

# Bethel Notes

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## Sunday, March 5, 2023

### Second Sunday in Lent

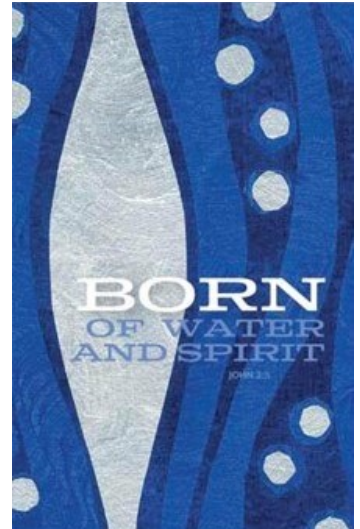
*During Lent we journey with all those around the world who will be baptized at the Easter Vigil. In today's gospel Jesus tells Nicodemus that he must be born of water and Spirit. At the font we are given a new birth as children of God. As God made a covenant with Abraham, in baptism God promises to raise us up with Christ to new life. From worship we are sent forth to proclaim God's love for all the world.*

**First Reading: Genesis 12:1-4a**

**Psalm 121**

**Second Reading: Romans 4:1-5, 13-17**

**Gospel: John 3:1-17**



**Join us Sunday 9:30 AM  
In-person or live stream  
at [bethelmt.org](http://bethelmt.org)**

## Serving This Sunday

### Musicians:

Mary Seim, piano; Sara Graft, djembe

### Acolyte

Kolton Kupfner

### Lay Assistant:

Tyler Grosenick and Sammy Seidel

### Readers:

Jackson Duff, Ethan and Austin Kupfner, Josie Delorit, Addi Carlson, Ryan Gilbertson, Jacie Green, Kari and Kendall Ryan, Neil Sletten

### Usher:

Brian Boucher, Drake, Lane, Teshher Reidle

### Tech:

Adam Elkin

### Children's Church:

Isabelle Grosenick and Olivia Virts

### Counters:

Pam Dougherty and Shannon Marr

### Hospitality:

Walt and Leone Nuessle

## THIS SUNDAY AT BETHEL...

Is our **LOGOs Family Worship**. We thank all of our families for attending and participating in worship this Sunday.

After worship, we complete our three-part series on grief with Rev. Sara MacGilvra Branom, Chaplin at Peace Hospice. We have handouts available from last

week's session. If you would like a set mailed or emailed to you, let Tami in the Bethel Office know and she will get them to you.



# Requesting Your Prayers

- ✝ Prayers of comfort for **family and friends of Bob Walker**, *brother of Colleen Walker-Nelson*, as they mourn his passing.
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Anne Vannatta** as she is in the hospital being treated for pneumonia.
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Sterling Stubbs**, *son of Bronson and Rachel Stubbs, grandson of Daren and Patty Braget*, who is recovering from an appendectomy.
- ✝ Prayers of thanksgiving for **Heather Beck**, *Kathy Johnson's daughter*, who is doing very well after her surgery.
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Cindy Doughty**, *Patty Braget's sister*, as she continues treatment for pneumonia.
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Pastor Trina Johnsten** who continues treatment as she manages an illness.
- ✝ Prayers of support for **Caleb Pottratz** who is struggling with depression.
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Payton Carle**, *friend of Karrie Pepos*, who is recovering from a car accident.
- ✝ 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 at home from a serious injury after a fall.
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Colleen Walker-Nelson** as she continues to heal from a broken leg.
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Abby Bisgard-Clegg**, *daughter of Don and Kathi Bisgard*, continues to manage health issues, but feeling and doing very well.
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Alex Bostic** as he continues to manage his health.
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Linda O'Connor**, friend of *LaRae Veitch*, as she undergoes treatment for breast cancer.
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Travis Cushman** as he continues treatment for cancer.
- ✝ Prayers of strength in leadership for **Gustavo Driau**, Regional Representative of South America.
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Ed Pottratz** as he continues cancer treatment.

Celebration of Life  
Doug Kickbusch  
Bethel Lutheran Church  
Saturday, March 25th at 1:00 pm  
Reception to follow at Bethel.

