The Nugget



EMPOWERED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT, UNITED TO SERVE

May 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)

Flourishing Together

By Drew Tucker

Catalyst Question
Who are the most helpful people in your life? What makes them so helpful for you?

Flourishing Together
Recently, Baylor University researchers released initial results from a new study on human flourishing. This global research follows hundreds of thousands of people in hopes of understanding what factors lead to a "good life." That's how the researchers understand flourishing. More than personal happiness or security, flourishing is a kind of holistic satisfaction. More than just feeling happy in the moment, to flourish is to feel like you're thriving in most, if not all, areas of life.

The results were surprising in a number of ways. Younger people are less likely to be currently flourishing than older people. Wealth isn't necessarily tied to flourishing. And regular participation in a faith community throughout your life is more likely to lead to flourishing.

It's this third finding that is most relevant today. That's because flourishing is tied to presence: presence with God and presence with others. In John 14:23-29, Jesus tells his disciples that he's leaving, but he's not leaving them alone. As he ascends into heaven, the Holy Spirit inhabits people of faith. This means that God is not only with us, but within us, to help us live abundant life for all of our days. Long before a modern research study, God knew that we were most likely to flourish if we weren't on our own.

There's much more to learn from that study, especially as we support young people in faith communities. This includes, in part, taking the cue to continue gathering with God and with one another, wisdom that comes both from ancient scriptures and current data. It also includes paying more attention to the young people in our lives, even if you are a young person yourself. Especially in our world, where money seems to rule the day, it means reassessing our relationship to wealth.

Thankfully, as John's Gospel reminds us, we don't have to do any of that on our own. After all, the Holy Spirit lives within each of us as a helper that wants us to flourish, individually and collectively. We don't thrive alone. We thrive together. Let's continue to gather together to remind ourselves that God is not just for us, and not even just with us, but an inherent part of our lives.

Ask Yourself
What kind of help do I need to flourish? Name at least two different ways someone might help you.

Ask a Friend
What are the best ways to notice God's presence in your life? Name three or more.



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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May Birthdays /Anniversaries:

May 9	Eli Corbin
May 13	Patricia Coleman
May 13	Brieson Campbell
May 14	Kim Mickelson
May 17	Peggy Dean
May 19	Arlene Munyon
May 19	Byron DeWaay
May 20	Doug Drew
May 21	Ginger DeWitt
May 23	Machelle Keim
May 29	Robert McDowell



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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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Outreach Opportunity for May

Outreach ministry is excited to announce that our Outreach Opportunity for May will once again be sponsoring a children's free swim day at Stodden Ridge Waters in June. The date has not yet been determined and will be noted as soon as available. As you may recall, the cost of this opportunity exceeded our expectations last year, yet, when the idea of using some method to limit the number of children, the council wholeheartedly rejected this idea. They support the idea to let ALL the children in Butte the opportunity to enjoy a free day at Ridge Waters. In addition, The Trust Committee has indicated they will again assist us to make this great event happen. Please use the envelopes found in the pews to generously support this wonderful event in our community. Every kid deserves a day at Ride Waters!

SPIRITUAL GROWTH APRIL UPDATES

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

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Sunday School Teachers for May
May 3- Pat Gruss & Christopher Stodden
May 10- Kyleen Fuller & Taisha Sharon
May 17- Elaine Fuller & Pat Gruss
May 24- Kyleen Fuller & NEED A VOLUNTEER

ALL SERVICES FOR THE MONTH OF MAY WILL BE AT GOLD HILL

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

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 May 18th at 9:00 am. If you have any questions please feel free to call Annette Lawson, at 406-490-7751.

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Gold Hill Trust Committee 4/14/2026

Members present: Ron Gruss, Revonda Stordahl, Chris Ketchum, and Annette Lawson.
Ron Gruss opened the meeting.

