

Bethel Notes

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Sunday, November 12, 2023

24th Sunday after Pentecost

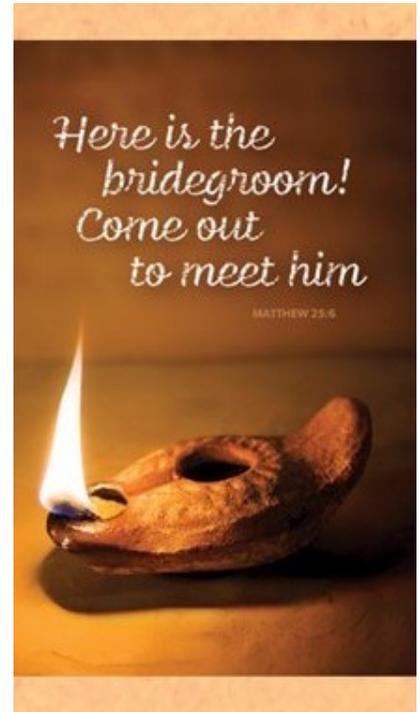
Today the prophet Amos calls for justice to roll down like waters. Paul urges us to encourage one another with the promised coming of the Lord. Jesus tells the parable of the wise and foolish bridesmaids. Surrounded by the faithful of every time and place, we celebrate Christ's coming in our midst in the word of life and the feast of victory—the marriage feast of the lamb.

First Reading: Amos 5:18-24

Psalm 70

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

Gospel: Matthew 25:1-13



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



Serving This Sunday

Musicians:

Mary Seim, piano

Lay Assistant:

Walt Nuessle

Usher:

Sara Sexe

Tech:

Gabe Smith

Children's Church:

Tyler Grosenick

Julia Elkin

Counters:

Pam Dougherty

Sara Sexe

Hospitality:

Sandi Cummings

THIS SUNDAY AT BETHEL...

We celebrate the **24th Sunday after Pentecost**.

We lift up **ELCA World Hunger** and receive an additional offering in the wicker basket.

A prayer for Veteran's Day.

Dear Lord, we honor our veterans, worthy men and women who gave and continue to give their best when called upon to serve and protect our country. We pray that you will bless them for their unselfish service to preserve our freedoms, our safety, and our country's heritage.

In Jesus name we pray, Amen.

Join us in the Fellowship Hall following worship as we continue our **Adult Education** on the first season of *The Chosen*.



Requesting Your Prayers

- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Renate Weldele**, *Christy Virts' mother*, who is home recovering after a recent hospitalization.
- ✝ 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** his response to cancer treatment has been positive, however some complications has developed as a result of the treatment.
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Tim Olson**, who is undergoing medical testing and awaiting results.
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **John Korpela** who is home recovering from a recent hospitalization.
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Eric Peterson**, former *Bethel member*, who has been going through cancer treatment and has experienced a set back with his diagnosis.
- ✝ Prayers of continued support for **Carmen Goodhart**, *Bernice Johnson's granddaughter*, and **Bernice Johnson** that they continue to work to find safe and affordable housing for Carmen and support for her health.
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Anita Short**, *Thelma Seyfert's niece*, as she rehabbing in the hospital from a bilateral brain hematoma.
- ✝ Prayers of support for **Kathi Bisgard** who is recovering at home from surgery.
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Harper Spurzem**, 8 year old student at Ulm School, receiving chemotherapy treatment for Hodgkin's Lymphoma.
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Dick Seim** who home recovering from a recent hospitalization.
- ✝ Prayers of support and comfort for **Pastor Jessie and Jade** as they mourn the loss of their precious baby boy, **Kai Wilder Metzler**.
- ✝ 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 **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 from a serious injury after a fall.
- ✝ 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.

All Saints Sunday, Family Worship and a Potluck!!



Pastor Jessie teaches the LOGOs Youth about All Saints during Children's Message.

