



# THE BETHLEHEM STAR



## Bethlehem Evangelical Lutheran Church

418 8th Avenue Northeast  
Brainerd, MN 56401

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Email: [office@belcnet.net](mailto:office@belcnet.net)

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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 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays

### JUNE 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



### Summer worship opportunities

Beginning Memorial Day weekend, we will offer two worship services per week: a Sunday morning drive-in/outdoor service in the upper parking lot at 8:45 am and a 10:00 am in-person service, along with live-streaming at 10:00 am. Many thanks to our Board of Worship and Music for coordinating our worship opportunities along with our Tech. Team that makes the live-streaming possible each week. We could not do this without your faithful efforts!

### Summer picnic

Join us on Wednesday, June 9<sup>th</sup> for a picnic beginning at 5:30 pm and then the opportunity to join in a brief time of worship and prayer at 6:20 pm. All the food is provided, just bring a lawn chair to sit in or whatever is comfortable for you. We will be gathering on the east side of the building on the grassy area.

### In-person bible study opportunity

Join Pastor Mark for an in-person bible study of Paul's letter to the Romans during the months of June and July. We will gather for this six-week study of the letter on Tuesday evenings from 6:00-7:00 pm at Bethlehem. To sign up, visit our website at <https://belcnet.net> or contact the church office at 218-829-3330. We will begin on Tuesday, June 1<sup>st</sup>. Bring your bibles and hearts ready to receive the Word!

### Coffee with Pastor Mark

Join me on Wednesday mornings from 9:00-10:00 am at Caribou Coffee across from Bethlehem during the month of June. I would love to visit with you and catch up on our shared life for a few moments each week!

### Walk with Pr. Mark

Join me on Friday mornings at 9:00 am (during the month of June) at the Trailhead parking lot near the Arboretum for a 40-minute walk on the Paul Bunyan Trail. We'll share a brief devotion and have the opportunity to exercise our spirits and bodies together this summer!

May the peace of Christ be with you!

Pastor Mark



**Summer Stretch 2021**

Who: Those who have finished grades 6-9

When and where: June 3 (9:00-3:00) at Northland Arboretum, July 1 (9:00-11:00) at the Paul Bunyan Trail, & July 15 (9:00-3:00) at Crow Wing State Park, plus more dates hopefully coming

This year due to covid still being a factor, here are the initial dates. I am hoping to fill in a few more dates as organizations open up to volunteers a bit more. Drop off and pick up with be at the locations of our service sites rather than at Bethlehem. Please register if you think your youth will have any interest. This year's cost is only \$5.50 for your t-shirt. Youth will be allowed to opt in or out of whatever dates we have service projects. To sign up, go to: <http://bit.ly/BLASummer2021>

Contact Pr. Sarah if you have any questions.

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

**OPERATION SANDWICH**

**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](http://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 .

**Prayer Chain**

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:** the family of Ardelle Boelter; Lynn Teufert and family on the death of her mother Etta Arnt; Cheryl Severson-Nichols and family on the death of her uncle Stanley Johnsrud; Greg Anderson and family on the death of his brother-in-law Greg Nygard

**Ongoing:** Norma Matson; Larry Hanke; Sam Knudson; Connor Rand; 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; Yvonne Doust; 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 June:** Gabe and Tracie Churchill; Carolyn and Jim Cole; Deb and Rick Cole and family; Amanda Crandall and family; Forrest and Julie Crocker and family; Ella Dahl; Jim Daly; Albert and Maxine Debler; Jerry and Krystal DeChaine and family; Paige DeFrang; Jill Delaney-Wilson; Barb DePaoli; Tricia and Wayne Dosh and family; Bethany Doucette and family; Bob Dryden; Kathy Dufour and Rick Patton; Deloris Ebinger; Mike and Sonja Eidenshink and family; Linda Ekstrum; Larry and Natalie Embertson and family; Mary Ann Emerson; Bev and Dave Emery; Stacy Erdal and family; Adelle and Roger Erickson; Bruce and Deb Erickson; Lannell and Mary Farmer; Dylan and Emily Ferrari and family; Bernice and Jim Finch; Mike Finch and family





**USHER**  
Ministry

**Drive-in service on Sundays at 8:45 am**

6/6: the Stall family  
 6/13: the Rosenow family  
 6/20: the Meyer family  
 6/27: the Peterson family

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

6/6: Jackie Nornes, the Gindorff family  
 6/13: the Lindholm family  
 6/20: the Lindholm family  
 6/27: the Parsons family



