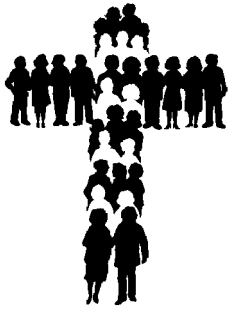


CROSSINGS



OCTOBER 2021

Bethlehem Lutheran Church
340 Grand Blvd.
Elgin, IL 60120
Phone: 847-741-8434
Fax: 847-741-8996

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Dear Bethlehem,

Didn't you love Pastor Art's reflection of the word *pivot* at the

Bethlehem's September Anniversary Celebration? He marveled at the disciple Peter's sudden change of direction, from one who denied knowing the Lord when questioned by a young servant girl, to one who would stand up in a large crowd and call others to a new direction. That was some pivot.

Certainly, the last couple of years have kept us on our toes as an organization ready to make whatever adjustments necessary, from at home worship via Zoom, to communion in the parking lot, to in person with masks, to outdoor mask optional services. There have been a lot of pivots, not only in reaction into outside circumstances, but

intentional changes to benefit the congregation like deciding to continue online worship for the benefit of those who are not able to attend in person. You have done remarkably well with all those pivots people of God, but sometimes, it gets exhausting, doesn't it?

But there is another meaning of the word pivot according to Webster, a noun, rather than a verb.

Pivot, noun

1. the central point, on which a mechanism turns or oscillates.

Jesus is the pivot of Bethlehem Lutheran. He is the central point on which we rotate. Change, new direction can be disorienting and downright scary, so many decisions. The clear message that I've heard in prayer of late is "*Don't be afraid.*" "*Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding. In all your ways, acknowledge him, and he will direct your path.*" Proverbs 3: 4,5

Do not be afraid, Bethlehem, as long as Jesus is our pivot. When we are not able to pivot on our own, don't know which way to turn, not able to change ourselves or others; may Jesus, our center, be the one who changes us. May he fill us with hope and courage and move us in new directions for the sake of the gospel. Maybe Peter didn't pull themselves up by his bootstraps and get out there to witness, maybe he just hung in there long enough and close

enough to experience the miracle of Pentecost where he was filled with power and spirit of God.

Hang in there Bethlehem; the Lord will direct your path.

Blessings in Christ,
Pastor Carol

**BETHLEHEM'S GENERAL
OPERATING FUND**

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

2021	August	YTD Actual	YTD Budget
Receipts to Gen. Oper. Fund	\$13,812.48	\$126,023.68	\$124,938.00
Expenses	\$14,193.89	\$122,191.82	\$124,938.00
Total Receipts less Expenses	\$ (381.41)	\$ 3,831.86	\$ 0.00

As we begin autumn, we look forward to going back to our normal church activities. Our expenses continue, and we are so grateful for all your generous support.

Bethlehem's Renovation and Property Trust Fund

2021	July	YTD
Contributions to Renovation	\$ 270.00	\$ 3,405.00
Contributions to Property Trust	\$ 6,340.00	\$ 6,346.00

Our Renovation loan balance for our building improvements \$59,800.

Chery Peacock, Treasurer

CONFIRMATION

The first meeting of confirmation will be on Wednesday, October 6 at 7 p.m. in the sanctuary.

**BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN
CHURCH COUNCIL**

President: Rachel Campbell	847-695-9024
Vice President: Karin Jones	224-558-9504
Secretary: Gary Ottaviano	847-741-8110
Heather Thomas	847-977-1371
Ronnie Malave	847-873-9940
Jill Olson	847-741-8918
Tom Ayres	847-697-1248
Chris Hunsicker	847-697-8675
Steve Jernberg	224-588-0114

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS



- 01 Bradley Burnett
- 02 Kristen Anderson
- 04 Martha Wolff
- 05 Elaine Shroder
- 11 Lin Cruse
- 13 Carla Kroll
- Bill Lunsford
- 17 Patty Burnett
- 21 Anna Robbins
- 24 Lindsey Morris
- Rob Quick
- 25 Ed Hernandez
- 28 Shirley Pflederer
- 29 Giselle Luna
- 31 Alex O'Claire

COMMUNION CUPS FOR ZOOM

If you are running low, please contact Cindy in the office for more.

REGULAR SCHEDULE SERVICES

9:00 a.m. Traditional, vaccinated only, everyone masks indoors, singing last song.

9:45 a.m. Coffee Hour Outdoors for both services, weather permitting. Thanks to the Rebecca Circle

10:30 Sunday School for ages 3 through sixth grade. Outdoors. 25 minute Bible Study and crafts

10:30 a.m. Outdoor Worship, contemporary songs with Arturo Guevara, masks optional with distance, singing encouraged

Prayer Requests

Our BLC members: Tom Ayres, James Bacon, Karen Dingel, Jackie Gordon, Fred Harnish, Kathra Naviaux, Ashley Ottaviano, Gary Ottaviano, Wilma Peterson, Shirley Pflederer, Dave Quick, Larry & Juanita Rohrsen, Mike Warren, Sharon Williamson.

