

**Gold Hill Evangelical Lutheran Church**

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



The Nugget E-News

March 4, 2019

## GOLD HILL NEWS

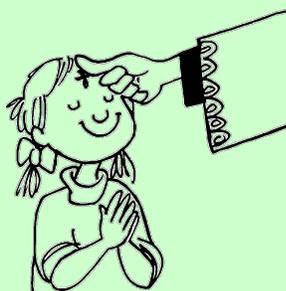


### Lenten Schedule

This year at Gold Hill we're going to hold soup & bread suppers at 5:45 pm with transition conversations. Worship will follow at 6:30 pm. **Please note there will be no soup & bread supper on Ash Wednesday, March 6th.** The soup & bread suppers start on Wednesday, March 13th. *Please see the soup & bread signup sheet in the Fellowship Hall.*

### Children's Ash Wednesday Service

There will be a special children's service on March 6th, Ash Wednesday, at Aldersgate Methodist Church (1621 Thornton Ave. in Butte) at 4:00 pm. If your kids are interested in learning more about Ash Wednesday this service is geared to them. If you have any questions please call (406) 461-8321.



### Dig out your shovels!

Even though it's March it feels more like December! And we need help with snow removal before worship on Sunday morning. **If you can help out, please let Lynn Aniksdal (491-2245) know.** Thank you.

### Donations for the Homeless

Action Inc. is in need of donations to help the homeless while we are without a shelter here in Butte. This is a critical time of year with winter still upon us so congregations in town will be taking up a special collection on March 10th for this purpose. The Butte Ministerial Association will match the combined congregations' funds up to \$1,000.00. Please be sure to give generously on March 10th for those without shelter! It is truly going to take all of us working together to keep people safe and healthy in this cold weather.



### Calendar:

**GHELC Women's Book Club**  
meets at 10:00 am  
at Big Sky Senior Living Center  
Monday, March 4

**Chateau Quilters**  
meet 10 am - 4 pm  
Tuesday, March 5

**LWR Quilters**  
meet at 9:30 am  
Wednesday, March 6

**Ash Wednesday Service**  
at 6:30 pm - Sanctuary  
Wednesday, March 6

**Gold Hill Choir**  
meets after Worship  
Wednesday, March 6

**Overeaters Anonymous**  
meets @ 6:15 pm  
Wednesday, Mar. 6

**Al-Anon**  
meets at 7:30 pm  
Wednesday, Mar. 6

**Copper Cloggers**  
meet 1 - 4 pm  
Thursday, March 7

**Worship & Music**  
meets at 6:30 pm  
Thursday, March 7

**55+ Lunch Group**  
meets at 12 Noon  
at Perkin's Restaurant  
Friday, March 8

**Worship Service:**  
at 9:30 am



## Daylight Savings Time!

It's time to spring ahead! **Daylight savings time begins on March 10th at 2:00 am.** Be sure to set your clocks ahead an hour Saturday evening, otherwise you'll be late to worship on Sunday morning.

## Butte Furniture Bank

The Butte Furniture Bank was started last year by Gold Hill members and has had a great response in the community, both in donations of furniture and requests for this valuable service to the recently housed. We have a large inventory of furniture on hand at the present time and a number of clients waiting for delivery. We do have an urgent need for some funds as well, in order to go ahead with setting up a non-profit organization, insurance, and incidentals.



You can click [HERE](#) to contribute if you feel moved to do so. **Also, if you want to be a volunteer, we need all the help we can get.** Call Curt Quist (406) 490-9983 for more information.

**Coffee Hour:**  
at 10:45 am  
**Sunday School:**  
at 10:45 am  
**Adult Faith Formation:**  
at 11:00 am  
**Confirmation Class:**  
at 12:00 pm  
Sunday, March 30  
**Knitting Ministry Sunday**

## Bible Study Opportunities:

**Group Study** every  
Thursday  
September through May 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



## Words from the Bishop: What is the Conference of Bishops?

As you read these words, I will be in Chicago for my final meeting of the ELCA Conference of Bishops. Or I will be in some airport, hoping to get rebooked. When you are elected to be the bishop of a synod of the ELCA, you are automatically a part of the Conference of Bishops. It isn't optional; it is part of the call. Every bishop of a synod is also a bishop of the whole church. That means being part of the Conference of Bishops.

