

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

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

Sunday School (ages 3–18) at 9:15 a.m.

Land Stewardship Team Forum

We've been laying the groundwork for a longer term partnership with Growing Gardens and will be hosting a few forums to get feedback on the plan we're putting together! The forums will be:

- Sunday September 17 at 11:15 a.m. in the Fireside Room
- Tuesday, October 17 at 6:00 p.m. in the Fireside Room

You'll be able to look through a few foundational documents prior to the forum by visiting our website bethlehem-lutheran.net/land/



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Bethlehem Staff

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"Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God." Romans 15:7

My parents and I recently visited a church together. The building was beautifully crafted—with stone and brick and wooden beams. The sanctuary was lit through stained glass windows—and the altar was marble. It was really breathtaking. There were hallways and rooms in every direction—it would be a perfect building for a youth group playing hide and seek.

What it wasn't built for was welcoming visitors. After walking through the double doors, we expected signs of welcome—actual signs for things like the Restroom or Sanctuary or Office and spiritual signs like people shaking hands, saying, "Welcome to XYZ Lutheran Church," or, "Hi, I don't think I've met you, I'm Marty." But instead, this congregation was the definition of The Frozen Chosen. They somehow managed to make mid-August in the midwest feel cold.

Being a visitor means being vulnerable. Brene Brown explains that vulnerability is "the feeling we get during times of uncertainty, risk, or emotional exposure." When you're visiting someone's home, you are at the mercy of your hosts for food and shelter—you may be uncertain about the strange casserole you're served or the Jello salad. When you're visiting another country (sometimes even another state or city), you risk taking a wrong turn and becoming lost or not knowing the language of community.

Being a visitor in a church requires vulnerability, too. When you step through someone else's double doors and into their holy space, there's a lot you don't know. Where are the restrooms? Will I know the tune to the songs? Is this a "sins" or "trespasses" church? Is there coffee? Can I have communion here? The visitor's vulnerability—the risk, the uncertainty, the emotional exposure—can be summed up in the question: Am I welcome here?

As we kick-off a new program year, we are focusing on our mission to Welcome. Welcome is part of our BLC Mission Statement because of the many ways followers of Jesus are called to welcome all kinds of people. During the month of September, I encourage you to think about where you feel welcome—both inside and outside BLC. What physical signs welcome you? What spiritual signs welcome you? How do we at Bethlehem welcome others? How can we better welcome others? (Notice the second person plural, we, meaning you and me and all of those who consider themselves part of this community!)

Peace,

Rev KJC

September 3

When Peter doesn't grasp Jesus' words about suffering, Jesus tells the disciples they will find their lives in losing them. Such sacrificial love is described by Paul when he urges us to associate with the lowly and not repay evil with evil. In worship we gather as a community that we might offer ourselves for the sake of our suffering world. **Readings:** Romans 12:9–21, Matthew 16:21–28

September 10 (God's Work Our Hands) Conflict is a part of relationships and life in community. Jesus' words in today's gospel are often used in situations having to do with church discipline. The prophet Ezekiel tells of warning the wicked to turn from their ways, and Paul reminds us that love is the fulfilling of the law. We gather in the name of Christ, assured that he is present among us with gifts of peace and reconciliation. **Readings:** Romans 13:8–14, Matthew 18:15–20

September 17

In today's second reading Paul questions why we judge one another, since we all stand before the judgment of God. Yet we do sin against one another, and Jesus' challenge that we forgive seventy-seven times reveals God's boundless mercy. When we hear the words of forgiveness in worship and sign ourselves with the cross, we are renewed in baptism to be signs of reconciliation in the world.

September 24

Matthew narrates one of Jesus' controversial parables in which Jesus says that the reign of God is like that of a landowner who pays his workers the same wage no matter what time of day they began to work. When God changes God's mind about punishing Nineveh for their evil ways, Jonah is angry. Yet God is gracious and merciful, abounding in steadfast love. In baptism we receive the grace of God that is freely given to all. As Martin Luther wrote, in the presence of God's mercy we are all beggars. **Readings:** Jonah 3:10–4:11, Matthew 20:1–6

October 1: New Series! "I've Been Meaning to Ask..."

