



Blessed to be a Blessing

December 2022

Worship Services

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

*Check website for current
mask guidelines*

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

Bethlehem Staff

Pastor Katie Chullino,
pastor@bethlehem-lutheran.net

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

Director of Worship and Music
worship@bethlehem-lutheran.net

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Cornerstone Preschool

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

Ministry Events in December

- ♦ 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
- ♦ Table Talk with Pr Katie: Wednesdays, 12:00 p.m. in Fireside
- ♦ Thanksgiving: November 24
- ♦ Office Closed: November 24 and 25
- ♦ First Day of Advent: November 27
- ♦ Advent Dinner, Prayer, Fellowship: November 30, 5:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
- ♦ First Friday Social: December 2, 6:30 p.m.
- ♦ Habitat Work Day: December 3
- ♦ Advent Dinner, Prayer, Fellowship: December 7, 5:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
- ♦ Bethlehem Book Club: December 8, 9:00 a.m. via Zoom
- ♦ Music Ambassadors at Atria: December 11, 11:15 a.m.
- ♦ Annual Congregational Meeting: December 11, 11:30 a.m.
- ♦ Naomi Circle: December 13 at 9:15 a.m. in the Youth Room and via Zoom
- ♦ BLC Council Meeting: December 13, 7:00 p.m., Fireside Room
- ♦ Advent Dinner, Prayer, Fellowship: December 14, 5:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
- ♦ Christmas Program Rehearsal: December 17, 1:00 p.m.
- ♦ Girl Scout Bake Sale: December 18
- ♦ Children's Christmas Program: December 18, 9:15 a.m.
- ♦ Living Nativity: December 18, 5:00 p.m.
- ♦ Social Justice Initiative Meeting: December 18, 11:45 a.m.
- ♦ Prayer Shawl: December 20, 10:00 a.m.
- ♦ Advent Dinner & Caroling: December 21, 5:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
- ♦ Christmas Eve Worship: December 24, 4:00 p.m., 6:00 p.m., 11:00 p.m.
- ♦ Christmas Worship: December 25, 9:00 a.m.

More details of these events and
additional information can be found on our website:
www.bethlehem-lutheran.net.

Rev's Revelations



Every year, Advent orients us around preparation and waiting. Often, we pick themes to set our hearts and minds on the right things--because it can be pretty easy to wait for Santa or to prepare for Christmas

dinner while we forget that the season is about Jesus the Christ coming into our lives today. This year, we center ourselves with the theme: *From Generation to Generation*. The theme comes from Mary's song, the Magnificat,

Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed;

for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name.

*His mercy is for those who fear him **from generation to generation.** (Luke 1:48-50)*

As we worship this Advent, we will hear sacred scriptures about the Messiah, Christ, Emmanuel. We will learn about the ancestors of Jesus. And we will consider how much more *generation means to us and for the future.*

A *Sanctified Art*, the publisher of this Advent series, beautifully explains how much more generation can mean, "The root word of 'generation' is 'gen' meaning 'origin' or 'birth.' Our theme is also a call to action: what are we being called to generate or bring forth? What have your ancestors and those who have come before you passed on for you to continue? Who are the spiritual elders in your community who planted the seeds for things that are now blooming? What seeds are you planting for the future? *From Generation to Generation...* reminds us of the ways our lives, histories, actions, and stories are interconnected and woven together... This Advent may you remember that you belong--to a story etched into the wrinkles of time, to generations that

have come before and will come after, to a love that won't let you go."

As you read this month's *Star* newsletter and see all of the opportunities to engage, consider those questions above and do more than consider--be! Be you. Be blessed. Be a blessing! Live out your part in the story here and now!

Peace,

Rev KJC

P.S. There are many things happening this month--Living Nativity, ABCs of Christmas, Annual Meeting, Christmas Eve--don't forget to mark your calendars that we will have one worship service at 9:00 a.m. on both Sunday, December 25 and Sunday January 1!



