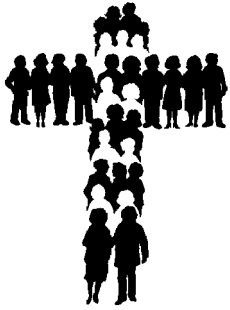


CROSSINGS

JULY 2018



Bethlehem Lutheran Church
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Jesus told a famous story when those questions were posed to him. It was a story about safety. It was a story about hospitality and welcome. And it was told to answer the question, "Who is my neighbor?"

In the parable of the Good Samaritan, the "neighbor" turned out to be the foreigner, a Samaritan, the one who helped or showed loving kindness to the man who fell victim to robbers. The story highlighted what Jesus had laid out just before telling it, "Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law."



Who is My Neighbor?

Grace and peace to you in the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ,

I am heartbroken by the news that over the last 2 months over 2000 immigrant children have been separated from their families and detained on our southern border.

The news of children being detained has captured national attention and produced outrage. However, by the time you read this, that singular policy will likely have changed. But the underlying questions will remain. Who is my neighbor? Who is welcome among us? Will we be safe?

Abraham and Sarah's hospitality led to an encounter with God and a promise that God would "bless them to be a blessing to all the earth," Genesis, Chapter 18. Referring to them, Paul advises early Christians, "Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it," Hebrews 13.

Some have asked, "What can we do?" Here are some suggestions that I have heard and pass along to you. Maybe you'll pass along some ideas to me.

Speak up, talk about it. If you have a clear sense that a different direction needs to be taken let your representatives know that. We are fortunate to live in a free country governed "by the people" as we will celebrate on the 4th of July.

Listen to others for ideas. Don't forget to include those who you disagree with.

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Allow scriptural truth to guide your living. Doing this requires reading and praying with scripture in addition to hearing the word in proclamation and song on Sunday. Be aware that singular passages of scripture can be taken out of context and used to support any point. When we talk about using scripture to guide our Christian living, we need to know the whole of scripture and God’s repeated action of loving kindness along with the expectation of us to do likewise.

Finally, welcome the stranger and practice kindness to those most in need of it. Also practice forgiveness and humility. None of us are going to do any of this perfectly, certainly not me. Lord have mercy.

Blessings, Pastor Carol

BETHLEHEM’S GENERAL OPERATING FUND

Below is the action report of our giving with dollar amounts for May and YTD.

2018	May	YTD Actual	YTD Budget
Receipts to Gen. Oper. Fund	\$18,672.17	\$86,318.92	\$81,925.00
Expenses	\$15,285.36	\$80,708.29	\$81,925.00
Total Receipts less Expenses	\$ 3,386.81	\$ 5,610.63	\$ 0.00

Thank you for remembering your church when away on vacation by mailing in your offerings or using My E-offerings. Also thank you for using your deficit reduction and renovation envelope for extra gifts to the church.

Bethlehem’s Renovation and Property Trust Fund

2018	May	YTD
Contributions to Renovation	\$ 365.00	\$ 1,951.00
Contributions to Property Trust	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00

Our renovation loan balance is currently \$13,300.
Chery Peacock, Treasurer

Sunday Morning Schedule

9:00 a.m. Summer Worship
10:00 a.m. Hospitality Hour

Summer Worship: One Spirit, One Body will continue through Sunday, July 29th. Each Sunday offers something unique. Please join us!

Celebrate God’s Children on July 15. The CDC children are invited to join our Bethlehem children that day in song and dance. We will recognize all teachers for their dedication to working with the children.

Learn to sing in Swedish! On July 22, we will be honoring Bethlehem’s Swedish heritage with a special choir singing verse one of *How Great Thou Art* in Swedish. Inez Tornblom will teach us Sunday, July 8th during the Coffee Hour (about 10:20) and Wednesday, July 18th at 7:00 p.m. Come to either or both. Contact Inez or Peg (847-337-9805) if interested.

Come July 29 to hear Hank Honshul sing *In the Garden*. Hank recently joined our Praise Him group as bass player and we are so appreciative of what he adds to our worship.

Thank you, Owen Thomas! On June 10, Owen played drums with our Praise group. We look forward to future Sundays when he can join us.

Holy Communion is offered at each service. July 29 will offer healing and communion.

