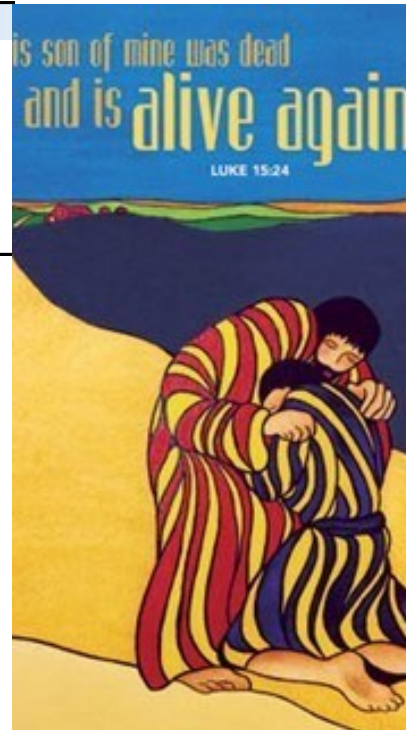


# BETHEL NOTES



## Sunday, March 27

### Fourth Sunday in Lent

The psalm sets the tone this day: "Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven, and whose sin is put away!" Happy are those who have "become the righteousness of God" in the merits of Christ Jesus. Happy are those for whom the forgiveness of God has "rolled away . . . the disgrace" of former times. Happy is the father at the return of his prodigal son. Happy are we that our sins are forgiven for Jesus' sake. Rejoice!

### Readings

#### First Readings

Joshua 5:9-12

#### Psalm

Psalm 32

#### Second Reading

2 Corinthians 5:16-21

#### Gospel

Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

### Inside this issue

- Prayer Requests..... 2
- Mission Endowment..... 3
- Mission Endowment cont. .... 4
- Lenten Soup Suppers.....4
- Holy Week ..... 4
- Online Conversation ..... 5
- Family Promise Volunteers ..... 5
- Hygiene Kits donations.. 5
- FLBC Events ..... 5
- Gathering Place Piano ... 6
- 1st Monday Quilters..... 6
- Updated Covid Guide .... 6
- Just For YOUth..... 7
- Calendar of Events ..... 8
- Online Ministries ..... 8
- Contact Pastor Jessie..... 8

**Join us Sundays**  
**9:30 AM in-person or online at [bethelmt.org](http://bethelmt.org).**  
**Adult Education in the Fellowship Hall After Worship. Walking through the stations of the heart with Pastor Jessie**

### SERVING THIS SERVICE

<b>Accompanist</b>	Mary Seim, piano; Steve Nelson, guitar
<b>Lay Assistant</b>	Sandy Pepos
<b>Usher</b>	Mary Gernaat
<b>Tech</b>	Adam Elkin
<b>Counters</b>	Pam Dougherty and Anne Vannatta
<b>Children's Church</b>	Allison Marr and Ava Fossen

### OFFICE HOURS

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

OFFICE: (406) 761-1543

WEBSITE: [www.bethelmt.org](http://www.bethelmt.org)

EMAIL: [bethelgf.church@gmail.com](mailto:bethelgf.church@gmail.com)



- † Prayers of support and healing for **Don and Kathi Bisgard** as they work through some medical issues with Don.
- † Prayers of healing and strength for **Rick Robitaille**, *brother of Tom Robitaille*, as he receives treatment for cancer.
- † Prayers of comfort for **Jeanne Rankin and family**, as they mourn the passing of her mother Jeannette.
- † Prayers of healing for **Heath Poser**, *nephew of Connie Titcomb*, who has begun treatment for brain tumors and will have surgery once the treatments are concluded.
- † Prayers of healing for **Mim Mikulecky** as she recovers from knee surgery.
- † 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 for **Eric Peterson** as he ends treatment for cancer and begins immunotherapy.
- † Prayers of strength and healing for **Lisa Le-land**, *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 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 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.

# Mission Endowment Committee Update & Plan

The Mission Endowment Committee met on Monday, 3/21/22. Members in attendance were: Johnna Lightbourne, Jim Carlson, Janet Smith, Greg Grosenick, Pastor Jessie Olbrecht, and **Jo Ann Dillum**. **Missing was Bob Norbie.**

Starting in mid-January, we attended the ELCA's REBOOT camp once a week for 4 weeks. We met live and online with over 100 people from different ELCA congregations across the country. During these 2 hour meetings, we heard stories from congregations on how they were able to reimagine church and their advice to other congregations who are trying to grow. Some common themes throughout these meetings were the importance of building relationships, both within the church but also extending into the community. They stressed the importance of having one-on-one conversations with people in the community and how to do that. We need to follow where the Holy Spirit leads which may be non-linear and messy. Ask ourselves, "Where do we need to grow?" and "What is the next faithful step we can take to grow in that direction?" One task was to look at the assets of our church but also the assets of our community. Some other statements from the class:

- 1) Vision.....discern.....take action.....reflect
- 2) Mentor and multiply leaders
- 2) Take risks and experiment
- 4) Lead healthy change
- 5) Stay nimble and stay humble

When we started as the Mission Endowment committee, we talked about how we can reach out and be part of a larger effort to be God's hands in our community. Then Covid changed our lives. As we evaluated Bethel's assets, we determined Logos is our strongest and healthiest asset. Without the younger generation, the church will not survive into the future. We not only provide Christian education to our members but also to members of other church communities that do not have a youth program. Currently, we can see the fruits of having a strong Logos program over the years, 19 kids in confirmation and ~20 high school students. However, this year, there are only ~15 K-6 graders. The bones of Logos are still there but our committee has expressed concern over what this will look like in the near future.

Our group decided to start small and focus on success. We realize we need to reach out into the community and "market" Bethel and Logos. We are going to direct our efforts in the immediate neighborhood and also reach out to TLC staff and parents. At the same time we want to begin building up relationships among members of the church community and think a group project may be just the thing.

NEED: Volunteers to build "May Baskets" on April 24th, 10:45 - 11:45 AM.

NEED: Volunteers to walk our neighborhood, hanging "May Baskets" with a Bethel Welcome Note on May 1st, 10:45-11:45 AM.

NEED: "Welcome Team" volunteers to follow up with a phone call or to specifically greet any new people that may come to worship over the next few weeks.

Part of lessons learned during the REBOOT camp was that we need to evaluate whether what we do is suc-

cessful. Complete the loop and reflect.

With the goal of reconnecting with our church community but also building community with our neighbors, additional ideas include starting a “Food Truck Wednesdays” picnic over the summer. Basically, set aside one Wednesday evening/month to have a few food trucks park in our parking lot and invite the community to come down, set out a blanket or lawn chair and have food and fellowship. There has even been talk about roasting marshmallows and listening to some guitar playing. More details on this are to come. The talent of the “Welcome Team” volunteers will also be necessary to evaluate our efforts to help us reflect and redirect if necessary.

---

## Lenten Soup Supper and Holden Evening Prayer Worship

**Mid-Week Lenten Soup Suppers** (6:15pm) & Worship (7:00pm) Holden Evening Prayer will begin next Thursday evening, March 10th and will be held in the Gathering Place and Sanctuary. All are welcome.



### 2022 Mid - Week Lenten Schedule

March 24 – Guest Speaker: Rev. Steve Nelson

March 31 – Guest Speaker: Dave Scholten

April 7 – Pastor Jessie

---

## HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

The last couple of years our Holy Week has been different to say the least. A combination of meeting and online only worship to keep our congregation healthy.

This year too, will look somewhat different, but good news...some services will be back to “normal”.

We will be live streaming all worship services for Holy Week.

- ◆ **Maundy Thursday**, April 14th 7:00 pm in the Sanctuary, this will be a communion service with special presentation by our Youth Ministry and music by the Jubilate Choir.
- ◆ **Good Friday**, April 15th 7:00 pm in the Sanctuary, non-communion service led by the Jubilate Choir.
- ◆ **Easter Vigil**, April 16th 7:00 pm, a communion service followed by the feast of milk and honey after worship as we enjoy an Ice Cream Social.
- ◆ **Easter Sunday**, April 17th will offer two services 9:00 am and 11:00 am, both in the Sanctuary.

Montana Jewish Project presents:

Passover and Easter: An  
Imaginative Journey  
Montana Jews and Christians in  
Conversation

Rabbi Mark Kula  
currently serves Jewish  
communities around the West.

Rev. Jessica Crist  
retired Bishop of the Montana  
Synod of the Evangelical  
Lutheran Church in America.

Sunday, April 3,  
2022  
4-5pm MT

Virtual on zoom  
Register at:  
<https://bit.ly/PassoverMJP>



## CALLING ALL WHO WOULD LIKE TO VOLUNTEER FOR FAMILY PROMISE.

We are taking an interest list for anyone who would like to be a volunteer for Family Promise and needs to go through the training.

If we get enough people, we can hold a training right here at Bethel.

Please call the Bethel Office 406-761-1543 or email [bethelgf.church@gmail.com](mailto:bethelgf.church@gmail.com) or sign up on the interest sheet at worship on Sunday.

If you have additional questions, feel free to contact our Family Promise Coordinator, Judy Statham at 406-468-8595 or email her at [ewe2me2001@yahoo.com](mailto:ewe2me2001@yahoo.com)



**Hygiene  
Kits  
Needed**

We are taking donations for hygiene kits that our Logos Youth Ministry will be assembling on March 30th. If you would like to donate items such as soap, tooth paste, toothbrushes, shampoo/conditioner, combs, hand sanitizer, etc. Of any size.

