



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)



WORSHIP TIMES

In-person worship:
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

From the Senior Pastor



Lent 2023

Lent is a powerful time of blessing for us as we *rediscover* our identity and being through God in Christ Jesus. I love how the late Henri Nouwen describes a blessing ... “A blessing happens when God says ‘yes’ to our Belovedness.” I want to personally encourage all of you to receive a very special blessing of being in community and participating in that community here at Bethlehem. This year we will be offering two different Lenten opportunities for us to partake.

First, beginning on Ash Wednesday (February 22nd) and continuing through March 29th we will be gathering with some of our sister ELCA congregations for worship **on Wednesdays at 11:00 am at Bethlehem**. We will also gather together on Good Friday at 11:00 am. The services will feature dramatic presentations from various folks in our congregations as they depict characters that experienced Jesus’ knowing and loving eyes, to include: the Tax Collector, the Woman at the Well, Simon the Pharisee, the desperate Canaanite Mother, and others ... After worship join us for lunch as we enjoy some soup in the Fellowship Hall.

Second, we will offer our **regular Wednesday evening** opportunities for worship beginning Ash Wednesday through March 29th. Join us for a soup and sandwich supper beginning at 5:30 pm followed by worship at 6:20 pm. Following Ash Wednesday, we will be utilizing the liturgy, *That You May Have Life*, written by Marty Haugen and Susan Briehl. I will be leading a time of *Dwelling in the Word* as we listen, meditate, and reflect together on the Epistles of Lent through the Apostle Paul.

I am looking forward to being with you as we celebrate the blessings of Life in Christ together!

Pastor Mark




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



Itty Bitty Book Club will meet February 5 at 10:00 am. This is designed for children (with an adult) from birth to age 3 that are too young for Sunday School or for anyone who'd like to participate. Read a book (take it home), do an activity and play! Contact Pr. Sarah for more information.

GET YOUR LOOSE CHANGE READY!

NOISY OFFERING

IN JANUARY, YOU DONATED \$733.86 FOR THE WINTER EMERGENCY FUND.

IN FEBRUARY, MONEY WILL BE COLLECTED FOR BRIDGES OF HOPE.



GIOVANNI'S FROZEN PIZZA SALES

MISSION TRIP FUNDRAISER
\$11 FOR A 12" CHEESE OR PEPPERONI PIZZA
OR \$12 FOR THE FOLLOWING 12" PIZZAS: DOUBLE SAUSAGE; SAUSAGE, PEPPERONI, EXTRA CHEESE; SUPER DELUXE; 4-MEAT; CHICKEN ALFREDO; BUFFALO CHICKEN


\$3.75 - \$4.50 FROM EACH PIZZA WILL GO TO THE PARTICIPANT

Orders and payment must be turned in by February 26. Pizzas will be delivered March 5.
IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, CONTACT SUE SKINNER.

Lakes Area ELCA High School

BREAKFAST BREAKFAST BREAKFAST BREAKFAST

Trinity Lutheran 7:15am-7:45am Feb 14



FREC Family Resource Center
JFCS Jewish Family and Children's Service of Minneapolis

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
4570 Fairview Rd N, Shore
11 am, Presentation followed by questions and discussion
12:30 pm, 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-Racism Tool Kit: Strategies and Activities to Engage with your Family and Community

CHILD CARE: To arrange for child care, please contact: Andy Baldu, mbaldu@jfcsmn.org

PRESENTERS:
Leah Penley, PhD, CME, is Manager of Family Life Education and Addiction and Recovery Services at Jewish Family and Children's Services of Minneapolis (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.
Natalie Quilley-Olson, MSW, LICSW, also of JFCS, has 20 years of experience working with children and families to improve their mental health. Her BA 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: Uncovering Book Discussions
To further learning and discussion and to be building a three-session book discussion of Dr. Traj Baker's book, SOCIAL JUSTICE PARENTING, will be held on April 23, May 23, and June 13. These sessions will also be held at 11 am in Fellowship Hall. For your free copy of the book, please contact Leah Penley at leahpenley@jfcsmn.org. The series will be held on Zoom. Groups who wish to participate can contact Pat Dickson at pdickson@jfcsmn.org to register and will be sent an access link.
Missy Group is grateful for the FREC (Family Resource Center) Family Collaborative grant that makes it possible to present the parenting series. FREC is a collaborative of individuals and organizations working towards just, equitable, and respectful communities throughout Minnesota. They are committed to engagement with multiple communities and ways of thinking.

