



Blessed to be a Blessing

September 2021

Worship Services

8:00 a.m. and 10:15 a.m.
Online and In-person
Services

*"Gathered around Word and
Sacrament, we live the Good
News of Christ's love
throughout our
Community and the World."*

Bethlehem Staff

Pastor Katie Chullino,
pastor@bethlehem-lutheran.net

Nancy Tiff, Office Coordinator
admin@bethlehem-lutheran.net

**Brenda Harris, Director of
Worship and Music**
worship@bethlehem-lutheran.net

**Gary Knutson, Faith Formation
Director**
faithformation@bethlehem-
lutheran.net

Karen Haag, Bookkeeper
bookkeeper@bethlehem-
lutheran.net

**Tiffany Beisner,
Communications Coordinator**
communications@bethlehem-
lutheran.net

Aaron Jurkovich, Webmaster
webmaster@bethlehem-
lutheran.net

Cornerstone Preschool

**Andrea Becker, Director of
Cornerstone Preschool**
andrea.j.becker@gmail.com

Ministry Events in September

- ♦ Virtual Worship Service: Sundays, 8:00 a.m.
- ♦ Manna Bible Study: Mondays, 9:00 a.m.–11:00 a.m. via Zoom
- ♦ Bethlehem Quilters: Thursdays, 9:00 a.m. via Zoom
- ♦ Daily Walk Bible Study: Wednesdays, 9:00 a.m. via Zoom
- ♦ Men's Bible Study: Saturdays, 8:00 a.m. at the Bethlehem Stable
- ♦ Confirmation Class: 6–8 grade, Wednesdays, 7:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall
- ♦ First Friday Social: September 3, 6:30 p.m. hosted by Roger and Jane L.
- ♦ Communication Committee Meeting: September 7, 6:00 p.m. via Zoom
- ♦ Bethlehem Book Club: September 9, 9:00 a.m. via Zoom
- ♦ Ambassadors at The Atria: Sunday, September 12 at 11:15 a.m.
- ♦ Naomi Circle: Tuesday, September 14, 9:15 a.m.
- ♦ BLC Council Meeting: September 14, 7:00 p.m., Fireside Room

All meetings will be by video conferencing unless otherwise noted; contact the meeting coordinator for the link information. More details of these events and additional information can be found on our website:
www.bethlehem-lutheran.net.



Rev's Revelations

The Lord said to Moses, "This is the land of which I swore to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, saying, 'I will give it to your descendants'; I have let you see it with your eyes, but you shall not cross over there." Then Moses, the servant of the Lord, died there in the land of Moab, at the Lord's command. He was buried in a valley in the land of Moab, opposite Beth-peor, but no one knows his burial place to this day. Moses was one hundred twenty years old when he died; his sight was unimpaired and his vigor had not abated. ~Deuteronomy 34:4-8

Can you imagine 120 years? Moses' 120 years were full--plagues, standing up to Pharaoh and his army, crossing the Red Sea, receiving the commandments, giving the commandments to an obstinate group of people, breaking the commandments (breaking the literal stone on which they were written) and then receiving and giving them again, all before finally reaching sight of that promised land.

That's 120 years of life. 120 years is an epic story. It's a story most people do not live. But, we do.

Now, I know that probably no one reading this was born 120 years ago—our oldest church member is only 101-years-old. But *we did exist then*.

120 years ago was 1901. Longmont was a relatively new town—so new there was not even a Lutheran church here until that October. "The first records show that on the 13th day of October, 1901, a number of Lutheran people who had come to Longmont to make their home, gathered to consider organizing a Lutheran congregation in this city..." A resolution was passed with 33 people pledging themselves to organize a Lutheran congregation in Longmont as part of the United Norwegian Lutheran Church of America. According to church records, that's the beginning of the Bethlehem Lutheran congregation—that's us!

In our 120 years we haven't lived quite the epic story Moses did, but we do have a story that moves almost as much. We didn't cross the Red Sea or wander the desert, but we did move from the home of Evan Olden on 444 Collier Street to the "Old Church," to the new building on Fourth Avenue and Terry, and to our current home on 15th Avenue and Pratt Street in 1970. We didn't have any tablet breaking moments, but we did see Peace Lutheran split as the congregation merged with Bethlehem Lutheran. And, I'd say we didn't suffer the plagues—but we are coming out of a pandemic might suggest otherwise.

