



Pastor Scott	2
Youth News	3
Immanuel Lutheran Communities	4
Faith Festival	5
Calendar	6
Service Groups	7
Treasurer's Report	8
Council News	9
Other Messages	10
Birthdays	11



## MEN'S RETREAT

Greetings, men of Bethlehem. It's time to mark your calendars for our annual men's retreat at Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp.

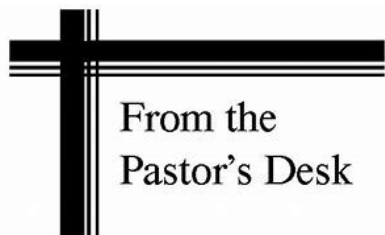
This year's speaker is Pastor Jean Larson. Pastor Jean has been a familiar face to the ELCA community in the Missoula area for many years, serving as resident pastor at several of our churches as well as Emmaus Campus Ministry. She has been a long-time, outspoken advocate for social justice and equal rights for all. The story of her faith journey that she will be sharing with us at our retreat promises to be quite interesting and edifying.

This year's retreat will be a bit later in the year, running from Friday afternoon, **March 27** thru Saturday morning, March 28. By then, we hope most of the ice and snow at the camp will be gone.

Registration fee for the retreat is \$85.00. This covers lodging, three delicious meals, and the camp's highly competent staff catering to our every need.

You can sign up any time at the church office or by contacting Don Beller, 257-3640 or 396-9490. If you want to go but do not wish to drive to the camp, rides are available. We hope you will join us for a weekend of music, prayer, fellowship, spiritual renewal, and relaxation.

We are a Christian community rooted in the gospel of Jesus Christ that gathers to worship, learn and share, and reaches out to welcome, witness and serve.



Perhaps in the past you've participated in the practice of giving something up for Lent. For many it's an opportunity to "fast" from something that could otherwise be distracting or even detrimental to one's life. I know people sometimes give up candy or soda or alcohol. Others give up TV or social media. Some even give up driving their car and choose to ride a bike as a way of promoting clean air and physical health.

If you choose to give something up for Lent this year, I support you. I will pray for you. I know that God will bless your discipline and fill the space you create with grace and wisdom. But if giving something up doesn't seem to be right for you, don't feel like you have to. It's not a commandment. You're not an inferior person if you choose other disciplines for Lent or any other season.

There are many ways to observe the six weeks of Lent including daily prayer, a commitment to looking for the positive in others, or even just choosing to give thanks for one or more things that people do for you each week.

Here are a few other options I've come across lately...

Joy in the journey,  
Pastor Scott



**Download a Lenten devotional  
or read it each day online.**

<https://www.luthersem.edu/godpause/lenten-devotional/>

#### **Do you want to fast this Lent?**

- Fast from hurting words and say kind words.
- Fast from sadness and be filled with gratitude.
- Fast from anger and be filled with patience.
- Fast from pessimism and be filled with hope.
- Fast from worries and have trust in God.
- Fast from complaints and contemplate simplicity.
- Fast from pressures and be prayerful.
- Fast from bitterness and fill your hearts with joy.
- Fast from selfishness and be compassionate to others
- Fast from grudges and be reconciled.
- Fast from words and be silent so you can listen.

#### **40 cans for Lent**

Get a box and put it someplace conspicuous in your home. Each day, as a family choose a food item to put in the box. At the end of Lent take the box of food to the local food bank.

Options:

- Challenge each other in the family to choose foods that are your favorites.
- On a certain day each week put in a food item that you would have otherwise served on your own table... put it in the box instead and pray for the person who will get to eat it.
- Make up other creative ways to highlight the food items and increase your understanding of hunger in your community.



# Youth news



**High School Youth Group** meets on Wednesday evenings for dinner at 5:30 and discussion at 6pm. Also, we have Sunday School classes on (duh ... Sunday) mornings from 9:15-10:15. Finally, we meet on the 1st and 3rd Sunday evenings for food, fun, and games. Come and enjoy good food and good (if not a little goofy!) friends!!!