For friends and relatives: Paige Allen, Armando, Rudy Bivic, Cuca Cartagena, Phyllis Chambers, Anna Marie & Anthony Chiarugi, Linda Conn, Jessica Crampton, Ginny & Harry Datisman, Bob Drafall, Kathi Fafendyk, Kristen Forman, Michelle G, Robert Goers, Al Grantham, Rheine Grischow, Frank Harnish, Jan Hornbostel, Jayme Hext, Vicki Kopecky, John Korp, Norma Lopez, David M, Janet Mayes, Charlotte Lee Miller, Belinda Mockler, Richard Osar, Sandy Patterson, Tom Peterson, Josh R, Irma Raddatz, Leslie Ross, Diane S, Debbie Sanders, Diane Scholinski, Cathy Selpien, Ginny Speakman, Nancy Voross, Bruno Zaucha & family, Cousin of Judy Fritz – Jim, his daughter Stacy and her family.

Please pray for our men and women in the Armed Services: Jason Patterson (nephew of Shirley Harnish)

Worship /Study Schedule**Sunday Service:**

9 a.m. on Zoom

Call 1-312-626-6799

Meeting ID: 947 2112 9583 Password: 058733

Monday Meetings

Call 1-312-626-6799

Meeting ID: 817 3102 4901 Passcode: 069537

Tuesday Bible Study 10 a.m. or meetings

Call 1-312-626-6799

Meeting: 852 4417 3785 Password: 387195

Wednesday Activities

Call 1-312-626-6799

Meeting ID 894 7503 5205 Password: 088632

Thursday Activities

Call 1-312-626-6799

Meeting ID 952 1009 4147 Password: 935958

NEW SOUP KITCHEN COORDINATOR NEEDED

It has been my privilege to serve as Bethlehem's coordinator for the Elgin Cooperative Ministries soup kitchen program for the last 36 years.

I now need to step back from my leadership role. We need someone (or more than one) to take over the responsibility of planning the monthly meal (on the fourth Friday of the month at Holy Trinity Lutheran church in Elgin), buying the groceries for the meal and making sure there are enough volunteers for serving.

I will work with the new person (or persons) and help in any way I can. I have menus and there is a wonderful, dedicated group of volunteers for this ministry. And best of all we have a good time working together. I will still be serving at the meals.

If you would be interested in this opportunity to serve, please contact me (847-695-9186) or the church office.

Peggy Graham

39th ANNUAL CROP HUNGER WALK IN ELGIN

You can help feed the hungry right here in Elgin. The CROP Hunger Walk is Sunday, October 17, 2021. In order to walk, you will need to register online at the website: <https://events.crophungerwalk.org/2021/eventelginil>

If you are unable to walk, please consider donating on my crop walk page or give me a check payable CWS/Crop Walk. Donating online is easy and safe. Registration begins at 1:30 p.m. at the Civic Center. Step-off is 2:00 p.m. 25% of the money will go to the local food pantries and soup kettles. Won't you join me to help end hunger?

Last year, Gayle and I raised over \$2,575 and it was a virtual walk. We walked with her granddaughters through the neighborhood of Lords Park. I'm looking forward to another Crop Walk on a lovely fall afternoon.

Cindy Lange

THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS

For those who have investments with Thrivent Financial, choice dollars are made available to be given to selected organizations. **A big thank you** to the members who have selected Bethlehem Lutheran Church as the recipient of their choice dollars so far during 2021. It's important to check your Thrivent account to see if you have Choice Dollars to donate. Your selection of BLC has resulted in additional income to BLC of \$1,066.00 as of August 31st.

If you have choice dollars available, please consider designating Bethlehem as the recipient. You can ask your Thrivent representative or call 1-800-THRIVENT for more information. You can also find information on the website: www.Thrivent.com.

NEW HOPE PARTNERSHIP - HABITAT

A picture is worth a thousand words. Here is the duplex at 57 Elm Ave in Carpentersville. (first picture was taken **June 24** and the second one **September 23**)

It's so exciting to see the progress of the duplex. The plumbers are doing their work. Next will be the electrician and other trades people. God's people are serving to deliver a home for Laura and Rachel's families.



BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN CHURCH AND CDC PRESENT



COSTUMES, TREATS, GAMES, CRAFTS & FUN

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 23RD - 10AM

JOIN US FOR A BLESSING OF THE LITTLE SAINTS- FOLLOWED BY
TRUNK OR TREAT, CRAFTS AND GAMES!

BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN CHURCH

340 Grand Blvd. Elgin, IL 60120

SAFE AND FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY