



Blessed to be a Blessing

April 2022

Worship Services

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

*"Through God's abundant
love we invite, welcome, and
serve as a light in the world."*

Bethlehem Staff

Pastor Katie Chullino,
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Director of Worship and Music
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Cornerstone Preschool

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

Ministry Events in April

- ◆ 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
- ◆ First Friday Social: April 1, 6:00 p.m.
- ◆ Communication Committee Meeting: April 5, 6:00 p.m. via Zoom
- ◆ Lenten Evening Prayer: April 6, 7:00 p.m.
- ◆ Confirmation Class (7–8 grade): April 6, 7:00 p.m.
- ◆ Palm-Passion Sunday Worship: April 10, 8:00 a.m. and 10:15 a.m.
- ◆ Music Ambassadors at Atria: April 10, 11:30 a.m.
- ◆ Naomi Circle: April 12, at 9:15 a.m. in the Youth Room and via Zoom
- ◆ BLC Council Meeting: April 12, 7:00 p.m., Fireside Room
- ◆ Bethlehem Book Club: April 14, 9:00 a.m. via Zoom
- ◆ Maundy Thursday Service: April 14, 7:00 p.m.
- ◆ Good Friday and Veneration of the Cross: April 15, 7:00 p.m.
- ◆ Easter Extravaganza: April 16, 10:00 a.m. to noon
- ◆ Easter Sunrise Service: April 17, 6:15 a.m.
- ◆ Easter Sunday Service: April 17, 8:00 a.m. and 10:15 a.m.
- ◆ Social Justice Initiative Meeting: April 24, 11:30 a.m.
- ◆ Confirmation Class (7–8 grade): April 24, 7:00 p.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



*Through God's abundant **love** we invite, welcome, and serve as a light in the world.*

*On Epiphany Sunday, we received Star Words. In years past the words have come from various bible verses or Christian themes and even other languages. This year, our Star Words come from the mission statement written by our Strategic Planning Team in 2020/21. While you ponder your word (and while I ponder mine), we will ponder together a new word each month. During April we will focus on **love**.*

The word "love" appears 586 times throughout the entire NRSV translation of the bible. "Loved" appears another 112 times. "Loves," 71. Throughout the Old Testament "love" is often described as God's "steadfast love" for people.



"The LORD, the LORD, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness." Exodus 34:6
 "For [the LORD] is good, for his steadfast love endures forever." 2 Chronicles 7:3

There's an book of the bible consisting entirely of poetry between people in love--Song of Solomon.

And love is the purpose of Jesus and is Jesus' purpose for his disciples and friends:

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life."
 John 3:16

"This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends." John 15:12-13

Love is so prevalent throughout the bible that Professor J. Michael Reu, who taught bible and theology classes at Wartburg Theological Seminary for a very long time, taught that, "The bible is God's love story for [hu] mankind."

And it is! From the very beginning God loved people through feast and famine, at home and in diaspora, when they bowed down in worship and even when they raised him up on the cross. God loved the world. And God loves the world.

We read those old stories about God's love and we see patterns of God's love (grace, mercy, faithfulness). While we don't have scribes accounting God's stories today (or do we?) we might recognize those patterns today. In the very least, *we are called to make those patterns. We are called:*

"Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection..." Romans 12:9-10

"Let all that you do be done in love." 1 Corinthians 16:14

"Lead a life...with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love..." Ephesians 4:1-2

As you ponder your own Star Word this month, also ponder *love*. *When you read bible stories--how does God's love for the characters appear? When you watch the news--who is sharing God's love today--who is giving mercy, who is showing grace, who is faithful and to whom? Who needs love?*

In God's abundant love,

Rev KJC

Worship

April 3 - Lent 5

Our God makes all things new. In the first reading God promises it. In the gospel Mary anticipates it, anointing Jesus' feet with costly perfume in preparation for the day of his burial. In baptism, God's new person (you!) rises daily from the deadly mire of trespasses and sins.

