

# BETHEL NOTES

## Sunday, October 16, 2022

### 19th Sunday after Pentecost

*Pray always. Do not lose heart. This is Christ's encouragement in the gospel today. Wrestle with the word. Remember your baptism again and again. Come regularly to Christ's table. Persistence in our every encounter with the divine will be blessed.*

### Readings

#### First Readings

Genesis 32:22-31

#### Psalm

Psalm 121

#### Second Reading

2 Timothy 3:14—  
4:5

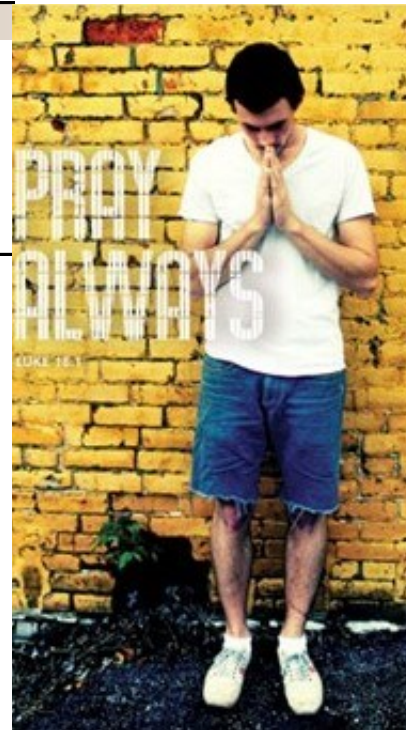
#### Gospel

Luke 18:1-8

### This Sunday

We welcome Gabe Bannon, ELCA World Hunger Churchwide. There will be an education and discussion with Gabe following worship.

*Join us Sundays  
9:30 AM in-person or  
online at [bethelmt.org](http://bethelmt.org).*



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### SERVING THIS SERVICE

<b>Accompanist</b>	Connie Titcomb, piano; Mac Carlson, violin
<b>Lay Assistant</b>	John Blank
<b>Usher</b>	Patty Braget
<b>Tech</b>	Colter McCarty
<b>Children's Church</b>	Ava Fossen and Maya Stringer
<b>Counters</b>	Patty Braget and Kaleb Stringer

### 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 healing for **Diana Fransen**, *Lynn Ryan's mother*, for recurrence of cancer diagnosis.
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Eric Peterson** as he continues with immunotherapy and is doing well.
- ✝ Prayers of comfort for **Terry Ryan**, *Patrick Ryan's brother*, who is in the hospital.
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Alex Bostic** as he continues to recover from surgery at home.
- ✝ Prayers of comfort for **Rita Johnson**, *LaRae Veitch's sister*, as she is in hospice.
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Clark Walburger**, *brother-in-law of Grant Smith*, as he manages health issues.
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Linda O'Connor**, friend of *LaRae Veitch*, as she undergoes treatment for breast cancer.
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Abby Bisgard-Clegg**, *daughter of Don and Kathi Bisgard*, as she awaits a follow-up medical test in November to confirm successful treatment of cancer.
- ✝ Prayers of comfort for **Linda O'Brien**, *Sue Hesse's sister*, as she is in Hospice.
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Doug Kickbusch** as he continues treatment for a brain tumor.
- ✝ Prayers of faith and strength for **Cindy Doughty**, *Patty Braget's sister*, as she manages ALS.
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Travis Cushman** as he receives treatment for cancer.
- ✝ Prayers of support and safe travels for the **Boucher Family** as they travel for medical appointments.
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Rev. Inge Williams**, *friend of Pastor Jessie*, going through chemotherapy.
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Lynn Klaasen**, *sister of Jan Robitaille*, who is undergoing continued medical testing and treatment planning for recent cancer diagnosis.
- ✝ Prayers of strength in leadership for **Gustavo Driau**, Regional Representative of South America.
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Lindy Coon**, *sister of Laura Overturf, friend of Donna Vinnedge* as Lindy recovers in the hospital with a brain injury after a fall.
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Ed Pottratz** as he continues cancer treatment.
- ✝ Prayers of healing and support for **Anne Vannatta** as she is home continuing to manage health concerns.
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Bob Walker**, *brother of Colleen Walker-Nelson*, who is managing kidney disease.



Greetings Bethel!

