

Lutherans in Indian Communities

LINC is a newsletter by the Montana District of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod for Native communities and the Lutherans living in and/or serving those communities.

Fall 2013

Plan of Salvation

What do you understand it takes for a person to have peace with the Lord God Maker of heaven and earth?

Consider how the Bible answers this question: It's a matter of **CHRIST**.

C is for **CROSS**

It is by the Cross where Jesus suffered and died that Creator has removed all your wrong doing and impurity.

--Read Colossians 2:13-14

H is for **HERE**

The Lord offers you His cleansing in Christ Jesus' blood.

*By this you can live in peace with your Creator. --Read 2 Corinthians 5:19-21

*This is His gift to you here and now, today. --Read 2 Corinthians 6:1-2

R is for **RESURRECTION**

Christ Jesus rose from the dead and guaranteed that God forgives you.

*The Cross and Resurrection is the completed work of the Lord to save you, as foretold by the prophets. --Read 1 Corinthians 15:1-4

*The Resurrection is the proof that Creator makes you right with Him and that He will raise you one day to perfect life forever. --Read 1 Cor. 15:12-20

I is for **INNOCENT**

God forgives you for Christ's sake and declares you pure and blameless--innocent.

--Read Romans 8:1

S is for **SPIRIT**

The Holy Spirit of Christ seals you in this pure life.

*The Spirit fills you with Christ Jesus holy life. --Read John 7:37-39

*The Spirit keeps you united to Creator in Christ in a good way.

--Read John 14:15-18

*The Spirit makes you able to keep Jesus' commandments: to believe in Him and to love one another. --Read John 14:1 and 13:34

T is for **TRUST**

All this is true and will never change. You can always trust the Lord God's mercy and love for you in Christ. Here you have life forever in Creator's peace.

--Read John 11:25-26

This is good news; pass it on.

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Crow Fair – August 2013 – Walking with Jesus



On the third weekend in August thousands of people from around the world come to Crow Agency, to one of the largest powwow gatherings in Montana. Hundreds of teepees are pitched across the mile long by half mile wide camp area known as “The Teepee Capital of the World”. This summer two young men from the Czech Republic camped near our VBS booth.

Each morning, Friday through Sunday, a parade of people, dressed in their finest, ride horses or vehicles with trailers through the camp grounds. The line of horses is often over a mile long. Dancing and rodeos fill the afternoons and evenings.

On Monday afternoon a ceremony called “Parade Dance” or “Dance through the Camp” is held. This is a prayer ceremony in which dancers and singers move through four stops on a path that crosses the campground. The Crow Fair marks the beginning of the year on the Crow ceremonial calendar. This ceremony focuses prayer on the four seasons of the coming year. One petition is that we will all gather again next year to celebrate the Creator’s blessings.



In the midst of this huge camp between two busy intersections is a booth with a long awning covered with tarps. This has been Crow Lutheran Ministry’s camp spot for the past 26 years. Free beverages: Kool-aid, water and sometimes tea are available to thirsty people passing by. Chairs are provided for the weary. Someone is at the booth all day to visit and pray with people. Bibles, devotion books, topical studies, (this year we offered one on grief), school supplies and hygiene kits are available free of charge.



At the Crow Lutheran Booth, Vacation Bible School is held in the afternoons. Some children stay for all the lessons, others come and go as duties at camp or the call to dance draw them away. Each day has a theme with Bible/life lessons and crafts. There is an over arching theme for the weekend. This year’s theme was “Walking with Jesus”. Friday focused on our beginnings: on Abram/Abraham’s call and our baptism. Saturday was on life’s journey: focusing on Moses and God’s care each day. Sunday focused on troubles in life: emphasizing Elijah and Jacob. The emphasis was God’s presence and help when we are scared and struggling in prayer.

The weekend of the Crow Fair is almost always hot and dusty. It is busy and loud. No one gets enough sleep. Yet it is a good celebration of the grace and mercy poured upon us by our Maker. Each year He blesses us by gracing people with His Word from a quiet spot in the middle of the camp.

Walk with Christ in beauty all around.

Pastor Dan Jacobs

A WORK TEAM AT MUDDY CLUSTER

In May 2013 members of Peace Lutheran Church, Great Falls, Grace Lutheran Church, Hamilton, the president of Circle of Life congregation in Muddy Cluster, Pastors Dennis Bauer and Vern Sanderfeld began work on gathering material for a lodge on the Lutheran church property in Muddy Cluster. This project consisted of felling trees, trimming branches, loading and transporting them to the property. The trees would be milled and stacked for future use. There are already three cabins that were previously built by other work groups.



The lodge will consist of a great room for meals, fellowship, worship and other group activities. Restrooms, showers and a kitchen will also be on the main floor. A loft will serve as lodging for counselors or larger groups. Pastor Bauer's vision is that this lodge will act as a base for youth groups to come and work with the youth of Northern Cheyenne to bridge the cultural gaps between them and discover the strength, faith and hope that can only be found through Christ Jesus.

