



THE BETHLEHEM STAR



Bethlehem Evangelical Lutheran Church

418 8th Avenue Northeast
Brainerd, MN 56401

Phone: 218-829-3330

Fax: 218-829-0792

Email: office@belcnet.net

Website: www.belcnet.net

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



At the time of publication, these times are correct. With the fluidity of the pandemic, hours could change suddenly.

WORSHIP TIMES

Drive in worship: Sundays at 8:45 am

Online worship: Sundays at 10:00 am

In-person worship : Sundays at 10:00 am

with communion on the 1st and 3rd Sundays

AUGUST OFFICE HOURS

The office is open on Mondays—Thursdays from 9:00 am—12:00 pm and 1:00—4:00 pm and on Fridays from 9:00 am—12:00 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: Pat True and Sara Larson

IT Coordinator: Scott Pederson

Custodial Services: John Unger

From the Senior Pastor

Bible Study opportunity with Pastor Mark

Join us in the month of August as we study the psalms. The psalms encapsulate the depth of the creation's interaction with God in relation to such things as praise and lament, trust and doubt, wonder and fear, fruitful seasons of life and barren seasons of death. Join us on Thursday afternoons from 1:00-2:30 pm beginning on August 5th. We will continue through September 2nd.

Coffee with Pastor Mark

Join me on Wednesday mornings during the first part of August (August 4, 11, and 18) at Caribou Coffee across from Bethlehem at 9 am. I would love to visit with you and catch up on what is going on in your life.

NE MN Lay Leader Network Yearly Intensive Series (YIS)

Are you looking for a really good opportunity to grow in your faith and understanding of your call to lead in various capacities within your life? If so, I would encourage you to examine the Lay Leader Network Yearly Intensive Series (YIS). I will be co-leading this series again in 2021-2022 with Pr. Dave Mesner from Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd in Duluth. The series consists of four meetings on Saturdays from 9 am until about 3:30 pm here at Bethlehem in Brainerd and in Duluth. We will also be providing a Zoom option for people as well.

You can find the registration information for the Yearly Intensive Series (YIS) on the NE MN Synod website, under the Lay Leader Network tab. The registration link is <https://nemnl2122.eventbrite.com>. Make sure to enter the promo code "HalfSponsor" when you register to receive the 50% discount for registration. The BELC Endowment Board has agreed to pay for half of the registration cost again this year.

This year we be studying two books that you will need to acquire:

Root, Andrew. *The Congregation in a Secular Age: Keeping Sacred Time against the Speed of Modern Life*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic, 2021.

Bonhoeffer, Dietrich. *Life Together: The Classic Exploration of Christian Community*. New York, NY: Harper and Row, 1954.

Our first meeting will be on Saturday, October 2nd at Bethlehem Lutheran. Please contact me if you questions or are interested in participating!

God bless you,

Pastor Mark Skinner

Sign up [here](#).

In-person bible study
of the Psalms with
Pr. Mark
Thursdays from
August 5 -
September 2
1:00 - 2:30 pm
at BELC
Sign up on our
website at
www.belcnet.net
or contact the
office at
office@belcnet.net



August 2021



From the Children, Youth and Family Pastor

High School
campfire:
games, smores,
and fellowship

August 18 at
6:30 pm in the
lower BELC lot

open to all
high school students
in 9th-12th grades

2nd graders, receive your
BIBLES

Sunday, September 26, at either the 8:20
or 10:30 am in-person service or
Wednesday, September 29 at 6:20 pm

One does not live by bread alone, but by
every word that comes from the mouth of
God. Matthew 4:4

HOLY BIBLE
SPARK BIBLE NRSV
HOLY SCRIPTURES

Parents, please RSVP to the office ASAP if you haven't already.



If you have a child
who will be
attending
kindergarten this fall,
please [contact the
office.](#)

Kindergarten

ALL STUDENTS AND EDUCATORS
IN 2021 - 2022

**BACK TO
SCHOOL BLESSING**

All students and educators are
invited to bring their
backpacks to receive a special
blessing on

Sunday, September 12 at
either the 8:20 or 10:30 am
in-person service.

