

The Nugget



EMPOWERED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT,
UNITED TO SERVE

August 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 August, the warm days of summer are slowly giving way to the crisp air of early autumn. This transition often brings a mix of emotions—a sense of nostalgia for the carefree days of summer, but also an exciting anticipation for the new beginnings that fall brings.

With schools re-opening later this month, many families are preparing for a new rhythm of life. This time of year encourages us to evaluate our commitments, prioritize what matters most, and seek God's guidance as we establish new routines.

The Bible beautifully reflects this idea of new beginnings in the verse from Isaiah 43: "I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert."

Just as God promises to do new things in our lives, we too are called to embrace the opportunities that come with each new season. Perhaps this is the time to start a new commitment in your faith journey—joining one of our Bible study groups, volunteering for a new or different ministry at church, or simply setting aside time for daily devotion and prayer.

As we reflect on the commitments we hold dear, let us remember the importance of prioritizing our walk with God. This upcoming season provides a unique opportunity to renew our focus on family, friends, and faith. It's a chance to assess how we spend our time and energy, ensuring that our daily lives align with what we value most.

I encourage each of you to take a moment as we transition into this new season. Reflect on what God might be inviting you to do in this upcoming fall. Are there new endeavors you want to explore or commitments you wish to renew in your life? Let's be open to God's leading and willing to embrace the new paths that God has set before us.

God is doing a new thing in our lives and in our community, and I am excited to see how each of you will respond! May we all enter this new season with hopeful hearts and a readiness to follow where God leads us.

Peace,
Pastor Sarah

We Deliver-Sack Lunch Ministry

Volunteers for July were: Annette Lawson, Nick Elings, Patty Callaghan, Lynn Aniksdal, Axlen Baldry.

Food supplies & donations for food provided by: Patty Callaghan, Shelly Anderson, Nick Elings, Chris Ketchum,

Linda Moore, Michelle Keim, Thank you!

We will meet this month on August 18th at 9:00 am in the fellowship hall to put these lunches together. If you have any questions please feel free to call Annette Lawson, at 406-490-7751.

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Outreach Opportunities By: Linda Moore

Our faith calls us to serve, and our church is blessed with many opportunities to put love into action. This month we will prepare “Period Kits” for Butte girls. We have counted our donated items, purchased more using a Thrivent gift card, and are ready to put the kits together. Our goal is to complete 160 kits. We want enough to give to each of Butte’s public schools as well as the Central schools. Each kit will include short note (You are a child of God!) along with our church address and phone number. We will deliver them to the schools in mid-August prior to the start of school.

Please join us on **Monday August 4th at 6:30 pm** to assemble the kits, they will be easy to do and we will have fun. And then we will have dessert!

Thank you to all of you good people who continue to support and contribute toward our outreach ministry opportunities.

TREASURER'S REPORT

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

By Jim Anderson

| June 2025 | Actual | Budget | Over/under budget |
|------------|-------------|-----------|-------------------|
| Income | 9,275.58 | 12,716.68 | (3,441.10) |
| Expenses | 41,683.28 | 12,916.90 | 28,766.38 |
| Net Income | (32,407.70) | (200.22) | (32,207.48) |

| Year to Date 2025 | Actual | Budget | Over/Under |
|-------------------|------------|------------|-------------|
| Income | 70,969.23 | 76,300.08 | (5,330.85) |
| Expenses | 107,450.10 | 77,501.40 | 29,948.70 |
| Net Income | (3,360.80) | (1,201.32) | (35,279.55) |

Gold Hill Evangelical Lutheran Church

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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

Parish Admin. Assistant Tristyn Howard



Gold Hill Lutheran Church

Council Minutes - July 8,

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)
- Jim Anderson (Treasurer)
- Kolby Sukut (Secretary)
- Shelly Anderson (Worship)
- Miriam Haley (Leadership)
- Linda Moore (Outreach)

3) Devotions

- Ty shared the devotion.

4) Approval of the Minutes: June 10, 2025

- It was motioned, seconded, and carried (MSC) to approve the Council Meeting Minutes for June 10th, 2025.

5) Pastor's Report

- Pastor Sarah was absent. Nothing to report.

6) Treasurer's Report

- Jim notified the Council that he had lost online access to Gold Hill's accounts and was working to resolve the issue. It was MSC to approve the June Financial Report.

7) President's Report

- Nothing to report.

8) Administrative Director's Report

- Ty reported that he is continuing to work on resolving Pastor Sarah's compensation issues.

9) Worship Ministry

- Shelly provided an update on the upcoming services schedule and activities.

10) Leadership Ministry

- Miriam provided an update on ongoing Church maintenance activities, including the ongoing efforts to repair/sell the parsonage and the painting project.

