

# 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



**Palm Sunday:** April 2 at 8:00 a.m. and 10:15 a.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.

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## Stations of the Cross

Journey through the 14 stations of the cross before on **April 7 between 5:00 to 6:45 p.m. in the Sanctuary**. This will be a individual self-guided journey with a story, meditation, and prayer.





Happy Spring!

By the time this newsletter is printed our clocks will have sprung ahead and Winter will have officially turned to Spring. By the time you read this newsletter, there's a chance that we will have also moved through Lent, into Palm Sunday and Holy Week, perhaps even Easter Sunday. The transitions of these seasons can be exhilarating--the smell of rain and fresh dirt being tilled, the change of paraments from purple to white to green, the promise of new life springing from the darkness of the dirt and from the darkness of the tomb.

Spring *always* encourages new beginnings. Spring 2023 marks new beginning for BLC. As I write this article today, so many *new* seeds are being planted:

- workers from Growing Gardens are digging dirt in the south west side of our field to plant food for our Longmont community,
- Church Council members and BLC Staff are preparing for Nancy Tiff's transition to partial retirement and her new role as Hospitality Coordinator *and* for Tiffany Beisner's transition to Administrator *and* for Andrea Becker's retirement with Amanda Bueschen's transition to director this summer,
- ministries like After School, Little Free Pantry, Social Justice are each growing and reaching out to neighbors with love,
- partnerships with Boy Scouts of America are budding with our chartering of Cub Scout Pack 65 and now also a Boy Scout Troop 548 *and* Girl Scout Troop 76091 remains a strong force for good with their cookie sales and fundraising efforts for both the troop and community programs like Annie and Millie's Place.



*Growing Gardens staff, Maddie and Tim, along with volunteers prep the garden for onion planting*

Of course, you know there are other programs and ministries re-emerging like perennials in the garden--OUR Center, Habitat, Mission Trips, VBS, etc. All these seem "normal" but, they also require attention and care. As we tend to all that is growing in our community, let us also tend to the those growing the community. To ourselves.

I challenge you this season to intentionally do something new to care for yourself like you are a new plant this Spring:

- water yourself--you're not a succulent, take regular water breaks throughout the day,
- feed yourself well--not with fertilizer or MiracleGro, but maybe try new recipes this season to feed your body and maybe prioritize gathering for worship or bible study or prayer to feed your soul,
- rest--seeds rest in darkness for days and weeks before they sprout into a seedling, imagine what may grow in your resting.

Peace,

*Rev Kic*

*P.S. If you can't seem to find the time to care for yourself, see Matthew 6:25-34.*

### April 2- Palm Sunday

When we look deeper into the context of this story, we uncover how two parades are occurring at once. Jesus' unconventional and unexpected entry into the city parallels the extravagant parade of Pilate, the Roman governor. As both leaders enter the city for the Passover, they embody different directions. Pilate commands military dominance and imperial power; Jesus ushers in the kingdom of God and the way of peace. Within the chaos and commotion of this scene, which leader will you follow? Jesus' journey to the cross should always catch us off-guard. As dismayed as the disciples, we ask, "Jesus, are you really headed this way, straight to your death?" Many of our weekly questions throughout the season so far have helped us prepare spiritually for Holy Week. Now we examine if our beliefs have changed our behaviors. Has your path changed? In the midst of opposing forces, which way will you go?

**Reading:** Matthew 21:1-11

### April 9: Easter Sunday

When Mary finds the tomb empty, she stands weeping at the vacant grave. Jesus, mysteriously appearing as the gardener, asks her: "Why are you weeping? Who are you looking for?" In the haze of grief, Mary can only see what is right before her — or in this case, what is not before her. It is only when Jesus calls her by name that the veil is lifted and she beholds the resurrected Christ. On this Easter morning, who — or what — are you looking for? Why have you come to the tomb? What kind of Jesus are you looking for? Recall all the questions that have guided us this Lenten season. Who do we see in the living Christ? What veils need to be lifted so we can recognize God's resurrection in all the places it occurs? As we journey into Eastertide, will we continue to seek the miracle of God's newness? In what ways will you continue to look for Jesus in the world? **Readings:** John 20:1-18

