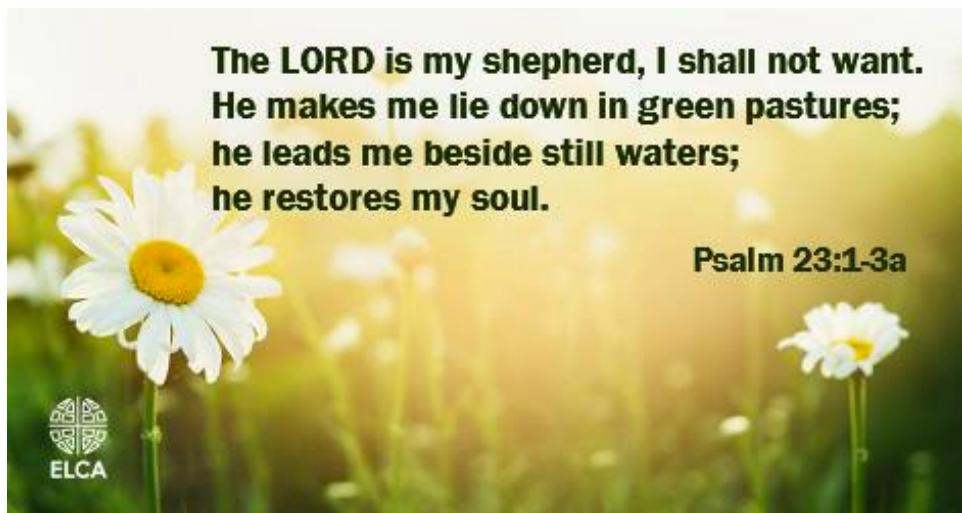


Office Hours:

Monday, Wednesday, Friday 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM Tuesday, Thursday 9:00 am to 2:30 PM
 Office Telephone: (406) 761-1543 Website: www.bethelmt.org

BETHEL NOTES



Sunday
May 12th

Serving This Sunday

Accompanist:

Connie Titcomb

Lay Assistant:

Sandy Bechard

Usher(s):

The Peterson Family

Projectionist:

Ava Fossen

Counters:

Patty Braget

Marilyn Carlson

Nursery Attendant(s):

Adam Elkin

Isabelle Grosenick

Hospitality Host:

Judy & Kelsey Johnson

Readings for the Fourth Sunday of Easter:

ACTS 9:36-43

PSALM 23

REVELATION 5:11-14

JOHN 21:1-19

This Sunday at Bethel:

Our Book study of Paul concludes following service in the Fellowship Hall. We will be covering the last chapter and review of the book. Thursday's group will be May 16th at 10:00 AM.

We also **honor the ministry of the Altar Guild.**

PRAYER REQUESTS

We are here to pray for you!



Prayers for **Jan DeGroot** (sister of Marj Vander Aarde) as she is in the care of Hospice., as well as prayers of healing for **Marj and Bob Vander Aarde**.

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

Prayers of healing and comfort to **Wally Scholten** as he under care for cancer.

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

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 and his family** (friends of The Grosenick's) as doctors try to stabilize his condition to undergo cervical spine surgery.

Prayers for **Thelma Seyfert** as she undergoes some medical tests.

Prayers of joy for **Colin and Brittany Kohoutek** on the birth of their daughter Emery Ann on March 1st.

Prayers for the **people of La Paz, Bolivia**, (MT. Synod Companion Synod) as they cope with the destruction and devastation of the buildings that slid down the mountain and for the recovery efforts.

Prayers for healing for **Fran Hardesty** recovering at home following a recent hospitalization.

Prayers for **Judy and Warren Johnson and family** as the grieve the death of her mother, Adeline Rogers.

Prayers for healing for **Becca Thompson**.

Prayers for healing for **Laura Newby** as she recovers at home from a recent surgery.



TRANSFORMING COMMUNITY!

We are so excited to be planning and preparing for Vacation Bible School Day Camp this year!

