THE BETHLEHEM STAR



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



WORSHIP TIMES

In-person worship: In-person and livestreamed: Sundays at 9:00 am and Wednesdays at 6:20 pm with communion on the 1st and 3rd Sundays and following Wednesdays

OFFICE HOURS

The office is open on Mondays—Fridays from 8:30 am—12:00 pm and Mondays—Thursdays from 1:00—4:30 pm (closes at 4:00 on Wednesdays).

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 Administrator: Shelly Johnson Education and Spiritual Formation Coordinator: Joan Rosenow Food Services Coordinators: Clarence and Kim Spencer IT Coordinator: Scott Pederson Custodial Services: Rob Larson and Laura Kory

From the Senior Pastor



Holy Week: Embracing the Kingdom of God in a Broken World

Join us during Holy Week as we celebrate the passion of God lived out in the life, death and resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. As Christ came proclaiming (recorded in the Gospel according to Mark), "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news." We witness during holy week the pinnacle of God's work through Jesus revealed in the promise and power of the Holy Spirit and inviting us to embrace the Kingdom of God through the crucified and risen Lord!

Palm Sunday: Join us in worship at 9:00 am with a breakfast at 10:00 am in the Fellowship Hall. Sign up on the opportunity sheet.

Maundy Thursday: Join us for a meal and worship beginning at 6:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall and then moving into the sanctuary to celebrate the institution of the Lord's Supper and observe the new commandment of Christ as we offer the opportunity for foot washing enacting the new commandment for those that would like to partake. Please RSVP for dinner via our website or sign up in the narthex following worship or contact the church office. The meal for the evening is chicken cordon bleu, pasta, roasted vegetables, and lemon raspberry bars. The cost for the meal is \$8 for adults and \$5 for children. You may use your prepaid meal card for the dinner, bring cash or check, or pay ahead via the link on our website.

Good Friday: Join us as we enter deeply into the heart of Christ's passion all the way to Golgotha on a Roman cross. We begin this service at 6:00 pm. We join in the traditional liturgy of the bidding prayer, procession of the cross, and solemn reproaches.

Easter Sunday: Join us as we celebrate the resurrected Lord! We join in worship at 8:30 am and 10:30 am with an Easter brunch at 9:30 am in the Fellowship Hall. Sign up on the opportunity sheet.

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May the peace of the crucified and risen Lord be with you!

Pastor Mark

March 2024

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.



1ST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH

5:30 PM - 7:30 PM



February and March Funeral Service Groups

Coordinators:

Nancy and Tim Bogenschutz Deb Luhrs Mary and Scott Parsons

t Parsons

Doris Aasen Hans Anderson Linda Anderson Arliss and Harry Bement Darnel Carlson Bethany Doucette Larry and Natalie Embertson Bruce and Deb Erickson Bonnie and Matthew Garding Jadyn and Kevin Gohman Jennifer and Tom Grimm Jeff and Shari Grunenwald Anne Gustafson Lynn Heinrich Karl Jackman Assistants: Jesse Jorges Jenny King Cory Kruse Doug and Vicki Kruse Camille and Clayton Lang Laurie Levig Nick Lundgren Anita and Larry Martinson Deb and Jeff McCarthy Michael Miller Emily and Tyler Monda Marcy Nickel Steven Olson

Marlys Ray

Barb Owens Janis and Jim Peterson Randy and Tammy Praught Cody Rehberger Karl and Gail Samp Russ Schultz Sue and Todd Sorenson Elsie and Mike Stanek Jackie Stromback Anna and Jake Thesing Kathy Thomson Pat True Amy and Dan Vleck Bruce and Kelli Weaver

Kathy Dufour and Rick Patton

CREATION CARE

O How to Spot the Misleading Advertising Labeling an Item or Action as Eco-friendly or Sustainable (Greenwashing)

R According to a 2020 survey by McKinsey, 78% of U.S. consumers favor a sustainable lifestyle, yet the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) plays a very limited role cracking down

- **N** on greenwashing. Many companies and corporations use marketing tactics to create a sustainable appearance that doesn't actually exist. Buzzwords such as "all-natural,"
- E "eco-friendly," and "sustainable," cannot be taken at face value, but require us to investigate the packaging, website, or social media to see if the company clearly defines
- R the reasoning behind their use of the term. When looking for products that are truly eco -friendly and sustainable, you can trust the following certifications: Green Business Network, USDA Organic, Leaping Bunny, B-Corp, Environmental Working Groups (EWG), Green Guard, GOTS, and Fair Trade Certified.