We will be donating these kits to Family Promise of Great Falls .



**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 Re-  
treat**

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

# Gathering Place Piano

Over the course of the last several of months, the Bethel Council and Office have been looking into our Yamaha baby grand piano that currently resides in the Gathering Place. Years ago, this piano was a gift from a member of the community who has since passed away. During these years, the piano has suffered some damage, and is no longer usable for our Bethel musicians. After having our piano technician come and appraise the instrument, he noted significant damage to the tuning block, hammers, and several other areas. The total to repair the instrument would be around \$10,500. After those repairs, the instrument would likely hold a \$5,000 value. Without those repairs, it does not hold that value. With those things in consideration, the Council would like to know if anyone from our congregation would like to have this piano as a “pet project” for home. In the hope of maintaining fairness, if you are at all interested in the instrument, please email Tami in the office at [bethelmc.church@gmail.com](mailto:bethelmc.church@gmail.com) or call the office during the day. If we have multiple individuals interested, we will reach out to folks and seek bids for the instrument. Please note that this instrument does not hold resale value at this time due to the damage it has, and that we want to be very upfront that these damages do put the integrity of the instrument at risk. Also, we are only putting this message out to our Bethel members at this time.



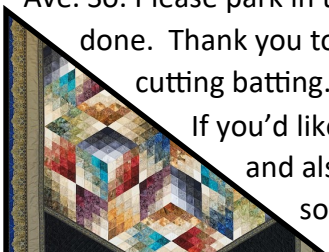
## **UPDATED Covid Guidelines for Worship**

- Masks are welcome, but not required.
- Our chairs will resume full rows, please continue to physical distance to your comfort level.
- Coffee Hour on hold
- If you have a fever or are feeling unwell, please take care of yourself and join us online for worship.

---

## **MONDAY NIGHT QUILTERS TO MEET**

1<sup>st</sup> Monday Night Quilters will meet Monday, April 4, 2022, 6-8 p.m. at New Hope Lutheran, 3125 5<sup>th</sup> 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 Leanna for binding the quilts made in March and to Bev and Susan for cutting batting.



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.

# Just for Youth

## Send

### Sharing a meal

In Jesus' story, the father had a big party to celebrate his son's return. What is something we can do to remember Jesus' love for us? To find the answer, write the letter that is added to the second word in each blank. Then read the answer.

on → one \_\_\_  
get → gate \_\_\_  
go → got \_\_\_

AND

an → and \_\_\_  
at → rat \_\_\_  
ran → rain \_\_\_  
sad → sand \_\_\_  
thin → think \_\_\_



*Dear God, thank you for the meals we share. Amen*

### This week

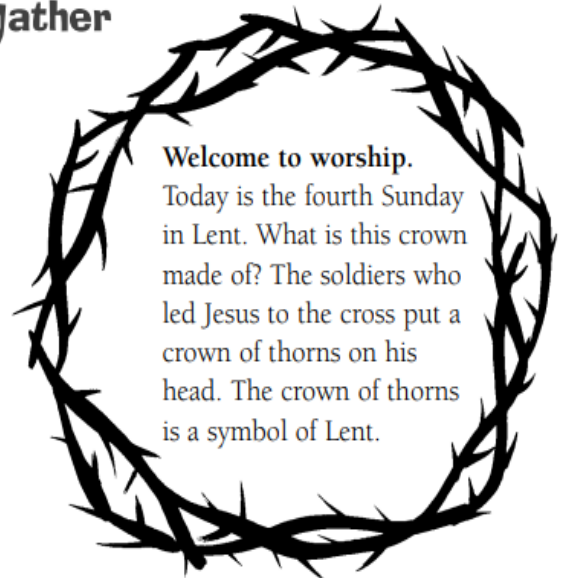
Help your family prepare a special meal to celebrate God's love and forgiveness.

Kids Celebrate copyright © 2003 Augsburg Fortress. May be reproduced for local use.

## Kids Celebrate

Fourth Sunday in Lent

## gather



Welcome to worship.  
Today is the fourth Sunday in Lent. What is this crown made of? The soldiers who led Jesus to the cross put a crown of thorns on his head. The crown of thorns is a symbol of Lent.



Thorns protect the beauty of the rose, the sweet juice of the pineapple, and the water of the cactus.

Crowns of thorns can remind you that sadness comes before the joy of Easter.



Look for something rough or scratchy in your worship space.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### Tuesday 3/29

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

### Wednesday 3/30

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

### Thursday 3/31

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

### Friday 4/1

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

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Sunday 4/3

- 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 4/5

- 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 4/6

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

### Thursday 4/7

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

### Friday 4/8

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

### **Pastor Jessie Obrecht**

#### **Contact information**

Email: [bethelgf.pastor@gmail.com](mailto:bethelgf.pastor@gmail.com)

Phone: 406-761-1543 ext. 202