

Gold Hill Evangelical Lutheran Church

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**Empowered by the Holy Spirit,
United to Serve**



The Nugget E-News

January 20, 2020

GOLD HILL NEWS

Butte Emergency Food Bank

Let's tackle hunger in our community. The Food Bank item for January is pasta (like spaghetti, or noodles). There is still time to drop off your donations before January 31. You can leave them in the Fellowship Hall, one of the baskets at each sanctuary door, or in the church office. Thank you for your generosity!



Calendar:

Stephen Ministry
Supervision
meets at 7:00 pm
Monday, Jan. 27

LWR Quilters
meet at 9:30 am
Wednesday, Jan. 29

Gold Hill Choir
meets at 6:30 pm
Wednesday, Jan. 29

Overeaters Anon.
meets at 6:15 pm
Wednesday, Jan. 29
Al-Anon
meets at 7:30 pm
Wednesday, Jan. 29

Pastor's Bible Study
meets at 10 am & 7 pm
Thursday, Jan. 30

Copper Cloggers
meet 1 - 4 pm
Thursday, Jan. 30

Overeaters Anon.
meet at 5:00 pm
Friday, Jan. 31



Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp News

FLBC Retreats, Events, and Updates:

For additional information about our upcoming retreats and events, check out our [website](#).

2020 Staff Applications Are Open!

Do you know an adult who would be a great addition to our 2020 summer team?

They can find an application to join our staff [HERE](#). We are looking for people to fill a variety of roles such as counselors, support staff, kitchen staff, and more.

Our staff are currently recruiting at University of Montana and Montana State University. Please keep them in your prayers as they travel!

CAMP REGISTRATION IS OPEN!

Check out our awesome programs on the [FLBC website](#). Register by April 1st to get our early bird discount and receive \$50 off!

Volunteer Applications for Montana pastors & adults open now!

Adult volunteers, nurses, grandparents, pastors, and alumni staff - we need you! Be sure to apply soon as spaces are limited and fill quickly. Find the application [HERE](#).

Upcoming Retreats and Events:

Tea Party

February 15, 2020

2-4 pm at Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp

\$10/person

Grandparents, guardians, parents, bring your kiddos to



Worship Service:
at 9:30 am

a Valentine's Day "Tea Party!" All ages are welcome; our programming will focus on children ages 4-12. Food, crafts, singing, and fun with a special "princess" guest! See the [FLYER](#) for more information.



Day Camp Workshops

March 7th or 14th

Cost: \$10 per person

Ages: Adult

Saturday, March 7 at Bethel Lutheran
Great Falls: 10am-3pm (Lunch included); OR

Saturday, March 14 at FLBC: 10am-3pm (Lunch included. Overnight accommodations available at no

charge.)

Join us for a workshop exploring FLBC's Day Camp program, where camp comes to you! Gather to learn more about hosting a Day Camp team, preview the Bible study curriculum, or get more information about potentially hosting a Day Camp in the future! This retreat is designed especially for pastors & leaders of congregations hosting 2020 Summer Day Camps, but ALL are welcome. Day Camp is a wonderful way for congregations to reach out to their communities--sign up & learn more! (Doing your own VBS? You are welcome to attend and get new ideas!) See the [FLYER](#) for more information.

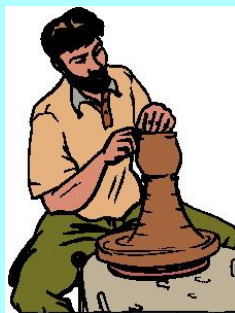
Adult Spirituality Retreat: God with Muddy Hands

April 26-28, 2020 (Sunday- Tuesday)

\$220/person for the full weekend; commuter rates:

Sun = \$30, Mon = \$150, Tues = \$30

As potters ply their craft to turn mud into masterpieces, so God shapes each precious person with gentle artistry. This retreat will help participants understand and experience the loving touch of our Potter through brief teachings, creative exploration and personal time with our Creator. Join us for this retreat led by Beth Ratzlaff and Brenda Satrum. See the [FLYER](#) for more information.