Readings: Isaiah 43:16–21, John 12:1–8

4/10 - Palm-Passion Sunday

Today we follow Christ from triumphal entry to the cross, each waypoint of the journey marked by Jesus' compassion for those who would betray, mock, accuse, or do violence to him. Though persecuted and beaten, Jesus the Son of God is not disgraced; instead, he asks forgiveness for those who put him to death. We have walked the Lenten pathway these forty days, each of us invited through baptism to "let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus." We enter this holy week accompanying Jesus to the cross with both grief and thanksgiving in our hearts, trusting in God's redeeming love.

4/17 - Easter

Today Christ is risen, and we gather together with astonishment and joy. Christ is risen, and we have been set free from the bonds of death. Christ is risen, and we are forgiven. Christ is risen, and with the women at the tomb and Peter, we are amazed. Let us rejoice: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

4/24 - Easter 2

In spite of all we have heard and all we have seen, it is often hard to believe. Because it is hard to believe, we will invest ourselves in the Easter mystery for fifty days (a week of weeks). Because it is hard to believe, John the evangelist will provide sign after sign celebrating Jesus' victory over death. Because it is hard to believe, the risen Jesus will return to us again and again in the mystery of holy communion, inviting us to touch and taste his presence, and offering us his peace.

Readings: John 20:19–31, Revelation 1:4–8

Lenten Midweek Worship - Timeless God

While we embrace the penitent nature of Lent we also celebrate the Timeless God, holding onto the promise proclaimed in 2 Corinthians: "See, now is the acceptable time; see, now is the day of salvation!" Our final Lenten Midweek Worship is: April 6 - Evening Prayer - God The Omega

Holy Week Worship



Many Holy Week Worship opportunities are held in partnership between Bethlehem (BLC) and Light of Christ (LOC). Members of both

congregations are welcome to attend all services. Please support the masking practices of the congregation hosting.

Palm-Passion Sunday BLC - April 10, 8:00 and 10:15 a.m.

Maundy Thursday Service - BLC and LOC - April 14, 7:00 p.m.

Good Friday and Veneration of the Cross - LOC and BLC - April 15, 7:00 p.m.

Easter Vigil - LOC - April 16, 8:00 p.m.

Easter Sunrise - BLC - April 17, 6:15 a.m.

Easter Sunday - BLC - April 17, 8:00 a.m. and 10:15 a.m.

Easter Flowers



Beginning Sunday, March 27 through April 10, you may purchase Easter spring bulbs (no lilies due to allergies) in the narthex at a cost of \$10 each. The

flowers will decorate the sanctuary on Easter Sunday and can go home with you after the services. Thank you for your support! Contact Nancy in the office (303-776-3290, admin@bethlehem-lutheran.net).

Council Meeting



Summary of the Council Meeting
Minutes: March 8, 2022

Respectfully submitted by Jenny
Kelley, Council Secretary

Matt James called the meeting to
order at 7:08 p.m. Attending: Pr.

Katie Chullino, Matt James, Steve Dawson,
Jenny Kelley, Greg Schumann, Jamie
Updegraff, Jim Woodruff; Absent: Alex Hoime,
Todd Propp, Cindy Tayler, Mark Holste.

Following a devotion led by Pr. Katie, we prayed
a special prayer for Lutheran Social Services
and their mission to help settle refugees.

The minutes from the February 8, 2022, meeting
were approved via email and posted in the
library. In addition, the minutes of the special
meeting on March 2, 2022, to address the new
PAG guidelines were approved via email and
posted in the library.

FINANCIAL REPORTS: Greg reported that
February income is only \$115 dollars below
budget for General Fund; expenses are below
budget due to set asides for two positions
currently open (Worship/Music Director and
nursery attendant) plus we have a quarterly
insurance payment due in March. He reports no
major concerns and is working on making the
financial summary more readable and will
transfer the January and February budgeted
funding for the Capital Improvement Fund. Jim
moved to approve the financial report as
presented; Steve seconded. The motion was
approved unanimously.

