



The CHIMES

Monthly Newsletter of
Bethlehem Lutheran Church

A Message from Pastor Jen...

God gave me a goofy brain. Okay, you already know this, but let me explain. When ideas pop into my head they land as fully-formed technicolor images. They come like pictures in Life or National Geographic magazine. When they come, I have to put that image into memory so that I can figure out the rest. The “rest” involves a lot of different steps and any number of other people. The first part of the rest is to discern whether this was just a pretty picture that popped into my head or if it is something we can actually do or use in the congregation.

The most recent time one of these pictures came was at a Stewardship and Evangelism meeting. Tania, Don, and Kathy got to sit with me as I described the image of caterpillars, chrysalises, and monarch butterflies on a small stand of milkweed plants. I explained to them that this is the image of Bethlehem Lutheran Church in the Renewal process, each stage is a year in the three-year process. The end-goal of this picture in my head was to somehow recreate this image as an artistic rendition to be visible somewhere within BLC.

The three of them seemed interested in the idea so we decided to take it to council and run in past the folks there. At council one of the member’s imagination envisioned this as a photo collage. The collage was made of pictures taken by members of the church family that depict one stage of the process.

For instance, for Year One the photos would be images that suggest the caterpillar or larval stage. These pictures represent our growing together in relationship with God and one another. This is our core development; the foundation upon which further development and growth depends.



This Photo by [Name]

Year Two the photos will be images of the chrysalis, the stage of discovery of our individual and communal gifts. In this stage we are discerning these gifts and how to be the best stewards of them. It is an inward focus with the eventual goal of the third stage of growth and metamorphosis.

In Year Three the photos will depict the Monarch Butterfly in all its glory. This is the butterfly in flight and on the move, being the creation that God intended from the

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The sign-up sheet can be found in the Narthex.

COFFEE HOUR

Coffee Hour Fellowship is a great time to make new friends, catch up with old friends and enjoy time together here at church.

Unless preempted by other church activities, coffee hour will follow the 9 am church service. Gather together after service for treats, coffee, milk or tea and fellowship.

beginning. As a congregation this is the year where we are also like that butterfly. We are a new creation in Christ that is focused outward on sharing our gifts with the world. Our very being reflects the one who has created, called, and equipped us for ministry.



Amen, amen, amen!

Pastor Jen

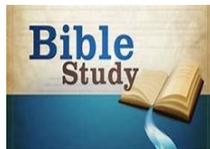


Please Join Us!

On Tuesday for the Weekly Bible Study with Pastor Jen. We will meet in the conference room at 11:00, following quilting.

All are welcome to participate. No previous experience is needed—the Holy Spirit takes care of that!

Bring your Bible, a paper and pen if you wish, and your curiosity. Our times together will last somewhere around an hour.



- The volunteer Appreciation breakfast is being held on Sunday, May 5th at 8:00am. Please sign up in the narthex if you plan on attending so that we can get an approximate head count. Any person that volunteers in any capacity at BLC is welcome to attend! Thank you to all of the volunteers for everything that you do!
- The Trivia Night youth fundraiser on April 27th, from 5:30-9pm at the Masonic Lodge in Portage
- Earth Day – Church Clean-up next Sunday after church – wear your work clothes
- We will be starting the Adopt-a-Bill program in June for the summer of 2019. To everyone that participated in

the program last summer (and throughout the fall & winter), thank you again for your generosity!

RIVER HAVEN

Please check the River Haven *Wish List* posted on the bulletin board in the Narthex for a list of items that are needed at the facility. It's a great, inexpensive way to fulfill our outreach programs, by helping those in need with a simple extra item in your shopping cart, that goes a long way to helping those less fortunate.

Elayne Hanson is celebrating her 90th birthday on Sunday, June 9th from 2 to 4 p.m. at the K.C. Hall, Silver Lake Drive, Portage. You're invited. No gifts please. Come and enjoy.



The
**Monday M^oring
Coffee Clutch**

Had a loss, or at a loss?

Stop on in, and stay a while. Share a story, or just sit and listen for a while, and enjoy a cup of coffee or tea. Everyone is welcome.

