

# BETHEL NOTES

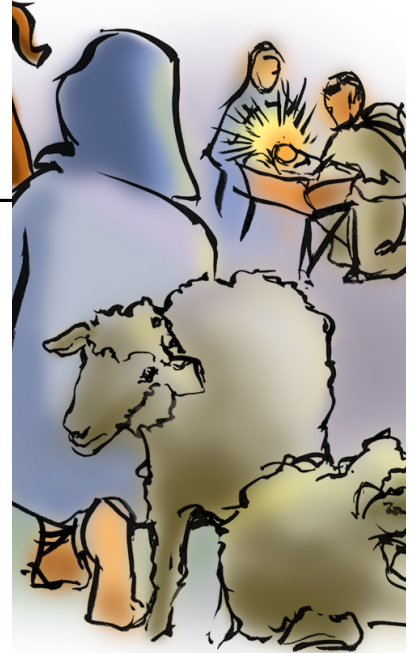
## Sunday, December 19th

### *Fourth Sunday of Advent and Logos Christmas Program*

Join us for our annual Logos Christmas Program as we tell the story of the birth of our Savior! Enjoy the sweet voices of your youth singing many familiar Christmas hymns and the Bethel Youth Handbell Choir.

Stay after for a refreshment and shop at our Bake Sale to raise funds for our 2022 Vacation Bible School Day Camp next July 2022!

*Join us Sundays  
9:30 AM  
in-person or  
online at  
[bethelmt.org](http://bethelmt.org)*



#### Inside this issue

Prayer Requests.....	2
Council Meeting Highlights	3
Bethel Bell Choir .....	3
Helping Hands .....	3
Mission Endowment.....	4
Calling All Bakers .....	5
Free Advent Devotional.	5
2022 Daily Texts .....	5
Altar Flowers 2022 .....	5
Financial Secretary .....	6
Good Gifts.....	6
FLBC Retreats .....	6
Just For YOUTH.....	7
Calendar of Events .....	8
Online Ministries .....	8
Contact Pastor Jessie.....	8



#### **SERVING THIS SUNDAY**

Accompanists	Lynn Ryan, piano; Pastor Steve Nelson, guitar
Lay Assistants	Walt Nuessle
Ushers	Ava Fossen
Tech	Kaleb Stringer
Children's Church	Isabelle Grosenick and Olivia Violet
Counters	Tim Lightbourne and Sara Sexe

*No Adult Education  
this week.*

#### **OFFICE HOURS**

MONDAY THROUGH THURSDAY 9:00 AM TO 4:30 PM    CLOSED FRIDAY

OFFICE: (406) 761-1543

WEBSITE: [www.bethelmt.org](http://www.bethelmt.org)

EMAIL: [bethelgf.church@gmail.com](mailto:bethelgf.church@gmail.com)



- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Mary Hill** as she recovers from surgery and awaits test results
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Gordon Lord** as he prepares for a second surgery.
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Heather Beck**, *daughter of Kathy Johnson*, who is preparing for brain surgery in January. If anyone would like to send a note of support, call the Bethel office for her address. 406-761-1543.
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Dick Seim** as he continues to regain strength after surgery.
- ✝ Prayers of healing as well as thanksgiving for **Kim**, *daughter of Dick and Mary Seim*, who continues to recover and regain her strength.
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Sharon Bossie** as she undergoes medial testing.
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Cody Buus**, *Cindy Considine's nephew*, who is undergoing medical treatment.
- ✝ Prayers of strength and healing for **Arlene Sexe** and she continues to undergo treatment for cancer.
- ✝ Prayers of strength & leadership for **Gustavo Driau**, Regional Representative of South America
- ✝ Prayers of thanks and continued healing for **Ed Pottratz** as he continues cancer treatment.
- ✝ Prayers of continued healing for **Katie Madsen**, *niece of Doug Sexe and granddaughter of Arlene Sexe*, as she continues cancer treatment and is responding well.
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Steve Young**, *brother of Sue Hesse*, as he continues to manage back issues.
- ✝ Prayers of support and healing for **James Trunkle**, *friend of Dena Wagner-Fossen*, as he manages health issues.
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Bob and Marj Vander Aarde** they continue treatments for Bob.
- ✝ Prayers of support and strength for **Trudy and Earl Terwilliger** as they manage Trudy's health.
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Leonard Murphy** as he recovers from complications of knee surgery.
- ✝ Prayers of comfort, support and healing for **Don Bisgard** as he continues to manage after medical procedures.
- ✝ Prayers of strength and recovery for **LaRae Veitch** as she rehabs after knee surgery.
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Eric Peterson** as he continues treatment for cancer.
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Tony Marcson**, *brother-in-law of Jessica Crist*, who is undergoing treatment for lung cancer.
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Alex Bostic** as he continues treatment for cancer.
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Bob Walker**, *brother of Colleen Walker-Nelson*, who is managing kidney disease.
- ✝ Prayers of support for **Glenn Vannatta** as he continues with medical testing.
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **John Korpela** as he continues to manage cancer treatment.
- ✝ Prayers of strength and healing for **Lisa Leland**, *niece of Sandy Bechard*, as she begins treatment for breast cancer.

