The Nugget



EMPOWERED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT, UNITED TO SERVE

November 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)

THANKSGIVING: THE LOST HOLIDAY

BY KAREN OLSON

Let us come into [God's] presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to [God] with songs of praise! (Psalms 95:2)

I have heard laments from those who feel that Thanksgiving is the holiday that is consistently overlooked.

It is jammed in between Halloween and Christmas. Depending on your outlook, Halloween is a joyous, light-hearted holiday for children to ask for candy with no guilt or it is a dance with the devil.

The candy wrappers have barely been dumped in the trash before we begin to hear how many shopping days we have until Christmas. And we know that some stores begin the Christmas decorations and sales well before Halloween.

Poor Thanksgiving is barely observed because Black Friday sales steal its thunder.

The secular gets so much more attention than the sacred. Why do we let the media and store flyers determine how we celebrate Thanksgiving? Must we march to the commercial drummer of spend, decorate and shop?

I don't think so.

Thanksgiving should become the holiday God's children claim as their own. Be thankful. Be grateful. Be grace-filled. It could be a wonderful time to thank God for all our blessings.

Why should we wait until the fourth Thursday in November for thanksgiving? We can do it every day, in our hearts, in our lives, in our actions.

Maybe you learned this prayer acronym as a child: ACTS—Adoration, Confession, Thanksgiving, Supplication. Begin there, as you give thanks to God today and every day in the year.



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.

Robert McDowell- prayers for health and healing.
Patricia Coleman- prayers for health and healing.

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November Birthdays /Anniversaries:

Nov. 11 Elinor Johns
Nov. 12 Rochelle Kriewald
Nov. 15 Bob Brown
Nov. 19 Julie Corbin
Aaron DeWaay
Nov. 30 Chris Ketchum

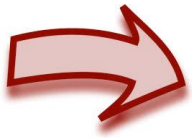


Nov. 21 Mike & Annette Lawson

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If your birthday or anniversary is missing, please notify the church

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**.

Youth Group

The Youth Group will meet on the third Wednesday of each month during the school year at Gloria Dei from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM. The next Youth Group will be on November 18th.

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Noisy Offering

Noisy offering will be on November 29th. Start saving your change to make a loud noise that Sunday!

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Volunteers Needed

On Friday, November 13th, at 5 PM, Gold Hill will be hosting Special Olympic athletes. We are in need of volunteers to help serve pizza, and we would also appreciate donations of desserts and drinks from those who are able to contribute. Thank you!

ALL SERVICES FOR THE MONTH OF **November WILL** BE AT GOLD HILL

SUNDAY SERVICES 10:00 AM



We Deliver-Sack Lunch Ministry

Volunteers October were: Annette Lawson, Patty Callaghan, Machelle Keim, Nick Ellings, Carol & Larroll Leach, Machelle Keim, Lynn Aniksdal. Thank you!

Food supplies & donations for food provided by: Linda Moore, Shelly Anderson, Machelle Keim, Faith & Byron DeWaay, Annette Lawson. Thank you!

We will be meeting November 16th at 9:00 am. If you have any questions, please feel free to call Annette Lawson, at 406-490-7751.

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Outreach Opportunities
Linda Moore

I can't thank all of you enough for your support for the Butte Rescue Mission Banquet which was held on October 15th. Thanks to all of you, we were able to purchase 2 tables and have 17 members in attendance. Sponsoring a table [in addition to a great dinner and program] provides bedtime snacks for the children staying at the mission for two weeks. So, 2 tables meant we are providing snacks for a month! I don't have the financial information for Outreach donations for October yet, but any additional monies donated last month will go to the mission.

Also, in SOCKtober 143 pairs of socks were donated and will go to the mission. That's 286 warm feet! Thank you again!

November brings more wonderful opportunities to share our kindness. Our "Hat and Mitten Tree" will be ready for your colorful donations of hats and mittens for children and adults, which will be shared between Action Inc. and the Butte Rescue Mission. Since we won't meet at Gold Hill on Sundays in December, we'll also add names and details to the tree for those who would like to bring a little Christmas joy to residents of the Veterans Center and Copper Ridge who don't have family support. Thank you for the warmth and care you share with our neighbors.

All offerings donated and marked Outreach in November will go to the Butte Food Bank. AND, all these monies up to $500 will be matched by the Trust Fund. We thank them for choosing to do that to help our neighbors in Butte.

We invite you to join in however you can. What an impact we can make when we work together for the good of those less fortunate! Every act of kindness helps us care for our neighbors

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Gold Hill Trust Committee
10/27/2026

Members present: Ron Gruss, Chris Ketchum, Annette Lawson, Revonda Stordahl, and Dave Stordahl-council president.

