

BETHEL NOTES

THIS SUNDAY

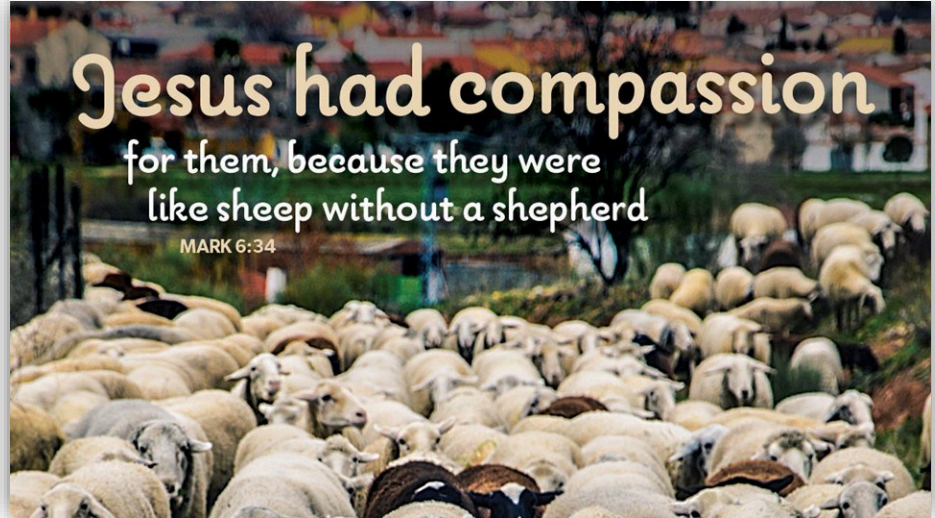
Readings:

First Reading:
Jeremiah 23:1-6

Psalm:
Psalm 23

Second Reading:
Ephesians 2:11-22

Gospel Reading:
Mark 6:30-34, 53-56



Announcements...

Inside this issue:

This Sunday we are worshipping in a combined worship service at **Redeemer Lutheran Church at 10:00 am**, Pastor Steve Nelson is leading worship.

Monday begins our **VBS Day Camp**. Opening worship is at 9:00 am and closing worship is at 1:00 pm. All are welcome to join in the fun!

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Youth Gathering Shenanigans! Austin Kupfner, Ryan Gilbertson, Kyle Gilbertson, Kian Ryan and Ainsley Kubas. Check out our Facebook page for more pictures from the Gathering!

*Lord,
in your mercy
hear our prayers.*



- ✝ Prayers of safety for the **firefighters and support personnel** who are called to duty this fire season.
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Sandi Cummings** as she recovers at home from surgery.
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Stephanie Cummings** as she has an MRI for torn meniscus and determines the best treatment.
- ✝ Prayers of healing and support for **Carrie O'Brien** as she prepares for ankle joint replacement surgery scheduled for August 12th.
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Charlie Hill**, *friend of Jeanne Rankin*, who has had brain surgery and will be receiving radiation treatments in Houston, TX.
- ✝ Prayers of comfort and support for **Don and Kathi Bisgard** as Don's cancer has progressed and treatment is not an option.
- ✝ Prayers of healing **Shelly Murphy** who was recovering from a recent hospitalization.
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Dick Seim** as who is home and continues to regain strength.
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Shannon Obrecht**, *family friend of Karen Lord*, as she experiences complications with cancer treatment.
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Kathleen**, *friend of Dena Wagner-Fossen*, as she continues medical testing at Mayo Clinic.
- ✝ Prayers of continued healing for **Eric Peterson** as he receives chemotherapy that has slowed the progression of cancer growth.
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Broc Cole**, *child of a friend of Ali Morris*, as he battles lymphoma.
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Kristin**, *Bobbie Bowen's daughter*, as she continues treatment for cancer.
- ✝ 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 **Gustavo Driau**, Regional Representative of South America, **Bishop Elizabeth Eaton**, **Bishop Laurie Jungling**, and **Associate to the Bishop Rev. Brenda Frelsi**.

Voting Member Special Meeting Announcement

In light of a surplus in some areas of our budget (ie. Pastor's salary), the Budget Committee would like to move some allotted funds to other areas of the budget where we may need more than we originally budgeted. For example, building and maintenance. We will be sending out the specific changes in the upcoming weeks, but will need to meet and vote to approve these changes. This meeting will be August 18th following worship at 10:30 am. We do need a 32 member quorum for this meeting. Please look for a special email with budget changes in the next two weeks.



**American
Red Cross**

**Successful Blood
Drive At Bethel!**

On Monday, July 15th we held our first Red Cross Blood Drive at Bethel. We had 15 people come in to donate and 16 units were drawn—one donor was able to donate 2 units! We had a goal of 15 units and we beat it!

Scott Shanahan with the Red Cross and the staff who worked the drive were very happy with the results, the space, and encouraged us to run another drive in the future. Of the 15 donors, 9 are Bethel members and 6 community people signed up after searching for a local drive on the Red Cross site.

