



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 and livestreamed:
Sundays at 9:00 am
with communion on the 1st and 3rd Sundays**

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 Bell Choir Director: Nancy Albertson
Financial Manager: Mary Hanson
Education and Spiritual Formation Coordinator:
Joan Rosenow
Food Services Coordinators: Clarence and Kim Spencer
IT Coordinator: Scott Pederson
Custodial Services: Rob Larson, Morgan Larson

From the Senior Pastor



Sabbatical

I am looking forward to beginning a time of sabbatical from May 19th through August 17th. Many thanks to the congregation for voting to approve this sabbatical at our annual meeting in January, and for our wonderful staff and board of Congregational Care and Community for arranging pulpit supply and pastoral care support during this time.

God's peace and blessings!

Pastor Mark



From the Children, Youth and Family Pastor

Wonder what the kids are up to? Check out the Youth Bulletin board for pictures and updates. The Youth Bulletin Board is in the lower level across from the Living Room.



SUMMER YOUTH GROUPS

JUNE 4 | JUNE 30 | JULY 9
JULY 25 | AUGUST 13 | AUGUST 27

MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP
5:30 - 7:00 PM

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP
7:00 - 8:30 PM

MEETING AT LORD OF LIFE

Elementary Event
For youth who have completed **grades 2-4** in the 2023-2024 school year.
Event Timing: June 30, 2024
1:00 pm - 3:00 pm
Event Location: Trinity Lutheran
Cost: \$5

JOIN US FOR AN AFTERNOON OF FUN LEARNING ABOUT BAPTISM, PLAYING WATER GAMES, FELLOWSHIP AND MEETING NEW FRIENDS

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
JULY 29 - AUGUST 2

Event Timing: July 29 - August 2
9:00 am - 12:00 pm
Event Location: Trinity Lutheran
Cost: \$25
(Family cap at \$100 - scholarships available)

SCUBA
diving into friendship with god

For kids aged 3 (potty trained) through finished 4th grade
Crew Leaders are completed 5th grade and older

AT TRINITY LUTHERAN

BELC YOUTH Summer 2024

WWW.BELCNET.NET/CALENDAR

JUNE

- 6/2 HIGH SCHOOL HANGOUT
- 6/4 SUMMER YOUTH GROUP
- 6/6 SUMMER STRETCH
- 6/13 SUMMER STRETCH
- 6/18 SUMMER YOUTH GROUP
- 6/20 SUMMER STRETCH
- 6/27 SUMMER STRETCH
- 6/30 ELEMENTARY EVENT
SUMMER YOUTH GROUP

JULY

- 7/9 SUMMER YOUTH GROUP
- 7/11 SUMMER STRETCH
- 7/14 - NATIONAL YOUTH GATHERING
- 7/21
- 7/24 SUMMER STRETCH AT TWINS GAME
- 7/25 SUMMER YOUTH GROUP
- 7/29 - VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
- 8/2

AUGUST

- 7/29 - VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
- 8/2
- 8/11 ALL YOUTH WORSHIP ASSISTANTS
- 8/13 SUMMER YOUTH GROUP

FALL 2024

- 9/1 BACK TO SCHOOL BLESSING
- 9/18 CONFIRMATION MINISTRY PARENT/YOUTH MEETING
- 9/22 HARVEST FESTIVAL (FIRST DAY OF SUNDAY SCHOOL)
3 YEAR OLD BLESSING
2ND GRADE BIBLES

June, July, and August Funeral Service Group

Cheryl and Jeff Nichols
Jon and Margaret Steblay
Greg and Sue Wiger

Coordinators:

Karen and Steve Rosenow
Bruce and Cyndy Thompson

Assistants:

