

# BETHEL NOTES

## The Holy Trinity



When we say God is the triune God, we are saying something about who God is beyond, before, and after the universe: that there is community within God. Our experience of this is reflected in Paul's words today. When we pray to God as Jesus prayed to his Abba (an everyday, intimate parental address), the Spirit prays within us, creating between us and God the same relationship Jesus has with the one who sent him.

**MAY 27, 2018**

### This Sunday:

We celebrate the baptism of Hailey Marie Thomas.

We celebrate with Eric Peterson and Vann Arvanetes as they are presented with the Scout Religious Emblem.

### Readings:

Isaiah 6:1-8

Romans 8:12-17

John 3:1-17

## Serving This Sunday

Accompanist:	Lynn Ryan
Lay Assistant:	Steve Smith
Usher(s):	Ava Fossen & Dena Wagner-Fossen
Projectionist:	Dean Amor
Counters:	Jody Arvanetes & Donna Vinnedge
Nursery:	Heather Farris

# Pastor Steve's Message

A *Christian Century* publisher by the name of John Buchanan tells the story of the baptism of a two-year-old child of which he was the officiant. Following the order of service, he arrived at the affirmation: "*...child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.*" To which the child gave a spontaneous but theologically astute exclamation, "Uh-oh."

The gospel reading for Trinity Sunday is from the third chapter of John and it is the story of Nicodemus' dark of the night encounter with Jesus. Nicodemus was intrigued by Rabbi Jesus and his curiosity led him to seek him out under the cover of darkness so as to insure secrecy. [This story was first addressed to people living about six decades after Jesus' resurrection and ascension and who were contemplating joining the Johannine community, but were fearful to risk doing so publicly.] Nicodemus thinks he "knows" about Jesus but in the course of the conversation he is drawn into a perplexing yet deeper knowing than he could have ever imagined. He seeks Jesus but in reality it is Jesus who seeks Nicodemus, in order that he may have all of Nicodemus ~ his mind, heart, and soul ~ the whole of him.... reborn by water and the Spirit.

On Sunday at worship, we will celebrate the Sacrament of Holy Baptism for *Hailey Marie Thomas*. In this grace-filled celebration, we will affirm that God comes to Hailey (and to us) through the gifts of water and the Spirit for rebirth ....salvation. For Hailey and for us it is a *for God so loved the world...that God gave us his only Son (Jesus)....that all who believe in him may*

*have eternal life.....moment.* It is a God choosing us in Christ and for eternity moment. It is also an "Uh-oh" moment. For being united to Christ's death and resurrection means both seeing and living God's kingdom in today's mixed up and messy world. "Uh-oh" means...being called into new ways of being, which run counter to our old sinful and self-centered ways and the power dynamics of the world. "Uh-oh" means....there will be suffering, pain and sacrifices involved in following Jesus. But along with the "Uh-ohs" is the promise of a forever identity which is ours in Christ: "*Child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.*"

May you be reminded daily of your God-given, forever identity in Christ amidst life's joys and "Uh-oh" moments.

*Pastor Steve*



### **Saturday June 9 - A Day In Fort Benton**

- Dinner 5:00 pm. Grand Union Hotel.
- Please RSVP to Terry Korpela no later than **Friday June 1st** if you are coming for dinner as we need to get reservations nailed down for the hotel.
- If anyone is interested in lunch and exploring the Fort Benton museums let Terry know so we can spend the whole day if anyone is so inclined.

### **Sunday June 24th Noon - 12:00 p.m. at Ron and Dew Elkins house, 2412 47th Ave. SW. Elkins will provide the main dish - burgers and brats and buns.**

Everyone else will need to bring our own beverage as well as a side dish to share. We need someone to provide chips; condiments; salad and dessert.

So if you could RSVP Terry Korpela at [terry.korpela@gmail.com](mailto:terry.korpela@gmail.com) or Elkins at [rda.elkingtf@gmail.com](mailto:rda.elkingtf@gmail.com) and let us know what you would like to bring, this will help get all bases covered.

**VACATION  
BIBLE  
SCHOOL**



- This year the FLBC counselors will be joining us **July 23<sup>rd</sup> through 27<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 AM to 1:30 PM.** We will have a faith filled week of friends, games, crafts, and music.
- Along with pool night and Family Night program and pot luck. This camp is free for youth going into Pre-K to 6<sup>th</sup> grade. We also need Junior Counselors for youth going into 7<sup>th</sup> and up. Check out the Bethel Website [bethelmt.org](http://bethelmt.org) under Youth Programs for more information or contact Tami Grosenick at [bethelmc.church@gmail.com](mailto:bethelmc.church@gmail.com). Stay tuned for more details!



