

# The Star

Newsletter of Bethlehem Lutheran Church

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

## Worship Services

8:00 a.m. and 10:15 a.m.

Online and In-person

Check website for current mask guidelines

## Important Reminder

Bethlehem has a special fund, the Agape Fund, which is currently used to assist those in need of food, medicine and gas. We also have information on community resources for greater needs. Resource information will be available in the Narthex. If you are approached by someone in the church who is seeking assistance, please direct them to a staff or council member for assistance.

## Worship Sign-ups

Please help our Worship Team plan for the coming weeks and beyond by signing up to join in leading worship today! Our new SignUpGenius (SUG) link covers Sunday worship leaders for the rest of this year.

Please sign up before February 15 for March positions on the SUG website. After this date the positions will be filled as needed before the first Sunday of the month. If you are unable or unwilling to navigate this site, see note below. The positions available for you in this manner, whether you have served for them previously or not are:

Altar Guild, Assisting Minister, Communion Minister, Usher, Audio/Visual, and Acolyte.

**SignUpGenius Link:** <https://tinyurl.com/BLCWorship23>

If you need help signing up, please contact;

Jim W. @([jnswoodruff@gmail.com](mailto:jnswoodruff@gmail.com)), or Pastor Katie

([pastor@bethlehem-lutheran.net](mailto:pastor@bethlehem-lutheran.net)) or the church office (303-776-3290).

## *In this Issue:*

Rev's Revelations pg. 02

Worship pg. 03

Lent pg. 04

Council Notes pg. 04

Finances pg. 08

Monthly Events pg. 08

Faith Formation pg. 09

BLC Committees pg. 11

Gather & Connect pg. 12

Property pg. 12

To Serve pg. 13

Member Milestones pg. 15

Prayer Request pg. 15



## Rev's Revelations



The month of January 2023 was nothing like I had planned. As I write this newsletter article from my isolation suite (aka: the parsonage basement), I have not worshiped in our sanctuary yet this year. After a relaxing holiday on January 1, I was ready to dive into the new year--to visit a few homebound members during this holiday season, to enjoy a few more days of Christmas decorations, to walk with families during holy moments of grief.

Then, my own 30-year-old cousin died, unexpectedly. I spent 10 days with my family in Iowa. I missed two funerals in our Bethlehem community. I missed two Sundays of worship and fellowship. (Thanks to Zoom, I didn't miss our January council meeting!) And, I missed those few more days surrounded by Christmas decorations. When I arrived home, my spouse had taken down our tree and carefully packed our ornaments. Also, when I arrived home, I tested positive for Covid19, which meant that I missed de-decorating at Bethlehem, too.

My time in isolation has giving me the opportunity to sit with some guilt and grief this past week--wishing I had been here to do the things and also wishing I was still with my extended family, wishing I had been more diligent with masking while traveling and also wishing I had just a few more days to take in the joyful light of those Christmas and Chrismons trees. Then, I received this poem from Father Teri at Light of Christ ECC:

### ***The Work of Christmas Begins***

- by Michael Dougherty, a variation on Howard Thurman's,  
*When the Song of the Angels is Stilled*

*When the carols have been stilled,  
When the star-topped tree is taken down,  
When family and friends are gone home,  
When we are back to our schedules  
The work of Christmas begins:  
To welcome the refugee,  
To heal a broken planet,  
To feed the hungry,  
To build bridges of trust, not walls of fear,  
To share our gifts,  
To seek justice and peace for all people,  
To bring Christ's light to the world.*

January--the month of Christmas and Epiphany and the celebration of the light guiding the magi to Jesus--was not what I planned or expected. The star-topped tree, the carols, the family and friends are gone. And, I'm back to a "normal" schedule--which in the life of a pastor means little regularity. But, also, I can see the work of Christmas beginning here at Bethlehem--in the budding ministries of the Immigration Focus Group, the Land Stewardship Team, the After School Fun & Food program, as well as in the annual mission trip!

As we transition from the Christmas and Epiphany seasons into ordinary time and into Lent (yes, that happens at the end of February!), I see the work of Christmas, I see Christ's light shining because of each of you. Thanks for being a light in the world.

Peace,

Handwritten signature of Rev. KJC

# Worship

## February 5 - 5th Sunday after Epiphany

*Light shines in the darkness for the upright, the psalmist sings. Isaiah declares that when we loose the bonds of injustice and share our bread with the hungry, the light breaks forth like the dawn. In another passage from the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus, the light of the world, calls his followers to let the light of their good works shine before others. Through baptism we are sent into the world to shine with the light of Christ. Readings: Isaiah 58:1-12, Matthew 5:13-20*

## February 12 - 6th Sunday after Epiphany

*In today's reading from Deuteronomy we are called to choose life by loving and obeying God. Much of today's gospel reading echoes portions of the Ten Commandments. Jesus' instructions to the crowd reveal a pattern of behavior that honors both God and the neighbor, resulting in life and health for the whole community. We too are invited to embrace these commandments, not out of fear of retribution, but because God has promised that to do so means life for us.*

**Readings:** Deuteronomy 30:15-20, Matthew 5:21-37

### Lutheran Campus Ministry Sunday

**Sunday, February 12** will be Lutheran Campus Ministry Sunday at Bethlehem. We will have a student guest speaker for the services that day. As a thank you, we will be collecting a Love Offering with all money going to Lutheran Campus Ministry CU. If you would like to contribute you can write a check with Campus Ministry in the memo, put cash in the offering plate that day or contribute online at Home | Bethlehem Lutheran Church ([myvanco.com](http://myvanco.com)) and use the Thanks From the Heart tile and put Campus Ministry in the designation.

