

## **2009 Prayer Calendar – Montana Synod, ELCA**

January 4: **Residential Care Ministries** – We pray for **St. John's Lutheran Ministries, Billings** in its ongoing ministry with residents and families, also for the Center for Generations Child-care Center After-school program. We pray for the new retirement/assisted living facility in Laurel called "The Crossings", and for the **Sapphire Lutheran Home in Hamilton** (managed by St. John's Lutheran Ministries), **Immanuel Lutheran Home in Kalispell, and Valley View Lutheran Home in Glasgow**. Provide for them homes of dignity and peace. Give them understanding helpers and the willingness to accept help.

January 11: **Central Hi-Line Ministries** – Let your light shine on us, Lord God, and grant us the gift of discernment to understand what we must do to grow and to fulfill Christ's commission.

January 18: **Cape Orange Diocese, Evangelical Lutheran Church of South Africa** – Bless our companion synod in South Africa. Strengthen our companion congregation and help us to build strong relationships for the building up of God's kingdom.

January 25: **Zion, Lewistown** – Lord, who calls us to love you with heart and soul and mind, prosper the ministries of Zion Lutheran, especially its Rotation Sunday School, youth ministry, and outreach to community. God of compassion, bless our congregation's efforts as it ponders the mission of a senior living center to serve the growing needs of retirees and the elderly. Lord of Justice, send wisdom and energy to those developing the new Community Health Center in Lewistown, that it will serve the target population of the poor and uninsured.

February 1: **American, Harlowton; Trinity, Martinsdale; Grace, Ryegate** – Risen Lord, help us discern what it means to be people who are gathered in faith, sent in love, to share the hope of the cross. Keep us ever mindful of rural poverty, and remind us that we can make a difference in the quality of people's lives by connecting them with Christ.

February 8: **Faith, Hamilton** – Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we humbly thank you for your goodness to us and to all that you have made. We praise you for your creation and preservation, for keeping us and all things in your care, and for all the blessings in life. **Trinity Lutheran and First Presbyterian in Hot Springs** - Lord God, we pray that you would guide and bless our joint congregation of Lutherans and Presbyterians as together we venture into new territory as bold witnesses to Jesus Christ in our community.

February 15: **Pondera Valley and Golden West, Conrad; Our Savior's, Chester; St. Olaf, Ledger** – We thank you, Lord, for all your many blessings, and we ask you to guide us in sharing them for the sake of the gospel.

February 22: **First Lutheran, Savage; Grace Lutheran, Skaar; First Lutheran, Circle and American Lutheran, Richey** – We pray that you will stir up in us a desire to read and study your word. Guide us as we seek your purpose, and let the seeds of your word find good soil in which to take root and grow in us.

March 1: **Zion and Pleasant Prairie, Greater Flaxville Area** – We ask that you give us an awareness of your mercies, that with thankful hearts we praise you, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving ourselves to your service and by living in your gifts of holiness and righteousness all our days. **Immanuel and St. John's, Greater Westby Area** – Grant us inspiration and motivation to overcome the obstacles of making our worship space accessible to all people.

March 8: **ELCA Allegheny Synod** – Living God, in Christ you make all things new. Transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of our grace, and in the renewal of our lives make known your glory.

March 15: **Lutheran Social Services of Montana** – We pray for the ongoing important work of Lutheran Social Services of Montana in its ministry of birth-parent counseling, adoption services, disaster relief, and coordination of a state-wide (including northern Wyoming) counseling network for clergy and congregational members.

March 22: **Broadview Lutheran, Broadview; Our Savior's, Laurel; and American, Lavina, Christ** – We pray that as the sun warms the ground, to ready it for seed, make us good soil for your Word, that it may be alive and growing within us.

March 29: **St. John's, Helena** – Lord of life, as the days begin to lengthen and we begin to see signs of new life, make us every mindful of the new life we have by grace through faith in Christ. **Our Redeemer's Helena** – We give you thanks and praise for fifty years of ministry. Give us your vision and guidance as we move forward with relocation plans. **New Life, Helena:** Lord in whose abundance we trust and rely, continue in your blessings for your people called and gathered here in your name. We especially seek your blessing upon the children of our congregation and parents and older members involved in the LOGOS ministry education program.

April 5: **King of Glory, Good Shepherd, Atonement and Messiah, Billings; First English, Billings** – O Lord our God, creator of all that exists, we thank you for the joy of watching new life begin and for the privilege of sharing with you in your continuing creation.

April 12: **Evangelical Lutheran Church of Bolivia** – Almighty God, you give us the joy of celebrating our Lord's resurrection. Give us also the joys of life in your service, and bring us at last to the full joy of life eternal, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

April 19: **First Lutheran, Lambert; Pella, Sidney** – Almighty and eternal God, the strength of those who believe and the hope of those who doubt, may we, who have not seen, have faith in you and receive the fullness of Christ's blessing. **American, Baker** – Please pray for the renovation of our altar space in the sanctuary, that it will be improved to the glory of God. **Peace, Plevna:** We pray for the time and attention that our building is in need of, and for our large number of aging parishioners, as well as the great divide between their needs and the needs of our youth. **St. Elizabeth, Ekalaka** – We pray for the great responsibility of building our very first church. May the cornerstone be Jesus and the conflicts few. We pray for the financial needs

of this awesome journey of faith! We are in thanksgiving for the gift of a fantastic two acres of land!