Located in the Bethlehem Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall. Held every Monday from 9-10:30am.

Fred Reckling and wife Char are searching for volunteers who would be interested in sitting with Fred while other family members are out of the house for various times during the week. No special skills required.

If you are interested contact Pastor Jen or the church office at 608-742-8502

SUNDAY SCHOOL

On May 19th we will be having our Spring Congregational Fiesta. The children will be singing during the service and it is our last day of Sunday School until September. We will have a Taco Bar, games.

Mark your calendar for VBS 2019! This year's theme is ROAR: Life is Wild-God is Good. It will be held at the Portage United Methodist church Aug. 5th-9th. Additional information and registrations forms coming soon.

We are also collecting food for the Food Pantry and aluminum tops for the Ronald McDonald House.



Thank you for 45 years of Knitting and Crocheting

So long to the knitting and crocheting group as of April 2019. They have been knitting and crocheting since 1974 when 15 ladies started the group. We made between 30-40 items a year, meeting every 4th Tues. from Sept. through May for 45 years. We used to make them for Santa's Workshop. When that stopped, we gave them to other area groups. What is made this year will be given to Portage schools. We will be knitting on our own now as we still have yarn. We will collect finished items at church from Sept-Oct., to give out in Nov. We have made many prayer shawls for the hospital and nursing home. Prayer Shawls may be made and taken directly to the hospital.

Some faithful members who started in 1974 were still at it today. They are: Betty Ring, Bev Johnson , and Dorothy Weber. The other members were: Ginny Paulson, Beth Johnson, Diana Bush, Annette Monthey, Judy LaMarsche, and Marj Margelowsky. If you have any questions call Marj.742-3926

Thank You!

Thank you to the church council and especially President Tania Anderson for the cake and reception for those celebrating their 90th birthdays: Marj Margelowsky, Don Salzman, Bob Rehdantz, Elayne Hanson, and Dorothy Weber. It was greatly appreciated – Bob & Cloe Rehdantz



CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

February 21, 2019

Called to order by President Tania Anderson.

Attendance: Don Bender, Jack Paulson, Tim Kratz, Ann Ciske, Angie Chappell, Halley Marcks, Tania Anderson, Pastor Jen Johnson.

Absent with notification: Kathy Tofson, Robin Kvalo.

Motion by Anne Ciske, second by Jack Paulson to approve Halley Marcks to fulfil the one year unexpired term of Cheri Gessner. **Motion Carried.**

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Motion by Ann Ciske, second by Jack Paulson to approve the revised agenda. **Motion Carried.**

Opening Devotion-Psalm 91

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Motion by Ann Ciske, second by Tim Kratz to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. **Motion Carried.**

NOMINATION OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Angie Chappell nominated Tania Anderson for President, second by Jack Paulson.

Motion by Don Bender, second by Angie Chappell to close the nominations and approve Tania Anderson for President. **Motion Carried.**

Tania Anderson nominated Tim Kratz for Vice President, second by Tania Anderson.

Motion by Ann Ciske, second by Jack Paulson to close the nominations and approve Tim Kratz for Vice President. **Motion Carried.**

Tim Kratz nominated Angie Chappell for Secretary, second by Ann Ciske.

Motion by Tania Anderson, second by Jack Paulson to close the nominations and approve Angie Chappell for Secretary. **Motion Carried.**

COMMITTEE LIAISONS

- Property- Jack Paulson
- Finance- Don Bender
- Christian Education- Halley Marcks
- Worship & Music- Robin Kvalo
- Stewardship/Evangelism-Tania Anderson-Don said he will be on the committee along with Kathy Tlfson and Ann Ciske
- Local & Global-Ann Ciske- Kathy Tofson a member on the committee

PASTOR REPORT

ADMINISTRATIVE

Janice, Barb, and Denise are working together to reorganize the finances of the congregation.

Office hours are consistently covered by staff and the occasional volunteer.

Barb and Denise have given the office, meeting rooms, and copy room makeovers that are efficient and inviting.

Barb is including offering and attendance stats in the weekly bulletin and Chimes, as requested.

Jerry is back from vacation.

