

## 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



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 8:20 am Online worship: Sundays at 10:30 am In-person worship: Sundays at 10:30am and 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 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

IT Coordinator: Scott Pederson

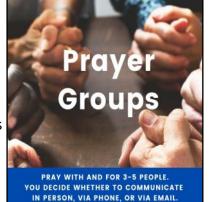
**Custodial Services:** Rob Larson and Steve Verdon

### From the Senior Pastor

### **Prayer Groups**

As we begin our annual theme of "experiencing the Reign," take some time to join a prayer group this fall. We will gather for a meal together on October 19<sup>th</sup> from 6:00-7:30 pm in Fellowship Hall and launch our prayer groups at Bethlehem. We are inviting everyone in the congregation to take part in a prayer group of three to seven people. You can choose to form your own group or ask to be placed in a group – whatever works best for you. The focus is very simple. Reach out or meet with the people in your prayer group once a week and check in with each other. Share your concerns for prayer, and then pray for one another, our community, church, nation, and greater world. Simple, important, and powerfully transformative! To sign up, go to our website (www.belcnet.net) and scroll down to "prayer groups" to register, or simply contact Cori in the church office.





OR EMAIL THE OFFICE AT OFFICE@RELCNET.NET OR CALL THE OFFICE AT 829-3330

5 groups have signed up. Will you be next?

### **One-Year Bible Challenge**

Here is another transformative opportunity for the fall, the one-year Bible challenge. Sign up on our website (www.belcnet.net) or contact Cori in the church office. We will gather on October 12<sup>th</sup> from 6:00-7:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall for a meal together and then I will present a preview of the first five books of the Bible (the Pentateuch) and then launch into reading! We will continue to gather as a large group throughout the year to preview the next sections of the Bible together and share a meal along with conversation and community together.



MONTHS FOR DINNER. GROW CLOSER TO GOD.

> ARE YOU UP FOR THE CHALLENGE?

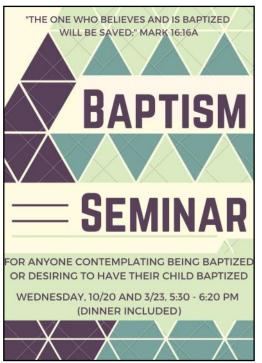


October 2021

### From the Children, Youth and Family Pastor













To fulfill baptismal promises, bibles were placed in the hands of our 2nd graders on 9/26 and 9/29. Please pray for them as they continue to learn about all of God's promises.





# Looking ahead...

With the fluidity of the pandemic, we continue to follow CDC and MN Department of Health guidelines and recommendations. Your safety and well-being is our number one concern.

At the time of publication, Wednesday evening services are at 6:20 pm. Drive-in services are offered on Sundays at 8:20 am, and in-person and livestreamed services are offered at 10:30 am on Sundays.



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 Danny McCarthy; the family of Mark Schuster; the family of Peterson

Ongoing: a BELC member; Nancy's sister Nona; family and friends of suicide attempt victims; Terri Hanson; Brenda Laughton; Phyllis Roberts; people in Haiti and Afghanistan; Jon Luhrs; Clary Tollefson; for peace in our world; 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; healthcare workers; 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.

Have a Prayer Request? You are invited to <u>contact the office</u> at 829-3330 or 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

October: Laura and Nick Kory and family; Marlene Kossila; Lisa Kotchikian and family; Ted and Norma Kotyk; Jean Krueger; Cory Kruse and family; Doug and Vicki Kruse and family; Tiffany Kruse; Clayton and Camille Lang and family; Vicki LaPlant; Peggy Larson; Rob and Liz Larson; Sara and Eric Larson and family; Syd and Lori Larson; Jayme and Brenda Laughton; Don and Jan Lawrence; Bonnie LeDoux; Corky and Lana LeDoux; Hollie LeDoux and family; Dan and Cathy Lee and family; Dylan Lee; Laurie Levig; Sheri Libera; Michael and Karly Lillo and family; Joe and Jen Lindholm and family; Jeannette Listul; Kyle and Jessi Louis and family; Jon and Deb Luhrs; Shirley Lundeby; Terry and Wanda Lundeby; Rachel Lundgren and family; Jeff an Cheryl Macejkovic; Nate and Jessica Macejkovic and family; Marc and Pr. Sarah Marshall and family



<u>Drive-in service on Sundays at 8:20 am</u> 10/10 - the Meyer family 10/17 - Carla and Scott Stall 10/24 and 10/31- Janis and Jim Peterson