While his story certainly lived on, 120 was the end of Moses' life. We, too, have seen pieces of our past end. I've spent some time reminiscing with some members these past weeks. I learned about some of the good ol' days when our church life included Luther League, children's choir, pig roasts, a growing congregation with friends and families moving to Longmont (largely from Lutheran-thick areas in the Midwest), simpler times when our schedules weren't so packed. It's important to know that 120 isn't merely an end of what was. 120 is a beginning, too.

On the day of Pentecost (aka: the birthday of the church!), Acts 1 tells us, "Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day's journey away. When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James, son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers. In those days Peter stood up among the believers (together the crowd numbered about *one hundred twenty persons*...).

120 represents new life. 120 is the first disciples times ten! 120 is growth and change and mission. 120 is new life for the church.

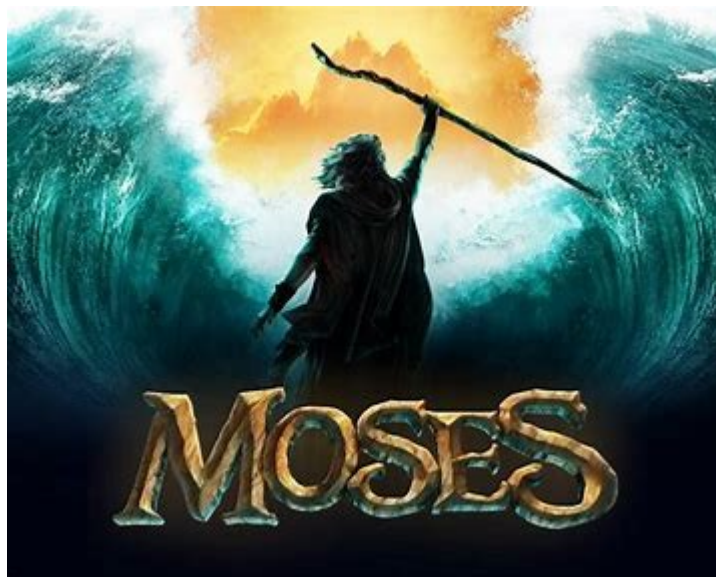
In our 120th year, we have all the history those first believers had—plus all the history of Bethlehem. Some pieces of our history we remember so fondly have changed—and they continue to change—as our congregation grows in new ways. Luther League has become Day Camps and Youth Gatherings, children's choir has become Boomwhackers!, pig roasts—well, I'm not sure what those have become but I'm all for bringing those back! We have added other ministries, too—bible studies, the Living Nativity, projects with Habitat and the Our Center. We may not live in simpler times, but we live.

As those 33 people pledged themselves to this congregation back in 1901 and as those 120 believers devoted themselves on Pentecost, so we give ourselves every time we gather (even online) to this story of faith. We start new pages, we write new chapters, and we proclaim God's presence in this community.

Peace,

Rev WC

P.S. Let's celebrate on Sundays! Remember we are gathering in person at 8:00 a.m. in the sanctuary (masks required) and 10:15 a.m. outdoors (masks optional).



Worship

September Lectionary Resources

September 5: Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

James tells us to stop showing favoritism in the assembly, treating the rich visitor with more honor than the poor one. Jesus himself seems to show partiality in his first response to the Syrophoenician woman in today's gospel. Was he testing her faith in saying Gentiles don't deserve the goods meant for God's children? Or was he speaking out of his human worldview, but transcended those limits when she took him by surprise with her reply? Either way, the story tells us that God shows no partiality. Everyone who brings a need to Jesus is received with equal honor as a child and heir. Edited from Sundays and Seasons

- ♦ *James 2:1-10 [11-13] 14-17*
- ♦ *Mark 7:24-37*
- ♦ Holy Communion

September 12: Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Three weeks ago we heard Peter's confession of faith as told in John's gospel. This week we hear Mark's version, when Peter says, "You are the Messiah." In John, the stumbling block is Jesus' invitation to eat his flesh, given for the life of the world. In Mark too the scandal has to do with Jesus' words about his own coming death, and here Peter himself stumbles over Jesus' words. But Jesus is anointed (the meaning of messiah) in Mark only on the way to the cross (14:3); so we are anointed in baptism with the sign of the cross. Edited from Sundays and Seasons

- ♦ *James 3:1-12*
- ♦ *Mark 8:27-38*
- ♦ Holy Communion

September 19: Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

Today we hear James warn against selfish ambition, while the disciples quarrel over which one of them is the greatest. Jesus tells them the