Carly and Patrick Almond
 Bill and Cheryl Bailey
 Vicky Bonde
 Gary and Sharon Braun
 Eric and Sasha Burgstaler
 Jerry and Krystal DeChaine
 Barb DePaoli
 Linda Ekstrum
 Stacy Erdal
 Dylan and Emily Ferrari
 Jackie and Terry Forsberg
 Mike and Wendy Gindorff
 Cassandra Girling
 Rebecca and Stephan Gorny
 Bev Gotti
 Kelly and Marty Gubrud
 Terri Hanson

Kristi and Ron Holloway
 Dustin and Rebecca Johnson/
 Ostrowski
 Kent Johnson III
 Dave and Tanya Johnston
 Katelyn Jones
 Logan Jones
 Ken Kemboi
 Marcie Kemboi
 Brenda Klinger
 Marlene Kossila
 Norma and Ted Kotyk
 Beth and Rob Larson
 Lori and Syd Larson
 Dylan Lee
 Jen and Joe Lindholm
 Terry and Wanda Lundebly

Jessica and Nate Macejkovic
 Becky and Dave Meyer
 Allison Moyer-Taylor
 Harold Munsch
 David and Faye Nelson
 Marie and Tom Numedahl
 Zaryn Schwab
 Carl and Solvejg Seamon
 Dave and Sheila Skogen
 Carla and Scott Stall
 Denise and Duane Stange
 Deb Steuck
 Gene and Lynn Teufert
 Kay Theien
 Michelle Tollefson
 Dawn and Steve Verdon
 Eric and Tori Wisneski

C R E A T I O N C A R E

We all have to eat. Farmer/author/poet Wendell Berry writes that "eating is an agricultural act," which makes our reliance on agricultural methods that disregard soil and ecosystem health a danger to us and all the living things on whose well-being we depend. The Nature Conservancy (TNC) reports that as complex grasslands continue to be converted to single crops, the loss of biodiversity has accelerated. From 1970 to 2016 there was a nearly **70% average decline in populations of birds, beneficial insects, amphibians, mammals, fish and reptiles.** The intensive use of agro-chemicals, such as **synthetic nitrogen, herbicides, pesticides and fungicides** make their way into the food we eat, the water we drink, and the air we breathe. **Children are the most vulnerable,** because pound for pound, they drink **2.5 times** more water, eat **3 - 4 times** more food, breathe **2 times** more air, and therefore absorb a higher concentration of pesticides than adults. Support efforts to fix our broken food system, which include **renewable energy, regenerative agriculture that replaces or mitigates big, single-crop agriculture, restoration of forests, grasslands, wetlands, and habitat that supports pollinators.**

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

Looking ahead...

- *7/9— Summer Youth Groups **at Lord of Life Lutheran Church**; 5:30—7:00 pm for middle school; 7:00—8:30 pm for high school
- *7/10—joint ELCA picnic (5:30 pm) and outdoor worship (6:20 pm) at Bethlehem
- *7/11 at 9:00 am—Summer Stretch **at Trinity Lutheran Church**
- *7/14—7/21—ELCA National Youth Gathering in New Orleans
- *7/29—8/2 from 9:00 am—12:00 pm—VBS **at Trinity Lutheran Church**



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 Todd Krautkremer

Ongoing: Keith Lindner; Eric Burgstaler; Devin Hollingsworth; Carl Olson; those suffering from MS and other auto immune diseases; Joyce Sands; Eric Steuck; Brad Zinken; Tina Collins; Roger Gonnerman; Harry Bement; Joyce Gindorff; Mary Anderson; Jeanne Armstrong; Charlotte Warner; those dealing with mental health issues; Cheryl Johnson; Esther Peterson; Cheryl Hagger; Jim Thomson; Joyce Wagner; Dawn True; Barb Neprud; Kacey Benson; peace in our world; caregivers; all dealing with cancer /other diseases

