# 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.

### **WORSHIP TIMES**

Drive in worship: Sunday, 9/6 at 9:00 am Sunday, 9/13 and beyond at 8:45 am

Online worship: Sundays at 10:30 am In-person worship: Sundays at 10:30 am beginning 9/20; you must preregister

Drive in worship: 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 for curbside drop-off/pick-up from 8:30—12:00 pm Monday—Friday beginning 9/8.

### **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: John and Ruth Unger



### September 2020

### From the Senior Pastor

# Lay Leader Network opportunity for 2020-2021 NE MN Synod, ELCA



**Announcing our Yearly Intensive Series 2020-2021** 

Dear Bethlehem members, I am pleased to announce this wonderful opportunity for our members at Bethlehem once again this year. Thanks to our Endowment Board at Bethlehem! They will be providing funding to allow for the first six Bethlehem members who register, 50% off the general registration cost of \$220. See more details below under cost and registration on how to register. Let me know if you have any questions about LLN or the process.

WHAT: The LLN Yearly Intensive Series is a four-session educational program for adult learners, lay leaders and potential lay leaders of all ages. It seeks to balance head and heart in a life-long learning program and to build up the Body of Christ in both congregational settings and the community beyond and around us, ESPECIALLY HERE, ESPECIALLY NOW, EVEN through COVID and other challenges surround us. The series invites learners to experience heart transformation through dynamic engagement with God's Word and Missional expression through contextual engagement.

### **Brainerd site:**

Bethlehem Lutheran Church 10/3/2020, 11/21/2020, 2/20/2021, and 4/24/2021. Each session runs 9 am to 4 pm (subject to adaptations for use of Zoom)

<u>Cost:</u> \$220 fee to attend (does not include books, materials or student travel expense); (Bethlehem Lutheran members please enter "halfsponsor" for the promo code when registering to receive the 50% discount provided by our Endowment Board at Bethlehem).

Registration: Will be via Eventbrite accessible at https://nemnlln 20-21.eventbrite.com

### **Small Group Night**

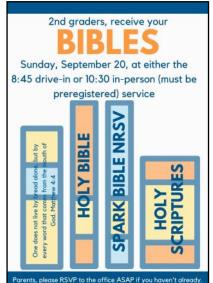
We will be offering small group night in a different way this fall. We will be using Zoom to present the large group time, and then people can form their own small groups of two, three, four or up to six people, for the small group discussion time. The small group discussion time can happen any time that month following the large group Zoom presentation that is convenient for your small group to meet – you form your own group and choose a location or other way to meet together using all the good social distancing/ COVID 19 protocol to ensure the safety of your group. The large group presentations will begin on **Tuesday, October 6**<sup>th</sup> **from 6:00 pm until 7:00 pm**. The large group Zoom presentations will occur on the second Tuesday of each month from October through January of 2021. To sign up for small group night, simply visit our website and sign-up online (registration opens September 8<sup>th</sup>.

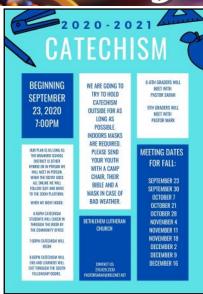
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Peace, Pastor Mark

### From the Children, Youth and Family Pastor









Parents of youth age 0 to high school seniors—We are currently surveying families with children to find out their plans for fall. Surveys must be completed by **September 10.** Please go to this link: https://bethlehembrainerd.breezechms.com/form/0f0146







# Looking ahead to ...

With the fluidity of the pandemic, we would like to see you soon. We are following CDC and MN Department of Health guidelines. Your safety and well-being is our number one concern.

At the time of publication, we will return to in-person worship at the 10:30 am service on September 20. You must preregister on our website at www.belcnet.net or by calling 829-3330 by noon on Fridays. Registration will be open 13 days ahead of time. Up to 40 people may preregister per service. There will be no group singing. Face masks must be worn. The nursery and prayground will be closed. We will continue to live-stream this service.

Drive-in services will change to 8:45 am on September 13; Wednesday services will stay the same at 6:20 pm.



If you have a prayer request for the Prayer Chain, you can either put it in the offering plate on Sunday or Wednesday or 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:** Natalie Embertson's family on the death of her aunt Carol; Anita Martinson's family on the death of her brother Bruce;

Ongoing: educators and students; Uncle Charles; Greg Anderson; Alissa Jensen; Jackie Nornes; Donny Cossette; Nancy Albertson; all residents and staff of assisted living and nursing home facilities; Teresa Mandery and her father Charlie; Ruth Unger; Mike Stanek and family on future deployment; Nancy Walsh; Shari Hanson; Kevin Goedker; for peace in our world; Bob Morris; the unemployed; healthcare workers; Yvonne Doust; Jenny Pederson; for protection from Corona Virus; Aldene Gosse; Bobbie Sayles; Roy Cheney; those who are abused; all dealing with addiction; couples trying to have babies; all affected by mental health issues; all caregivers; everyone dealing with cancer