In order to build connection and trust, we need to listen to each other's stories and experiences to learn who and what has shaped us. We also need to feel seen and known for who we are. In this first week, we hope to affirm the particularity of our identities while also acknowledging our common ground. Formed from the dust and God's very breath in the garden of Eden, we have a common home, a shared birthplace, and a collective calling: to sustain and care for all of creation. The story of Jesus calling the disciples provides a helpful charge for the whole series: to "come and see" what the journey holds. In this first week, we wish to address how the question, "Where are you from?" is sometimes coupled with assumptions, judgments, and even microaggressions—all of which can be exhausting and painful to receive. Our hope is to acknowledge, disrupt, and release the assumptions we hold about others. **Readings:** Genesis 2:4b–15, John 1:35–51



From the desk of the Faith Formation Director Gary:

Romans 15:7 states, "Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God."

How does God welcome us? With open arms and invites us into an amazing incarnational relationship. How do we invite people to be with us in our Faith Journey? We ask them to come and participate in events at BLC! Jesus welcomed everyone from all walks of life, be the olive branch for someone you know.

God's Peace and Love!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

This year's theme at BLC is WELCOMING!!!

Children Sunday School starts September 10 at 9:15 a.m. for ages 3 to 18 years old. We'll gather in the fellowship hall for a story, craft and prayer time.



Blessing of Backpacks/Briefcases will be on September 10 at both services. Youth and teachers please bring your backpacks and briefcases and receive a tag to hang on your bag to show off to your friends.



Ministry Calendar of Events for the 2023- 2024 year will be located in the narthex on the west wall. See it for information of dates and times.

The Miller Farm Outing this year will be September 16 at 9:00 a.m. We will meet at BLC at 9:00 a.m. and carpool to the farm together and harvest veggies!

Confirmation 2023–24 will meet in the Youth Room at 11:45 a.m. for lunch followed by classroom time and ending around 2:00 p.m. We will be learning about Old and New Testament from the bible. If you have a 6–8 grade student we would love to have you join us.



Prayer Time will be held in the sanctuary on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month starting in October from 10:30–11:00 a.m. and 6:00– 6:30 p.m. If you need prayers or just want to pray with someone, Gary will be in the sanctuary. Using our own words as well as historical and traditional prayers, we will pray together and for the many things going on in the world.

Council Notes

Council Meeting Minutes - Approved

August 8, 2023

Respectfully submitted by Cindy Thompson,
Secretary

CALL TO ORDER: Mark Holste called the meeting to order at 7:03pm.

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

DEVOTIONS AND PRAYER: Pr. Katie shared "Do You Have a Need to No?" Pr. Katie challenges everyone to say "no" when needed to give themselves time to rest or meter themselves.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

approved via email and posted

FINANCIAL REPORT: General Fund giving this month was below budget by \$857 in the month of July. General Fund expenses were over budget by \$2,260. This month's giving was approximately \$1,068 above last July's giving. The insurance check (for the roof) makes it look like we have a large sum of cash in our general fund that is there only momentarily. The new budget process is starting. Budgets are due by all ministries at the November Council meeting.

Sabrina moved to accept the financial report. Mike seconded. Discussion: None. Motion passed.

REPORT HIGHLIGHTS:

Pastor/Staff: A Brewsday has been added next Tuesday morning at church. The Best Skills Best Churches class has had 4 sessions. Pr. Katie learned less is more in terms of notes.

- **Worship:** SignUp Genius and the new system is being used. Worship would like to schedule brief sessions explaining the duties of the various worship/volunteer activities each Fall with the hope more people will be comfortable volunteering with some instruction. Communion is at the altar rail every other Sunday alternating with station communion. Often, communion originally planned at the altar is switched to station communion because of special events during worship or lack of communion assistants. All members are encouraged to sign up to assist with communion but assistants are especially needed at the 2nd service.
- **Evangelism:** EPIC awesome BBQ and concert was a success! AND the 10th anniversary ordination celebration for Pr. Katie was a hit! The photo wall is coming together. Please email a photo to evangelism@bethlehem-lutheran.net. Check out all the new pictures!
- **Faith Formation:**
 - Rally Day is scheduled for Sunday, August 27th during the learning hour. We will have fun activities planned for the kids and will work with parents to register their children for Sunday School.
 - Family Swim Night is happening Sunday, August 27th at 5:00 p.m. at The Shores pool in the Updegraff's neighborhood.
 - Youth Lock-in scheduled for September 8th.
 - The first family outing of the fall will be at Miller Farms on September 16th at 9 a.m. Families will meet at church and head over together.
 - Youth Sunday is scheduled for October 29th where our confirmands will be affirming their baptisms.