# Church Council

## Meeting Highlights

### Bethel Lutheran Church Council Meeting Highlights December 14, 2021

Bethel Lutheran Church Council met on Tuesday, December 14, 2021 in the Fellowship Hall and on zoom. Here are some highlights from that meeting:

- Warren shared devotions by reflecting on the gospel for this Sunday.
- Tami reported Logos will hold the last session for 2021 Wednesday, December 15. Logos will resume January 12, 2022.
- Dena presented the Proposed 2022 Budget.
- First Communion Class will take place after church on January 9, 2022
- New Member Inquiry Class will take place after church on January 16, 2022
- Congregational Christmas cards will be sent by the Council with assistance from Tami.
- Budget Forum - January 23, 2022
- Annual meeting - January 30, 2022
- Greg shared an update on Family Promise. They have a new board in place. They have obtained an apartment to serve as a static site. Family Promise is up and running!

To view the November minutes in their entirety, please go to [November minutes](#)



Thank you to all who have participated with our Giving Tree-Helping Hands this year. We will be assembling the baskets this Sunday, December 19th at 11:30 am and handing them out Monday, December 20th from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. We have collected food items and, so far, we have raised approximately \$1800.00 towards the purchase of what food is still needed.

It is not too late if you would still like to help, we need assemblers this Sunday and people to hand out the baskets on Monday. Any additional funds or food items donated will be taken to Helping Hands in support of this amazing program that runs all year long to help the low income and homeless residents in our community.

Please contact the Bethel Office at 406-761-1543 for more information or with any questions.



#### Covid Guidelines for Worship

Masks are **strongly recommended**, but not required.

Continue physical distancing.

Coffee Hour on hold

## Mission Endowment Committee Report

The Mission Endowment committee met on November 8, 2021. The purpose of this meeting was to reconvene and decide on next steps forward. Covid interrupted our ability to bring Dr. Jan Zimbleman to Bethel and teach us about church in the 21st century. She is now unavailable to do this training. We applied for a Lead Initiative grant through the ELCA in August 2021 and were disappointed not to receive that. The question for the group was what do we want to spend our money on that is above and beyond mission programs at the church. We have \$2199.46 which is 5% of the total amount in the Mission Endowment fund. Discussion focused on bridging our values and our actions.

### A. Determine the current issues in our community

- i. Poll 5-6 people not part of Bethel about issues facing Great Falls (police, firefighter, social worker, etc)
- ii. Poll 5-6 people not members of Bethel about what they know about Bethel and our mission
- iii. Where is Bethel on everyone's radar? Where do we fit in?

### B. Jessie will reach out to synod for assistance in branding or marketing Bethel and our message as well as any assistance in training

- i. Pastor Jessie is a good face for our message but what is our message? Decide on our message. We then can build a community around this.

### C. Training is IMPERATIVE! This can also be offered as a training to all the churches in the synod. Use the \$\$ to pay for training and marketing.

### D. Ask the youth "what does an inviting church community look like to you and your friends?". Maybe attend events with them.

- i. Suggestion was to ask our Logos youth (all age groups) what is your perfect church? What would you like to see us do more of? One suggestion might be to take interest in the children's life, not just in church. Possibly attend their ball games or band/choir concerts, etc.

