Bethel Notes

Let's Worship together Sunday 9:30 am in person only. No livestream worship this Sunday. 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 •

3rd Sunday after Pentecost

Readings

Exodus 19:2-8a

Psalm 100

Romans 5:1-8

Matthew 9:35—10:8

Serving Sunday

Thank you for your service!

Accompanist

Lynn Ryan, piano

Lay Assistant

Sue Hesse

Usher

Kelsey and Tesher Johnson

Tech

Tami Grosenick

Children's Church

Tyler Grosenick, Kendall Ryan

Counters

Stephanie Cummings, Randy Gilbertson

Announcements

It is **ELCA World Hunger Sunday,** We will be showing a thank you video from Bolivia.

Vacation Bible School is just around the corner! If you would like to support this ministry, please stop by the Narthex and check out our VBS Needs List. Donations of food and snack items help keep our volunteers, counselors, and campers well-fed throughout the week. We are grateful for your generosity and support.

Summer Evening Worship continues Wednesdays at 7:00 pm on the patio. Join together for worship and fellowship around the smokeless fire pit, including a special service of mortgage burning completed with an ice cream social.

Summer Book Study: A Is For Alabaster continues after worship at 11:00 am in the Fellowship Hall.

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 pray for 10-year-old **Cole Dingle**, *great-grandnephew of Sonja Baumgardner*, recovering from brain surgery yesterday. Pray for healing, comfort, and peace for Cole, his family, and his medical team."

WE CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR THOSE

Receiving medical treatment

Donna Gilbertson, *Randy Gilbertson's mother*
Janel, *cousin of Dan and Jenny Woods*
Mike Evans, *Tami Grosenick's brother*
Jim Carlson
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

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

Recovering at home or in rehabilitation

Rev. Steve Nelson – *and preparing for an additional surgery*
Joan Schmidt, *Sandy Pepos' aunt*
Doug Cayko, *Shirley Cayko's son*
Doris Winter, Dena Wagner-Fossen's Godmother
Rob Kellenbeck, Dena Wagner-Fossen's cousin
Dennis McCarty

Serving in the military or law enforcement

Nolan Smith, grandson of Walt and Leone Nuessle

Care-giving loved ones

John and Debbie Blank
Bob and Mary Lou Norbie
Karen Lord
Debbie McCarty
Marilyn Carlson

Receiving Hospice or end-of-life care

Jerry, Jeanne Rankin's brother's father-in-law
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

Property Management Committee

Each month, I have been trying to highlight one of the many ministries Bethel has to offer. This month it is the property committee. Bethel is blessed with a phenomenal paid staff, who do so much for Bethel, but their time and job descriptions do not include maintenance of the building or landscaping. These jobs are done all by volunteers. The property committee headed up by Warren Johnson and Randy Gilbertson with support from Jim Carlson, Tim Lightbourne, and Chad Elkin handle structural concerns. Landscaping, yard cleanup, planting and keeping flowers watered is headed up by Debbie McCarty with help from Marilyn Carlson and Connie Titcomb.

The property committee's major project this summer is updating our sprinkler system. Over the years a zone has been added on or a new line has been added, and it had been hard to track where a leak originated, or a repair needed to be made. With memorial funds and council approval the property committee mapped out all sprinkler lines and we are now having the professionals make sure zones and lines are all coordinated. This will help not only for maintenance but for even irrigation and beautiful grounds, as well as water conservation.

Painting, repair, lawn care, fence mending, can not be done by one or two. So next time you see that there is spring cleanup scheduled, a paint party, weed pulling, or closet cleaning, why not volunteer to help out your Property Management committee. They always appreciate your help. If you want to be a little more active, sign up to join this committee by contacting Warren, Randy, or Tami at the church.

Newest project just completed thanks to Randy is the new fencing around the back playground.

Future projects include resurfacing our parking lot, but this is an expensive project and funds have not yet been allocated. A lit Bethel sign is also pending financing.

Thank you to all the hard workers who keep Bethel looking beautiful.

Submitted by Terry Korpela, Bethel Church Council

New Regional Representative for South America

Deacon Erin has assumed the regional role previously supported by Gustavo Driau. A video from IELB (Evangelical Lutheran Church in Bolivia) will be shared during worship this Sunday. Pastor Dawn will meet with Sharon Magnuson, ELCA Region 1 Representative, to discuss possible renewed support of this ministry.