## February 19 - Transfiguration of Our Lord

*Today's festival is a bridge between the Advent-Christmas-Epiphany cycle that comes to a close today and the Lent-Easter cycle that begins in several days. On a high mountain Jesus is revealed as God's beloved Son, echoing the words at his baptism. This vision of glory sustains us as Jesus faces his impending death in Jerusalem. We turn this week to Ash Wednesday and our yearly baptismal journey from Lent to Easter. Some churches put aside the alleluia at the conclusion of today's liturgy. This word of joy will be omitted during the penitential season of Lent and will be sung again at Easter. Readings: Exodus 24:12-18, Matthew 17:1-9*

## February 22 - Ash Wednesday

*Is this the fast that I choose?*

*Is this the fast that I choose? As we begin our series, we must examine if our actions match what we profess. As we practice seeking this Lent, what kind of fast will you choose? How will you live your faith? How will you live the questions of your faith? In our spiritual practices, will we seek to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? (Isaiah 58:6) Readings: Isaiah 58 1-12*

## February 26 - 1st Sunday in Lent

*Seeking: Who will you listen to?*

*In order to engage in the spiritual practice of seeking, we must maintain a posture of listening, staying open and curious instead of calloused and closed off. In our focal texts for this week, we see two different examples of listening. Seeking the fruit of the garden, Adam and Eve allow the snake's manipulative voice to become louder than God's voice. In the wilderness, Jesus defies the deception of the tempter by listening intuitively — to God, to his inner moral compass, to the teachings of his faith. And so, who will you listen to? What sources do you seek for news, information, and media? Whose voices — and what messages — take up too much space in your head? From the onslaught of messaging we receive, we are invited to choose carefully. Faith practices can help us listen and filter what we're hearing to discern God's voice. Readings: Genesis 2:15-17, 3:1-7, Matthew 4:1-11*

# Lent 2023

Our Lenten theme this year is, “Seeking: Honest Questions For Deeper Faith” and comes from A Sanctified Art, LLC with this description: The lectionary for Year A offers us many stories of Jesus encountering people who are seeking: Nicodemus comes to him in the veil of night, he approaches a Samaritan woman at a well, he heals a man born without sight. In these stories, each person is seeking a new beginning, a different life, a deeper faith. What unfolds is an exchange filled with questions and exploration. Often, an unveiling occurs — assumptions are disrupted, a new perspective is revealed, mystery grows... Like the characters in our Lenten scriptures, we are also seeking many things: clarity, connection, wonder, justice, balance. We are seeking our calling, the sacred, and how to live as a disciple.



Throughout the turbulence of the past few years, many of us are asking big questions about our lives and our faith. If you are returning to church, you are probably returning with more questions and a critical lens. We hope this series will help us unpack some of those big questions in ways that are honest and faithful. Throughout this season, we hope you will continually ask yourself: what am I seeking? What is God seeking? This Lent, we invite you to engage in the spiritual practice of seeking. We encourage you to stay curious, open, and nimble. We hope you will soften your assumptions and expand your perspectives. We pray that these questions will create a safe space to explore — to be drawn more deeply into the fullness of life, into the heart of God. For daily devotions visit the link in our Weekly Email or contact the church office for a paper copy.

## 2023 Lenten Soup Suppers

Our Lenten tradition at Bethlehem is to enjoy a soup/bread fellowship on Wednesdays before the services. The neighborhood groups take turns providing the soups, relishes and desserts. The Evangelism Committee provides the bread. The assignments are (some groups will be serving 2 times, but they will serve less in 2024 or at the summer coffees). We do keep a record and try our best to share the burden.

- March 1: Orange and Gold
- March 8: Pink and Red
- March 15: Teal and Orange
- March 22: Red and Purple
- March 29: Chili Cook Off

Pull out the crockpot or soup kettle and share your favorite soup with your fellow members. Your fellowship shepherds will be contacting you prior to your group's week. **Also, please bring your own soup bowl, utensils, cups, etc.** This saves lots of time for the serving neighborhood groups and allows them to worship with all of us.

## Upcoming Lenten Events

### Ash Wednesday Services

Wednesday, February 22  
12:00 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.

### Lenten Soup Suppers

Wednesdays beginning March 1  
5:30 p.m.

### Midweek Lenten Evening Prayer

Wednesdays beginning March 1  
6:30 p.m.

### Maundy Thursday

April 6 at 7:00 p.m.

### Good Friday

April 7 at 7:00 p.m.

### Easter Vigil

Saturday, April 8 at 8:00 p.m.

