

The Bethlehem Star July 2026



We are called by God to follow Christ in love and service to all.

Sausages on the 4th

The Fellowship Committee is hosting our annual Sausages on a Stick at the 4th of July Parade. The parade starts at 10am. Come and help serve sausages starting at 9am. If you are interested in helping, please speak to Peggy Aagenes-Janzer or Linda Erfle.



Volunteers Needed!

We are looking for volunteers to help with cooking, serving, cleaning up, and baking for Feeding the Flathead on July 20 and August 17. No previous experience is necessary! During the summer months, we serve approximately 70 hot meals to our guests, so we welcome as many helping hands as possible. You can sign up in the Commons or contact Julie Miller at (703) 862-3490 for more information.





Business Manager Update, June 2026

We are on our way into the long season of Pentecost. The focus of Pentecost in the ELCA is on the life of the Spirit-filled church—disciples in action, empowered by the Holy Spirit to live out their faith in daily life. This season emphasizes both the inward gifts of discipleship, such as living among God’s faithful people and sharing in the Lord’s Supper, and the outward gifts, like proclaiming the good news, serving others, and striving for justice and peace. Pentecost is a time to celebrate how the Holy Spirit continues to call, gather, and empower us for ministry in the world.

May was a strong giving month was about average with general fund offerings of about \$29,400. Our expenses were slightly lower than giving and we ended the month with about \$48,900. This is a healthy month end balance so thanks, as usual, for all your generous financial gifts.

The committee chairs are in the process of reviewing their duties as outlined in the current Bylaws. This action item came out of the mid-April Council retreat. As we contemplate updating the Bylaws, this is an important step to identify opportunities for improving the definitions of committee duties, identifying overlaps between committees, and possibly even removing some duties that are now obsolete.

The ‘Mission Partner Highlights’ section this month will focus on our giving to the MT Synod for support of ELCA activities. Several of our regular mission partners will be making presentations at Church during services including the Heart Locker on 7/12, and the Flathead Foodbank on 8/9. Please try and attend to learn more about these missionaries in the Flathead.

If you have any questions or comments regarding BLC’s business matters, please contact me at duane.a.anderson@outlook.com.

Sincerely, Duane Anderson, BLC Business Manager

2026 June Council Notes

Treasurer's Report- Budget Reports/Balance Statement

Income- \$38,157 Expenses- \$37,001 Ending May- \$48,873

Pastor's/Bishop's Report-

Bishop- looking for ways to help where needed. He looking into different ways to fund programs and staffing. MT Synod is going well. There has been an increase in participation, especially among younger people interested in lay ministry. Looking to increase resources for congregations and lay ministers to be available for all Synod churches.

Pastor Lucy- will be checking in with the office on Wednesdays to make sure things are running smoothly while Scott is away. She is looking into preaching from the Psalms for us this summer. She is looking forward to being at BLC more this summer to get to know everyone better.

Old Business-

Lola Vulles Gift Update/Edward Jones Update-

- Legal process still ongoing.

Committee Responsibilities Review

- Duane sent out a breakdown of responsibilities each committee handles for committees to review and add, remove, or alter where applicable. Reviewed questions regarding a central person who handles advertising, encouraged suggestions for changes be written down as they come up, and discussed overlap of committee duties with other committees.
- Discussed if there should be a breakup of being a Committee Chair with a requirement to be on the Council to just being a Committee Chair or just be on the Council? Would this bring more people willing to be on committees?

New Business-

Nominating Committee

- The goal for the Fall is to find a Committee Chair for each committee.

Like to Bake?

Share the calories with Sunday Coffee Hour! Bake a loaf or two of your favorite quick bread and share at Sunday coffee hour. Call Peggy by Saturday afternoon. Thanks to all that have helped and will.



2026 Mission Partner Highlights

BLC has a long tradition and strong reputation for being a generous giver to mission programs outside of its walls. One of our longest traditions has been monthly contributions to the Montana Synod to support their activities and the work of the national ELCA program. The Montana Synod office and staff are supported almost exclusively by contributions from member churches of the Montana Synod. In the last reporting period (Feb 2025 through Jan 2026), there were 106 churches in the Synod roster. Approximately 2/3 of these contributed over \$500 during the year to the MT Synod for a total of almost \$764,000. Congregational support for Synod activities has declined by over 25% since 2015.