Save the Date

- **Sunday, November 27** - Annual Report Items Due.
Send them to secretary@bethlehem-lutheran.net.
- **Sunday, December 11** - Congregation Annual Meeting at 11:30 a.m.
- **Sunday, December 18** - Children's Christmas Program from 9:15 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.
- **Sunday, December 18** - Living Nativity from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
- **Saturday, December 24** - Christmas Eve Worship at 4:00 p.m., 6:00 p.m., 11:00 p.m.
- **Sunday, December 25** - Christmas Day Worship at 9:00 a.m.
- **Sunday, January 1** - Epiphany/New Year's Day Worship at 9:00 a.m.



Advent Dinner, Prayer, Fun & Fellowship

Starts November 30! See page 8 for schedule and details!

Annual Meeting on Sunday, December 11!

We will gather for our **Annual Meeting on Sunday, December 11, 2022** at 11:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. We will start the meeting with a potluck--bring your own table service and a dish to share! If you need a Zoom option, please contact Jenny K. before December 4.



Ministry and committee reports for the **Annual Report are due no later than November 27** and should be submitted to Jenny K. (secretary@bethlehem-lutheran.net). Annual Reports will be available through the weekly email on Friday, December 2. A limited number of printed copies will be available Sunday, December 4; if you want a printed copy, please let Nancy know by December 1 (admin@bethlehem-lutheran.net, 303-776-3290).



Children's Christmas Program

Don't miss this exciting Christmas show by our own youngsters joined by Light of Christ! Twenty-seven children will perform on December 18 between services. The program will be recorded. Contact Gary or Sharon Kirby-Cole with questions.

Come to the Manger

Experience the **Living Nativity** from the manger perspective December 18!

We are looking for volunteers to assist with set-up, costumes, characters, traffic control, and creation of Christ's birthday. What a blessed way to experience the holiday! Sign-up in the narthex or at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0d48ada922a2f5c07-living2>
Don't miss your chance to be part of this joy-filled event!



Worship

December 4, 2022 - Second Sunday in Advent

When the angel Gabriel comes to Mary, she is perplexed and confused—and no doubt, afraid. And yet, the angel's news is: "Do not be afraid." Do not be afraid. We hear this refrain all throughout the Christmas story and remember it is the most common phrase in all the bible. From generation to generation, God shows up in the midst of our fear and uncertainty and confusion. From generation to generation, faithful people have said, "yes," despite apprehension. From generation to generation, our ancestors in faith have accepted the invitation. The prophecy in Isaiah paints a vision of what we work toward when we say "yes": righteousness and equity reign, the wolf lives with the lamb, no harm or hurt shall destroy the earth, a child shall lead the way. This is the vision passed down to us: we must pursue it and make it real.

December 11, 2022 - Third Sunday in Advent

As far as Joseph knows, his new wife has been unfaithful to him and broken their marriage contract. And yet, instead of punishment, he chooses not to publicly disgrace or humiliate her. This interruption in his life becomes a holy invitation when the angel comes to him in a dream and says, "Do not be afraid." When he awakes, Joseph once again has the courage to choose a better way. He chooses to stay with Mary, to become an adoptive parent. He chooses peace over violence, grace over condemnation. Like Mary, he chooses to say "yes." When have our ancestors also chosen a better way, and when have they not? Isaiah 35 is a vision of what happens when we choose a better way: the wilderness blooms, water breaks forth in the desert, eyes are opened, ears are unstopped, sorrow and sadness flee away. A highway shall appear and it will become a holy way.

December 18, 2022 - Fourth Sunday in Advent - Good News Singers?

This week we return to Mary's experience. After receiving the news from the angel, she retreats to her cousin Elizabeth's house. When Mary arrives (perhaps unannounced), Elizabeth doesn't just welcome her—she is filled with the Holy Spirit and speaks a blessing upon Mary as her own child leaps and kicks within her womb. She sees how God is at work and names it out loud. In this moment of profound solidarity, Mary and Elizabeth see the divine in one another. This connection inspires Mary to sing her radical hymn of praise, declaring how God's liberating love remains steadfast throughout the ages. From generation to generation, we can see how God is at work in our relationships. We find God in each other. The way we see the divine in each other impacts how we live and move in the world. When we view every human being as a child of God, we generate a different world.

