

BETHEL NOTES

Third Sunday in Lent

Serving This Sunday

Accompanist: Mary Seim

Lay Assistant: Vann Arvanetes

Usher(s): Sue Hesse and Sandi Cummings

Projectionist: Tim Lightbourne

Counters: Tim Lightbourne and Mary Lou Norbie

Readings

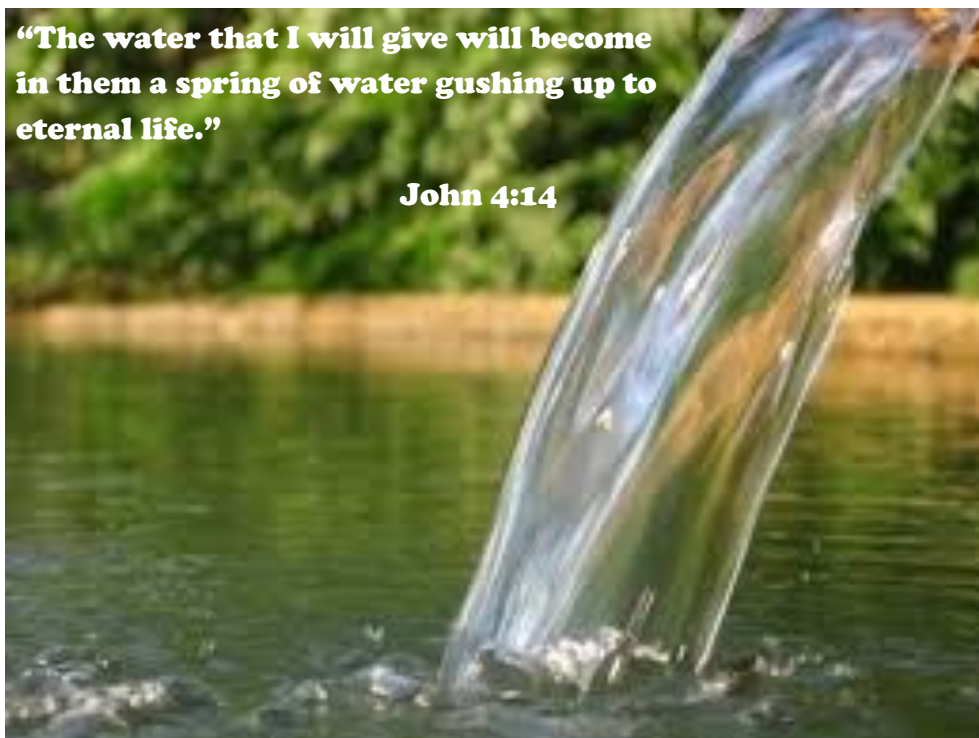
Exodus 17:1-7

Romans 5:1-11

John 4:5-42

"The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life."

John 4:14



In today's gospel the Samaritan woman asks Jesus for water, an image of our thirst for God. Jesus offers living water, a sign of God's grace flowing from the waters of baptism. The early church used this gospel and those of the next two Sundays to deepen baptismal reflection during the final days of preparation before baptism at Easter. As we journey to the resurrection feast, Christ comes among us in word, bath, and meal—offering us the life-giving water of God's mercy and forgiveness.

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



This Sunday At Bethel.

- We will receive an additional offering in support of a special project at FLBC.
- Capital Campaign committee will hold a focus group immediately following worship. All are encouraged and invited to attend.

Next Week's Events

- Bible Study Tuesday, Mar 21, at 6:30am at Electric City Coffee.
- Men's Breakfast will meet Tuesday, Mar 21, in the Fellowship Hall.
- LOGOS begins at 5:30pm Wednesday, Mar 22.
- LOGOS Family Worship will be Wednesday, Mar 22, at 7:15pm. 3rd grade bibles will be presented.
- Mid-week lenten soup supper at 6:15pm on Thursday, Mar 23 with worship to follow at 7pm.

Upcoming Events

- Palm/Passion Sunday Worship - April 9th at 9:30am.



