

The Bethlehem Star

July 2021



We are a Christian community rooted in the gospel of Jesus Christ that gathers to worship, learn and share, and reaches out to welcome, witness and serve.

Pastor Scott's 25th Ordination Anniversary

Please join us after church on July 11th to celebrate the 25th anniversary of Pastor Scott's ordination. We will have cake and coffee in the parking lot (weather permitting otherwise in the Fellowship Hall) to mark this important event in Pastor's life.

FLBC Summer Family Weekend— July 16-18th

Join us for our Summer Family Weekend! Families of all combinations, shapes and sizes are welcome! The weekend will offer Bible study, sailing, high ropes, swimming & boating, hiking, campfires & more. FLBC Staff will lead Bible study and activities for children, while adults are invited to join in sessions facilitated by Pastor Steve Nelson. Enjoy the best that FLBC has to offer!

Retreat begins with dinner at 6:15pm on Friday (check-in is from 5–6pm) and ends with 10am brunch and 11am worship on Sunday.

Contact the camp office for more details— 406-752-6602

Blood Drive— July 20th

The next Vitalant blood drive at Bethlehem will be July 20th from 1:00 to 5:30. As you review that contact information, you will notice that Glenda Skeim has been added as one person through whom an appointment can be made. I am pleased to announce that Glenda has agreed to join me as a co-coordinator of the BLC Vitalant blood drives.

Gary Aasheim, (M) 406-698-4138
Glenda Skeim, 406-250-1890



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OUR THOUGHTS *and* PRAYERS *are with* YOU

Louise Gullick, Billy Byrd, Bev Aronson, Prudie Eakins, Michelle Aalbu, Gregg Peterson, Annette Gunderson, Kathy Branson and family.



Over a year of struggles due to COVID – isolation, economic hardships, sickness for many, death for some – have caused fatigue, anxiety, and distrust. The last few months have been a welcome relief as we’ve been able to come out of our shells and interact a bit more. Thanks be to God for the blessings of life and community!

But anxieties and concerns do not simply switch on and off. Like a bone that suffers an injury or a cut in the skin, anxiety heals slowly as pieces of our world are carefully stitched back together.

That’s why I’m calling on us as a community of faith to spend time this season in prayer and dedication to faithful living. As we heal as a community, as we commit ourselves to the call of God in our lives, as we dare to hold one another close even in our disagreements for the sake of forgiveness, I ask that we **Remember, Pray, and Expect the goodness of God.**

Remembering is an act of Faith. To remember is to see the hand of God in both the joy and struggle of life (PSALM 112:6). Our little part of the world, the Flathead Valley, is a place of rich memories – hard work on the farm, building a city with businesses, churches, homes and places to play, weathering storms, supporting neighbors, enjoying the beauty of God’s creation. Bethlehem is a part of that story – and **I deeply value the legacy of saints that have given us the church that we are today.** I call on all of us to remember and give thanks for the lives and families that have made us who we are.

We must Pray. The scriptures call us to *pray without ceasing* (1 THESS 5:15), which means keep on doing it, even when times get hard, or prayer seems futile. While there is much to rejoice in during these days of pandemic recovery, our wounds of disagreement, polarization, words said in anger, and time spent apart have divided us. We have wandered from each other and our shared ministry as the church. I call on all of us to pray for healing, reconciliation, and shared opportunities.

And in all things, expect the goodness of God. Jesus reminds us that it is God’s good pleasure to care for us, feed us, and send us out with joy (MATTHEW 6:26). If we do not *expect* God to do good things for our lives, for our community, and for our church, we will miss the mighty acts of God happening all around us. Rather, let us look to the future with confidence and hope, trusting that God wants goodness for us and this ministry. I call on all of us to expect God’s goodness in each of us and in those who will experience the transformational love of Jesus because of our church.

I’m eager to hear the results of our shared commitment to faith in these and other way. If anyone has anything they want to share with me, my church phone number is 752-6140 or you can email me at pastor@bethluth.org.

Joy in the journey,
Pastor Scott

COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS June 8, 2021

Reports

Treasurer's Report- May Income \$28,005; Expenditures \$29,563; Ending balance May 31st \$63,077. Duane reports the PPE loan, now converted to a grant, was added to our funds and there is a 'healthy cash balance' for the summer.