### Easter Sunday

April 9 at 8:00 a.m. and 10:15 a.m.



# Council Notes

**Council Meeting Minutes** January 10, 2023-Approved

Respectfully submitted by Cindy Thompson, BLC Council secretary



**CALL TO ORDER:** Mark Holste called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

**Attending:** Pr. Katie Chullino, Mark Holste, Steve Dawson, Cindy Thompson, Greg Schumann, Mike Smith, Cathy Goodman, Glenn Summers, Jaime Updegraff, Sabrina Lee. Absent: Cindy Taylor

**MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:** approved via email and posted

- Motion – New Year New Socks – approved via email

**FINANCIAL REPORTS:** Greg reported we did not meet budget in December (which was expected) - with 15,000 short in general fund. Income for January is looking reasonable. We have approximately two months of expenses in the bank. Ministries need to look at their individual line items to make sure they know where their ministry dollars are going and what funds are remaining. Steve moved to accept the financial report, Glenn seconded. Motion carried.

**REPORT HIGHLIGHTS** (Pastor/Staff/Ministry): Pr. Katie shared that Lent planning is going on. Pr. Katie ordered a series for Lent (same publisher as Advent series). Andrea K. will preach on Sunday. She will also preside at funeral on Saturday, January 14th. Pr. Katie will be back Monday evening. Pr. Katie shared the process with the synod to have a replacement Pastor. The Council president must send a letter to the Bishop asking for someone such as Andrea to officiate. Normally a letter must be sent for each date a Pastor is needed. However, in this instance the Bishop approved for two consecutive Sundays.

**Stewardship:** Mike reported that he will be meeting with Pr. Katie and Jenny Kelley in the future regarding the timely basis/reality of commitments. Mike asked if Cornerstone Preschool is applicable for special funding from the state. Mark said they are applicable and the preschool advisory team discussed this funding at Monday 1/9 meeting.

**Evangelism:** Cindy submitted her January report to council via email. She will send an update regarding the After School Program meeting scheduled for Wednesday, January 11th.

**Missions:** Cathy reported that there is a newly formed focus group from the social justice initiative. The group is exploring various ways to live out our faith to immigrants. Contact Cathy if you are interested in joining this focus group. She thanked everyone that has been giving time and finances and also everyone that gave socks.

**Property:** Glenn reported \$11,600 is needed for the sprinkler/suppression system repair. Greg said this amount was already approved from last year's budget. Glenn said a minimum of \$9612 is needed to take care of the settling/floor lift issue. Glenn would like permission for BLC to try fundraising for this expense. Mark moved to allow a special fundraiser to occur to raise funds to take care of the "settling/floor left" issue with the understanding that any excess in funds would go the capital improvement to fund such things as the preschool fence or air conditioning. Greg seconded. Discussion: timing is important because of the preschool. Preschool ends the last week of May and begins again in mid-August. Work would need to coordinate around Vacation Bible School (last week of June). The best windows would be right after May 30th and before VBS or after VBS. Motion carried. Glenn will meet with Pr.Katie regarding janitorial needs.

## Council Notes (con't)

**Worship:** Sabrina reported the Chrismon tree will be coming down soon. It was difficult and chaotic the day it was erected in the worship center. More care will be taken during disassembly and parts will be labeled to assist with assembly next year.

Sabrina asked where the binders are for each ministry that have been previously used. She would appreciate some direction of what has happened in the past and procedures to use for the future. Pr. Katie said we should have binders for each ministry - now a folder on the shared drive. Sabrina will work with Pr. Katie to find/see these materials.

**Faith Formation:** Jaime reported Advent nights occurred on Wednesday nights. Jaime lifted up Gary for his organization prior to his surgery. Caroling was canceled due to weather. The Children's Christmas program was a success. Jaime shared thanks to all the helpers. Upcoming: Cofirmants will meet with mentors. Family Sunday on Sunday - making pasta. Easter eggstravangza is in the planning stage.

### UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- **Preschool Committee / Board:** Mark shared that Jenny has been compiling an employee handbook based on a handbook from a church in California, Cornerstone preschool handbook and a previous BLC handbook. Once it is compiled it will be shared with Council for approval. Kudos to Jenny and Greg who have put a lot of work towards this document.
- **Preschool Advisory Board:** It is time to get a Preschool Advisory Board back in place so communication can occur regularly regarding Cornerstone Preschool. The Advisory Board would be comprised of Council President, Pr. Katie, 2-3 BLCers, and a parent of a Cornerstone preschooler. This board would meet quarterly. The responsibilities of this board is part of a past resolution passed by the congregation.

