The Nugget



EMPOWERED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT, UNITED TO SERVE

April 2026

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)

Familiar Easter symbols remind us of our calling by Susan Harris

I've been thinking about the contrasts of the seasons during this time of year.

Maybe it's because the gray skies and cold weather of winter have given way to the blue skies and warmth of spring. From the barren tree branches, lush new growth has burst forth.

What a difference this makes in the world around us. According to a quote attributed to Martin Luther, "Our Lord has written the promise of resurrection, not in books alone, but in every life in springtime."

From the ugliness of the crucifixion and the tomb, the beauty of the resurrection and everlasting life springs forth. And what a difference that makes in our world and in our lives!

Having celebrated the Resurrection on Easter Sunday, the message is topical. Along with the empty cross and Easter lilies in the sanctuary, another symbol of Easter is the butterfly.

Just as the butterfly emerges from a tomb-like cocoon, we see the comparison with the resurrection of Jesus. From a caterpillar to a cocoon and finally a beautiful butterfly, we witness a miraculous transformation.

Another familiar symbol of Easter are the colorful eggs. Children look forward to Easter egg hunts held at churches and parks, without realizing the significance of the colored eggs. The eggs represent the tomb and a bird hatching signifies life. So the Easter egg serves as a reminder that Jesus rose from the grave and that those who believe will experience eternal life.

The most significant symbol in the life of Christians is the cross. It signifies our belief that Jesus was crucified but he still lives. The cross is the focal point in church sanctuaries, on church steeples and on necklaces we wear. The cross is a universal sign of Christianity.

As Women of the ELCA, we identify with the symbol of the cross, water and a white lily as well. According to the Women of the ELCA website, this logo "identifies women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America as children of God; baptized, forgiven, adopted into God's family, full of grace and hope in eternal life. It is a reminder of the growth, beauty and vitality that rises out of that life-giving baptismal water. It is also a reminder of the mission of the church to 'Go, therefore, make disciples of all nations; baptize them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit' (Matthew 28:19)."

I hope you will continue to consider how you as an individual created in the image of God have been called and empowered.



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.

Patricia Coleman- prayers for health and healing.
Ginger DeWitt- prayers for health and healing.
Terry Nash- prayers for health and healing.
Arlene Munyon- prayers for health and healing.
Danette Fitzpatrick- prayers for health and healing.

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April Birthdays /Anniversaries:



April 3	Mike Vincent
April 4	Tim Rowe
April 7	Kolby Sukut
April 7	Mike Lawson
April 11	Stephen DeBarathy
April 15	Christy Chain
April 18	Derek Harvey
April 28	Susan Stamp
April 30	Jeff Williamson

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

Please help us to stay updated and notify the church office with any address, phone, or Email address changes!

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

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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Brinna Lumpkin's baby shower will be on April 11th at 12 pm in the Fellowship Hall at Gold Hill.

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HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

-Maundy Thursday at 6:30 PM at Gloria Dei

-Good Friday at 6:30 PM at Gloria Dei

-Easter Breakfast at 8:30 AM followed by Easter service at 10 AM at Gloria Dei

Sunday School Teachers for April
April 5-No Sunday School
April 12- Kayla Harvey & Kyleen Fuller
April 19-Christopher Stodden & Christy Chain
April 26-Taisha Sharon & Kayla Harvey

Outreach Ministry
by Linda Moore

Thank you to all of you Gold Hill members and friends who in March donated to the Personal Care Kits that Gloria Dei will put together to be sent to Lutheran World Relief. The tote by our ramp door was full, so that sure shows that we can work together on projects. Gloria Dei agreed to help us in April.

Our project for the month of April is going to be to put together "School Kits" to be sent to LWR along with our quilts in May. Education is one of the strongest tools a community has for breaking the cycle of poverty. Ensuring that girls attend school, especially in places where their access is deprioritized, has even stronger results. School Kits contain essential supplies to help children -and in some cases, adults- continue learning in the face of serious obstacles.

I have secured a $250 gift card from Thrivent to purchase backpack style bags to fill each kit, but I am asking you for donations of supplies to complete the kits.
Items needed are:

- Spiral notebooks
- Rulers with 30 centimeters on one side and inches on the other
- Pencil sharpeners
- Blunt safety scissors
- Unsharpened #2 pencils
- Black or blue ballpoint pens
- Crayons -16 or 24 count boxes
- 2 ½ " erasers

Any Outreach $$ donations in April will go toward postage for getting the quilts and kits to where they are needed most. In 2025, 179,200 School Kits went to nine countries including the United States. [which received over 70,000 after devastating fires and floods] The cost in 2025 was estimated at $2.85 per kit or quilt but will be closer to $4.00 each in 2026.

