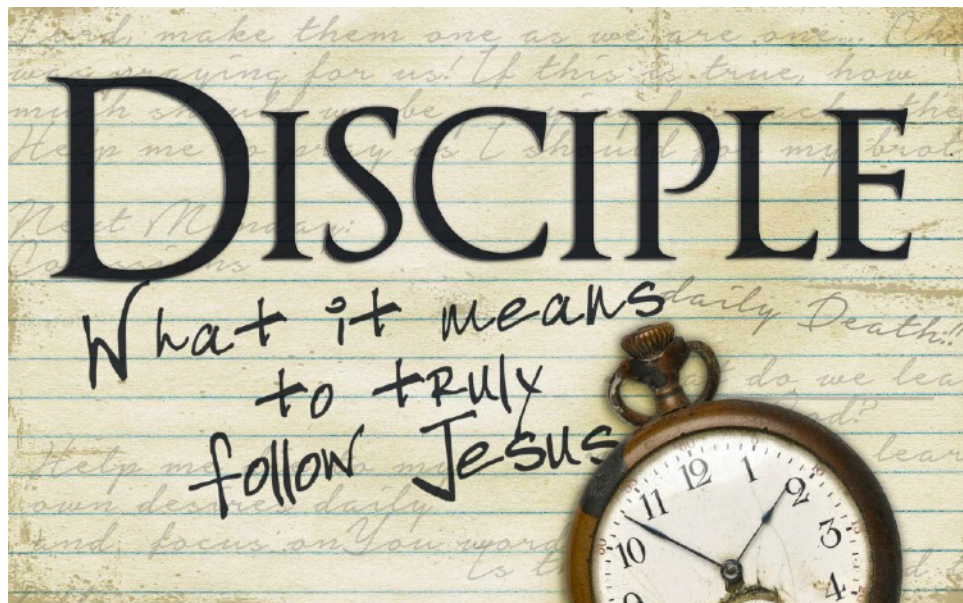


Office Hours:

Monday - Thursday 9:00 am to 2:30 PM Closed on Fridays

BETHEL NOTES



Readings for the Thirteenth Sunday After Pentecost:

DEUTERONOMY 30:15-20

PSALM 1

PHILEMON 1-21

LUKE 14:1, 7-14

This Sunday at Bethel:

Adult Forum following worship (11 AM to 12 PM), you are invited into the Fellowship Hall for some more information and discussion about a decision made at the recent ELCA Churchwide Assembly to become a sanctuary denomination. Pastor Steve will lead the presentation and invite questions and comments. The forum will be repeated on Thursday at 10 AM.

Sunday
September 8

Serving This Sunday

Accompanist:

Mary Seim

Lay Assistant:

Kaye Van Gilder

Usher(s):

Sue Hesse

Projectionist:

Dave Scholten

Counters:

Pam Dougherty

Marilyn Carlson

Childcare:

Morgan Dunn

Isabelle Grosenick

Hospitality:

John Blank

Tami Grosenick

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.
- ✦ Continued prayers for **Angela Mart** (daughter-in-law of Jane Mart) as she finishes treatment for breast cancer.
- ✦ Prayers for healing for **Becca Thompson**.
- ✦ Prayers of healing for **Gary and Linda O'Brien** family of Sue Hesse.
- ✦ Prayers of strength and support for **Don Biscard** as continues to heal.
- ✦ Prayers of healing for **Linda Van Hovel** as she recovers at home from a medical procedure.
- ✦ Prayers of healing for **Marlys Baer** as she recovers from a broken hip.
- ✦ Prayers for God's presence and healing for **Linda Juvik** (sister of Sandy Bechard) as she battles cancer and recovers from surgery.
- ✦ Prayers for God's presence and healing for-- **Dr. Robert Wynia** as he under the care of hospice.
- ✦ Prayers for healing for **Marj Vander Aarde** as she recovers from a recent fall. Also, prayers for safe travels as she and Bob head to the Mayo Clinic in Rochester.
- ✦ Prayers of comfort as **Gary and Bonnie Jensen** mourn the death of his mother.

Young @ Heart Visit South Africa with Peggy Paugh Leuzinger

Pastor Peggy is the Montana Synod's Director for Evangelical Mission. Peggy, a Bozeman native, has served as liaison to our companion synod, the Cape Orange Diocese in South Africa. The ELCA perspective for Companion relationships is on accompaniment rather than missionary models of the past. Peggy will share stories and offer insight into our global relationship with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in South Africa.

Monday, September 16th at 1:00 PM

**Our Saviors Lutheran Church -
Lunde Hall**

Bethel Office Hours

will remain year round.

Monday through Thursday

9:00 AM to 2:30 PM

Closed on Fridays.

