



Bethlehem Evangelical Lutheran Church

418 8th Avenue Northeast
Brainerd, MN 56401

Phone: 218-829-3330

Email: office@belcnet.net

Website: www.belcnet.net

Facebook: [bethlehem.brainerd](https://www.facebook.com/bethlehem.brainerd)



March 2023

WORSHIP TIMES

In-person worship:

Wednesdays at 11:00 am in Lent

Wednesdays at 6:20 pm

In-person and livestreamed:

Sundays at 9:00 am

with communion on the 1st and 3rd Sundays
and following Wednesdays

OFFICE HOURS

The office is open on

Mondays—Fridays from 9:00 am—12:00 pm
and Mondays—Thursdays from 1:00—4:00
pm.

CHURCH STAFF

Senior Pastor: Rev. Dr. Mark Skinner

Children, Youth & Family Pastor: Rev. Sarah Marshall

Office Administrator, Worship Team Director and

Organist: Cori Wrobel

Bell Choir Director: Stacy Erdal

Senior Choir Director: Al Albertson

Youth Choir Director: Nancy Albertson

Financial Administrator: Shelly Johnson

Children, Youth & Family Ministry Coordinator:

Joan Rosenow

Food Services Coordinators: Clarence and Kim Spencer

IT Coordinator: Scott Pederson

Custodial Services: Rob Larson and Laura Kory



From the Senior Pastor



Lent: Discipleship in the Present Age

On Saturday, February 25th Bethlehem hosted the annual Lay Leader Network Gathering for our Synod here in NE Minnesota. We had the opportunity to hear from several lay leaders throughout our Synod, including our own Marc Marshall as he presented their family's work with foster children, and how that has been formed through discipleship. I also had the opportunity to present using the title of "Discipleship in the Present Age." I'll share a few of the highlights from my presentation with you.

First, we would do well to remember Bonhoeffer's famous line from 1939 as he addressed the church in his time within Germany, "We Lutherans have gathered like eagles round the carcass of cheap grace, and there we have drunk the poison which has killed the life of following Christ." (D. Bonhoeffer, *Discipleship, "Costly Grace"*) What is cheap grace? Bonhoeffer's answer, "... the grace we bestow upon ourselves ... forgiveness without repentance baptism without church discipline ... grace without discipleship, without the cross, without Jesus Christ living and incarnate." Cheap grace is grace without discipleship. Which is always grace without the cross, which is inevitably grace without Christ. For Bonhoeffer, and for us, the extraordinary life is the life of discipleship, which means both *belief and obedience* to the command of Christ. Belief without obedience is "cheap grace" and obedience without belief is just another form of works' righteousness.

Second, we need to think deeply about the great commission of Christ, "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit ..." Matthew 28:19. Notice the imperative to "go." What do we mean by "go?" For the last five hundred years in Europe and into North America, the church has arguably functioned mainly through *attraction*. In other words, *come* to a church building to partake in worship, the sacraments, programming, Bible studies, gatherings, and the like. Nothing wrong with any of the above, but what does it mean to "go?" What if we could envision the ministry of a congregation to be roughly about 75% attractational types of ministry, and 25% actually involved *leaving/going* and meeting people outside of our church buildings and in the community where they live, work, and spend most of their time?

Third, as we think about what it means to baptize in the "name" of God, do we mean the name that sends us into the world, or the name that we gather under through the liturgy, or the name in which bears our future through Christ? And I think the answer is, *yes!* The name of God is intentionally and functionally relational. We are sent forth as persons created, claimed, and loved by God to *make* disciples. When we forget about personhood and the relationships that we are called into, and we move forward merely "going," we will inevitably turn people into *objects* to evangelize. This unfortunately, continues historically, and offers a result that is counter to the very intent of the commission of Christ. So, what would it look like to meet people on their terms, where they are in their life, loving them as Christ first loved us, and accompany them with the good news as we join in making disciples?

