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BETHEL NOTES



Eighth Sunday After Pentecost

When Amos told what he saw when God held up the plumb line of justice next to Israel—that the poor were being trampled—he was a threat to the power of priests and king. John the Baptist also spoke truth to power, and Herod had him beheaded. In Herod's fear that Jesus is John returned from the dead, we may hear hope for the oppressed: that all the prophets killed through the ages are alive in Jesus. We are called to witness to justice in company with them.

Readings:

Amos 7:7-15
Ephesians 1:3-14
Mark 6:14-29



Jan DeGroot (sister of Marj Vander Aarde) who is battling cancer.

Ed Pottratz and family.

Todd Whitted (nephew of Bobbie Bowen).

Shelly Murphy

Dick Seim as he recovers from heart surgery.

Katie Smith (daughter of Grant & Janet Smith) who is on a summer mission trip to Asia with InterVarsity.

Kurt Hesse (brother of Don Hesse)

Ardis Scholten (mother of Dave Scholten) who is in hospice care.

Jane O'Brien (mother of Carrie O'Brien)

Faith Crouch (granddaughter of Bernice Johnson) who is awaiting a double lung transplant.

Bob Walker (brother of Colleen Walker-Nelson) who is recovering from surgery.

Fern Myhre who was recently hospitalized.

All of the young adults and adult leaders from our community attending the 2018 ELCA Youth Gathering in Houston.

Walt and Leone Nuessle as they mourn the death of Walt's aunt Ruth.

Andrea (Radue) Johnson as she mourns the death of her father, Kelly Radue.

JoAnn (mother of Sara Sexe)

Leroy Dicon (Amber Erickson's father) who is hospitalized.

Serving this Sunday

Accompanist:
Mary Seim

Lay Assistant:
Sandy Pepos

Usher(s):
Bob & Marj Vander Aarde

Projectionist:
Dean Amor

Counters:
Stephanie Cummings
Donna Vinnedge

Nursery
Attendant(s):
Heather Farris

Sunday

July 15

SERMON SERIES TODAY WE WILL BEGIN A SIX WEEK SERMON SERIES ON THE LECTIONARY READINGS FROM THE LETTER TO THE EPHESIANS. THE SERMON SERIES IS TITLED: GOD'S EXTRAORDINARY CHURCH.

ADULT FORUM IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL AFTER WORSHIP. WE WILL HAVE A DEEPER CONVERSATION ABOUT TODAY'S LECTIONARY READINGS AND THEIR IMPLICATIONS FOR OUR MISSION AND MINISTRY. 2 LED BY PASTOR STEVE.

PASTOR STEVE'S MESSAGE

“We are the Church, the body of our Lord, we are all God’s children. We have been restored.”

chorus from ‘The Church Song’ words by Jay Beech

We will be singing this praise song in worship this Sunday to remind us of who we are. We are the church ! The song goes on to say that the church is not just a building nor a business, committee or board. But it is all God’s people who have been, as Martin Luther writes, “Called, gathered, enlightened and made holy (by the Holy Spirit through the gospel). This song will launch us into our theme for the next several weeks: *God’s Extraordinary Church*. Since the second reading from our lectionary for the next several weeks is from the Letter to the Ephesians, I have decided to do a sermon series on the church’s divine origins and the lessons which can guide us in our being the church in the world, today.

The apostle Paul was a church planter whose journeys took him to cities around the Aegean Sea. The book of Acts (chapters 18-20) tells us that Paul visited the city of Ephesus, (now Western Turkey) briefly, on his second missionary journey and he returned for a longer stay (2-3 years) on his third missionary journey. The letter to the Ephesians is full of powerful insights meant to inspire not only the first recipients but also churches and leaders past, present and future. The letter to the Ephesians tells us that the church is Spirit born ~ called together, built by God. It is filled with many words which are employed by those in the building and construction trades: *plan* (God’s), *foundation* (of faith), *chief cornerstone* (Jesus Christ), *ownership* (God’s), *walls* (of separation), and *grounded* (in Christ). The author of Ephesians understood the need for the community of faith to focus on developing authentic relationships with God and one another.

This Sunday we will learn that the unconditional love of God, in Christ Jesus our Lord, has been lavishly and freely given to us/all and it is foundational to building God’s church. God’s love, in Christ, changes everything ! Here is the sermon series outline:

Week One (July 15) Ephesians 1: 3 – 14 *Built on the Foundation of Love*

Week Two (July 22) Ephesians 2: 11 – 22 *Built Without Dividing Walls*

Week Three (July 29) Ephesians 3: 14 – 21 *Built Beyond Measure*

Week Four (August 5) Ephesians 4: 1 – 16 *Built as One*

Week Five (August 12) Ephesians 4: 25 – 5:2 *Built Up to Make for Peace*

Week Six (August 19) Ephesians 5: 15 – 20 *Built to Live in God’s Way*

Week Seven (August 26) Ephesians 6: 10 – 20 *Built to Withstand*

“We are the Church, the body of our Lord, we are all God’s children. We have been restored.”

Redeemed, chosen, forgiven, lavished with grace and love in Christ Jesus....may we be God’s Extraordinary Church ‘to the praise of God’s glory !’