Words from the Bishop:

Day 1, Week 1



Dear Friends in Christ,

Today is my first day as your bishop...the first day of the next six years of our life together in the Montana Synod, ELCA. First days are intriguing events, often lost in the grand adventure of things yet formative for the journey. Think about Adam, the earth creature's first day in the garden. Watching creation's garden grow and flourish, Adam was commanded by God to avoid an irresistible tree and called by God to the overwhelming task of naming all the animals; we still haven't finished that task yet. (Gen 2)

Think about Jonah's first day. Called to cry out against wicked Nineveh, he spent the day trying to escape to the ends of the world, napping in the hull of a ship through a divine storm, being thrown overboard and nearly drowning, and finally being rescued by God's fish. (Jonah 1)

Think about Jesus' first day in ministry. Called through baptism to proclaim the Kingdom of God, he was driven by the Spirit of God into the wilderness to suffer Satan's temptations even as angels cared for him. (Mk 1:12-13)

The tomb-women's first day after the resurrection was spent proclaiming the wonderful news of new life come out of death, only to be dismissed as idle story tellers; at the end of the day, though, their voices were indeed heard. (Lk 24) And Paul's first day after his call on the road to Damascus was spent in blind cluelessness, unable to eat or drink, so caught up was he in the firehose of the radical transformation of his life's work. (Acts 9)

My first day of being your bishop is thankfully a little quieter, spent in Spirit-filled solitude as I move into my new office -- physically, emotionally, mentally and spiritually. In many ways, I'm feeling the sympathy pains of those biblical first days as this new life as bishop is slowly birthed in me: the overwhelmingness of the task before me, the desire to run and hide (in the mountains, not on a ship), the anxiety of entering the chaotic wilderness, the fear of being dismissed, the sense of blind cluelessness about what's ahead.

And yet my faith-filled experience tells me that in these first days, God is present, bringing new life into my life and yours. God's creative possibilities are growing around us still; God's saving fish is swallowing us into grace; God's Spirit is ministering to us through the hands and hearts of our angel-neighbors; God's voice is speaking through us and yes, is being heard whether we know it or not; and God's transformation is happening to us as called disciples of Christ, clueless as we may be sometimes.

Change is not easy on the soul; transition is tedious, difficult and overwhelming. But when change and transition are guided by Christ and empowered by the Holy Spirit, the transformation that emerges again and again is the new life that God wants for us all.

Today, on this first day, I know that God is with me and I know that God is with you. God has been with us during the many days of Bishop Crist's ministry and God will be with us during every day to come. In our congregations and homes, in our communities and recreation, across the mountains, prairies, and beautifully rugged wildernesses of Montana and Wyoming, God is with us, making every day the first day of the new life promised to us in our baptism into Christ. So, siblings and friends in Christ, welcome to the first day of the next six years of our life together. May God bless us and keep us, may Christ save us and reconcile us, may the Spirit inspire and empower us as we travel these first days together.

-Bishop Laurie

Friday
Dinner &
Auction

Saturday
Fun Run, Family
Activities, Annual
Meeting

& More!

Fall Harvest Festival & Auction

October 11th & 12th

Join us as we raise money for camperships!

Tickets available at flbc.net/harvest-festival
(click for more information)

We'll see you at our Fall Harvest Festival & Auction October 11th and 12th, 2019!

Help us achieve our goal of raising \$50,000 for camperships by donating an item to our auction, attending, bidding on some awesome items, bringing your friends and family, and visiting www.flbc.net/harvest-festival to find out more!

Tickets to Friday night's dinner are \$25/adult or reserve a table of 8 for a special price. Check out our [event page](#) for more information, to view a complete schedule, and to purchase a ticket.

Upcoming Retreats



B-B-B-B Retreat November 8-10, 2019

Join in fellowship on the lake as we learn new bread baking recipes & techniques, enjoy fishing from the dock or one of our boats, and try your hand at home brewing (with the guidance of Terry Sanderson, author of the book pictured above)!

Ages: 21+



Crazy About Quilting! November 14-17, 2019

Bring your projects and work alongside friends old and new on the shores of Flathead Lake! Plus, learn how to make quilted post cards from special guest, Brian Dykhusizen.

Ages: 18+

More information about all of these events can be found at flbc.net.

You are invited to the Installation of

**The Rev. Dr. Laurie Jungling as Bishop of the
Montana Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**

Saturday, September 21, 2019 - 11 am

Our Redeemer's Lutheran Church
3580 North Benton Avenue, Helena, MT 59602

Reception and light lunch following at
The Great Northern Hotel, 835 Great Northern Blvd., Helena, MT 59601

Clergy and Lay Ministers are invited to gather at 10:30 in order to vest and process.
Color of the day is red.

Your prayers and presence are requested.

"May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which God has called you."

Eph. 1:17-18

A block of rooms has been set aside (under the name Montana Synod, ELCA)
at the Great Northern Hotel until September 10, 2019
To make reservations, call 406-457-5500

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.

Next Family Promise Training

Wednesday, September 11th

5:30 pm at The Hub

Call to RSVP 406-866-0288

Mark Your Calendar for the Crop Walk

Sunday, October 6th 1:00 PM

stay tuned in upcoming notes for more details.

Church for the Sake of the World

Just how does our faith inform or not inform our being engaged with the concerns and issues of with the world. It is a question that's been asked for centuries...even today. Some would say that our church should stay out of the realm of politics altogether where as others say that our faith should inform our works, our vote, advocacy and our public witness.