From the Children, Youth and Family Pastor



SUNDAY SCHOOL

For Youth age 3 - Grade 5
Sunday mornings from 9:25 - 10:20 AM

Schedule:

September 25
October 2, 9, 16 and 30
November 6, 13, 20
December 4, 11 and 18
January 8, 22 and 29
February 5, 12 and 26
March 5 and 26
April 2, 16, 23 and 30
May 7 and 14

TEACH THEM TO YOUR CHILDREN, TALKING ABOUT THEM WHEN YOU ARE AT HOME AND WHEN YOU ARE AWAY, WHEN YOU LIE DOWN AND WHEN YOU RISE.
DEUTERONOMY 6:7

BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN CHURCH

6TH - 9TH GRADE CATECHISM SCHEDULE

Wednesday nights from 7:00 - 8:00 PM

9/28/22 - Parent and Youth night	1/18/23 - Teaching night with PM
10/5/22 - Teaching night with PM	1/25/23 - Teaching night with PS
10/12/22 - Teaching night with PM	2/1/23 - Parent/Youth night with Joy Hensel
10/19/22 - NO CATECHISM	2/8/23 - Teaching night with PS
10/26/22 - Teaching night with PS	2/15/23 - Individual Mentor night #2
11/2/22 - Teaching night with PS	2/22/22 - Ash Wednesday
11/9/22 - Parent/Youth night with Catherine Anderson	3/1/23 - Lent Soup Supper
11/16/22 - Teaching night with PS	3/8/23 - Lent Soup Supper
11/19-11/20 - All Youth Gathering at Cragun's for grades 6-12	3/15/23 - NO CATECHISM
11/23/22 - NO CATECHISM	3/22/23 - Lent Soup Supper
11/30/22 - Teaching night with PS	3/29/23 - 9th gr. MSP field trip; Lent Soup Supper
12/7/22 - Individual Mentor night #1	4/5/23 - NO CATECHISM
12/14/22 - White Elephant Christmas party	4/12/23 - Individual Mentor night #3
12/21/22 - NO CATECHISM	4/19-23 - Teaching night with PS
12/28/22 - NO CATECHISM	4/26/23 - Teaching night with PS
1/4/23 - Teaching night with PM	5/3/23 - Teaching night with PM
1/11/23 - Teaching night with PS	5/10/23 - Spring Celebration BBQ

"MAKE ME TO KNOW YOUR WAYS, O LORD; TEACH ME YOUR PATHS." PSALM 25:4

COMING UP 2023

YOUTHMINISTRYCONSULTANTS.ORG

JAN 18
KARA POWELL
WEBINAR: 3 BIG QUESTIONS

FEB 9
TIM COYER
WEBINAR: TRAUMA INFORMED YOUTH MINISTRY

MAR 23
MARK OESTREICHER
WEBINAR: WHAT EVERY MIDDLE SCHOOL MINISTRY YOUTH WORKER NEEDS TO KNOW

TENX10 COHORT
WITH FULLER YOUTH INSTITUTE

TOGETHER, WE'LL WALK THROUGH THE 7 DISCIPLESHIP STRATEGIES DEVELOPED BY FULLER YOUTH INSTITUTE TO EQUIP YOU FOR EFFECTIVE MINISTRY IN YOUR UNIQUE CONTEXT.

LAUNCHING THIS FEBRUARY REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN.

YOUTHMINISTRYCONSULTANTS.ORG

Itty Bitty Book Club

Listen to a story (take home the book), do an activity, and play!

Designed for children (with an adult) from birth to age 3 that are too young for Sunday School or anyone who'd like to participate.

March 5
1st Sunday of the month in the nursery at 10:00 am from October - May

Lakes Area ELCA High School

BREAKFAST BREAKFAST BREAKFAST BREAKFAST

Trinity Lutheran 7:15am-7:45am March 7th

JFCS Jewish Family and Children's Services of Minnesota

FAMILY LIFE EDUCATION Parenting for Social Justice

A three-part series for parents, grandparents, and caregivers who are interested in exploring anti-racism and social justice. We will learn, share, collaborate and explore these ideas together. No previous experience with these topics is required.

LOCATION AND TIMES FOR ALL THREE SESSIONS:
Lord of Life Lutheran Church, Fellowship Hall
6590 Fairview Rd N, Sander
11 a.m. Presentation followed by questions and discussion
12:30 p.m. Luncheon is served (also free)

DATES AND SESSIONS:
February 26 - Session 1
Anti-racism and Parenting: Exploring Key Concepts and Making Authentic Connections
March 12 - Session 2
How Can I Talk with my Child about Racism and Other Social Injustices?
March 26 - Session 3
Your Anti-Racist Tool Kit: Strategies and Activities to Engage with your Family and Community

CHILD CARE: To arrange for child care, please contact Judy Bieha, mjbieha@charter.net

PRESENTERS:
 Leah Penick, PhD, CLFE, is Manager of Family Life Education and Adoption and Recovery Services at Jewish Family and Children's Services of Minnesota (JFCS). She is a certified family life educator through the National Council on Family Relations. Her PhD in political science focused on gender, health, and policy making. Wellbeing is central to her work, and she believes it is an essential support component for families and caregivers to address the root causes of injustice.
 Metelle Quiring-Olsson, MSW, LICSW, also of JFCS, has 10 years of experience working with children and families to improve their mental health. Her PhD is in psychology and her masters degree in social work. She is especially concerned about social and racial justice.