### NEW BUSINESS

- **Campus Ministry Guest Pastor Sunday February 12**
  - Greg moved that we offer the guest Pastor a "love offering" for preaching on the 12th. Sabrina seconded. Discussion: Council discussed that a special offering will be accepted at both services and monies will be given to their campus ministry fund. Sabrina recommended an announcement be made a week prior to the congregation via the bulletin and announcements. An opportunity for cash, check and online giving will be communicated. Motion carried.
- Cathy shared that Bob Cotton would like to show videos regarding "Mercy Ships" here at Bethlehem. Council members discussed that there are probably several BLC members with a strong passion to share various missions with others here at Bethlehem. These members will be encouraged to share in the fellowship hall, forum or fireside room. Members may also put an article in the STAR including links/info on how to give or get involved with the mission they are sharing. If using the forum, members must coordinate with Gary. Summer would be a good time for these types of presentations. If presenters need tech support they may coordinate with Gary/Matt/Pr. Katie prior to their presentation. After discussion, Council consented to allow these presentations to occur. Cathy will let Bob know to coordinate with Gary/Matt/Pr. Katie to help with tech support and the options discussed by Council

# Council Notes (con't)

## NEW BUSINESS

- Staff Transitions
  - Office Coordinator: Nancy will begin working half-time March 1st with office hours from 9-1 Monday thru Friday. Council will be looking at reassignment/realignment of duties of current employees to fulfill remaining office coordinator tasks. Salary details will be worked out with Greg. No increase in budget is expected. Council consented to have a discussion with current employees.
  - Director of Cornerstone Preschool: Andrea will be retiring as Director of Cornerstone Preschool at the end of this school year (late May). Council wants to communicate that CP is part of our Faith Formation Ministry and is a Christian based ministry we support and is important to us. Executive Council will select an interview committee and interview internal candidates first. If internal candidate interviews are not successful, then the position will be open to external candidates. Mike mentioned that a more symbiotic relationship with BLC would be encouraged.
- Property: Further discussion will evolve regarding Glenn and getting property ministry more assistance.
- Choir is off and running - once a month. Council will in the future discuss whether a stipend is needed for Betty. We'll wait and see how it goes and how Betty is handling the volunteer position and feeling about it.
- Financial Secretary: Mark will talk to Jenny and report back to Council on whether Jenny would like a financial secretary assistant to help her. Greg recommends Jenny continue with trends using anonymous information as it has been very helpful.
- Bus use procedure: Pr. Katie has put together a document on proper procedures for driving/using Josephine. Pr. Katie will send links to Council regarding these procedures.
- The Girl Scout troop that meets at Bethlehem would like to set up a cookie sales booth at Bethlehem on Sunday February 5th. Mark moved that this occur and Sabrina seconded. Motion carried.
- February 7th: The date for the February council meeting will be moved from Tuesday, February 14th to Tuesday, February 7th. Council unanimously consented.

## LORDS PRAYER

## ADJOURNMENT

Mark adjourned the meeting at 8:30pm.

## Upcoming Dates

Next Council meeting will be Tuesday, February 7, 2023 @ 7:00 p.m. Exec meeting at 6:30 p.m.

## 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 Announcement Deadline

The Wednesday before you want the announcement to appear in the bulletin. Submit to BLC news form or the BLC news email (news@bethlehem-lutheran.net).

## Newsletter Deadline

Submit items by February 20 for the March newsletter. Submit to BLC news form or the BLC news email (news@bethlehem-lutheran.net).

## Finances

### 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.

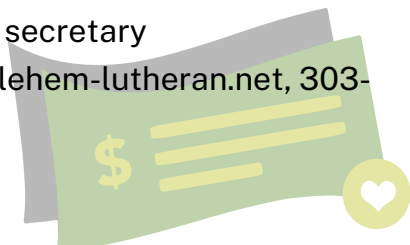
### Multiple Giving Options for BLC

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).



## Monthly Events

- Worship Service: Sundays, 8:00 a.m. and 10:15 a.m.
- Generation to Generations Sunday School: Sundays, 9:15 a.m.
- Manna Bible Study: Mondays, 9:00 a.m.– 11:00 a.m. via Zoom
- Staff Meeting: Mondays, 9:15 a.m.
- Table Talk with Pr Katie: Wednesdays, 12:00 p.m. in Fireside
- After School Food & Fun: Wednesdays, 3:30 p.m. (starting 2/15)
- Choir Practice: Wednesdays, 7:00 p.m.
- Bethlehem Quilters Quilting: Thursdays, 9:00 a.m. in the Quilting Room
- After School Program Meeting: February 1, 10:30 a.m.
- First Friday Social: February 3, 6:00 p.m.
- Family Sunday: February 5, 12:00 p.m.
- BLC Council Meeting: February 7, 7:00 p.m., Fireside Room
- BLC/ LOC Joint Meeting: February 8, 10:30 a.m.
- Bethlehem Book Club: February 9, 9:00 a.m. via Zoom
- "After School Food & Fun" Registration: February 11, 9:00 a.m.
- Music Ambassadors at Atria: February 12, 11:15 a.m.
- Confirmation: February 12
- Naomi Circle: February 14 at 9:00 a.m. in the Youth Room and via Zoom
- Social Justice Initiative Meeting: February 19, 11:45 a.m.
- Prayer Shawl: February 21, 10:00 a.m.
- Ash Wednesday: February 22
- First Sunday in Lent: February 26
- Confirmation: February 26
- Immigration Focus Group of SJI Meeting: February 28, 7:00 p.m.
- Lent Soup Supper: March 1



# 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 hidden!"* BLC is the light in our community. I challenge our congregation to continue to be that light and check out our SJC, a group that is doing amazing work. How can you be involved? Be a light whenever you can! Pass this on from **"Generation to Generation"**!

