

The Nugget



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

April 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!

"April showers bring May flowers." This well-known line gives a glimpse of the progression of Spring as we transition from the frigid temperatures of Winter into the balmy Summer weather.

Spring is my favorite time of year. For me, Spring has always represented new life. The ground is thawing out from the cold of winter, the birds are singing outside the open windows, we can feel refreshed by warm breezes, and the green of plants and leaves and the colorful flowers begin to appear.

It is fitting that Easter falls in the season of Spring. Easter marks the beginning of new life for all of creation. A new life which was won for us, though we could never deserve it on our own.

I remember many times as a kid, waking up on a Saturday morning, excited to play outside with my friends, only to find that the rain was pouring down outside my window. Those April Showers can hinder many plans, and oftentimes our perspective changes from sunny to gloomy along with the weather.

But...here in Montana, we are desperate for rain.

Here in Montana, we know that...

...without rain the crops wouldn't grow, the grass would stay brown, and the earth would dry up.

...without the rain, we wouldn't fully appreciate the sun.

...without the rain, we wouldn't have mud puddles to jump in!

As we have concluded our Lenten Journey, we have traveled through the rain, and finally through the biggest storm of all, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday, leading us through to the break of new life on Easter Sunday. Without the grief of Holy Week, we have no hope for the new beginning brought with Easter Sunday.

April showers bring May flowers. May your Springtime reflect the new life that has been won for us on the cross of Christ, and when the rain comes your way, keep an eye out for the flowers.

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.

Danette Fitzpatrick and her family-prayers of comfort and peace following the passing of Dick Fitzpatrick

Ron Coleman- prayers for health and healing.

Lynn McGlynn- prayers for health and healing.

Bill Hill- prayers for health and recovery.

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April Birthdays /Anniversaries:

Donna Burns – celebrating her birthday
April 2

Mike Vincent – celebrating his birthday
April 3

Time Rowe – celebrating his birthday April 4

Mike Lawson – celebrating his birthday April 7

Christy Chain- celebrating her birthday April 15

Derek Harvey – celebrating his birthday April 18

Susan Stamp- celebrating her birthday April 28

Jeff Williamson-celebrating his birthday April 30



Tim & Nancy Rowe- celebrating their anniversary
April 6

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Notices

Deaths

03/16/24 Dick Fitzpatrick

Memorials & Honorariums

In Memory of Dorothy Anne Honeychurch

Rande & Joann Farrow

Colleen Tamblyn

Honeychurch Family

Keith & Lois Johnson

Bob & Bev Bercher

In Memory of Dick Fitzpatrick

Linda & Dennis Moore

Connie & Ed Engle

Peggy Dean

In Memory of Jeanette Nielsen

Linda & Dennis Moore

Colleen Tamblyn

Bob & Sally Carlson

Peggy Dean

Ann Richter

Gil & Carolyn Nielsen

Carol & Bill Morrison

James Rogers

David & Revonda Stordahl

Patricia & Sean Callaghan

Dorothy Tallon

Rande & Joann Farrow

Sue Repola

Mount Moriah Cemetery



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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FACEBOOK

Please make sure to like and follow our Facebook page so that you can stay up to date on announcements!

<https://www.facebook.com/Gold.Hill.ELCA/>

If you have anything that you would like to have posted on our Facebook page please email the office at goldhill.elca@gmail.com

Important announcements or pictures of the services are always welcomed!

TREASURER'S REPORT

Financial Summary

By Danette Fitzpatrick

February 2024	Actual	Budget	Over/under budget
Income	12,025.46	12,700.01	-674.55
Expenses	9,248.42	12,840.94	-3,592.52
Net Income	2,554.78	-124.26	2,679.04

Year to Date 2024	Actual	Budget	Over/Under
Income	26,727.46	25,400.02	1,327.44
Expenses	26,952.54	25,681.88	1,270.66
Net Income	-447.34	-400.44	-46.90

Just a reminder that our new website, <https://goldhillelca.org>, has a donation button. You can donate to the church by clicking on the link and inputting some basic information. PLEASE FEEL FREE TO CONTACT ME WITH ANY QUESTIONS REGARDING THE BUDGET. Danette Fitzpatrick at 406-565-6310 or email at danenurse@yahoo.com. Thank you!