We will be worshiping at Gloria Dei in April, but you can make donations in your Gold Hill offering envelope under Other marked 'Outreach' or put it in a separate envelope and mark it 'Gold Hill – Outreach'.
There will be a drop-off bin at Gloria Dei for items, or… items and $$ can be dropped off at Gold Hill between 11:30 and 2:30 pm Monday through Friday with Tristyn.

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SPIRITUAL GROWTH APRIL UPDATES

Sunday School will be held at Gloria Dei starting at 9:00 am. We want to welcome all of our teachers back in April, we are looking forward to ending the year strong. Sunday School Schedule:

9-9:15 greeting and music

9:15-9:25 snack

9:25-9:50 Story, lesson and craft

9:50-9:55 clean up and return to adult

NO SUNDAY SCHOOL ON EASTER
PLEASE JOIN US FOR BREAKFAST

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS: Please plan on being at church by 9:00 am there will be a black binder located in the classroom with the lesson plan and all craft and snack materials will be ready for the lesson.

SUMMER YOUTH GROUP:
WEDNESDAY's 5:30-7:30 pm

All children pre-school through high school are welcome to join us on Wednesdays for theme nights filled with food, fun and fellowship. Each evening will begin with a Bible Lesson related to the theme, a prayer, dinner and activity.

June 10th: Gloria Dei GAMES/Food

June 17th: Gold Hill Father's Day baking/ craft/ Food

June 24th: Gloria Dei Art night/Food

July 8th: Gold Hill Art night/Food

July 15th: Gloria Dei Active Games/food

July 22nd: Gold Hill Outdoor games/Food

Many of you have asked how you can contribute to Sunday school monetary donations. We now have a solution! We've created a wish list account with Oriental Trading Company. Please consider purchasing items from this wish list to support our program. Account Setting | Oriental Trading Thank you for your generosity!

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We Deliver-Sack Lunch Ministry



Volunteers for March were: Annette Lawson, Patty Callaghan, Jeanette Quist, Carol & Larroll Leach, Machelle Keim, Lynn Aniksdal. Thank you!

Food supplies & donations for food provided by: Annette Lawson, Patty Callaghan, Linda Moore, Laurie Huff, Shelly Anderson, Joann Farrow. Thank you!

We will be meeting April 20th at 9:00 am. If you have any questions please feel free to call Annette Lawson, at 406-490-7751.

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ALL SERVICES FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL WILL BE AT GLORIA DEI

SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:00 AM
SUNDAY SERVICES 10:00 AM



Gold Hill Lutheran Church Council Minutes – March 10, 2026

****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)
- Kolby Sukut (Secretary)
- Jim Anderson (Treasurer)
- Shelly Anderson (Worship)
- Kyleen Fuller (Spiritual Growth)

3) Devotions
- Shelly shared the devotion.

4) Approval of the Minutes: February 10th, 2026
- It was motioned, seconded, and carried (MSC) to approve the Council Meeting Minutes for February 10th, 2026, as previously amended.

5) Treasurer's Report
- Treasurer Jim Anderson provided an update on the February financials and shared that he and Ty are working on getting the balance sheet updated.
- Jim shared the February Financial Report; it was MSC to approve the report.

6) President's Report
- Nothing to report.

7) Administrative Director's Report
- Ty has been regularly touching base with church staff, and notified staff of pay raises. Jim will make the necessary changes with Capstone (formerly Mark Rule & Co.).

8) Worship Ministry
- Shelly updated the Council on Worship Ministry activities; she recently purchased new wicks and will work with Gloria Dei to schedule future pastoral needs.

9) Leadership Ministry
- The Council received a quote from JG Cleaning for carpet cleaning the sanctuary, hallway, and front entry. The Council MSC to approve the cleaning of the carpets and rugs.

10) Spiritual Growth Ministry
- The Council discussed Easter breakfast and if children would be willing to participate. Kyleen noted that she would get what kids she could to help but it would likely need support from adults.
- Kyleen proposed a modified approach to VBS (Wednesday evenings through the summer) while she gets organized in her new role.
- Kyleen shared that she spoke with Pastor Marlow regarding performing the confirmation service (May 24th), as Pastor Sarah and Marlow discussed previously.

11) Outreach Ministry
- Linda was absent but shared a prior update with Shelly on the Outreach Ministry's efforts; February collected $755 for FLBC ($635 for the luncheon, $120 from outreach envelopes), and in April they will be putting together school kits and donations will go to Lutheran World Relief for shipping costs of kits and quilts.

13) Other Business:
- The Council discussed recent feedback from the Parsonage Investment Committee and alternatives for the long-term strategy of managing the money from the sale of the parsonage.
- The Council discussed updating the newspaper ad for the current service schedule.
- David updated the Council on efforts to get offering envelopes printed.
- This Bishop will be in town to meet with the Call Committee Sunday, March 15th at 5:00 PM at Gloria Dei.