PASTORAL

- I've made hospital, home, and nursing home visits this month.
- Funeral on Friday, 2/22 for Dottie von Trott.
- Meet and Greet visits are becoming rare. I do have 1 in the scheduling process, though.

RENEWAL

Our February meeting with the Synod Renewal Pastors has been canceled due to weather.

Mark Teslik and I have our Renewal Mutual Ministry Team assembled and are organizing our first meeting.

EDUCATION

I discovered confirmation curriculum in the "new" file cabinet in the high school room. With the input of the confirmation partners I will review and implement as needed.

The current confirmation project is setting up prayer stations for Lent. This project combines biblical interpretation, application, prayer, inclusiveness, autonomy, teamwork, and a dose of fun. Each grade is responsible for 2 stations that will be available to all beginning March 6 and up through Palm Sunday. On Palm Sunday the confirmation students will be taking the Sunday School students through the stations as the SS lesson for the day.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE

- Computer for office- there has been about \$310 donated. Other individuals have offered to donate as well. The cost will be covered by donations, Ann is collecting.
 - Office position duties and assignments- this has been revamped by office staff.
 - Bills: the committee went over all bills and we are current. No transfers were needed for January.
 - Treasurer- Dan M. has resigned as treasurer, we will be looking for a replacement, possibly a volunteer.
 - Financial Secretary- Denise is transitioning into the role.
- Memorials- Judy Traut has come up with a letter for families making memorial donations. It gives suggestions for things needed within the church. We are looking for council approval on the letter.

March 27th Council Lenten Supper

Pr. Jen stated that she has gone to Portage National to get answers about authorizations and changes needed. Names need to be changed on several accounts including credit cards. Executive Committee needs to go with Janice and Barb to the bank.

Motion by Tim Kratz, second by Angie Chappell to make Don Bender and Tim Kratz signatories on the checking account.
Motion Carried.

Motion by Tim Kratz, second by Ann Ciske to make Barb Rothwell, Denise Derey, Del Molden and Pr. Jen Johnson as authorized

users of the church credit card. **Motion Carried.**

Motion by Ann Ciske, second by Halley Marcks to make Barb Rothwell, Denise Derey and Janice Peterson to be authorized users of the online bill pay. **Motion Carried.**

Tania talked about a letter drafted by Judy Trout, to give to people giving memorials, that gives suggestions of where they could designate it to.

Motion by Ann Ciske, second by Halley Marcks to approve the drafted letter for memorial/donations to the church. **Motion Carried.**

The treasurer has resigned, staff drafted a document defining who is doing what. The staff needs someone to help with closing out at the end of each month with Auditing balance sheets, Review expenditures, Income assignments and writing checks for non-online payments.

Tania will get quotes for a quarterly overview as an option to a Treasurer. She will also post it to the members.

Tania discussed money from the Scrip funds and where it is to be designated.

Motion by Angie Chappell, second by Tim Kratz to move \$9,000.00 from the Undesignated Script Funds to savings.
Motion Carried.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Megan Jahoda and Julie Saalsa are organizing a youth fundraiser, the second annual Trivia Night. This year, it is being

planned for the evening of Saturday, April 27th at the Masonic Temple in Portage (formerly The Vino). This event will be very similar to the event last year. Any costs for the event will be taken care of with current available youth funds, with proceeds benefiting the youth programs.

Action Item: We would like council to approve the Trivia Night youth fundraiser as presented.

Motion by Ann Ciske, second by Halley Marcks to approve the Youth Group Trivia Night for April 27, 2019. **Motion Carried.**

Megan has also submitted information to council about a mission trip opportunity to the Dominican Republic. To be discussed at council.

STEWARDSHIP/EVANGELISM

We are going to be working on a calendar for the year with Stewardship & Evangelism events.

There will be an ecumenical meeting on March 17th with representatives from St. Mary's, Potage United Methodist Church and the Portage Presbyterian Church. We will be discussing the ecumenical community supper in the fall and a possible summer series of ecumenical worship services. For the summer worship services, each church would host a service. Many of the details are yet to be determined.

Action Item: We would like council to approve BLC participating in the ecumenical community supper and the ecumenical summer worship services. As a participant in the ecumenical worship

services, BLC would agree to host one service.