Music Ministry Report- Marshall Jones reported Hymn Histories was changed to Wednesdays at 8:00pm with some people joining in the chancel and others via Zoom. He has created a playlist on Facebook music from the new hymnal supplement ALL CREATION SINGS. Marshall has received praise from congregations outside BLC who follow us on Facebook. He is currently working on choir and/or handbells for the Fall.

Pastor's Report- Installation of new council members will take place at June 20th worship. Discussed and accepted option of hybrid council meetings for those who will be absent but could participate via Zoom. Will need to know 1 week prior so arrangements can be made. Committee Leader Meetings will resume on the first Tuesday of the month at 6:30 in the Fireside Room starting in August. Reviewed reimbursement process for new council members. Pastor Scott attended the Synod Assembly via Zoom in early June. Two important topics discussed were climate change and race relations. He noted our numbers for worship are increasing each Sunday. People are coming back!
Upcoming Dates:

June 20-29: Pastor Scott vacation

August 15: Church in the Park with Picnic

Sept. 25th: Son, Jacob's wedding.

Old Business

Strategic Planning Team Update- John Erfle reported on the Strategic Planning Committee. 61 surveys were turned in for review. Committee broke into groups to assess data and will come together to discuss. Next, they will focus on small group meetings within the congregation to ascertain a more personal and detailed look into the responses.

Brick Repair- Bill Pursell reported on the brickwork needed on the bell tower. Tom Rhodes will look at the repairs needed and give us an estimate. Hopefully, repairs can be finished in the next month or two.

Social Distancing and Mask Policy- Council discussed whether to remove the tape from the pews and/or to remove the mask request for those unvaccinated. It was decided to keep both the tape and the mask request in place for now as number of Covid cases in the Valley are increasing again. Will review again in the Fall.

New Business

Boiler Replacement- Bill Pursell reported the age of the heating system in all three buildings is about 25 years old and will need replacing. All are working now but technician recommends a close watch. Bill will be requesting bids by August to find out about updating each system.

Feeding the Flathead- Due to Covid restrictions the Council decided to wait until the Fall to review allowing Feeding the Flathead back in the Fellowship Hall. Peggy Aagenes-Janzer will keep in touch with FTF to stay abreast of the situation.

July Calendar 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 <u>9:00am</u> Quilters, FH <u>9:00am</u> Knitters, FR	2	3
4 <u>9:00am</u> Worship <u>9:00am</u> KOFI <u>5:00pm</u> HS Youth Group	5	6	7 <u>6:45am</u> Men's Bible Study, FH <u>10:00am</u> Staff <u>6:00pm</u> FLY <u>8:00pm</u> Hymn Histories with Marshall via Zoom	8 <u>9:00am</u> Quilters, FH <u>9:00am</u> Knitters, FR <u>6:00pm</u> Strategic Planning Committee Mtg, TBD	9	10
11 <u>9:00am</u> Worship <u>9:00am</u> KOFI <u>5:00pm</u> HS Youth Group	12	13 <u>9:45am</u> Dorcas Circle, FH	14 <u>6:45am</u> Men's Bible Study, FH <u>10:00am</u> Staff <u>6:00pm</u> FLY <u>8:00pm</u> Hymn Histories with Marshall via Zoom	15 <u>9:00am</u> Quilters, FH <u>9:00am</u> Knitters, FR	16	17
18 <u>9:00am</u> Worship <u>9:00am</u> KOFI <u>5:00pm</u> HS Youth Group	19 Newsletter deadline	20 <u>1:15pm</u> Blood Drive, FH	21 <u>6:45am</u> Men's Bible Study, FH <u>10:00am</u> Staff <u>10:30am</u> Spinners and Weavers, FH <u>6:00pm</u> FLY <u>8:00pm</u> Hymn Histories with Marshall via Zoom	22 <u>9:00am</u> Quilters, FH <u>9:00am</u> Knitters, FR <u>6:00pm</u> Strategic Planning Committee Mtg, TBD	23	24
25 <u>9:00am</u> Worship <u>9:00am</u> KOFI <u>5:00pm</u> HS Youth Group	26 <u>1:00pm</u> Women on the Go, FH	27	28 <u>6:45am</u> Men's Bible Study, FH <u>10:00am</u> Staff <u>6:00pm</u> FLY <u>8:00pm</u> Hymn Histories with Marshall via Zoom	29 <u>9:00am</u> Quilters, FH <u>9:00am</u> Knitters, FR	30	31

Vocal and Instrumental Solo and Small Ensembles
July and August 2021

Please let me know if you are interested in any of these suggestions that fit with the scriptures for that Sunday. Or if you have something else that you would like to play or sing that would work well for a *specific* Sunday, please let me know that as well. Opportunities to add instruments and descants to hymns will be in the weekly updates. I will include some opportunities for virtual ensembles for those that are able to record their parts and I will put them together to include in worship.