Six counselors from Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp will be leading a high energy week of games, bible lessons, songs and worship. We are honored to be able to offer this outstanding camp to our community free of charge. But as you know, it takes a village and there are several ways we need your support to make this camp happen.

First a little about VBS for those who haven't attended before. For campers going into first grade through sixth grade, the days begin at 9:00 AM with worship and singing in the Sanctuary. Then the campers are split into their age groups to do one of three counselor-lead activities bible study, small group team building and games, or crafts. They rotate so each group participates in each activity throughout the day. Snack is provided by the camp and we break for brown bag lunch (camper provided) at noon. After lunch there is a counselor-led group talk with each age group to discuss the day and the lessons. Then we finish the day with closing worship and singing. Camp ends at 1:30 PM.

The younger campers will follow a similar format, but they will be grouped by age 3-years, 4- years, and 5- years. These ages are led by volunteer teacher from our community who will be leading age appropriate games, crafts and bible stories. They too begin at 9:00 AM, but the 3 and 4 year olds are done at 11:30 AM and the 5 year olds will be done at 1:30 with the rest of the campers and they will participate in both morning and afternoon worship services and singing.

We have an amazing group of volunteers that make all of this happen, but we are in need of a few more.

- 4 year old group leader
- post lunch clean up crews
- registration and check in
- check out
- crafts assistant - to shadow Terree Wozny
- 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 Calendar
Vacation Bible School
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

FLBC Updates:

Upcoming Retreats and Events:

Register by calling the camp office at 406-752-6602 or emailing office@flbc.net

Mother's Day Brunch: May 12th 2019

All are invited to celebrate Mom's special day with a brunch overlooking the shores of Flathead Lake! Brunch will be served in three seatings: 9:30AM, 11:00AM, and 12:30PM. Advanced reservations required! \$25 suggested donation for adults, \$18 for children 5-14, under 5 free!

Memorial Day Work Retreat May 24-26, 2019

The best way to kick off your summer! Join in for a weekend of meaningful service work to prepare FLBC for the summer season, fellowship over great food and all the fun of camp! This is a great weekend to introduce someone you love to FLBC- they'll get a taste of camp activities, food and worship... and it's free!

Women's Retreat: Psalms and the Seasons of Life June 7-9, 2019

Join us for a weekend of engaging Bible Study, led by Pastor Susan Briehl, as well as time for relaxation, yoga, massages, boating, great food and more! Pastor Susan will lead us in exploration of the Psalms and of the seasons and rhythms of our lives as we enter and explore the "incomparable treasure" of the Psalter. We will sing and pray the Psalms together, finding in them and in one another companions for our journey.

Partner's Luncheon & Lakeview Cabin Complex Dedication June 8th, 2019

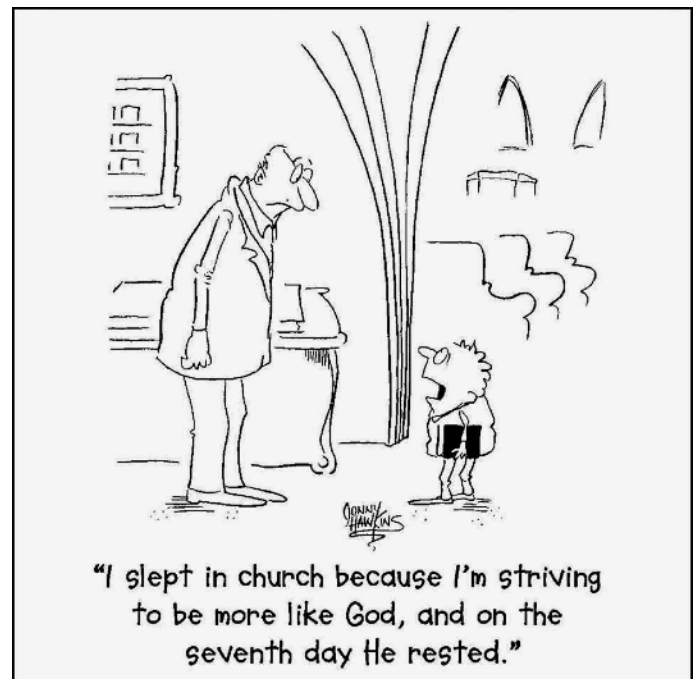
Join us for lunch honoring all our generous Annual Fund and Capital Fund donors! Meet the 2019 summer staff and enjoy an afternoon at camp. We will also be dedicating the Lakeview Cabin Complex this afternoon.

