



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.

## Help Kids Around the World with School Supplies!!

It's that time of year when school supplies are on sale for great prices. As you are shopping please consider picking up supplies for Lutheran World Relief school kits. Items needed are:



- 70 page count spiral notebooks
- pencil sharpeners
- blunt tip scissors, unsharpened
- black or blue ballpoint pens
- Donations are always welcome to buy any needed supplies as well.

A collection box will be in the Commons or bring your donation to the church office.



## Ice Cream Social and Sunday School Sign Up!



Hey parents and kids! Summer is almost over, so it's nearly time for Sunday School. **September 7th**, come have an ice cream and socialize after service! We will have registration forms for Sunday school and a build-your-own sundae buffet. Hear what we have planned this year as we dive into the story of Moses and learn our way to a movie party.

FROM  
THE  
PASTOR



**What is a pastor's job?** I've been trying to figure that out for almost 30 years. It makes me uncomfortable to sit next to strangers on airplanes because inevitably they'll ask me, "So, what do you do?" If I answer, "I'm a pastor," there's often an awkward pause, followed by some manner of explanation about going to a particular church as a kid... (which means they haven't been part of a congregation since). Either that or the person will proceed to tell me that this country just needs to submit to Jesus...

In some ways a pastor's job is simple: talk about Jesus – tell people what God wants – pray for people and run the church. But it's also (as is any job) a nuanced bunch of hats that we wear that includes some of the above but also interpreting the habits and patterns of the culture around us and finding ways to speak faithfully and honestly about all that happens behind the veil of our societal perceptions. (and to make up sentences like that one that mix too many metaphors!)

I wrote in my weekly email a couple of weeks ago that Pastor Lucy and I are actively discovering how we might work well together and how our roles as leaders of the Church (and Bethlehem and Eidsvold particularly) might manifest. What will Pastor Lucy do? What should Pastor Scott do as our pastor?

I emphasized in that weekly email that it's important to remember that our job as pastors is to lead you – the members of these congregations – in carrying out the mission to which God has called us. Our job is to encourage, equip, resource, interpret, and coach you as you do the work of God. Perhaps this is a different description of my job than you thought I should offer. Or perhaps you think I should say something like, "My job is to take care of the members of this church as a shepherd cares for the sheep." And that is part of encouraging and coaching you in your work for God. But it's also not all about you.

Lucy and I will be looking hard at how we can best serve Bethlehem and Eidsvold – what we need to do to help you live out most faithfully your call to mission. You'll see and hear us ask you to help lead programs and events. You'll experience us highlighting opportunities in our communities to serve our neighbors. And you'll witness the truth of the gospel in our preaching of the word and administering of the sacraments. All of this and more are parts of our job as your pastors.

And we covet your feedback – your questions and suggestions. We cannot do this alone. But together we can hear and live out the mission to which God is calling us... for the sake of our families, friends, and neighbors – and for all of Kalispell, the Flathead, and beyond. God is doing much among and within us already – and God will lead us into much, much more!

Pastor Scott

## August 2025 Council Notes

### **Treasurer's Report-** Budget Reports/Balance Statement

- Income- \$34,135 Expenses- \$36,538 Ending July- 37,767
- The insurance co. of the gentleman who hit the Sanctuary with his car will cover cost of repairs
- Knowledge Nest Preschool lost insurance. They are working on getting new insurance by Sept. 1st

### **Pastor's Report-**

- Habitat for Humanity needs volunteers
- Respite began August 11th. Went well. 5 participants. Large group of volunteers as well.
- PS will be taking sabbatical June July August of 2026- will begin to introduce the idea to the congregation in the coming months
- Excellence in Leadership- Rocky Mountain Synod seminar that lasts 14mo (2x per month) PS and PL will be participating via Zoom.

### **Old Business-**

- Repair update at 632 1st Ave-  
Still waiting on quotes
- Trust Committee Update-  
In process of reviewing how Trust Committee works to see how the bylaws can be updated/improved. Possible election for Trust Committee members this Fall.

### **New Business-**

- Bylaws Phase I updates review-  
Exec Committee is looking into updating Church Bylaws. First phase will focus on basics. Second phase will investigate possibility of updating/improving standing committees. Duane will send out high-lighted phase 1 changes and council will review to discuss at Sept. mtg.
- Mission Plan Schedule-  
Discussed changing fiscal year to Jan-Dec. If we change fiscal yr, we will add 3mo onto the first budget to make up for the rest of 2025. If any committee wants an increase, please let Dwayne know by Aug 31st.
- Semi- Annual Meeting set for October 19th
- Bids for Parking Lot Repairs-  
Two bids for parking lot repairs needed. Funds to come out of Operational Maintenance Fund. Charlene MOTIONS go with \$22,900 bid Terry SEC-ONDS. MOTION CARRIES.

## Business Manager Update, August 2025

Our finances remain healthy as of the end of July with an ending fund balance for July 31 of \$37,800. Our cumulative giving for this month exceeded the cumulative at this time last year so giving continues to be strong. Thank you to all for your faithful giving. We are looking forward to 'Catch Up Sunday' on September 14<sup>th</sup> where you will have an opportunity to 'catch up' on your annual giving if you fell behind during the summer.

