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# BETHEL NOTES

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## Second Sunday of Advent

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### Serving This Sunday

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**Accompanist:** Connie Titcomb

**Lay Assistant:** Sue Hesse

**Usher(s):** Bob & Marge Vander Aarde

**Projectionist:** Dave Scholten

**Counters:** Patty Braget & Doug Sexe

**Nursery:** Heather Farris & Lillian Erickson

### Readings:

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**Isaiah 40:1-11**

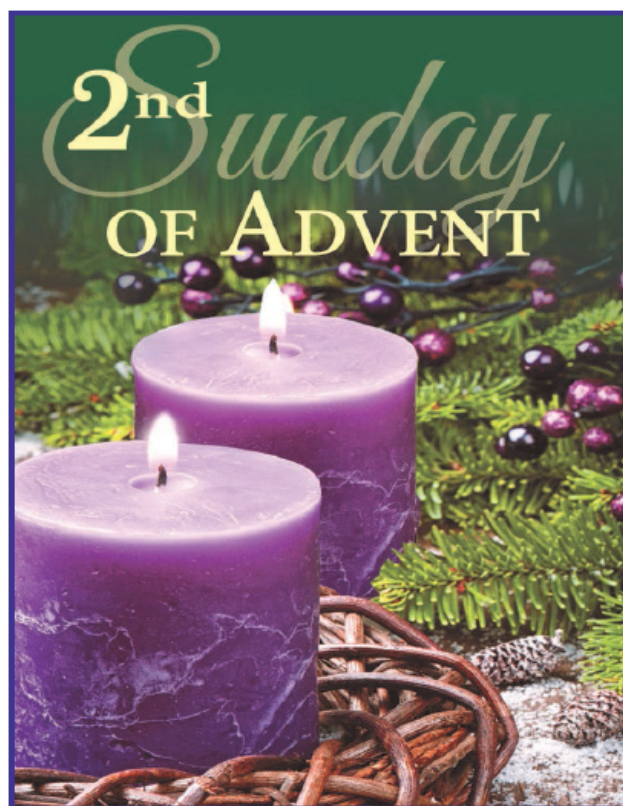
**2 Peter 3:8-15a**

**Mark 1:1-8**

### Happening This Sunday

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- Beer and Carols from 6pm-8pm at Enbar; 8 5th St S.
- Adult forum in the Fellowship Hall immediately following worship.



John called people to repent, to clear the decks, to completely reorder their lives so that nothing would get in the way of the Lord's coming. The reading from Isaiah gives the context for this radical call: the assurance of forgiveness that encourages us to repent; the promise that the coming one will be gentle with the little ones. Isaiah calls us all to be heralds with John, to lift up our voices fearlessly and say, "See, your God is coming!" We say it to one another in worship, in order to say it with our lives in a world in need of justice and peace.

2017 Advent Devotionals are here. Check the Track Rack for your free copy.

2018 Daily Texts are here. See entry table in the Narthex.

## This Week's Events

### Monday 12/11:

- Boy Scout Troop 1028 meeting at 6:15pm in the Gathering Place.

### Tuesday 12/12:

- Men's Breakfast at 6:00am in the Fellowship Hall.
- Bible Study at Electric City Coffee at 6:30am.
- Church Council meeting at 6:30pm in the Gathering Place.

### Wednesday 12/13:

- Regular LOGOS beginning at 5:30pm.
- Marty Johnson's funeral service beginning at 10am.

### Saturday 12/16:

- Close Knit Group meeting at 9am in the Fellowship Hall.

## Upcoming Events

### Sunday 12/17:

- LOGOS Christmas Program

### Sunday 12/17 - Sunday 12/24:

- Bethel's week to host FamilyPromise.

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### Wednesday 12/20 & 12/27:

- No LOGOS these Wednesdays.

### Thursday 12/21:

- Blue Christmas Service, at Christ United Methodist/First Congregational United Church of Christ 2900 9<sup>th</sup> Ave. S. at 7pm.

### Sunday 12/24:

- Worship Services at 9:30am, 4pm and 6pm.

December 8, 2017

## A Season of Giving



This year at Bethel we have some great opportunities to help out our community and internationally with giving for the YWCA Mercy Home and through ELCA Good Gifts.

The YWCA Mercy Home is Cascade County's only shelter for battered women and children, providing around-the-clock security and a resident advocate to give practical and emotional support and connect residents to resources needed to become self-sufficient. At anytime they will host up to 24 people at the Mercy Home..

We would like to help give these women and children a fantastic holiday. If you would like to help, pick up a tag from the Giving Tree in the Narthex and purchase a gift card from any department or grocery store in Great Falls in any amount you wish. We will collect them here at the church by December 21st to get them to The Receiving Home before Christmas.

You are also invited to select an ornament from our World Hunger Good Gifts Christmas tree. Again this year, we will have ornaments for you to choose and then make a donation in the specified amount. For example, you might choose the ornament for "School Supplies for a Child" for \$10 or the "Goat" for \$50 or one of the others. The ornament is yours to hang on your tree or give to someone you wish to honor.

