



Blessed to be a Blessing

January 2022

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

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Cornerstone Preschool

**Andrea Becker, Director of
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Ministry Events in January

- ♦ Worship Service: Sundays, 8:00 a.m. and 10:15 a.m.
- ♦ Manna Bible Study: Mondays, 9:00 a.m.–11:00 a.m. via Zoom
- ♦ Bethlehem Quilters Quilting: Thursdays, 9:00 a.m. in the Quilting Room
- ♦ Communication Committee Meeting: January 4, 6:00 p.m. via Zoom
- ♦ Confirmation Class (7–8 grade): January 5, 19, 26, 7:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall
- ♦ First Friday Social: January 7, 6:00 p.m.
- ♦ Budget Forum: January 9, between services
- ♦ Social Justice Initiative Meeting: January 9, 11:30 a.m.
- ♦ Music Ambassadors: January 9, 11:30 a.m.
- ♦ Naomi Circle: January 11, at 9:15 a.m. in the Youth Room
- ♦ BLC Council Meeting: January 11, 7:00 p.m., Fireside Room
- ♦ Bethlehem Book Club: January 13, 9:00 a.m. via Zoom
- ♦ **Church Annual Meeting January 30, 11:30 a.m.**

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

You have heard the old adage: *No politics or religion at the dinner table.*

For much of your life (and mine) we measured a person's politeness, etiquette, and social skills by their ability to adhere to that simple rule. It was how we could get along and get through a meal. It meant that grandpa's blood pressure was lower and grandma's tears were ones of joy. It meant that we felt a sense of "peace" for some time. But, it also meant that a lot of metaphorical dirt was swept under a metaphorical rug. Which is unsanitary and can become a risk when the pile gets big enough to trip over.

And the pile is big enough to trip over. And we've tripped. And there's dust all over. And we're sneezing and coughing. And, I wouldn't be surprised if someone has broken a leg or elbow in the fall. It seems that old adage has led us astray.

Because, we are *political in the sense that we belong to a polis, which is the Greek word for a city or community. And we are religious! We are who we are--Bethlehem Lutheran Church--because we are bonded by our religion. Moreover, our religion insists that we invite the polis/people/community to the kind of love and life we celebrate at THE TABLE! When I say that we are political, I do not mean that we are partisan. We do not come into conversations with a liberal or conservative agenda nor do we speak as Republicans or Democrats or Independents. We, as the church, come into conversations as God's beloved children and followers of Christ.*

Being political and religious people is in our DNA as both Christians and Lutherans. Our church body, the ELCA, has long proclaimed that, "Faithful participation in society is integral and vital to the mission of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America." (Social Statement: Church in Society) Additionally, members of the ELCA have formed Social Statements and Messages regarding many of those hard (and often taboo) topics ranging from Abortion to Genetics to Sexuality to Mental Illness to many, many more. In recent days, I have learned that some members of Bethlehem have not had the opportunity to

learn about these Social Statements and Messages. One might say, they've been swept under the rug. Not having the opportunity to study these statements has left some of our members wondering *what has changed and what have we missed and what do I believe. We now know (if you didn't, you do now!) that part of our calling as members of the ELCA is to examine our own participation in society through prayer, study, and action--all within the example of Christ.*

It just so happens that the ELCA has recently sent out a study guide for our newest Social Statement, Faith, Sexism, and Justice: A Call to Action. This statement has undergone an intense process which began as a small task force in 2012. The task force spent two years studying and holding listening events, spent more than another year publishing their study and collecting responses, spent another year sharing a drafted statement with congregations, and then revised the draft before the statement was taken to the 2019 Churchwide Assembly for approval.

We will begin looking at this Social Statement during our Adult Forums on February 6, 13, 20 & March 6, 13, 20 at 9:15 a.m. It would be helpful in preparing materials for those interested to sign up: <https://forms.gle/oM1hE9qtBTxoSoMh8>

As you consider joining the conversation, please know the following:
We participate in these conversations out of love for God, neighbor, and self. We participate in these conversations because we care about the community--the Bethlehem community, the Longmont community, the Church, and the world. We don't have to agree on everything. Even Peter and Paul disagreed. Now might not be the time for you to engage in this study and that is OK, too.