Ron Gruss opened the meeting.

Old Business

Annette read the minutes from the last meeting held on 7/8/2026. Revonda(m) and Chris(s) to accept the minutes. The motion passed.

Revonda needed access to the checking account. The request was voted on and passed by email and she now has access.

Revonda gave the treasurer's report. The 9/1/2026 Memorial checking account balance was $11,177.07. The Perpetual checking account balance was $9826.88. The combined checking balance was $21,003.95. The ELCA Endowment Fund on 9/1/2026 was $136,233.49.

Annette(m) and Ron(s) to accept Revonda's report. The motion passed.

New Business

Ron reminded us that we need to start working on the annual report. Annette will gather information and work on the written part and Revonda will work on the financial part. Ron suggested that if the Outreach Committee would have donations to the Food Bank as next month's mission, the Trust Committee could match the amount. Chris said she would contact Linda Moore(Outreach Committee chair) about it. Revonda(m) and Anntte(s) to use funds from the Memorial checking to match the Outreach donations with a cap of $500. The motion passed. Ron also mentioned that Town Pump would match the donations(for October and November) which would triple the Outreach donations.

The next meeting will be on Tuesday 12/8/2026 at 5:15 pm at Gold Hill.

The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Annette Lawson, secretary

Gold Hill Lutheran Church Council Minutes – October 13th, 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)
- Jim Anderson (Treasurer)
- Kolby Sukut (Secretary)
- Shelly Anderson (Worship)
- Jody Bickford (Leadership)
- Kyleen Fuller (Spiritual Growth)
- Linda Moore (Outreach)

3) Devotions
- Dave shared the devotion.

4) Approval of the Minutes: September 8th, 2026
- It was motioned, seconded, and carried (MSC) to approve the Council Meeting Minutes for September 8th, 2026.

5) Treasurer's Report
- Jim shared the September Financial Report; the Council MSC to approve the report.

6) President's Report
- Dave provided an update on the insurance claim; depositions were completed recently.

7) Administrative Director's Report
- Ty provided an update to the Council on the Portico insurance.
- Ty followed up on the points of clarification related to the daycare lease.

8) Worship Ministry
- Shelly reported on Worship Ministry activities.
- The Council discussed services and the weekly PowerPoint.

9) Leadership Ministry
- Jody reported on church operations and maintenance; the sprinklers were recently blown out, she is working on scheduling annual fire extinguisher inspections, and tables will need to be removed from the Fellowship Hall for waxing the floor; and several gutter maintenance items need addressed.
- It was noted that a Certificate of Insurance was needed from the new snow removal contractor.
- The Council discussed the recently completed parking lot striping; it was noted that the work was a great success.
- The Council discussed the need to regulate the thermostat at a comfortable temperature in the Sanctuary.

10) Spiritual Growth Ministry
- Kyleen reported on Spiritual Growth activities; the Council discussed Sunday School activities and schedule, and it was agreed to keep Sunday School at the same time and following the same process as has recently been implemented.
- Kyleen shared she received a recommendation to modify Vacation Bible School to a model similar to the one used last year (youth group in the evenings) which follows the standard curriculum; the Council tabled the discussion to the November meeting.

11) Outreach Ministry
- Linda updated the Council on the Outreach Ministry's efforts; including the Rescue Mission dinner (October 15th), Sock-tober, and the Hats/Mitten Tree.
- It was MSC to reimburse Linda for the Rescue Mission dinner so it can be donated to the Rescue Mission.

12) Other Business:
- Dave provided an update on Call Committee activities.
- Gold Hill will host the Special Olympics Dinner on November 13th at 5:00.
- The Council discussed recommendations from the Parish Council to provide a 3% raise and migrate the cost for administrative services to a single church (Gold Hill) and other church (Gloria Dei) will reimburse accordingly; it was MSC to make the change as noted.
- The Council agreed to increase the pulpit supply fee to $175 in accordance with Synod guidelines.

The meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

November 2026 Prayer Ventures

1 *All Saints Day* Give thanks for the global Christian community. Praise God for the bond of faith that stirs joy and inspires siblings in Christ to unite in doing God's work in the world.

2 *National Native American Heritage Month* Give thanks for Indigenous neighbors and siblings in Christ, who enrich society with their diverse gifts, traditions, resilience and wisdom. Pray for Indigenous ministries and faith communities, for ELCA Indigenous Ministries and Tribal Relations, and for the American Indian and Alaska Native Lutheran Association, that their advocacy will guide the work of our church and society in building just relationships with Indigenous peoples.