Christmas Eve Services

- 4:00 p.m. Family Service with Bethlehem and Light of Christ
- 6:00 p.m. Traditional Candlelight Service (Livestream on YouTube)
- 11:00 p.m. "Midnight" Candlelight Service (Livestream on YouTube)

December 25, 2022 - Christmas Day - 1 Service at 9:15 am

"And the Word became flesh and lived among us..." (John 1:14a). Unlike the other gospels, John's gospel offers us a cosmic glimpse of Christ's birth. Christ's beginning was with God, therefore, Christ has been with us since life began. On this Christmas Sunday, we celebrate the many ways God dwells with us from generation to generation, since the beginning of time. Like Mary pondering the angels' message in her heart, we invite you to dwell in your worship, perhaps embracing stillness, contemplative practices, creativity, and prayer. In the fullness of this season, come dwell with God—in silence or in song, in prayer or in stillness.

Worship (con't)

January 1, 2022 - Epiphany Sunday - 1 Service at 9:15 am

The Magi were seekers. They sought wisdom, they sought the divine, they sought fortunes to tell the future. Their seeking leads them to Jesus, the newborn king of another culture and religion. And yet, their seeking is also what protects them from Herod's deception and harm. After the Magi go home by another way, Joseph is visited again by an angel in his dream. This time, the angel brings a warning, and like before, Joseph heeds the message. Fleeing from Herod's massacre, Joseph, Mary, and baby Jesus seek refuge in Egypt; they remain there, living as immigrants, until Herod dies. Like the Magi, may we seek the divine and be willing to journey closer to God. Like the Holy Family, may we seek safety for all families who are under threat. This new year and every year to come, let us keep seeking— wisdom, justice, and a better world.



Advent Devotions

We have two Advent Devotion opportunities this year. The first is a series which goes with our theme Generation to Generation which will be shared in the Weekly Email every Friday for the following week. If you

need a paper copy of the Generation to Generation devotional, please contact Nancy T. in the office (303-776-3290).

The second opportunity is a Virtual Advent Calendar--with daily videos made by pastors, deacons and leaders in the Rocky Mountain Synod. The link to this calendar will also be shared in the Weekly Email.



Worship Sign-ups

Please help our Worship Team plan for the coming weeks by signing up to lead in worship today! If you need

help signing up, please contact Jim W.

(worshipchair@bethlehem-lutheran.net) or Pastor Katie (pastor@bethlehem-lutheran.net) or the church office (303-776-3290).

Advent Sunday Wreath Lighting: <https://tinyurl.com/BLCAdvent>

Christmas Eve: <https://tinyurl.com/BLCXmas22>

December 2022: <https://tinyurl.com/blcdec22>

January 2023: <https://tinyurl.com/blcjan23>

Stewardship



Finances

See the 2022 Annual Report on December 4 for figures.

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).

Council Meeting

Council Meeting Minutes Summary November 08, 2022 - approved

Respectfully submitted by Jenny Kelley, BLC
Council secretary

CALL TO ORDER: Matt James called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

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

DEVOTIONS AND PRAYER: Pr. Katie shared an image from our Advent resources based on Matthew 1:1-17 (Jesus' genealogy) representing Christ as a rose in the center surrounded by significant women who supported his life. Questions to consider: what do you hold in your circle? How would you ensure the continuation of Christ today?

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING: Minutes of the October meeting were approved via email and posted in the library. On October 31, 2022, Exec approved Timberline quote for \$1,434.00 to replace broken furnace motor. **A reminder for ministry chairs, committee members, and staff: Sunday, November 27—Annual Report submissions are due.** Send them to secretary@bethlehem-lutheran.net.

FINANCIAL REPORTS: Greg reports giving was down again for the month of October. We are doing well at keeping expenses down in the general fund. We have not filled the Worship Director position so we automatically reduce our expenses by \$1,500 per month. General Fund giving this month was below budget by \$6,827 in the month of October. General Fund expenses were under budget by \$9,846. For the year 2022 we are \$59,782 below budget in General Fund giving and \$40,362 under budget in General Fund expenditures. The General Fund is essentially what runs the church. Remind folks that if they have financial questions, seek out the Congregation Treasurer or a member of the financial team.