Wednesday evening meals served 5:30 - 6:20 pm

Please sign up ahead of time.

\$10; \$7 for children 7 and under; 3 and under eat free

Enjoy the best meal in town!

- 1/25 - tortilla soup with toppings, sandwiches, veggie tray, chocolate cherry bars
- 2/1 - Chicken Parmesan with pasta, salad, garlic bread, berry cobbler
- 2/8 - boneless pork chops, seasoned potatoes, corn & peas, dessert
- 2/15 - butter Chicken with rice, Naan bread, roasted vegetables, dessert
- 2/22 - grilled cheese sandwiches and chili

punch cards: 10 meals for \$90; purchase at meal, in office or on website

Kitchen help needed

Kim and Clarence need some help on Wednesdays. Clear tables. Do dishes. Sign up on the opportunity sheet today!

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 Jorge
 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

Looking ahead...

Every Wednesday in March

- *11:00 am Joint ELCA Lenten service using *Holden Evening liturgy* with soup to follow at Bethlehem; help is needed
- *5:30 pm Cross+Generational Conversations with soup and sandwich supper at Bethlehem; help is needed
- *6:20 pm Wednesday evening Lenten service using *That You May Have Life* liturgy



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: Yvonne Kalahar and family on the death of her brother Wally Pantzke;
Ongoing: Julie; Ron; Scott; Diana Van Hal; Deloris Ebinger; Tim Bogenschutz; Mark Groettum; Clarence Spencer; Marianne and David Sorenson; Barbara Unger; Rob Anderson; Mary Anderson; Conner Erickson; Jessica Rodenbiker; Kacey Benson; Todd K.; Linda Wilcox; BELC member; Joan Rosenow; Randy and Margie Thiel; 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.

CREATION CARE

O In addition to less-polluting technologies for extracting lithium for lithium-ion batteries, and recycling and reuse of current batteries, researchers are also working to **develop alternatives to the lithium-ion battery**. Chemical engineers at the University of Michigan have announced the design of a **lithium-sulfur battery** that could **quintuple EV ranges on a single battery charge**. The National Science Foundation recently awarded a grant to research **sodium-ion batteries**, because sodium is considerably cheaper and more widely available than lithium. Partnering with BMW and Ford, Solid Power, a Colorado company, recently started a pilot project to produce **solid-state batteries**, which promise to significantly extend EV ranges. The ability to store more energy using less material than lithium-ion batteries makes the solid-state battery the most significant development of all: it means **less mining and the prospect of creating a higher ratio of recycled materials**.

Source: <http://www.nemnsynod.org/green-tips.html#5>

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

February: Becky and Stephan Gorny and family; Bev Gotti; Jennifer and Tom Grimm and family; Jeff and Shari Grunenwald and family; Jennifer Grunenwald and family; Kelly and Marty Gubrud and family; Anne Gustafson; Karl and Susan Hadrits and family; Melodee Hagel and family; Doug and Meg Hagenson; David and Luanne Hallgren; Tasha Halsted and family; Mandy Hanson; Darwin and Mary Hanson; Terri Hanson; Kathy and Lee Hauble; Brenda Hayes; Dianne Heath; Howard and Laurel Heinonen; Lynn Heinrich and family; Josh Hendrickson; Amber and Jason Hennessey and family; Jilene and Mitchell Hodgman and family; Kelsey Hoff and family; Lee Ann Hollingsworth; Ron and Kristi Holloway; Barb Howard; Karl Jackman and family; DJ and Sandy Janssen; Art and Colleen Jentsch; Aaron and Laura Johnson and family; Bernice Johnson; Charlie and Sue Johnson; Cheryl Johnson; Dave and Shelly Johnson

EPIPHANY MISSION CONVERSATIONS

Each board will have an opportunity to present from 10:00-11:00 am.