In the last reporting period Montana Synod used these funds in the following manner:

- 45% on staff compensation, benefits, and travel expenses
- 32% to Churchwide Support (national ELCA office)
- 16% to Agency and Social Ministry (majority to campus ministries at MSU and UM, Northern Rockies Institute, and Our Saviors Rocky Boy support).
- 7% for administration (building mortgage and expenses)+

In 2026 our Montana Synod tithe (7.2% of general fund offerings and real estate income) is forecast to be just over \$29,000. BLC is consistently one of the top 5 givers to the MT Synod across the 106 member congregations. Our total mission partner gifts for 2026 are over \$59,000, representing about 13% of our total 2026 budget. From 2010 to 2025, BLC has contributed just over \$850,000 in mission partner support! This is a huge part of BLC's legacy and testament to the generosity and mission focus of Bethlehem Lutheran. Thanks to everyone for supporting BLC!



Lutheran Night

at the
Glacier Range Riders



WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 5

FIRST PITCH: 6:35 PM

HOW TO PURCHASE TICKETS

SCAN THE QR CODE below with your mobile camera.
SELECT your desired seats from the 'Section 106' grid.
(Green dots are available seats)

FOLLOW the prompts to check out.

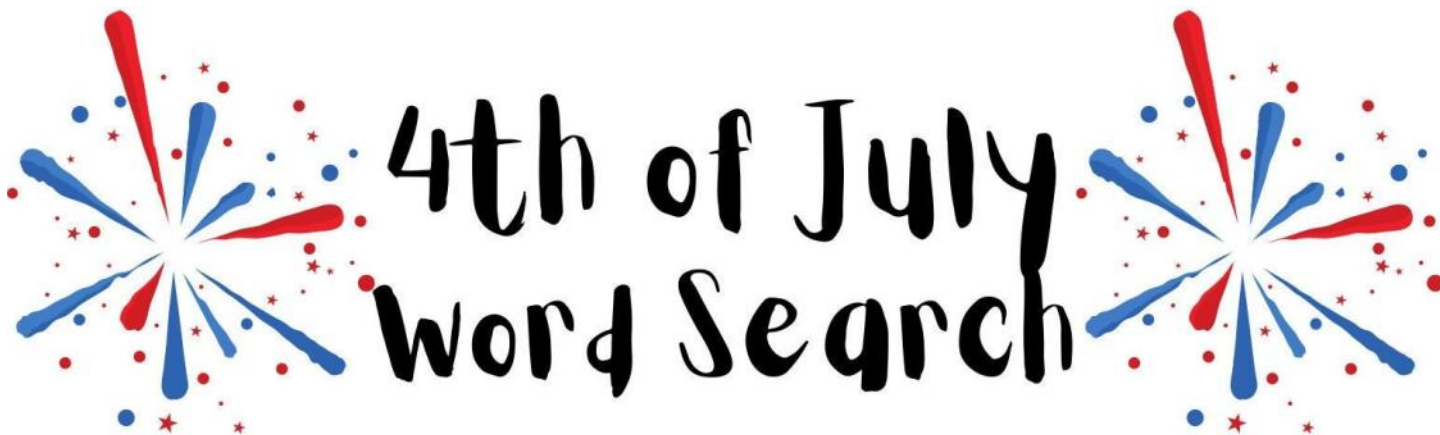


Section 106



Proceed to checkout

RESERVE YOUR SEATS NOW!



4th of July Word Search

	N	L	S	T	A	R	S	S	M	B	R	E	S	W	F
	J	I	A	B	M	E	L	E	S	E	E	R	W	R	G
	U	O	B	M	P	R	C	H	E	L	G	A	E	S	G
INDEPENDENCE	L	M	L	I	Y	D	T	E	K	L	A	E	R	M	H
STARS	Y	E	R	I	C	R	R	G	Q	L	D	B	I	K	U
STRIPES	U	T	P	E	D	O	O	D	S	O	O	I	F	C	N
EAGLE	S	G	O	O	F	A	I	A	M	D	G	T	R	E	I
FREEDOM	V	W	C	A	P	E	Y	J	T	W	N	E	E	X	N
PATRIOTIC	E	A	A	M	E	R	I	C	A	D	A	Y	S	T	D
FIREWORKS	R	L	M	E	U	B	O	A	T	I	S	O	U	P	E
JULY	R	E	G	G	L	C	C	I	T	O	I	R	T	A	P
FLAG	A	C	A	N	B	E	E	N	O	T	R	E	R	R	E
AMERICA	Y	A	D	I	R	F	D	O	O	G	I	A	E	A	N
PARADE	U	Y	S	G	L	I	D	E	R	W	N	P	C	D	D
BELL	C	H	A	I	S	T	I	A	N	O	G	E	T	E	E
RED	X	L	R	O	V	Z	I	C	O	J	B	A	I	N	N
WHITE	F	I	R	E	W	O	R	K	S	L	E	P	O	E	C
BLUE	A	J	D	O	F	Z	I	C	B	J	W	H	I	T	E