Budget preparation is underway—Greg needs budget estimates from all ministry areas; the

congregation budget meeting is November 20 between services.

Cindy moved to approve the financial report as presented; Todd seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

REPORT HIGHLIGHTS (Pastor/Staff): Pr. Katie was thankful for the Djembe concert fundraiser and will send a letter of gratitude to Gregg Hanson of Community Drums; we raised close to \$1500 for the after school program. There are some potential team leaders and preliminary plans which Cindy, Pr. Katie, and Jenny will follow up; the goal is to begin the program in January. There is a lot of Advent/Christmas stuff so we need volunteers of all ages; we will be trying out an online process for signing up volunteers. For the Thanksgiving service on 11/22, Bethlehem will provide pies and readers—will be a signup in weekly emails.

Stewardship: Todd reported that preparations for the Consecration Sunday are going well, although many did not understand the reservation card. Pr. Josh Walker is the guest pastor. The Estimate of Giving cards will be passed out during service and collected by the ushers before dismissal. An online option for those who cannot come to church on that day is also available from our website.

Todd plans to focus on the Time & Talents survey after the campaign.

Evangelism: Cindy reported Living Nativity signups are in the narthex and online; Cindy will talk to Tiffany about FaceBook posts, notify other churches, and put an ad in the Times Call, along with Christmas service information. Upcoming projects include the after school program and planning for a new photo directory.

Missions: Mark reported on the recent Habitat for Humanity work day with a special thanks to Bob C. The Share the Grace event on October 30 was very successful with clothing, toiletries, backpacks, snacks, gift cards, and cash collected for Casa de Paz and The Reentry Initiative. Upcoming is a Thanksgiving service and pies at New Beginnings.

Worship: Jim reported that he is planning for holidays and thanks all for his time on council

Council Meeting (con't)

Faith Formation: Jaime highlighted events from her report. Advent plans: Family Advent Nights which will include dinners. The Christmas program will be on December 18 between services.

Property: Alex was absent.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- **Preschool Committee / Board:** Pr. Katie reported the next meeting is scheduled for Jan. 9. Jenny will send out a link to the document draft for the updated BLC Personnel Handbook to the council for comments.
- **Land Stewardship Team:** Matt reported that Growing Gardens came and did a walk around; Chili is scheduling a follow up meeting.
- **Stewardship Campaign:** see above under Stewardship.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Church Van:** Matt moved to approve the authorization to sell the church Toyota van for \$4000 with \$3000 down and the remainder allowed to be \$100 per month due until paid off; the funds from this sale will go into the Capital Improvement Fund. Greg seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously.
- **AA New Year's Eve building use:** An AA group that has used our facility before has requested use of our Fellowship Hall for a sober New Year's Eve party; Mike Smith is willing to be the church contact person. Todd moved that we authorize the group to use the Fellowship Hall for their New Year's Eve party; Jenny seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously. Pr. Katie will follow up with the group for the usual facility use paperwork.
- **Annual meeting/position hand off plan:** Pr. Katie asks outgoing council members to meet with new members to pass off information, etc. The December meeting will have both old and new members present to facilitate the exchange of information.

- **AMP - Paw Giving Tree:** Council discussed a request to bring in a tree with paw cards for presents during the month of December and suggested that this would be better in February since it would not conflict with other planned holiday requests.
- **Nicaragua Project:** Mark requested approval for the annual winter challenge in December for the Nicaragua Project; Greg seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.
- **Mark moved to approve a Hygiene Supplies & Food Drive for the Our Center in conjunction with the Living Nativity;** Cindy seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

Following prayer considerations and the Lord's Prayer, Matt adjourned the meeting at 8:27 p.m.



Upcoming Dates

Next Council meeting will be Tuesday, December 13, 2022 @ 7:00 p.m. This will be a meeting of 2022 and 2023 council members. Exec meeting at 6:30 p.m.