For my first six years I was part of the Ecumenical and Interreligious Affairs Committee. Then for four years I was Chair of the Conference of Bishops, and part of the COB Executive Committee, as well as the Church Council Executive Committee. Now I am part of the Synodical and Churchwide Relations Committee. We monitor the issues described in our name.

Twice a year the Conference of Bishops meets as a whole-usually for 5 or 6 days. It may surprise you to know that the Conference of Bishops, by and large, does not make policy for the church. Many people make that assumption-that when the bishops gather they make policies and proclamations. This is a mistaken notion that comes from watching from afar how gatherings of bishops in other church bodies function. We are not Catholic, or Episcopalian or Methodist. We are ELCA.

In the ELCA, it is the Church Council that is the decision-making body when the triennial Churchwide Assembly is not in session. The Conference of Bishop's main role is to advise and consult, not to govern. The COB is not a governing body. Read what the ELCA Constitution says:

*"The Conference of Bishops shall consult with and advise the Church Council. It may make recommendations to the presiding bishop of the church and to the Church Council, respond to referrals from the Church Council, and refer concerns and proposals to the Church Council. At each meeting the Conference of Bishops shall receive a report from the Church Council brought by the vice president of this church." (10.81.01)*

During my tenure we began to invite members of the Church Council, in

## 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 2019

**Mike Lawson** -  
President

**Curt Quist** -  
Administration Director

**Revonda Stordahl** -  
Treasurer

**Peggy Graving** -  
Secretary

**Julie Corbin** -  
Spiritual Growth Ministry  
Team Leader

**Chris Ketchum** -  
Worship Ministry

addition to the Vice President, to attend COB meetings. Visiting Council members were surprised to see the contrast between their meetings and the COB. One said: "We spend all our time making decisions, with very little time to reflect and discern. You spend all your time reflecting and discerning, with almost no opportunity to make decisions."

It is true. There are very few issues on which the Conference of Bishops has the final say. The major one is the roster—who can be issued a call, who can be given extra time on leave, which unusual circumstances justify setting aside timelines. Recently the Montana Synod asked for a call to a deacon who was non-stipendiary. After consideration, the Roster Committee granted our request, and passed it on to the full body, who agreed.

Mostly, the Conference of Bishops advises Churchwide units and staff, hears about programs and policies, listens to and voices concerns, and makes formal recommendations, when appropriate, to the Church Council. The Church Council is where the buck stops.

I want to say a word about our polity. It is very intentional that the buck stops with the Churchwide Assembly, and with the Church Council in between assemblies. The Church Council, like the Churchwide Assembly and all properly constituted governing bodies in the ELCA, is made up of at least 60% laity. This is important. The ELCA is a church that takes laity seriously, so seriously that we are committed to having a majority of lay persons in every governing body.

I think this is one of the reasons that the ELCA has been more successful than some other denominations in instituting and enforcing a no-tolerance policy for sexual abuse. We don't have a system where clergy can protect clergy. Our design incorporates more transparency, more accountability. We are not perfect. But our system keeps us in check.

What the Conference of Bishops brings to meetings twice a year, is not only their own interests and gifts, but the wisdom of every congregation in the ELCA. It is said that only when the COB meets is there somebody in the room who knows every congregation in the ELCA, and speaks for them. For the next week I will be representing you in my conversations with colleagues in Chicago. Pray for us.

Jessica Crist, Bishop

Team Leader  
**Lynn Aniksdal** -  
Leadership Ministry  
Team Leader  
**Jerry Aaker** -  
Outreach Ministry  
Team Leader  
**Pastor Laurie Jungling**

## *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 Pastor Laurie Jungling at 406-723-4242.*