



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



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

WORSHIP TIMES

In-person worship: Sundays at 8:20 am

Sundays at 10:30am

Wednesdays at 6:20 pm

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

Online worship: Sundays at 10:30 am

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: Rob Larson and Steve Verdon



From the Senior Pastor

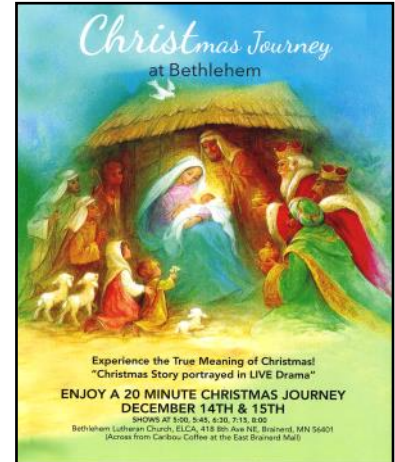


Consecration Sunday—December 5

Consecration Sunday will be held this Sunday, December 5 and Wednesday, December 8. Please bring your completed estimate of giving cards. Join us on Sunday at 9:30 am for coffee and rolls in Fellowship Hall.

Celebrating Christmas Together

We have many opportunities to celebrate the birth of Christ during the month of December. First, CHRISTmas Journey will occur on December 14th and 15th in the parking lot beginning at 5:00 pm and continuing into the evening with presentations every 45 minutes; the last presentation will begin at 8:00 pm. This year, the CHRISTmas Journey team will be portraying the story in the round, with people able to remain in their vehicles and tune in by radio or by walking to a gathering area to take it all in.



Second, join us on Sunday, December 19th, at 4:00 pm for a Quiet Christmas Service of Healing. This has been a difficult year for many people, including those who have experienced the loss of loved ones. Come and reflect and receive holy communion, a time of prayer, and a separate station at the communion rail for the liturgy of laying on of hands and the anointing of oil for those who would like to receive that gesture of healing.

Third, join us as we celebrate Christmas Eve with in-person services at 2:00 pm, 4:00 pm, and 6:00 pm. We will be live streaming the 4:00 pm service for those who would like to celebrate with us remotely.

May the promise of God be with us as we experience the Reign of Jesus, Immanuel!

Pastor Mark

From the Children, Youth and Family Pastor



All are welcome!
SUNDAY NIGHT POTLUCK

Gather on Sunday,
 December 5 for
 fellowship and fun in
 from 5:00 - 7:00 pm.

BRING A DINNER ITEM TO SHARE.
 FEEL FREE TO BRING A BOARD OR
 CARD GAME.

The next potluck is
December 5.

The Christmas Program will be held on
 Sunday, December 19 at 10:30 am.



BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN CHURCH

6TH - 9TH GRADE CATECHISM SCHEDULE
 Wednesday nights from 7:00 - 8:00 PM

9/22/21 - Parent and Youth night	1/19/22 - Teaching night
9/29/21 - Teaching night	1/26/22 - Teaching night
10/6/21 - Individual Mentor night	2/2/22 - Teaching night
10/13/21 - Teaching night	2/9/22 - Teaching night
10/20/21 - NO CATECHISM	2/16/22 - Teaching night
10/27/21 - Teaching night	2/23/22 - Teaching night
11/3/21 - Teaching night	3/2/22 - Ash Wednesday
11/10/21 - Teaching night	3/4-3/6 - 9th grade Cardia Deo
11/17/21 - Teaching night	3/9/22 - Lenten Series
11/20-11/21 - Middle School Gathering	3/16/22 - NO CATECHISM
11/24/21 - NO CATECHISM	3/23/22 - Lenten Series
12/1/21 - Individual Mentor night	3/30/22 - Lenten Series
12/8/21 - Teaching night	4/6/22 - Lenten Series
12/15/21 - White Elephany christmas party	4/13/22 - NO CATECHISM
12/22/21 - NO CATECHISM	4/20/22 - Teaching night
12/29/21 - NO CATECHISM	4/27/22 - Individual Mentor night
1/5/22 - Teaching night	5/4/22 - Teaching night
1/12/22 - Teaching night	5/11/22 - Teaching night

