

BETHEL NOTES

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Sunday, July 4th

6th Sunday After Pentecost

EZEKIEL 2:1-5

PSALM 123

2 CORINTHIANS 12:2-10

MARK 6:1-13



**World
Hunger
Sunday**

A woman finds healing by touching Jesus' cloak, and a girl is restored to life when he takes her by the hand. In both cases a boundary is crossed: in Jesus' time the hemorrhaging woman was considered ritually unclean, polluting others by her touch, and anyone who touched a corpse also became unclean. In Mark's gospel Jesus breaks down barriers, from his first meal at a tax collector's house to his last breath on the cross as the temple curtain is torn in two. We dare to touch Jesus in our "uncleanness" and to live as a community that defines no one as an outsider.

SERVING THIS EASTER SERVICE

Accompanist	Mary Seim piano; Pastor Steve Nelson, guitar
Lay Assistant	Sue Hesse
Usher	Tami Grosenick
Tech	Colter McCarty
Counters	Pam Dougherty 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 healing **Faith Crouch**, *granddaughter of Bernice Johnson*, as she recovers from hernia surgery.
- ✦ 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 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 **Leonard Murphy** as he recovers from knee surgery.
- ✦ Prayers of comfort, support and healing for **Don Bisgard** as he continues to recover from surgery.
- ✦ Prayers for healing and patience for **Pastor Steve Van Gilder and family** as he continues to heal and make positive progress.
- ✦ Prayers of healing for **LaRae Veitch** as she recovers from knee surgery.
- ✦ Prayers of strength and healing for **Pastor Trina Johnson** as she is home and doing very well. Also, prayers of thanksgiving for the medical staff of **Benefis Healthcare and University of Utah Hospital in Salt Lake City** for their excellent care.
- ✦ Prayers of healing for **Dick Seim** as he undergoes medical testing.

Pastor Jessie Obrecht

Contact information:

Email: bethelgf.pastor@gmail.com
Bethel 406-761-1543 ext 202

Hello Bethel!

This past weekend I had the opportunity to go to Glacier National Park and help to open Granite Park Chalet. The chalet sits atop a mountain trail that is four miles long with around a 2500-foot elevation gain. It is steep, and the hike is a strenuous one. Once you arrive at the top though, the 360 degree view is worth every step. As I sat atop that mountain I was reminded of Psalm 121, and the Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp song that paraphrases Psalm 121. "I lift my eyes up, unto the mountains. Where does my help come from?" the song goes. The Psalm is entitled "Assurance of God's Protection" in the NRSV. I remember singing this song with vigor as a child and looking up to the mountains across Flathead Lake and somehow knowing that God was there. Mountainous places are one of those holy spaces for me. It seems like everything slows down and I can center myself, quiet my soul, and listen more fully for God's voice and guidance in my life. Over the years, I remember waiting both as a child and as an adult, for those moments where I could run away to the mountains. As I arrived in those mountainous places my heart would burst with joy and relief, and I would begin to let my guard down and search for divine connection.

There was only one real problem with this deep connection I had with the mountains over time. At some point I had convinced myself that the mountains were the only place that I could ever slow down, center, and connect with God. The only place God's protection and love could possibly strike me deeply was amid my favorite natural beauty. Or so I told myself. Over the years I lived in places like Havre, Fargo, ND, Columbus, OH, Chicago, IL, and even Malaysia! The mountains were not there. But God was. God continued to work and to show up in my life and in the lives of those around me. Slowly, I began to find the little places that were holy and sacred in my everyday life. The definition of sacrament is something ordinary that becomes extraordinary. Simple bread and wine have the body and blood of Christ in, with, and through them and all of a sudden, they are anything but ordinary. As people of faith, we of course are invited to experience God's incredible presence, love, and protection in the extraordinary moments of life such as my moment of standing atop a mountain outside of Granite Park Chalet. That is not the only place we find our Creator's handiwork though. We encounter God each day in the ordinary moments. In those encounters we see a glimpse of the extraordinary Kingdom that God is creating in, through, and around us. So where are your sacred places? The places where you feel the most connected to God, to yourself, and to the world? It is good to have those places! In addition, though, where might be the everyday ordinary places that you encounter God and don't even realize it most days? Where are those sacramental moments in the days that seem the most mundane for you? Keep an eye out this week for the ordinary becoming extraordinary, and bask in the abundance of God's love and presence in all places of our lives.