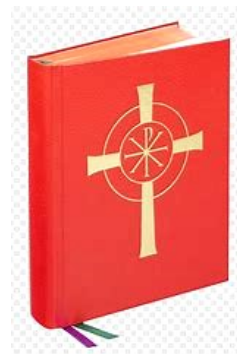
way to be great is to serve. Then, to make it concrete, he puts in front of them a flesh-and-blood child. We are called to welcome the children God puts in front of us, to make room for them in daily interaction, and to give them a place of honor in the assembly. Edited from Sundays and Seasons

- ♦ *James 3:13--4:3, 7-8a*
- ♦ *Mark 9:30-37*
- ♦ Holy Communion

September 26: Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Someone who isn't part of Jesus' own circle is casting out demons in Jesus' name, and the disciples want him stopped. They appeal to Jesus, as Joshua did to Moses about the elders who prophesied without official authorization. Like Moses, Jesus refuses to see this as a threat. Jesus welcomes good being done in his name, even when it is not under his control. The circle we form around Jesus' word must be able to value good being done in ways we wouldn't do it, by people we can't keep tabs on. Edited from Sundays and Seasons

- ♦ *James 5:13-20*
- ♦ *Mark 9:38-50*
- ♦ Holy Communion



Worship

Sunday Worship Online and In Person Opportunities

We have in-person worship at 8:00 a.m. in the sanctuary and outside worship at 10:15 a.m. Masks are required inside the sanctuary and optional at the outside worship. We continue to lead a live stream worship service at 8:00 a.m. on Sundays. You can participate in the latest service here:

<https://tinyurl.com/BLCsundayworship> and choose the appropriate date.

Worship Assistants

The worship schedule is subject to change but the participant lists in the weekly email and the bulletin will be correct. Participants need to contact Brenda (see contact information below) with any questions or concerns.

If you are willing to assist with worship needs (set-up, clean-up, ushering/greeting, reading, etc.) please contact our Worship and Music Director, Brenda, by phone at 303-776-3290 or email at brenda@bethlehem-lutheran.net.

Star Words

These words are meant to ponder and reflect on throughout the year. A tip from A Sanctified Art (sanctifiedart.org): Look up the definition of your word, even if it is a word you know well. You may even look into the etymology of the word and how its meaning has changed throughout history. If you received a non-English word, do as much research as you can into the meaning of the word in its original culture.

Pandemic Advisory Group

Information From Your Pandemic Advisory Group

The Pandemic Advisory Group and Council have updated practices based on current trends and guidance. Please, read the updates on the [Covid-19 News and Plans webpage](#). The biggest changes are:

- 1) Masks are no longer optional indoors. Masks should be worn in all indoor spaces.
- 2) Until the mask guidance changes, indoor groups should not have food/drink.
- 3) The Fireside, Youth and Quilting Rooms are approved for up to 12 people (instead of the previous number 10).
- 4) We will continue indoor worship at 8:00 a.m. and outdoor at 10:15 a.m.

[You can read the August 4 meeting notes here.](#)

[You can read the updated guidelines here.](#)

Council Meetings

[Note: Starting with this month, there will be a monthly Council Meeting Summary in the *Star* newsletter, and the printed copies of the full minutes will be available to read in the library or from the office after they have been approved. This change is due to our upcoming change to a new website which will not have a member's only section.]

Council Meeting Summary: August 10, 2021

The Council met on **August 10**, 2021, with Matt James, Mark Abromski, Jenny Kelley, Greg Schumann, Pr. Katie Chullino, Bob Lee, Brian Carlson, Mark Holste, Eric Kittelberger, Jim Woodruff, and Intern Pr. Joy Koppel in attendance. Following the devotions and prayer:

REPORTS

- ♦ The financial reports were reviewed and approved. Greg noted that we are about \$30,000 below giving to date and plans to inform the congregation to let everyone know where we stand.
- ♦ Pr. Katie: The VBC had 50% attendees that were not from either church so we are reaching into the community! All services are doing well; one member who cannot wear a mask for health reasons is glad to come to outdoor service. We received several nice thank yous.
- ♦ Worship: Jim has been out of town and will contact Brenda for updates. A consensus decision was made to wait to publish attendance data until times are more normal.
- ♦ Evangelism: Bob reported the summer coffee between services worked well, and First Friday at the stable was not so well attended. Dining For 8 was discussed, and the consensus is to gauge interest and identify major factors by email. Our ad to Times Call will be upgraded to show that we have both in-person indoors (masks) and outdoors (masks optional) worship services.
- ♦ Missions: Mark lifted up Casa de Paz and noted that the mission to Pine Ridge might be in jeopardy due to the rise of Covid19 cases on reservation.
- ♦ Stewardship: Eric reported that the Stewardship team is working on a plan to address our budget shortfall and received good suggestions from other council members.
- ♦ Faith Formation: Brian noted the team is preparing for Rally Day on August 22, and Gary Knutson starts on August 16 as the new Faith Formation Director. There is a Sunday School teacher shortage and plans for a meeting with hopes to re-engage with families regarding levels of comfort and how to revitalize the program.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- ♦ Pandemic Advisory group's latest recommendations (changes to require wearing a mask for everyone in the building at all times and to increase group size to 12 for indoor meetings) were accepted. Swapping service times was discussed with the Worship team and was not feasible with volunteers; the outdoor service will continue as long as weather allows.
- ♦ Playground Project Update: Former playground has been dismantled and removed; installation of the new playground equipment should take a few days to complete. Thank you Lori and Ryan B!
- ♦ We entered an Exec session at 8:24 p.m. and exited at 9:09 p.m.

NEW BUSINESS

"God's Work. Our Hands." An opportunity to pair with New Beginnings and make reentry bags for women leaving prison was approved.

Council approved a request from Bob C to reach out to the congregation and explore opportunities to support Mercy Ships, a floating hospital working in Africa.

Update on Property Ministry: There was a good turnout for a property ministry organizational meeting on 18th and follow-up continues; the airflow determination is still in process.

Following prayer considerations and the Lord's prayer, the meeting adjourned at 9:28 p.m. The next Council meeting will be Tuesday, **September 14**, 2021 @ 7:00 p.m.

Faith Formation

Sunday School News

Mark your calendars for Sunday School! "Regular" classes will start on Sunday, **September 12**, between worship services. As we learn about current pandemic practices regarding children and youth groups, we will notify families of specific locations (inside or outside) and masking needs. For more information, contact Faith Formation Director, Gary Knutson (faithformation@bethlehem-lutheran.net.)

Bethlehem Staff Update

Welcome to Our New Faith Formation Director

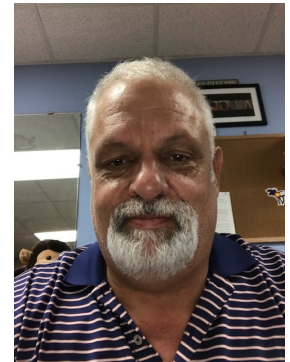
Hi everyone, just a quick note from your new Faith Formation person (Gary Knutson). I have been in ministry (Youth & Families) for over 18 years.

My philosophy to ministry is simple; ("Incarnational Relationships are it") spiritual relationships last a lifetime. I love to walk alongside youth and families in their faith journey and form relationships that will last forever.

I have a lot of dreams for our ministry here at BLC. I love celebrating Faith milestones in youth's lives, from Baptism through graduating from college. (First Bible, First Communion, graduations, Confirmation), etc.

I look forward to starting a 4-6 grade ministry which will meet each month. I also look forward to starting mission trips with our High School youth each summer starting with the ELCA National gathering in the summer of 2022, these trips are epic in the Faith Formation of our youth's preparation in life after High School.

My hopes and dreams are that we as a congregation can walk along side one another in the shaping of lives that serve Christ in his kingdom and form those relationships that Christ did with his disciples. I look forward to serving the congregation here at BLC!



~God's Peace and Love!
Gary Knutson
Director of Faith Formation

Mission and Social Justice

Opportunity Knocks!

Friday, **September 10**–Monday, **September 13**

Looking for three BLC persons to join me on a "Winterization" project at Pine Ridge Reservation. We will be boarded by Tipi Raisers in their new facility in Oglala. The goal is to make life more livable for some of the Lakota in the winter. Projects could involve working on trailers, improving insulation around the base, putting on new siding, replacing old flooring, and patching the roof. Another project would be splitting wood, cutting it to manageable size, and delivering it to families. Tipi Raisers will have plenty of projects for us to tackle.

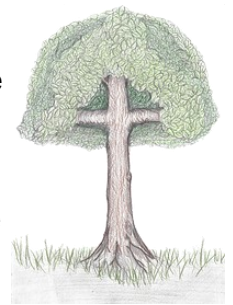


Thank you for your interest in this project. Please call me for more information, Bob C. (303-651-6563).

