

BETHEL NOTES

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Sunday, April 18th

Third Sunday of Easter

PSALM 4

1 JOHN 3:1-7

JOHN 24:33-48

The gospel for the third Sunday of Easter is always one in which the risen Christ shares food with the disciples, meals that are the Easter template for the meal we share each Sunday. In today's gospel, Jesus both shares the disciples' food and shows them the meaning of his suffering, death, and resurrection through the scriptures, the two main elements of our Sunday worship.

SERVING THIS EASTER SERVICE

Accompanist	Connie Titcomb, piano; Steve Nelson, guitar
Lay Assistant	Anne Vannatta
Usher	Dena Wagner-Fossen
Tech	Adam Elkin
Counters	Tim Lightbourne and Dena Wagner-Fossen

**Join us Sunday at
9:30 in-person or
online 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*, continuing to regain strength from double lung transplant.
- ◆ Prayers of thanks for **Ed Pottratz** as he continues with treatment for cancer.
- ◆ 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 continues treatment for breast cancer and is responding well.
- ◆ 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 continues cancer treatment.
- ◆ Prayers of continued healing and support for **Marsha Johnson**, *employee and friend of Beth Olson* as she returns to work after a long illness.
- ◆ Prayers of support and healing for **Trudy and Earl Terwilliger** as they are managing with progression and changing of Trudy's cognitive health.
- ◆ Prayers of healing for **Arlene Sexe** as she undergoes treatment for cancer.
- ◆ Prayers of healing and support for **Sharon Bossie** as she undergoes medical care.
- ◆ Prayers of support for **Kent Kupfner** as he prepares for an upcoming surgery.
- ◆ Prayers healing for **Bob Bundi**, *Laura Kupfner's father*, as he is managing multiple health issues. As well as his wife **Linda** for support during this time.
- ◆ Prayers of continued healing and progress for **Jen, Wes and Wakely Weir** as they continue to recover an automobile accident.
- ◆ Prayers of healing for **Doyle Arves** as he recovers from a recent hospitalization.
- ◆ Prayers of healing for **Don Bisgard** who is working with digestive issues.
- ◆ Prayers of healing for **Shirley Cayko** who will be having a procedure for a heart issue in the next week.
- ◆ Prayers of support for **families experiencing conflict and brokenness**, that your Spirit of peace and love will make these relationships new.
- ◆ Prayers of support for our neighbors in the **Fox Hollow apartments** who were impacted by Tuesday's fire.
- ◆ Prayers of comfort and support for **Sandy Bechard and her family** as they mourn the death of Sandy's brother Bryan.
- ◆ Prayers of healing for **Dew Elkin** as she recovers from an injury to her foot.

CMR Graduating Senior Kaileia Jade Wendt Class of 2021



Kaileia Jade Wendt will be graduating from CM Russel High School this year. Her plan is to attend Montana State University in Bozeman this fall. At this time she does not know what her major will be but will have a better picture of all the opportunities after her visit to MSU this April.



During her CMR career she maintained a 3.7 GPA and was a cheerleader all four years. Her sophomore, junior and senior years she cheered on the varsity squad holding the title of team captain her senior year.

This year she was chosen to cheer for the East West Shrine game as well as being chosen for the CMR Hall of Fame 2021 for Cheerleading.

In addition to keeping up with her school work and cheerleading, Kaileia has worked for 2J's Fresh Market grocery store, has done many volunteer projects and is a member of the TIAH "There Is Always Hope" Club.



We are so very excited for Kaileia and wish her the best of luck and many blessings as she takes her next steps in her journey.



ALWAYS PRAY:

- ◆ TO HAVE EYES THAT SEE THE BEST IN PEOPLE,
- ◆ A HEART THAT FORGIVES THE WORST,
- ◆ A MIND THAT FORGETS THE BAD,
- ◆ AND A SOUL THAT NEVER LOSES FAITH IN GOD.



Guest Speaker Coming to Bethel

Mark your calendars **April 25th** **Worship Service** so you don't miss Jacob Kvale, Operations and Wilderness Director from Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp as he brings the excitement and energy of Camp along with Gospel message and and beloved camp songs.



That Sunday we will taking an additional offering for FLBC.

Profile for the Proposed Nominee

As Pastor for Bethel Lutheran Church



Bethel Lutheran's Call Committee started our call process in August, 2020. Our call committee envisioned a system where we would partner with our congregation in the selection process of our new pastor. From the information gathered from our congregational vitality survey and the information we gathered during our open and requested feedback period, we were able to determine the wide variety of needs that would be the best path forward.

