

BETHEL NOTES

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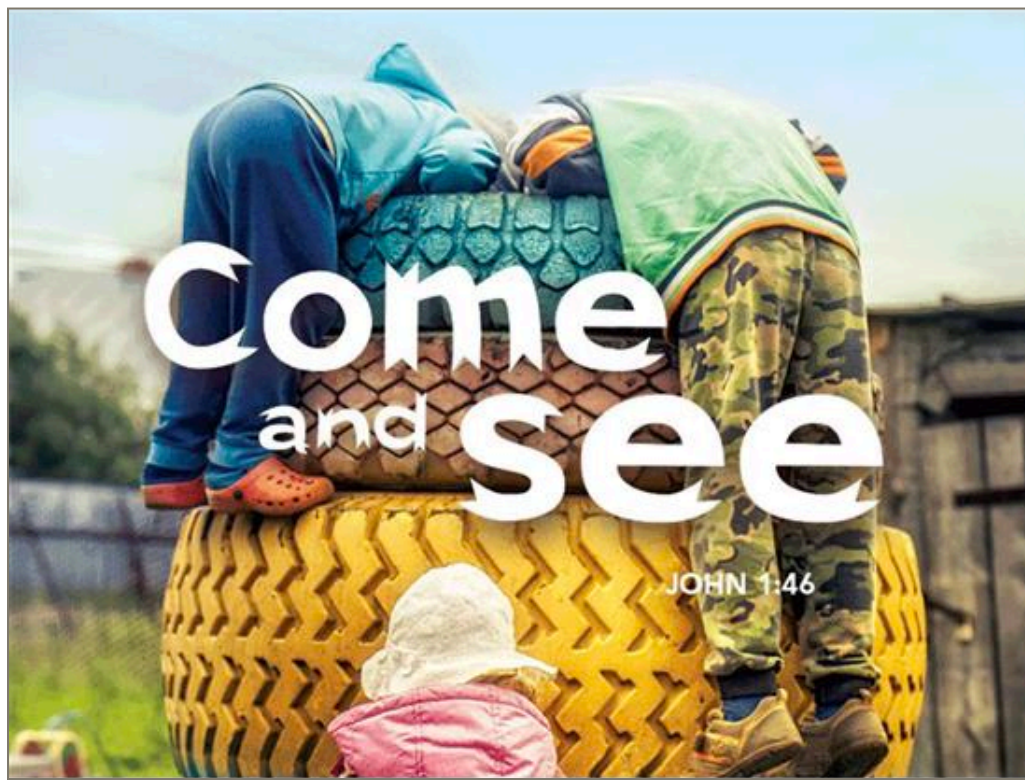
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Sunday, January 17th

Second Sunday After Epiphany

1 SAMUEL 3:1-10 [11-20]

PSALM 139:1-6, 13-18

JOHN 1:43-51

All the baptized have a calling in God's world. God calls not just pastors and deacons but also the youngest child, like Samuel. The story of the calling of Nathanael plays with the idea of place. Nathanael initially dismisses Jesus because he comes from Nazareth. But where we come from isn't important; it's where—or rather whom—we come to. Jesus refers to Jacob, who had a vision in a place he called “the house of God, and . . . the gate of heaven” (Gen. 28:17). Jesus says he himself is the place where Nathanael will meet God.

SERVING THIS SERVICE

ACCOMPANIST - LYNN RYAN - PIANO, PASTOR STEVE NELSON - GUITAR

VOCALIST - PATRICK RYAN

LAY ASSISTANT - SUE HESSE

TECH - GREG GROSENICK AND ADAM ELKIN

SUNDAY COUNTERS - PAM DOUGHERTY AND MARILYN CARLSON

**In-person worship is
on hold.**

**Please join us Sunday
at 9:30 am
bethelmt.org**

OFFICE HOURS:

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

OFFICE: (406) 761-1543

WEBSITE: WWW.BETHELMT.ORG

EMAIL: BETHELGF.CHURCH@GMAIL.COM



- ✦ Prayers for **Faith Crouch** (*granddaughter of Bernice Johnson*) who is home and doing well.
- ✦ Prayers of thanks for **Ed Pottratz** as he responds well to cancer treatment.
- ✦ Prayers of healing for **Lee Klette**, son of *Russ & Cheryl*.
- ✦ 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 health and healing **Kathy Meier** (*friend of Dena Wagner-Fossen*) as she recovers for knee surgery and is doing very well. Also for Kathy's father **James Trunkle** as he continues to manage health issues. .
- ✦ Prayers of healing for **Pam Hanson Alfred** *friend of Kris Voorhees* as she continues treatment for cancer.
- ✦ Prayers of healing and support for **Bob Vander Aarde** as he undergoes cancer treatment.
- ✦ Prayers of healing for **Liz Ambrose** *friend of AnneRose Rogers* as she recovers from knee surgery.
- ✦ Prayers of healing for **Marsha Johnson**, employee and friend of Beth Olson as she recovers from surgery and remains in the hospital.
- ✦ Prayers of support for **Lorelei and Jake Bergstad**, granddaughter of Bernice Johnson, their family and friends as they mourn the passing of Jake's father Jeff Bergstad.
- ✦ Prayers of healing and support for **Dick Seim** as he undergoes medical testing.
- ✦ Prayers of support and healing for **Trudy and Earl Terwilliger** as they are coping with progression and worsening of Trudy's cognitive health.
- ✦ Prayers of healing for **Gary Geyer**, friend of Thelma Seyfert who is recovering in the hospital from Covid.

A Prayer for Inner Strength

Dear God,

Please give me the strength to endure this situation, and to find the blessings and lessons that it contains.

Please give me the endurance to continue ahead.

Please guide my thoughts, words and actions, so that I walk your path of peace and love.

Amen



CAJ



Just a note to say hi to everyone. Looking forward to when we can worship together again. Hugs !!
Sonja and Joe (Baumgardner)



Budget Review Meeting This Sunday

The 2021 Budget Review Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, January 17 at 11:00 am.

Because of Covid, we will be holding this meeting via Zoom. There are two ways for you to join this meeting.

You may join by using your computer (laptop, desktop, iPad).

To join the meeting please email Tami at bethelgf.church@gmail.com for the meeting link. Please put "Request to attend Budget Review Meeting" in the subject line.

You may join using your phone (cell or landline).

Please call the Tami on her cell at 406-788-9587 for instructions and codes to call in and attend the meeting via phone.

Prior to the meeting, please peruse the budget on page 4. If you have any questions, you can send them to Dena and she will answer them on Sunday during the review meeting. If you have questions and are unable to attend the meeting on Sunday, please let Dena know you would like an email response. Her email is bethelgf.council.treasurer@gmail.com. Please put in the subject line "budget review question".

This will be the process for the Annual Meeting on January 24th 11:00 AM as well. Please look for the 2020 Annual Report that will come out next week. If you would like the report printed and mailed to you, call the office at 406-761-1543 or email me at bethelgf.church@gmail.com and I will mail a hardcopy to you.

Budget Review
Meeting
Sunday, January 17th
11:00 AM

Annual Meeting
Sunday, January 24th
11:00 AM

Bethel Lutheran

Financial Summary

	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual	Budget	Over / Under Budget	Budget
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2020	2020	2021
Pledged Amount	179,172	163,562	172,740	183,725	193,020	189,120	189,120	-	-
% of Contributions	77%	66%	67%	72%	76%	82%	75%		0%
Unpledged Contributions (plate offerings)	54,234	86,076	86,946	69,707	67,613	41,752	62,530	(20,778)	235,000
Fiscal Year End -January									
Receipts									
General Contributions (non-designated)	233,406	249,638	259,686	253,432	253,251	230,872	251,650	(20,778)	235,000
Y/Y growth %	-0.2%	7.0%	4.0%	-2.4%	-0.1%	-8.9%	-0.6%		-6.6%
Mission Freedom									24,000
Other Income	6,525	3,063	5,904	3,025	12,921	31,137	5,500	25,637	1,866
Rent - Other	600	1,375	700	900	1,200	-	1,300	(1,300)	-
Rent- Tot Lots	9,600	11,450	12,000	13,500	17,750	18,000	17,700	300	18,000
Total Other Income	16,725	15,888	18,604	17,425	31,871	49,137	24,500	24,637	43,866
Designated Income									\$ 9,800.00
Bethel - Total Giving to Ministry	\$250,131	\$265,526	\$278,291	\$270,857	\$285,122	280,009	270,000	10,009	288,666
Y/Y Growth %	2.1%	6.2%	4.8%	-2.7%	5.3%	3.4%	-5.3%		6.9%
Contingency Funds Spent (Saved)	4,893	(2,867)	(2,302)	33,467	(2,747)	3,558	12,141	(8,583)	33,108
									6.9%
Disbursements									
Admin Expense	9,891	12,447	\$17,368	\$9,995	\$7,937	38,879	12,018	26,861	13,331
% of Income	4.0%	4.7%	6.2%	3.7%	2.8%	13.9%	4.5%		4.6%
Y/Y Growth %	-44%	26%	40%	-42%	-21%	390%	51.4%		10.9%
Benevolence	\$21,968	\$24,230	\$22,649	\$23,490	\$26,227	24,304	\$25,166	(\$862)	\$25,575
% of Income	8.8%	9.1%	8.1%	8.7%	9.2%	8.7%	9.3%		8.9%
Y/Y Growth	5%	10%	-7%	4%	12%	-7%	-4%		2%
Ministry and Worship Programs	25,909	24,960	31,950	36,140	28,719	13,096	27,830	(14,734)	26,550
% of Income	10.4%	9.4%	11.5%	13.3%	10.1%	4.7%	10.3%		9.2%
Y/Y Growth %	69%	-4%	28%	13%	-21%	-54%	-3%		-5%
Payroll	161,432	168,083	166,099	173,839	173,379	161,727	174,440	(12,713)	181,218
% of Income	64.5%	63.3%	59.7%	64.2%	60.8%	57.8%	64.6%		62.8%
Y/Y Growth %	-3%	4%	-1%	5%	0%	-7%	1%		4%
Property	\$35,823	\$32,939	\$37,923	\$60,860	\$46,113	\$45,562	\$42,687	2,874	75,100
% of Income	14.3%	12.4%	13.6%	22.5%	16.2%	16.3%	15.8%		26.0%
Y/Y Growth %	-7%	-8%	15%	60%	-24%	-1%	-7%		76%
Total Expenses	255,024	262,659	275,988	304,323	282,375	283,567	282,141	1,426	321,774
Y/Y Growth %	-1.7%	3.0%	5.1%	10.3%	-7.2%	0.4%	-0.1%		13.5%
						Actual income & expenses annualized			