The ELCA, a sanctuary denomination. It's risky to engage in a conversation such as this one, so one might be inclined not to participate. After all, we know that some topics are just taboo in many of our households and to be avoided for fear of creating conflict and possible division. But history has shown us that when deliberation and dialogue on topics of faith and culture/society are avoided and stifled for the sake of "not rocking the boat" that it can lead to other undesired consequences in the life of the church.

It was a couple of years ago that Bethel initiated some conversation about same-sex marriage and the church. Those conversations were not easy to have, but for those who entered into the conversation, there was a deeper understanding of who we are and how we felt on the topic before us. I remember that there was fear that conflict and division would occur among us. But we anxiously ventured forward.

There are costs to taking the risky journey of following Jesus. This Sunday's gospel is a stinging reminder of this. Jesus tells us that our willingness to follow him might even cause divisions within our own family. Yikes! So we are called to sit down and count the cost and think about the risks. At times it may seem impossible for us to follow Jesus, but he reminds us that all things are possible with God.

So come and engage in the conversation and consider the question of how the call to follow after Jesus intersects with the concerns of the world. It is a risky journey, but also a journey worth taking.

Pastor Steve

Logos Session About To Begin!

We are very excited as we gear up for another awesome fun and faith filled Logos Year!

We are kicking off the Middle School and High School on September 11th at 6:00 PM with team building, dinner, parent meeting for middle school and information session about the next ELCA Youth Gathering in Minneapolis 2021.

Regular Logos kicks off on September 18th at 5:30 PM ages Kinder through 8th grade will enjoy bible study, rec time, dinner and worship arts.

For more information or to print a registration form go to bethelmt.org under youth ministries.

Bring a friend and come enjoy another successful and spirit filled Logos Year! See you soon!



WOMEN OF THE ELCA (WELCA) FALL CONVENTION AND GATHERING TO BE HELD AT BETHEL

Saturday, September 28th

9:00 am to 7:00 pm

Featured Speaker:

- Rev. Julia Seymour, has served Big Timber Lutheran since November 2018. Prior to that, she served for 10 years in a congregation in Alaska. Pastor Julia has written many times for *Gather* magazine, including the 2017 Bible study on the Apostle's Creed. She was also a contributing author to the Whirl Story Bible. Pastor Julia enjoys reading, gardening, knitting, and being outside. She and her husband, Rob, have two children, Daniel (9) and Victoria (6).
- More details will be available soon for Saturday's event

Cost is \$75.00 lunch included -
registration forms are available in
the Narthex

Questions?

Contact Connie Hausauer at
406-690- 4947 or
hausauer.connie@gmail.com



Calling All Bakers!

We are in search of a recipe for an Orange Pound Cake that someone brought to a church event some time ago. Bobbie Bowen tells us that it was so very moist and delicious that she just has to have it! If you are the baker and willing to share your recipe, please drop it off at the church for Tami Grosenick or email it to bethelmc.church@gmail.com and I will get it to Bobbie (and probably try it myself!)

Thank you so much.

Next Hope Circle

Mark your calendars

**Thursday, September 26th 7:00 PM at
the Korpela's 3025 Delmar Dr.**

Remember circle is open to everyone
and what better way to start then in
September, so join us!

Thanks everyone. God Bless.

See you soon!

Terry Korpela

And speaking of bakers...

If you are interested in joining our Hospitality team and would like to get the emails when sign ups come out so you can share your *cuisson* skills, please send your email address to bethelmc.church@gmail.com and we will get you added. The next round of sign ups come out later this month!

Bon Appetit!

THIS WEEK AT BETHEL

Monday 9/9:

- Boy Scout Troop 1028 meeting at 6:30 pm in the Gathering Place
- Nominating Committee meeting 7 pm by conference call

Tuesday 9/10:

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

Wednesday 9/11:

- Logos Middle School/High School BBQ and Parent Meeting in the Fellowship Hall 6:00 PM

Thursday 9/12:

- Adult Forum discussion of sanctuary denomination of the ELCA Church 10 am in the Fellowship Hall

UPCOMING EVENTS

Monday 9/16:

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

Tuesday 9/17:

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

Wednesday 9/18:

- First night of Logos 5:30 PM

*Mark your calendars the first Family Worship night for Logos will be Wednesday, September 25th at 7:00 pm, all are invited.

Thank You

To all who attended and celebrated our 70th anniversary last Sunday. We very much appreciate you being there and celebrating with us.

Gods Blessings to all,
Dale and Leona Ost

It's A Birthday Celebration!! Sue Hesse's 70th

**AT THE BLACK EAGLE COMMUNITY CENTER
2332 SMELTER AVENUE, BLACK EAGLE**

SEPTEMBER 8TH, 1:00 PM

COME ENJOY CAKE AND CELEBRATE WITH SUE.

NO GIFTS PLEASE.

RSVP TO HER DAUGHTER MYRA CALL OR TEXT 788-3170