# Soup Supper Discussion Prompt

## *Have a hot bowl of soup and warm conversation!*

TONIGHT, March 2nd

### **Part 1**

*What is righteousness? Where have you heard this term used, and in what ways? What kind of emotions does the term righteousness evoke in you or in people you know and why do you think that is?*

### **Part 2**

*Righteousness is defined by many theologians as "living in right relationship with God". How is this different or similar to some of the definitions you may have heard while discussing part 1? What are ways that you or people you know have lived righteously? What are some ways that maybe you or folks you know have struggled with this?*

NEXT WEEK, March 9th

### **Part 1**

*How would you describe your relationship with God? Are there pieces of the relationship that are easy? Pieces that are hard?*

### **Part 2**

*What are ways that you have developed or built up your relationship with God? When do you feel far away from God?*

### **Part 3**

*What does living in "right relationship with God" look like to you? How does this relate to the earlier questions you discussed together?*

## **2023 Mid - Week Lenten Schedule**

### **March 2 –**

Supper Host: LOGOs Youth Ministry      Cantors: Dave and Tamy Scholten

### **March 9 –**

Supper Host: Bethel Church Council      Cantors: Patrick Ryan and Ava Fossen

### **March 16 –**

Supper Host: Altar Guild      Cantors: Ensemble Choir

### **March 23 –**

Supper Host: Men's Breakfast      Cantors: Warren Johnson and Rev. Steve Nelson

### **March 30th –**

Supper Host: Hope Circle      Cantors: Pastor Jessie and Colter McCarty

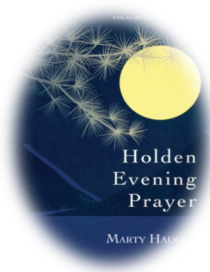
## **Holy Week Schedule**

**April 2<sup>nd</sup> – Palm Sunday**, Pancake Breakfast before and after worship, free will donation to benefit Vacation Bible School

**April 6<sup>th</sup> - Maundy Thursday 7:00 PM**

**April 7<sup>th</sup> - Good Friday 7:00 PM** - performed by the Jubilate Choir

**April 9<sup>th</sup> - Easter Sunday 9:00 am and 11:00 am** in the sanctuary



## HOLDEN EVENING PRAYER WORSHIP SERVICE ONLINE OPTION

This Year for Holden Prayer Worship. We will be recording our service tonight and will upload to our website [bethelmt.org](http://bethelmt.org) to be available during Lent beginning tomorrow.

Our reflection portion of the night is formatted in a continued discussion from conversation during our Soup Supper (see prompts on previous page.) Due to multiple people speaking during this portion of the night, it will be difficult to produce appropriate sound quality. We also understand, some feel uncomfortable speaking into a microphone or having their voice recorded online. We wish to respect those that may feel they would not be able to share as freely. The uploaded version of the service will have the discussion portion edited out.

We are also asking for feedback from all participants to the effectiveness of offering the Holden Evening Worship in this format.

Feel free to contact the Bethel Office at 406-761-1543, email [bethelgf.church@gmail.com](mailto:bethelgf.church@gmail.com) or talk with Pastor Jessie regarding your experience with this trial.

Blessings to all.

## Flowing Water



New Music ~ Great Falls

### Flowing Water | New Music | Great Falls, Montana

Wednesday Afternoons | 12:05 pm

#### Series One

February 22, 2023	Alan Johnson, Trombone
March 1, 2023	Joan Brandvold Schmidt, Organ
March 8, 2023	Barbara Ovitt, Flute, Valerie Winfield, Viola
March 15, 2023	Gaynell Tempel, Lyric Soprano
March 22, 2023	Ron Coons, Soprano Saxophone
March 29, 2023	Cynthia Stevens, Contralto
April 5, 2023	Dusty Molyneaux, Trumpet

*New Hope Lutheran Church*

*3125 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue South • Great Falls, Montana*

*For Further Information*

*406-315-1203 • 406-768-8023*

*Bring a Lunch – Tea, Coffee, Water, Dessert Provided*

*Montana Composers' Alliance Protocols*

*New Compositions are Performed Twice with a Q & A Between*

*Support Contributions to: New Hope – Concert Series*

## Calling All Bell Ringers!

The Bethel Bell Choir will be playing Sunday, March 12th. *Rehearsal* will be Saturday, March 16th from 10 am to Noon.

If you would like to play in the Bell Choir that Sunday, email Sharon Mueller at [oboecclar@gmail.com](mailto:oboecclar@gmail.com)

by Tuesday, March 7th



## Name the Bell Choir Contest!

We have been trying to come up with a name for our Bell Choir so if you have a creative idea, there is a box on the table in the narthex as you enter the church. Just drop your idea in the box with your name on it and if the Bell Choir selects your idea, you will win a \$10.00 gift card to Wheat Montana!

# Grief Workshop Concludes this Sunday

Grief is **the anguish experienced after significant loss, usually the death of a beloved person.** Grief often includes physiological distress, separation anxiety, confusion, yearning, obsessive dwelling on the past, and apprehension about the future. Join our guest speaker Rev. Sara MacGilvra Branom, Chaplin at Peace Hospice in Great Falls, as she leads us in discussion about how we, as people of faith, talk about and manage grief.

This three-part education series, concludes this Sunday, March 5th in the Fellowship Hall following worship.

