
BETHEL NOTES

Twenty-fourth Sunday After Pentecost

Serving This Sunday

Accompanist: Mary Seim

Lay Assistant: John Blank

Usher(s): The Lightbourne Family

Projectionist: Lisa Carlson

Counters: Tim Lightbourne and Donna Vinnedge

Nursery: Carly Cushman & Kaleb Stringer

Readings:

Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

Matthew 25:14-20

Happening This Sunday

- **The Jubilate Choir** will be singing "Great I Am".
- **We welcome Margie Holland's** story to offer a stewardship message on God's generosity and how it has enriched her life.
- **We join the Gilbertson Family** in celebrating the first holy communion of Kyle and Ryan.
- **Pie Auction to benefit VBS and FLBC Scholarships** immediately following worship in the Fellowship Hall.

The Parable of the Talents



Our readings during November speak of the end times. Zephaniah proclaims that the coming day of the Lord will be filled with wrath and distress. Paul says it will come like a thief in the night and urges us to be awake and sober. Jesus tells the parable of the talents, calling us to use our gifts, while we still have time, for the greater and common good. In a world filled with violence and despair, we gather around signs of hope—word, water, bread and wine—eager to welcome the good news of Christ's coming among us.

Monday 11/20:

- Boy Scout Troop 1028 meeting at 6:15pm in the Fellowship Hall.
- Thanksgiving Worship Service with First Presbyterian and Our Savior's at 7pm in the Sanctuary. Offering will be dedicated to Family Promise-Great Falls.

Tuesday 11/21:

- Men's Breakfast at 6am in the Fellowship Hall.
- Bible Study at 6:30am at Electric City Coffee.

Wednesday 11/22:

- NO LOGOS

Thursday 11/23 and Friday 11/24:

- The office will be closed in observance of the Thanksgiving holiday.

Upcoming Events

Wednesday 12/6:

- LOGOS Family Meal Worship Night starts at 6:00pm, worship service at 7:00pm. *Kids and families arrive together at 6:00 p.m., have dinner, stay for worship.

Friday 12/8:

- Bethel Bunch Progressive House Hopping beginning at 6pm at the Nuessle's; 908 37th Ave NE

Saturday 12/9:

- Hope Circle Christmas Party at the Carlson's (329 Hyland Dr) at 6pm. Bring ornaments to exchange, an appetizer to share, something to drink and your significant other.

Thanksgiving Service at Bethel

Each year we have a shared Thanksgiving worship service with First Presbyterian, Our Savior's Lutheran Church and Bethel. This year it is Bethel's turn to host! The Service takes place on Monday, November 20th at 7:00 PM. Pastor Anna Merritt is preaching. There will also be a joint choir performance directed by Jeff Skogley. The offering will be given to Family Promise. Please join us in giving thanks!



First Communion

This Sunday, Bethel rejoices with **Kyle and Ryan Gilbertson**, sons of Randy and Amy Gilbertson, brothers of Brenna, as they join in sharing their first holy communion.

Kyle and Ryan, as you take part in the bread of life and the cup of eternal salvation for the first time, know that you will carry the Lord's blessings and love with you forever.