09.12.21

"And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them,
and blessed them." Mark 10:16

CONTACT THE OFFICE AT 829-3330 OR
OFFICE@BELCNET.NET IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS.

CONFIRMATION
MEETING
9/8 AT 7:00 PM

BACK TO
SCHOOL
BLESSING
9/12 AT 8:20
AND 10:30
AM
SERVICES

HIGH SCHOOL
MISSION TRIP
MEETING
9/15 AT 7:00 PM

RALLY SUNDAY
9/19 WITH 3
YEAR OLD
BLESSING AT
8:20 SERVICE

YOUTH
ACTIVITIES
ARE
RESUMING!

9/22
YOUTH CHOIR
STARTS 5:45 PM
1ST NIGHT
CATECHISM
7:00 PM

2ND GRADE
BIBLES 9/26 AT
8:20 AND 10:30
AM SERVICES

HIGH SCHOOL
YOUTH GROUP
9/29 AT 7:00 PM

Looking ahead...

With the fluidity of the pandemic, we continue to follow CDC and MN Department of Health guidelines. Your safety and well-being is our number one concern.

At the time of publication, drive-in services will be offered on Sundays at 8:45 am and in-person and livestreamed services will be offered at 10:00 am on Sundays.

Watch for service time changes in September.



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:

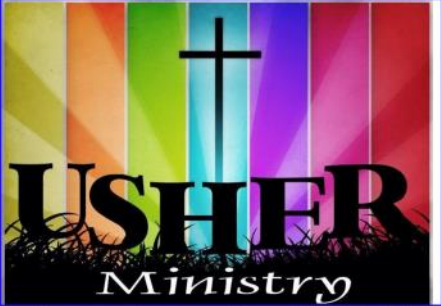
Sympathy: Pam Finch and family on the death of her cousin David; Larry Martinson and family on the death of his sister; Sharon Chaney and family on the death of her nephew Craig Holbrook

Ongoing: Quincy Meyer; Richard; Matthew Nelson; Del Dahl; Rose Kirchner; Jackie Nornes; Pam Stock; Keith Olson; Jackie Spaulding; Kim Hake; Clary Tollefson; for peace in our world; Danny McCarthy; Mike Anhalt; Garnet Rehberger; Joyce Wagner; Jessica Rodenbiker; Barrie Rempel; for all affected by COVID; Michael Zickuhr; Nancy Walsh; victims of domestic violence; all residents and staff of assisted living and nursing home facilities; the unemployed and underemployed; healthcare workers; for protection from Corona Virus; all dealing with addiction; all affected by mental health issues; all caregivers; everyone dealing with cancer

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

August: Dave and Luanne Hallgren; Tasha Halsted and family; Mandy Hanson; Darwin and Mary Hanson; Terri Hanson; Lee and Kathy Hauble; Brenda Hayes; Dianne Heath; Howard and Laurel Heinonen; Lynn Heinrich and family; Josh Hendrikson. Bob and Cindy Hendrickson; Amber and Jason Hennessey and family; Jilene and Mitch Hodgman and family; Kelsey Hoff and family; Lee Ann Hollingsworth and family; Kristi and Ron Holloway; Barb Howard; Alan Hudalla and family; Judy Hulsether; Karl Jackman and family; DJ and Sandy Janssen; Art and Colleen Jentsch; Aaron and Laura Johnson and family; Bernice E. Johnson; Bernice J. Johnson



USHER
Ministry

Drive-in service on Sunday at 8:45 am
8/8: Janis and Jim Peterson
8/15: Carla and Scott Stall
8/22: Cathy and Dan Lee
8/29: the Meyer family

In-person and livestream service on Sunday at 10:00 am
8/8: Mary and Scott Parsons
8/15: the Gindorff and Lindholm families
8/22: Pam Stock and Al Gardner
8/29: Jackie Nornes and Wendy Gindorff