Peace,

Pastor Jessie

1st Monday Night Quilters

1st Monday Night Quilters will meet Monday, June 5, 2021, 6-8 p.m. at New Hope Lutheran. Again, we will tie the quilts before the last step of binding them is done. Thank you to Peggy for binding the quilts made in June. Thanks also to Susan for making tops and getting backs sized for the quilts.

Come and see all the tops ready to be made into quilts.



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL IS COMING!!!

JULY 12TH TO 16TH

We are so very excited to be hosting VBS again this year! We have 6 counselors coming from FLBC to lead our youth Kindergarten to 6th grade in bible lessons, songs, games, and crafts. A week of fellowship, friends and FUN!!

We would love to have you join us for opening worship, each morning at 9:00 am or closing worship at 1:00 pm. We will also be having a fireside worship service with the campers leading the singing and an ice cream social to follow, Thursday evening at 6:30 pm.

We have a great crew leading the way, but help is always appreciated. You could:

- Volunteer to help with
 - registration
 - arts and crafts
 - food prep
 - assist with kindergarten

We also need some food items. This year we are being a little cautious with our food service. We supply snacks for all campers and volunteers and lunches for the counselors and volunteers. In an effort to be safe, we are individually packing all the food. For example, all grapes will be in Ziploc baggies, as any cookies/brownies. If you would like to help out with food and are willing/able to package it we have containers at the church for you to use. Contact AnneRose Rogers for items that she will need her phone is 269-930-0887 and her email is rosenkat3@gmail.com.

We are also in need of large bags of ice as we will be holding a lot of camp outside and would like to offer cold water stations for our campers.

Thank you in advance and will see you at Day Camp!!!



**The Third Biannual
Fall Sojourn to Holden
September 26th - October 3rd**

Now is the time to make plans for a
special week at Holden Village and
invite your friends!

Holden is a retreat center for adults and families, nestled in a beautiful valley in the Cascade Mountains of Washington State.

Fall is a wonderful time to visit the Cascade Mountains. While at Holden Village you will have the opportunity to create your own rhythms of each day according to your interests. Teaching sessions and opportunities for creative engagement will be bountiful. You are encouraged to take time for rest and recreation - hiking, fly-fishing, weaving, other crafts, and a host of other activities. Please spend some time exploring Holden's website (holdenvillage.org) and consider exploring the Village in person.

After the busy summer schedule, fall is quieter and a beautiful time to visit. This late September week will feature the following teaching staff.

- **Rick Brown, PhD - Clean Energy as a Core Strategy to Address Climate Change.** Rick is Founder and President of TerraVerde Energy from 2009-2020. He has led a team that has developed over \$4,500 Million in clean energy projects. He has also been deeply involved in California legislation and regulation regarding clean energy and has been called on by the California Public Utilities Commission, California Energy Commission, and the Legislature to provide expert testimony on a wide range of clean energy issues
- **Pr. Jessica Crist - The Doctrine of Discovery — How Rick Santorum (and just about everyone else) Got it All Wrong.** Jessica has degrees from Yale and Harvard and is the former Bishop of the Montana Synod. She coordinated the ELCA's commemoration of the women's ordination anniversaries and currently co-chairs the ELCA's Task Force implementing the 2016 repudiation of the doctrine of discovery. She has been an advocate for Native American issues.
- **Pr. Mark Gravrock - The Reign of the Gathering God: The Gospel of Mark for 2021** Mark is a teacher and pastor, and has found the same vital center of joy in each setting of ministry: the place where the living word of God intersects with real, concrete daily life. He has taught Bible, Greek, and Christian spirituality for 22 years at Trinity Lutheran College in Washington.

If you are interested or have questions, contact Darius Larsen ASAP at:

dariuslarsen@msn.com.

To discover more about Holden Village, go to:

www.holdenvillage.org/visit.

HOPES & DREAMS FOR BETHEL



I have a special
request of you. I
would like you to
write down what
your hopes and
dreams are for

Bethel in the next 5 years and bring
them to this service (or to the Church
before or after the service if you are
out of town). We will have a box out
to collect these hopes and dreams,
and will use them to guide us as we
dream about the future of this place
and of God's church in the world. I
can't wait to dream together with you,
and to follow the active work of the
Holy Spirit into these coming years

For those of you interested in live music, the Great Falls Municipal Band will perform their 4th of July concert on June 30 (Wednesday) at 7:00 at the Convention Center (part of the Civic Center). The concert is free and great patriotic tunes will be enjoyed by one and all.

This same band will perform concerts in the Gibson Park bandshell every Wednesday night at 7:00 through August 11. Bring your lawn chair or blanket and enjoy a very pleasant evening of music in the park.

