

BETHEL NOTES

Serving

Accompanist

Lynn Ryan, Piano

Lay Assistant

Kendall Ryan

Usher & Acolyte

Brian Boucher

Tesher Johnson

Readers

Sidney and Sierra Rio, Taitlyn Ames, Anna Boucher, Greta and Ginger Graft, Elle and Rylee Gustafson, Kari Ryan, Tesher Johnson

Tech

Gabe Smith

Projection

Dena Wagner Fossen

Children's Church

Tyler Grosenick

Claire Woods

Hospitality

Laura Kupfner, Sara Sexe,

Patti Godtel

Counters

Pam Dougherty

Laurie Turner



THIS SUNDAY

Readings:

First Reading:
Genesis 2:18-24

Psalm:
Psalm 8

Second Reading:
Hebrews 1:1-4;2:5-12

Gospel:
Mark 10:2-16



Inside this issue:

Prayers	2
Update on Gustavo Driau	
Thank you	3
Daily Prayer	
1st Monday Quilters	
Family Promise Fund-raiser	
Helping Hands Fund-raiser	
Lutheran Disaster Relief	4
Maintenance Update	5
Thank You	
Gospel Message	6
Just for YOU th	7
Calendar	8
Ministries	
Preaching and Presiding at Bethel	

Join us at 9:30 AM in person or livestream at bethelmt.org

This Sunday at Bethel...

We celebrate the **20th Sunday after Pentecost**.

We welcome and thank **Rev. Jessica Crist** for leading worship for us today.

We also thank all of our **LOGOs Youth Ministry** readers, lay assistant, acolyte and ushers for assisting in leading worship this morning.

Adult Forum Book Study following worship today in the Fellowship Hall.

*Lord,
in your mercy
hear our prayers.*



- ✠ Prayers of thanks for **Broc Cole**, *child of a friend of Ali Morris*, as he is cancer free!
- ✠ Prayers of healing for **Shelly Murphy** as she continues with cancer treatments and to regain strength.
- ✠ Prayers of healing for **Shannon Obrecht**, *family friend of Karen Lord*, as she manages cancer diagnosis with complications.
- ✠ Prayers of healing for **Dick Seim** who was discharged from the hospital and is in Park Place receiving physical therapy.
- ✠ Prayers of healing and support for **Grace Clegg**, *granddaughter of Kathi Bisgard*, who was diagnosed with Type 1 Diabetes.
- ✠ **Gustavo Driau**, Regional Representative of South America, who is in the hospital.
- ✠ Prayers of healing and support for **Dylan Erickson** as he recovers from hip surgery, and prepares for surgery on his other hip on October 3rd.
- ✠ Prayers of healing and support for **Carrie O'Brien** as she recovers from ankle joint replacement surgery.
- ✠ Prayers of healing for **Alex Bostic** as he continues to manage his health.
- ✠ Prayers of healing for **Ed Pottratz** as he continues cancer treatment.
- ✠ Prayers of strength in leadership for **Bishop Elizabeth Eaton, Bishop Laurie Jungling, and Associate to the Bishop Rev. Brenda Frelsi.**

Update on Gustavo Driau, Representative to South America

Gustavo was admitted to the Intensive Care Unit in Argentina 45 days ago.

Gustavo had woken up on September 11th, he suffered another relapse from an infection, which lasted a week, but thanks to God and your prayers Gustavo managed to overcome it. Today Gustavo remains in the Coronary Unit but conscious and responds to questions by shaking his hands. He also continues in the process of breathing on his own and depending less on the ventilator. The most delicate thing at this moment continues to be the fluids in one of his lungs and in his kidneys. In this regard, he is being dialyzed daily and performing lung punctures on regular basis. Yesterday was Gustavo and Liliana's last son's birthday. They gathered together and celebrated such an important occasion. I got a photo from Liliana that shows Gustavo sitting on his bed enjoying the moment.

