



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

JULY 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

Custodial Services: Amanda, John and Ruth Unger

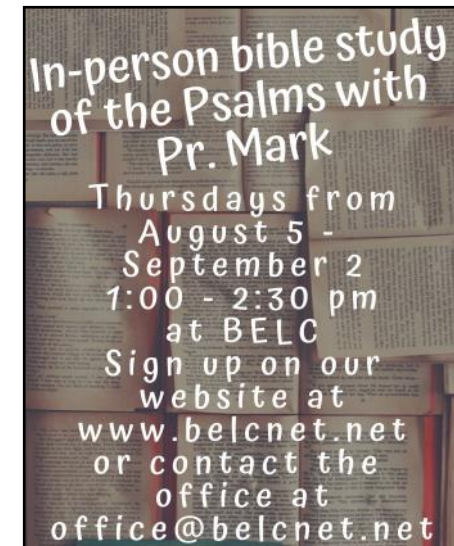


From the Senior Pastor



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. Sign up on our website at www.belcnet.net or call the office at 829-3330.



Worship Opportunities

Take an hour of your week and join us for worship on Sunday mornings at 8:45 am outside in our parking lot – in your car or sitting in your lawn chair (whatever works for you), or at 10:00 am inside the sanctuary as we gather to give God thanks and praise for the abundant forgiveness, healing, and new life through our Lord Jesus Christ. You can always join us via live stream (10:00 am) when you are traveling or away from the area this summer as well.

Blessings to you in Christ Jesus,

Pastor Mark

July 2021



Summer of Service

+ Summer Stretch

Contact Pr. Sarah for more information.

High School
campfire: games,
s'mores, and
fellowship

July 21 and
August 18 at
6:30 pm in the
lower BELC lot

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

YOU MUST PREREGISTER AT
[HTTP://BIT.LY/OPSANDREQUEST](http://bit.ly/opsandrequest)

Summer 2021 Lunch Kits

Includes:
5 days of lunch supplies for your family: Bread, Peanut Butter, Jelly, Granola Bars, additional snacks and fresh produce at no cost.

Food Request Required:
<http://bit.ly/opsandrequest>

More Info:
www.bridgesofhopemn.org

BRAINERD/BAXTER
Thursdays, 5/27-9/2

Brainerd
Bethlehem Lutheran
1:00 - 1:30

Baxter
Grand Oaks Dr
Trail Parking
5:30 - 6:00

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 .

If you have a prayer request for the Prayer Chain, you can 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: Dave Emery and family on the death of his mother Barbara; the family of Kurt Witt; Dave Johnson and family on the death of his sister Sue; Carolyn Cole and family on the death of her brother Duane Haukebo;

Ongoing: John Unger; Keith Olson; Terri Hanson; Matthew Nelson; Jackie Spaulding; Sharon Blakeman; foster families; Kim Hake; Jim and Colin Best; Clary Tollefson; for peace in our world; Janice Skinner; Danny McCarthy; Mike Anhalt; Garnet Rehberger; Joyce Wagner; Jessica Rodenbiker; Barrie Rempel; for all affected by COVID; Michael Zickuhr; victims of domestic violence; all residents and staff of assisted living and nursing home facilities; Nancy Walsh; the unemployed; 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 July: Pam Finch and family; Terry and Jackie Forsberg and family; Mary Ann Frisch; Carolyn and Ray Frisch; Patricia Fuller and family; Mavis Galligher; Al Gardner; Mike and Wendy Gindorff and family; Cassandra Girling and family; Gary and Pat Glover; Colleen and Kevin Goedker; Jadynd and Kevin Gohman; Darla Mae and Roger Gonnerman; Rebecca and Stephan Gorny and family; Bev Gott; Jennifer and Tom Grimm and family; Jeff and Shari Grunenwald; Jennifer Grunewald and family; Kelly and Marty Gubrud and family; Mark and Traci Gujer and family; Anne Gustafson; Karl and Susan Hadrits; Melodee Hagel; Doug and Meg Hagenson