The Skogley's and the Mueller's are regular players in this band.



As Of Wednesday, June 30: Everything is open...

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.

~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

Dear Lord,

There is no greater feeling of liberty than to experience freedom from sin and death that you provided for me through Jesus Christ. Today my heart and my soul are free to praise you. For this, I am very thankful.

On this Independence Day, I am reminded of all those who have sacrificed for my freedom, following the example of your Son, Jesus Christ. Let me not take my freedom, both physical and spiritual, for granted. May I always remember that a very high price was paid for my freedom. My freedom cost others their very lives.

Lord, today, bless those who have served and continue to give their lives for my freedom. With favor and bounty, meet their needs and watch over their families.

Dear Father, I am so thankful for this nation. For all the sacrifices others have made to build and defend this country, I am grateful. Thank you for the opportunities and freedoms we have in the United States of America. Help me never to take these blessings for granted.

Help me to live my life in a way that glorifies you, Lord. Give me the strength to be a blessing in someone's life today, and grant me the opportunity to lead others into the freedom that can be found in knowing Jesus Christ.

In your name, I pray. Amen.

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.



Who Is Jesus?

People who heard Jesus teach in his own hometown asked a lot of questions. "Who is Jesus?" "Isn't this the carpenter?" "Where did he get his power and wisdom?" "Isn't he Mary's son?" They didn't accept Jesus for who he really was. In this word find, circle these words that tell who Jesus was.

Teacher
Prophet
Carpenter
Healer

Son of God
Son of Mary
Christ
Leader

Savior
Brother
Jesus

C H R I S T P E Z D W H V
I A F J Y S R L E A D E R
S Y R A M F O N O S U A N
O C Q P I N R X B V R L K
N S W T E H P O R P E E A
O H M L E N R K I J H R G
F U R B Q U T P M V C A T
G J E S U S Y E K S A I N
O M T A X K Q L R O E S W
D Y B R O T H E R Z T L B



Bible Tip!

When you find an important verse in the Bible underline it. It'll be easier to find next time!

Upcoming At FLBC

Upcoming FLBC Retreats & Events

Visit <https://flbc.net/annual-programming/> to learn more about our year-round programming and to find information on how to register for each of these retreats.

Summer Family Weekends -

Register 2 weeks ahead of time July 2 - 4 & July 16 - 18, 2021 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).

<https://flbc.net/annual-programming/summer-family-weekend/>

BACKPACKING WITH THE BISHOP! - Register by August 8

August 22-26, 2021 Join FLBC Staff and Bishop Laurie Jungling for a backpacking trip through the Jewel Basin. Find more information at <https://flbc.net/backpackingwiththebishop/>

Labor Day Weekend Retreat - Register by August 20

September 3-6, 2021 Join FLBC for this *free* retreat over Labor Day Weekend! Enjoy good food, fellowship and fun, while helping camp with some work projects!

VACATION

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 each week's Lectionary
texts 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.

**Men's Breakfast is taking the summer
off and will resume this fall.**

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.

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

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Monday 7/5

- Independence day observed, Bethel office closed.
- Worship Planning Meeting 6:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall.

Tuesday 7/6

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

Thursday 7/8

- Executive Council conference call 5:30 pm.

Friday 7/9

- Bethel office is closed.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday 7/11

- Sunday Worship in-person and live stream 9:30 am.
- VBS Set up and Counselor's arrive 5:00 pm.

Monday 7/12

- First day of VBS check in starts at 8:30 am.
- Opening worship 9:00 am, all are welcome!
- Closing worship 1:00 pm, all are welcome!

Tuesday 7/13

- Electric City Bible Study, Zoom meeting 7:00 am
- Second day of VBS
- Opening worship 9:00 am, all are welcome!
- Closing worship 1:00 pm, all are welcome!
- Church Council meeting in the Fellowship hall 6:30 pm

Wednesday 7/14

- Third day of VBS
- Opening worship 9:00 am, all are welcome!
- Closing worship 1:00 pm, all are welcome!
- Counselor/Jr Counselor service project at Bethel 2:00 pm.

Thursday 7/15

- Fourth day of VBS
- Opening worship 9:00 am, all are welcome!
- Closing worship 1:00 pm, all are welcome!
- Evening Campfire Worship and Program followed by ice cream social 6:00 pm.

Friday 7/16

- Last day of VBS
- Opening worship 9:00 am, all are welcome!
- Closing worship 1:00 pm, all are welcome!
- Bethel office is closed.

Saturday 7/17

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

