

# *The Nugget*



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

**March 2025**

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!

As we step into the month of March and into this year's Lenten season, we find ourselves surrounded by the stirrings of spring—a season that brings renewal, hope, and the promise of new beginnings. It is a time when God's creation awakens from its winter slumber, reminding us of the ever-present grace and mercy that our Lord extends to us. This month, I would like to reflect on a powerful verse, one of my favorite verses, from the prophet Micah: "He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God." (Micah 6:8).

In today's world, we are continually bombarded with messages that can lead us to feel overwhelmed or disconnected from one another. The challenges faced by our communities, our nation, and our world can often seem insurmountable. Yet, in the midst of uncertainty and division, Micah's words offer us a clear and compelling call to action. As followers of Christ, we are invited to embody three essential postures: justice, mercy, and humility.

To "act justly" means to engage with the world around us in ways that uphold dignity, righteousness and fairness. It calls us to advocate for those who are marginalized and to work toward systems that reflect God's love and justice. In our daily lives, this can manifest in small acts of kindness or larger efforts to support social justice initiatives. The Church is called to be a voice for the voiceless, ensuring that everyone experiences the love and justice of God.

To "love mercy" is to cultivate a heart that mirrors the compassion of Christ. In our personal interactions, let us strive to extend grace to one another, recognizing our shared humanity. In a culture that often emphasizes individualism and competition, we are reminded that mercy is not a weakness but a profound strength. It invites us to forgive, to reconcile, and to seek understanding in our relationships, embodying the very core of the Gospel.

Finally, to "walk humbly with our God" is to acknowledge our dependence on God and to seek God's guidance in all that we do. Humility opens our hearts to listen—not only to God but also to one another. It encourages us to approach conversations with an open mind and a willingness to learn. In a time where opinions often divide, our humility can serve as a bridge, fostering dialogue and understanding.

As we navigate the complexities of life today, let us always remember that our call as the Church is to reflect Christ's light in a world that often feels dark. We are not merely passive observers but active participants in God's mission. I pray that we will continue to gather in prayer, in worship, and in community, as we seek to embody these principles in our lives and in our church.

As we begin this Lenten season, may we take time to reset our hearts and minds, allowing God to transform us into agents of justice, mercy, and humility in our families, community, and beyond. Together we can be a beacon of hope and love, fulfilling God's call in a world that is desperately in need of it.

Peace,

Pastor Sarah



## Prayer Concerns

Please call the Church Office  
(723-4242) or email us:  
([goldhill.elca@gmail.com](mailto:goldhill.elca@gmail.com)) with your  
prayer requests. Only prayers given to the

entire congregation will be included here.

**Lynn McGlynn**- prayers for health and healing.

**Bill Hill**- prayers for health and recovery.

**Aric Sorenson**- prayers for health and healing.

**Ginger DeWitt**- prayers for health and recovery.

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## March Birthdays/Anniversaries:

March 3 DJ Schilcher

March 6 Patti Chain

March 14 Linda Williamson

March 19 Lynn Aniksdal

March 25 Aaron Hoffenbacker

March 28 Darby Huff



**If your birthday or  
anniversary is missing please  
notify the church office!**

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## NOTICES

## DEATHS

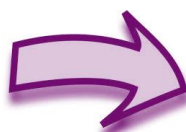
02/02/2025 Carl Campbell

02/08/2025 Alan Aniksdal

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## Lenten & Easter Service Schedule

- Ash Wednesday (3/5/25): 6:30 at Gloria Dei
- Lenten Midweek services (3/12/25-4/9/25):  
5:45 pm Soup & Bread; 6:30 service @ Gold Hill
- Maundy Thursday (4/17/25): Gold Hill
- Good Friday (4/18/25): Gloria Dei
- 8:00 am Easter Service (4/20/25): Gold Hill
- 9:00 am Easter Breakfast (4/20/25): Gloria Dei
- 11:00 am Late Easter Service (4/20/25):  
Gloria Dei



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Check it out!

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](mailto:goldhill.elca@gmail.com)

Important announcements or pictures of the services are always welcomed!

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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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## Pocket Prayer Shawls

If you or someone you care about is in need of a little comfort, we invite you to pick up a pocket prayer shawl. You'll find them in the fellowship hall where the larger prayer shawls are displayed. Connie Engle has lovingly crafted these pocket prayer shawls to offer warmth and support during difficult times. Their small size makes them perfect for anyone who travels, allowing you to carry a piece of comfort wherever you go. We hope these small pocket shawls bring you or your loved ones a sense of peace and reassurance.

