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# BETHEL NOTES



## Christ the King Sunday

### Readings:

Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14

Revelation 1:4b-8

John 18:33-37

**The office will be closed on Thursday  
and Friday for the Thanksgiving  
holiday.**

*Sunday*  
Nov 25

### Serving this Sunday

**Accompanist:**  
Connie Titcomb

**Lay Assistant:**  
Terree Wozny

**Usher(s):**  
The Elkin Family

**Projectionist:**  
Tim Lightbourne

**Counters:**  
Stephanie Cummings  
Marilyn Carlson

**Nursery Attendant(s):**  
Adam Elkin



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

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

Prayers for healing for **Patsy Berkeley Brattain** as she recovers from surgery.

Prayers of healing for **Don Bisgard** as he battles stomach cancer.

**Ed Pottratz** for healing as he resumes cancer treatment.

Prayers of healing for **Lee Klette**, son of Russ & Cheryl.

Prayers for healing for **Terry Korpela** as she recovers from surgery.

**Jeanne Moe (mother of Kris Voorhees)** as she prepares for surgery.

**Terry Ryan** (brother of Patrick Ryan).

**Pat Bosch (Tami Grosenick's sister-in-law's mother)** for healing.



**Christmas Eve Candlelight and Holy Communion Worship - Dec 24**

**4pm** in the Gathering Place with Jubilate Choir

**6pm** in the Gathering Place with Karolina Pepos



If you are interested in becoming a member of Bethel, we will be having a New Member Sunday on December 9th. Contact Pastor Steve at [bethelgf.pastor.steve@gmail.com](mailto:bethelgf.pastor.steve@gmail.com) or call the church office if you are interested in joining the church.



**Wednesday, November 21st**

**7:00 pm**

**First Presbyterian Church**

**1315 Central Avenue.**

This is a combined worship service with First Presbyterian Church, Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Bethel Lutheran Church and the addition of First United Methodist. A combined choir will be performing. If you wish to sing in the choir please arrive for rehearsal at 6:00 PM. If you need a copy of the music please contact Joan Schmidt at (406) 590-1804.

### Fall & Winter 2018 Adult Forums

**Session # 3 November 25 & 29: Jesus' Ministry begins in Galilee: An Inaugural Address**

**Scripture Focus: Luke 4: 14 - 30**

**Session # 4 December 2, 6: Jesus' Face is set towards Jerusalem**

**Question: Who is Jesus ?**

**Scripture Focus: Luke 9: 18 - 36**

**Session # 5 December 9, 13: Parables of the Kingdom: Loosing & Finding**

**Scripture Focus: Luke 15: 1 - 32**

**Session # 6 December 16, 20: Theme of Salvation in Here & Now (Today!)**

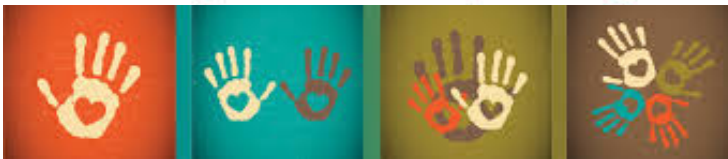
**Scripture Focus: Luke 23: 26 - 49**

**Session # 7. December 30 & Jan. 3**

**Resurrection Life, Now !**

**Scripture Focus: Luke 24: 13 - 35 (Road to Emmaus)**

## Family Worship Night



### **Don't Forget.....**

Family Worship Night on Wednesday, November 28th! Dinner at 6pm, worship at 7pm. Advent themed.

This Sunday Bethel rejoices with Letty Richardson, daughter of Dan and Stephanie, as she joins in sharing her first holy communion.



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# PASTOR STEVE'S MESSAGE

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**“God, my God, I can’t thank you enough.”**

“You did it: you changed wild lament into whirling dance; You ripped off my black mourning band and decked me with wildflowers. I’m about to burst with song; I can’t keep quiet about you. God, my God, I can’t thank you enough.” Psalm 30: 11, 12 from *The Message*

Lately, my early morning east looking gazes out my kitchen window have been the gifts of some spectacular sunrises. Gifts for the beginning of the day.

