

Website: www.bethelmt.org

Sunday
January 12



Connie Titcomb

Kaye Van Gilder

Mary Gernaat

Dina Davis

Pam Dougherty

Dena Wagner-Fossen

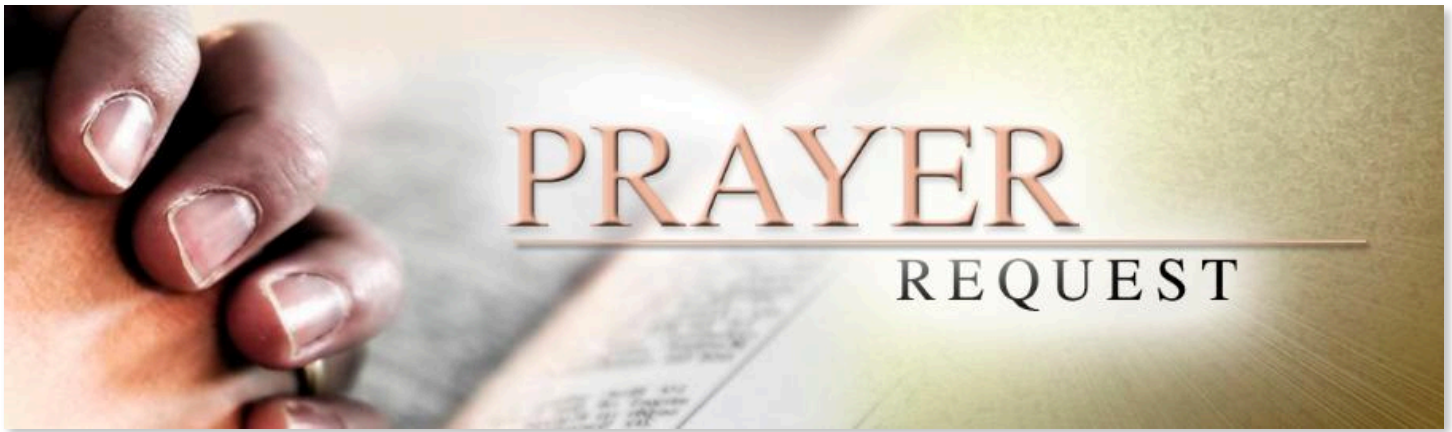
Adam Elkin

Isabelle Grosenick

Sue Hesse

MATTHEW 3:13-17

Worship Planning meeting will take place immediately following our service in the Fellowship Hall.



- ✦ Prayers for **Faith Crouch** (granddaughter of Bernice Johnson) who is awaiting a double lung transplant.
- ✦ Prayers of healing **Ed Pottratz** as he continues cancer treatment.
- ✦ Prayers of healing for **Lee Klette**, son of Russ & Cheryl.
- ✦ Continued prayers for **Angela Mart** (daughter-in-law of Jane Mart) as she finishes treatment for breast cancer.
- ✦ Prayers of strength and support for **Don Bisgard** as he continues to heal.
- ✦ Prayers for God's presence and healing for **Linda Juvik** (sister of Sandy Bechard) as she continues treatment for cancer.
- ✦ Prayers of healing for **Robby and Cindy Brattain**.
- ✦ Prayers for **Don Seyfert** as he continues medical treatment.
- ✦ Prayers for God's presence and healing touch for **John Korpela**, as he continues medical treatment.
- ✦ Prayers for the **Peoples of Boliva** as they transition into new leadership within the country and prayers for **Pastor Presidente German and the IELB**.
- ✦ Prayers of comfort for the family and friends of **Eldon Engen** (cousin of Amber Erickson) as they mourn his passing.
- ✦ Continued prayers for the **Nominating Committee** as they seek nominees to serve in leadership positions at Bethel.
- ✦ Prayers for healing for **Linda Walling** (sister of Bobbie Bowen) and for Bobbie as well.
- ✦ Prayers for comfort and peace for **Dave Price, Pastor Steve's uncle** as he is in hospice.
- ✦ Prayers of comfort for **family and friends of Joan Farris** (Sarah Farris' mother-in-law) as they mourn her death
- ✦ Prayers of safety for **Pastor Steve and his son Micah** as they travel back home.
- ✦ Prayers for **Logos Youth Ministry** as they gear up for the spring semester.

