

# BETHEL NOTES

## THIS SUNDAY

### Readings:

*First Reading:*  
Deuteronomy 18:15-20

*Psalm:*  
Psalm 111

*Second Reading:*  
1 Corinthians 8:1-13

*Gospel Reading:*  
Mark 1:21-28



### Musicians:

*Connie Titcomb, piano*

### Lay Assistant:

*Tamy Scholten*

### Usher:

*Sara Sexe*

### Tech:

*Gabe Smith*

### Children's Church:

*Addi Carlson*

*Rylee Virts*

### Hospitality:

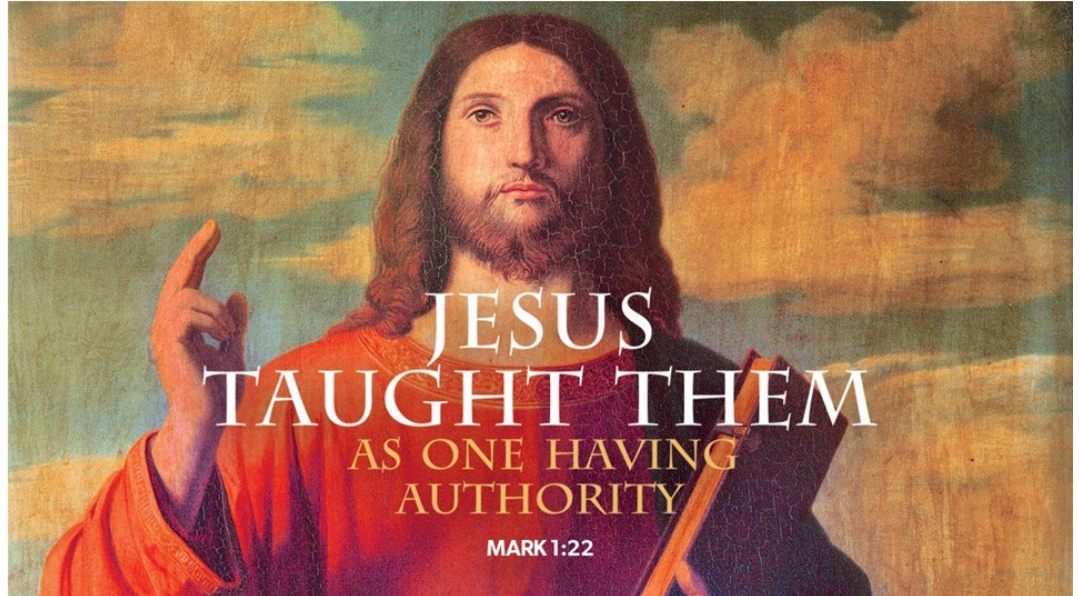
*Judy Johnson*

*Terry Korpela*

### Counters:

*Pam Dougherty*

*Kelsey Johnson*



## *This Sunday at Bethel...*

We celebrate the **Fourth Sunday after Epiphany**.

Today we are blessed with the sweet voices of the **Jubilate Choir led by Jeff Skogley**.

Immediately following our worship service today is our **Annual Meeting**. Voting members of Bethel are asked to make every effort to attend. We will be voting on new council members, church representatives for FLBC and Synod Assembly, nominating committee members and 2024 budget. We need a quorum for our Annual Meeting.