### April 16: Second Sunday of Easter

In today's gospel the risen Christ appears to the disciples and offers them the gift of peace. Even amid doubts and questions, we experience the resurrection in our Sunday gathering around word and meal, and in our everyday lives. Throughout the season of Easter, we will hear stories from the early church. As the early Christians proclaimed the resurrection, we too rejoice in new birth and living hope. **Readings:** John 20:19-31, Acts 2:14a, 22-32

### April 23: Third Sunday of Easter

Today's gospel begins with two disciples walking to Emmaus, overcome with sadness, loss, and disappointment. They had hoped Jesus, who was crucified, would be the one to redeem Israel! Yet the risen Christ walks with them and then opens their eyes in the breaking of the bread. Each Sunday our hearts burn within us as the scriptures are proclaimed and Christ appears to us as bread is broken and wine is poured. The story of Emmaus becomes the pattern of our worship each Lord's day. **Readings:** Luke 24:13-35, Acts 2:14a, 36-41

### April 30: Fourth Sunday of Easter

Today is sometimes called "Good Shepherd Sunday." Jesus is called the "gate" of the sheep in today's gospel. The risen Christ opens the way to abundant life. He anoints our heads with oil and guides us beside the still waters of our baptism. Each Sunday he spreads a feast before us amid the world's violence and war. We go forth to be signs of the resurrection and extend God's tender care to all creation. **Readings:** Psalm 23, Acts 2:42-47, 1 Peter 2:19-25



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.



**Stations of the Cross-** Journey through the 14 stations of the cross before Good Friday service on **April 7 between 5:00 to 6:45 p.m.** This will be a individual self-guided journey with a story, meditation, and prayer.

**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



**Confirmation** will meet **April 23 and 30 from 11:45 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.** We are currently taking a comprehensive look into The Small Catechism and learning about the Lord's Prayer.



**Family Sunday** will be **May 7 from noon to 2:00 pm.** We will meet at a BLC members home (look for details in your weekly email) to have lunch together and have family fun and games.

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

**VBS** Save the Date June 26-30

**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.



# Council Notes

Council Meeting Minutes - Approved

March 14, 2023

Respectfully submitted by Cindy Thompson, Secretary



**CALL TO ORDER:** Mark Holste called the meeting to order at 7:02pm.

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

**DEVOTIONS AND PRAYER:** Pr. Katie

**MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:** approved via email and posted Email Motion: On 2/14/23 Mark moved that council approve the hiring of Amanda Bueschen for the position of Director of Cornerstone Preschool. Greg seconded. Yes: 8 NR: 2. Motion carried.

**FINANCIAL REPORT:** See Greg's monthly financial report. Greg shared the toughest part of reporting each month's giving is that some members give a lump sum pledge at the beginning of the year, beginning of the summer or beginning of the fall to be used for the remainder of the year. The financials will show these funds as income on the date given. He said almost enough funds have been raised for raising the foundation which is really good news. Sabrina moved to accept the financial report. Mike seconded. Motion carried.

## REPORT HIGHLIGHTS:

- Pastor/Staff:
  - Pr. Katie reminded ministry chairs to schedule (as early as possible) with her if she is needed/wanted at a meeting or event.
  - She is spending a lot of time coordinating the upcoming staff transition between hospitality and administrative coordinators.
- Mission Ministry: Cathy shared numerous activities in her monthly report. The Immigration Focus Group has had their third meeting. Visitors from 3 other congregations joined their meeting to share ideas/advocacy. Thoughts of a border immersion trip this fall is being discussed. Cathy asked for a member of council to spend 15 minutes to make a comment on the proposal regarding the criminalization of applying for asylum at our border. Mike and Pr. Katie volunteered. SJL is proposing another Share the Grace event.
- Property Ministry: Glenn shared existing and upcoming projects in his monthly report. Spring clean-up is planned for the first weekend in May. Cathy asked how much money has been raised for "raise the foundation". Glenn said \$8100 has been raised so far and he plans to do a temple talk on 3/19 to update the congregation.
- Worship: Sabrina shared again that the number of members attending worship are increasing. Sabrina is going to begin sharing numbers of people watching online. We have accurate numbers of members watching "live" but on Monday/Tuesday, worship will add numbers of people watching after the 1st service has been streamed. Estimates are that we have 40-50 people watching from various locations after the 1st service has aired.
- Evangelism: ASF&F has begun! All involved hope participation increases over time. Soup supper attendance has been great. Cindy shared that during their Evangelism meeting next week they will be looking at a New Member Sunday during the month of April. Cindy continues to research a new pictorial directory and will share answers in next month's report.

