

Gold Hill Evangelical Lutheran Church

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



The Nugget E-News

September 3, 2019

GOLD HILL NEWS

God's Work. Our Hands. Sunday

God's Work. Our Hands. Sunday is this coming Sunday, September 8, 2019.

All are encouraged to attend the neighborhood cook out and warmly greet any and all neighbors who come to join us.

There are sign-up sheets in the fellowship hall for the various activities you can participate in. **Note that we will be collecting items for the residents of the Butte Rescue Mission.** Bring donated items to the fellowship hall on or before GWOH Sunday - most needed items include razors and shaving cream, shampoo, tooth paste & brushes, and deodorant.

Also, we will have an opportunity to practice our Christian responsibility as citizens by writing letters to our elected officials to encourage support nutrition programs for hungry children worldwide.

Join us for

"God's work. Our hands."

A dedicated day of service in our community.



Calendar:

GHELC Women's Book Club
meets at 10:00 am
Big Sky Senior Living Center
Tuesday, Sept. 3

Chateau Quilters
meet 10 am - 4 pm
Tuesday, Sept. 3

Executive Committee
meets at 5:30 pm
Tuesday, Sept. 3

LWR Quilters
meet at 9:30 am
Wednesday, Sept. 4

Overeaters Anonymous
meets @ 6:15 pm
Wednesday, Sept. 4
Al-Anon
meets at 7:30 pm
Wednesday, Sept. 4

Copper Cloggers
meet 1 - 4 pm
Thursday, Sept. 5

God's Work Our Hands Sunday
Worship Service:
at 9:30 am
Coffee Hour:



Montana Synod

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

ELCA Global Links

At the ELCA Churchwide Assembly this month, Panti Filibus Musa - archbishop of the Lutheran Church of Christ in Nigeria and president of the Lutheran World Federation - issued a call for the ELCA to embrace its local and global witness, especially in times of fragmentation. "Continue singing the powerful melody of God's liberating presence in this world, which sets us free to serve, love, reconcile and do so much more," Musa said.

Read about his address [HERE](#).

Most notably, the ELCA declared itself a sanctuary denomination at Churchwide Assembly - the first North American denomination to do so. The Lutheran World Federation **welcomed the decision**, calling it a

"visionary and prophetic stand." Learn more about what becoming a sanctuary denomination means [HERE](#).

YAGM volunteer reflects on silence and storytelling

As her year of service in Jerusalem and the West Bank neared an end, YAGM volunteer Hannah J. shared her reflections on the Churches for Middle East Peace blog. In "**Do Not Be Silent**" Hannah wrestles with the call to speak out about injustice. "I am still learning how to hold these stories sacred, how to sit shoulder to shoulder with my companions," she wrote. Just as Hannah and her cohort have returned, the new YAGM cohort for 2019-2020 has headed out! YAGM volunteers attended orientation this month and have been arriving in their country programs.

Words from the Bishop - Meet the Future Boldly!



As I write this last edition of the weekly "Words from the Bishop," I am grateful for the opportunity to serve these last 12 years. Thank you for allowing me to be your Bishop during these sometimes turbulent times.

These last 12 years have been full of changes in the world and in the church. Our congregations have experienced change as the baby boomers retire and the millennials are drawn to other vocations. Changing demographics have made some congregations rethink their mission-some have grown, and some have shrunk. Our full communion partnerships have made ecumenical cooperation and yoking a reality.

The Synod, too, has undergone change in the last twelve years. We have streamlined the work of the Synod Council and built a new energy-efficient tech-ready Synod House. We have gone from a monthly mailed newsletter to a weekly e-news. We work to save money and travel time by hosting more and more meetings electronically.

We have grown the LPA program, and started LPA 2.0. We have apologized to the tribes, and started a new mission on the Fort Peck Reservation, as well as maintaining our relationship with Our Saviour's Rocky Boy. We have established a ministry in the Montana State Prison in Deer Lodge, Freedom in Christ.

The church's adoption of the Human Sexuality Social Statement and the changes in ministry policy stirred up a storm in this Synod as well as across the church. Twenty congregations ultimately chose to disaffiliate with the ELCA, but at least one congregation declared itself to be a Reconciling in Christ congregation, and one new congregation was formed from people whose congregation had left. Other congregations expressed gratitude, "Now my kids are welcome."

We have grown our relationship with our two companion synods-the Cape Orange Diocese in South Africa and the Lutheran Church in Bolivia. And during the last dozen years the YAGM program has grown and thrived. Each year at least one Montana Synod young adult was involved-and most years there have been several. We have hosted a Glocal event for the ELCA, and were also the site for the American Indian Alaska Native Lutheran Association's gathering.

We celebrated the 500th anniversary of the Reformation with several years of resources produced by Synod members, leading to a Convocation with the Diocese of Great Falls-Billings on the Five Ecumenical Imperatives adopted by an international committee. The celebration culminated with a joint Lutheran-Catholic Vespers at the Helena Cathedral with 4 Bishops, joint choirs, and an overflow crowd.

Ecumenically, the ELCA entered into full communion with the United

at 10:45 am
Sunday School:
at 10:45 am
Sunday, September 8

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

2019

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Methodists (our 6th agreement), allowing us to partner with Methodist congregations and pastors. During the last 12 years we have partnered with Presbyterians, UCC, Methodists and Episcopalians. We shared a convocation on preaching with the Episcopalians, and had both Presiding Bishops at Chico one year for a joint event.

We affirmed our relationship with the Montana Association of Jewish Communities-a ground-breaking agreement first adopted in 1995. We also commemorated the 10th anniversary of the Joint Declaration on the Doctrine of Justification. During these last 12 years, the Montana Association of Churches became the Montana association of Christians, and the Wyoming Association of Churches became the Wyoming Interfaith Association.

And the work of the church goes on. We continue to recruit and ordain pastors, encourage lay leadership, install rostered leaders and provide continuing education. We work with congregations in conflict, and work cooperatively with the institutions and ministries on our territory and beyond.

And so I end with where I began-with gratitude. I am grateful to the staff who have worked with me over the years, and to the Synod Council and officers who have guided the Synod. I am grateful to the Pastors and Deacons, the LPAs and the Synodically Authorized Ministers who have been on the ground doing ministry. I am grateful to the Deans and the committee members, who have faithfully attended to the church. And I am grateful to the congregations of the Montana Synod who have called me and supported the work of the larger church.

As I transition into retirement, my prayers are with the Montana Synod and with Bishop-Elect Laurie Jungling, and together you begin a new chapter.

Meet the future boldly!

In Christ,

Jessica Crist, Bishop

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.