

EMPOWERED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT, UNITED TO SERVE

February 2021

Gold Hill Evangelical Lutheran Church 934 Placer Street - Butte, MT 59701 (406) 723-4242 We are a Stephen Ministry Congregation and a Congregation of the Montana Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA)

From the Pastor's Study

Friends in Christ,

We have been together for seven months now and, let's be honest, things are weird. Normally, with this new year in full swing we would begin to look at the future, to dream a little and talk about how we would better follow Christ's command to be church. We would be asking folks how our little congregation could better feed the hungry, clothe the naked, remember the prisoner, and house the homeless. Those questions matter, they truly do. But this year is weird.

Covid has given us a unique way to look outside ourselves and our church building to our neighborhood. Through our streaming and parking lot worship we are reaching folks who would not likely darken our doorstep. We are providing a way for the homebound to participate in service. We are giving to our community in new and unique ways, though not necessarily mentioning the above commands. But why do we *go* to church anyway?

A few years ago, Pew research conducted a study of 4729 Americans asking why people go (and don't go) to church. Here are their answers:

First, here are the top 10 reasons given by Americans who attend religious services at least once a month, according to Pew. Survey respondents were allowed to give more than one reason. The percentage refers to people who said this was a "very important" reason for their decision:

- 1) To become closer to God. (81%)
- 2) So their children will have a moral foundation. (69%)
- 3) To become a better person. (68%)
- 4) For comfort in times of trouble or sorrow. (66%)
- 5) They find the sermons valuable. (59%)
- 6) To be part of a faith community. (57%)
- 7) To continue their family's religious traditions. (37%)
- 8) They feel obligated to go. (31%)
- 9) To meet new people or socialize. (19%)
- 10) To please their family, spouse, or partner. (16%)

And here are the reasons folks don't go to church:

- 1) They practice their faith in "other ways." (37%)
- 2) They are not believers. (28%)
- 3) No reason is "very important." (26%)
- 4) They haven't found a house of worship they like. (23%)
- 5) They don't like the sermons. (18%)
- 6) They don't feel welcome. (14%)
- 7) They don't have the time. (12%)
- 8) Poor health or mobility. (9%)
- 9) No house of worship in their area. (7%)

[continued on page 2]

[From the Pastor's Study continued]

So, plain and simple... Why are you here? Why are you a part of the church? Why this congregation? This is a healthy conversation to have, with yourself, with your family, with your pastor. Getting at the "why" is something we often ask our children to do. Why do you feel that way? Why are you getting good (or bad) grades? Why are you growing up so fast? Often, we forget that "why" matters as we grow older. So, why are you coming (or not) to church? What is your reason, and does it align with this survey?

As you may recall, Lent starts on February 17th. I invite you to have the conversation above and then write your "Why?" on a ribbon. We will tie these ribbons to the cross in the sanctuary (and parking lot) and use Lent this year as a time of meditation on "why" we are at church. Also, please see the "Lenten Calendar" for daily meditations on Lent below.

Let's talk.

Pr. C

P.S. If you would like to read the whole study it is located here:

http://www.pewforum.org/2018/08/01/why-americans-go-to-religious-services/

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Saturday Take a selfie of the ashes on What faith practice will you add What will you fast from this Lent? your pocket as a prayer rock. Every fime you notice it, pray! your forehead and share with Goldhil Lutheran on Facebook! Feb 17 Feb 18 Feb 19 Feb 20 Pray for our cross - generational learners & their leaders. Make/Write a card & mail to one of our homebound Save a quarter per day for the rest of Lent! On Easter, donate Take a social media fast for the Pray for the Montana Find 2 times of 10-minute rest Visit a park & pick up any trash broughout your day. Do you see. (Wear gloves!) t to the ELCA World Hunger members and/or someone on wap it for another activity later in the month & take your our prayer list. Appeal or use it to purchase an tem through ELCA Good Gifts ocial media fast that day Feb 22 Feb 27 Feb 21 Feb 23 Feb 24 Feb 25 Feb 26 Fast from spending money today (outside of bils & fift Pray for our Confirmation Make/Write a card & mail to Pay for the person's order Pray for the Montana Synod's Check on your neighbors & Buy a few extra bottles of students & their leaders behind you in the drive thru. Move this to a different day if Companion Synods: Evangelic Lutheran Church in Southern Africa (Cape Orange Diocese) members and/or someone on mands, if you are able. disposable gloves & donate to you're not going to a drive thru today! our prayer list. a local social service agency. Evangelical Lutheran Church in Bolvia, Allegheny Sy Mar 4 Feb 28 Mar 3 Mar 1 Mar 2 Mar 5 Mar 6 Pray for our High School Youth & Make/Write a card & mail to Take a total screen fast for the Write out 5 things you are Pray for our partne Find 2 times of 10-minute rest Go for a walk & pick up trash day, If you can't do this today, swap it for another activity later in the month & take your screen fast that day. ongregations in Butte vorrying about. Focus on hese for your prayers today. members and/or someone or our prayer list. Mar 7 Mar 8 Mar 9 Mar 10 Mar 11 Mar 12 Mar 13 Pray for our Worship & Music Staff. Make/Write a card & mail to Do you love coffee and/or Fast from spending money Pray for the staff in the ELCA Buy a few extra bottles of one of our homebound tea? Research & commit to today (outside of bills & fithing) National Office. affected by every news story hand sanifizer, masks, and/or members and/or someone on purchase fair trade certified disposable gloves & donate to products for the rest of this year. Mar 14 Mar 15 Mar 17 Mar 18 Mar 19 Mar 20 Mar 16 Pray for our Worship, Music, and Find 2 fimes of 10-minute rest Go for a walk & look for Make/Write a card & mail to Take an internet fast for the Write out 5 things you are Pray for leaders of our Full one of our homebound day. If you can't do this today throughout your day. Do Presbyterian Church (USA), Reformed Church in America, United Church of Christ. members and/or someone on our prayer list. Mar 21 Mar 22 Mar 24 Mar 25 Mar 26 Mar 27 Mar 23 Today is Palm Sunday, Color & Make/Write a card & mail to Make sure to drink your water Fast from spending m Today is Maundy Thursday, We Today is Good Friday, Make sure Today is the Great Viail of today (8 8 oz. glasses)! Donate \$8 (or more!) to the ELCA's Walk4Water Project. continue to pray for leaders of our Full Communion Partners-The Episcopal Church, The oday (outside of bils & fithing). ch / attend Good Friday our prayer list. Moravian Church, The United Methodist Church. Apr 1 Mar 29 Mar 28 Mar 30 Mar 31 Apr 2 Apr 3



Prayer Concerns

Please call the Church Office (723-4242) or email us:

(<u>ChurchOffice@GoldHillLutheran.org</u>)

with your prayer requests.

Only prayers given to the entire congregation will be included here.

Family of Shirley Perusich – prayers of comfort following her death on January 27

Rosalie Lillyblad (Brad Fitzpatrick's stepdaughter) – prayers for answers, comfort, and healing

David Hoff (by Arlene Munyon) – prayers for healing and recovery

Melinda Murphy (*Patty Callaghan's niece*) – prayers for healing and recovery

Tony Wheat's stepson (by Arlene Munyon) – prayers for continued recovery

Bill Smyers – prayers for healing

Linda (*Virginia Dewitt's daughter*) – prayers for healing and recovery

Dave Coleman – prayers for healing

Family & friends of Dorleen Probasco – prayers of comfort following her death on January 9

Ray Coyne – prayers for healing and answers

Valerie Tadday – prayers for comfort and healing

Bill Hill – prayers for health and healing

Family & friends of Pete Godtland – prayers of comfort following his death on January 4

Pastor Tom Schlotterback and family – as they mourn the death of his father, William Carl Schlotterback

Rev. Larry Vinson – following his death on January 13, due to complications from Covid-19

Our nation – prayers for peace, healing, and understanding

From our Synod prayer calendar, we remember:

For all those experiencing loss and sickness due to the Covid-19 surge in cases and all those who work to treat those who are sick

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February Birthdays/Anniversaries:

Karen Galpin – celebrating her birthday on February 4

Regan Dean – celebrating his birthday on February 6

Nicholas Conlan – celebrating his baptismal birthday on February 10

Nicholas Conlan – celebrating his birthday on February 11

Fran Warner — celebrating her baptismal birthday on February 12

Joshua & Brooks Vincent – celebrating their baptismal birthdays on February 15

Keegan McNabb – celebrating his baptismal birthday on February 15

Kay Vang — celebrating her birthday on February 16

Barb Crnich — celebrating her birthday on February 20

Isaac Zell — celebrating his baptismal birthday on
February 21

Lincoln Zell — celebrating his baptismal birthday on February 21

Vern Nielsen – celebrating his birthday on February 21 **Kevin Biastoch** – celebrating his birthday on February 25

Christopher Butt – celebrating his birthday on February 26

Judy Aaker – celebrating her birthday on February 26

Curt & Jeanette Quist – celebrating their 49th anniversary on February 19



Phil & Carol Davis - in celebration of their 44th wedding anniversary on February 24

