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# BETHEL NOTES



## Readings:

Jeremiah 23:1-6  
Ephesians 2:11-22  
Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

## Ninth Sunday After Pentecost

Mark's gospel makes clear how great was the press of the crowd, with its countless needs to be met, on Jesus and his disciples. Yet in today's gospel Jesus advises his disciples to get away and rest, to take care of themselves. Sometimes we think that when others are in great need we shouldn't think of ourselves at all; but Jesus also honors the caregivers' need. We are sent from Christ's table to care for others and for ourselves.



**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.

**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:

### Usher(s):

Mary Gernaat  
Jane Mart

### Projectionist:

Dina Davis

### Counters:

Pam Dougherty  
Ben Gooldy

### Nursery Attendant(s):

Ava Olson  
Alex Olson

*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. <sup>2</sup>  
LED BY PASTOR STEVE.**

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# PASTOR STEVE'S MESSAGE

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## God's Extraordinary Church: Building without Walls

*"For [Christ] is our peace; in his flesh he made both groups into one and has broken down the dividing wall, that is, the hostility between us." Ephesians 2:14*

Walls can be good. They provide support for ceilings; they help us to outline appropriate boundaries; and they provide the protection we need. Walls also divide us from one another. In 2001, I traveled to Berlin and spent some time taking in the sights and culture. One of the most sobering sights was the small portions of the Berlin Wall left standing, which separated East from West Germany for more than a quarter century (1961-1989). Those small portions were left as a reminder of the people's painful history of division and also as a sign of hope that the people desired to reunite their country and to live without walls.

This Sunday, the reading from Ephesians chapter 2, speaks of the kind of church which God makes possible. God's design is to build a church without walls. The letter to the Ephesians was written to address churches which were clearly having trouble welcoming each other into the community of faith. In the Message, author Eugene Peterson translates Christ's work of reconciliation in this way: *"Christ brought us together through his death on the cross. He tore down the wall we (Jew & Gentiles) used to keep each other at a distance. The Cross got us to embrace, and that was the end of the hostility."* The church is called to be an extraordinary place, a place of inclusion and reconciliation, where divisions have no place, strangers become family, aliens become citizens, a place where the outsiders become insiders and all are welcome. God desires to build a church and a world without the walls of hatred, anger, and fears which seek to divide. And we are the bricks and Jesus is the cornerstone which unifies us in love and peace. It is a tough calling to be that kind of church, in today's

world. But it is not impossible. The redeeming love of Christ and the powerful reconciling work of the Spirit makes it happen, through us.

As we ponder these thoughts...God's design and work...here are a couple of questions to ponder.

How can we discern the difference between healthy and unhealthy boundaries so that we can be open to the breaking down of the dividing walls of hostility?

What walls in your life need to come down in order that you might live in the peace (shalom) which Christ makes possible?





# YOUTH AND FAMILY

## Retreats, Events, and Updates:

For additional information about our upcoming retreats and events, check out our website at [www.flbc.net](http://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.

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[www.flbc.net](http://www.flbc.net)

## 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

Jennie Gresham  
Christopher Kubas  
Maxwell Quinn

Ainsley Kubas  
Liam Quinn





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# YOUTH AND FAMILY

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## 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!

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# YOUTH AND FAMILY

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## Meet This Year's VBS Counselors



### **Kristin**

Kristin is from Helena, MT and recently graduated from Concordia College in Moorhead, MN where she studied music and psychology. Kristin loves hiking in Glacier National Park and reading!

### **Karrie**

Karrie is from Great Falls, MT and is studying education at Rocky Mountain College. She enjoys singing, hiking, fishing, camping, and crafting. Karrie is a member at Bethel and has enjoyed being actively involved in the Church. Karrie grew up going to FLBC and attended MAD (Music, Arts, and Drama) camp for years.



### **Bailee**



Bailee is from Edgewood, WA and is currently studying Parks, Recreation, and Tourism at the University of Montana – Missoula. At school, Bailee stays busy with the Grizzly Marching Band and Pep Band, hiking, and enjoying the outdoors! Bailee has a talent for music and plays the guitar, ukulele, clarinet and alto saxophone.

### **Isaac**

Isaac is from Belgrade, MT and is currently studying human development and family science at MSU in Bozeman. He has a gift for music and swing dancing – Isaac is involved in MSU's Swing Cats club on campus!



### **Scott**



Scott is from Moorhead, MN and also recently graduated from Concordia College in Moorhead. He's planning to pursue a career in dentistry. Throughout school, Scott played on the Tennis team at Concordia and was active with Habitat for Humanity. Scott also has a gift for throwing pottery on a wheel!



