

BETHEL NOTES

In This Issue:

Page 2

- Prayer Requests
- Remembering the Children

Page 3

- Bethel Trivia
- Upcoming Adult Education
- Ministry Fair

Page 4

- Words from the Bishop

Page 5

- Adult Retreats FLBC
- Words from the Bishop *cont.*

Page 6

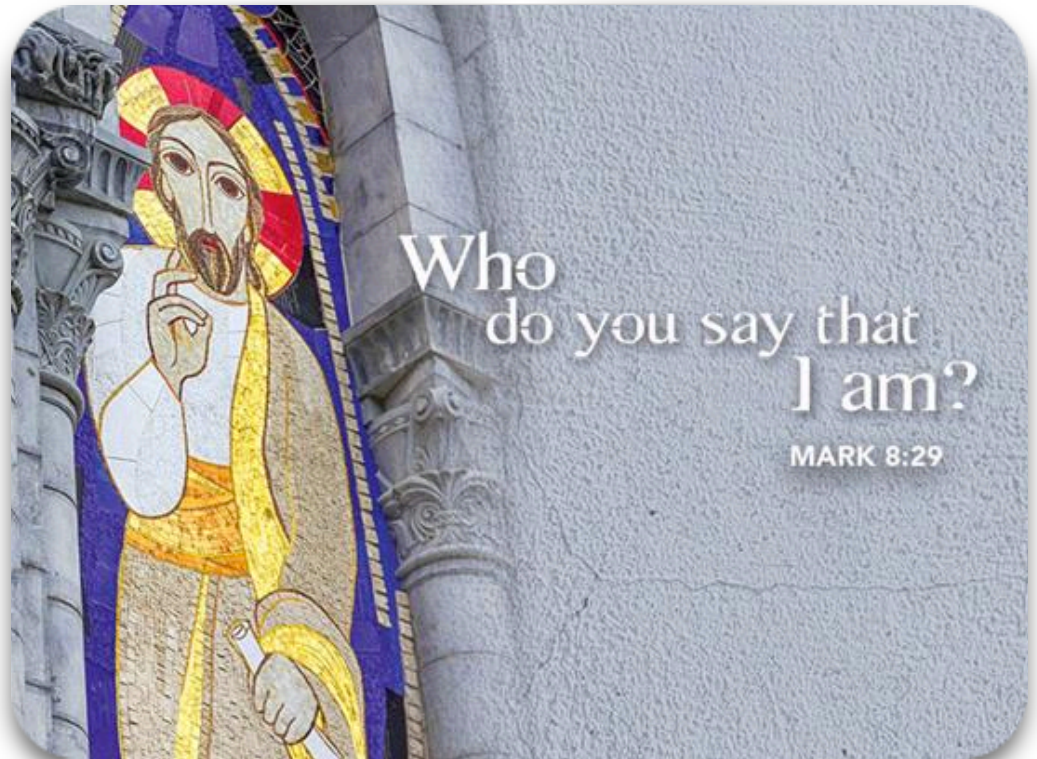
- Lutheran Immigration Refugee Service
- 1st Monday Quilters
- Town Pump FISH Fundraiser

Page 7

- Just for YOUTH:Logos

Page 8

- Online Ministries
- Calendar of Events
- Contact information for Pastor Jessie.
- Updated Covid Guide



Sunday, September 12th
16th Sunday after Pentecost

ISAIAH 50:4-9A

PSALM 116:1-9

JAMES 3:1-12

MARK 8:27-38

Three weeks ago we heard Peter's confession of faith as told in John's gospel. This week we hear Mark's version, when Peter says, "You are the Messiah." In John, the stumbling block is Jesus' invitation to eat his flesh, given for the life of the world. In Mark too the scandal has to do with Jesus' words about his own coming death, and here Peter himself stumbles over Jesus' words. But Jesus is anointed (the meaning of *messiah*) in Mark only on the way to the cross (14:3); so we are anointed in baptism with the sign of the cross.