Additional opportunity to explore this topic:
Upcoming Book Discussion
To further learning and discussion and tool kit building, a three-session book discussion of Dr. Thai Binh's book, *SOCIAL JUSTICE PARENTING*, will be held on April 23, May 21, and June 11. These sessions will also be held at 11 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. For your free copy of the book, please contact Judy Bieha at mjbieha@charter.net. The series will be held on Zoom. Groups who wish to participate can contact the discussion book discussion, parent@jfm.com to register and will be sent an access link.

Mitch Group is grateful for the FREC Facilitating Social Equity Collaborative grant that makes it possible to present this parenting series. FREC is a collaborative of individuals and organizations working towards just, equitable, and more communities throughout Minnesota. They are committed to engagement with multiple communities and ways of thinking.

MARCH 4

WANTED: WORKER BEES

Meet once a month on a Saturday from 9:00 - 11:30 am to work on small projects around the building. To sign up, go to our website www.belenet.net or contact the office at 829-3330. For more information, contact Al Gardner.

Minnesota FoodShare March Campaign

We are collecting for these organizations through the month of March. Please drop off food items or monetary donations.

The CLC Food Pantry prefers monetary donations to best serve their population. **CLC CENTRAL LAKES COLLEGE**

Operation Sandwich needs peanut butter, jelly, individually wrapped snacks, and monetary donations. **OPERATION SANDWICH**

The Salvation Army prefers monetary donations to best serve their population. **THE SALVATION ARMY** Giving Hope Today

The Sharing Bread Soup Kitchen can use nonperishable food items or monetary donations. **SHARING BREAD**

February—March Funeral Service Groups

Nancy and Tim Bogenschutz
Pat True
Mary and Scott Parsons

Coordinators:

Deb Luhrs
Kathy Dufour and Rick Patton

Assistants:

Doris Aasen
 Greg and Mary Anderson
 Hans Anderson
 Linda Anderson
 Brad Bauer
 Arliss and Harry Bement
 Darnel Carlson
 Sharon Chaney
 Larry and Natalie Embertson
 Deb and Bruce Erickson
 Bernice and Jim Finch
 Bonnie and Matthew Garding
 Jady and Kevin Gohman
 Jennifer and Tom Grimm

Jeff and Shari Grunenwald
 Anne Gustafson
 Lynn Heinrich
 Karl Jackman
 Jesse Jorges
 Jenny King
 Cory Kruse
 Doug and Vicki Kruse
 Camille and Clayton Lang
 Laurie Levig
 Nick Lundgren
 Anita and Larry Martinson
 Deb and Jeff McCarthy
 Emily and Tyler Monda

Marcy Nickel
 Steve Olson
 Barb Owens
 Janis and Jim Peterson
 Tammy and Randy Praught
 Gail and Karl Samp
 Russ Schultz
 Sue and Todd Sorenson
 Elsie and Mike Stanek
 Jackie Stromback
 Anna and Jake Thesing
 Kathy Thomson
 Amy and Dan Vleck
 Bruce and Kelli Weaver



CREATION CARE

O CLEAN WATER ACT TURNS 50—The federal Clean Water Act (CWA) was signed into law in October, 1972 when pollution of U.S. waterways was essentially unregulated, and the headlines spoke of "Rivers on fire" and "Lake Erie is Dead". The goal of the CWA was to "restore the chemical, physical and biological integrity of the nation's waterways" and to "make waterways fishable, swimmable and drinkable". This law regulates pollution discharges (point sources) into waterways by setting discharge standards (levels) of specific contaminants that can be legally discharged. The initial focus of the act was to reduce phosphorus and nitrogen releases to waterways, in order to slow the fertilization of aquatic plants and algae. Restrictions on phosphates in fertilizers and better sewage treatment practices were implemented. The CWA has improved water quality in most waterways, through a system of permits to discharge only a limited amount of specified contaminants. However, many contaminants in water are not regulated through the CWA, and only 50% of the nation's waterways are now considered "unimpaired". The future of the CWA is currently in question as the U.S. Supreme Court is debating the scope of the law and which waterways are protected.