RELIVING THE STORY

By Rev. Jennifer Michael

“Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!”

Familiar words this time of year, but sometimes I wonder if we’ve heard the Easter story so many times that it makes it easier to forget that radical message . . . to forget the “shock and awe” of the resurrection.

Think about it . . . as we journeyed through the 40 days of Lent, there is a build-up of tension that finds glorious triumph in the empty tomb on Easter Day. But then what do we do with that?

Certainly, we have the opportunity of knowing the end of the story, so to speak, as we hear the teachings of Jesus through Scripture. So this means that it is easier for us to understand the overall message that Jesus was bringing. It is easier for us to read the Bible as a

storybook of Jesus’ life or perhaps even a “how-to” book on good moral living.

But as one blog I read recently puts it, “For the disciples, the moments before the resurrection were steeped in fear, darkness and confusion. For the disciples, the resurrection provided an incredible twist—in Sixth Sense fashion—that made the story come alive in a new way.”

In short, for us the resurrection story is a yearly event told in a familiar voice and with the trappings of tradition and routine. But for the disciples the resurrection changed everything!

What would our lives look like if we experienced Easter like the disciples? Who might we be as a community of faith if we responded to the resurrection story as if we believed it were really true and that it continues to happen in our world today?

In these days following Easter and before Pentecost, I invite you to consider these questions. Revisit the Easter story with new eyes reliving the surprise ending and reviving your identity as a child of a risen Lord.

“Christ is risen! Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!” Say it like you mean it . . . and then live it like you mean it!

Gold Hill Evangelical Lutheran Church

934 Placer Street
Butte, MT 59701

Phone:

(406) 723-4242

E-Mail:

goldhill.elca@gmail.com

Office Hours: Mon-Fri 10-2

Parish Admin. Assistant Tristyn
Howard

Gold Hill Lutheran Church Trust **Committee Minutes – March 14, 2024**

Members present: Ron Gruss, Revonda Stordahl, Annette Lawson, Vern Nielsen, Chris Ketchem, Pastor Sarah Schilcher, council president Dave Stordahl, and outgoing treasurer Ed Engle.

The meeting opened with a prayer led by Pastor Sarah.
Old Business

- Annette read the minutes from the last meeting on 12/14/2023. Vern(m) and Ed(s) to accept the minutes. The motion passed.
- Ed passed out copies of the treasurer's report. Vern(m) and Annette(s) to accept the report. The motion passed. The report through the end of January 2024: Investment Funds \$97,112.28, Perpetual Checking \$3309.98, Memorial Checking \$22,320.66, and Total Holdings \$122,742.92. Revonda agreed to be the Trust Committee Treasurer, since Ed is no longer on the committee. The signing cards will need to be changed for the bank and the ELCA accounts, replacing Ed with Revonda.
- As a review for the new people, Ron stated that we are following the IRS rules, so only up to 4% of the previous year-end balance of each of the perpetual funds can be spent each year. For the undesignated Memorial Fund, up to 25% of the principle and interest of the prior year-end balance can be spent each year, unless waived by a majority of the committee members.
- 4% of the previous year-end balance of the FLBC Fund is distributed each year to the Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp.

New Business

- Ron handed out new member orientation materials regarding functions of the Trust Committee. They included: the Trust Fund Allocation Spreadsheet, the Trust Resolution, the Trust Statement of Financial Objectives and Investment Policy, the up dated Scholarship Application, the Gift Acceptance Policy and the pamphlet "A Gift to the Future of God's Ministry".
- The task force appointed at the annual meeting allocated the Trust Committee "Give Back" program as follows: Safe Space \$100, Rescue Mission \$100, Action Inc. \$100 and Gold Hill Church \$183.43.