January 15 ~ Stewardship and Properties

January 22 ~ Congregational Care and Community

January 29 ~ Worship and Music

February 5 ~ Service and Evangelism

February 12 ~ Education and Spiritual Formation

BETHLEHEM BOOK CLUB

FEBRUARY 9
AT 10:30 AM
JESUS AND JOHN WAYNE
BY KRISTIN KOBES DU MEZ

FEBRUARY 11



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.

FEBRUARY 12

SOUPER



BOWL

ALL MONEY GOES TO THE SOUP KITCHEN

Wednesdays, February 1, 8, 15 and March 1

5:15 pm – BOW Team rehearsal 6:20 pm – BOW service 7:00 pm – High School
5:30 pm – Meal served for \$10 7:00 pm – Sr. Choir rehearsal Youth Group
5:45 pm – Youth Choir rehearsal 7:00 pm – Catechism



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	
4th Sunday after Epiphany 29	30	31	
9:00 am – In-person and livestreamed worship service with communion 10:00 am – Sunday School 10:00 am – Adult Forum: Epiphany Mission Conversation: Board of Worship and Music	6:00 pm – Board of Service and Evangelism meeting online	7:30 am – Men's bible study 11:30 am – 65+ Lunch Bunch 5:30 pm – Endowment Board meeting	See s 1:30 p 5:30 p
5th Sunday after Epiphany 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: Epiphany Mission Conversation: Board of Service and Evangelism 3:00 pm – Brainerd Leos and Roars		7:30 am – Men's bible study 5:30 pm – Board of Worship and Music meeting	See s 5:30 p
6th Sunday after Epiphany 12	13	14	
9:00 am – In-person and livestreamed BOW service 10:00 am – Sunday School 10:00 am – Adult Forum: Epiphany Mission Conversation: Board of Education and Spiritual Formation	4:00 pm – BELC at the Sharing Bread Soup Kitchen	7:30 am – Men's bible study 5:30 pm – Board of Congregational Care and Community meeting	See s 1:00 p 5:30 p
Transfiguration of Our Lord 19	Presidents' Day 20	21	
9:00 am – In-person and livestreamed worship service with communion 10:00 am – Adult Forum: Epiphany Mission Conversation: Gideons 3:00 pm – Brainerd Leos and Roars	Office closed 	7:30 am – Men's bible study	11:00 servic 1:30 p 5:30 p grille 6:20 p 7:00 p
1st 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: Epiphany Mission Conversation: 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 s 11:00 BELC 1:30 p 5:30 p serve