Reverend Sara MacGilvra Branom is an ordained minister of the United Church of Christ. (UCC) Her call is to chaplaincy, she currently serves as the chaplain for Benefis Peace Hospice. She earned her B.A. in Psychology from San Jose State University, a Master's in Human Services from the University of Great Falls, and her M.Div. from Chicago Theological Seminary with a concentration in chaplaincy. Chaplain Sara's basis for her ministry is a response to Jesus' words when the disciples failed to be with him in his greatest time of need the night before his crucifixion. "So could you not watch with me for one hour?" Matt 26:40. Chaplaincy is being with someone in their time of need. To sit with them, share that space invoking the presence of God for comfort, and understanding and perhaps find meaning in their lament, and despair by providing spiritual and/or emotional support to all who request it, regardless of their faith, beliefs, or traditions. loving them on their terms as the holy Creation they are.



**SAVE THE DATE**



**SOCK HOP FUNDRAISER FOR FAMILY PROMISE,  
APRIL 22, 2023 DOORS OPEN 5:00 PM  
BLACK EAGLE COMMUNITY CENTER DINNER, AUCTION, FUN!!  
TICKETS AVAILABLE ONLINE AT [FAMILYPROMISEGF.ORG](http://FAMILYPROMISEGF.ORG) OR  
AT KAUFMAN'S MENSWEAR DOWNTOWN**

## GOSPEL MESSAGE

March 5, 2023

Second SUNDAY IN LENT

### Windy People

What does it mean to be born of the Spirit? Jesus tells Nicodemus those who are born of the Spirit are like the wind: you can hear it but cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. What does it mean to be people of the wind? Are we to be heard, but unpredictable in our actions? Maybe.

Nicodemus is curious, working hard to reason out who Jesus is and what Jesus is saying. The trouble is that the eternal life Jesus is bringing into the world is not logical. Rebirth in the Spirit does not fit our framework of experience. The resurrection that follows the cross is not a scientific principle but a new work of God, received by faith rather than reason. The work of God is unpredictable.

Generally, we as people prefer predictability and order to uncertainty and chaos. There are reasons for this: people can be unpredictable in ways that bring pain and trauma into our lives. But there is a difference between this sort of volatility and the unpredictable ways God's grace lands in the world. God's grace always brings new life.

To be good stewards of our resources, congregations should have orderly financial processes, clear policies, and well-thought-out mission and ministry. At the same time, we can plan the Spirit right out of our work if we are more dedicated to order than we are to discernment. The Spirit blows as she will. Is there room in our worship for some improvisation when the Spirit shows up in a new way? Is there flexibility in our ministry to pivot to a new opportunity as the Spirit blows by?

Born of the Spirit, may we windy people be surprised by God's grace and be blessed to carry that gift to a world that is not expecting it.

From [sundaysandseasons.com](http://sundaysandseasons.com).

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## *'A View From The Pew'*

March's Topic

### What Does Lent Mean To Me

We are so thankful to those who have submitted thus far,  
and look forward to hearing from you!

*To submit your writing, send a word doc to  
[bethelgf.church@gmail.com](mailto:bethelgf.church@gmail.com) or drop off a hardcopy in the Bethel  
Office. Submissions should be approximately 500 words.*