Gustavo, Liliana and the rest of their family appreciate your prayers and solidarity, while they still need our prayers, love and solidarity. "What shall we say in the face of this? If God is for us, who can be against us?" (Rom 8:31).

Thank You

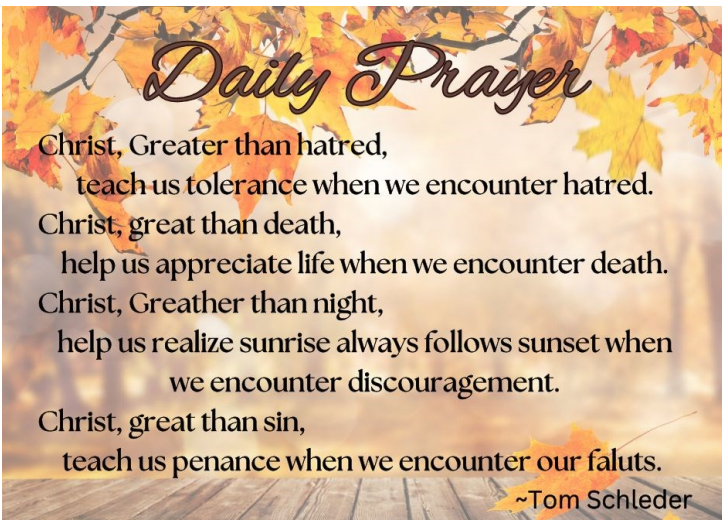
Special thanks to everyone who helped with Don Bisgard's Celebration of Life this past Saturday. Fourteen church members showed up to help with set-up, so we were done in record time. Seventeen members brought homemade sides, salads and desserts providing lots of selections of delicious food. Many helped with clean up which was much appreciated! It is such a blessing to be a member of this congregation. God bless you all. Patti Godtel



1ST MONDAY QUILTERS
October 7th, 2024
6:00 to 8:00 pm
New Hope Lutheran Church
3125 5th Avenue South
Great Falls MT 59405
Questions? 406-799-0100



JOIN US FOR A MAD FUNDRAISER
OCT 28th | 11AM - 9PM
20% OF ALL ORDERS PURCHASED WILL BE DONATED TO
Family Promise
of Great Falls
1710 10TH AVENUE SOUTH | GREAT FALLS, MT | (406) 315-3388 | TERIYAKIMADNESS.COM



Daily Prayer
Christ, Greater than hatred,
teach us tolerance when we encounter hatred.
Christ, great than death,
help us appreciate life when we encounter death.
Christ, Greather than night,
help us realize sunrise always follows sunset when
we encounter discouragement.
Christ, great than sin,
teach us penance when we encounter our faluts.
~Tom Schleder



Help Helping Hands raise \$7500 by the end of November and Town Pump will match dollar for dollar. Donations can be made directly to Helping Hands of Great Falls or you may donate to Helping Hands through your Bethel Giving (please note that it is for Helping Hands) and we will make sure the donations get passed along to them.



Friends in Christ:

Hurricane Helene hit the coast of Florida as a Category 4 hurricane on Sept. 26 and has ravaged communities in the southeast, from Florida to Virginia. As the floodwaters have started to recede, the extreme devastation — especially in North Carolina and Tennessee — has become clearer. Now, it is time to do what we do best: roll up our sleeves and get to work.

You've seen the news. Entire towns, roads and bridges have been washed away, and millions remain without power and cell service.

"We can't yet know what we're facing in terms of damage ... but I do know [this]," says the Rev. Timothy Smith, bishop of the North Carolina Synod. "Lutheran Disaster Response, in partnership with our synod, along with other helpers, will be there for the long haul, and we will rally around our congregations, camps and communities."

Lutheran Disaster Response has strong relationships in the region and is already at work on the ground. Working alongside synods and other partners, Lutheran Disaster Response is prepared to provide support throughout the impacted region.