Peace,



Worship

January Lectionary Resources

The second Sunday in January marks the celebration of Epiphany. Throughout the month (and into February) we look for the epiphany, which is the manifestation or revelation, of God. We hear stories of the Word, the magi, the wedding at Cana, and more. We look for God's presence in worship, in the world, and in ourselves.

Jan 2 - Christmas 2 - Service of Holy Communion

Within the gospel reading's profound words lies the simple message that God is revealed in a human person. Though we may try to understand how the Word existed with God from the beginning of time, the wonder we celebrate at Christmas is that the Word continues to dwell among us. Christ comes among us in the gathered assembly, the scriptures, the waters of new birth, and the bread and the wine. Through these ordinary gifts we receive the fullness of God's grace and truth.

Readings - *Jeremiah 31:7-14, John 1:1-9*

Jan 9 - Epiphany - Service of Holy Communion

The feast of Epiphany ("manifestation") concludes the Christmas season with a celebration of God's glory revealed in the person of Jesus Christ. In Isaiah and Ephesians, that glory is proclaimed for all nations and people. Like the light of the star that guided the magi to Jesus, the light of Christ reveals who we are: children of God who are claimed and washed in the waters of baptism. We are sent out to be beacons of the light of Christ, sharing the good news of God's love to all people.

Readings - *Isaiah 60:1-6, Matthew 2:1-12*

Jan 16 - 2nd Sunday after Epiphany - Service of Holy Communion

The Sundays after Epiphany continue to celebrate the revelation of God's glory to us as it was made known to the magi and to those on Jordan's banks at Jesus' baptism—today using wedding imagery. Our God rejoices over God's people as those being married rejoice over one another. By the power of the Spirit there are gifts galore for everyone. In Christ Jesus the best wine is saved for last. Taste and see.

Readings - *Isaiah 62:1-5, John 2:1-11*

Jan 23 - 3rd Sunday after Epiphany - Service of Holy Communion

God's glory is revealed in the reading of scripture. People stand at attention. People weep. People prostrate themselves in prayer. The unity of the church is another reflection of God's glory. Most gloriously, the promises of God are fulfilled in the person of Jesus Christ. Gather round. Listen up. Glimpse the glory of God.

Readings - *Nehemiah 8: 1-10, Luke 4:14-21*

Jan 30 - 4th Sunday after Epiphany - Service of Holy Communion

The glory of God is often revealed when and where it is least expected. God uses our lips to declare that glory, inexperienced and hesitant though they may be. God uses our love to demonstrate that glory and so urges us to exercise it. God uses Jesus of Nazareth, water and the word, bread and wine, to reveal God's glory where and when God chooses. Take heed, lest the glory of God slip through our midst unnoticed.

Readings - *Jeremiah 1:4-10, Luke 4:21-30*

Council Meeting

Note: 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.



Summary of Council Meeting Minutes December 14, 2021:

Respectfully submitted by Jenny Kelley, BLC Council Secretary

The Council met on December 14, 2021, with Matt James, Jenny Kelley, Greg Schumann, Pr. Katie Chullino, Bob Lee, Brian Carlson, Mark Holste, and Jim Woodruff in attendance and Mark Abromski and Eric Kittelberger absent. Matt called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. Following a devotion on sharing the good news, it was noted that minutes from the last council meeting were approved by email and made available in the library. In addition, there were two votes made by email: On Friday, November 15, council voted to accept the new Worship Guidelines as presented from the Pandemic Advisory Group (PAG). On November 18, council voted to increase the total bonus for Gary to \$1,576, from \$1,500, so the entire cost of his health insurance is covered.

Greg reported general fund giving was back down for November; it is not yet a cash flow problem. We still have year-end giving for a boost and should still conserve spending. The treasurer's report was approved unanimously.