As you're making your Christmas gift list, you may decide to give one of these "Good Gifts" in honor of a friend or relative. It might be a nice way to remember someone who says he or she just doesn't need a thing, your child's teacher, or an elderly family member. You can pick up a card to give your honoree or you can print or email a message to your honoree.

Thank you for making some's holiday a little brighter.

## In-Kind Donation Forms

We now have in-kind donations forms available in the church office. If you donate goods or services for any of the events Bethel hosts, pick up a form and fill in what you donated, the form may be signed by Pastor Steve, Tami Grosenick, or the coordinator of your event. For full information, please read the back of the form. Thank you all for your generous donations.

## Celebration of Life for Marty Johnson

There will be a service to remember and celebrate Marty's life at Bethel on Wednesday, December 13th at 10am with a reception to follow. Please remember his family and friends in your prayers and take time to share your remembrances of Marty with Pastor Steve and each other. Peace to his memory.

We are in need of volunteers to help with the reception. If you are able to help serve or can bring a side salad or dessert, please contact Tami Grosenick at



Prayers of comfort for the family of **Marty Johnson** as they grieve his passing.

Prayers for **Marj Vander Aarde** as she recovers from surgery. Also for her sister, **Jann DeGroot**, who is battling cancer.

Prayers for healing for **Ryan Pottratz** (son of Ed and Myra Pottratz and grandson of Sue Hesse).

Prayers for healing for **Brenda Slater** as she continues her treatment for cancer.

Prayer for healing **Marlys Bair** who recovers from surgery.

Prayers for healing for **Frank Potter and family** (friend of Doug Sexe) as he battles cancer.

Prayers for **Ed Pottratz and family**.

Prayers for **Todd Whitted** (nephew of Bobbie Bowen).

Prayers for **Bernice Johnson**.

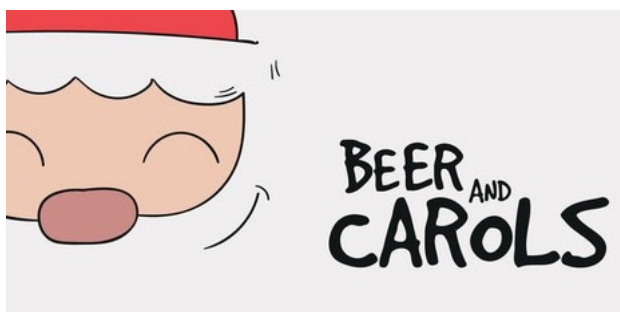
Prayers for **Anne Trunkle**, (friend of Dean Wagner-Fossen) who is in hospice care. Also prayers for Dena's sister, **Trina**.

Prayers for **Bret, Kelsey & Conrad Barnes**.

Prayers for **Shelly Murphy**.

## LOGOS Children's Christmas Program

Next Sunday, December 17th is the LOGOS Children's Christmas program. They will be sharing with us the story of Christ's birth. Rehearsal will be Wednesday evening at LOGOS.



The Great Falls Ministerial Association is once again sponsoring Beer and Carols on Sunday, December 10th from 6:00-8:00 PM at Enbar (8 5th St S). Come, sing, drink and enjoy fellowship.



December 8, 2017

A Blue Christmas Service supports those for whom the holidays are not joyful; they are lonely, filled with grief and feelings of being alienated from celebrations. This service is designed for people who may be experiencing depression and sadness and yet are often compelled to "put on a happy face" for others, denying their true feelings. The service is composed of music, scripture and a candle lighting ritual to help acknowledge feelings and connect with the light that shines in the darkness during a difficult time in life. This service will be held at Christ United Methodist Church/First Congregational United Church of Christ, [2900 9th Ave S](#) on Thursday, December 21 at 7 PM. Please share this with those who may be struggling this Christmas. Or consider inviting someone to come with you. That may be the best gift you can offer- acknowledgment of their feelings.

## Family Promise News

### **Hygiene Kits Needed:**

Family Promise is in need of hygiene kits for men and women. Below is what is needed for each. If you are able to donate items, you can drop them off in the box in the entryway and they will be assembled into kits.

#### **Women**

Shampoo  
Rinse  
Toothpaste  
Toothbrush  
Children's Toothbrushes  
Body Wash  
Deodorant  
Razor  
Shaving Cream

#### **Men**

Shampoo  
Rinse  
Toothpaste  
Toothbrush  
Children's Toothbrushes  
Body Wash  
Deodorant  
Razor  
Shaving Cream





## Three Orientation Opportunities

**January 3, 2018** – 7:00 p.m. sponsored by Sun River Ward at the Sun River LDS Church

**January 9, 2018** – 5:30 p.m. sponsored by 1<sup>st</sup> Congregational UCC/Christ United Methodist Church at 2900 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue South ("Dairy Queen" Church)

**January 13, 2018** – 1:30 p.m. sponsored by the Seventh Day Adventist Church at 16 14<sup>th</sup> Street South

**All are welcome at any and all sessions!**