**Confirmation Classes** meet each week. First, we eat the food that gives us life... dinner starts at 5:30 each week. Then, at 6pm, we eat the food that gives us abundant life—the words of scripture and how it shapes our world. 7th and 8th graders are welcome and bringing a friend is encouraged!

## Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp 2020— Love Endures

Jesus' love and love throughout the generations will be the 2020 FLBC summer camp theme. They will explore stories of familiar Bible characters and their responses to God's call and God's promised faithfulness in the midst of life's challenges. Through the stories of Abraham and Sarah, Joseph, David, Mary, Paul, Timothy, and Lydia, they will teach campers how enduring love was instilled in the Old Testament characters, to Jesus, to the early church, and onto us! There are many options for campers such as Adventure Camp, Basketball Camp, Climb & Kayak Camp and Cooking Camp. With so many options, there is something for everyone to enjoy. For more information and sign up options, go to [www.flbc.net](http://www.flbc.net) or call 406-752-6602.



**Summer Camp** isn't just for kids. There are many opportunities for adults to help out. FLBC is in need of Camp Grandparents, Adult Volunteers, Nurses/Doctors, Pastors/ Youth Directors, and Alumni Staff. If you are interested, go to [www.flbc.net](http://www.flbc.net) or call 406-752-6602.

## Immanuel Lutheran Communities, a Key Resource for Older Adults and Families

Are you curious about Immanuel Lutheran Communities' services? Here are some of our services that you might find useful:

**Caregiver Support Group** - Each month, Immanuel Lutheran Communities hosts a **Caregiver Support Group** for those who care for or about someone experiencing Alzheimer's disease, dementia, or a related disorder that affects memory, reason, and judgment. This group meets on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of every month from 3:00pm -4:30pm. For more information or to obtain a list of meeting dates, call 406-752-9625.

**Short Stay Post-Acute Services** - **The Retreat at Buffalo Hill** offers short-term rehabilitation services for those who have been released from the hospital after injury, illness, or surgery but still need help healing. Your insurance or Medicare may cover your stay. If you anticipate needing the Retreat's services or have questions, call 406-752-6953.

**Long Term and Hospice Care** - **The Immanuel Skilled Care Center** provides support for seniors who require long-term, round-the-clock nursing care. If you or your loved one is reaching a point where you may need these services, call 406-752-9622.

### Ways to Help Seniors with Limited Means:

- 1) Chaplaincy Program - Thank you to our church partners who **contribute financially to our Chaplaincy Program**. This program allows our pastor to directly support residents of Immanuel Lutheran Communities, some of whom are members of your congregations. Your contributions are greatly appreciated.
- 2) Thrivent Dollars - If you are a Thrivent member, you can **designate your Thrivent Choice Dollars** to Immanuel Lutheran Communities. Simply speak with your Thrivent representative about this opportunity.

- 3) 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Immanuel Foundation Estate Sale - If you are spring cleaning or downsizing, **donate unwanted household items to the Immanuel Foundation Estate Sale!** We accept everything from furniture to household goods to artwork. In fact, we'll take almost anything except mattresses, clothing, electronics, and pianos. You can also join us on May 9 from 8am-12pm at the Gateway Community Center in Kalispell to shop to benefit seniors in need. To learn more about this event or to donate items, call 406-752-9243.

Thank you very much for your time and if you have any questions, please contact me at 406-890-7164.

Heidi Hicketier

### Following Jesus: Living and Talking Together as Christians



Sunday, March 22 at 2pm in the Fellowship Hall

Speaker: Bishop Laurie Jungling - Come and meet our new Bishop!

Presentation and Interactive Discussion - light refreshments will be served.

**What are some ways that followers of Christ can live, speak, work, and love with each other rather than turning against one another, even when we don't see eye-to-eye?** We know that our society is polarized, divided and sometimes angry. And it can get worse in an election year, they tell us. But as followers of Christ and not the culture, we hope and pray for something better, something healing, something more loving. How can we cross some of the very real divisions in our lives and seek reconciliation so that we can live and proclaim God's gospel together? The response may or may not surprise you and, of course, it all starts and ends with Jesus. But there is a lot in between for us to discover. So, join us to explore ways we can most faithfully follow Jesus.