REPORT HIGHLIGHTS: Pastor/Staff: Pr. Katie
reports now being able to do more planning and
pastoral work. We will need more volunteers in
order to plan for possible communion at the rail
after a few weeks of green status; we also need
more worship assistant leaders, especially
coordinators. It was suggested to see if anyone
is willing to help plan an Easter Sunrise service
and to consider an outdoor service for a safer
option.

Faith Formation: Jamie highlighted her recent
committee meeting and the emphasis on
reconnecting with families; Gary has done a
great job so far, and the team is supporting

those efforts; the summer calendar is getting
filled with possibilities; the Easter Egg hunt for
kids is scheduled for Saturday, April 6, with
refreshments, crafts and free-will donations. This
year appears to be a good time for reset—
looking to keep those things that worked well
and, for others, maybe try some new ideas.

Worship: Jim reported that worship teams are
good with both hybrid and no-masks situations;
there are some problems with recruiting worship
assistant coordinators, with a need for
communion assistants, ushers, acolytes, and
altar guild/sacristy volunteers. He is happy to
brainstorm ideas.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- (None, since the PAG guidelines were
addressed in the March 2, 2022 meeting.)

NEW BUSINESS

- Fireside Room Team: We need to address
the condition of our Fireside Room in order
to make it more welcoming and appropriate
for families to gather before funerals and
other events. We have volunteers to go
through all the books/materials; we also
need new furniture. We can borrow chairs
from the fellowship hall or sanctuary for the
short term. Consensus of the council is to
move forward with the cleanup and
reorganization and contact the memorial
committee to consider those funds for new
tables and chairs.
- Sharing the Grace event: Mark discussed
another Share the Grace event to benefit
those affected by the Marshall Fire in his
report. Jenny moved to approve Mark's
proposal for Share the Grace event on Palm
Sunday and through Holy Week; Greg
seconded, and the motion was approved
unanimously.

Following prayer concerns and the Lord's
Prayer, the meeting was adjourned by Matt at
8:15 p.m. The next Council meeting will be
Tuesday, April 12, 2022 @ 7:00 p.m. Exec
meeting will be at 6:30 p.m.

Faith Formation



From the desk of the Faith Formation Director Gary:

Our Lenten Mentoring theme this year is “The Church’s Never Ending Reformation.” We are currently going through another reformation as we come out of social distancing and being secluded from the world— we now start a new way (reformation) of being a Church together.

What does that look like? How do we get back to our community of Faith? These are just a couple of many questions that are presented to us as we return to church. Some questions to ponder as you make your way back to Bethlehem include: Why has this pandemic been so hard for each one of us? Do I still trust God/Church?

God promises us many things— eternal life with him, to unconditionally love us, to forgive us, and to walk alongside us in our faith journeys. These are things we question in our faith journey, but can always be assured of due to his promise.

Ecclesiastes 3:1–8 says it well, *there is a time for everything*. Our youth need to be back together in their faith community where they can do amazing things collectively. They have the ability to make change so that the world can see God’s unconditional love!

Sunday School: We will be studying Mary Anoints Jesus, Holy Week, The Empty Tomb, and Doubting Thomas. Ages 4 year old to 6th grade gather in the fellowship hall for a devotion about the lesson, craft and prayer time.

Confirmation: We will be doing Lenten mentoring and this year’s theme is “The Church’s Never Ending Reformation.” A special

thank you to Jenny K., Margot H. and Pastor Katie for helping put together this year’s Mentoring Packet. The Confirmands will be meeting with their mentors on April 6. April 24 and May 4 will be our last learning events of 2021–2022 year.

High School News: Our youth will be going on a different mission trip this summer to help another community out. We have decided to go to California on a service/ learning trip. We have another meeting after Easter for final details.

