

BETHEL NOTES



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SERVING THIS SUNDAY

ACCOMPANIST - LYNN RYAN
LAY ASSISTANT - CARL DUNN
USHER - DENA WAGNER-FOSSEN
PROJECTIONIST - AVA FOSSEN
TECH - GREG GROSENICK
COUNTERS - PAM DOUGHERTY & GREG GROSENICK

Sunday, August 16th

Readings for 11th Sunday after Pentecost

ISAIAH 56:1-8

PSALM 67

MATTHEW 15:1-20



OFFICE HOURS:

MONDAY THROUGH THURSDAY 9:00 AM TO 2:30 PM CLOSED FRIDAY

OFFICE TELEPHONE: (406) 761-1543 **WEBSITE:** WWW.BETHELMT.ORG **EMAIL:** BETHELGF.CHURCH@GMAIL.COM



- ✦ Prayers for **Faith Crouch** (granddaughter of Bernice Johnson) and her family as she continues to wait for a double lung transplant.
- ✦ Prayers of healing **Ed Pottratz** as he continues cancer treatment.
- ✦ Prayers of healing for **Lee Klette**, son of Russ & Cheryl.
- ✦ Continued prayers for **Angela Mart** (daughter-in-law of Jane Mart) as she finishes treatment for breast cancer.
- ✦ Prayers for God's continued healing for **Linda Juvik** (sister of Sandy Bechard) as she has completed her treatments for cancer and continues to heal.
- ✦ 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 of healing and support for **Jeremy Hawks** as he prepares for surgery.
- ✦ Prayers for safety and support for **Eric Poser**, Connie Titcomb's nephew as he is deployed overseas.
- ✦ Prayers of support and good health for **RN's Katie and Kelsey**, daughters of Grant and Janet Smith.
- ✦ Prayers of healing, strength and support for **Rita Johnson (LaRae Veitch's sister)** as she continues treatment for pancreatic cancer.
- ✦ Prayers for healing for **Steve Young** (brother of Sue Hesse) as he recovers from back surgery.
- ✦ Prayers of healing for **Cindy Brattain** as she recovers from a heart procedure.
- ✦ Prayers of healing and support for **Rebecca Boucher** who is undergoing medical testing for auto-immune challenges.



INTRODUCTION TO THE OLD TESTAMENT

Taught by Dr. Michael Chan

The Old Testament is challenging literature for Christian leaders. This course will persuade students that the

Old Testament is not only a helpful companion in ministry, but that it is also invaluable. All lectures are given with preaching, teaching, and pastoral care in view. These lectures will provide crucial information on Israel's history and narratives, prophetic literature, wisdom literature, and why Scripture matters in the first place.

This is an excellent resource for LPAs and for adult study, easily divided into shorter time increments.

\$70 (continuing ed credits available)

Access at www.montanasynd.org by clicking on the blue NRIT logo



Faith tells me
that NO MATTER
what lies ahead
of me GOD is
already there.

NEW MINISTRY OPPORTUNITY AT BETHEL

Crisis Ministry

Bethel was contacted by the Cascade County Sheriff's Office to be one of several church in Great Falls to be a part of a Crisis Ministry Network here in Great Falls. The following is an excerpt from a letter we received regarding this request:



"In the last two recovery situations, onlookers connected to the victim were an additional stressor to an already taxed rescue response, which as prompted me to reach out to you. My ask is this: In the event of another rescue or recovery incident, would your congregation be willing to open its doors to those directly affected?"

Removing those civilians from the scene by directing them to a location allows emergency services to focus on their responsibilities, as well as offers those affected a space to gather and support one another until further information can be shared. The Sheriff's Office asks that you would be willing to provide a gathering space with access to restrooms and some refreshments".

This ministry would be involved in water rescues/recoveries only. We would need a person or persons to open the church, put on some coffee, put out water and some refreshments (cookies, crackers, etc.) and be at the church with the group.

Some information on the past rescue/recovery situations from this summer will give us an idea for those who are interested in helping with this ministry a picture of what would be involved:

- for summer of 2020 there have been two water accidents that a Crisis Ministry would be called
- the timeline was a couple of hours each time
- overnights are highly unlikely as most are day time recreation

How it will work

The dispatcher will have the church's number and also Tami Grosenick's number for "after hours" (beyond when someone is in the office) incidents. We will then reach out to a person(s) on the Crisis Ministry Team to see who is available to open the church and get refreshments set up in the Fellowship Hall. The team can set up standards for who is called and where refreshments can be obtained as well as trading off duties should an event last longer than a few hours.

