

Office Hours:

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

BETHEL NOTES



Trinity Sunday used by permission from Stushie Art

Readings for the Holy Trinity:

PROVERBS: 8:1-4; 33-31

PSALM 8

ROMANS 5:1-5

JOHN 16:12-15

This Sunday at Bethel:

We wish Godspeed and Farewell to Bobbie Bowen as she joins her family in Albany, Oregon.

Jeremy Stordahl, Young Adult In Global Mission(YAGM) will be sharing his upcoming mission to Australia.

Happy Father's Day!!

Sunday
June 16

Serving This Sunday

Accompanist:

Mary Seim

Lay Assistant:

Walt Nuessle

Usher(s):

Tom & Linda Rosenbaum

Projectionist:

Dina Davis

Counters:

Stephanie Cummings

Dena Wagner-Fossen

Nursery Attendant(s):

Isabelle Grosenick

Allison Marr

Hospitality Host:

John Blank

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) being treatment for breast cancer.
- ✦ Prayers for **Angela Mart** (daughter-in-law of Jane Mart) as she undergoes treatment for breast cancer.
- ✦ Prayers of healing and strength for **Craig Bimler** as he begins his long recover at a rehab hospital in Colorado.
- ✦ Prayers for healing for **Fran Hardesty** recovering at home following a recent hospitalization.
- ✦ 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 comfort for **Sandy Pepos** and family as they grieve the death of her Aunt Esther Schmidt.
- ✦ For safe travels for the **Middle School Washington DC** trip students (Adam Elkin among them) and chaperones.
- ✦ Please continue to pray for God's presence and peace for **Don Bisgard** (Kathi) as he undergoes stomach surgery in early July.
- ✦ Prayers for **Trina Wagner** (Dena Wagner-Fossen's sister) as she undergoes surgery tomorrow in Denver.
- ✦ Prayers for **Ron Nelson** (Kaleb Pottratz's father-in-law) undergoing surgery tomorrow
- ✦ Prayers for **Pam** (friend of Tamy Scholten) who is undergoing surgery for breast cancer this Friday.

.....A PRAYER FOR.....

Father's
DAY

Gracious God,
bless fathers and all father
figures with such love and
faithfulness that children
flourish and grow in
uprightness and joy.
Bless those who long to be
fathers and those for whom
this day is difficult.
Amen.

Words from the Bishop: Three in One, One in Three

Trinity Sunday is the only Sunday in the Church Calendar that marks a concept, not a person or an event. The Trinity is foundational for Christianity, but a stumbling block for others. And frankly, it can be a stumbling block for Christians, as well. How can we say we believe in one God, and yet talk about three persons? Are we monotheists, as we claim? Or are we polytheists, as others label us? Some of Christianity's best theologians have wrestled with the concept of the Trinity. My best way of describing how something can be one and three at the same time is the water-ice-steam analogy. Recently, a mathematician explained how it makes perfect sense if you understand higher math.

With all due respect to theologians and mathematicians, I suggest that we look at the Trinity through the eyes of poets. I am thinking of Richard Leach, who wrote words to an English folk tune, and created an expansive experience of Trinity. In Evangelical Lutheran Worship, "Come Join the Dance of Trinity" (ELW 412) doesn't try to define or explain the Trinity. Rather, it demonstrates it. It begins:

Come, join the dance of Trinity, before all worlds begun-

Already in the first line, we are invited not to ponder, not to theorize, not to question, but to join in the dance! All are welcome, whether we understand it or not, whether we can explain it or not. Have you ever been in a setting when you got drawn into a dance you didn't know and couldn't explain? It happened to me at a youth gathering. I was standing there on the plaza in Detroit amidst thousands of orange T-shirted youth when they began to dance. In spite of myself I was drawn in, clumsy, self-conscious, sometimes going left when everyone else was going right, but in.

This dance of Trinity is not something new—it is from the beginning of time, "before all worlds begun." It reminds me of the text from Proverbs 8 appointed for Sunday: "Before the mountains had been shaped, before the hills, I was brought forth..."

The hymn continues with an image of weaving as a way to describe the Trinity:

The interweaving of the Three, the Father, Spirit, Son.

