

BETHEL NOTES

Sunday, February 27

Transfiguration of the Lord

Witnesses to the glory of God in the face of Jesus reflect that glory in the world. It was true for Moses. It was doubtless true for Peter, James, and John. We pray that it will be true of all of us who see God's glory in the word and in the supper and who are being "transformed into the same image" by God's Spirit.

Readings

First Readings

Exodus 34:29-35

Psalm

Psalm 99

Second Reading

2 Corinthians 3:12—4:2

Gospel

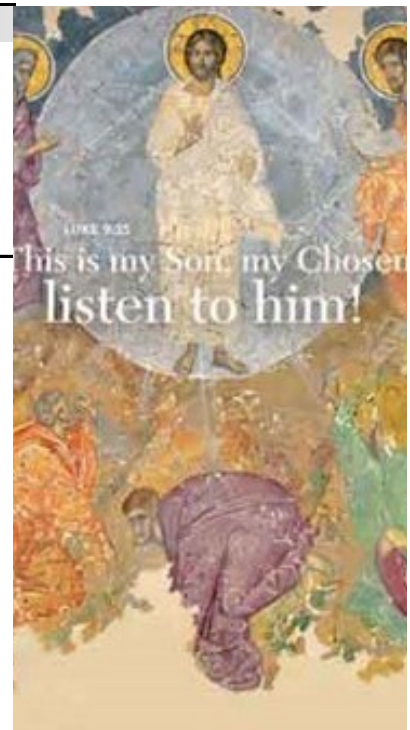
Luke 9:28-36

No adult education following worship today.

Join us Sundays
9:30 AM in-person or online at bethelmt.org

SERVING THIS SUNDAY

Accompanist	Connie Titcomb, piano
Lay Assistant	Walt Nuessle
Usher	Sue Hesse
Tech	Kaleb Stringer
Counters	Tim Lightbourne and Laurie Turner
Children's Church	Julia Elkin and Ava Fossen



Inside this issue

Prayer Requests.....	2
Ash Wednesday.....	3
Family Promise	4
1st Monday Quilters	4
Fun at Logos	5
Virts Family Joins Bethel	5
Covid Guidelines.....	5
Lenten Soup Suppers.....	6
Plant Caregiver Needed.	5
FLBC Events	6
Just For YOUTH.....	7
Calendar of Events	8
Online Ministries	8
Contact Pastor Jessie.....	8



OFFICE HOURS

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

OFFICE: (406) 761-1543

WEBSITE: www.bethelmt.org

EMAIL: bethelgf.church@gmail.com

Let Us Pray...

- ✝ Prayers of comfort for **Amber Erickson her family** as they mourn the passing of her father, *LeRoy Diacon*.
- ✝ Prayers of healing and support for **Karla Wagner**, *Dena Wagner-Fossen's mother*, as she manages health issues.
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Abby Bisgard-Clegg**, *daughter of Don and Kathi Bisgard*, as she begins treatment for cancer.
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Rev. Inge Williams**, *friend of Pastor Jessie*, as she has surgery preceding cancer treatment.
- ✝ Prayers of healing and understanding for **Jeannette Rankin**, *Jeanne's mom*, as she is at home managing health issues.
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Eric Peterson** as he ends treatment for cancer and begins immunotherapy.
- ✝ Prayers of strength and healing for **Lisa Leland**, *niece of Sandy Bechard*, as she completed treatment for breast cancer.
- ✝ Prayers of continued healing for **Gordon Lord** as he recovers from surgery.
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Arlene Sexe** as she undergoes new treatment for cancer.
- ✝ Prayers of continued healing for **Shirley Cayko**.
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Heather Beck**, *daughter of Kathy Johnson*, as she continues to improve after brain surgery.
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Heath Poser**, *nephew of Connie Titcomb*, who has been diagnosed with brain tumors and awaiting treatment.
- ✝ Prayers of healing and strength for **John Korpela** as he continues chemotherapy treatment.
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Sharon Bossie** as she manages a health issue.
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Cody Buus**, *Cindy Considine's nephew*, who is undergoing medical treatment.
- ✝ 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 strength and recovery for **LaRae Veitch** as she rehabs after knee surgery.
- ✝ 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.

Feature Update from IELB in Bolivia



After a long visa process for Rev. Aaron Decker, he finally arrived in Bolivia this past February 6th. Rev. Decker will be serving as a theological educator. His main role is to consolidate and formalize the curricular design and organizational design of the Betel seminar in the IELB, organize and lead courses on theological education and ministerial formation, with emphasis on confessional identity, and facilitate workshops and dialogues that strengthen the church, congregations, and districts in the processes of theological education and ministerial formation according to the IELB curriculum.