**Service:** Zac Myhre deployed to South Korea

**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 August:

Jennie and Josh Klukas and family; Ellie Knold; Butch and Jean Koering; Kris Kolstad; Laura and Nick Kory and family; Marlene Kossila; Keith Koster; Lisa Kotchikian; Norma and Ted Kotyk; Jean Krueger; John Kruize and family; Kelly Kruize and family; Cory Kruse and family; Doug and Vicki Kruse; Tiffany Kruse; Camille and Clayton Lang and family; Vicki LaPlant; Beth and Rob Larson; Eric and Sara Larson; Lori and Syd Larson; Peggy Larson; Brenda and Jayme Laughton and family; Don and Jan Lawrence; Sandy Leach; Bonnie LeDoux; Corky and Lana LeDoux; Hollie LeDoux and family; Cathy and Dan Lee and family; Laurie Levig; Sheri Libera; Karly and Mike Lillo



**Sundays** 

9:00 on 9/6: the Meyer family and Karen and Steve Rosenow 8:45 on 9/13: Janis and Jim Peterson and the Hennessey family 8:45 on 9/20: the Meyer family and Mary and Scott Parsons 8:45 on 9/27: Keith and Kirsten Olson and Janis and Jim Peterson

Wednesdays at 6:20 pm 9/2 and 9/9: the Gindorff family 9/16: Greg and Sue Wiger 9/23: the Lindholm family 9/30: Greg and Sue Wiger

# **Bethlehem worship services**

### **Drive-in services**

\*Sunday, 9/6 at 9:00 am
\*Sundays, 9/13, 9/20,and 9/27 at 8:45 am
\*All Wednesdays at 6:20 pm
\*Communion on 1st and 3rd Sundays and
the following Wednesdays

# Sundays at 10:30 am

## CREATION CARE

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For the past 10 years, scientists funded by the US Agency for International Development's Predict program (USAID/PREDICT) have pinpointed and warned about the more than 900 viruses most likely to cross over from animals' bodies into humans. Since 1940, hundreds of microbial pathogens, such as HIV, Ebola, Zika, MERS, West Nile, and a number of novel coronaviruses (such as COVID-19) have emerged either for the first time or in new territory, with 60% of them originating in animal hosts. More than two-thirds spread from wildlife, where the pathogens live harmlessly, while some come from pets and livestock. Habitat destruction from cutting down forests to expand towns, cities and industrial activities not only threatens vast numbers of wildlife with extinction, it also forces wild species into closer, intimate contact with humans, allowing benign microbes to be transformed into deadly pathogens. The U.S. government ended the PREDICT program last October, but we can urge our policy makers to work to not only reinstate it, but also to protect wildlife habitats that keep animal microbes from jumping between species.

From NEMN Synod's EcoFath Green Tips August 2020

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



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wed
30	31	1	
9:00 am – Drive in worship service 10:30 am – ONLINE only worship service	6:00 pm – Board of Service and Evangelism meeting ONLINE via Zoom	5:00 pm – Board of Worship and Music meeting ONLINE via Zoom	10:00 am – coi Edgewood Ba 6:20 pm – Driv service
6	LABOR DAY 7	8	
9:00 am – Drive in worship service with communion 10:30 am – ONLINE only worship service	Office closed	BACK School	5:00 pm – Bell 6:20 pm – Driv service with co
God's Work. Our Hands. 13	14	15	
8:45 am — Drive in worship service 10:30 am — ONLINE only worship service 11:30 — God's Work. Our Hands. blessing in BELC parking lot then proceed to work sites	7:00 pm – Board of Education and Spiritual Formation meeting in BELC parking lot	5:30 pm — Board of Stewardship and Properties meeting in BELC parking lot	5:00 pm – Bell 5:30 pm – Wor meeting 6:20 pm – Driv service
2 <sup>nd</sup> Grade Bibles 20	21	First day of autumn 22	Catechis
8:45 am — Drive in worship service with communion 10:30 am — in-person worship; open to first 40 people who preregister on website/call office; masks must be worn; this will also be live-streamed	5:00 pm – Creation Care Team meeting in BELC parking lot	*HAPPY fall yall	6:20 pm – Driv service with co 7:00 pm – cate bring bible/ma 7:00 pm – High Group outside mask/chair
Back to School Blessing 27	28	29	
8:45 am — Drive in worship service 9:45 am — Sunday School; bring mask/chair/1 adult per household 10:30 am — in-person worship; open to first 40 people who preregister on website/call office; masks must be worn; this will also be live-streamed	Digital Theological Conference		6:20 pm – Drivi service 7:00 pm – cate bring bible/ma 7:00 pm – High Group outside; mask/chair



Curbside drop-off/pick-up is available from 8:30 – 12:00 pm on Mondays – Fridays beginning September 8. Call 829-3330 when you arrive and someone will meet you at the front door.

Saturday

Friday

lesday	Illoisday	riluay	Saturday
2	3	4	5
nmunion at ter : in worship	g:oo am – communion at Edgewood Brainerd		Spencer/Bosaaen wedding offsite
9	10	11	12
Choir rehearsal e in worship mmunion	5:15 pm – Board of Congregational Care and Community meeting ONLINE via Zoom 6:30 pm – SMART Team meeting ONLINE via Zoom		
16	17	18	19
Choir rehearsal hip Team in worship			
m begins 23	24	25	26
e in worship mmunion hism outside; sk/chair School Youth bring			Young/Gohman wedding offsite
30	1	2	3
in worship hism outside; k/chair School Youth bring			9:00 am – Lay Leader Network Series



Please remember these people in prayer on their birthdays.