Old Business
Annette read the minutes from the 1/7/2026 meeting. Revonda(m) and Chris(s) to accept the minutes. The motion passed.
Revonda gave the treasurers report. The 2/1/2026 Memorial checking balance was $18,139.39. The 2/1/26 Perpetual checking balance was $2,952.99. The combined checking balance was $21,092.38. The ELCA Endowment Fund on 2/1/26 was $129,448.42. Chris(m) and Annette(s) to accept the report. The motion passed.

New Business
The trust committee reviewed the funds and decided to reallocate money from the Memorial checking account to the Perpetual checking account. Ron said that we need to start advertising the camperships. Chris volunteered to put the application in the Nugget, on Facebook and in the bulletins. Ron is on a task force that will recommend management of the proceeds from the sale of the parsonage. He gave a report on the meeting he attended. They are waiting for the church council to approve the recommendations.

The next Trust meeting will be at Gold Hill on Wednesday July 8, 2026 at 5:15pm.

The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.
Respectfully submitted,
Annette Lawson, secretary

Gold Hill Lutheran Church Council Minutes – April 14, 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)
- Jody Bickford (Leadership)
- Kyleen Fuller (Spiritual Growth)
- Linda Moore (Outreach)

3) Devotions
- Kolby shared the devotion.

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

5) Treasurer's Report
- Ty made a motion to authorize the President and Treasurer to hear the recommendations from the Parsonage Investment Committee and make a decision regarding the reinvestment of the money. The motion was tabled in lieu of a future vote by the Council via email.
- The Council discussed the status of the CD for the parsonage investment and David notified the group the Parsonage Investment Committee would provide their recommendations soon. Given the urgency with reinvesting the money the Council agreed to hold a vote via email (or other appropriate means) on the reinvestment of the parsonage money.
- Jim shared the March 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.

8) Worship Ministry
- Shelly updated the Council on Worship Ministry activities; Gloria Dei is responsible for organizing pastoral services for April.

9) Leadership Ministry
- Jody updated the Council that carpet cleaning is complete.

10) Spiritual Growth Ministry
- Kyleen updated the Council on Spiritual Growth (confirmation, VBS, Sunday school, etc.) activities; she inquired about doing a cake and potentially a potluck for Confirmation Sunday (and the Bishop's service).

11) Outreach Ministry
- Linda updated the Council on the Outreach Ministry's efforts; April they will be putting together school kits and donations will go to Lutheran World Relief for shipping costs of kits and quilts, they will cover the cost of meals for VBS, and they will be looking to set up a kid's swim day again at Stodden.
- The Council encouraged the Outreach Ministry to cover both swim sessions (as with the previous year) and the necessary funds will be covered by a combination of Sunday School student fundraisers, Trust Committee funds, and dividends from the Church general fund.

13) Other Business:
- The Council discussed an inquiry from the American Red Cross regarding scheduling a blood drive this summer. The Council agreed to proceed if enough donors volunteer (need minimum of 20 to 25 donors). David will discuss with Midge to see if Gloria Dei would also be interested in joining the drive.
- David shared the offering envelope designs for Gold Hill. The Council provided input and David will revise accordingly and they should be printed and in place by May.
- The Council considered a request for a modification to the church location schedule.

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

May 2026 Prayer Ventures

1 Pray for leaders, voting members and others gathering for the assemblies of the Arkansas-Oklahoma, Minneapolis Area and Southwestern Texas 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, serve our neighbors in need and work for justice and peace.

2 Pray for leaders, voting members and others as they gather for the Southeastern Minnesota Synod assembly, 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, serve our neighbors in need and work for justice and peace.

3 "Incline your ear to me; rescue me speedily. Be a rock of refuge for me, a strong fortress to save me" (Psalm 31:2). Give thanks that God is with us through every twist and turn of life, strengthening our faith, inspiring our courage, guiding our journeys and renewing our spirit.

4 *Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month* Praise God for Asian and Pacific Islander members, congregations and ministries of the ELCA, which represent a diversity of cultures, languages and heritages. Pray for the ELCA's Association of Asians and Pacific Islanders, which mentors leaders, lifts the voices of different communities and supports full participation in the life of the church.

5 Pray for the Spirit to stir in us a spirit of love, mercy and peace that prevails when conflicts and personal differences motivate us to harm, discredit or dismiss one another.