Motion by Ann Ciske, second by Don Bender to approve Bethlehem to participate in ecumenical activities. **Motion Carried.**

Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast will be Sunday, May 5th.

Motion by Ann Ciske, second by Halley Marcks to approve the council sponsored Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast. **Motion Carried.**

WORSHIP & MUSIC

Members Present: Dan K, Nancy, Pastor Jen and Carla

Absent: Robin, Pam, Ginny, Kris

Devotions: Pastor Jen

Pastor's Report - The youth will be setting up prayer stations for Lent.

Old Business: None

New Business: No specific w/m meeting as items discussed with the entire group.

Carla announced that she will be having surgery and will not be able to play the organ for Lent. Several people recommended who could play the Holden Evening prayer service for the Weds Lenten services. Carla will check with Kris first. Book fair for the month of March. Megan Jahoda is back and is helping with the youth. May 19th will be the last day of Sunday School. Discussion about issues with the sound system. Tania will contact Josh Brandsma and set up a time for Carla, Dan and Tania to meet with him to check the

sound system. Carla announced that she was closer to selling the organ pipes in storage. Discussion concerning Easter breakfast. Pastor Jen recommended that money for the breakfast come out of the pastor's account. Tanya will ask Wade if he will be willing to cook for the breakfast. Dan reported that the praise team will be doing the service in March. Carla reported that Kris was going to reach out to some of the youth in the congregation to ask them to sing with the choir for Easter and attempt to have them become more involved with the music at church.

Motion by Ann Ciske, second by Jack Paulson to approve an Easter Brunch after service, funded by the church, with suggested donations day of. **Motion Carried.**

PROPERTY

Del is working on the inventory list.

LOCAL & GLOBAL

No report submitted. Ann is working on an Earth Day date.

Motion by Tim Kratz, second by Don Bender to approve the committee reports as submitted and discussed. **Motion Carried.**

NEW BUSINESS

Barb asked if the council meetings could be moved to the 2nd week of the month due to the Chimes due date. Discussion that this is not possible and we will adjust what goes in to it.

Council's night for Lenten supper is March 27th.

Sound board is getting looked at.

Tim Kratz stated that the Post Prom will be using the fellowship hall on March 10th from 10-4.

Pastor would like to install the council on March 10, 2019.

Motion by Don Bender, second by Ann Ciske to Adjourn. Motion Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:41 PM.

Next Council Meeting: Thursday, March 21, 2019 at 6:30 PM.



THANK YOU!

- Thank you to all those that volunteered to help with the Easter Breakfast, your assistance made the breakfast a wonderful event, especially the chef.

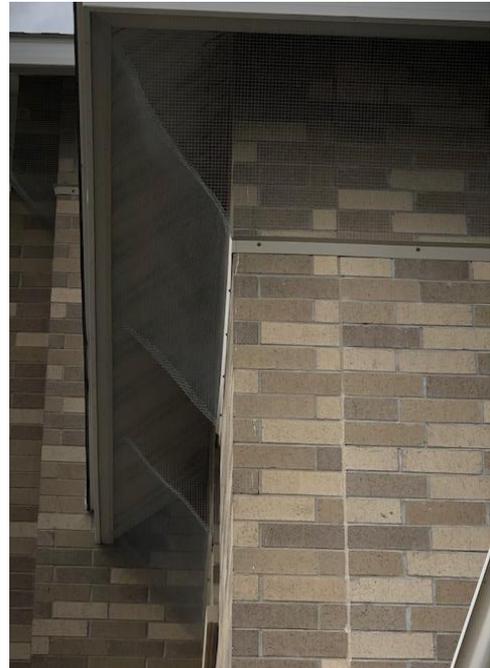


- Thanks to all of you that donated flowers to help us celebrate Easter Sunday: Kerry & Jeff Melby, in honor of their family; Barb Rothwell & Dick Olson, in memory of loved one, and 16 mums that were purchased to be delivered after service to Tivoli for residents in the Memory Care unit; Dorothy Waldo, in honor of our Lord and Savior; Robin & Mike Kvalo, in honor of Robin's Mom Nan and in memory of Ted Reholz, Arnold ad Harriett Kvalo; Dan & Marie Kucksdorf, in honor of their family; Betty Levlow, in memory of loved ones; Jim & Alanna Thays; Cheryl & Steve Skeie, in memory of Mel & Joyce Kohn; Lance & Judy Herkind, in honor of their wonderful family and in memory of their loved ones gone before; Ron & Judy Donahue, In honor of the Zellmer family and in memory of Mike; Niki's family, Angie's family & Brock family.