In-person service on Sundays at 10:30 am

10/10: ushers - the Ungers; reader - Nancy
Albertson; greeters - Dennis and Kathleen Weisman
10/17: ushers - the Lindholms; reader - Jean Anhalt;
greeters - Mary and Scott Parsons; communion
prep - Lynn Teufert, Phyllis Stall; communion
servers: Jackie Nornes, Mary Parsons
10/24: ushers - Gloria and Harvey Munsch; reader Kathleen Weisman; greeter - Beth Larson
10/31: ushers - Becky and Dave Meyer; reader - Sue
Skinner; greeters - Dennis and Kathleen Weisman;
communion prep - Bob and Kay Pederson;
communion servers: Curt and Sandy Nielsen

<u>In-person service on Wednesdays at 6:20 pm</u>
October ushers - Brenda and Jayme Laughton; 10/6
& 10/17 comm. prep and server: Barb DePaoli





### CREATION CARE

2020 was a record year for growth of renewable energy around the globe, as 80% of new power plant additions were renewable. (mostly wind and solar), and 36% of global electricity generation was from all types of renewables (10% from wind and solar). The costs of producing renewable energy continued to decline as solar costs fell 89% and the costs for onshore wind energy fell 70% since 2010. Coal is no longer a cost effective fuel for generating electricity in the U.S. and its use in 2020 decreased to a low of 18% of total global electricity generation. Seventeen states and 46 U.S. utilities have adopted plans to achieve carbon-free electricity generation within 20-30 years. Minnesota's Renewable Energy Standard (2007) and Solar Energy Standard require utilities to provide at least 25% of their generating capacity with renewable sources (including solar, wind, hydroelectric, biomass or hydrogen) by 2025. Despite these efforts to address the climate crisis, greenhouse gas emissions continue to increase, but at a slower rate.

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

#### Wednesdays, October 6, 13, 27 and November 3

5:15 pm – Meal served for \$7 6:20 pm – Worship service

5:30 pm - Worship Team rehearsal 7:00 pm - Catechism

5:45 pm – Youth Choir rehearsal 7:00 pm – Sr. Choir rehearsal

7:00 pm – High School Youth Group

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
3	4	5
8:20 am — Drive in worship service with communion 9:25 am — Sunday School 10:30 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 5:00 pm – Bell Choir rehearsal 5:00 pm – Board of Worship and Music meeting
10	11	12
8:20 am – Drive in worship service 9:25 am – Sunday School 10:30 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 5:00 pm – Bell Choir rehearsal 5:15 pm – Board of Congregational Care and Community meeting 6:00 pm – Bible Challenge dinner: chili and corn bread
First Communion 17	18	Newsletter deadline 19
8:20 am – Drive in worship service with communion 9:25 am – Sunday School 10:30 am - Live-streamed worship and In-person worship service with communion 3:00 pm – Brainerd Leos	10:00 am – Ruth Circle 6:00 pm – Creation Care Team meeting	7:30 am – Men's bible study 5:00 pm – Bell Choir rehearsal 5:30 pm – Endowment Board meeting 6:00 pm – Prayer Groups dinner: lasagna
24	25	26
8:20 am — Drive in worship service 10:30 am - Live-streamed worship and In-person worship service		7:30 am – Men's bible study 10:00 am – Stephen Ministry meeting 11:30 am – 80s+ Lunch Bunch 5:00 pm – Bell Choir rehearsal 7:00 pm – Lay Leader Network Series discussion session
Reformation/Confirmation at 10:30	1	2
Butter braid sales end 31		
8:20 am — Drive in worship service with communion 9:25 am — Sunday School 10:30 am — Live-streamed worship and Inperson worship service with communion	6:00 pm – Board of Service and Evangelism meeting	7:30 am – Men's bible study 5:00 pm – Bell Choir rehearsal 5:00 pm – Board of Worship and Music meeting



To view our online services at 10:30 am on Sundays, go to our Facebook page at bethlehem.brainerd; the service will also be posted on our website at www.belcnet.net