April 26: **American, Bethlehem and Peace, Billings** – As the sun brightens and warms our days, let your sun shine in our hearts as we proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ in word and deed.

May 3: **Kogodus Renewal Ministry** – We pray that this ministry of spiritual renewal may continue to ignite in the hearts of those it serves. Equip and empower the ministry with new passion and new vision, for proclaiming the Good News of Jesus through word and deed.

May 10: **Galata and Devon, Greater Galata Area; St. Luke's, Shelby; Trinity, Choteau** – Holy Jesus, come and dwell among us in our congregations, families, and communities. Give us hope in your promises, and trust in your love for us.

May 17: **Outdoor Camping Ministries** – Lord of all creation, we give you thanks for the blessings of **Christikon and Flathead Lutheran Bible Camps**. We pray for all who will serve as summer staff, that “the Lord of the harvest will provide workers sufficient unto it” who are faithful, insightful, dedicated and competent. Bless all who participate as campers, that they may meet the Lord Jesus Christ through time shared at camp.

May 24: **Jocko Valley, Arlee; Valley of Christ, Frenchtown; Prince of Peace, Missoula; Our Savior's, Bonner** – Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life. Give us grace to love one another, to follow in the way of his commandments, and to share his risen life with all the world.

May 31: **Montana Synod Office** – Holy Spirit, breathe life and energy into the Church. Refresh and inspire all those gathered for the Synod Assembly June 5-7. Give your gifts of leadership and discernment to Bishop Jessica Crist and to Associate Bishop Dave Peters. We thank you Lord for Susan Hedahl, Susan Smith, and others who support and assist the various congregations and ministries of this synod, and who connect us with the larger church.

June 7: **Hope, Powell; Trinity, Sheridan; Trinity, Cody, Wyoming** – We pray, O Lord, that you will continue to guide us as we seek to balance our human wants and needs with our responsibility to care for the world you have lovingly created.

June 14: **Messiah, Red Lodge; Joliet Lutheran, Joliet; Big Timber and Melville Lutheran Churches** – O Lord God, you teach us that without love, our actions gain nothing. Pour into our hearts your most excellent gift of love, that, made alive by your spirit, we may know goodness and peace through your Son, Jesus Christ.

June 21: **Scobey and Peerless Lutheran Churches** – O Lord Christ, good shepherd of the sheep, you seek the lost and guide us into your fold. Feed us, and we shall be satisfied; heal us, and we shall be whole.

June 28: **Christ, Libby** – By your Spirit’s power, inspire us and energize us to share the love of Christ in ever-expanding ways in a community filled with both struggles and dreams. **Good Shepherd, Polson; Faith, Ronan, Eidsvold, Somers** – God of all creation, we thank and praise you for the beauty of the places in which we live. Teach us to be good stewards of the land.

July 5: **Rivers of Faith Lutheran Parishes: Shields River, Wilsall; American and Redeemer in Livingston** – Strengthen and empower our congregations as we engage in a process of transformation, that we may reach out with the good news to those in our communities and share the love of God.

July 12: **St. James, Columbus, MT; Grace, Worland and Peace, Basin, WY** – We pray that you will empower us to see your face in the face of our neighbor. Give us grace to serve them as we would serve you.

July 19: **American Lutheran Parishes: Harlem, Hogelund and Turner** – Sustain your people, O God, with the life-giving breath of your Holy Spirit, that we may be inspired and renewed in our service to you.

July 26: **Unity Lutheran Parish: Malta and Whitewater; Dodson and Loring Lutheran Churches**– Creator God, we thank you for the wide-open spaces in which we live. May they remind us of the wideness of your mercy and the expansive nature of your love.

August 2: **American, Winifred; Faith, First English, Great Falls** – O God, form the minds of your faithful people into your one will. Make us love what you command and desire what you promise, that, amid all the changes of this world, our hearts may be fixed where true joy is found, in your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **St. John’s Great Falls** – Father in heaven, will you guide and empower our ministries as we seek to reach people with the gift of salvation in Jesus Christ.

August 9: **Prairie Lutheran Parish (Saco, Hinsdale, Ft. Peck, Our Redeemer, Nashua) and First, Glasgow** – We thank you, Lord, for gift of salvation which you have given to us. Help us to live in the joy of that promise, sharing the Good News of Jesus with others.

August 16: **Hope, Anaconda; Gloria Dei and Gold Hill, Butte** – Gracious Lord, grant us vision to carry the mission of Christ into our daily lives, the church, and to all whom we meet.

August 23: **First and Messiah, Havre; American, Chinook; Christ Lutheran, Big Sandy**; – Almighty and most merciful God, your bountiful goodness fills all creation. You have prepared a table before all peoples and poured out your life with abundance. Call us again to your banquet table, strengthen us by what is honorable, just, and pure, and transform us into a people of righteousness and peace.

