

The Star

Newsletter of Bethlehem Lutheran Church



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

Newsletter

November | December | January

- Nov. 2 All Saints' Jazz Services**
8:00 a.m. & 10:15 a.m.
- Louisiana Style Luncheon & Stewardship Celebration**
11:30 a.m.
- Nov. 8 Fall Clean-up**
8:00 a.m.
- Dec. 14 Congregational Annual Meeting**
11:15 a.m.
- Dec. 21 Living Nativity**
5:00–8:00 p.m.
- Dec. 24 Christmas Services**
4:00 p.m., 6:00 p.m., 10:15 p.m.



In this Issue:

Rev's Revelations	pg. 2
Mark Your Calendars Poem	pg. 3
Advent & Christmas	pg. 4–6
Finance Stewardship	pg. 7
365 Fundraiser	pg. 8
CARE Team Faith Formation	pg. 9
Faith Formation	pg. 10
Gather & Connect	pg. 11
Service	pg. 12
Service, Worship, Choir	pg. 13
Community	pg. 14–15
Council, Prayers & Office	pg. 16
November Dates	pg. 17
December Dates	pg. 18
January Dates	pg. 19



Rev's Revelations

Dear Friends in Christ,

In our last quarterly newsletter, I wrote to you about change, how change is natural (like the seasons), and how change comes from God. I didn't expect so much change between then and now.

Over the past few months, we have expected the change of seasons, we have ushered in some change in church programs, and we have endured some unexpected changes, too. Some of those changes are met with grief over the loss of loved ones in our community and in our families—we will share our sympathy and prayers as we remember the saints who have passed this year on All Saints' Sunday, November 2. Other changes were met with excitement—many thanks to those leading Open Forum, the solar project, the stewardship campaign, and so many other important things. Still other changes were met with other feelings—personally, I've found myself a bit angry about locking church doors after being on the receiving end of hateful words in our church parking lot. I'm also a bit more grateful for those among us who are creating both a braver and safer space, during a time when places of worship are targeted with violence.

As we prepare for the change from fall to winter, from Thanksgiving to Advent to Christmas to Epiphany, I am keenly aware that the space we share must be both brave and safe—and sometimes one more than the other. And our theme for these seasons, *What do you fear? Insisting on Hope this Advent.*, meets us in that space. A *Sanctified Art* describes the theme and these seasons like this:

“Luke's Gospel begins the story of Jesus with this opening line: 'In the time of Herod...' This detail may seem minor to modern readers, however, it reveals layers of information about the fearful world Jesus entered, one filled with rampant oppression, economic disparity, uncertainty, and instability. A world not so unlike our own. And yet, throughout the stories of Christ's birth, the whispers of angels deliver a surprising message: 'Do not fear.' In our own time, we might ask: is it even possible to be fearless in a fearful world? When Mary, Joseph, the shepherds, and the magi are each called into God's redemptive story, they do not deny their fears—they move through them. They ask questions, hold fast to courage, trust in good news, and say, 'Here I am, Lord.' When we find ourselves in fearful times, can we acknowledge our fears while also insisting on hope?”



by T. Denise Anderson
© a sanctified art

Be here in the coming days. Gather for meals. Join your voices for evening prayer. Sing good news of great joy in the sanctuary (and in your car—Christmas carols will be playing real soon). In this time, not unlike the times and seasons of the past, be people of hope, be brave, be safe, and be peaceful.

Peace,

Rev KJC

Mark Your Calendars!

Sunday, November 2

- All Saints' Sunday Jazz Concert
- Stewardship Luncheon

Sunday, November 23

- Girl Scouts Bake Sale

Church Office Closed

- November 27 & 28

Wednesday, December 3

- Advent Midweek Potluck, 6:00 p.m.
- Advent Midweek Prayer, 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, December 10

- Advent Midweek Potluck, 6:00 p.m.
- Advent Midweek Prayer, 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, December 14

- Nicaragua Bake Sale
- Luncheon, 11:30 a.m.
- Annual Congregational Meeting 12:30 p.m.

Wednesday, December 17

Advent Midweek Potluck, 6:00 p.m.
Advent Midweek Prayer, 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, December 21

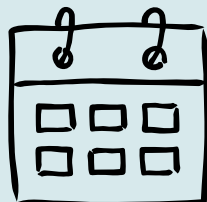
- Living Nativity & OUR Center Food Drive, 5:00–8:00 p.m.

Wednesday, December 24

- Family Christmas Service, 4:00 p.m.
- Candlelight Christmas Service, 6:00 p.m.
- "Midnight" Christmas Service, 10:15 p.m.

Church Office Closed

- December 25 to January 1



Poem by Father Teri

This poem by Father Teri was written in response to violence in 2017. She graciously shared it with us by request for this newsletter.

