

## Office Hours:

Monday - Thursday 9:00 am to 2:30 PM Closed on Fridays  
 Office Telephone: (406) 761-1543 Website: [www.bethelmt.org](http://www.bethelmt.org)

# BETHEL NOTES



*Sunday*  
 July 28

## **Serving This Sunday**

### **Accompanist:**

Lynn Ryan

### **Lay Assistant:**

Linda Rosenbaum

### **Usher(s):**

Jay & Ann Tuomi

### **Projectionist:**

Tim Lightbourne

### **Counters:**

Tim Lightbourne

Dena Wagner-Fossen

### **Childcare:**

Morgan Dunn

Isabelle Grosenick

### **Hospitality Host:**

Braget Family

## **Readings for the Sixth Sunday After Pentecost:**

GENESIS 18:20-32

PSALM 138

COLOSSIANS 2:6-15 [16-19]

LUKE 11:1-13

## **This Sunday at Bethel:**

we celebrate the Holy Sacrament of baptism for Sterling Wayne Stubbs son of Bronson and Rachael Stubbs, grandson of Patty and Daren Braget and Phil and Heidi Stubbs. Baptismal sponsors are Danielle and Michelle Braget.

# PRAYER REQUESTS

We are here to pray for you!



- ✦ Prayers for **Faith Crouch** (granddaughter of Bernice Johnson) who is awaiting a double lung transplant.
- ✦ Prayers of healing **Ed Pottratz** for healing as he resumes cancer treatment.
- ✦ Prayers of healing for **Lee Klette**, son of Russ & Cheryl.
- ✦ Prayers for **Linda Juvik** (sister of Sandy Bechard) undergoing treatment for breast cancer.
- ✦ Prayers for **Angela Mart** (daughter-in-law of Jane Mart) as she prepares for surgery.
- ✦ Prayers for healing for **Becca Thompson**.
- ✦ Prayers of healing for **Gary O'Brien** brother-in-law of Sue Hesse.
- ✦ Prayers for God's presence for **Jane O'Brien** mother of Carrie O'Brien
- ✦ Prayers of strength and support for **Don Bisgard** as continues his recover from surgery at home.
- ✦ Prayers for healing **Trina Wagner** (Dena Wagner-Fossen's sister) as she recovers at home.
- ✦ Prayers for **Glenn Vannatta** as recovers from knee surgery
- ✦ Prayers of comfort and consolation for **Patti & Don Godtel** as they mourn the death of Carole Wavra Patti's mother.
- ✦ Prayers for our **FLBC Campers** attending camp beginning Sunday, July 28th.. **Lucy & Grace Schoenen and Adam & Julia Elkin**, for a week of fun, faith and safe travels.
- ✦ Prayers of healing for **Sharon Franz** daughter of Ed and Bertha Ferguson .
- ✦ Prayers of thanksgiving and guidance for **Laura Kupfner** as she accepted the call to service as the Director of the Logos ministry.
- ✦ Prayers for the **FLBC Counselors Mari, Theresa, Kristi, Abbie, Caleb and Damian** as for safe travels and an amazing week of VBS!
- ✦ Prayers of healing for **Rebecca Boucher**.
- ✦ Prayers of healing for **Debbie Blank** as she recovers from surgery.



## Transformed Community: God's Agent of Change

The theme of this week's Vacation Bible School is Transformed Community: God's Agent of Change. The theme verse for the week was from the apostle Paul's letter to the Romans where he writes, "Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God – what is good and acceptable and perfect." **Romans 12:2**

It is such a timely and relevant theme for the time in which we live as there are so many forces at work in the world to isolate and to divide us, militating against healthy forms of community. But we know that we were created by God for community. We long for deep and meaningful relationships. As the apostle Paul reminds us, we are called to be "transformed by the renewing of our minds, so that we may discern what is the will of God.." To live as God's transformed community...God's agent of change.

One of Bethel's four guiding principles is Christ Centered Relationships. We profess that "Everyone at Bethel is a Child of God, from the oldest to the youngest person. We embrace and extend gracious

hospitality and joyful fellowship. We believe generosity fosters joy so we are able to be stewards of all of God's good gifts, through time, talent, and treasure. We center our lives around gratitude to God for the abundant blessings of life."

During the week, we heard stories from the scriptures that teach us that God's transformed community practices radical acts of generosity, inclusion, compassion, justice, and forgiveness. Just one of the ways in which this was lived out this week was that the children made flowers and then proceeded to canvas the neighborhood around the church giving away their beautifully crafted paper flowers to our neighbors.

