



## Bethlehem Evangelical Lutheran Church

418 8th Avenue Northeast  
Brainerd, MN 56401

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Email: [office@belcnet.net](mailto:office@belcnet.net)  
Website: [www.belcnet.net](http://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.**

### WORSHIP TIMES

**Drive in worship: Sunday, 7/12 at 8:20 am**

**Drive in worship: Sundays beginning 7/19 at 9:00 am**

**Online worship: Sundays at 10:30 am**

**Drive in worship: Wednesdays at 6:20 pm**  
with Communion on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays and following Wednesdays

### OFFICE HOURS

**The office is open for curbside drop-off/pick-up from 8:30—9:30 am Monday—Friday.**

### 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

**Custodial Services:** John and Ruth Unger



## From the Senior Pastor



I hope many of you have the opportunity to get outside for a bit and enjoy God's creation. That might take the form of a hike or a walk, time on the water, or just the opportunity to sit outside and breathe in the fresh air. There is something about the creation refreshing us and bringing a reminder that we are part of God's larger glorious creation.

### **COVID-19 preparedness plan of funerals and memorial services**

Last week our SMART team met to discuss our COVID-19 preparedness plan of funerals and memorial services that involve Bethlehem members, our building/property, and our pastors and staff. As a reminder, all churches are required by the State of Minnesota to have these operating plans in place. I am very grateful for this team and the good work they do in keeping us up-to-date with current information and policies from the Center for Disease Control (CDC), State of Minnesota Department of Health and Human Services, and other agencies. In short, we have three options for conducting a funeral/memorial service:

The most preferred option for conducting a funeral/memorial service will be to refrain from public gathering except for immediate family members (limited to twenty people) gathering outside at the place of internment (ie. graveside/veteran's cemetery, etc.). Everyone will wear a mask and practice social distancing of at least six feet from each other. Those that are sick or feeling ill will stay home or away from the gathering. We will refrain from singing hymns or chanting. A soloist is optional. If the family desires a memorial service with a larger gathering of people, that could follow later when it is deemed safer to gather.

A second option will be a drive-in style funeral/memorial service, similar to drive-in worship. People will gather outside in the parking lot for the service and remain in their vehicles for the duration of the service.

The third (less preferred) option for conducting a funeral/memorial service will be to allow immediate family members/close friends (not to exceed fifty people) to gather in the sanctuary utilizing seating in every other pew (pews will be marked off accordingly), practicing social distancing of at least six feet apart when seated. Everyone will wear a mask and those that are sick or feeling ill will stay home or away from the gathering. We will refrain from singing hymns or chanting.

### **Bible Study Small Group with Pastor Mark**

Join me for a four-session Bible Study on the book of Philippians beginning on Thursday, August 6<sup>th</sup> through Thursday, August 27<sup>th</sup> from 9:00- 10:30 am. We will gather outside on the Bethlehem property utilizing good social distancing. Please bring your own chair and Bible. Please RSVP by contacting me at the church by calling 829-3330 ext. 12 or by email to [pastormark@belcnet.net](mailto:pastormark@belcnet.net).

### **Worship Opportunities**

As a reminder, we continue to offer drive-in worship on Sunday mornings. This Sunday, July 12, the service will be at 8:20 am. Beginning the following Sunday, **July 19, service time will change to 9:00 am**. We continue to have drive-in services on Wednesday evenings at 6:20 pm along with live-streaming of our service at 10:30 am. And as always, you can visit our website to watch the pre-recorded service later in the week.

Blessings to you all!

Pastor Mark

# From the Children, Youth and Family Pastor



This summer there will be a challenge offered every week that will be released on Wednesday. This challenge would be do-able for kids (and adults) of all ages. If you would like them e-mailed directly to you please email Pastor Sarah to get on her list, otherwise you can watch Instagram or Facebook. Once you have completed your weekly challenge please send a picture to either Pastor Sarah's email or the office.



# Looking ahead to August...

With the fluidity of the pandemic, we would like to see you soon. We are following the governmental orders along with the recommendations from Bishop Tom Aitken of the NE MN Synod. Your safety and well-being is our number one concern.

The 80s+ Lunch Bunch will not be meeting in July.



Young at Heart will not be meeting in July.



If you have a prayer request for the Prayer Chain, you can either put it in the offering plate on Sunday or Wednesday or call Deloris Ebinger at 829-2333. 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:** Al Kampf and family on the death of his sister; Pr. Sarah and family on the death of her grandmother; family of Terry Schroeder; the family of Clark Tollefson

**Ongoing:** Sophia Benson; Sig Boldt; Ray Hines and family; Linda Schnaser; Kevin Goedker; Jacob Lindholm; Nick and Bailey Lundgren; Cece and Ken Snook; Dave Emery; for peace in our world; residents and staff of Bethany Nursing Home; Bob Morris; all residents and staff of assisted living and nursing home facilities; the unemployed; healthcare workers; Yvonne Doust; Jenny Pederson; for protection from Corona Virus; Pam Stock; Michael Zickuhr; Paul Erdal; Aldene Gosse; Bobbie Sayles; Clary Tollefson; Roy Cheney; those who are abused; all dealing with addiction; couples trying to have babies; all affected by mental health issues; all caregivers; everyone dealing with cancer

**Service:** Zac Myhre deployed to South Korea

**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.

**Have a Prayer Request?** You are invited to call Deloris Ebinger at 829-2333 or the Church Office at 829-3330 or email office@belcnet.net to have your request put on the Prayer Chain. Please note that we keep people on the prayer list for 3 weeks. If someone needs extended prayers, please let the office know.

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

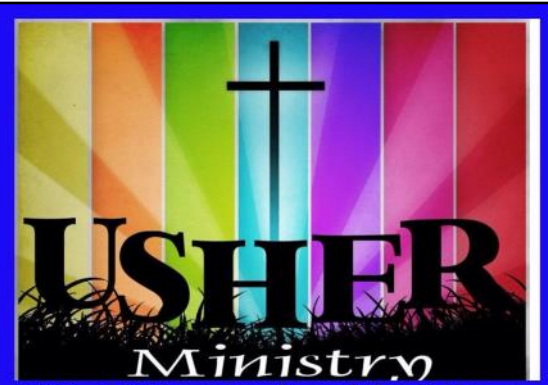
Anne Gustafson; Karl and Sue Hadrits; Melodee Hagel; Doug and Meg Hagenson; David and Luanne Hallgren; Darwin and Mary Hanson; Terri Hanson; Kathy and Lee Hauble; Brenda Hayes; David and Dianne Heath; Howard and Laurel Heinonen; Lynn Heinrich; Cindy and Bob Hendrickson; Amber and Jason Hennessey and family; Jilene and Mitch Hodgman and family; Lee Ann Hollingsworth; Kristi and Ron Holloway; Barb Howard; Alan Hudalla; 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; Bob and Jenny Johnson; Charlie and Sue Johnson



**Sundays at 9:00 am and Wednesdays at 6:20 pm**  
**7/19 at 6:20 pm**  
 \*Drive in worship \*Stay in your car  
 \*Park in designated area  
 \*Communion on 1st and 3rd Sundays and following Wednesdays  
 \*if rainy or very windy, service may be cancelled; check Facebook one hour prior to service for status

**Sundays at 10:30 am**  
 \*livestream only on our Facebook page  
 bethlehem.brainerd

**July Bethlehem worship services**



**7/12 at 8:20 am: Janis and Jim Peterson and the Lang family**  
**7/19 at 9:00 am: the Lindholm family and Carla and Scott Stall**  
**7/26 at 9:00 am: the Meyer and Roberts families**  
**Wednesdays at 6:20 pm**  
**7/15: Mike and Wendy Gindorff**  
**7/22: Wendy Gindorff and Jackie Nornes**  
**7/29: Mike and Wendy Gindorff**

To view our online services at 10:30 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](http://www.belcnet.net)

Please note that Sunday drive-in services will be changing to 9:00 am on July 19.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
5 8:20 am – Drive in worship service with communion 10:30 – ONLINE only worship service	6 6:00 pm – Board of Service and Evangelism meeting ONLINE via Zoom	7	6:20 pm – Drive in worship service with communion
12 8:20 am – Drive in worship service 10:30 – ONLINE only worship service	13	14 5:00 pm – Board of Worship and Music meeting ONLINE via Zoom	6:20 pm – Drive in worship service
19 9:00 am – Drive in worship service with communion 10:30 – ONLINE only worship service	20 5:00 pm – Creation Care Team meeting in BELC parking lot; in case of rain, meet in BELC parking lot on July 27 at 5:00 pm	21	6:20 pm – Drive in worship service with communion
26 9:00 am – Drive in worship service 10:30 – ONLINE only worship service	27	28	6:20 pm – Drive in worship service
2 9:00 am – Drive in worship service with communion 10:30 – ONLINE only worship service	3 6:00 pm – Board of Service and Evangelism meeting ONLINE via Zoom	4 5:00 pm – Board of Worship and Music meeting ONLINE via Zoom	6:20 pm – Drive in worship service with communion