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
See schedule above left  1:30 pm – Woodland worship service  2:00 pm – Crow Wing Energized  5:00 pm – CHRISTmas Journey meeting  5:15 pm – dinner for \$7: sloppy joes	9:00 am - Quilting Group 9:00 am - Edgewood Brainerd 10:00 am - LSS PTSD 10:15 am - Edgewood Baxter 6:00 pm - Jonah Group		
Butter braid sales begin; \$14 13	14	15	16
See schedule above left 2:00 pm — Crow Wing Energized 5:15 pm — dinner for \$7: chicken lasagna	10:00 am – LSS PTSD  10:30 am – BELC Book Club  4:30 pm – Card making  5:30 pm – Board of Stewardship and Properties meeting	-	9:00 am – First Communion class
20	21	22	23
1:00 pm – Martha Circle 1:30 pm – Woodland worship service 2:00 pm – Crow Wing Energized 5:00 pm – CHRISTmas Journey meeting 5:30 pm – Worship Team rehearsal 6:20 pm – Worship service 7:00 pm – Sr. Choir rehearsal	9:00 am – Edgewood Brainerd 9:00 am – Quilting Group 10:00 am – LSS PTSD 10:15 am – Edgewood Baxter 7:00 pm – Mary Circle		Alano Halloween party
27	28	29	30
See schedule above left 2:00 pm – Crow Wing Energized 5:15 pm – dinner for \$7: hot dogs	10:00 am – LSS PTSD 10:30 am – BELC Book Club	Ö	
. 3	4	5	6
See schedule above left  1:30 pm – Woodland worship service  2:00 pm – Crow Wing Energized  5:00 pm – CHRISTmas Journey meeting	9:00 am – Edgewood Brainerd 9:00 am – Quilting Group 10:00 am – LSS PTSD 10:15 am – Edgewood Baxter 6:00 pm – Jonah Group		9:00 am – Worker Bees



Please keep these people in your prayers on their birthdays.

10/1 ~ Hunter Hennessey, Alyssa Towle, Steve Verdon

10/3 ~ Cylie Backstrom, Lily Erdal, Michael Finch

10/4 ~ Dustin Johnson, Janell Rhoda, Dave Skogen

10/5 ~ Bernice J. Johnson, Jenna Lee

10/6 ~ Tricia Dosh, Sandy Janssen

10/7 ~ Briana Kruize

10/8 ~ Britta Parsons, Casey Stengel

10/9 ~ Jessica Laughton, Shawn Roberts

10/10 ~ Porter Hays, Pete Olson

10/11 ~ Mary Farmer

10/12 ~ Jenny Klukas, Tammy Praught, Derek Pulak

10/13 ~ Dave Emery, Richard Munsch, Ben Stall

10/14 ~ Rick Cole, Emily Ferrari, Jessi Louis

10/15 ~ Neven Blum

10/16 ~ Cora Hodman, Kris McDonald, Cooper Weigelt 10/17 ~ Terry McFarlin, Tarin Skinner

10/18 ~ Laura Bement, Rebecca Weigelt

10/19 ~ Jackie Avenson, Amanda Berry, Tasha Berry, Tanya Johnston, Todd Person, Emily Wyman

10/20 ~ John Rehberger

10/21 ~ Tom Grimm, Robin Reabe

10/23 ~ Rick Sweet

10/24 ~ Patrick Almond, Greg Anderson, Mirinda Munsch

10/25 ~ Derek Sweet

10/26 ~ Cooper Hennessey, Tucker Hennessey, Michael Horton, Rob Larson, Jean Listul, Nicholas Lundgren, Antje Olson, Pr. Mark Skinner, Tim Thorson

10/27 ~ Meaghan Anderson, Michael Crocker,
Phil Jones

10/28 ~ Steve Park

10/29 ~ Laura Kory

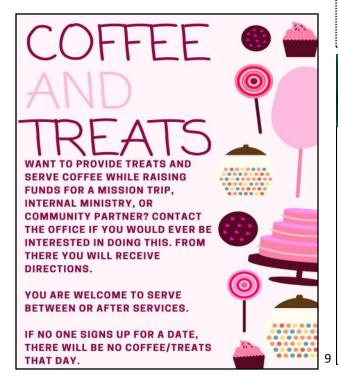
10/31 ~ Nilanna Dosh

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 so much for you donation to Lakes Area Habitat for Humanity in the amount of \$298.35 for the Faith Build. Your gift helps provide families in need with simple, decent homes throughout the Lakes Area. With your continued support, LAHFH will work tirelessly to provide a hand up—not a hand out—to struggling families in the Cass, Crow Wing, Hubbard, and Wadena Counties and the City of Staples. Thank you for your support and helping us success in our mission. ~ Kevin Pelkey, Executive Director Lakes Area Habitat for Humanity





# Designated Offering \$325 in memory of Gudrun Johnson from family and

friends

# Quilting Fund

\$10 in memory of David Heath from family and friends

# Youth Choir Fund

\$30 in memory of Alvina Kennedy from family and friends

Thank you for your donation to this year's guilt auction. Your generosity, kindness and excellent workmanship helped raise over

\$97,000 for Camp Knutson! Please know you have made a difference in the lives of many campers.