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

**(All aged) Sunday School** gather in the fellowship hall for a story about the lesson (lectionary) and then break into our smaller groups for conversation, craft and prayer time. Ages 3+ please. We are currently looking for Sunday school teachers.

**Confirmation** will meet February 12 and 26 from 11:45 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. We are currently taking a comprehensive look into the small Catechism, learning about our Baptism and confession in the Lutheran Church.

**The Ministry Calendar** of events for the 2022-23 year is in the narthex on the west wall. Please see it for dates and times.

**Summer camp** is scheduled from June 18-23 at Sky Ranch.

**Family Sunday** will be February 5, from 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. Join us for family fun and activities throughout the year. Please see the ministry calendar for events, dates and times. We will meet at noon in the Fellowship Hall and have lunch together before breaking out into groups.

**Easter Extravaganza** is Saturday, April 8 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. We begin with the Easter story then followed with an Easter egg hunt, food, craft and fellowship. If you are interested in helping, please contact the Faith Formation Team.

Visit our Youth Page for more info: <https://bethlehem-lutheran.net/ministries/youth>

## Lenten Mentoring

### Would you like to be a Mentor?

Intentional intergenerational (Generation to Generation) relationship building is one of the highlights our congregation needs to model for other congregations in the ELCA. This ministry helps us live out the church's vision to be an intergenerational community.

Lenten Faith Mentoring is a time where BLC's Confirmands are paired with adults (non-family members) of different ages. Each pair meets to get to know one another and share the journey to faith experience. Mentor groups will meet five times, on Wednesdays or Sundays, during the month of March (**March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29**).

Mentor meetings will last approximately 30-45 minutes and consist of sharing (highs and lows), reflecting (faith discussion) and prayer. Each week's Lenten theme is explored through a variety of discussion options. Use what works for your group and be open to where the Spirit might lead you in your reflections. The concept of mentoring is not about being right or wrong but sharing your personal experiences with one another in a trusting and caring environment!

**If you are interested** please contact Gary at [gary@bethlehem-lutheran.net](mailto:gary@bethlehem-lutheran.net), the church office at 303-776-3290 or you can sign-up in the narthex.

# Faith Formation - Lenten Mentoring (con't)

## Top Ten Ideas for Mentors

1. Pray frequently for your mentee and the mentoring relationship. Tell your mentee you are praying for them. Ask if they have anything specific they would like you to include in your prayers.
2. Meet your mentee's parent(s).
3. Don't think you need to be an 'expert' or know everything.
4. Be authentic, transparent and vulnerable.
5. Read the discussion materials before each session.
6. Don't lecture or give a sermon – it's a discussion! Listen!
7. Don't be afraid to say you don't know.
8. Value and affirm your mentee's thoughts, ideas and discussion.
9. Agree to maintain confidentiality between you and your mentee.
10. Have fun!

## Top Ten Ideas for Mentees

1. Pray frequently for your mentor and the mentoring relationship. Tell your mentor you are praying for them. Ask if they have anything specific they would like you to include in your prayers.
2. Be yourself.
3. Get to know your mentor by asking lots of questions.
4. Be honest and open.
5. Answer questions with more than one or two word sentences – it's a discussion! Listen!
6. Be willing to learn new things.
7. Value and affirm your mentor's thoughts, ideas and discussion.
8. Thank your mentor for their willingness to spend time with you.
9. Agree to maintain confidentiality between you and your mentor.
10. Have fun!

## The Seven Dos of Mentoring

### **Be Consistent**

I will be dependable and trustworthy as a mentor. To the best of my ability, I will honor my commitments and keep my promises. I will be there for the youth I am mentoring on a regular and consistent basis for as long as I am required to do so.

### **Be Yourself**

I will be thankful for who I am — for the personality, gifts, talents, abilities, and attributes that God has specifically given to me. I believe that God knows me, loves me, and has called me to serve as a mentor to youth. And I am confident that God will be able to use me just the way I am.

### **Be a Listener**

I will take every opportunity to be a good listener in my mentoring relationship. I will avoid judging and lecturing. I will listen attentively because I care, and because I desire to treat the youth I am mentoring with dignity and respect.

### **Be Honest**

I will do my best to tell the truth always in my mentoring relationship, even when it hurts. In so doing, I will inspire the youth I am mentoring to be honest with me. When either of us is unsure of the truth, we will be honest with each other and seek to discover the truth together.

### **Be Patient and Forgiving**

I will be realistic about the expectations I have for the youth I am mentoring. I will do my best to demonstrate unconditional love in every circumstance by being gracious, understanding, slow to anger, patient and forgiving. I will not allow failures to destroy our relationship.

### **Be Encouraging**

I will bring out the best in the youth I am mentoring by being generous with affirmation, encouragement, gratitude, and praise. I will do all that I can to inspire my youth to dream dreams and to recognize the potential that he or she has in Christ Jesus.

### **Pray Hard**

I will not become frustrated or discouraged because of my inability to change a young person's life. Instead, I will pray daily for the youth I am mentoring, and trust God to do what I cannot do.