Council Notes (con't)

- Mission: Mark highlighted Cathy's report.
 - An informational event, "Immigration, Facts and Myths" with BLC/LOC and CTS presenter and immigration lawyer along with a potluck was held on July 12. There were 31 adults in attendance along with Girl Scouts providing child care and children in the nursery.
 - The burrito fund raiser raised \$937 from BLC and \$909 from LOC for the border immersion trip to cover scholarships, with any money above what is needed for scholarships going towards our fund raising for Cristo Rey in El Paso.
 - The Nicaragua Mission fund raiser was a success and, together with the Thrivent Choice dollars approved by council, raised sufficient funds from donors within and outside of our congregation to support the children's project in Somoto for six months.
- Property: Mark highlighted Glenn's report.
 - Property retained a handyman for projects.
 - Repair on the floor transitions has begun.
 - Drinking water test for lead/contamination was conducted. The water fountain in the Fellowship Hall is out of compliance and has been tagged "Out of Service". It will be tested again per state requirements next week. If still out of compliance remediation will be required and the costs (grant) will be covered by the county.
 - The church/parsonage roofs were damaged by the hail event in early May. We have received an estimate and first payment. Our roofing contractor will manage the project. Work should start next week. It will take approximately three weeks to complete.
 - Replaced a valve on the sprinkler system.
 - Cleaning of the furnace room. (in progress)
- Stewardship: Mike shared Consecration Sunday (name may change) is scheduled for October 22nd. Mike asked for impressions of Consecration Sunday 2022.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: Share the Grace/God's Work Our Hands 10 Sep – Request to be able to ask the congregation for donations - Cathy

Mark Holste moved that Missions Ministry may ask congregants through the weekly emails, the bulletin, and an announcement to bring items for the September 10 Share the Grace/God's Work Our Hands (GWOH) event ahead of September 10th to the church. Sabrina seconded. Discussion: Pr. Katie noted that a fundraiser for the Immersion trip will be completed by this date. Motion Passed.

Discussion: Mark asked that Council share thoughts on the following discussion items

- Consecration Sunday 10/22: Council members suggested that we provide the meal rather than have it catered. A potluck is another possibility. What if we pledge on Consecration Sunday but celebrate and share a meal a different Sunday? Council suggested to Stewardship that Consecration Sunday for pledges be 10/22. Pledges will be counted and a celebration of giving would occur on All Saint's Sunday, 11/5 from 11:30–1:00. Members of Council are going to ask various members to help with the meal. Further discussion will be held at September Council meeting.
- Repaint parking lot stripes – Boy Scout Troop is being asked to restripe.
- Ring Camera Doorbell for Cornerstone Preschool - funds will come from property budget.

Council Notes (con't)

- Rekey church / reissue keys - Council is looking at how many different locks are needed. Everyone will need to be re-background checked. Council will approve key distribution. Timeline: 6 months.
- Employee Handbook – Executive committee will continue to work on handbook.
- Do we have it in our policies that an item can't be placed on the calendar prior to 3 months if they are not a member of LOC or BLC. Is this true????

PRAYER CONSIDERATIONS & LORDS PRAYER

ADJOURNMENT: Mark adjourned the meeting at 8:30pm.

Upcoming Dates: next Council meeting will be Tuesday, September 12th at 7:00pm. Executive session at 6:30pm.

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 **September 20 for the October newsletter.**

Submit to BLC news form or the BLC news email (news@bethlehem-lutheran.net).