MINISTRY REPORT HIGHLIGHTS

Pastor: The 6:00 pm Christmas Eve service reservations are full for the sanctuary; please sign up for either the 4:00 or 11:00 p.m. service. All services are candle light services.

Evangelism: Bob said First Friday went well, and the next one is January 7, 2022, at the Lee's; Dining for Six is a wrap for now. Living Nativity has almost full sign-ups now; Bob has placed a notice on NextDoor and an ad in the Times Call that includes the donations for the OUR Center. Matt will post on our BLC public Facebook.

Faith Formation: Brian says this last month has been exciting; everyone is starting to feel the energy Gary brings. Sunday School is going well; Gary has some ideas for a monthly elementary age family event. Gary has also been out meeting families in person. The Wednesday night events were great.

Property: Matt reports all of the ionization units are installed, and the HVAC quarterly maintenance is done. The north door was replaced; the annual fire alarm inspection is scheduled. The property committee continues to work on issues.

Mission: Mark H reports we served 75 at the Sunday OUR Lunch; a hygiene supply/food drive for the OUR Center will be held with the Living Nativity. Mark H requested to send the rest of the budgeted mission funds to their designated charities, and Greg said that was okay with the budget.

Stewardship: Eric was absent and submitted a written report.

Worship: Jim reported that putting up the Chrismon tree went well; he continues to schedule worship assistants into services and is hoping that January will bring in more volunteers to help. Jim thanks the worship ministry committee for their hard work.

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Council Meeting (con't)

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- Reminder: there will be a special congregational meeting on December 20, 2021, to vote on two replacement 2021 nomination committee members. The nominating committee does have two candidates. Reminder to plan to attend because we do need enough voting members to make a quorum—so remind all you see to Zoom in!
- Executive Session: Matt moved to enter executive session; Greg seconded: we entered at 7:47 p.m.; Matt moved to exit executive session; Bob seconded, and we exited at 7:56 p.m.
- Pandemic Advisory group recommendations: The PAG met December 12:
 - Kept Group and Worship Guidelines as they are; discussed the need for groups to keep a list of attendees and wipe down surfaces afterwards.
 - Continue more direct information regarding precautionary measures and layered approach with the holidays coming up, continue to emphasize the importance of following the travel guidelines.
 - No choir likely until spring.
 - Research possible use of rapid testing for staff and worship leaders.
 - Research possibility of using the Verified Vaccination status for events or a designated worship service.
 - We reviewed the procedure if someone tests positive who attended a service or event.
- 2022 Budget Considerations
 - 2022 pledge drive - Greg: it will not be possible to budget according to pledges; as of today, we have 59 pledges for ~\$214,000. This means we will once again need to guess what non-pledge giving will be in 2022. Jenny has emailed all recurring donors to remind them to fill in a pledge form also.
- Faith Formation Position: Brian would like to see the Faith Formation position full-time; he already sees the many benefits from Gary's work.
- Worship Director Position: Greg has included the position in the budget with expectation of salary roughly where it was for this year. Jim and Pr. Katie will be working on a job description based on our 2022 needs.
- The Annual Meeting is scheduled for January 30, 2022, and the annual congregation budget forum is scheduled for January 9, 2022, between services by Zoom.
- Many in the congregation have requested a new line item be added for a monthly contribution to the Capital Improvement Fund in 2022 that is based on what we paid in mortgage; we need to make sure that is included.

NEW BUSINESS

- We received letters from two families expressing their issues with the ELCA and discussed various options for education using the ELCA resources and the process of developing ELCA statements.
- Annual Reports are due January 9! Please use Verdana font size 11 and submit to news@bethlehem-lutheran.net.

Following prayer considerations and the Lord's prayer, this council meeting was adjourned at 9:23 p.m. The next Council meeting will be **Tuesday, January 11, 2021, @ 7:00 p.m.**; the Exec meeting is at 6:30 p.m.

