

BETHEL NOTES

First Sunday in Lent



On Ash Wednesday the church began its journey toward baptismal immersion in the death and resurrection of Christ. This year, the Sundays in Lent lead us to focus on five covenants God makes in the Hebrew Scriptures and to use them as lenses through which to view baptism. First Peter connects the way God saved Noah's family in the flood with the way God saves us through the water of baptism. The baptismal covenant is made with us individually, but the new life we are given in baptism is for the sake of the whole world.

FEBRUARY 18, 2018

This Sunday:

Adult Forum: Animate

Adult Faith formation will convene this morning after worship in the Fellowship Hall. We will begin the Animate curriculum developed by Spark House Publishing. We will begin with the faith practice of prayer, explored by Brian McLaren and us. Come and dive in!

Readings:

Genesis 9:8-17

Psalm 25:1-10

1 Peter 3:18-22

Serving This Sunday

Accompanist:

Lay Assistant:

Usher(s):

Projectionist:

Counters:

Nursery:

Lynn Ryan

Anne Vannatta

Shari Kohoutek & Sue Reppe

Tim Lightbourne

Tim Lightbourne & Grant Smith

Kaleb Stringer



LENTEN

Calendar & Events

February 22 - Soup Supper Host: Bethel Council

Creation (Genesis 1: 1 - 2:4a)

Pastor Steve Van Gilder -

The resurrection of Jesus Christ is the beginning of life for us all. Just as the creator God forms the earth out of chaotic waters and shines light onto primeval darkness, so the resurrection of Christ pulls us from death through baptism into fruitful life with all the good earth and enlightens our life in Christ.

March 1 -Soup Supper Host: Close Knit Group & Men's Breakfast

Flood (Genesis 7: 1 - 5, 11 - 18; 8: 6 - 18; 9: 8 - 13)

Jim Carlson, LPA

In the story of the flood, God re-creates the world by sending forty days of rain to destroy all that is evil. In the resurrection of Christ, God is making all things new, and in our baptism, we are cleansed and brought to new life.

March 8 - Soup Supper Host: LOGOS

Deliverance at the Red Sea (Exodus 14: 10 -31; 15: 20 - 21)

Dave Scholten, LPA

In this archetypal story, God vanquishes evil and liberates the oppressed. By the resurrection, God liberates us from slavery to sin and brings us through the waters of baptism to safety.

March 15 - Soup Supper Host: Bethel Bunch

Valley of the Dry Bones (Ezekiel 37: 1 - 14)

Steve Smith, LPA

For Christians, the valley of the dry bones can be interpreted in various ways: a picture of the resurrection of Jesus Christ, a promise about the baptized life, and a hint of the final resurrection of the dead. In the action of God, the Word, and the Spirit, Christians see also a picture of the Triune God.

March 22 - Soup Supper Host: Hope Circle

Deliverance from the fiery furnace (Daniel 3: 1 - 29) Shirley Cayko, LPA

For each of us there will be a time when we are engulfed by fire. Because of the resurrection of Christ, we can be confident that the Son of God will be with us, no matter what or where the furnace.



Maunday Thursday

Liturgy, March 29th at 7:00 pm

**Holy Communion; Jubilate Choir

Good Friday

Liturgy, March 30th at 7:00 pm

**Jubilate Choir

Easter Vigil

Liturgy, March 31st at 7:00 pm

**Holy Communion & Feast of Milk & Honey

(Ice cream sundaes)



In June Kaleb Stringer and Lillie Erickson will be joining 30,000 ELCA Youth in Houston Texas for fun, fellowship, and faith. We are so excited to support these young adults in their dream of attending this exciting and inspiring event, but it takes a village as they say. To kick off the fundraising to help send Kaleb and Lillie to Houston we are selling stock in their adventure. You may purchase the stock for \$5.00 per share and buy as many shares as you like! What does this get you? I am glad you asked! As well as the pleasure of supporting these youth you also get an invitation to a Post Gathering Brunch when they return, where you will get to hear all about their travels as they feed you a hearty thank you brunch. Lillie and Kaleb will be selling these shares beginning this Sunday and after that you may purchase from them, their families or Tami Grosenick, Ministry Coordinator. We will be selling stock through the end of February. Thank you in advance we will see you on Sunday!



Volunteers Needed!

