

BETHEL NOTES



INTRODUCTION

At harvest time we join the psalmist in offering thanksgiving to God: "You crown the year with your goodness, and your paths overflow with plenty." We are grateful for the abundance of the good things of God's creation. Paul reminds us that our thanksgiving overflows into generosity. As the body of Christ in the world, we give ourselves away as bread for the hungry.

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In-person worship is on hold. Please join us Sunday at 9:30 am bethelmt.org

SERVING THIS SERVICE

ACCOMPANIST - MARY SEIM

LAY ASSISTANT - SANDY PEPOS

VOCALIST - TBD

TECH - COLTER MCCARTY

Sunday, November 22nd

Christ The King Sunday

DEUTERONOMY 8:7-18

PSALM 65

2 CORINTHIANS 9:6-15

LUKE 17:11-19

OFFICE HOURS:

MONDAY THROUGH THURSDAY 9:00 AM TO 4:30 PM CLOSED FRIDAY

OFFICE TELEPHONE: (406) 761-1543 WEBSITE: WWW.BETHELMT.ORG EMAIL: BETHELGF.CHURCH@GMAIL.COM



- ✦ Prayers for **Faith Crouch** (granddaughter of Bernice Johnson) who was admitted back into the hospital after 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 finished treatment for breast cancer and continues to heal.
- ✦ Prayers for God's continued healing for **Linda Juvik** (sister of Sandy Bechard) as she has completed her treatments for cancer and continues to heal.
- ✦ Prayers for healing and strength for **Katie Madsen**, niece of Doug Sexe and granddaughter of Arlene Sexe as she is undergoing treatment for breast cancer.
- ✦ Prayers for healing for **Steve Young** (brother of Sue Hesse) as he recovers from back surgery.
- ✦ Prayers of healing for **Rob Brattain** (son of Patsy Berkley) as he recovers.
- ✦ Prayers of health and healing **Kathy Meier** (friend of Dena Wagner-Fossen) as she prepares for knee surgery.
- ✦ Prayers of healing for **Paul Bossie**, son of Sharon Bossie with a recent diagnosis of diabetes and liver failure.
- ✦ Prayers of healing and strength for **Ray Poser**, Connie Titcomb's brother, who has been admitted to the hospital in Billings with Covid 19.
- ✦ Prayers of love and support for **Adrianna**, friend of Isabelle Grosenick, under a physician's care.
- ✦ Prayers of comfort for the family and friends of **Jeremy Hawks** as they mourn his passing.
- ✦ Prayers of recovery for **Rebecca Boucher**, Sharon Bossie's daughter as she has been very ill with Covid 19 and health and safety for her family.

Prayer for Strength

Loving God, we come to you full of anxiety about what may happen in the coming days and weeks. Shower us with the peace and make us into steady pillars for those around us. In this time of uncertainty and pandemic, wake us up to the reminder that we are not alone.

Even as we are asked to keep our distance from others, help us to find ways to reach out to those who need our support. We pray especially for those whose incomes and livelihoods are threatened. For the children who will miss meals due to school closures. For those already isolated, lonely and scared. Loving God, give them your peace, and through our hands ensure they have what they need.

Sustain, strengthen and protect all caregivers. Bless them as they offer compassionate care and show selfless courage in the face of risk.

Remind us, each time we wash our hands, that in our baptism you call us to let go of our fears and live in joy, peace, and hope. Amen.

Christmas Giving



The needs for the Alliance for Youth/Youth Resource Centers new kitchen are the following:

14 tables with 6 chairs per table

Table individual cost: \$116

Chair individual cost: \$24.99

Cost for a set: \$265.94

Donations for Alliance for Youth will go toward the purchase of tables and chairs.



ELCA Good Gifts giving will look a little different this year. Choose from one of the following areas:

Global Barnyard donation will be used to support livestock, agriculture and other sustainable development projects, which help farmers and families with the resources they need to thrive.

Water donations will be used toward providing safe water through irrigation systems, water filtration, or building latrines.