Pandemic Advisory Group

Pandemic Advisory Group (PAG) Meeting 12/12/2021 (approved)

Attending: Pr. Katie Chullino, Matt James, Jenny Kelley, Carolyn Buck-Gengler, Dave Hooley, Fr. Teri Harroun. Absent: Laura Davis

Opening prayer from Pr. Katie.

Here are the links to the Boulder County data pages and the CDC data pages: <https://www.bouldercounty.org/families/disease/covid-19-information/indoor-mask-order/>
<https://www.bouldercounty.org/families/disease/covid-19-information/boulder-county-status/> <https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#county-view>

Our current guidelines for worship and groups do not need to be amended or changed at this time. We are still watching for more information on the Omicron variant, but for now, the main problem in our area is still the Delta variant. The links for the current worship and group guidelines are on the BLC website: <https://bethlehem-lutheran.net/covid-19-news-and-plans/>.

We would like to put in an update to council and communications for December:

PAG December Update

Our community COVID19 data is still very bad—data for Colorado and specifically for Boulder, Larimer, and Weld counties are still not good. The effect of holiday travel for Thanksgiving is likely just now showing up in the data. Cases, hospitalizations and test positivity are all still high and put us in the high risk category.

It has now been proven that the major factors in the spread of COVID19 are vaccination status, ventilation, wearing face masks, and being socially distanced. Bethlehem has continued to address each of these with the goal of being able to remain open for worship and small groups. Bethlehem strongly encourages all members who are eligible to get vaccinated and boosted; ionization units have been installed in the HVAC systems for the



entire building; we continue to follow the face mask recommendations; and we have social distancing in place. In addition, our worship leaders, who are unmasked at times during the service, are all vaccinated and have special distance requirements. Also, the PAG

is learning about the Vaccine Verification Program to see how that might work with our services. Please give feedback to pag@bethlehem-lutheran.net if you have some input on this program (<https://www.bouldercounty.org/families/disease/covid-19-information/vaccine-verified-facilities/>).

We also discussed:

- Potential for applying to be a Verified Vaccinated Facility. Would this work for one of our two services? Is this something our congregation is comfortable with? This needs some congregational discussion since it requires verification of vaccination at each gathering and that may seem invasive to some members. Are there any other Boulder County churches that have done that? It does not look like this is the case; only a couple have used it for specific events, not services. How would we verify the percent vaccinated at each service? One suggestion is to tie in the online option for those who are not vaccinated. Should we consider special events? Could we implement as a whole new service just for this? The PAG will continue to look into this and consider the option for the future.
- We now know more information about COVID19 disease and how it spreads and should be more public on the importance of vaccinations/boosters and the appropriate measures to keep BLC open. We need to be clearer about the vaccinations/boosters, the ionization units, following mask requirements, and using distancing. We should also share that worship leaders are held to a higher standard by being fully vaccinated and use of special distancing and microphones that eliminate the need to

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Pandemic Advisory Group (con't)

project voices. (See the crafted statement for communications.)

- Rapid Covid19 testing for worship leaders who travel and for staff who, in the course of their duties, are around patients, etc.: Can we consider the use of the Rapid Covid19 Test kits? Are they available? What are the reporting requirements? Can we use the state program? Is there more information from the Boulder Community Network? Here is a link for testing kits from the state: <https://covid19.colorado.gov/covid-19-testing-at-home>. PAG will investigate some more and look into the costs.
- Sign-in for worship leaders: should we ask our worship leaders to sign-in on a sheet with the usual disclaimers as a formal reminder about travel, etc.? Issue: by the nature of their job, pastors go into more at-risk situations (weddings, funerals, hospital visits, etc.)
- Plan in place now for notifying the congregation of a possible exposure: There is resistance to using a sign-in sheet for regular services—ushers and greeters will not monitor. The plan in place now is for the contagious person to contact the church office, and a congregational email will be sent to all members. In addition, persons who had close contact with the person will be contacted by phone through the Neighborhood Group care teams.
- Between service disinfection is going well—there are plenty of volunteers. The time after misting for someone to re-enter the sanctuary for the next service set-up is approximately 20 minutes. For the Christmas Eve services, the narthex will need to be cleared promptly to enable the misting to occur for the next service. This will also encourage attendees to leave the narthex and cut down on non-distance congregating after services.
- Seating for Christmas Eve services: There is a sign-up for ~75; the 6:00 pm service is almost full; the other two services are not close to full yet. The seating plan is: larger groups will be directed to one area and small

groups to another area; quilts will designate the spaces. The chairs in the front of the sanctuary will be moved to the narthex for extra space.

