

The Nugget



**EMPOWERED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT,
UNITED TO SERVE**

January 2024

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

Greetings from Pastor Sarah!

Happy 2024! As we enter into a fresh new year, and a fresh start each morning, I would like to take a few moments to remember our first fresh start: Our baptism.

When we are baptized, water is placed on our bodies and we are baptized in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. In baptism, this is God's unconditional promise to us, to make us children of God, to love us, to be present with us, at all times, no matter what. Though it is the words which are spoken which bear the promise of Christ's unconditional love for us, the waters of baptism serve as a reminder of whose we are. Through baptism, God calls each of us, God's beloved child. That is our identity for all of eternity, and it cannot and will not ever be taken away from us.

We believe that we are born into sin, but in our baptism Christ gives us the promise of forgiveness of sins, with no action done on our part. We don't ask to be baptized as an infant, we have no concept of confession or of repentance. We are those who are acted upon through baptism, given the gift of forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation, freely, through the water and the word. This was our first fresh start.

As you come to church this year, feel free to come to the font and take a moment to remember your baptism. Many people do this by dipping their fingers into the water and marking the sign of the cross on their forehead as was done at their baptism. Remember, God gives second, third, fourth, and one-thousand four hundred and seventeenth chances! We are children of God, we are loved by God, and we are forgiven by God.

Remember your baptism. Remember, you are Christ's. Remember, you are loved.

Peace,

Pastor Sarah



Prayer Concerns

Please call the Church Office (723-4242)
or email us: (goldhill.elca@gmail.com)
with your prayer requests.
Only prayers given to the entire
congregation will be included here.

DorothyAnne Honeychurch-prayers for health and recovery.

Colleen Tamblyn-prayers for health and healing.

Dick Fitzpatrick-prayers for health and healing.

Ron Coleman- prayers for health and healing.

Susan & Ken Stamp and family- for the death of Susan's brother Rich Dunstan. After a short battle with cancer.

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January birthdays/Anniversaries:

Ann Richter – celebrating her birthday
January 1

Jessica Carr – celebrating her birthday
January 1



LeeAnn Butt – celebrating her birthday January 8

Brett Bond – celebrating his birthday January 9

Drew Carr – celebrating his birthday January 16

Aisling Schroeder – celebrating her birthday January 19

Jack Dotson-celebrating his birthday January 21

Dave Stratton- celebrating his baptismal birthday
January 8

Taryn Stratton- celebrating her baptismal birthday
January 8

Otto Thennis- celebrating his baptismal birthday
January 13

Kohlter Pennell- celebrating her baptismal birthday
January 15

Chris Ketchum-celebrating her baptismal birthday
January 16

Seth Dean-celebrating his baptismal birthday January 23

Holly Dean celebrating her baptismal birthday January 23

Kaydence McNabb celebrating her baptismal birthday
January 26

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Check it out!

You are invited to check out our new

Facebook

page: <https://www.facebook.com/Gold.Hill.ELCA/>
check it out to stay up to date on news and events

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If you have any announcements or changes you would like to have in the Bulletin please submit them **no later than Thursday morning**.

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Food Bank Donations



Please consider donating to the food bank. Gold Hill is currently not accepting donations at the church.

Mail your monetary donation directly to:

Butte Emergency Food Bank
1019 East Second Street
Butte, MT 59701

Thank you for your generosity!

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We Deliver Sack Lunch Ministry

Will not be meeting for the months of January and February. Enjoy the short break!

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Spare Birthday and Anniversary Cards

If anyone has any spare birthday or anniversary cards please drop them off at the church office. Patti Chain uses them to send cards to members of the congregation and can always use extra!



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Outdoor Lights



The outdoor ramp lights are programed to be "ON" from 4 pm until 8 am. They will be on all night as a safety and security measure for an otherwise dark area.

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Empowered by the Holy Spirit,

United to Serve

Worship Schedule:

Sunday's at 9:00 am

TREASURER'S REPORT

Financial Summary

By Danette Fitzpatrick

November 2023	ACTUAL	BUDGET	OVER/UNDER BUDGET
Income	13,887.53	11,460.00	2,427.53
Expense	7,091.64	11,459.98	-4,368.34
Net Income	6,870.79	.02	6,870.44

We Deliver-Sack Lunch Ministry

Volunteers for December were: Annette Lawson, Patty Callaghan, Bill Hill, Patti Chain, Ed & Connie Engle, Jeanette Nielsen, Cory Beck. Thank you!