Words from the Bishop: Blessed are the Followers



So, what does it mean to follow Jesus? I hope you saw an image of what following Jesus can look like in last week's Spotlight on Project Hope in Columbus, MT. And I encourage you to keep your eyes and ears open for other glimpses of what it means to follow Jesus in this world.

Often, when we're asked the question "What does it mean to follow Jesus?" we think first about what *we* do? After

all, we're the ones who are called to follow; therefore, *we* should be doing the work of following, right?

But actually following Jesus is first and foremost something God does, not us. Following Jesus starts with Jesus himself - his invitation, his call, his promise, his gift. Only in the receiving of God's gift in Christ do we begin to participate in the following.

Sunday School:

at 10:45 am

Adult Education:

at 10:45 am

Coffee Hour:

at 10:45 am

Sunday, February 2

Bible Study Opportunities:

Group Study every
Thursday at 6:30 am @
Perkins Restaurant

Women's Gather

Bible Study meets

the second Tuesday of the
month at 9:30 am at
Big Sky Senior Living
Center on Waterford Way,
in the Library

LINKS:

[Click here to visit our growing website](#)

[Click here to visit our FB page and "like" us](#)

[Click here to support the Butte Furniture Bank](#)

[Click here to visit our Church Library Page](#)

CHURCH COUNCIL

2020

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This comes clearer to us in the first verses of Jesus' Sermon on the Mount. "Blessed are you," Jesus says to various groups of people. Think again about what it means to be blessed: to be filled with the life and love of God into the depths of our hearts, minds, bodies, and spirits. To be blessed is to receive the vitality of God's wholeness, abundance, and unconditional love into our being. To be blessed is to be given pure grace. I invite you to look at those beatitudes in Matthew 5:1-12 and ponder what Jesus' blessing means to those he calls to follow him. Here are just a few of Jesus' blessings:

- "To you who are poor in spirit: the kingdom of heaven, God's own abundant life and love given in me (Jesus), has entered your life.
- To you who are mourning: the comfort I bring fills you with the peace of God's own abundant life and love.
- To you who are meek: the earth that I save will empower you with God's own abundant life and love.
- To you who hunger for right relationship with God and neighbor (righteousness): that right relationship is fulfilled through God's own abundant life and love.
- To you who seek to make peace: you are God's beloved child, filled with God's abundant life and love.
- To you who are persecuted as you try to live out your right relationship with God and neighbor: the kingdom of heaven, God's own abundant life and love given in me (Jesus) has entered your life.
- To you who are reviled and persecuted and slandered with all kinds of evil falsely simply because you follow me: rejoice and be glad because you are filled to overflowing with God's own abundant life and love."

Following Jesus begins with God's blessing given to us in the life, death and resurrection of Christ. It is only through the abundant love and life of Christ received into our lives that it is possible to follow him. Through Jesus we receive forgiveness and are restored to living relationship with God. Through Jesus we are given the compassion to love our neighbors. Through Jesus we receive faith, hope, and love. Through Jesus, the Spirit inspires (in-spirits) us with all the strength, support, wisdom, and blessing we need to follow Christ into the world -- always in it, never of it.

But you know what? There is another gift we receive when we follow Christ. "Rejoice and be glad," Jesus proclaims in the last beatitude. This is a promise, not a command. And in it Jesus promises that in following him, even as we move toward the cross, there is joy and gladness. But more about joy in following Christ in next week's article.

God's blessings of life and love be upon you always.

Bishop Laurie

Leadership Ministry
Team Leader
Dale Schultz -
Outreach Ministry
Team Leader
Interim Pastor
Trina Johnsten

Gold Hill Lutheran Church Welcomes You!

Are you looking for a place to connect with a faithful community, grow in faith, and put your talents to work in serving others? Look no further, we welcome you at Gold Hill Lutheran Church! To learn more about the mission and ministry of Gold Hill Lutheran Church, please contact us at 406-723-4242.