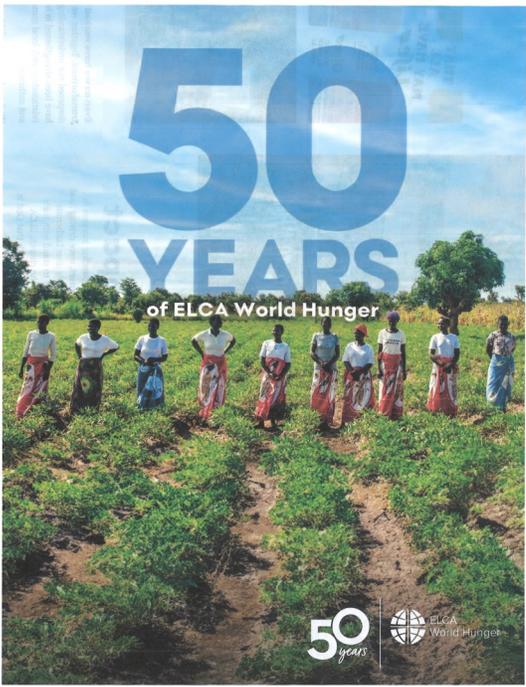


Lighting candles during Sunday's worship service. Anisley Kubas and Patty Braget.



Josie Delorit reads at the pulpit while Greta Graft, Anna Boucher and Kari Ryan wait for their readings.





Growth at the crossroads

At this moment of celebration and reflection, let us pause and consider what comes next. The challenges we face are constantly evolving; so are the ways in which we respond, and we know that our commitment to action is needed now more than ever.

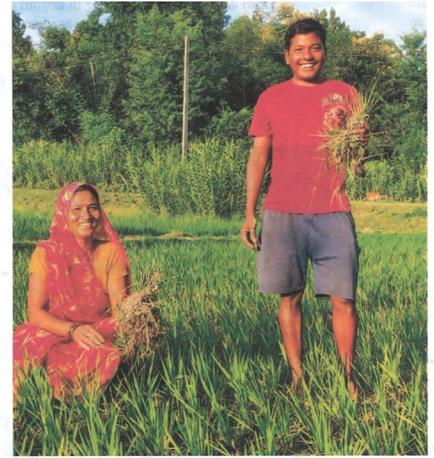
Over the last 50 years, we have learned that, to secure the justice first identified in the 1974 hunger appeal, we must focus on the root causes of hunger and how they intersect. In the years ahead, with your support, ELCA World Hunger will further invest in holistic, integrated work at these intersections, because they are where we find the complex injustices giving rise to food insecurity and malnutrition. Also, by providing support for integrated projects, we can ensure that our partners can remain agile in responding to changes in their contexts, such as a disaster or sudden economic shift.

In our 50th year we are making a bold commitment to increase our support of programs around the world. To do this, we need your help. Your investment is imperative to the program's continued response and growth alongside a changing world.

Whether you are new to the program, have been involved in the past or make ELCA World Hunger part of your annual giving, there are many ways to commemorate this milestone, including:

Join others in increasing your support to the program in honor of this anniversary.

Endow your annual gift to sustain the program for years to come.