## Council Notes (con't)

- Stewardship: April 23rd is the date "Time and Talent" will be shared with the congregation. Mike asked if we could pass the offering plate on Easter Sunday. Council discussed that Easter may not be the time to begin passing the offering plates but suggested placing a special Easter Basket for giving and communicate location of plates/baskets. Opportunities for giving will be communicated such as placing a QR code in the bulletin. The church's name and address will be added to the last screen of online worship.
- Faith Formation: Mark shared that Jaime has many activities outlined in her monthly report. Please read her report. Faith Formation is looking for volunteers to help with VBS which will be June 26-30th.

### UPDATES:

- Staff Transitions: Offer letters have been written to Nancy Tiff with expected transition to part time hospitality coordinator date of April 1, 2023 and to Tiffany Beisner with expected transition to part time administrator March 27-April 1, 2023. An offer letter is being composed for Amanda Bueschen as Cornerstone Preschool Director.
- Outstanding Property issues
  - Mandatory water testing (for lead) for preschools: Glenn will follow up with Matt J. as he was contacted last week regarding testing.
  - Caller ID - Glenn will contact Matt J.
  - Van License Plates / Toll transponder – Karen is taking care of this.
  - Church security self-assessment – Glenn will contact Matt J.

### UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- BSA Troop 548 - Paul Wiggins introduced himself to Council. He shared that his troop is no longer able to be partnered with the Moose Lodge of Longmont. Council introduced themselves to Paul. Paul shared their troop's mission statement. He said their troop is youth led, adult mentored, and activity focused.
  - Meet weekly on Tuesdays at 7pm
  - Patrol Leaders meet once a month
  - 22 registered youth, 2 patrols, 14 active registered adult leaders

### Chartered Org Partnership Opportunities

- Service projects (help BLC with service and fundraising)
- Eagle Scout Projects
- P.R.A.Y. Program
- Scout Sunday
- Chartered Org Support\
- Representative
- Counselor for P.R.A.Y.
- Occasional meeting space

### Discussion: When do the Cub Scouts meet at BLC?

Cub Scouts meet at the church 6-8 on Tuesdays and Thursdays. What kind of storage space would be needed? Paul said their largest item is their trailer with all of their camping supplies. This will continue to be stored at their Scoutmaster's farm. They have very few items that need storage. Previously tabled motion from February Council meeting: Cindy Tayler moved that we accept Boy Scout Troop 548 by chartering them. Sabrina seconded. Motion passed 3/14/23. President Mark announced to Paul that BLC would be happy to charter Troop 548 and BLC looks forward to building a relationship with them. Council also encouraged Paul to hold meetings here at BLC when the transition is appropriate from the Moose Lodge. Pastor Katie will be executive officer from BLC. Council will determine who will be the organization representative.

- Bank signatures - Greg and Mark are working on signature paperwork.

## Council Notes (con't)

- Disaster plan for BLC - Pr. Katie said basic training happened last week. Our Synod Disaster Team will be meeting at the end of March.