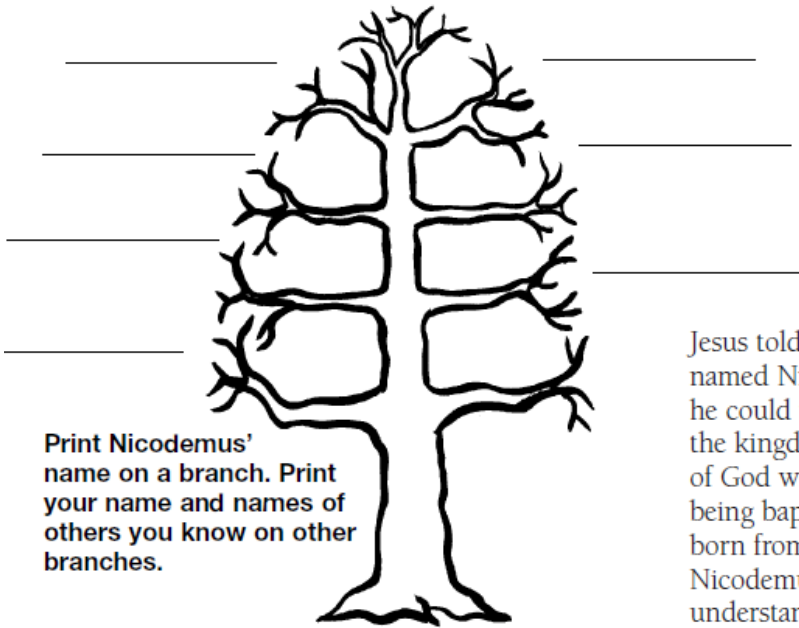
# Just for *YOUTH*

## Family tree

John 3:1-17

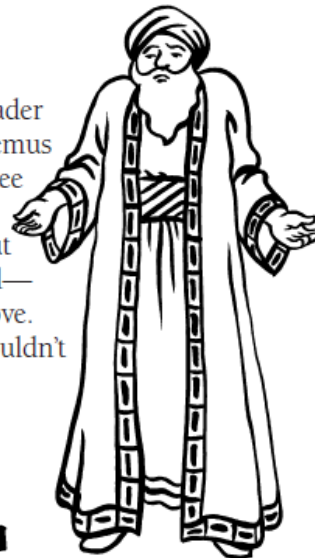
We believe Jesus brings us eternal life, just like a tree brings nutrients to its branches. We come to God's family through Jesus.

Trace the dotted lines to find another kind of family tree.



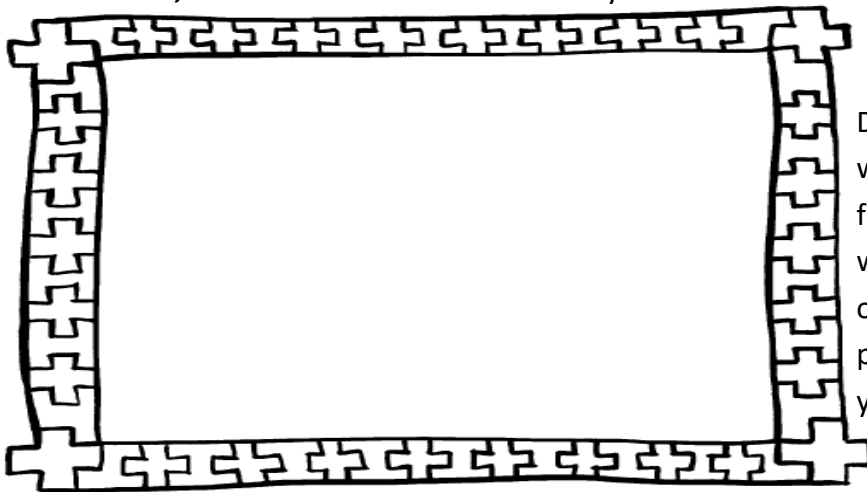
Print Nicodemus' name on a branch. Print your name and names of others you know on other branches.

Jesus told a leader named Nicodemus he could not see the kingdom of God without being baptized—born from above. Nicodemus couldn't understand.



*Dear Lord,  
we are  
thankful to  
be called  
Children of  
God. Amen*

*God's Love*, It is the Lord who watches over you ~ Psalm 121:5



Draw a time when you feel God's watching over you and protecting you.

*This Week:  
Learn John 3:16,  
a very important  
verse for the  
Family of God.*

## Logos Wednesday, March 8:

Lesson: John 3:1-17

Dinner: Chicken Nuggets, Mac & Cheese,

## **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

### **Monday 3/6**

- Financial Peace University Class in the Fellowship Hall 6:00 pm

### **Tuesday 3/7**

- Electric City Bible Study, Zoom meeting 7:00 am
- Men's Breakfast in the Fellowship Hall 7:00 am
- Exec Council Zoom meeting 5:30 pm

### **Wednesday 3/8**

- Bible Study led by Pastor Jessie on Zoom 10:00 am
- Logos Youth 5:30 pm; High School 6:30 pm
- **Thursday, 3/9**
- Lenten Soup Supper in the Fellowship Hall 6:00 pm
- Holden Evening Worship Service in the sanctuary 6:45 pm

### **Friday 3/10**

- Bethel office closed

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

### **Sunday 3/12**

- Worship led by Pastor Jessie in-person & live stream 9:30 am
- World Hunger Sunday
- 4H meeting in the Fellowship Hall 2:00 pm

### **Monday 3/13**

- Financial Peace University Class in the Fellowship Hall 6:00 pm

### **Tuesday 3/14**

- Electric City Bible Study, Zoom meeting 7:00 am
- Men's Breakfast in the Fellowship Hall 7:00 am
- Exec Council Zoom meeting 5:30 pm

### **Wednesday 3/15**

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

### **Thursday, 3/16**

- Lenten Soup Supper in the Fellowship Hall 6:00 pm
- Holden Evening Worship Service in the sanctuary 6:45 pm

### **Friday 3/17**

- Bethel office closed
- Great Falls Teacher Association Music Festival all day

### **Saturday 3/18**

- Great Falls Teacher Association Music Festival all day

## **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 lolli51gus@icloud.com for a link to join the meeting.

### **Men's Breakfast Meets in-person**

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 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.

### **Next meeting:**

**March TBD**

### **Weekly Text Study with Pastor Jessie-online**

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.