

# BETHEL NOTES

## THIS SUNDAY

### Readings:

*First Reading:*  
Genesis 1:1-5

*Psalm:*  
Psalm 29

*Second Reading:*  
Acts 19:1-7

*Gospel Reading:*  
Mark 1:4-11



### Musicians:

*Mary Seim, piano*

### Lay Assistant:

*Mindy Leach*

### Ushers:

*Patty Braget*

### Tech:

*Gabe Smith*

### Children's Church:

*Isabelle Grosenick*  
*Olivia Violett*

### Hospitality:

*Lynn Ryan*



## *This Sunday at Bethel...*

We celebrate the **Baptism of Our Lord**.

We are celebrate the **Sacrament of Holy Baptism for Myla Hadleigh Frieling**, daughter of Tyler and Nicole, and her grandparents and sponsors Glenn and Peggy Jarrett.

**Annual Meeting announcement:** January 21, 2024 Budget Meeting and **January 28, 2024 Annual Meeting**, both take place after worship. Voting members of Bethel are asked to make every effort to attend these meetings. We will be voting on new council members, church representatives for FLBC and Synod Assembly, nominating committee members and 2024 budget. We need a quorum for our Annual Meeting.

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

## Inside this issue:

Prayers	2
Annual Meeting	3
Good Gifts Total	
Jack Pinski Eagle Scout Ceremony	
Bethel Ministries	4
ELCA Youth Gathering	5
Altar Flowers	
Hospitality	
Usher/Greeter	
Gospel Message	6
FLBC Events	
Just for <b>YOUth</b>	7
Calendar	8
Ministries	

*Lord,  
in your mercy  
hear our prayers.*



- ✝ Prayers of comfort and support for **the Kubas Family** as they mourn the passing of **Karen** and the healing of **Quentin Kubas** as he recovers after automobile accident.
- ✝ Prayers of comfort and strength for **Eric Peterson and his family** as his cancer has spread and treatment has not been successful.
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Tim Olson**, as he recovers from surgery.
- ✝ Prayers of comfort for **the family and friends of John Korpela** as they mourn his passing.
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Bonnie Barnes, Debbie McCarty's mother**, recovering after a fall.
- ✝ Prayers of support and comfort for **Pat Berkeley**.
- ✝ Prayers of health for **Don Bisgard** as his living center is under quarantine for Covid infections.
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Dick Seim** as he continues regaining his strength.
- ✝ Prayers of healing and answers for **Anna Boucher** as they determine a cause and treatment for seizures.
- ✝ Prayers of healing and support for **Diane Young, Sandy Pepos' aunt**, recovering at home after a stroke.
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Georgia Miller, cousin of Amber Erickson's**, as she has been diagnosed with aggressive breast cancer.
- ✝ Prayers of continued healing for **Travis Cushman** as he continues to manage health issues.
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Harper Spurzem**, 8 year old student at Ulm School, receiving chemotherapy treatment for Hodgkin's Lymphoma.
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Kristin, Bobbie Bowen's daughter**, as she is manages a cancer diagnosis.
- ✝ Prayers of support for **Caleb Pottratz** who is struggling with depression.
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Lynn Klaasen, sister of Jan Robitaille**, receiving treatment for cancer.
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Lindy Coon, sister of former Bethel member Laura (Wandke) Overturf**, as she continues to slowly make progress as she recovers from a serious injury after a fall.
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Alex Bostic** as he continues to manage his health.
- ✝ Prayers of strength in leadership for **Gustavo Driau, Regional Representative of South America**.
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Ed Pottratz** as he continues cancer treatment.



January 21, 2024 Budget Meeting and **January 28, 2024 Annual Meeting**, both take place after worship. Voting members of Bethel are asked to make every effort to attend these meetings. We will be voting on new council members, church representatives for FLBC and Synod Assembly, nominating committee members and 2024 budget. We need a quorum for our Annual Meeting.