Assistant scoutmaster Eric Peterson and Scoutmaster Vann Arvanetes of Troop 28 will be presented the Scout Religious Emblem award this Sunday. One of the key pieces of the Scout law is "A Scout is reverent." All Scouts show this in being faithful to God. Some go further and give special service. This can qualify them for a religious emblem. This award is conferred on a Scout by a religious leader. Each faith has its own requirements for earning its emblem. Within the requirements of the Lutheran faith, both Eric and Vann have earned the Servant of Youth adult recognition for their service in church and scouts. After continued service in scouts and church for at least another five (5) years, Eric and Vann may be eligible for the Lamb Award. Vann is already being mentored by Dave Mikulecky for this future award. Please join us in bearing witness to Eric and Vann this Sunday.



This Sunday we celebrate the sacrament of holy baptism for Hailey Marie Thomas. Hailey is the daughter of Ross and Erin Thomas. Grandparents are Bob Thomas, Roger and Sue Reppe, and Diane Ehrlich. Great-Grandparents are Shari Kohoutek and Donna Aafedt. Sponsors are Cody & Jessica Kummer.

Hailey, may God grant you all the blessings of His love and may you enjoy a lifetime of health and happiness.

Thank you to Shelly Murphy for making the linen baptismal napkins.







Prayers for **Jann DeGroot**, (sister of Marj Vander Aarde) who is battling cancer.

Prayers for **Ed Pottratz and family**.

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

Prayers for **Shelly Murphy**.

Prayers for **Dick Seim** as he recovers from heart surgery.

Prayers for protection and God's blessing for **Katie Smith** (daughter of Grant and Janet Smith) who will be on a summer mission trip to Asia with InterVarsity. She leaves May 18th.

Prayers for God's grace as the **Synod staff** settle in to their new home and prepare for the Synod Assembly.

Prayers for **Kurt Hesse** (brother of Don Hesse).

Prayers for **Ardis Scholten** (mother of Dave Scholten).

Prayers for healing for **Arne Buhmann** as he recovers from heart bypass surgery.

Prayers for **Jane O'Brien** (mother of Carrie).

Prayers for **Faith Crouch** (granddaughter of Bernice Johnson) as she awaits a double lung transplant.

Prayers for **Dorothea** (mother of Matt Crampton).

Prayers for **Ann Tuomi** as she recovers from surgery.

Prayers for **Rae Murphy** (mother of Dina Davis).

Prayers of thanksgiving to God for new life in baptism for **Hailey Marie Thomas**.

Prayers of thanksgiving to God for **all of our graduates**.

Prayers for **our armed forces who served, serve and comfort & healing for all who remember and mourn** those service men and women who gave the ultimate sacrifice of their lives for the life, liberties and pursuit of happiness.

# Graduation

twenty eighteen

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Allison (Saxe) Morris graduated from The University of Montana School of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Science. She received her Doctorate in Physical Therapy.

Liisa Nelson graduated from Alfred University in New York with a Master of Fine Arts (MFA) in ceramics.



Bridger Scholten graduated from Gonzaga University with a Bachelors in Economics.

Hannah Good graduated from Montana State University in Bozeman with degrees in Political Science and History.



# Graduation

twenty eighteen



Coleman John Good is a member of the GFHS Bison football team. He is Student Body President, involved in Policy Debate, is a member of the National Honor Society and of the Bison Buddies Mentoring Program. Cole also participated in Leadership High School through the Chamber of Commerce. He love to ski. His most fond memory of high school is cheering on the Bison at sporting events. He loved science and math and the teachers that he admired most were Mr. Sullivan who taught Biology and his 4<sup>th</sup> grade teacher Ms. Dige. He plans to study Microbiology and Immunology at Montana State University and his goal is to pursue a career in the medical field.

Alec Keith Good attends Great Falls High School and is a member of the Golf team. He is a member of Student Government, the National Honor Society and Bison Buddies Mentoring Program. Alec participates in Leadership High School through the Chamber of Commerce and loves to ski. His most fond high school experience was traveling to Europe along with friends last summer with Education First Students Tours. The teachers he most admires are Mrs. Aakre who teaches English and his math teacher Mr. Herd. His favorite subjects are science and math. He plans to attend Montana State University to study Mechanical Engineering and "hopes to work as an engineer in an interesting city with great outdoor recreational opportunities."



Alexandra Elizabeth Olson is graduating from Central Catholic High School. She is a member of DECA Business Club. She enjoys baking, reading and spending time with her pets. Her favorite memories of high school are the proms which were always "super fun and a great time!" Her favorite subjects are English and business class. Her most influential teachers were Mrs. Amuehl and Mrs. Osterman. Her future plans are to get a degree in Early Childhood Development and "eventually take over as owner of the TLC Center."



# Graduation

twenty eighteen



Gavin Todd Will attends CMR High School. He is a member of the Golf and Tennis teams and Student Council. Outside of school he loves to hunt and fish. His most fond memory of high school is Senior Prom. In school he loved to study history, government and humanities. Many teachers have inspired him. The ones he admires most are Mr. McLean, Mr. Allen, Mr. Comstock and Ms. Showen. He plans to attend Montana State University to study Political Science.