11) Spiritual Growth Ministry

- Nothing to report.

12) Outreach Ministry

- Linda shared that the Outreach Ministry was \$315 short of their \$1,760 goal for covering the cost of the Ridge Waters day at Stodden Park.

13) Other Business:

- No new business was discussed.

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

August 2025 Prayer Ventures



1 We are church for the sake of the world, celebrating the abundant life that has been promised by God and fulfilled in Christ's life, death and resurrection. Pray for the Spirit to guide and inspire the discussions, decisions and work of the 2025 Churchwide Assembly, that our church will proclaim and exemplify the grace we have in Jesus.

2 Give thanks for those who participated in the Churchwide Assembly and ask God to protect them as they return to their faith communities.

3 Pray that when our interest is drawn to specific issues in our communities and the world, we will not lose sight of other issues that persist but have slipped away from public awareness.

4 Pray for worship leaders and musicians gathering for the Association of Lutheran Church Musicians conference in Raleigh-Durham, N.C., that their passion, creativity and skills for leading music will grow as a means of expressing faith and sharing the gospel.

5 Give thanks and praise to God for the joy, freedom and new life we have in Jesus Christ and for the promise of eternal life in the kingdom of God. Hallelujah!

6 Pray for lasting and resilient peace where there is conflict and war in the world, especially in Ukraine, Russia and the Middle East. Pray that we will not grow weary in supporting and caring for those who continue to live in uncertainty and suffering amid violence, injustice and displacement from their homes and communities.

7 Praise God that our new life in Christ empowers us to renew ourselves in the image of the Creator and to oppose and cleanse ourselves of anger, hate, slander, abusive language, racism, dishonesty, self-centeredness and greed.

8 Thank God for the ELCA's special relationship with the Moravian Church in America, 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.

9 Pray for local, state and national leaders, that they will respect and respond to our neighbors on the fringes

of society, including people who suffer poverty and hunger, who need shelter, who live with illnesses and conditions requiring constant care, and whose rights and protections have diminished. Pray for compassion, strength and persistent courage to advocate and care for our neighbors in need.

10 Pray for the Spirit's guidance and wisdom in understanding the parables Jesus shared over two thousand years ago, and for insight into the admonitions and wisdom they offer us today.

11 Pray for our missionaries and Young Adults in Global Mission who accompany global partners in 10 European countries, serving in ministries that provide education, pastoral leadership, social services and care for vulnerable populations.

12 *International Youth Day* Half the people on our planet are age 30 or younger. Pray for every nation to honor the gifts of young people, address the challenges they face and provide easy access to resources that contribute to their physical, spiritual, emotional, intellectual and economic well-being.

13 Ask God to bless those who have chosen to use their gifts, faith and time in long-term volunteer service with Lutheran Volunteer Corps, Urban Servant Corps, Holden Village or other domestic ministries.

14 Open our hearts and minds to see problems in the world as opportunities to encourage and care for one another, to seek new paths toward justice and peace, and to share the good news of God's mercy and love for humanity.

15 "Go my children, with my blessing, never alone. Waking, sleeping, I am with you, you are my own. In my love's baptismal river I have made you mine forever" (WOV 721). Praise God for being ever present in our lives and the world — in times of turmoil, peace, fear, joy, failure and achievement.

16 Pray for students attending ELCA colleges, universities and seminaries, and other institutions of higher education, that they will grow in faith, knowledge, wisdom and commitment to serve others.

17 Ask the Spirit how we might align ourselves with the commandments, desires and priorities of God, the very things Jesus made clear to us through his life, suffering, death and resurrection.

18 Pray for the church leaders gathering for the Ecumenical School on Governance, Economics, and Management for an Economy of Life in Seoul, South Korea. Organized by the World Council of Churches, the Lutheran World Federation and other ecumenical organizations, the school helps leaders to bridge theology and economics and to advocate for a global economic system that meets the needs of humanity and responds to the crises we face today.

19 Give thanks to God that, through our collective generosity, our church provides grants and scholarships to support the ministries of individuals, communities, congregations, synods, and ELCA partners and companion churches.

20 “Am I a God near by, says the Lord, and not a God far off? Who can hide in secret places so that I cannot see them? says the Lord. Do I not fill heaven and earth? says the Lord” (Jeremiah 23:23-24). Give thanks that God sees all evil and deception in the world, and promise to be vigilant and discerning so that we might uplift our neighbors and please God.

21 Pray for the work of Sumud, an initiative of our church that works for justice in Palestine and Israel, proclaiming that all humans are beloved children of God who deserve safety, security and dignity.

22 Give thanks for the ELCA New Congregations ministry and for the 340 new-start congregations and ministries under development in the United States and the Caribbean, supported by local leaders and their synods’ bishops and directors for evangelical mission.