### NEW BUSINESS:

- Share the Grace on May 28th -Cathy moved that a Share the Grace event be approved for May 28,2023. Cindy seconded. Motion carried.
- Report archives /motions archives - Greg is proposing that the Council secretary keep a document (running log) of all motions Council has passed. It would be a historical document of all motions so anyone could easily search/retrieve these motions. Mark asked Greg to initiate this process.
- Girl Scouts spring bake sale in May - either May 7 or May 21 - Mark moved to approve a bake sale by the Girl Scouts. Sabrina seconded. Motion will be voted on via email once Mark has information from the troop regarding their chosen date and designation of funds.
- Street Dog Coalition Veterinary clinic at BLC June 3, 10am-2pm. Mark moved this event and date be allowed at BLC. Cindy Tayler seconded. Motion carried.
- Table and chair purchase – Faith Formation requested council to approve the purchase of another table that matches the current table in the youth room and 6 additional chairs. Funds to come from the Youth Fund. Mark moved to approve this request. Cindy seconded. Council approved by consensus.
- Sabrina inquired about Easter flowers. Non-allergen bouquets will be placed in the worship center this year and the Worship ministry will look at ideas for flowers for next year.

### PRAYER CONSIDERATIONS & LORDS PRAYER

**ADJOURNMENT:** Mark adjourned the meeting at 8:41pm.

### Upcoming Dates

Next Council meeting will be Tuesday, April 11, 2023 @ 7:00 P.M. Exec meeting at 6:30 P.M.

## Staff Transitions

### Congratulations, Thank You, and Welcome!

After serving as Administrator in the Bethlehem office for 18.5 years, Nancy Tiff will retire in April. We give thanks for Nancy's past service at Bethlehem as the Administrator and we welcome her as our new part-time Hospitality Coordinator! While Nancy transitions positions, we are happy to welcome Tiffany Beisner, our former Communications Coordinator, into the role of Administrator! Nancy and Tiffany will share the main office.

### April Church Office Hours

Our Church Office Hours will be changing with staff transitions. If you need access to the building and do not have a key, please contact us by phone (303-776-3290) or by email ([admin@bethlehem-lutheran.net](mailto:admin@bethlehem-lutheran.net)). The following are Church Office Hours which are the hours that someone is scheduled to be in the main office. Pastor Katie and Gary will be working outside these hours and you can continue to make appointments with them outside these hours.

Monday: 9:00 AM-1:00 PM

Tuesday: 9:00 AM-4:00 PM

Wednesday: 9:00 AM-1:00 PM

Thursday: 9:00 AM-4:00 PM

Friday: 9:00 AM-4:00 PM

### Upcoming office closures and special office hours:

Monday 4/10 - CLOSED

Friday 4/14 - CLOSED

Wednesday 4/12- 9:00-11:00 AM

Thursday 4/13 - 9:00-11:00 AM

### Month of February

Income: \$30,496.61  
Expenses: \$32,478.05  
Net: \$ -1,981.44

### YTD to Date

Income: \$71,674.19  
Expenses: \$65,123.72  
Net: \$ 6,550.47

### 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.
- Sunday School: Sundays, 9:15 a.m.
- Manna Bible Study: Mondays, 9:00 a.m.
- Staff Meeting: Mondays, 9:15 a.m.
- Table Talk: Wednesdays, Noon
- After School: Wednesdays, 3:30 p.m.
- Choir Practice: Wednesdays, 7:00 p.m.
- BLC Quilters Group: Thursdays, 9:00 a.m.
- Communications Mtg: April 4, 6:00 p.m.
- Worship Ministry Mtg: April 4, 7:00 p.m.
- Maundy Thursday: April 6, 7:00 p.m.
- Stations of the Cross: April 7, 3:00 p.m.
- Good Friday: April 7, 7:00 p.m.
- Easter Extravaganza: April 8, 10:00 a.m.
- Easter Sunday: April 9
- Music Ambassadors: April, 9, 11:15 a.m.
- Naomi Circle: April 11, 9:00 a.m.
- BLC Council Meeting: April 11, 7:00 p.m.
- BLC/ LOC Joint Mtg: April 12, 10:30 a.m.
- Book Club: April 13, 9:00 a.m.
- First Friday Social: April 14, 6:00 p.m.
- Growing Gardens Meet and Greet: April 16, 9:15 a.m.
- Social Justice Initiative: April 16, 11:30 a.m.
- Prayer Shawl: April 18, 10:00 a.m.
- Confirmation: April 23, 11:45 a.m.
- Habitat Build Day: April 22
- OUR Center lunch: April 23
- Immigration Focus Group: April 25, 7:00 p.m.
- Confirmation: April 30, 11:30 a.m.