- Thank you to all of our members for always taking care of the church through the adopt-a-bill program.
- Thank you to Ginny Paulson and Margaret Molden for decorating the church for Holy Week.

- Thank you to Dick Olson for preparing the Prayer Garden for this seasons planting, which will start as the weather permits.
- Thanks to the volunteers for their 54 hours, helping with the bird screening project: Marty Genrich, Dennis Benson, Butch Jahoda, Travis Cox, Kory Anderson, Jeff Johnson, Del Molden.



- Thank you for the two individuals that donated the funds for the new very versatile soundboard. Additional thanks to Tania Anderson and Josh



Bransma for initiating the install and selection. A Dutch door will be installed in the future to the entrance of the audio visual area.

Just a Reminder...

If you have an event at church, stop in for a visit, attend a meeting, or whatever and happen to be the last one in the building...BEFORE YOU LEAVE, please make sure all the outside doors are locked. Our church doors have been found unlocked several times in the last few months which creates a great liability for us all. Thank you!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

- Please check the River Haven *Wish List* posted on the bulletin board in the Narthex for a list of items that are needed at the facility. It's a great, inexpensive, way to fulfill our outreach programs, by helping those in need with a simple extra item in your shopping cart, that goes a long way to helping those less fortunate.
- We are looking for volunteers to help with spreading mulch, probably near the end of May. Please contact Dick Olson, 617-9409 or the church office.
- We're still looking for occasional volunteer telephone sitters for the church office on Wednesday and Thursday mornings from 9-noon, when office staff is away from the office visiting shut-ins. If you have some time to volunteer, please call the church office at 608-742-8502.

HARMONY FOR THE HOMELESS

Come one, come all to the Harmony for the Homeless taking place on May 11, 2019 at 7:00pm at the Portage Center for the Arts.

Tickets are \$15.00 per person and can be purchased at the Chamber of Commerce office or at the door.

The performance will feature a variety of local talent, including our own Kaylin Brandsma.

CHANCEL FLOWERS

Easter Sunday is past and we hope that you will continue to help decorate the chancel by signing up for our weekly flower giving at the cost of \$28 which you will be billed directly by Edgewater Greenhouse.

There is a signup sheet in the Narthax for flowers for July-December with only eight of blanks to be filled. Please sign up early if there is a special occasion for which you want to supply altar flowers. Thank you for supporting our congregation in this way!