- Annette will take the updated Scholarship Application to Tristyn. She will need to keep copies in the church office and in May will start advertising the Scholarship on Facebook, in the news letter and the weekly bulletins. The applications need to be submitted by July 1.
- Pastor Sarah said we need more bibles to be given out. We need 5 or 6 for each age group (younger children and older kids). The Bible's are Spark Bibles from Augsburg Fortress. Ron will tell Pat Gruss to order them and the Trust Committee will pay for them using the DeWitt Bible perpetual fund.
- The next meeting will be Wednesday 7/17/2024 at 6:30 pm at Gold Hill.

The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Annette Lawson, secretary



**Gold Hill Lutheran Church
Council
Minutes – March 12, 2024**

Danette Fitzpatrick, Pastor Sarah Schilcher, Kolby Sukut

Absent: Linda Moore and Miriam Haley

David Stordahl called the meeting to order.

Shelly shared the devotion. Danette shared a beginning prayer.

It was motioned, seconded, and carried (MSC) to approve the Council Meeting Minutes for February 13th, 2024.

Pastor Sarah: provided a list of her monthly activities which included:

Check-in Phone Calls: 26

Community Outreach: 12

Home Communion Visits: 15 (8 Gold Hill; 7 Gloria Dei)

Counseling Sessions: 8

Average Weekly Hours: 51.71

Pastor Sarah notified the Council she would be gone to Iowa for continuing education the first week of April.

Gloria Dei is scheduled to coordinate her substitute.

The upcoming New Member Sunday and Baptisms events were discussed. Pastor Sarah shared new members included 20 at Gloria Dei and 4 at Gold Hill. Acquiring the necessary items (Napkins, candles, banners, Spark Bibles) for the upcoming Baptism was discussed.

Treasurer: Danette informed the group she had shared the February Financial Reports (see attached) via email prior to the meeting. It was MSC to accept the February 2024 Financial Report. Danette shared that more than \$12,000 was given to the Montana Synod. A meeting to setup a “Money Market” account at the bank was scheduled for the following day (3/12).

President: Dave notified the group there was nothing significant to report.

Worship: Shelly shared that Soup & Bread Services were going great.

Holy Week activities were discussed (Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter). The consumption of wine was approved with the meal. Pastor Sarah shared the schedule for Holy Week:

Maundy Thursday – Gold Hill (Seder Meal at 5:30 PM with service to follow) Good Friday – Gloria Dei (Service at 7:00 PM)

Easter Services – Gold Hill (Service at 8:00 AM; Breakfast at 9:00 AM) & Gloria Dei (Service at 11:00 AM)

Dave agreed to build or acquire a Processional Cross for Easter services.

Leadership: Miriam was absent. Nothing to report.

Spiritual Growth: Pat shared they had 7 to 9 Sunday School students.

Outreach Ministry:

Linda was absent. Nothing to report.

Other business:

The Council discussed identifying members to be on the Nominating Committee. Derek and Tracy were identified as potential options. Pastor Sarah suggested reducing the required number of members on the Nominating Committee from six (6) to three (3) when the Constitution is revised.

The Council discussed potential delegates for the Montana Synod Assembly Delegates. Dave Coleman has committed and Shelly said she would consider it. The need to coordinate with Gloria Dei to cover Pastor Sarah’s cost for attending was also discussed.

*The meeting adjourned with the Lord’s Prayer.

CHURCH COUNCIL February 2024:

David Stordahl -

President

Ty Inglis-

Administration Director

Danette Fitzpatrick -

Treasurer

Kolby Sukut -

Secretary

Pat Gruss -

Spiritual Growth

Ministry, Team Leader

Shelly Anderson -

Worship Ministry, Team Leader

Miriam Haley -

Leadership Ministry, Team Leader

Linda Moore -

Outreach Ministry, Team Leader

Pastor Sarah Schilcher

1 “We need to hear the gospel every day, because we forget it every day” (attributed to Martin Luther, 1483-1546). Pray that we might never grow weary of hearing the story of Easter or experiencing God’s love and mercy for the world in the gift of Jesus Christ.