Source: http://www.nemnsynod.org/green-tips.html5

Looking ahead...

4/7 at 10:00 am ~ Semi-annual congregational meeting 4/10 ~ 9th grade trip to Minneapolis (times TBD) 4/11 at 6:00 pm ~ New Member Orientation 4/13 from 9:00 am—4:00 pm ~ Premarriage Retreat 4/14 ~ New Member Sunday 4/14/ - 4/21 ~ BELC serves Bridge on 7th 4/27 ~ NE MN Synod Assembly online



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 Brooks family

Ongoing: Greg Anderson; Scott Hess; Ron Nielsen; Bob Wrobel; Steve Oslos; Pam Stock; Buck Bray; Charlotte Warner; Kirsten Olson; Roger Gonnerman; Todd K.; those dealing with mental health issues; Cheryl Johnson; Joan Aulich; Esther Peterson; Cheryl Hagger; Jim Thomson; Joyce Wagner; Dawn True; Linda Wilcox; Barb Neprud; Barbara Howard; Kacey Benson; for peace in our world; all caregivers; all dealing with cancer /other diseases

Military: Nick Schwab in Navy; 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.

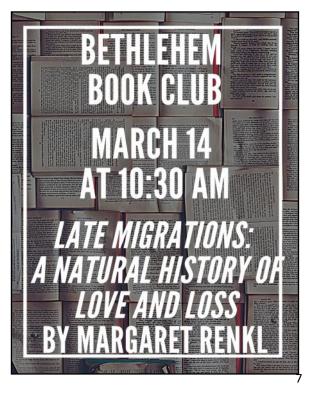
 Please keep the following Bethlehem households in your thoughts and prayer this month of February: Brett and Elise Severson and family; Stacy Sjoberg and family; Pr. Mark and Sue Skinner and family; Dave and Sheila Skogen; Patrick Skogen; Zach Skogen and family; Char Slough; Pat and Teri Slough and family; Carol Smith; Corliss Smith; Dave and Alice Smith; Stephanie Smith; Reva Snell; Linda Soderman; Sue and Todd Sorenson; Zach and Jody Sparkman and family; Dale and Jackie Spaulding; Kim and Clarence Spencer; Marissa Spencer; Kaelyn Spencer-Bosaaen; April and Jeff Spigarelli and family; Ben Stall; Jamie Stall; Logan Stall; Madison Stall and family; Phyllis Stall; Carla and Scott Stall; Elsie and Mike Stanek and family; Denise and Duane Stange; Jon and Margaret Steblay; Deb Steuck; Pam Stock; Sydney Stock; Jerome and Margie Streich; Jackie Stromback; Jean and Tom Swanson; Erica Swedberg

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Baptismal Blessings

Every month we will be offering blessings during worship services for various groups of people.

> March 10 for retired People





FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH COORDINATES WITH BRIDGES OF HOPE WARMING SHELTER TO PROVIDE A WARM SHELTER AND FOOD ON SUNDAY AFTERNOONS FOR PEOPLE WHO HAVE NO PLACE TO GO. YOUR HELP IS NEEDED ON MARCH 17!!!

THERE ARE TWO SHIFTS: HOSTING FROM 2:15 - L:30 PM AND SERVING FOOD FROM L:30 - 6:L5 PM. YOU CAN SIGN UP FOR BOTH SHIFTS IF YO'UD LIKE.

AS A HOST, YOU MAY PLAY GAMES, DO ACTINITIES, WATCH FOOTBALL GAMES OR MOVIES, ETC. AS A FOOD SERVER, YOU MAY HELP PREP PROVIDED FOOD, SET UP, SERVE FOOD, AND CLEAN UP, THERE WILL ALWAYS BE SOMEONE FROM FIRST LUTHERAN THERE WITH YOU.

CONTACT THE BELC OFFICE AT 218-829-3330 OR OFFICE BELCNET.NET TO SIGN UP OR FOR MORE INFORMATION.

