

BETHEL NOTES

Sunday November 20, 2022

Jeremiah's promise of the execution of "justice and righteousness in the land" finds ironic fulfillment in the execution of Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews. It appears utterly contradictory that a king should be crucified with a criminal. This victory appears for all the world as humiliating defeat. Yet through the gate of death Jesus opens the door to paradise

Readings

First Readings

Jeremiah 23:1-6

Psalm

Psalm 46

Second Reading

Colossians 1:11-20

Gospel

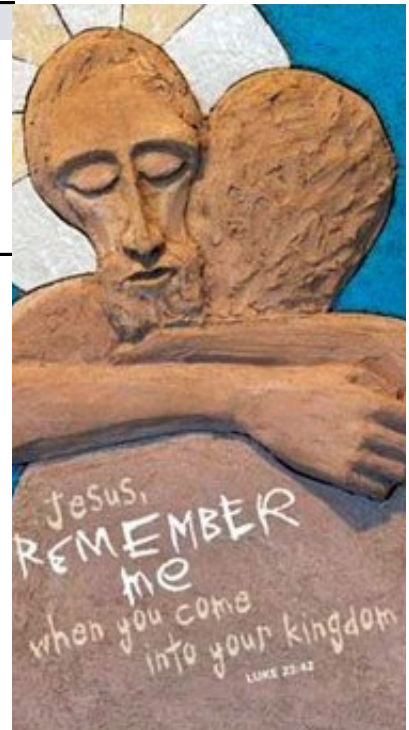
Luke 23:33-43

This Sunday

After Worship...service project, stuffing thankful bags.

Last meeting for One Coin Found book study.

**Join us Sundays
9:30 AM in-person or
online at bethelmt.org.**



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SERVING THIS SERVICE

Accompanist	Connie Titcomb, piano; Sara Graft, jimbe
Lay Assistant	Tamy Scholten
Usher	Donna Vinnedge
Tech	Adam Elkin
Children's Church	Julia Elkin and Allison Marr
Hospitality	Ainsley Kubas and Tamy Scholten
Counters	Patty Braget and Laurie Turner

OFFICE HOURS

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

OFFICE: (406) 761-1543

WEBSITE: www.bethelmt.org

EMAIL: bethelgf.church@gmail.com



- ✝ Prayers of healing and support for **Dena Wagner-Fossen** who is in the hospital being treated for an infection.
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Colleen Walker-Nelson** as she heals from surgery of a broken leg after a fall.
- ✝ 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 **Bill Van Hovel**, Connie Titcomb's brother-in-law, who has been diagnosed with prostate cancer and having prepares for surgery in December.
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Clark Walburger**, brother-in-law of Grant Smith, as he in the hospital from a broken pelvic bone.
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Carol Smith**, Shirley Cayko's mother-in-law, who is recovering from a burn injury.
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Lindy Coon**, sister of former Bethel member Laura (Wandke) Overturf, as she recovers at home from a serious injury after a fall.
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Alex Bostic** as he continues to manage his health.
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Laura Kupfner** as she manages a new diagnosis for her eyes.
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Linda O'Connor**, friend of LaRae Veitch, as she undergoes treatment for breast cancer.
- ✝ Prayers of comfort for **Linda O'Brien**, Sue Hesse's sister, as she battles chronic pain.
- ✝ Prayers of faith and strength for **Cindy Doughty**, Patty Braget's sister, as she manages ALS.
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Lynn Klaasen**, sister of Jan Robitaille, who is undergoing continued medical testing and treatment planning for cancer diagnosis.
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Doug Kickbusch** as he continues treatment for a brain tumor.
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Travis Cushman** as he receives treatment for cancer.
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Rev. Inge Williams**, friend of Pastor Jessie, going through chemotherapy.
- ✝ Prayers of strength in leadership for **Gustavo Driau**, Regional Representative of South America.
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Ed Pottratz** as he continues cancer treatment.
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Bob Walker**, brother of Colleen Walker-Nelson, who is managing kidney disease.

