

## Gold Hill Evangelical Lutheran Church

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

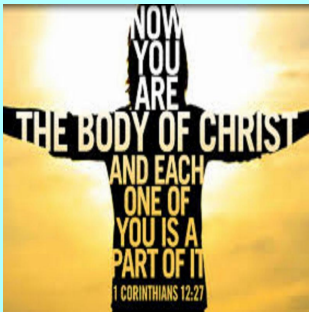


The Nugget E-News

February 2, 2020

## GOLD HILL NEWS

### Church Council



#### Thank you to outgoing council member

Jerry Aaker for his time of service and the gifts he shared with the congregation. It is appreciated!

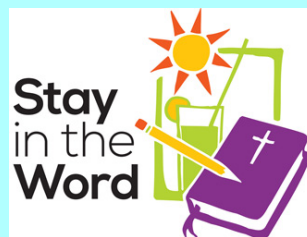
#### Congregational Leadership for

2020: We are grateful for Mike Lawson (President), Curt Quist (Administration Director), Revonda Stordahl (Treasurer), Peggy Graving (Secretary), Lynn Aniksdal

(Leadership Ministry), Dale Schultz (Outreach Ministry), Julie Corbin (Spiritual Growth Ministry), and Chris Ketchum (Worship Ministry) as they lead the congregation forward. Thank you!

### Bible Study

Looking Ahead to Sunday (Bible Study) **Pastor Trina offers a weekly Bible Study on Thursdays at 10:00 am and 7:00 pm.** The focus looks ahead to Sunday's lessons, particularly the Gospel lesson. No experience necessary and each week is a stand-alone lesson so come as you are able. Bring your favorite Bible!



### Gloria Dei WELCA Group

Gloria Dei WELCA Group invites the women of Gold Hill to a **Valentine luncheon** at 12 pm on Thursday, February 13, at the church, 2300 Florence Ave. Please come for fellowship, lunch, and games!



Please **RSVP** to Stephanie at 491-1778 or Susanne at rossw@bresnan.net.

We hope to see you there.

### Calendar:

#### **GHELC Women's Book Club**

meets at 10:00 am  
Big Sky Senior Living Center  
Monday, Feb. 3

**Chateau Quilters**  
meet 10 am - 4 pm  
Tuesday, Feb. 4

**Executive Committee**  
meets at 5:30 pm  
Tuesday, Feb. 4

**LWR Quilters**  
meet at 9:30 am  
Wednesday, Feb. 5

**Gold Hill Choir**  
meets at 6:30 pm  
Wednesday, Feb. 5

**Overeaters Anon.**  
meets at 6:15 pm  
Wednesday, Feb. 5

**AI-Anon**  
meets at 7:30 pm  
Wednesday, Feb. 5

**Pastor's Bible Study**  
meets at 10 am & 7 pm  
Thursday, Feb. 6

**Copper Cloggers**  
meet 1 - 4 pm  
Thursday, Feb. 6

**Music & Worship**  
meet at 6:00 pm

## Butte Emergency Food Bank

Let's tackle hunger in our community. The Food Bank item for February is soup (mixes and canned). Please drop your donations off before February 29 and leave them in the Fellowship Hall, one of the baskets at each sanctuary door, or in the church office. Thank you for your generosity!



Thursday, Feb. 6

Overeaters Anon.  
meet at 5:00 pm  
Friday, Feb. 7



## 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 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

### Worship Service:

at 9:30 am

### Sunday School:

at 10:45 am

### Adult Education:

at 10:45 am

### Coffee Hour:

at 10:45 am

Sunday, February 9

### 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

Mike Lawson -

President

Curt Quist -

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.



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

**Interim Pastor**

**Trina Johnsten**



### **Words from the Bishop: Following in Joy**

"Rejoice and be glad!" Jesus says this to his followers who are persecuted and reviled and slandered as they follow him. Be glad. Have joy. Even in your suffering. (Mt 5:10)

Is he kidding?! How in the world can we possibly be joy-filled and glad in the midst of persecution and suffering? And there will be persecution, Jesus declares again and

again. Jesus may have promised to lead us through a rose garden but he was clear that there would be many thorns in the following. Where's the joy in that?

But maybe we're looking for joy in all the wrong places. Too often we confuse joy with happiness. But they aren't the same thing and we run into trouble when we think they are.

Happiness is an emotion, often fleeting, that comes and goes based on the events that happen to us. We spend a lot of time, energy and resources searching for happiness, looking in all sorts of places - possessions, relationships, money, success, drugs etc. - for the next high of happiness. But since it's transitory, happiness quickly disappears until it's replaced with the next "happy hour"...at least until the timer runs out.

Joy, on the other hand, is spiritual and is centered in our relationship with the one who calls us to follow. Joy is a gift, often given over time and through an accumulation of our experiences of God's love, peace, and blessing with us. Joy doesn't disappear over the next hill or into the next valley. Joy, once discovered, remains with us, not through our work but through the power of the Spirit when in faith, we open ourselves to the in-spirited Christ within.

What does this joy look like in everyday life? If I had to pick two of the most joy-filled people in the Bible, I'd pick Anna and Simeon. (Luke 2:25-38) And it's not just because they eventually got to see and touch

and hold the salvation of the world, although that was the moment their joy was fulfilled. No, they lived in joy even before that special day.

Neither Anna nor Simeon had an easy life. They were members of a persecuted and oppressed people, practicing their faith in an Empire that saw them as conquered. Anna had been widowed and left childless early in life. Simeon had received a promise that seemed to take forever to come about. Yet both Anna and Simeon lived their lives in the joy of expectant waiting, prayer-filled worship, and devout relationship with the God whom they trusted to bring new life to the world. Anna and Simeon didn't spend their lives searching for momentary instances of happiness; they lived every day in the new life given them each moment through God's promises, celebrating the beauty and blessing of God's life they were receiving.

Joy is a gift shared by God, not only as an end result of following Jesus but in the following itself, thorns and all. In our following, we find joy in the now through the promised new life of God's indwelling future. Joy doesn't deny the pain and persecution of the following; it acknowledges it as real. But at the same time, joy says to death, suffering and persecution, "You don't get the last word. Life does. Love does. Impossible-to-understand peace does." Joy always finds God's new life and blessing in the present (as difficult as it may be to see sometimes) and hopes through faith for the new life God gives.

So let us follow Jesus, falling in joy with God in the same way we fall in love with God. In this following we will discover what it means to love...but more about love next week.

In the joy of Christ,  
Bishop Laurie Jungling

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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.***