



Shining Mountains *news*

"IT IS OUR MISSION, AS BROTHERS AND SISTERS IN CHRIST, ACCORDING TO GOD'S WORD AND COMMAND TO GROW IN HIS WORD, TO GATHER AROUND HIS WORD, AND TO GO WITH HIS WORD."

Easter is the proof that

God Keeps His Promises

Have you ever had someone break their promise to you? The boss promises that if everyone works hard, there will be a nice Christmas bonus—but December comes, and the check doesn't. Mom and Dad promise that they'll take you fishing on the weekend—but something else comes up. If you've had that happen to you before, you know that something else can easily happen: you start to doubt whether you can really trust anyone to keep their promises.

It's no wonder people have the same worries when it comes to God. After all, the promises God makes us are far greater than any promises from our friends, parents or bosses. All our sins are gone? We can really have peace with God? We'll live forever in heaven? When we're used to so many broken promises, it's hard to believe.

Then a dead man walked out of a tomb. Easter is God's proof that he keeps his promises. On the third day after God's Son Jesus died, he came to life. He didn't hide himself. He appeared to a group of faithful women, to unbelieving Roman soldiers, to his disciples—even to a group of more than 500 people at a single time. We call the celebration of his resurrection *Easter*. And it means so much.

Since Jesus kept his promise to rise to life after dying for the sins of the world, your sins really are forgiven.

Since Jesus conquered death, he can surely keep his promise to give you eternal life, too.

Since Jesus kept this most unbelievable promise, he will certainly keep his promises to watch over you, give you what you need from day to day, and provide you with strength in every trouble and temptation.

We focus on what some of God's greatest promises mean to us in the worship services of *Holy Week*. Come and see what God has done for you:

Maundy Thursday (March 28th, 7pm)

We remember the night Jesus instituted the Lord's Supper. It's God's promise to always be with his people and give us the strength we need to love one another.

Good Friday (March 29th, 7pm)

We solemnly focus on the death of God's Son in this special service of darkness. In his death, God promises us that every sin has been paid for in Christ, and we can live and die in peace.

Easter Sunday (March 31st, 10:30 am)

Jesus rose from the dead! God prom-



ises that our sins are gone, and we too shall rise from death to live with God in heaven forever.

May the Lord bless you with a knowledge of his promises and the great peace and hope that they bring this Easter season.



Save the Date for VBS: July 8-11

Vacation Bible School is one of the most visible ways we look to teach God's Word to our children and reach out with the gospel to our neighbors in Bozeman. Save the date for this year's VBS ("Go Tell it on the Mountain"), tentatively planned for July 8-11th.

This year we have a new opportunity for our VBS. Since we have land under contract for a new church near the 100-acre Regional Park, we're working on plans to hold our VBS there. Since that visible location gives us such a wonderful opportunity to invite children from the surrounding subdivisions, one of our churches in Wisconsin is hoping to send nearly twenty teen and adult helpers to assist with our program.

Offering a large outdoor VBS is a huge undertaking. Please watch for announcements for ways that you can help us make it a success—and continue to keep this work and all our efforts to reach out to those who don't know Jesus in your prayers!



Raising our youth, reaching out to our neighbors

Story time is an hour of Bible stories, crafts, snacks and learning activities designed for our little ones. Parents (or grandparents) are asked to stay and take part together with their children.

Story time is open to our members and non-members alike. The next one will be held on Monday, March 4. During these first few months, the theme for our story time is "All God's Creatures" as we focus on accounts like Daniel in the Lion's Den, Creation, and the Flood.

We grew from having three children in our first session to nine in our second. It's a simple and wonderful way to help encourage others to share the faith with their little ones—and learn a bit more about our church home and family in the process.

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to talk to Pastor Seifert or Kathy Holte. Our thanks to Kathy for all her wonderful work in organizing this event!



Updates from our Ladies' Ministry

We're looking for a coordinator to head up the annual Easter Egg Hunt. If you're interested, talk to Veronica or email ladies@shiningmountains.org.

Our first "Sanity Night" will be March 19th at 6pm. The ladies are starting a quarterly fellowship opportunity. It will be a time to relax and learn more about each other as we share a meal at a local restaurant. If you have a suggestion of a restaurant that could accommodate around 15 ladies, please put it in the Ladies Fellowship mailbox at church or email ladies@shiningmountains.org. The restaurant will be randomly selected from all suggestions. Look for the sign-up sheet in the narthex.

At Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary in Mequon, WI this July 19-20 is a Women's Leadership Conference. The focus is "Seeking direction for life and service." It is hosted by the Women's Ministry Committee which serves under the WELS Commission on Adult Discipleship. For more information, please check out the website: <http://www.wels.net/womens-ministry/national-womens-leadership-conference>



A morning of growing in the promise of Easter

What do our children really need to know? We want them to learn good manners. We want them to know their reading and their math, and how to lead healthy and happy lives.

Children need more than that. More than anything, we want them to know about their Savior Jesus, and what God's love for them really means. Those are the truths that give meaning and comfort in life. Those are the truths that bring people home to heaven.

Children aged three through sixth grade are invited to join us for a morning of lessons, crafts, games and snacks as we focus on what Easter really means. Our *Easter for Kids* meets on Saturday, March 23 (a full week *before* Easter). The free program will help our children discover the promises God makes to us in Christ Jesus.

Easter for Kids lasts from 9:30-11:30. To help us plan, we ask that you register your children by March 17th. For more information, visit www.shiningmountains.org/efk.

Bible Study



SUNDAY MORNING: THE BIG PICTURE

A four week overview of the Bible

The Bible isn't just a book. It's sixty-six books that tell the true story of God's great love for mankind and the Savior he provided for the world. Those sixty-six books were written in three languages by forty men throughout a number of different countries and fifteen hundred years. Do you feel like you know your way around it? This four week Sunday morning course will give a basic overview of the main history and events of Scripture. Our study starts on March 17th.

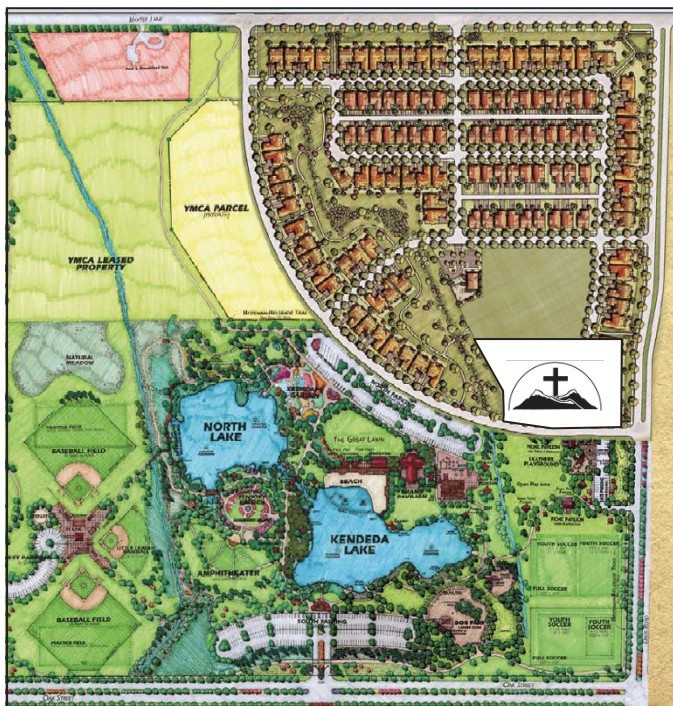
BASIC INFORMATION CLASS

Growing in the truths of God's Word

"Basic Information Classes" are just that—they give a basic overview of all the teachings of Scripture. They serve as a chance for members to refresh their understanding of God's Word, as well as prepare people for membership in the church. Lord-willing, we'll be starting a new evening Basic Information Class on Wednesday or Thursday evening, shortly after Easter. If you're interested in attending (or would like to bring a guest), Pastor would be glad to provide you with more information.

Building Project: What's Next?

As of the beginning of February, Shining Mountains has 3 acres of land on the corner of Davis Lane and Vaquero Road under contract. That means that both parties involved have agreed to the conditions of the sale. Lord-willing, the sale will be completed once the current owner of the land has finished taking it through a plat approval with the City of Bozeman—a process that will likely be completed by August of this year. What are our next steps?



Childcare Committee recommendations

Shining Mountains has long expressed a desire to serve our congregation and reach out into the community with some form of early childhood educational ministry. Over the next months, the Childcare Committee will bring some basic recommendations for the congregation to consider as we look towards a new building.

Completion of Conceptual Phase

Over the last few years, the congregation has answered some basic questions about what we'd like to see in a new building. Once the congregation has determined what options we'd like to see for early childhood ministries, Massmann studios will produce some conceptual sketches and floor plans for us to respond to.

While these steps are taking place, we'll continue to explore additional sources of funding and discuss the ministries we might carry out in the new building. Please pray for this work, watch for ways to be involved, and share your thoughts, concerns and input along the way.

May God bless these steps!