## Thank you!!!

**The total donated to the  
Good Gifts  
Safe Water Access  
was \$2650.00!**



**Congratulations to Jack Pinski**  
**on earning his**  
**Eagle Scout Status!**



# Time to Educate Yourself on ALL the Bethel Ministries that YOU can Join!!



**ALTAR GUILD**  
Set up communion for worship change out paraments and get the coffee ready. Working in Teams, you have 2 months each year to serve.



**FISH!**  
Two ways to support FISH! Donate food and/or supplies (drop baskets in front entry) or work the FISH! shop and stock shelves and fill bags.



**Text Study on Zoom**  
Join Pastor Jessie online each Wednesday 10:00 am to read and discuss the upcoming Sunday's readings.

**Hope Circle**  
The Ladies group meets in a different participant home each month on a Tuesday or Thursday 7:00 pm. Share dessert and bible study!

**ELCA World Hunger**  
No regular meeting times, but provide prayers and education for World Hunger Sundays and promote this ministry throughout the year.



**Men's Breakfast**  
Meeting Tuesday's 7:00 am from September thru May, the gentlemen enjoy breakfast together and discuss upcoming Sunday readings.

**Electric City Bible Study on Zoom**  
Meeting on Zoom Tuesdays at 7:00 am year round. Grab your breakfast and a cup of coffee to enjoy while sharing Bible readings.

**Hospitality Team**  
If you like to bake and share goodies, this is the ministry for you. Sign up in the Narthex and bring in items to share during Coffee Time after Worship each Sunday.



**Ushers**  
Sign up in the Narthex to welcome our congregation and guests to worship each Sunday.

**Jubilate Choir**  
Add special music to our worship services by joining the choir. Practice times vary. Singing twice a month September through May.



**LOGOS Youth Ministry**  
Working with Kids is GREAT! From Table Parents to Kitchen Help, Teachers and Rec Leaders. Wednesdays 5:30 pm during the school year working with kids Pre K through High School!



**Handbell Choir**  
If you love music, but singing's not your thing. Join the Handbell Choir and add your ringing instead of singing!!



If you would like to get involved with any of these opportunities.

See Tami in the Bethel Office and she will connect you with the Ministry Leaders.

2024 ELCA Youth Gathering

CREATED

TO  
the tAble

BE

MYLE  
Young Adult Gathering

## A LIFE CHANGING FAITH FORMATION EVENT OF THE ELCA

July 13-16, 2024: MYLE & the tAble

July 16-20, 2024: ELCA Youth Gathering & Young Adult Gathering  
New Orleans, LA

This summer five of our young people will be headed to New Orleans to participate in the 2024 ELCA National Youth Gathering! In the coming months these young people will begin meeting, preparing, and fundraising for this grand adventure together. Every four years the Youth Gathering is held somewhere in the United States and thousands of ELCA high schoolers are brought together to explore their faith, learn more about God and one another, and have TONS of fun. As we prepare to attend the gathering this summer we ask that you pray for these young people, support them in their fundraising, and share your stories of Youth Gatherings that you may have attended over the years as well. If you would like to share your Youth Gathering stories with the group, please contact Pastor Jessie so that she can get you connected.

## Altar Flower Sign Up

There are lots of open Sundays to sponsor the Altar Flowers. Donation is \$15.00 per Sunday and bouquets may be taken home after worship on the Sunday you sponsor.

Sign up in the Altar Flower Sign Up book in the Narthex.



## Hospitality Sign Up

It is a new year and our Coffee Hour Goodie sign up is looking a little bare. If you would be interested in providing some treats for after worship coffee time.

If cleaning up after is an issue, we can take care of that for you!

Sign up in the binder in the Narthex

Or click the link below to sign up online.

<https://signup.com/go/hzbThXT>

## Usher/ Greeter Sign UP

Be the friendly, welcoming face of Bethel on Sunday mornings. Greet people as they come in, help them find seats, pass the offering trays, and guide people up for communion.

Sign up in the Usher/Greeter Sign Up book in the Narthex.