Faith Formation

From the desk of the Faith Formation Director Gary:

We are to be the light of the world, what does that mean? Matthew 5:14 is the verse that describes this best. "You are the light of the world. A city/congregation built on a hill cannot be hid! BLC is the light in our community. I challenge our congregation to continue to be that light, our SJC is doing amazing work, how can you be involved? Be a light whenever you can! How do we pass this on from **"Generation to Generation"**! During the Advent season let us be thoughtful of our past, present and future Christmas's together with family and friends. Let us also be thoughtful of those who do not family and friends to share Christmas with. Let's pray for the world in Hope, Peace, Love and Joy!

This year's theme is "Be a Light", "Be A Star"

- **(All aged) Sunday School** will be having Sunday school for all ages in the Fellowship Hall. There is a story about the lesson (lectionary) and small groups for conversation, craft and prayer time. We are currently looking for Sunday school teachers
- **Confirmation**— We will not have Confirmation sessions in December, but we invite all Confirmands to take part in our Wednesday night Advent activities. We will resume sessions on January 8 at 12:00 p.m. We are currently taking a comprehensive look into the small Catechism.
- **Ministry Calendar of Events** is located in the Narthex on the west wall. Find it for more information, dates, and times of events.
- **Family Sunday** will be January 15 from 12:00 to 2:00 p.m. We will meet in the Fellowship Hall, have lunch together, and break out into groups. We will be making homemade noodles for soups and pasta dishes.
- **The 2022 Christmas Program** will be December 18 and is called the "ABC's of Christmas". We will have a rehearsal on December 17 at 1:00 p.m. If you are a youth of any age and interested in participating, please let Gary know! Parents if you would like to help with practice or sign-making please contact Gary. Sharon Kirby-Cole will be directing the program.

Advent Fun & Fellowship

Advent starts on November 30 this year and our Advent Wednesday activities are for all ages ("Generation to Generation").

- Schedule: 5:30 p.m. Dinner, 6:30 p.m. Holden Evening Prayer, 7:30 p.m. Fun & Fellowship.
- **November 30**—Dinner: Chili night with Frito pie fixings. Activity: Advent Calendars and decorating contest
- **December 7**—Dinner: Italian night. Activity: Christmas Trivia game night
- **December 14**—Dinner: Taco/Nacho bar. Activity: Surprise!
- **December 21**—Bring your own dinner and Christmas Caroling (Hot Chocolate provided!!)
- If you have anyone that you think might enjoy carolers to stop by, please let Gary know.



To Serve

Nicaragua Project

Marta, one of our children center directors, just sent us the following story:

"Five year old Pedro Pablo Rivera used to collapse on the ground, depressed and weak, not able to will himself back up. Many days he had nothing to eat. Other days he had only a piece of a tortilla shared with his three siblings as well as his 68 year old grandmother who is the sole provider for all of them. Although she is in very bad health, she gets up each morning at 1:00 to sweep the streets and earn a dollar after a night of work in order to provide even a small amount of food for her four grandchildren. Our children's project staff brought Pedro to the preschool some months ago. At first, he was so weak he could not play or eat. They continued to encourage and build him up with food and loving care and slowly but surely, Pedro is literally rising up, strengthening, and coming back to life."

You can make a difference in Pedro's life and 83 young children like him at our children's center with a generous donation that will allow the center to continue to feed and nourish them.

Every donation helps change a child's life. Will you consider giving \$50, \$100, \$250, \$500, \$1000 or more?