March Calendar 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>1</p> <p><u>8:00am</u> Worship <u>9:15am</u> Adult Ed/ Sunday School <u>10:30am</u> Worship <u>5:00pm</u> Sr. High</p>	<p>2</p> <p><u>6:00pm</u>, FTF, FH  <u>6:00pm</u> Serious Juju Mtg, HB</p>	<p>3</p> <p><u>5:30pm</u> Irish Dancers, HB <u>6:30pm</u> Committee Directors, FR <u>7:00pm</u> Committees, FH <u>8:00</u> Executive Committee</p>	<p>4</p> <p><u>6:00am</u> Fitness Class, HB <u>6:45am</u> Men’s Bible Study, FH <u>10:00am</u> Staff <u>10:30am</u> Spinners, FH <u>5:30pm</u> Soup Supper <u>6:00pm</u> HSYG <u>6:30pm</u> Worship <u>7:00pm</u> Choir</p>	<p>5</p> <p><u>9:00am</u> Prayer Shawl, FR <u>9:00am</u> Quilting ,FH <u>4:00pm</u> GosBells <u>6:30pm</u> Cub Scouts</p>	6	7
<p>8</p> <p><u>8:00am</u> Worship <u>9:15am</u> Adult Ed/ Sunday School <u>10:30 am</u> Worship <u>11:45am</u> Welcome to Bethlehem, FH</p>	<p>9</p> <p><u>6:00pm</u>, FTF, FH</p>	<p>10</p> <p><u>10:00am</u> Dorcas Circle, FH  <u>5:30pm</u> Irish Dancers, HB <u>5:30pm</u> Council, FH</p>	<p>11</p> <p><u>6:00am</u> Fitness Class, HB <u>6:45am</u> Men’s Bible Study, FH <u>10:00am</u> Staff <u>5:30pm</u> Soup Supper <u>6:00pm</u> HSYG <u>6:30pm</u> Worship <u>7:00pm</u> Choir</p>	<p>12</p> <p><u>9:00am</u> Prayer Shawl, FR <u>9:00am</u> Quilting ,FH <u>10:00am</u> Bible Study/ Communion, Buffalo Hills Terrace <u>4:00pm</u> GosBells <u>6:30pm</u> Cub Scouts</p>	13	14
<p>15</p> <p><u>8:00am</u> Worship <u>9:15am</u> Adult Ed/ Sunday School <u>10:30am</u> Worship <u>5:00pm</u> Sr. High</p>	<p>16</p> <p><b>Newsletter deadline</b>  <b>6:00pm</b>, <b>FTF, FH-BLC</b> <b>Hosting</b></p>	<p>17</p> <p><u>5:30pm</u> Irish Dancers, HB</p>	<p>18</p> <p><u>6:00am</u> Fitness Class, HB <u>6:45am</u> Men’s Bible Study, FH <u>10:00am</u> Staff <u>10:30am</u> Spinner’s &amp; Weavers Guild, FH <u>5:30pm</u> Soup Supper <u>6:00pm</u> HSYG <u>6:30pm</u> Worship <u>7:00pm</u> Choir</p>	<p>19</p> <p><u>9:00am</u> Prayer Shawl, FR <u>1:00pm</u> East River Circle, FR <u>4:00pm</u> GosBells <u>6:30pm</u> Cub Scouts</p>	<p>20</p> <p><u>4:00pm</u> Book Club, FR</p>	21
<p>22</p> <p><u>8:00am</u> Worship <u>9:15am</u> Adult Ed/ Sunday School <u>10:30 am</u> Worship <u>2:00pm</u> Faith Festival</p>	<p>23</p> <p><u>6:00pm</u>, FTF, FH</p>	<p>24</p> <p><u>5:30pm</u> Irish Dancers, HB</p>	<p>25</p> <p><u>6:00am</u> Fitness Class, HB <u>6:45am</u> Men’s Bible Study, FH <u>10:00am</u> Staff <u>5:30pm</u> Soup Supper <u>6:00pm</u> HSYG <u>6:30pm</u> Worship <u>7:00pm</u> Choir</p>	<p>26</p> <p><u>9:00am</u> Prayer Shawl, FR <u>9:00am</u> Quilting, FH <u>4:00pm</u> GosBells</p>	<p>27</p> <p>FLBC Men’s Retreat</p>	28
<p>29</p> <p><u>8:00am</u> Worship <u>9:15am</u> Adult Ed/ Sunday School <u>10:30am</u> Worship</p>	<p>30</p> <p><u>12:00pm</u> Women on the Go, Wheat Montana</p>	<p>31</p> <p><u>5:30pm</u> Irish Dancers, HB</p>	<p><b>Locations:</b> CM-Commons FH -Fellowship Hall FR-Fireside Room HB-Hjortland Bld. KB- Kalispell Brewing</p>	<p><b>Abbreviations</b> <b>Jr. &amp; Sr. High</b>– Youth groups <b>FTF</b>– Feed the Flathead</p>		

