

BETHEL NOTES

THIS SUNDAY

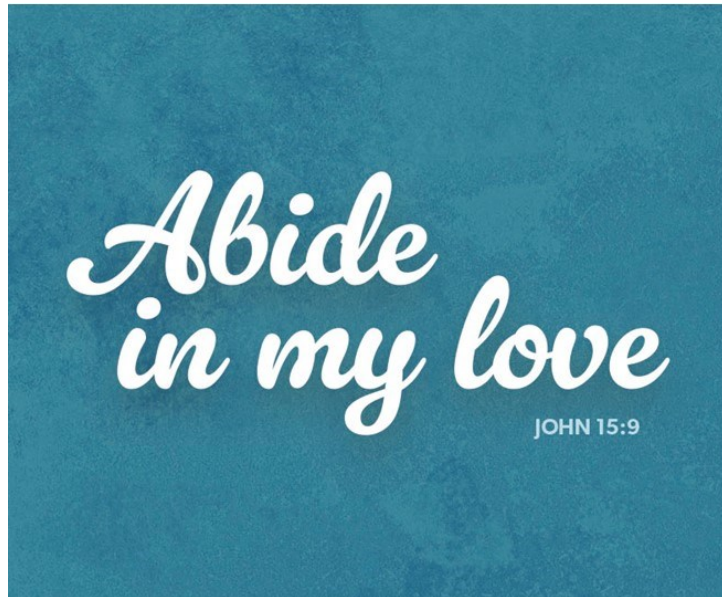
Readings:

First Reading:
Acts 10:44-48

Psalm:
Psalm 98

Second Reading:
1 John 5:1-6

Gospel Reading:
John 15:9-17



Serving Sunday

Accompanist

Connie Titcomb, piano;

Lay Assistant

Kolton Kupfner

Usher

Laurie Turner

Readers

Ethan Kupfner, Greta Graft, Charley Goroski, Taitlyn Ames, Josie Delorit, Renee Delorit, Kari Ryan, Kendall Ryan, Ellie Kosanda

Tech

Gabe Smith

Projection

Colter McCarty

Children's Church

Julia Elkin and Addi Carlson

Hospitality

Bethel Lutheran Church

Counters

Stephanie Cummings and Randy Gilbertson

This Sunday at Bethel...

We celebrate the **Sixth Sunday of Easter**.

We welcome and thank **Pastor Jessica Crist** for preaching and presiding in worship .

Thank you to our **LOGOs Youth** for assisting in leading worship.

Thank you to **The Jubilate Choir led by Jeff Skogley** for singing this Sunday..

HUGS Ministry meeting after worship.

ELCA Youth Gathering Parent Meeting in the Fellowship Hall after worship.

After worship today we continue our **Adult Forum** on the second season of The Chosen.

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

*Lord,
in your mercy
hear our prayers.*



- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Earl Terwilliger** as he prepares for eye surgery on May 6th.
- ✝ Prayers of thanks for **Corey Korpela** who has finished treatment with good test results.
- ✝ Prayers of healing for **Kathleen**, *friend of Dena Wagner-Fossen*, as she has been released from the hospital, but still awaiting next steps.
- ✝ Prayers of continued healing for **Eric Peterson** as he receives chemotherapy that has slowed the progression of cancer growth.
- ✝ Prayers of strength and support for **Don Bisgard** as he has a recurrence of cancer and they determine best treatment options.
- ✝ 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 and health for **Seth Boucher** who is recovering from surgery.
- ✝ 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 support and healing for **Cindy Considine** as she moves to be closer to her family while she continues to regain strength.
- ✝ Prayers of positive results for **Tim Olson**, as he has one follow up medical test, post cancer treatment.
- ✝ 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 and answers for **Anna Boucher** as they determine a cause and treatment for seizures.
- ✝ 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.

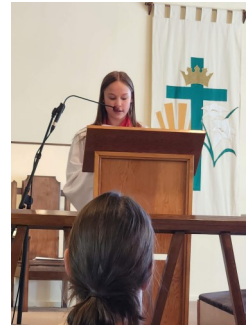
CONFIRMATION 2024!