CONCLUDE OUR BOOK STUDY OF THE APOSTLE PAUL

Pastor Steve will be concluding the book study of Paul on Sunday, May 12th after service and Thursday, May 16th at 10:00 AM. Finishing with the final chapter 14 The Last Journey and full book wrap-up. We have enjoyed this great book and group discussions. Stay tuned for next adult faith formation opportunity.

In Celebration of the Jubilate Choir

The Jubilate Choir will be singing for us during service on May 19th. This will be the last song before their summer break. We would like to thank them by offering a light breakfast that morning before worship. If you would like to help with this, please contact the church office and let us know if you would like to bring food or help serve or both. Linda Van Hovel has agreed to organize the breakfast that morning and we appreciate your leadership!



“Tabitha, arise !”

In the last couple of weeks, I have heard the treasured stories told by families about their loved ones who have recently died. It is a humbling and moving experience to companion those who mourn and to learn of how their lives were touched by the lives of their loved ones.

This Sunday, we will hear the story of the disciple named Tabitha (Dorcas) told by Luke in the first reading from Acts, chapter nine. As the story goes, the apostle Peter had been summoned to companion those who were grieving Tabitha's death. “The widows stood by Peter, weeping and showing him tunics and other clothing that she made while she was with them.” **Acts 9** He heard stories from the widows of the ways that Tabitha had ministered to them through her acts of mercy and compassion. I can imagine many were wearing those hand crafted tunics and garments as they were remembering her generous and life sustaining gifts to them.

Peter asked the mourners to leave the room and he knelt, prayed and turned toward Tabitha and

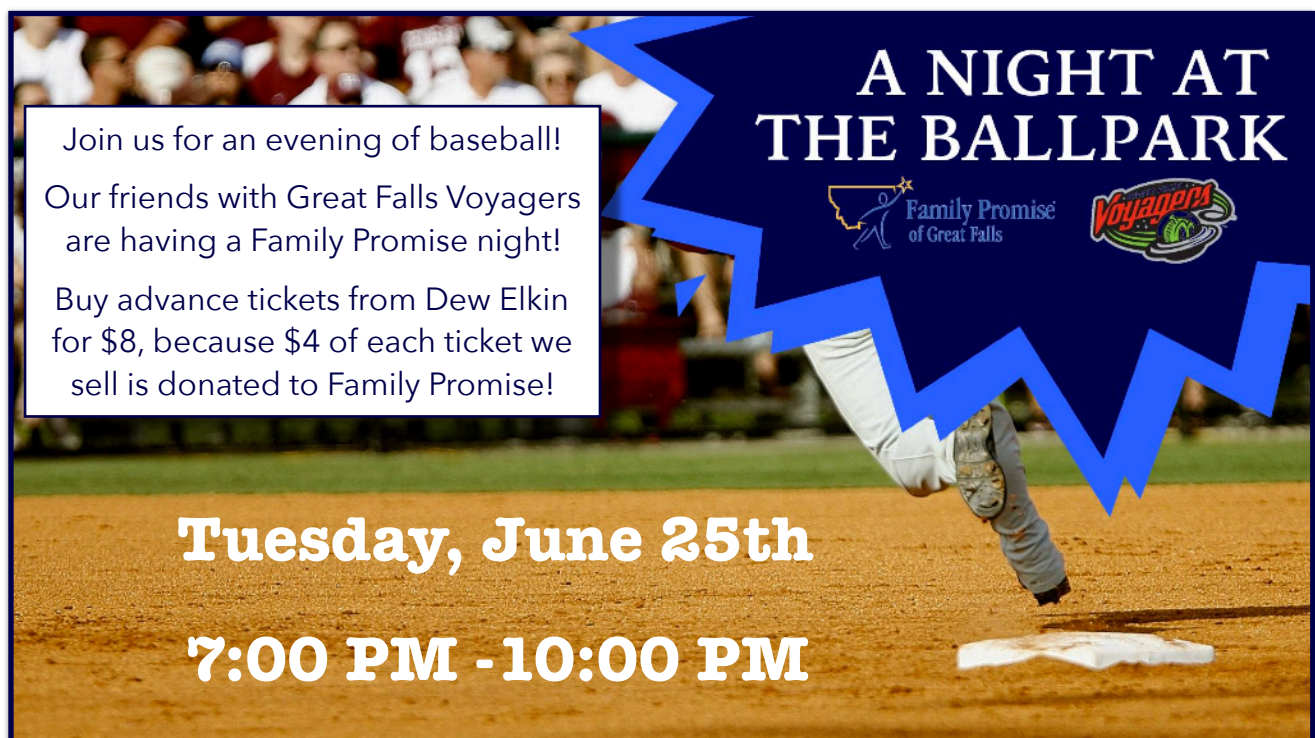
said, “Tabitha, arise!” And she did just that. The “saints and widows” got to witness the miraculous power and handiwork of God. Tabitha, alive! Tabitha, lifted up! Tabitha, returned to them and their community to continue to share her ministry of mercy and compassion for those in need.