We are excited to be part of this wonderful community support opportunity and feel that we are being called to do God's work with our hands. If you are interested in being a part of this ministry or would like more information contact Tami Grosenick in the Bethel Office 406-761-1543, on her cell 406-788-9587 or email bethelgf.church@gmail.com

Help Pastor Trina get to know you and Bethel better

Due to Covid, we don't have all the typical ways that a new pastor gets to know a congregation...fellowship times, meetings, Bible studies, coffee and lunch dates. Pastor Trina would like to meet you and hear more about why you are part of the Bethel community, so please sign up for a time to share your story with her. You can come to the church to meet (with appropriate social distancing), or we can set up a Zoom meeting, or have an old-fashioned phone call. Whatever works best for you! The sign up sheet is on a table in the narthex, or give Tami a call at 771-1543 and she can get you on the schedule.

Are you joining us from home?

Each week we can see that many of you are joining us on-line for worship but we don't know who you are! As Pastor Trina tries to get to know the people of Bethel, she'd like to know who is worshipping with us from home. If that's you, please leave a message at the office phone (761-1543) or send us an email (bethelgf.church@gmail.com) and let us know that you are part of the extended people of Bethel.



It's our FISH week...

...so let's fill up the entryway with gifts for our neighbors in need. All canned goods and dry foods are welcome, and if you have extra things from the garden this time of the year, FISH will gladly share your bounty with others. Many in town are still out of work due to Covid-19 and unemployment benefits have recently decreased substantially, so let's spread the welcome of Christ throughout the community in the form of nourishing food.



Scam Activity

Last week there was a scam email using Bishop Laurie's name asking for gift cards. This scam was not limited to the Synod office however as many pastors have reported their names also being used in these scams with emails being sent out to church members.

In order to be safe online, please help your congregations know what to do when receiving emails:

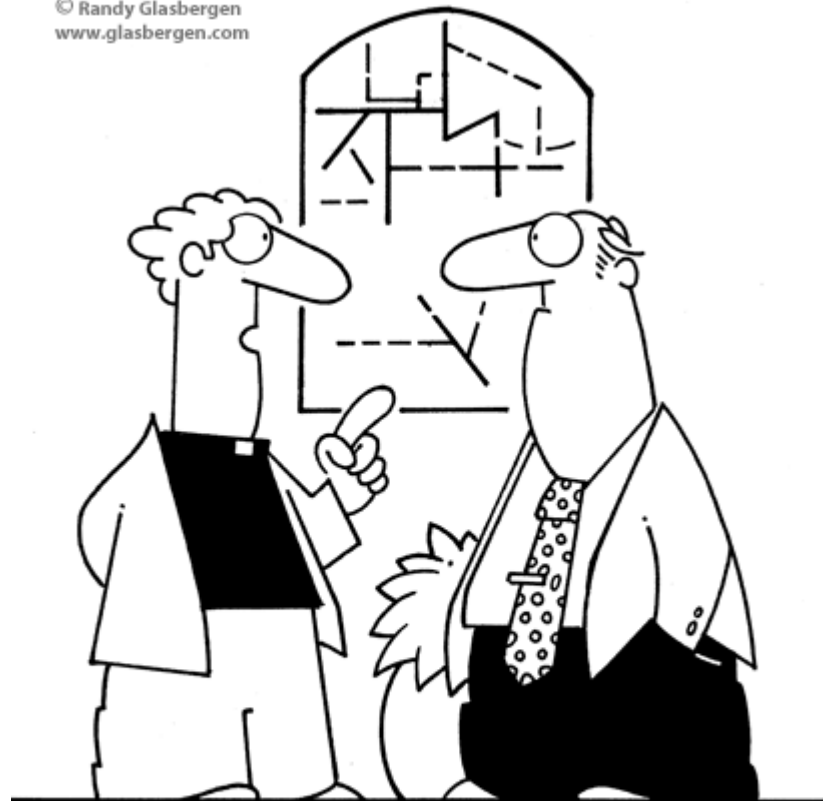
- Check who it is from. Emails can be sent under any name, therefore, check what the actual email address is under the Sent line. If the email is from, for example, "123churchemail@gmail.com" its a scam.
- If the email urges immediate action and then says not to call the person because they are in a meeting, don't engage. Scammers specialize in creating anxiety, fear, and knee-jerk actions in their targets. It is important to stop and examine what you're being asked to do.
- If all else fails and everything looks legitimate, again, Don't Engage! Do not call any number in the email or reply to the email. Call whomever supposedly sent the email. Look up their number in the phone book or online, but to not act on any information in the email body.