Source: <http://www.nemnsynod.org/green-tips.html>

Looking ahead...

- *Palm Sunday, 4/2 service at 9:00 am with Palm Sunday brunch served at 10:00 am
- *Maundy Thursday, 4/6 service at 6:20 pm
- *Good Friday, 4/7 services at 11:00 am and 6:20 pm
- *Easter Sunday, 4/9 services at 8:20 and 10:30 am with rolls served between services
- *New Member Orientation on April 11 at 6:00 pm; New Member Sunday on April 23
- *Semi-annual congregation meeting on April 16 at 10:00 am
- *Couples' Retreat on April 15 at 9:00 am
- *BELC serves at Bridge on 7th Overnight Shelter April 16—23
- *Prayer Group Dinner on April 18 at 6:00 pm



If you have a prayer request for the Prayer Chain, please contact the church office at 829-3330 or office@belcnet.net. Prayers will be kept on the chain for 3 weeks. If you'd like it to be kept on for longer, please let the office know. If you would like to be a member of the Prayer Chain, please call the church office at 829-3330.

Please keep these people in your prayers:

Ongoing: David Miller; Don; Bernice Finch; Terri Hanson; Steve Verdon; Evie Burau; Barb and Roger Nornes; BELC member's nephew; Diane Weber; Barbara Howard; Jessica Rodenbiker; Kacey Benson; Todd K.; Linda Wilcox; BELC member; Joan Rosenow; for peace in our world; all who are grieving; a BELC member; Phyllis Roberts; for all affected by COVID; residents and staff of assisted living/nursing home facilities; healthcare workers; all caregivers; everyone dealing with cancer /other diseases

Military: Nick Schwab in Navy

If you check into the hospital, please call the Church Office at 829-3330 or let the Chaplain know you are from Bethlehem Lutheran Church so we can pray for you.

Please keep the following Bethlehem households in your thoughts and prayer this month of

March: Dustin Johnson and Rebecca Ostrowski and family; Jenny Johnson; Margaret Johnson; Jennie and Phil Johnson and family; Steven Johnson; Kent Johnson III; Dave and Tanya Johnston; Brenda Jonak; Allison Jones and family; Deanna Jones; Katelyn Jones and family; Logan Jones and family; Joyce Jorgenson; Jesse Jorges and family; John and Judy Jourdan; Kathryn and Sam Jourdan; Lynn and Yvonne Kalahar; Bill and Judy Kallroos; Al and Joanne Kampf; Ken and Marcie Kemboi; Mary Ketterling; Chuck and Gwen Kienholz; Parker Kienholz; Jenny King; Jayme Klecker and family; Brenda Klinger; Ellie Knold; Butch and Jean Koering; Kris Kolstad; Laura and Nick Kory and family; Marlene Kossila; Lisa Kotchikian and family; Norma and Ted Kotyk; Jean Krueger; Cory Kruse and family; Doug and Vicki Kruse; Camille and Clayton Lang and family; Peggy Larson; Beth and Rob Larson; Lori and Syd Larson

ADULT FORUM SCHEDULE

Sundays at 10:00 am in Fellowship Hall

March 5 - LSS Youth Services Program with Maria Essman
 March 12 - "Minnesota Outdoor Photography" by Tim Bogenschutz
 March 19 - card making with Cathy Lee
 March 26 - Update session on BELC

April 2 - Palm Sunday brunch
 April 9 - Easter rolls
 April 16 - semi-annual meeting
 April 23 - new member reception
 April 30 - Community Partner Fair

May 7 - "After the goats - now what?" by BELC Creation Care Team
 May 14 - Operation Sandwich
 May 21 - graduate reception

UPDATE SESSIONS

THURSDAY, MARCH 23 AT 6:00 PM AND SUNDAY, MARCH 26 AT 10:00 AM

Hear an update from our January congregational meeting.

The following topics will be discussed:

- *Epiphany session overview and feedback
- *Our shared ministry with Trinity
- *Strategic outcomes and bold steps

COFFEE AND FELLOWSHIP

STICK AROUND AFTER SERVICE FOR SOME COFFEE AND FELLOWSHIP!