Food supplies & donations for food provided by: Annette Lawson, Patty Callaghan, Ed & Connie Engle, Tracy Sukut, and Jeanette Nielsen. Thank you!

We will not be meeting for the month of January

If you have any questions please feel free to call Annette Lawson, at 406-490-7751.

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Reminder

Annual Reports will be due at the beginning of January so please don't forget to start working on those so they are submitted on time. Thank you!

YEAR TO DATE	ACTUAL	BUDGET	OVER/UNDER BUDGET
Income	141,586.22	126,660.00	14,926.22
Expenses	104,666.10	126,059.78	-21,393.68
Net Income	36,010.18	600.22	35,409.96

Just a little information I would like to pass on. It is something I misunderstood until I became Treasurer and I have spoken with other people who think the same. When we give a memorial and we don't specify where we want it to go to re: Stephen Ministers, Quilters, Sack Lunch, Knitters, general fund. Many of us believed if you did not specify it automatically went to general fund. This is not the case; unspecified memorials go to the Trust Fund, which is fine, but I was glad to know that when I thought it was going to general fund because I didn't specify it was in fact going to the Trust Fund.



**Gold Hill Lutheran Church
Council**

**Minutes – December 12,
2023**

The meeting was called to order around 5:30 by President David Stordahl. Roll was taken the only council member absent was Ty Inglis.

Devotions were given by me.

Ron Gruss was a guest to talk with us about streaming and our new Facebook page. He said several key pieces of equipment have been donated to us by Pastor Sarah and Dan Schilcher. Ron stated that we have enough equipment for where we are at with streaming, but as we progress, we will need more.

Ron said we need some volunteers to do the streaming. He has it all written out and will work with them to learn.

Dave Coleman, GH music director put in a request for special microphones for the piano and keyboard; that are necessary to make the sound good for those tuning in on Facebook. The current cord situation is a trip hazard.

A request was handwritten from the council to the Trust committee to pay for a streaming mixer for \$189. This is a piece of equipment we got from the Schilchers, but Dan feels it may be wearing out. It is an important piece of equipment.

Pastor Sarah said they have about 100 tune in for church service via Facebook at Gloria Dei.

Pastors Report: Pastor stated she will be taking Christmas week off except for Sunday. She also annually takes 1 week off in January; the week of January 15th to 22nd. We will have to find pulpit supply for Sunday 1/21/24. Shelly said she will talk with GD worship person.

Pastor also discussed the membership letter we should be sending yearly. She, I and Tristyn are working on the letter. It will be sent out by the end of the year so we can have our membership rolls updated by our annual meeting on 2/18/24.

Everyone had read the minutes of the November meeting, Pat Gruss made a motion to accept the corrected minutes. Shelly Anderson seconded the motion. The vote carried; the minutes were accepted as corrected minutes.

Treasurer Report: The reports were e-mailed to the council members. I brought up that when Ty returns, he, Dave and I need to go to the bank to get the check signers changed.

Worship Committee Report: Shelly has made up kits with the special ingredients to make our new communion bread, which is gluten free, dairy, nut free. Shelly made some yesterday, because of one of the special flours it is a shade of purple. It tastes good. Shelly also mentioned that it is very liquid at first but as you keep working it comes together so you can form it into loaves.

Christmas Eve our service will be a joint service at 9 a.m. The festive décor from the sanctuary will be moved from the sanctuary to the fellowship hall as the service is called Breakfast at the Manger. Donuts and coffee will be served during the service. It is an important Sunday as it is the 4th Sunday of Advent.

Spiritual Growth Report: Pat reported that the Sunday School program will be this next Sunday the 17th at both churches during the church services. There will be no Sunday School on Christmas Eve or New Years Eve. Sunday School will resume in January.

Properties Report: Miriam reported that Rande Farrow put new programmable lights on the outdoor ramp. Rande is willing to teach anyone who is interested how to program them. She also commented on the abandoned car on our property to the west. This car is a potential problem with snow removal. Dave will talk with someone about it. He said Mike Lawson had already spoken to the owner and nothing was done. He recommended the snow be put in the northwest corner of the parking lot.

President's report: Dave reported that nothing has been done with filling in the dirt where the remediation was done. He will talk to them again. Dave passed out the Shared Ministry Agreement, we went through it step by step and reviewed each step. He asked us if we would vote on it, so we can move forward. Miriam made a motion to accept the Agreement, it was seconded by Shelly, vote taken approved accept. The meeting was adjourned about 7:40 p.m.