## Who's who – BLC Committees

Why not start the new year by meeting new people and joining a ministry! BLC has several committees that are always looking for new faces. Feel free to reach out to the respective contact if you have questions or are interested in joining! Read about each ministry below to find your match.

### Faith Formation (Education) - Jamie U., Chair

The Faith Formation ministry coordinates our education programs for young and old and works closely with our education committee, the senior pastor and faith formation director. They are responsible for conducting and maintaining our curriculum for Sunday School for all ages – babies through adults. In addition to Sunday School for all ages, this ministry is responsible for Family Sundays, Vacation Bible School, Easter Eggstravaganza, Family Advent nights, Halloween Trunk or Treat, Confirmation, and many other activities. This is one of the most important and exciting ministries we have. Contact: [faithchair@bethlehem-lutheran.net](mailto:faithchair@bethlehem-lutheran.net)

### Property - Glenn S., Chair

The Property Ministry handles our day to day facilities maintenance as well as coordinating improvements, repairs and other changes to our buildings and property. Contact: [property@bethlehem-lutheran.net](mailto:property@bethlehem-lutheran.net)

- Land Stewardship Team: Our team is partnering with Growing Gardens to utilize the empty back field to its greatest potential! For more information, please contact [LST@bethlehem-lutheran.net](mailto:LST@bethlehem-lutheran.net)
- Columbarium Oversight Team: If you would like to participate on this team, please contact [pastor@bethlehem-lutheran.net](mailto:pastor@bethlehem-lutheran.net)

### Evangelism - Cindy T., Chair

The Gather and Connect Ministries focus on relationships for members and guests of Bethlehem Lutheran Church. This ministry is responsible for numerous community programs including Dining for Eight, First Fridays, the Living Nativity, neighborhood movie nights, after school program, and many other activities/ groups. Contact: [evangelism@bethlehem-lutheran.net](mailto:evangelism@bethlehem-lutheran.net)

- A/V Team
- Communications Committee: A subcommittee of Evangelism, the Communications Committee is responsible for all things communication such as the Sunday bulletin, weekly emails, newsletter, website, social media, digital and printed materials. If you have an interest in joining our team please contact [communications@bethlehem-lutheran.net](mailto:communications@bethlehem-lutheran.net).
- After School Fun & Food: This team is currently forming and planning an after school snack program for the neighborhood. If you're interested in volunteering, please contact [evangelism@bethlehem-lutheran.net](mailto:evangelism@bethlehem-lutheran.net)

### Missions - Cathy G., Chair

Our Mission to Serve Ministry coordinates the many outreach and mission programs for Bethlehem Lutheran Church. These programs are local, national, and international. Some of the programs we are involved with include: Longmont OUR Center, St. Vrain Habitat for Humanity, HOPE, ELCA Global missions, Nicaragua Project, Ambassadors at The Atria, New Beginnings, The Reentry Initiative, Musical Freedom, and Social Justice Initiative. Contact: [missions@bethlehem-lutheran.net](mailto:missions@bethlehem-lutheran.net)

### Stewardship - Mike S., Chair

The Stewardship Ministry develops programs and sets goals to help Bethlehem reach its potential in missions and benevolence. This team also is responsible for the time and talent survey. Contact: [stewardship@bethlehem-lutheran.net](mailto:stewardship@bethlehem-lutheran.net)

### Worship - Sabrina L., Chair

Our day to day functions of the church in regards to worship are handled by the Worship Ministry. In addition to ensuring the basic needs of every worship service, the music program and nursery are also a part of the Worship Ministry. We are always looking for new worship volunteers! Contact: [worshipchair@bethlehem-lutheran.net](mailto:worshipchair@bethlehem-lutheran.net)

## Gather & Connect

### 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).

### First Friday Fellowship

February 3 at 6:00 p.m. at the home of Shirley K. and Mike C. on 17 Vassar Ct. Bring an appetizer and a beverage to share. For questions contact Shirley 303-775-6928.

### Ambassadors at The Atria

Please join us February 12, 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](mailto:jeanne@phippsweb.com)

### Naomi Circle

Our February meeting will be in person (Youth Room) and on Zoom Tuesday, **February 14**, 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](mailto:holstell@outlook.com)) or Sue S. ([suesmith512@msn.com](mailto:suesmith512@msn.com)) for further information.

### Bethlehem Book Club

The February Book Club meeting will be on Thursday, **February 9** at 9:00 a.m. on Zoom. We will be discussing Americanah: A Novel by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie. From the book notes, "At once powerful and tender, Americanah is a remarkable novel of race, love, and identity." All are welcome to the meeting. If you would like to receive the zoom link a week before the meeting, just email Mary Jane at [mjvoogt2003@yahoo.com](mailto:mjvoogt2003@yahoo.com) and ask to be put on the list.



### First Friday

Friday, February 3, 6:00 p.m.

### Book Club

Thursday, February 9, 9:00 a.m.

### Ambassadors at the Atria

Sunday, February 12, 11:15 a.m.

### Naomi Circle

Tuesday, February 14, 9:15 a.m.