- Communication issues: How does information get put into weekly email? Can we make all related to COVID19 more concise and keep it up to date in all our communication tools? We can make suggestions to the communications committee regarding: the length and formatting of the emails; the content and how to link email and website; which communication channel is that content targeting; is everyone getting the same information—whether by email, verbal announcements, bulletin announcements, on Facebook, and/or website. Matt and Jenny will follow up with the communications committee.
- By email discussion: there is some discussion about the myColorado app (available on the App Store). At the very least, someone can have both their driver's license (or state ID) AND their covid vaccination status on this app. If we are asking people for vaccination status, this app would be an easy way for people to show it, and we could let folks know about it as a public service. Here's the instructions for getting myColorado:

<https://mycolorado.state.co.us/myvaccine-record>, and a FAQ page about it:

<https://mycolorado.state.co.us/faqs>. Some folks have had some glitches with it. This link talks about some of the problems with myColorado and how to fix:

<https://www.cpr.org/2021/11/26/why-the-mycolorado-vaccine-app-is-kind-of-broken-and-how-to-fix-it/>

Faith Formation



From the desk of the Faith Formation Director Gary. I wanted to thank everyone who has helped me transition into my new position as your FF Director as we start a new year I hope and pray that everyone is safe and had a great Christmas and New Year. We have had some challenges coming back together, pandemic protocols and starting a new routines. We have seen some major changes on how we do ministry and I am glad to say that we are slowly coming back together as a community. Here are some ministry opportunities for January. I hope to see some new faces and meet new people in the coming year.

Sunday School

Sunday School starts back up in full swing on January 9 and we will be studying Jesus' Baptism, The Wedding at Cana, Jesus goes to Nazareth, and Jeremiah for the month. We invite all 4 year old to 6th grade age to gather in the fellowship hall for a devotion about the lesson, craft, and prayer time. We collected over \$6.00 in offering for the last quarter.

Confirmation

Confirmation resumes on January 5. We have learning events on January 5, 19, and 26. We are studying the Beatitudes, Good Samaritan, and the feeding of the 5000.

High School Youth

We have our next National Youth Gathering meeting for our summer mission trip on January 20 at 7:00 p.m. We will be having more high school activities throughout the month, stay tuned.

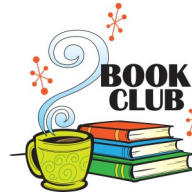
Gather and Connect

First Friday Fellowship



First Friday will be January 7, at Bob and Sabrina Lee's home. Bring an appetizer to share and a beverage.

Bethlehem Book Club



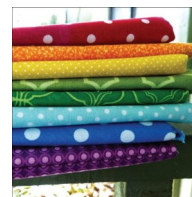
Bethlehem Book Club will start out the New Year meeting by zoom at **9:00 am on January 13**. We will meet to discuss *Privilege* by Mary Adkins. Book Club is open to everyone. If you would like to read the book and join the discussion just email Mary Jane (mjvoogt2003@yahoo.com) to be put on the list. You will receive a reminder email the week before the meeting and the Zoom link will be included.

Ambassadors at The Atria



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, January 9, at 11:30 a.m.**—immediately following our second service. 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.

Quilting Queens



Quilters are meeting in the Quilting Room and Music Room on Thursdays at 9:00 a.m. to tie quilts.

If you would like to donate or purchase a quilt of your own, please contact the church office for more information (303-776-3290).

