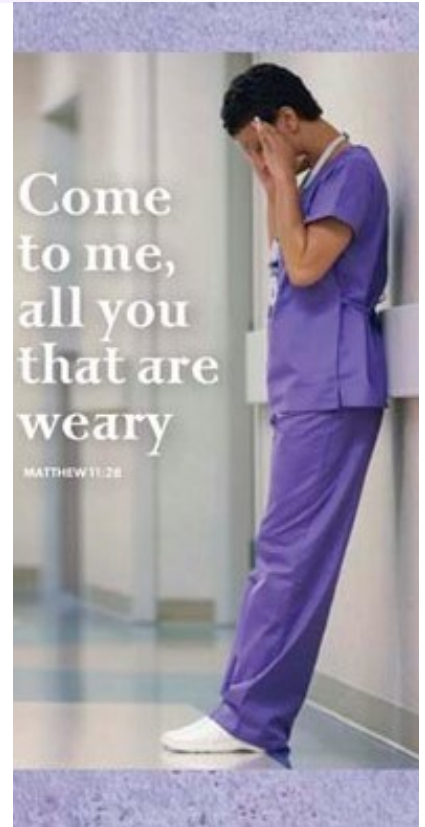


# Bethel Notes



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## Sunday, July 9, 2023

### 6th Sunday after Pentecost

*The mystery of God's ways is sometimes hidden from the wise and intelligent. Jesus associates with those often excluded from the religious community. Like Paul, we struggle with our own selfish desires and seek God's mercy and forgiveness. We gather to be refreshed by Christ's invitation: "Come to me, all you that are weary." Gathered around word, water, and meal, we find rest for our souls.*

*First Reading: Zechariah 9:9-12*

*Psalms 145:8-14*

*Second Reading: Romans 7:15-25a*

*Gospel: Matthew 11:16-19,25-30*

## World Hunger



**Join us Sunday 9:30 AM  
in person or online at  
[bethelmt.org](http://bethelmt.org)**

## Serving This Sunday

### Musicians:

Lynn Ryan, piano

### Lay Assistant:

Mindy Leach

### Usher:

Kelsey Johnson

Tesher Reidle

### Tech:

Adam Elkin

### Children's Church:

Julia Elkin

Olivia Violett

### Counters:

Stephanie Cummings

Kelsey Johnson

### Hospitality:

Judy Johnson

## THIS SUNDAY AT BETHEL...

We celebrate the **6<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost.**

Welcome and thank **Rev. Jessica Crist** who is preaching and presiding at Bethel.

Today we lift up **ELCA World Hunger** and will be receiving an additional offering in the wicker baskets.

Mark your calendars for the **2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Summer Celebration** at Bethel, Thursday July 20<sup>th</sup> 6 – 8 pm!



# Requesting Your Prayers

- ✝ Prayers of comfort for **family and friends of Phyllis Wesche**, *friend of Leona Ost*, who passed away peacefully at Peace Hospice.
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Scotty**, *father of Nicole and Madison who work for TLC Day-care*, as he is in the hospital after heart surgery and not doing very well.
- ✝ Prayers of healing and support for **Earl Terwilliger** as he is scheduled for medical testing for his heart.
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Holly Lode**, *daughter of Bernice Johnson*, who has developed pneumonia after shoulder surgery.
- ✝ Prayers of healing and strength for **Matt**, *Dena Wagner-Fossen's brother-in-law* managing adverse reactions to medication after surgery.
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Cathy Rankin**, *Jeanne Rankin's sister-in-law*, as she begins treatment for stage 1 breast cancer.
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Thelma Seyfert** as continues to regain her health after a fall.
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Kristin**, *Bobbie Bowen's daughter*, as she manages a cancer diagnosis.
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **John Korpela** as he continues with chemotherapy.
- ✝ Prayers of support for **Don and Kathi Bisgard** as they manage medical care for Don.
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Dick Seim** continues to work on regaining strength.
- ✝ Prayers of support for **Caleb Pottratz** who is struggling with depression.
- ✝ 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 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 healing for **Travis Cushman** as he continues treatment for 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.

# Vacation Bible School Needs List and Other Volunteer Opportunities

We are feverishly planning Vacation Bible School Camp Week and it is arriving fast! We have put together a lunch menu and snack menu for our week and have it listed below. We have also put in a link to online sign up for items that you are willing to donate and will have a hardcopy sign up at church this Sunday, July 2nd and Sunday, July 9th. See the list below:

<b>Snacks</b>	
2 boxes-Members Mark Fruit Strips	
3 boxes-Gogurt 32 count	
3 boxes-Veggie Straws indiv. 30 count	
3 bx-Skinny Pop Orginl Popcorn 28 count	
3 boxes-Applesauce 32 count	
1 box Otter Pops -200 count	
<b>Lunches</b>	
4 dozen hamburger buns	
2 squeeze containers sour cream	
4 heads iceberg lettuce	
1 crockpot full baked beans	
1 large fruit tray	
1 large macaroni salad	
1 large potato salad	
1 large veggie tray	
1 large fruit salad	
<b>Desserts</b>	
1 box pudding snack pack 36 count	
3 dozen cupcakes	
4 dozen brownies	
4 dozen cookies - variety	
<b>Monetary Donations</b>	
2 people \$75 donation for Jimmy Johns or 1 \$150.00	
\$50 donation for fried chicken	

[CLICK HERE TO LINK TO \*\*ONLINE SIGN UP\*\*](#)

We are also in need of one or two ushers on the following Sundays:

July 16th  
July 23rd  
July 30th

If you are able to provide some goodies and/or can usher on any of the above dates, please let Tami in the office know or use the sign-up books in the Narthex on Sunday.