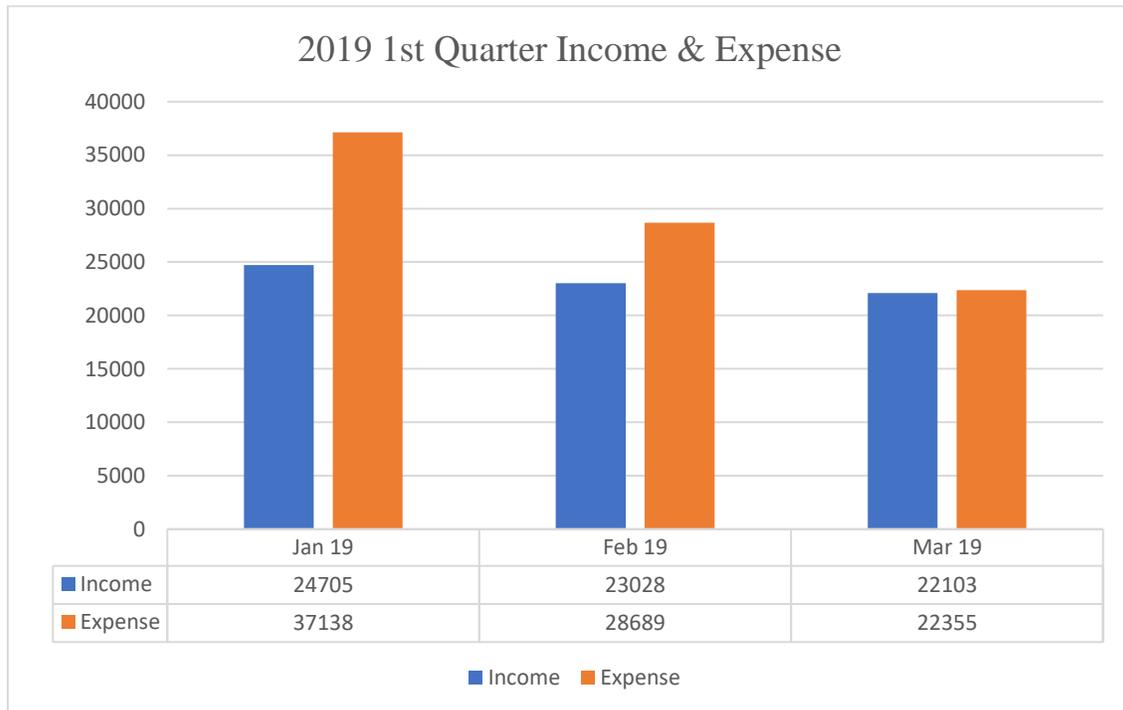
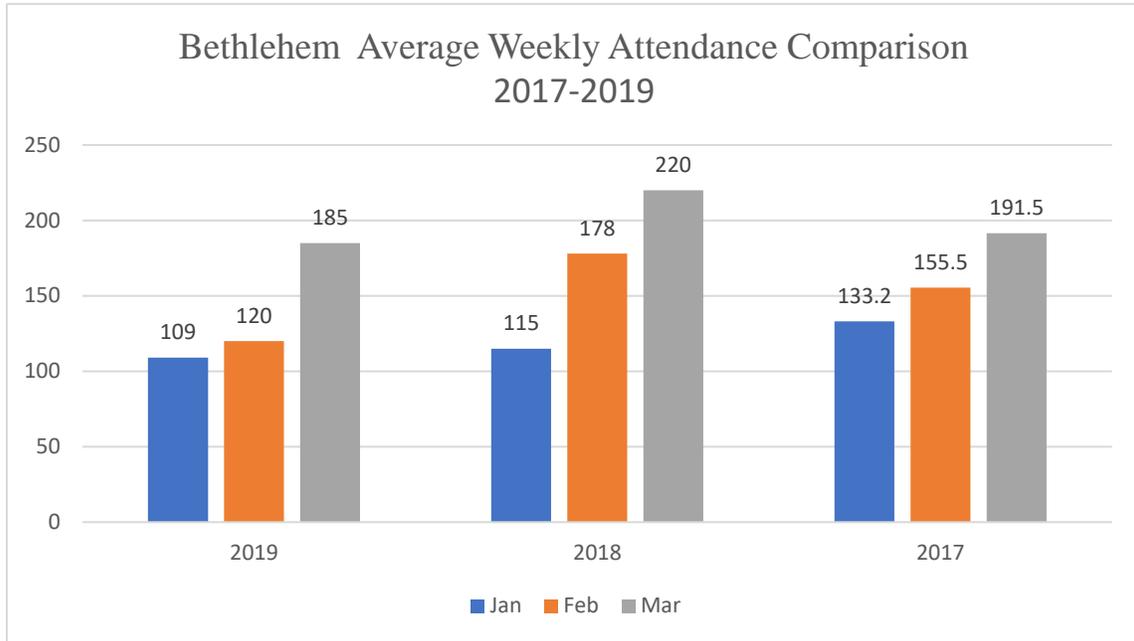
Adopt-a-Bill – Want to get a jump on the **Adopt-a-Bill** program that is starting in June?

Here's a list of some of our general expenses for you to consider.