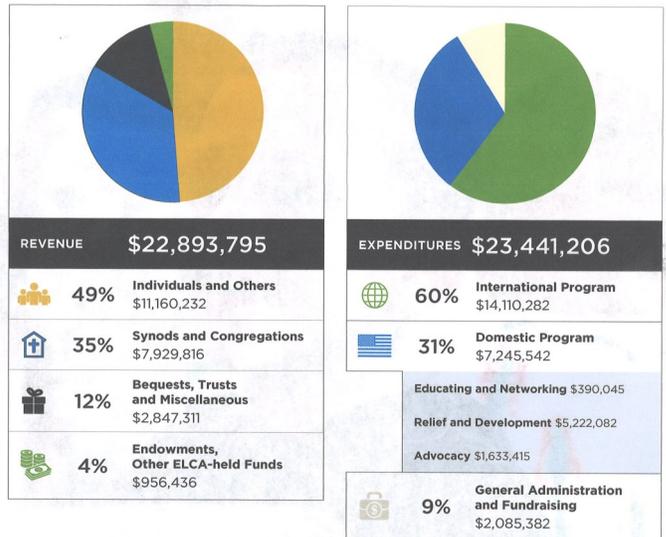
Lutheran Disaster Response

2022 FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

REVENUE \$24,053,531		HIGHLIGHTED EXPENDITURES	
BY SOURCE		UNITED STATES	
60%	Individuals and Others \$14,353,887	34%	Severe Storms, Floods and Other Disasters \$1,277,500
40%	Synods and Congregations \$9,699,644	25%	Tornadoes \$932,900
BY DESIGNATION		16%	Hurricanes \$581,720
65%	Specific Designated Support \$15,589,391	10%	Wildfires \$351,801
35%	General Undesignated Support \$8,464,140	7%	Program Management Services, Network Consultation \$273,313
EXPENDITURES \$15,363,575		6%	Capacity Building \$210,665
BY TYPE		2%	Migration Ministries \$87,075
65%	International \$10,043,240	INTERNATIONAL	
29%	United States \$4,390,454	5%	Global Grants \$495,000
6%	Fundraising and Administration \$929,881	48%	Europe and Middle East (invasion of Ukraine, refugee crisis) \$4,884,563
EXPENDITURES \$15,363,575		19%	Latin America and Caribbean (earthquake, flood, COVID-19, drought, hurricane, migrants — including AMMPARO) \$1,851,243
BY FUND		13%	Africa (drought, conflict, health crisis, hurricane, refugee crisis) \$1,331,104
50%	Specific Designated Support \$7,654,459	9%	Asia (flood, disaster preparedness, hurricane, refugee crisis) \$936,342
50%	General Undesignated Support \$7,709,116	6%	Operations \$544,988

ELCA World Hunger

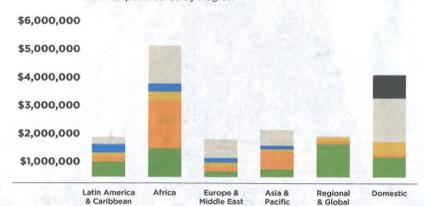
2022 FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS



ELCA WORLD HUNGER Grants by Sector



ELCA WORLD HUNGER Grant Expenditures by Region





Cat vs Griz
Annual Thanksgiving Food Drive
Saturday, November 11th
9:00 am to 7:00 pm
Albertson's on 10th Ave South



**SCAN HERE
 TO VOLUNTEER**



Lutefisk & Meatball Dinner
Sunday November 12th, 2023
Bethel Lutheran Church
307 2nd Ave, Joplin, MT
12:00 to 3:00

Lutefisk, meatballs, lefse, boiled potatoes, salad bar and Scandinavian cookies

Youth 15 yrs. to Adults ~ \$22.00
 Children 9 -14 yrs. ~ \$12.00
 Children 3-8 yrs. ~ \$5.00
 3 yrs. & younger ~ free

Lefse for sale
 - while it lasts -

Profits will be used for new church siding.

Great Falls Drama Club Proudly Presents
MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM
By William Shakespeare

NOVEMBER 2-4 AND 9-11
THURSDAY AND FRIDAY AT 7:30PM
SATURDAY AT 2:00PM

Tickets are \$5 for Students and \$8 for Adults

FOLLOW US ON INSTA @GREATFALLSDRAMA

GOSPEL MESSAGE

November 12, 2023

24th Sunday after Pentecost

Enough and Never Enough

Both the harsh words of the prophet Amos and the parable of the bridesmaids are scenes of anger—not pointless, misdirected frustration, but a prophetic call for change, a passionate plea that we redirect our focus. Sometimes, Amos says, anger is a result of not being heard. And sometimes, Jesus says, anger comes from fear of not being enough, not having enough, not doing enough. But being a child of God comes as a gift from God, who has poured out God’s justice and righteousness on us in abundance so that we may care about those who are lacking.

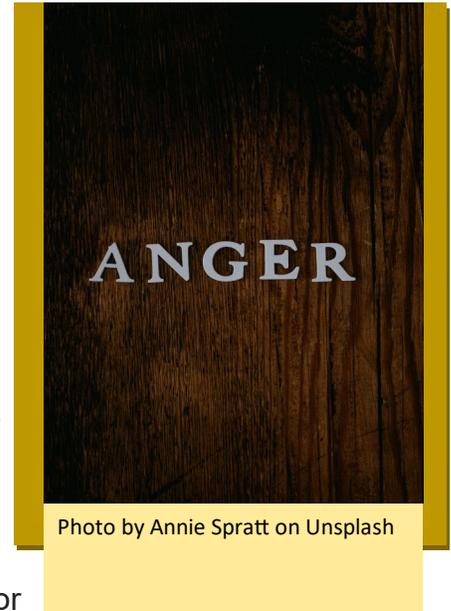
What good is worship, Amos asks, if it doesn’t change your lives—or that of your neighbors? What good is worship if it does not spur us to make justice happen for our siblings? The anger we encounter in Amos is of the righteous kind, the kind intended to call us to action.