Gather and Connect

Naomi Circle



The January meeting will be in person (Youth Room) and on Zoom Tuesday, January 11, from 9:15 - 11:00 a.m. Our membership is open to all who are interested in joining us. Please contact Linda H. (holstell@outlook.com) or Sue S. (suesmith512@msn.com) for further information

Reading the Bible in a Year

The Wednesday Daily Walk is ending December 31 as we finish Revelation. We have been blessed by reading the entire Bible in 2021. **Our last two meetings will be December 29 and January 5.**

December 24, 2021	Revelations 4-5
December 25, 2021	Revelations 6-7
December 26, 2021	Revelations 8-9
December 27, 2021	Revelations 10-13
December 28, 2021	Reflections
December 29, 2021	Revelations 14-16
December 30, 2021	Revelations 17-19
December 31, 2021	Revelations 20-22

The daily readings take about 15 minutes, and we have lively discussions every week on Wednesday mornings. If you don't have *The Daily Walk Bible NIV* by John Hoover, you can read from any bible you'd like. If you would like to be a part of this discussion, contact Colleen (cabeyer7@gmail.com).

Please join us for the 'zoom' hour from 9:00–10:00 a.m.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84551369846?pwd=em5RVkZlZkZ1kxYmV3cytXMkl4Z3BoZz09>

Meeting ID: 845 5136 9846

Gather and Connect

Manna Bible Study



Manna Bible Study will continue to explore *God in a Manger* by Dietrich Bonhoeffer through January 6. We will then return to the study of the book of *Psalms* by Max Lucado. Manna meets each Monday morning at 9 :00 a.m. in person. If you prefer to attend via Zoom, the link is provided in the weekly online bulletin. We look forward to exploring the scriptures together and hope you can join us. All are welcome! If you have questions, please call or email Phyllis W

Upcoming Annual Meeting

The Bethlehem Lutheran Church Annual Meeting will be held on **Sunday, January 30, 2022 at 11:30 a.m.** Further details will be provided in the Weekly Email and Sunday Announcements



Office Volunteers Needed

The office will need volunteers to help collate the annual report on **January 22 around 9:30 a.m.** so they are available a week before the annual meeting on January 30. If you can help please contact Nancy at admin@bethlehem-lutheran.net or by calling the church office (303) 776-3290

Mission and Social Justice

Social Justice Initiative

Next meeting is on January 9 at 11:30 a.m.

- Are you interested in learning about ways to support an Afghan family here in Boulder County?
- Are you interested in helping immigrants through Casa de Paz by writing to them, driving them to the airport, making food for them, or greeting them?
- Are you interested in supporting New Beginnings that serves woman in prison?
- Are you interested in advocating for marginalized people through the Lutheran Advocacy Network?
- Are you interested in helping the homeless?
- Are there other justice issues that Bethlehem should explore?
- Do you want to learn about ELCA positions on social justice issues?

If you answered YES to any of these questions or are just curious, please come to the Zoom Social Justice Initiative meeting on January 9. Contact Margot H. (nordatter@gmail.com) or Jane L. (janelahman@hotmail.com) with questions.

Join via Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81721469911?pwd=dDVvM3duUUE2ekFGN3pJS3BIQWw1UT09>

Meeting ID: 817 2146 9911

Passcode: BlcSJI

Dial by phone only: +1 669 900 9128

Meeting ID: 817 2146 9911

Passcode: 550353

Donate to Tornado Disaster Relief

John Pyron, national director of Lutheran Disaster Response and Indiana-Kentucky Synod Bishop Bill Gafkjen have been working together over the days since the disaster to assess and to respond to immediate needs of victims. Given the initial damage assessments, recovery will likely take years. Bishop Bill Gafkjen and other IN-KY Synod staff have also been in touch with pastors and deans in the

affected areas of Kentucky to ascertain how communities, congregations, and individuals have been impacted.

Below are two ways to donate:

Your gift to the "IN-KY Synod Disaster Fund" will specifically support our individuals, congregations and communities in Kentucky affected by the tornadoes. Click the link below, then choose IN-KY Disaster Response in the drop-down box underneath Mission Support. Please give today.