TOWN PUMP CHALLENGE

Town Pump Charitable Foundation has invited **FISH** to be part of the 19th annual "Be a Friend in Deed, Helping Those in Need" food bank campaign. Town Pump will match each dollar collected by **FISH** up to \$20,000 from September 1 through November 30. What a great way to double your donation!



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www.glasbergen.com



**"Give a man a fish and he'll eat for a day.
Teach a man to fish and you can sell
him all of your old gear on eBay!"**



FLBC's camp store is online!

Now you can get camp gear and support FLBC from anywhere! <https://flathead-lutheran-bible-camp.square.site/>

Upcoming Retreats & Events:

View more at <https://flbc.net/annual-programming/>

FREE Labor Day Weekend Family Retreat

September 4-7, 2020

Come for a relaxing weekend or help camp with work projects. Enjoy great food, campfires, fellowship, Bible Study with Pastor Molly & Allen Sasser-Goehner (Immanuel LC, Missoula), and much more! Learn more at <https://flbc.net/annual-programming/>, or contact our office at 406-752-6602 or office@flbc.net to register.

Women's Retreat: Saying No, Saying Yes - A Spiritual Practice

September 11-13, 2020

\$160/person

Join us for a weekend of fun and relaxation as Pastor Miriam Schmidt leads us in engaging Bible study. **CEU credits available through NRIT.** <https://flbc.net/annual-programming/womens-retreat/>

Youth Workers Retreat

October 15-18, 2020

\$150/person

Pastors, Youth Directors, Volunteers - this is for you! Join retreat leader Mark Jackson for this informative, fun, and refreshing retreat. From eastern Washington, Mark now serves at St. Andrews in Mahtomedi, MN. Different attendance options are available (Thurs-Sun, Thurs-Sat, Fri-Sun, or Saturday only)! CEU credits available through NRIT. <https://flbc.net/annual-programming/youth-workers-retreat/>

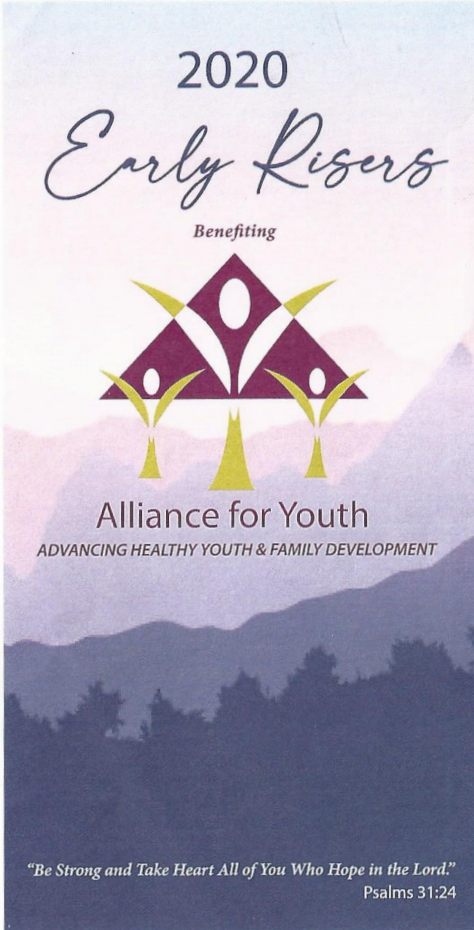
**FLBC
Bethel
Reps
Needed**

Bethel is looking for a couple of people to take up the mantle of Bethel Representatives for FLBC. Your duties as Camp Reps would be:

- Attend the annual meeting held in October (may meet online this year)
- Annual Report to Bethel of camp happenings and decisions
- Occasional help with fundraising for the camp such as getting donations for silent auctions, etc.

If you are interested or would like more information contact Jim Carlson, chairman of the Bethel Nominating Committee at jim.c.carlson@gmail.com or call 406-868-9045.

STARTS
at 7 AM!