As most of you know, there was a car accident in July resulting in a vehicle hitting the Sanctuary building on the NW corner. Damages were confined to some stucco damage on the foundation and oil-soaked soil in the corner. We have received an approved claim from the driver's insurance and repairs should be complete no later than early September.

Our annual meeting is slated for October 19<sup>th</sup>, at which time we will vote on some updates to the BLC bylaws, as well as our Mission Plan (budget) for the upcoming year. One of the changes you will see in the updated bylaws is to change our fiscal year (currently 10/1-9/30) to follow the calendar year (1/1 – 12/31) instead. The Council believes this is more appropriate for timing with insurance changes and is in synch with our partners at Eidsvold Lutheran. Another change the Council is recommending is to move to a single annual meeting each year (in the fall), as they believe we can easily accommodate the important business at one annual meeting, rather than two.

If you have any questions regarding BLC's business matters, don't hesitate to contact me at [duane.a.anderson@outlook.com](mailto:duane.a.anderson@outlook.com).

Sincerely, Duane Anderson, BLC Business Manager

### Rally Day is Coming...!

#### September 14th

First day back to Sunday School will be Sunday September 14th! Our yearly tradition of a marshmallow fight will be happening for the first day. We will also be doing an ice cream social and registration on June 7th. New end time for Sunday School is 10:15am. Parents please enjoy a bit of fellowship time before coming to get your kids so they get an hour of fun.



Have a Great

SCHOOL YEAR

## Calling All Bakers!

The Fellowship Committee would like to invite anyone who would like to bring coffee cakes or quick breads (please no cookies or cakes) for after-worship fellowship to feel welcome to do so. If this is something you would be interested in from time to time, please contact Peggy Agenes-Janzer or Linda Erfle by the Saturday afternoon of the week you will be bringing a treat so they have time to alter the doughnut order for Sunday if needed. We thank you for your generosity and look forward to enjoying your delicious creations!



## Potluck Picnic– Save the Date

**Sept. 21st**

The Fellowship Committee is planning a church picnic for September 21st at Village Greens in the community center. Arrive between 12:30-1:00. We'll start eating at 1:00 or shortly thereafter. We will be extending an invitation to our friends from Eidsvold as well. There will be more details to come in the upcoming weeks so save the date on your calendars now!



## New Bible “Conversation” Groups!

We'll be encouraging folks this Fall and Winter to enter into **“Conversation Small Groups”** around the text of Paul's letter to the Romans. This is less a “Bible Study” and more of an opportunity to hear certain passages from Romans, talk about what you hear, and discover how God might be speaking through all of us. Your conversations will be a complement to a more in-depth study Pastor Scott will be leading on Sunday Mornings after Church. If you would like to be a leader of a Romans Bible Conversation, let Pastor Scott know (prior knowledge of the Bible is not required). Also, watch for ways that you can join a group!



## New Study this Fall: Romans - Nothing Can Separate Us, New Life for All

Join us, Sundays after worship, for an overview of the book of Romans. Paul's longest letter, Romans seeks to define and defend the Gospel as a message of inclusion for all people under the gift of love and grace made manifest in Christ's death and resurrection. Paul proclaims God's new life as salvation for all of creation. We continue to carry that message as the church - always and forever sharing God's love even into our own communities. Grab a cup of coffee and stay for a presentation by Pastor Scott with lots of room for questions and discussion - Starting September 14 in the Fellowship Hall.



## Bethlehem October Blood Drive

Our next blood drive at Bethlehem will be Sunday and Monday, 10/5&6. Sunday's drawing will be in the Bethlehem basement from 1:30 – 4:30, and Monday's drawing will be in the basement of the First Presbyterian Church across Main Street from Bethlehem at 540 S. Main Street and will be from 10:30 – 1:15. Your donation is needed. Please call either Glenda Skeim at 406-250-1890 or me, Gary Aasheim at 406-698-4138 for your appointment.



## FLBC Quilting/Crafts Retreat

**Oct 30– Nov 2nd**

Bring your quilt and craft projects and work alongside friends old and new on the west shore of Flathead Lake. FLBC will also be providing opportunities to learn new skills, such as learning how to make lefse! Evening devotions, worship and plenty of time for conversation with delicious meals and cozy accommodations will make for a relaxing weekend away. Retreat begins with dinner at 5:30pm on Thursday (check-in is from 3–5pm) and ends with 10am brunch on Sunday (check-out by 2pm).



## FLBC's Fall Harvest Festival and Auction

**Oct 11th**

An event to help make camp financially accessible to all! Silent Auction, Happy Hour and Appetizers begin at 4:00pm. Individual tickets and table packages available. Kids 16 and under are free with activities and dinner for youth from 4-7pm. Go to [flbc.net](http://flbc.net) for tickets and more information.