WE'RE LOOKING FOR SOMEONE TO MAKE TREATS FOR SUNDAYS. SIGN UP ON THE OPPORTUNITY SHEET IF YOU COULD HELP OUT ONE SUNDAY.

WE'RE LOOKING FOR TREATS EVERY SUNDAY.

BETHLEHEM BOOK CLUB

MARCH 16 AT 10:30 AM

HAVE YOU SEEN LUIS VELEZ?

BY CATHERINE RYAN HYDE

Wednesdays, March 1, 8, 22, and 29

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	
First Sunday in Lent 26	27	28	
9:00 am - In-person and livestreamed worship service 10:00 am - Sunday School 10:00 am - Adult Forum: Planning a Christian Funeral with Pr. Mark		7:30 am - Men's bible study 10:00 am - Stephen Ministry meeting 11:30 am - 65+ Lunch Bunch	See 1:30 5:30
Second Sunday in Lent 5	6	7	
9:00 am - In-person and livestreamed worship service with communion 10:00 am - Sunday School 10:00 am - Itty Bitty Book Bunch 10:00 am - Adult Forum: LSS Youth Service Program with Maria Essman	4:45 pm - Bell Choir rehearsal	7:30 am - Men's bible study 5:00 pm - Board of Worship and Music meeting 6:00 pm - Board of Service and Evangelism meeting via Zoom	See 5:15 5:30 help 7:00
Third Sunday in Lent 12	13	14	
9:00 am - In-person and livestreamed service 10:00 am - Adult Forum: Minnesota Outdoor Photography by Tim Bogenschutz	4:00 pm - BELC at the Sharing Bread Soup Kitchen 4:45 pm - Bell Choir rehearsal 5:30 pm - Creation Care Team meeting	7:30 am - Men's bible study 5:30 pm - Board of Congregational Care and Community meeting 7:00 pm - LNN in-between session via Zoom	11:00 1:00 1:30 5:15 5:30 6:20 7:00
Fourth Sunday in Lent 19	20	21	
9:00 am - In-person and livestreamed worship service with communion 10:00 am - Adult Forum: card making with Cathy Lee 3:00 pm - Brainerd Leos and Roars	10:00 am - Ruth Circle 4:45 pm - Bell Choir rehearsal	7:30 am - Men's bible study	See 5:15 5:30 need
Fifth Sunday in Lent 26	27	28	
9:00 am - In-person and livestreamed worship service 10:00 am - Sunday School 10:00 am - Adult Forum: Update session 3:00 pm - Brainerd Leos and Roars	4:45 pm - Bell Choir rehearsal	7:30 am - Men's bible study 10:00 am - Stephen Ministry meeting 10:00 am - LSS meeting 11:30 am - 65+ Lunch Bunch	See 9 th g TRIN 5:15 5:30 help 7:00





Wednesday

To view our online services on Sundays at 9:00 am, go to <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCKGd23TW4V1mlqCsktOho3g>

The service will also be posted on our website at www.belcnet.net upon completion of the service.

The office is open from 9:00 am – 12:00 pm on Mondays – Fridays and from 1:00 – 4:00 pm on Mondays – Thursdays.

1	2	3	4
schedule above left pm – Woodland worship service pm – meal served by catechism youth	9:00 am – Edgewood Brainerd worship service 9:00 am – Quilting Group 10:00 am – LSS PTSD Groups 10:15 am – Edgewood Baxter worship service 6:00 pm – Girl Scouts 6:00 pm – Jonah Group		9:00 am – Worker Bees
8	9	10	11
schedule above left pm – BOW Team rehearsal pm – meal served by catechism youth – needed pm – Middle School Youth Group	9:00 am – Executive Team meeting 9:00 am – LSS staff meeting 10:00 am – LSS PTDS Groups 12:00 pm – Nicodemus Group 3:00 pm – LSS staff meeting 5:30 pm – Board of Education and Spiritual Formation meeting 6:00 pm – Girl Scouts		
15	16	17	18
9:00 am – Joint ELCA Lent service pm – Martha Circle pm – Woodland worship service pm – BOW Team rehearsal pm – meal served by BELC women pm – Lenten service pm – Sr. Choir rehearsal	9:00 am – Edgewood Brainerd worship service 9:00 am – Quilting Group 10:00 am – LSS PTSD Groups 10:15 am – Edgewood Baxter worship service 10:30 am – Bethlehem Book Club 1:30 pm – Mary Circle 5:30 pm – Board of Stewardship and Properties meeting 6:00 pm – Girl Scouts		
22	23	24	25
schedule above left pm – BOW Team rehearsal pm – meal served by BELC men – help needed	10:00 am – LSS PTSD Groups 4:30 pm – Card making 6:00 pm – Girl Scouts 6:00 pm – Update session		
29	30	31	1
schedule above left readers to MSP – leave at 6:30 am AT UNITY pm – BOW Team rehearsal pm – meal served by BELC musicians – needed pm – Middle School Youth Group	10:00 am – LSS PTSD Groups 5:30 pm – Congregational Leadership Board meeting 6:00 pm – Girl Scouts		