“Be Strong and Take Heart All of You Who Hope In the Lord” Psalms 31:24

Thursday, September 3, 2020

PRAYER
Pastor Rick Mazairaa
Vineyard Fellowship

MISSION—ALLIANCE FOR YOUTH/YRC
Kristy Pontet-Stroop, Executive Director

MUSICIAN
Christell Benson, Vocalist
New City Church

SPEAKER
Pastor, Alice Smith
Greater Faith Church of the Open Door

Thursday, September 10, 2020

PRAYER
Shane Etwiler, Faith Bible Church, Fairfield

MISSION—ALLIANCE FOR YOUTH/YRC
Thomas Risberg, Development Director

MUSICIAN
Candra Niswanger, Vocalist
The Gathering Fellowship

SPEAKER
Pastor Lynn Spencer-Smith
First Congregational UCC

Thursday, September 17, 2020

PRAYER
Pastor Joe Young
Emmanuel Bible Church

MISSION—ALLIANCE FOR YOUTH/YRC
Lisa Beavers, YRC Program Manager

MUSICIANS
Annalie, Olivia and Felicity Young
Emmanuel Bible Church

SPEAKER
Kendra Owen
First Alliance Church

Thursday, September 24, 2020

PRAYER
Pastor John Ritchie,
1st Presbyterian Church

MISSION—ALLIANCE FOR YOUTH/YRC
Kristy Pontet-Stroop, Executive Director

MUSICIANS
14th Street Barbershop Quartet: Gary Prue,
Jim Armstrong, Len Koebel, and Milt Gray

SPEAKER
Dave Bowen, Chief of Police
Victory Church

\$5/session or \$20 for the series. Send Check to Early Risers in care of First Presbyterian Church:
1315 Central Avenue ♦ Great Falls, MT 59401

2020 LOAVES AND FISHES DINNER CANCELLED

On Sunday, August 2, I met with Pastor Anna Merritt and Judy Ericksen, chairman of the Human Concerns committee at Our Savior's. We talked about having the Loaves & Fishes Dinner. At this time, Our Savior's is not allowing any food at the church. We all agreed that the health and safety of the members of the 13 churches involved in FISH was our main concern and not the money that we could have made. For this reason, it was decided to cancel the 2020 Loaves & Fishes Dinner. We look forward to the gourmet salmon loaf dinner in 2021.



LOAVES & FISHES

This dinner is our major fund raiser and we usually make about \$7500 which includes the dinner and silent auction. At this time, if you wish to support FISH, you may write a check to FISH for the Loaves & Fishes dinner. Because of the Town Pump Challenge, your gift will be matched by Town Pump. The address of FISH is: Box 662 Great Falls, MT 59403.

Thank you for your understanding and support,
Harold Spilde, Volunteer Director of FISH

Bethel Lutheran Church

Church Council Reopening Guidelines

We will still be offering a live stream of the service for those who wish to worship from home.

Guidelines:

- Front doors will be propped open and the only entrance into the Church. The west side entrance through the TLC Daycare will remain locked.
- Masks will be **required** and we have some available.
- A table is at the front doors with hand sanitizer, masks, tissues and an offering plate. Ushers will be there to assist with masks and help people find seats.
- Physical distancing of 4 feet will be observed.
- Windows and doors will be opened to increase air circulation.
- Signs on the restroom doors should be used to indicate if you are in the bathroom in an effort to keep physical distance.
- The kitchen, Fellowship Hall and back office hall doors will be closed.
- Hospitality area will be closed.
- We will pass the peace in a no-contact fashion.
- Sanctuary will be cleaned with disinfect cleaner after each Sunday worship service

Please consider the following *before you return to worship*:

- Have you traveled outside the U.S. in the past 30 days?
- Have you been in close contact with anyone who has traveled outside the U.S. in the past 30 days?
- Have you been in close contact with anyone with flu-like symptoms in the past 30 days?
- Have you had any of these symptoms:
 - Fever over 100.4
 - Persistent cough
 - Shortness of breath
 - Sudden loss of taste or smell

If you answered YES to any of these questions, please do not enter and contact your health care provider.

Interim Pastor Trina Johnsten

Contact information:

Email: bethelgf.pastor@gmail.com

Bethel number non-emergencies: 406-761-1543 ext 202

Cell number for emergencies: (402) 984-4306

Calendar Of Events

Monday 8/17

- Boy Scout Troop 28 meets at 6:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall

Tuesday 8/18

- Electric City Bible Study, Zoom meeting 7:00 am (Men's Breakfast on hold until September)

Wednesday 8/19

- Tami Grosenick off through August 25, Dina Davis will be covering the Bethel Office

Friday 8/21

- Bethel Office Closed

Upcoming Events

Sunday 8/23

- Worship 9:30 am,

Monday 8/24

- Boy Scout Troop 28 meets at 6:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall

Tuesday 8/25

- Electric City Bible Study, Zoom meeting 7:00 am (Men's Breakfast on hold until September)

Wednesday 8/26

- First day of school GFPS

Friday 8/28

- Bethel Office Closed

Electric City Bible Study On - Line!

What a great way to connect with one another! Join the Electric City Bible Study on a Zoom conference Tuesday mornings at 7:00 am. If you are interested in joining email Laurie Turner at loli51gus@icloud.com and give her an email or cell number and she will send you a link to the meeting.