

Bethel Notes

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Sunday, January 29, 2023

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

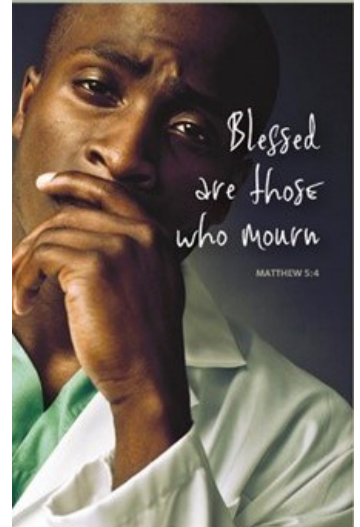
Who are the blessed ones of God? For Micah, they are those who do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God. For Paul, they are the ones who find wisdom in the weakness of the cross. For Jesus, they are the poor, the meek, the merciful, the pure in heart, the peacemakers, those who mourn, and those who hunger for righteousness. In baptism we find our blessed identity and calling in this countercultural way of living and serving.

First Reading: Micah 6:1-8

Psalm 15

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:18-31

Gospel: Matthew 5:1-12



**Join us Sunday 9:30 AM
In-person or live stream
at bethelmt.org**

Serving This Sunday

Musicians:

Connie Titcomb-piano
Sara Graft- djembe

Lay Assistant:

Anne Vannatta

Usher:

Mary Gernaat

Tech:

Adam Elkin

Children's Church:

Julia Elkin
Maya Stringer
***will be available during
Annual Meeting***

Counters:

Pam Dougherty
Greg Grosenick

Hospitality:

Sue Reppe
Sara Graft

THIS SUNDAY AT BETHEL...

After worship we will be holding our Annual Meeting. This meeting will take place in the sanctuary.

We require a 32 person minimum participation from our voting members to meet a quorum. A quorum is needed to vote.

We will be voting on new

Council members, Flat-head Lutheran Bible Camp Representatives, Nominating Committee, and Montana Synod Assembly Voting Members.

This meeting will be available to those at home via Zoom, please see page 3 of this news-

letter for instruction on how to get the link.



Requesting Your Prayers

- † Prayers of healing for **Dorothy Krueger**, *Greg Grosenick's grandmother*, as she recovers after a fall.
- † Prayers of comfort for **Jude Myhre**, *Shelly Murphy's sister*, who is in hospice.
- † Prayers of healing for **Payton Carle**, *friend of Karrie Pepos*, who is recovering from a car accident.
- † Prayers of healing for **Lynn Klaasen**, *sister of Jan Robitaille*, receiving treatment for cancer.
- † Prayers of healing for **Lindy Coon**, *sister of former Bethel member Laura (Wandke) Overturf*, as she continues to slowly make progress as she recovers at home from a serious injury after a fall.
- † Prayers of support for **Doug Kickbusch** as he continues on his journey to find peace.
- † Prayers of healing for **Colleen Walker-Nelson** as she continues to heal from a broken leg.
- † Prayers of healing for **Abby Bisgard-Clegg**, *daughter of Don and Kathi Bisgard*, continues to manage health issues, but feeling and doing very well.
- † Prayers of healing for **Alex Bostic** as he continues to manage his health.
- † Prayers of healing for **Linda O'Connor**, *friend of LaRae Veitch*, as she undergoes treatment for breast cancer.
- † Prayers of faith and strength for **Cindy Doughty**, *Patty Braget's sister*, as she manages ALS.
- † Prayers of healing for **Travis Cushman** as he continues treatment for cancer.
- † Prayers of healing for **Rev. Inge Williams**, *friend of Pastor Jessie*, as she battles cancer.
- † Prayers of strength in leadership for **Gustavo Driau**, Regional Representative of South America.
- † Prayers of healing for **Ed Pottratz** as he continues cancer treatment.
- † Prayers of healing for **Bob Walker**, *brother of Colleen Walker-Nelson*, who is managing kidney disease.



Bethel Meeting Announcement

Sunday, January 29, 2023 - Annual Meeting

After worship.

A combined Zoom and in-person meeting.

The **Annual Meeting** voting will be completed through combined in-person and Zoom meeting. Those voting members joining on Zoom will be counted toward our quorum required for voting. Regular attendees (non-voting) are welcome to join the Annual Meeting, but will not be counted in the quorum or vote. ***Our quorum requirement for this year's annual meeting is a minimum of 32.*** As per our constitution, no proxy votes will be allowed.