2 *Arab American Heritage Month* Remember in prayer the diverse gifts, cultures, heritages, ethnic values and stories of our Arab and Middle Eastern neighbors and siblings in Christ. Ask God to bless and further the work, witness and advocacy of Arab and Middle Eastern congregations and ministries, of ELCA Arab and Middle Eastern Ministries, and of the Association of Lutherans of Arab and Middle Eastern Heritage.

3 Ask God to help us see the presence and influence of Jesus in our daily lives, our relationships and our conversations with neighbors, co-workers and siblings in Christ.

4 Pray for the people of Haiti, who have suffered multiple natural disasters in recent years and are now experiencing civil and political unrest and violence.

5 Lift up praise and thanksgiving to God, celebrating God’s promise of love, forgiveness and eternal life. “This is the Lord for whom we have waited; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation” (Isaiah 25:9).

6 Pray for the ministry of Global Refuge (formerly Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service) and give thanks for its 80 years of work supporting and empowering immigrants, asylum-seekers and refugees as they rebuild their lives in the United States.

7 Thomas wasn’t sure what to believe when the risen Jesus mysteriously appeared to him and the other disciples, but Jesus met his skepticism with love and understanding. Give thanks for God’s patience with us when we grapple with the mysteries of our faith, and for the Spirit having revealed truth to us through Scripture, prayer, reflection and our siblings in Christ.

8 Pray that the leaders of Russia and Ukraine and of Israel and Palestine will commit to their respective cease-fires and meet face-to-face to resolve their conflicts and create peaceful ways forward, ending the widespread human suffering and destruction that have impacted generations of their people.

9 *Dietrich Bonhoeffer, theologian (1906-1945)*

Remember and give thanks to God for people throughout history, such as Bonhoeffer, who are driven by their faith and convictions to stand against injustice, evil and violence toward others, even in the face of personal threats and death. Ask God for the courage and boldness to act when our neighbors are threatened or treated unjustly.

10 “Everything they owned was held in common ... and it was distributed to each as any had need” (Acts 4:32-35). Ask the Spirit to stir our generosity and nurture our unwavering concern for the well-being of our neighbor so that we might share our assets with those in need and foster concerned communities.

11 Ask the Spirit to guide and inspire the leaders of our church gathered for the ELCA Church Council in Chicago, that they will work together to guide, strengthen and grow the church; respond to new challenges; affirm God’s call for us to serve our neighbors; and encourage people of all ages to bear the gospel into the world.

12 Pray for ELCA Global Mission personnel, including volunteers, longtime staff, Young Adults in Global Mission, and seminary students serving as Horizon International interns. Give thanks for their faithful service and the gifts and talents they bring to their work alongside our global companions.

13 We live in a world that pits different groups of people against each other, causing inequity and anguish. Ask the Spirit to transform our fear and prejudice into compassion, kindness, empathy and respect — qualities that strengthen our relationships with each other and affirm the goodness of God’s creation. “How very good and pleasant it is when kindred live together in unity!” (Psalm 133:1).

14 Thank God for the Scripture, sacraments, hymns and liturgical art that reveal our redemption and freedom through Jesus Christ.

15 “Let us love not in word or speech but in deed and truth” (1 John 3:18). Praise God for ELCA World Hunger’s 50 years of action to end hunger, bring relief to those who suffer, develop sustainable solutions to hunger and raise awareness of the needs of our neighbors — here and around the world. Pray that we might exercise generosity, wisdom and perseverance to meet the challenges of ending hunger.

16 Ask God for the openness to reflect on our nation's history of injustice and inequality and for the courage and humility to overcome racial, religious and gender bias.