JUBILATE CHOIR RETREAT

Saturday, January 11th

9:00 AM and will conclude before noon.

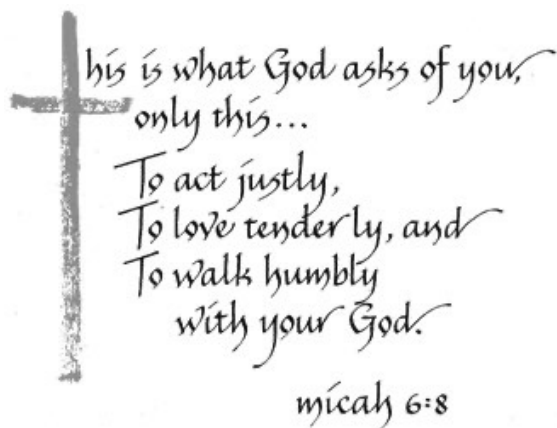
Join in to practice the songs that will be sung through February.

All are welcome.

Hope to see you Saturday!

2020 Financial Stewardship Campaign

Thanks to those of you that have returned to the church your estimate of giving cards for the 2020 year. If you haven't returned them we encourage you to do so. They may be placed in the box as you enter the church or may be placed in the offering plate during the worship service.



The 2020 Annual Congregational Meeting will be held on Sunday, January 26th immediately following worship in the sanctuary.

A Ministry Funding Plan Forum aka Budget Forum in preparation for the annual meeting, will be held in the Sanctuary. Sunday, January 19th immediately following our service.

We need a quorum of at least 65 voting members to attend to conduct business, please mark your calendar for this important meeting.

Estimate of Giving Update 2020

So far this campaign we have had **55 pledge cards** turned in with the following pledged amounts:

- General Fund: \$189,120.00
- World Hunger: \$840.00
- Mission Freedom: \$5200.00
- Other*: \$4420.00

For a total of \$199,580.00

A big thank you to all who have returned the Estimate of Giving card. There is still time to turn in your pledge card. They are available in the Narthex or on our website under Stewardship Booklet on the homepage.

*Other includes YWCA, Habitat for Humanity, Rescue Mission, Lutheran Social Services, and Global Barnyard.

WORDS FROM THE BISHOP: FOLLOWING JESUS

What does it mean to follow Jesus? Not what *did* it mean, but what does it mean right now, in this time and place? That is the question that we in the Montana Synod will be exploring more deeply over the next months and years as we discern how to be the body of Christ in these changing times.

Essentially, following Jesus is about being in life-centered relationship with God in Christ through the power of the Spirit. This is a relationship that starts not with anything we do but with Jesus saying simply, “Come and See; Follow Me.” And when we take that first step of trust, of faith, we see in Christ a new way of life that is radically different than the world around us lives or preaches. This is a life that has all of its being, seeking, and doing, all of its thinking, feeling, and acting centered in God’s love “for you” in Christ. In inviting us to “Come and See, Follow Me,” Jesus calls us to follow him right into a life-newing relationship with God.

And this new life in relationship with the God who is love has consequences for how we live in this world. Following Jesus isn’t merely about getting into heaven someday or showing up in church occasionally. For the Kingdom has come near, now and today, and that matters for how Jesus calls us to live in relationship with God and with our neighbor...all of our neighbors including creation itself. As Jesus declares: “The Lord our God, the Lord is one. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength...You shall love your neighbor as yourself. There is no other commandment greater than these.” (Mark 12:30-31)

Following Jesus is about living out these relationships of love with all our heart, spirit, mind and body. And we do so not from our own power, which is limited and tainted by sin, but through the power of the Spirit who enters and forgives us when we have the courage to let go and let God.

When we can do that, the new life-changing love of God becomes our center and we can follow Jesus with a faith-filled vitality that seeks to live God’s Kingdom into the world around us.



And what does this following look like for us in our particular context and lives, you may ask? Well, that is what we’re going to explore together in various ways. And one significant way we will discern what it means to follow Jesus today is to start seeing it happen right in front of our eyes.

Beginning next week, the Synod News will be offering a new regular series entitled “Spotlight on the Synod.” In this series, we will tell a story about ministry taking place somewhere in the synod that makes “Following Jesus” visible to us. Jenny Kunka, our NRIT director, will be gathering and writing these stories of how the Spirit is working through you in your communities to love, welcome, and serve God and neighbor. These stories will be offered once a month in place of my article so that you can see some of the exciting and creative ways enthusiastic ELCA Lutherans around the Montana Synod are following Christ in their neck of the woods.

