

# BETHEL NOTES

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## FOLLOW ME



and I will make you fish for people

MARK 1:17

*Sunday, January 24th*

**Third Sunday After Epiphany**

ISAIAH 9:1-4

PSALM 62:5-12

MARK 1:14-20

As we continue through the time after Epiphany, stories of the call to discipleship show us the implications of our baptismal calling to show Christ to the world. Jesus begins proclaiming the good news and calling people to repentance right after John the Baptist is arrested for preaching in a similar way. Knowing that John was later executed, we see at the very outset the cost of discipleship. Still, the two sets of brothers leave everything they have known and worked for all their lives to follow Jesus and fish for people.

### **SERVING THIS SERVICE**

**ACCOMPANIST** - MARY SEIM - PIANO, PASTOR STEVE NELSON - GUITAR

**VOCALIST** - TBD

**LAY ASSISTANT** - WALT NUESSELE

**TECH** - GREG GROSENICK AND ADAM ELKIN

**SUNDAY COUNTERS** - TIM LIGHTBOURNE AND GREG GROSENICK

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

**Please join us Sunday  
at 9:30 am  
[bethelmt.org](http://bethelmt.org)**

### **OFFICE HOURS:**

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

OFFICE: (406) 761-1543

WEBSITE: [WWW.BETHELMT.ORG](http://WWW.BETHELMT.ORG)

EMAIL: [BETHELGF.CHURCH@GMAIL.COM](mailto: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 continues with back issues.
- ✦ Prayers of support and healing **James Trunkle** (*friend of Dena Wagner-Fossen*) 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 healing and support for **Dick Seim** as he had a short stay in the hospital and is now home..
- ✦ Prayers of support and healing for **Trudy and Earl Terwilliger** as they are managing with progression and worsening of Trudy's cognitive health.
- ✦ Prayers of support and comfort to **JC Kelsey and his children** (nephew of Thelma Seyfert) as they mourn the sudden death of his wife **April Kelsey**.
- ✦ Prayers of healing for **DeLores Tubbs** (Thelma Seyfert's sister-in-law) who is in the hospital.
- ✦ Prayers of healing for **Bob Moretti** who is undergoing medical treatment for cancer.
- ✦ Prayers of healing and condolences for **family of Dale Olson** who passed away and Dale's wife **Luella** who had a major stroke. Dale and Luella are the parents of Brenda Smith.
- ✦ Prayers of healing and strength for **Gloria Eriksen**, Terry Korpela's mother, who has had a massive stroke.
- ✦ Prayers of healing for **Chris Johnsten**, brother of Pastor Trina, who is recovering from Covid.



**FEBRUARY 17, 2021**



# Annual Meeting Sunday On Zoom

## We Need 33 Voting Members for a Quorum

The 2021 Annual Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, January 24th 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 email the Bethel Office for the link at [bethelgf.church@gmail.com](mailto:bethelgf.church@gmail.com)

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

To join the meeting this way, call Tami 406-788-9587 and she will give you the phone number to call along with the meeting ID and Passcode. Please have a copy of the budget in front of you.

Prior to the meeting, please peruse the Annual Report that was emailed or mailed to you (if it was requested). If you have any questions, you can send them to Doug Sexe and he will answer them on Sunday during the meeting. If you have questions and are unable to attend the meeting on Sunday, please let Doug know you would like an email response. His email is [doug.sexe@rbc.com](mailto:doug.sexe@rbc.com) Please put in the subject line "Annual Meeting question".