Acting Secretary, Danette Fitzpatrick

1 Give thanks and praise to God, for we have been redeemed through the undeserved gift and sacrifice of Jesus Christ that liberates us from darkness, hopelessness and bondage to sin.

2 Pray without ceasing for an end to the conflicts and humanitarian crises in the Middle East, Ukraine, South Sudan and other countries. Ask God to make us instruments of peace, reconciliation and justice in the world wherever there is turmoil and suffering. Pray for the vital work we do together through Lutheran Disaster Response, ELCA World Hunger, Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service, Lutheran World Federation, Church World Service and other partners.

3 “Praise the Lord from the earth, you sea monsters and all deeps, fire and hail, snow and frost, stormy wind fulfilling his command!” (Psalm 148:7-8). Pray for the Spirit to stir our sense of awe for all that God has created and for God’s boundless love for humankind.

4 *Human Trafficking Prevention Month* Pray that we will work together diligently to prevent sexual slavery, forced labor and commercial sexual exploitation, including online forms of trafficking. Pray for our communities of faith to be safe places of refuge, respect, care and support for victims and survivors of human trafficking, especially young people of all genders and gender identities.

5 Give thanks that God leads us to the light and truth of Jesus Christ — God’s Son, the promised Messiah — when we might wander aimlessly in despair, longing and chaos.

6 Last year there were over 40,000 gun deaths in our country, including suicides (gunviolencearchive.org). Pray for an end to these senseless deaths and the resulting trauma, grief and anguish that spread through our communities and nation. Ask God to lead us out of hopelessness and inaction and to renew our commitment to end gun violence.

7 *Baptism of Our Lord* Let us give thanks for our baptisms, which marked us as loved and forgiven children of God and welcomed us to a life revitalized and guided by the Spirit. That same Spirit descended upon Jesus during his baptism and accompanied him throughout his life on earth.

8 Pray for the 340 new-start congregations and communities of faith under development in the United States and the Caribbean region, which welcome all God’s people, share Christ’s love and provide spiritual and physical sustenance.

9 What would happen if we awoke and greeted each day with this prayer and invitation to God: “Make me to know your ways, O Lord; teach me your paths. Lead me in your truth” (Psalm 25:4-5).

10 Remember and give thanks for our siblings in Christ who have gone before us, and for those living among us today who help reveal the mysteries of God’s grace and the redemptive work of Jesus Christ.

11 Thank God for the ELCA’s special relationship with the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), a full communion partner since 1997. Pray for the church, its members and its leaders, that together we will find strength and resources for the work of sharing the gospel and serving our neighbor.

12 Lift up prayers for our neighbors and siblings in Christ who suffer poverty and hunger, oppression and violence, and who are alone and without advocates. Pray that we will look to God to deepen our understanding of justice and peacemaking and to guide our relationships with our neighbors in need.

13 Pray for the ELCA’s Future Church: God’s Love Made Real initiative, which aspires to a welcoming, thriving, connected, sustainable church and envisions a world experiencing the difference God’s grace and love in Christ make for all people and creation.

14 Pray that we will respond daily to Jesus’ invitation to follow him and will learn, serve our neighbors in need, share the gospel and invite others to experience God’s love, forgiveness and truth in community.

15 *Martin Luther King Jr. Day* Give thanks and praise for siblings in Christ, such as Martin Luther King Jr., who risk everything to proclaim God’s love and concern for all, stress the inherent value of our neighbors as children of God and awaken us from indifference, inactivity and hesitation to do God’s difficult work in the world.

16 “I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; that I know very well” (Psalm 139:14). When we doubt ourselves and question our value, remember and give thanks that God created us and knows us inside out, including our quirks, gifts, needs, questions and complexities.

17 Pray for youth and family ministry leaders and volunteers gathering for the ELCA Youth Ministry Network Extravaganza 2024 in New Orleans, that the Spirit will renew their faith, affirm their gifts and equip them to surround young people with God’s grace and mercy.

18 Ask God to renew and strengthen our resolve to end hunger and poverty and to address their root causes in our communities and the world. Promise to listen carefully to our neighbors in need so that we can work together to find appropriate, effective and sustainable solutions.