## **OUTREACH** **MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES**

**by Linda Moore**

In March we are asking those of you who can do so to help our neighbors in the United States and around the world through Lutheran World Relief. Lutherans have a long history of rushing aid to the front lines when crisis strikes. LWR continues to work to help people in North Carolina who suffered the terrible flooding from Hurricanes Milton and Helene, and those in California who are recovering from devastating wildfires. Many quilts, personal care, and baby kits have been given out in these states and worldwide. In 2024 alone, 110,514 quilts and kits were sent to Ukraine. Your gift will deliver critically needed resources like medical care, food, water, and essential supplies where they are needed most.

You can donate directly online at <https://lwr.org/> or call 1.800.597.5972.

You can also make a donation in our Outreach Ministry Opportunity envelopes and we will send it to LWR Disaster Fund headquarters in Maryland to be used where it is needed most.

Thank you for sharing God's love with your neighbors.

Thank you!

The Ladies' Valentine luncheon was a HUGE success. The freewill offering of \$500.00 was sent to FLBC. Thanks to all who came and supports this event. There have been additional gifts given for FLBS in the O.M.O envelopes which will be sent in March.

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### **PASTOR OFFICE HOURS:**

Tuesday: Gloria Dei by appointment (Visit day)

Wednesday: 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>: **8:30-11:30 Gold Hill,**  
11:30-1:45 Gloria Dei  
2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>: **8:30-1:45 Gold Hill**

Thursday: **Gold Hill 8:30-1:45**

Friday: Gloria Dei 8:30-1:45, 3:30-5:00

## **GHELC STAINED GLASS** **WINDOWS**

**MIRIAM HALEY**

In 1937 Gold Hill Evangelical Church was constructed with plain, yellow textured glass windows.

In 1946 three stained glass windows were added to the east wall of the sanctuary. The center window of Christ praying in Gethsemane was given in memory of Hans O. Helland. The communion cup window was given in memory of H. Karl Ronning Fye, killed in action in Europe in 1945. Memorial Funds were used to purchase the Holy Bible window in 1957.

When the sanctuary was remodeled these windows were moved to the upper interior wall of the church. These windows were moved again to the interior east wall during the rebuilding of the fire of 2021.

The large window on the north door featuring the lamb on the cross, a crown of thorns and three spikes was given in memory of Ida Helland.

In 1992 a church remodeling uncovered two additional south windows. Pastor Olson encouraged the church council to procure new stained glass windows. The challenge was in matching the other windows.

Bob Drain and Pete Gotland removed one vent window and shipped it to Bovard Studios in Fairfield along with a paper pattern of each window for exact size. It was their master craftspeople used in our photos to match the original four windows. These windows are hand painted with some costume colors and kiln fired. Some areas required many coats and firings.

In 1999 these windows were installed, one featuring a rainbow, as symbol of God's covenant with his people following the flood, the other shows a symbol of Holy Communion with wheat and wine. While these two windows are perfectly matched to the original four, the Bovard artists added pure white to their design. These windows were funded by the memorial fund and by special gifts from members of the congregation.

Your special gifts are invited! Also, your memorials can be designated for this project. This contract is \$10,475.00 and will be completed in June.

It has been may-too many- years since our windows and eaves were painted. Along with the eight exterior doors and the stair and ramp railings, Brown's Painting has been hired to professionally power wash, sand and point.

# TREASURER'S REPORT

## FINANCIAL SUMMARY

By Jim Anderson

January 2025	Actual	Budget	Over/under budget
Income	15,695.69	12,700.00	5,177.00
Expenses	12,588.03	12,841.00	-2,801.00
Net Income	3,107.66	-200.18	<b>8,102.00</b>

Year to Date 2024	Actual	Budget	Over/Under
Income	137,216.00	152,600.00	-15,383.60
Expenses	154,013.00	154,091.00	-78.32
Net Income	-16,796.00	-2,403.00	-14,397.00

Please stop by the fellowship hall and take a look at the beautiful dog hunting quilt we have on silent auction. This unique piece is not just a lovely addition to your home; it's also a wonderful opportunity to support our Exterior Paint Project. Every bid helps us create a welcoming space for our community. Don't miss out on this chance to contribute!

### 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 11:35 am - 2:35 pm

Pastor Sarah Schilcher

## April's Mission Opportunity for Gold Hill Lutheran

We will be gathering items for and putting together Personal Care Kits to be sent to Lutheran World Relief this spring; there is always a great need for the many people in refugee camps and elsewhere and LWR does such wonderful work with dislocated people.

