

BETHEL NOTES

Third Sunday after Epiphany

Serving This Sunday

Accompanist: Mary Seim

Lay Assistant: John Blank

Usher(s): Donna Vinnedge

Projectionist: Tim Lightbourne

Counters: Tim Lightbourne and Kris Voorhees

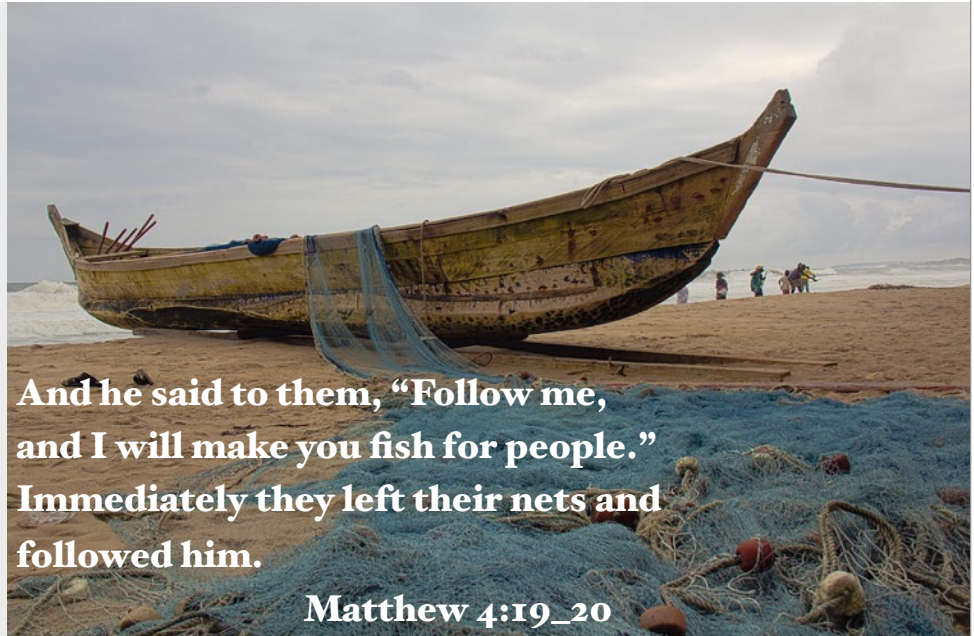
Readings

Isaiah 9:1-4

Psalms 27:1, 4-9

1 Corinthians 1:10-18

Matthew 4:12-23



And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fish for people.” Immediately they left their nets and followed him.

Matthew 4:19-20

Jesus begins his public ministry by calling fishers to leave their nets and follow him. In Jesus the kingdom of God has come near. We who have walked in darkness have seen a great light. We see this light most profoundly in the cross—as God suffers with us and all who are oppressed by sickness, sin, or evil. Light dawns for us as we gather around the word, the font, and the holy table. We are then sent to share the good news that others may be “caught” in the net of God’s grace and mercy.

Source: Sunday’s and Seasons, Augsburg Fortress, 2017 Year A

This Sunday At Bethel.

- An additional offering will be received in support of the Emmaus (Lutheran) Campus Ministries.

Next Week's Events

- LOGOS Family Worship Wednesday, Jan 25, at 7:15pm in the Sanctuary. Holy Communion will be served.
- Bible Study Tuesday, Jan 24, at 6:30am at Electric City Coffee.
- Men's Breakfast will meet Tuesday, Jan 24 in the Fellowship Hall.

Upcoming Events

- The annual congregational meeting will be held Sunday, Jan 29 immediately following worship.
- The Boy Scouts will hold their annual Blue and Gold Banquet in the Gathering Place on Saturday, Feb 11 from 5-9pm.
- The church council will hold a meeting and retreat on Sunday, Feb 12 from 11am - 2:30pm.
- Hope Circle meets at 7:30pm on Thursday, Feb 16, at Patti Godtel's; 2925 Delmar Dr.
- MT Rual Water will conduct their annual training seminar in the Fellowship Hall beginning Wednesday, Feb 22, and concluding Friday, Feb 24.