New Beginnings Worshiping Community

Denver Women's Correctional Center

NBWC is a worshipping community in the Rocky Mountain Synod. They meet inside the walls of the Denver Women's Correctional Facility. Their mission is to restore shattered lives to wholeness through the love of Jesus Christ. Bethlehem has supported this ministry for years both financially as well as through visits, music programs and pies and cakes for special holidays. The story below is written by one we have known since we began supporting NBWC. Jake has been a valued member and leader of the ministry there. We think you will enjoy her story. She will also be speaking at the upcoming Gala for NBWC on Friday, **October 8**. Here is her story:



"Not a Newsletter Article: The Sandra "Jake" Jacobson Edition"

Hello, my name is Sandy Jacobson. I've been incarcerated for almost 12 years. I have been a happy card-carrying participant in New Beginnings for the past 11 years of that time.

I grew up in a Lutheran family with my mom, dad, and two brothers. My parents worked hard for every penny they made. They instilled a strong work ethic in me that allowed me to become an academic athlete in college, obtain two degrees and go on to law school. Sounds good so far, right?

I became involved in venture capital and direct sales, starting my own company. I began chasing the American dream: cars, homes, boats, and travel, all the while forgetting about the one thing that kept me in balance, my faith in GOD.

Tearing down the path of self-indulgence and self-destruction, I found myself at the hands of the authorities in 2009. Never having been in trouble with the law, and never believing that the D.A.'s and judges could be dishonest, I hired mediocre lawyers to defend me. After all, they are always the good guys on tv. I never doubted that innocent people ever go to jail. I was wrong!

I was sentenced to 36 years, the biggest sentence ever handed out for my crime in the history of Colorado.

I began to realize I had choices to make. I could remain angry and become yet another victim of this very unjust system, or I could turn my life around and realize God has a reason for everything that he does.

My time here has been about learning that true success in life can no longer be measured by what I can take out of this life, but rather, what I can contribute to it. I have focused on remembering each day that it was Jesus who was unjustly sentenced, and it was Jesus who loved and forgave all. Believing in him has helped me keep putting one foot in front of the other as peacefully as I can.

Faith and Justice is the theme of this year's Chow Hall Gala. I've never spoken at a Chow Hall Gala in all the years Pastor Terry has been organizing them and lifting up voices of inmates like myself. But this year, she said to me, "Jake, this is your year. Speak. The people need to hear you."

I don't have much faith in the Criminal Justice system, but I do have faith in God. That is the reason that the Kory Wise Innocence Project has picked up my case. They will be the ones restoring my faith in the unjust justice system.

What we too often forget in society is that God sees everything, and he, and he alone is the final judge.

At my Corner of Faith and Justice has been New Beginnings—Pastor Terry, my community here in the ministry, and God—which brings me enough hope to continue believing that God truly does see everything, and I am so blessed that he has seen and continues to walk with me.

Some of you have met me when you came to visit us in prison. I would greet you then. I am now inviting you to come and hear the rest of my story at this year's Chow Hall Gala. Be part of our community from wherever you are. Be a part of the blessing of this ministry.

~Sandy "Jake" Jacobson, 2021

[ABOUT US | nbwc \(newbeginningswc.org\)](http://nbwc.newbeginningswc.org)

Please consider helping New Beginnings through this annual event:

New Beginnings Chow Hall Gala, Friday, **October 8, 2021**

The Reentry Initiative (TRI)

The Reentry Initiative, based in Longmont, empowers individuals transitions from incarceration to a fulfilling and meaningful life. At the Welcome Back Center in Longmont, 402 Kimbark (behind Central Presbyterian) both men and women released from incarceration receive mental health and substance abuse treatment, classes on self sufficiency as well as housing, transportation and mentoring assistance. TRI (Housing and Support for Women Leaving Prison | The Reentry Initiative) is partially funded by WAGEES (work and gain education and employment skills) ([Home - Colorado WAGEES \(wageesco.org\)](http://Home - Colorado WAGEES (wageesco.org))) and donor contributions.



The Reentry Initiative is one of only two programs in Colorado working with female inmates and the only one in Boulder county. The needs are great for clothing and toiletries for both men and women since many leave prison with literally only the clothes on their back. This isn't conducive to a positive impression on the potential employers.

To donate clothing, toiletries, gift cards etc. contact:

Emily Kleeman, Executive Director

The Reentry Initiative

Phone: 720-593-0384

Email: emily@reentryinitiative.org

Or contact Mike or Sue Smith, at 863-326-4000, and they will take your donation of lightly used clothing etc. to the Welcome Back Center.