Council Meeting Highlights

BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS JANUARY 12, 2021

Bethel Lutheran Church Council met on Tuesday, January 12 by zoom. Here are some highlights from that meeting:

- Pastor Trina led devotions with an opening prayer.
- Colter joined us to discuss the annual meeting and new software. He explained several options for running our Annual Meeting during the pandemic and he was extremely helpful! We want to thank Colter for his insights.
- Roll clean-up/Church Registry Update - Council was very happy to see that the church registry clean-up is going well and we have the number needed for a quorum down to 33 members.
- Our on-line viewing numbers are high, with Christmas Eve getting 213 families viewing!
- Boy Scouts need to renew their Charter. Council decided to form a committee at our February meeting to explore all the options and answer questions to support the Boy Scouts. Without a permanent pastor, it is difficult to have someone sign the charter and take on the responsibilities that entails.
- Annual meeting - January 24, 2021: The health and wellbeing of our members is our main priority. Therefore, after weighing the various options, we will hold a zoom meeting, but we will also provide a telephone option.

To view the December 8, 2020 minutes in their entirety, please go to [December 2020 minutes](#).

When will we return to in-person worship?

I think we can all agree that the quality of our on-line worship has improved greatly with the new audio and visual equipment. But while our experience has improved, it's not the same as being together as the body of Christ in person. The Bethel Council wants you to know that we are continuing to monitor the cases of Covid in our area with an eye to offering in-person worship again. At this point we are hoping that we can regather sometime in Lent, but only if we feel it can be done safely. Regathering would involve continued social distancing, wearing masks at all times, limited singing, and no coffee fellowship. We will continue to live-stream the service even after in-person worship resumes.

To gauge the desires and concerns of the Bethel community, would you please answer the following questions either by mail or email.

(bethelgf.church@gmail.com or 1009 18th Ave SW, Great Falls, MT 59404)

1. I am ready to gather for in-person worship YES NO
If yes, how many from your household would be attending?
2. If no, what criteria would need to be met before you felt comfortable gathering?
3. Please share with us your thoughts, questions, concerns about gathering for in-person worship.

JOIN OUR ANNUAL MLK DAY COMMUNITY CELEBRATION

MLK

Missoula's
Martin Luther King Jr.
Day Celebration

Presented by the Missoula MLK Day Planning Committee.

Monday,
January 18, 2021Streaming live on the
EMPOWERMT
YouTube Page

5:50 - 8:00 PM/MST

How to Join:type in EmpowerMT on youtube and you will
see a red live streaming tab. **Click to join!**
Free for everyone.

2021 EVENTS

Land Acknowledgment:

Led by Arleen Adams & Casey Ryan.

Youth Rally:Youth Leaders **Samantha Francine & Lucy Mills-Low**
speak on their experiences, intersectionality, and how they
are so much more than one part of their identity.**MLK Jr. Day History & Recognition:**Led by Missoula's own social justice leader, **Murray Pierce**.**Keynote Address:**Activist, father, community builder, and pastor
Dr. Carlton Byrd delivers our 2021 Keynote Address.
He is the current Senior Pastor of the Oakwood University
Church on the campus of Oakwood University in Huntsville, AL.
Dr. Byrd is also an activist, a father, and is passionate about
building communities.**Community Service:**

Donation drive to support local organizations.

Presentation of Awards:

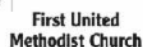
MLK junior youth art and essay contest.