### Living Our Faith in the Community: 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 Mission Chair, Cathy G. (cegood47@aol.com). 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.

#### **Phyllis W. writes:**

*After hearing from Kristen a few years ago that one of the keys to having a Bible study was to have an outreach project, we in Manna Bible Study decided to choose one for our group. After discussing our options we chose to support HOPE by providing meals for the homeless population in Longmont.*

*As most of you know, HOPE is an organization that is strongly invested in our community and strives to reach out to the homeless in many ways.*

*On the fourth Tuesday of each month one person in Manna provides a meal that will feed 10 people. The meal includes a main dish, a salad, and a dessert. HOPE provides containers for the food and we deliver it to the Journey Church on Pike Road.*

*It is an extremely simple process and the return on our investment is HUGE. Each evening the hungry can enjoy a filling and healthy meal. The HOPE organization is always grateful for the provisions we bring and the smiles on the faces of those who get a warm meal is all the thanks we need.*

*We feel blessed to be able to share our bounty with those who need help.*

*Manna Bible Study meets each Monday at 9:00 a.m. We take turns meeting in the member's homes. We welcome new members. Please contact me, Phyllis W, at pkwright1360@gmail.com*

*Matt 25:35.....For I was hungry, and you gave me food to eat.....*

#### **Social Justice Initiative**

Our next meeting is on April 16 at 11:30 a.m. Please join us in the Fireside Room or via Zoom. You can find Zoom info at [bethlehem-lutheran.net/serve/sji/](http://bethlehem-lutheran.net/serve/sji/)

#### **The Immigration Focus Group**

We meet every fourth Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. via zoom. To join, contact Cathy G. at cegood47@aol.com. All are welcome to join.

#### **Our Center Lunch**

BLC will serve lunch at the Our Center on Sunday, April 23. We are looking for individuals to help serve, wash dishes, cleanup, etc. If you would be willing to help or have any questions please contact Mark H at holstemarka@outlook.com or president@bethlehem-lutheran.net

#### **Save the Date for Share the Grace!**

Plan to join us on Sunday, May 28 for our Share the Grace project as we work to alleviate hunger in our community. We'll be collecting items for the Little Pantry as well as for Longmont's HOPE. Watch for more details to come!

#### **Habitat for Humanity**

Saturday, April 22 we expect to be working on the 8 new homes in the Meadow Brook Development, and plan an early lunch at Bad Daddy's. Sign up in the narthex.

### A Very Successful Mission Trip to the Hopi/Navajo Reservation in Arizona March 11 thru March 18

Our team comprised of 6 BLC members going in our church bus "Josephine", and a couple from LOC going in their Road Trek camper van.

We encountered some snow conditions near Fairplay and also over Wolf Creek Pass. We stayed overnight in Durango. The next day we drove to Hard Rock on the reservation; this definitely is a remote place.

We stayed in a community building which was part of a Navajo Gospel Mission; it operated from the 1930's until 1989. Missionaries Mr. and Mrs. Stokley had the mission built, comprising of 12 buildings, classrooms, dormitories, community building, and a church in the center. Today, Baptist Pastor Albert Nez manages the facility and holds Sunday services. As a child, he attended the mission. It was a 3 mile walk there and 3 miles back each day!

There were 20 persons at this event including people from Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota and many as far away as New Jersey. Daryl Slim came from Phoenix and led us in prayers in the Navajo language each day as well as a spiritual journey raising a tipi.

Each day we worked on tasks involving trying to repair or improve the run down buildings at the mission. The roofs needed immediate attention and we repaired and re-shingled several.

At Clark and Ann's Hopi farm, volunteers put a new roof on a critical shed used to store their major crop, corn.

Atop First Mesa is the Hopi home of Dorothy. Her home and many others were built in the 1700's! Volunteers put in a new floor on the back part of her home.

A few volunteers cut the juniper tree trunks into logs to deliver to the community.

At the community building we were fed wonderful meals prepared by Sharon Peterson and Marlene Rogers (LOC). Each night we formed a circle and talked about our discoveries and feelings about the day.

I commend Tipi Raisers for organizing this event. I hope we can join them again on a future event.