**JUNE 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](http://www.belcnet.net)



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
<b>Holy Trinity Sunday 30</b> 8:45 am – Drive in worship service with communion 10:00 am - Live-streamed worship and In-person worship service with communion	<b>Memorial Day 31</b> Office closed 	7:30 am – Men’s bible study 5:00 pm – Board of Worship and Music meeting online via Zoom 6:00 pm – in-person study of Paul’s letter to the Romans
6	7	8
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 6:00 pm – in-person study of Paul’s letter to the Romans
13	14	15
8:45 am – Drive in worship service 10:00 am - Live-streamed worship and In-person worship service	4:00 pm- BELC at the Sharing Bread Soup Kitchen	7:30 am – Men’s bible study 6:00 pm – in-person study of Paul’s letter to the Romans
<b>Father’s Day; 1<sup>st</sup> day of summer 20</b> 8:45 am – Drive in worship service with communion 10:00 am - Live-streamed worship and In-person worship service with communion 	<b>21</b> 10:00 am – Ruth Circle	<b>22</b> 7:30 am – Men’s bible study 10:00 am – Stephen Ministry meeting 6:00 pm – in-person study of Paul’s letter to the Romans
27	28	29
8:45 am – Drive in worship service 10:00 am (note time change) - Live-streamed worship and In-person worship service	6:00 pm – Creation Care Team meeting	7:30 am – Men’s bible study 6:00 pm – in-person study of Paul’s letter to the Romans

# CREATION CARE

O Just one year after Minnesota launched its **Lawns to Legumes** program, which pays residents small amounts of money to **plant pollinator-friendly flowers, shrubs and trees in their yards**, about 750 residents have received \$58,000 to plant nearly **eight football fields worth of pollinator gardens, meadows and flowering trees** in cities and suburbs around the state.

R Funded by the state’s **Environmental and Natural Resources Trust Fund**, the program receives help from the **Metro Blooms** organization and the **Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR)**, both of which can be contacted by those interested in **converting some of their lawns or gardens into bee and butterfly habitats**. Most recipients spent even more of their own money on the projects, while the more than **7,000 people** who applied for money but did not receive any still reported **planting another 190,000 square feet of pollinator habitat on their own**. Although Minnesotans have displayed overwhelming commitment to this program, **state lawmakers have not agreed on how to spend the trust fund money in 2021 (the request is for \$1 million to pay for up to 1,600 more grants over the next three years)**. URGE YOUR LAWMAKERS to support spending trust fund money on programs like Lawns to Legumes that it was designed to fund.





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
	2	3	4	5
	9:00 am – Coffee with Pr. Mark at Caribou Coffee 1:30 pm – Woodland worship service 5:30 pm – Worship Team rehearsal	9:00 am – Edgewood Brainerd 9:00 am – Summer Stretch at Northland Arboretum 10:15 am – Edgewood Baxter 1:00 pm – Operation Sandwich food distribution	9:00 am – Walk with Pr. Mark at the Arboretum trailhead	
8	9	10	11	12
	9:00 am – Coffee with Pr. Mark at Caribou Coffee 5:30 pm – Outdoor Picnic 6:20 pm – short prayer service 7:00ish pm – Worship Team rehearsal following picnic	1:00 pm – Operation Sandwich food distribution 5:15 pm – Board of Congregational Care and Community meeting online 6:30 pm – Smart Team meeting	9:00 am – Walk with Pr. Mark at the Arboretum trailhead	
5	16	17	18	Juneteenth 19
	9:00 am – Coffee with Pr. Mark at Caribou Coffee 1:30 pm – Woodland worship service	9:00 am – Edgewood Brainerd 10:15 am – Edgewood Baxter 1:00 pm – Operation Sandwich food distribution	9:00 am – Walk with Pr. Mark at the Arboretum trailhead	Newsletter deadline
2	23	24	25	26
	9:00 am – Coffee with Pr. Mark at Caribou Coffee	1:00 pm – Operation Sandwich food distribution 5:30 pm – Board of Stewardship and Properties meeting 6:30 pm – Smart Team meeting	9:00 am – Walk with Pr. Mark at the Arboretum trailhead	
9	30	1	2	3
	9:00 am – Coffee with Pr. Mark at Caribou Coffee	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.



- 6/1 ~ Mary Ketterling, Sue Skinner  
6/2 ~ Shari Grunenwald, Anna Thesing, John Unger  
6/4 ~ Roger Gonnerman, Judy Kallroos, Alyssa Weigelt  
6/5 ~ Jon Teufert  
6/6 ~ Sienna Hodgman, Keith Olson  
6/8 ~ Janey Adair, Sheila Skogen, Rhagan Weigelt, Aspen White  
6/9 ~ John True  
6/10 ~ Elliott Gorny, Rachel Lundgren, Breanna Munsch  
6/11 ~ Finnegan Jackson, Ryan Tollefson  
6/12 ~ Mya Halsted  
6/13: Savannah Cole  
6/15 ~ Deanna Jones, Parker Weigelt  
6/16 ~ Meghan Becker, Joseph Gubrud  
6/17 ~ Grant Becker, Jonathon Serra, Jerome Streich  
6/18 ~ Mary Hanson, Lee Hauble, Sandra Leach, Kayla Warner  
6/19 ~ Mike Emery, Kent Johnson III, Maddy Stall  
6/20 ~ Joan Rosenow, Carl Seamon  
6/21 ~ Bradley Aasen, Jenny Johnson, Turner Person, Corliss Smith  
6/22 ~ Charles Praska  
6/23 ~ JoAnn Rehberger, Drake Salo  
6/24 ~ Mavis Galligher, Meagan Tollefson  
6/25 ~ Joyce Wagner  
6/26 ~ Sean Laughton  
6/27 ~ Nicole Anderson, Caleb Meyer  
6/28 ~ Kelsie Burgstaler, Jaret Embertson, Kandice Hanson  
6/29 ~ Mike Gindorff, Brady Kruize  
6/30 ~ Harry Bement, Steven Johnson, Matthew Schoenecker

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](mailto:office@belcnet.net).