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

JOIN US FOR OUR

SUNDAY SCHOOL

FOR YOUTH AGE 3 - GRADE 5
 SUNDAY MORNINGS FROM 9:25 - 10:20 AM

SCHEDULE:


SEPTEMBER 19 AND 26
 OCTOBER 3, 10, 17, AND 31
 NOVEMBER 7, 14, AND 21
 DECEMBER 5, 12, AND 19
 JANUARY 9, 16, 23, AND 30
 FEBRUARY 6, 13, 20, AND 27
 MARCH 6 AND 27
 APRIL 3, 10 AND 24
 MAY 1, 8, AND 15

INCLUDING MUSIC TIME FOR ALL

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 11:19

Looking ahead...

At the time of publication, all services will be held in-person. Following Current CDC and MN Department of Health Recommendations as of Aug 13, 2021 "If you are **not fully vaccinated** and aged 2 or older, you should wear a mask in indoors." "If you are **fully vaccinated**, to maximize protection from the Delta variant and prevent possibly spreading it to others, wear a mask indoors in public if you are in an area of substantial or high transmission." We encourage wearing masks during worship or for gatherings of more than 10 people within our building. Thank you!



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: the family of Bernice J. Johnson of Bemidji; the family of Ricky DeWolf; James and Jan Munsch on the death of their son-in-law; the family of Christine Anderson Sesis; the family of Clary Tollefson; Randy Praught and family on the death of his mother;

Ongoing: Clint and Theresa Meyer; Nancy Albertson; Gavin; Hailey; Jake and Kaelyn Bosaaen; Bryan Janssen; Taylor Breen; Lorna Gorny; Dave Andress; Carrie; Jackie Nornes; Bill Abbott; Charles Turcotte; Pat Williams; Vince Moe; Sam Knudson; all who are grieving; a BELC member; Terri Hanson; Phyllis Roberts; Jon Luhrs; for peace in our world; Jessica Rodenbiker; Barrie Rempel; for all affected by COVID; Michael Zickuhr; residents and staff of assisted living and nursing home facilities; healthcare workers; 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 December: Tom and Marie Numedahl; Jill and Kevin O'Grady and family; Angela Oder; Connie Ogilvie; Carole Olsen; AJ and Annette Olson; Andrew Olson; Antje Olson; Doreen Olson; Keith and Kirsten Olson; Luke Olson; Pete and Sheri Olson; Steven Olson; Steve and Pam Oslos; Barb Owens; Steve and Meriel Park; Britta Parsons; Nate Parsons; Mary and Scott Parsons; Rick Patton and Kathy Dufour; Debbie and Kyle Payne; Bob and Kay Pederson; Jenny and Scott Pederson and family; Todd and Tonya Person and family; Jennifer Peterson; Janis and Jim Peterson; Mary Peterson; Norris Peterson; Bruce Praska and family; Charles Praska and family; Henry Praska; Randy and Tammy Praught and family; Darbie and Jeff Pulak; Betty Rademacher; Courtney and Matt Rand and family; Brian and Marlys Ray; Robin Reabe; Kara Reed

BETHLEHEM BOOK CLUB


DECEMBER 9

10:30 AM - 12:00 PM

THIS TENDER LAND
BY WILLIAM KENT KRUEGER

CONTACT MARGARET STEBLAY FOR MORE INFORMATION.

OCTOBER 15, 2021 - OCTOBER 14, 2022



ONE-YEAR BIBLE READING CHALLENGE

THE NEXT DINNER IS TUESDAY, DECEMBER 7 AT 6:00 PM. PLEASE SIGN UP ON THE OPPORTUNITIES SHEET OR ON OUR WEBSITE AT WWW.BELCNET.NET TO HELP US PLAN FOR FOOD.

CREATION CARE

According to a study published in the journal *Science*, toxicity levels have more than doubled since 2005 for many key pollinators, aquatic insects and some plants even as American farmers are using smaller amounts of targeted pesticides. German scientists, using EPA and U.S. Geological Survey data, calculated the "total applied toxicity" by examining 381 pesticides used in the U.S. between 1992 and 2016, finding that many pesticides once believed to be relatively benign and short-lived are very toxic even in smaller amounts. This is true of new compounds such as neonicotinoids, which have been linked to dwindling bee numbers according to scientists at the University of Kolenz-Landau. Future studies will look at harm done further up the food chain, from dragonflies and mayflies up to humans and mammals.