Gather and Connect

First Friday Fellowship in September

First Friday will be, Friday, **September 3**, at the Roger and Jane L.'s house at 6:00 p.m. in their backyard. Please bring an appetizer that is easy to share and a beverage. Please refer to your BLC Member Directory for their address.

Bethlehem Book Club

Join us on Zoom, **September 9**, at 9:00 a.m. for an exceptional opportunity. Bethlehem Book Club and everyone who wants to participate will meet at 9:00 a.m. on Zoom to discuss [*Maisie Dobbs \(Maisie Dobbs Mysteries Series Book 1\)*](#) by Jacqueline Winspear.



Join Us in Reading the Bible in a Year

All are welcome to join the Manna Bible Study in reading the bible this year. Zoom discussions on the week's readings are on Wednesdays at 9:00 a.m. [https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84551369846?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84551369846?pwd=em5RVkZXZ1kxYmV3cytxMkl4Z3BoZz09)



[pwd=em5RVkZXZ1kxYmV3cytxMkl4Z3BoZz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84551369846?pwd=em5RVkZXZ1kxYmV3cytxMkl4Z3BoZz09)

Meeting ID: 845 5136 9846

Passcode: Bible365

If you don't have *The Daily Walk Bible NIV* by John Hoover, you can read from any bible you'd like.

If you'd like to discuss but the Zoom meeting isn't for you, ask Pastor Katie (pastor@bethlehem-lutheran.net) to join the Facebook group discussion for this called Bible 365. Colleen Beyer has another option for discussing this Bible Study via email. If you would like to be a part of this discussion, contact Collen (cabeyer7@gmail.com).

Naomi Circle

Naomi Circle will meet Tuesday, **September 14**, at 9:15 am. More information will be sent later.

Our membership is open to all who are interested in joining us. Contact Linda H. (holstell@outlook.com) or Sue S. (suesmith512@msn.com) for further information.

Ambassadors at The Atria: September

We are delighted to once again be able to bring joy in song and scripture to the memory unit at The Atria located at 9th and Hover in Longmont on the second Sunday of each month. Our next trip will be on Sunday, **September 12**, at 11:30 a.m.—immediately following our second service. Our beloved Peggy Peterson is one of the residents. All are welcome, including children. You do not need to be able to carry a tune - just bring a joyful heart. A mask is required in the lobby area but may be removed in the unit. You do not need to sign in individually. The first person to arrive may sign for the group.

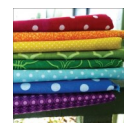
2021 Shred & Share by Flatirons Thrivent Community

On Saturday, **September 25**, a professional shredding truck will be on-site to “destroy” up to six boxes or bags of shredding from each household between 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/flatirons-2021-shred-share-tickets-159649474877>

Quilter's Coffee Zoom

All quilters and non-quilters are welcome to join! Bring a friend!
Thursdays, 10:30 a.m.



Zoom Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86980731311?pwd=KzRXL0tzMEZtMnB5TnBpZUIWdWpQdz09>

Meeting ID: 869 8073 1311

Computer Passcode: QLT4GOD

If you don't have video capabilities, you can join conversation by phone!

Phone Number: 1 253 215 8782 US

Phone Meeting ID: 871 3685 9719

Phone Passcode: 472501257

Question Corner

Why have worship services been so short lately?

Thanks to the member who asked this question. The short answer is: Covid-19. During the pandemic we learned that indoor worship is one of the riskier activities for Covid-19 spread. Guidance at the time was that worship services should be shortened to 30 minutes when there were multiple people in the room and that liturgy shouldn't include communally spoken or sung pieces. "Liturgy," roughly translates to "work of the people." It is important for us to speak, sing, and pray together. For this reason, we have not cut out all communally sung or spoken parts of worship. The compromise we made was to shorten the service by removing some sung pieces of liturgy, shorten hymns to two or three verses, and rotate parts of the liturgy every couple of months. Additionally, to appropriately distance during communion, we chose to have communion in our seats rather than at the altar. These are short-term adjustments, not long-term changes.



Because we are still uncertain of airflow (our Pandemic Advisory Group is investigating this) and because Covid-19 cases are surging, our current timeframe is 30–45 minutes for each service. Look and listen for liturgy changes this fall!

If you have a church, theology, or bible related question, you're probably not the only one! Send an email to Pastor Katie at pastor@bethlehem-lutheran.net.