Bob Cotton

*Please visit*

*<https://www.thetipiraisers.org/blog> to see photos from the trip. They are posted under the title "At a church and former school on the Navajo Nation, century-old buildings house both history and healing"*

## ELCA

### LFSRM 75th Anniversary Gala

Lutheran Family Services Rocky Mountains is celebrating 75 years this year! We started as an adoption agency, placing infants in need of a forever family in loving homes. Today we serve refugees and asylees, foster youth, adoption, family education, seniors in need of guardianship and so much more. The 75th Anniversary Gala celebration will be May 12, 2023 from 6:00– 9:00 p.m. at the Denver Art Museum. Tickets are on sale now on the LFSRM website – [www.lfsrm.org](http://www.lfsrm.org). Sponsorship opportunities are still available. Contact Margo Hatton at 719-250-7491 or [margo.hatton@lfsrm.org](mailto:margo.hatton@lfsrm.org) for more information

### First Friday

First Friday will be the second **Friday, April 14** at the home of Dennis and Carolyn Bloemaker at 6:00 p.m. Their address is 5769 Nlwot Rd. Please bring an appetizer and beverage to share. For questions call Shirley at 303-775-6928.

### Naomi Circle

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

### Quilting Group

We meet on **Thursday mornings** at 9:00 a.m. and would love to see you there! You don't need any experience. Join us for an enjoyable morning and perhaps learn something new!

### Ambassadors at The Atria

Please join us **April 9**, immediately following the second service, to sing 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@phippswweb.com

### Bethlehem Book Club

You are invited to participate in the April book club! We will meet on **April 13** at 9:00 a.m. on Zoom to discuss *The Color of Lightning* by Paulette Giles. This is a fictional account of the westward movement in the U.S. after the Civil War, with a focus on "The Indian Problem" and the relationship between African American and Caucasian ranchers. Giles writes with sensitivity and with beautiful insight into nature. Email Mary Jane at mjvoogt2003@yahoo.com to receive the reminder and Zoom link a week before the meeting.

### Table Talk

The Wednesday Table Talk session will begin again on **Wednesday, April 19** at noon in the Fireside Room. We will be discussing *The Universal Christ - How A Forgotten Reality Can Change Everything We See, Hope For, And Believe* by Richard Rohr.

### Manna Bible Study

Manna Bible Study meets **every Monday morning** at 9:00 a.m. to study and discuss scripture. We are currently reading the book of Isaiah. Isaiah was a prophet who spoke God's Word to steer a nation through 60 years of crisis. He reminded a forgetful nation of God's character. The writers of the New Testament quote Isaiah more than any other Old Testament book except for Psalms.

Everyone is welcome. We meet at the homes of those who participate. For more information contact Phyllis W. Her phone number and email address is in the directory.

### **Group Schedule**

#### **First Friday**

Friday, April 14, 6:00 p.m.

#### **Book Club**

Thursday, April 13, 9:00 a.m.

#### **Ambassadors at the Atria**

Sunday, April 9, 11:15 a.m.

#### **Naomi Circle**

Tuesday, April 11, 9:15 a.m.

#### **Social Justice Initiative**

Sunday, April 16, 11:45 a.m.

#### **Prayer Shawl**

Tuesday, April 18, 10:00 a.m.

#### **Immigration Focus Group**

Tuesday, April 25, 7:00 p.m.

#### **Manna Bible Study**

Every Monday, 9:00 a.m.

#### **Table Talk**

Every Wednesday\*\*, Noon

#### **Quilting Group**

Every Thursday, 9:00 a.m.

## Gather & Connect (con't)

### Table Talk

The Wednesday Table Talk session will begin again on Wednesday, April 19 at noon in the Fireside Room. We will be discussing *The Universal Christ - How A Forgotten Reality Can Change Everything We See, Hope For, And Believe* by Richard Rohr.

