

BETHEL NOTES

THIS SUNDAY

Readings:

First Reading:
Acts 2:1-21

Psalm:
Psalm 104:24-34, 35b

Second Reading:
Romans 8:22-27

Gospel Reading:
John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15

Serving Sunday

Accompanist
Connie Titcomb, Piano

Lay Assistant
Sandy Pepos

Usher
Laurie Turner

Tech
Gabe Smith

Projection
Tim Lightbourne

Children's Church
Ava Fossen
Julia Elkin

Hospitality
AnneRose Rogers

Counters
Patty Braget
Laurie Turner



This Sunday at Bethel...

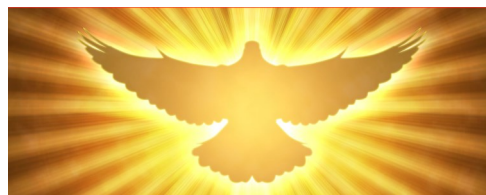
We celebrate the **Day of Pentecost**.

We welcome and thank **Dave Scholten**, **LPA** presiding in worship this morning. Jim has been authorized by the Bishop of the Montana Synod to provide pastoral services in this congregation this Sunday.

Thank you to **Jubilate Choir led by Jeff Skogley** for performing in worship this morning.

After worship today we begin season three of our **Adult Forum** on The Chosen. All are welcome to join at any time.

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



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*Lord,
in your mercy
hear our prayers.*

- ✠ Prayers of healing for **Kathleen**, *friend of Dena Wagner-Fossen*, as she continues medical testing at Mayo Clinic.
- ✠ Prayers of support and comfort to **Jen**, *friend of Dena Wagner-Fossen*, whose husband just passed from cancer.
- ✠ Prayers of strength and support for **Don Bisgard** as he receives radiation treatments for recurrence of cancer.
- ✠ Prayers of continued healing for **Eric Peterson** as he receives chemotherapy that has slowed the progression of cancer growth.
- ✠ Prayers of healing for **Georgia Miller**, *cousin of Amber Erickson's*, as she has been going through treatment for breast cancer and is doing well. Hoping to only have a couple more treatments to go.
- ✠ Prayers of healing for **Sharon Bossie** as she manages chemotherapy treatments.
- ✠ Prayers of healing for **Broc Cole**, *child of a friend of Ali Morris*, as he battles lymphoma.
- ✠ Prayers of healing for **Shannon Obrecht**, *family friend of Karen Lord*, as she manages treatment for cancer.
- ✠ Prayers of healing for **Kristin**, *Bobbie Bowen's daughter*, as she continues treatment for cancer.
- ✠ Prayers of support and comfort for **Pat Berkeley**.
- ✠ Prayers of healing for **Dick Seim** as he continues regaining his strength.
- ✠ Prayers of healing for **Alex Bostic** as he continues to manage his health.
- ✠ Prayers of strength in leadership for **Gustavo Driau**, Regional Representative of South America.
- ✠ Prayers of healing for **Ed Pottratz** as he continues cancer treatment.

Lord Jesus,
thank you for
being the
ultimate healer
and bringing
wholeness to
body and soul.
Amen

CALL COMMITTEE UPDATE

The wonderful members of the Call Committee would like to provide a little feedback on the results of the survey we sent out about a month ago now. This information was vital in completing the MSP. The top 5 skills that our congregation feels is most important for a new pastor are below in order of importance:

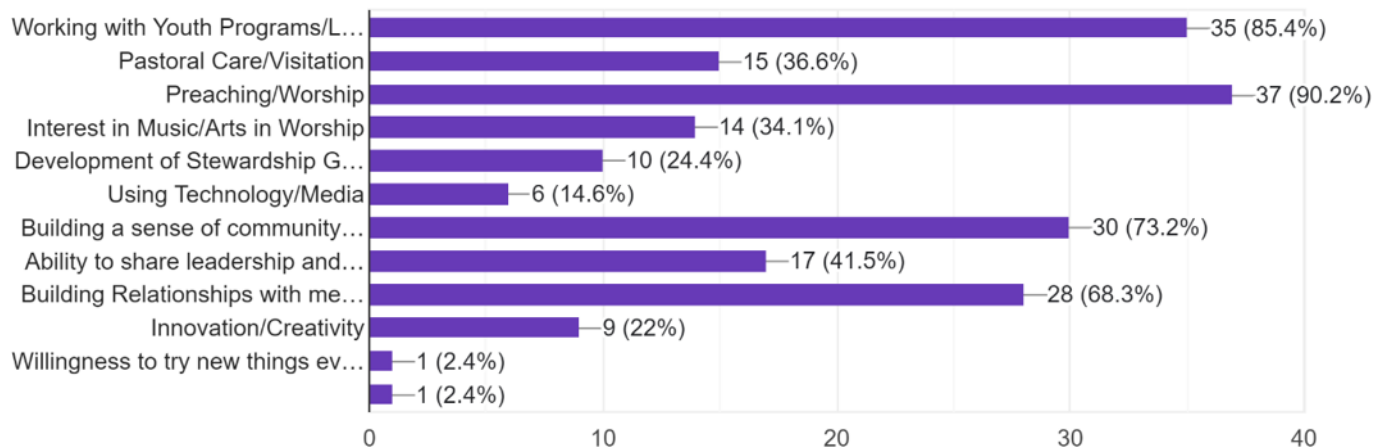
- 1) Preaching/Worship
- 2) Working with youth programs/LOGOS
- 3) Building a sense of community within Bethel
- 4) Building relationships with members of Bethel
- 5) Ability to share leadership and work in a team

We thank everyone who took the time to fill this out, we were blown away by many of the responses.

Blessings,
Bethel Call Committee

Please select 5 skills below that you feel are the most important for the call committee to look for in selecting a new pastor. Please select only your top 5.

41 responses



**American
Red Cross**

Blood Drive at Bethel

July 15th

**Sign Up to give blood.
More details to come.**



of Great Falls

May 2024 Newsletter

Life is as unpredictable as the weather in Montana. Change is inevitable, and necessary for growth. We've been experiencing lots of changes here at Family Promise Great Falls. The office has only been getting busier, and we've seen lots of new families. It is a reminder that our goal of increasing our shelter capacity would help us to better serve our community and the families we work with.

2nd annual SOC HOP

We wish to thank everyone who donated for, or attended, our 2nd annual SOC HOP. The evening was a success, and we raised close to **\$16,500** for the families we serve! This success is only possible because of the hard work of our volunteers, and the generosity of our community. We are so blessed, and we appreciate everyone involved. We're already talking about plans for next year, and we welcome any suggestions you might have for improvement.

Case Manager Position Open

We are now accepting resumes for a part-time case manager. Position description and details are available on our website at www.familypromisegf.org. Pay is D.O.E. and the schedule is typically Monday through Friday, with some weekends required for special events and activities.

Promise Place Shelter

This month we'd like to tell you a bit about one of our shelter families. A single father with a teenage daughter, this family traveled here from out of state. The father had heard that Montana was a good place to raise children, and so once he gained custody of his daughter, they sold everything they owned and boarded a train west. They stopped in Shelby and made their way to Great Falls. They secured a hotel room, and he enrolled his daughter in school. The teenage daughter is on the autism spectrum and nonverbal. She had been badly neglected before her father stepped in and took custody, and her teeth were rotten to the point of causing severe pain while eating. Her father hoped that now that they had gotten away, they could start rebuilding their lives together. Fortune smiled upon them, as Lee Houle with the GFPS system connected them to Family Promise. The day the father arrived in our office he was desperate; they had run out of funds and the bill was due at the hotel that afternoon. If he couldn't pay, they faced sleeping on the streets that night. Family Promise paid the bill and a few nights extra, as a shelter unit was coming available in just a few days. The family was accepted into the shelter program and got moved in the following week. The father has worked tirelessly towards their goals of income, healthcare, and housing. He's secured insurance for his daughter, whose teeth are now in the care of a reputable dentist. We are proud to report that this family is thriving and looking forward to the summer months. The family is visited weekly by one of the office staff, and the father and his daughter are often caught smiling and happy. He is awaiting approval for housing, and in the meantime is now being paid to provide care for his daughter. We look forward to continuing their journey towards stable housing, and we see nothing but a bright future for them both.