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Notices

Deaths

12/20/2020 Carol Wynette Hecker 01/04/2021 Harold "Pete" Godtland

01/09/2021 Dorleen Elfrieda Oppliger Probasco

Memorials & Honorariums

In Memory of Florence & Eddie Thomas from Debbie Wieser

In Honor of Kemera Thomas from Debbie Wieser

In Memory of Carol Hecker from:

Colleen Tamblyn Sr. Mary Agnes Hogan, SCL Bob & Debbie Brown, gift to Prayer Shawls

In Memory of Pete Godtland from:

Colleen Tamblyn Alan & Lynn Aniksdal, gift to Roof Fund

In Memory of Pete & Carol Godtland from Rande & JoAnn Farrow, gift to Roof Fund

In Memory of Dorleen Probasco from Rand & JoAnn Farrow, gift to Roof Fund



Food Bank Donations

Due to the coronavirus outbreak, Gold Hill cannot take physical donations of food. However, your monetary donations are still needed.

Mail your monetary donation directly to: Butte Emergency Food Bank 1019 East Second Street Butte, MT 59701

Thank you for your generosity!

Weekly Devotions

Weekly devotions are offered by Pastor Carrels on Facebook every Wednesday evening. Go to Gold Hill's Facebook page to join in.

Please note!

Sunday worship service is broadcast over FM 93.3 –



when attending worship please tune your radio in to that channel to participate in the service. Thank you.

Church in the Parking Lot



Church in the Parking Lot will be extended for the foreseeable future due to the pandemic. If you have any questions, please call the office (723-4242) or talk to Pastor Carrels.

We are also asking that those attending worship wear masks and keep their windows up while singing. This will help prevent the spread of Covid-19.

CHURCH COUNCIL February 2021:

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

Outreach Ministry

Pastor Marlow Carrels



By Revonda Stordahl

Financial Summary

December			Over/under
2020	Actual	Budget	budget
Income	\$17,573.88	\$15,000.00	\$2,273.88
Expenses	\$12,018.39	\$15,912.49	-\$3,894.22
Net Income	\$5,555.49	-\$912.49	\$6,468.10

			Over/under
Year-to-Date	Actual	Budget	budget
Income	\$162,156.57	\$180,000.00	-\$17,843.43
Expenses	\$165,974.35	\$190,950.00	-\$24,978.65
Net Income	-\$3,817.78	-\$10,950.00	\$7,132.22

If anyone has any questions about the budget, please contact me at 490-8043 or by e-mail, revondafs@gmail.com.



During this difficult time, Gold Hill Evangelical Lutheran Church invites you to use electronic giving to automate your regular weekly offering. It is easy, convenient, and provides much-needed donation consistency for our congregation.

An authorization form is available for download here: http://www.goldhilllutheran.org/media/b1cc239a911454dcffff8353 ffffe905.pdf

Once completed, just mail it to the church and treasurer Revonda Stordahl will take it from there. And if you have any questions about electronic giving, please contact Revonda at 490-8043 or by e-mail, revondafs@gmail.com.

Worship and Music



Our committee is using the sign board in front of the Church and we change the message monthly. We continue to do ushering for the outdoor services. Christ in our Home has arrived and will be given

out on Sundays upon request.

Lent begins February 17, 2021. We will have Ash Wednesday drive-in worship service on that day at 6:30 pm with social distancing. We will be using a 40 Day Journey Bible study during Lent via Zoom and will receive the contact information soon from Pastor Carrels.

We are looking to Holy Week in April and plan to have instrumental arrangements to enhance this experience during this significant time in our Church. We are calling upon our members who play instruments to consider sharing worship with music. If you know someone, a relative or friend, who may want to offer a musical piece for those services then let us know. Contact Dave Coleman by mid-February if you are available and willing to participate.

Thank you, Chris Ketchum

Gold Hill is on YouTube!

Pastor Carrels is offering a service from the sanctuary which can be viewed on YouTube. If you're interested, use this link to check it out:

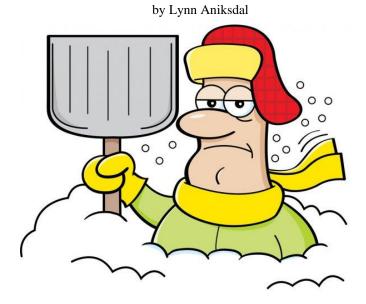


https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCCanBvgTwwtCg PHtYdz_OXw

Questions? Talk to Pastor or call the church office (723-4242).

