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# BETHEL NOTES



## Financial Stewardship Commitment Sunday

### Readings:

1 Kings 17:8-16  
Psalm 146  
1 Peter 4:10  
Mark 12:38-44

*Sunday*

Nov 11

### Serving this Sunday

Accompanist:

Mary Seim

Lay Assistant:

Walt Nuessle

Usher(s):

Heather & Erika Farris

Projectionist:

Dean Amor

Counters:

Pam Dougherty  
Matt Crampton

Nursery Attendant(s):

Carly Cushman



**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 **Pasty 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 comfort and healing for **those who were wounded** and prayers of support for the **Jewish communities across the nation** as they question whether they can feel safe.

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

**The family of Angie Erives** and the students and staff of Lohse Sommerset Academy in North Las Vegas as they grieve her death.

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

### Fall & Winter 2018 Adult Forums

Sunday, November 11<sup>th</sup> we may not meet, due to (Financial Stewardship/Commitment Sunday) but we will meet on Thursday, November 15<sup>th</sup> (at 10am) – Born for Us and with a Mission  
Sunday, November 18<sup>th</sup> We will not meet due to (Annual Desert Auction Fundraiser for VBS & FLBC Scholarships) and  
Thanksgiving Day !

Sunday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> (and Thursday, December 6<sup>th</sup> (at 10am) –  
What was Jesus Doing ? (Healing Ministry)

Sunday, December 9<sup>th</sup> (and Thursday, December 13<sup>th</sup> at 10am) – Why  
Must Jesus Die ?

TBD - Grace Will Lead Me Home (Parables about the Lost &  
Found)

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# PASTOR STEVE'S MESSAGE

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## Our Whole Lives

And he called his disciples (and) said to them, "Truly I say to you that this beggar widow has thrown more than all the ones throwing into the treasury, for all threw out of their abundance, but she threw, out of her want, all as she had, her whole life." Mark 12

The scriptures are filled with stories, examples faithful as well as unfaithful stewardship. The Gospel for this Sunday, the 25<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost ~ also Financial Commitment Sunday at Bethel ~ is the story of "the widow's mite." It is a story that has been taught and preached at many a congregation's Fall Stewardship Campaign as to what faithful stewardship looks like as embodied in the widow's *"giving out of her want, all as she had, her whole life."*

I have been one of those who has taught and preached, "Be like her (the widow)!" Be generous and trust in God like she does. And this message possess a certain truth about her generosity as a reflection of God's generosity and sacrifice. But this passage also needs to be understood in the context of the gospel writer, Mark's, teachings about the community of faith's stewardship and care for the most vulnerable.

The widows in Jesus' day, and long before, were among the most vulnerable in the community. And there were those in the community who took advantage and even exploited their vulnerability. Jesus levels a harsh indictment toward the scribes (the Temple lawyers) who would "devour widow's households" ~ exploiting the most vulnerable for their own gain. Having pointing this out, we must not accuse the gospel writer of condemning Judaism for he most certainly was not. But Mark was indicting some of the practices of the scribes and other leaders in the time of first century Temple Judaism and tip-toeing on the edge of anti-Semitism and a wholesale indictment of Judaism. He was calling out those who were more interested with what they had than what their neighbor's needs were.

So, how might we understand this gospel lesson ? What interpretation and teaching might you embrace ? This is a challenge. But I am inclined to say that our whole lives are gifts from God and we are knit together into a community which is to look out for one another. Each of us has been blessed with an abundance both to enjoy and to share with one another. We are fast approaching the holiday seasons.

During Advent we will be once again setting up a “Giving Tree” at Bethel. On that tree will be ornaments with specific needs that, as we are able, we can meet. Those needs are both global and local needs. The Giving Tree is one of many different ways in which can share in meeting the needs of our neighbors.

This Sunday, you will hear from a member of the Stewardship Task Force about this year’s Financial Stewardship Campaign. You will be given the invitation to respond, as you have been blessed, in “whole life living” and in support of the mission and ministry we share ~ to love and bless the world ~ with the love we have come to know in Jesus Christ our Lord.