C instruments are those that if they play a written C the pitch that sounds is also a C such as strings, flute, oboe as opposed to Bb instruments which sound a Bb when they play a written C such as trumpet, clarinet, and soprano or tenor sax. And yes there are others—alto and bari sax are Eb instruments and horn is an F instrument.

S—soprano; A—alto; T--- tenor; B--bass

SSA= soprano, soprano, alto

SATB= soprano, alto, tenor, bass

*****would be good for early elementary children and up**

****would be good for late elementary/middle school children and up**

- 7/4 Then Sings My Soul (Mary McDonald)—duet
We All Are One in Mission (arr. Joel Martinson)---duet
As You Go On Your Way (James Engel)---solo
- 7/18 Give Me Jesus (arr. David Cherwien)---soprano or tenor solo
Savior, Like a Shepherd, Lead Us (William Bradley Roberts)---solo, C instrument
- 7/25 O Bread of Heaven (arr. Susan Palo Cherwien)---solo
O Love, How Deep (Everett Titcomb)—SATB quartet
Love (Brian Childers)---handbell solo, flute, and piano
- 8/1 In the Wilderness (John D. Horman)---solo***
- 8/8 Panis Angelicus (Cesar Franck)--solo
O Bread of Life from Heaven (arr. David Ashley White)--duet
- 8/15 @ Depot Park
There Is No Rose (Susan Palo Cherwien)---solo, C instrument
- 8/22 Give Us Now Our Daily Bread (Anne McNair)---duet**
The Covenant (John D. Horman)—solo***
- 8/29 Everything You Do (Dietrich Buxtehude)—SATB quartet
God's Wonderful World (Pat Messick) ---solo **
Be Thou My Vision (arr. Marie Pooler)---duet

Marshall



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Electronic service requested



Kyrston	Byington	7/1	David	Ford	7/17
Jacob	Johnson	7/2	Patsy	Cloud	7/17
Gerald	Reckin	7/2	Larry	Kaber	7/18
Andrew	Johnson	7/2	Rodney	Schenck	7/19
Ardyce	Herman	7/4	Pauline	Sjordal	7/20
Susan	Mueller	7/4	Molly	Wright	7/22
Richard	Rossow	7/5	Jana	Pursell	7/22
Janet	Veidt	7/7	Rick	Ulvin	7/23
Daniel	Anderson	7/8	Jacob	Thompson	7/23
Kelly	Siblerud	7/10	Wesley	Goulet	7/23
Melissa	Pursell	7/10	Eleanor Jean	Waniata	7/24
George	Thorson	7/11	Kent	Gunderson	7/24
Sally	Devine	7/12	Bill	Erickson	7/27
Norman	Johnson	7/12	Reed	Miller	7/28
Kathleen	Aasheim	7/12	Annie	Marshall	7/28
Linda	Arlint	7/15	Judie	Cundy	7/28
Scott	Thompson	7/15	Ross	Johnson	7/28
Diane	Weinberg	7/15	Ben	Skeim	7/28
Georgia	Pris	7/16	Heidi	Miller	7/28
Jackson	Saverud	7/16	Judy	Rossow	7/29

**The deadline for
 the August
 newsletter is
 July 19th.
 Thank you!**

Church Council

President:

Tony Nelson

Vice President:

Amber Brohn

Treasurer:

Duane Anderson

Recording Secretary:

Kellie Nelson

Committee Chairs

Christian Education

Linda Jones

Fellowship:

Peggy Aagenes-Janzer

Outreach:

Cindy Galvin

Property:

Bill Pursell

Stewardship:

John Erfle

Worship and Music:

Judie Cundy

Youth:

Ric	Skeim	7/29
Kyrie	West	7/29
Kyle	Lefler	7/29
Christina	Granrud	7/29
Barbara	Magone	7/30
Isabella	Lane	7/31