## Trunk or Treat– Help Needed!

Fall is near and the and Halloween candy is coming out! Contact Katie Havens if you'd like to help plan our 4th Annual Trunk or Treat! Email at:

[katie.havens2014@gmail.com](mailto:katie.havens2014@gmail.com)





# September Calendar



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 <b>Office Closed</b> <u>6:00pm</u> FTF, FH	2 <u>10:00pm</u> Fellowship Committee, FH	3 <u>6:45am</u> Men's Breakfast & Bible Study, FH <u>10:00am</u> Staff Meeting <u>10:00am</u> Respite Care, FH <u>10:30am</u> Spinners, CM <u>5:30pm</u> Worship & Music Committee, FH <u>7:00pm</u> Choir Practice	4 <u>9:00am</u> Quilters, FH <u>9:00am</u> Knitters, FR <u>5:30pm</u> Flathead Community Orchestra Practice, FH	5	6
7 <u>9:00am</u> Worship <u>9:00am</u> KOFI <u>10:00am</u> Sunday School Sign Up & Ice Cream Social <u>10:30am</u> Bell Choir Practice	8 <u>10:00am</u> Respite Care, FH <u>6:00pm</u> FTF, FH	9 <u>9:30am</u> Dorcas Ruth, FH <u>5:30pm</u> Council, FH	10 <u>6:45am</u> Men's Breakfast & Bible Study, FH <u>10:00am</u> Staff Meeting Study, FH <u>10:00am</u> Respite Care, FH <u>7:00pm</u> Choir Practice	11 <u>9:00am</u> Quilters, FH <u>9:00am</u> Knitters, FR <u>5:30pm</u> Flathead Community Orchestra Practice, FH	12	13
14 <b>Rally Day &amp; Catch Up Sunday</b> <u>9:00am</u> Worship <u>9:00am</u> KOFI <u>10:30am</u> Bell Choir Practice <u>10:30am</u> Adult Bible Study, FH	15 <u>10:00am</u> Respite Care, FH <u>6:00pm</u> FTF, FH  <b>Newsletter deadline</b>	16 <u>7:00pm</u> Confirmation	17 <u>6:45am</u> Men's Breakfast & Bible Study, FH <u>10:00am</u> Staff Meeting Study, FH <u>10:00am</u> Respite Care, FH <u>10:30am</u> Spinners and Weavers Guild, CM <u>7:00pm</u> Choir Practice	18 <u>9:00am</u> Quilters, FH <u>9:00am</u> Knitters, FR <u>5:30pm</u> Flathead Community Orchestra Practice, FH	19	20
21 <u>9:00am</u> Worship/ Sunday School <u>9:00am</u> KOFI <u>10:30am</u> Bell Choir Practice <u>10:30am</u> Adult Bible Study, FH <u>1:00pm</u> Church Picnic, Village Greens	22 <u>10:00am</u> Respite Care, FH <u>6:00pm</u> FTF, FH— <b>BLC Serving</b>	23	24 <u>6:45am</u> Men's Breakfast & Bible Study, FH <u>10:00am</u> Staff Meeting Study, FH <u>10:00am</u> Respite Care, FH <u>7:00pm</u> Choir Practice	25 <u>9:00am</u> Quilters, FH <u>9:00am</u> Knitters, FR <u>5:30pm</u> Flathead Community Orchestra Practice, FH	26	27
28 <b>Food on the 4th Sunday</b> <u>9:00am</u> Worship/ Sunday School <u>9:00am</u> KOFI <u>10:30am</u> Bell Choir Practice	29 <u>10:00am</u> Respite Care, FH <u>12:00pm</u> Women on the Go, CM <u>6:00pm</u> FTF, FH	30			<b>Locations:</b> CM-Commons FH -Fellowship Hall FR-Fireside Room HB-Hjortland Bld.	

## Food on the 4th Sunday

On a table in the Commons you will find blue bags which you can take home and/or to the store to fill with food during the month and return to the church on the 4th Sunday of the month and we will take the donated food to the food bank. If you would rather donate money, you will also find "Food on the Fourth Sunday" envelopes on the table to put your donations in and you can place them in the offering plates or take to the church office. Thank you for the unending support you show to our community. **Together we are making a big difference!**



**Bethlehem Lutheran Church**  
 603 South Main Street, Kalispell, Montana 59901  
[office@bethluth.org](mailto:office@bethluth.org) / [www.bethluth.org](http://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



Kyle	Buckingham	9/1
Mitchell	Johnson	9/3
Karen	Brown	9/3
Marlene	Anderson	9/8
Lorna	Hauser	9/8
Karen	Fisher	9/11
Jason	Buckingham	9/11
Brenda	Bernard	9/12
Heidi	Ulbricht	9/12
Teagen	Flint	9/14
Cindy	Galvin	9/16
Maya	Buckingham	9/23
Karsten	Stene	9/24
Jason	Cronk	9/24
Linda	Augusta	9/24
Kimberly	Caruso	9/26
Lynette	Lorenzen	9/26
Bev	Taylor	9/30

**The deadline for  
 the October  
 newsletter is  
 September 15th.  
 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