COMMUNITY HEROES 'THANKFUL FOR YOU' BAGS

Social Worker

noun

: a social change warrior that evokes ferocity, passion, and empathy in order to create significant positive change in the lives of others. Often overlooked superheroes that juggle life's most pressing issues, while attempting to remain sane.

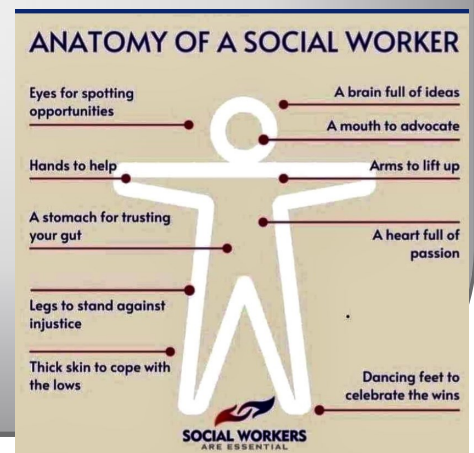
Help us recognize and thank these unsung heroes by donating items to go in the "Thankful for You" bags or stay on the 20th and help assemble them.

Below is a list of suggested items that can go in the bags, but you can be creative! We would like to have all donations in by November 16th. You will see a collection location in the narthex at Bethel.

Items for bags -

gum, mints, candy (pre-wrapped), chips, salty snack, energy bars, granola bars, confetti, post it notes (lined are fun), ink pens, fun markers, small kleenex, small lotion, ChapStick, small playdough, crayons, fidget toys, stress/squeezy balls, small writing tablet.

If you have any questions, please talk with Pastor Jessie or Patti Braget.



Altar Guild is looking for a few good women (or men)

Donna Vinnedge has decided to step down from her position on an altar guild team. Donna has faithfully served on an altar guild team for many years and her teammate will miss her. We wish to thank Donna for her many years of dedicated service.

That means there is an opportunity for "at least" one person-men are welcome also-to join this behind the scenes ministry. The commitment is minimal. As it currently stands each two person team serves for one month, 2-3 times per year. The time commitment each week during the month is about an hour to set up the altar before a service and clean up afterwards.

If you have an interest in joining this ministry or learning more about it, please contact Tami or any of the current altar guild members.

Current teams are

1. Tami Grosenick and JoDee Black
2. Marilyn Carlson and ? (Vacant)
3. Sue Hesse and Jane Mart
4. Patty Kain and Debbie McCarty
5. Mary Gernaat and Terree Wozny



New Associate to the Bishop in the Montana Synod!

It is with joy and excitement that I announce that **the new Associate to the Bishop of the Montana Synod ELCA is Rev. Brenda Frelsi.** Pastor Brenda has been serving at Zion Lutheran in Glendive for the past three years and before that she served a congregation in Casper, Wyoming for 17 years. She comes to us with much enthusiasm and energy and a desire to engage congregations and ministries of the synod in discerning where God is calling us as church to go in the future.



A brief bio: Pastor Brenda grew up in the Midwest, but always wanted to live where there were more outdoor options. Montana has become that place. Brenda's priorities in ministry are to demonstrate kindness and to build positive relationships doing productive ministry which brings her and those she serves joy while we do God's work with our hands. Brenda's ordination verse is Galatians 5:22-23 "By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things." She believes that when we concentrate on the joy, there is more patience and a foundation of love when differences of opinion arise. In this time of creativity and innovation in exploring how we are called to be church together, Brenda brings to the synod office a passion for rural and small town ministry. Her interests include biking, running, skiing, hiking and photography and she hopes to find partners throughout the synod for these activities.

Pastor Brenda will be spending the next months completing her service with the people of Zion in Glendive and will officially begin her role as the A2B on January 1, 2023. Thank you, Pastor Brenda, for saying yes to this exiting yet daunting calling and thank you to the folks in Glendive for their willingness to offer their pastor to the whole synod in service to the wider church.

In Christ's Spirit of New Life,
Bp Laurie

Helping Hands Need YOUR Helping Hands

Sunday, November 20 1:00 PM—assembling Thanksgiving meal boxes.