- \$50 feeds 33 children at the children's center for 3 days
- \$100 feeds 66 children at the children's center for 3 days
- \$250 feeds all 84 children at the children's center for 6 days
- \$500 feeds all the children at the children's center for 12 days
- \$1000 feeds all the children at the children's center for 25 days
- \$1200 feeds all 84 children at the center for a month



Write checks to Bethlehem Lutheran-Nicaragua and send donations to:

Bethlehem Lutheran Church-Nicaragua 1000 West 15th Avenue, Longmont, CO 80501

Or donate to the online giving page: <https://secure.myvanco.com/L-YXX6/home>



Habitat Build Day

Our last Habitat Build Day for 2022 is Saturday, December 3. We will be working on the six new homes being built at the Meadow Brook Development (west of Hover Street and just north of Nelson Road). Much progress was made on Saturday, October 29; there was a "Blitz Build Day" including our church group, two other churches and many others for a total of over 40 people! With six homes in the work, there is something for everyone to do! Please sign up on the bulletin board on the Narthex wall.

Winter List for Little Free Pantry

The Little Free Pantry list has now changed to the winter items to reflect the needs of our community and items that are safe in the freezing conditions. You can find the list in the newsletter and on the church website (<https://bethlehem-lutheran.net/serve/unitedstates/#LFP>). If you or a group you are part of would like to step up to adopt a day of the week to help stock the pantry, please contact Chili (ChiliBAS14@gmail.com).



To Serve

Our Center Food & Toiletries Drive

Sunday, December 18 at the services, between services, following late service and during the Living Nativity (5:00–8:00 p.m.), Bethlehem Lutheran will be collecting food, toiletries and monetary donations to benefit the Longmont Our Center.

You can drop off in boxes in the Narthex, drop off between services and after the second service in the Bethlehem Lutheran parking lot, or drop off during the Living Nativity. For the drive-by donation, please enter by the east drive (off of 15th Avenue) and drop the items off at the north side of the church—look for the volunteers.

If you cannot come to the church, BLC volunteers would be happy to pick up your items from your front porch. To arrange a pick up, please contact Mark H. (holstemarka@outlook.com) or Cindy T (cindytyler63@gmail.com).

If you miss Sunday December 18 or would like to donate money rather than goods, you may do so by mailing a check to the BLC office with the check memo line "Our Center Supplies" so the donation will be properly credited. You can also donate online at <https://secure.myvanco.com/L-YXX6/home> and look for the Our Center "Drive Thru" tile. If you have questions about donations, please contact Mark H. (holstemarka@outlook.com).

Please see the image above for needed items. Items most requested by the Our Center are in bold.



Land Stewardship Team

Some of you may remember seeing a call go out for anyone interested in helping BLC investigate some opportunities for our currently underutilized field. Well, we're happy to say that we've been able to put together a fantastic group of folks from BLC & LOC who have helped to narrow the focus onto an opportunity to partner with Growing Gardens. Until the end of the 2022 growing season Growing Gardens was partnering with the YMCA at 9th Avenue & Lashley Street. Due to the very fortuitous donation of a turf soccer field to the YMCA, Growing Gardens is now looking for a new partner with which to grow healthy, accessible food. We are excited about the prospect of partnering with Growing Gardens as well as others in our community to grow and serve. Keep your eyes open for more information as well as opportunities to engage with the Land Stewardship Team, but know that your thoughts, questions, concerns and/or offers of delicious baked goods are always welcome. The best way to reach out is via LST@bethlehem-lutheran.net, or just snag one of us in person!



Gather and Connect

Manna Bible Study

Manna Bible Study will begin a reflection on Advent and Christmas on November 28. We will read and discuss *God is in the Manger* by Dietrich Bonhoeffer. We meet each Monday at 9:00 a.m. Contact Phyllis W. for the meeting location. All are welcome.



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).

First Friday Fellowship

First Friday will be Friday, December 2 at 6:30 p.m. at the home of Dave and Kathy L. Their address is 1818 West County Rd 6, Berthoud. Please bring an appetizer to share and a beverage. For questions call Shirley at 303-775-6928.

Bethlehem Book Club

The Bethlehem Book Club will be meeting on December 8 at 9:00 a.m. on Zoom to discuss *Miss Benson's Beetle* by Rachel Joyce. Please consider joining this discussion which is open to everyone. If you would like to be added to the book club list email Mary Jane at mjvoogt200s@yahoo.com. Your name will be added and you will receive a reminder and the zoom link a week before the next meeting.

