

# BETHEL NOTES

## THIS SUNDAY

### Readings:

*First Reading:*  
Acts 4:5-12

*Psalm:*  
Psalm 23

*Second Reading:*  
1 John 3:1-7

*Gospel Reading:*  
John 10:11-18



## Serving Sunday

### Accompanist

Connie Titcomb, piano;

### Lay Assistant

Josie Delorit

### Usher

Shannon Marr

### Tech

Gabe Smith

### Projection

Warren Johnson

### Children's Church

Julia Elkin

Ava Fossen

### Hospitality

Sandy Pepos

### Counters

Stephanie Cummings

Shannon Marr

## This Sunday at Bethel...

We celebrate the **Fourth Sunday of Easter**.

We welcome and thank **Pastor Brenda Frelsi for preaching and presiding** in worship this Sunday. Join us after worship for a Q&A on the Call Process.

Thank you to **The Jubilate Choir led by Jeff Skogley** for singing in worship.

After Pastor Brenda's talk this Sunday we continue our **Adult Forum** on the second season of The Chosen.

Next Sunday, April 28<sup>th</sup> we will be joining Redeemer Lutheran Church for **Confirmation Worship service** at Redeemer, 332 Riverview 3 W, 10:00 am Pastor Steve VanGilder will be preaching and presiding. No worship at Bethel that day. Potluck for the Confirmands at Redeemer following the service.

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

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*Lord,  
in your mercy  
hear our prayers.*



- ✝ Prayers of continued healing for **Eric Peterson** as he receives chemotherapy that has slowed the progression of cancer growth.
- ✝ Prayers of strength and support for **Don Bisgard** as he has a recurrence of cancer and they determine best treatment options.
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Georgia Miller**, *cousin of Amber Erickson's*, as she has been going through treatment for breast cancer and is doing well. Hoping to only have a couple more treatments to go.
- ✝ Prayers of healing and health for **Seth Boucher** who is recovering from surgery.
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Sharon Bossie** as she manages chemotherapy treatments.
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Kathleen**, *friend of Dena Wagner-Fossen*, as she is in the hospital and awaiting next steps.
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Broc Cole**, *child of a friend of Ali Morris*, as he battles lymphoma.
- ✝ Prayers of support and healing for **Cindy Considine** as she continues to recover from a car accident.
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Corey Korpela** who is going through treatment for prostate cancer.
- ✝ Prayers of positive results for **Tim Olson**, as he has one follow up medical test, post cancer treatment.
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Shannon Obrecht**, *family friend of Karen Lord*, as she manages treatment for cancer.
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Kristin**, *Bobbie Bowen's daughter*, as she continues treatment for cancer.
- ✝ 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 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.





## Confirmation Worship 2024

This year at LOGOs the Redeemer youth have joined our Confirmation Classes. Over this past year they have grown together in faith and friendship. In planning for their Confirmation ceremony, they unanimously wished to be confirmed together.

In honor of their wish and in solidarity with Redeemer Lutheran Church who is also without a pastor, we will be holding Confirmation Worship service at Redeemer Lutheran Church, **Sunday April 28th at 10:00 am** with a potluck at Redeemer to follow.

Pastor Steve VanGilder will be preaching and presiding for this service and will be confirming Josie Delorit and Jeremiah Mueller for Bethel. He will be confirmation Teagan Hegdal and Emma and Julia Woldtvedt for Redeemer.

During this time of change and transition, we are thrilled to join our sister church in celebrating these young people and their choice to confirm their faith.

There will not be a service at Bethel that Sunday, April 28th. Livestream may be viewed on The Redeemer Lutheran Church Facebook Page.



NRIT Digital Courses

### **Lutheran Theology 1.0**

**with Dr. Laurie Jungling**

Even though “theology” sounds like a scary word, it is actually something we all do every day as we explore questions about how God engages our lives. Lutheran Theology 1.0 will dig down to the roots of the basic Lutheran beliefs and understandings of God’s activity in our lives, as well as how Christ and the Spirit work in and through the Church.

**Cost: \$10 (all proceeds go toward supporting the LPA (LMA) program for training lay leaders in congregations)**

### **Introduction to the Old Testament:**

**with Dr. Michael Chan**

The Old Testament is challenging literature for Christian leaders. This course will persuade students that the Old Testament is not only a helpful companion in ministry, but that it is also invaluable.