SERVING THIS SERVICE

Accompanist	Lynn Ryan, piano; Pastor Steve Nelson, guitar
Lay Assistant	Ainsley Kubas
Usher	Sandy Pepos
Tech	Adam Elkin
Counters	Tim Lightbourne and Warren Johnson

**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 of strength and leadership for **Gustavo Driau** as he continues as our Regional Representative for our Companion Synods in South America.
- ✦ Prayers of thanks for **Ed Pottratz** as he continues with treatment for cancer.
- ✦ 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 continues treatment for cancer.
- ✦ Prayers of healing for **Leonard Murphy** after his second knee surgery.
- ✦ Prayers of comfort, support and healing for **Don Bisgard** as he continues to recover from surgery.
- ✦ Prayers of healing for **LaRae Veitch** as she continues rehab after knee surgery.
- ✦ Prayers of healing for **Dick Seim** as he continues medical testing.
- ✦ Prayers for strength and healing for **Eric Peterson** as he undergoes treatment for cancer.
- ✦ Prayers of healing and strength for **Julie Wolff** as she recovers in the hospital from a stroke.
- ✦ Prayers of healing for **Tony Marcson**, *brother-in-law of Jessica Crist*, with a new diagnosis of lung cancer.
- ✦ Prayers of healing for **Ron Elkin** as he recovers from surgery on his arm.
- ✦ Prayers of healing and support for **Alex Bostic** as he awaits results of medical tests.
- ✦ Prayers of healing for **Bob Walker**, *brother of Colleen Walker-Nelson*, who is ill with kidney disease.



American Indian
Alaska Native
Lutheran Association



In honor and memory of the children of the First Nations people and of our Native children who never made it home, and for those still living the nightmare imposed on them as children of Canada and the United States we humbly ask our brothers and sisters of the church to hang an orange banner in the sanctuaries of your churches for 225 days. In remembrance and lament of each child that was thrown into those graves, and those yet to be discovered we honor each of their lives.

Bethel Trivia



Answers to last week's trivia all about Bethel....

1. In what year was Bethel Lutheran Church officially chartered? **March 4, 1951**
2. Before becoming an officially chartered congregation and having a building, at which school was worship held for those who would become Bethel Lutheran Church? **Russell School**
3. What is the name of the ELCA group that came to help renovate the church in 2015? **ELCA Mission Builders**

Upcoming Adult Education

Weekly Text Study with Pastor Jessie

- Wednesdays, 10:00 am via Zoom
- Beginning September 15th.
- Pastor Jessie will be leading discussion on the text readings for the upcoming Sunday. Dig deeper in the interpretation of the readings and discuss ways they give us guidance in our daily lives.

If you would like to join this zoom email bethelgf.pastor@gmail.com to be added to the mailing list for this Zoom meeting.

Sunday After Worship Education Hour

- Sundays following worship service in the Fellowship Hall
- Beginning September 26th
- Pastor Jessie and guest speakers will lead this education time. Topics will vary and some directed by what the group would like to discuss.

No sign up necessary. Attend whenever you like.

BETHEL
MINISTRY FAIR
Sunday,
September 12th
following worship
at 11:00 am
Bring a friend and
find out about all
the Fellowship
Opportunities at
Bethel!

WORDS FROM THE BISHOP

Dear Friends in Christ,

As these summer months come to a close, I've heard a lot of expressions of tiredness from various people across our society. People are tired of Covid, tired of masks, tired of fighting about masks and vaccines. People are tired of the arguing about all matters of things in our nations, communities and world and across socio-political spectrums. People are tired of making decisions, adapting, change and we are tired of feeling all the feelings that come with these changes and the calls to change. People are tired of feeling fear or anxiety, sadness and grief, anger and outrage, suffering and pain. People also seem to be tired of hearing about others' pain (it's called "compassion fatigue") and dealing with the consequences of how others' express their pain in unhealthy ways.

It seems we are running out of endurance. As I watched the marathons during the Olympics, I wondered with awe at the runners' endurance and resilience as they pushed through pain they were experiencing especially in the heat and humidity. Those who were able to finish, even if they came in last, were winners to me because they just kept on going, one grueling step at a time, one shuddering breath at a time, reaching the finish line having given everything they had. What an expression of resilience and endurance!