Military: Danny Smith in Air Force

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: Forrest Crocker Jr., Maxine Debler, Gerry and Krystal DeChaine and family; Barb DePaoli, Tricia and Wayne Dosh and family; Bethany Doucette and family; Bob and Sheri Dryden; Jessica Dufour, Deloris Ebinger; Mike and Sonja Eidschink and family; Linda Ekstrum; Adam and April Ellingsen; Larry and Natalie Embertson and family; Bev and Dave Emery; Jeff Emery; Mike Emery; Stacy Erdal and family; Bruce and Deb Erickson; Mary and Lannell Farmer; Dylan and Emily Ferrari and family; Bernice and Jim Finch; Michael Finch; Pam Finch and family; Jackie and Terry Forsberg; Mary Ann Frisch; Ray Frisch; Patricia Fuller; Mavis Galligher; Bonnie and Matthew Garding and family; Al Gardner; Mike and Wendy Gindorff; Noah Gindorff; Cassandra and Mike Girling; Jadynd and Kevin Gohman; Darla Mae and Roger Gonnerman

HYMNS WE TO SING

Worship singing and exploring our most beloved hymns

Wednesday June 12
 Potluck 5:30PM (Fellowship Hall)
 Worship 6:20 (Sanctuary)
 Bring a dish to share, meat provided.

Trinity Lutheran Church, Brainerd



JUNE 15 AT 9:00 AM

WANTED: PAINTING BEES

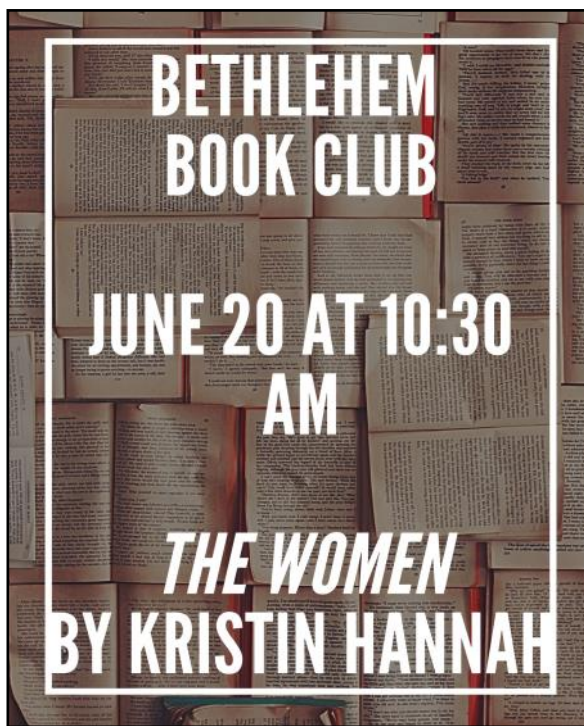
The offices haven't been painted in 15 years and need some sprucing up. We need about 20 people to help. To sign up, go to our website www.belcnet.net, sign up on the opportunity sheet, or contact the office at 218-829-3330. For more information, contact Al Gardner.



It's time for a HYMN SING!

JUNE 16 AND AUGUST 4 STARTING AT 8:55 AM


HAVE YOUR FAVORITE HYMN NUMBER FROM THE ELW OR ACS READY TO GO!