Deacon Erin Brown
Argentina

Erin serves on behalf of the ELCA as the Regional Representative for South America and is based in Argentina. In this role, she will steward ELCA's relationships with global companion churches (Argentina, Uruguay, Chile, Bolivia, Peru, and Colombia) and partners through deep engagement and presence in their lives and ministries. She provides contextual mission interpretation to ELCA, Synods and Congregations, fully informed by the perspective of the companion's churches and partners and the theological lens of accompaniment.

Deeper Engagement

Summer Adult Forum: A is for Alabaster

Our summer book study is underway, but there's still plenty of time to join us! Together we're exploring A is for Alabaster by Anna Carter Florence, discovering familiar and unexpected biblical themes through engaging conversation and reflection.
No homework required, and you don't need the book to participate. Drop in when you can—every session stands on its own, and there's always room for new voices, lively discussion, and perhaps even a surprise chapter or two from Pastor!

Upcoming Discussions:

- June 14 – A is for Abigail
- June 21 – W is for Whirlwind
- June 28 – M is for Mary Magdalene

Come as you are and join the conversation!

TLC Update

"It is a very bittersweet day for us here at TLC. We have signed a lease for a new location and will begin the process of moving. Thank you for allowing us to be part of the story of Bethel. We appreciate the kindness that was shown to us. We will be forever grateful."
~Beth Olson

After careful consideration, TLC has decided to consolidate their childcare business under one roof and will be ending their lease with Bethel this summer. We wish them all the best as they move forward with their new, larger location on the east side of Great Falls.

The Church Council will be discussing lease details at the next Council meeting and is working alongside TLC to navigate a smooth transition. If you have any questions, please reach out to a council member or attend the council meeting on June 16th at 6:30 pm.

The congregation will have opportunities to discuss the financial implications and building use as we move through this process in the coming months.

Help Us Build Our 75th Anniversary Legacy Wall

As we celebrate 75 years of faith, friendship, and community at Bethel, we invite you to be part of our story.
Purchase a commemorative paper brick for just $10 in honor or memory of:

- A family member
- A loved one
- A past or present Bethel member
- Someone who helped shape your faith journey

Each personalized brick will be displayed during our 75th Anniversary Celebration, creating a beautiful reminder of the people whose faith, service, and love have helped build Bethel's foundation through the generations.
Together, these bricks will tell your story, our story, and God's story.
All proceeds will support our 75th Anniversary Celebration Weekend, September 26–27.
Bricks may be purchased after worship or by contacting Tami Grosenick in the Bethel office.
Help us honor the people, memories, and faith that continue to make Bethel home.

Upcoming Events & Invitations

Community Juneteenth Celebration this Saturday!

Juneteenth is for Everybody

Juneteenth commemorates the end of slavery in the United States. While President Abraham Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation in January of 1863, freeing all the slaves, the word did not get to Texas until June 19, 1865.At first the anniversary was celebrated only in Texas, but over the years it became more and more widespread.It is now a federal holiday for all to celebrate.

In Great Falls, a coalition of non-profits, including churches and airmen, have collaborated to have a Juneteenth celebration at Gibson Park on the Saturday closest to June 19. This year the event is June 20, from 12-3 at the Gibson Park bandshell, with free lunch, music, a mayoral proclamation, activities for children, and a brief program. Alexander Temple will be providing some music and dance, and the Voices of the Falls, the college choir, will also sing. Please come to this celebration and bring a friend to this family-friendly celebration of freedom.

We also welcome volunteers. Contact the United Way or just show up!

Family Promise Night at Voyagers Baseball!

Mark Your Calendar!!! July 22nd, 2026

Join Family Promise Great Falls as we team up with our hometown team, The Voyagers! Centene Stadium gates open at 6:30 p.m., and we'll be running a table with information about our services as well as ways you can join in our mission to end childhood homelessness in Great Falls. Tickets purchased through our office or online platform will benefit the families we serve. Tickets are $12 each, and can be purchased online at the link below.

https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/ ticketing/2026-voyagers-game-night

Gospel Reflection

Compassion as Proclamation ▪ Matthew 9:35—10:8 [9-23]

When Jesus instructed his followers to "ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers" (Matthew 9:38), his disciples might not have expected that the sending would happen so quickly, or that they would be the ones sent. The job of harvest laborers might seem straightforward enough: Recognize the gifts, the fruit, and use them to advance the good news of God's work. But what prompts Jesus to tell the disciples to ask God for laborers is that he sees people who are "harassed and helpless" (v. 36) and is moved to compassion. That movement prompts us to consider that compassion is not merely a feeling that is held, but an energy that reaches out through us to others.