Drive-in service on Sunday at 8:45 am

**7/11: the Rosenow family
7/18: the Stall family
7/25: the Peterson family**

**In-person and livestream service on
Sunday at 10:00 am**

**7/11: the Lindholm family
7/18: Jackie Nornes, Ben Reimers,
Pam Oslos, Greg Anderson
7/25: Pam Stock and Al Gardner**

JULY 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

CREATION CARE


O Minnesota Power and Xcel Energy (Minnesota's largest utility) have operated fossil-fuel power plants for decades, generating millions of tons of carbon pollution that have played a part in making Minnesota one of the fastest-warming states. In addition, thousands of tons of sulfur dioxide and mercury have polluted Minnesota's lakes and rivers, and have triggered respiratory illnesses. Xcel has said it is going to be 100% carbon free by 2050, and has converted major coal plants in Minneapolis and St. Paul to natural gas, often considered a "bridge" fossil fuel between coal and renewables. Yet Xcel's proposed new gas plant in Becker has just been dropped after research from their own studies showed that cheaper renewable energy would make the plant a "stranded asset" (unable to capitalize on a shuttered plant) long before its 40-year lifespan plays out. The science is clear on climate change as well as on the economics of energy production.

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

5

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
4 8:45 am – Drive in worship service with communion 10:00 am - Live-streamed worship and In-person worship service with communion 	5 Office closed	6 7:30 am – Men's bible study 6:00 pm – in-person study of Paul's letter to the Romans
11 8:45 am – Drive in worship service 10:00 am - Live-streamed worship and In-person worship service	12 4:00 pm – BELC at the Sharing Bread Soup Kitchen 6:00 pm – Board of Service and Evangelism meeting online via Zoom	13 7:30 am – Men's bible study
18 8:45 am – Drive in worship service with communion 10:00 am - Live-streamed worship and In-person worship service with communion	19 Newsletter deadline 10:00 am – Ruth Circle	20 7:30 am – Men's bible study 5:30 pm – Endowment Board meeting
25 8:45 am – Drive in worship service 10:00 am - Live-streamed worship and In-person worship service	26 6:00 pm – Creation Care Team meeting	27 7:30 am – Men's bible study 10:00 am – Stephen Ministry meeting
1 8:45 am – Drive in worship service with communion 10:00 am - Live-streamed worship and In-person worship service with communion	2 6:00 pm – Board of Service and Evangelism meeting	3 7:30 am – Men's bible study



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
6	7	8	9	10	
1:30 pm – Woodland worship service		8:00 am – BELC at Habitat for Humanity 1:00 pm – Operation Sandwich food distribution 5:15 pm – Board of Congregational Care and Community meeting			
13	14	15	16	17	
		9:00 am – Edgewood Brainerd 10:15 am – Edgewood Baxter 1:00 pm – Operation Sandwich food distribution			
20	21	22	23	24	
1:30 pm – Woodland worship service 6:30 pm – High School campfire and games		1:00 pm – Operation Sandwich food distribution			
27	28	29	30	31	
5:00 pm – Board of Worship and Music meeting		1:00 pm – Operation Sandwich food distribution			
3	4	5	6	7	
1:30 pm – Woodland worship service		9:00 am – Edgewood Brainerd 10:15 am – Edgewood Baxter 1:00 pm – Operation Sandwich food distribution			

Please keep these people in your prayers on their birthdays.