2017 Annual Congregational Meeting

The 2017 annual congregational meeting will be held immediately following worship on Sunday, January 29th. We will be discussing the adoption of a mission funding plan for 2017, and electing new council members and congregational representatives. The annual reports will be available on Sunday, Jan 22. in the Narthex.



Special Offering Emmaus Campus Ministry



This Sunday we will receive an additional offering (envelopes will be provided) in support of Emmaus Campus Ministry. Bethel will be hosting Pastor John Lund, Campus Pastor at Emmaus Lutheran Campus Ministry, at the U of M in Missoula, along with several young adults, to lead worship/give the message this Sunday. Following the service, they will be leading an Adult Faith Formation Forum.



Come join us for our youth lead LOGOS Family Worship with Holy Communion on Wednesday, January 18, at 7:15pm in the Sanctuary. All are welcome!



PASTOR STEVE'S MESSAGE

“Connected and Interdependent”

On Wednesday night at the Logos Middle School Bible Study time, we played a game to make a point about baptism and our connectedness to one another. The game was called *Friendship Web*. The middle school youth and adults sat in chairs circled up in the sanctuary. It started with a ball of yarn.

Each one was invited to share an event or something that happened to them in the previous week which they felt good about. They then held on to the yarn and tossed the whole ball of yarn to another seated in the circle. After the yarn criss-crossed within the circle to each one I stopped and pointed out the truth that our stories connected us to one another. The web we witnessed in the making, held us together. So does the gift of baptism, it connects us with God and one another. These relationships matter. Our life together matters.

This Sunday we will welcome the Emmaus Campus Ministry team at worship. They will be leading the worship, sharing the message for the day with youth and adults. They will arrive on Saturday afternoon and stay with some of the students families from Great Falls. Bethel has young adults on the campus of both the University of Montana and Montana State University. There is ministry offered to students on both campus. We have a Lutheran presence on both campuses. At Montana State University in Bozeman there is ***Christus Collegium – The Center for Campus Ministry***. The intern pastor at Hope Lutheran, Bozeman, also serves the students who gather at Christus Collegium. In Missoula at the University of Montana there is ***Emmaus Campus Ministry***. We are connected to one another. These relationships matter and so does the support we offer them. That support comes in the form of prayer, a listening ear to their thoughts about life, and faith, ~ what matters to them and our financial support, too. On Sunday, you will have an opportunity to engage the young adults of Emmaus Campus Ministry, their pastor, Rev. John Lund, in worship and in conversation. Pastor Lund will be presenting an Adult Forum on the topic: ***Faith, religion, and young adults: trends, stories and hope***. I hope that you will make time after worship to stay for the Adult Forum and engage in the conversation. I also hope that you will consider participating in the financial support of Emmaus Campus Ministry and the good work that is going on there. After all, we are connected in a web of relationships ~ connected through our baptism into Christ.



Prayer Shawl Ministry



Bethel knitters have been providing knitted or crocheted prayer shawls for those in need for many years. Anyone who enjoys knitting or crocheting is welcome to contribute a shawl. There is ample yarn available at the church for those interested in making a shawl. You do not have to come to the Saturday Close Knit group to participate in this ministry but are certainly welcome. The group meets every first and third Saturday from 9:00 am -12:00 pm at the church. If anyone has further questions please contact Terree Wozny.