### E. Logos MS and HS are doing very well with many kids. Pre-K to 6th...there are very few. There used to be 10 tables of kids, now we only use 2 tables.

### F. We need to reach out to TLC once we've figured out our "branding". This is a community that is already familiar with part of our church and we have not made a concerted effort to welcome them.

*Submitted by Jo Ann Dullum on behalf of the Mission Endowment Committee.*



## CALLING ALL BAKERS & GOODIE MAKERS!

Planning has begun for our 2022 Vacation Bible School July 18th through 22nd.

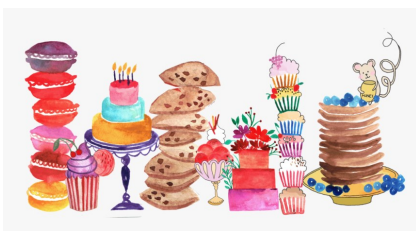
As a fundraiser for this week long day camp, we are going to have a bake sale December 19th after worship and our Logos Christmas Program.

If you like to bake, make candy, or make a craft that you would like to donate for sale, we would love your help! You can drop your donation off on Saturday, December 18th between 10:00 am to Noon or the morning of December 19th.

Please let Tami Grosenick know if you would like to donate, 406-788-9587 or email [bethelmc.church@gmail.com](mailto:bethelmc.church@gmail.com) or call the Bethel Office 406-761-1543.

We will also need people to buy these goodies so if you are not a baker, but love to eat baked goods, don't miss our bake sale!

We will be holding our regular Dessert Auction on Palm Sunday 2022!



## CALLING ALL BELL RINGERS

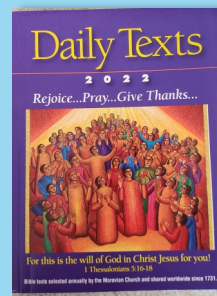
and those who have always wanted to play the handbells.

**The Bethel Bell Choir will play during the 6:00 pm Worship Service on Christmas Eve and will have practice on Saturday, December 18th 1:30 to 3:30 pm.**

**If you are available during these times and would like to be in the Bell Choir, contact Sharon Mueller at [oboecclar@gmail.com](mailto:oboecclar@gmail.com)**

### 2022 Daily Texts Are In

Pick up a copy in the Narthex at Bethel. First Copy free. For additional copies we ask for a donation of \$8.50 to cover the cost of the text. You can drop a donation in the offering tray on Sundays, mail in a check, or donate online at [bethelmt.org](http://bethelmt.org). Please note: Daily Text in the memo. These texts make great gifts!



## Altar Flower Sign Ups

This Sunday the Altar Flower Sign Up book will be available for 2022. If you would like to sponsor the flowers on the altar, sign up for a Sunday or Sundays and you can make a dedication of a celebration or memory of a loved one. The cost is \$15.00 per Sunday and can be paid in advance or on the Sunday that you sponsor. If you would like to sponsor a Sunday and are not going to be here this Sunday, please call the Bethel Office 406-761-1543 or email [bethelgf.church@gmail.com](mailto:bethelgf.church@gmail.com) with the Sunday you would like to sponsor and your dedication. The book will be available each Sunday until all Sundays are selected.

# Financial Secretary Needed!

The Financial Secretary is responsible for the efficient and effective management of the contributions statements of the church. This volunteer position calls for significant dialogue with Bethel's Treasurer so they are fully apprised of matters being considered and acted upon. The Financial Secretary must be sensitive to the nature of information he/she has access to and must treat it confidentially.

Highlights of duties include:

- Receive counter's spreadsheet from Sunday offering and enter into our database-must be proficient with Excel
- Update weekly spreadsheet totals
- Assist in disbursement of giving statements bi-annually

For full duty description, more information, or to volunteer for this position, please contact the Bethel Office at 406-761-1543.



As members of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), we believe that God is calling us into the world – together. And with generous, loving hands, we can make a difference.

ELCA Good Gifts is your opportunity to provide critical support to the

ministries and programs that mean the most to you and the people you love.

Choose from lots of great global gifts like \$10.00 for chicks, \$20.00 for honeybees, \$30.00 for a pig, \$50.00 for a goat or help with \$10.00 to buy school supplies, \$12.00 for bibles, \$30.00 for water filter, and so much more! Check out the ornaments on the giving tree to see all the options to send help this Christmas. Make sure you note on your check or online donation where you want your dollars to be spent. If you have no preference, note Good Gift General and your money will go where it most needed.