The movement from night to daybreak is a reliable one and it can be a spectacular one as well. But no less spectacular is the movement from lament to praise and thanksgiving. The psalmist is mourning a loss. Then God brought about a transformative moment, one which involved a radical new look. Off with the “*mourning band*” and on with a bouquet of “*wildflowers*.” Emotions were transformed from “*wild lament into whirling dance*.”

In her book titled, *Grateful: The Transformative Power of Giving Thanks*, author Diana Butler Bass, observes a few things which are true about feeling grateful ~

thankful, namely, that it is situational, emotional and it is typically an unplanned response. “For all of its uniqueness and complexity, there is a common core to feeling grateful: we recognize a circumstance, event, or situation (even if it is a trial) as a gift, we have received some unexpected benefit, we respond with words and actions, and we become our best selves in the process.”

It was indeed a grace moment. The psalmist confessed that God brought about this change. Their heart is full of gratitude, so full, that it was impossible to keep quiet, it (the heart) is “*about to burst with song*” – a song of praise and thanks.

Big Sky sunrises (and sunsets) can be causes for thanksgiving to God and so can the gift of family, friends and faith community. As we take notice of the passing of time...from night to daybreak... the experiences of the highs and lows of life...let us also take notice of the many blessings, big and small. The unplanned, unexplainable and transformative moments that have come to us as gifts from God. May God move you to respond with not only words but also with actions...“becoming your best selves” and say, **“God, my God, I can’t thank you enough.”**

*Pastor Steve*

A graphic with the text "DECORATE the Church" in a mix of red and black fonts. A green Christmas tree with yellow lights is positioned behind the word "DECORATE". Above the text is a string of red and green garlands with white lights.

# DECORATE the Church

It is time to decorate for Christmas!

Tuesday, November 27th at 10:00 AM we will be decorating the Sanctuary and Narthex.

Tuesday, November 27th at 7:00 PM we will be decorating the tree in the Gathering Place.

If you able, please join us for some holiday cheer as we deck our halls in celebration of the season!



## Hope Circle Annual Christmas Party

Saturday December 1, 2018

6:00 p.m.

Jim & Marilyn Carlson - 329 Hylande

Bring a dish to share. And beverage of your choice.

Bring an ornament to exchange. Remember guys get in on this gig as well, so they need to bring an ornament also.

Usually the guys get a little crazier then the girls, but truly anything is fair game.

## Bethel Giving Tree Advent & Christmas 2018

Once again this year Bethel will be offering you the opportunity to share your many blessings with others in need through alternative gifts.

This year we have chosen to support two ministries of the Montana Synod and our Companion Synod in Bolivia.

The Giving Tree Ornaments:

\*\$10 – Provides a hank of beads and package of beading needles for Spirit of Life on the Fort Peck Reservation

\*\$30 – Helps provide a much needed new roof for Our Saviors Lutheran Church on the Rocky Boy's Reservation

\*\$40 – Provides a tuition scholarship for one month for a student at a Lutheran school in Bolivia. The Montana Synod is a Companion Synod of the Lutheran Church in Bolivia

Choose an ornament(s) and write a check to Bethel for the amount on your ornament(s), listing the recipients on the memo line (e.g. Spirit of Life beads, Rocky Boy roof, or Bolivia scholarship). After Christmas Bethel will send the donations to the MT synod to be dispersed appropriately.

Join together in doing God's work for the life of the world.

Thank you for your generosity!



*Thank you*

What an amazing turnout for the Pie Plus Auction and Bake Sale this year. We had over 20 people donate almost 50 items! My apologies I didn't take any pictures. A huge thank you to Dave Scholten our auctioneer, our registration/recording table Johnna and Tim Lightbourne, our cashiers Sue Hesse and Sandy Pepos, my co-organizers AnneRose Rogers and Patty Braget, our sorter Kari Underdahl, Ed Murphy for set up, and our youth helpers Andrew Dullam, Maya Stringer, Julia and Adam Elkin, Morgan Dunn and Isabelle Grosenick. Also a huge thank you to all who donated items and also to all of our bidders.

It is said that it takes a village and this year's auction definitely pulled our village together in so many ways to raise \$652.50 for FLBC Scholarships and \$3216.50 for vacation bible school.

I am as ever in bewildered awe at the breadth and depth of the generosity to our youth as our members are and we are all so truly thankful for your support. A very Happy Thanksgiving and deepest thanks for your very giving hearts.