### Social Justice Initiative

Sunday, February 19, 11:45 a.m.

### Prayer Shawl

Tuesday, February 21, 10:00 a.m.

### Manna Bible Study

Every Monday, 9:00 a.m.

### Table Talks

Every Wednesday, Noon

### Quilting Group

Every Thursday, 9:00 a.m.

## Property

### Raise the floor - Capital Improvement Fund Appeal

The East Wing (Cornerstone Preschool) and the West Wing (Fireside Room) are settling, causing damage to the walking surface, doors, etc.... The wings need to be lifted and stabilized. The estimated costs for the project is \$10,000. We are asking you to consider a special donation to the Capital Improvement Fund to help pay for this repair. All funds raised in excess of this amount will go into the Capital Improvement Fund. Please give this request your faithful consideration.

If you would like to contribute, you can write a check with Capital Fund Appeal in the memo or contribute online at Home | Bethlehem Lutheran Church ([myvanco.com](http://myvanco.com)) and use the Capital Improvement Fund tile.



## To Serve

### Living Our Faith in the Community: February Member Hi-Light.

Bethlehem has members who volunteer in the wider community both through programs within our church and outside of it. If you do, or know someone who does, please contact Cathy G. (cegood47@aol.com), Mission chair. We would like to know how members are living out their faith through volunteerism and if you are willing, we would like to highlight the person and the organization or community that benefits. This month, we are highlighting Bob C's long history of working with Habitat for Humanity, having volunteered with them as he has built and repaired homes for over 33 years. Won't you join him in this wonderful mission! Note the build days below and contact him at rcc.cotton@gmail.com or sign up on the narthex wall!

#### ***My Long Term Support for Habitat for Humanity***

by Robert Cotton

I moved with my wife from Princeton, New Jersey in 1966. We purchased a home in Table Mesa on the south end of Boulder. We looked for a church that had a good Sunday School Program. We settled on Mount Calvary Lutheran Church. When the children were old enough, they both went to Sunday School there.

I was active at the church, was on council, got involved with Thrivent, and its Twin Peaks Chapter. I started organizing volunteer groups to work on building homes for Flatirons Habitat For Humanity. I continued in this role for well over 15 years.

Pastor Mark Peterson presided at Mount Calvary from 1989 until 2005. He took a call to come to Bethlehem Lutheran Church. It coincidentally was the same time when our family moved to Longmont due to our son, John, and daughter-in-law, Nicole, who wanted us to move closer to them.

At Bethlehem Lutheran Church, I got involved right away with Saint Vrain Habitat For Humanity, and have been organizing build days for the members for 17 years! Typically I have 6 + persons working and I organize a build day every other month.

Actually, when we had the terrible flooding in 2013, I organized build groups every month for 2 years to work on the repairs to damaged homes. We were fortunate to have our own Ryan Bloemker working for St Vrain Habitat as their Critical Repairs Manager at that time.

In the 32 years I have organized build groups the estimated number of hours worked for Habitat would be  $6 \times 6 \times 32 \times 8 = 9216$  hours minimum. Realistically More Than 10,000 hours!

What about 2023? St Vrain Habitat is in the process of building 8 homes in the new Meadow Brook Development just one half mile to the west of Target, and Hover Street. Later they will be building 9 homes at East Rogers Road (west of Martin Street).

Here is the schedule for us for this year. Please mark your calendar if you want to join in. These are all Saturdays: February 25, April 22, June 24, August 26, October 28, December 2

Look for the sign up sheet on the narthex west wall. Thank you



## To Serve (con't)

### **Social Justice Initiative**

There is so much going on in our world that could use help from people who follow the example set by Jesus. He showed us how to care about all people, especially those who are marginalized and suffering. BLC's Social Justice Initiative is working on finding ways to make a difference locally and globally, and while we cannot change all that is troubled in our world, we hope to help through one small act at a time.

Please join us as we grow in understanding and faith to try to meet these injustices. We meet on the 3rd Sunday of the month via Zoom starting at 11:45 a.m. You'll find the Zoom link on BLC's website, <https://bethlehem-lutheran.net/serve/sji/>

### **¿ Hablo Español ?**

A new group at Bethlehem has recently been formed to explore ways to help the immigrants streaming across the border from Central and South America. Hundreds of them have come and will be coming to Denver. These strangers among us are of all ages. They are desperate for the basics of living – food, clothing, shelter. They need our hospitality.

Can you help? The Immigration Focus Group is seeking new members who are passionate about helping these “strangers” among us. We are especially looking for someone in the congregation who speaks Spanish. Any level of Spanish skill could be useful to us. The amount of involvement needed will depend on the direction that this effort takes at BLC. It should be noted that there may be other areas of BLC mission work that may need someone with Spanish speaking skills. One of these is the startup of the afternoon snack ministry for neighborhood children.