6 Pray for an end to war and conflict, that we might focus our attention and resources on those who are suffering, living in fear, yearning for stability or pining for home.

7 *National Day of Prayer* Today, with our siblings in Christ across the United States, we pledge our service as public witnesses, proclaiming to all people and nations God's loving, life-restoring deeds.

8 Remember in prayer all college and university students as they prepare for their final exams, that they will find encouragement and renewal among their peers, in campus ministries and in other faith communities that understand the unique needs and pressures they face.

9 Pray that we will open our senses to the beauty, diversity and mysteries of creation — from microbes in the soil to vast mountain ranges to distant galaxies. Give thanks for God's boundless power and rejoice at God's handiwork in nature.

10 God has not abandoned us to stumble through our life and baptismal journey alone. The Spirit is always with us, drawing us into community with all others who follow Jesus Christ. Praise God!

11 "You have looked with love on your servant here, and blessed me all my life through. Great and mighty are you, O Holy One" (Marty Haugen, "Holden Evening Prayer"). Lift up prayers of praise and thanksgiving to God for showing you grace and for blessing your life so that you might be a blessing to others.

12 Pray for those who are suffering, grieving or seeking help. Ask the Spirit to guide your efforts as you respond not with judgement but with love, care and sensitivity.

13 Pray for ministries and community programs that provide education and counseling for parents, day care and youth ministry for children, shelter and services for families that are homeless, and time and space for every family to grow in faith together.

14 *Ascension of Our Lord* Ask for God's patience as our faith matures, deepening our appreciation for what God has given *all* humanity through Jesus Christ. Pray that the Spirit will clarify for us God's enduring love and forgiveness, the gift of salvation and how we might live in community.

15 Pray for leaders, voting members and others as they gather for the assemblies of the North/West Lower Michigan Synod, Saint Paul Area Synod, Texas-Louisiana Gulf Coast Synod, South-Central Synod of Wisconsin and Texas-Louisiana Gulf Coast 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, serve our neighbors in need and work for justice and peace.

16 Pray for leaders, voting members and others as they gather for the Northern Great Lakes Synod assembly, 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, serve our neighbors in need and work for justice and peace.

17 Pray for leaders, voting members and others as they gather for the Southeastern Iowa Synod assembly, 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, serve our neighbors in need and work for justice and peace.

18 Pray for our siblings in Christ, both in our congregations and around the world, who share our heritage and accompany us in our baptismal journeys as we do God's work in the world together.

19 Give thanks for the Lutheran Alliance for Faith, Science and Technology and for scientists, science teachers, researchers and church leaders who work to explain the implications of science and technology for Christian faith.

20 Ask God to bless the work of ELCA Global Mission, Lutheran Disaster Response, ELCA Advocacy Network, AMMPARO, ELCA Racial Justice Ministries and other programs and ministries of our church.

21 Remember in prayer young adults and professional leaders as they prepare to serve campers of all ages and abilities in Lutheran outdoor ministries across the country. Pray for the Spirit to nurture their enthusiasm for doing God's work this summer.

22 Give thanks for the ELCA Prison Reentry and Advocacy Network, which provides leaders, resources and opportunities for congregations and individuals to accompany people in prisons, jails and juvenile detention centers. Pray that our congregations will welcome and support those working to reclaim their lives after incarceration.

23 "In hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope, for who hopes for what one already sees? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience" (Romans 8:24-25). Ask the Spirit to strengthen our faith in God's promises and in what Jesus Christ taught us. Pray for reassurance when we feel pressured to prove our faith and defend our beliefs.

24 *Day of Pentecost* Give thanks for the Holy Spirit, through which we invite people of all nations, races, genders, cultures, languages and ages to believe in God's love, mercy and presence in the world. Praise God for the rich diversity of humanity, which yields a variety of gifts for sharing the gospel, serving our neighbors and growing the church.

25 *Memorial Day* Remember, mourn and give thanks for those in the military who gave their lives for justice, peace and the freedom of our country and all nations. Pray for the safety of those currently serving in the military and for the well-being of their families.