There is an African proverb that speaks to God's gift of community – "If you want to go fast, go alone; if you want to go far, go together." The week flew by quickly but I believe that we did go far, in the sense of our catching God's vision of a transformed community. It also took a huge effort by many in our community to experience this vision of a transformed community called Vacation Bible School. We had nearly 100 children in attendance each day throughout the week. In addition, we had six Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp Counselors, over twenty Jr. Counselors, and a large staff of dedicated adult volunteers..all who offered loving service to God in living as a transformed community... God's agents of change...proclaiming the Good News of God's generosity, inclusion, compassion, justice, and forgiveness. To that I invite you to join me in saying, "Thanks be to God!"

*Pastor Steve*





## LWR Quilting

6 - 8 pm Monday August 5 at New Hope Lutheran Church, 3125 5th Avenue South. If you would enjoy an evening of quilting and casual fellowship, please come. It's easy, doesn't require any knowledge of quilting as you will be tying quilts. One person is needed to thread needles to stay ahead of those tying. We meet downstairs in the Social Hall; use the back door in the alley. We've completed only 20 quilts this year due to the very inclement winter. These quilts are sent to disaster areas in the US and overseas. Please join us! Contact Trudi Schmidt 799-0100 or AnneRose Rogers 1 269 930-0887 with questions.



### TOWN PUMP CHALLENGE

Town Pump has selected FISH to be part of the 18th annual "Be a Friend in Deed, Helping Those in Need" food bank campaign for 2019.

During the 3 month period from September 1 through November 30, Town Pump will match every donation up to \$20,000. What a great way to double your donation to FISH!! Please consider making a contribution during this 3 month period to help FISH.

## What's Coming Up at FLBC:

### Upcoming Retreats and Events:

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

#### Labor Day Family Camp

August 31-September 2, 2019

Join us this Labor Day weekend for one last summer celebration with your family! Camp staff will lead children and youth in classic camp activities such as Bible study, worship, games, hikes, and more. Adults will gather together for special facilitated time of study and discussion led by Pr. Molly and Allen Sasser-Goehner. All join together for worship, fellowship, and games! Enjoy all that FLBC has to offer during this great family retreat: swimming, stand-up paddle boarding, crafts in the Art Barn, sailing, high and low ropes team building, and much more!

#### To the Mountains: An Adult Wilderness Experience

August 31-September 2, 2019

Spend your Labor Day weekend enjoying the diversity of God's creation in beautiful NW Montana! Join our trained FLBC staff both on foot & by water as we spend an overnight backpacking, a day rock climbing, and a morning sailing on Flathead Lake. Experience the glory of the wilderness alongside new friends and dive into Scripture as you see God reflected in the landscape around you. No previous wilderness experience required, all community gear and food provided.

#### Wellness and Fun (Grades 6-12)

September 13-14, 2019

"I came that they may have life and have it abundantly!" John 10:10. God wants us all to live healthy, fulfilled, abundant lives! This retreat will focus on trying new things for a healthy lifestyle. Learn new skills, get to know your own group better, and meet youth from all over! Discover a balance between mind, body, and spirit. Learn healthy living in a fun way!

# WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

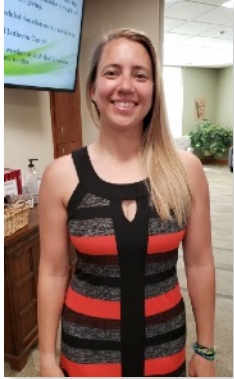
## Elizabeth Crabtree

Elizabeth joined Bethel June 23rd and we are so thrilled to welcome her to our church. She originally hails from South Dakota where she

was a member of First English Lutheran Church in Lennox, South Dakota. She has been in the Great Falls area (Ulm and Belt) for three years .

She loves spending time with her dog and traveling especially to see family or exploring all that Montana

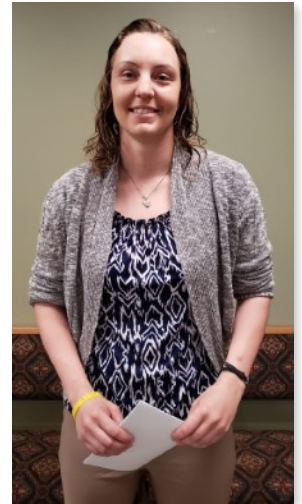
has to offer. She has also started learning to



## Cassandra Ross

Cassandra or Casey to her friends is from well, “all over the western US!” She graduated college in Reno, Nevada and moved to Montana in 2012. This her first time being a “member” of a church and we are so excited that she chose Bethel for herself along with her two children.