Your committee was fully committed to interviewing women, men, people of color and all ethnicities, as potential pastors of Bethel Lutheran Church. Our efforts were put into a process, that would ensure Bethel would reap with joy, the gifts and graces all properly credentialed candidates could bring to our ministry setting.

After diligent work and via unanimous decision, the call committee is very excited to present **Pastor Jessica Obrecht** as our choice to serve as Bethel's next Pastor!

Pastor Jessica Obrecht is currently serving at a two-point parish, which includes St. Paul Lutheran Church and Grace Lutheran Church in Fairfield, Montana. She has been serving there as a rostered Pastor since 2017. She has been serving in the Montana Synod since 2014.

Pastor Jessica completed her internship between both Peace Lutheran Church and St. John's United in Billings, Montana. She received her Master of Divinity in 2017, from the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago. In 2012, she received her Bachelor of Arts degree in Religion/Religious Studies, along with a Bachelor of Arts in Social Work, from Concordia College in Moorhead, Minnesota.

She continues with ongoing training including, but not limited to: Boundaries Training, Resiliency for Church Leaders, Festival of Homiletics, Communicating in Faith, In Memory of Her- Voices of Biblical Women, and her upcoming training in Religious Giving.

Her area of expertise include: Building a Sense of Community; Global Services; Teaching; Innovation/Creativity and Preaching/Worship Leadership.

Areas of Strength are: Pastoral Care and Visitation; Outdoor Ministry; Ecumenical Work; Recruit and Equip Leaders and Counseling/Social Work

Pastor Jessica has served in Malaysia as a Young Adult in Global Mission through the ELCA, Global Mission board, and the South Africa Companion Synod Advisory Team. She currently serves as a Synod Council Member, ELCA world Hunger Coordinator, a member of the South Africa Companion Synod Advisory Team and a member of the Board of Directors at Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp.

Pastor Jessica strengths include teaching. She states this is one of her favorite parts of being a Pastor. She had taught adult classes on Global Church and the book of Revelations, mission and covenant

making. She loves to teach confirmation class. Her strengths include innovation and creativity. She believes one of her most important gifts is the ability to be flexible. She is creative and adventurous. She is willing to try new things and re-envision ways that can make ministries more vibrant. She believes that preaching and worship leadership is probably her top gift as a Pastor. She feels confident and relaxed leading worship, and prefers to preach without notes, so that she can talk and engage with a congregation, rather than talk at a congregation. She loves to work with the musicians to plan and enhance worship and believes in the power of music in worship. Pastor Jessica, believes that children should be an integral part of any church's worship life.

Pastor Jessica's three most prominent themes that are strongly evident in her speaking, teaching, leading and living are:

Grace Oriented: She believes that God is continually transforming us as individuals and communities in this lifelong endeavor of discipleship

Community Oriented: In the midst of our lives in faith, we NEED each other and we NEED God.

Christ Centered: She believes that the teachings, life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ may be the most exciting and life-giving witness she has ever encountered.

Pastor Jessica has stated she is a passionate leader who is confident in God's active work in the world and the life-giving nature of the Gospel. She feels called to serve God's church and God's world through the work of creating relationships, building up communities, and having international conversations about faith and life.

Pastor Jessica is currently in a long-term, romantic relationship with a woman. She understands that this may be difficult for some members of our congregation, however we have expressed to her that Bethel has a belief and commitment that all are WELCOME through our doors. Her relationship status is not central to her ministry as a Pastor, her preaching style, or her teaching focus.

Your Pastoral Call Committee has spent several hours in the interview process with this candidate and each member has agreed this is the candidate that meets the goals and objectives for Bethel Lutheran Church. Please feel free to contact one of the call committee members if you have any questions.

Blessings,
Bethel Pastoral Call Committee

SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

We will be holding a special congregational meeting on Sunday, April 25 at 10:30, after the service. The purpose of this meeting is to vote on our pastoral candidate, Reverend Jessica Obrecht. This meeting will be in-person and on Zoom. Information on how to join via Zoom will be in upcoming Bethel Notes. Please plan to join us for this exciting time in the life of our church!

Mother's Day Brunch

Sunday, May 9th 2021
at Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp
 550 Lutheran Camp Road Lakeside, MT 59922



Celebrate Mother's Day on the lake!
 3 seatings available: 9:30 am, 11:00 am and 12:30 pm
 Please call 406-752-6602 to reserve your spot by May 1st!