BETHLEHEM BOOK CLUB

JUNE 20 AT 10:30 AM

THE WOMEN BY KRISTIN HANNAH



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
Second Sunday after Pentecost 2 9:00 am – In-person and livestreamed worship service with communion 10:00 am – All Church Mission Trip meeting 10:00 am – Congregational Leadership Board meeting 5:30 pm – High School Hang Out at Lord of Life Church	3	4 9:30 am – Let's Go Fishing board meeting 1:30 pm – Staff meeting 2:30 pm – RSA Circle of Change 5:30 pm – Middle School Youth Group at Lord of Life Church 7:00 pm – High School Youth Group at Lord of Life Church
Third Sunday after Pentecost 9 9:00 am – In-person and livestreamed BOW worship service	10 4:00 pm – BELC at Sharing Bread Soup Kitchen	11 9:00 am – Executive Team meeting 1:30 pm – Staff meeting 2:30 pm – RSA Circle of Change 5:00 pm – Congregational Leadership Board meeting 6:00 pm – Board Night
Fourth Sunday after Pentecost 16 8:50 am – Hymn Sing 9:00 am – In-person and livestreamed service with communion	17	18 10:00 am – Creation Care Team meeting 10:00 am – Ruth Circle 2:30 pm – RSA Circle of Change
All Church Mission Trip – please keep participants in your prayers		
Fifth Sunday after Pentecost 23 9:00 am – In-person and livestreamed worship service	24	25 7:30 am – Men's bible study 1:30 pm – Staff meeting 2:30 pm – RSA Circle of Change
Sixth Sunday after Pentecost 30 9:00 am – In-person and livestreamed service 2:00 pm – Elementary Event at Trinity Lutheran Church 5:30 pm – Middle School Youth Group at Lord of Life Church 7:00 pm – High School Youth Group at Lord of Life Church	1	2 1:30 pm – Staff meeting 2:30 pm – RSA Circle of Change

To view our online services on Sundays at 9:00 am, go to <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UcKGD...>
 The service will also be posted on our website at www.belcnet.net upon completion of t



Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
5 10:30 pm – Worship service at Woodland 11:15 pm – BOW rehearsal	6 9:00 am –Worship at Edgewood Brainerd 10:00 am – LSS PTSD Groups 10:15 am – Worship at Edgewood Baxter 6:00 pm – Girl Scouts	7 5:30 pm - Lee/Meyer wedding rehearsal	8 2:30 pm - Lee/Meyer wedding
12 10:30 pm – Potluck at Trinity Lutheran Church 12:20 pm – Joint worship service at Trinity Lutheran Church	13 9:00 am and 3:00 pm – LSS staff meeting 9:00 am – Summer Stretch at Trinity Lutheran Church 10:00 am – LSS PTSD Groups 6:00 pm – Girl Scouts	14	15 9:00 am – Painting Bees paint offices
19 10:30 pm – Worship service at Woodland	20 9:00 am –Worship at Edgewood Brainerd 9:00 am – Summer Stretch at Trinity Lutheran Church 10:00 am – LSS PTSD Groups 10:15 am – Worship at Edgewood Baxter 10:30 am – Bethlehem Book club	21	22
s this week as they travel to Lincoln, Nebraska to serve others!			
26 11:15 pm – BOW rehearsal	27 9:00 am – Summer Stretch at Trinity Lutheran Church 10:00 am – LSS PTSD Groups 5:30 pm – Girl Scouts	28	29
3 10:30 pm – Worship service at Woodland	4 Happy Independence Day! Office closed	5	6

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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.

CHURCH DIRECTORY

LIFETOUCH NO LONGER DOES DIRECTORIES, SO WE WILL BE WORKING ON A NEW DIRECTORY INTERNALLY LATER THIS SUMMER. PLEASE FILL OUT THE FORM THAT CAME WITH YOUR GIVING STATEMENT AND RETURN IT TO THE OFFICE BY JUNE 23.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE YOUR FAMILY'S PICTURE IN IT, SUBMIT A PHOTO WITH A NEUTRAL BACKGROUND (NO OUTDOOR PICTURES) TO THE OFFICE BY JUNE 23. YOU CAN ALSO HAVE A PICTURE TAKEN IN THE OFFICE AFTER CHURCH SERVICES OR DURING OFFICE HOURS THROUGH JUNE 23.

CONTACT THE OFFICE FOR MORE INFORMATION.

BETHLEHEM PRODUCE MARKET

DON'T FORGET TO SAVE SOME FRUITS, VEGGIES, PLANTS, JAMS, ETC. FOR OUR PRODUCE MARKET. YOU MAY BRING ITEMS IN THROUGHOUT THE SUMMER. ITEMS WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR A FREEWILL DONATION WITH ALL MONEY GOING TO PEGGY'S PANTRY TO HELP THOSE WITH FOOD INSECURITY.