Monday, November 21 starting at 9:00 am—handing out the food boxes.

Both projects are located at First English Lutheran Church.

If you are able to help, please call Carrie Parker 406-868-7882.



RETREAT ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Advent Retreat

December 2-4, 2022 || Cost: Ages 12+ = \$185; 4-11 = \$93; 3 & under = free
Register by November 18th.

Join us for this cozy Christmas Retreat to journey through Advent together and prepare for the holidays with crafts, delicious food, and an opportunity to find & take home your perfect Christmas tree!

Winter Youth Retreat

December 29, 2022 - January 1, 2023
(Thurs - Sun) || Cost: \$175
Register by December 15th, 2022.

Calling all 3rd-6th graders! Join FLBC for an awesome retreat at camp! Get excited about cookie decorating contests, candle making, Christmas pageant, s'mores around the campfire, stargazing, Bible studies centered around the theme of Epiphany, worship, games, crafts and more! Ring in the new year with FLBC staff and friends, new and old.

Ski - Snowboard - Stay Winter Retreat

January 13-16, 2023 (Fri-Sunday, or stay through Monday) || \$150/person
Fri-Sunday - OR - \$175/person Friday - Monday ~ For youth groups coming together: 1 free adult for every 5 youth. \$100 deposit/person and registration due by January 3rd, 2023.

Let FLBC be your basecamp for a winter adventure! Come for all or part of the long weekend. Spend the day at camp or head to one of our local ski/snowboard areas or cross country ski trails, or spend the weekend hanging out at camp! This weekend is for youth groups, families, adults, and Junior/Senior High individual campers. Price does not include lift tickets or rentals.

flbc.org

The Great Falls Municipal Band Association presents ...

COMMUNITY JAZZ BAND

*under the direction
of JOHN GEMBERLING*

Fall Concert

*featuring vocals
by BETH BRITTON*

Saturday, Nov. 19, 2022, at 7:00 p.m.



COMMUNITY CONCERT BAND

*under the direction
of DENNIS GRANLIE*

Fall Concert

**Sunday, Nov. 20, 2022
2:00 p.m.**



**at the New Hope Lutheran Church
3125 Fifth Ave. S., Great Falls**

Admission by free-will offering to benefit New Hope Lutheran Church

Bake Sale and Bazaar



fundraiser for Vacation Bible School
Day Camp 2023. We are in need of
baked goods and crafts that we can
sell to support our kids.

**Sunday, December 4th , Following
Worship**

This will be the Family worship and
Logos Christmas program Sunday
If you would like to donate, items
can be delivered either the Friday
before the sale or on Sunday morn-
ing. Contact Tami 406-788-9587 if
you would like to drop items off be-
fore Sunday.

**Mark your
calendars,
Sunday,
December 27th.
After worship.
Let's decorate our
church for
Christmas!**

SHARE YOUR INPUT

Draft social message on climate care



Public response period: Social message on climate care

A draft of the ELCA's forthcoming
social message on climate change
and how we are called to respond
has been posted, and the public
comment period is open through
Friday, Dec. 2.

This project was authorized in light of the grim contemporary situation affecting our
global home and the need for fresh action on the part of this church. The draft will
be edited in response to your feedback and brought to the ELCA Church Council for
a vote this spring.

[Read the draft and provide your input.](#)



November Newsletter

Family Promise Week Success

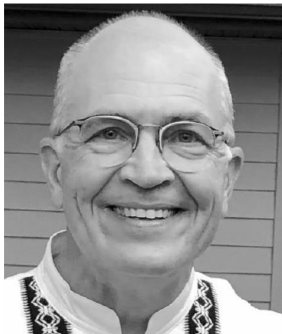
◇ Thank you to Bison Ford! The sales event generated \$4250! Thank you also to the United Way of Cascade County for administering this generous donation.