"I do not want to lock the church doors"



I do not want to lock the doors
of the church,
O God,
ten minutes after the Mass has begun;
can "all are welcome"
be on our side of a locked door
that we would open for anyone who knocked
(we learned that from You)

I do not want to hire a guard
for the narthex of the church,
O God,
with a keen eye and a badge and whatever else
to watch over us
like a different kind of shepherd

I do not want to have parishioners take turns being on
watch
while sitting in the pews,
O God,
alert and watching
for what exactly(?)
even though I know, God,
you do not stop bullets
like you do not stop crucifixions

I do not want to carry
as I've already heard another priest does,
O God,
prepared to kill as I stand behind Your altar, Your pulpit
in front of Your people,
those sitting with their backs to a door that only I can see;
I am not emptying my pockets of fear
to replace it with a faithless gun I am willing to empty

(continues on next page)

Poem by Father Teri

I do not want the people
to stay home,
O God,
because they no longer feel safe
in the place we pray
and sing
and sit in silence
and fill our cup so that we can go into the world
and pour it out
drench the world in your Love and Grace
(the world is craving, God)

I do not want.
This.

I do not want to accept
that I live in a world where guns walk into churches,
O God,
schools and hospitals,
movie theaters and concert venues
and I have to know what a bump stock is
I do not want.
This.

I do not want to listen to the news anymore
and calculate how many blocks my family and friends are

from the latest shooting
waiting, to see the latest victim list,
do I know anyone?
(You do)

I do not want.
This.

I do not want to write one more prayer
for peace,
O God,
but I want to know how I can be peace,
not be at peace,
but be peace
Your peace
pure peace
that propagates peace
peace,
peace
peace

blessed are the peace makers,
may we all be blessed

(C) Teri Harroun, 2017
Used by permission.

Advent & Christmas

What Do You Fear? Insisting on Hope This Advent

We are excited to share this year's Advent (and Christmas and Epiphany) series from A Sanctified Art. "This series looks closely at the fear and terror looming in the background during the time of King Herod and invites us to consider the fears we hold now. Fear can divide and paralyze us, and even be used as a tool for oppression. But what if we formed a different relationship with fear? Can we acknowledge fear without letting it rule us? Might we catalyze our fears into love and action? What if naming our fears helps us see more clearly how God is breaking in and where God is at work? This series gently invites us to identify where fear is present—both in the Advent story and in our lives—while also finding our way toward hope, with the angels' voices in our ears.

(continued on next page)



by Lisle Gwynn Garrity
© a sanctified art

Advent & Christmas (con't)



by T. Denise Anderson
© a sanctified art

Every Advent, we light candles, sing carols, and pray for Christ's coming because we believe God entered a frightened world to bring good news. We hold onto hope because we believe that Christ did come—that's the promise of the season. Our hope is not flimsy or fleeting. It's gritty, resilient, and can endure—no matter what we fear or face. This season, let us insist on hope and trust that good news is greater than fear."

You can participate in this year's theme in various ways—Sunday morning worship, midweek Holden Evening Prayer, daily devotions (available in the Weekly Email or in print by request), and the advent calendar in this newsletter on the following page.

Advent Midweek

- **December 3, 10, and 17** – Set Up at 5:30 p.m., Dinner at 6:00 p.m., Evening Prayer at 7:00 p.m.
- **Potlucks – Wednesdays, 6:00 p.m.** – Gather before evening prayer for food and fellowship. Bring a dish to share—main, side, or dessert! Bring also plates and silverware to make cleaning up quick!
- **Evening Prayer – Wednesdays, 7:00 p.m.** – Bethlehem and Light of Christ will lead Holden Evening Prayer following our advent theme with reflections from perspectives of characters in the advent and nativity story.
 - **December 3**, "God is always with us," from Zechariah's perspective.
 - **December 10**, "We are called to be courageous," from Mary's perspective.
 - **December 17**, "We can look to other people for help," from Joseph's perspective.

Special thanks to those who are sharing stories.

Christmas Eve Services

Family Service, 4:00 p.m.

This service is characterized by joy and playfulness. While people of all ages are welcomed and included in all of our services, this one is planned especially for families with children! We gather with our friends from Light of Christ to hear the Christmas story and sing Christmas carols.

Candlelight Service, 6:00 p.m.

This theme of this service is: Good news is louder than fear. We will center in the angels' proclamation of "Good news of great joy," as we wonder: What would it look like for us to proclaim the good news loudly, with overflowing joy?

"Midnight" Service, 10:15 p.m.

