

# BETHEL NOTES

## THIS SUNDAY

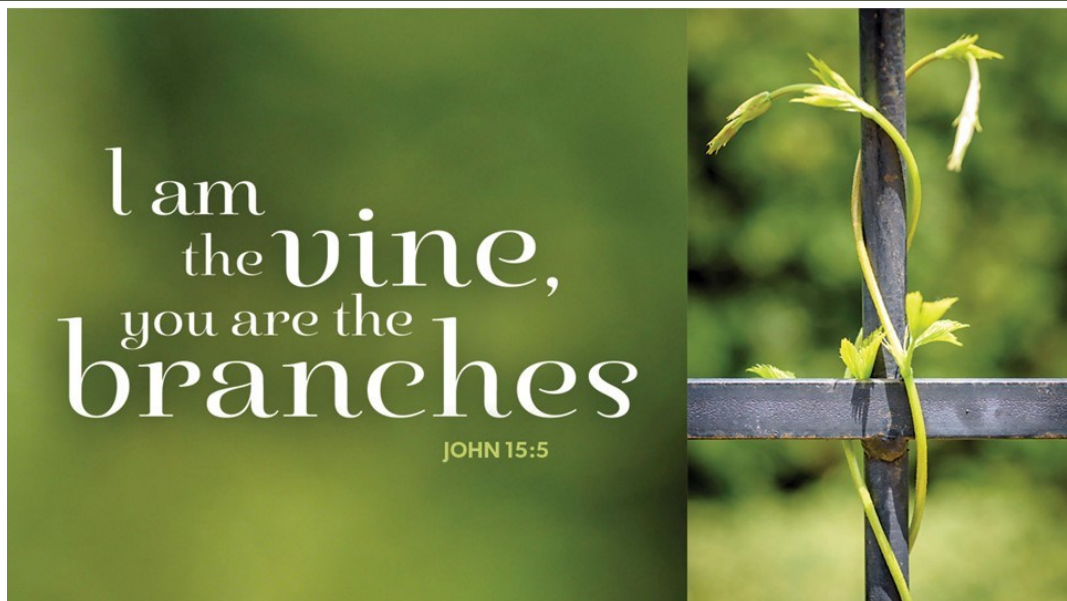
### Readings:

*First Reading:*  
Acts 8:26-40

*Psalm:*  
Psalm 22:25-31

*Second Reading:*  
1 John 4:7-21

*Gospel Reading:*  
John 15:1-8



## Serving Sunday

### Accompanist

Jody Winter

### Lay Assistant

Fran Gossack

### Usher

Betty Stedman

### Hospitality

Pot Luck at Redeemer

### Counters

Greg Grosenick

Tammy Good



## This Sunday at Bethel...

We celebrate the **Fifth Sunday of Easter and Affirmation of Baptism.**

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.

Our **Adult Forum** on the second season of The Chosen on hold this week.

**Join us at 10:00 AM in person  
Redeemer Lutheran Church  
332 Riverview 3 W or  
online on Facebook Live  
Redeemer Lutheran Church.**

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*Lord,  
in your mercy  
hear our prayers.*



- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Kathleen**, *friend of Dena Wagner-Fossen*, as she has been released from the hospital, but still awaiting next steps.
- ✝ 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 **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.

**Reminder! Worship this Sunday  
April 28th is at 10:00 AM at  
Redeemer Lutheran Church 332 Riverview 3W**



## **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. An offering tray for Bethel will be located as you enter the church in the narthex.

Pastor Steve VanGilder will be preaching and presiding for this service and will be confirming **Josie Delorit and Jeramiah 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.

# Yard Sale!!!

**Saturday, May 11th**

**8:00 am to Noon**

**Bethel Lutheran Church Parking Lot**

*All proceeds go to cover travel expenses for the ELCA Youth Gathering!*

## Donations for the Yard Sale Desired!

If you are doing some spring cleaning in your home and have items you would like to donate to the Yard Sale, please bring them to Bethel anytime before May 11th.

If you have larger items or are unable to get the items dropped off, contact Tami in the Bethel Office and we will coordinate a pick up time.