Click to Donate to IN-KY Synod Tornado Disaster Response Fund

Your gift to "U.S. Tornadoes" will be used in full (100%) to support survivors across the multiple states impacted by the tornado outbreak on December 10-11, 2021. Together, we can support those who are on the long road to recovery. Please give today. Click to Donate to Lutheran Disaster Response Tornado Fund

<https://www.standrews-elca.org/news/donate-to-tornado-disaster-relief>

Habitat Work Days Scheduled for 2022

- Saturday, February 26
- Saturday, April 30
- Saturday, June 25
- Saturday, August 27
- Saturday, October 29
- Saturday, December 3

In 2022 we anticipate working:

- In February, at The Hospitality Center (the basement of the existing Habitat Offices being converted to house up to 10 AmeriCorps folks)
- In April, on a new home in Dacono to replace the Chavez trailer home that was destroyed by a fire.
- From June to December, new homes on Mountain Brook and Rogers Road. Total of 18 homes that need to be built. Additionally, 26 homes are to be built as tiny homes for veterans in Mountain Brook.

Special Thanks!

OUR Center Hygiene Supplies & Food Drive

Thank You to everyone who donated hygiene supplies, food and monetary donations to benefit the Our Center. You donated 526 lbs of hygiene supplies & food plus over \$170 in monetary donations! In addition, a Thrivent Action Team grant provided \$250 which purchased another 136 lbs of hygiene supplies.

Nicaragua Project

Muchas Gracias / Thank You to everyone who donated to the Matching Funds Challenge. Your generosity exceeded the goal as we have received \$10,535 plus matching funds of \$5000. The children of The Nicaragua Project and their families are grateful for your generosity.

Thank You Thrivent Financial

Many thanks to our members and Thrivent Financial for providing additional funding for several of our projects and fundraisers. Through the Action Team program, Thrivent provided at least nine different grants of \$250 which helped fund four OUR Center lunches plus fundraisers for Casa de Paz and New Beginnings Prison Ministry and the ReEntry Initiative. This amounted to about \$2250 outside our budgeted funds for BLC mission work—so thank you very much Thrivent!

If you are a Thrivent member and would like to sponsor an Action Team in 2022, please contact Mark H (missions@bethlehem-lutheran.net) or Jenny K (financialsec@bethlehem-lutheran.net) for more information on how to use this wonderful resource for fundraisers, education opportunities, and service projects.

Also, a reminder to Thrivent members to be sure and designate their 2021 Thrivent Choice dollars before the March 31, 2022, deadline. These can be designated to any non-profit organization of your choice, including Bethlehem Lutheran.

Christmas Activities

A special thank you to everyone who participated and volunteered for recent Christmas activities including the Living Nativity, Holden Evening Prayer, Advent Bell Choir, Christmas Eve Services, as well as to all those who brought good news of great joy while caroling!



Bethlehem Lutheran Church

1000 15th Avenue

Longmont, CO 80501

Stewardship

Finances for December 2021

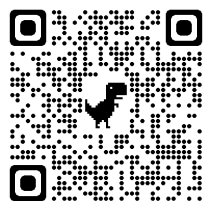
General Fund Actual Income:	\$ 391,823	General & Designated Funds Actual Income:	\$ 513,062
General Fund Budgeted income:	\$ 446,380	General & Designated Budgeted Income:	\$ 574,013
Income Surplus/(Deficit):	\$ (54,557)	Income Surplus/(Deficit):	\$ (60,951)
General Fund Ministry Expenses:	\$ 418,016	General & Designated Fund Ministry Expenses:	\$ 541,043
Net Surplus/(Deficit):	\$ (26,193)	Net Surplus/(Deficit):	\$ (27,981)

Financial Summary Reports Presented to Council are Available

Contact Greg S. (treasurer@bethlehem-lutheran.net) for more information or with questions or suggestions. Printed copies of all the reports are available for review in the Fireside Room library.