Over the past several months, our gospel lessons have focused on discipleship. We have heard stories of Jesus guiding his followers into discipleship, and about how that discipleship can be both incredibly joyful and incredibly difficult. We also heard the disciples ask, just a few weeks ago, for Jesus to “increase their faith!”. As we walk together as a church and as people of faith in the world, we often ask ourselves questions like this. How do I increase my faith? How do I develop and grow as a Christian? How do I know if I am headed in the right direction? Last Sunday as I gathered with our book study group at Bethel we ran into a similar question about the idea of

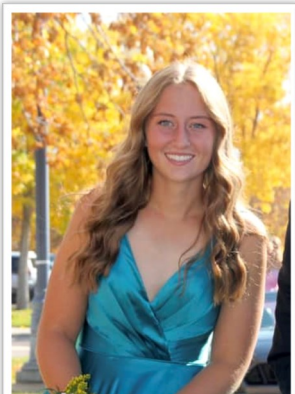
perception. How do we know when our perception is on or off? How do we know if we are perceiving things correctly? We wrestled with this question...wondering if one's perception could be wrong, or if it was simply just one's perception. Eventually we landed on the idea that perception is just a piece of the journey to understanding. We often start with assumptions, move to perceptions, continue with experiences, and eventually reach understanding. This journey is not always a straight line, sometimes we never get past our assumptions about other people or situations because they are too intimidating to approach or get closer too. Other times we get all the way to understanding and everything changes, and we must start completely over. In many ways this process is just like discipleship. Our lives of faith are journeys that will wax and wane. They will take us to moments where we have deep understanding and close relationship with God and one another, and they will take us to moments of disillusionment and feeling deeply distant from one another and from God. The challenge in it all is how to continue along the journey with perseverance, love, and a curious heart. The challenge is also how to allow ourselves to be transformed by this way of being and this Jesus story. How do we move past our assumptions? How do we accumulate the bravery to walk forward into the unknown, trusting that God will uphold us even in the moments where our perceptions and actions might come out skewed? The answer is varied, I'm sure, but one piece of that answer is that we do it together. We do it while listening to one another, and while being open to voice of the Holy Spirit in our lives and in our communities. This week we will welcome Gabe Brannon from the ELCA Churchwide Office. He will share with us some of the ways that our bold giving, support, and belief in world where all people are cared for and fed have helped to empower ministries that are making a difference in the world. I am sure he will share stories and anecdotes from these ministries, and tell us of some incredible moments where Christ's love has been shared. As we hear these stories and welcome Gabe to our community I hope that you are reminded that incredible things are possible when we work together. Incredible things are possible when are willing to be vulnerable and work together and trust that God will show up in the midst of our relationships. I give thanks for the many relationships that have been built in this place over the years. I give thanks for the ways that we are still reaching out into our community, into our world, and into our hearts so that God might continue transforming us and our world for many years to come.

-Pastor Jessie

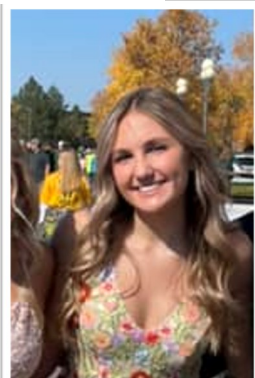
**3 or 4 People Needed, Monday October 17th 8:30-10:00 am** to deliver coffee and donuts to the Department of Health and Human Services. If you can help, call the Bethel office 406-761-1543 or talk with Pastor Jessie on Sunday morning.



# Bethel Youth Celebrate Homecoming



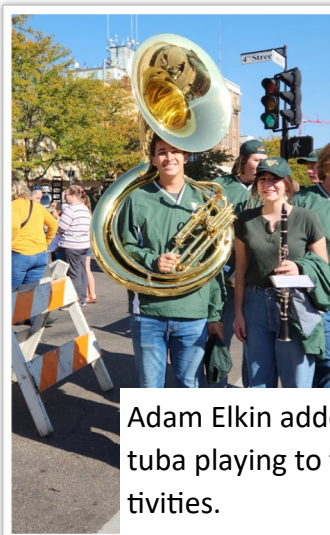
Senior Homecoming Princess Allison Marr.



Freshman Homecoming Princess R Regan Will.



Kyle Gilbertson displays class pride on the Junior Class Float.



Adam Elkin added expert tuba playing to the festivities.



Isabell Grosenick and other choir members on the CMR Choir float.

## Mark Your Calendars and Don't Miss These Awesome Activities.

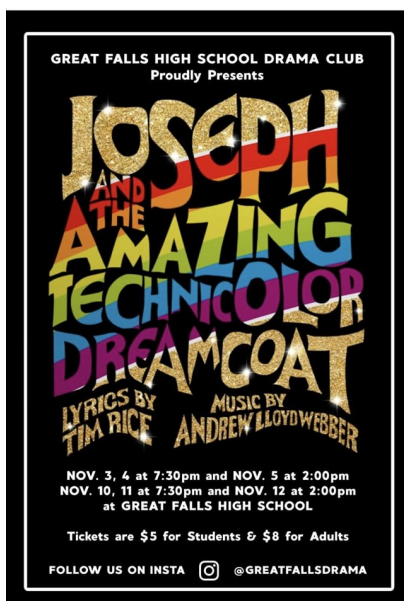
Oct 13th Volleyball game with Pepband vs. Belgrade (sophomores start at 4:00, JV and Freshman 5:30, V @7:00)

Oct 20th: Volleyball game VS Shelby (sophomore at 5:00, JV at 6:30)

Oct 21st Crosstown Football game 7:00

Oct 22nd V-ball at CMR vs Gallatin (11:00 sophomores, 12:30 Freshman and JV, 2:00 Varsity)

Oct 27th CMR/GFH Crosstown volleyball at GFH ((sophomores start at 4:00, JV and Freshman 5:30, V @7:00)



*Anniversary  
Celebration!!*

*Please help us celebrate Don and Sue Hesse's 50th Wedding Anniversary on November 5th at 6:00 pm at the Black Eagle Community Center.*

*Renewal of vows, food, and music. No host bar. No gifts PLEASE! Your presence is gift enough!*

*RSVP , call or text Myra Pottratz 406-788-3170 or Melissa Pottratz 406-899-3059.*

# *Godspeed to Pastor Jason Asselstine*



September 19, 2022

Bishop Laurie Jungling and the Montana Synod Council  
1221 24<sup>th</sup> Street South  
Great Falls, MT 59405  
(406) 453-1461

Dear Bishop Laurie and the Synod Council,

Please accept my resignation from the position of Associate to the Bishop effective October 31, 2022.

It has been one of the great honors of my life to serve alongside Bishop Laurie, Bishop Crist, the Synod staff and the congregations of the Montana Synod for these past years. I have grown as a pastor and been blessed to meet people from around the Church and world. I have been given the opportunity to be creative and express my call to serve the church in ways that I never thought possible.

Thank you for your partnership in the Gospel and the good work you continue to do on behalf of the Church and Jesus Christ.

In Christ's Service,

Pastor Jason Asselstine

## **TOWN PUMP TEAMS UP TO FUND FISH!**

Town Pump has again selected FISH to be part of the "Be a Friend in Deed, Help Those in Need" campaign. This will mark 21 years since the Town Pump Foundation began their annual campaign to raise funds for Montana Food Banks. Town Pump will match every donation to FISH up to \$25,000 from September 1, 2022 through November 30, 2022.

Please send your donation to:  
FISH P.O. Box 662  
Great Falls, MT 59403

Thank you for your support of FISH.





## Alliance for Youth

This week we continue the collection for the Alliance for Youth Resource Center. We will be taking donations to the center next week.

### Youth Resource Center Current Needs

- ◆ Cup of Noodles, mac and cheese, Rice-A-Roni
- ◆ Spaghetti sauce
- ◆ Individually wrapped snacks (chips, cookies, crackers, fruit snacks, granola bars, etc.)
- ◆ Frozen family meals (lasagna, chicken alfredo, chicken pot pies, enchiladas, etc.)
- ◆ Dishwasher pods, laundry pods and dryer sheets
- ◆ Women's and men's deodorant
- ◆ Socks and gloves
- ◆ Cases of bottled water
- ◆ Paper towels, paper plates, plastic cutlery, and serving gloves
- ◆ Kleenex, hand soap, Band-Aids, Clorox/disinfectant wipes
- ◆ Chocolate candy, hot chocolate, hot drink cups and lids
- ◆ Canned chili, tuna, pasta, soup, etc.
- ◆ Gift cards and birthday cards (Walmart, Target, McDonald's, Burger King, Taco Bell, Wendy's, Little Caesars)

For more information about needs at the Youth Resource Center, please contact Kylie Fisher, [kfisher@allianceforyouth.org](mailto:kfisher@allianceforyouth.org) or call 406-781-6823.



## **Family Promise Week Open House Thursday, October 20th 4 to 7 PM**

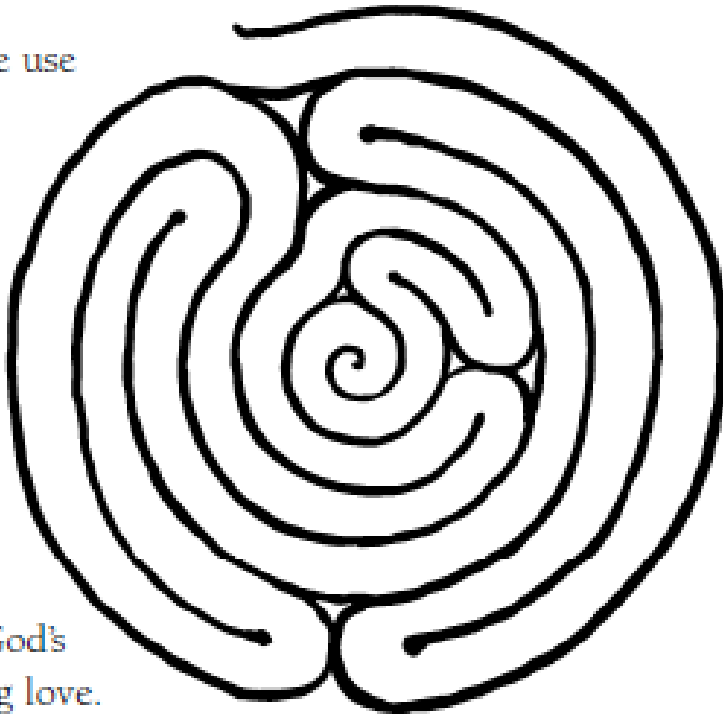
**1019 Central Avenue—parking lot in the back.**