Jeremiah Mueller



Teagan Hegdal



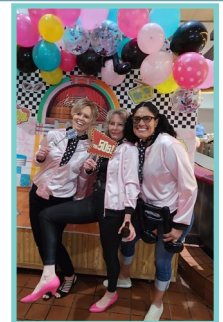
Josie Delorit



Ella Woldtvedt



Julia Woldtvedt



Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women (MMIW)

May is Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women Awareness Month. While the problem of any missing or murdered person is tragic, the fact remains Indigenous women are two and a half times more likely than others to experience violent crimes. Homicide is the #3 leading cause of death for Indigenous women 10-24 years old, and the #5 leading cause of death for Indigenous women 25-34. There are 52 missing persons in Montana, half of whom have gone missing in the past year. The ELCA is committed to addressing MMIW, through education, advocacy and support. Look for more information at www.elca.org/indigenous.



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.

Bethel - Thank You

Thank you for supporting the combined service that we had for our confirmation students. It was very meaningful to worship together and celebrate this next step in the faith journey of our youth. We loved having your added voices to the music and your attendance at the potluck.

Blessings and peace to all of you,
Redeemer Lutheran Church



New Hope Lutheran Church
3125 5th Avenue South
Great Falls MT 59405

The First Monday Night Quilters will meet 6-8 p.m.,
May 6, 2024,

New Hope Lutheran Church,

3125 5th Avenue South.
Please use the alley door.
See you May 6.

Questions?

Call 799-0100.



Playing on Sunday, May 12th.

Rehearsal will be Saturday,

May 11th from 10 am to Noon.

If you would like to play in the Bell Choir,
email Sharon Mueller at

oboeclar@gmail.com by Tuesday, May 7th

Yard Sale!!!

Saturday, May 11th

8:00 am to Noon

Bethel Lutheran Church Parking Lot

All proceeds go to cover travel expenses for the ELCA Youth Gathering!

Donations for the Yard Sale Desired!

If you are doing some spring cleaning in your home and have items you would like to donate to the Yard Sale, please bring them to Bethel anytime before May 11th.

If you have larger items or are unable to get the items dropped off, contact Tami in the Bethel Office and we will coordinate a pick up time.

406-761-1543 or 406-788-9587

You may also email

bethelgf.church@gmail.com



GOSPEL MESSAGE



The Unconditional Love of Disciple-Friends

Friend requests are a common feature of Facebook and similar digital platforms. When it comes to social media, “friends” are just a click away. But there is no automatic guarantee of accountability, warmth, relationship, or true belonging in a virtual community. In stark contrast, Jesus invites the disciples to become part of a community where selfless, sacrificial, unconditional *agape* love is the core criterion. The kingdom, or “kin-dom,” of God is present wherever God’s people are affirmed as children of God and siblings in Christ. But Jesus gives his disciples an additional identity: that of “friends.”

In the new status Jesus confers on his disciples, the single most important criterion is love, including the readiness to lay down one’s life for another. Jesus has just taught this lesson by example when he washed the feet of his disciples, including Judas Iscariot. The new commandment to love one another as Jesus loved us summarizes the whole of the gospel mandate. It is not an easy commandment by any human standards, but it is possible because Jesus himself showed us the way and forgives us when we fall short. The status of “disciple-friends” is not a request for the church, but a faith mandate.

How can we live as disciple-friends of Jesus in this world? When we believe, trust, obey, and follow the word, and the new commandment Jesus gave his disciples, a real new community is born. When we learn to embrace the other—those who are marginalized and “othered”—we partner with God in enabling the image of God to blossom to its fullest.

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**DID SOMEONE SAY
VOLUNTEER?!!
YES!!**

If you are interested in helping with VBS this year, let Tami Grosenick know. We need help with kitchen, arts and crafts, first aid, registration/check in and check out. If you can be there one day or the whole week, we would love to see you!



**VBS DAY CAMP 2024
July 22nd to 26th
9:00 am to 1:30 pm**

JUST 4 YOUTH

Ways to love

Congregations of people everywhere share Jesus' love in all kinds of ways. Offerings are given, food and clothing collected, quilts are made, prayers said, and homes are built.

Circle all the ways your congregation shares Jesus' love.



How else does your congregation share Jesus' love?

Jesus' new commandment

John 15:9-17

Jesus and his friends, the disciples, did everything together. They ate, played, worked, and cared for others. Jesus was a wonderful teacher, and he taught them many things about God. One day when Jesus was with his friends, he gave them a new commandment. This is what Jesus said.

