Bethel Notes

Let's Worship together Sunday 9:30 am
in person at Bethel or livestream at bethelmt.org.
All are welcome!

God calls us
God transforms us
God sends us
BETHEL
Lutheran Church

1009 18th Ave SW •
Great Falls, MT 59404 •
406-761-1543 •
bethelgf.church@gmail.com •
bethelmt.org •
Rev. Dawn Busch •

10th Sunday after Pentecost

Readings

Isaiah 55:1-5

Psalm 145:8-9, 14-21

Romans 9:1-5

Matthew 14:13-21

Serving Sunday

Thank you for your service!

Accompanist
Lynn Ryan, piano
Lay Assistant
Chris Gleason
Ushers
Jeanne Price, Earl Terwilliger
Tech
Gabe Smith
Children's Church
Addi Carlson, Liz Aakre
Hospitality
Laurie Turner
Altar Guild
Sue Hesse, Laurie Turner
Counters
Pam Dougherty, Jeanne Price

Announcements

Summer Evening worship
Wednesday at 7:00 pm on the patio.
Join together for worship and fellowship around the smokeless fire pit.

Summer Book Study: A Is For Alabaster
continues after worship at 11:00 am in the Fellowship Hall.
Sunday's chapter: N is for Naomi.

PRAYERS

We hold in prayer those in our community and beyond who are in need of healing, strength, comfort, and peace. We trust that God knows each story more deeply than words can express.

NEW OR CHANGED

Please keep **Kristie Henry** in your prayers as she continues to recover from injuries sustained in a car accident. We pray for healing, strength, comfort, and God's presence throughout her recovery.

Please pray for **Mike Jones** as he continues recovering at home following a recent hospitalization. We also lift up **Carol Berg** as she lovingly cares for him. May Mike experience renewed strength and healing, and may Carol be blessed with endurance, peace, and support as she provides care.

Prayers for the **family and friends of Jerry Jacobsen**, *Jeanne Rankin's brother's father-in-law*, as they mourn his passing. May they feel the Lord's comfort surrounding them during this difficult time. He will be greatly missed.

WE CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR THOSE

Receiving medical treatment

Jeanne Moe, *Kris Voorhees' mother*
Mike Evans, *Tami Grosenick's brother*
Janel, *cousin of Dan and Jenny Woods*
Kathleen Rankin, Jeanne Rankin's sister
Marcia, Sara Sexe's cousin
Ashley, friend of Ali Morris
Carol Ann, Marilyn Carlson's sister

Living with ongoing health concerns

Stephanie Cummings
Abby Clegg
Jane Mart
Gordon Lord
Jace Binder, young cousin of Kady Murphy
Clarice Skogley, Jeff Skogley's mother
Carrie O'Brien
Bob Underhill, Sue Hesse's brother-in-law
Ed Pottratz
Alex Bostic
Dennis McCarty

Recovering at home or in rehabilitation

Donna Gilbertson, *Randy Gilbertson's mother*
Jim Carlson
Cole Dingle, *great-grandnephew of Sonja Baumgardner*
Doris Winter, *Dena Wagner-Fossen's Godmother*
Rob Kellenbeck, Dena Wagner-Fossen's cousin

Serving in the military or law enforcement

Nolan Smith, grandson of Walt and Leone Nuessle

Care-giving loved ones

John and Debbie Blank
Karen Lord
Debbie McCarty
Marilyn Carlson

Receiving Hospice or end-of-life care

Rita Palmer, mother of Kristie Henry

To add or update a prayer request, please contact the Bethel Office by email or call 406-761-1543. To contact the **HUGS Ministry** for visitation or communion click this link or call the Bethel Office.
Names remain on the list until we are notified of a change.

Life at Bethel

BETHEL LOGOS
YOUTH MINISTRY

Bethel LOGOs Youth Ministry
Share Your Faith. Build a Relationship. Make a Difference.

You don't need to be a Bible scholar or a professional teacher. You simply need **a willing heart, a listening ear, and a desire to spend time** with our children and youth. Some of the most meaningful moments happen through simple conversations, laughter, questions, and encouragement.

As a volunteer, you'll help create a safe and welcoming place where kids can grow in their faith, build friendships, and know they are loved by God. Whether you're leading a discussion, helping with an activity, or simply showing up each week, your presence matters more than you know.

If you've ever wondered if God could use your gifts— this may be your invitation. Our young people need to konw there are adults other than their parents who care for them.

Come be part of a ministry that is shaping the next generation, one Wednesday evening at a time.