"We are grateful for our partner Lutheran Disaster Response, which has provided support for our responses to the disasters this synod has experienced in the past and now has reached out to walk with us through this one," says the Rev. Morgan Gordy, assistant to the bishop for disaster ministry in the Southeastern Synod. "Please donate generously so that, together, we can provide the care and support needed for those families and communities affected by Hurricane Helene."

The impact of this storm will continue for years. Lutheran Disaster Response stays until the work is done — even when it takes weeks, months or years, and long after the storm has faded from the headlines. When you give to Lutheran Disaster Response, you provide crucial support and the flexibility to go where help is needed most.

By standing with disaster-impacted communities across the United States and around the world, we follow Christ's call to share hope and healing with our neighbors in need.

With gratitude,

The Rev. Daniel Rift
Director, ELCA Service and Justice Giving
ELCA World Hunger and Lutheran Disaster Response

Give online at [bethelmt.org/online giving](https://bethelmt.org/online-giving). Or [Click here to give directly to the ELCA](#). You may also put cash or check in the offering tray on Sunday, please note that it is to be directed to Lutheran Disaster Relief.

Maintenance Projects Complete

Thank you to the **Bethel Congregation** for voting to divert unused budget dollars to take care of some maintenance projects that needed to be done.

Thank you to **Dave's Tree Service** for a job well done trimming all the trees on our Bethel Property.

Thank you to **Jason Lindseth and Rocky Mountain Hardscapes** for converting the curb in the drop off area to a zero entry.

Thank you to **Warren Johnson** for switching the fluorescent lights in the Fellowship Hall to more energy efficient LED.

Thank you to **Randy and Ryan Gilbertson** for removing the counter in the Fellowship Hall giving more usable space for events.



Thank you



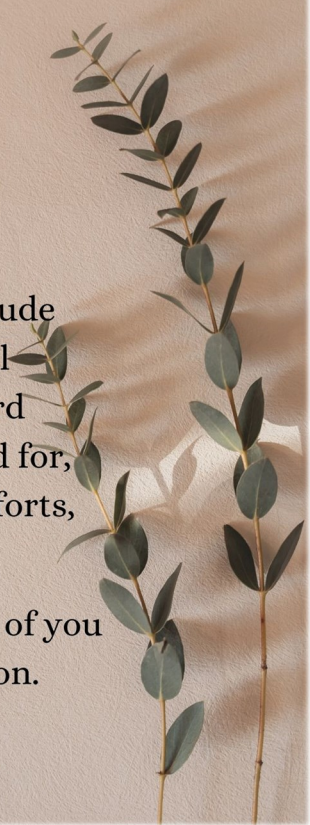
To my dear Bethel Family:

First of all, we know that God is good.

And then - words fail me in terms of the sincere gratitude that my daughters and I feel following Don's memorial service on Saturday, for the countless gifts of your hard work, your assistance with each and every favor asked for, which never failed to generate kind and thoughtful efforts, making our work so effortless.

Saying thank you is so simple, but deeply felt for each of you from each of us with hearts full of love and appreciation.

In faith and love,
Kathi Bisgard



GOSPEL MESSAGE

Relationships over Rules

This gospel reading is one that hits everyone's ears as uncomfortable. Divorce has touched the lives of most listeners in some way, whether it's themselves, parents, siblings, children, colleagues, or friends. We all know and understand the sting of pain that divorce can cause. Holding this pain and naming its vulnerability in our lives might just be exactly what Jesus is getting at in his reply to the Pharisees.



The Pharisees are testing Jesus once again. "Is it lawful . . . ?" Lawful, yes, but if that's the sole focus, we miss the point. It's not primarily about the law; it's about relationship. In Jesus' response to the Pharisees, he draws his listeners to the Creator and to relationships. Jesus points to Genesis, where God sets the intention for relationships to be filled with love, respect, and accountability. The law is there because we human beings fail to comprehend the value of relationships.