Weaving holds the integrity of the individual strands, but it is also true that the whole is greater than the sum of the parts. The next line expands into the universe, reminding the listeners that it is not random, that God has a purpose in it all

The universe of space and time did not arise by chance,

And then the song returns to the dance, as an expansive, all-inclusive activity of the Godhead. But as the Three, in love and hope, made room within their dance. The next verses of the hymn describe the Jesus as the "face of Trinity" and the Spirit as the "wind and tongues of flame that set people free at Pentecost."

Come see the face of Trinity, newborn in Bethlehem;

Then bloodied by a crown of thorns outside Jerusalem.

The dance of Trinity is meant for human flesh and bone;

When fear confines the dance in death, God rolls away the stone.

Come, speak aloud of Trinity, before all worlds begun,
set people free at Pentecost, to tell the Savior's name.

We know the yoke of sin and death, our necks have worn it smooth

Got tell the world of weight and woe that we are free to move.

The hymn concludes with a return to the theme of the dance, and the theme of weaving. Now the weaving is the voices of those who have been set free by the dance of the Trinity.

Within the dance of Trinity, before all worlds begun,

We sing the praises of the Three, the Father, Spirit, Son.

Let voices rise and inter-weave, by love and hope set free,

To shape in song this joy, this life: the dance of Trinity.

This hymn expands my imagination about the Trinity, and encourages me to think a little less, and experience a lot more. May God the Three-in-One be praised.

Jessica Crist, Bishop



MESSAGE FROM BISHOP-ELECT LAURIE JUNGILING

Dear Friends in Christ,

“I dream of a Church bubbling with people who are excited about their trust and commitment in the new life already given to us in Jesus Christ. I dream of a Church that lives a responsibly risky faith, trusting in the promised gift of God’s amazing grace, following Christ’s journey into the changing future. I dream of a Church that says to Jesus again and again, “Yes, we can!” rather than, “No, we won’t.”

These are just a few of the words I shared with the Montana Synod Assembly during my speech on Saturday, June 1st during the election of the new bishop. Later that day, the Holy Spirit through the amazing work of the assembly changed my life in ways I never expected. I am honored and humbled by the vote of confidence your delegates showed in me as they elected me to be the synod’s bishop.

In one congratulatory note, someone told me that as bishop, I would never be bored. While that is a little scary, I am comforted by the knowledge that I won’t be alone in this role. Some of you have wondered about upcoming changes to the synod staff. I am so grateful that most of the staff have agreed to stay in their current positions for at least a year after I start my call as your bishop. This will make the transition much smoother for me and for you. Susan Hedahl, who is ready to retire, has agreed to stay through September and is willing to help train her successor as needed. Her presence and work in the office will be deeply missed. I also want to thank Bishop Crist who, over the last twelve years, has exemplified for me what a really good bishop is and does, and who is offering her much needed guidance through this transition process.

As we move forward together, I ask for your prayers. I ask for your participation in the life of the synod. I ask for your support in whatever ways you are able to provide it. I cannot be bishop alone and none of us can be followers of Christ alone. We need each other for we really are “Church Together.” Thank you for this opportunity to serve Christ with you as a sheep and a shepherd, as coach and teammate, as pastor, leader and prophet. May God bless us with the new life of Christ as we journey forward into the Spirit’s future.

Your Bishop-Elect, Pastor Laurie Jungiling



ELCA GLOBAL MISSIONARY GUSTAVO DRIAU TO VISIT BETHEL IN JULY

Our global missionary, Gustavo Driau, the Regional Representative for South America will be visiting Bethel and other ELCA churches in Montana from July 5th to July 15th. He will be preaching at Bethel on July 7th and look for a meet and greet to be scheduled at a later time. In preparation for his visit, we are going to be posting some of Gusavo's articles about Bolivia.

Pastor German Loayza, elected presiding pastor in IELB



On last March 24, the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Bolivia celebrated the 2019 Ordinary Assembly. Pastor German Loayza was elected as the presiding pastor of the IELB. Pastor Vicente Chambi, who is a pastor in El Alto congregations, was elected vice president.

Miguel Gamboa, also from El Alto, was elected treasurer. Daniel Cruz, of the congregation in Sorata, was elected as secretary of the Board. Marie Eusebia Cachaca, from Cochabamba Congregation, was elected as Board member. A six month transition period was initiated the day after the election, it will finish on October 31st.

IELB has developed, in recent years, the ability to reach out with diaconal services and missionary initiatives to new regions of the country: suburban areas, rural communities, indigenous peoples, such as children, women and young people, who are part of the vulnerable population inside and outside the church.