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**Join us Sunday 9:30 AM  
in person or online at  
bethelmt.org**



*Lord,  
in your mercy  
hear our prayers.*

- ✝ Prayers of comfort and healing for **Lynn Klaasen**, *sister of Jan Robitaille*, they begin in-home hospice care.
- ✝ Prayers of healing and strength to continue to fight for **Eric Peterson and his family** as they seek answers at Mayo for the cancer spreading throughout his body, continue with treatments, and recovering from surgery.
- ✝ Prayers of strength and support for **Don Bisgard** as he continues to manage his health.
- ✝ Prayers of strength and healing for **Kiera Howard**, *niece of Dave Scholten*, as she prepares for upcoming surgery and treatment.
- ✝ Prayers healing of **Quentin Kubas** as he recovers in rehab after an auto accident.
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Lindy Coon**, *sister of former Bethel member Laura (Wandke) Overturf*, as she is moving to a long term care facility.
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Tim Olson**, as he recovers from surgery and begins radiation treatment.
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Bonnie Barnes**, *Debbie McCarty's mother*, recovering after a fall.
- ✝ Prayers of support and comfort for **Pat Berkeley**.
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Dick Seim** as he continues regaining his strength.
- ✝ Prayers of healing and answers for **Anna Boucher** as they determine a cause and treatment for seizures.
- ✝ Prayers of healing and support for **Diane Young**, *Sandy Pepos' aunt*, recovering at home after a stroke.
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Georgia Miller**, *cousin of Amber Erickson's*, as she has been diagnosed with aggressive breast cancer.
- ✝ Prayers of continued healing for **Travis Cushman** as he continues to manage health issues.
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Kristin**, *Bobbie Bowen's daughter*, as she is manages a cancer diagnosis.
- ✝ Prayers of support for **Caleb Pottratz** who is struggling with depression.
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Alex Bostic** as he continues to manage his health.
- ✝ Prayers of strength in leadership for **Gustavo Driau**, Regional Representative of South America.
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Ed Pottratz** as he continues cancer treatment.



**January 28, 2024 Annual Meeting**, after worship. Voting members of Bethel are asked to make every effort to attend. We will be voting on new council members, church representatives for FLBC and Synod Assembly, nominating committee members and 2024 budget. We need a quorum for our Annual Meeting.

**Giving Statements**

Pick up your 2023 Giving Statements at our Annual Meeting Sunday, January 28th. All statements not picked up on that date will be mailed the following Monday.

**ADULT FORUM**

**THE ACTS**  
of the Apostles

Series begins Sunday, February 18th after worship led by Pastor Jessie Obrecht

# 2024 ELCA Youth Gathering

# CREATED

# TO BE MYLE

the tAble Young Adult Gathering

## On The Road To The ELCA Youth Gathering

GOAL  
\$16,500.00



New Orleans, LA

**Kyle and Ryan  
Gilbertson**

**Ainsley Kubas**

**Austin Kupfner**

**Kian Ryan**



Starting Amount \$3500.00

Our chaperones are Amy and Randy Gilbertson, Colter McCarty and Pastor Jessie.

**Our first fundraiser will be free a will offering Brunch after worship on Sunday, February 25th .**

*A special thank you to Rebekah French for the Thrivent Action Card to cover the cost of the food.*

## God is our Rock at LOGOs!!!!



# GOSPEL MESSAGE

## Teaching in Words and Actions

Jesus' teaching in the synagogue surprises, shakes, and even shocks the people of Capernaum who have gathered for the weekly celebration of the sabbath. His proclamation is different from what they are accustomed to hearing.


Mark doesn't tell us *what* Jesus taught this particular day, but all the gospel writers describe his message as consistently one of compassion, peace, hope, and love. Clearly, listeners heard something they found surprising in Jesus' words.

In addition, Jesus' teaching goes *beyond* words; he lives out his message in transforming and liberating actions, as we see in his healing of the man with an unclean spirit. The people sense an authority in Jesus only found in one whose words and deeds match—one who moves beyond theory to practice. It's like learning from a physician who regularly practices medicine, a theologian who pastors a parish, a coach who plays the sport personally. In the synagogue, when Jesus unexpectedly practices what he has been preaching, it's so new to his audience that they find it frightening and life-giving all at once.