Jesus' seemingly absolute prohibition on divorce is not meant to justify staying in a harmful or toxic relationship—quite the opposite. He is challenging the Pharisees to understand the damage that is caused when we discard another human being. This hurt is the opposite of what God intends for our relationships.

Jesus continues to draw his hearers into the power of loving relationships by welcoming children and blessing them. One way to interpret his words is that one must receive the kingdom of God the way one receives a little child. How we treat each other matters to God. God invites us into relationships to see the belovedness in one another, to uplift each other, and to care for one another. When a person is vulnerable like a child, this is exactly when we are to share grace and love, not the sting of law.

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JUST 4 YOUTH

Blessings from Jesus

Mark 10:2-16

JESUS

BLESSED

Use the word shapes around the page to complete the story about Jesus and the children. Match the shapes and print the correct word in each space.

People were bringing their children to to be .

HANDS

The disciples sternly sent the parents and their children away.

When saw what had happened he scolded the disciples and said, "Let the children come to . The kingdom of belongs to them.

"Unless you enter kingdom of like a child you will not come in."

took the children in his , laid his on them, and them.

ARMS



We can see how Jesus loved the children. Jesus loves us too. Can you find 11 hearts in the picture? Circle each heart.



When do you see and hear the pastor giving God's blessing to people during worship? (Hint: Watch as the pastor makes the sign of the cross or places a hand on the head of the person receiving the blessing.)

Worship blessings

Each week we receive a blessing in worship. The pastor gives us a blessing from God when worship is ending. It is called the *benediction*.

Print or draw a blessing from God that begins with each letter of the word *benediction*. God's blessings are all around us.

B
E
N
E
D
I
C
T
I
O
N



Dear Lord, we are amazed at your many blessings. Thank you for making us your children. Amen

This week

Read Psalm 8 at home. Put the psalm to music with your own composing or write a psalm of praise in your own words.

Welcome to worship.

God created all things: animals, birds, and every living thing including human beings like us. We are all created with great love and care. Even the smallest details of human life are in God's hands.

Trace your own hand in the space above. Draw in as much detail as possible. Our hands and our whole bodies are amazing creations from God.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Tuesday, 10/8

- Electric City Bible Study on Zoom 7:00 am
- Men's Breakfast in the Fellowship Hall 7:00 am
- TLC Staff Meeting in the Gathering Place 6:00 pm

Wednesday, 10/9

- LOGOs Youth Ministry 5:30 pm; High School 6:30 pm

Thursday, 10/10

- Exec Board meeting 6:00 pm
- Electric City Chorale rehearsal 6:00 pm

Friday, 10/11

- Office Closed
- Yom Kippur worship begins at 6:00 pm

Saturday, 10/12

- Yom Kippur worship from 9:00 am to 9:00 pm

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday 10/13

- Worship led by Jim Carlson, LMA in person and live stream 9:30 am
- Jubilate Choir will sing
- World Hunger Sunday
- Adult Forum Book Study in the Fellowship Hall following worship

Tuesday, 10/15

- Electric City Bible Study on Zoom 7:00 am
- Men's Breakfast in the Fellowship Hall 7:00 am
- Council Meeting in the Fellowship Hall 6:00 pm

Wednesday, 10/16

- NO LOGOs Youth Ministry

Friday, 10/18

- 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 loli51gus@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 in the Fellowship Hall Tuesday mornings at 7:00 am. Contact Dave Scholten at dscholten1118@gmail.com for more information.

Hope Circle—in person

This group meets once a month usually on Tuesday or Thursday afternoons. 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 in October

Preaching And Presiding at Bethel

October 6th Pastor Jessica Crist

October 13th Jim Carlson, LMA

October 20th Pastor Sara MacGilvra-Branom

October 27th Dave Scholten, LMA

November 3rd Jim Carlson, LMA

November 10th TBD

November 17th TBD

November 24th Pastor Sara MacGilvra-Branom

December 1st TBD

December 8th Jim Carlson, LMA