The transition period to support the shift between the outgoing administration and the incoming administration in the IELB seeks to ensure the continuity of services, programs and diaconal and mission projects, so that they are not interrupted by deficiencies in the management and planning of the cycle of the projects that guarantee these services for the benefit of the neediest communities in our country.

In past decades the transitions between the outgoing and the incoming administrations have been drastic, traumatic and seriously damaging for the institution.

This transition period reveals that the IELB has incorporated the lessons learned, and also that the new administration promotes the best management and administration practices to guarantee its continuity for the benefit of the IELB and its communities.

Pastor Emilio Aslla, the departing president, has foreseen and secured all elements for a healthy and transparent transition, likewise the outgoing treasurer, Oscar Camargo. During the transition period, Pastor Emilio Aslla will be in charge of the project coordination, management and international cooperation.

Please continue your prayers for a healthy transition in IELB.



FAREWELL AND GODSPEED BOBBIE BOWEN

Today we wish farewell and Godspeed to Bobbie Bowen. Bobbie has been a member of Bethel for over 25 years. She has been involved in so many ways. She began working with youth as a Sunday school teacher for 1st and 2nd grades. Then in Logos as a table parent, Bible study teacher for 5th, 6th, Middle School and High School. She has also worked with VBS helping with crafts - her favorite "crafts and kids what could be better!"



Bobbie has also been a part of Church Council, Altar Guild and Close Knit. When asked what she will miss the most about Bethel her answer came easy, the support and the people and Pastor. She felt at home from the very beginning and received friendship and support throughout her time at Bethel.

She is moving to her hometown of Albany, Oregon to be close to her sister.

We are excited for her to be with family, but want her to know she will always be a part of our Bethel Family.

Bob Norbie Retiring as CEO, but not from Special Olympics!

Bob Norbie and Mary Lou Norbie moved to Great Falls in 1993 when Bob was hired as the CEO for Montana Special Olympics. Now 26 ½ years later and Bob is retiring from the position, but not Special Olympics.

Originally from Minnesota, Bob started out with a master's degree in business and worked for a company called American Hoist & Derrick making cranes. He soon found that this was not his passion and so God showed him where his passion lay...in Special Olympics Montana.

Bob will retire on July 1st of this year and will begin the next chapter where he will oversee the Special Olympics endowment campaign "Reveal The Champion In All Of Us".

We are so very proud to have Bob as part of our Bethel Family for over 15 years and all that he has done for Special Olympics Montana. For a full article from the Great Falls Tribune about Bob and his journey click the link below.

<https://www.greatfallstribune.com/story/news/2019/06/10/mansch-montana-special-olympics-bob-norbie/1386988001>



Young Adults in Global Mission

Jeremy Stordahl

has been selected to serve as a missionary in Australia.

He will begin his mission in August 2019

About Jeremy:

- I was born and raised in Montana – Son of Greg and Cherie (Pinkley) Stordahl
- Graduated from Charles M. Russell High School 2015
- Member of Bethel Lutheran Church - Great Falls, MT
- I like to work outdoors, and I am a hard worker
- I have a great sense of humor – I like ice cream and long walks on the beach
- I love animals – the Koala Bear is my favorite
- I can't wait to see what God has for me through this mission

About my Mission:

It is with great excitement that I have accepted the opportunity to serve as a Young Adult in Global Mission volunteer in Australia starting in August. I will be one of more than 85 young adults serving on behalf of the ELCA in 11 different country programs around the world!

As part of accepting this call, I am asked to raise at least \$7,500. Please help me reach my goal by supporting my fundraising efforts with a donation today. Through your donation, you join me on this journey as I grow in my own faith and walk in partnership with our global companions. I am thrilled to think about the ways in which this year will form and transform me.

Ways to support my call to serve as a volunteer for the ELCA's Young Adults in Global Mission program!

To make a credit card gift, call 800-638-3522 to make a credit card donation. Please specify support for Jeremy Stordahl.

To give by check, make your check out to "ELCA Global Church Sponsorship" and write "Jeremy Stordahl giving code: GCS3503" on the memo line. Give through your congregation or mail to:

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
ELCA Gift Processing Center
P.O. Box 1809
Merrifield, VA 22116-8009

Online at: <http://support.elca.org/goto/JeremyStordahl>

**Thank you for joining me and for your support –
every gift truly matters!**



What's Coming Up at FLBC:

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!