Congregational mission statements and our Sunday liturgy commonly reinforce that the faithful are sent into the world proclaiming the good news of God in Christ. The scriptures stress the importance of connecting oral proclamation with meaningful action, lest proclamation become merely lip service. While proclaiming the gospel might seem broad and difficult to narrow down into our many daily interactions and tasks, the guiding principle of compassion provides a touchpoint.

The disciples' message that God's kingdom has come near is accompanied by actions meant to alleviate suffering. When we gather as a people of faith, we receive God's compassion in Christ that extends through the Lord's supper and unites us in fellowship. In our prayers we are attentive to personal, local, and broad requests, asking God to receive and keep them in God's care. These acts of worship can prepare us to extend the compassion given to us into our personal conversations and interactions with others. When we ask how we can be led by compassion, we are asking how we can proclaim the good news of God in Christ.

JOURNAL QUESTIONS:

1. Where have I received God's compassion recently?
2. Who in my life may be feeling harassed, helpless, or overwhelmed?
3. What is one small act of compassion I can offer today?
4. How might God be sending me to share good news through my actions?

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Just for YOUth

Upcoming Events for Youth:

- Vacation Bible School Day Camp: June 28th to July 2nd 9:00 am to 1:30 pm register online at https://forms.gle/bmuz3WQqb4eXu3Kq9

Jesus and his disciples

Matthew 9:35—10:8 [9-23]

Jesus had many friends. Twelve of his friends were called disciples. Jesus told the disciples to go to many places to tell people about God's love. The disciples shared God's love by helping, healing, praying, and teaching.

The twelve disciples were named Peter, Andrew, James, John, Philip, Bartholomew, Thomas, Matthew, James, Thaddaeus, Simon, and Judas. Remember there were two disciples named James!

Circle the names of the disciples in the puzzle below.

Y P E T E R B C A N D R E W

F J A M E S P H I L I P U B

T B A R T H O L O M E W P C

J O H N Z G W T H O M A S J

M A T T H E W O D S Q R X L

P K V Q J A M E S J U D A S

T H A D D A E U S S I M O N

You are also one of Jesus' disciples! Find and circle the letters in your name, and write your name here.

VBS Day Camp 2026

June 29th to July 2nd
Mon - Thurs
9:00 am to 1:30 pm

This day camp is ***free*** to all participants. For children going into grades Pre K through 6th.

Grades 7th and up are needed to fill Junior Counselor positions!

FLBC Summer Camp Reservations are open! Pastor Dawn will be the camp pastor the week of August 2nd through the 7th. Go to flbc.net to register.

See the back page for FLBC Campership information.

Looking Ahead

This Week | June 14-20

Sunday 6/14

- Worship in-person and live stream 9:30 am.
- Adult Forum, book study - 11:00 am (Fellowship Hall)

Tuesday 6/16

- Electric City Bible Study – 7:00 am (Zoom)
- Council Meeting – 6:30 pm (Fellowship Hall)

Wednesday 6/17

- Summer Evening Worship – 7:00 pm (patio)
- Mortgage Burning/Ice Cream Social

Thursday 6/18

- Jeremiah Book Study – 10:00 am* (Fellowship Hall)

Friday 6/19

- Bethel office is closed

Saturday 6/20

- Close Knit Crafters – 10:00 am (Fellowship Hall)
- Juneteenth Event - 12:00 to 3:00 pm (Gibson Park)

Next Week | June 21-26

Sunday 6/21

- Worship in-person and live stream 9:30 am.
- Adult Forum, book study - 11:00 am (Fellowship Hall)
- Happy Father's Day!

Tuesday 6/23

- Electric City Bible Study – 7:00 am (Zoom)

Wednesday 6/24

- Summer Evening Worship – 7:00 pm (patio)

Thursday 6/25

- Jeremiah Book Study – 10:00 am* (Fellowship Hall)

Friday 6/26

- Bethel office is closed.

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

Summer Camperships Available!

Bethel is pleased to offer camperships of up to $300 per camper for youth attending summer camp.

To receive a campership:
- Register for camp
- Email a copy of your registration to bethelgf.church@gmail.com or drop it off in the Bethel Office

Bethel will send the campership payment directly to the camp on your behalf.

We believe camp is a wonderful opportunity for youth to grow in faith, build friendships, and create lasting memories.

PLANT WATERERS NEEDED!

Bethel has a summer Water Team that maintains outdoor planters by watering and pruning flowers. If you have spare time each week, join our team! Contact Tami in the Bethel Office.

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!