Monthly Expenses		
Advanced Disposal	waste disposal	\$ 148.37
Alliant	gas/electric	\$ 912.00
Baraboo Credit Card	credit card	\$ 431.86
Frontier	phone/internet	\$ 303.06
GFC	copier lease	\$ 470.26
Portico	insurance/benefits	\$ 1,183.35
Thrivent	mortgage	\$ 5,983.00
Regular Bills		
1517 Media	Christian education	\$ 17.90
Brotherhood Mutual	church insurance	\$ 382.00
Capital Newspapers	advertising	\$ 67.00
Cavanagh Company	communion supplies	\$ 67.14
JW Pepper	music supplies	\$ 51.99
One Write	offering envelopes	\$ 445.27
Paychex	financial process fee	\$ 70.08
Quick books	financial computer program	\$ 35.00
Quill	office supplies	\$ 84.92
South Central Synod	synod assembly registration	\$ 210.00
Schrommer Construction	snowplowing	\$ 530.00
The O'Brion Agency	office supplies	\$ 69.00
The TH Stemper	altar supplies	\$ 77.29
United States Postal Service	postage	\$ 32.50
Vanco Payment	simply giving process fees	\$ 24.85

BETHLEHEM LUTHARAN CHURCH

1st Quarter Attendance and Income/Expense Report



Church Volunteers

Date	Greeters	Ushers	Reader	Communion Assistants	Altar Guild	Acolytes
Wed 5/1					Diane Grueneberg	Emily Johnson
Sun 5/5	Dean & Judy Traut		Darlene Anderson-Prest	Angie Chappell & Mark Teslik	Brenda Larson	Kane Chappell
Wed 5/8					Judy Donahue	Cooper Jenatscheck
Sun 5/12	Elayne Hanson	Vic & Shannon Kreuziger	Mark Teslik	Angela Pace & Jaimie Rudolph	Cara Druckrey	Max Kreuziger
Wed 5/15					Kathy Lawrence	Emily Marcks
Sun 5/19	Halley Marcks		Nancy Buckley	Kathryn Crawford & Nancy Buckley	Kari Johnson	Andrew Charles
Wed 5/22					Cheryl Hebel	Ellison Swenson
Sun 5/26	Barb Rothwell & Dick Olson	Bob & Cloe Rehdanatz	Ellen Kabele	Brenda Larson & Bobbie Goodman	Brenda Larson	Luke Paulsen
Wed 5/29					Judy Donahue	Samantha Nickel



Looking for volunteers! Contact Nancy Buckley or the Church office to volunteer.

Bethlehem Lutheran Church

May 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 10:30 Tai Chi 5:30 Worship 6:30pm Confirmation	2	3 10:30am Tai Chi	4 Synod Assembly
5 8am Volunteer Breakfast 9am Worship 10am Bible Study 10:15am BP check 10:15am Sunday School	6 9:00am MM Coffee 10:30am Tai Chi 6:30pm Euchre	7 9am Quilting Group 11am Bible Study 5:30pm Finance Committee 6pm Zumba	8 10:30 Tai Chi 5:30 Worship 6:30pm Confirmation	9 9am Women's group 5:30pm Mutual Renewal Ministry Team Meeting	10 10:30am Tai Chi	11
12 – Mother's Day 9am Worship 10am Bible Study 10:15 Sunday School	13 9:00am MM Coffee 10:30am Tai Chi 5:30 SREA mtg 6:30pm All Committee mtg 6:30pm Euchre	14 9am Quilting Group 11am Bible Study 6pm Zumba	15 10:30 Tai Chi 5:30 Worship 6:30pm Confirmation	16 Chimes articles due 7:30am Alphabet Express Grad. 6:30pm Council Meeting	17 10:30am Tai Chi	18
19 9am Worship 10am Bible Study 10:15am Congregational Fiesta	20 9:00am MM Coffee 10:30am Tai Chi 6:30pm SRA mtg 6:30pm Euchre	21 9am Quilting Group 11am Bible Study 6pm Zumba	22 10:30 Tai Chi 5:30 Worship 6:30pm Confirmation	23	24 10:30am Tai Chi	25
26 9am Worship	27 Memorial Day – church office closed	29 9am Quilting Group 11am Bible Study 6pm Zumba	29 10:30 Tai Chi 5:30 Worship	30	31	