Health Care donations will go toward sanitation supplies, mosquito nets, supplies for health clinics, personal protective equipment, nutrition for children, and vaccinations.

TO DONATE TO EITHER OR BOTH OF THESE CHARITIES, GO ONLINE TO [BETHELMT.ORG](https://www.bethelmt.org) AND CLICK ON ONLINE GIVING. UNDER OTHER: NOTE WHERE WE ARE TO DIRECT YOUR DONATION DOLLARS OR MAIL IN YOUR DONATION ALL WITH THE SLIP BELOW TO BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH ATTN: CHRISTMAS GIVING 1009 18TH AVE SW GREAT FALLS MT 5404.

Christmas Gifts

Your Name: _____

Donation for:

☐ Alliance for Youth , amount \$ _____

☐ ELCA Good Gifts, amount \$ _____ for:

_____ Global Barnyard

_____ Water

_____ Health Care

A Word From The Bishop: Thanksgiving During A Pandemic

(transcribed from online video from the Montana Synod weekly online newsletter)

Good morning, I am sitting out on my patio today working from home due to office closure because of Covid.

Covid cases are rising astronomically here in Cascade County as they may be in your counties as well.

I have a scripture reading today from Ephesians 5. Paul writes :

but be filled with the Spirit, as you sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs among yourselves, singing and making melody to the Lord in your hearts, giving thanks to God the Father at all times and for everything in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

How do we give thanks during a pandemic?

We are coming up on the Thanksgiving holiday and it is not going to be the same as it usually has been. We are not going to be able to gather with our families and watch football and go shopping together in the ways we have before. We are not going to be able to gather for large worship opportunities or go to various places where we have parties. We are just not going to be able to do that, so how do we give thanks during a pandemic, when Paul says we are supposed to give thanks at all times and for everything, in the name of Jesus.

A lot of people have a tradition around Thanksgiving, around the meal sometimes it is around the dessert table or something like that where people name the things that they are grateful for. The things that happened during the

year, the people they are grateful for.

Others have a practice of putting together a gratitude journal and every night naming the things during the day that they are grateful for.

Others continue to ask God through prayer and through hymns and through songs to inspire in them a grateful heart, a grateful mind, a grateful spirit. Praying to God for that attitude of gratitude that is more than just a thought or an idea , but fills our very selves.

Perhaps we need to go beyond these things this year as we are not able to celebrate this

Thanksgiving holiday in the way we might want because of the increasing numbers in our state and in our nation of Covid.

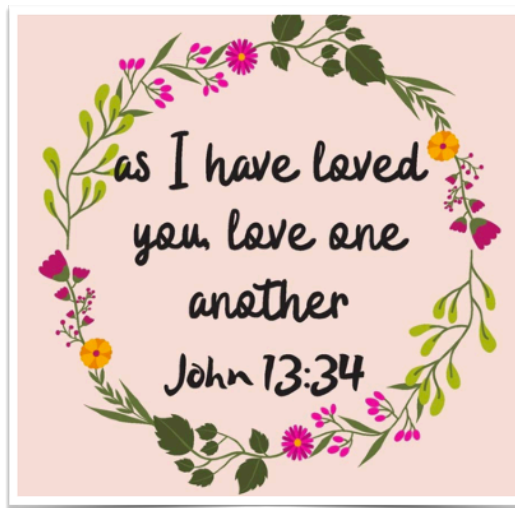
Perhaps we need to give thanks to God through our actions. The actions of our body and our will.

Perhaps we need to give thanks to God for our healthcare workers and ease their burdens.

Perhaps we need to give thanks to God for our teachers and students, who now many of whom are remote learning.

Perhaps we need to give thanks to God for public servants, the county health officials who are offering guidance to us during this time.

Perhaps we need to give thanks for the first responders, the law enforcement, the paramedics, the fire department who still have to go out amongst us and the pandemic.