Gold Hill ELC Directions

Building-Property Update



I would like to send out an incredibly grateful "thank you" to the people who signed up to shovel sidewalks at the church and pre-school. There are seven volunteers who rotate every 7 weeks. We have had a very mild winter to say the least, but we are also very happy to know it is being taken care of if needed. Thank you to Alan Aniksdal, Rande Farrow, Bruce Graving, Kevin Huff, Larroll Leach, Curt Quist, and Ken Stamp. Your volunteering is very much appreciated.

Gold Hill Lutheran Church Council

Minutes - January 12, 2021

This virtual zoom meeting was opened by Mike Lawson at 6:15 p.m. The following were present: Mike Lawson, President; Curt

Quist, Administration Director; Revonda Stordahl, Treasurer; Peggy Graving, Secretary; Chris Ketchum, Worship Ministry; Lynn Aniksdal, Leadership Ministry; and Pastor Marlow Carrels. Julie Corbin, Spiritual Ministry, logged on later.

ouncil

Pastor Carrels read from the Book of Concord, the Lutheran Confessions for our devotions. He read Article 16 of the Augsburg Confession stating the church's perspective on recognition of those who are involved in politics. Secular institutions are ordained by God. The ELCA and other church bodies are asking for President Trump to step down. All government is ordained by God. We are grounded in our confession. We follow the rule of law and "call out" those who have committed crimes.

This devotion came following the attack on the Capitol in Washington D.C. by those who follow President Trump and his unsubstantiated statements regarding the election of President Biden.

A motion was made by Revonda and seconded by Chris to accept the minutes of the December meeting as printed and emailed.

Revonda went through the financial report and said that she would be making some changes after speaking with Bruce Graving regarding not having the loan as a receipt but setting up a separate line item (receipts accountable) for the loan and the repayment of the loan. We had a good December, but still ended up with a deficit. Revonda noted the fact that since we are not having the annual meeting in January, the salaries for the staff and Pastor are unchanged unless we begin paying them the salary stated on the proposed budget retroactive back to January 1st. She asked if we could go ahead without the approval of the congregation to pay the proposed salaries. After discussion it was unanimously agreed upon that the salaries can be paid using the proposed budget with a signed document from Pastor and Mary stated they understand the money would need to be returned if the budget was not approved by the congregation. Pastor asked a question that the nominating committee had asked. How much would Mark Rule's office charge to do the complete financials of the church including the reports? If we could afford this, the Treasurer would become more a figurehead overseeing the reports and being the liaison with Mark Rule and the council. Revonda stated that all reports are in Quicken and easily accessed. She said Mary enters and writes all checks and Revonda checks to be sure they are in the correct places in the budget, if not makes the adjustments necessary and prints the reports. After discussion it was decided that this change to Mark Rule, if decided upon after study, could not take place because it would have to be approved by the congregation. We would study it during the next year.

Pastor's Report is attached in the office. He noted that the three funerals are not for members of the church but veterans who have passed away in our community. We had received an email from Dale stating that he and Dorothy are moving to Glasgow, so we are short pianists for our services. Sue Repola has also resigned. Pastor will be answering emergency calls from Gloria Dei members while Pastor Sara is gone as noted in his report. Pastor has been meeting with the Godtland family and they are planning a church service on a Friday in June followed by a community service on Saturday at the Mother Lode. He has been in touch with Peggy Probasco regarding the loss of her Mother, Dorleen.

Mike reported that he was interviewed for KXLF about Pete and his influence in our church and the community. Curt reported that he and Peggy Graving made eleven Christmas bags for children in our congregation in December and delivered them. They are also sending cards for birthdays, wedding anniversaries, and baptismal anniversaries to members each month.

Chris reviewed her report (attached in office). Her committee has come up with a plan for Ash Wednesday service using Q-tips. The Lenten color is purple for the altar. Dave wants to record music for Easter and is working on this. They will continue to discuss Holy Week. Chris and her committee were thanked for the success of the Christmas Eve Service.

Dale had sent in an email regarding moving to Glasgow to take care of Dorothy's Mom. He included in his email a resignation from the council. He hopes for the time being to keep the web site up to date as we look for someone else to take it over.

Lynn was on the call, but we could not see her or hear her. She could hear us. She wanted us to know that everything has been taken care of with the company that plows the parking lot and Kevin Huff. She also has seven individuals who are shoveling the sidewalks using a weekly rotation.

Julie had no report but did tell us that she is no longer taking classes and would like the names of those we delivered bags to at Christmas so she can keep in touch with them.