Lent 2017

Our theme for the 2017 Lenten Season will be Living Our Baptism... Five Gifts of discipleship. During the five mid-week worship gatherings we will spend time reflecting on the five gifts of discipleship which are rooted in the Baptismal as well as the Affirmation of Baptism liturgies found in the Evangelical Lutheran Worship hymnal. This year we are observing the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation and so it is good, right, and salutary that we would make available to you a devotional book, Free Indeed, which is now available and brings Martin Luther's Small Catechism into your devotional life during Lent. Our mid-week Lenten worship will continue on Thursday evenings, beginning on March 9th with a soup supper served at 6:15pm and followed by worship at 7:00pm. The Lenten mid-week dates and themes are as follows:

March 23rd – 6:15 pm Soup Supper hosted by the Council. Worship at 7:00 pm

Gift of Discipleship: *Proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed.*

March 30th – 6:15 pm Soup Supper hosted by Bethel Bunch. Worship at 7:00 pm

Gift of Discipleship: *Serve all people following the example of Jesus.*

April 6th – 6:15 pm Soup Supper hosted by Jubilate Choir. Worship at 7:00 pm

Gift of Discipleship: *Strive for justice and peace in all the earth*

LOGOS Staff Party

When: Wednesday, April 12 at 6 p.m.

Where: Beef o'Brady's, 1600 Fox Farm Rd.

Please join fellow LOGOS volunteers to celebrate your awesomeness! We will buy your dinner and recognize your outstanding service this year.

Holy Week Schedule

Maunday Thursday

Liturgy, April 13th at 7:00 pm

**Holy Communion; Jubilate Choir

Good Friday

Liturgy, April 14th at 7:00 pm

**Jubilate Choir

Easter Vigil

Liturgy, April 15th at 7:00 pm

**Holy Communion & Feast of Milk & Honey (Ice cream sundaes)

Easter Sunday

Worship at 10am in the Gathering Place



Pastor Steve's Message

Faithful in the Wilderness of our Lives



[Moses] called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarrelled and tested the LORD, saying, “Is the LORD among us or not ?” Exodus 17: 7, NRSV

The Israelites made their way to their campsite, Rephidim, (which in Hebrew translates: “rest” or “resting place”) and discovered it was a campsite with not even a drop of water to be found. Here at this station in the wilderness, between Egypt and Sinai, exhausted and thirsty - they vented their anger with their leader. “Give us water! You are killing us with thirst!”

When we are tired, dehydrated and our basic needs are left unmet, we can get “testy,” or “crabby,” too. We usually end up taking it out on those closest to us, like a loved one or a friend or maybe even an elected leader. When Moses saw that the people’s anger was turning to violence against him, he turned to the LORD, asking, “What shall I do with this people?” The LORD was quick with a plan. Seeing the water issue (Give us water to drink!) now becoming a God issue (Is the LORD among us or not?) he charges Moses to round up some elders and to meet the LORD at the rock in Horeb. It was there that they would witness God’s faithful presence manifest in the provision of water. It is at that moment when the water flowed from the rock that not only their basic physical needs were met but also their God question was answered, too.

We live in anxiety producing times. Feeling insecure and helpless to control or change our life’s circumstances, we vent our anger and frustrations on those closest to us. In those overwhelming moments we draw nothing but sand from the dry wells of our lives. The good news is that the LORD is among us ! Just as the LORD went before Moses and the elders to meet them at the rock and to provide for their need, so, too, the LORD is faithful to go before us, to be among us, to meet our needs. The LORD promises to provide water and life for dry and thirsty times in our lives.

Pastor Steve



Prayer Concerns

Bob Veitch (husband of LaRae) in Hospice

Marj Vander Aarde recovering from surgery

Dick Myhre – (son of Fern, brother of Shelly) hospitalized.

Bernice Johnson, as she grieves the death of her nephew, Mark Dahl

Allen Robbins & Tom Van Hovel, relatives of Connie Titcomb & Linda VanHovel

Nominating Committee & the Call Process for nominees to the Church Council.

Mission Freedom Task Force – for campaign plans, focus groups & congregational participation.

Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp “Special Project” Support

NEW
ITEM

This Sunday’s offering, received in the wicker baskets (in lieu of Noisy Cans), will be given in support of a special project at Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp. Our Savior’s Lutheran Church (Great Falls) invited us, and other Russell Country Cluster congregations to join them in raising funds and sending volunteers to help build a pottery shed for camp the week after Easter. Our FLBC representatives are Dan & Steph Richardson. Let then know if you might be interested in heading to FLBC to donate time in helping to do the build. (406) 579-2093.