19 When we are united with Christ, every aspect of our life and being — spiritual, physical and social — is impacted. Pray for the Spirit to help us stay faithful to the ways of God and the example of Christ and to reclaim us when we give undue value and attention to things that distract us.

20 Remember in prayer individuals and families who are homeless. Pray for congregations, community ministries, social service organizations and local and state governments that are working to develop effective, creative and sustainable housing, shelter and care for our neighbors.

21 Jesus Christ *is* the good news of God’s grace and mercy at the heart of our baptism and faith. Give thanks and praise God for this amazing promise and gift!

22 Pray for Lutheran outdoor ministry leaders as they recruit young adult staff for summer ministries. Pray that young adults will respond to these leaders’ invitation to share their faith, gifts and leadership abilities with campers of all ages, abilities and backgrounds.

23 There’s a bit of Jonah in all of us when we question God’s wisdom and mercy and balk at doing what God asks of us. Promise to be attentive and responsive to

God’s work and to trust that God’s boundless love and forgiveness are for all people, including ourselves.

24 Give thanks for the ELCA Foundation, which helps us to fund God’s work in the world, now and well into the future.

25 *Conversion of Paul* Give thanks for God’s presence in our lives and for the work of the Holy Spirit, which changes our lives and the world.

26 Pray for the Deaconess Community of the ELCA, a diverse group of sisters in Christ who courageously proclaim the gospel, work for justice and healing, and serve all people.

27 *Lydia, Dorcas and Phoebe, witnesses to the faith* Pray that when we share the story of God’s love and activity in the world, we will remember women in the Bible who professed their faith in God, served as leaders in the church, shared the good news of Jesus Christ and cared for neighbors in need.

28 Praise God that Jesus was born human and knows what our life entails, and that Jesus is the Son of God, revealing the immeasurable power, love and mercy of our Creator.

29 Remember in prayer those who serve in law enforcement in our communities and nation. Give thanks for the many ways they care for our well-being. Pray for their safety and ask the Spirit to nurture their wisdom, compassion and impartial judgment in the exercise of their responsibilities.

30 “The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; all those who practice it have a good understanding” (Psalm 111:10). Give thanks that, in this verse, fear isn’t something negative, threatening or worrisome but instead means awe and respect for God and God’s ways, which enable us to practice wisdom, compassion and justice throughout life.

31 Pray for leaders and organizations gathered at the Lutheran Services in America Disability Network Winter Meeting in Phoenix, that the Spirit will inspire and guide their work as they empower people with intellectual and developmental disabilities to lead their best lives in society, the church and the world.

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	Office Closed New Year's Day	8:30 am Bible Study 5:30 pm Executive Committee 6:00 pm Worship & Music	10:00 am LWR Quilters 6:30 pm Choir Practice			
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
9:00 am joint Worship Service Coffee Hour 9:55 am Sunday School at Gloria Dei	4:00 pm Stephen Ministry training 6:00 pm Stephen Ministry	8:30 am Bible Study 10:00 am Gather Bible Study 5:00 pm Council meeting	10:00 am LWR Quilters 6:30 pm Choir Practice			
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
9:00 am Worship Service Coffee Hour 9:55 am Sunday School at Gloria Dei	Office Closed for MLK Jr. Day	8:30 am Bible Study	10:00 am LWR Quilters 6:30 pm Choir Practice	10:00 am Prayer Shawl Knitters	12:00 pm 55+ Lunch Bunch	
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
9:00 am Worship Service Coffee Hour 9:55 am Sunday School at Gloria Dei	4:00 pm Stephen Ministry training 6:00 pm Stephen Ministry	8:30 am Bible Study	10:00 am LWR Quilters 6:30 pm Choir Practice			
28	29	30	31			
9:00 am Worship Service Coffee Hour 9:55 am Sunday School at Gloria Dei	4:00 pm Stephen Ministry training	8:30 am Bible Study	10:00 am LWR Quilters 6:30 pm Choir Practice			

Worship Helpers

Ushers

January 7 Jeanette Nielsen & Chris Ketchum
 January 14 Shelly Anderson & Jody Bickford
 January 21 Patti Chain & Rande Farrow
 January 28 Revonda Stordahl & Annette Lawson

Lectors

Heatherlynn Meeks
 Patti Chain
 Paul Vang
 Ty Inglis

Coffee Hour

Peggy Probasco
 Jeanette Nielsen
 Kayla Harvey
 Dorothy Tallon & Karen Galpin