5:30 pm – dinner served	Wednesdays, March 6 and 20	7:00 pm – High School	
5:45 pm – Youth Bell Choir rehearsal	7:00 pm – 6-8 th catechism at Trinity	Youth Group	
6:20 pm – Lent service	7:00 pm – Gospel of Mark study	7:00 pm – Sr. Choir rehearsa	

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	
Third Sunday of Lent 3	4	Presidential Primary	5
9:00 am – In-person and livestreamed worship service with		7:30 am – Men's bible study	
communion		10:30 am – RSA Circle of Change	
10:00 am – Adult Forum: Tim Bogenschutz "Building of Our Cabin"		1:00 pm – GWOH <u>at Salem West</u>	
10:00 am — Sunday School		1:30 pm – Staff meeting	
10:00 am – Itty Bitty Book Bunch		5:00 pm – Girl Scouts	
2:30 pm – Brainerd Leos		6:oo pm – Jonah Group	
5:30 pm – High School Hang Out <u>at Lord of Life</u>			
			_
	11	office closes at 4:00 pm today 12	2
9:00 am – In-person and livestreamed BOW worship service with baptism	4:00 pm – BELC at Sharing Bread Soup Kitchen	7:30 am – Men's bible study	
with Saptisin	bread Soop Kitchen	10:30 am – RSA Circle of Change	
		1:30 pm – Staff meeting	
		5:30 pm – CLB meeting	
		6:00 pm – Board Night	
Fifth Sunday of Lent 17	18	10	
9:00 am– In-person and livestreamed service with	10	19 María bible studu	,
communion and baptism		7:30 am – Men's bible study 10:00 am – Ruth Circle	
10:00 am – Adult Forum: Isaiah and Jeff Macejkovic			
"European Trip"		10:30 am – RSA Circle of Change 1:30 pm – Staff meeting	
2:15 pm – Sunday Hospitality <u>at First Lutheran</u>		1.30 pm - Stan meeting	
Palm Sunday 24	25	26	5
9:00 am – In-person and livestreamed worship service with		7:30 am – Men's bible study	
communion		10:30 am – RSA Circle of Change	
10:00 am – Adult Forum: Palm Sunday breakfast		11:30 am – 65+ Lunch Bunch	
10:00 am — Sunday School		1:30 pm – Staff meeting	
Resurrection of Our Lord 31	1	2	2
8:30 am – In-person and livestreamed worship service with	Office closed	7:30 am – Men's bible study	
communion		10:30 am – RSA Circle of Change	
9:30 am – Easter brunch		1:30 pm — Staff meeting	
10:30 am — In-person worship service with communion		6:oo pm – Jonah Group	
			_
5:15 pm – BOW rehearsal 6:20 pm – BO	W service Wedr	nesday, April 3	