17 Give thanks that we can live in the joy of being God's children and that, though we may not understand completely what that means, it will be fully revealed to us someday.

18 Praise God for the lengthening daylight of spring, which stirs new life and reminds us of the light God brings into the world through the gift of Jesus Christ.

19 Pray for the leaders, voting members and others gathering for the assemblies of the Northern Texas-Northern Louisiana and Western Iowa synods, that the Spirit will strengthen, guide and inspire them as they reflect on the mission of the church, choose leaders and encourage one another to proclaim the gospel and serve our neighbors in need.

20 Remember in prayer our ministry in Africa through ELCA Global Mission, which works alongside Lutheran churches and agencies in 24 African countries and supports the work of the Lutheran World Federation's Department for World Service.

21 Jesus, our good and loving shepherd, laid down his life for us, his sheep. Give thanks and praise to God!

22 Remember in prayer our neighbors and siblings in Christ whose vocations pull them away from their family, friends, congregation and community. Pray that the Holy Spirit will sustain their faith and spirit and that we will express our connection with them as they come and go.

23 To whom do we turn when we are tired or unsure of our path in life? Praise God, who stays by our side through every twist and turn.

24 Pray for the leaders, voting members and others gathering for the assembly of the Rocky Mountain Synod, that the Spirit will strengthen, guide and inspire them as they reflect on the mission of the church, choose leaders and encourage one another to proclaim the gospel and serve our neighbors in need.

25 Give thanks for the numerous volunteers from across the country who are training to help youth and their

adult leaders at the ELCA Youth Gathering this summer in New Orleans.

26 Pray for the leaders, voting members and others gathering for the assembly of the Alaska Synod, that the Spirit will strengthen, guide and inspire them as they reflect on the mission of the church, choose leaders and encourage one another to proclaim the gospel and serve our neighbors in need.

27 Pray for the leaders, voting members and others gathering for the assemblies of the Northeastern Minnesota and Virginia synods, that the Spirit will strengthen, guide and inspire them as they reflect on the mission of the church, choose leaders and encourage one another to proclaim the gospel and serve our neighbors in need.

28 "Those who say, 'I love God,' and hate a brother or sister are liars, for those who do not love a brother or sister, whom they have seen, cannot love God, whom they have not seen" (1 John 4:20). Give thanks that God loved us first, so that we might know unconditional love and mercy and pass them along to all our neighbors.

29 "To the servant of God ... every place is the right place, and every time is the right time" (Catherine of Siena, theologian, 1347-1380). Pray for the wisdom to see every moment of every day as an opportunity to honor God through loving, serving and honoring our neighbors in need.

30 Thank God for the gift of baptism, which affirms our faith, washes us clean with God's love and forgiveness, welcomes us to the vast community of siblings in Christ and grants us a new life of service and sharing the gospel wherever we go.

April 2024		Gold Hill Evangelical Lutheran Church Empowered by the Holy Spirit, United to Serve			934 Placer Street Butte, MT 59701 406-723-4242	
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	10:00 am GHCLC Book Club 4:00 pm Stephen Ministry training	8:30 am Bible Study 5:30 pm Executive Committee 5:30 pm Worship & Music	10:00 am LWR Quilters 6:30 pm Choir Practice			
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
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 Gather Bible Study 5:30 pm Council meeting	10:00 am LWR Quilters 6:30 pm Choir Practice			
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
New Member Service 9:00 am Worship Service Coffee Hour 9:55 am Sunday School at Gloria Dei	9:00 am We Deliver Sack Lunches 4:00 pm Stephen Ministry training	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				
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				
<div> <div> Ushers April 7 Kolby & Tracy Sukut April 14 Patti Chain & Mike Lawson April 21 Derek & Kayla Harvey April 28 Revonda Stordahl & Annette Lawson </div> <div> Worship Helpers Lectors Derek Harvey Dorothy Tallon Chris Ketchum Mike Lawson </div> </div>						