Performances:Shawn White Grass & Brittney Hunter;
Andre Floyd & Jeremiah Coutts; and
Elijah Jalil Paz Fisher; with Sierra Pannell as our emcee.**Accessibility:**

Closed captioning will be available.

For more information about the program:Contact EmpowerMT at (406) 541-6891 or email
info@empowermt.org. You can also visit our website:
empowermt.org/Community/dr-martin-luther-king-jr-missoula-
community-celebration**Other Events to Celebrate MLK Day:**

- "Back Then They Didn't Want Me: A Look at Maligned, Misused, and Misremembered African American Activists."
UM's MLK, Jr. Day address, Thursday, January 14, 2021, 4:00 - 5:15 PM/MST
<http://hs.umt.edu/aas/stories-folder/sanders-mlktalk.php>
- Walla Walla University - Missoula Campus: **Dr. Walton Rose** will be a guest for the MLK Jr. Event on **Saturday, January 16, 2021, at 11:30 AM** live on Zoom. For more information, visit MCRM.adventistchurch.org

Sponsors and Community Partners:Donations and Sponsorships
make this event possible.
Please donate here:

Winter Thursdays (and 1 Tuesday) with NRIT
Join us for the following
Zoom classes in 2021:
Grief: A Class in 3 Sessions
Jan 21 Class 1 –
Complicated Grief, an
overview of current grief
theory and discussion of
grief with Monica Trimble,
MSW, LCSW 10am to
Noon
Jan 26 Class 2 –
Congregational Grief, a
look at how loss and grief
impact congregational life
with Rev. Michael
Girlinghouse, Bishop of the
Arkansas-Oklahoma
synod. 1pm to 3pm
Feb 4 Class 3 – Traumatic
Grief, focusing on pastoral
care during trauma and
traumatic deaths in
congregational and clinical
settings, led by Pastor
Grant Barnett Christenson,
pastor and hospital
chaplain in
Bozeman. 10am to Noon
Classes are two hours
each. Registration includes
all three classes. Attend as
you are able.
To register:
www.montanasynod.org
– Click on the "Faith
Formation" tab, top of the
page and click on NRIT.
Scroll down to find these
class.



Now is the time to start planning and fund raising for the 2022 ELCA Youth Gathering in Minneapolis, MN.

If your teen is interested in going, please check out the ELCA Youth Gathering Website to at <https://www.elca.org/YouthGathering> to get more information about the event and what we need to do to get our youth there.

When restrictions are lifted later this year, we will offer an information meeting at Bethel where we can brainstorm ideas about the trip and what we will need to get there.

Note we will need adult chaperones to go along so if that is of interest you, we would like to know who you are.

We are so excited that an opportunity like this will be so close to home and hope to get a good group together to share in fellowship and fun.

So get your worship on and it's Minneapolis or bust in 2022!

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL IS PLANNED FOR SUMMER 2021!

July 12th to July 16th

Campers

Entering Grades Pre-K to 6th

Jr. Counselors

Entering Grades 7th to College

Adult Volunteers

over 18

We have missed this camp so much and are excited to gather once again. Mark your calendars and we will keep you posted!



Winter Environmental Education Field Day ❄️🌲

January 23, 2021 \$25/person

Join FLBC for a day of fun and learning! Visit <https://flbc.net/field-trip/> or call 406-752-6602 to register.

Tea Party - "It's all about God's love!"

February 13, 2021 2-4pm

\$10/person

Grandparents, guardians, parents, bring your kiddos to a Valentine's Day "Tea Party!" All ages are welcome; our programming will focus on children ages 4-10.

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 tests 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). This group studies 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.

Next meeting Thursday, January 14th 7:00 PM

Calendar Of Events

Monday 1/18

- Martin Luther King Jr Day. Bethel office will be open.

Tuesday 1/19

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

Wednesday 1/20

- Bible Study with Pastor Trina Zoom meeting at 10:00 am
- Confirmation on Zoom 6:30 pm

Thursday 1/21

- Bible Study with Pastor Trina Zoom meeting at 7:00 pm

Friday 1/22

- Bethel office is closed.

Upcoming Events

Sunday 1/24

- Annual meeting location TBD 11:00 am

Tuesday 1/26

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

Wednesday 1/27

- Bible Study with Pastor Trina Zoom meeting at 10:00 am
- Confirmation on Zoom 6:30 pm

Thursday 1/28

- Bible Study with Pastor Trina Zoom meeting at 7:00 pm

Friday 1/29

- Bethel office is closed.

Interim Pastor Trina Johnsten **Contact information:**

Email: bethegf.pastor@gmail.com

Bethel number non-emergencies:

406-761-1543 ext 202

Cell number for emergencies: (402) 984-4306