February
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
<p>Schedule above left</p> <p>9:00 am – Woodland worship service</p> <p>9:00 am – meal for \$10: chicken parmesan</p>	<p>9:00 am – Edgewood Brainerd worship service</p> <p>9:00 am – Quilting Group</p> <p>10:00 am – LSS PTSD Groups</p> <p>10:15 am – Edgewood Baxter worship service</p> <p>6:00 pm – Girl Scouts</p> <p>6:00 pm – Jonah Group</p>		
8	9	10	11
<p>Schedule above left</p> <p>9:00 am – meal for \$10: pork chops</p>	<p>9:00 am – Executive Team meeting</p> <p>9:00 am – LSS staff meeting</p> <p>10:00 am – LSS PTDS Groups</p> <p>12:00 pm – Nicodemus Group</p> <p>3:00 pm – LSS staff meeting</p> <p>5:30 pm – Board of Education and Spiritual Formation meeting</p> <p>6:00 pm – Girl Scouts</p>		9:00 am – Worker Bees
15	16	17	18
<p>Schedule above left</p> <p>9:00 am – Martha Circle</p> <p>9:00 am – meal for \$10: butter chicken</p>	<p>9:00 am – Edgewood Brainerd worship service</p> <p>9:00 am – Quilting Group</p> <p>10:00 am – LSS PTSD Groups</p> <p>10:15 am – Edgewood Baxter worship service</p> <p>1:30 pm – Mary Circle</p> <p>5:30 pm – Congregational Leadership Board meeting</p> <p>6:00 pm – Girl Scouts</p>	5:00 pm – Middle School Late Night at First Lutheran	9:00 am – Fatherhood Challenge
Ash Wednesday 22	23	24	25
<p>9:00 am – Joint ELCA Ash Wednesday service here at BELC</p> <p>9:00 am – Woodland worship service</p> <p>9:00 am – meal for \$10: chili and cheese sandwiches</p> <p>9:00 am – Ash Wednesday service</p> <p>9:00 am – Senior Choir rehearsal</p>	<p>10:00 am – LSS PTSD Groups</p> <p>4:30 pm – Card making</p> <p>5:30 pm – Board of Stewardship and Properties meeting</p> <p>6:00 pm – Girl Scouts</p>		9:00 am – Lay Leader Network Series Annual Gathering
1	2	3	4
<p>Schedule above left</p> <p>9:00 am – Joint ELCA Lent service here at</p> <p>9:00 am – Woodland worship service</p> <p>9:00 am – meal for \$10: Lenten soup/supper prepared by catechism students</p>	<p>9:00 am – Edgewood Brainerd worship service</p> <p>9:00 am – Quilting Group</p> <p>10:00 am – LSS PTSD Groups</p> <p>10:15 am – Edgewood Baxter worship service</p> <p>6:00 pm – Girl Scouts</p> <p>6:00 pm – Jonah Group</p>		

Ash Wednesday is February 22.

- *Worship service at BELC at 11:00 am with light lunch to follow
- *Woodland Good Sam at 1:30 pm
- *Chili supper served at BELC from 5:30 - 6:15 pm
- *Worship service at BELC at 6:20 pm

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

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

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.

Make your own pizza and game night **FEBRUARY 26**
5:00 PM
SIGN UP BY FEBRUARY 20

EACH PERSON WILL MAKE A PERSONAL PIZZA WITH TOPPINGS OF THEIR CHOICE. \$5 PER PERSON/ MAX OF \$20 PER FAMILY

BRING YOUR FAVORITE GAMES TO PLAY.

POP AND POPCORN WILL ALSO BE AVAILABLE.



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

CARD MAKING FUN ON FEBRUARY 23





Get creative on Thursday, February 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.

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.

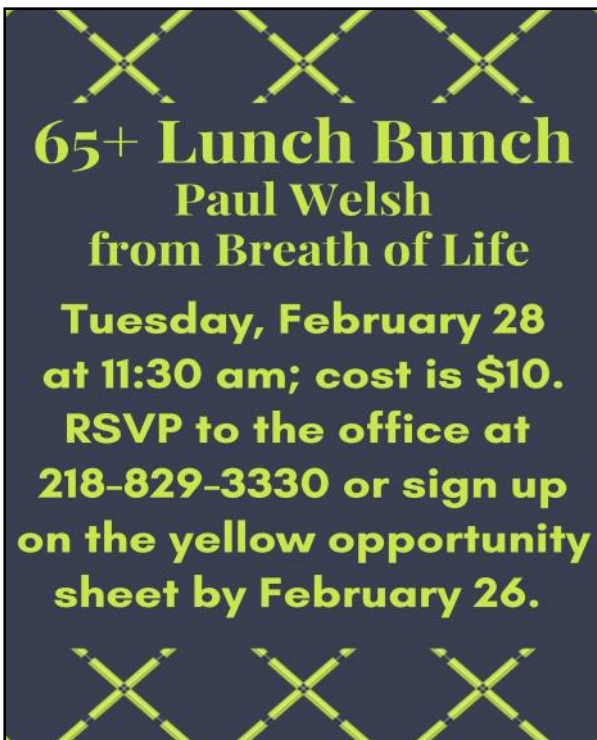
WE'RE LOOKING FOR TREATS EVERY SUNDAY.



Copies of the new bold steps and strategic outcomes are available on the Narthex table. The 26-page document is a summary of the work over the past year to reach these bold steps and strategic outcomes. The one-page summary shows just the bold steps and strategic outcomes. If you'd like either of these documents emailed to you, let the office know at office@belcnet.net.

65+ Lunch Bunch
Paul Welsh
from Breath of Life

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



THE BRIDGE
on 7th
OVERNIGHT SHELTER

BELC will provide volunteers from the evening of February 12 through the morning of February 19. Evening shifts are from 6:45 - 10:00 pm; morning shifts are from 6:00 - 8:30 am. One volunteer per shift is needed (there could be two). Sign up on the yellow opportunity sheet or go to this link: <https://whocanbethere.com/SignUp/week-of-feb-12heritage/1p4zmltMGa5>

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

Northeastern Minnesota Synod Lay Leader Network

2023 Annual Gathering
DISCIPLINESHIP IN THE PRESENT AGE

February 25 9:00 - 5:00 PM
 Bethlehem Lutheran Church
 Brainerd MN

I am with you always
 Matthew 28:20



9:00 am **Welcome "God Is With Us Today"**
 Bishop Amy Odgren (Northeastern Minnesota Synod)

9:15 am **Opening Devotion - Mindfulness**
 Galina Weber, First Lutheran, Brainerd

9:30 am **Discipleship: The Arc of Transcendence Through God's Word To Us Today**
 Rev. Dr. Dave Mesner (LLN faculty, Pastor LC of the Good Shepherd)

Break

10:10 am **Discipleship in The Present Age**
 Rev. Dr. Mark Skinner (LLN faculty, Bethlehem Lutheran Church)

10:45 am **Discipleship: Lived Expressions**
 Adult Confirmation! Spirit @ 30,000 feet Christian Mindfulness
 Craig Sanders, LC of the Good Shepherd
 Tom Martin (Zoom), Grace Lutheran, Hermantown
 Galina Weber, First Lutheran, Brainerd

11:30 am **Debrief/Linkages**
 Curated conversations with lunch

11:45 am **Lunch**

12:30 pm **Discipleship: Lived Expressions continued**
 Strategic Outcomes Offering One's Life Living Out Faith in Foster Care
 Pam Finch, Bethlehem Lutheran, Brainerd
 Paula Taulis (Zoom), LC of the Good Shepherd
 Marc Marshall, Bethlehem Lutheran, Brainerd
 Matthew Online Mark Hollabaugh, Trinity Lutheran, Hovland

1:30 pm **Debriefing/Linkages**

2:45 pm **Break and quiet time**

2:15 pm **Evening Prayer worship and closing remarks**
 "So That You May Have Light"

3:00 pm **Departure**

<https://nemnsynod.org/lay-leader-network/annual-gathering/>




Thank you!

2022 financial update

Total Revenue \$429,547*

Total Expenses \$419,403

Net Income +\$10,143*

*Without Shared Ministry income from Trinity Lutheran, we would have had a loss of \$23,831. Thank you for your continued generosity!

This was my first year working for RSA, and to be honest, I was blown away with all the gifts that were collected for our families. I want you to know that not all your gifts were returned to your location. Most were delivered directly to us at the Shelter. [Your] generosity assisted us in providing a Christmas to families who may not have had a Christmas at all! To date, we have served 93 families through our "Adopt a Family" program which included 134 children. The Giving Trees also help fulfill the Christmas Wishes of the parents that we served this year. We wrap the gifts for the parents; however, the parents wrap the gifts for their children. This ensure everyone gets a Christmas surprise. Your kindness and generosity are very much appreciated by the parents an the children too. ~ Jill McKenzie, Community Relations Manager of RSA (Relationship Safety Alliance; FKA Mid MN Women's Center)

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 generous donation of the four beautiful quilts to our St. Otto's residents. That was very thoughtful of you! ~St. Otto's Care Center

Thank you for your recent gift to the Brainerd Area Overnight Shelter. Your gift of \$529.80 will help us bring our neighbors in out of the cold for a second season this winter. ~Jana Shogren, Executive Director of Bridges of Hope

Thank you for your gift to our *SLEEP OUT so others can sleep IN(side)* campaign. Your gift of \$199.80 helped us toward our goal of raising \$100,000 to serve our neighbors in need this winter. As of November 22, we are over halfway toward our goal. ~ Jana Shogren, Executive Director of Bridges of Hope

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!



Please keep these people in your prayers on their birthdays.

1 ~ Anna Heinrich, Monique Ray

2 ~ Anthony Cole

4 ~ Kayli Overland

5 ~ Jim Daly, Sarah Wiger

7 ~ Logan Backstrom

8 ~ Karen Cheney, Bill Kallroos, Christopher Munsch

9 ~ Allan Dosh, Evan Gorny

11 ~ Luanne Hallgren

12 ~ Noah Gindorff, Francis Girling

13 ~ Doris Aasen, Bernice Finch, Harleyann Praska

14 ~ Maxine Debler, Kay Pederson

15 ~ Terri Hanson, Kathleen Weisman

17 ~ Gloria Munsch, Brian Ray

18 ~ Mike Burkey, Lauren Johnson, Lisa Kotchikian

19 ~ Randy Praught, Kevin Rhoda

20 ~ Monty Becker, Sam Blum, Gloria Brown, Scott Pederson

21 ~ Dianne Heath, Michael Munsch

22 ~ Matthew Garding, Anthony Jonak, Lyla Jourdan, Lindsie McKusick, Brett Severson

24 ~ Jady Gohman, Eli Jones, Kinzlie Logelin, Taya Person, James Rhoda

25 ~ Jake Thesing

26 ~ Ana Louis

27 ~ Margie Burgstaler, Marcie Kemboi, Hailey Nelson, Janis Peterson, Chris Wiger

29 ~ Finn Pederson

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.

February Worship Assistants

9:00 am

Greeters:	5: Deb Steuck 12: Dennis and Kathleen Weisman	19: Pam and Steve Oslos 26: Bev Gotti
Ushers:	5: Becky and Dave Meyer 12: Janis and Jim Peterson	19: Jen and Joe Lindholm 26: Kathy Dufour and Rick Paton
Readers:	5: Deb Steuck 12: Kathleen Weisman	19: still needed 26: Stacy Erdal

Communion Preparation:
5: Shelly Birchem, Sasha Burgstaler
19: Jen and Joe Lindholm

Communion Servers:
5: Janis Peterson, Deb Steuck, Bev Gotti
19: Pam Oslos, **2 more 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: none
19: Pam Stock
26: Jackie Nornes

Treats:
5: **still needed**
12: Curt and Sandy Nielsen
19: **still needed**
26: **still needed**

Flowers:
5: still needed
12: Oslos' 15th anniversary
19: still needed
26: **still needed**

Wednesday 6:20 pm sound
1: Scott Pederson
8: **still needed**
15: **still needed**
22: **still needed**

Wednesday 6:20pm ushers	1: Karly and Mike Lillo 8: Karly and Mike Lillo 15: still needed	Wednesday 6:20p communion prep	1: Janis Peterson 8: still needed
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Ash Wednesday 2/22 11:00 am
Greeters:
Ushers:
Sound:
Kitchen crew:
communion prep:
video:

Ash Wednesday 2/22 6:20 pm
Greeters:
Ushers:
Sound:
Kitchen crew: Kim and Clarence Spencer

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.