2022 VBS: Mark your calendars for June 20–24, 2022 Our theme this year is “Monumental — Celebrating God’s Greatness.” Registration will begin on May 1.

Middle School Camp: This year is for incoming 6th graders through 8th grade. We will be going to Sky Ranch June 12–17, 2022. Registration starts April 18. Please contact Gary with any questions.

Family Camp: Mark your calendars for August 5–7 for family camp at Sky Ranch. A family is defined as being part of the Bethlehem Church family. We will have fishing with Gary, high rope course, low rope course, hiking, games, smore’s time and campfires. More information to follow.

Easter Extravaganza: Join us April 16 from 10:00 a.m. to noon for a fun-filled time. We will have an Easter egg hunt, games, crafts, egg dying and hotdogs and chips. Bring your grandkids, children, great-grandchildren and have a blast. If you would like to help with this event, please contact Gary in the church office or any of the Faith Formation team: Jaime U., Brian C., Sue S., Laura H. or Sharon K-C.



Gather and Connect

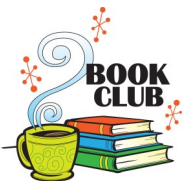
First Friday Fellowship

Friday, April 1 at 6:00 p.m. at Wanda and Gene Schnabel's home. Bring an appetizer to share and a beverage. We need someone to host on May 6. If you haven't already signed up to host and would be able to for May contact Shirley at 303-775-6928.



Naomi Circle

Ladies Bible Study April meeting will be in person (Youth Room) and on Zoom **Tuesday, April 12, 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. (<https://bethlehem-lutheran.net/ministries/adult/#naomi-circle>)



Bethlehem Book Club

Bethlehem Book Club meets the second Thursday of the month at 9:00 a.m. on Zoom. On **Thursday, April 14** we will discuss *Dancing in the Mosque: An Afghan Mother's Letter to Her Son* by Homeira Qaderi. Everyone is welcome to read the book and participate on Zoom at the meeting. Contact Mary Jane V at (mjvoogt2003@yahoo.com) if you would like to be added to the group email. You will receive a reminder and the zoom link the week before the meeting. See you on Zoom! (<https://bethlehem-lutheran.net/ministries/small-groups/#book-club>)



Star Words

As you ponder your own Star Word this month, also ponder love. When you read bible stories--how does God's love for the characters appear? When you watch the news--who is sharing God's love today--who is giving mercy, who is showing grace, who is faithful and to whom? Who needs love?

Ambassadors at The Atria



We 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, April 10 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 and each individual is now required to sign in individually in the lobby.

Quilting Queens



QUILTING GROUP

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).

Manna Bible Study



We will be reading and discussing *Life Together* by Dietrich Bonhoeffer. **Manna meets every Monday**

morning at 9:00 a.m. We hope you will join us to discuss this wonderful book! Please call Phyllis W. if you have questions, need to know our location, or need the Zoom link.

Social Justice Initiative

Share the Grace for our Marshall Fire Neighbors

Looking for a way to help our neighbors in the wake of the Marshall Fire? On **Palm Sunday, April 10**, the Social Justice Initiative will be collecting donations of gift cards, money and food for "Share the Grace for our Marshall Fire Neighbors."



All donations will go to Sister Carmen Community Center -- the distribution center for people affected by the Marshall Fire.

Items of greatest need include:

- Gift cards for King Soopers and Walmart in \$10 and \$20 increments
- Cash in any amount
- Pantry items: olive oil, sugar, spices
- Condiments: ketchup, mayonnaise, mustard
- Nut butters: peanut, almond, cashew
- Household items: dish soap, laundry soap, cleaners
- Fruit: jam or jelly, canned fruit, applesauce
- Canned tomatoes: diced, paste, spaghetti sauce
- Canned beans: black, pinto, refried
- Protein: tuna, salmon, canned chicken

We'll be collecting items on at the front of the church on Palm Sunday and will also have a drive-through drop-off area behind the church from 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. There will also be a link on the donation page of the Bethlehem church website where people can donate online directly to this cause.