3 *Election Day* On this day of electing leaders for our nation, ask the Spirit to guide our discernment as we choose people who will work for unity, justice, equity, peace and the well-being of *all* people, especially neighbors and communities in need.

4 Pray for God to be our enduring refuge who delivers us from our fears, guilt, pessimism and suffering. Ask the Spirit to strengthen our faith and help us face the challenges we encounter within and outside ourselves.

5 Pray that we will focus not on when and how Christ will come again but on how we will live today as his followers, called to share the gospel, praise our Creator, love and serve our neighbor, and stir hope and joy among those who yearn for good news.

6 Remember in prayer members of the ELCA Leadership Circle as they witness God's work firsthand in Poland, Hungary and Slovakia. Pray for our partners in Central Europe, including the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Hungary, the Evangelical Church of the Augsburg Confession in the Slovak Republic and the Evangelical Church of the Augsburg Confession in Poland. Give thanks for God's work of justice, compassion, peacemaking and nurturing leaders, which is furthered through generosity and global partnerships.

7 It is far too easy to carry within us anger, grudges and judgment of others who, we believe, have wronged us. Pray that God might forgive us and free us from those feelings and memories that prevent us from loving, caring for and encouraging one another.

8 "The vitality of a church is not measured by how many members it has, but by its commitment and willingness to serve God and neighbor, by its readiness to walk the talk," says the Rev. Anne Burghardt, general secretary of the Lutheran World Federation. Pray that the Spirit will renew our vision of who we *are* and what we are called to *do* as communities of faith in a world that often prioritizes financial security, membership numbers, physical buildings and resources over faith and serving our neighbors in need.

9 Remember in prayer leaders gathering for the Lutheran Outdoor Ministries conference in Giddings, Texas. Ask God to bless their time together, strengthening their mutual support and equipping and renewing them for ministry with people of all ages, abilities and backgrounds.

10 Ask God to help us go about our daily lives in the church and society, mindful of the call to "let justice roll down like water and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream" (Amos 5:24).

11 *Veterans Day* Honor and give thanks for all who have served our country in times of peace and conflict here and around the world. Pray that their service and sacrifice will never be forgotten or taken for granted.

12 Pray that the members of the ELCA Church Council will embody God's grace and love as they meet to oversee the churchwide organization; ask the Spirit to inspire and guide their deliberations for the well-being and vitality of the church.

13 The full-scale invasion of Ukraine is in its fifth year. Pray for an end to the conflict and for lasting peace, that displaced Ukrainians seeking sanctuary in other countries will soon be able to return home and rebuild their lives with a sense of calm and safety.

14 Praise God for the creativity, intellect and enthusiasm of those who use technology to solve humanity's problems. Pray that we will carefully discern the consequences of technology, especially artificial intelligence and social media, and take steps to ensure the well-being and safety of all people, especially children, youth and marginalized communities.

15 Pray for the Spirit to embolden us to follow the example of Jesus, who was wise, generous, compassionate and willing to take risks to respond to people's needs. Pray that we might use our individual

and collective time, talents and resources to respond to human needs in the United States and around the world.

16 "All things bright and beautiful, all creatures great and small, all things wise and wonderful, the Lord God made them all" (*WOV* 767). Praise God, creator of the universe, for sustaining life and enabling it to flourish.

17 Give thanks for our church's embrace of inclusion and equity, demonstrating that we are one humanity, created by God in wondrous diversity, and that we are called to love one another just as Christ loves us.

18 Praise God for our Sunday school teachers, Bible study leaders and adult education leaders, who nurture faith, affirm our gifts and equip us for lives of service that bear witness to the good news of Jesus Christ.

19 Pray for an end to the war with Iran and for an enduring peace reached through diplomacy and building new relationships between leaders rather than force and threat.

20 In these times, when we might feel surrounded by darkness and despair, lift up prayers of joy and thanksgiving for God's assurance that we have not been abandoned, that we are children of light, loved by Jesus Christ and destined for the kingdom of heaven.

21 Remember our missionaries, our International Women Leaders and those serving in the Young Adults in Global Mission program alongside our companion churches in Cambodia, Hong Kong, India, Japan, Papua New Guinea, South Korea and Thailand. Ask God to bless their work in education, gender justice, leadership development, and music and parish ministries.

22 Pray that our words and actions reflect God's selfless love for humanity as we care for neighbors who endure hunger, homelessness, illness, incarceration, isolation and violence.

23 Pray for men's ministries in congregations and outdoor ministries, that they will heal hurts, deepen faith, nurture healthy gender roles and equip men of all ages for service in their families, the church and the world.