If you will be joining the meetings online, please email the Bethel Office at bethelgf.churc@gmail.com and the link will be sent to you, prior to the scheduled meeting time.

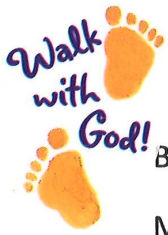
Annual Reports will be emailed out next week and printed copies will be available Sunday, January 29th. If you would like a hardcopy mailed to you, please call the Bethel Office.

For any questions, please contact Tami Grosenick in the Bethel Office 406-761-1543.

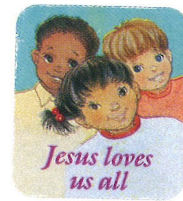
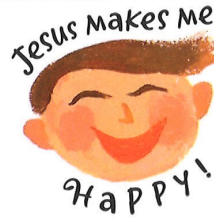
Giving Statements for 2022 will be available for pick up this Sunday, January 29th and will be mailed out Monday, January 30th.

Thank you all for your continued generosity to Bethel Lutheran Church and the outreach ministries we support.

'A View From The Pew'



believe



Bethel Memories – Sonja Baumgardner

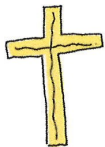
My friend & neighbor, Stella Stimac (Founding Member) was the organist here at Bethel. I loved listening to her play the organ, so I started coming to Bethel to listen to her play. It wasn't long before I met others that became good friends. I have many fond memories of those days.



My best memories came after I was asked & accepted to be Sunday School Superintendent. We started with less than 12 children (1st thru 6th Grade) in the fellowship hall with 3 portable dividers. We had an old piano for a few songs before lessons. To increase numbers, we had a few contests for those who could invite the most friends. We got a few new kids. Somewhere the idea came up for stickers each Sunday. So I became the Sticker Lady and loved having the kids crowd around to see what the stickers would be this Sunday. We gradually grew & our small fellowship hall was very noisy!! We had fun teachers & did our singing & lessons with a lot of fun days. For a couple of years we sponsored a young boy named Oscar in Africa. Our collections went for that. We would have an Oscar Day & the kids all wrote a letter to him & we read his letters & information we received about him.



miracle



One special memory is when I was in the hospital for surgery. I received handmade cards from the kids. So special & I still have those cards.



When I retired from being Superintendent, I thought I would give up giving stickers. Brett Korpela said I couldn't do that because he didn't have his bible filled up yet. Some of the kids put their stickers on the blank pages in the back of their bibles. Who could resist that!! The Sticker Lady went on with her stickers giving. However it took a few years to get out of the fun habit.



So I say Thank You to all the kids that have made my life happier. Loved you all and hope you are all Healthy & Happy!! Bless ya!!

rejoice!



A Prayer for Inner Strength

Dear God,

Please give me the strength to endure this situation, and to find the blessings and lessons that it contains.

Please give me the endurance to continue ahead.

Please guide my thoughts, words and actions, so that I walk your path of peace and love.

Amen



It's Time For CANstruction!!

Bethel Logos will be holding our CANstruction activity on February 8th during our regular Logos night.

We will be collecting canned food items for the youth to use in their creations that night. All food will be donated to FISH! Ministry.

If you would like to donate some canned food items, we will be collecting until February 8th. Check the Bethel Notes that week for pictures of what the Logos Youth create



THE FIRST ANNUAL GREAT FALLS DRAMA CLUB CABARET!

Music! • Theatre! • Frivolity!



THREE NIGHTS ONLY!
at Great Falls High School

THURSDAY January 26 at 7:30	FRIDAY January 27 at 7:30	SATURDAY January 28 at 2:00
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Tickets are \$8 for Adults and \$5 for Students

STOP the money fights!



FINANCIAL PEACE University

Do you argue over money?

Credit cards, car loans, student loans??

If you've ever felt like you just can't get in control of your money, you're not alone. You'd be surprised how many people you know are struggling just like you. But it's time for your struggle to end—starting today. Join our Financial Peace University class

Bethel Lutheran Church is hosting Financial Peace University!

ALL ARE WELCOME!

Starting Monday, February 6, 2023 at 6:00 PM for 9 weeks.

Register at fpu.com/1157959 —and start making your money work for you.

For more information contact the Bethel Office 406-761-1543 or bethelgf.church@gmail.com.

Please note that Bethel Lutheran Church does not affirm the theological beliefs or business practices of Dave Ramsey, but encourages healthy financial practices with inclusion and welcome for all.