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

April 2026 Prayer Ventures

1 Give thanks, for God has not left us alone stumbling in darkness, guilt and chaos. Time and time again, we are led to the cross and the empty tomb, where we are bound to, and set free by, the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, our lord, messiah and savior.

2 *Maundy Thursday* "When in the shadow of the cross Christ knelt and washed the feet of his disciples, he gave us a sign of love complete" (*ELW* 360). Ask God to help us understand the sacrificial love Jesus Christ had for his followers, neighbors in need and the world. Pray that we do likewise and that our actions of love, mercy and service inspire others.

3 *Good Friday* Pray that we deepen our understanding of the suffering, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ as the ultimate demonstration of God's boundless love for *all* humanity. Ask God to forgive us when we seek or justify vengeance, isolation and dominance over people whom we see as adversaries, who unsettle us or whose beliefs differ from our own.

4 Pray for those who long for good news, hope, relief and liberation, including people of all ages who live in the midst of conflict and war, experience poverty and hunger, are imprisoned, suffer despair, and seek meaning and purpose.

5 *Easter Sunday* Shout together with siblings in Christ throughout the world, "Hallelujah! Christ is risen!" Give thanks to God for showing humanity that God's promise of love, forgiveness and new life embodied in Jesus Christ is real, given to all people and to be trusted. Hallelujah!

6 Pray for peace where there is conflict, war and instability in the world, including Iran, the Middle East, Venezuela, Ukraine, Mexico, Mali, Nigeria, Pakistan and Myanmar. Pray for people who are impacted and displaced by conflict, that they remain hopeful, find safe sanctuary in welcoming communities, have resources to meet daily needs, and know that they are not forgotten.

7 "Woman, dancing from the garden, find the others and proclaim Christ is risen as he promised; tell the world he knew your name" (*ACS* 935)! Ask the Spirit to help us invite others to have faith in God's love and mercy and to spread the good news of the risen Christ through word of mouth, relationships, and acts of love and service.

8 *National Arab American Heritage Month* Remember in prayer the diverse gifts, cultures, heritages and stories of our Arab and Middle Eastern neighbors and siblings in Christ, who remind us of the rich history and tradition of Christ's church in the world. Ask God to bless and further the ministries of Arab and Middle Eastern congregations, the Association of Lutherans of Arab and Middle Eastern Heritage, ELCA Arab and Middle Eastern Ministries, and Sumud.

9 "Our Lord has written the promise of resurrection, not in books alone, but in every leaf in springtime" (attributed to Martin Luther). Signs of God's love and forgiveness are everywhere! Pray for the Spirit to heighten our awareness of God's presence, activity and promises manifested in creation, in our neighbors and siblings in Christ, and through Scripture, the sacraments and worship.

10 Give thanks and pray for those who serve in vocations of hospice care, attending to medical, physical, spiritual and emotional needs of patients with terminal illnesses and offering support for their families and care providers.

11 Ask the Spirit to inspire and guide the work of the churchwide Innovation Lab team, which equips leaders and congregations to listen deeply to their communities, try new approaches to ministry, embrace diversity and build relationships that reflect Christ's inclusive welcome.

12 After his resurrection, Jesus appeared to the disciples who were hiding behind locked doors with fear and uncertainty. Instead of reprimanding them, a patient and reassuring Jesus gave them the gift of the Holy Spirit. Ask for forgiveness when fear and doubt creep into your thoughts and faith. Pray for the Spirit's reassurance that we are indeed God's beloved children who need to embolden one another to embrace and share the good news of the risen Christ.

13 Remember in prayer those traveling to South Africa and Zimbabwe to witness the life-changing work of our Lutheran companions. Hold them in prayer as they learn how ELCA global personnel and gifts to ELCA World Hunger support community development, women's empowerment, youth leadership, responses to HIV and AIDS, climate resilience and peace-building.

14 Pray for leaders gathered to explore the theme "The Feast of Creation: Liturgy as Creation Groans" during

the annual Institute of Liturgical Studies at Valparaiso (Ind.) University. Ask the Spirit to guide and inspire their deliberation on the intersection of liturgy, theology and climate justice.

15 Pray for the Spirit to equip and stir us to live out our faith and baptism as followers of Christ who implement justice, act with kindness and walk humbly with God.

16 Remember in prayer our neighbors and siblings in Christ who live in rural areas of our country. Pray that their communities and congregations will thrive and create new ways to attend to their unique contexts, strengthen faith, care for neighbors in need and stir hope.

17 "Although you have not seen [Jesus Christ], you love him, and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls" (1 Peter 1:8-9). Give praise to God for stirring our faith and joy with the wonder-filled good news and mystery of our salvation through Jesus Christ. Give thanks that the gift of salvation is not dependent on our having complete understanding.