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.

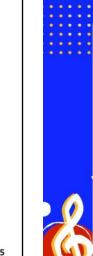
To set up a recurring giving schedule, visit us online at www.belcnet.net and locate the Online Giving button, or if it's easier, complete a paper authorization form and return it to the church office. Thank you for your generosity and faithfulness!



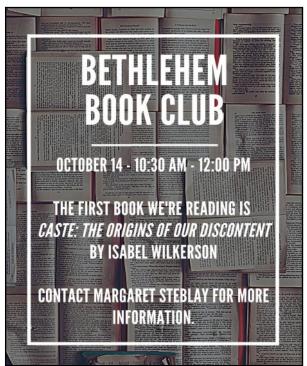
CHRISTmas Journey 2021 will take place on December 14 and 15 and we are looking for people to be on our ministry team. Do you have a creative mind? Do you have theatre experience? Help is needed:

> \*directing a very small portion of the production \*with scene set up

Please call Nancy Bogenschutz at 218-838-4153 to learn more.







STAMP, CUT, CRAFT, CREATE, SHARE, FELLOWSHIP

### **CARD MAKING FUN ON OCTOBER 14**



Get creative on Thursday, October 14. Show up anytime between 4:30 - 8:00 pm. Cards are sent to members that are shut in and members in need of some uplifting words; cards are also available in the display to the right of the mailboxes. 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. If no one signs up, the event will be cancelled.



"Let your hope keep you joyful, be patient in your troubles, and pray at all times."

Romans 12:12

**Greetings Sisters in Christ!** 

The logo above represents the theme "For All the Faithful Women" that was designed for the Synod Convention on September 11. The Conference Board decided to continue using the logo for our Fall Gathering, October 9th in Pequot Lakes at Our Savior's Lutheran Church.

The gathering will be from 1:00-3:00 p.m. Registration will help us update information for your church's contact people. The Love Offering and the Gathering Offering will be placed in baskets at the back of the church. We will be wearing masks indoors in compliance with Covid recommendations. There will be some masks available at registration. If you would like, bring your own mug of coffee with you. Water and cookies will be passed out at the end of our gathering.

Our afternoon will include devotions and communion service with Pastor Blenkush, a business meeting, roll call, elections, updates from the Synod by President Lynda Lackner, and information about the Afghanistan refugee situation by Bonnie Stevens and an update on Freedom Ranch by Clarice Renschler and other announcements.

After our business meeting, Jadell Horner will speak to us about the work and mission of Salem West/Mustard Seed. Following that will be the installation of officers. Add some music to all of that and we will have a good day of fellowship.

See you on Saturday, October 9th in Pequot Lakes.

Jeannine Bruesewitz, Conference Coordinator, 320-630-4785

80s+ Lunch
Bunch

Tuesday, October 26
at 11:30 am
German dinner at BELC

RSVP to the office at
829-3330 by October 22

NE Synod's EcoFaith Leadership Team is extending an invitation to BELC members to be part of the team.

The Leadership Team is composed of lay members and ordained ministers with a wide variety of interests and professional backgrounds.

The Leadership Team holds one hour zoom meetings every month and meets for in-person meetings four times a year, including one overnight retreat in the Fall. One of the teams' roles is to provide support and resources to congregations in integrating God's love for the whole creation within their congregations.

Are you interested in serving? We would welcome you! No previous experience needed; just that indefinable but essential spark of loving concern for the creation, a spark which together with others, bursts into a flame.

For more information, please contact Bethlehem Creation Care Team leader Russ Schultz at rmsriver@msn.com.



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# Immediate Needs

Want to help our community partners?

Mid Minnesota Women's Center \*reams of copy paper \*bags of Halloween candy

#### Northland Arboretum

\*Wonder the trails at the Northland Arboretum 10/21-10/23 from 6:30pm- 9:00pm during their annual Fall Fundraiser, the Haunted Trail! Low and high scare options are available for all ages. Purchase your tickets online at: www.northlandarb.org.

> Salvation Army \*blankets

Contact these organizations for more information.

Please keep them in your prayers.

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.