We welcome any donations of these items and we plan to gather and pack up these kits in time to be shipped to LWR with the quilts.

These are the items needed for each kit:

- One light-weight bath-size towel at least 20" x 40" and not larger than 52" x 27"; dark color is recommended.
- Two or three bath-size bars of soap (8 to 9 oz.) in original wrapping.
- One adult-size toothbrush in original packaging.
- One sturdy comb, remove packaging.
- One metal nail clippers, remove packaging.
- \*Toothbrush multi-packs may be used by sealing an individual toothbrush in a business-size envelope; no plastic bags or wrap.

Remember that none of the items can be used, or have any religious, military, or patriotic symbols.

All items should be new and in good condition.

Thank you for any donations and we hope you will join us for a busy and companionable work session as we prepare these much-needed kits.





**Gold Hill Lutheran Church**  
**Council Minutes – February**  
**11, 2025**

*\*Council meeting was held at Gold Hill  
at 5:30 p.m. MST.*

**1) Call to Order**

- President David Stordahl called the meeting to order.

**2) Attendance**

- David Stordahl (President)
- Ty Inglis (Administrative Director)
- Jim Anderson (Treasurer)
- Kolby Sukut (Secretary)
- Shelly Anderson (Worship)
- Miriam Haley (Leadership)
- Linda Moore (Outreach)

**3) Devotions**

- Linda shared the devotion.

**4) Approval of the Minutes: January 14, 2025**

- It was motioned, seconded, and carried (MSC) to approve the Council Meeting Minutes for January 14<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

**5) Pastor's Report**

- Pastor Sarah was on vacation but provided the Council with a list of her monthly activities for January, which included:

Check-in Phone Calls: 60  
Community Outreach: 8  
Home Communion Visits: 13 (6 Gold Hill; 7 Gloria Dei)  
Counseling Sessions: 6  
Funeral Services: 0  
Nursing Home Services: 1  
Average Weekly Hours: 54.00  
Personal Days Taken: 1

**6) Treasurer's Report**

- It was MSC to approve the January financial report.
- Jim reported that he had been working with Danette to transition the Treasurer's responsibilities and that \$5,000 donation was received in January.

**7) President's Report**

- Nothing to report.

**8) Administrative Director's Report**

- Ty provided an update on a recent insurance claim and reported that Gold Hill's current insurance carrier had dropped our coverage as a result of the claim. David and Ty are working to provide the necessary documentation (e.g., photos, policies, etc.) to find

identify another carrier in 2025.

**9) Worship Ministry**

- Shelly reported the Worship Ministry is working on planning Lenten services.

**10) Leadership Ministry**

- Miriam discussed opportunities for financing the approximately \$10,000 exterior window/door painting project, which included petitioning the congregation for contributions, asking the Trust to provide some funding, and the potential for Gold Hill members to perform the work. The Council in general agreed that the majority of the work should be contracted to professional painters.

**11) Spiritual Growth Ministry**

- Nothing to report.

**12) Outreach Ministry**

- Linda reported the Outreach Ministry was continuing its efforts with February focused on Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp (FLBC) fundraising, and March and April focusing on Lutheran World Relief's disaster fund and personal care kits, respectively.

**13) Other Business:**

The Council discussed the formation and objective of the Parsonage Assessment Committee which occurred at the 2025 Annual Meeting. It was MSC that the Council would direct the committee to perform an evaluation of the options for the parsonage which will include: (1) the sale of the parsonage and (2) the use of the parsonage as rental. The Council will provide a directive and deadline to the Parsonage Assessment Committee for performing this evaluation which will be due by the end of April and address the following:

- Coordinate/conduct an inspection of the parsonage to identify damages or potential code-compliance issues.
- Compile a list and estimate of necessary maintenance/repairs.
- Determine if use of the parsonage as a rental would affect Gold Hill's non-profit status.
- Identify necessary tasks and estimated costs to sell the parsonage (e.g., survey, subdivision, deed, etc.).
- Acquire an updated fair market analysis for both the sale and rental of the parsonage.
- Summarize how either the sale or rental of the parsonage would advance the mission of Gold Hill's ministry.

*\*The meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer*

## March 2025 Prayer Ventures



**1** Give thanks for God's compassion, forgiveness and concern for humanity, which extend far beyond rules, borders, ideologies and bias. Pray that we are inspired to do likewise!

**2** Thank God for the example of Jesus Christ, focusing not on his crucifixion but on what God reveals to us through his journey of life, suffering, death and resurrection.

**3** Pray for lasting and resilient peace in the Holy Land and Middle East, that those who have suffered and lost much will experience justice, hope and healing as they rebuild their lives and communities.