July Calendar 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Locations: CM-Commons FH -Fellowship Hall FR-Fireside Room HB-Hjortland Bld.			1 VBS 6:45am Men's Bible Study, FH 10:00am Respite Care, FH	2 VBS 9:00am Quilters, FH 9:00am Knitters, FR 5:30pm Flathead Valley Community Orchestra Practice, FH	3 VBS	4 10:00am Sausages on the Fourth
5 9:00am Worship 9:00am KOFI 10:30am Bell Choir Practice	6 10:00am Respite Care, FH 6:00pm FTF, FH	7 10:00pm Fellowship Committee, FH	8 6:45am Men's Bible Study, FH 10:00am Respite Care, FH	9 9:00am Quilters, FH 9:00am Knitters, FR 12:30pm Ukelele Practice, FH 5:30pm Flathead Valley Community Orchestra Practice, FH	10	11
12 9:00am Worship 9:00am KOFI 10:30am Bell Choir Practice	13 10:00am Respite Care, FH 6:00pm FTF, FH	14	15 6:45am Men's Bible Study, FH 10:00am Respite Care, FH 10:30am Spinners and Weavers Guild, CM	16 9:00am Quilters, FH 9:00am Knitters, FR 5:30pm Flathead Valley Community Orchestra Practice, FH	17	18
19 9:00am Worship 9:00am KOFI 10:30am Bell Choir Practice	20 10:00am Respite Care, FH 6:00pm FTF, FH Newsletter Deadline	21	22 6:45am Men's Bible Study, FH 10:00am Respite Care, FH	23 9:00am Quilters, FH 9:00am Knitters, FR 5:30pm Flathead Valley Community Orchestra Practice, FH	24	25
26 Food on the 4th Sunday 9:00am Worship 9:00am KOFI 10:30am Bell Choir Practice	27 10:00am Respite Care, FH 6:00pm FTF, FH	28 12:00pm Women on the Go, FH	29 6:45am Men's Bible Study, FH 10:00am Respite Care, FH	30 9:00am Quilters, FH 9:00am Knitters, FR 5:30pm Flathead Valley Community Orchestra Practice, FH	31	





Bethlehem Lutheran Church
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office@bethluth.org / www.bethluth.org
 Facebook: Bethlehem Lutheran Kalispell
 406/752-6140 - 406/752-6145 FAX
 KOFI 1180AM at 9:00am Sundays

Non Profit Org.
 U.S. Postage
 PAID
 Kalispell, MT 59901
 Permit #11

Electronic service requested



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Jacob	Johnson	7/2	Ross	Johnson	7/28
Andrew	Johnson	7/2	Judy	Rossow	7/29
Anna	Ofstad	7/7	Kyle	Lefler	7/29
Lisa	Jones	7/8	Christina	Granrud	7/29
Sharon	Holder	7/10			
Linda	Arlint	7/15			
Scott	Thompson	7/15			
Georgia	Pris	7/16			
David	Ford	7/17			
Sonya	Bitterman	7/17			
Pauline	Sjordal	7/20			
Jana	Pursell	7/22			
Tom	Zakos	7/23			
Rick	Ulvin	7/23			
Kent	Gunderson	7/24			
Jennifer	Davlin	7/25			
Bill	Erickson	7/27			

**The deadline for
 the August
 newsletter is
 July 20th.
 Thank you!**

Church Council

President:

Julie Miller

Vice Presidents:

Tony Nelson

VACANT

Treasurer:

VACANT

Recording Secretary:

Kellie Nelson

Committee Chairs

Christian Education:

Katie Havens

Fellowship:

Peggy Aagenes-Janzer

Outreach:

Cindy Galvin

Property:

VACANT

Stewardship:

Terry Brosten

Worship and Music:

Charlene Singley

Youth:

Bill Erickson