LENT 2023 HIGHLIGHTS

- *Sunday sermons different than Wednesday dialogue sermons
- *Wednesdays 11:00 am services using *Holden* liturgy and faith monologues with light lunch to follow
- *Lent soup supper and table conversations on Wednesdays from 5:30 - 6:15 pm
- *Wednesday 6:20 pm services using *That You May Have Life* liturgy and dialogue sermons

LENT Joint ELCA Lenten services

Ash Wednesday service
February 22 at 11:00 am

Wednesdays, March 1 - 29
11:00 am services

Good Friday service
April 7 at 11:00 am

featuring dramatic presentations of biblical characters that experienced Jesus' knowing and loving eyes with light lunch to follow
RSVP for lunch by noon Monday at 218-829-3330

Bethlehem Lutheran Church
418 8th Ave NE

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Lenten Soup Suppers

Served by

- 3/1 – catechism students
- 3/8 – catechism students
- 3/15 – women of Bethlehem
- 3/22 – men of Bethlehem
- 3/29 – musicians of Bethlehem

MAKE SOUP AND/OR SANDWICHES.

ARRIVE AT 4:45 PM.

SERVE FROM 5:30 – 6:15 PM.

CALL THE OFFICE AT 218-829-3330

TO SIGN UP.

LENT Joint ELCA Lenten services

HELP NEEDED EVERY WEDNESDAY IN LENT (FEB. 22 - MARCH 29)!!!

We need sound, ushers and greeters at every 11:00 am service.

We need communion prep and communion servers on Ash Wednesday (Feb. 22).

We need kitchen help (setting up, serving, cleaning up) after every 11:00 am service.

Sign up on the yellow op sheet.



LENT PROJECT
PERSONAL CARE KITS
FOR LUTHERAN WORLD
RELIEF

Your household is invited to create one or more personal care kits this Lent. Collect exactly the following items:

- *ONE light-weight bath-size towel (between 20" x 40" and 52" x 27"); dark color recommended
- *TWO or three bath-size bars of soap equalling 8-9 ounces; any brand IN ORIGINAL PACKAGING
- *ONE adult-size toothbrush IN ORIGINAL PACKAGING
- *ONE sturdy comb; remove packaging
- *ONE metal nail clippers; remove packaging

Fold towel in half. Place the rest of the items in the towel, fold and roll so nothing falls out, and secure with yarn, ribbon, string, or rubber bands.

IMPORTANT: New items only. No religious symbols. No patriotic or military symbols.

Drop completed kit off at the office by April 15.
See our website www.belcnet.net for more information.



EASTER LILIES
You can honor or memorialize someone special by donating an Easter lily in their name. Any donations are welcomed and appreciated. Please make checks payable to BELC with "Easter lilies" in the memo line. Be sure to include a note as to who it is honoring or memorializing. Please turn donations in by 3/27 so we know how many to order.



Becoming Who God Created You to Be

Heartland Conference Women's Spring Gathering
SATURDAY, MARCH 25
8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.
First Lutheran Church (107 2nd St. SE, Aitkin)

The program, presented by Georgia Larson, will inspire and equip us to take care of our physical and spiritual health.

8:30-9:30 a.m. Registration/Coffee Fellowship
9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Program & Lunch
Registration \$10 (includes lunch)

Did you know?
Silent auction & marketplace items are welcome!

Women of the ELCA



Field Trip

On March 29, head to the Cities to tour Temple Israel, St. Mary's Greek Orthodox, and LSS Center for Changing Lives. Bring a lunch. Leave Trinity at 6:30 am. You'll need to drive yourself or carpool. Contact Pr. Sarah for more information.

STAMP. CUT. CRAFT. CREATE. SHARE. FELLOWSHIP.