Pastor Steve

YOUTH AND FAMILY

VBS Help Needed

We are moving closer to our Vacation Bible School Week where we will be hosting around 100 young campers ages 3 to 12 as well as Flathead Counselors and Junior Counselors. During that week we provide a daily snack for our campers and lunch for our Counselors, Junior Counselors, and adult volunteers. If you would like to help provide some of the food and or supplies for our week, there will be a hard copy sign up on Sunday and available on line at <http://signup.com/go/wDXRSTW> We have an amazingly generous congregation at Bethel and we are honored to have so many souls who support our youth ministries. Thank you all in advance and God bless.



An Invitation for Some Fun in the Sun

We would like you to join the VBS campers and counselors for some pool party fun. Tuesday, July 24th 6 to 8 PM at Jaycee Park Pool 225 23rd Ave NE. We have rented the pool and splash park for the evening to enjoy some fellowship and fun.

Come and enjoy!

YOUTH AND FAMILY

Prayers for youth and families attending FLBC

This year we have 34 campers registered for a week at Flathead Bible Camp! We will be sending mail to each one from us at the church and will include them in the prayers. A post card(s) will be available each week beginning July 15th either before or after worship for you to sign. We also encourage you to pray for them for a fun and meaningful, life-changing camp experience. Pastor Steve and Dew Elkin will be attending the week of July 29th. If you want to attend and are interested in a \$100 scholarship, they are still available.

Campers This Week

Maya Badger	Nina Badger
Isabelle Grosenick	Taylah Jaques
Traedon Jaques	Allison Mar
Hailey Marr	Addison Nicholls
Ayden Nicholls	Aspen Rowe
Maya Stringer	Olivia Violet
Regan Will	



Retreats, Events, and Updates:

For additional information about our upcoming retreats and events, check out our website at www.flbc.net.

Labor Day Family Retreat August 31-September 3, 2018

This weekend is for all ages! Adult bible studies will be lead by Pr. Tanner Howard of Havre, MT. FLBC staff will lead activities for kids. Lots of time for boating, ropes course, crafts and play
Click here for Registration Form.

[CLICK HERE](#) for the full calendar of retreats and events. [Like us on Facebook](#) for news and pictures from camp.

Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp
603 S Main St Kalispell, MT 59901
406-752-6602
office@flbc.net
www.flbc.net

FAMILY PROMISE NEWS

Family Promise Volunteer Training at Bethel

We are happy to offer a free volunteer training at Bethel for anyone who would like to be a evening, dinner or overnight host for Family Promise. This training covers topics such as you duties as a volunteer, rules and guidelines as well as how to handle potential issues that may arise. Children are welcome to attend with their families.

Tuesday, August 7th 6:15 pm at Bethel. Expect about 1.5 to 2 hours for training.

Refreshments will be served.

If you are interested please RSVP to Dew Elkin or Tami Grosenick.

FROM THE COUNCIL

Council Highlights from the July 10, 2018 Meeting

- Pastor's Report – Pastor Steve has been invited to go on a mission trip to Bolivia. We will look forward to more details!
- Treasurer's Report – Biannual Financial statements to giving units will be sent.
- Building Report – The Gathering Place bathrooms will be renovated after VBS.
- The Negative Drainage is being addressed and we hope to move forward with a contractor soon.
- Ministry liaisons will be gathering information to improve communications. More up-dates will be coming!

BETHEL BUNCH

Bethel Bunch is meeting at noon Sunday at the home of Jack & Pam Castner (24 Treasure State Drive) It's not too late to attend. Besides a salad or dessert, bring something to drink. Contact Jack & Pam at Email: jpcastner2@yahoo.com or 781-1306.



Sunday, July 22, 2018
6:30 p.m.
Doors open at 5:45 p.m.

Faith Lutheran Church
1300 Ferguson Drive
Great Falls, MT 59404

406-454-1309

Times are dark.
Even believers are weary
She will sing-she will share
Encouragement, Hope,
Truth and Love

[iTickets.com/KathyTroccoli](https://www.itickets.com/KathyTroccoli)

BETHEL CALENDAR

July 2018

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
World Hunger Sunday 9:30am Worship	Boy Scout Troop 1028 Meeting in Gathering Place at 6:15pm		Independence Day Office Closed			9am - Close Knit Group in Fellowship Hall
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
9:30am - Arvanetes Farewell/ Godspeed		6:30pm - Church Council Meeting at the Van Gilder's	10am - Staff Meeting in the Fellowship Hall 3:30pm - LOGOS meeting in the Fellowship Hall			
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
9:30am Worship						9am - Close Knit Group in Fellowship Hall
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
9:30am Worship	9am-1:30pm VBS	9am-1:30pm VBS 6pm-8pm - Pool Party @ Jaycee Pool 6pm-8pm - TLC meeting in the Gathering Place	9am-1:30pm VBS	9am-1:30pm VBS	9am-1:30pm VBS 6pm - Aitz Chaim in the Sanctuary	Aitz Chaim in the Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
9:30am Worship	Pastor Steve at Camp Tami Vacation	Pastor Steve at Camp Tami Vacation	Pastor Steve at Camp Tami Vacation	Pastor Steve at Camp Tami Vacation	Pastor Steve at Camp Tami Vacation	Pastor Steve vacation