GOSPEL MESSAGE

January 22, 2023

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

Worth the Risk

Perhaps Peter, Andrew, James, and John had heard rumors of this wandering preacher Jesus. Maybe they had been growing restless for some time in their lives as fishermen. It's possible they sensed that something was shifting in the world around them. They could have been fed up with the brutality of the Roman Empire and were looking for a leader to bring about change. Maybe they longed for something more, for a better way of living and loving and being. Maybe they were just so taken aback by this invitation to drop everything and follow that they couldn't help but say yes. We don't know their reasons for joining the Jesus movement that day, but there was clearly something so compelling about this kingdom of heaven (Matthew 4:17) that they were willing to drop their nets, risk everything, and not look back.

Perhaps we too hear in the gospel today a renewed invitation to get swept up in this kingdom, a call to drop old ways of being and embrace a life of following Jesus. Maybe this vision of the kingdom catches us when we witness ancient scripture finding new life in our hurting world. Perhaps we glimpse the possibilities of the heavenly kingdom when communities of unlikely people gather to share bread and wine at the same table, and when we see the hungry being fed, the suffering being cared for, the lonely finding welcome, the oppressed finding freedom. Suddenly, we know that this is God at work.

As Jesus reminds us, the kingdom of heaven is not a far-off kingdom. It draws near to us, breaking in around us perhaps in the moments when we least expect it. And when we catch sight of it, we just might never be the same. A world where the sick are healed, the hungry are fed, the outcasts find belonging, and ordinary days are filled with holy purpose? That's a kingdom worth risking everything for.

From sundaysandseasons.com.

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Calling All Writers for February's

'A View From The Pew'

February's topic – My favorite hymn and why



If you would like to submit an article for February, email or drop of your no more than 500 words submission. Articles are due on Wednesday of each week.

For more information or to submit your article, email Tami in the bethel office bethelgf.church@gmail.com or call her at 406-761-1543.

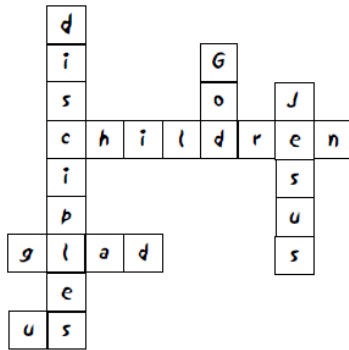
Just for *YOUTH*

Inside out

Matthew 5:1-12


Jesus turned many rules inside out.

This inside out puzzle is already finished. Use the puzzle to fill in the blanks below.



_____ taught the
_____:

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see
_____. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will
be called _____ of God.
Rejoice and be _____. God blesses _____.

 *Be with us, Jesus, as we serve others. Amen*

**Do justice,
love kindness,
walk humbly with God.
Micah 6:8**



Create hand movements
to help remember God's
command in Micah 6:8.

God surprises us with things we don't expect. Jesus came to us as a baby, not as a powerful king. Jesus talks to all people, not just the important leaders. He tells them the opposite of what they expect to hear.

Draw lines connecting the opposites.



Jesus' words give blessings to people at surprising times: at sad times, when they felt poor, weak, or put down by others.



Circle the letters for the word the "blessed" in the picture.

Logos Wednesday, February 1, 2023

Lesson: Matthew 4:12-23

Dinner: Loaded Baked Potato, corn, fruit cups, rolls, pudding with vanilla wafers

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Monday 1/30

- Bethel office closed for recuperation

Tuesday 1/31

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

Wednesday 2/1

- Bible Study led by Pastor Jessie on Zoom 10:00 am
- Logos Youth 5:30 pm; High School 6:30 pm

Friday 2/3

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

Saturday 2/4

- Bethel Brass rehearsal 1:00 pm

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday 2/5

- Worship led by Pastor Jessie & the LOGOs Youth Ministry in-person & live stream 9:30 am
- Council meeting and retreat at the MT Synod Office 12:00 pm

Monday 2/6

- Financial Peace University Class in the Fellowship Hall 6:00 pm

Tuesday 2/7

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

Wednesday 2/8

- Bible Study led by Pastor Jessie on Zoom 10:00 am
- Logos Youth 5:30 pm; High School 6:30 pm

Thursday, 2/9

- Executive Board Zoom Meeting 5:30 pm

Friday 2/10

- Bethel office 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 Meets in-person

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.

Next meeting:

Thursday, February 16th 7:00 pm at Marilyn Carlson's

Weekly Text Study with Pastor Jessie-online

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.