Rev. Decker writes of himself and his work with the IELB:

“I grew up in a small town in the NE Pennsylvania Synod, where I am currently rostered. I studied in Michigan and in Pennsylvania for a Bachelor’s in Information Technology. The Call-You-Can’t-Ignore came and I enrolled at the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago for my M.Div., with an internship in Omaha. Life kept taking me west, so I was surprised to be assigned to New England. I served two congregations for seven years, and then went for a Th.M. in Old Testament at Princeton. I taught at Malaysia Theological Seminary (which is where it sounds like it is) for 2018, and would have stayed longer, had we not hit visa complications.

When the pandemic began, I was serving as interim for two congregations in Reading, PA. And now, here I am in an AirBnB in La Paz, Bolivia, wondering what on earth I am doing here! But it looks like, Bishop, that you understand the non-traditional, unexpected ministry path. The Holy Spirit always knows best, but She doesn’t make things easy! The work here should be interesting. Primarily, it is centered on ministerial formation—developing curriculum and teaching/bringing scholars to teach clergy and lay leaders in the church.

There’s not much here now. Perhaps there is room for creative collaboration with NRIT; it seems like you have one of the more rich and organized lay education programs in the ELCA—which I think is vital for the future of the our Church.”

I will be having a conversation with Rev. Decker soon about ways in which we in the Montana Synod can partner with him and the IELB for education and leadership training opportunities. I will keep you posted on this wonderful news coming out of our companion synod in Bolivia that has been a long time in the works. Please pray for Pastor Decker and continue to keep the IELB in your prayers as well.

Bishop Laurie

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

As the Fiscal Year for the Montana Synod has come to a close, on behalf of the Synod Council and the whole Synod, thank you so much for the generous giving that you and your congregation have provided for the work of the Montana Synod in 2021! We are awed and inspired again by the ways that the congregations in northern Wyoming and Montana have given generously!

Here are ways that Mission Support has equipped the Montana Synod to do ministry:

- There are 11 congregations who have called and installed new pastors in the Synod in the last year.
- There are 8 congregations who have been participating in the Faithful Innovation process.
- There are 20 members of congregations who are finishing up the Lay Pastoral Associates training and 21 more who will begin the LPA training in April.
- There are 9 people in the Synod who are in the ELCA Candidacy process (attending Seminary) to serve as rostered leaders in the ELCA.
- There are about 25 leaders in the Synod who have been participating in some aspect of leadership development, either through Excellence in Leadership, Thriving Leaders or Coaching.
- Colter McCarty, from the Synod staff has assisted 37 congregations in the Synod with technology support over the past year.
- There have been 5 congregations engaged in the Fed By Ravens pilot process on stewardship and generosity.
- And so much more!

Thank you! The Synod's budget came in at about 97% of the budget. You have all done so much as you have been church together, equipping one another for the ministry of the Gospel!

The Montana Synod Council, Bishop Laurie Jungling, and Synod staff



Dear Friends,

You may have heard that we opened Promise Place Shelter last week and moved in two families.

Promise Place Shelter is a duplex located on the north side where we will house up to two families at a time. We are leasing these units for now to determine if this "static site" shelter model is effective in transitioning homeless families towards stability. We had great success before the Covid pandemic with the "rotational shelter" model, because of the support from and access to many of the local churches. We know that we can count on you to also support our new shelter model because you care about serving homeless families.

We're organizing a team of volunteers called Promise Place Shelter Support. Attached are the duties for the volunteers willing to serve in this capacity. Kathy Remington from Holy Spirit Parish has agreed to help coordinate all church congregations who want to participate. Feel free to call her at 406-799-3602 with any questions. We will be holding a training meeting on March 7th at 4 PM at our Day Center located at Central Christian Church. In the meantime, anyone who wishes to volunteer should complete the volunteer application and provide the required personal information as outlined in the Promise Place Support Volunteer Duties. (see below)

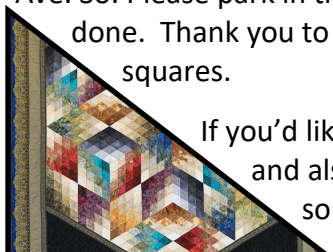
Sincerely,
Cari

For more information on the Duties for Promise Place volunteer, click [HERE](#). Or contact the Bethel Office for more information or to volunteer.