Our Valuable Volunteers

We are blessed with the time and talents of some amazing people, and we are so grateful for them. We are always looking for new volunteers to join us in our mission, and we welcome you to stop by our office to learn how you can help us to serve our community.

Give Great Falls Week

From everyone at Family Promise Great Falls, we thank everyone who so generously supported our campaign this year. We raised **\$1,465** this year, which was **59%** of our \$2,500 goal. Thank you for making this another successful campaign, and for your ongoing support. Donations fund our programs and services, and directly support homeless children and their families in our community.

Together is the Way

We recently met with members of PCAN (Prevent Child Abuse Network) and learned about how we can work together to prevent child abuse and neglect in our community. We always look forward to working together as partners with organizations who are improving our community, and we believe that together we can do more.

Batter Up!

Sunday, August 11th we'll be cheering on our hometown Voyagers at Centene Stadium and hope that you'll join us. We're going to be selling tickets for the game soon, and \$5 from every ticket sold will benefit the families we serve. It promises to be a great game for a great cause, so come out and help us cheer on the Voyagers!

For more Family Promise news follow us on Facebook at Family Promise Great Falls or visit our website at www.familypromisegf.org

MAY 19TH
2:00 PM

SUNDAY

Live Music

PERFORMANCE BY
ELECTRIC CITY CHORALE

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
610 2ND AVENUE NORTH, GREAT FALLS

**The Earth is full
of the goodness
of the Lord'**
- Psalm 33:5



Job Opening

Family Promise of Great Falls is looking for a part-time case manager.

The Case Manager connect clients with resources and services to assist them in resolving their immediate basic needs and establish housing plans.

For detailed information regarding this position call Greg Grosenick at 406-590-2610. For more information about Family Promise check out their website www.familypromisegf.org.

GOSPEL MESSAGE

After the Wind and Fire

Jesus had his own way of urging hearers to “not miss the forest for the trees.” Recall some of his familiar lines: “You strain out a gnat but swallow a camel” (Matthew 23:24), “Do you have eyes, and fail to see? Do you have ears, and fail to hear?” (Mark 8:18), or “Why do you see the speck in your neighbor’s eye, but do not notice the log in your own eye?” (Luke 6:41). Look deeply. Listen carefully. Then pay attention to what is most important.



Attention-grabbing as the wonders on the Day of Pentecost may be—a house filled with rushing wind, tongues of fire alighting on the heads of apostles, and the whirling of alien languages from stupefied mouths—take care to not let their bewildering extraordinariness blunt the true and greater wonder of this gospel event: the Advocate comes.

All the times and events of Jesus’ life—among close followers, watchers from afar, believers as well as doubters; the astounding miracles, puzzling parables, curious teachings, and scandalous associations—were for one purpose only: to open to all of them, to the whole world, the mercy and love of God.

But Jesus will not be at hand for long in the room, at the table, on the road and hillside, at the temple or synagogue, in the boat. The sound of his voice will become a memory; the image of his face will fade from sight. So, what happens when the hopeful days with Jesus end?

The Advocate comes! Yes, we retell the story now of an extraordinary moment of one ancient day on Pentecost, but oh, the greater, true gospel wonder is the ever-extraordinary presence of Jesus’ Spirit bringing us hope and the way of God’s mercy and love meant for, given to, and enduring in the world forever. Pray that we have eyes to see it and ears to hear of it.