## What's Happening at FLBC

### **Holy Land Pilgrimage**

*June 20-29, 2022*

There are still spots available for this long awaited journey to the Holy Land! Join FLBC staff and guide, Elias Nawawieh as we experience the Holy Land in a whole new way. Visit <https://www.eliastours.com/tours/flathead-lutheran-bible-camp-holy-land-trip> to learn more!

### **Upcoming Retreats/ Important Dates**

- Summer 2022 Staff Application IS Open!
- December 3-5, 2021 Advent Retreat –see above
- December 15, 2021 Registration for Youth Camps open
- January 14-16, 2022 Jr. and Sr. High Ski & Snowboard Retreat

For more information on these events go to [flbc.net](http://flbc.net) or call the office at 406-752-6602

***CLOSE KNIT MINISTRY  
on hold until spring 2022.***

# Just for YOUTH

## Logos End of Year Shenanigans!



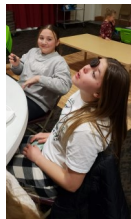
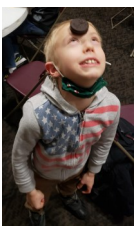
High School Lock-In with glow sticks and games!



High School serving our community at Helping Hands.



## Logos and Middle School/Confirmation Party - Pass the Package, plastic wrap surprise ball and the oreo game!



We are wrapping up our fall semester of Logos for 2021. If you have someone who may be interested in attending Logos, we always have room. We will start again January 12, 2022. Call the Office for more information 406-761-1543 or go to [bethelmt.org/youth-ministries](http://bethelmt.org/youth-ministries).



### Calendar of Events

#### Tuesday 12/21

- Electric City Bible Study, Zoom meeting 7:00 am
- Men's Breakfast Zoom & in the Fellowship Hall 7:00 am

#### Wednesday 12/22

- Bible Study with Pastor Jessie on Zoom 10:00 am
- Logos on hold until January

#### Thursday 12/23

- HS Logos Worship Set Up, Christmas party and Late-Night Meet. 6:00 pm

#### Friday 12/24

- Christmas Eve, Bethel office is closed.
- Christmas Eve Services 4:00 pm and 6:00 pm.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### Sunday 12/26

- Worship led by Patrick Ryan, this worship service is a hymn sing with no communion or sermon. 9:30 am in-person only in the Gathering Place.

#### Tuesday 12/28

- Electric City Bible Study, Zoom meeting 7:00 am
- Men's Breakfast Zoom & in the Fellowship Hall 7:00 am

#### Wednesday 12/29

- Bible Study with Pastor Jessie on Zoom 10:00 am
- Logos on hold until January

#### Friday 12/31

- New Year's Eve, Bethel office is closed.

#### Saturday 1/1/2022

- Happy New Year

## Online Ministries

### Electric City Bible Study

What a great way to connect with one another! Join our bible study via Zoom, Tuesday mornings at 7:00 am. Contact Laurie Turner at lolli51gus@icloud.com for a link to join the meeting.

### Men's Breakfast

Join us for a fun and engaging conversation, and insightful discussion of each week's lectionary texts as we meet both in person and via Zoom, Tuesday mornings at 7:00 am. Contact Dave Scholten at dscholten@dlsconsulting.net for a link to join the meeting or for more information.

### Hope Circle

This group meets once a month usually on Thursday evenings. Bible study and fellowship are celebrated with this group of ladies. Contact Laurie Turner at lolli51gus@icloud.com for a link to join the meeting and Terry Korpela to be on the group email for meetings and prayer requests terry.korpela@gmail.com.

### Weekly Text Study with Pastor Jessie

Wednesdays, 10:00 am via Zoom, Pastor Jessie will be leading discussion on the text readings for the upcoming Sunday. Dig deeper in the interpretation of the readings and discuss ways they give us guidance in our daily lives. If you would like to join this meeting, email bethelgf.pastor@gmail.com to be added to the mailing list.

### **Pastor Jessie Obrecht**

#### **Contact information**

Email: bethelgf.pastor@gmail.com

Phone: 406-761-1543 ext. 202