AUGUST SCHEDULE

WORSHIP SCHEDULE
*DRIVE-IN AT 8:45 AM ON SUNDAYS
*IN-PERSON AND LIVESTREAM AT 10:00 AM ON SUNDAYS

OFFICE HOURS
MONDAYS - THURSDAYS
9:00 AM - 12:00 PM AND 1:00 - 4:00 PM
FRIDAYS
9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

To view our online services at 10:00 am on Sundays, go to our Facebook page at [Bethlehem.brainerd](https://www.facebook.com/Bethlehem.brainerd); the service will also be posted on our website at www.belcnet.net



| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday |
|--|---|--|
| 1 | 2 | |
| 8:45 am – Drive in worship service with communion 10:00 am - Live-streamed worship and In-person worship service with communion | 6:00 pm – Board of Service and Evangelism meeting online via Zoom | 7:30 am – Men’s bible study |
| 8 | 9 | 1 |
| 8:45 am – Drive in worship service 10:00 am - Live-streamed worship and In-person worship service 11:30 am – Funeral for Leonard Stock | 4:00 pm – BELC at the Sharing Bread Soup Kitchen | 7:30 am – Men’s bible study 5:15 pm – Board of Congregational Care and Community meeting |
| 15 | 16 | 1 |
| 8:45 am – Drive in worship service with communion 10:00 am - Live-streamed worship and In-person worship service with communion 11:00 am/after 10:00 am service – picnic; food served 11:00 – 12:00 pm | 10:00 am – Ruth Circle | 7:30 am – Men’s bible study 4:00 pm – Lay Leader Bethlehem Network Group 6:00 pm – Worship Assistant training for everyone |
| 22 | 23 | 2 |
| 8:45 am – Drive in worship service 10:00 am - Live-streamed worship and In-person worship service | 6:00 pm – Creation Care Team meeting | 7:30 am – Men’s bible study 10:00 am – Stephen Ministry meeting |
| 29 | 30 | 3 |
| 8:45 am – Drive in worship service 10:00 am - Live-streamed worship and In-person worship service | 6:00 pm – Board of Service and Evangelism meeting | 7:30 am – Men’s bible study 4:30 pm – BELC at the Sharing Bread Soup Kitchen |

CREATION CARE

Minnesota's Clean Energy law states that in order to build a new fossil fuel power plant in Minnesota, it must be shown that renewable energy alternatives are not in the public interest. Minnesota's laws also allow utilities to "pass through" the power plants' fuel costs to customers, at the same time allowing shareholders to collect their profits shortly after a plant begins operation. That means customers will be paying for fossil fuel energy for decades, at whatever market price is demanded. With research from a broad range of groups showing that rapidly decreasing costs of renewable energy sources will make new fossil fuel plants obsolete before they recoup costs, the state's utilities will have to ask the Minnesota's five-member Public Utilities commission (PUC) to grant them approval to recover costs from their customers. The science of climate change is clear and so are the economics of fossil fuels.

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

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This month, the office is open on Mondays – Thursdays
from 9:00 am – 12:00 pm and 1:00 – 4:00 pm.
On Fridays, it is open from 9:00 am – 12:00 pm.

| Wednesday | | Thursday | | Friday | Saturday |
|--|----|--|----|--------|----------|
| 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | |
| 9:00 am – Coffee with Pr. Mark at Caribou Coffee NE | | 9:00 am – Edgewood Brainerd 10:15 am – Edgewood Baxter 1:00 pm – Operation Sandwich food distribution 1:00 pm – Study of Psalms | | | |
| 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | |
| 9:00 am – Coffee with Pr. Mark at Caribou Coffee NE 1:30 pm – Woodland worship service | | 1:00 pm – Operation Sandwich food distribution 1:00 pm – Study of Psalms | | | |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | |
| 9:00 am – Coffee with Pr. Mark at Caribou Coffee NE 1:30 pm – Woodland worship service 5:30 pm – Board of Stewardship and Properties meeting 6:30 pm – High School campfire and games | | 9:00 am – Edgewood Brainerd 9:00 am – Worship Assistant training for everyone 10:15 am – Edgewood Baxter 1:00 pm – Operation Sandwich food distribution 1:00 pm – Study of Psalms 5:30 pm – Congregational Leadership Board meeting | | | |
| 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | |
| | | 1:00 pm – Operation Sandwich food distribution | | | |
| 1 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | |
| 1:30 pm – Woodland worship service | | 9:00 am – Edgewood Brainerd 9:00 am – Quilting Group 10:15 am – Edgewood Baxter 1:00 pm – Operation Sandwich food distribution 1:00 pm – Study of Psalms | | | |