In the power and in the hope of resurrected life through Jesus Christ our Lord, we offer the gifts we have received from God in the service to others. This Sunday we will remember mothers, grandmothers, and all who, like Tabitha, offered their compassion and love toward us. Also on Sunday, we will begin putting the spotlight on various ministries within the life of our congregation, starting with the Altar Guild and a week from Sunday (May 19) the Jubilate Choir.

Jesus showed Peter, Tabitha, the disciples, the saints and widows, the world ...and all of us what resurrected life looks like in real time. We, too, are witnesses to resurrected life each and every day!



Church, arise, and continue to bear witness to God's power and handiwork!

Pastor Steve



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
for \$8, because \$4 of each ticket we
sell is donated to Family Promise!

A NIGHT AT THE BALLPARK

Tuesday, June 25th

7:00 PM - 10:00 PM

Farewell to Bishop Crist

On Saturday night June 1st at 6:00 PM during the banquet at the Heritage Inn, Bishop Jessica Crist will be honored for her years of service in the Montana Synod and



ELCA church-wide. There will be an opportunity for congregations, voting members and visitors to express their gratitude via card collection at the banquet or letters sent to the Synod office before the Assembly. Financial gifts in honor of Bishop Crist and her service may be directed to The Synod House debt retirement. Bishop Crist is providing a lead gift to this fund of \$5,000.00.

If you would like to attend the banquet and farewell, click the link below or call the Synod office 406-453-1461. Banquet tickets are \$30.00 each.

[Online Assembly Registration is now open!](#)

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR THE SYNOD ASSEMBLY!

If you are interested in helping out during the assembly we are looking for:

- Help with Worship Preparation
- Workshop coordinator
- Workshop leaders
- Those interested in helping with general errands during the assembly

If you are willing and able to help out in any of these areas please contact:

cmccarty@montanasynod.org

SYNOD

Bishop Election Process

Every six years we call a bishop to serve the Montana Synod community. We create ballots, cast and count votes; and the person with the most votes becomes the bishop. In Montana, we use an "Ecclesiastical Ballot", which avoids pre-knowledge of the nominees, as well as any campaigning, prior to the voting process.

The ecclesiastical ballot is a series of five ballots.

- *The first ballot*, is blank, assembly voting members will write in the name of an eligible candidate.
- *The second ballot*, names of all pastors who accept the nomination will appear regardless of the number of votes received on the first ballot.
- *Third ballot*, seven pastors who received the most votes cast on the second ballot will appear
- The fourth ballot, narrows down to three pastors who received the most votes
- The fifth ballot, are the two pastors who receive the most legal votes.
- Prior to the third ballot, the assembly will be provided with biographical information and each pastor will address the assembly for up to five minutes.
- Prior to the fourth ballot, the three pastors on the ballot will participate in a brief question and answer forum.