Fred Fanton and Jenny Kelley had the privilege of seeing Fr. Rohr in person when he was the guest speaker at our 2019 Rocky Mountain Synod Assembly, and they will be leading the discussions of this book. Drawing on scripture, history, and spiritual practice, Rohr articulates a transformative view of Jesus Christ as a portrait of God's constant, unfolding work in the world. "God loves things by becoming them," he writes, and Jesus's life was meant to declare that humanity has never been separate from God—except by its own negative choice. When we recover this fundamental truth, faith becomes less about proving Jesus was God, and more about learning to recognize the Creator's presence all around us and in everyone we meet. Please join us for what will be an interesting and thought-provoking way of looking at Jesus, his ministry, and his relationship to Christ and our own faith journeys!

Books will be available for purchase from the church for \$18.00. There will also be a few copies available for loan from our library. Please contact the office and let Nancy or Tiffany know if you would like a copy to buy or to borrow. You can pay by cash, check or online (<https://secure.myvanco.com/L-YXX6/home>)—just be sure to mark "Universal Christ" on the memo. If you have any questions, please contact Pr. Katie ([pastor@bethlehem-lutheran.net](mailto:pastor@bethlehem-lutheran.net)), Jenny ([jmtkelley@gmail.com](mailto:jmtkelley@gmail.com)), or Fred ([fredfanton@aol.com](mailto:fredfanton@aol.com)).

## 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.

### Painting and Clean-Up Days

Friday, May 5 and Saturday, May 6. Sign up in the Narthex.

Contact Glenn S. for more information

([property@bethlehem-lutheran.net](mailto:property@bethlehem-lutheran.net)).





## Member Milestones



### Birthdays

Apr 1 Patti Ritzen  
Apr 1 Cindy Tayler  
Apr 4 Nolan Bloemker  
Apr 4 Silas Schlagel  
Apr 5 Carolyn Creamer  
Apr 6 Alexander Haney  
Apr 7 Dan Kube  
Apr 8 Kim Herbst  
Apr 10 Julie Leake  
Apr 11 Laurie Gardiner  
Apr 12 Teresa Harris  
Apr 12 Duane Penny  
Apr 13 Miles Wyjad  
Apr 15 Ken Forsberg  
Apr 15 Ray Leake  
Apr 15 Jamie Turner  
Apr 18 Jaime Updegraff  
Apr 19 Dick Grieve  
Apr 19 Ada Maki  
Apr 20 Ken Wright  
Apr 21 Teri Tornow  
Apr 24 Irene Marconnet

Apr 25 Patsy Bowman  
Apr 26 Joel Lahman  
Apr 27 Owen Kunselman  
Apr 27 Lawrence Woodley  
Apr 29 Amanda Rumsey  
Apr 30 Wanda Schnabel

### Anniversaries

Apr 5  
Dean & Sandy Mickelson (26)  
Apr 7 Jean & Gary Flanagan (44)  
Apr 7 Jeff & Kristal Hopp (32)  
Apr 19  
Stacie & Nick Spendlow (9)  
**Apr 20 Neal & Jan Stoffer (60)**  
Apr 20 Perrie & Bill Sanders (21)  
Apr 22  
Glenn & Eva Summers (45)  
Apr 24 Mary & Rob Boyer (30)  
Apr 26 Troy & Barb Payne (38)  
Apr 28 Tyrel & Jamie Turner (16)

### Prayers & Sympathy

**Praying for:** Ilene R., Coqui S., Roger L., Meghan B., Darlene B., Gary K., Shelley K., Rini T., Caathy G., Mary F., Gerry C., Jan M., Kristal H., George D., Lydia M., Jeremy G., and our homebound members, Doris C., and Benda H..

#### **Sympathy for:**

Patsy Bowman, Daughter Susan and Family, son Kennar and Family on the death of Bruce Bowman on March 23, 2023

Bob and Carol Dunkel on the death of their good friend, David on March 20, 2023

### **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](mailto: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](mailto:news@bethlehem-lutheran.net)).

### **Newsletter Deadline**

Submit items by **April 20 for the May newsletter**. Submit to BLC news form or the BLC news email ([news@bethlehem-lutheran.net](mailto:news@bethlehem-lutheran.net)).

### Bethlehem Staff

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

**Nancy Tiff**, Hospitality 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**, Office Administrator - [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)

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Return service requested