Paul and other writers in the New Testament mention endurance several times in preaching the gospel to their fellow followers of Christ. Perhaps the most famous comes from Paul's letter to the Romans, "And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance

produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because

God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us." (Rm 5:3-5) Here Paul lifts up the reality that our suffering and how we respond to it can make us more resilient in facing future suffering. Like a runner suffering through her training, she is building up her endurance to run another race.

But I would also say to Paul that not only does suffering produce endurance, it needs endurance to get through it. If we don't have the endurance in the first place, it's hard to move through it. And without the emotional and mental resilience to move through our sufferings, we often seek unhelpful and unhealthy ways around it or try to avoid it which can often do more damage than the suffering itself.

During my vacation, I read a book entitled Building Resilience When There's No Going Back to the Way things Were by Alice Updike Scannell (Episcopalian Priest and Chaplain). On the surface, it's a small simple book but the ten skills (attitudes and behaviors) she offers on building radical resilience in the emotional, mental, spiritual and physical aspects of our lives when everything has changed are not simple. The 10 skills she lifts up are 1) Mindfulness; 2) Courage; 3) Perseverance; 4) Flexibility; 5) Reframing the situation; 6) Creativity; 7) Realistic Optimism; 8) Hope; 9) Physical Activity; 10) Faith/ Spirituality.



Adult and Family Retreats Upcoming At FLBC This Fall

FLBC is currently hiring for our year-round staff!

We are seeking a Wilderness/ Environmental Education Director and Community Staff. Interested in being a part of the ministry of FLBC or know someone who would be a good fit?

Visit <https://flbc.net/employment/#yearround> to see the full job descriptions and instructions for applying.

Upcoming FLBC Retreats & Events

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

Fall Harvest Festival & Auction

October 9th, 2021

Help FLBC raise funds to ensure no one is turned away due to inability to pay through camperships! This special event also coincides with the FLBC Annual Meeting (taking place at 2:30 pm on Saturday, 10/9).

Crazy About Quilting & Crafting

Retreat - Register by October 21, 2021

November 4-7, 2021

Bring your quilt and craft projects and work alongside friends old and new on the west shore of Flathead Lake.

<https://flbc.net/annual-programming/quiltcraft-retreat/>

Advent "Preparing for Christmas"

Retreat - Register by November 19, 2021

December 3-5, 2021

Prepare for the Christmas season by taking intentional time to slow down and enjoy the season. Make awesome crafts, cut your own Christmas tree, and soak in time for worship and prayer this Advent. <https://flbc.net/annual-programming/advent-retreat/>

These are skills we need to continually need to practice, training in them throughout all the circumstances of our lives. We do so to build resilience so that when we're feeling tired of just about everything, we have the endurance to push through, one step at time, one day at a time, one breath at a time.

Of course, for we who follow Christ, the central aspect of our practice and training is continuing to open ourselves up to the work of the Holy Spirit in us to form and grow our faith in the God who loves us, empowers and strengthens us, equips us through many of these practices. Indeed, it is Spirit's power that enables and equips us to engage in these practices.

However, our participation in the Spirit's work matters. And it's here that Scannell's practices can guide us in a training regimen toward greater endurance and resilience. These don't take the tiredness and suffering away. But they can help us move forward into something better, into something closer to the abundant life God wants for us.

As we enter into these fall months, still facing the realities of Covid and turmoil and change, I encourage you to pick up Scannell's book or a similar resource to help you develop your endurance and resilience as you try to find your way through these unstable times. Scannell's book could actually serve as a helpful devotion, either as an individual devotional or in a larger group book study.

But even as you explore entering this practice, always remember Paul's words of pure gospel, also in Romans, "No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord." (Rm 8:37-39)

You are not alone. God is always with you, strengthening you for every step, every day, every breath.

May God bless you always!