Please keep these
people in your prayers
on their birthdays.



- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 ~ Vicki LaPlant | 19 ~ Joyce Brick, Bev Gott, Judy Jourdan, Dale Spaulding |
| 2 ~ Jason Hennessey, Samuel Shoenecker, Kathleen Thorson, Emma True | 20 ~ Marty Christiansen, Tyler Gubrud, Marlene Kossila, Emily Rhoda, Henry Thesing |
| 3 ~ Kara McCarthy | 21 ~ Jean Anhalt, Kristina Johnson-Nelson, Hazel Nelson |
| 4 ~ Mya Ferrari, Ken Kemboi, Joslin Ray | 22 ~ Sharon Braun, Paige Bremer, Traci Gujer |
| 6 ~ David Hallgren, Jon Luhrs | 23 ~ Jeff Macejkovic, Tim Schonecker |
| 7 ~ Vincent Moe | 24 ~ Lincoln Ferrari, Phyllis Roberts |
| 8 ~ Paige DeFrang, Jeff Maxwell, | 25 ~ Ray Frisch |
| 9 ~ Jackson McKusick, Jon Steblay | 26 ~ Marshall Billman, Aubree Marshall, Marissa Thorson |
| 10 ~ Isla Eidenshink | 27 ~ Deb Cole, Kacey Finch, Jeff Pulak |
| 11 ~ Payton Lillo | 28 ~ Judy Hulsether, Malcolm Innes, Zach Kraklau |
| 13 ~ Jen Lindholm, Elizabeth Olson | 29 ~ Michael Carlson, Cory Kruse, Barb Owens, Maren Thurlow-Praska |
| 14 ~ Zach Skogen, Margaret Steblay | 30 ~ Melissa Levig, Dan Vleck |
| 15 ~ Sasha Burgstaler, Kourtney Holloway, Kathryn Jourdan, De Etta Theien | 31 ~ Rebecca Dornan, Jonah Macejkovic, Becky Meyer, Marge Streich |
| 17 ~ Ashley Anderson, Mark Gujer, Rosabella Horton, Wyatt Krauss, Tate Magnan, Bruce Praska, Barrie Rempel, Stacy Smith | |
| 18 ~ Mara Mienert, Bev Rempel | |

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.

Thank you!

Thank you for your gift of \$500 to Lutheran Disaster Response. AS a church, we believe that God's grace is freely given to us. This brings us peace and hope. It makes a difference in our lives. Through your gifts to Lutheran Disaster Response, you are sharing this amazing grace with others. You are helping people near and far feel the transformational power of God's love. Your Spirt-filled generosity is helping families and communities reeling from disasters here in the United States and around the world. No matter the variety of disaster, no matter the variety of need, your gifts to Lutheran Disaster Response enable people to rebuild this lives and livelihoods now and far into the future.

In Christ, Rev. Robin Brown, Director,
Mission Funding, Congregations of the ELCA



Choir Fund

\$25 in memory of Orella Brickheimer from family and friends

Thank you for your continued partnership. Your recent gift of \$336.75 makes a huge difference and allows us to continue providing faith-centered programs to children, youth, families and adults. Please keep our staff in your prayers as we continue our work each day.

~David Holtz, Executive Director of Luther Crest Bible Camp



COFFEE WITH
PR. MARK

Join Pr. Mark
at the NE
Caribou Coffee
on Wednesday,
August 4, 11,
and 18 at 9:00
am for a visit
and to catch
up on life.

