

## Gold Hill Evangelical Lutheran Church

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



The Nugget E-News

November 25, 2019

## GOLD HILL NEWS



### Cookies! Cookies! Cookies!

A small, but mighty group of bakers produced some great Scandinavian cookies for the annual Lutefisk dinner. However, many, many, more cookies are needed! Please consider baking some great holiday cookies for this occasion. There are signup sheets in the Hall if you wish to bake cookies for the dinner. Questions? Talk to Peg Probasco or Dorothy Anne Honeychurch.

### Annual Lutefisk & Meatball Holiday Dinner

Norwegian-Americans believe that Lutefisk was brought by their ancestors on the ships when they came to America, and that it was all they had to eat. Today the fish is celebrated in ethnic and religious celebrations and is linked with hardship and courage. It is about origins and roots; it is sharing a past history with others and keeping it alive in the present.

So please join us **December 7th from 3 PM - 7 PM in the Fellowship Hall!** The menu hasn't changed and will feature Lutefisk and Lefse, with pickled herring, Swedish meat balls, boiled potatoes and white cream gravy, cooked carrots, pickled beets, and plenty of hot coffee to drink. There will also be Scandinavian cookies and fruit soup for dessert. One of the great things about Lutefisk is how it brings people together. In fact this dinner has become so popular that lovers of this special cod dish drive great distances, and these are not just people of Scandinavian descent! All are invited to attend, and if anyone has any questions they can call the church office at 723-4242. You can use the sign-up sheets in the Fellowship Hall by the kitchen window to indicate how you can help with this event, or call Mike Lawson @560-3591 for more information. As always the food will be great and the fellowship even better.

**Ticket prices are \$14 per adult and \$8 per child and will be available at the door.**



### Calendar:

**Overeaters Anonymous**  
meets @ 6:15 pm  
Wednesday, Nov. 27  
**Al-Anon**  
meets at 7:30 pm  
Wednesday, Nov. 27

**Thanksgiving Holiday**  
Office Closed  
Thursday, Nov. 28 &  
Friday, Nov. 29

**Worship Service:**  
at 9:30 am  
**Coffee Hour:**  
at 10:45 am

**Sunday, December 1**

### 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



## Soup & Bread in Advent

We will be meeting on Wednesday evenings, December 4, 11, and 18, starting at 5:45 pm for a simple Soup & Bread supper. It will be followed by Holden Evening Prayer Service at 6:30 pm. *There is a signup sheet in the Fellowship Hall for those of you wishing to*

*help with these suppers.* Please join us! If you have any questions, please talk to Cheryl Neuhart or anyone on the Worship Ministry Team.

## 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](#)

## Words from the Bishop: Mission

*What would your congregation or ministry do with \$1 million dollars?*

Would you be governed by the consumer culture that would drive you to use money for yourselves (our building, property, comfort)? Would you be driven by the myths of scarcity that tell you to save it for a rainy day, even if the hurricane is already blowing around you?

Or would you choose to live a different way, God's way, a way that seeks God's reign by searching for the best ways possible to use the blessings you've received to serve God's mission of sharing the good news, loving your neighbor and serving those in need?

**We live as consumers in a culture of scarcity, always worried about not having enough.** In fact, there are three myths this culture of scarcity bombards us with: 1) there's not enough to go around; 2) more is always better; 3) and that's just the way it is. These myths cause us to constantly worry about resources, an anxiety that turns us into ourselves and drives us to act out of fear and seek our own personal desires.

But God wants a different life for those who follow Christ. God wants us to live as citizens of Christ's kingdom, following a way of faith, hope, love and generosity. "Do not worry about your life, what you will wear, eat or drink," Jesus promises in his Sermon on the Mount. (Mt 6:25-34) "Seek God's kingdom instead and trust in what God has already given you." This doesn't mean we stop eating, drinking or wearing clothing (please don't! J). It means that in our daily encounter with Jesus, our lives are transformed so much that we get to stop worrying about having more, because when everyone is as generous as we're called to be in Christ, everyone will have enough.

That's what happened to Zacchaeus of Jericho. One day he was a rich tax collector, short in stature, tall in wealth. Then from a branch on a sycamore tree he saw Jesus. And Jesus saw him. Jesus invited himself into Zacchaeus' life and everything changed! Zacchaeus trusted Jesus so much that he gave away half of what he owned to those in need and used the rest to repent of his defrauding ways by giving back four times the amount he took. He stopped worrying about having more and used his million dollars to serve the mission of God's reign in this world. In this transformation, salvation came to Zacchaeus' house and he and his family lived in the new life Christ promises. (Lk 19:1-10)

So what would you do with a million dollars? What will you do with the blessings you do receive, even if it doesn't hit that million mark? **During this time often devoted to stewardship, I encourage you to think outside the box of scarcity and imagine how you as individuals,**



## 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  
Team Leader

**Lynn Aniksdal** -  
Leadership Ministry  
Team Leader

**Jerry Aaker**  
Outreach Ministry

**Interim Pastor**  
**Trina Johnsten**

**congregations, and ministries can support God's mission in the world.** Think about the many ways the ELCA is already serving God's mission through your congregation, your synod and the wider church: through your local food pantries or quilt-making or clothing drives; through the synod's support of prison ministry, campus ministry, helping you find a pastor or visiting you in times of celebration or difficulty; through Churchwide programs such as Lutheran World Hunger, Lutheran Disaster Relief, Young Adults in Global Mission, and many other opportunities to love and serve the weak, the lost, the hungry, the afraid, the marginalized and the forgotten among us in our communities, state, nation and world. Thank you for all of the ways you support the ELCA's opportunities for doing God's mission. For finally, that is what Jesus calls us to support, *God's* mission to bring salvation to the whole world, especially those in need.

**A wonderful gift has been given to you and your congregation. You have been welcomed freely into God's salvation, a relationship of new and transformed life in God's kingdom.** In this relationship, each of you is called to follow Christ and be a steward of God's blessings to the world. And as followers of Christ you get to participate in God's mission through your wise and hope-filled giving and service in God's kingdom. Thank you for your continued support of God's mission happening in your congregation/ministry, the Montana Synod, and the wider Church. Your gifts are appreciated!

In Christ's hope,  
Bishop Laurie

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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.*