In contrast, the anger expressed in the parable of the bridesmaids is that born of fear. Who ever said that the bridegroom would not admit maidens who ran out of oil? Both the bridesmaids described as wise and those described as foolish are angry because of fear of missing out. Jesus is the light of the world, and so are you, he says (John 8:12; Matthew 5:14). But when your light grows dim and tired, exhausted and weary, and you cannot see the road ahead, his light will guide the way.

How different this parable might be if the bridesmaids with oil had shared their oil. *If you are not ready*, they might have said, *let us show you how to be prepared*. What good is the kingdom of heaven if we have not lived our lives in such a way as to light the pathway for others? What good is worship if we leave the building unmoved by the cries for justice all around us?

From sundaysandseasons.com.

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Just for *YOU*th

Ready and waiting

Matthew 25:1-13

Jesus told many parables about the kingdom of heaven. Find this parable in Matthew.

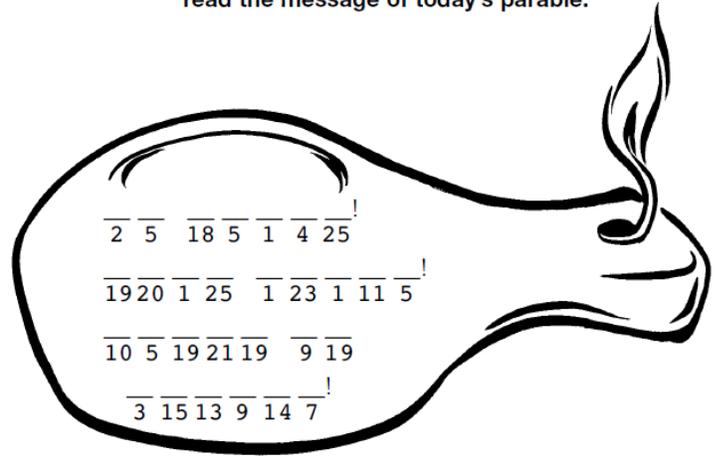
Fill in the blanks with the correct numbers and read the story quietly.

_____  took their oil  and went to meet the . _____ were wise and filled their  with oil. _____ weren't wise, and didn't fill their  with oil. It got to be late at night, and the _____  fell asleep. Suddenly, at _____ midnight, the  arrived. The _____ wise  lit their oil  and went in to the wedding banquet with the . The _____ not-so-wise  couldn't light their , so they couldn't go to the wedding banquet. Jesus says we should be like the _____ wise  and be ready!

 = bridesmaids  = groom  = lamps

Crack the code

Use the code at the bottom of the page to read the message of today's parable.



A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26

This Week...

Light a candle during dinner, and thank God for the day.

All is ready!

The five bridesmaids who were ready had lamps filled with oil. Find them and color their lamps.



Advent is coming soon. In Advent we get ready for Jesus' coming. How do you celebrate Advent? What do you do to get ready for baby Jesus?



Lord, help us to be ready when you come. Amen.

Welcome to worship. Getting ready for worship takes time. What do you at home? On the way? At church?

You can begin at home by preparing your offering or

On the way to church you can notice God's beautiful world or

Inside your worship space you can say a prayer or

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Tuesday 11/14

- Electric City Bible Study, Zoom meeting 7:00 am
- Men's Breakfast in the Fellowship Hall 7:00 am
- Council meeting in the Fellowship Hall 6:30 pm

Wednesday 11/15

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

Thursday 11/16

- Hope Circle at the Korpela's 7:00 pm
- Electric City Chorale Concert at United Methodist church 7:00 pm

Friday 11/17

- Bethel office is closed.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday 11/19

- Worship led by Pastor Jessie Obrecht in-person and live stream 9:30 am
- Adult Education, The Chosen to follow worship

Tuesday 11/21

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

Wednesday 11/22

- Bible Study on Zoom led by Pastor Jessie Obrecht
- No LOGOs Youth Ministry

Thursday 11/23

- Happy Thanksgiving the Bethel Office is closed

Friday 11/24

- Bethel office is closed.

Holiday Bazar Fundraiser December 10th

Looking for crafters and bakers to donate items for our Holiday Bazar after worship on December 10th. This is a fundraiser for VBS 2024. For more information talk with Laurie Turner or Tami Grosenick.

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.

November 16th, 7:00 pm at Korpela'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.