So, as we travel the synod, I invite you to tell us about the inspiring, distinctive and vital ways your congregation or ministry is “Following Jesus” so that we can shine a spotlight on it for the rest of the Synod to see.

Your fellow follower of Jesus,
Bishop Laurie Jungling

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle

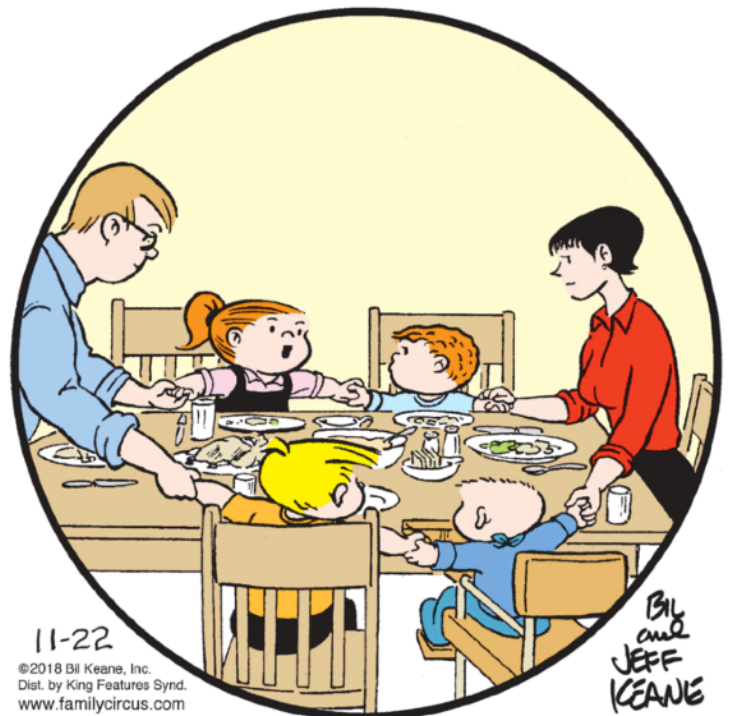
Each Sunday at Bethel we print between 60 and 80 bulletins for use during our service. Most of which we recycle when the Sunday has passed.

In an effort to save cost in both the environment and money we are going to begin reducing the amount of bulletins we print on Sundays.

We do not want to discourage people from using the bulletins or taking them home. They have great information about what is happening at Bethel and also gives us an opportunity to dig a little deeper into the readings from Sunday.

We will still offer a limited number of printed copy, both regular and large print bulletins. However, we will be posting the bulletin in a pdf format on our website each week by Thursday afternoon. This will be located on our homepage next to our weekly newsletter Bethel Notes. For those who would like, we invite you to download onto your tablet, iPad or other device to use during worship.

Please give any feedback to Tami Grosenick in the Bethel Office 761-1543 or bethelgf.church@gmail.com



"We hafta hold hands while we say grace so nobody gets a head start eating. Right, Mommy?"

To access the online bulletin you can scan the QR Code on the right or

click this link on your mobile device.

[Bethel Bulletin January 12](#)





WHAT'S UP AT CAMP!

CAMP REGISTRATION IS OPEN!

Check out our awesome programs on [the FLBC website](#). Register by April 1st to get our early bird discount and receive \$50 off!

Volunteer Applications for Montana pastors & adults open now!

Adult volunteers, nurses, grandparents, pastors, alumni staff - we need you! Be sure to apply soon as spaces are limited and fill quickly. Find the application [here](#).

2020 Staff Applications Are Open!

Do you know an adult who would be a great addition to our 2020 summer team? They can find an application to join our staff at <https://flbc.net/employment/>

Summer 2020 Registration Opens December 20th!

Tea Party ☕👑

February 15, 2020

2-4 pm at Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp

\$10/person

Grandparents, guardians, parents, bring your kiddos to a Valentine's Day "Tea Party!" All ages are welcome; our programming will focus on children ages 4-12. Food, crafts, singing, and fun with a special "princess" guest!

Day Camp Workshops

March 7th or 14th

Cost: \$10 per person

Ages: Adult Saturday, March 7 at Bethel Lutheran Great Falls: 10am-3pm (Lunch included)

OR

Saturday, March 14 at FLBC: 10am-3pm

(Lunch included. Overnight accommodations available at no charge.)

