

BETHEL NOTES

All Saints Sunday

Serving This Sunday

Accompanist: Lynn Ryan

Lay Assistant: Anne Vannatta

Usher(s): Sue Hesse

Projectionist: Dian Davis

Counters: Patty Braget and Grant Smith

Nursery: Kaleb Stringer & Heather Farris

Readings:

Revelation 7:9-17

1 John 3:1-3

Matthew :1-12

Happening This Sunday

- **The Jubilate Choir** will be singing "Gather At The River To Pray".
- **This Sunday we welcome Anne Vannatta** to offer a stewardship message on God's generosity and how it has enriched her life.
- **Don't forget to** set your clocks back one hour this Saturday!
- **Eagle Scout Court of Honor for James Peterson** at 2:30pm in the Sanctuary with a reception following in the Fellowship Hall.

An **additional offering will be received in support of ELCA World Hunger** in the wicker baskets. To date Bethel has given a little over \$12,000. in support of ELCA World Hunger for 2017. Thanks be to God



All Saints celebrates the baptized people of God, living and dead, who are the body of Christ. As November heralds the dying of the landscape in many northern regions, the readings and liturgy call us to remember all who have died in Christ and whose baptism is complete. At the Lord's table we gather with the faithful of every time and place, trusting that the promises of God will be fulfilled and that all tears will be wiped away in the new Jerusalem.

This Week's Events

Monday 11/6

- Boy Scout Troop 1028 meeting at 6:15pm in the Fellowship Hall.

Tuesday 11/7:

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

Upcoming Events

Sunday 11/12:

- Worship Planning meeting immediately following worship.
- *Living Generously* Commitment Sunday for the 2018 Financial Stewardship Campaign.
- Great Falls Ministerial Association is sponsoring another *Hymns and Beer* gathering on Sunday, November 12th from 6 - 8pm at the Cory Block Bakery at 4th Street South.

Thursday 11/16:

- Hope Circle at 7:30pm at the Korpela's; 3025 Delmar Drive.



Saints Remembered

This Sunday we remember the saints that were baptized this past year and we remember the saints that died this past year. During the prayers you will be given the opportunity to come forward and to light votive candles in remembrance of saints, living or deceased.

The saints that were *baptized* during the past year:

Aeliana Olson	Kian Ryan
Brady Pike	Kendall Ryan
Carson Pike	Kari Ryan
Georgia Pike	LauraLee Wren
Aidden Cushman	Lisa Cushman

The saints that *died* this past year:

Duane Kohoutek
Joy Tyler



A Definition of A Saint

Every Christian, including you, and many other persons whom you wouldn't want to hang out with.

In the New Testament, the word *saint* never refers to a special class of super-duper Christians, rather it always refers to all CHRISTIANS. For instance, the Letter to the Ephesians is addressed "to the saints in Ephesus." Saints are not saintly because of what they do but because of what Christ has done for them. Christian saints are identified not by their own wisdom, GOOD WORKS, HOLINESS, and wholeness but by the fact that they belong to Jesus.

And that means, of course, that you are qualified to be a saint, too. As is your worst nightmare of a NEIGHBOR. Groucho Marx may have said, "I don't want to be a member of any club that will accept me as a member," but Jesus said, in effect, "Only sinners need apply-and I will make you saints."

Upcoming Events

Sunday 11/19:

- Pie Auction to benefit VBS and FLBC Scholarships immediately following worship in the Fellowship Hall.

Monday 11/20:

- Thanksgiving Worship Service with First Presbyterian and Our Savior's at 7pm in the Sanctuary.

Thursday 11/23 and Friday 11/24:

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

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.



Pastor Steve's Message

United by Something Stronger - Woven Together by the Holy Spirit

Over the last month of Sundays, we gathered together for conversation about human sexuality and the church. More specifically, about whether or not we have a wedding policy and if it were to allow for same-sex marriage at Bethel. Thank you to all who made the time to share your thoughts, concerns and to listen to one another. It is certainly a difficult and uncomfortable conversation for many of us to enter into but I believe that we were able to do so with love, openness, respect, and honesty. Difficult topics, such as this one, need not divide us as we are united by something stronger, the reconciling love of Christ, and woven together by the Holy Spirit into the Body of Christ - the church.

The Church Council members and I made notes of the thoughts and concerns which were shared and will be taking them into account as we discern next steps. We will discern with the best of our abilities what is the will of God for us. Keep your leadership in your prayers as we move forward. The Council will be communicating with the congregation decisions and plans as they unfold. On the Church Council agenda at it's next meeting (Tuesday, November 14th, at 6:30pm, in the Gathering Place) we will have some follow up discussion to the forums. Church council meetings are always open meetings and you are welcome to attend.

With gratitude to God for the call to serve as your pastor, for being united by the reconciling love of Christ Jesus - and woven together by the Holy Spirit into the Body of Christ.

Pastor Steve



Prayers for those *affected by natural disasters; hurricanes, earthquakes, wildfires, etc.*

Prayers for **Marj VanderAarde** as she recovers from surgery.

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 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 **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).



Stewardship

Talents
 Thanksgiving
 Gifts Sharing Giving
 Blessings
 Generosity
 Faith
 Treasures
 Abundance

Living Generously Commitment Sunday for the 2018 Financial Stewardship Campaign. You will be receiving a publication along with an estimate of giving card (pledge card). If you are in church on Sunday, please pick yours up so that we can be good stewards and save postage. There will be extra copies available on a table in the narthex along with extra giving cards. On Commitment Sunday there will also be a box that you can drop off your pledge card.

Beer and Hymns



The Great Falls Ministerial Association is once again **sponsoring Beer and Hymns on Sunday, November 12 from 6:00-8:00 PM at Cory Block Bakery**, 4 5th Ave S (one block off Central on 5th Ave S). This is a time for Christians to gather, sing, eat, drink and enjoy fellowship with each other. Cory Block is a BYOB (Bring your own beer, or other alcoholic beverage) event. They will have coffee, tea and soda for sale as well as a soup or other hot dish and their scrumptious baked goods. So join Jeff Carroll, our musician, and Lutherans, Presbyterians, Congregationalists, Baptists and Methodists for a good ole hymn sing. Everyone is welcome to join this fun event.





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!**

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!



LOGOS News



This past Wednesday at our LOGOS Family Worship, the third graders were presented with their bibles. We had excellent participation among our youth (45 kids) who read, served communion, and joined in song plus the many parents and congregation members (50+ guests) who also attended.