Property

Playground Update

Ryan and Lory Bloemker did the majority of the work in preparing the site for installation. They removed all of the rubber mulch that was covering the ground, and removed the existing play structure. Going above and beyond, as they tend to do, they got the community involved by way of listing these items on Craigslist, etc. and we're proud to say that the majority of the materials were re-used instead of simply going to a landfill. As the installation approached, Ryan realized that they would not be able to fully complete the preparations to the "very" hard ground. It was at this point, that Matt rented some heavy equipment and with Pr. Katie and Chili's help, we were able to level the ground and ready for GoPlay to do the installation. The GoPlay crew ended up having to manually dig about 5 of the 20 post holes required for installation due to the extremely poor soil conditions, so a big thanks to them for going the extra mile. Currently, all of the new equipment is installed and we're just waiting for the GoPlay team to install the weed barrier and engineered wood ground cover.



Stewardship

Finances for July 2021

| | | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------|--|-------------|
| General Fund Actual Income: | \$ 251,058 | General & Designated Funds Actual Income | \$ 337,789 |
| General Fund Budgeted Income: | \$ 284,060 | General & Designated Budgeted Income: | \$ 365,295 |
| Income Surplus/(Deficit): | \$ (33,002) | Income Surplus/(Deficit): | \$ (27,506) |
| General Fund Ministry Expenses: | \$ 278,195 | General & Designated Fund Ministry Expenses: | \$ 354,930 |
| Net Surplus/(Deficit): | \$ (27,137) | Net Surplus/(Deficit): | \$ (17,141) |

Financial Summary Reports Presented to Council are Available

Contact Greg S. (treasurer@bethlehem-lutheran.net) for more information or with questions or suggestions.

Multiple Giving Options for BLC

We have several options for continuing your donations:

- 1) Mail a check to the BLC office (1000 West 15th Avenue, Longmont, CO, 80501)
- 2) Use our GivePlus online options accessed through our website (visit the church website [Donate tab](https://www.bethlehem-lutheran.net/donate.html) (<https://www.bethlehem-lutheran.net/donate.html>) and follow instructions)
- 3) Use the GivePlus app on your smart phone
- 4) Use the GivePlus Text option from your smartphone (1-844-957-1020)



For more details on all these options, see the website Donate information page (<https://www.bethlehem-lutheran.net/donate.html>). If you are able, please consider keeping your donations on a regular schedule during this time. Contact our financial secretary (financialsec@bethlehem-lutheran.net) for more information, with any questions, or assistance with any of the available options.



ELCA Advocacy Opportunity: Working for Change in Public Policy

Are you concerned about any of the following: hunger, poverty, social justice, the environment, immigration, peacemaking, or health? If you answered yes to one or more of the above, you can help effect change from the comfort of your home through the ELCA e-Advocacy Network. By signing up, you will receive notifications to send letters about current legislation and issues via email. Many of them have already been essentially written for you. And yes, every letter that is sent gets counted by an elected official, locally or nationally, *and you can choose the issues to which you respond*. Join the ELCA e-Advocacy Network today by signing up at elca.org/advocacy. For more information or questions, contact Cathy G. (cegood47@aol.com).

Lutheran Family Services (LFS) Announcements

Foster Parents Needed

Our foster care program is currently caring for the most kids we have ever had. Our hope is for every child to grow up in a safe, loving family. For some children, this includes foster care. We're looking for more foster families so that we can better serve our youth! With each family, it is vital to have a community of people able to provide respite and support. Does this sound like something your congregation would be good at?



Contact Cindi for more info on fostering and support systems: cindi.newkirk-noah@lfsrm.org

Refugee Information

- ♦ Do you like learning about other cultures? Join a cultural mentor team for a refugee family and participate in an exchange of cultures as you accompany a newcomer friend through life for six months (or more). Email mary.francis@lfsrm.org for information about training dates and more of what the mentor program entails.
- ♦ Is your congregation interested in learning more about refugees and immigrants and what scripture says about them? Mary Feeney Francis, from LFS' Refugee & Asylee Program, is happy to help you and your church understand and engage this very relevant cultural and biblical issue. You can contact her at mary.francis@lfsrm.org or 303-225-0199.