In addition to this collection, Bethlehem will be supporting Christ the Servant and Trinity Lutheran churches the week of April 10-16 through their "Connect. Pray. Love." program. Both churches have members whose homes were destroyed by the Marshall Fire. We will be creating videos showing our support and encouragement and keeping them in our prayers. To learn more about "Connect. Pray. Love." watch the video at: <https://youtu.be/JEo8ZHclKjA>

Our next meeting is Sunday, April 24 at 11:30 a.m. on Zoom. All are welcome to join. For more information, please contact Jane L (janelahman@hotmail.com) or Margot H (nordatter@gmail.com).

Stewardship

Finances for February 2021

General Fund Actual Income:	\$ 35,802	General & Designated Funds Actual Income:	\$ 45,838
General Fund Budgeted income:	\$ 35,917	General & Designated Budgeted Income:	\$ 44,471
Income Surplus/(Deficit):	\$ (115)	Income Surplus/(Deficit):	\$ 1,367
General Fund Ministry Expenses:	\$ 31,334	General & Designated Fund Ministry Expenses:	\$ 38,669
Net Surplus/(Deficit):	\$ 4,468	Net Surplus/(Deficit):	\$ 7,169

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).

Bethlehem Scholarships for 2022-2023

The Bethlehem Education Committee reminds all high school seniors and college students that the application process for an education scholarship will begin May 1, 2022. The application deadline is July 1, 2022 with scholarship awards to be made August 1, 2022. The committee is in the process of determining the amount of funds available, and more information will be coming--so stay tuned to our communications! If you have any questions, contact Pat W at wilder.pat@eagle.uwla.edu.



Member Milestones



April 1	Patti Ritzen
April 1	Cindy Tayler
April 2	Mary Gustafson
April 4	Nolan Bloemker
April 5	Carolyn Creamer
April 7	Dan Kube
April 8	Kim Herbst
April 10	Julie Leake
April 11	Floyd Adler
April 11	Laurie Gardiner
April 12	Teresa Harris
April 12	Duane Penny
April 13	Miles Wyjad
April 15	Ken Forsberg
April 15	Ranelle Lang
April 15	Ray Leake
April 15	Jamie Turner
April 18	Jaime Updegraff
April 19	Dick Grieve
April 19	Ada Maki
April 20	Ken Wright
April 21	Teri Tornow
April 24	Irene Marconnet
April 25	Patsy Bowman
April 25	Madi Baltrum
April 26	Joel Lahman
April 27	Diane Frank
April 27	Owen Kunselman
April 27	Lawrence Woodley
April 30	Wanda Schnabel

April 5	Mark & Ruth Peterson (47)
April 5	Dean & Sandy Mickelson (25)
April 7	Jean & Gary Flanagan (43)
April 7	Jeff & Kristal Hopp (31)
April 19	Stacie & Nick Spendlow (8)
April 20	Neal & Jan Stoffer (59)
April 20	Perrie & Bill Sanders (20)
April 22	Glenn & Eva Summers (44)
April 24	Mary & Rob Boyer (25)
April 26	Troy & Barb Payne (37)
April 28	Tyrel & Jamie Turner (15)

Healing Prayers for:

Doris S., Marcy S., Jenny K., Ilene R., Cathy G., Darlene B., Gerry C., Jan M., Kristal H., George D., Lydia M., Bruce B., Candy T., Jeremy G., and our homebound members: Esther G., and Doris C.

Congratulations to:

Joyce Gallagher on the birth of twin great nieces Emily and Brooklynn, born March 24, 2022 to Joyce's niece Chrissy Schneider in Kentucky.

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 May 2022 Star:

April 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.