Interested or have questions? Contact Kelsey Johnson johnsonkelsey149@gmail.com or Tami Grosenick in the church office. We'd love to visit with you and help you find a role that's a great fit.

Thank You

Kirsten Norbie Poveda
(September 6, 1985 – May 5, 2026)

Dear Bethel Lutheran Church Members,

We want to thank the Bethel Lutheran Church community for the incredible love and support our family has received from you as we grieve the loss of our 40-year-old daughter, Kirsten Norbie Poveda, who leaves behind two girls, 6 and 4 years of age, along with her husband.

Through our darkest hours, it is impossible to imagine us coping without our friends, family, community and faith. Your love, prayers, cards and support in countless ways has enabled us to persevere under the most devastating, overwhelming and exhausting circumstances. Thank you for being a blessing in our lives.

With much gratitude,
Bob & Mary Lou Norbie

TLC Center Blessing & SENDING

Dear Lord,
Bless those who go out from here to labor at TLC Daycare. Prosper the work of their hands. Bless those who receive the fruits of their labor, and may those who are sent receive blessing in return. May the gifts they use and share be signs of your love to all people. Amen.

John and Debbie Blank (TLC Founder) receives the blessing of TLC from Pr. Dawn.

Deeper Engagement

Who Packs Your Parachute

Bethel has a variety of people who quietly make a difference without ever seeking recognition. They prepare the coffee before worship, count the offering, teach youth, change the paraments, visit a neighbor, or send a Thinking of You card. Often, we don't notice these acts of service until the coffee isn't ready, or the youth ministry gets cancelled.

There's a story about a military pilot whose plane was shot down, he survived because he had a parachute. Years after his service, the sailor who had packed the parachute recognized him. The pilot hadn't thought about who had packed his parachute before that meeting, but it was a sailor with faithful attention to detail that saved his life.

In the church, our quiet "sailors" are heroes in their own way. People who quietly help us grow in faith and support our congregation. Some encourage us with kind words. Others serve in ways few people ever see. Their faithfulness reminds us that every act of service, no matter how small it seems, is part of God's work.

"Serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received" –1 Peter 4:10

Every gift matters. Every act of kindness. Every volunteer. Every prayer. Every encouraging word helps strengthen the body of Christ. In our congregation and our community.

Take a moment to think about who has "packed your parachute." While you're at it, consider whose parachute you might be packing. Your quiet act of service may be exactly what someone else needs today.

Grace is often carried to us through the faithful hands of ordinary people.

The above article was inspired by a letter on ChurchLetters.org to see a YouTube video of the story told by the pilot, click here or go to https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Bhx_anC8Q7I

Prayer Shawls for Peace Hospice: Hands at Work, Hearts in Prayer

Peace Hospice is in urgent need of prayer shawls for those in their care. The hospice chaplain has requested that the shawls follow a consistent pattern, and instructions are available at in the Bethel Office. Shawls may be either knit or crocheted.

If you are able to help, AnneRose Rogers will deliver completed prayer shawls to Peace Hospice House. If you have any questions, contact AnneRose or the Bethel Office.

Upcoming Events & Invitations

Summer Adult Forum: A is for Alabaster

Our summer book study on "A is for Alabaster" by Anna Carter Florence is open for new participants!

Join us for discussions on biblical themes without any homework or book requirement. Each session is independent, allowing for lively conversation.

Upcoming topics include:

- 8/2 N is for Naomi
- 8/9 W is for Walking on Water
- 8/16 Z is for Zacchaeus
- 8/23 D is for David
- 8/30 D is for Deliverance

Come as you are and be part of the discussion!

Gospel Reflection

True Abundance • Matthew 14:13-21

In our gospel reading, Jesus hears about John the Baptizer's death and wants to be alone, to withdraw "to a deserted place" (Matthew 14:13). But the crowds follow him, the disciples follow him, and it seems everyone wants something from him. Jesus' response is compassionate, and he meets their needs, healing those who were sick. Then evening falls, and the disciples come to him with a request: "You've healed everyone. Now send them home. They can buy food in the villages for themselves."

Some compassion is needed here for the disciples too. With the twelve of them plus Jesus, there are at least thirteen people to feed with what they have—just five loaves and two fish. That's not enough even for them. So Jesus does this miracle—he takes what he is given and multiplies it so everyone has something to eat, and there are twelve baskets left over. (Twelve baskets means one for each disciple to carry and then realize that true abundance comes from Jesus!)