Will you be one of us? Contact Cathy G. at [missions@bethlehem-lutheran.net](mailto:missions@bethlehem-lutheran.net)

### **Mission Trip for BLC and LOC to Hopi and Navajo Nations Arizona**

March 11 - March 18

We have secured 10 spots open to males/females for this mission trip. We will be staying in a facility on top of First Mesa. There is a small community there of perhaps 1200 people. Homes are often hundreds of years old. We will be working on projects requested by local community leaders. We will be using "Josephine" for this trip. We will leave Friday, March 10 with an overnight enroute. I have put a display board in the narthex with photos and information. –Bob Cotton

### **Socks For the Immigrants: Thank you!**

Approximately 500 were donated during the Share the Grace “New Year, New Socks” drive and will be helping to warm the feet of immigrants! Thank you to Mike Smith who delivered them to the organizations distributing them in Denver and thank you to Thrivent who granted an action team card of \$250 to support the drive.

### **Gracias! The Nicaragua Mission Winter Fund Drive**

Thank you, each and every one of you, who donated to the children's center we run in Somoto, Nicaragua. Because of the donations, 84 children are eating who otherwise would have no food, are safe while their parents go to work for a dollar a day, are receiving a preschool education that allows them to succeed in elementary school, and are receiving loving care, all while learning about the love of God. In addition, 50 older children have a safe place to go after school, receive homework support, and receive a large snack, often their only food for a day. Is it too late to donate? No. Donations are needed throughout the year. We welcome monthly donors as well. Donations can be made on our website or put in an offering envelope clearly marked for Nicaragua.

## Member Milestones



### Birthdays

Feb 2 Marcie Hushka  
Feb 2 Jennifer Puebla  
Feb 2 Sarah Demmel  
Feb 2 Alexander Pemberton  
Feb 2 Thomas Hoime  
Feb 2 Griffin Hebbert  
Feb 3 Linda Holm  
Feb 5 Sandy Woodruff  
Feb 6 Darlene Borgmann

Feb 9 Mark Holste  
Feb 9 Maitland Gordon  
Feb 10 Alice Geiling  
Feb 11 Julie Geiser  
Feb 11 Kristy Lee  
Feb 12 Doris Haave  
Feb 12 Erik Ritzen  
Feb 12 Eric Van Dyke  
Feb 12 Ethan Thompson  
Feb 13 Robyn Sloan  
Feb 13 Jacob Parker  
Feb 14 Dennis Smith  
Feb 14 Chili Chullino  
Feb 14 Brady Parker  
Feb 14 Kiowa Stetson  
Feb 15 Katie Wissink  
Feb 15 Kevin Kelley  
Feb 16 Joyce Gallagher  
Feb 17 Coqui Stetson

Feb 17 Anna Kragerud  
Feb 18 Leonard Thieking  
Feb 18 Scott Peterson  
Feb 18 Gavin Neuhaus  
Feb 22 Caleb Payne  
Feb 22 MacKenzie Demmel  
Feb 23 Erik Kessler  
Feb 27 Georgene Gibson  
Feb 27 Nancy Tiff  
Feb 28 Brian Burrell  
Feb 28 Andrew Gordon  
Feb 28 Pr. Katie Chullino

### Anniversaries

Feb 4 Pete & Cindy Schlagel 39  
Feb 6 Steven & Julie Winter 35  
**Feb 14 Jim & Margot Hoffmeyer 53**  
Feb 14 Jeff & Heather Ditillo 25  
Feb 17 Gary & Helen Knutson 22

## Prayers & Sympathy

**Praying for:** Esther G., Meghan B., Gary K., Shelley K., Bruce B., Darlene B., Gerry C., Jan M., Kristal H., George D., Lydia M., Jeremy G., and our homebound members: Doris C. and Brenda H.

### **Sympathy for:**

Pastor Katie and Chilli on the death of Pr. Katie's cousin, Spencer Boyd on Jan. 5, 2023

Jan Baird, on the death of her cousin, Karen Kelsay Vecellio on Oct. 1. The Memorial service for Karen was held on Jan. 14, 2023



### Bethlehem Staff

**Pastor Katie Chullino** - [pastor@bethlehem-lutheran.net](mailto:pastor@bethlehem-lutheran.net)

**Nancy Tiff**, Office Coordinator - [admin@bethlehem-lutheran.net](mailto:admin@bethlehem-lutheran.net)

**Director of Worship and Music** - [worship@bethlehem-lutheran.net](mailto:worship@bethlehem-lutheran.net)

**Gary Knutson**, Faith Formation Director - [faithformation@bethlehem-lutheran.net](mailto:faithformation@bethlehem-lutheran.net)

**Karen Haag**, Bookkeeper - [bookkeeper@bethlehem-lutheran.net](mailto:bookkeeper@bethlehem-lutheran.net)

**Tiffany Beisner**, Communications Coordinator - [communications@bethlehem-lutheran.net](mailto:communications@bethlehem-lutheran.net)

**Aaron Jurkovich**, Webmaster - [webmaster@bethlehem-lutheran.net](mailto:webmaster@bethlehem-lutheran.net)

**Andrea Becker**, Director of Cornerstone Preschool - [andrea.j.becker@gmail.com](mailto:andrea.j.becker@gmail.com)

Bethlehem Lutheran Church  
1000 15th Avenue  
Longmont, CO 80501

Return service requested