## GOSPEL MESSAGE

### A Life-changing New Chapter

Jesus does not *become* the Son of God at the moment of his baptism. Indeed, his relationship to God the Father is eternal—from forever in the past, through the incarnation, and forever into the future. But Jesus' baptism is a watershed moment (pardon the pun) representing the beginning of his public ministry and revelation as both fully human and fully divine.

At the beginning of the Gospel of Mark, Jesus is an unknown person from Nazareth, a remote town about which scripture says little (but for Nathanael's insinuation of its bad reputation at John 1:46). Jesus would have seemed much like the other people who came to the Jordan River to be baptized by John the Baptist. Yet this is the Son of God who has chosen to join all the people on this earth, to live like we live, to experience what we experience. So Jesus gathers with the multitude that comes for this ritual of a new beginning with and through God. And a new life does open in front of Jesus. The unexpected suddenly erupts for this ordinary-seeming man: in this human among humans a new chapter is initiated in God's story for the world—a new chapter that will come to involve a new kind of baptism.

This new baptism forms the church—both initially and yet today. No longer the temporary washing in water that John performed, Christian baptism is a definitive act of God, through water and the Holy Spirit, in which we are “marked with the cross of Christ forever” (ELW, p. 231) and raised to “newness of life” (Romans 6:4). As we follow Mark and the other evangelists' accounts of Jesus' ministry, even to death and beyond, we will learn what it means to be marked with Christ's cross. But foundational to this—and the gift that makes it possible for us—is that the Creator's words to Jesus resonate in our own baptism: “You are my child, my beloved; with you I am well pleased.” It's a life-changing new chapter for us too.

Copyright © 2024 Augsburg Fortress.  
All rights reserved.



### Confirmation Retreat

March 15 @ 8:00 am - March 16 @ 5:00 pm  
Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp 550 Lutheran  
Camp Rd, Lakeside, MT, United States  
Join us for a retreat at FLBC for confirmation students... “Guides for the Way: Three Biblical figures and what their stories can teach us about God, Life and Everything!”  
This...  
\$110

### Adult Spirituality Retreat

April 14 @ 8:00 am - April 16 @ 5:00 pm  
Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp 550 Lutheran  
Camp Rd, Lakeside, MT, United States  
Join Us This Spring! Join Rev. Jeff Barrow and all of us at FLBC to explore the topic of “Call’ and what it means to be called in our vocation....  
\$195

### Mother's Day Brunch

May 12 @ 9:30 am - 2:00 pm  
Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp 550 Lutheran  
Camp Rd, Lakeside, MT, United States  
Celebrate Mother's Day on the Lake at Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp! WHERE: 550 Lutheran Camp Rd., Lakeside MT 59922  
WHEN: SUNDAY, MAY 12, 2024 TIMES: THREE SEATINGS AVAILABLE 9:30 AM, 11:00 AM and 12:03 PM. \$30 per person ages 12+, \$18 per person ages 4-11, free ages 3 and under.

For more information or register for any of these events, go to [flbc.net](http://flbc.net)

# JUST 4 YOUTH

## Splashed with the Spirit!

Mark 1:4-11

Read today's gospel story, using these pictures for the words.



Jesus



baptized



John the Baptist



God's Spirit



Jordan River

WAS BY IN THE .  
 AS WAS COMING OUT OF THE  
 WATER, THE HEAVENS OPENED UP  
 AND CAME DOWN TO HIM. THEN  
 HEARD A VOICE THAT SAID,  
 "YOU ARE MY SON, THE BELOVED;  
 WITH YOU I AM WELL PLEASED."  
 AFTER BEING , STARTED HIS  
 MINISTRY.

## Our ministry

After his baptism, Jesus began his ministry. He taught his friends how to love, pray, share, and care for people everywhere. How do you love, pray, share, and care for people?

Draw pictures of you doing *your ministry* below.

