

BETHEL NOTES

In This Issue:

Page 2

- Prayer Requests
- Feb. 14th Worship Service

Page 3

- Meet Our New Council Members

Page 4

- Annual Meeting Highlights

Page 5

- 1st Monday Quilters
- Council Members 2021
- Return to In Person Worship Survey

Page 6

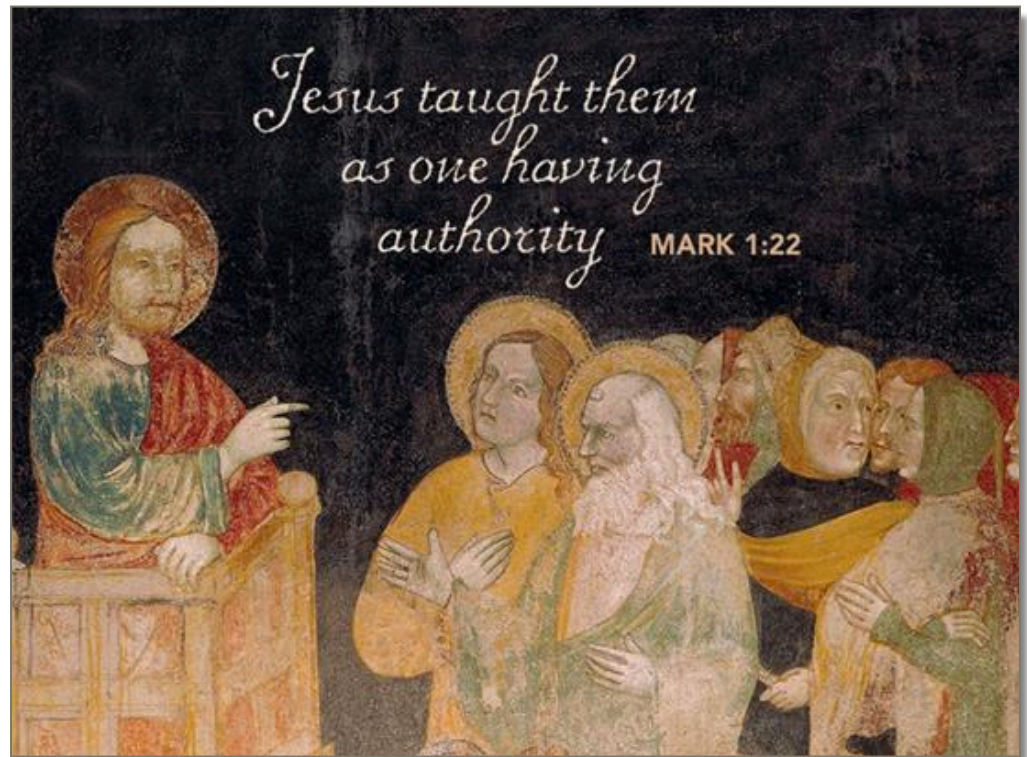
- Bible Studies offered by Montana Synod
- Lenten Devotional Offer

Page 7

- Just for YOUth
- Following Jesus

Page 8

- Online Ministries
- Calendar of Events
- Contact info from Pastor Trina



Sunday, January 31st

Fourth Sunday After Epiphany

DEUTERONOMY 18:15-20

PSALM 111

1 CORINTHIANS 8:1-13

MARK 1:21-28

In Deuteronomy God promises to raise up a prophet like Moses, who will speak for God; in Psalm 111 God shows the people the power of God's works. For the church these are ways of pointing to the unique authority people sensed in Jesus' actions and words. We encounter that authority in God's word, around which we gather, the word that prevails over any lesser spirit that would claim power over us, freeing us to follow Jesus.

SERVING THIS SERVICE

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

VOCALIST - PATRICK RYAN

LAY ASSISTANT - TAMY SCHOLTEN

TECH - COLTER MCCARTY

SUNDAY COUNTERS - PAM DOUGHERTY AND DENA WAGNER-FOSSEN

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 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 **Marsha Johnson**, *employee and friend of Beth Olson* as she recovers from surgery and remains in the hospital.
- ✦ 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 healing for **DeLores Tubbs** *Thelma Seyfert's sister-in-law* who is back in her home and recovering after a hospital stay.
- ✦ 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.
- ✦ Prayers of joy and happiness for **Tim and Beth Olson** as they welcome a new baby girl toward the end of July.
- ✦ Prayers of healing and support for **Tom Rosenbaum** who is managing health issues.
- ✦ Prayers of thanksgiving for birth of Vivienne Margaret Graybill, *daughter of Raph and Marisa, granddaughter of Turner and Jessica*.
- ✦ Prayers of healing and comfort for **Gary Geyer**, *friend of Thelma Seyfert* as he struggles to recover from Covid.
- ✦ Prayers of comfort for **Dennis Johnson's family and friends**, *brother-in-law of Bernice Johnson* as they grieve his passing. Also, prayers of safe travels for **Bernice** who is traveling to Kenmare, ND for her service.