Join us for a workshop exploring FLBC's Day Camp program, where camp comes to you! Gather to learn more about hosting a Day Camp team, preview the Bible study curriculum, or get more information about potentially hosting a Day Camp in the future! This retreat is designed especially for pastors & leaders of congregations hosting 2020 Summer Day Camps, but ALL are welcome. Day Camp is a wonderful way for congregations to reach out to their communities--sign up & learn more! (Doing your own VBS? You are welcome to attend and get new ideas!)

Adult Spirituality Retreat: God with Muddy Hands

April 26-28, 2020 (Sunday- Tuesday)

\$220/person for the full weekend; commuter rates: Sun = \$30, Mon = \$150, Tues = \$30

GENEROUS GIVERS

The Giving Tree this year was fruitful indeed!

Total amounts given this year were:

- \$842.00 to Good Gifts Global Barnyard
- \$2315.00 to CASA CAN "It's My Bag" Project.

Thank you to all for your generosity this Christmas Season.

Hope Circle
Thursday,
January 23rd
Judy Johnson's.
624 Robin Court
7:00 p.m.

Logos Youth Ministry Gearing Up For A New Year!

Logos is currently on break until January 15th, but we are busy getting ready for the return!

We have a few needs going into the new semester. With Darci Bernardi stepping down from cooking, AnneRose Rogers has graciously volunteered to step in and help out until we can fill the position. This person(s) would need to be available Wednesdays beginning about 4:00 pm in the afternoon until after supper around 7:00 pm. Menu and shopping are taken care of. Main duties are cooking, getting serving bowls filled and clean up. We already have two amazing volunteers who have been working with Darci, Shawna Rowe and Traci Orthman, who are there to support and serve.

Also, with AnneRose taking on new duties and a couple of others not able to continue, we are in need of table parents. This would be Wednesdays evenings during regular Logos nights (not needed on Family Worship nights) from 5:45 until approximately 6:45 pm. Table parents sit and eat with the kids, keeping conversation at the table and reminding them of their manners.

If you are interested in helping out, please let Laura Kupfner (406-868-1404 or bethelgf.logos@gmail.com) or Tami Grosenick (406-761-1543 or bethelgf.church@gmail.com) know and we can give you more information.



The Next Wednesday Worship:

January 29th 7:00 P:M.

THIS WEEK

Monday 1/13:

- Boy Scouts meet at Bethel 6:00 pm

Tuesday 1/14:

- Bible Study at Electric City Coffee at 6:30 am.
- Men's Breakfast in the Fellowship Hall 7:00 am
- Church Council meeting in the Fellowship Hall at 6:30 pm

Wednesday 1/15:

- Logos Youth Ministry 5:30 - 7:30pm

Friday 1/17:

- Bethel Office is closed.

Saturday 1/18:

- Close Knit meets in the Fellowship Hall at 9:00 am

UPCOMING

Sunday 1/19:

- Ashyr Tweet First Communion
- Budget Review meeting immediate following service in the sanctuary

Monday 1/20:

- Boy Scouts meet at Bethel 6:00 pm

Tuesday 1/21:

- Bible Study at Electric City Coffee at 6:30 am.
- Men's Breakfast in the Fellowship Hall 7:00 am
- Childbridge meeting in the Gathering Place 5:30 pm

Wednesday 1/22:

- Logos Youth Ministry 5:30 - 7:30pm

Friday 1/24:

- Bethel Office is closed

Sunday 1/26:

- 2020 Annual Meeting immediately following worship in the Sanctuary.



The Handbell Choir played *We Three Kings of Orient Are* during worship on Sunday.

From Left to Right : Dena Wagner-Fossen, Tamy Scholten, Rebecca Boucher, Pam Dougherty, Kian Ryan, Julia Elkin, Jo Ann Dillum, Ava Fossen, Patrick Ryan, Adam Elkin. Directed by Sharon Mueller.
(Dave Scholten also played, but he is standing behind Adam)

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

FAMILY WORSHIP WEDNESDAY

JANUARY 29TH

7:00 - 7:30 PM



Dave Scholten and Jeanne Rankin accompanied by Kim Peachy lead *For The Healing of The Nations* during World Hunger Sunday.