PICNIC AND
FELLOWSHIP
SUNDAY, AUGUST 15

FOOD SERVED
FROM 11:00-12:00 PM

CELEBRATE PR. SARAH'S
10 YEARS OF SERVICE
AT BELC

BRING LAWN CHAIRS.

COFFEE AND TREATS

WANT TO PROVIDE TREATS AND
SERVE COFFEE WHILE RAISING
FUNDS FOR A MISSION TRIP,
INTERNAL MINISTRY, OR
COMMUNITY PARTNER? CONTACT
THE OFFICE IF YOU WOULD EVER BE
INTERESTED IN DOING THIS. FROM
THERE YOU WILL RECEIVE
DIRECTIONS.

YOU ARE WELCOME TO SERVE
BETWEEN OR AFTER SERVICES.

IF NO ONE SIGNS UP FOR A DATE,
THERE WILL BE NO COFFEE/TREATS
THAT DAY.



TITHES AND OFFERINGS

It is through the donations of every individual
and family in the congregation that we are able
to carry on our work throughout the year.

If you need a convenient way to make recurring
contributions or would like to make an additional
gift, we encourage you to check out our
electronic giving options.

To set up a recurring giving schedule, visit us
online at www.belcnet.net and locate the Online
Giving button, or if it's easier, complete
a paper authorization form and return it
to the church office. Thank you for your
generosity and faithfulness!



Sign up [here](#).

COMMUNION PREP. COMMUNION SERVER.

WORSHIP ASSISTANT
TRAINING FOR
EVERYONE CURRENTLY
ASSISTING AND FOR
ANYONE WHO WOULD
LIKE TO LEARN

GREETER. READER. USHER.

AUGUST 17 AT 6:00 PM
AUGUST 19 AT 9:00 AM

YOU DON'T NEED TO STAY FOR THE ENTIRE
TRAINING. IT'S ABOUT 15 MINUTES PER
STATION, AND YOU ONLY NEED TO ATTEND THE
STATION/S FOR WHICH YOU'D LIKE TO SERVE.
SCHEDULE IS AVAILABLE WHEN YOU SIGN UP.

PLEASE TALK WITH WENDY GINDORFF,
DIRECTOR OF THE BOARD OF WORSHIP AND
MUSIC, FOR MORE INFORMATION.

SIGN UP ON OUR WEBSITE AT
WWW.BELCNET.NET.

Sign up [here](#).

God's work.
Our hands.

Bethlehem will be participating
in "God's work. Our hands."
Sunday on September 12 from
12:15 - 3:15. This year's sites
include Habitat for Humanity,
Mid MN Women's Center,
Northland Arboretum,
Salem West and The Shop.
Sign up on our website at
www.belcnet.net by August 15
to order a tshirt at a cost of \$5.



Birchwood House



Women's Center



Salem West



BELC rain garden



Habitat for Humanity

TUESDAY MORNINGS

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

FROM 7:30 -9:00 AM



Want to help our community partners?

Here are some of their needs:

Mid Minnesota Women's Center

*Netflix cards

Northland Arboretum

*pizza party to kickoff Haunted Trail volunteers on July 15 at 5:30 pm at the Arb; learn about volunteering as part of the scare section or assist with tickets, decorations, parking, security, and more

Salvation Army

*looking for extra produce from area gardens for the food shelf

Contact these organizations for more information.

Please keep them in your prayers.

Bethlehem Lutheran Church

418 8th Ave NE

Brainerd, MN 56401

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Prayer for a Summer Day

Long warm days...

The pace of life slows...

A time for picnics and rest in the shade...

Lord,

help me to rest a while in the cooling shade of your presence.

Slow down my restless heart and fill me with gentle compassion for all your people.

Amen.

- Author Unknown



HELP NEEDED

Looking for people to run video equipment for the 10:00 am service. Training available.

Contact the office for more information.

Job opening: part-time custodian position



Clean the building weekly. 10-15 hours per week. Starting at \$15 per hour. Flexible schedule. Contact the office for more information.

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.