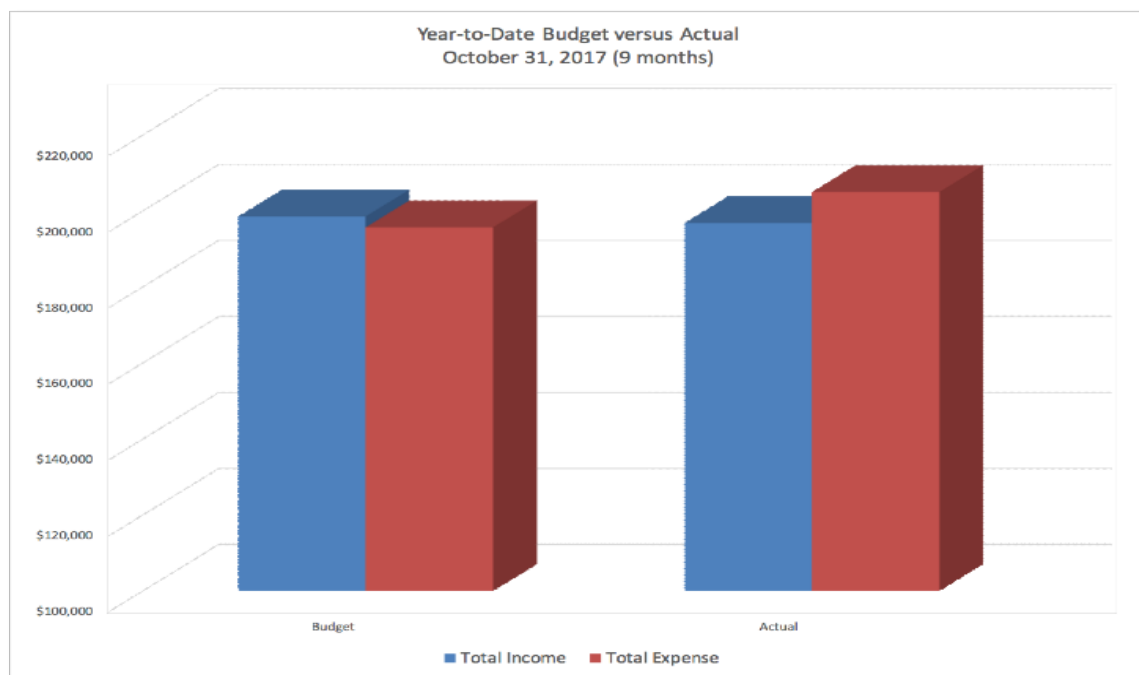




Financial Update

November 2017

In our recent Stewardship brochure, Pastor Steve wrote “Blessed and enriched in every way, we will be able to give generously in every way, as our thanksgiving to God”. The overall giving through nine months ending October 2017 shows the Bethel congregation continuing a tradition of generosity. Below is a quick update on the overall church budget.



	Budget	Actual	Difference
Total Income	\$198,558	\$196,849	(\$1,709)
Total Expense	\$195,713	\$205,022	(\$9,309)
Net	\$2,845	(\$8,173)	(\$11,018)

<u>Building Funds Received</u>	
Building Campaign #1 - 2017 (YTD)	\$32,246
Mission Freedom Campaign - 2017 (YTD)	\$57,733
Total	\$89,978

While general fund income through nine months of 2017 was \$1,709 below budget, giving for debt reduction increased to nearly \$90,000 year-to-date as church kicked off a new “Mission Freedom” Campaign.

Operating expenses remain higher than budget through nine months of 2017 due to unexpected office and property expenses noted in the last quarterly update as well as the purchase of new tables for Logos in October 2017. The table expense is being partially offset by excess Logos funds and additional designated donations.

At the current trajectory of income and expenses, we are projecting a \$10,000 deficit in the operating budget at year end. However, we are also projecting a \$100,000 reduction in debt in 2017 for the second consecutive year!

Thank you for your continued showers of blessings.



LOGOS NEWS



LOGOS got an early start on Thanksgiving this week. Grades 3-6 created luminaries to display for our joint Thanksgiving service on Monday evening and our high schoolers baked pies for our annual pie auction. Plus, our 5th graders debuted the song they created using technology and their own creativity. We are blessed to have such a vibrant youth group. We will take a break to celebrate the holiday but look forward to reconvening on Nov 29. Happy Thanksgiving!





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

Prayers for **Kevin** (AnneRose Rogers son) who is deployed to Iraq to serve our country.

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

Prayers for **Brenda Slater** as she continues to heal.

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

Prayers for **Ed Pottratz and family**.

Prayers for **Colleen Walker-Nelson** as she recovers from surgery.

Prayers for **Jill Fitzgerald** (friend of Beth Olson) who is battling cancer.

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

Prayers for **Marty Johnson** who is hospitalized.

Prayers for **Shirley Cayko** who is hospitalized.

Prayers for **Bernice Johnson**.

Prayers for **Anne Trunkle**, (friend of Dean Wagner-Fossen) who is in hospice care.

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



To Benefit

Vacation Bible School

&

Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp Scholarships

Sunday, November 19th, immediately following service.

In The Fellowship Hall

Please Join Us For Our Annual Pie Auction!

This is a wonderful time to stock up on all the goodies you need for Thanksgiving. The proceeds from this auction help to fund our Vacation Bible School, along with our "Paddle Raise" to help raise money for scholarships for Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp.

This has always been a fun event and everyone looks forward to purchasing that 'perfect pie, dessert, or homemade goodie'. We will be welcoming Steve Smith back as our auctioneer this year!

What makes this event successful...YOU! We appreciate any donations of your favorite pie or your favorite homemade item. If you are able, please bring them to the church on Saturday, November 18th between 1:00 and 3:00 pm as we are going to be setting up at that time and marking items for the auction. Please let us know if your item that needs to be refrigerated and we will make sure that it is after it is marked. Items will of course be welcomed the morning of the auction as well. If you would rather, you can just come and shop from a variety of the best homemade treats in town! We welcome any kind of dessert; pie, cookies, breads, etc. What a great time to buy some yummy treats for your Thanksgiving meal!

Next year our Vacation Bible School is scheduled for **July 23rd – 27th 2018 so mark your calendars now!**