Holden Village trip

September 22-26, 2019

This trip will begin at FLBC, from there traveling together by van to Wenatchee, WA for an overnight, before continuing to Holden Village, nestled in the Northern Cascades near Chelan, WA. Spend three nights at Holden Village experiencing fantastic food, gorgeous scenery, hiking, worship, and study time together. [Register online](#) by July 1st!

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.

Visit <https://flbc.net/summer-camp-programs/> to learn more about summer programs & to register. Check out new programs like Treehouse Camp, Navigators (for campers entering 1st & 2nd grade) and Seattle Servant.



Painters Needed at FLBC!

We're painting the Lakeview Cabin Complex on June 22nd and we need a hand! If you are a skilled or enthusiastic painter or know one, we would appreciate the help. Invite a friend, tell your congregation, and join us on Saturday, June 22nd. Overnight accommodations and meals can be provided. Call 406-752-6602 soon to let us know if you can make it!

SUMMER GIVING!

Summer is a busy time in Montana.

Time to get out and enjoy our beautiful state. If you are unable to make it to Sunday services the Stewardship Task Force would encourage you to consider a couple of different possibilities for giving. First you can setup a one-time or recurring scheduled donation by clicking "On Line Giving" at bethelmt.org.

Another would be to set-up a recurring automated payment through your personal bank.

Finally, you can mail your check to
Bethel Lutheran Church
1009 18th Ave SW
Great Falls, MT 59404

Giving envelopes can be found in the Track Rack near the front entrance.

We hope you enjoy the beautiful weather and all that Montana summer's have to offer.



FISH! Ministry

FISH is a non-profit corporation comprised of 13 area churches and the Great Falls Y's Men Club. It provides food to the needy in Great Falls on an emergency basis. This ministry is sustained by food and money contributed by many individuals and churches. We serve approximately 50 families a week. We would like to thank the members of Bethel who volunteer to man the food bank.

Kathi Bisgard, Sonja and Joe Baumgardner, Colleen and Dexter Busby, John Blank, Sandi Cummings, Mary Gernaat, Turner Graybill, Marge Holland, Warren and Judy Johnson, Patty Kohoutek, John and Terry Korpela, Mary Lou Norbie, Walt Nuessle, AnneRose Rodgers, Mary Seim, Connie and Steve Titcomb, Connie and Cliff Walter, Terree and Udo Wozny.

There are many ways you can be involved in this ministry. In the entrance to Bethel there is a list of items that FISH! regularly stocks. Purchase the items and leave them in the baskets provided. You may volunteer your time to work at the food bank (located in the Great Falls Community Food Bank building.) You may also donate to FISH! through Bethel by indicating your wish either on the memo line of your check or online through our website, under other donations indicate your amount and Fish ministry.



Bethel Lutheran Church Church Council Meeting June 11, 2019 Highlights

The Bethel Church Council meet on Tuesday, June 11, 2019. Here are a few highlights from that meeting:

- Donna Vinnedge lead devotions from Lutherans' Priesthood of Believers: Concluding Thoughts.
- The dishwasher in the Gathering Place kitchen, changing table installation in the bathrooms, landscape and trees, and roof repair were discussed.
- We will ask the congregation for volunteers to help clean and organize the storage area in the loft.
- The Memorial Fund Policy has been revised. It can soon be viewed on google drive.
- Great news! Tami Grosenick will continue permanently as our Administrative Assistant!
- It was decided to give donations to the following:

1.A one-time donation to the Montana Synod debt-reduction in honor of Bishop Jessica's long and faithful service

2.A donation toward Gustavo Driau's visit via a free will offering to be received on Sunday, June 30

3.A donation toward Jeremy Stordahl YAGM and approval for his raffle ticket sales

To view the May 2019 minutes in their entirety, go to [Meeting Minutes:](#)

Highlights from the ELCA Montana Synod Convention

Meet the Future Boldly



Friday, May 31st, Bishop Jessica Crist opened the 2019 Montana Synod Assembly. Rev. Philip Hirsch addressed the assembly with a report and greeting from the ELCA Churchwide office in Chicago. He explained the ecclesiastical ballot and how this works for a Bishop election. He described how there is no campaigning and that they need a $\frac{2}{3}$ vote for it to be approved. After the first ballot, the votes reported the bishop election initial vote produced 43 candidates for the office of the bishop. Jason Asselstine was first, Darren Paulson was second, and our own Pastor Steve Van Gilder was third. Prior to the Assembly, Pastor Steve had decided that he would withdraw his name if he was nominated, as he feels called to serve as Bethel's pastor. We are so thankful and blessed!