ON LINE WORSHIP FEBRUARY 14TH

We have a treat coming our way courtesy of our two camps in the Montana Synod, FLBC and Christikon. They are teaming up to produce a worship service for the congregations of the synod on **Sunday, February 14.**

Pastor Mark Donald of Christikon will be preaching, FLBC will be providing the music, and it promises to be a wonderful interlude in these winter days, pointing us ahead to the warmer and better days of summer, when we can once again do things like sit around a campfire and sing. A link to this service will be shared in an upcoming Bethel Notes.



A big thank you to all who participated in the 2021 Annual Meeting and getting the business of Bethel accomplished. We move ahead to the new year with a new budget and new Council Members.

MEET OUR NEW COUNCIL MEMBERS

LAURIE TURNER



Born and raised in Great Falls, I grew up attending First English Lutheran Church, transferring to Bethel in 1984. I taught Sunday School and worked with Logos when my girls were in school.

I have belonged to Hope Circle since becoming a member here, and also belong to the Electric City Coffee Bible Study.

My husband Jim and I will be married 50 years this September and have two daughters, Lindsey and Erica, who went to Sunday School, Logos, and were confirmed here at Bethel. We have 2 fabulous grandsons, who are the light of our lives.

I am happily retired after 41 years working in the dental field, and Jim and I can hardly wait to get back out into the world again soon.

SARA SEXE



Sara grew up in Great Falls. She and her husband Doug met in high school at Charles M. Russell High School and have been married over 32 years. Their children are Allison, Payton, and son-in-law Dan. Sara's mother-in-law Arlene, and her father Tom Robitaille, are also members of Bethel. Sara graduated from the University of Montana and the UM Law School. She then practiced law in a Great Falls law firm before becoming the City Attorney for the City of Great Falls in 2013.

Over the years Sara has served on the Great Falls Housing Authority Board, has participated in Leadership Great Falls, has coached youth sports teams, and has volunteered her time with state and local bar associations. Before joining Bethel in 1993, Sara was a member of the First Presbyterian Church.



ANNUAL MEETING 2020 HIGHLIGHTS



The Bethel Lutheran Church Annual Meeting was held Sunday, January 24, 2021 via zoom. We thank Colter McCarty for providing technology support for this virtual meeting. We were incredibly happy to have a quorum so the church could conduct our business and elections for the coming year.

THANK YOU to everyone for joining us virtually so we could proceed with the meeting! It was deeply appreciated!

Here are a few highlights from that meeting:

- The February 2021 to January 2022 proposed budget was adopted.
- A Constitutional Amendment Proposal from Mission Endowment (C5.05.02e) was presented and approved.
- We thanked Doug Sexe and Donna Vinnedge for their faithful service on council. As is the tradition at Bethel, the church will send a donation to the out-going council members' charity of their choice. Doug chose the Maclean-Cameron Animal Adoption Center and Donna selected Peace Place, a respite for families of children with special needs. Donna was given a cross and Doug was given a plaque commemorating their service.
- The following members were elected to serve the church in various capacities:
 - New Council Members:
 - Sara Sexe (3-year term)
 - Laurie Turner (3-year term)
 - Nominating Committee 2021:
 - Doug Sexe
 - Donna Vinnedge
 - Terry Korpela
 - John Blank
 - Montana Synod Assembly Voting Members:
 - Warren and Judy Johnson
 - Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp Voting Representatives:
 - Tami and Greg Grosenick

Thank you to all the newly elected members filling these positions for sharing their time and talents!

If you were unable to attend the Annual Meeting and would like to view a recording, please email bethelgf.church@gmail.com or call the office

1st Monday Night Quilters

The 1st Monday Night Quilters WILL meet Monday, February 1, 6-8 p.m. at New Hope Lutheran Church, 3125 5th Ave So. Please use the back door and wear a mask.

Thanks again to all who have been cutting squares, and sewing tops.

We will be in good shape with a plentiful supply when we resume after this two-month break.

Questions – call Trudi 799-0100.