We did not know at the time, but the Red Cross is holding a special promotion for sponsors who host a blood drive in July or August and make their goal. Bethel will receive a \$100 Amazon gift card because we made the goal!

Thank you to all who donated for this vital national need. A special thank you to Tammy Good for contacting the Red Cross, setting up the draw, promoting the event and volunteering the entire day to make this so very successful.

A promotional banner for Redeemer Lutheran Church. The top part features a blue background with white text: "Combined Worship at Redeemer Lutheran Church 332 Riverview 3 W July 21st at 10:00 am". Below this, the church's name "Redeemer Lutheran Church" is written in a blue script font. To the right, there is a logo for Bethel Lutheran Church, which includes a stylized cross and the text "God calls us God transforms us God sends us BETHEL Lutheran Church".

Combined Worship at
Redeemer Lutheran Church
332 Riverview 3 W
July 21st at 10:00 am

Redeemer
Lutheran Church

God calls us
God transforms us
God sends us
BETHEL
Lutheran Church

“God’s work. Our hands.”



Join us for a day of service!

September 8, 2024

If you know of an organization who would like to be recipient of a service project or if you have an idea for a service project for those who to do a project here at Bethel reach out to the Bethel Office 406-761-1543 or bethelgf.church@gmail.com

Our congregation will soon engage in service work right here in our community. We are one of over 8,700 congregations participating in “God’s work. Our hands.” day of service. Across the country, thousands of members will engage in service work to make a positive change in our communities, build and deepen relationships and share God’s love. Join us as we do God’s work with our hands!



The Kroger Family of Companies is committed to community engagement, positive social impact and charitable giving at the national and local levels. Every community is unique, but our common goal is to partner with the neighborhoods we serve and help the people there live healthier lives.

One of the ways in which we do this is through our Smith’s Inspiring Donations. This program makes fundraising easy by donating to local organizations based on the shopping you do every day. Once you link your Card to an organization, all you have to do is shop at Smith’s and swipe your Shopper’s Card.

1. Create a digital
2. Link your Smith’s Rewards Card to Bethel by using the code LC427 or look up Bethel Lutheran Church

Every time you shop at Smith’s with your Rewards Card, they donate 0.5% of your total order. This is paid by Smith’s Food and Drug and does not effect the overall cost of your order.

Go to Smith’s Food and Drug Inspiring Donations or [click this link](#) to be connected.

GOSPEL MESSAGE

Sacred Rest

The action-packed book of Mark may serve as an important reminder that faith is an embodied reality, shaping how we live, move, and interact in this world. An active faith looks like an unapologetic pursuit of justice, mercy, and healing for all in need. There was and still is no shortage of work to be done in the name of Christ. So, what do we make of Jesus' invitation to "come away . . . and rest awhile"?



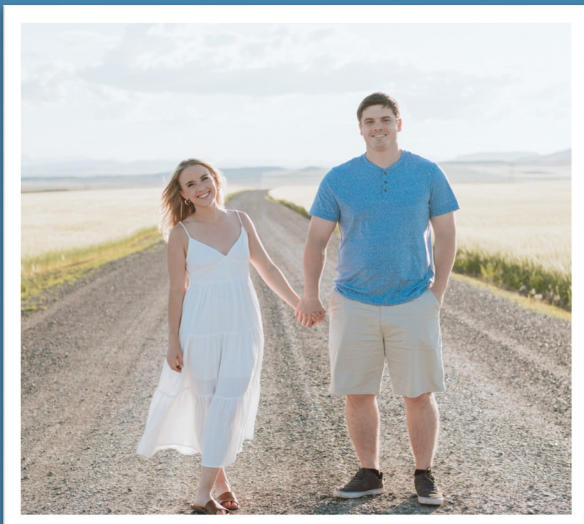
In a society that values hustle and productivity above all else, true rest is profoundly countercultural. And yet, rest as a discipline has much to teach us about faith and life. Perhaps most importantly, rest reminds us that we are not God. It requires faith that God is still making all things new even while we step back for our own healing and nourishment. Rest reminds us that we do not bear the salvation of the world on our shoulders. This is good news!

Additionally, taking time to rest has the potential to restore us to community, by reminding us of our rightful place in the body of Christ. We are but one part among many, which allows us to approach our work with more freedom and joy than we ever could alone. We are called to do the work of ministry in community: we all alternate rest, work, and play so that, collectively, we can move toward liberation for all God's beloved creation.

We may find this sacred rest in many places, but perhaps one such instance is in worship. Here, we come away to be with our God and each other. We feast together. We celebrate, contemplate, and praise. We remember who we are and whose we are. And then, rested and nourished, we are sent back out—to go in peace, to share the good news, and to continue to serve our neighbors in Christ's name.

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Congratulations to Payton Sexe and Erica Gettis on their upcoming wedding, July 27th. We are so very happy for you and wish you the happiest of marriages.