Saturday began with the second ballot. The assembly announced the seven candidates who were remaining after the second ballot. Jason Asselstine was clearly ahead. A Bible Study was given by Rev. Dr. Laurie Jungling on the Parable of talents and Laurie Jungling did a wonderful job!

Then assembly moved to the third ballot. The session returns for five-minute speeches for the remaining seven candidates. - Darren L. Paulson - Laurie Jungling - Jason Asselstine - Scott Hedegaard - Philip R. Wold - Arne Bergland - Peggy Paugh Leuzinger.

The fourth ballot showed Laurie Jungling climbing, and the last ballot revealed Laurie Jungling winning the election for Bishop by 5 votes! What an exciting election! It goes to show God is in control!

Two resolutions were presented:

- The first resolution called the Montana Synod to learn to uplift God's diversity and hold each other's stories and diversity. The assembly is informed that a racial justice and competency task force that will assemble within the synod with liaisons from various congregations across the two states. There will be a contact person to update their congregation and speak on behalf of their community. The resolution passed.

- The second resolution called for the Montana Synod and its congregations to create more public awareness of climate change and how the church together can help in the efforts to alleviate the various issues creating climate change and the effects it is having on people and the environment. The resolution also offers a group with representatives from congregations across the state to discuss people's perspectives and concerns with climate change. This is not a policy adoption, this just a resolution to get churches coming to the table and talking. The resolution passed.

The night concluded with the Montana Synod Assembly honoring Bishop Crist and her ministry at a banquet. Pastor Steve Van Gilder officiated and it was a lovely tribute to Bishop Jessica and all her accomplishments.

submitted by Marilyn Carlson



July 22nd - 26th
for Pre - K ages 3 & 4
(potty trained)

Kinder - 6th

Junior Counselors 7th grade
and up for more information go
to www.bethelmt.org

Helpers Needed:

Host Family for counselors post lunch clean up crews

registration/check in check out

shepherds to walk with campers when we deliver gifts to our neighbors on
Wednesday, July 24th

If you are interested in helping with camp this year, please contact Tami Grosenick at the church office 761-1543 or email bethelmc.church@gmail.com.

Thank you and hope to see you this summer!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR HOPE CIRCLE'S YEAR END PICNIC.

Thursday June 20th 6:00 p.m.

Korpela's 3025 Delmar Dr.

Korpelas will provide the main course.

Bring a side dish to share, something to drink as well as your spouse or significant other.

We will take July and August off,
resuming in September.

Junior Counselors Needed

Calling all youth who will be entering 7th grade and higher to help with Vacation Bible School this year. Areas where you can volunteer are:

- age group activities
- craft/tee shirt helpers
- photo journalist
- general admin help

You will earn 30 hours of volunteer time for college applications. If you are interested or for more information contact Tami Grosenick at 761-1543.

THIS WEEK AT BETHEL

Sunday 6/16

- Happy Father's Day
- Bobbie Bowen Farewell and Godspeed
- Jeremy Stordahl YAGM information

Monday 6/17:

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

Tuesday 6/18:

- Bible Study at Electric City Coffee at 6:30 am.
- Childbridge meeting 5:30 pm in the Gathering Place

Thursday 6/21:

- Youth Group from Living Waters Lutheran Fargo, ND will be staying the night
-

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday 6/23

- Holy Baptism for Grayson Newby
- New Member Sunday

Monday 6/24:

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

Tuesday 6/25:

- Bible Study at Electric City Coffee at 6:30 am.
- Childbridge meeting 5:30 pm in the Gathering Place
- Family Promise Night at Voyagers Baseball

**LAST
CHANCE
TO PURCHASE
TICKETS!!**

Join us for an evening of baseball!
Our friends with Great Falls Voyagers
are having a Family Promise night!
Buy advance tickets from Dew Elkin,
AnneRose Rogers, & Pastor Steve for
\$8, because \$4 of each ticket we sell is
donated to Family Promise!

**A NIGHT AT
THE BALLPARK**

Family Promise
of Great Falls

Voyagers

Tuesday, June 25th

7:00 PM - 10:00 PM