Bethel Church Council 2021

Warren Johnson - Council President

Marilyn Carlson - Council Secretary

Dena Wagner-Fossen - Council Treasurer

Greg Grosenick

Allison Marr

Sara Sexe

Kaleb Stringer

Laurie Turner

Anne Vannatta

A new Vice President will be elected by the Council Members at their February meeting.

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.



Spirit of the Rockies

(Fridays in February from 2-3pm): A literature and short story review workshop



looking at the ways that people have understood their relationships with the land, animals, other people and the divine within our regional landscape from a wide array of cultural and historical perspectives. Led by Pastor John Lund, Rai Combs, and Celeste Yeager. Open to all ages and perspectives and friends of Emmaus. This workshop will include a reading packet for all participants (free) and will meet Fridays from 2-3pm in February. Starts February 5th. Contact John john.lund@mso.umt.edu to get the readings. Join the Zoom meeting: [https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85943586677?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85943586677?pwd=YlIQQVBWUVRdS9ERE9vbK5FcVJLQT09)
[pwd=YlIQQVBWUVRdS9ERE9vbK5FcVJLQT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85943586677?pwd=YlIQQVBWUVRdS9ERE9vbK5FcVJLQT09)



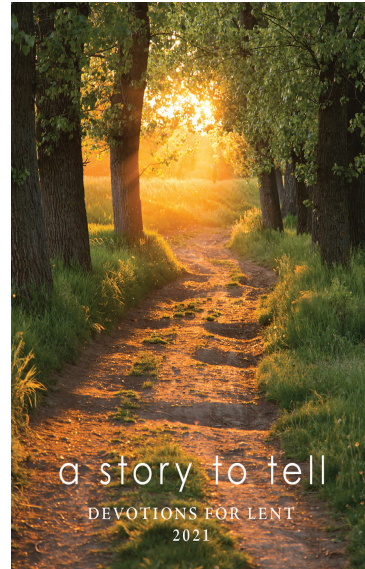
February Book Study: *One Coin Found: How God's Love Stretches to the Margins* by Rev. Emmy Kegler, ELCA (Sunday nights 7:30-8:30pm through February). "Emmy Kegler has a complicated relationship with the

Bible. As a queer woman who grew up in both conservative Evangelical and progressive Protestant churches, she knows too well how Scripture can be used to wound and exclude. And yet, the stories of Scripture continue to captivate and inspire her—both as a person of faith and as a pastor to a congregation. So she set out to fall in love with the Bible, wrestling with the stories inside, where she met a God who continues to seek us out—appearing again and again as a voice, a presence, and a promise." Starts Feb. 7th. Emmaus has extra books to give away. Please contact Pr. John to get a free copy.

John.lund@mso.umt.edu. Join Zoom Meeting: [https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85943586677?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85943586677?pwd=YlIQQVBWUVRdS9ERE9vbK5FcVJLQT09)
[pwd=YlIQQVBWUVRdS9ERE9vbK5FcVJLQT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85943586677?pwd=YlIQQVBWUVRdS9ERE9vbK5FcVJLQT09)

a story to tell

DEVOTIONS FOR LENT 2021



ISBN 978-1-5064-6949-2

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

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?

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 or call the office at 406-761-1543.



FEBRUARY 17, 2021



LOGOS YOUTH MINISTRY

Logos is still on hold. As we move closer to spring and good weather we are hopeful we can once again meet for fellowship. If we are unable to hold traditional Logos we will be planning some spring and summer fellowship time for our Youth when it is safe to do so. If you have ideas that your children would enjoy please email bethelgf.church@gmail.com.



Jesus' Disciples Take home Sheet

"Come follow me," Jesus said,
"and I will make you fishers
of men." Matthew 4:19

How are you going to follow Jesus this week?

- pray for someone?
- help someone?
- tell someone about God?
- read a Bible story?
- worship God?



- Make the clay into a fish shape and leave it to dry.
- Keep the fish by your bed this week to remind you to follow Jesus.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL JULY 12TH TO 16TH

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 February 11th
7:00 PM

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Tuesday 2/2

- Ground Hog Day
- 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.

Upcoming Events

Sunday 2/7

- World Hunger and Communion Sunday
- Fellowship After Worship on Zoom 10:30 am

Tuesday 2/9

- Electric City Bible Study, Zoom meeting 7:00 am
- Men's Breakfast, via Zoom 7:00 am.
- Bethel Church Council Zoom meeting 6:30 pm.

Wednesday 2/10

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

Thursday 2/11

- Hope Circle Zoom meeting at 7:00 pm

Friday 2/12

- 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