MINISTRIES

MEETING ONLINE

ELECTRIC CITY BIBLE STUDY

What a great way to connect with one another! Join our bible study via Zoom Tuesday mornings at 7:00 am. Contact Laurie Turner at loli51gus@icloud.com for a link to join the meeting.

MEN'S BREAKFAST

Join us for a fun and engaging conversation, and insightful discussion of this week's Lectionary texts as we meet via Zoom, Tuesday mornings at 7:00 am. Contact Dave Scholten at dscholten@dlsconsulting.net for a link to join the meeting.

WEEKLY TEXT BIBLE STUDY WITH PASTOR TRINA

This bible study is offered on Wednesdays at 10:00 am and Thursdays at 7:00 pm (except the Thursday when Hope Circle meets). Studying the lessons for the upcoming Sunday together. Each week stands alone, you can join anytime! No experience necessary! Contact the Bethel office bethegf.church@gmail.com for a link.

HOPE CIRCLE

This group meets once a month usually on Thursday evenings. Bible study and fellowship are celebrated with this group of ladies. Contact Laurie Turner at loli51gus@icloud.com for a link to join the meeting and Terry Korpela to be on the group email for meetings and prayer requests terry.korpela@gmail.com.

Perhaps we need to give thanks to God for the scientists who are offering guidance and advice even as they come up with a vaccine to make life more normal again.

Perhaps we need to give thanks to God for the farmers and the ranchers and all those who provide food and what we need during this time even as they too deal with the consequences of the pandemic.

Perhaps we need to give thanks for the business owners who keep their stores open so we can feed ourselves and cloth ourselves and get updated technology.

How do we do this? How do we give thanks to God for these people? Maybe we need to take a step back and empathize with them and think about what they are going through every day to keep us safe. Maybe we should take a step back and actually follow the Governor's mandates that he just released yesterday. Maybe we need to wear our masks wherever we go, they protect not only others, but ourselves, scientists have determined. Perhaps we need to practice physical distancing by not gathering with large groups of family for holiday dinners or party situations. Perhaps we need to not do mass crowd shopping this year. Perhaps we need to stop worshipping in person for awhile, for several weeks until we can flatten this curve that continues to climb.

But finally I think what we need to do to give thanks this year is to love our neighbor. Anthony Fauci said, at least has said to have said, that he can't make us care about one another, but that is what we are called to do, is to care about one another. Followers of Christ, our calling our central calling is to love one another with all our heart, body, mind, and soul. We do that in God's love for us. And therefore we need to care about the health and the well being and ease the burdens of and support those who are caring for us. And these are simple tasks, these are simple things that we can handle, they are hard, but we can do it. So please, during this Thanksgiving holiday give thanks by supporting and loving and having compassion for all those who are caring for us and stay home. Wear masks and consider stopping in-person worship for the next several weeks.

May God bless you during this Thanksgiving holiday and praise be to God for all we have been given.

Bishop Laurie Jungling

Daily Texts 2021 Have Arrived

The new 2021 Daily Texts have arrived and are ready for pick up in the Narthex.

This year's focus, "Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert." ~ Isaiah 43:19 (ESV)

The whole world is seeking a new thing to control the spread of the pandemic. These daily verses are also spread throughout the whole world. Each day 1.5 million people speaking 50 different languages look to Jesus to do a new thing by washing away all our sins with the rivers of His forgiveness.

May you daily receive the Holy Spirit's inspiration to live under God's grace so that something new will spring forth in your life.

(above is from back cover of the book.)

The cost of the text did go up a little this year. As in years past, we would be delighted for the first copy you take be with our compliments. If you would like additional copies and are able to help cover the cost of the texts we would appreciate a suggested donation of \$8.00 per text, or whatever you can afford.

If you are unable to come in to pick up your copy, please call Tami in the office 406-761-1543 and we will be happy to mail a copy to you.



TOWN PUMP CHALLENGE

Town Pump Charitable Foundation has invited **FISH** to be part of the 19th annual "Be a Friend in Deed, Helping Those in Need" food bank campaign.