*Thank you all in advance!*

## **Counselor Housing Needed**

We are still in need of housing for 2 Counselors from FLBC. They arrive on Sunday, July 16th in the evening and have dinner at the Bethel. They depart after day camp on Friday, July 21st. Host Families are asked to provide breakfast each morning and one dinner meal, Monday evening. Reasonable efforts should be made to have separate sleeping spaces for male and female staff. Have at least 2 counselors in each home. Host families do not need to feel obligated to take staff on sightseeing tours or to fill all their time with activities. If you are interested please contact Tami Grosenick 406-788-9587.

# Vacation Bible School

July 17th—21st 9:00 am to 1:30 pm



It's time to register for Vacation Bible School for grades (entering) Pre-Kindergarten to 6th. Junior Counselors (entering) 7th grade and up.

More information and online registration at [https://www.bethelmt.org/junior\\_vbs.html](https://www.bethelmt.org/junior_vbs.html) - this camp is FREE for all participants.

**junior**  
**counselors**

**adult**  
**volunteers**

*If you are interested in attending Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp at Lakeside this year, Jean Humphrey Camperships are available. Send a copy of your invoice from FLBC (they send you once you register and pay your deposit) to Bethel and we will pay \$250 directly to FLBC.*



**ADOPT  
A  
CHAIR**

*donate today!*

**\$75.00 PER  
CHAIR**

Suggested donation amount.  
Make checks payable to Bethel with  
Chair drive on the memo line, online at  
[bethelmt.org/onlinegiving/Adopt-A-Chair](https://bethelmt.org/onlinegiving/Adopt-A-Chair)  
or scan the QR code below.  
taking donations until August 1, 2023



## Worship Techs Needed

Do you love working with technology? Then we would love you to join our Sunday Worship team and become a Worship Tech. Our Techs run our live stream and in-person worship on Sunday mornings and for special services at Bethel.

This is a paid position at Bethel.

If you are interested and would like to see a full job description. Contact Tami in the Bethel Office or email [bethelgf.church@gmail.com](mailto:bethelgf.church@gmail.com) and we will send you a copy of the job description. There is an urgent need to train in qualified people as our primary Worship Tech, Adam Elkin, will be leaving for college in the fall. If you are interested or know someone who would be, reach out today!!

## GOSPEL MESSAGE

July 9, 2023

### A Gift of Rest

When very young children are tired, they sometimes get cranky. Because they are still learning to interpret how they feel, they don't yet know that in order to feel better, they need to get some rest. They just know that something is not right.

Adults are not always a whole lot better about getting the rest we need. Even if we try, we have organized our society in ways that make rest seem like a luxury. We don't make sure that workers have enough time off, or even enough hours to sleep. We don't feel like we deserve a break if we haven't gotten enough work done. Even when we have the time, chronic uncertainty and anxiety can rob us of rest.

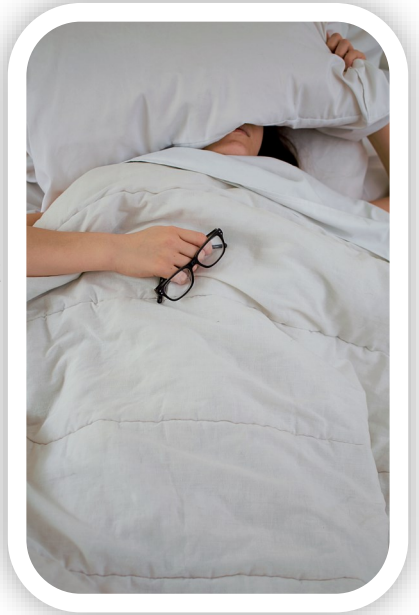


Photo by [Isabella Fischer](#) on [Unsplash](#)

In the Bible, rest is more than just necessary—it's good. And it's more than just good—it's holy. It's right there in the Ten Commandments: everyone gets a day of rest. Jesus continues in that tradition by promising rest. Jesus doesn't say he will teach his followers how to rest, or give them a way to earn rest, or tell them where to find rest. He says, "I will give you rest" (Matthew 11:28). He also promises to carry the burdens that make rest seem all but impossible. For Jesus, rest is not a luxury—it's a gift!

When we take time to rest, or make it possible for others to rest, we are not being lazy, self-indulgent, or wasteful. Instead, when we value rest, we are joining in Jesus' own work. We are being the body of Christ for ourselves and our neighbors. And when even that is too much for us to manage on our own, still Jesus promises to give us the rest we need.