# Thank you!

Thank you for your recent gift of \$48 to The Salvation Army. Caring friends like you make such a difference in the lives of those in need, and for that, we are grateful. As you know, we are dedicated to easing the suffering of our neighbors—regardless of the problems that bring them to us—one person at a time. An old German proverb says this quite simply: “Charity sees the need, not the cause.” With your gifts and those of others, we are able to provide a ray of hope for those struggling individuals through the distribution of food, clothing, care, and compassion. On behalf of those we serve, we deeply appreciate your generosity. May God bless you as you have blessed us.  
~ Captain Jeff Curran, Corps Officer



Thank you to everyone who has donated to the fund to purchase the new hymnal supplement *All Creation Sings*. Thus far, we have 85 supplements. If you would like to purchase a hymnal in honor or memory of someone, let the office know. Hymnals currently cost \$13 each; that will go up on June 14. Contact the office for more information.



## *Senior Choir Music Fund*

\$75 in memory of Stanley Johnsrud from family and friends

## *Quilting Fund*

\$25 in memory of David Heath from family and friends

Thank you for your donation of \$178 to Sharing Bread Soup Kitchen. Your generous gift of money helps pay for 60-80 meals per day. ~With gratitude,  
Glen Gustafson, Treasurer



## 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](http://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!



COFFEE WITH  
PR. MARK

*Join Pr. Mark  
at the NE  
Caribou Coffee  
on Wednesdays  
in May and  
June at 9:00  
am for a visit  
and to catch  
up on life.*

**DEADLINE TO PURCHASE AT DISCOUNTED  
PRICE IS JUNE 13.**



## **Donate a new hymnal supplement**

*All Creation Sings* is a new hymnal supplement to the ELW (like *With One Voice* was to the LBW) that contains two new liturgy settings, more prayers, and about 200 new hymns. We are looking for people interested in purchasing a hymnal or two in memory or in honor (for service, birthday, baptism, graduation, etc) of someone. There is a discounted price through mid-June. If you'd like to donate a hymnal/s for \$13 each, please drop off/send payment and let us know if it is in memory or honor of someone special.

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



**In-person bible study  
of Paul's letter to  
the Romans with  
Pr. Mark**  
Tuesdays in  
June and July  
6:00 - 7:00 pm  
at BELC  
Sign up on our  
website at  
[www.belcnet.net](http://www.belcnet.net)  
or contact the  
office at  
[office@belcnet.net](mailto:office@belcnet.net)





**WALK WITH  
PR. MARK**  
MEET AT THE TRAILHEAD  
PARKING LOT OUTSIDE  
NORTHLAND ARBORETUM  
FOR A WALK ON THE  
PAUL BUNYAN TRAIL.

**FRIDAYS IN JUNE  
9:00 - 9:40 AM**

**SHARE A BRIEF DEVOTION THEN  
EXERCISE YOUR SPIRIT AND BODY  
TOGETHER IN GOD'S CREATION.**



**BELC  
COMMUNITY  
PARTNERS**

**Immediate  
Needs**

Want to help our community partners?  
Here are some of their needs:

Mid Minnesota Women's Center  
\*old cell phones and phone cards

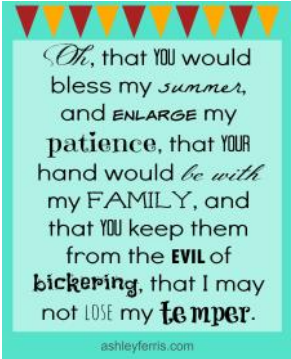
Northland Arboretum  
\*rakes, hoses, garden gloves, hand pruners,  
spade shovels, peony cages, nature-themed  
children's books, laundry detergent, Menard's  
gift cards

Salvation Army  
\*money and school supplies for their student  
backpack program coming this fall

Contact these organizations for more  
information.

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

**CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED**



*Oh, that YOU would  
bless my *summer*,  
and **ENLARGE** my  
patience, that YOUR  
hand would *be with*  
my **FAMILY**, and  
that YOU keep them  
from the **EVIL** of  
**bickering**, that I may  
not **LOSE** my **temper**.*

ashleyferris.com



**PICNIC AND  
FELLOWSHIP**  
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 9

**FOOD (BURGERS AND  
SIDES) SERVED  
FROM 5:30 - 6:15 PM**

**SHORT PRAYER SERVICE  
AT 6:20 PM**

**BRING LAWN CHAIRS.**



**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.**

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](http://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.