Monthly Events

- Worship Service: Sundays, 8:00 a.m. & 10:15 a.m.
- Sunday School: Sundays, 9:15 a.m.
- Manna Bible Study: Mondays, 9:00 a.m.
- Spanish Group: Mondays, 6:00 p.m.
- Staff Meeting: Mondays, 9:15 a.m.
- Table Talk: Wednesdays, Noon (starting Sept. 13)
- Choir: Wednesdays, 7:00 p.m.
- BLC Quilters Group: Thursdays, 9:00 a.m.
- GWOH Meeting: September 3, 11:30 a.m.
- First Friday: September 8, 6:00 p.m.
- Music Ambassadors: September 10, 11:30 a.m.
- Confirmation Class: September 10, 11:45 a.m.
- Gods Work Our Hands: September 10, 12:00 p.m.
- 11th Hour Project: September 11, 11:00 a.m.
- Border Trip Planning Mtg: September 11, 7:00 p.m.
- Brewsday: September 12, 8:00 a.m.
- Naomi Circle: September 12, 9:00 a.m.
- Council Meeting: September 12, 7:00 p.m.
- BLC LOC Office Mtg: September 13, 10:30 a.m.
- Book Club: September 14, 9:00 a.m.
- Family Outing to Miller Farm: September 16, 9:00 a.m.
- Land Stewardship Discussion: September 17, 11:15 a.m.
- Prayer Shawl: September 19, 10:00 a.m.
- Land Stewardship Team Mtg: September 19, 5:30 a.m.
- Evangelism Meeting: September 19, 7:00 p.m.
- Safety & Security Meeting: September 21, 7:00 p.m.
- Serving Our Center: September 24, 10:00 a.m.
- Confirmation Class: September 24, 11:45 a.m.
- Djembe Drumming Concert: September 24, 4:00 p.m.
- Immigration Focus Group: September 26, 7:00 p.m.

Month of July

Income: \$32,775.32

Expenses: \$35,898.18

Net: \$- 3,122.86

YTD to Date

Income: \$243,636.40

Expenses: \$245,631.22

Net: \$ -1,994.82

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).

Visitation Ministry

Pastor Katie will offer a Visitation Ministry Training this Fall for anyone who has interest in taking communion to and visiting with members who are homebound, hospitalized or currently in care facilities. After Visitation Ministry volunteers have completed training, we will begin scheduling visits. If you are interested in training or if you or someone you know would like to be visited, please contact Pastor Katie (pastor@bethlehem-lutheran.net, 303-776-3290)



Nominations Are Now Open

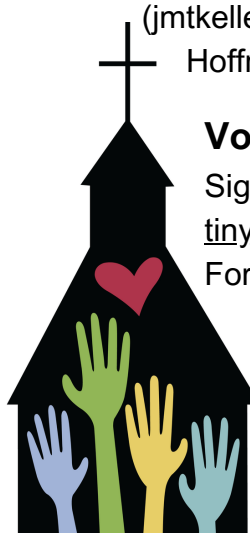
This year's Nominating Committee has begun to meet. There are several open council positions as well as openings for the Heritage Committee, representatives to the Synod Assembly and the Nominating Committee for next year. Are you interested or know of someone else who may be interested? We would love to hear from you. Contact any of the following members of the nominating committee for more information: Pastor Katie (pastor@bethlehem-lutheran.net), Dave Hooley (dhooley@indra.com), Dennis Smith (dxsmit5@yahoo.com), Jenny Kelley (jmtkelley@gmail.com), Margot Hoffmeyer (nordatter@gmail.com).

Volunteer for Worship Today!

Sign up today at

tinyurl.com/BLCOct23

For assistance please contact Jim. W. (jnswoodruff@gmail.com), Sabrina L. (worshipchair@bethlehem-lutheran.net) or the church office (303-776- 3290).



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.

Robyn Sloan

Start where you are. Use what you have. Do what you can. —Arthur Ashe

I come from a family that was always volunteering for good in the community. In the 50's and 60's I was involved in "Service Projects" with Girl Scouts and church groups. Whether it was picking up roadside trash or singing Christmas carols at the local state hospital, there was always some way to give of your time and talents.

I still use my time and talents on as many levels as I can handle. As a retired person now, living outside of Lyons, I have the luxury of choosing what I get involved in. There are needs everywhere you look.