## March Service Groups 2020

Captains	March 1	March 8	March 15	March 22	March 29
<b>Greeters</b>					
8:00am Mary Harris	Donna Tice	Bill & Linda Arlint	Susan Mueller	Cheryl & Jack Keith	Jane & Chuck Spain
10:30am Lorna Hauser	Bill & Jana Pursell	Jean White	Maggie Mohl	Barb Goulet	Helen Dollan
<b>Ushers</b>					
8:00am Dan Paschke	Bob Martens	Chuck & Jane Spain	Anne Taylor Larry Kaber	Cindy & Mike Galvin	Larry & Margie Simpson
10:30am Bev Taylor	Bill & Lauri Erickson	Mike Tronstad	Marianne Gielow Lorna Hauser	Dale & Georgia Saverud	Brian & Becky Croucher
<b>Assisting Ministers</b>					
8:00am Marshall	AM-Cindy Gavin C-Anne Taylor R-Cindy Galvin	AM-Kathy Branson C-Hannah Kassy R-John Erfle	AM-Bridgette Meskis C-Bridgett Meskis R-Libby Zimmerman	AM-Anne Taylor C-Anne Taylor R-Karen Brown	AM-John Erfle C-Hannah Kassy R-John Hendrickson
10:30am Marshall	AM-Paul Holmgren C-Solveig Munson R-Chuck McCoy	AM-Tony Nelson C-Don & Janan Beller R-Judie Cundy	AM-Marlene Anderson C-Tony Nelson R-Bev Hatlen	AM-Janan Beller C-Jana Thompson R-Dale Saverud	AM-Duane Anderson C-Bill Erickson R-Pauline Sjodal
<b>Communion</b>					
8:00am Larry Kaber	Donna Tice Anne Taylor	Sue Mueller Don Hauth	Larry Kaber Janet Veidt	Margerette & Gary Dahlgren	Marge & Larry Simpson
10:30am Judie Cundy	Mike Tronstad Gary Aasheim	Marlene & Duane Anderson	Paul Holmgren Becky Croucher	Patsy Cloud Christie Deck	Lorna Hauser Janan Beller
<b>Acolytes</b>					
8:00am	Emmett Meskis	Colby & Camille Cronk	TBD	TBD	Olive Louk Jessica Louk
10:30am	Tony Nelson Mitchell Johnson	Andrew Johnson Elley Alvord	Elley Alvord	Davin White Jacob Johnson	TBD
<b>Coffee Servers</b>					
8:00am Linda Erfle	Janan & Don Beller	Janet Veidt Anne Taylor	Margie Dornfield Sandy Lindlief	Mary & Bill Harris	Margerette & Gary Dahlgren
<b>Altar Guild</b>					
Glenda Skeim	Debbie Snyder Brenda Bernard	Debbie Snyder Brenda Bernard	Debbie Snyder Brenda Bernard	Debbie Snyder Brenda Bernard	Debbie Snyder Brenda Bernard

**Thank you for your service!**

Treasurer's Report  
February 2020

This written report is to accompany Our Church's Financial Health chart shown below. The figures in the chart are through January 2020, since as of the writing of this report, it is the last week in the month of February 2020. In my reports, I want to reflect the information that church council reviews at each month's council meeting.