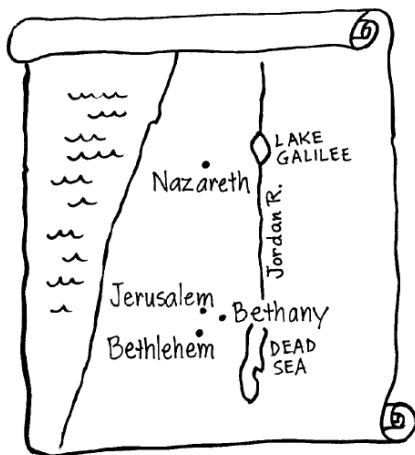
LOVE

PRAY

SHARE

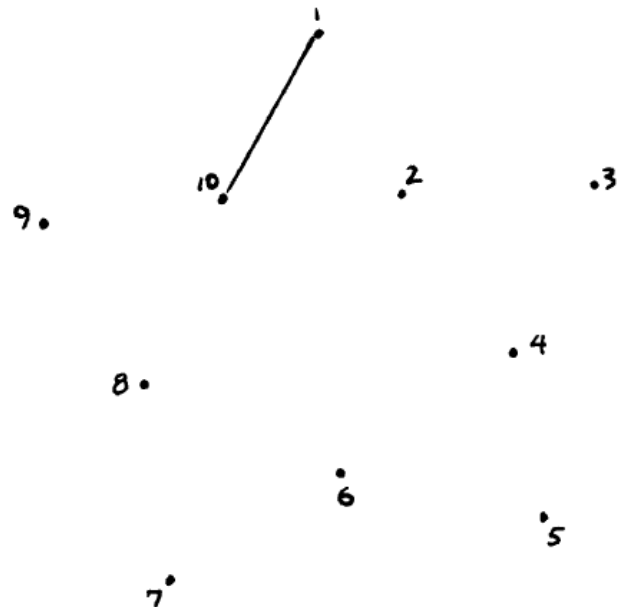
CARE

## Where in the world...



1. Find Bethlehem, where Jesus was born.
2. Find Nazareth, where Jesus grew up.
3. Find the Jordan River. Draw Jesus being baptized by John.
4. Draw God's Spirit in the shape of a dove coming to Jesus at his baptism.
5. Look at a map when you get home, and find the place where you were baptized.

Welcome to worship. Today is the first Sunday in the season of Epiphany, which is sometimes called the season of light. It is also the day when we celebrate Jesus' baptism.



Connect the dots to discover one of the symbols of Epiphany. Then inside the symbol, draw a picture of the place where people are baptized in your church.

# **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

## **THIS WEEK**

### **Tuesday 1/9**

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

### **Wednesday 1/10**

- Bible Study on Zoom led Pastor Jessie Obrecht
- LOGOs Youth Ministry 5:30 pm; HS LOGOs 6:30 pm

### **Thursday 1/11**

- Exec Board Zoom meeting 6:30 pm

### **Friday 1/12**

- Bethel office is closed.

### **Saturday 1/13**

- Celebration of Life for John Korpela 11:00 am, reception to follow in the Gathering Place

## **NEXT WEEK**

### **Sunday 1/14**

- Worship service led by Pastor Jessie in person and live stream at 9:30 am
- World Hunger Sunday

### **Monday 1/15**

- Martin Luther King, Jr Day, Bethel Office is closed.

### **Tuesday 1/16**

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

### **Wednesday 1/17**

- Bible Study on Zoom led Pastor Jessie Obrecht
- LOGOs Youth Ministry 5:30 pm; HS LOGOs 6:30 pm

### **Friday 1/19**

- Bethel office is closed

# **Fellowship Ministries**

## **Electric City Bible Study—online**

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 [loli51gus@icloud.com](mailto:loli51gus@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 in the Fellowship Hall Tuesday mornings at 7:00 am. Contact Dave Scholten at [dscholten@dlsconsulting.net](mailto:dscholten@dlsconsulting.net) for more information.

## **Hope Circle—in person**

This group meets once a month usually on Thursday evenings. Bible study and fellowship are celebrated with this group of ladies. Contact Terry Korpela to be on the group email for meetings and prayer requests [terry.korpela@gmail.com](mailto:terry.korpela@gmail.com).

*January*

## **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](mailto:bethelgf.pastor@gmail.com) to be added to the mailing list.