GOD'S CREATION

A PHOTOGRAPHY DISPLAY

TAKE PHOTOS OF GOD'S CREATION THIS SUMMER. TURN IN EITHER AN 8X10 OR DIGITAL COPY TO THE OFFICE BY JULY 15 TO HAVE IT DISPLAYED IN THE NARTHEX IN THE MONTH OF AUGUST.

Contact the office for more information.

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.

HELP NEEDED

Looking for people to run sound and video equipment for 9:00 am Sunday services. There are step-by-step directions. Training is available.

Contact the office for more information.

HARVEST Festival

SEPTEMBER 22

10:00 am - 12:00 pm

BRUNCH
ADULT GAMES
KIDS' GAMES

Kick off fall with fellowship and fun at Bethlehem Lutheran Church!

This is a Pollinator Sanctuary Congregation



NE MN SYNOD POLLINATOR PROJECT
Pollinators are endangered by loss of natural habitat
WE NEED THEM AND THEY NEED US
JOIN THE POLLINATOR PLOT

Learn more at ecofaithnetwork.org/get-involved




The Pollinator Mandala was created by the Rev. Sara S. O'Brien, Pastoral Counselor of Worship, inspired by the 2013 EcoFaith Summit. The Pollinator Plot Class-Pollinator is a Time of Ecological Crisis.

Lakes Area Music Festival: Need for Hosts

This summer the Lakes Area Music Festival (LAMF) will draw 250 professional musicians from around the world to come to central Minnesota and collaborate on concerts throughout our region. Each of these world-class artists stay in home stays around the area and become ingrained in our community. Do you have a spare bedroom to offer? Enjoy meeting and hearing a violinist from the San Francisco Symphony or a singer from the Metropolitan Opera! Musicians are here between 3 days and 4 weeks and housing coordinator, Monica, will work with you for a suitable pairing that matches your schedule and accommodations. Hosts are only responsible for providing a private bedroom and light breakfast options.

For more information visit

Summer Worship Series

Midweek Wednesday Worship

5:30PM Potluck
6:20PM Worship

June 12th @ Trinity
July 10th @ Bethlehem
August 14th @ Lymon P. White Park

Grilled meat provided, bring a dish to share.

OPERATION SANDWICH
BRIDGES OF HOPE



Operation Sandwich is looking for monetary donations and donations of peanut butter (no larger than 16 ounces), jelly/jam (no larger than 24 ounces), individually wrapped granola bars, fruit snacks, and other snacks.




thrivent

We are enrolled in Thrivent Choice®!

Thank you for choosing us!

Scan the code to learn more about Thrivent Choice and how you can financially support our organization. Anyone can donate using Thrivent's online giving platform,* and eligible Thrivent clients can direct Choice Dollars®.

*Thrivent will pay up to \$300,000 in online processing fees per calendar year for personal donations made through Thrivent's online giving platform. The Thrivent Choice® charitable grant program engages Thrivent clients with membership and Thrivent Member Networks in providing grants that support charitable activities. Supporting Thrivent's mission and its purposes under state law. All grant decisions, including grant recipients and amounts, are made at the sole discretion of Thrivent. Directing Choice Dollars® is subject to the program's Terms and Conditions available at thrivent.com/thriventchoice.

Thank you!