Capital Campaign Update:

The Church Council has formed a committee to explore the planning for our upcoming capital campaign -thank you to all those that have supported this effort thus far! As a reminder, pledges from our last campaign are set to expire at the end of 2017. Our mortgage payment is funded exclusively from campaign pledges, not from the general fund - we need to secure pledges for 2018 and beyond to continue servicing our mortgage that paid for our beautiful new facility.

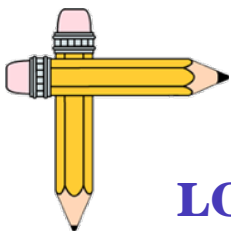
Our new committee will be hosting a focus group meeting in the fellowship hall on 3/19 right after the service - all are welcome and encouraged to attend. We will be

discussing our preliminary strategy to execute our upcoming campaign and there will be an opportunity to provide feedback on this strategy. We look forward to your participation

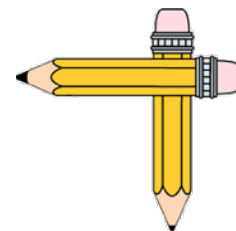
It's Party Time!



NEW
ITEM



LOGOS NEWS



LOGOS Staff Party

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Where: Beef o'Brady's, 1600 Fox Farm Rd.

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LOGOS Family Worship – Mar. 22 @ 7:15pm

The final Logos Family Worship service will be held a week from Wednesday at 7:15pm. We will have the presentation of Bibles from the congregation to Third graders, and honor Logos staff who will be ending their commitments to serving in the program. Those persons are Colter McCarty, Jim Carlson (both High School Logos) and Marsha Martin as a former co-chair and dinner specialist. We also share the Sacrament of Holy Communion. The Logos Program year concludes on Wed. April 5th with the end-of-the-year party.



LOGOS was busy this week with friends, fun, and learning. The 3rd-6th graders created Prayer Rocks that they took home to use for reflection. 7th and 8th grade Confirmation class continues to prepare for the Rite of Confirmation, scheduled for April 30 for our 8th graders. Although the theme this week was "Sports", Ms. Sonja Blue helped us remember St. Patrick's Day with her festive hat!

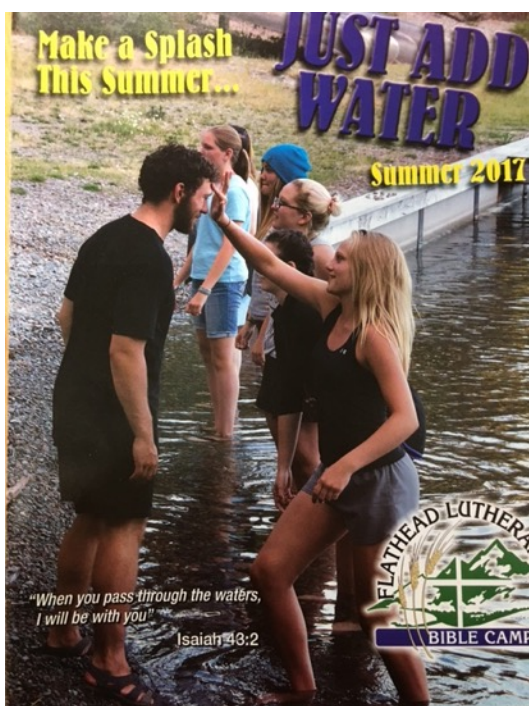


Prayer Shawl Ministry

NEW
ITEM



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. We invite those of you who have received a prayer shawl to wear it to worship this Sunday. If anyone has further questions please contact Terree Wozny.



Summer Camp Registration is OPEN!

Save \$50 by registering by April 1st

Save \$25 by registering by May 1st

Pastor Steve will be in camp July 23-26

****We have limited scholarship funds available and will be disbursed on a first come first serve basis. Please contact Pastor Steve if you are interested in a scholarship.****

Register online at www.flbc.net

Questions? Call: 406-752-6602 or Email: registration@flbc.net

Or Mail Registration to: FLBC 603 S. Main St. Kalispell, MT 59901