August 30: **Lutheran Campus Ministries, Concordia College, Pacific Lutheran University, Luther Seminary, Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary** – God of all knowledge and wisdom, continue to bless these education ministry partners. Let their witness speak of your unconditional love to students and faculty. Let them be places where your grace and truth are revealed.

September 6: **Grace and St. Paul, Fairfield; Bethany, Dutton; St. Paul, Cut Bank; Sunburst and Valier Lutheran Churches** – Almighty God, you sent your Holy Spirit to be the light and life of your church. Open our hearts to the riches of your grace, that we may be ready to receive you wherever you appear.

September 13: **1<sup>st</sup> American, Hardin; Zion, Roundup; Emmanuel, Shepherd** – God of all peoples, your arms reach out to embrace all those who call upon you. Teach us, as disciples of your Son, to love the world with compassion and consistency, that your name may be known throughout the earth. **Immanuel, Absarokee** - Merciful Lord, we thank you for the blessings you bestow upon us. Be with us on our faith journey; help us meet the challenges of life that confront us, help us care for our brothers and sisters, our neighbors both near and afar.

September 20: **Froid Lutheran, Froid; Ebenezer, McCabe** – God of love, giver of life, you know our frailties and failings. Give us your grace to overcome them. Keep us from those things that harm us, and guide us in the way of salvation, through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. **Trinity, Culbertson and First English, Bainsville** – O Lord, bless us with an awareness of your presence and keep our hearts and minds focused on you so that all we think and say and do might be done to your glory.

September 27: **All Saints, Clancy; First Evangelical, Dillon; Shepherd of the Valley, Townsend** – Generous God, your Son gave his life that we might come to peace with you. Give us a share of your Spirit, and in all we do, empower us to bear the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

October 4: **Zion, Fairview; Hope, Fallon; St. John's, Jordan** – Even as miles separate us from one another, Lord, draw us close in your love. Unite us in our common purpose to care for our neighbor and share the Good News of the gospel.

October 11: **First, Miles City; Our Savior's, Broadus** – We thank you, Lord, that you give us all good things in due season. Give us patience in our need, and generosity in our abundance. **Zion Lutheran, Glendive** – Please pray for the congregation in Glendive and the churches of the SE Cluster and the pastors and lay pastors as we answer God's call to ministry in rural America.

October 18: **Northern Rockies Institute of Theology** – God, the source of all wisdom and learning, bless the ministry of the Northern Rockies Institute of Theology as it reaches out to clergy and laity, providing them learning for life. As we remember the heritage of the reformation, may we be life-long learners for the sake of the gospel.

October 25: **Christ the King and Hope, Bozeman; Peace, Belgrade; American, White Sulphur Springs** – Sovereign God, you have created us to live in loving community with one another. Form us for a life that is faithful and steadfast, and teach us to trust like little children, that we may reflect the image of your Son.

November 1: **Bethel, Our Savior's and Redeemer, Great Falls** – Sovereign God, raise your throne in our hearts. Created by you, let us live in your image; created for you, let us act for your glory; redeemed by you, let us give you what is yours, through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.

November 8: **Chaplaincy Ministries** – God of life and hope, we lift up to you all who serve in hospital and military service chaplaincies. Strengthen and encourage them even as they offer encouragement and hope to others in your name.

November 15: **Highland, Outlook; Faith and Plentywood, Greater Plentywood Area; Nathanael, Reserve; Volmer, Dagmar** – We give you thanks for the ministry that we share in Christ. Bind us together in the unity of the Holy Spirit, that your gospel may be proclaimed in clarity and in truth.

November 22: **Our Savior's, Brockton; St. John's Poplar; Zion, Greater Poplar/Brockton Area** – We pray for our congregations, Lord, giving you thanks for all the many gifts that you have given us for worship and praise, mission and ministry.

November 29: **Bethany, Bigfork; Our Savior's, Columbia Falls, Christ, Whitefish** - We pray that you will encourage and sustain us in the promises of baptism, so that we may be sources of strength and hope to people in our communities.

December 6: **Bethel, Grain; First, Opheim - First, Wolf Point** – Pray for our young people as they prepare, both spiritually and financially, for the 2009 Synod Youth trip to South Africa, and for the relationships which will result from the interaction of our youth with the youth of our companion Synod and churches in South Africa.

December 13: **Bethlehem, Calvary and Northridge, Kalispell; Our Savior's, Thompson Falls** – Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming, strengthen us to serve you with purified lives; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **First Lutheran, Plains** – We pray that we might stand unified, with Jesus Christ at our center. We pray for open eyes, to discern our unique role within the wider church's mission.

December 20: **Atonement, Immanuel and St. Paul, Missoula. Five Valleys Cluster** – We pray for unity of heart and congregational vision to serve our communities where the needs are greatest.

December 27: **All Saints Lutheran, Big Sky; Crazy Mountain Cluster** – Almighty God, you have filled all the earth with your incarnate Word. By your grace, empower us to reflect your light in all that we do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.