

## Gold Hill Evangelical Lutheran Church

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



The Nugget E-News

July 20, 2020

## Gold Hill News

### Looking for ushers and lectors

The Worship team is also looking for folks who can help usher or lector for outdoor services on Sundays. If you feel called to this ministry, please let Mary or Pr. Carrels know (723-4242), or talk to Chris Ketchum.



### Help with cleanup after services

The Worship team is looking for people to help with clean up after services on Sundays. Please call the church office (723-4242) to sign up if you can help out, or talk to Chris Ketchum (team leader) on the Worship team.

## Montana Synod News

**The Montana Synod is curating information  
and resources on the Montana Synod Website**

Click [HERE](#) to be taken to the COVID-19 resource page. There you will find information released by the Synod office, resources, and tools for your congregation.

### Wanted: Constitutional Reviewers for the Montana Synod!

If you have an eye for detail, find joy in playing around with constitutions, and have a desire to serve the church (or know someone who does), please contact the MT Synod office. (406-453-1461 or [cstandall@montanasynod.org](mailto:cstandall@montanasynod.org))

Lay and clergy are welcome to volunteer. We will train you. We need

## Calendar:

**Worship Service  
Outdoors:  
North Parking Lot  
at 9:30 AM  
Sunday, July 26th  
Christmas in July!**

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### Bible Study Opportunities:

**Group Study  
every  
Thursday  
at 6:30 AM  
Hanging Five  
Restaurant**

## 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](#)

## From the Bishop

Dear Followers of Christ in the MT Synod,



As you may have noticed, Covid-19 is here in Montana and it is spreading fast. And that is forcing us to change our lives in difficult but important ways in order to follow Christ's command to love one another. Choosing to keep our worship spaces closed or avoiding big events in the face of Covid are NOT acts of fear nor do they indicate a lack of faith in God. Just the opposite actually: these are the acts of love, compassion and protection of the neighbor that God commands us to do. For those of us who are followers of Christ and caretakers of all the members of Christ's body, the church, we have a duty to our communities to slow the spread of Covid-19 even if it means closing down again or keeping our gatherings for worship limited.

**Some have said "well, only 1% of people who get sick will die." For Montana, that 1% amounts to over 10,000 people who will die in our state.** And that doesn't include those people who get so sick they end up in hospitals with machines breathing for them or those who are stuck at home for several weeks with symptoms worse than the flu or those on the front lines who have to provide the ongoing care for all the sick, Covid-related or not. These are our fellow human beings and God demands that we treat them with dignity and worth the same way we want to be treated. Writing these people off as nothing just to get our own way is not Christian, is not love and is not the way Jesus Christ wants we who claim to be his followers to live.

**Instead, God calls us to be better than that, to put on Christ and be God's love in the world, even and especially during a pandemic.**

"Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love." (1 John 4:7-8)

In the name of God's love, I continue to urge you to follow safest practices for your context, following county and state regulations especially. And be ready to change your practices suddenly as the virus increases in your communities and infects more and more people.

### Especially follow these practices:

- As more counties and cities add restrictions on gatherings according to group size, please follow these restrictions. No wedding, funeral, anniversary celebration or other event is worth becoming a hotspot for your community and putting lives at risk.
- Love and serve your pastor and council by following their guidance instead of pushing back. Your leadership is making the best possible choices to protect the congregation and community, including you and your family. Bullying and harassment are not acceptable ways for followers of Christ to behave.
- If Covid comes to your town, be as ready to shut your worship

### CHURCH COUNCIL 2020

**Mike Lawson -**  
President

**Curt Quist -**  
Administration Director

**Revonda Stordahl -**  
Treasurer

**Peggy Graving -**  
Secretary

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

**Chris Ketchum -**  
Worship Ministry  
Team Leader

**Lynn Aniksdal -**  
Leadership Ministry  
Team Leader

**Dale Schultz -**  
Outreach Ministry  
Team Leader

**Pastor Marlow Carrels**

space down as you were to open it up.

- If Covid is getting close to your town, take some steps back by not having communion for a few weeks or singing softly or having worship outside.
- Love one another by wearing a mask which reduces the spread greatly, especially in closed-in areas where the air is shared.
- Take attendance at worship so that you can help your county health department do any contact tracing as necessary.

Please, oh please, dear followers of Christ, love and care for one another, "for there is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear...we love because God first loved us." (1 John 4:18) Don't be the cause of someone's suffering or the source of someone's misery. Instead, be the reason someone stays alive and well and safe. We are in this together and God will get us through it. For God is with us, bringing new life out of death. Always!

Bishop Laurie

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### **[The Bishop's Covid-19 Guidelines as of July 15, 2020](#)**

**Please take note of Governor Bullock's mask directive issued for Montana on July 15th:**

GREAT FALLS - Governor Steve Bullock announced in a news conference on Wednesday that he is issuing a statewide directive requiring face coverings in Montana. The directive is effective immediately in counties that have four or more active cases of Covid-19.

The directive requires that masks be used in most indoor settings and where social distancing cannot be maintained.

A news release says the directive requires businesses, government offices and other indoor spaces open to the public to ensure that employees, contractors, volunteers, customers, and other members of the public wear a face mask that covers their mouth and nose while remaining inside these spaces. The directive also requires face coverings at organized outdoor activities of 50 or more people, where social distancing is not possible or is not observed.

Read the full article [HERE](#).

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## ***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.***