All five ballots may not be necessary to elect the bishop.

- If one pastor receives 75% or more of the ballots cast on either the first or second ballot, that pastor will be elected.
- Two-thirds of the ballots cast is necessary to elect the bishop on the third ballot
- 60% of the legal ballots cast is necessary to elect the bishop on the fourth ballot.

The first ballot is scheduled to take place at 3:30 on Friday. In order to participate in this vote, you **MUST** register by 3pm. **Registration will close** at this time and late registration will not open until after the first ballot has been collected.

Prayer for the Bishop Election
by Synod Council member Sue Ost

Dear Lord,

as we prepare for the election of a Bishop, we ask that you open our hearts and minds to your will. Send your Holy Spirit among the delegates to the Synod Assembly as they select a leader for the next six years.

Open communication between church members and delegates. We ask you to help those who may be nominated to discern your call for them. All these things we ask in the name of Jesus. Amen.



Bethel would like to lift up our Altar Guild. These ladies are the silent and faithful support system behind our worship services.

The Guild members work in teams and they are Sue Hesse and DeLoris Wendt, Marilyn Carlson and Donna Vinnedge, Kari Underdahl and Mim Mikulecky, Patty Patrick and Kathi Bisgard, Mary Gernaat and Terree Wozny, Crystal Dunn and Tami Grosenick.

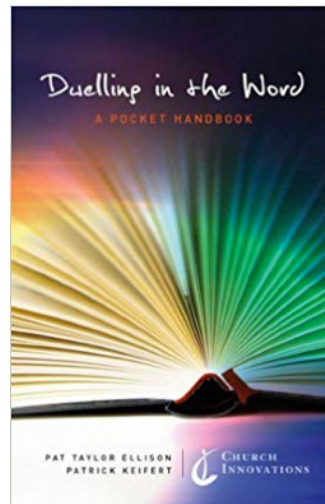
They come to church on Saturday or ahead of worship services to prepare for Sunday's worship. Their duties include setting up for communion which includes filling the chalices and carafes and cutting the bread. Fill the candles on the altar with oil and replace the eternal candle every week and change the paraments and banners according to the church calendar. They also set up the coffee for the Sunday hospitality time after worship. On Sunday, they clean up the altar by returning the consecrated wine and bread to the earth and putting the serving items away. If you see a member of the Altar Guild give them a hug and a thank you for all the work they do.

A Message From

The Strategic Planning Team

The Strategic Planning Team has been going through the results of the vitality survey and the comments received during the small group discussions. We have decided our next step is to work through a book called "Dwelling in the Word" by Pat Taylor Ellison and Patrick Keifert. We feel we will need to delve

deeper into what the congregation members are thinking about the future of Bethel. Part of this process will include 1-on-1 conversations via phone calls and more small group discussions.



The Altar Guild Needs YOU!!

One of our longtime Guild members is stepping down. Patty Patrick has been a wonderful addition to our team and we so appreciate all her dedication over the years.

We need to fill her shoes! If you are interested in getting involved with the Altar Guild contact Terree Wozny at 214-543-7120 or email her at terreewozny@charter.net.

Thank you and have a blessed week!

THIS WEEK AT BETHEL

Monday 5/13:

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

Tuesday 5/14:

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

Thursday 5/16:

- Book Study concludes in the Fellowship Hall 10:00 AM
- TLC Spring Concert 6:00 PM in the Gathering Place
- Columbus MT Youth Group staying over night at Bethel

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday 5/19:

- Farewell Godspeed for Lisa Carlson
- Jubilate Choir breakfast

Monday 5/20:

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

Tuesday 5/21:

- 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

Friday 5/24 and Monday 5/27:

- Bethel Office Closed for Memorial Day

**RISE ABOVE THE
ROAR
VOLUNTEER**

Opportunities
are **NOW OPEN**
for State Summer
Games

May 14-17, 2019

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