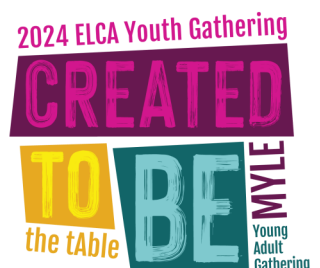
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Thanks A Million!!!

The kids attending the ELCA Youth Gathering would like to extend a huge thank you for all the generous donations towards the yard sale. We had a fantastic day, raising over \$2,500 towards our trip.

These funds put us one step closer to reaching our goal of \$17,800. To date, we have raised \$13,864 with only \$3,936 to go!

Laissez les bons temps rouler!!






JUST 4 YOUTH

Jesus' promise

John 15:26-27, 16:4b-15, Acts 2:1-21

Jesus promised to send God's Holy Spirit to guide his disciples and to show them what is true. On the day of Pentecost, that's exactly what happened. Jesus' disciples were together in a house when suddenly a loud, rushing wind filled the room, and something that looked like flames touched each of their heads. The disciples began to speak in many languages, that the people from different countries could understand. They were telling everyone about Jesus! It was an exciting day.



God's Spirit is here! Search the picture for a  and a , symbols of God's Holy Spirit, then draw a  above each of the disciples' heads, and draw people gathering outside the house. Draw yourself in the picture, because *you too* have the gift of the Spirit.

Welcome to worship.

Happy Pentecost to you, Happy Pentecost to you, God's Spirit is here, Happy Pentecost to you! (After church, try singing those words to the tune of "Happy Birthday to You.")

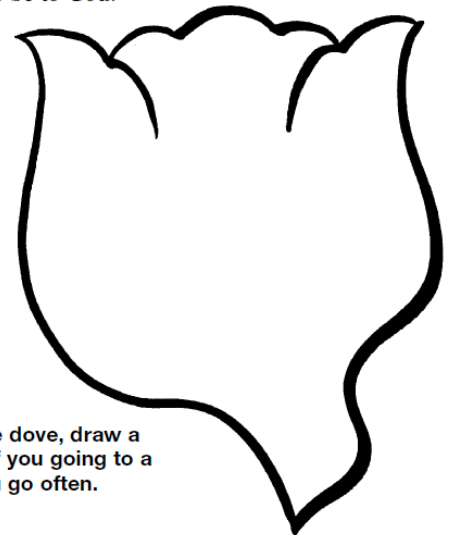
It is Pentecost, the day we celebrate the birthday of the church. It's the day God's Spirit came to be with Jesus' followers. Look around. Is there one color you see a lot of?



Decorate this Pentecost birthday cake with as many candles as you can fit on it, then imagine what it would be like if all the candles were lit.

God goes with you

God's love goes with you everywhere you go, because God's Spirit is always with you. You are never alone. Thanks be to God!



Inside the dove, draw a picture of you going to a place you go often.

God's Spirit goes with me to _____.



Thanks, Jesus, for sending your Spirit to be with me everyday. Amen

This week

How do you feel God's Spirit blowing each and every day?

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

THIS WEEK

Tuesday 5/21

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

Friday 5/24

- Bethel office is closed.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday 5/26

- Worship service led by Jim Carlson, LPA in person and live stream at 9:30 am
- Senior Graduation Blessing
- Adult Forum The Chosen Season 3 in the Fellowship Hall following worship

Monday 5/27

- Memorial Day, Bethel Office is closed

Tuesday 5/28

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

Friday 5/31

- Bethel office is 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

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 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.

On hold until September

Preaching And Presiding at Bethel

May 19th	Dave Scholten, LPA
May 26th	Jim Carlson, LPA
June 2nd	Hymn Sing led by Patrick and Lynn Ryan
June 9th	Jim Carlson, LPA
June 16th	Dave Scholten, LPA
June 23rd	Pastor Sara Branom
June 30th	TBD
July 7th	TBD
July 14th	Jim Carlson, LPA