From [sundaysandseasons.com](#).  
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## BAPTISM



Sullivan Davenport receives the Sacrament of Holy Baptism, Rev. Jessica Crist presiding, with parents Jason and Megan and grandparents Jim and Marilyn Carlson and Don and Carol Davenport joining by Zoom.



Rice Street Gardens

## “When I plant my vegetables I feel at home.”

**R**ice Street Gardens in St. Paul, Minn., is the second-largest community garden in the state, with over 250 plots for local families. Your generosity to ELCA World Hunger, paired with the hard work of gardeners and volunteers, enables this garden to thrive. Each gardener contributes by volunteering during the year, keeping it clean and well-organized, and donating money to buy supplies. In exchange they get to enjoy time in the garden and all the fresh veggies they grow.

A gardener at Rice Street, Elodie came to Minnesota as a refugee from the Congo five years ago. Living in Minnesota was hard for her and her daughter; they were lonely and had trouble finding jobs. One day the Rev. Dana K. Nelson, pastor of Galilee Lutheran Church, visited Elodie at her home and invited her to join Rice Street Gardens, within walking distance of her apartment.

Elodie accepted. Now she grows all kinds of vegetables at Rice Street and cooks them every day for herself and her daughter. In fact Elodie has so many vegetables that she can keep her freezer full all winter. Yet to Elodie the garden means more than this. “When I plant my

vegetables I feel at home,” she said. “I feel like I have the food from my country.”

At the garden Elodie met a young man named Grace, who also came to the United States as a refugee from the Congo. Grace grows vegetables that he remembers from the Congo, especially a dark, leafy green called cassava leaves. Grace and Elodie tend each other’s gardens, and Elodie even keeps vegetables for Grace in her freezer so that he can have them to eat during winter too.

Rice Street Gardens provides a place where newcomers to the United States, such as Grace, Elodie and her daughter, are welcomed and find connections. They can make new friends; stay connected to their food, culture and people; and find ways to support their neighbors, just as Elodie does by storing Grace’s vegetables in her freezer.

The gardeners and volunteers supported in part by your gifts to ELCA World Hunger are growing more than food – they are planting seeds for the kind of world God wants for us, a world where everyone has enough to eat, food they love, support when they need it and a strong community that welcomes and loves them.



Feeding ministries provide immediate support to those in need. Community gardens and agricultural programs help communities grow food to nourish themselves and build stronger communities.

*This article is reproduced from the ELCA World Hunger Lifelines magazine, Spring 2023 issue.*

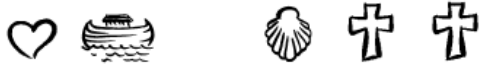
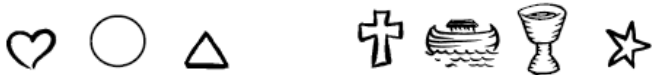
# Just for *YOUTH*

## Finding rest

Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

Jesus knew it could be tiring and even discouraging to follow in God's way. So he told his disciples to come to him to find rest. We are invited to come to Jesus when we pray.

**Psalm 145 is a song of praise. Use the code to discover the message in verse 9.**



- |     |     |     |     |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| A = | G = | L = | S = |
| D = | H = | O = | T = |
| E = | I = | R = |     |

## Thanks be to God

We are thankful for all good things God does and gives. For what are you most thankful?

Write a "thank you" prayer to God here.



*Dear God, help us  
see your goodness  
everywhere we go.  
Amen*

Welcome to worship. God is good! We see, touch, taste, smell, and hear God's goodness at home, at church—everywhere. God is good in every way.



## This Week...

Make a long list of the many ways everyone in your home sees God's presence.

## **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

### **Tuesday 7/11**

- Electric City Bible Study, Zoom meeting 7:00 am
- Bethel Church Council Zoom meeting 6:30 pm

### **Wednesday 7/12**

- Bible Study on Zoom 10:00 am

### **Friday 7/14**

- Bethel office is closed

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

### **Sunday 7/16**

- Worship led by Pastor Jessie in-person and live stream 9:30 am
- Tami Grosenick on vacation until July 24th
- VBS Set Up, Junior Counselor orientation and Counselors arrive and dinner 5:00 pm

### **Monday 7/17**

- VBS 9:00 am to 1:30 pm

### **Tuesday 7/18**

- Electric City Bible Study, Zoom meeting 7:00 am
- VBS 9:00 am to 1:30 pm
- Counselor dinner with Pastor Jessie 6:00 pm

### **Wednesday 7/19**

- Bible Study on Zoom 10:00 am
- VBS 9:00 am to 1:30 pm
- Counselor/Junior Counselor team building and dinner with Colter McCarty 6:00 pm

### **Thursday 7/20**

- VBS 9:00 am to 1:30 pm
- Summer Celebration 6 to 8 pm

### **Friday 7/21**

- Bethel office is closed
- VBS 9:00 am to 1:30 pm

## **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.

**ON HOLD UNTIL SEPTEMBER**

### **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](mailto:terry.korpela@gmail.com).

**On hold until the fall.**

### **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](mailto:bethelgf.pastor@gmail.com) to be added to the mailing list.