Town Pump will match each dollar collected by **FISH** up to \$20,000 from September 1 through November 30. What a great way to double your donation!



A huge thanks to all who have given a gift towards the purchase of the land on Hughes Bay! This land was purchased

for \$287,500, and thanks to the generosity of many, the FLBC association borrowed just \$125,000. Already, thanks to your wonderful gifts, we have just over \$90,000 to pay back. Thank you thank you thank you!

Family Advent Retreat

December 4-6, 2020

\$140, Ages 13+ / \$120, Ages 7-12 / \$75, Ages 2-6 / Free Children under 2 / \$480 maximum cost per nuclear family

Join us for time at camp as we prepare for Christmas! Make awesome crafts, cut your own Christmas tree, and soak in time for worship and prayer this Advent

Jr + Sr High Ski & Snowboard Retreat

January 8-10, 2021

\$115/person (2 adults free with each church group // Lift tickets are separate from retreat cost)

Come for an awesome weekend filled with good food, fellowship, snow games, worship and FUN!

Winter Environmental Education Field Day

January 23, 2021

\$25/person

Join FLBC for a day of fun and learning! Call 406-752-6602 to register.

For more information click here

THANKSGIVING WORSHIP SERVICE

It has been a tradition at Bethe that we join with other congregations in Great Falls to celebrate Thanksgiving together in an evening worship service. With group gatherings limited and wanting to keep the virus from spreading, we will not be holding that service this year. Here are some ideas that I pulled from the internet on fun ways to celebrate Thanksgiving at home with this creative list and ways to give thanks.

- Volunteer at a soup kitchen.
- Leave a surprise in the mailbox for your mail carrier.
- Donate food to your local food bank.
- Rake your neighbor's leaves.
- Make get well cards and take them to the hospital.
- Collect and donate old books to the library.
- Visit and welcome a new family in the neighborhood.
- Buy someone's groceries.
- Write thank you notes to teachers, grocery store clerks, police officers, fire fighters, or anyone that is helping to keep us safe
- Donate a turkey to a family in need.
- Do a chore for a family member.
- Deliver meals to the elderly around you who live alone.
- Put together a care package for a deployed soldier.
- Pay for the person behind you at the drive-thru.
- Donate old games and toys to a women's shelter.
- Take a friend out to lunch.
- Pick up trash at a local park.
- Write thank you notes to the doctors and nurses at the local hospital.

This Sunday, Pastor Trina will be focusing on the Thanksgiving readings during worship service and can be accessed online at bethelmt.org. This would be great service to re-watch on Thanksgiving morning with your family.

Be safe, stay well, and do good work.



Join us for online worship
Sunday mornings 9:30 AM

www.bethelmt.org

Click on 9:30 Sunday Worship
button and connect via Youtube.

The bulletin for the day can be
downloaded from our homepage.

Stay safe and well.

Calendar Of Events

Tuesday 11/24

- Electric City Bible Study, Zoom meeting 7:00 am
- Men's Breakfast, via Zoom 7:00 am

Wednesday 11/25

- Bible Study with Pastor Trina Zoom meeting at 10:00 am

Thursday 11/26

- Happy Thanksgiving! Bethel office closed

Friday 11/20

- Bethel Office Closed

Upcoming Events

Tuesday 12/1

- Electric City Bible Study, Zoom meeting 7:00 am
- Men's Breakfast, via Zoom 7:00 am

Wednesday 12/2

- Bible Study with Pastor Trina Zoom meeting at 10:00 am

Thursday 12/3

- Exec Board conference call 5:30 pm
- Bible Study with Pastor Trina Zoom meeting at 7:00 pm

Friday 12/4

- Bethel Office Closed

Interim Pastor Trina Johnsten **Contact information:**

Email: bethelgf.pastor@gmail.com

Bethel number non-emergencies:

406-761-1543 ext 202

Cell number for emergencies: (402) 984-4306