Music opportunities: Contact Peg Youngren (syoungren@sbcglobal.net)

Praise Him Contemporary Ensemble: Wednesdays at 4:30 p.m.
Bethlehem Choir: Wednesdays at 7:15 p.m., resuming in September
Instrumental and vocal solos and ensembles

SUMMARY OF BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

June 11, 2018

CONGREGATION COUNCIL

Barkley Mapes, President	224-803-6573
Billie Jo Waugh, Secretary	847-917-0319
Bill Lunsford, Vice-President	847-922-9933
Bob Graham	847-695-9186
Sue Richoz	847-305-9957
Margaret Drafall	847-695-4721
Heather Thomas	847-977-1371
Pastor Carol Book	856-655-4743

May income of \$18,672.17 was \$2,287 over budget. Expenses of \$15,285.36 were \$1,099 under budget. Income less expenses was \$3386.81 resulting in a positive balance in the general operating fund of \$5,610.63.

Property repairs included State of Illinois boiler inspection of our two boilers at \$70 each and an elevator service repair from the end of March for \$347. Annual renewal of Microsoft Office was \$106. Bulletins for Holy Week and Easter cost \$125 due to the use of color.

Other notes: Interest on renovation loan was \$57.37. Repair of wall in kindergarten room and installation of removable panel for future access to water pipes was \$650. Final payment for new boiler at 398 Grand was \$1,900. Paid \$400 toward Endowment loan principal for a current balance of \$13,300. Mission trip pasta dinner receipts were \$2,633. A designated benevolence of \$1,000 was made to Strawberry Festival.

Michael Tanner (grandson of Ida Mockler) and Alexis Pearce were married June 9th. Stephanie Anderson (daughter of Gary & Meggie) married Brian Mathus on June 2nd in Champaign. Catherine Lou Lichtenberg (granddaughter of Jeff & Cindy Lange) was baptized on May 6th.

The Strategy Team was present at the council meeting to update council about the team’s thoughts and plans. This also presented an ideal opportunity to discuss the progress and direction in which the

congregation is moving. The team has requested money from Endowment to continue updating our technology and marketing materials.

Regarding the CDC fire code issue, the state has approved our request for a variance which eliminates the need for a wall between the stairs and Wittenstrom Hall and eliminates the need for making any changes to the doors to the sanctuary. This variance also results in lower costs. We are now waiting for the various contractors to submit adjusted bids.

Don Samuelson was approved to serve on the Audit Committee. Mike Murschel was appointed to serve on the open seat on Church Council.

Respectfully submitted,
Billie Jo Waugh, Secretary



During the month of July, The Service Committee will collect items for the “Project Backpack 2018”. Please take a list from the display in the Narthex, purchase the items and return. There have been 12,500 backpacks, filled with school supplies given out since it started in 2010. Last year alone, there were 1,400 backpacks given out.

Please help us continue to get the new school year started out in a good way for the students of the following districts: U-46, D300, D301, D303 and D20. Thank you!

INVITE!**JULY BIRTHDAYS**

02	Lorena Malave
03	Janine Tanner
04	Barbara Siljestrom
05	Mark Tanner
06	MaryLeslie Naker
	James Sitz
07	Scott Gabrys
08	Sherry Liske
	Burt Lynn
10	Kyle Anderson
11	Margaret Anderson
12	Griffin Allen
13	Linda Tyler
	Will Miller
14	Guadalupe Ramirez
15	Emma Anderson
17	Martha Yochum
	Socorro Cortes
	Parker Jones
18	Marilyn House
	Gary Anderson
	Sarah Benitez
19	Brenden Canham
20	Paula Roland
21	Sharon Calderwood
23	Cindy Lange
24	Mert Varboncoeur
	Dale Anderson
	Fred Harnish
26	Kathra Naviaux
31	Paige Allen
	Anne-Marie Rozsa

Being an inviting church means that we seek out our neighbors instead of waiting for them to seek out our church. Inviting is different. Inviting is active. Invite someone to check out something Bethlehem is involved in.

We have lots of fun activities, service projects, and church groups. Maybe someone out there is just waiting to be invited!

ELECTED MEMBERS AT ANNUAL MEETING

Those members who were elected at the annual meeting will begin serving on July 1, 2018.