CARD MAKING FUN ON MARCH 23



Get creative on Thursday, March 23. Show up anytime between 4:30 - 7:00 pm. Cards are sent to members that are shut in and members in need of some uplifting words; cards are also available in the display to the right of the mailboxes. Please contact Cathy Lee or the office for more information. Please sign up on our website www.belcnet.net or by calling the office to let Cathy know who to expect.



65+ Lunch Bunch
An investigator from the Brainerd Police Department will talk about cons and scams that you should be aware of.

Tuesday, March 28
at 11:30 am; cost is \$10.
RSVP to the office at 218-829-3330
or sign up on the opportunity sheet by March 26.



PRE-MARRIAGE COUPLES RETREAT
4.15.23 - BRAINERD MN

APRIL 15 - 9:00 AM - 4:30 PM

DURING THIS DAY-LONG RETREAT, COUPLES ARE INVITED TO CONSIDER THEIR COMMITMENT TO EACH OTHER — AND WHAT IT TAKES TO CREATE A HAPPY AND HEALTHY RELATIONSHIP FOR THE LONG TERM. MANY TOPICS ARE COVERED.

COST IS \$110 PER COUPLE

REGISTER AT
[HTTPS://2023BLACOUPLERETREAT.EVENTBRITE.COM](https://2023BLACOUPLERETREAT.EVENTBRITE.COM)

BETHLEHEM EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
418 8TH AVE NE

SPONSORED BY LOCAL ELCA CONGREGATIONS



HEARTLAND SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA 46th Season 2022-2023

The Youth Concerto Competition Returns
Spring 2023 Concert Series

April 1 • 7:30 PM Charles D. Martin Auditorium, Little Falls
April 2 • 2:30 PM Gichi-zibi Center for the Arts, Brainerd

Featuring the performances of HSO's 2023 Echo Kowalzek Youth Concerto Competition winners:

Arriana Schwab
Mozart: Violin Concerto No. 3 in G Major, K. 216 - Allegro

Abigail Benson
Weber: Concertino for Clarinet and Orchestra, Op. 26

Also performing music by Franz Schubert, Ingrid Stölzel, and Jacob Shay

Conducted by Ryan Webber. Conductor Chats held prior to concerts. 6:45 PM in Little Falls • 1:45 PM in Brainerd

FREE FOR ALL AGES. Good will donations encouraged.

For more information: Visit HeartlandSymphony.com or our Facebook page | Call 1-800-826-1997
E-mail HeartlandSymphony@gmail.com | Search for Heartland Symphony on YouTube

These concerts are made possible by the voters of Minnesota through grants from the Minnesota State Arts Board and the Five Wings Arts Council, thanks to a legislative appropriation from the arts and cultural heritage fund. In Little Falls, the Laura Jane Musser Fund provides additional support. The Echo Kowalzek Youth Concerto Competition is funded in part by a grant from Crow Wing Community Trust.

Thank you!

January 2023 Financial update

Total Revenue \$44,908

Total Expenses \$37,948

Net Income +\$6,959

If you have questions, please contact a member of the Board of Stewardship and Properties.

Thank you for your continued generosity!

It isn't too late to turn in your 2023 estimate of giving or financial gift card. Additional cards are available in the office. Thank you to everyone who has turned theirs in already.

Thank you for your donation of \$25 to the Sharing Bread Soup Kitchen. Thank you for partnering with us in feeding people in our community. This gift helps pay for the daily meals we provide and also helps us provide breakfast/lunch bags to individuals staying at the local overnight shelter. With gratitude, Shannon Mills, Director Sharing Bread Soup Kitchen



Please keep these people in your prayers on their birthdays.

- 1 ~ Kevin Brick, Tonya Person
- 2 ~ Wayne Dosh
- 3 ~ Karl Hadrits
- 4 ~ Bruce Erickson, Charlotte Girling
- 6 ~ Kevin Gohman, Kathy Thomson, Zach Vanderschaaf
- 8 ~ Erica Pulak
- 9 ~ Odin Sjoberg
- 10 ~ Caleb Christensen
- 11 ~ Linda Albertson, Izabelle Munsch, Andrew Olson, Brian Skogen, Logan Stall
- 12 ~ Christian Eidenshink, Ethan Iverson
- 13 ~ Susan Hadrits, Solvejg Seamon
- 14 ~ Steve Rosenow
- 15 ~ Nancy Albertson, Reece Doucette, Al Gardner, Carole Olson
- 16 ~ Katie Breen, Tracie Churchill, Holly Rand, Melanie Serra

