

# BETHEL NOTES

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*Sunday, May 23rd*

**Day of Pentecost**

**ACTS 2:1-21**

**ROMANS 8:22-27**

**JOHN 15:26-27; 16:4B-15**

Fifty days after Easter, we celebrate the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost. Crossing all boundaries that would separate us, the Spirit brings the wideness of God's mercy to places we least expect it—to a crowd of strangers of different lands and tongues, to dry bones, to our weak hearts. Jesus promises his disciples that they will be accompanied by the Holy Spirit, and that this Spirit reveals the truth. We celebrate that we too have been visited with this same Spirit. Guided by the truth, we join together in worship, and then disperse to share the fullness of Christ's love with the world.

## **SERVING THIS EASTER SERVICE**

<b>Accompanist</b>	Connie Titcomb, piano
<b>Lay Assistant</b>	Judy Statham
<b>Usher</b>	Walt Nuessle
<b>Tech</b>	Adam Elkin
<b>Counters</b>	Stephanie Cummings and Warren Johnson

**Join us Sunday at  
9:30 in-person or  
online [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*, 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 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 healing for **Bob Bundi**, *Laura Kupfner's father*, as he is managing multiple health issues. As well as his wife **Linda** after a hospital stay.
- ✦ Prayers of healing for **Dew Elkin** as she continues to heal from a broken foot.
- ✦ Prayers of comfort and support for **Tom and Linda Rosenbaum**, as Tom's health declines that he gets the care he needs as well as love and care to Linda as she cares for him.
- ✦ Prayers of healing for **Leonard Murphy** as he recovers from knee surgery.
- ✦ Prayers of healing for **Shirley Cayko** as she has further testing for her heart.
- ✦ Prayers of thanksgiving and blessings to **Pastor Trina Johnsten** and Dennis Trotter as they conclude their time with us at Bethel. Pastor Trina will be serving at Our Redeemer's Lutheran Church in Helena, Montana beginning in August.
- ✦ Prayers of healing for **Paulette Patterson**, *daughter of Dale and Leona Ost*, as she has recovers from shoulder surgery.
- ✦ Prayers of comfort, support and healing for **Don and Kathi Bisgard** as they prepare for Don's surgery coming up May 19th in Kalispell.



This Sunday we welcome and thank Dave Scholten who is preaching and presiding our worship service.

We will also be receiving a special offering for Freedom in Christ Prison ministry (see article on page 5.)

## Final Thought from Pastor Trina

It seems kind of fitting that the masks are suddenly coming off my last week with you! (Thanks, CDC!) I shared my personal trepidation with you my first Sunday: How was I ever going to get to know a congregation whose faces I couldn't see?

And yet so many of you signed up for one-on-one, socially distanced introductions those first couple months. And I got to hear your stories...stories of joy and triumph, stories of loss and sorrow...but mostly stories of how important the people and ministry of Bethel are to you. I hope you got to hear the Faith Statements of our six students who were confirmed on May 16 (if not, here's the link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EKABrCD5zBM&t=20s>), because they all talked about how important the ministry of this congregation has been in the development of their faith.

The pandemic really impacted our life together this year. There are many things I wish I'd gotten to see in action at Bethel: LOGOS, the grandeur of Christmas Eve and Easter Sunday worship, coffee fellowship and potlucks. But I wouldn't trade the great community that was created via Zoom in weekly Bible studies and Confirmation class for anything. But I am very glad that Pastor Jessie will get to know you post-covid. She'll never be surprised by who has braces or dimples or a full beard; she will see your beautiful faces from the beginning. May your years of ministry together be a blessing to Great Falls and beyond.

Thank you for letting Dennis and me join you in ministry in this interim period. We will be cheering you on from afar, knowing that lots of good ministry will pour forth in the years to come. And you will always be in our prayers. Please keep us in yours, as we get to know the people of Our Redeemer's Lutheran in Helena. I will start there in August as their Interim Lead Pastor. And if you find yourself in Helena on a Sunday, please join us. I'll be overjoyed to see your beloved faces.