24 "Thus says the Lord God: I myself will search for my sheep and will sort them out. As shepherds sort out their flocks when they are among scattered sheep, so I will sort out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness" (Ezekiel 34:11-12). We have someone who sought us out, rescued us and restored our relationship with God — Jesus Christ. Give thanks and glory to God for the gifts of love, attention and mercy we receive though Jesus our shepherd.

25 Meteorologists are tracking an unusually strong El Niño weather pattern that will have an impact on the world. Pray that we might respond to those affected with immediate and long-term assistance, safe refuge, resources, generous support and prayer.

26 *Thanksgiving Day* "We pray for the big things and forget to give thanks for the ordinary, small (and yet really not small) gifts" (Dietrich Bonhoeffer, *Life Together*). Praise God for all we have and for those things that nourish and sustain us daily — physically, spiritually, emotionally and socially. Pray for the Spirit to inspire us to be generous toward the needs of our neighbors, and that our compassion and generosity, in turn, will inspire others.

27 "Since everything we possess, and everything in heaven and on earth besides, is daily given and sustained by God, it inevitably follows that we are in duty bound to love, praise, and thank him without ceasing, and, in short, to devote all these things to his service" (Martin Luther, the Large Catechism). Give thanks for the people and things that nourish your faith and stir up your hope, joy and gratitude.

28 Remember in prayer the Palestinian people, who yearn for peace, security, respect, the rebuilding of their homes and communities, and the freedom to live and thrive.

29 *First Sunday of Advent* Pray for the Spirit to fill us with hope, excitement and anticipation as we prepare this season for the birth of Christ and for life eternal in the kingdom of God.

30 Give thanks for Advent wreaths and other faith traditions and symbols — old and new — that help us celebrate God's dwelling among us through the birth of Jesus and remind us of God's awesome gifts of boundless love, forgiveness and true freedom.

November 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, United to Serve.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 All Saints Sunday **10:00 am Worship** **11:00 am Harvest Auction**	**2**	**3**	**4** **10:00 am** LWR Quilters	**5**	**6**	**7**
8 **10:00 am Worship** **11:00 am Sunday School** **11:00 am Coffee Hour**	**9** 6:00 pm Stephen Ministry @ Gold Hill	**10** **8:30 am** Perkins Bible Study **10:30 am** Women's Bible Study **5:30 pm** Joint Council Meeting	**11 Veterans Day** **10:00 am** LWR Quilters 	**12**	**13** **5:00 pm** Special Olympic Dinner	**14**
15 **10:00 am Worship** **11:00 am Sunday School** **11:00 am Coffee Hour**	**16** **9:00 am Sack Lunches**	**17** **8:30 am** Perkins Bible Study **10:30 am** Women's Bible Study	**18** **10:00 am** LWR Quilters **6-8 pm** Youth Group @ Gloria Dei	**19** **10:00 am** Prayer Shawl Knitters	**20** **12:00 pm** 55+ Lunch Bunch	**21**
22 **10:00 am Worship** **11:00 am Sunday School** **11:00 am Coffee Hour**	**23** 6:00 pm Stephen Ministry @ Gold Hill **Preschool using sanctuary**	**24** **8:30 am** Perkins Bible Study **10:00 am** Gather Bible Study **10:30 am** Women's Bible Study **Preschool using sanctuary**	**25** **10:00 am** LWR Quilters	**26 Thanksgiving** **Office Closed**	**27**	**28**
29 1st Sunday of Advent **10:00 am Worship** **11:00 am Sunday School** **11:00 am Coffee Hour**	**30**					

Date	Ushers	Lector	Acolyte	Worship Asst.	PowerPoint	Communion Asst.	Coffee Hour
Nov. 1	Bob & Machelle Kiem	Patti Chain	N/A	Dorothy Tallon	Chris Ketchum	N/A	Harvest Auction
Nov. 8	Linda Williamson & Jeff Williamson	Christy Chain	Allen Podgorski	N/A	Ron Gruss	Tavia Broudy	Linda Williamson
Nov. 15	Chris Ketchum & Patti Chain	Kolby Sukut	N/A	Chris Ketchum	Elaine Fuller	N/A	Susan Stamp
Nov. 22	Shelly Anderson & Jody Bickford	Dorothy Tallon	Tavia Broudy	N/A	Brieson Campbell	Julie Corbin	Shelly Anderson Jody Bickford
Nov. 29	Revonda Stordahl & Annette Lawson	Aric Sorenson	N/A	Julie Corbin	Aaron Hoffenbacker	N/A	Machelle Kiem