At the family level, it has involved helping someone with oral surgery to fix a dental problem they couldn't afford, or to buy a much needed used car for another. Babysitting or caring for someone in an emergency is something I can do with my time that others can't.

At the neighborhood level, I am a Lyons Prepared local volunteer. That means in an emergency situation, I check on my neighbors and maintain communication with the Lyons Fire Department. This need came out after the 2013 Lyons Flood.

At the community level, LEAF in Lyons (Lyons Emergency Assistance Fund) is near and dear to my heart. I volunteer as a Food Pantry volunteer, helping to collect food donations and do home delivery to locals who can't get to the Wednesday Lyons Food Pantry. LEAF also coordinates Meals on Wheels, Lyons Volunteers, and helps with local utilities and rent needs for local residents. I also serve on their board.

Reading has also been a passion of mine, so restocking our local Lyons Little Libraries, especially our Rocky Mountain Botanic Garden one, is something I do weekly. Friends give me books they are finished with and I take them for credit in Longmont and purchase books to restock the Libraries.

At Bethlehem, I volunteer to bind the quilts that are tied on Thursdays. When I can, I work as a "gopher" on our Habitat for Humanity build days. Choir is something I want to participate with more (though Covid, has changed how I view my exposure). I'll be going on the Bethlehem Border Immersion Trip in October to El Paso, and will help drive Josephine. I've been involved with a local Ukrainian family adjusting to life in the US in the last year, and am very concerned about the inequities in our US Immigration Policies. *(continued on next page)*



Robyn Sloan

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At a national level, I continue to be a blood donor. My daughter needed 14 units of blood when she gave birth to her first child, so you never know when someone you love or know may need blood. After donating 141 units of whole blood, it's just something I do every 2 months.

Internationally, I have volunteered with Global Volunteers in St. Lucia (and I am going to Cuba next February) to teach English to high school students, community gardening and doing building repairs.

While attending Christ Our Savior Lutheran in Longmont, my husband Mike and I traveled to Guatemala for 4 years with a group working to build a community center for a small Mayan village and support their school. I look forward to being a part of BLC's Nicaragua project.

Christ said to love your neighbor as yourself. There is no better way to show that than to volunteer to help your neighbor. Look around you, you can start where you are, use what you have, and do what you can.



Make A Difference with your Donations to Cristo Rey, El Paso

By hosting border immersion trips, Cristo Rey, a mission church of the ELCA, is able to help immigrants in their congregation, on the streets and in shelters as well as provide an after school program and a clinic in Juarez. It is a win/win for all parties; as attendees we are able to witness their work and bring back information to our congregation and Cristo Rey can continue their good work using our trip's donation. Our goal donation for the upcoming trip in October is \$5,000. We hope to achieve this through this fundraiser as well as donations made from the burrito fundraiser in July.

Make a donation online at secure.myvanco.com/L-YXX6/campaign/C-13QM5 or in an envelope provided both in the pews and at the donation display in the narthex. You can find more information in the narthex. Questions? Contact Cathy G. at cegood47@aol.com

Our Center Lunch

BLC will serve lunch at the Our Center on Sunday, September 24. If have any questions please contact Mark H at holstemarka@outlook.com or president@bethlehem-lutheran.net



CD Player Donations

I want to thank those who donated CD players for Musical Freedom, a program inside Denver Women's Correctional Facility. These CD players will enable us to teach more women to play the string instruments as we are currently unable to provide individual lessons. With the players, students can follow along with a CD as they progress, and one instructor can work with multiple students in the short time we've been allotted by the prison to work with them. Music changes the brain in very positive ways and helps these women not only gain skills, but self confidence as they prepare to re-enter society. Many thanks for supporting this program. Jeanne Phipps

To Serve (con't)

Summer Volunteer Work in Sitka Alaska

by Ken & Phyllis Wright

"Welcome to Sitka Lutheran Church, the first protestant church on the west coast of America" is the way Ken and I began each day in Sitka, Alaska. We were asked to spend the month of June in Sitka sharing the history of Sitka Lutheran Church as volunteers. It's a beautiful place to be! Sitka is located on Baranof Island and is on the outer coast of Alaska's inside passage. As a cruise ship port many people are familiar with Sitka. In 1867 the US purchased Alaska from Russia and Sitka became Alaska's first capital city.