The object of this work team was to get the materials prepared for the construction of the lodge. With limited resources for felling and transporting trees, the progress was slow. Mechanical failures, human "trial and learn" experiences, physical obstacles and challenging logistics didn't deter the group from forging ahead. In addition to some new expertise, we received an understanding of the ministerial challenges of Pastor and Carol Bauer, visited Everything Beautiful Thrift Store, and discussed the tribal and societal problems of the Northern Cheyenne Reservation. There was also time for group fellowship, devotions and formulating future construction plans.



About mid week we discovered that a private logging company was harvesting trees in the area. A preliminary budget for getting adequate raw trees loaded to the building site, ready to be milled is estimated to be \$10,000. To have a logging company drop, trim and transport the needed trees would represent a considerable savings in time and cost considering the primitive and limited equipment we have available.



The challenge before us is what is the best way to accomplish the task ahead? The cost of having the logging company bring the trees seems to be the right solution to the faster completion of the lodge. Pray that God's Will may be done.



The camp at Muddy Cluster is another opportunity to demonstrate to the Northern Cheyenne people that: they matter to God, they can have a spiritual connection with God and finally through Jesus Christ they have salvation and the promise of eternal life.

Arnie Gidlow
Peace Lutheran Church-Great Falls

LCMS churches on or near reservations in Montana.

Flathead

Mt Calvary Lutheran Church
Rev. Kyle Whaley
1609 Second St W
Polson 59860

Zion Lutheran Church
Rev. Kyle Whaley
306 2nd Ave N
St. Ignatius 59865

St. Paul Lutheran Church
Rev. Timothy Gordish
35681 Terrace Lake Rd
Ronan 59864
stpaullutheranchurch@ronan.net

Fort Peck

Trinity Lutheran Church
Rev. John Vallie
103 Benton St
Wolf Point 59201

Northern Cheyenne

Circle of Life Lutheran Church
Rev. Dennis Bauer and
Rev. Park Timber
Box 1214
Lame Deer 59043
circleoflife@rangeweb.net

Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church
Rev. John Sias
430 Olive Dr
Colstrip 59323
pastor@mtcalvary-colstrip.org

Blackfeet

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church
Rev. Matthew Nelson
640 7th St W
Columbia Falls, 59912
orlc@ourredeemerlc.org

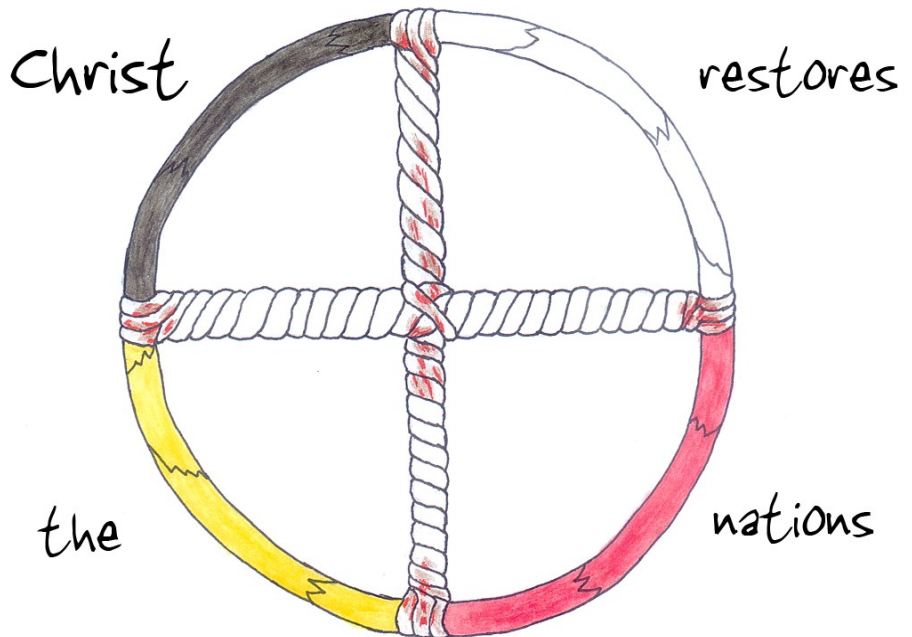
Rocky Boy's

St Paul Lutheran Church
Rev. Mark Schultz
1100 11th St
Havre 59501
stpaul@itstriangle.com

Crow

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Rev. Dan Jacobs
Box 335
Crow Agency 59022
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Redeemer Lutheran Church
Rev. James Koss
323 N. Crawford
Hardin 59034



Information about Lutheran ministry on the Crow Reservation

Sunday: 9:30 am Worship Service – A SPRING IN A DRY LAND Lutheran Church-Crow Agency
3:00 pm Sunday School – UNDER THE SHADOW OF HIS WINGS Lutheran Church-Lodge Grass

Monday: 6:30 pm Bible Study – Awe Kualawaache Care Center-Crow Agency

Wednesday: 6:30 pm Bible Study – Heritage Acres Nursing Home-Hardin

Thursday: 8:00 pm Youth Group Mtg – UNDER THE SHADOW OF HIS WINGS-LodgeGrass

Friday: 11:00 am Worship Service – Ave Kualawaache Care Center- Crow Agency
2:30 pm Children's After-School Class – A Spring in a Dry Land Lutheran Church-Crow Agency