- | | |
|---|--|
| 2 ~ Lucy Marshall | 16 ~ Jeff Grunenwald, Amber Hennessey, Haley Slough |
| 3 ~ Naomi Bremer, Jacob Heinrich, Mitchell Nelson | 17 ~ Pat True |
| 4 ~ Mike Rosenow | 18 ~ Thor Thorson |
| 5 ~ Rayden Miller, Emily Parenteau, Lynn Teufert | 19 ~ Eric Aasen, Camilla Lindholm, Faith Rhoda |
| 6 ~ Emma Grunenwald, Don Nelson, Ryan Zelenka | 20 ~ Brian Forsberg, Michael Miller, Mollie Nelson, Erica Swedberg |
| 7 ~ Marcus Lindholm, Larry Martinson, Jim Peterson | 21 ~ Cheryl Macejkovic, Patrick Skogen, Dawn Verdon |
| 9 ~ Mary Ann Emerson | 23 ~ Bill Bailey, Darbie Pulak, Kay Theien |
| 10 ~ Liam O'Grady | 24 ~ Christian Kotchikian, Connor Rand, Sam Roberts |
| 11 ~ Sue Bremer, Dave Johnston, Erica Munsch | 25 ~ Luke Olson, Steve Oslos |
| 12 ~ Will Loughton, Debbie Moe, Paul Rhoda, Jackie Spaulding, Stefan True | 26 ~ Jessica Macejkovic, Trond Sjoberg |
| 13 ~ Patricia Fuller, Hollie McFarlin, David Nelson | 27 ~ DJ Janssen, Gabby Klukas |
| 15 ~ Nancy Sweet | 28 ~ Abby Holloway, Brenda Jonak |
| | 29 ~ Lannell Farmer, Jack Gubrud |
| | 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 for your \$564.50 donation to our “I am the Bread of Life” campaign. Your generous gift supports Operation Sandwich, a program that works to feed kids when free and reduced meals are not accessible at school. Specifically, your donation will be used to provide lunches and fresh groceries to kids and their families facing summer-time hunger. Currently lunch kits are available for weekly pick-up at five separate locations across the Lakes area [BELC is one of these locations]. Each lunch kit contains enough food to make healthy lunches for a week, adjusted according to household size. This summer, we are well on our way to distributing 36,000 lunches by the end of August, a 72% increase over last summer. Thanks to your generosity, we will be able to meet this growth in need. On behalf of Bridges of Hope and Operation Sandwich staff and the 500 individuals and 100 families who have already benefited from Operation Sandwich’s program this summer, thank you again. We are grateful for your support.



~Jana Shogren, Executive Director

Thank you so much for the generous scholarship that allowed me to pursue a fulfilling education at Concordia. The Bethlehem community has made a profound impact on my personal growth and for that I am extremely grateful. Thank you for providing a caring community for my family!
~Blessings, Sarah Wiger



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!



HELP NEEDED WHEN BELC SERVES AT



EVERY 2ND MONDAY AND 5TH TUESDAY
from 4:30 - 6:30 pm

SET UP. SERVE. CLEAN UP.
Talk to Pat True for more information.

TUESDAY MORNINGS
MEN'S BIBLE STUDY
FROM 7:30 -9:00 AM



HELP NEEDED

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

Contact the office for more information.

Thank you to everyone who has donated to the fund to purchase the new hymnal supplement *All Creation Sings*. Thus far, we have 150 supplements; we need a total of 210. If you would like to purchase a hymnal in honor or memory of someone, let the office know. Hymnals now cost \$16 each. 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.



CHRISTMAS IN JULY GIVING TREE

THIS YEAR WE ARE COLLECTING ITEMS FOR BAY MINISTRIES, LUTHER CREST, AND THE SHOP. ITEMS IN BLACK INK ARE FOR BAY MINISTRIES, ITEMS IN RED INK ARE FOR LUTHER CREST AND ITEMS IN BLUE INK ARE FOR THE SHOP.

PLEASE RETURN ITEMS BY AUGUST 1.
PUT ITEMS BY THE TREE.
PUT MONETARY DONATIONS IN THE OFFICE SLOT.



FAITH BUILD DONATIONS

WE ARE COLLECTING DONATIONS FOR THE FAITH BUILD. PUT THEM IN THE BUCKET IN THE NARTHEX. PLEASE KEEP HABITAT IN YOUR PRAYERS.



Immediate Needs

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.

Job opening: part-time technology position



This person will manage computer technology needs for the mission of the congregation. A stipend will be given. Contact the office for more details.

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

A Summer Blessing

May you walk with God this summer in whatever you do and wherever you go. May you talk to God this summer and every day and in every situation. May you talk with God every day.



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.