Thank you for your \$400 donation to Bridges of Hope's Operation Sandwich program. Your designated gift supports Operation Sandwich, a program that works to feed kids when free and reduced-price meals are not accessible during the school and summer breaks. Specifically, your donation will be used to provide lunches and fresh groceries to kids and their families facing hunger. Currently, lunch kits are available for weekly pick-up at separate locations across the Lakes area. Each lunch kit contains enough food to make healthy lunches for a week, adjusted according to household size. Last summer, we served over 500 households and distributed over 55,000 lunches by the end of August. We expect the need this year to be even greater with rising food costs affecting more families. Thanks to your generosity, we will be able to meet the growing need for nutritious meals. Sincerely,
Jana Shogren, Executive Director



We greatly appreciate the generous support from our donors, ministry partners and volunteers throughout the year. Thank you for all the ways you support Luther Crest and for your gift of \$336.75. You are making a difference! Because of you, we will continue to impact the lives of children, youth, families, and adults by deepening faith, forming lifelong friendships, and developing future leaders. We have an active faith-filled retreat season, brimming with the hope and joy found in the promise of Christ who is alive in our hearts each day. We look forward to connecting with you in the very near future.

Many thanks! Madeline Elliott,
Executive Director



Please keep these people in your prayers on their birthdays.

1 ~ Mary Ketterling, Sue Skinner

2 ~ Shari Grunenwald, Anna Thesing, John J. Unger

4 ~ Roger Gonnerman, Judy Kallroos, Alyssa Weigelt

6 ~ Sienna Hodgman, Keith Olson

8 ~ Janey Adair, Sheila Skogen, Rhegan Weigelt

9 ~ John True

10 ~ Elliott Gorny, Rachel Lundgren, Breanna Munsch

11 ~ Finnegan Jackman

13 ~ Savannah Cole

15 ~ Parker Weigelt

16 ~ Meghan Becker, Joseph Gubrud

17 ~ Grant Becker, Jon Serra, Jerome Streich

18 ~ Mary Hanson, Lee Hauble, Kayla Warner

19 ~ Mike Emery, Kent Johnson III, Maddy Stall

20 ~ Joan Rosenow, Carl Seamon

21 ~ Brad Aasen, Jenny Johnson, Turner Person, Corliss Smith

22 ~ Carolyn Hale, Charles Praska

23 ~ Jo Ann Rehberger

24 ~ Mavis Galligher, Meagan Tollefson

25 ~ Joyce Wagner

26 ~ Sean Laughton

27 ~ Caleb Meyer

28 ~ Kelsie Burgstaler, Jaret Embertson

29 ~ Mike Gindorff

30 ~ Harry Bement, Steven Johnson

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.

GET YOUR LOOSE CHANGE READY!

NOISY OFFERING

IN MAY, YOU DONATED \$281.70 FOR LET'S GO FISHING. IN JUNE, MONEY WILL BE COLLECTED FOR OPERATION SANDWICH.

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!

June Worship Assistants

Sundays at 9:00 am

Greeters:	2: Dawn and Steve Verdon 9: Pam and Steve Oslos 16: Cathie and Nick Benson	23: Marge and Jerome Streich 30: still needed
Ushers:	2: Jen and Camilla Lindholm 9: Bonnie and Steve Almond 16: Kathy Dufour and Rick Patton	23: Becky and Dave Meyer 30: Janis and Jim Peterson
Readers:	2: Rebecca Timmins 9: Rebecca Timmins 16: Pam Finch	23: Jackie Nornes 30: still needed
Communion Preparation:	2: Sasha Burgstaler, Jen Lindholm 16: Shelly Birchem, Sasha Burgstaler	
Communion Servers:	2: Carl and Solvejg Seamon, Anna Thesing 16: Pam Finch, Deb Steuck, Bev Gotti	
Sound:	2: Jerry DeChaine 9: Scott Pederson 16: Scott Pederson	23: still needed 30: still needed
Video:	2: Krystal DeChaine 9: still needed 16: still needed	23: still needed 30: still needed
Assisting Minister:	2: Rebecca Timmins 9: still needed 16: still needed	23: Jackie Nornes 30: Jackie Nornes
Treats in Narthex:	2: still needed 9: still needed 16: still needed	23: Karen Rosenow 30: still needed
Flowers:	2: still needed 9: still needed 16: still needed	23: in memory of Korbyn James from his mother Joan Rosenow 30: still needed

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.