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

5

Wednesdays, December 1 and 8

5:15 pm – Meal served for \$7
5:30 pm – Worship Team rehearsal
5:45 pm – Youth Choir rehearsal

6:20 pm – Advent Worship service using Holden Evening Prayer liturgy
7:00 pm – Catechism

7:00 pm – High School Youth Group
7:00 pm – Sr. Choir rehearsal

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	
1st Sunday of Advent 28	29	30	
8:20 am – Drive in worship service with communion 10:30 am - Live-streamed and In-person worship service with communion and confirmation	6:00 pm – Creation Care Team meeting	7:30 am – Men’s bible study 11:30 am – 70s+ Lunch Bunch 4:00 pm – BELC at Soup Kitchen 5:00 pm – Bell Choir rehearsal	See sch 1:30 pm 5:00 pm 5:15 pm
2nd Sunday of Advent; Consecration Sunday; Blanket Sunday 5	6	7	
8:20 am – In-person service service with communion 9:25 am – Sunday School 10:30 am - Live-streamed worship and In-person worship service with communion 12:00 pm – Christmas Journey rehearsal 5:00 pm – Sunday Night Potluck	10:00 am – Ruth Circle 6:00 pm – Board of Service and Evangelism meeting online via Zoom	7:30 am – Men’s bible study 5:00 pm – Bell Choir rehearsal 5:00 pm – Board of Worship and Music meeting 6:00 pm – Bible Challenge Dinner	See sch 5:15 pm potatoe
3rd Sunday of Advent 12	13	CHRISTmas Journey 14	
8:20 am – In-person worship service 9:25 am – Sunday School 10:30 am - Live-streamed worship and In-person worship service 1:00 pm - Recital	4:00 pm – BELC at the Sharing Bread Soup Kitchen	7:30 am – Men’s bible study 5:00 pm and every 45 minutes through 8:00 pm– CHRISTmas Journey	1:00 pm 1:30 pm 5:00 pm 8:00 pm
4th Sunday of Advent 19	20	21	
8:20 am – In-person worship service with communion 9:25 am – Sunday School 10:30 am - Live-streamed Christmas Program 2:00 pm – Brainerd Leos 4:00 pm – Quiet Christmas Service of Healing	6:30 pm - Recital	7:30 am – Men’s bible study 5:00 pm – Bell Choir rehearsal	6:20 pm service 7:00 pm
1st Sunday of Christmas 26	27	28	
9:00 am – Service of Lessons and Carols	Office closed	7:30 am – Men’s bible study 11:30 am – 70s+ Lunch Bunch at BELC	



December

To view our online services at 10:30 am on Sundays, go to our Facebook page at bethlehem.brainerd; the service will also be posted on our website at www.belcnet.net

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
1	2	3	4
<p>Schedule above left</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Woodland worship service – CHRISTmas Journey meeting – dinner for \$7: hamburgers 	<p>9:00 am – Quilting Group</p> <p>9:00 am – Edgewood Brainerd</p> <p>10:00 am – LSS PTSD Groups</p> <p>10:15 am – Edgewood Baxter</p> <p>6:00 pm – Jonah Group</p>		<p>9:00 am – Worker Bees</p>
8	9	10	11
<p>Schedule above left</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – dinner for \$7: ham and scalloped potatoes 	<p>10:00 am – LSS PTSD Groups</p> <p>10:30 am – BELC Book Club</p> <p>5:30 pm – Board of Congregational Care and Community meeting</p>		
CHRISTmas Journey 15	16	17	18
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Martha Circle – Woodland worship service and every 45 minutes through – CHRISTmas Journey 	<p>9:00 am – Edgewood Brainerd</p> <p>9:00 am – Quilting Group</p> <p>10:00 am – LSS PTSD Groups</p> <p>10:15 am – Edgewood Baxter</p> <p>7:00 pm – Mary Circle</p>		
22	23	Christmas Eve 24	25
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Advent Wednesday night – Senior Choir rehearsal 	<p>10:00 am – LSS PTSD Groups</p>	<p>Office closes at 11:00 am</p> <p>2:00 pm – Christmas Eve service</p> <p>4:00 pm – Christmas Eve service</p> <p>6:00 pm – Christmas Eve service</p>	<p>Merry Christmas!</p>
29	30	New Year's Eve 31	1
	<p>10:00 am – LSS PTSD Groups</p>	<p>Office open until 12:00 pm (office will be closed on Monday, January 3)</p>	<p>Happy New Year</p>



Please keep these people in your prayers on their birthdays.