MONDAY NIGHT QUILTERS TO MEET

1st Monday Night Quilters will meet Monday, March 7, 2022, 6-8 p.m. at New Hope Lutheran, 3125 5th Ave. So. Please park in the alley. Again, we will tie the quilts before the last step of binding them is done. Thank you to Peggy for binding the quilts made in January and to Donna for cutting squares.



If you'd like to help from home, there are many squares kits ready to be sewn into tops, and also fabric to be cut into squares. If you have questions, or would like to pick up some squares kits to make tops or fabric to cut into squares, call 799-0100.

Fun at Logos Learning About Forgiveness



Kolton Kupfner shows his work proudly as he wrapped Killian Dempsey in toilet paper!



Kendall Ryan flashes a smile or two while wrapping Emma Shimerdla.

Welcome To Bethel!



From Left: Abbie, Rylee, Christi and Jeremy Virts

Far Right: Pastor Jessie

Ash Wednesday
Worship Service
March 3rd 7:00 pm

Covid Guidelines for Worship

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

Continue physical distancing.

Coffee Hour on hold

If you have a fever or are feeling unwell, please take care of yourself and join us online for worship.



Lenten Soup Suppers are Back!

We will once again be coming together during Lent on Thursday evenings to share a meal and worship using the Holden Evening Prayer Service.

To do this safely we will be serving and eating our Soup Supper in the Gathering Place. We will move into the sanctuary for the Holden Evening Prayer service and we will be live streaming this service.

Thursdays through Lent

Soup Supper begins at 6:15 pm

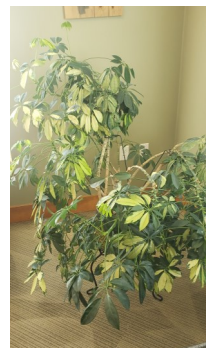
Holden Evening Prayer Service 7:00 pm



Indoor Plants Need Some Attention!

Do you love indoor plants? Do you have a green thumb? Then Bethel needs YOU! Our indoor plants are in need of some TLC. A little pruning, feeding and possibly transplanting. If you would like to take on the task of plant husbandry, please give Tami a call in the Bethel Office 406-761-1543 or email bethelgf.church@gmail.com.

Our plants will thank you!



Peer Ministry Leadership Training with Lyle Griner
April 1-2, 2022 \$100/person (Fri - Sat.) / \$85 for Saturday only

Join us April 1-2, 2022. Peer ministry is about the practical life skill that empowers us to become Good Samaritan leaders who care for every neighbor, every day, everywhere in every relationship. This retreat is for adults and youth (Jr high & up).

Easter Sunrise Service
April 17th, 2022 - at the lake, 6AM at FLBC

Adult Education/Spirituality Retreat with Dr. Andrew Root

May 1-3, 2022 \$225/person Monday only: \$175

Join us for this special retreat with the professor of youth and family ministry at Luther Seminary. Expect insightful sessions such as "Living after a pandemic...why are we exhausted?" and time for fun and relaxation at camp, too - quiet time, reading time, worship, hikes, pottery, and great food. This retreat is for all adults. Pastors, LPA's, Lay people, youth workers.

Memorial Day Work Retreat

May 27-30, 2022 FREE (registration required!)

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Tuesday 3/1

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

Wednesday 3/2

- Bible Study with Pastor Jessie on Zoom 10:00 am
- Ash Wednesday Service 7:00 pm – no Logos

Thursday 3/3

- Exec Board Zoom meeting 5:30 pm.

Friday 3/4

- Bethel office is closed.
- Aitz Chaim worship at 6:00 pm.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday 3/6

- Logos Family Worship led by Pastor Jessie and Logos Youth Ministry, in-person and live stream 9:30 am.
- Adult Education in the Fellowship Hall following worship.

Tuesday 3/8

- Electric City Bible Study, Zoom meeting 7:00 am
- Men's Breakfast Zoom & in the Fellowship Hall 7:00 am
- Church Council meeting in the Fellowship Hall 6:30 pm

Wednesday 3/9

- Bible Study with Pastor Jessie on Zoom 10:00 am
- Logos Youth Ministry 5:30 pm; High School 6:30 pm

Thursday 3/10

- Lenten Soup Supper in the Gathering Place 6:15 pm
- Holden Evening Prayer Service in the sanctuary 7:00 pm

Friday 3/11

- Bethel office is closed.

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