We are looking for volunteers to help with Lester Oakland's memorial service. We are expecting 150 guests with reception to follow. Sons of Norway are bringing the meat and cheese trays. If you would like to bring a salad or dessert or help with set up on Friday evening, please contact Tami Grosenick at (406) 788-9587 or bethelmc.church@gmail.com



- A memorial service for Harold Bossie will be at 2:00 p.m. on **Saturday, February 17th** at O'Connor Memorial Chapel. Arrangements are in the care of O'Connor Funeral Home.
- A Celebration of Life will be held for Lester Oakland on **Saturday, February 24th** at 11:00 a.m. here at Bethel. A reception will follow in the Gathering Place.



During the Sundays in Lent, beginning on February 18th, (after worship, done by noon) we will take time to explore some faith practices, using the *animate* curriculum developed by Spark House Publishing. The format is a ten minute video presentation, made by pastors, and authors who will reflect on the practices of *prayer* (Brian McLaren), *food* (Sara Miles), *money* (Shane Claiborne), *worship* (Mike Slaughter) and *service* (Enuma Okoro). There will be questions for follow up discussion. Pastor Steve will facilitate. We will begin with the faith practice of prayer, explored by Brian McLaren and us. Come and dive in!

PRAYER REQUESTS

We are here to pray for you!



Prayers for *Marj Vander Aarde* as she recovers from surgery. Also for her sister, *Jann DeGroot*, who is battling cancer.

Prayers for healing for *Ryan Pottratz* (son of Ed and Myra Pottratz and grandson of Sue Hesse).

Prayers for *April (daughter of Sharon Pulfrey)* as she prepares for surgery on Feb 15th. Also for Sharon as she recovers from hospitalization.

Prayers for the family of *Harold Bossie* (Sharon, Paul & Jen, and Seth & Rebecca Boucher) as they grieve his passing.

Prayers for *Ed Pottratz and family*.

Prayers for *Todd Whitted* (nephew of Bobbie Bowen).

Prayers for *Anne Trunkle* (friend of Dean Wagner-Fossen) in hospice care. Also prayers for Dena's sister, *Trina*.

Prayers for the family of *Vivian Dahl (sister of Bernice Johnson)* as they grieve her death.

Prayers for *Shelly Murphy*.

Prayers for healing for *Arlena Crandell's son Mike*.

Prayers for *Whitnee Schuler* and family as they grieve the loss of her husband Lee.

Prayers for *Velma Oakland* and family as they grieve the loss of her husband Lester.

Prayers of thanksgiving to God for the birth of a granddaughter, *Morgan Nicole* to grandmother, Carol Berg and parents, Matt & Ashley (Carol's daughter) Dougherty.

Prayers of thanksgiving to God for the baptism this Sunday (at St. Paul's Lutheran in Missoula) of *Bristol Baxter*, granddaughter of Kristine Voorhees, parents Bridget & Marcus Baxter.

This Week at Bethel

Monday 2/19:

- Boy Scout Troop 1028 meeting at 6:30pm in the Gathering Place.
- Office closed in observance of President's Day.

Tuesday 2/20:

- Bible Study at Electric City Coffee at 6:30am.
- Men's Breakfast at 6:00am in the Fellowship Hall.

Wednesday 2/21:

- LOGOS begins at 5:30pm

Wednesday 2/21 - Friday 2/23:

- Montana Rural Water training workshops in the Fellowship Hall.

Thursday 2/22:

- Cub Scout Troop 1028 Blue and Gold Banquet in the Gathering Place from 5:30pm to 8pm.
- Lenten Soup Supper hosted by the Bethel Council at 6:15pm followed by Worship at 7pm in the Fellowship Hall.

Saturday 2/24:

- Memorial service for Lester Oakland at 10am in the sanctuary. Reception will follow in the Gathering Place.

Coming Up....

Sunday 2/25-Sunday 3/4:

- Bethel hosts Family Promise.

Saturday 3/3:

- FLBC Day Camp workshops from 9am-5pm.

Thursday 3/8 - Tuesday 3/13:

- Pastor Steve out of the office on vacation.

Sunday 3/11:

- Pastor Steve Nelson will be preaching and presiding over worship.



Pastor Steve Van Gilder
Administrative Assistant, Sarah Farris
Bookkeeper, Bonnie Sears
Ministry Coordinator, Tami Grosenick

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