9/1 ~ Allison Taylor, Sheri Olson

9/2 ~ Deb McCarthy, Scott Stall

9/3 ~ Eric Burgstaler, Bethany
Doucette, Mike Finch, Nate Macejkovic,
Angela Oder

9/4 ~ Kathy Dufour

9/5 ~ Ellie Forsberg, Amanda Hanson, Linda Schuster

9/6 ~ Deborah Berry, Amy Vleck

9/8 ~ Delanie Dosh, Pam Finch, Ron Holloway, Tyler Lundgren, Josh Patrick, Cori Wrobel

9/10 ~ Wendy Gindorff, Sara Larson, Linda Soderman

9/11 ~ Barry Adams, Sue Johnson, Joe Lindholm

9/12 ~ Josh Mienert, Ruth Unger

9/13 ~ Kevin Goedker, Amy Hendrickson, Cindy Hendrickson, Elizabeth Spigarelli

9/14 ~ Auggie Lang

9/15 ~ James Brown, Bev Emery

9/16 ~ Janee Burgoyne, Bob Hendrickson, Thor Johnson, Lois Juntunen, Beth Larson, Ava Marshall, Trevor Shaw

9/17 ~ Nikki Anderson, Wanda Lundeby

9/18 ~ Ellie Knold

9/19 ~ Adam Carlson

9/21 ~ Eli Christiansen, Samantha Horton

9/22 ~ Teresa Christiansen, Jason Grimm, Jamie Stall

9/23 ~ Nayden Blum

9/24 ~ Tim Bogenschutz, Linda Ekstrum, Laurie Levig, Patrick Slough

9/25 ~ Kelsey Hoff, Emily Hollingsworth, Amanda Unger, David Zelenka

9/27 ~ Cheryl Bailey, Lee Ann Hollingsworth

9/28 ~ Eric Eidenshink

9/29 ~ Luke Meyer, Noah Meyer, Allyson Rust

9/30 ~ Geremy Anderson

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 to Jerry DeChaine, Kevin Goedker, Jon Luhrs, Scott Pederson, and Todd Person. They are the behind-the-scenes guys who make our services

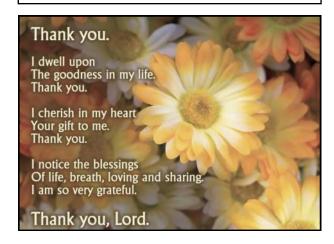
happen. By sound, the and uploadonto our and they make

streamed



running recording services, ing them website Facebook, our live and services so

much better! Though you may only notice their work when something goes wrong, the pastors and musicians notice it weekly. We couldn't do what we do without you. THANK YOU!!!!



Thank you for your donation of \$78.17 to the CLC Food Pantry. Community connections and involvement are an integral piece to the future of our college. Your philanthropy and spirit of giving is critical in assuring Central Lakes College provides the best possible educational opportunities to help our students and community meet their full potential. In gratitude, Jana Shogren, Executive Director, CLC Foundation



**Foundation** 



Thank you for your donation of \$398.45 to Sharing Bread Soup Kitchen. Your generous gift of money helps pay for 60-80 meals per day. With gratitude, Glen Gustafson, Treasurer, Sharing Bread Soup Kitchen



# 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 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!



Have you seen the new page on our website highlighting all of our community partners?

Go to our website www.belcnet.net and click on "About" and then click "Community Partners".

The page highlights some of community partners' immediate needs and then gives a brief description and link to each of their websites.

Check it out!



# Immediate Needs

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

Confidence Learning Center
\*gift cards from any local store in any amount
for their wish list

Habitat for Humanity
\*needs volunteers at ReStore

Mid Minnesota Women's Center
\*paper products: toilet paper, paper towels,
kleenex
\*disposable masks
\*food and gas cards



Calabrata the feast of St. Francis of Assisi with a

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

# BLESSING OF ANIMALS



Bethlehem will celebrate the feast of St. Francis of Assisi on October 4 with a blessing of animals at the drive-in services that week (8:45 am on October 4 and 6:20 pm on October 7). Bring your pets. They must be on leashes, in pet carriers, or must remain in the vehicle/trailer.







Please use this bookmark to assist you in your challenge! Bookmarks will be available every other month.

Visit www.enterthebible.org for more resources.

**Sept. 1** Heb. 7-10

Sept. 2 Heb. 11-13

Sept. 3 James

Sept. 4 1 Peter

Sept. 5 2 Peter

Sept. 6 1 John

**Sept. 7** 2&3 Jn

Sept. 8 Jude

**Sept. 9** Rev. 1-3

**Sept. 10** Rev. 4-8

**Sept. 11** Rev. 9-12

**Sept. 12** Rev. 13-16

**Sept. 13** Rev. 17-19

**Sept. 14** Rev. 20-22

You did it!

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.

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