Bishop Laurie

LUTHERAN IMMIGRATION AND REFUGEE SERVICE

Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service has been resettling refugees since 1939. It is internationally respected--one of the agencies the US government relies on to help resettle refugees and immigrants. I am grateful that our Lutheran Church is part of such a vital ministry, especially now. With the influx of Afghan refugees, there is a great need for support services. You can help by making a contribution to LIRS. LIRS is one of our regular charities, but because of this crisis Turner and I have made an extra contribution. My sister, who wants to support Lutheran ministries, is a regular donor. And our daughter asked people to make gifts to LIRS in place of wedding gifts. It is a reputable organization. To learn more, you can go to www.lirs.org. Or you can mail a check to: LIRS, 700 Light Street, Baltimore, MD 21230.

Pastor Jessica Crist, retired



1st Monday Night Quilters

: 1st Monday Night Quilters will meet Monday, September 13, 2021, 6-8 p.m. at New Hope Lutheran, 3125 5th Ave. So. 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 August.

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

Reminder – park in the alley. If you have questions, call 799-0100.



TOWN PUMP CHALLENGE

Town Pump has again selected FISH to be part of the 2021 campaign--"MONTANANS HELPING MONTANANS". This is the 20th year for Town Pump's support of food banks.

From September 1 through November 30, Town Pump will match each dollar collected by FISH up to \$25,000.

If you wish to help reach the FISH goal, please send your donation to:

FISH
Box 662
Great Falls, MT
59403





IT'S ALMOST TIME FOR LOGOS!!!!

Our Logos Youth Ministry will be starting soon.

Important dates!

September 15th Logos/Parent Night for Pre-K through 6th grade - **at Bethel**. We will register and have a short meeting for parents and youth will meet their teachers for this year.



First Night of Logos for ALL youth Wednesday, September 22nd

5:30 pm to 7:30 pm Pre-K through 8th Grade

High School Logos 6:30 to 8:30 pm

Health and Safety

Following the direction of our Church Council and the GFPS, we are strongly recommending that masks be worn by Logos Youth and volunteers over the age of 5. They are not required.

We will be keeping youth within their cohort group for all activities including meals. It is our hope we will be able to move to open seating once positive infection numbers decline.

If your child is not feeling well, we would ask you give them the rest they need and keep them home.

We feel so very blessed to be able to offer Logos and we are looking forward to a great year!

For Full Details, copy of the handbook, fees, and online registration go to our [LOGOS Webpage](#)



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 both in person and via Zoom, Tuesday mornings at 7:00 am. Contact Dave Scholten at dscholten@dlsconsulting.net for a link to join the meeting or for more information.

**Men's Breakfast will resume
September 14th. .**

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 September 16th 7:00 PM
on Zoom.**

Covid Guidelines for Worship as of August 10, 2021

Masks are strongly recommended, but not required.

Continue Physical Distancing

Coffee Hour on hold

If you have a fever or are feeling unwell, please take care of yourself and join us online for worship.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Monday 9/13

- Property Management committee meeting in the Fellowship Hall 6:30 pm

Tuesday 9/14

- Electric City Bible Study, Zoom meeting 7:00 am
- Men's Breakfast combined Zoom and in the Fellowship Hall 7:00 am
- Council Meeting in the Fellowship Hall 6:30 pm

Wednesday 9/15

- Bible Study with Pastor Jessie in Fellowship Hall and on Zoom 10:00 am
- Logos Kick Off Night, at Bethel 5:30 pm

Thursday 9/16

- Hope Circle meets on Zoom 7:00 pm

Friday 9/17

- Bethel office is closed.

Saturday 9/18

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday 9/19

- Sunday Worship in-person and live stream 9:30 am.
- Education session on accessing your online member information immediately following worship in the Fellowship Hall

Tuesday 9/21

- Electric City Bible Study, Zoom meeting 7:00 am
- Men's Breakfast combined Zoom and in the Fellowship Hall 7:00 am

Wednesday 9/22

- Bible Study with Pastor Jessie in Fellowship Hall and on Zoom 10:00 am
- Logos 5:30 pm; High School Logos 6:30 pm

Friday 9/24

- Bethel office is closed.

Pastor Jessie Obrecht

Contact information:

Email: bethelgf.pastor@gmail.com

Bethel 406-761-1543 ext 202