**4** Praise God for young people who serve our neighbors through ELCA Young Adults in Global Mission (YAGM), working alongside global companion churches and organizations. Pray that their yearlong journeys will be blessings to the communities they serve and will strengthen their faith, clarity of vocation and understanding of people in diverse contexts.

**5** *Ash Wednesday* Pray that we will wear the mark of the cross on our foreheads with humility and repentance and will remember why we are baptized into Christ: to proclaim the gospel, bear love and mercy into the world, serve our neighbors, strive for justice, grow in faith and glorify God in all we do and say.

**6** Ask the Spirit to guide us through the season of Lent, that it might strengthen our faith in God's sacrificial love through Jesus Christ. Give thanks for the knowledge that we live in God's all-encompassing grace, given despite our weakness, uncertainty and arrogance.

**7** Lift up praise and thanksgiving that God is perfect, impartial and ever present, defending those who suffer.

**8** Remember in prayer our national leaders, that they will exercise wisdom, compassion, justice, mercy, respect for the diversity of humankind and attentiveness to those who are neglected and excluded. Pray that our leaders will foster well-being in our communities, nation and world.

**9** Pray that the Spirit will give us strength whenever we are tempted to stray from the ways of God, revealed to us in human terms through the life of Jesus Christ.

**10** Give thanks for moments of joy and celebration in your life and the lives of your neighbors and siblings in Christ.

**11** Who is our neighbor? Pray that we might recognize people everywhere in the world as our neighbors, created by and beloved of God and sharing with us a common lineage.

**12** Ask God to bless our congregations' community meals during Lent, that we might build relationships, reflect in prayer and feel renewed in our enthusiasm for doing God's work in the world.

**13** "When they call to me, I will answer them; I will be with them in trouble; I will rescue them and honor them" (Psalm 91:15). Lift up prayers of gratitude to God, who hears our pleading and lamentations and does not ignore or abandon us.

**14** Give thanks for the ELCA Fund for Leaders scholarship program, which supports students attending ELCA seminaries so that they can graduate with less debt and respond to God's call as the church needs and the Spirit leads.

**15** Pray for the ELCA AMMPARO Migrant Ministry, ELCA Witness in Society, ELCA World Hunger, Global Refuge, Lutheran Services in America and other partner ministries and organizations that uphold basic human rights, address causes of migration and help immigrants, asylum-seekers and refugees rebuild their lives in our country.

**16** "O God, you know all that we think or do, you know the pain we put each other through. Lord, have mercy, Christ have mercy, Lord, grant us peace" (WOV 739). Praise God for the boundless love and forgiveness that create a new spirit within us and enable us to change how we behave toward our neighbors.

**17** Remember in prayer the 240 ELCA missionaries who serve alongside global church partners in more than 40 countries, doing God's work in the world and supporting the growth of new congregations, urban and youth outreach, theological education, pursuit of justice and peace, and leadership training.

**18** Remember in prayer congregations that are working through leadership transitions, assessing their missions and resources, and searching for pastors, deacons or others to become teachers and leaders.

**19** “The Bible is alive, it speaks to me; it has feet, it runs after me; it has hands, it lays hold of me” (Martin Luther, *Table Talk*). Pray that the word of God in Scripture will lay hold of us and reveal something new to us each time we read the Bible, hear it read aloud or reflect on its implications for our daily lives.

**20** *First Day of Spring* Sing praises and lift up prayers of joy and thanksgiving for the new life, light and hope that emerge with spring — awesome gifts from God, the Creator.

**21** Thank God for the ELCA’s special relationship with The Episcopal Church, a full communion partner since 1999. 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.

**22** Water is a gift from God and a vital resource that sustains all living things. Pray for wisdom and discipline that we might preserve, manage and restore water resources essential to food production and life itself for people around the world.

**23** Let us repent our sins to God, just as we are, asking God’s forgiveness, guidance and transformation.

**24** Pray that our Lenten reflections and conversations will lead us to a clearer sense of our identity, our mission and our calling to proclaim the life-changing gospel of Jesus Christ.

**25** Give thanks for godparents and baptismal sponsors who encourage our faith, teaching us to live as children of God and followers of Christ throughout our baptismal journeys.

**26** “O God, you are my God; I seek you; my soul thirsts for you” (Psalm 63:1). Reflect on the longings of your soul and give thanks that the Spirit moves with us through Lent, leading us to the foot of the cross.