At first, the healing miracle Jesus performs in today's reading may seem distant from the preoccupations of our contemporary society. This kind of exorcism may be uncommon for us in mainline Christian churches, but we know well that various troubles have a grip on our existence and our being. On the one hand, we experience our own "unclean spirits" such as despair, jealousy, hatred, or guilt. On the other hand, we regularly encounter the "unclean spirits" of our society: intolerance, selfishness, indifference, materialism, or contempt. But even in the moments when we are divided, disoriented, and destabilized, Jesus speaks surprising, wondrous words that challenge and heal us, so we can be restored to the life God intends us to enjoy and share with others.

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**1<sup>ST</sup> Monday Quilters**

The 1st Monday Night Quilters will meet Monday, February 5, 2024, 6-8 p.m. at New Hope Lutheran Church, 3125 5th Avenue South. Use the alley entrance. We will continue to work on quilts for Lutheran World Relief.

Should be good weather; come and help.

New Hope Lutheran Church  
3125 5th Avenue South  
Great Falls MT 59405

**GREAT FALLS RESCUE MISSION  
DONATION CENTER  
316 - 6TH ST. S.**

**PERMANENTLY CLOSED**

We will continue to receive donations at the three shelters. We're asking donors to check current needs lists on our social media (Facebook, Instagram & LinkedIn), our website [www.gfrm.org](http://www.gfrm.org), [amazon.com](http://amazon.com), [walmart.com](http://walmart.com) or by calling the administration office (406) 761-2653. Thank you for your understanding and your continued support.



**GREAT FALLS RESCUE MISSION  
ADMINISTRATION OFFICE  
(EAST ENTRANCE)  
408 2ND AVE. S.  
GREAT FALLS, MT  
(406) 761-2653**



**Women's Spring Retreat April 26-28, 2024** For over 50 (or maybe 60?) years, the WELCA women of the Great Divide and Five Valleys Clusters have been hosting a Women's Spring Retreat at Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp. Each year we look forward to meeting together in this beautiful place with an inspirational speaker, a service project to benefit a non-profit and lots of time for hikes, conversation, worship, and fellowship with women of faith. Join us this year **April 26-28, 2024**.

Registration will open February 1st at [www.Impluchurch.org/womensretreat](http://www.Impluchurch.org/womensretreat) All are Welcome! Bring a friend, a daughter, a sister! Come spend some time together! Hope to see you there! Questions- contact Nancy Solum at [WomensSpringRetreat@gmail.com](mailto:WomensSpringRetreat@gmail.com)



### **Confirmation Retreat**

March 15 @ 8:00 am - March 16 @ 5:00 pm  
Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp 550 Lutheran Camp Rd, Lakeside, MT, United States  
Join us for a retreat at FLBC for confirmation students... "Guides for the Way: Three Biblical figures and what their stories can teach us about God, Life and Everything!"  
This...  
\$110

### **Adult Spirituality Retreat**

April 14 @ 8:00 am - April 16 @ 5:00 pm  
Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp 550 Lutheran Camp Rd, Lakeside, MT, United States  
Join Us This Spring! Join Rev. Jeff Barrow and all of us at FLBC to explore the topic of "Call" and what it means to be called in our vocation....  
\$195

### **Mother's Day Brunch**

May 12 @ 9:30 am - 2:00 pm  
Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp 550 Lutheran Camp Rd, Lakeside, MT, United States  
Celebrate Mother's Day on the Lake at Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp! WHERE: 550 Lutheran Camp Rd., Lakeside MT 59922  
WHEN: SUNDAY, MAY 12, 2024 TIMES: THREE SEATINGS AVAILABLE 9:30 AM, 11:00 AM and 12:03 PM. \$30 per person ages 12+, \$18 per person ages 4-11, free ages 3 and under.

For more information or register for any of these events, go to [flbc.net](http://flbc.net)

# JUST 4 YOUTH

## Jesus, the teacher

Mark 1:21-28

Jesus spent most of his life teaching people about God. One day, in the city of Capernaum, Jesus was teaching a group of people when suddenly a man with an evil spirit burst into the room. He shouted, "I know who you are! You are God's Holy One." Jesus told the evil spirit to leave, and it shook the man, then left. Everyone listening to Jesus was amazed and surprised by what Jesus did.