Thank you to the Stewardship Committee and Pastor Scott for the excellent stewardship focus during the month of February! Through an introductory article in the February Star, insightful temple talks at worship and letters to congregational members, we were challenged to contemplate the "I believe" statements of the Apostles Creed. That statement of faith acknowledges our relationship with our loving God. We, as a congregation of believers, were encouraged to think about how that relationship makes a difference in our lives and in our relationships with others in God's creation.

Thank you to all who prayed about their financial giving to the mission of Bethlehem Lutheran Church and then completed a commitment card. It is a concrete, physical way for you to express your desire to be a part of the mission of this church! All of you play an integral part in our mission partnership together, within our congregation, in our community and in world outreach. Your commitment in acts of service is another way to respond to God's love and grace, and thank you for those gifts as well!

I look forward to serving with all of you as God leads us in familiar and new ways in 2020!

Blessings,  
Anne Taylor, Treasurer



Income/Expenses for January

Income		Expenses	
January	\$33,536	January	\$39,846
year to date	\$165,015	year to date	\$146,408
Total budget		\$432,517	
Needed per month		\$36,043	



BLC COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS  
February 11, 2020

**Treasurer's Report** (Anne Taylor)

- January income \$33,536; expenditures \$39,846; ending balance January 31<sup>st</sup> \$40,195.

**Music Director's Report** (Marshall Jones)

- Flathead Chamber Players concert was excellent and raised \$1,000 for Feeding the Flathead
- All strings and soloists are lined up for Good Friday's 'The Suffering Servant'
- All brass lined up for Easter

**Pastor's Report** (Pastor Scott Thompson)

- Last minute changes being implemented and new website will be ready
- 7 new members were welcomed into the congregation
- Lent in a Box – a box filled with all kinds of activities and ideas for sharing season of Lent among family members in the home will be available, especially to families with kids, on Sunday, Feb 23rd
- Soup Suppers start on Ash Wednesday, Feb 26<sup>th</sup> and continue through April 1<sup>st</sup>. Soup at 5:30 pm, Worship at 6:30 pm
- "Welcome to Bethlehem" to happen again on March 8 at 11:45 am – open not only to potential new members but also to any other congregants
- Palm Sunday – April 5<sup>th</sup>
- Maundy Thursday – April 9<sup>th</sup>
- Good Friday – April 10<sup>th</sup>
- Easter – April 12<sup>th</sup>
- Pastor's Retreat at Chico – April 14-17th

**Old Business**

- John Erfle will be point person and convene task force which will engage congregation on what to do with Church property, a time of brainstorming and idea sharing
- Hagestad Painting has agreed to paint the exterior of church and office building
- It was confirmed that BLC is listed as an additional insured on FLBC property

**New Business**

- Kids Space in Sanctuary. Hope to have done by Palm Sunday

The next meeting will be Tuesday, March 10th. Judie Cundy to give devotions, John Erfle to host the meal.



**Feed the Flathead** is in need of empty clean food containers. We send leftovers

home in them. Large size yogurt, margarine, cottage cheese, etc. containers with lids work well. Please leave them in the BLC kitchen. Thank you.

**Book Club** will hold it's monthly meeting on March 20th at 4pm in the Fireside Room. The book of the month will be The Curious Charms of Arthur Pepper by Phaedra Patrick. April's book will be The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek by Kim Michelle Richardson and will meet on April 17th at 4pm in the Fireside Room.

**Daylight Savings Time**— Remember, March 8th is Daylight Savings Time so remember to turn your clocks ahead one hour!



Our Lenten Worship Schedule

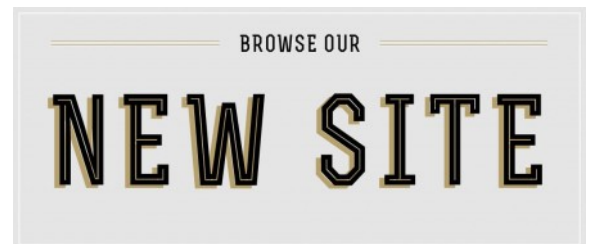
### Lenten Schedule 2020

March 4, 11, 18, 25 April 1st

- 5:30 Soup Supper
- 6:00 High School Youth Group
- 6:30 Holden Evening Prayer

### New Website

Over the course of the last few months we have been updating our church website. We have incorporated pages explaining not only about our beliefs and worship schedule but also our Children's Ministries and Music Program. There are links to sign up to sponsor and pay for altar flowers and the KOFI broadcast as well as links to sign up for volunteering in for worship assisting. There is so much to explore and we invite all of you to check it out at [www.bethluth.org](http://www.bethluth.org). We hope you find the website useful and a tool for sharing our church with others!