So here's a bit of history of Sitka Lutheran Church (SLC). SLC was founded in 1840 by Finnish immigrants. The immigrants received permission from Russia to build the church and Russia presented SLC a deed for the property in perpetuity. Today SLC acknowledges the Russian Empire had no right to convey the land to the church and they acknowledge with gratitude that SLC sits on the unceded land of the Tlingit people who have been there since time "immemorial".

The story of SLC proceeds from 1840 to the present day, from deterioration and destruction to the rebuilding of an active, vibrant and progressive church community. The church holds artifacts from the 1840 era including a Kessler pipe organ which was built specifically for SLC in Estonia and arrived in 1844. It also has an original picture of the Transfiguration of Jesus painted by a Finnish artist which arrived at SLC in 1840 with the immigrants. Both the organ and the painting have been fully restored and reside in the church along with other artifacts.

Each day while Ken sold bottled water, homemade Salmonberry jelly and popcorn, which fund the outreach ministries of SLC, I gave innumerable tours of the church, told of its history and directed people to the bathrooms. One ministry of the church is to open its bathrooms to the public and I can't tell you how grateful people are for this ministry! One gentleman from Thailand was so impressed he stated was going to introduce this "toilet ministry" to his home congregation in Thailand! We all had a good laugh over that! People commented over and over again about the peaceful and simplistic sanctuary provided for them in the midst of their hectic day.



The population of Sitka is approximately 9000, and most days there were between 4000 and 6500 passengers on the cruise ships; however, there were a few days when the number of cruisers outnumbered the population of Sitka. We met people from all over the world, from 17 different countries and from 39 of the states of the US. I even met a classmate from my graduating class of Longmont High School! Now that was amazing!

We must say that this was not a "vacation". We were tired at the end of each day but happily cleaned the bathrooms, and the popcorn machine to get ready for the next day. Fun is not the word we would use to describe our experience, but it was definitely educational and rewarding.

Continued on next page

Summer Volunteer Work in Sitka Alaska *(continued from previous page)*

When we returned home the first sermon at BLC was taken from Matthew 10 and Pastor Katie focused not only on welcoming others but also on how others welcome you. As Jesus said "whoever welcomes YOU welcomes me". The SLC community welcomed us into their hearts, homes, church, and community, and as we reflected on the provisions given to us - shelter, food, and friendship, we were so very grateful! In turn, we were able to welcome hundreds of people into SLC to tell the amazing history of SLC and how, even though it was destroyed, not once, not twice, but three times, it came back literally from the ashes, and is a thriving, welcoming and giving community today. SLC is always in need of dedicated volunteers. We have the information if you're interested!

Gods Work. Our Hands. & Share the Grace — September 10

Donations Needed

The following are being collected in the narthex through September 10.

For Annie and Millie's Place serving pets of the homeless:

- Small bags (individual or 2–5 lb.) of dog food or small canned cat food
- New dog and cat toys
- Leashes new or gently used

For New Beginnings serving newly released women prisoners:

- Toiletries/Personal Hygiene items of all sizes
- Toothbrushes and toothpaste
- Individually wrapped Snacks (not granola bars)
- New women's underwear/socks
- Gift cards to fast food restaurants

For Casa de Paz: serving newly released immigrants in Aurora:

- Backpacks
- Individually wrapped snacks (Not granola bars)
- Empty disposable water bottles
- Travel size only personal hygiene items, toothbrushes and travel size paste

The Little Pantry:

- Small pop top cans of tuna
- Small jars of Peanut Butter

Volunteers Needed

Volunteer hours are September 10 from 12:00–2:00 p.m. All ages are welcome to volunteer!

Tasks:

1. Harvest vegetables and flowers and weed in the Growing Garden garden at Bethlehem
2. Make-up backpacks for Casa de Paz and released immigrants
3. Make-up backpacks for New Beginnings and released women prisoners
4. Help with quilt making (NO experience needed) for small quilts for babies and toddlers of immigrant families in El Paso and others in need of quilts

Sign-ups are in the Narthex or email Cathy G. at cegood47@aol.com



Share the
Grace

**God's work.
Our hands.**

First Friday

First Friday will be on the second **Friday, September 8 at 6:00 p.m.** at Pam & Todd Bischoff's home. Bring an appetizer and drink to share. For questions call Shirley K. at 303-775-6928.