- 1 ~ Sandy Nielsen, Ali Samp
- 3 ~ Kristi Holloway
- 4 ~ Matthew Rhoda
- 5 ~ Brandy Blum, Ben Gujer, Finnley Sullivan
- 6 ~ Charlie Johnson
- 7 ~ Chelsea Klinger
- 8 ~ Brad Bauer
- 9 ~ Jan Munsch
- 10 ~ Megan Heinrich, David Innes, Bernice E. Johnson
- 12 ~ Jackie Stromback
- 13 ~ Jeff Emery, Sue Wiger
- 14 ~ Forrest Crocker, Nicholas Munsch, Carla Stall
- 16 ~ Megan Praught
- 17 ~ Alexis Laughton
- 18 ~ Carolyn Cole, Lynn Nelson, Marie Numedah, Mike Stanek

- 19 ~ Jennifer Grimm
- 20 ~ Dave Johnson, Christopher Lundgren, Doreen Olson, Matthew Olson, Cyndy Thompson
- 21 ~ Forrest Crocker Jr.
- 22 ~ Carly Almond, Lucas Brick, Marcus DeChaine
- 23 ~ Aubriella Logelin, Reva Snell, Carlie Sweet, Gene Teufert
- 24 ~ Everett Stanek, Kristen Woods
- 25 ~ Mary Ann Frisch
- 26 ~ Linda Anderson, Ryder Vanderschaaf
- 27 ~ Ben Reimers
- 28 ~ Carla Backstrom, Johonna Stanek
- 29 ~ Joanne Kampf
- 30 ~ Henry Praska, Marlys Ray
- 31 ~ Myla Gilderman

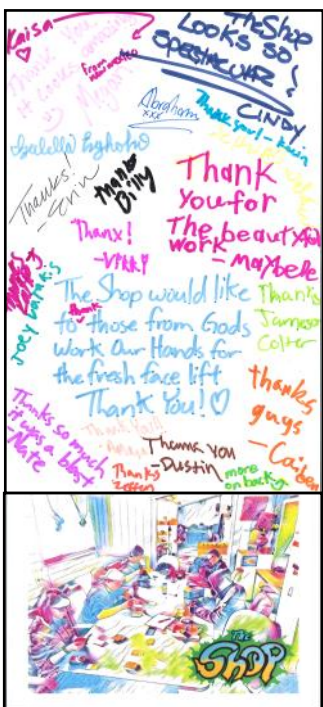
We continue to update our contact information. If your birthday is missing or incorrect, please let the office know at 829-3330 or office@belcnet.net.

Thank you!

Thank you for your gift to our **SLEEP OUT** so others can sleep **IN(side)** campaign! Your gift of \$2611.07 has helped us **EXCEED** our goal to raise \$70k in 7 days to bring our neighbors out of the cold this winter. Thanks to YOU and our generous community, over \$140,000 was contributed, which will be matched with \$70k by our generous supporters. Thank you for your support of this project. ~Jana Shogren, Executive Director



Consecration Sunday
BRING YOUR 2022 ESTIMATE OF GIVING CARD AND ENJOY COFFEE AND ROLLS AT 9:30 AM ON DECEMBER 5.



BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN CHURCH

ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS WORSHIP SCHEDULE

SUNDAY SERVICES	WEDNESDAY SERVICES
NOVEMBER 28 8:20 AND 10:30 AM FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT	DECEMBER 1, 8 AND 22 6:20 PM WEDNESDAY ADVENT WORSHIP WITH HOLDEN EVENING PRAYER LITURGY
DECEMBER 5 8:20 AND 10:30 AM SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT	NO SERVICE ON DECEMBER 29
DECEMBER 12 8:20 AND 10:30 AM THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT	CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES 2:00 AND 4:00 PM TRADITIONAL CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT WORSHIP WITH COMMUNION AND MUSIC FROM THE BELL AND SENIOR CHOIRS
DECEMBER 19 8:20 AM FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT 10:30 AM CHRISTMAS PROGRAM 4:00 PM QUIET CHRISTMAS SERVICE OF HEALING	6:00 PM SERVICE OF CAROLS CANDLELIGHT WORSHIP WITH COMMUNION
DECEMBER 26 AND JANUARY 2 9:00 AM SUNDAYS OF CHRISTMAS	

PASTOR MARK SKINNER PASTOR SARAH MARSHALL
WWW.BELCNET.NET 218-829-3330 OFFICE@BELCNET.NET

BELC CHRISTMAS TREE OF SHARING

This year's tree has tags to purchase items for **ISD 181**
Lutheran Social Services (LSS)
Mid Minnesota Women's Center
and **The Shop.**
Items may be placed under the tree through **December 28.**

GIVING TREE

BLESSING THOSE IN NEED
...AND GOD'S GRACE WAS SO POWERFULLY AT WORK IN THEM ALL, THAT THERE WERE NO NEEDY PERSONS AMONG THEM. ACTS 4:33-34

Immediate Needs

Want to help our community partners?

Mid Minnesota Women's Center
*shop local
*donate items from their website and Facebook from Cascade Med Spa and get entered drawing for \$300 in product

Salvation Army
*purchase items off Angel Trees
*volunteers to ring bells; sign up here centralusa.salvationarmy.org/northern/bell-ringing
*gas cards

Contact these organizations for more information. Please keep them in your prayers.

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!

Quiet Christmas service of healing

This has been a hard year for many people. If you're looking for a quieter celebration of Christmas, please join us on Sunday, December 19 at 4:00 pm.

Bethlehem Lutheran Church
418 8th Avenue NE
218-829-3330
office@belcnet.net
www.belcnet.net

POINSETTIAS

You can honor or memorialize someone special by donating a poinsettia in their name. Any donations are welcomed and appreciated. Please make checks payable to BELC with "poinsettias" in the memo line. Contact the office with your name and the name of who you are honoring or memorializing at 829-3330 or office@belcnet.net.

December Worship Assistants

	8:20 am	10:30 am
Greeters:	5 ~ Larry and Natalie Embertson 12 ~ Bev Gotti 19 ~ Greg Anderson 26 at 9:00 am ~ Bev Gotti	Nancy Bogenschutz, Dennis Weisman Nancy Bogenschutz, Beth Larson Pam and Steve Oslos no 10:30 service today
Ushers:	5 ~ Becky and Dave Meyer 12 ~ Jon and Margaret Steblay 19 ~ Cathy and Dan Lee 26 at 9:00 am ~ Gloria and Harvey Munsch	Keith Olson, Russ Schultz Jen and Joe Lindholm Mary and Scott Parsons no 10:30 service today
Readers:	5 ~ Sue Johnson 12 ~ Terri Hanson 19 ~ Kathleen Weisman 26 at 9:00 am ~ STILL NEEDED	Sue Johnson Solvejg Seamon Christmas Program no 10:30 service today
Communion Preparation:	5 ~ Shelly Birchem, Phyllis Stall 19 ~ Mollie, Myia, and Hailey Nelson	Karen and Steve Rosenow Christmas Program (no communion)
Communion Servers:	5 ~ Terri Hanson, Sue Skinner, 1 STILL NEEDED 19 ~ Pam Stock, 1 STILL NEEDED	Anna Thesing, 2 STILL NEEDED Christmas Program (no communion)
Sound:	5 ~ Turner Person 12 ~ Jerry DeChaine 19 ~ Jerry DeChaine 26 at 9:00 am ~ STILL NEEDED	Turner Person Todd Person Todd Person
Video:	5 ~ none 12 ~ none 19 ~ none 26 at 9:00 am ~ STILL NEEDED	Tonya Person Tonya Person Tonya Person
Wednesday evening at 6:20: 12/1: Greg and Sue Wiger; 12/8: Greg and Sue Wiger; 12/22: Greg and Sue Wiger		

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

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED



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.