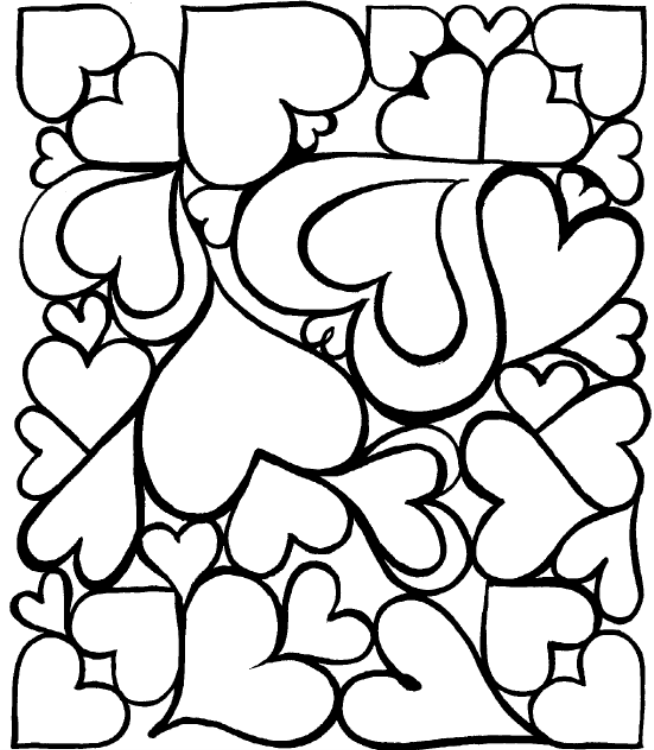
Color in the boxes with hearts, and discover Jesus' new commandment.

♥	L	♥	O	V	♥	E	♥	♥
♥	♥	O	N	♥	E	♥	♥	♥
A	N	♥	O	T	H	♥	E	R
♥	♥	A	♥	♥	♥	S	♥	♥
♥	♥	♥	I	♥	♥	♥	♥	♥
H	♥	A	♥	♥	V	E	♥	♥
L	O	♥	♥	V	E	♥	D	♥
♥	♥	♥	Y	♥	O	♥	U	♥

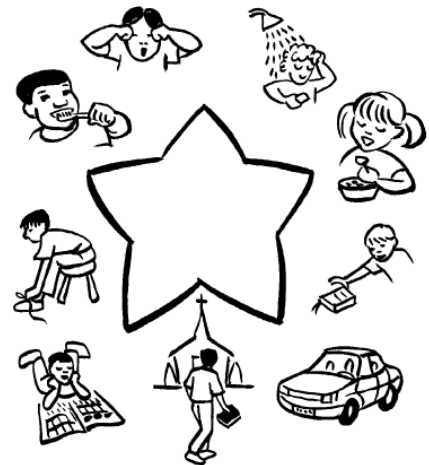
Hearts the same

We can love because Jesus loves us!

Find and color 12 hearts that are the same.



Welcome to worship. Today is the sixth Sunday of Easter. All of us get ready for worship in different ways, and our families celebrate Sundays differently. What did you do to get ready for church this morning? What will you do after church?



Draw a heart around everything you did this morning to get ready for worship, and inside the star, draw a picture of something your family usually does together after worship.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Tuesday 5/7

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

Wednesday 5/8

- ◇ Electric City Chorale Rehearsal 7:00 pm

Thursday 5/9

- ◇ Hope Circle, Laurie Turner's home 2:00 pm

Friday 5/10

- ◇ Bethel office is closed.

Saturday 5/11

- ◇ ELCA Youth Gathering Yard Sale in the Bethel Parking Lot 8:00 am until noon
- ◇ Bethel Handbell Choir rehearsal in the sanctuary 10:00 am

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday 5/12

- ◇ Worship service led by Jim Carlson, LPA in person and live stream at 9:30 am
- ◇ Happy Mother's Day!
- ◇ World Hunger Sunday
- ◇ Adult Forum The Chosen Season 2 in the Fellowship Hall following worship

Tuesday 5/14

- ◇ Electric City Bible Study, Zoom meeting 7:00 am
- ◇ Men's Breakfast in the Fellowship Hall 7:00 am
- ◇ Bethel Church Council meeting in the Fellowship Hall 6:30 pm

Friday 5/17

- ◇ 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.

Next meeting will be in May 9th 2:00 pm at Laurie Turner's home.

Preaching And Presiding at Bethel

May 5th	Pastor Jessica Crist
May 12th	Jim Carlson, LPA
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	TBD
June 30th	TBD
July 7th	TBD
July 14th	Jim Carlson, LPA