Meet some of the families we serve and to hear our plans for how we will continue to im-

# Just for YOUTH

Welcome to worship. When can we pray? Anytime!  
How often can we pray? There's no limit! There's no  
end to our prayers to God.

Some people use  
large circle  
paths or  
labyrinths  
like this  
one to  
walk and  
pray. As  
they walk  
in the  
circle they  
remember God's  
never-ending love.



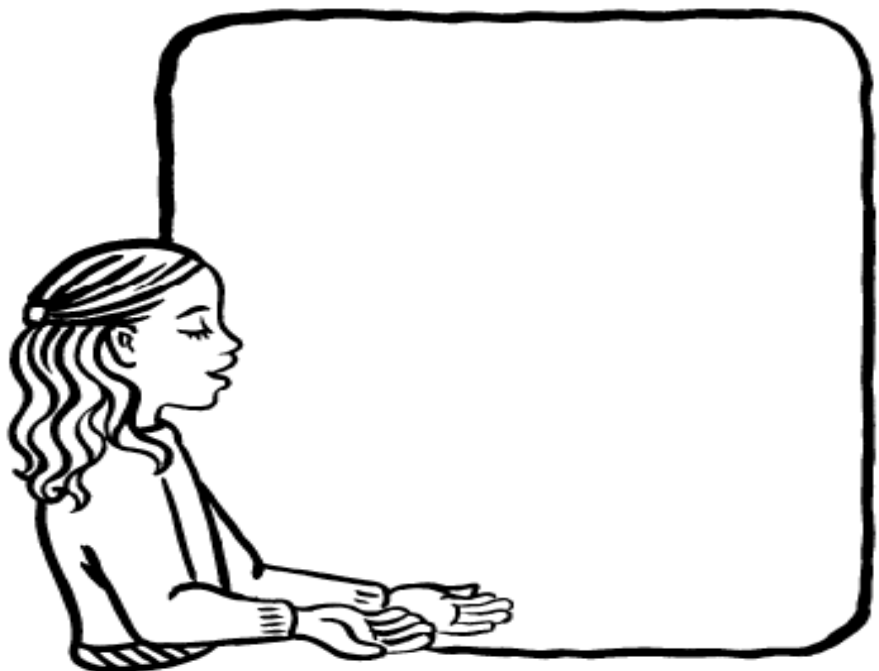
Use your finger to  
trace this circle path.  
When you finally  
reach the end you  
can begin again.  
Keep praying as you  
go on your way!!

*Dear Lord, be with us no  
matter where we are. Amen.*

**THIS WEEK...**  
Find unusual places to pray  
along your way this week.

## Who do we pray for?

Draw a picture of someone you pray for.



**LOGOS**

Wednesday,  
October 19th  
No Logos



## **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

### **Tuesday 10/18**

- Electric City Bible Study, Zoom meeting 7:00 am.
- Men's Breakfast resumes, in the Fellowship Hall and Zoom 7:00 am
- Church Council meeting in-person and on Zoom in the Fellowship Hall 6:30 pm

### **Wednesday 10/19**

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

### **Thursday 10/20**

- Pastor Jessie at Montana Food Bank Committee meeting in Missoula MT
- Hope Circle meets at Leone Nuessle's, 908 37<sup>th</sup> Ave NE, 7:00 pm

### **Friday 10/21**

- Bethel office closed

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

### **Sunday 10/23**

- Worship led by Pastor Jessie Obrecht, in-person & live stream 9:30 am
- Adult Education *One Coin Found* book study after worship in the Fellowship Hall
- Worship Planning meeting in the Sunshine Room after worship

### **Tuesday 10/25**

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

### **Wednesday 10/26**

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

### **Friday 10/28**

- Bethel office closed

## **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 both In-person and Online**

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](mailto:terry.korpela@gmail.com).

### **Next meeting: October 20th at Leone Nuessle (908 37th Ave NE)**

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