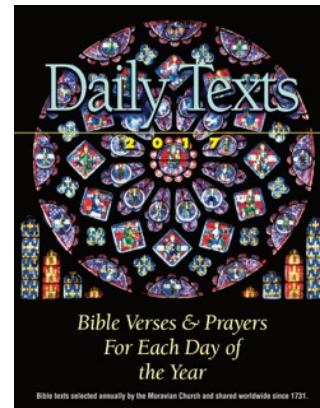
Church Council



Council Meeting Highlights

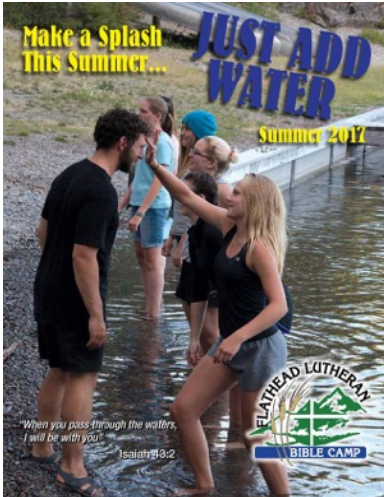
• Dave presented a financial summary through the end of December showing that Bethel's income is greater than we had projected but our expenses are greater than expected as well. Dave is working with the bookkeeper, Bonnie, to get an itemized list of expenses and income to compare against the current budget.

- Vann reported that the debt reduction committee will be meeting with John Cross on January 16th at 5:00 to discuss how to move forward with reducing the debt from our building project.
- Currently, Dena Wagner Fossen is the only nominee who has agreed to serve on the council. The nominating committee continues to work toward finding three more members to serve.
- Annual meeting will be January 29, 2017
- A new lease for TLC Center (formerly known as Tot Lot) is in the works and will be effective as of January 1st. Rent will be increased by \$50 and \$250 will be held in escrow for repairs that may be needed.
- The next council meeting will be held on Sunday, Feb 12 at approximately 1:45pm. It will be held at the Waddell and Reed conference room; 300 Central Ave #600. If you have any questions please contact Kristine Voorhees at (406) 454-1393.



2017 Daily Texts

The 2017 Daily Texts: Bible Verses and Prayers for each day of the year are available (No charge to you !) If you wish to make a donation write a check, make it payable to Bethel and footnote Daily Text in the memo line.



2017 FLBC Summer Camp



The 2017 FLBC Summer Camp brochures are now available in the Narthex. Pick up one of these brochures now and invite a friend(s) to join you. Pastor Steve plans to be at camp Sunday, July 23 through Wednesday, July 26th. *Please note the early registration discounts will save you money ! You save \$50 by registering with your (\$75.) deposit by April 1st and you save \$25. by registering with your deposit by May 1st. Bethel does have limited scholarship monies available to help defray the cost on a first come, first served basis. Please contact Pastor Steve if you desire a camp scholarship. Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp Executive Director, Margie Fiedler, will be at Bethel on FLBC Sunday, April 23rd, to give the message and to promote the camp. You can register online: www.flbc.net and/or call 406-752-6602.



A very special Happy Birthday to Fern Myhre, who turns 91 on the 24th. Happy Birthday, Fern ! May God continue to shower his blessings on you. Wishing you happiness, good health, and a great year ahead.

From: Dik Myhre, Jude Myhre, Leonard and Shelly Murphy, and Laura and Russ Schade and our families.

There will be some cake served at the coffee/fellowship time after worship in celebration of Fern's birthday.

Save the Date:

Comfort Food Classic

Benefitting:

Saturday, Feb. 11, 2017– 5:00-8:00 PM

Moose Lodge
401 21st, Black Eagle, MT

Tickets: \$25/single, \$5/children (3-12yrs)

Family Promise volunteers, recruit your Cook-off team to create your “Comfort Food” Main Dishes for everyone to taste and have a chance to win the coveted People’s Choice Award. Make your booth memorable by decorating it, by wearing costumes - whatever suits your fancy!

Everyone is invited to bring their most delicious dessert to enter in the Dessert Contest. Individual dessert servings will be sold, with a prize for the creator of the most sold. And that’s not all! You will have a chance to bid on Valentine’s Day themed silent auction items.

Most of all, this casual, family friendly fun event will raise funds for
Family Promise of Great Falls.