5:30 pm – Meal served

5:45 pm – Youth Bell Choir rehearsal

7:00 pm – 6-8th catechism at Trinity

7:00 pm – 9th catechism at BELC

		The office is open from 8:30 ar 12:00 pm on Mondays – Frida and from 1:00 – 4:30 pm on Mondays – Thursdays.	ys	
Wednesday		Thursday	Friday	Saturday
office closes at 4:00 pm today 6		7	1	3 9
ee schedule above left	9:0	o am – Worship at Edgewood Brainerd		,
oo am – Joint staff meeting at Trinity	9:0	o am – Quilting Group		
1:00 am – Joint Lent service <u>at Trinity</u>	10:0	oo am – LSS PTSD Groups		
30 pm – Worship service at Woodland	10::	15 am — Worship at Edgewood Baxter		
15 pm – BOW rehearsal	12:0	oo pm – Nicodemus Group		
30 pm – soup and sandwiches served by en of Bethlehem	6:0	o pm – Girl Scouts		
oo – 6 th -8th grade catechism <u>at Trinity</u>				
office closes at 4:00 pm today 13		14	1	5 16
1:00 am – Joint Lent service <u>at Trinity</u>	9:0	o am – Executive Team meeting	9:30 am – LSS	
15 pm – BOW rehearsal	10:0	oo am – LSS PTSD Groups		
30 pm – soup and sandwiches served by	10:	30 am – Bethlehem Book Club		
ongregational Leadership Board		ppm – TCC Action Partnership training		
20 pm – Lent service	6:0	o pm – Girl Scouts		
oo pm – Senior Choir rehearsal				
oo pm – Gospel of Mark study				
office closes at 4:00 pm today 20		21	2:	2 23
ee schedule above left	-	am – Worship at Edgewood Brainerd	9:00 am – TCC Action Partnership	
.:oo am – Joint Lent service <u>at Trinity</u> 30 pm – Worship service at Woodland		o am – Quilting Group oo am – LSS PTSD Groups	training	
30 pm – worship service at woodland 30 pm – soup and sandwiches served by	101010000	15 am – Worship at Edgewood Baxter	-	
aff		opm – Mary Circle		
		ppm – card making		
		ppm – Girl Scouts		
office closes at 4:00 pm today 27		Maundy Thursday 28	Good Friday 29	30
oo pm – Senior Choir rehearsal	10:0	oo am – LSS PTSD Groups	6:00 pm – Good	<u> </u>
oo pm – 6 th -8 th grade	12/2014/10/20	pm – Worship at Bethany apartments	Friday worship	
itechism/confirmation at Trinity		pm – Maundy Thursday meal and	service with an	
	wor	ship; must RSVP	activity for youth during service	
office closes at 4:00 pm today 3		4		5 6
ee schedule below left	9:00	o am –Worship at Edgewood Brainerd		9:00 am – Worker
30 pm – Worship service at Woodland		o am – Quilting Group		Bees
30 pm – Wednesday night meal: TBD	10:00 am – LSS PTSD Groups			12:00 pm – Baby
	10:1	15 am — Worship at Edgewood Baxter		shower
	12:0	oo pm – Nicodemus Group		
	6:00	p pm – Girl Scouts		
7:00 pm — High School Youth Group 7:00 pm — Sr. Choir rehearsal		To view our online services https://www.youtube.com/chan The service will also be posted o	nel/UCKGd23TW4V	1mlqCsktOho3g
		l opon completi	on of the service.	

STAMP. CUT. CRAFT. CREATE. SHARE. FELLOWSHIP **CARD MAKING FUN** . . **ON MARCH 21** Get creative on Thursday, March 21. 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. 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. 65+ Lunch Bunch Tuesday, March 26

at 11:30 am

RSVP to the office at

218-829-3330 or sign up

on the opportunity sheet

by March 24.

Jackie Burkey, a master

gardener, will talk about

plants and flowers.





Please note that an RSVP is needed by March 24. Chicken cordon bleu with pasta, roasted vegetables, and lemon raspberry bars will be served. Cost is \$8 for adults and \$5 for school-aged children. You may sign up by contacting the office, by going to our website www.belcnet.net, or after Sunday services.





COFAITH SUMMIT

2024

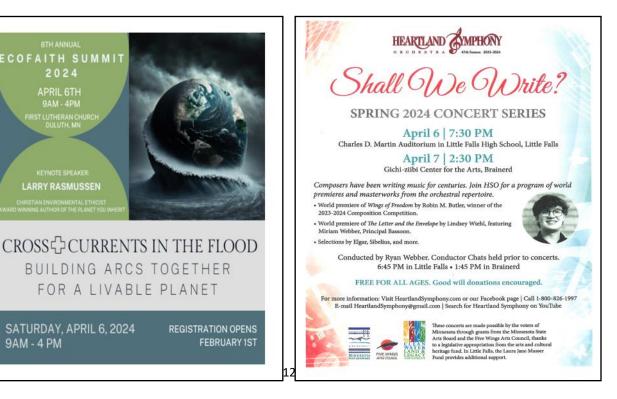
LARRY RASMUSSEN

SATURDAY, APRIL 6, 2024

9AM - 4 PM







Thank you!

Do you want to double your contribution to BELC?

There are several business in the Lakes Area that are providing a matching program for employees that support local charities. We encourage you to check with your human resource manager to find out if your company is one of these that provides this employee benefit. Some of these same companies have matching volunteer hours for their employees. When you volunteer hours for a charity, they will provide a monetary donation to the charity of your designation. If you would like to help BELC in its goal of helping the community to thrive, please check to see if your company is in a matching program. We would love to double your contribution for BELC. ~ Board of Stewardship and Properties

Souper bowl raised \$440.10 for Sharing Bread Soup Kitchen. Thanks for your generosity!