**27** Give thanks for ELCA Ministries of Diverse Cultures and Communities, which works with ELCA congregations, synods, agencies and institutions to make the church more culturally diverse, anti-racist and inclusive of all God’s

**28** God’s pardon of our human shortcomings and sin can never be earned or bought. Pray that, forgiven and freed in Jesus Christ, we will respond with gratitude, compassion and mercy for others.

**29** Give thanks for the Evangelical Lutheran Education Association (ELEA), which supports, equips and encourages Lutheran educators, and for our congregations’ faith-based day care centers and preschools, which provide safe and nurturing environments for faith formation.

**30** Hallelujah! God’s loving embrace surpasses our wildest hopes, restoring us as God’s children through the life, suffering, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.


**31** Ask the Spirit to equip, inspire and guide us as ambassadors of Christ in the world, children of God who love our neighbors in need and share the good news with everyone.

# March 2025

**Church Office Hours: 11:35 AM-2:35 PM, Mon. – Fri. CLOSED Sat. – Sun.**

**Contact: (406) 723-4242 or [goldhill.elca@gmail.com](mailto:goldhill.elca@gmail.com)**

**Gold Hill Evangelical Lutheran Church Empowered by the Holy Spirit, United to Serve**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
<b>2</b> 9:00 am Worship Service 10:00 am Coffee Hour 10:15 am Sunday School @ Gloria Dei	<b>3</b> 10:00 am GHELC Book Club	<b>4</b> 8:30am – Perkins bible study 10:30am- Women’s Bible Study @ Gloria Dei 5:30pm Executive Committee	<b>5 ASH WEDNESDAY</b> 10:00 am LWR Quilters 6:30 pm Ash Wednesday service @ Gloria Dei	<b>6</b> 6:30 pm Choir practice	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>9</b> 9:00 am Worship Service 10:00 am Coffee Hour 10:15 am Sunday School @ Gloria Dei	<b>10</b> 6:00 pm Stephen Ministry	<b>11</b> 8:30am – Perkins bible study 10:00 am <b>Gather Bible Study</b> 10:30am- Women’s Bible Study @ Gloria Dei 5:30pm Council meeting	<b>12 Midweek Lenten Service</b> 10:00 am LWR Quilters 5:45 pm Soup Supper 6:30 pm service	<b>13</b> 6:30 pm Choir practice	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>16</b> 9:00 am Worship Service 10:00 am Coffee Hour 10:15 am Sunday School @ Gloria Dei	<b>17</b> 9:00 am Sack Lunch	<b>18</b> 8:30am – Perkins bible study 10:30am- Women’s Bible Study @ Gloria Dei	<b>19 Midweek Lenten Service</b> 10:00 am LWR Quilters 5:45 pm Soup Supper 6:30 pm service	<b>20</b> 10:00 am Prayer Shawl Knitters 6:30 pm Choir practice	<b>21</b> 12:00 pm 55+ Lunch Bunch	<b>22</b>
<b>23</b> 9:00 am Worship Service 10:00 am Coffee Hour 10:15 am Sunday School @ Gloria Dei	<b>24</b> 6:00 pm Stephen Ministry	<b>25</b> 8:30am – Perkins bible study 10:30am- Women’s Bible Study @ Gloria Dei	<b>26 Midweek Lenten Service</b> 10:00 am LWR Quilters 5:45 pm Soup Supper 6:30 pm service	<b>27</b> 6:30 pm Choir practice	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>30</b> 9:00 am Worship Service 10:00 am Coffee Hour 10:15 am Sunday School @ Gloria Dei	<b>31</b>					

Date	Ushers	Lector	Acolyte	Worship Asst.	PowerPoint	Communion Asst.	Coffee Hour
<b>Mar. 2</b>	Chris Ketchum & Aaron Hoffenbacker	Peggy Probasco	Josie Harvey	N/A	Brieson Campbell	Linda Williamson	Heatherlynn Meeks
<b>Mar. 9</b>	Annette Lawson & Byron DeWaay	Patti Chain	N/A	Dorothy Tallon	Aaron Hoffenbacker	N/A	Chris Ketchum
<b>Mar. 16</b>	Revonda Stordahl & Dorothy Tallon	Chris Ketchum	Tavia Broudy	N/A	Ron Gruss	Miriam Haley	Dorothy Tallon & Karen Galpin
<b>Mar. 23</b>	Kolby & Tracy Sukut	Lynn McGlynn	N/A	Mike Lawson	Chris Ketchum	N/A	Danette Fitzpatrick
<b>Mar. 30</b>	Patti Chain & Christy Chain	Rande Farrow	Lydia Schilcher	N/A	Dan Schilcher	Julie Corbin	Linda Williamson