26 Pray for leaders, voting members and others as they gather for the Upstate New York Synod assembly, 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, serve our neighbors in need and work for justice and peace.

27 "There are varieties of gifts but the same Spirit, and there are varieties of services but the same Lord, and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good" (1 Corinthians 12:4-7). Diversity and interdependence are essential qualities of creation and humanity, to be valued and affirmed, not feared, disparaged or eliminated. Lift up prayers of recognition and thanksgiving for God's wisdom!

28 Pray for leaders, voting members and others as they gather for the assemblies of the North Carolina and Southeastern 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, serve our neighbors in need and work for justice and peace.

29 Pray for leaders, voting members and others as they gather for the assemblies of the Greater Milwaukee, Montana, Nebraska, South Dakota, Southeast Michigan, Southeastern Pennsylvania, Southwest California and Western North Dakota 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, serve our neighbors in need and work for justice and peace.

30 Pray for leaders, voting members and others as they gather for the assemblies of the New Jersey, Northwestern Minnesota and Northwestern Ohio 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, serve our neighbors in need and work for justice and peace.

31 Remember in prayer students departing from their colleges or universities to seek employment, pursue their vocations, serve as volunteers, raise families, enlist in military service or otherwise face the future.

May 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 **Tristyn Out of Office**	**2**
3 Quilt Sunday **9:00 am Sunday School** **10:00 am Worship** **11:00 am Coffee Hour**	**4** **Tristyn Out of Office**	**5** **8:30 am** Perkins Bible Study **10:30 am** Women's Bible Study	**6** **10:00 am** LWR Quilters	**7** **6:30 pm** Choir Practice	**8**	**9**
10 Mother's Day **9:00 am Sunday School** **10:00 am Worship** **11:00 am Coffee Hour**	**11** 6:00 pm Stephen Ministry @ Gold Hill	**12** **8:30 am** Perkins Bible Study **10:30 am** Women's Bible Study **5:00 pm** Council Meeting	**13** **10:00 am** LWR Quilters	**14** **6:30 pm** Choir Practice	**15** **12:00 pm** 55+ Lunch Bunch	**16**
17 Confirmation **9:00 am Sunday School** **10:00 am Worship** **11:00 am Coffee Hour**	**18** **9:00 am Sack Lunches**	**19** **8:30 am** Perkins Bible Study **10:30 am** Women's Bible Study	**20** **10:00 am** LWR Quilters	**21** **10:00 am Prayer Shawl Knitters** **6:30 pm** Choir Practice	**22**	**23**
24 **9:00 am Sunday School** **10:00 am Worship** **11:00 am Coffee Hour**	**25 Memorial Day** Office Closed 6:00 pm Stephen Ministry @ Gold Hill	**26** **8:30 am** Perkins Bible Study **10:00 am** Gather Bible Study **10:30 am** Women's Bible Study	**27** **10:00 am** LWR Quilters	**28** **6:30 pm** Choir Practice	**29**	**30**
31 **9:00 am Sunday School** **10:00 am Worship** **11:00 am Coffee Hour**						

Date	Ushers	Lector	Acolyte	Worship Asst.	PowerPoint	Communion Asst.	Coffee Hour
May 3	Jody Bickford & Shelly Anderson	Patti Chain	N/A	Julie Corbin	Elaine Fuller	N/A	Dorothy Tallon Karen Galpin
May 10	Jeff Williamson & Linda Williamson	Aric Sorenson	Allen Podgorski	N/A	Chris Ketchum	Patti Chain	Mother's Day
May 17	Sukut Family	Chris Ketchum	N/A	Dorothy Tallon	Ron Gruss	N/A	Council
May 24	Bob & Machelle Keim	Paul Vang	Josie Harvey	N/A	Aaron Hoffenbacker	Cory Beck	Peggy Probasco
May 31	Revonda Stordahl & Annette Lawson	Aaron Hoffenbacker	N/A	Chris Ketchum	Breison Campbell	N/A	Machelle Keim