Suggested donation:
 \$25 ages 12+ | \$18 ages 4-11 | Free ages 3 and under
 All donations go towards FLBC camper ships.

Brunch will be served at your table! Choose from a select menu of egg dishes, meat items, and sides and enjoy treats readily available on your table when you arrive.

New Rocky Mountain College Graduate - Karrie Pepos

Matt and Sandy Pepos along with Grandmother Cheri Schmidt are pleased to announce the graduation of Karolina Catherine Pepos with high honors (Summa Cum Laude) from Rocky Mountain College in Billings, Montana on April 17, 2021. Due to the pandemic the graduation is closed to the public and is for the graduates only. We are sharing the link for graduation that will be live streamed. <https://www.rocky.edu>.

Karolina is a 2017 graduate of Great Falls High School and became involved with Rocky Mountain College as a member of Choir as well as an Ambassador. She sang through college at games and the highlight was singing at the NAIA National Basketball Tournament. Graduating with a Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education and with a minor In Reading K-12, Karolina will be staying in Billings and has secured a long-term substitute teaching position with the Billings Public School System. As an active member of Bethel Lutheran Church, Karolina was involved with the LOGOS youth ministry, Jubilate Choir, worked in the Church Nursery and went on to become a camp counselor for two summers at Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp - this also led to a position as a youth worker at Atonement Lutheran in Billings for three years.



If you wish to send a card to Karolina here is her address:

Karolina Pepos
 2027 Virginia Lane
 Billings, MT 59102

(No gifts please - she is requesting prayers and your cards are fine.)

We want to thank our Bethel family for the ongoing support and prayers and we hope she will be home soon for a visit on a Sunday.



TEACH ME, LORD

by Heather Flood

Teach me, Lord,
 What I don't know.
 Show me which way
 And where to go.
 Alone I stumble,
 Alone I fall,
 But your gentle voice
 Leads through it all.
 Take my hand,
 Light my way,
 Be my beacon
 Night and day.
 I am weak
 And sometimes so low,
 But you give me strength
 And make me whole.
 Teach me, Lord and Father.
 Your child has become like new.
 Empty me of myself
 So I can live for you.

Upcoming At FLBC

Visit <https://flbc.net/annual-programming/> to learn more about our year-round programming and to find additional COVID-19 related information.

Keep your eyes open for more information coming to you soon about FLBC's backpacking trip with Bishop Jungling, taking place August 22-26, 2021!

Memorial Day Family Retreat & Work Weekend

May 28-31, 2021

FREE! Registration still required :-)
 Come have a fun weekend and help FLBC get ready for summer!

Summer Camp Registration is Open!
 go to floc.net for camp dates.

Bethel Camperships available.
 Once you register for camp. Send your registration confirmation to

Bethel Lutheran Church
 1009 18th Ave SW
 Great Falls, MT 59404

or email: bethelgf.church@gmail.com

We will pay \$100 towards your camp fee. If you or someone you know would like to go to camp and finances are an issue, have them call Bethel and we can help 406-761-1543.

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 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 each week's Lectionary tests as we meet via Zoom, Wednesday 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. 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 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.

Next Hope Circle
Thursday, April 15th 7:00 PM

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Tuesday 4/20

- Electric City Bible Study, Zoom meeting 7:00 am
- Church Council meeting via Zoom 6:30 pm

Wednesday 4/21

- **NEW DAY!** Men's Breakfast, via Zoom 7:00 am.
- Bible Study with Pastor Trina Zoom meeting at 10:00 am
- Confirmation on Zoom 6:30 pm.
- HS Logos meets in the Fellowship Hall 6:30 pm

Thursday 4/22

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

Friday 4/23

- Bethel office is closed.

Upcoming Events

Sunday 4/25

- Sunday Worship in-person and live stream 9:30 am. Jacob Kvale from FLBC will be preaching from FLBC, as Pastor Trina presides at our Lord's table.
- Special Congregational Meeting in-person and Zoom 10:30 am.
- Worship Planning meeting to follow via Zoom 11:00 am.

Tuesday 4/26

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

Wednesday 4/27

- Bible Study with Pastor Trina Zoom meeting at 10:00 am
- Confirmation on Zoom 6:30 pm.
- HS Logos meets in the Fellowship Hall 6:30 pm

Thursday 4/28

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

Friday 4/29

- Bethel office is closed.

Saturday 5/1

- Close Knit meets in the Fellowship Hall 9:00 am

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