Naomi Circle

Our September meeting will be in person (Youth Room) and on Zoom **Tuesday, September 12, from 9:15–11:00 a.m.** Our membership is open to all who are interested in joining us. Please contact Linda H. (holstell@outlook.com) or Sue S. (suesmith512@msn.com) for further information.

Manna Bible Study

We are reading Max Lucado's book, *Life Lessons from Romans*, which is a study book on Paul's writings to the Romans. Manna meets every **Monday morning at 9:00 a.m.** and would love to have you join us! Please contact Phyllis W. with questions. All are welcome!

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!

Bethlehem Book Club

Bethlehem Book Club is for any interested reader. We all contribute ideas for our reading list. We meet on Zoom on the second Thursday of each month at 9:00 a.m. Our next meeting is **September 14**. We will be discussing *From Scratch, A Memoir of Love, Sicily, and Finding Home* by Tembi Locke. If you are interested in joining the discussion, email Mary Jane at mjvoogt2003@yahoo.com to be added to the mailing list. You will receive reminders and also the zoom link a week before the next meeting. The club reading list can be found on the church website (bethlehem-lutheran.net/bethlehem-book-club/)

Table Talks

We meet Wednesdays at 12:00 p.m. in the Fireside Room **starting September 13, 2023**. We will begin *Out of the Waters: Resisting the Power of Fear*, a bible study shared at the 2023 Rocky Mountain Synod Gathering. You're welcome to bring your lunch, a snack, or simply yourself.

- September 13, Session 1: A Pharaoh Who Did Not Know Joseph (Exodus 1:1–14)
- September 20, Session 2: They Are Not Like Us (Exodus 1:15–21)
- September 27, Session 3: Moses, The First Mojado (Exodus 1:22–2:10)
- October 11, Session 4: Hyphenated Egyptian (Exodus 2:11–3:10)
- October 18, Session 5: What Is that in Your Hand? (Exodus 3:9–4:17)
- October 25, Session 6: Now You Shall See What I Will Do (Exodus 5:1–6:7, selected)

Group Schedule

First Friday

Friday, Sept. 8, 6:00 p.m.

Book Club

Thursday, Sept. 14, 9:00 a.m.

Naomi Circle

Tuesday, Sept. 12, 9:15 a.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)

The Beat Goes On! Community Drum Concert and Circle

Our next community drum event will be on Sunday, September 24, at 4:00–6:30 p.m. out at the Gazebo. It should be cooler weather and hopefully past the seasonal afternoon thunderstorms—so come one and all! DJO of Djembe Orchestras of Colorado will play the final concert of this series and follow with a community drum circle for everyone to join! There will be extra drums and percussion instruments available for you to play or bring your own. We will also have popcorn, cotton candy and maybe some additional treats. Our freewill donation will continue to support our community partnership with Growing Gardens this year. Come join us for a fun afternoon of fresh air, fellowship, music, rhythms, and fun! For more information, contact the church office (303-776-3290), Evangelism (evangelism@bethlehem-lutheran.net), or Jenny K (financialsec@bethlehem-lutheran.net).

Dining for Eight is back!

Bethlehem's Dining for Eight list for fall is being prepared. If you have been on the list, you're set. If you would like to join please email Bob Lee at bobandsabrinalee@gmail.com

What is dining for eight? We randomly place couples and singles into groups of eight. Each couple pair or pair of singles will host a dinner providing the main course; the others provide an appetizer, dessert or side dish. The next pair from the group is chosen for the next dinner and so on until each pair has hosted. There is no rule book—brunch, lunch, dinner are all OK. If you are single and care to host by yourself no problem – "dining for seven". It doesn't always work out that we have a group divisible by four so we may have a "dining for six" group.

This is a great way to get to know each other and share fellowship. If you have questions shoot Bob an email, give him a call or grab him between services. Also any of our council members can answer questions you may have too. I will be sending out the list the first week of September.