*Pastor Steve*

## BETHEL BIRTHDAYS

Name	Day
Brennan Wren	1
Johnnie Frick	2
Brett Korst	2
Kurt Brockhausen	5
Colter McCarty	6
Jody Arvanetes	7
Terry Korpela	7
Katy Nicholls	8
Michelle Meredith	9
Sharon Mueller	10
Tim Olson	10
Marj Vander Aarde	12
Karissa Gamberini	13
Jade Klette	14
Gavin Will	14



Name	Day
Linda Batista	16
Michelle Braget	16
Patty Godtel	18
Dave Scholten	18
Anne Vannatta	21
Brett Berryman	23
Douglas Kickbusch	26
Roger Reppe	26
Jennifer Black	27
Brenna Gilbertson	27
Jake Olsen	27
Eric Gysler	28
Nathaniel Peterson	28
Steve Vinnedge	29
Steph Richardson	30





# A Prayer for Our Veterans

Heavenly Father....

We lift up our veterans to you today, Lord, and thank you for blessing us with these brave men and women willing to sacrifice so much for us and serve us unselfishly. We ask for a special blessing over them and their families. Never let us forget the sacrifices they have made for us. Please protect them and remind them of the gratitude we feel in our hearts. It is because of them that we are able to offer this prayer to you today. In your holy name, Amen.



## **Upcoming Events & Retreats**

Register by calling the camp office  
406-752-6602 or email [office@flbc.net](mailto:office@flbc.net)

### **Crazy About Quilting Retreat (+ Kilns & Crafts)**

November 8-11, 2018  
Registration Flyer Attached

### **Family AdventFest (Preparing for Christmas)**

November 30-December 2, 2018  
Registration Flyer Attached

### **Youth Ski/Snowboarding Retreat**

January 11-13, 2019



**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 joint choir will be performing. If you wish to sing in the choir please arrive for rehearsal at 6:00 PM.

# 2019 FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN

This year the Stewardship Committee at Bethel has chosen to ground our 2019 Stewardship Campaign in 1 Peter 4:10. “Most of all, love each other as if your life depended on it. Love makes up for practically anything. Be quick to give a meal to the hungry, a bed to the homeless – cheerfully. Be generous with the different things God gave you, passing them around so all get in on it.” From the Message by Eugene Peterson

The stories in the mailing, shared by Bethel members and others, are examples of God’s varied and generous grace. We hope these stories will reverberate with you and your own stories of God’s grace felt at Bethel.

We also hope that you will consider your unique gifts of time, talent and financial treasure to share with our church community.

Included in the mailing is an estimate of giving card. We ask that you would prayerfully consider your response in support of the ministry we share and to return it on Sunday, November 11<sup>th</sup>. There will be a box and extra estimate of giving cards available on a table near the sanctuary.

Your Faithful Stewardship Committee,

Dave Scholten, Carol Berg, Dena Wagner-Fossen & Mary Lou Norbie



Return Copy

## 2019 Estimate of Giving Card

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

After prayerful consideration of my/our support of God’s ongoing mission through Bethel Lutheran Church, my/our estimate of giving for 2019 is:

General Fund: \_\_\_\_\_

Please Circle:              Weekly              Monthly              Annually

Thank you for your generous financial gifts which support, not only the General Fund, but many other local and global ministries. Bethel acts as the conduit for those contributions. In 2019, we continue our five year Mission Freedom Campaign called “Growing in Faith...Building Our Mission, dedicated toward retiring the mortgage debt.

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# PIES PLUS AUCTION AND BAKE SALE

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## Pies Plus Support VBS and FLBC

Each summer Bethel's walls fill with the energy of a hundred kids ages 3 to 18, adult volunteers, and FLBC camp counselors. It is a week of laughs, songs, stories, talks, making friends and reconnecting with old ones. This is all brought to our community by the generosity of our Bethel members and free for the participation of the youth who come to enjoy the week.

The cost of running VBS is broken down in this way:

- cost of bringing the FLBC Counselors \$2100 plus travel cost of \$460.
- cost of food not donated estimated at around \$250.
- cost of pool rental for the family pool night \$200.
- cost of pulled pork for family potluck \$300.
- additional cost that can occur is for supplies or arts and crafts

The total we estimate it costs approximately \$3500 to hold VBS. We keep a close mind on saving where we can and cutting cost without cutting the experience for our youth. Other funds that come in to help off set this cost is through Thrivent Action Team funds and free will offerings from families who attend the camp.

The Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp experience is invaluable to our youth. Sending them to camp for one week costs \$460. The Pies Plus Auction also supports or families by helping them off set this cost with \$100 per child scholarship funds. My daughter attended for the first time last year and for those of you who know her and how quiet she is understand how nervous I was. She loved every minute and made some amazing new friends and strengthened friendships she already had. She can't wait to go next summer and her best friend is excited to go with her. Last year 32 campers who have a connection with Bethel attended and only 6 campers took advantage of the scholarship funds.

This year we will hold our Pies Plus Auction and Bake Sale. Dave Scholten has agreed to be our auctioneer and we promise to keep the auction part of the sale to 1-hour or less. We will also

have some bake sale items available if you are unable to stay for the auction. Another addition to the sale this year is the way we raise money for FLBC scholarships.

If you wish to sponsor a child, in-part or for the full \$100, there will be Sponsor-A-Child cards that you can donate whatever you like to go into the fund.

An additional way to support is by donating a baked good – other item – to be auctioned off or sold at the sale table. It wouldn't be much of an auction without items to sell!! We would like to have about 20 items in the auction and additional for the bake sale. You may drop off your items to Bethel on Friday, November 16th in the front kitchen between 9:00 AM and 2:30 PM, Saturday November 17th between 9:00 and 11:00 AM or Sunday morning before church.

Please indicate if you have a preference for auction or bake sale item. You can sign up to bring and item on Sunday at the white table in the Narthex or let Patty Braget, AnneRose Rogers, or Tami Grosenick know what you are bringing.

Don't miss the Pies Plus Auction and Bake Sale Sunday, November 18th at 11:00 AM following the service and thank you for all your support in the past and the future to keep this ministry alive and well for the youth of Great Falls.

Tami Grosenick

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## A NOTE OF THANKS

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Bethel Lutheran Church Family!

Thank you for your generous \$500 donation to Habitat for Humanity. We are so incredibly blessed with your continued support. We are excited to share the news we recently broke ground on our 39<sup>th</sup> new home! We hope to include you at the dedication of our all our upcoming homes! Blessings!  
Jennifer Fries - Executive Director.





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# TIME TO CELEBRATE

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**Congratulations and God's Blessings to the Frick Family !**



**L-R Poppy, Kopper & Aaron Frick and Judge Greg**

On Tuesday morning Bethel members Aaron & Kopper Frick and family adopted Poppy Kristine Frick. Judge Greg Pinski, also a member of Bethel, was there to preside over the legal adoption. Following the adoption, Poppy was baptized and all present rejoiced. Bethel members and friends also rejoice with Frick's in the gift of their daughter, Poppy!





**Mark your calendars!!**  
**Wednesday evening 7:00 PM**

**Family Worship**


November 28th

December 12th

January 30th

March 6th - *Ash Wednesday*

April 3rd

S 11	M 12	T 13	W 14	T 15	F 16	S 17
9:30am- Worship  Adult Forum	6:15pm - Boy Scouts	7am - Men's Breakfast  6:30am-Bible Study @ Electric City Coffee  6:30pm-Church Council meeting	5:30pm - LOGOS	7pm-Hope Circle; 3408 Bison Lane		9am - Close Knit
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
9:30am- Worship  Pies Plus Auction & Bake Sale	6:15pm - Boy Scouts	7am - Men's Breakfast  6:30am-Bible Study @ Electric City Coffee		  Office Closed		
25	26	27	28	29	30	
9:30am- Worship		7am - Men's Breakfast  6:30am-Bible Study @ Electric City Coffee	6pm-Family Worship Night			



# Young @ Heart

presents

## Jean Price takes us to The Baltics



Jean Price



Few regions possess a more turbulent history than the Baltic states of Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia. After countless wars, occupations—even a “singing” revolution—these countries have re-emerged to reveal their splendor to the world—their rich sweep of history, unique cultures, and natural beauty. Discover the turrets, spires, and winding cobbled streets of **Vilnius, Riga, and Tallinn**—three capitals that preserved the timeless elegance of their Old Towns. Most interesting will be stories of what life was like during the chaotic times after the collapse of the Soviet Union and how Russia views them now.

# Monday, Nov. 19 at 1 pm

## Our Savior's Lutheran

Refreshments and fellowship follow.

Spread the word!



Bring your friends!