Jake Glen Olsen is graduating from CMR where he plays football and basketball. His favorite memory was winning the State Championship in Basketball. His most influential teachers are Mrs. Johnson, Mr. Skaer, and Mr. Halverson. Jake's favorite subject is lunch. His future plan is to attend Montana State University and major in Business Finance.





# FLBC News

1. Pastor Steve will be going to camp July 29th to August 3rd.

**Bethel has camp scholarships available, \$100 per camper on a first come first serve basis.** To take advantage of this benefit, bring or send a copy of your invoice from the camp (they will send you one as soon as you make the deposit) and Bethel will send the money to FLBC.

2. If you are registered for camp, please let the church office know so that we can make sure you get a card the week you are there.

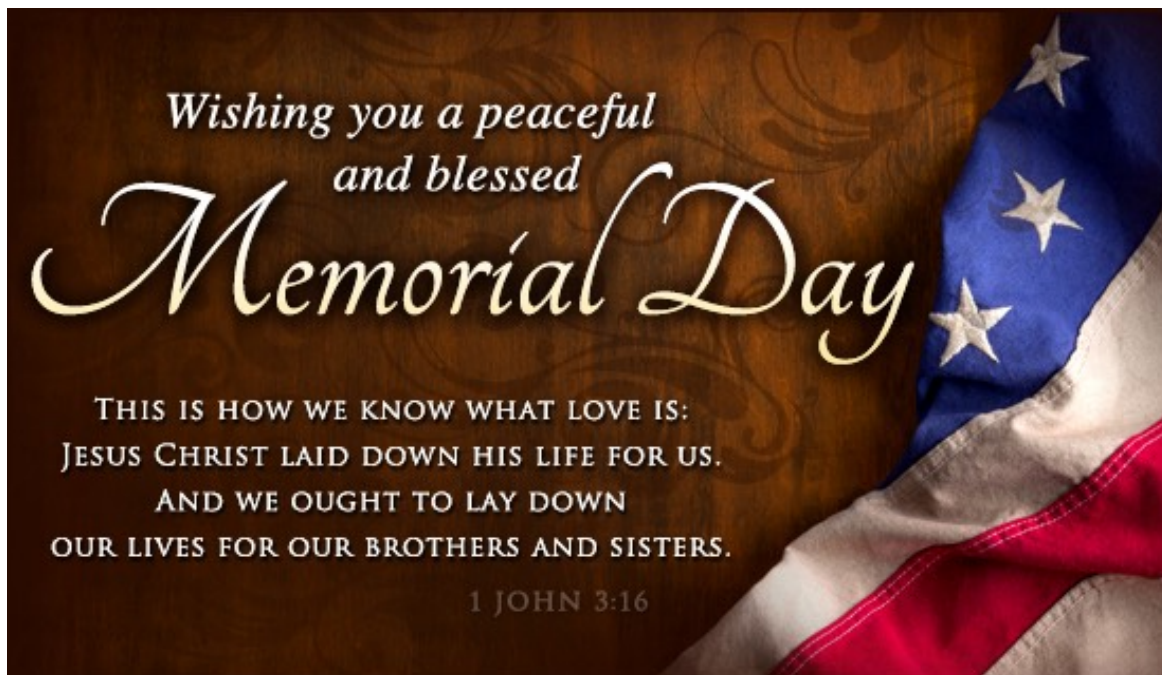
There are lots of exciting opportunities this year. Check out their website to see how you can be a part.

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

As many know, Karolina (Karrie) was selected to be a FLBC camp counselor for this Summer, 2018. We want to thank our Bethel Family for the love, support, and prayers for Karrie this year. It has been her goal to be a Camp Counselor since she stepped foot at the Camp in 3rd grade. There are many people to thank and we say thank you. Karrie leaves for the Camp on June 1. It will be a summer filled with exploring, adventure and deepening her relationship and faith in Jesus. Please keep Karrie in your prayers - she will be back for a few days in August before she goes back to college at Rocky.

# Family Promise Announcement

If you are dropping off items for Family Promise at the church, please be sure to label them and leave them in the kitchen. Dew will take them to Central Christian.



# Estate Auction



*Saturday, June 16th  
11:00 am*

*An estate auction will be held  
at the home of Marty Johnson.*

*154 Sun Prairie Rd  
Great Falls, MT 59404*

## This Week at Bethel

### Monday 5/21:

- Memorial Day - Office will be closed.

### Tuesday 5/22:

- Bible Study Electric City Coffee 6:30am
- Men's Breakfast in the Fellowship Hall 7am.

### Friday 6/1 - Sunday 6/3:

- 2018 MT Synod Assembly at the Heritage Inn.

## Coming Up....

### Thursday 6/7:

- Hope Circle Picnic 6pm Terri Korpela's 3025 Delmar.

### Saturday 6/9:

- Bethel Bunch in Fort Benton. Dinner at the Grand Union Hotel at 7:30pm.  
Please RSVP to Terry Korpela no later than Monday, June 4th.

### Week of July 23rd -27th:

- Vacation Bible School at Bethel.

### Tuesday July 24th:

- Family Pool Night at Jaycee Park 7pm.





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

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