Growing in Christ

Shining Mountains provides a Sunday School program to partner with parents in raising our children in the truth of God's Word. Each month, parents can look to this page of the newsletter and see their student's upcoming lessons, memory work, and updates about when the children will next sing in our worship services.

Date	Lower grades (Miss Newton)	Middle grades (Mrs. Giese)	Upper grades (Mrs. Baker)
3/3	Jesus teaches Peter to trust <i>Call upon me in the day of trouble (Ps 50:15)</i>	Jesus teaches about love <i>Matthew 7:7 "Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you.</i>	Jesus teaches about love <i>Matthew 5:16 In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven.</i>
3/10	Mary and Martha <i>Hear the word of God (Luke 11:28)</i>	Jesus teaches about worrying <i>Matthew 6:33 But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness</i>	Jesus teaches about worrying <i>Matthew 6:33 But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.</i>
3/17	Jesus blesses children <i>Love comes from God (1 Jn 4:7)</i>	Jesus heals the centurion's servant <i>Proverbs 3:5 Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding;</i>	Jesus heals the centurion's servant <i>Proverbs 3:5 Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding;</i>
3/24	Jesus, the Good Shepherd <i>I am with you always (Mt 28:20)</i>	The death of John the Baptist <i>John 8:47 He who belongs to God hears what God says.</i>	The death of John the Baptist <i>John 8:47 He who belongs to God hears what God says. The reason you do not hear is that you do not belong to God."</i>

The Sunday School children next sing in worship on Sunday, May 19th. The song they're working on for that day is Jesus, Shepherd of the Sheep.

March Birthdays 3/6 Angela Rogers 3/12 Les Hunziker / Tom Franck			
March Anniversaries 3/30 John and Marty Thiede			
		3/26 Herb Rast / Cheryl Stubbs	3/28 Courtney Agenten

Serving Us in March *Thank you to those who served in February!*

<u>Ushers</u>	<u>Refreshments</u>	<u>Flowers</u>	<u>Cleaners</u>	<u>Special service ushers</u>
3/3 S McGough / J McGough			Newton (3/4-3/9)	3/6 L Baker / B Ballard
3/10 A Pruitt / T Franck			Pruitt, D&P (3/11-3/16)	3/13 P Agenten / J Kohler
3/17 J Lauersdorf / T Zulauf			Pruitt, A&R (3/18-3/23)	3/20 A Miller / L Alexander
3/24 J Newton / L Hunziker			Thiede (2/25-3/2)	3/28 D Gustafson / D Gentry
3/31 D Pruitt / M Joecks	(Easter Sunday)		Agenten (4/1-4/6)	3/29 T Linn / P Marozick

March 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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3 9:15 Sunday School 9:20 Bible Class 10:30 Worship w/ Holy Communion	4 10-11 am Preschool story time	5 6:45 pm Confirmation Class	6 6:00 pm Soup Supper 7:00 pm Midweek Lenten worship	7	8	9
10 9:15 Sunday School 9:20 Bible Class 10:30 Worship	11	12 6:45 pm Confirmation Class	13 6:00 pm Soup Supper 7:00 pm Midweek Lenten worship 7:45 pm Youth Ministry meeting	14	15	16
17 9:15 Sunday School 9:20 Bible Class 10:30 Worship w/ H.C. 12:00 Childcare Committee meeting	18	19 6pm Ladies' "Sanity Night" 6:45 pm Confirmation Class	20 6:00 pm Soup Supper 7:00 pm Midweek Lenten worship	21	22	23 9:30-11:30 am Easter for Kids
24 9:15 Sunday School 9:20 Bible Class 10:30 Palm Sunday Worship	25	26	27	28	29 7:00 pm Maundy Thursday worship w/ H.C.	30 7:00 pm Good Friday Tenebrae worship
31 9:00 Easter Brunch 10:30 Easter Festival Worship						

Upcoming Messages

This month we celebrate some of the most special days in the Christian Church Year. The truths of Holy Week focus us on how wide and deep God's love for us truly is. May the following schedule help you as you prepare for worship or look for opportunities to invite a friend!

Sundays in March

March 3: *The 3rd Sunday in Lent: Repent, lest you fall*

March 10: *The 4th Sunday in Lent: Celebrate mercy*

March 17: *The 5th Sunday in Lent: Keep your connection to the Savior*

March 24: *Palm Sunday: Welcome the King*

March 31: Easter Sunday—The Resurrection of our Lord

Midweek Services (7pm)

March 6: *I Believe... that my life matters*

March 13: *I Believe... that I am forgiven*

March 20: *I Believe... that I will live forever*

March 28: Maundy Thursday

March 29: Good Friday *Tenebrae* worship