**Cost: \$70**

### **An Introduction to the New Testament**

**with Dr. James Ageson**

The New Testament documents are central to the Christian faith and to historic Christianity. By ecumenical consensus among all Christian traditions, the New Testament is central to the faith, life, and worship of the church. It is the word of God and it conveys the word of God. Even as the New Testament is central to all Christian traditions, interpretations of these texts often vary widely.

**\$75 to purchase class**

For more information on these classes or to register go to [montanasynod.org/nrit](http://montanasynod.org/nrit)



# April News

# Family Promise

## of Great Falls

April is shaping up to be a busy month here at Family Promise Great Falls. We have several different opportunities for the community to engage with us this month. In the office things have been busy, the need for our services is only increasing steadily. Between low wages, high rent prices, and limited availability of housing, we've seen many new faces at our door. It's good to be able to help, but the trends that we're seeing are distressing to say the very least. We'll keep helping as much as we can, but we hope that those that care will continue to support us. Every little bit helps, whether it's a donation of goods or volunteering, or a small monetary donation. Every act of kindness is passed on, and we'll be here working hard to help as many children as possible.

### **Family Promise Giving Day**

April 11th is National Family Promise Giving Day. This donation drive is an online event, and you can find more information on our Facebook page (Family Promise Great Falls). We appreciate every donation, and our personal philosophy is that no donation is ever too small. We appreciate every penny, and everything that is donated goes towards helping homeless children and their families.

### **#GiveGreatFallsWeek**

Give Great Falls Week is fast approaching on April 29th, and this is another great online event that allows you to show your support for our mission to end childhood homelessness. We understand that there's a lot going on this month and maybe you don't have time to make it to the SOC HOP, so here's yet another opportunity for you to show your support. No donation is ever too small, and we appreciate every penny that comes our way. Last year, your donations were amazing, and we raised \$1,905 and took #11 out of 55 registered non-profit organizations. We have lofty goals this year and want to crack the top #10!

### **A plea for help**

This afternoon in our office, we spoke to 7 different families in need of assistance who are coming to Great Falls from out of town. This is a pattern we've seen before, but only in much larger numbers now. Montana is an attractive place to live and raise children, but the families that show up at our door are in crisis. They're coming here for opportunities for better jobs, cleaner air, or some to escape abusive situations. We rely on donors and supporters, like you, to continue to serve these families. If we could increase our shelter capacity, then we'd be able to serve even more families with the shelter services they so desperately seek. Our focus this year is just that, to serve even more families and find a second shelter site to be able to do so. If you happen to know a landlord that would be interested in working with us to open a second shelter site, please let us know by contacting Tiffany at [Tiffanyw@familypromisegf.org](mailto:Tiffanyw@familypromisegf.org).





## Family Promise Needs List for April:

- Food/groceries
- Coffee go cups
- Kleenex
- Office supplies
- Dollar Store gift cards
- Uber gift cards
- Post it notes (all sizes)
- Cleaning supplies
- Bathroom cleaning supplies
- Mops/brooms/dust pans
- Fly swatters
- Light gloves (all sizes)
- 8 ½ x 11 cardstock
- Vacuum cleaner for the shelter (used is fine)
- Clorox wipes

Items may be dropped off at Bethel or the Hub back entrance of Central Christian Church, 1019 Central Avenue.

## What's Happening At Camp...

### Mother's Day Brunch

May 12th 9:30 am – 2:00 pm

### Memorial Day Work Weekend and Family Retreat

May 24th 5:00 pm to May 27th 1:00 pm

Free weekend to get the camp ready for the summer!

### Women's Retreat with Pastor Julia Seymour

June 7th–9th

Join Pastor Julia Seymour as we journey through the fruits of the Spirit and Bible Stories where “being nice” was not enough.

Come deepen your understanding of being a disciple and strengthen your hope and trust in God.

### Choir Camp

June 23rd–June 28th

Sing sing sing the morning away! Learn skills from professional music teachers to improve your style, projection, and skill. Spend the afternoon with your cabin group enjoying swimming, Bible study, ropes course, and more! The 11 am closing on Friday is a performance for your family and friends.

### Summer Family Weekend

July 12th–14th

Join us for our designated Family Weekend! All friends and families are welcome. Adventure in the water, through the woods or just to the Art Barn while enjoying time with family and friends. Adult Bible study, Youth activities, worship, and more!

To register for these events or to get more information about all events available this summer go to [flbc.net](http://flbc.net).

**SHAKE RATTLE & ROLL**  
Proceeds Benefit Homeless Families

**APRIL 27 – 5:30-10 PM**

**SOC HOP**

Serving our Community ★ Honoring our Promise

**ELKS CLUB**  
Tickets: \$50  
Inquire about table options  
1019 Central Ave  
10-4 p.m. M-Th; 10-2 p.m. F or online at  
[www.familypromisegf.org](http://www.familypromisegf.org)  
406-564-5267

**DINNER**  
Classic '50s Fare  
By Clark and Lewie's  
DJ: Caleb Ford  
**SILENT AUCTION**

# GOSPEL MESSAGE

## Always Room for One More

When Jesus says “I am” in the Gospel of John, he unlocks a new perspective on his love. In today’s reading, when Jesus declares, “I am the good shepherd,” we can imagine our Lord caring for us and guiding us.

We picture ourselves as his sheep. It’s reassuring to hear that we aren’t alone to navigate the dangers and challenges of this world. We have a loving shepherd who is looking out for us.

Jesus loves us so much that he goes above and beyond the shepherd’s role as a caretaker. He gives up his own life so our sins can be forgiven and we can receive eternal life. That’s what being a good shepherd means—having such a close relationship with the sheep that the shepherd will stop at nothing to protect them. The shepherd will lay down his own life so his sheep can have life.

When we hear Jesus’ promise to be our good shepherd, we must not miss his commitment to gather up the sheep that aren’t yet part of his flock. They, too, will listen to Jesus’ voice. Responding to his loving call, they will become part of the one flock that follows Jesus as their good shepherd, their Savior, and their Lord. No matter how many sheep are already jostling for space, there is always room for one more. Just like there is always room at our holy communion table for one more person to eat the bread, drink the wine, and receive the gifts of God’s mercy and grace. We can always squeeze closer to the sheep around us to let one or more sheep enter Jesus’ flock, thankful that the flock is growing and that we get to listen to the loving voice of our good shepherd, together.

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## Join Men's Breakfast Tuesdays at 7:00 AM





# JUST 4 YOUTH

## The Good Shepherd

John 10:11-18

Jesus is the Good Shepherd. He knows our names, cares for us, and looks for us when we're lost. Jesus is always with us.

Search the valley for 23 hidden sheep. (Can you find more?) What do you think their names might be?



Welcome to worship. Today is the fourth Sunday of Easter, and we are reminded just how much we are loved. Who loves you?

Find all those who love you in the word search below...

MOM DAD GRANDMA GRANDPA BROTHERS  
SISTERS NEIGHBORS GOD JESUS PASTORS  
TEACHERS AUNTS UNCLES COUSINS FRIENDS

A M D N A R G B J Q P S  
P O K C D B J Z E M O T  
A M F O S R E T S I S N  
S U R U G O D X U H D U  
T Y I S C T W L S N A A  
O N E I G H B O R S D P  
R Q N N T E A C H E R S  
S M D S G R A N D P A U  
K E S G B S E L C N U L



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### Tuesday 4/23

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

### Wednesday 4/24

- 8<sup>th</sup> grade confirmation class in the Fellowship Hall 6:30 pm

### Thursday 4/25

- Electric City Bible Chorale rehearsal at 7:00 pm

### Friday 4/26

- Bethel office is closed.
- Aitz Chaim worship 5:30 pm

### Saturday 4/27

- Aitz Chaim Passover Seder 4:30 pm

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Sunday 4/28

- Worship service led by Pastor Steve VanGilder at Redeemer Lutheran Church 332 Riverview 3 W, Confirmation Worship
- Potluck at Redeemer to follow.

### Tuesday 4/30

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

### Wednesday 5/1

- Electric City Chorale rehearsal 7:00 pm

### Friday 5/3

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

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 Tuesday or Thursday afternoons. 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.

**Thursday 4/18, 2:00 pm**

**at Marilyn Carlson's.**

### Preaching And Presiding at Bethel

April 21st	Pastor Brenda Frelsi, Associate to the Bishop
April 28th	<i>No Worship at Bethel, join us at Redeemer Lutheran Church for Confirmation.</i>
May 5th	Pastor Jessica Crist
May 12th	Jim Carlson, LPA
May 19th	Dave Scholten, LPA
May 26th	Jim Carlson, LPA
June 2nd	Hymn Sing led by Patrick and Lynn Ryan
June 9th	Jim Carlson, LPA