Casey loves the outdoors swimming, hiking, paddle-boarding or fishing. As she says “It’s all good!”



## Gracias !

Dear Colleagues and friends,

Thank you so much for your hospitality towards Gustavo Driau. Because of you, we were able to show him a wide swath of Montana Synod ministries, and of our fabulous scenery. Each of you contributed in ways that made it a significant visit. Please share these thanks with the many people in each of your sites who helped make this visit so meaningful.

I wish to express my gratitude to all the people of Bethel for extending your welcome and hospitality to Gustavo while he was with us in Great Falls. Special thanks go to Bob & Mary Lou Norbie for picking him up at the airport and hosting him in their home, AnneRose Rogers & others who provided food and drink for the forum and Synod House gathering. Thanks, too, to Bethel for supporting Gustavo financially, through prayer and communication as our ELCA Global Missionary serving in South America. He came to MT. while on furlough, in order to connect with not only Bethel but also with a congregation in Galata/Devon, (he stopped at Our Savior's, Rocky Boy & FLBC in Lakeside as well), congregations in Bozeman, and (one in Billings) who also support Gustavo's ministry of accompaniment through ELCA Global Missions. ~ Pastor Steve

He was profoundly touched by our hospitality, and our ministry. I think he will return to Latin America eager to encourage further and deeper relationships between the IELB (Evangelical Lutheran Church in Bolivia) and the Montana Synod.

I am very grateful.

Gracias!

Bishop Jessica Crist

# VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

We had such an amazing week and camp and it very hard to know where to begin! From the pictures that follow you can see all the fun, excitement, silliness, and faith that took place within our walls this week. We had about 100 campers and 23 junior counselors. We had a wonderful time.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the following people:

The FLBC Counselors Mari, Abbie, Theresa, Kristi, Caleb and Damian who were so full of energy kept the kids engaged...which is a huge job!

All of our junior counselors who helped in worship, small groups, cleaning, taking kids to the bathroom, and so many other things that they do!

Camp staff teachers Laura Kupfner, Ava Olson, Crystal Dunn, Lynn and Patrick Ryan. Camp helpers Sandy Pepos, AnneRose Rogers, Terree and Udo Wozny, Dew Elkin, Erica Davis, Debbie McCarty, Pam Grosenick, John Plank, Jane Mart, Walt Nussele, Sandi Cummings, Connie Walter, Dina Davis, Krystal Tweet, Sue and Roger Reppe, Tom and Linda Rosenbaum and Patty Braget.

Thank you to Pastor Steve for joining in worship and supporting our camp.

And last but not least a large thank you to Bethel for supporting this ministry, it is truly something you have to experience to believe!





# VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL



# THIS WEEK AT BETHEL

## **Monday 7/29:**

- Boy Scout Troop 1028 meeting at 6:30 pm in the Gathering Place

## **Tuesday 7/30:**

- Bible Study at Electric City Coffee at 6:30 am.

## **Friday 8/2:**

- Aitz Chaim first Friday service in the sanctuary 6:00 pm

## **Saturday 8/3**

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

# UPCOMING EVENTS

## **Sunday 8/4- 8/10**

- Pastor out of the office returning on August 11th

## **Sunday 8/4**

- Rev. John Allen preaching and presiding for Pastor Steve
- World Hunger Sunday

## **Monday 8/5:**

- Boy Scout Troop 1028 meeting at 6:30 pm in the Gathering Place

## **Tuesday 8/6:**

- Bible Study at Electric City Coffee at 6:30 am.

## Montana SWO

### Fall Convention and Gathering

<p><b>WHEN:</b></p> <p>September 27 &amp; 28, 2019</p> <p><b>WHERE:</b></p> <p>Bethel Lutheran Church</p> <p>1009 18th Ave SW</p> <p>Great Falls, MT 59404</p> <p>(near the Heritage Inn)</p>	<p><b>FEATURING:</b></p> <p>Speaker—Rev. Julia Seymour, Big Timber, MT</p> <p>Church Rep—Lois Bylund</p> <p>Women's Health</p>
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## BAPTIZED

AND SET *Free*

*Ephesians 4:5-6 One Lord, one faith, one baptism...one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in all.*





Women of the **ELCA** 