Ambassadors at The Atria

Please join us December 11, immediately following the second service while we make a joyful noise singing hymns and gospel songs with those in the Memory Care Unit at The Atria on 9th and Hover in Longmont. Contact Jeanne Phipps at jeanne@phippsweb.com

Naomi Circle

We are having a Christmas Brunch in the Fireside Room Tuesday, December 13 from 9:30 - 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.

Community Updates

The Lutheran Choral

The Lutheran Choral invites you to join them singing favorite carols and anthems on **December 4** at 2:30 p.m. at Mount Olive Lutheran Church (11453 E Wesley Ave, Aurora, CO 80014) and at 6:30 p.m. at St. Philip Lutheran Church (7531 S Kendall Blvd, Littleton, CO 80128)

Upcoming Girl Scout Holiday Events!

Girl Scout Troop #76091 would like to invite you to a couple of fun holiday events! Please join us on **Thursday, December 15** at the Boulder County Fairgrounds Exhibit Building (9595 Nelson Road in Longmont) for a Girl Scout craft fair from 5:00 - 8:00 p.m. The fair will have multiple troops selling holiday crafts that will make great gifts. On **Sunday, December 18**, troop #76091 will be hosting a bake sale here at Bethlehem Lutheran Church from 8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. We will have some great baked goods to help you with your holiday gatherings.



Service of Remembrance, Reflection and Resilience



Join with Christ the Servant and Trinity Lutheran Churches, as well as other members from the Boulder-Broomfield Conference and Rocky Mountain Synod, for a service on the anniversary of the Marshall Fire. The service will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Friday, December 30, 2022 at Christ the Servant (506 Via Appia Way, Louisville, CO). All are welcome to attend, support, and be supported.

Community Updates

Introductory Workshop on Centering Prayer

Are you looking for a way to explore or deepen your relationship with God? Join this workshop presented by the Center for Contemplative Living in Denver on January 14 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. It will be on Zoom. There is no fee to register. In this introductory workshop to Centering Prayer, you will discover a centuries-old prayer method. Centering Prayer *consists of simply* sitting in silence with God - beyond thoughts, words, and emotions - and opening our one's mind, heart and whole being to the Ultimate Mystery. Not only spiritual, but mental and physical health can be positively affected as well. In the workshop you will learn the basics of Centering Prayer, experience it in a guided setting, and be able to ask questions and share experiences with the presenters and others attending on zoom.

To sign up, go to [Centeringprayer.net](https://centeringprayer.net) and under Spirit Journey Classes click on Introduction to Centering Prayer to fill out a very simple form. Questions? You may contact Cathy G who has been practicing centering prayer for four years and highly recommends the practice. Email cegood47@aol.com

Cornerstone Preschool at Bethlehem Lutheran Church

2023 Fall Registration begins on January 9, 2023. Cornerstone Preschool will begin the 2023 fall session on September 5 and 6, 2023. We have a full year planned for children 3 to 5 years old. Our M-W-F class is for children ages 4-5 and our T-Th class is for children ages 3-4. There is a new theme each week including a bible story, art, sand and water play, block area, social and dramatic play, skill table, easel painting, writing and listening centers, puzzles and outside play. We also have circle time where we learn about the calendar, numbers, letters, sing songs and play games. We are planning a few special field trips in September and October. Our M-W-F class is especially beneficial for children going to kindergarten in the fall of 2024.

Please call Andrea Becker, the Cornerstone Preschool Director, at 303-776-3081 or 303-579-6572 Monday - Friday from 8:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. to set-up a time to tour the preschool and get more information about Cornerstone Preschool.

Thank you from Annie and Millie's Place

We are keeping humans experiencing homelessness together with their fur families by evolving pet-friendly solutions, programs and resources.

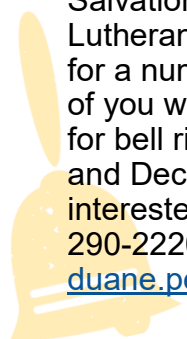
Thank you, dear members of Bethlehem Lutheran Church, for your support of this outreach these past two years. We have been able to do some life saving work right there on your property through our veterinary outreach. We have been able to keep puppies warm and hearts full of gratitude through the dog coats your members made. We have been able to provide food for animals of people in need through your Little Pantry and through generous donations – both in kind and financial. This giving season we are first giving thanks for your partnership and support. It has meant the world to us as an organization, but also to me personally as the founder.