Multiple Giving Options for BLC

We have several options for making donations:



1. To make an online web donation (one time or recurring), go to the Donate web page and click on the Online Giving icon to access our secure giving page and then follow the instructions. Detailed instructions are also available on the website.
2. For recurring donations, another option is to download the [BLC Vanco Enrollment form](#) or get a copy from the BLC Office, complete and sign, and return with a voided check to the BLC office with Attention: Financial Secretary. The financial secretary will set up an account for you.
3. Mail or drop off a check or cash to the BLC office (Attention: Financial Secretary, 1000 West 15th Avenue, Longmont, CO, 80501).

Online giving lets you go to our website at any time 24/7 to set up an automatic donation plan, change your donation plan, make a one-time donation, or view your online donation history.

If you have any questions about either our giving or pledging options, please contact Jenny, our financial secretary (financialsec@bethlehem-lutheran.net, 303-651-6226).

Budget Discussion

We will be having a budget discussion on January 9, 2022 between services. As with previous years, the plan is to highlight current trends, future planning and outline how the expenses compare to the pledged and estimated income. A link will be sent out in advance for those who cannot make it in person. The current plan is to have the forum in the Fireside room. Further announcements will be coming out prior to the meeting.

Member Milestones



Jan. 1	Gina Alexander
Jan. 1	Alisha James
Jan. 1	Emily Dawson
Jan. 2	Zephyr Lautenschlager
Jan. 3	Bonnie Mason
Jan. 3	Racheal Goodman
Jan. 5	John Dickkut
Jan. 5	Heather Barnhouse
Jan. 7	Frances Rhoades
Jan. 7	Bob Urbach
Jan. 8	George Dillan
Jan. 9	Sarah Wagner
Jan. 10	Mike Davis
Jan. 11	Jim Woodruff
Jan. 11	Perrie Sanders
Jan. 11	Ryan Kragerud
Jan. 11	Alex Hebbert
Jan. 12	Nancy Habegger
Jan. 12	Ryker Mercer
Jan. 12	Lincoln Ramer
Jan. 13	Colten Corner
Jan. 14	Justin Woodley
Jan. 15	Molly Stiver
Jan. 16	Karen Vecellio
Jan. 16	Emily Kunselman
Jan. 17	Mark Abromski
Jan. 18	Cameron Taylor
Jan. 18	Stephanie Taylor
Jan. 19	Mark Herbst
Jan. 19	Grace Demmel
Jan. 19	Callie Bowman
Jan. 20	Betty Culbertson
Jan. 20	Mendy Goodman
Jan. 21	Bonnie Schumann
Jan. 21	Margot Hoffmeyer
Jan. 21	Lily Romaszewski
Jan. 22	Marcella Myers
Jan. 22	Patty Fagler
Jan. 23	Ruth Peterson

Jan. 23	Sean Riley
Jan. 24	Connie Nelson
Jan. 24	Hannah Thompson
Jan. 26	Dean Mickelson
Jan. 27	Janelle Wappel
Jan. 27	Robert Baltrum
Jan. 28	Kyle Curtis
Jan. 29	Philip Gustafson
Jan. 29	Steven Byrne
Jan. 30	Carolyn Riley
Jan. 31	Dennis Bloemker



Jan. 1	Robert Hammond & Ranelle Lang (21)
Jan. 3	Mark & Linda Holste (46)
Jan. 5	Robin & Frank Lee (32)
Jan. 5	Sandy & John Frazer (20)
Jan. 7	Dennis & Marcy Smith (55)
Jan. 14	Larry & Tonja Twito (16)
Jan. 22	Howard & Sharon Wirth (56)



Healing Prayers for:

Mark A., Roberta F., Peggy P., Dennis B., Brenda H., Kristal H., Lorie C., Racheal G., Lu K., Cathy G., Darlene B., Gerry C., Jan M., George D., Lydia M., Bruce B., Candy T., Jeremy G., Esther G., Doris C.,

Office Helpers: Pastor Katie, Gary K.

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 February 2022 Star:
January 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 contact webmaster@bethlehem-lutheran.net.