406-761-1543 or 406-788-9587

You may also email

[bethelgf.church@gmail.com](mailto:bethelgf.church@gmail.com)

## SOC HOP This Saturday!!! Don't Be Square...Be There!!!!

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

Family Promise  
FP  
of Great Falls

**APRIL 27 - 5:30-10 PM**

**SOC  
HOP**

Serving our Community ★ Honoring our Promise

<b>ELKS CLUB</b> Tickets: \$50 Inquire about table options 1019 Central Ave 10-4 p.m. M-Th; 10-2 p.m. F or online at <a href="http://www.familypromisegf.org">www.familypromisegf.org</a> 406-564-5267	<b>DINNER</b> Classic '50s Fare By Clark and Lewie's DJ: Caleb Ford <b>SILENT AUCTION</b>
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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 Aageson**

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)



## 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).

# GOSPEL MESSAGE

## Fed by God, Nourished by Christ

Imagine a nursing baby at its mother's breast—what a blissful picture of love, joy, peace, and contentment! This image can help us understand who we are as God's beloved children and how tenderly God cares for us. God's grace is unconditional, just as a mother's milk flows to an infant without anything to do with deserving. In today's gospel reading, the vine-and-branches metaphor is another image of how intimately connected Jesus is with us and how crucial it is that we, the branches, hold on to him as our vine.



"Apart from me," says Jesus, "you can do nothing." Apart from its vine, a branch can do nothing—cannot live long, cannot produce grapes, cannot nourish people and animals. Apart from its mother or another devoted caregiver, a newborn can do nothing—cannot feed itself, cannot become or stay healthy, cannot grow and bear the fruit of life and love for others. Apart from God's love and care, which Christians know in Jesus, the whole web of humanity fails to thrive.

A nursing mother sets her face and does whatever is needed—two or three times a night at first, even through mastitis, weariness, and boredom—to feed and impart life to her little one. Jesus' face is set toward the cross as he shares farewell counsel with his disciples. He, too, is ready and determined to do whatever it takes—even dying on a cross—to sustain the vineyard-world with abundant life.

The imagery of vine and branches, juxtaposed with that of God breastfeeding her babies, comes alive when we celebrate the eucharist. At the table, Jesus feeds us with his own body and blood, pouring life and nourishment into us. We are called to abide in him forever—an invitation to grace-filled, permanent relationship. In Jesus the true vine, we his branches enjoy a continual flow of grace, mercy, and love. In turn, we are energized to bear the fruit of his love, joy, and peace for the world.

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**DID SOMEONE SAY  
VOLUNTEER?!!  
YES!!**

If you are interested in helping with VBS this year, let Tami Grosenick know. We need help with kitchen, arts and crafts, first aid, registration/check in and check out. If you can be there one day or the whole week, we would love to see you!



# JUST 4 YOUTH

## Healthy vine, healthy fruit

Fruit cannot grow unless it is connected to a vine.

Fill this vine with all kinds of healthy fruit.



## Jesus hears our prayers

Jesus hears all of our prayers. Prayers of thanks, prayers for ourselves, prayers for others, and "I'm Sorry" prayers.

What are your prayers today? Write or draw them here.

## Jesus is the true vine

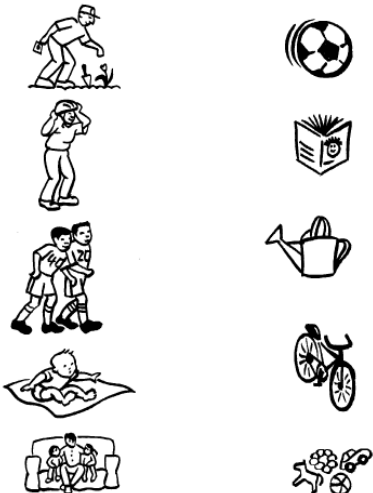
John 15:1-8

Jesus taught his disciples many things when he was with them.



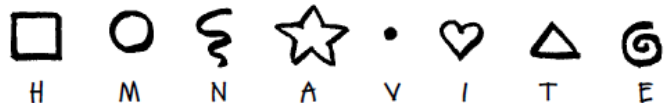
## gather

Welcome to worship. Today is the fifth Sunday of Easter. Look at all the people sitting around you. They are all very different, they all enjoy doing different things, and God loves each of them.



Connect the people with something that will help them be able to do what they enjoy doing.

Match the shapes below to the shapes on the people's shirts above, then write that shape's letter below the person. With all the letters written, find out what Jesus said about himself.



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### 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 Bible Chorale rehearsal at 7:00 pm

### Thursday 5/2

- Exec Board Zoom meeting 6:30 pm

### Friday 5/3

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

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Sunday 5/5

- Family Worship service led by Pastor Jessica Crist and LOGOs Youth Ministry
- Adult Forum Season 2 The Chosen
- 4H Meeting in the Fellowship Hall 2:00 pm

### Tuesday 5/7

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

### Wednesday 5/8

- Electric City Chorale rehearsal 7:00 pm

### Friday 5/10

- Bethel office is closed.

### Saturday 5/11

- ELCA Youth Gathering Yard Sale 8 am to noon
- Handbell Choir rehearsal 10:00 am

## 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.

**Next meeting will be in May.**

### Preaching And Presiding at Bethel

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
June 16th	Dave Scholten, LPA