New Business: Pastor reported that he has four individuals who would like to anonymously donate money up to a certain amount for additional tech equipment to be able to continue streaming our services even after we are back in the church. He says it would take a lap top computer, wired internet to the balcony in the sanctuary, and additional cards for recording. He has talked to the synod and there is an individual, Colter, who is willing to help us get it going. We do not have enough megabytes to handle this with our current carrier - Century Link. Pastor has checked with Spectrum and says we could get the megabytes we need at a lower cost. He will continue looking. He also said he would like to train individuals who could do the website and help with the recording of the services. He will get the word out. Julie moved; Curt seconded the motion to have Pastor continue working on this. The motion carried. Peggy commented that she did not want Pastor spending his time on this, but that we needed to find someone in the congregation to do this work.

Old Business: We will wait to plan a retreat for the new council until we have dates for the annual meeting. We are hoping that we will be able to have the annual

meeting in June. The nominating committee has talked to two individuals regarding vacancies on the council and have not heard back. Pastor will let them know that Dale's spot on the council is also in need of being filled. The nominating committee will be asking individuals to attend the synod convention virtually in June. Mike and Peggy said they would be willing if asked by the nominating committee.

The meeting was adjourned with prayer. Respectfully submitted, Peggy Graving, Secretary

> Gold Hill Evangelical Lutheran Church 934 Placer Street, Butte, MT 59701 (406) 723-4242

Empowered by the Holy Spirit, United to Serve

Worship Schedule:

9:30 am Sundays (outdoor parking lot)

Gold Hill Evangelical Lutheran Church

934 Placer Street Butte, MT 59701

Phone:

(406) 723-4242

E-Mail:

pastorgoldhill@gmail.com churchoffice@goldhilllutheran.org

Office Hours: Mon-Fri 9-12 & 1-4
Pastor Marlow Carrels

Mike Lawson, Council President Parish Admin. Assistant Mary Johnston

ACTIVITY CALENDARS

February 2021 Gold Hill Evangelical Lutheran Church, 934 Placer Street, Butte, MT 59701 (406) 723-4242 * Empowered by the Holy Spirit, United to Serve

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 5:30 pm Exec. Comm. mtng via Zoom	3 Weekly Evening Devotions – Gold Hill posted on FB 5:30 pm Bible Study/Adult Forum via Zoom	4 8:00 am Bible Study via Zoom 6:00 pm Worship & Music mtng via Zoom	5	6
7 9:30 am Worship (Outdoors)	8	9 6:00 pm Council mtng via Zoom	10 Weekly Evening Devotions - Gold Hill posted on FB 5:30 pm Bible Study/Adult Forum via Zoom	11 8:00 am Bible Study via Zoom	12 Nugget Deadline	13
14 9:30 am Worship (Outdoors)	15 Presidents' Day Federal Holiday	16	17 Weekly Evening Devotions - Gold Hill posted on FB 6:30 pm Ash Wednesday service (outdoors)	18 8:00 am Bible Study via Zoom	19	20
21 9:30 am Worship (Outdoors)	22	23	24 Weekly Evening Devotions – Gold Hill posted on FB 5:30 pm Bible Study/Adult Forum via Zoom	25 8:00 am Bible Study via Zoom	26	27
28 9:30 am Worship (Outdoors)						

Gloria Dei Church Calendar

February 2021

Church Office Hours: 9AM – NOON, Mon. – Fri. CLOSED Sat. – Sun. Contact: (406) 723-9182 or office@gloriadeibutte.org

SUNDAY	'	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THUR	SDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2		3	4	5	6
Sunday Worship: 10 The service wi posted on Facel: 5:00 Confirmatior Zoom (Old Testam	ll be book n via	8	7:00 PM Church Council Meeting		10	11	12	13
Sunday Worship: 10 The service will posted on Facel: 5:00 Confirmation	ll be book	15	16		17	18	19 Deadline for February <i>Light</i> articles	20
Zoom (Old Testam								
Sunday Worship: 10 The service will posted on Faceb	ll be	22	23		24	25	26	27
No Confirma	ation							
Sunday Worship: 10 The service will posted on Facel:	ll be							
5:00 Confirmation Zoom (New Testam								
Date	-	Lector	Greete	ers/Ushers	Powerp	oint	Altar	Flowers
January 7 No in person service		No in pe	erson service	No in person service				
January 14 Kare		Karen Andreas	Gree	en Family	TBD			
January 21		Ross Whelchel		se Family	TBD			
January 28		Charles Fligel	Stodo	len Family	Nathan St	todden		