ANNUAL  
MEETING

**Bethel Lutheran Church  
Annual Meeting Agenda  
January 24, 2021 at 10:45 am**

**Call to Order** – Doug Sexe

**Opening Prayer** - Pastor Trina Johnsten

**Approval of 2020 Annual Meeting Minutes** - January 26, 2020

**Financial Report** - Dena Wagner-Fossen

February 2020 to December 2021 - Actual

February 2021 to January 2022 - Proposed Budget

**Elections:**

New Council Members:

Sara Sexe (3 year term)

Laurie Turner (3 year term)

Nominating Committee (need 4)

Doug Sexe

Donna Vinnedge

Terry Korpela

John Blank

Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp Representatives

Greg and Tami Grosenick

Montana Synod Assembly Delegates

Warren and Judy Johnson

**Proposed Amendment to our Constitution**

**President's Report** – Doug Sexe

**Adjournment and Closing** - Pastor Trina Johnsten



## Retrospective After First Year On Church Council

When I received a call from Pastor Steve almost a year ago about being on the Bethel Council, I was surprised. Very flattered, but surprised. I had many hesitations including whether I knew enough about the church, if I could really make a big difference, or if I would even have the time. Through many prayers I came to the decision that I would accept, and do my best to represent our congregation. I am very glad that I decided to, because this has been one of the best learning experiences. Being a student, athlete, and regular Logos attendee, time management has always been important. With the addition of my council responsibilities, I have learned that not only is time management important, but making time for the things that matter most is even more important. Another lesson I have learned from my short time on the council is communication. Especially through the process of hiring a new pastor, I have been able to see how clear, specific, and positive communication can make a huge difference. Not only that, but watching how adults in “the real world” work to solve a conflict. As I get older, I will always remember our council members’ abilities to stay calm and respectful in working through disagreements. Not to mention, all of us are navigating our own struggles in the midst of a pandemic, so finding ways to be clear communicators has been critical. It has been a huge blessing to be a part of the Bethel Council this last year. I am very thankful for the other council members who have led me through the entire process. In all honesty I am still learning as I go, but in the future I hope to continue representing the congregation as best I can.



Allison Marr, CMR Sophomore and Church Council Member

## 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.

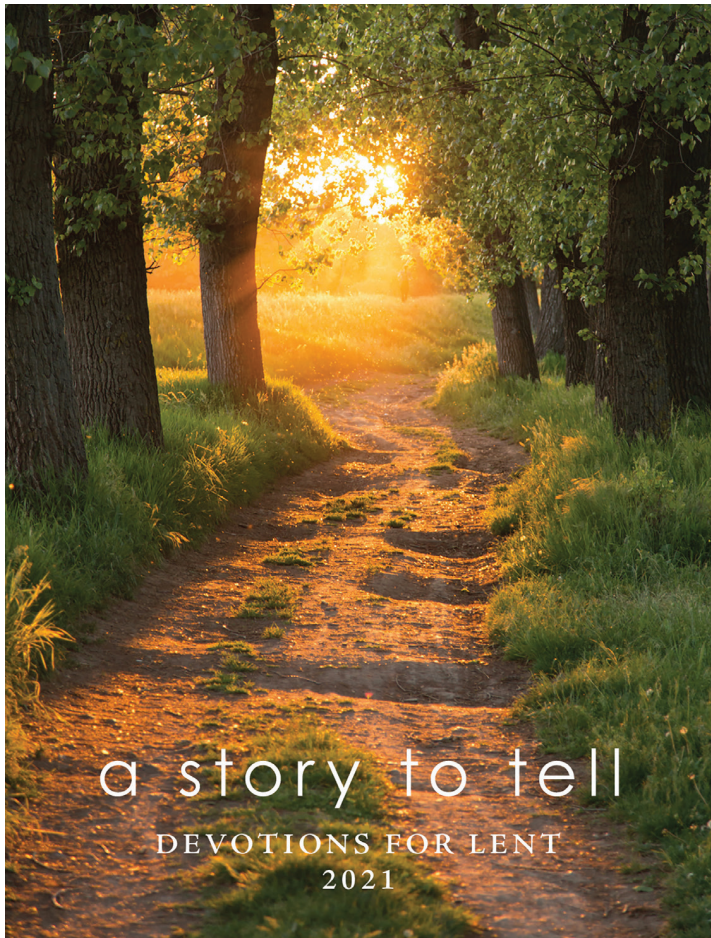
To gauge the desires and concerns of the Bethel community, would you please answer the following questions either by mail or email.

( [bethelgf.church@gmail.com](mailto: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.