The miracle fed the people, but it also taught the disciples that, with Jesus, there is always compassion and always enough to share. After feeding the thousands, each disciple now had a basket full of food. By sharing what they had, through Jesus they received back more than they had to begin with.

This is the true message of Matthew's text today: God gives us what we need, we share what we have with others, and in the end, we are given more than we could ever imagine. This is loving the neighbor. This is being God's grace in the world. At no time is sending people away God's answer. Jesus taught his disciples this important lesson, and we continue to learn and struggle with it today.

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JOURNAL QUESTIONS:

1. Where have you seen God's abundance in your own life?
2. What "five loaves and two fish" can you offer someone this week?
3. How can you practice trusting God's abundance instead of focusing on what seems lacking?
4. What does this story teach you about the difference between scarcity and God's generosity?

Gracious God, help us trust that what we have is enough when placed in your hands. Open our hearts to share generously, love our neighbors well, and witness your abundance at work in our lives. Amen.

Just for YOUth

Thank you, Jesus, for doing amazing things. Amen.

this week

With someone you love, bake a loaf of bread and take it to someone who is sick or lonely.

More than enough!

Matthew 14:13-21

Jesus was healing people in a big crowd of more than 5,000. It got late, and everyone was getting hungry! Jesus told the disciples to give the people food, but the disciples said, "We have only five loaves of bread and two fish! It will never be enough!" Jesus took the five loaves and two fish, said a prayer, and gave the food back to the disciples. The disciples gave food to the hungry people. There was enough for everyone, with baskets left over.

Color the baskets. How many were there?

What's in a name?

Write your name in the boxes. Think of words that describe you that use those letters.

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Jesus is amazing!
Did you know that a fish is a symbol for Jesus?

The Greek word for fish is IXΘΥΣ. Each letter of this Greek word is the first letter of another Greek word that tells a name for Jesus. In English these words are:

J es us
Christ
God's
Son
S av ior

Jesus did something amazing with two fish!
Listen to today's gospel to find out what it is.

Looking Ahead

This Week | August 2 - August 7

Sunday 8/2
- Worship in-person and live stream 9:30 am.
- Adult Forum, book study: A Is For Alabaster, topic: N is for Naomi

Tuesday 8/4
- Electric City Bible Study – 7:00 am (Zoom)
- 75th Anniversary Committee meeting 11:30 am (Fellowship Hall)

Wednesday 8/5
- Summer Evening Worship – 7:00 pm (patio)

Thursday 8/6
- No Jeremiah Book Study

Friday 8/7
- Bethel office is closed.
- Aitz Chaim Friday worship 6:00 pm

Next Week | July 26-July 31

Sunday 8/9
- Worship in-person and live stream 9:30 am.
- World Hunger Sunday
- Adult Forum, book study: A Is For Alabaster, topic: W is for Walking on Water

Tuesday 8/11
- Electric City Bible Study – 7:00 am (Zoom)

Wednesday 8/12
- Summer Evening Worship, Holden Evening – 7:00 pm (patio)

Thursday 8/13
- No Jeremiah Book Study

Friday 8/14
- Bethel office is closed.

**Zoom option available. Please email the Bethel Office at bethelgf.church@gmail.com to receive a link.*

If Jesus could satisfy a hungry crowd, just imagine what He can do for your hungry soul.
~ Joyce Meyer

PAR-Tee Golf Scramble this Fall??

We are taking an interest list for anyone who would like to participate in our annual PAR-Tee Golf Scramble. There is a sign up in the narthex or email the Bethel Office at bethelgf.church@gmail.com. We need a minimum of 12 people to hold the scramble. Date to be determined, but looking at the end of August or early September. This is a fun way to have fellowship on a beautiful Golf course and expertise is NOT required.

ONGOING MINISTRIES

- **Hope Circle** — Monthly gathering for connection and care - contact Terry Korpela by clicking this link Email Terry - **Resumes fall 2026**
- **Electric City Bible Study** — Tuesdays at 7:00 am (Zoom) - contact Terry Korpela by clicking this link Email Terry
- **Men's Breakfast** — Tuesdays at 7:00 am in Fellowship Hall - contact Dave Scholten by clicking this link Email Dave - **Resumes fall 2026**
- **LOGOs Youth Ministry** - Pre K thru High School — Wednesdays 5:30 pm 6:30 pm (HS) - contact Tami Grosenick by clicking this link Email Tami - **Resumes fall 2026.**

There is a place for you here...All are welcome!