If you are so moved to continue your support through financial or in-kind donations, please visit our website at www.annieandmillies.org/donate for all the ways you can give.



Bell Ringing Volunteers Needed

We'll be ringing bells again this year for the Salvation Army. As many are aware Bethlehem Lutheran has been among the top contributors for a number of years and I'm hoping that many of you will be able to ring this year. The dates for bell ringing will be Nov 26, Dec 3, Dec, 10, and Dec 13. Bell ringing shifts will be 1 hour. If interested please contact Duane Penny at 970-290-2220, or e-mail; duane.penny@cbrealty.com



Member Milestones



Dec 1 Michael Kasperbauer Jr.	Dec 20 Jill Luere
Dec 1 Kyle Buck-Gengler	Dec 21 Laurie Parker
Dec 2 Jill Haney	Dec 21 Jeff Hopp
Dec 5 Doris Cotton	Dec 21 Carrie Crespo
Dec 5 Kirk Moors	Dec 22 Jerry Phipps
Dec 8 Lilah Corner	Dec 23 Ruth Conrad
Dec 9 Jennie Abromski	Dec 23 Mason Watts
Dec 10 DeEtte Eikenberg	Dec 24 Lynda Coonrod
Dec 11 Pam Bischoff	Dec 24 Dale Grindeland
Dec 13 Jeff Dittilo	Dec 24 Nolan Zigler
Dec 13 Viviana Jurkovich	Dec 25 Mary Fjeld
Dec 13 Reagan Zigler	Dec 26 Ruth Tilson
Dec 15 Cindy Schlagel	Dec 27 Carol Wissink
Dec 16 Gail Schurman	Dec 30 Beatriz Ramos
Dec 16 Barbara Wedemeyer	Dec 30 Roxanne Kessler
Dec 16 Ella James	Dec 30 Levi Davis
Dec 17 Ruby James	
Dec 19 Duane Larsen	
Dec 19 Jakob Cook	

Dec 2
Gerry Cole & Sharon Kirby-Cole (28)

Dec 17
Wayne & Diana Bruckner (56)

Dec 19
Cindy & Byron Thompson (30)

Dec 20
Jesse & Nicole Ramer (14)

Dec 27
Jenny & Michael Kelley (47)

Dec 28
Trudi & Patrick Boaz (26)
Carrie & Brandon Crespo (4)

Praying for: Shelley K., Howard W.,
Dion B., Floyd A., Rini T., Cathy G.,
Darlene B., Gerry C., Jan M., Kristal H.,
George D., Lydia M., Jeremy G., Bruce
B., Esther G., Doris C., Brenda H.

Sympathy to: The Family and Friends
of Floyd Adler, Bethlehem's oldest
member at 102 years old, passed away
November 15, 2022

Gluten Free "Lutheran Cookies"

These "Lutheran Cookies" were shared by Father Teri as a thank you after Nancy T's assistance one particularly busy week this fall. Everyone in the building enjoyed them and per request, Fr. Teri shared her recipe:

Blend:

1 stick softened butter
1/2 cup white sugar
1/2 cup brown sugar
1 egg
2 tsp vanilla

Add:

1 1/2 cups gf flour
1/2 tsp baking soda
1/2 tap baking powder
1/4 tsp salt
M&M's



Once mixed, refrigerate for half an hour. Then make balls and put on parchment lined baking sheet. Cook at 350F degrees for 12-13 minutes. They are fragile right out of the oven so don't touch them for about five minutes. Cool on a baking rack.

The key is my flour. King Arthur Gluten Free Flour (see photo).

Put them in an old Easter basket and deliver. I am going to call them Lutheran cookies from now on since you all seemed to like them even though they are gluten-free.

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 January 2023 Star:
December 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.