Brewsday

Feel free to stop by, have a drink, and talk about what's brewing in life and church and Longmont!

- Tuesday, September 12: BLC, 8:00 – 9:30 a.m.
- Tuesday, September 26: location TBD, 8:00 – 9:00 a.m.

Public Lands, Native Stories: The Untold Voices of Colorado's Land and People

Light of Christ is thrilled to announce that **Dr. Jared Orsi**, Colorado State Historian and professor of history at Colorado State University, will be giving a talk on **Saturday, September 16, 2023 at 2:00 p.m.** in the church sanctuary with refreshments and book-signing to follow. This free event is open to the public. This talk will explore what the history of public lands tells us about the treatment of indigenous people and people of color here in Colorado. As a strong advocate that public lands tell important Native stories, Dr. Orsi will point to efforts to advance equity and inclusion of indigenous people through greater participation in and management of public lands.



Member Milestones

Birthdays

Sep 1	Sandy Coyle	Sep 12	Heather Rawlins	Sep 24	Paul Fjeld
Sep 2	Diane Forsberg	Sep 14	Dru Updegraff	Sep 24	James Dimmitt
Sep 2	Andrew Van Dyke	Sep 14	Jen Dickhans	Sep 25	Michelle Felton
Sep 5	Noah Judson	Sep 14	Matt Helman	Sep 26	Paul Hansen
Sep 5	Caitlin Tiff	Sep 15	Casper Judson	Sep 26	Todd Propp
Sep 7	Barbara Rountree	Sep 18	Antonio Osborn	Sep 26	Tatum Spendlow
Sep 7	Ethan Ritzen	Sep 20	Diana Grieve	Sep 27	Julian Lettow
Sep 8	Betty Rasmussen	Sep 20	Lindsey Loberg	Sep 28	Hayden Updegraff
Sep 8	Louisa Jurkovich	Sep 20	Megan Loberg	Sep 28	Cameron Crespo
Sep 10	Florence McKinney	Sep 21	Sandy Mickelson	Sep 29	Michael Sloan
Sep 10	Dave Hooley	Sep 22	Carolyn Buck-Gengler	Sep 29	Solomon Cook
Sep 10	Ada Cook	Sep 23	Shirley Kasperbauer	Sep 30	Gary Blando
Sep 11	Gerry Cole	Sep 23	Sabrina Lee		
Sep 11	Mayleana Neumann	Sep 24	Steven Winter		

Anniversaries

Sep 6	Michael & Robyn Sloan 47	Sep 12	Joel & Jess Lahman 10
Sep 10	Eric & Lisa Kittelberger 29	Sep 13	Ken & Phyllis Wright 54
Sep 10	Steven & Amanda Dawson 12	Sep 14	Phil & Estelle Goode 55
Sep 10	Lauren & Evan Doop 1	Sep 17	Cindy & Mark Ballard 40
Sep 12	Paul & Roberta Fjeld 31	Sep 24	Jeff & Laurie Parker 35



Sympathy for:

Glenn and Eva Summers on the death of Glenn's Mother Dora Summers
Duane and Joanne Larsen on the death of Duane's brother, Eugene
Wanda and Gene Schabel on the death of Wanda's niece, Theresa Sheldon
The Goodman family on the death of Cathy's Father, Keith Sickert
Dale Conrad and Family on the death of Ruth Conrad
Shirley Kasperbauer on the death of her close and longtime friend, Pam Williamson

Prayers

Members: Florence M., Joyce G., Paul F., Mark P., Deanna H., Gerry C., Sharon K.C., Ruth T., Betty K., Sally M., Coqui S., Paul P., Darlene B., Jan M., Kristal H., George D., Lydia M., Jeremy G.; friends and relatives of our community: Howard P., Nancy P., Victoria, Frani T., Deborah, Irene D., Cristel, John L., Marilyn M., Mavis J., Ken G., June D., Scarlett K., Erwin B., Donna S.; and those serving your people: Brett B., Michael K. Jr., Bill W.



Bethlehem Lutheran Church
1000 15th Avenue
Longmont, CO 80501

Return service requested

Office Hours

Monday: 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Tuesday: 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Wednesday: 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Thursday: 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Friday: 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