- 18 ~ Scott Johnson Jr., Geri Skogen, Sara Teufert
- 19 ~ Alexis Smith
- 20 ~ Claire Erdal
- 21 ~ Clark Backstrom, Hollie LeDoux, Harvey Munsch
- 23 ~ Elaina Christiansen, Jayce Johnson, Marci Nelson
- 25 ~ Mary Anderson, Will Grunewald, Maddy Tollefson
- 26 ~ Jerry DeChaine, Stephanie Moody, Curt Nielsen
- 27 ~ Greta Lang, Blaine Thompson
- 28 ~ Darla Mae Gonnerman, Blake Kruse, Deb Luhrs, Isaiah Macejkovic, Kim Spencer, Deb Steuck
- 30 ~ Yvonne Kalahar
- 31 ~ Lisa Roberts

GET YOUR LOOSE CHANGE READY!

NOISY OFFERING

IN FEBRUARY, YOU DONATED \$263.75 FOR BRIDGES OF HOPE. IN MARCH, MONEY WILL BE COLLECTED FOR MARCH FOOD SHARE MONTH.

HOW CAN YOU GIVE TO BETHLEHEM?

Click the QR code to donate.

TEXT TO GIVE

Text the word "give" to 218-231-4698

Thank you for your generosity!

We continue to update our contact information. If your birthday is missing or incorrect, please let the office know at 829-3330 or office@belcnet.net.

March Worship Assistants

Greeters:	Sundays at 9:00 am 5: Kay Theien 12: Bonnie and Steve Almond	19: Larry and Natalie Embertson 26: Cathie and Nick Benson
Ushers:	5: the Lindholm family 12: John and JoAnn Rehberger	19: Cathy and Dan Lee 26: Bob and Kay Pederson
Readers:	5: Bonnie Almond 12: Yvonne Kalahar	19: Rebecca Timmins 26: Kim Spencer
Communion Preparation:	5: Sasha Burgstaler, Shelly Birchem 19: 2 still needed	
Communion Servers:	5: Bonnie and Steve Almond, 1 still needed 19: 3 still needed	
Sound:	5: Todd Person 12: Jerry DeChaine	19: Todd Person 26: Jerry DeChaine
Video:	5: Tonya Person 12: Krystal DeChaine	19: Tonya Person 26: Krystal DeChaine
Assisting Minister:	5: Jackie Nornes 12: still needed	19: none 26: Jackie Nornes
Treats:	5: Nancy Bogenschutz 12: still needed	19: still needed 26: still needed
Flowers:	5: still needed 12: still needed	19: still needed 26: still needed
Wednesday 6:20 pm sound	1: Scott Pederson 8: still needed 15: still needed	22: still needed 29: still needed
Wednesday 6:20pm ushers	1: Karly and Mike Lillo, Riley Slough 8: Karly and Mike Lillo 15: still needed	22: still needed 29: still needed
Wednesday 11:00 am sound	1: still needed 8: still needed 15: still needed	22: still needed 29: still needed
Wednesday 11:00 ushers	1: Janis Peterson, Jenny Johnson 8: Janis Peterson 15: Jackie Nornes	22: Jackie Nornes 29: Janis Peterson
Wednesday 11:00 reader	1: Bonnie Almond	Wednesday 11:00 greeters 1: Kathy Dufour and Rick Patton
Wednesday 11:00 kitchen	8: Bev and Dave Emery 22: Bev and Dave Emery	15: Bev and Dave Emery 29: Bev and Dave Emery

Bethlehem Lutheran Church
418 8th Ave NE
Brainerd, MN 56401

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Heavenly Father, during this Lenten season, give me a new and expanded vision for my life. Help me to live full of faith. Teach me to find hope in the face of adversity.

If you would rather receive this newsletter by email or would like to stop receiving it, please let us know.

Please let the church office know if you will be stopping your mail service for an extended period of time so we do not send you any publications. Thank you.



Get updates, share pictures and RSVP for events on our Facebook page...
www.facebook.com/bethlehem.brainerd

Our Mission Statement

We are called into compassionate community by the Holy Spirit through the confession of the Gospel of Jesus Christ to publicly confess the faith of the Triune God in, under, and with our daily callings in the community of God's world.