Set aside time to rest with your family.

CIRCLE THE FISHING BOATS.  
 COLOR THE WELCOME SIGN.  
 DRAW SURPRISED LOOKS ON THE FACES OF THE PEOPLE LISTENING TO JESUS.  
 SEARCH THE PICTURE FOR 7 HEARTS, 5 FISH, 3 CROSSES, AND 1 STAR.

Questions to ponder...

How did the man feel when Jesus sent his evil spirit away?  
 What does an evil spirit look like?

## Stories to tell

Bible stories tell us many things about Jesus. What is your favorite Bible story?

Draw a picture of it, then use the picture to help you tell the story to someone else!!









Thank you, God, for Bible stories. Help me to share them with others. Amen

### This week

Try reading one Bible story each day with your family. What is your family favorite?

Welcome to worship. Today is Sunday, the day when Christians gather to worship God. Jesus and his disciples worshiped God too. Their worship day had a special name.

Use the code below to discover what that name was.

1	4	starts with this letter	6
			
starts with this letter		2	starts with this letter
			
	7	starts with this letter	
			
5	starts with this letter	3	starts with this letter
			
starts with this letter			

1    2    3    4    5    6    7

This word means *rest*. How do you rest with your family on Sunday?

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## THIS WEEK

### Tuesday 1/30

- Electric City Bible Study, Zoom meeting 7:00 am
- Men's Breakfast in the Fellowship Hall 7:00 am

### Wednesday 1/31

- Bible Study on Zoom led Udo Wozny
- LOGOs Youth Ministry 5:30 pm; HS LOGOs 6:30 pm

### Thursday 2/1

- Electric City Chorale rehearsal in the sanctuary 7:00 pm

### Friday 2/2

- Bethel office is closed.
- Aitz Chaim Friday worship service 6:00 pm

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Sunday 2/4

- LOGOs Family Worship service led by Pastor Jessie and LOGOs Youth Ministry in person and live stream at 9:30 am
- 4-H Meeting in the Fellowship Hall 2:00 pm

### Tuesday 2/6

- Electric City Bible Study, Zoom meeting 7:00 am
- Men's Breakfast in the Fellowship Hall 7:00 am

### Wednesday 2/7

- Bible Study on Zoom led Pastor Jessie Obrecht
- LOGOs Youth Ministry 5:30 pm; HS LOGOs 6:30 pm

### Thursday 2/8

- Executive Board Zoom meeting 6:30 pm
- Electric City Chorale rehearsal in the sanctuary 7:0 pm

### Friday 2/9

- Bethel office is closed.

# Fellowship Ministries

### Electric City Bible Study—online

What a great way to connect with one another! Join our bible study via Zoom, Tuesday mornings at 7:00 am. Contact Laurie Turner at lolli51gus@icloud.com for a link to join the meeting.

### Men's Breakfast

Join us for a fun and engaging conversation, and insightful discussion of each week's lectionary texts as we meet in the Fellowship Hall Tuesday mornings at 7:00 am. Contact Dave Scholten at dscholten@dlsconsulting.net for more information.

### Hope Circle—in person

This group meets once a month usually on Thursday evenings. Bible study and fellowship are celebrated with this group of ladies. Contact Terry Korpela to be on the group email for meetings and prayer requests terry.korpela@gmail.com.

*February 15th 2:00 pm, Laurie Turner's*

### Weekly Text Study

#### with Pastor Jessie

Wednesdays, 10:00 am via Zoom, Pastor Jessie will be leading discussion on the text readings for the upcoming Sunday. Dig deeper in the interpretation of the readings and discuss ways they give us guidance in our daily lives. If you would like to join this meeting, email bethelgf.pastor@gmail.com to be added to the mailing list.