# a story to tell

## DEVOTIONS FOR LENT 2021



ISBN 978-1-5064-6949-2

to the next. The urgent tone of the story grabs us and pulls us in, but all the action comes to a halt when those who see the empty tomb tell no one about this. Is this the end of the story?

This beautiful, full-color Lenten devotional highlights readings from the gospel of Matthew with 46 entries, one for each day from Ash Wednesday to Easter. Each reading is accompanied by a photo, a quote to ponder, a reflection, and a prayer. This accessible and colorful format makes it easy to incorporate a simple Christian observance into your Lenten journey.

*A Story to Tell* focuses on texts from the Gospel of Mark that show Jesus' journey from baptism to the cross. The gospel writer has a story to tell, moving quickly from one scene

Bethel would like to gift this lenten devotional to anyone who would like a copy. Devotionals will be in by the end of January. If you would like a copy mailed to you please email Tami at [bethelgf.church](mailto:bethelgf.church) or call the office at 406-761-1543.



## Plan your Summer 2021 Family Adventure!

### Bring a Big Person to Camp! – June 27 – 29

4 & 5 year olds – it's your turn to come to camp! Find your favorite adult (must be 21+) and spend a half week experiencing campfires and worships, fun games, time on the water and s'mores all while learning about Jesus! *Cost: Adults 12+ = \$178; ages 4-11 = \$89; 3 & under = free*

### GrandCamp – June 27 – July 2

A week at camp with your grandparent or grandchild can be life-changing! Form deeper bonds with one another and make new friends as you explore FLBC. Family groups will share a cabin space and experience worship and activities together. Adults will gather in Bible Study with leaders John & Gwynn Munding while youth will join FLBC staff for activities & study. Outings for adults will also be offered, as youth enjoy time at camp with their counselors. *Cost: Adults 12+ = \$440; Ages 4-11 = \$220; 3 & under = free*

### Family Camp Weekend #1 – July 2 – 4

Bring your family for a weekend of fun on Flathead Lake! Adventure in the water, through the woods or just to the Art Barn while enjoying time with your whole family. Adult Bible study sessions will be facilitated by Pastor Barb Gwynn & Pastor Scott Hedegaard (Great Falls) while children will enjoy time learning about their own faith with trained FLBC staff. Families of 2020 Summer Staff come for free! Registration deadline is July 10th. *Cost: Adults 12+ = \$178; ages 4-11 = \$89; 3 & under = free*

### Week-Long Family Camp – July 4 – 9

Adventure for all ages! Bring your family together to experience the joy of camp and dwell in the beauty of God's creation. Sailing, hiking, campfires, games & more will fill out the days; do as much or as little as you'd like! Adult Bible Study will be led by artist Rev. Paul Oman  
FLBC's trained and enthusiastic staff will lead activities for youth and children during Bible study and teambuilding times, (and will be available to be with children during adult activities) as well as facilitate games & activities for the whole family! *Cost: Adults 12+ = \$440; Ages 4-11 = \$220; 3 & under = free*

### Family Camp Weekend #2 – July 16 – 18

Bring your family for a weekend of fun on Flathead Lake! Adventure in the water, through the woods or just to the Art Barn while enjoying time with your whole family. Adult Bible study sessions will be facilitated by Pastor Steve Nelson (Great Falls) while children will enjoy time learning about their own faith with trained FLBC staff. Families of 2020 Summer Staff come for free! Registration deadline is July 10th. *Cost: Adults 12+ = \$178; ages 4-11 = \$89; 3 & under = free*



## 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 [lolli51gus@icloud.com](mailto:lolli51gus@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](mailto: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](mailto: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 [lolli51gus@icloud.com](mailto:lolli51gus@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](mailto:terry.korpela@gmail.com).

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### 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.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Tuesday 2/2

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

### Wednesday 2/3

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

### Thursday 2/4

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

### Friday 2/5

- Bethel office is closed.

### Interim Pastor Trina Johnsten

#### Contact information:

Email: [bethegf.pastor@gmail.com](mailto:bethegf.pastor@gmail.com)

Bethel number non-emergencies:

406-761-1543 ext 202

Cell number for emergencies: (402) 984-4306