- ◇ McKenzie River Pizza hosted a Community Day that generated 20% of their food sales. Thank you to everyone who helped make this day successful.
- ◇ Thank you to everyone who attended our Open House. We'd like to thank Debra McCorrison and Kathy Remington for heading up this event and for making cookies and flower arrangements to thank our volunteers.



We are planning a fund and friend raiser event for some time in April 2023. Join our committee! And if you have a catchy name for the event, send your idea to cariy@familypromiseqf.org

Board Member Highlight-Pastor Steve Van Gilder



A man who always believes in consistently practicing gracious and generous hospitality, Rev. Steve Van Gilder joined the Family Promise Board in 2019 because he believed in our mission. When he first learned of the organization it was named the Interfaith Hospitality Network and the service model was to host homeless families at participating churches on a weekly basis. Through the years, Interfaith Hospitality Network changed its name to Family Promise as it added a variety of programs to address the needs of homeless families. Currently Family Promise of Great Falls is part of a nationwide network of 200 affiliates; an affiliation that brings expertise and efficiencies to the Great Falls.

Steve has served as an ordained pastor in the Montana Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America for 34 years. Prior to his ordained service, Steve served as a full-time youth director in the American Lutheran Church.

When he first moved to Great Falls, he was instrumental in reigniting the annual CROP WALK in addition to working as Bethel Lutheran's pastor. He has been a long-time member of the Great Falls Ministerial Association.

Since his retirement two years ago, he has made himself available for pulpit supply in Lutheran congregations experiencing a transition in leadership. When he is not working with church congregations he enjoys camping, fishing, riding his bike on Rivers Edge Trail, reading, and collecting and playing vinyl albums. He is blessed with his supportive wife, Kaye; two sons, Mark and Micah; and his in-laws who live on a farm near Chester, Montana.

Getting through the Covid-19 pandemic was challenging but he thinks that it gave the board members (only 3 during this time) the opportunity to reach out to all the congregational and community stake holders to find out if there was broad support for our mission. He was greatly gratified by the huge participation in the two Stakeholder Meetings that were held in 2020 and 2021 and was especially proud that the organization came out of hiatus and started serving families by April last year. His vision for Family Promise of Great Falls is to have a static site shelter where we can shelter families, have both our administrative offices, and a day center that would have daycare services.

Thank you for your continued dedication to Family Promise Steve!

Just for YOUTH

Christ the servant-king

Jesus didn't wear a gold crown like some kings. Jesus cared for the needs of many people by teaching and serving.



Plan a way your family can serve others together.

LET US PRAY...

We worship you, Jesus, as our servant-king. Amen.

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might: heaven and earth are full of your glory.

When do you hear these words in worship?

Draw a royal crown above each of these pictures of Jesus.



THIS WEEK...

Find the book of Matthew in your Bible. Starting next Sunday, our gospel readings will come from this book.



NO LOGOS

Wednesday, November 23rd
Have a Happy Thanksgiving.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Tuesday 11/22

- Electric City Bible Study, Zoom meeting 7:00 am.
- No Men's Breakfast

Wednesday 11/23

- Bible Study led by Pastor Jessie on Zoom 10:00 am
- No Logos Youth ministry

Thursday 11/24

- Happy Thanksgiving! Bethel Office is closed.

Friday 11/25

- Bethel office closed

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday 11/27

- Worship led by Pastor Jessie in-person & live stream 9:30 am
- Christmas Decorating after worship

Tuesday 11/29

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

Wednesday 11/30

- Bible Study led by Pastor Jessie on Zoom 10:00 am
- Logos Youth ministry 5:30 pm: HS 6:30 pm

Thursday 12/1

- Happy Thanksgiving! Bethel Office is closed.

Friday 12/2

- Bethel office closed

Saturday 12/3

- Logos Program rehearsal 10:00 am

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 and Online—NOT Meeting Thanksgiving Week.

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. We will resume after Labor Day in September, Tuesday mornings at 7:00 am. Contact Dave Scholten at dscholten@dlsconsulting.net for a link to join the meeting or 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: November 17th at
Patti Godtel's (2925 Delmar Dr)**

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.