Adult Forum Book Study Begins August 4th



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In *Future Faith: Ten Challenges Reshaping the Practice of Christianity*, author Wesley Granberg-Michaelson provides a lucid view of how the top ten winds of change blowing through global Christian faith are reshaping the practice of Christianity today. He is uniquely qualified to identify and interpret connection points between global Christian trends and the American church.

Drawing on the stories, examples, and personalities of pastors and congregations from throughout the U.S. as well as those from Africa, Asia, Latin America, who are the faces of Christianity's future, *Future Faith* is designed to inform and empower followers of Jesus to seek new ways of becoming the face of Christ to a rapidly changing world.

Leaders and practitioners in church growth, renewal, and planting will be a primary audience for this book. Students of religion from Catholic, evangelical, Pentecostal, and historic Protestant streams will find this book an informative and stimulating resource for pondering together the future of their faith. Small groups engaged in congregational nurture and growth will find in the author a welcome companion for guiding them through the multi-cultural landscape of contemporary faith.

Colter McCarty will facilitate this book study. Each week we will cover one chapter in the book and participants will take turns leading the discussion regarding their chapter. Only those who would like to lead will be asked to lead, there is no obligation for those who opt out of leading the discussion.

We will be Sunday, August 4th after worship and continue through October 6th.

If you would like to participate in the study, Bethel will order the books, the cost to cover the book is \$13.50 and you may sign up in the narthex or email Tami in the Bethel Office to get a book ordered for you. You are welcome to pick up the book on your own if you wish.

If you have any questions please contact Tami in the Bethel Office.

JUST 4 YOUTH

The straight truth

God's prophets speak the truth to God's people.

Bring these people through the maze to God's truth. Follow the arrows to find the right path.



John the Baptist was killed by King Herod for being a prophet.

| | | | | | | | |
|---|---------|-------|------------------|-------|-------|--------|----------|
| | → | ↗ | → | Amos | ↓ | ← | ↓ |
| ↑ | Isaiah | ↓ | ↑ | ← | ↓ | Elijah | ↑ |
| ↓ | ← | ← | JOHN THE BAPTIST | ↑ | ← | → | Jeremiah |
| → | ↓ | Jonah | → | → | JESUS | → | ↓ |
| ↓ | ↔ | → | ↑ | Hosea | ↓ | Joel | ← |
| ← | Ezekiel | ↑ | ↓ | ← | → | → | |

Amos was a prophet who told the people of Israel the straight truth from God, even when people didn't want to hear it.

GOD'S TRUTH

Jesus told the straight truth to many people. They didn't want to hear it because it would make them change the way they lived. So Jesus was crucified and died. But we know that Jesus lives again. We still look to Jesus to find the straight truth for our lives.

What do you hear?

God speaks to us through the things we hear at worship: the words, the music, and even sometimes when it's quiet. Draw one or two pictures of something that you hear today in worship.

Welcome to worship.
Amos saw a vision of God holding a plumb line, ready to "measure the actions" of the people of Israel.

Plumb line – a weight hung from a string that's used to judge the straightness of a wall or building, or the depth of water.

You and one other person take turns connecting two dots next to each other with straight lines. Two lines are drawn for you. If your line completes a square put your initial inside the square. How many boxes did you make?

I will listen to what the Lord God is saying. Psalm 83:8

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

THIS WEEK

Monday 7/22

- VBS Day Camp begins 9:00 am to 1:30 pm, office open until 3:30 pm; Registration opens at 8:30 am.

Tuesday 7/23

- Electric City Bible Study Zoom at 7:00 am
- VBS Day Camp 9:00 am to 1:30 pm, office open until 3:30 pm

Wednesday 7/24

- VBS Day Camp 9:00 am to 1:30 pm, office closed at 2:00 pm
- Counselor/Junior Counselor service project 2:00 pm
- Counselor/Junior Counselor event 6:00 pm

Thursday 7/25

- VBS Day Camp 9:00 am to 1:30 pm, office open until 3:30 pm
- Family Program and carnival 6:00 to 8:00 pm

Friday 7/26

- Bethel office is closed.
- VBS Day Camp last day 9:00 am to 1:30 pm

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday 7/28

- Worship led by Dave Scholten, LPA in person and online at 9:30 am, special blessing and sending for Christopher Gleason.

Monday 7/29

- Bethel Office Closed

Tuesday 7/30

- Electric City Bible Study Zoom at 7:00 am

Friday 8/2

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

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.

On hold until September

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

| | |
|---------------|---------------------------------|
| July 21st | Joint worship at Redeemer |
| July 28th | Dave Scholten |
| August 4th | Dave Scholten |
| August 11th | Jim Carlson, LPA |
| August 18th | Hymn Sing with the Ryans |
| August 25th | Pastor Sara MacGilvra Branom |
| September 1st | Pastor Jessica Crist |
| September 8th | God's Work Sunday |