Pastor Trina Johnsten



**A THANK YOU GIFT  
OF A PRAYER  
SHAWL GIVEN BY  
LAURIE TURNER.**



**A WORD OF THANKS  
AND FAREWELL,  
DENNIS AND  
PASTOR TRINA WITH  
DAN AND ALLISON  
MORRIS.**

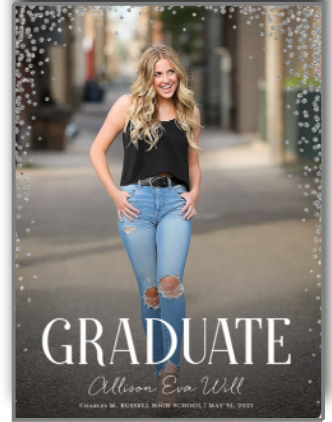


**LAUGHTER IS THE BEST MEDICINE WHEN IT IS  
HARD TO SAY GOOD-BYE. PASTOR TRINA, DAVE  
SCHOLTEN AND WARREN JOHNSON.**



# GRADUATING SENIOR

Allison Will is graduating from CMR High School. Allison is excited to start school this fall at University of Montana to study Nursing.



## Council Meeting Highlights

### BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS MAY 11, 2021

Bethel Lutheran Church Council met on Tuesday, May 11 by zoom. Here are some highlights from that meeting:

- Pastor Trina led devotions by sharing some reflections from the eighth-grade confirmation students' faith statements.
- Administrative Assistant Tami reported the May Day Clean-up was a success and plans are underway for Vacation Bible School.
- Council approved a request from [Freedom in Christ Prison Ministry](#) to hold a separate special freewill offering Sunday, May 23 in honor of 10 years of service.
- We will continue to revisit the transition protocol regarding the reopening of the church monthly. It was agreed to remove the bathroom occupancy restrictions. Individually wrapped snacks may be served outdoors during a reception for Pastor Trina's departure and the Confirmation Service, both on May 16.
- Pastor Trina submitted a petition to accept the confirmation students to be confirmed on May 16. Council accepted the petition.



Our faithful Council President, Warren Johnson, Zooming into the Council Meeting while on vacation!

To view the April minutes in their entirety, please go to [April 2021 minutes](#).

## Freedom In Christ Prison Ministry

### Opportunities to Serve

~Pruning Shrubs in North and West flower beds.

~Sand and stain benches and picnic table on the patio.

~Clean leaves and debris out of the AC unit on the patio.

~West side benches, sand and stain.

~Bethel Sign, scrape and paint.

~Oil the baptismal font, altar, and pulpit.

~Clean large windows in hospitality room and entry way.

If you would like to help the church or need more information with any of these projects please contact the Bethel Office at 406-761-1543 or [bethelgf.church@gmail.com](mailto:bethelgf.church@gmail.com)

The following is an excerpt from Pastor Rob's letter to Bethel Lutheran Church:

*Yes! It is true! Freedom in Christ Prison Ministry is celebrating its 10th year. We could not have done it without you, our loyal supporters! Together, we have made it through the tough times and the exciting times. You have invited us to come into your congregations and homes to share Freedom in Christ's news about our guys. For that, we are forever grateful. We look forward to sharing even more with you during the next ten years. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts!*

*This past year was an especially difficult year for all of us [at Freedom in Christ Prison Ministry] and it looks like there is a light at the end of the tunnel. With the Covid-19 vaccinations rolling out soon for everyone, we can start seeing our loved ones and once again gather in person. What the future looks like for those behind bars at Montana State Prison is still not known.*

*We are still providing worship services led by Pastor Rob and a host of volunteer pastors via tablets the guys check out. When Covid broke out in the prison, all travel within the prison came to a halt. In January, Pastor Rob was once again able to visit with the guys via telephone. When can we access the prison again? We don't know the answer to that. But no access has not meant we are not providing some sort of pastoral care to the guys. AND they are so appreciative for that! We are hopeful that with the vaccinations rolling out, we will once again be able to meet with the guys in person and have worship services and Bible studies. Throughout all of this, you all have been our rock! You supported us through your prayers, calls, letters of support, and your donations. This Easter season we ask for continued support.*

In support of this ministry, Bethel will be receiving a special offering during our worship on Sunday, May 23rd. We hope you will prayerfully consider giving a donation or a prayer to offer your support for this important work.

## Job Opening At Bethel Church Custodian

Bethel is hiring a part time (30-hour per week) position to clean the church, do some maintenance, lawn and property care and coordination with vendors and repair services.