Member Milestones

SEPTEMBER Anniversaries

| | |
|--------------|-------------------------------|
| September 6 | Robyn & Michael Sloan (45) |
| September 10 | Amanda & Steve Dawson (10) |
| September 10 | Lisa & Eric Kittelberger (27) |
| September 12 | Pat & Mike Goecke (40) |
| September 12 | Roberta & Paul Fjeld (29) |
| September 12 | Jess & Joel Lahman (8) |
| September 13 | Phyllis & Ken Wright (52) |
| September 14 | Estelle & Phil Goode (53) |
| September 17 | Cindy & Mark Ballard (38) |
| September 20 | Amanda & Justin Dirkes (1) |
| September 24 | Laurie & Jeff Parker (33) |



SEPTEMBER Birthdays

| | |
|--------------|--|
| September 1 | Sandy Coyle |
| September 2 | Diane Forsberg, Andrew Van Dyke |
| September 3 | Marilyn Voorhis |
| September 5 | Caitlin Tiff |
| September 7 | Kaia Maki, Ethan Ritzen, Barbara Rountree, Lisette Smith |
| September 8 | Louisa Jurkovich |
| September 10 | Ada Cook, Dave Hooley, Florence McKinney |
| September 11 | Gerry Cole, Mayleanna Neumann |
| September 12 | Heather Rawlins |
| September 14 | Brenda Downing, Matt Helman, Dru Updegraff |
| September 15 | Corbin Lauzon |
| September 16 | Addison Nelson |
| September 17 | Diana Bruckner |
| September 18 | Jesse Ramer |
| September 20 | John Dirkes, Diana Grieve, Cindy Koenck, Lindsey Loberg, Megan Loberg |
| September 21 | Daniel Luere, Sandy Mickelson |
| September 22 | Carolyn Buck-Gengler |
| September 23 | Shirly Kasperbauer, Sabrina Lee |
| September 24 | Paul Fjeld, Steven Winter |
| September 25 | Ann Russell, Michelle Felton |
| September 26 | Paul Hansen, Todd Propp, Tatum Spendlow |
| September 27 | Julian Lettow |
| September 28 | Hayden Updegraff |
| September 29 | Solomon Cook, Michael Sloan |
| September 30 | Gary Blando |

Healing Prayers for:

Racheal G., Lu K., Dennis B., Howard W., Sandy W., Shirley W., Cathy G., Darlene B., Howie W., Gerry C., Jan M., Kristal H., Ilene R., Ranelle L., Robert H., George D., Bayne G., Lydia M., Bruce B., Candy T., Jeremy G.; our homebound members: Mike G., Esther G., Doris C., Peggy P.

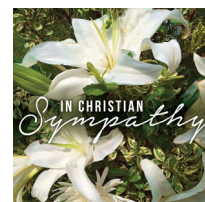


Sympathy for:

CJ Holloway and Dan Wollman and their families on the death of their father, Harold Wollman on August 17, 2021

Shelley Kunselman and Sam Cox and their families on the death of Shelley's mother, Alice Steinke on July 28, 2021

Famuer Rasmussen Jr. and Family on the tragic death of his brother, Jeff Rasmussen on August, 11, 2021.

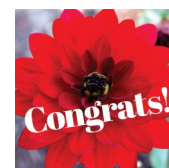


Congratulations

The **Riley Family** on the baptism of **Darrell Riley** on August 14, 2021

The **James Family** on the baptism of **Billy James** on August 15, 2021

Congratulations to **Morgan Abromski** and Trevor Davidsen who were married on August 15, 2021



Thank You

To My Blessed Church Family,

Thank you so much for all your loving care and support during the time of my Mom (Alice Steinke) and supporting the memorial service plans so that we were able to have a traditional indoor service for her. The meals brought to the house were beyond compare and helped so much with the family that were here out of town as my kitchen was a bit out of commission. The service that Pastor Katie did was so wonderful as well as the music by Ray, Chili and Joy. So many compliment have been received from those that attended as to the wonderful and personal service we were able to have. God Bless my Bethlehem Lutheran family.

~Shelley Kunselman, Sam Cox, and the entire Alice Steinke family.



Bethlehem Lutheran Church
1000 15th Avenue
Longmont, CO 80501

Return service requested

Keep the BLC Office Up to Date

Please keep the church office up to date with address, email and phone information for your family. Contact Nancy at the church office (303-776-3290, admin@bethlehem-lutheran.net) with any changes in contact information.

Weekly Announcements are also available in our weekly worship bulletin found each week on our website (<https://www.bethlehem-lutheran.net/>).

Deadline for weekly announcements: The Wednesday before you want the announcement to appear in the bulletin. *Submit all announcements through the Members website/Resources/ Submit to BLC news form or the BLC news email (news@bethlehem-lutheran.net).*

Deadline for the 2021 October Star:
September 20. Submit all articles through the Members website/Resources/Submit to BLC news form or the BLC news email (news@bethlehem-lutheran.net). If you have any problems, please