**CREATION CARE**

Since it was passed in 1973, **The Endangered Species Act** has protected more than **1,600 plants and animals, keeping more than 99 percent of them from going extinct, and helping hundreds to recover.** Yet at a time when the world's leading scientists warn of an **extinction crisis with millions of species lost forever,** new federal changes to the Endangered Species Act would for the first time 1) **place economic costs of protecting at-risk wildlife over the actual survival of the species** and 2) **welcome bulldozing, mining and drilling in the critical habitats of protected species.** In addition, the current EPA has not only removed previous restrictions of **sulfoxaflor, a pesticide that reduces bees' ability to reproduce,** it has also **added new uses for the toxic bee-killing insecticide,** according to the science journal *Nature*. Finally, these federal changes pulled the plug on the **Department of Agriculture's (USDA) study of bee populations,** which beekeepers use to monitor bee colony decline. **URGE YOUR POLICY MAKERS** to work to protect critical wildlife, **whose well-being we all depend upon for our own well-being.**



Our Creation Care team encourages email as much as possible over paper newsletters. Contact the office today to have your newsletter emailed instead of printed.







Curbside drop-off/pick-up is available from 8:30 – 9:30 am on Mondays – Fridays. Call 829-3330 when you arrive and someone will meet you at the front door.

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
8	9	10	11
Service in worship Communion	Summer Challenge (in lieu of Summer Stretch); open to kids of all ages; email Pr. Sarah for more information 5:30 pm – Board of Congregational Care and Community meeting ONLINE via Zoom		
15	16	17	18
Service in worship	Summer Challenge (in lieu of Summer Stretch); open to kids of all ages; email Pr. Sarah for more information		
22	23	24	25
Service in worship Communion	Summer Challenge (in lieu of Summer Stretch); open to kids of all ages; email Pr. Sarah for more information		
29	30	31	1
Service in worship	Summer Challenge (in lieu of Summer Stretch); open to kids of all ages; email Pr. Sarah for more information		
5	6	7	8
Service in worship Communion	9:00 am – Outdoor bible study with Pr. Mark (through Aug. 27)		



Please remember these people in prayer on their birthdays.

7/2: Lucy Marshall

7/3: Naomi Bremer, Jacob Heinrich, Mitch Nelson

7/4: Mike Rosenow

7/5: Rayden Miller, Emily Parenteau, Lynn Teufert

7/6: Emma Grunenwald, Don Nelson, Ryan Zelenka

7/7: Marcus Lindholm, Larry Martinson, Jim Peterson

7/9: Mary Anne Emerson

7/10: Liam O'Grady

7/11: Sue Bremer, Dave Johnston, Erica Munsch

7/12: Will Laughton, Debbie Moe, Paul Rhoda, Jackie Spaulding, Stefan True

7/13: Patricia Fuller, Hollie McFarlin, David Nelson

7/15: Nancy Sweet

7/16: Jeff Grunenwald, Amber Hennessey, Haley Slough

7/17: Pat True

7/18: Thor Thorson

7/19: Eric Aasen, Camilla Lindholm, Faith Rhoda

7/20: Brian Forsberg, Michael Miller, Mollie Nelson, Erica Swedberg

7/21: Cheryl Macejkovic, Patrick Skogen, Dawn Verdon

7/23: Bill Bailey, Darbie Pulak, Kay Theien

7/24: Christian Kotchikian, Connor Rand, Sam Roberts

7/25: Luke Olson, Steve Oslos

7/26: Jessica Macejkovic, Sherry Rinke, Trond Sjoberg

7/27: DJ Janssen, Gabbie Klukas

7/28: Abby Holloway, Brenda Jonak

7/29: Lannell Farmer, Jack Gubrud

7/31: Jim Finch, Alex McFarlin, Norris Peterson

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** to everyone who has been fulfilling their estimates of giving. Please continue to give generously as you are able as we still have bills, healthcare benefits and salaries that must be paid.



## Outdoor Cross Fund

\$95 in memory of Clark Tollefson from family and friends

In advance of the 2020 Digital Summer Festival (July 31-August 16), the Lakes Area Music Festival has a broad range of educational opportunities for classical music lovers of every experience level. Throughout the month of July, LAMF is hosting a new LAMFcast series via Zoom. Each Saturday at 10 a.m. this series will feature conductor, Christian Reif and LAMF artistic director, John Taylor Ward offering an introductory-level Symphony 101 discussion; Tuesdays at 10 a.m. will be a more advanced offering of music knowledge with Yale University lecturer, Allison Chu. *Free; registration required at: [lakesareamusic.org/programs/lamfcast](https://lakesareamusic.org/programs/lamfcast)*

One of LAMF's seasonal highlights, Explore Music! goes digital this season with a cutting edge package of music education by Alexander Peña. This activity packed week of fun - August 2 through 7 - will include scavenger hunts, simple at-home musical projects, coloring pages, digital activities, and exclusive performances from LAMF musicians. Participation is free for all families, with donations accepted. Sign up at [lakesareamusic.org/programs/explore-music](https://lakesareamusic.org/programs/explore-music).

More information about these, and other, programs can be found at [lakesareamusic.org](https://lakesareamusic.org) or calling (218) ASK-LAMF.

## 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](https://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!

For those of you participating in the Bible Reading Challenge, here are your July and August bookmarks.



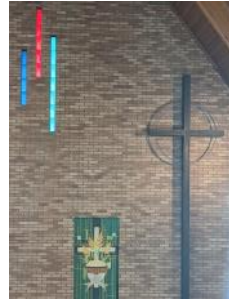
Visit [www.enterthebible.org](https://www.enterthebible.org) for more resources.

- July 1: Mark 8-9
- July 2: Mark 10-11
- July 3: Mark 12-13
- July 4: Mark 14
- July 5: Mark 15-16
- July 6: Luke 1
- July 7: Luke 2-3
- July 8: Luke 4-5
- July 9: Luke 6-7
- July 10: Luke 8-9
- July 11: Luke 10-11
- July 12: Luke 12-13
- July 13: Luke 14-16
- July 14: Luke 17-18
- July 15: Luke 19-20
- July 16: Luke 21-22
- July 17: Luke 23-24
- July 18: John 1-2
- July 19: John 3-4
- July 20: John 5-6
- July 21: John 7-8
- July 22: John 9-10
- July 23: John 11-12
- July 24: John 13-15
- July 25: John 16-18
- July 26: John 19-21
- July 27: Acts 1-3
- July 28: Acts 4-6
- July 29: Acts 7-8
- July 30: Acts 9-10
- July 31: Acts 11-13

- Aug. 1: Acts 14-15
- Aug. 2: Acts 16-17
- Aug. 3: Acts 18-20
- Aug. 4: Acts 21-23
- Aug. 5: Acts 24-26
- Aug. 6: Acts 27-28
- Aug. 7: Rom. 1-3
- Aug. 8: Rom. 4-7
- Aug. 9: Rom. 8-10
- Aug. 10: Rom. 11-13
- Aug. 11: Rom. 14-16
- Aug. 12: 1 Cor. 1-4
- Aug. 13: 1 Cor. 5-8
- Aug. 14: 1 Cor. 9-11
- Aug. 15: 1 Cor. 12-14
- Aug. 16: 1 Cor. 15-16
- Aug. 17: 2 Cor. 1-4
- Aug. 18: 2 Cor. 5-9
- Aug. 19: 2 Cor. 10-13
- Aug. 20: Gal. 1-3
- Aug. 21: Gal. 4-6
- Aug. 22: Eph. 1-3
- Aug. 23: Eph. 4-6
- Aug. 24: Philippians
- Aug. 25: Colossians
- Aug. 26: 1 Thess.
- Aug. 27: 2 Thess.
- Aug. 28: 1 Timothy
- Aug. 29: 2 Timothy
- Aug. 30: Titus, Philem.
- Aug. 31: Heb. 1-6



# Live-stream services (Sundays at 10:30 am live on Facebook; later available on our website)



God is always with us, even during a pandemic.



Musical offering (with social distancing between families) for a special Father's Day piece



Flowers are still welcome to brighten up the altar.

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



# Drive-in services offered Sundays at 8:20 am (9:00 am beginning 7/19) and Wednesdays at 6:20 pm



We have moved services to the upper lot.



Prepacked communion kits are available on the 1st and 3rd Sundays and following Wednesdays.



Depending on the weather, Cori may be inside the front door.

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](https://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.