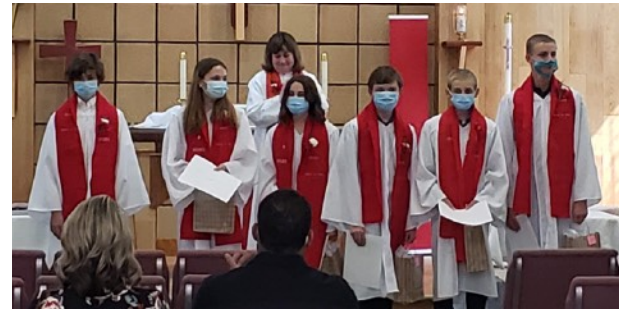
For a detailed job description and job application :

- click [here](#)
  - go to our website under About Us/ Job Openings
- For more information call the Bethel Office 761-1543.

## **CONFIRMATION 2021**



**MAYA STRINGER, BRADY PIKE, REGAN WILL, PASTOR TRINA JOHNSTEN, ANDREW DILLUM, TREVER SHIMERDLA, AND JACK ORTHMAN.**



**CONGRATULATING THE NEW CONFIRMANDS!**



**REGAN AND TREVER READING THEIR FAITH STATEMENTS.**



**LAYING ON OF HANDS FOR ANDREW.**



**GROUP PRAYING DURING SERVICE**



**PASTOR TRINA AND MAYA.**



## Fill in the Blank

Use the words in the dove to fill in the blanks below.

"When the day of Pentecost

had come, they were all

\_\_\_\_\_ in one place.

And suddenly from

\_\_\_\_\_ there came a sound like the rush of a violent

\_\_\_\_\_, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting.

Divided tongues, as of \_\_\_\_\_, appeared among them,

and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the

\_\_\_\_\_ and began to speak in other \_\_\_\_\_,

and the spirit gave them the \_\_\_\_\_."

\_\_\_\_\_ 2:1-4

## Pentecost Word Find

Answer the questions below. Then find the answers in the Word Find.

1. What is the color of Pentecost?
2. What are the symbols of Pentecost?
3. How many days after Easter is Pentecost?
4. What is another name for language that the Bible uses?
5. What does the symbol of the dove represent?



Answers: 1) red 2) dove, flame 3) fifty 4) tongue 5) Holy Spirit

## Upcoming At FLBC

Visit <https://flbc.net/annual-programming/> to learn more about our year-round programming .

### 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!

### 5k Fun Run/Walk

Add it to your Memorial Weekend Retreat, or just join us for the event! Run or walk the route at FLBC to help us raise funds for camperships! \$25 per participant includes a Transformation T-Shirt & lunch! Saturday, May 29,

### Summer Family Weekends

Spend time on the lake, enjoy Bible Study sessions led by Pastor Barb Gwynn & Pastor Scott Hedegaard (weekend 1) and Pastor John Lund (weekend 2). July 2 - 4 & July 16 - 18

Summer Camp Registration is Open! go to [flbc.net](https://flbc.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](mailto: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 [loli51gus@icloud.com](mailto: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 each week's Lectionary texts as we meet via Zoom, **Wednesday mornings** at 7:00 am. Contact Dave Scholten at [dscholten@dlsconsulting.net](mailto:dscholten@dlsconsulting.net) for a link to join the meeting.

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

**Hope Circle is taking the summer off and will resume this fall.**

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### Tuesday 5/25

- Electric City Bible Study, Zoom meeting 7:00 am

### Wednesday 5/26

- Men's Breakfast, via Zoom 7:00 am.

### Friday 5/28

- Bethel office is closed.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Sunday 5/30

- Sunday Worship in-person and live stream 9:30 am. We welcome and thank Pastor Steve Nelson for preaching and presiding today.

### Monday 5/31

- Memorial Day, Bethel Office closed.

### Tuesday 6/1

- Electric City Bible Study, Zoom meeting 7:00 am
- Pastor Jessie's first day at Bethel
- Set-up for Montana Synod Assembly

### Wednesday 6/2

- Set-up for Montana Synod Assembly

### Thursday 6/3

- Set-up for Montana Synod Assembly
- Executive Board Conference call 5:30 pm.

### Friday 6/4

- Bethel office is closed.
- Montana Synod Assembly at Bethel

### Saturday 6/5

- Close Knit meets in the Gathering Place 9:00 am
- Montana Synod Assembly at Bethel

thankful  
&  
blessed