Update Contact  
Information

### Reminder— New Email Address

The new email address for the church office is [office@bethluth.org](mailto:office@bethluth.org). Please update our information in your contacts if you haven't already.

# March Birthdays



STEVEN	MATTSON	03/01
LOLA	VULLES	03/01
BRIDGETT	MESKIS	03/05
DAVID	CHRISTENSEN	03/07
KYLE	MILLER	03/07
ALAN	WEST	03/07
DOLORES	AADSEN	03/12
MARGIE	FIEDLER	03/14
MARCIA	RIEKE	03/14
BAYLOR	JOHNSON	03/15
LEVI	JOHNSON	03/15
CECIL	NOBLE	03/16
OLIVER	WHITE	03/17
KATHI	EBERT	03/18
MIKE	GALVIN	03/18
SHIRLEY	STRUCK	03/18
BARBARA	ANDERSEN	03/19
LAURIE	HAPP	03/19
COLBY	CRONK	03/20
BRYNLIE	JOHNSON	03/20
DAVID	GULLICKSON	03/23
JEFF	LOUK	03/24
SIERRA	SIBLERUD	03/24
ELEANOR	DICKINSON	03/25
MYRON	JOHNSON	03/25
HADLEY	NICHOLS	03/26
MADISON	BUNTEN	03/27
DANIEL	JOHNS	03/27
TERRI	MATTSON	03/27
LYDIA	BUNTEN	03/29
MIKE	TRONSTAD	03/29
LANE	SMITH	03/31

# IN OUR Thoughts and Prayers

Bill Carlson, James and Linda Burkett, Jon Burkett, Louise Gulick, Linda Kajiwara, Bruce Kaber, Dan Seelye, Marshal Jones and family, Mary Jane and Gaylynn Nelson.

**The deadline for the April newsletter is March 16th. Thank you! - Kellie**

<u>Church Council</u>	
<b>President:</b> Paul Holmgren	<b>Committee Chairs</b>
<b>Vice Presidents:</b> Amber Brohn Duane Anderson	<b>Christian Education:</b> Vicki Nytes
<b>Treasurer:</b> Anne Taylor	<b>Fellowship:</b> Peggy Aagenes-Janzer
<b>Secretary:</b> Janet Veidt	<b>Outreach:</b> Karen Fisher
	<b>Property:</b> Bill Pursell
	<b>Stewardship:</b> John Erfle
	<b>Worship and Music:</b> Judie Cundy
	<b>Youth:</b> Tony Nelson



"These are vegetables, mother. You wouldn't want me to eat something I've given up for Lent, would you?"



Bethlehem Lutheran Church  
 603 South Main Street, Kalispell, Montana 59901  
[office@bethluth.org](mailto:office@bethluth.org) / [www.bethluth.org](http://www.bethluth.org)  
 Facebook: Bethlehem Lutheran Kalispell  
 406/752-6140 - 406/752-6145 FAX  
 KOFI 1180AM at 10:30am Sundays

Non Profit Org.  
 U.S. Postage  
 PAID  
 Kalispell, MT 59901  
 Permit #11

Electronic service requested

**bethluth.org**



The beauty of the Sanctuary will be enhanced by a display of lilies on Easter Sunday. You are invited to participate in this project by contributing \$25 in memory or in honor of someone special, which will be noted in the Easter bulletin. Please fill out this form, include payment and place in the offering plate, go online to [www.bethluth.org](http://www.bethluth.org) and pay or mail to the church office at 603 S. Main St. by **April 6th**. Thank you!

Name (s) \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number \_\_\_\_\_

Given in memory of \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Given in honor of \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Please print clearly