18 Ask God to instill in us confidence that peacemaking is not a sign of weakness but rather a faith-driven endeavor that entails strength, mutual concern, perseverance and wisdom for the sake of all people.

19 How does God speak to you? In a hushed or loud voice, prayerful moments, in Scripture or through the wisdom, words and actions of others around you? Ask the Spirit to help you sense and understand God's presence and voices that can take you by surprise.

20 Give thanks to God for rostered ministers who nurture our faith, reassure us of God's love and forgiveness, accompany us in times of grief and joy, help us see the intersection of faith and everyday life, and engage us in exploring the meaning and relevance of Scripture.

21 In Christ we are new people — new creations — and freed from our old self. Give thanks and pray for the Spirit to renew us daily and reveal how we are to live as people of faith set free to follow Christ, share the gospel, love our neighbor and spread hope.

22 Gather with siblings in Christ and lift up prayers of gratitude and joy to our God who is loving, merciful and employs the diverse gifts of communities of faith to accomplish great things in the world for the well-being, restoration and wholeness of humanity.

23 Pray for students, who, together with their teachers, grow, learn and practice skills that enable them to navigate life in a challenging world, be resilient, care for themselves and their neighbors, discover their gifts, and live with confidence, hope and joy.

24 Remember and pray for the growing number of individuals and families who experience homelessness, that they will have consistent, safe shelter and receive care and assistance that is respectful and attentive to their physical, emotional, spiritual and social needs.

25 Give thanks for people who serve in the military in various roles. Pray that they are kept safe and supported, that their faith is nurtured, and that they serve with a commitment to peace, justice and freedom around the world.

26 Ask God to help us discern between voices that serve themselves, divide us, and turn us against one another and the voice of Jesus Christ — the one true shepherd, teacher, liberator and savior whom we can trust explicitly. Pray that by his example we may unite to build communities of love and mutual care.

27 Give thanks for the Evangelical Lutheran Education Association, a network that encourages, inspires and equips educators, pastors, principals, directors and board members of Christ-centered, grace-filled schools and early education programs.

28 "Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me" (Psalm 23:4). Praise God for being present in our lives to guide and sustain us, especially when we feel alone, overwhelmed, frightened and adrift. Give thanks that the Spirit helps us respond with care and concern for our neighbors and siblings in Christ who are going through difficult times.

29 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 leaders, that together we will find strength and resources for the work of sharing the gospel and serving

our neighbor, especially in these challenging times for the church and society.

30 Pray for ELCA missionaries, global personnel and Young Adults in Global Mission volunteers who are often separated from family, friends, home congregations and communities for long periods of time. Pray that they will feel connected and supported while serving alongside our global companions and that the Spirit will inspire us to express our love and support in tangible ways.

April 2026

Church Office Hours: 11:30 AM-2:30 PM, Mon. – Fri. CLOSED Sat. – Sun.
Contact: (406) 723-4242 or goldhill.elca@gmail.com
Gold Hill Lutheran Church: Empowered by the Holy Spirit, Unite to Serve.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 **10:00 am** LWR Quilters	**2** **6:30 pm** Maundy Thursday @ Gloria Dei	**3** **6:30 pm** Good Friday @ Gloria Dei	**4**
5 EASTER @ GD **8:30 am Easter Breakfast** **10:00 am Worship**	**6**	**7** **8:30 am** Perkins Bible Study **10:30 am** Women's Bible Study	**8** **10:00 am** LWR Quilters	**9** **6:30 pm** Choir Practice	**10**	**11** 12 pm Brinna Lumpkin Baby Shower
12 **9:00 am Sunday School** **10:00 am Worship** **11:00 am Coffee Hour**	**13** 6:00 pm Stephen Ministry @ Gold Hill	**14 Tristyn on Vacation** **8:30 am** Perkins Bible Study **10:30 am** Women's Bible Study **5:00 pm** Council Meeting	**15 Tristyn on Vacation** **10:00 am** LWR Quilters	**16** **10:00 am Prayer Shawl Knitters** **6:30 pm** Choir Practice	**17** **12:00 pm** 55+ Lunch Bunch	**18**
19 NOSIEY OFFERING **9:00 am Sunday School** **10:00 am Worship** **11:00 am Coffee Hour**	**20** **9:00 am Sack Lunches**	**21** **8:30 am** Perkins Bible Study **10:30 am** Women's Bible Study	**22** **10:00 am** LWR Quilters	**23** **6:30 pm** Choir Practice	**24**	**25**
26 **9:00 am Sunday School** **10:00 am Worship** **11:00 am Coffee Hour**	**27** 6:00 pm Stephen Ministry @ Gold Hill	**28** **8:30 am** Perkins Bible Study **10:00 am** Gather Bible Study **10:30 am** Women's Bible Study	**29** **10:00 am** LWR Quilters	**30** **6:30 pm** Choir Practice		