Church Council (2-year term): Karin Jones, Ronnie Malave and Billie Jo Waugh (her 2nd term); Heather Thomas and Mike Murschel newly appointed by council joins Margaret Drafall, Robert Graham, Barkley Mapes

CDC Board (2-year term): Nancy Klemm, Marti Jernberg (2nd term) and Paul Larson (2nd term) joins Deb Sensor, Joyce Ross, Meggi Anderson & Latoya Randall

Property Trust Committee (2-year term): Don Samuelson, joins Shirley Pflederer, Bud Heimberg, Barkley Mapes, a person on Executive Board (TBD)

Endowment Board has a 3-year term which began in January: Karen Ottaviano & Paul Sitz, joins Scott Gabrys, Rachel Campbell, Gayle Chiarugi,

Memorials Committee(3-year term): Jan Jones (2nd term) & Amanda Richoz joins Jennifer Shroder, Judy Sorton, & Inez Tornblom

Nominating Committee (1-year term): Lin Cruse, Libby Hoeft, Sue Richoz, Bill Lunsford & Rachel Campbell

THANK YOU, PRAYER PARTNERS

Thank you, prayer partners! Your prayers are so important to us and to those we will serve in Kansas City, MO.

The list of prayer partners has grown to 119: received by June 21: Jill & Greg Olson, Carol Reisener

LAYETTES FOR MISSION TRIP

We will continue to collect items for Sherry Liske's next Mission Trip to Mexico. Please take a tag or two, purchase the item(s) and return. Thank you!



**BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN CHURCH
JULY 2018**

<i>SUNDAY</i>	<i>MONDAY</i>	<i>TUESDAY</i>	<i>WEDNESDAY</i>	<i>THURSDAY</i>	<i>FRIDAY</i>	<i>SATURDAY</i>
1 *Matthew Miedwig family 9:00 Summer Worship Children worship; no Sunday School 10:00 Hospitality Hour	2 *Kathryn Miller and Hudson 12:30 Craft Circle – Red Room 7:00 Worship Meeting 7:00 Learning Meeting 7:00 Witness Meeting 7:30 Boy Scouts	3 *Lorraine Mink No Bible Study	4 *Ida Mockler Office and CDC Closed	5 *JoAnn Mrozek 4:30 Praise Him 7:00 Finance Meeting 7:00 Executive Meeting	6 *M/M James Muirhead	7 *M/M Mike Murschel 8:30 – 4:30 Habitat House 941 Chippewa Carpentersville
8 *MaryLeslie Naker 9:00 Summer Worship 10:00 Hospitality Hour	9 *Kathra Naviaux 7:00 Church Council 7:30 Boy Scouts	10 *Ellen Nelson 10:00 Bible Study	11 *Amy O'Brien and family 4:30 Praise Him	12 *Aimee O'Claire	13 *Alexander O'Claire	14 *M/M Robert O'Connor 8:30 – 4:30 Habitat House 941 Chippewa Carpentersville
15 *Aracely Ojada and family 9:00 Summer Worship 10:00 Hospitality Hour	16 *Drew Olson 7:30 Boy Scouts	17 *Eric Olson 10:00 Bible Study	18 *M/M Greg Olson CROSSINGS DUE TO SHIRLEY HARNISH 4:30 Praise Him	19 *Kristin Olson 7:00 CDC Board Meeting	20 *Megan Olson	21 *Gary Ottaviano family 8:30 – 4:30 Habitat House 941 Chippewa Carpentersville
22 *Hillary Ottaviano 9:00 Summer Worship 10:00 Hospitality Hour	23 *Lindsey Ottaviano 7:30 Boy Scouts	24 *Kyleigh Pacello 10:00 Bible Study	25 *Krisi Parsonage 4:30 Praise Him	26 *Barbara Paulsen	27 *M/M John Peacock 4:00 Soup Kitchen – Holy Trinity Church	28 *Vivian Peck 8:30 – 4:30 Habitat House 941 Chippewa Carpentersville
29 *Wilma Peterson Healing/Communion Service 9:00 Summer Worship 10:00 Hospitality Hour	30 *M/M Jack Pflederer 7:30 Boy Scouts	31 *David Quick 10:30 Bible Study				

Holy Communion served at all services.

*Members to be prayed for.