for this project. Next came the hiring of an architect, general contractor, and engineering firm. The property had to be surveyed before we could get a (COSA) Certificate of Subdivision Approval. We had to drill a new well in addition to meeting various agency requirements such as DEQ and NRDC. This all took time and funds, as well as state, county, and congregation approval in some cases.

Finally, we had the groundbreaking on October 13, 2019. Now almost four years to the day we will be celebrating the dedication of our new building on October 15, 2023, at the same time we celebrate the Fall Harvest Dinner! We may not have met the Five Year plan, but God has blessed us richly from start to finish! The contractors and subcontractors have been a joy to work with. As always thanks for your prayers and support, and a special thank you to the donors who have provided the financial resources that have brought us to this point!

Ed Van Scoten



# Women's Missionary Federation

Elaine opened with devotions from Our Daily Bread titles "Leap of Faith." Early was our bible study leader.

Judy Karboski gave our treasurer report. Our monies collected this month will go to Christian Ed. We have \$352.53 in the bank.

Plans were made for our retreat at Early's on September 22 & 23. Please do lesson 9 if you have a book. Ladies, please try to attend.

This Sunday, September 3<sup>rd</sup> is our Potluck and Fellowship following church. Work group duties are as followed; Group 1 – set-up Group 2 – clean-up Group 3 – serve

We are happy our parking lot is all paved so there is no more gravel. Early and Karen B. have been working on our landscaping around the buildings – thank you ladies.

We had 18 ladies present we had a small baby shower for Peyton Raye West, granddaughter of Ken and Lavonne. What a beautiful little girl.

We had a discussion on having a craft show in December.

Our harvest dinner will be coming up on October 15<sup>th</sup>. Please look for the sign up sheet for items that are needed for the dinner. A special thanks to all who helped last year. It is a good fellowship 2 days.

Karen Van Scoten, Sherri Scavo and Susan Shea served a very delicious lunch. Thank you ladies.

Submitted by Elaine Lessor, Stillwater WMF Secretary



# *The Gift of Baptism*



On Sunday August 27, 4 members received God's eternal blessing through Holy Baptism – Gary Byrer, Odin Knutson, Samona Knutson, and Alexis Lessor.

Congratulations!

# Prayers for September

*"Whatever you ask in prayer with faith, you will receive." Matt 21:22*

## Church Work & Ministry

Sharing Jesus Christ with our Neighbors  
Building Project  
Church Leaders, Staff & Worship Team  
After School Program  
Stillwater Youth Group  
Kids Club  
Stillwater & National WMF  
Feeding the Flathead  
Intervarsity Christian Fellowship  
The Gideons  
CarePortal

## General Prayers

Marriages and Families

- Prayers for Shirley and the Poe family at Eddie's passing

Our Country and Leaders

Workers in the Harvest Field

Firefighters and Support Staff

Travel Mercies

Caregivers

Military and First Responders

- David Bruyer (Askvig)
- Arron Burns
- James Gelormino
- Jonathan Gelormino
- Gage Triplett

## Health Concerns

Gerry Stahlberg

Steve Beck (Van Scoten/Scavo)

John Kruger

Carol Hogan

John, Susan Shea's brother

Sylvan Herset

Gerry & Joyce Banzet

Justin Gronley (Joel and Cody Bartholomew's son)