23 Pray for congregational leaders and volunteers who are preparing fall programs and community ministries to share the gospel, nurture faith, serve neighbors in need and equip people of all ages and abilities to do God’s work in the world.

24 There is no convenient or more suitable time to respond to the suffering of our neighbors. Pray that we will be mindful of those around us — near and far — and promptly respond with respect, kindness,

generosity, sustainable solutions and concern for their short- and long-term needs.

25 Pray for teachers, student teachers, administrators and other school staff, that their strength, knowledge, creativity and commitment to students will be nourished throughout the school year. Ask the Spirit to help us express our thanks and support them in tangible ways.

26 “Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me, and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me, and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free” (ACS 1087). Lift up praise and thanks to God!

27 Give thanks for people who play a significant role in your life, including those who inspire your faith, teach you life skills, influence your values, treat you with love and respect, and show up when you need someone to lean on.

28 Remember in prayer children, youth and adults whose lives have been touched and inspired by outdoor ministry experiences this summer. Pray that they will bring back to their home congregations their rekindled faith, enthusiasm, confidence and commitment to love their neighbors.

29 Rejoice in the daily care, support and sustenance we receive from God and our siblings in Christ. Pray that we, in turn, will freely share the same with our neighbors.

30 Each of us has a unique faith story to tell. Ask the Spirit to help us find our own way of describing our faith journey — how God works through us and how Jesus Christ defines our lives.

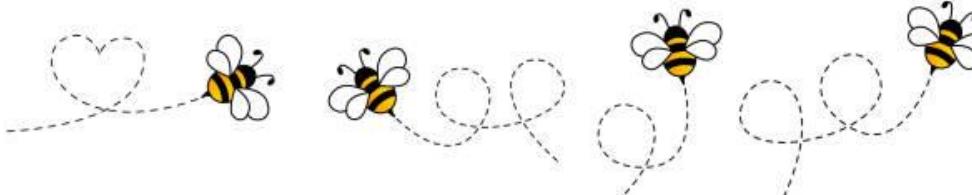
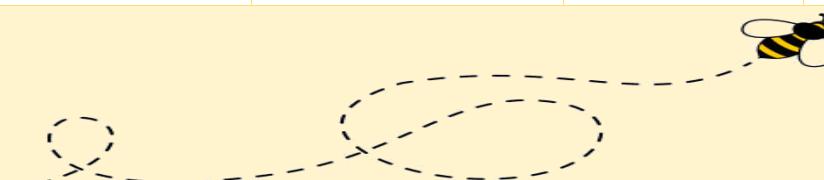
31 Ask the Spirit for the faith needed to be both confident and humble. Promise to focus on neighbors in need and to resist personal desires for reward, status or advantage.

August 2025

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

Contact: (406) 723-4242 or 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 | 2 |
| 3 9:00 am Worship Service 10:00 am Coffee Hour | 4 | 5 5:30 pm Executive Committee | 6 10:00 am LWR Quilters | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| 10 9:00 am Worship Service 10:00 am Coffee Hour | 11 | 12 10:00 am Gather Bible Study 5:30pm Council meeting | 13 10:00 am LWR Quilters | 14 | 15 12:00 pm 55+ Lunch Bunch | 16 |
| 17 9:00 am Worship Service 10:00 am Coffee Hour | 18 9:00 am Sack Lunch | 19 | 20 10:00 am LWR Quilters | 21 10:00 am Prayer Shawl Knitters | 22 | 23 |
| 24 Rally Sunday 11:00 am @ Gloria Dei | 25 | 26 | 27 10:00 am LWR Quilters | 28 | 29 | 30 11 AM ? Anna Jones Funeral Service |
| 31 Clark's Park 11:00 am Worship Service | | |  | | | |

| Date | Ushers | Lector | Acolyte | Worship Asst. | PowerPoint | Communion Asst. | Coffee Hour |
|----------------|------------------------------------|--------------|-----------------|-------------------|--------------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| Aug. 3 | Linda Williamson & Jeff Williamson | Patti Chain | Allen Podgorski | N/A | Brieson Campbell | Christy Chain | Revonda Stordahl |
| Aug. 10 | Chris Ketchum & Aaron Hoffenbacker | Derek Harvey | N/A | Heatherlynn Meeks | Ron Gruss | N/A | Linda Williamson |
| Aug. 17 | Patti Chain & Christy Chain | Mike Lawson | Tavia Broudy | N/A | Aaron Hoffenbacker | Cory Beck | Danette Fitzpatrick |
| Aug. 24 | Rally Sunday @ Gloria Dei | | | | | | |
| Aug. 31 | Clark's Park Service | | | | | | |