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# FAMILY PROMISE NEWS

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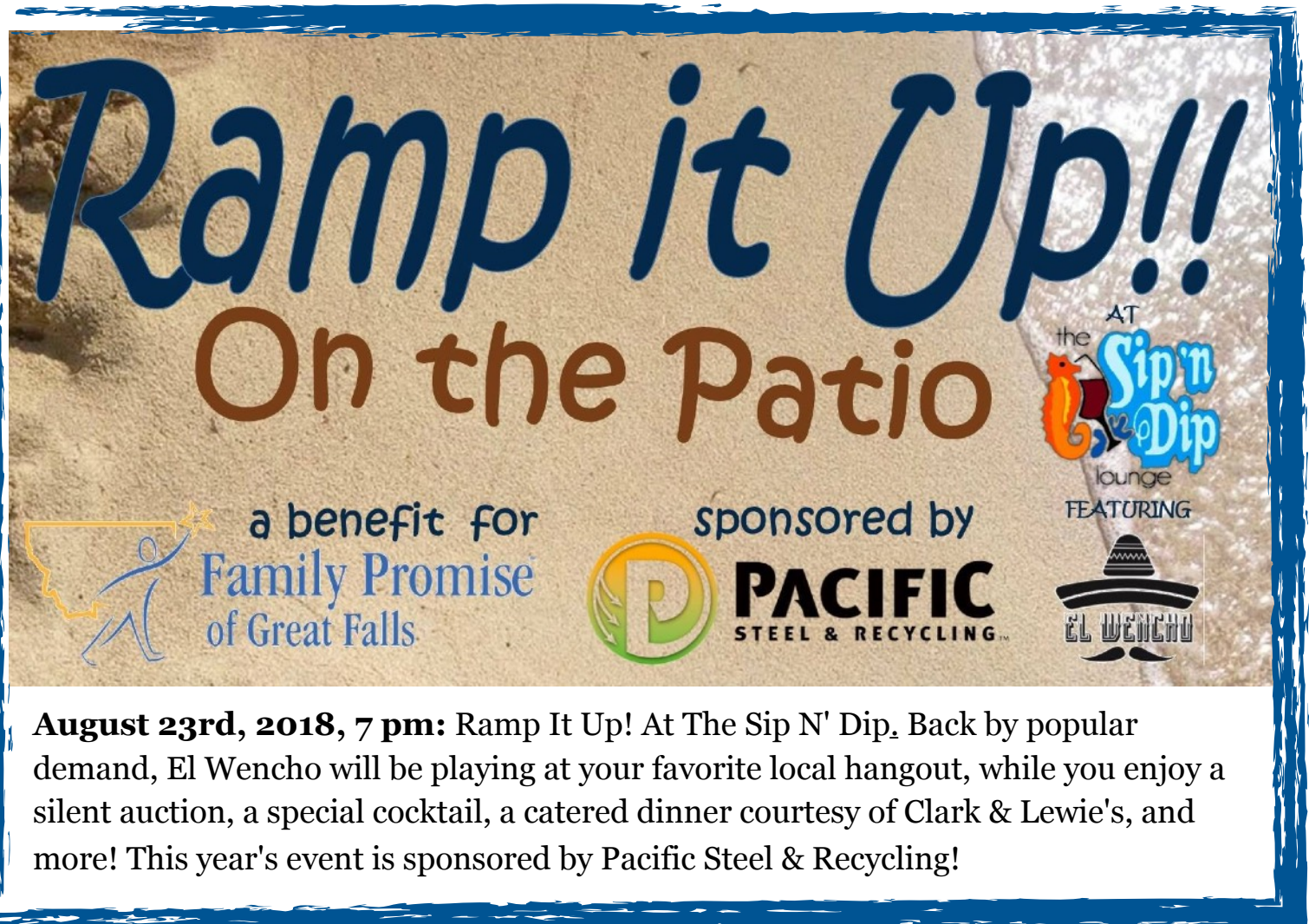
## Family Promise Volunteer Training at Bethel

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.



**Ramp it Up!!**  
**On the Patio**

AT the **Sip'n Dip** lounge  
FEATURING **EL WENCHO**

a benefit for **Family Promise of Great Falls**

sponsored by **PACIFIC STEEL & RECYCLING™**

**August 23rd, 2018, 7 pm:** Ramp It Up! At The Sip N' Dip. Back by popular demand, El Wencho will be playing at your favorite local hangout, while you enjoy a silent auction, a special cocktail, a catered dinner courtesy of Clark & Lewie's, and more! This year's event is sponsored by Pacific Steel & Recycling!

# 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