GET YOUR LOOSE



We are enrolled in Thrivent Choice^{*}!

Thank you for choosing us!



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

CHANGE READY! NOISY OFFERING IN FEBRUARY, YOU **DONATED \$289.89** FOR BRIDGES OF HOPE. IN MARCH. MONEY WILL BE COLLECTED FOR CLC FOOD PANTRY AND OPERATION SANDWICH.

HOW CAN YOU GIVE TO **BETHLEHEM?**





1[~] Kevin Brick, Tonya Person

2 ~ Wayne Dosh

3 ~ Karl Hadrits

4 ~ Bruce Erickson, Charlotte Girling

6 ~ Kevin Gohman, Kathy Thomson, Zach Vanderschaaf

8 ~ Erica Pulak, McCoy Rider

9 ~ Odin Sjoberg

10 ~ Caleb Christensen

11 ~ Linda Albertson, Izabelle Munsch, Andrew Olson, Brian Skogen, Logan Stall

12 ~ Christian Eidenshink, Ethan Iverson

13 ~ Susan Hadrits, Solveig Seamon

14~ Steve Rosenow

15 ~ Nancy Albertson, Reece Doucette, Al Gardner, Carole Olsen

Please keep these people in your prayers on their birthdays.

: 16~ Tracie Churchill. Melanie Serra 18 ~ Scott Johnson, Sara Teufert 19 ~ Alexus Smith 20 ~ Claire Erdal 21 ~ Clark Backstrom, Hollie LeDoux, Harvey Munsch 23 ~ Elaina Christiansen, Jayce Johnson, Marci Nelson, Connie Ogilvie 25 ~ Mary Anderson, Will Grunewald, Madison Tollefson 26 ~ Jerry DeChaine, Stephanie Moody, Curt Nielsen 27 ~ Greta Lang, Blaine Thompson 28 ~ Darla Mae Gonnerman, Blake Kruse, Deb Luhrs, Isaiah Macejkovic, Kimberly Spencer, Deb Steuck 30 ~ Yvonne Kalahar

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. 14

March Worship Assistants; Holy Week schedule on p12

Sundays at 9:00 am						
Greeters:	3/3: Cathie and Nick Benson 3/10: Bonnie Almond, Paula Rose	3/17: Mary and Scott Parsons 3/24: Pam and Steve Oslos				
Ushers:	3/3: Jen and Camilla Lindholm 3/10: Kathy Dufour and Rick Patton	3/17: Janis and Jim Peterson 3/24: Kathy Dufour and Rick Patton				
Readers:	3/3: Jen Lindholm 3/10: Kimberly Spencer	3/17: Pam Finch 3/24: still needed				
Communion Preparation:	3/3: Shelly Birchem, Sasha Burgstaler	3/17: Shelly Birchem, Sasha Burgstaler 3/24: Bob and Kay Pederson				
Communion Servers:	3/3:	3/17: Pam Finch, Sue Skinner 3/24: Pam Oslos, Judy Jourdan, 1 still needed				
Sound:	3/3: Scott Pederson 3/10: Scott Pederson	3/17: Jerry DeChaine 3/24: Scott Pederson				
Video:	3/3: Troy Imgrund 3/10: Troy Imgrund	3/17: Krystal DeChaine 3/24: still needed				
Assisting Minister:	3/3: still needed 3/10: Pam Stock	3/17: still needed 3/24: still needed				
Crucifer	3/24: still needed					
Treats in Narthex:	3/3: still needed 3/10: still needed	3/17: still needed				
Flowers:	3/3: in memory of Vickie Miller from Sue and Pr. Mark Skinner 3/10: in honor of Sydney Stock's 25th baptismal anniversary from Pam Stock 3/17: still needed 3/24: still needed					
Wednesday night at 6:20:	3/6: ushers: Jenny Johnson, Jackie Nornes; assisting minister: Marcus Lindholm 3/13: ushers: Nancy and Rick Sweet; assisting minister: Marcus Lindholm 3/20: ushers: still needed; assisting minister: Beverley Rempel					

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.