While this service will begin (and end) earlier than midnight, it is planned with the quiet and peaceful tone of a midnight mass. This is a great service for those who want to sing, reflect, and wind down before ushering in Christmas day.



by Lauren Wright Pittman
© a sanctified art

<p>December 1st WORD OF THE DAY Longing</p> <p>BREATH PRAYER INHALE: God listens EXHALE: to my deepest longings.</p>	<p>December 2nd WORDS OF THE DAY Break in</p> <p>BREATH PRAYER INHALE: May your light break in. EXHALE: May your love bring healing.</p>	<p>December 3rd WORD OF THE DAY Fear</p> <p>BREATH PRAYER INHALE: My fears are valid, EXHALE: and God is near.</p>	<p>December 4th WORD OF THE DAY Possibility</p> <p>BREATH PRAYER INHALE: God, help me see EXHALE: all that is possible.</p>	<p>December 5th WORD OF THE DAY Presence</p> <p>BREATH PRAYER INHALE: When I'm afraid, EXHALE: God responds with presence.</p>
<p>December 6th WORD OF THE DAY Marvel</p> <p>BREATH PRAYER INHALE: May I marvel EXHALE: at each tiny miracle.</p>	<p>December 7th WORD OF THE DAY Hope</p> <p>BREATH PRAYER INHALE: Hope that trembles EXHALE: is still hope.</p>	<p>December 8th WORD OF THE DAY Perceive</p> <p>BREATH PRAYER INHALE: God is making all things new. EXHALE: May I perceive it.</p>	<p>December 9th WORD OF THE DAY Trust</p> <p>BREATH PRAYER INHALE: Today I will trust EXHALE: that my efforts matter.</p>	<p>December 10th WORD OF THE DAY Useful</p> <p>BREATH PRAYER INHALE: When I do not feel hopeful, EXHALE: help me become useful.</p>
<p>December 11th WORD OF THE DAY Conviction</p> <p>BREATH PRAYER INHALE: When I feel uncertain, EXHALE: steady my convictions.</p>	<p>December 12th WORD OF THE DAY Transformation</p> <p>BREATH PRAYER INHALE: Help me witness EXHALE: every quiet transformation.</p>	<p>December 13th WORD OF THE DAY Reorient</p> <p>BREATH PRAYER INHALE: Reorient my path EXHALE: to walk humbly with God.</p>	<p>December 14th WORD OF THE DAY Be</p> <p>BREATH PRAYER INHALE: Let it be. EXHALE: Let it be with me.</p>	<p>December 15th WORD OF THE DAY Yes</p> <p>BREATH PRAYER INHALE: A hesitant yes EXHALE: can still be holy.</p>
<p>December 16th WORD OF THE DAY Courage</p> <p>BREATH PRAYER INHALE: Help me step forward, EXHALE: even when I tremble.</p>	<p>December 17th WORD OF THE DAY Magnify</p> <p>BREATH PRAYER INHALE: May I magnify the good EXHALE: that surrounds me.</p>	<p>December 18th WORD OF THE DAY Awaken</p> <p>BREATH PRAYER INHALE: Awaken me EXHALE: to my fullest, radiant self.</p>	<p>December 19th WORD OF THE DAY Vulnerability</p> <p>BREATH PRAYER INHALE: Deep vulnerability EXHALE: can create deep possibility.</p>	<p>December 20th WORD OF THE DAY Love</p> <p>BREATH PRAYER INHALE: May I seek and share EXHALE: the love that flows from God.</p>
<p>December 21st WORD OF THE DAY Dream</p> <p>BREATH PRAYER INHALE: God's dreams unfold EXHALE: through the work of our hands.</p>	<p>December 22nd WORD OF THE DAY Companionship</p> <p>BREATH PRAYER INHALE: May I find companionship EXHALE: when I need a hand to hold.</p>	<p>December 23rd WORD OF THE DAY Promise</p> <p>BREATH PRAYER INHALE: In this fragile, imperfect world, EXHALE: may your promises take root.</p>	<p>December 24th WORD OF THE DAY Joy</p> <p>BREATH PRAYER INHALE: Today I will make space EXHALE: for joy that grows and grows.</p>	<p>December 25th WORDS OF THE DAY Good news</p> <p>BREATH PRAYER INHALE: Good news is greater than fear. EXHALE: God will not be silenced.</p>

Advent Calendar
Daily breath prayers



Finance

Monthly financial numbers will be sent out in the weekly email along with a link to the Council Meeting Minutes. You can also find Council Meeting Minutes in the church office and the library in the fireside room.

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.

Year End Giving Deadlines:

- If you are planning to drop off your donation at the church please do so by Tuesday, December 24 as the church office will be closed December 25 – January 1
- If you are mailing your donation please make sure it will be delivered to the church by Monday, December 29
- If you are going to make an online donation bethlehem-lutheran.net/donate (click on "Online Giving" icon) please do so by Thursday, December 25 to assure it will process by the end of the year
- If you are attending worship service on December 24 or December 28 place your donation in the offering plate

If you have any questions or concerns please contact Linda Holste, Financial Secretary (financialsec@bethlehem-lutheran.net, 563-370-8464)

Budget Forum

November 11 at 9:15 a.m.



Stewardship

Our annual fall stewardship campaign titled "Giving in Gratitude," a theme that reflects our summer of "Gathering in Gratitude" and our thanks to you for your giving of your time, talents, and treasures, was launched in late September. Consecration Sunday was October 19, where you were invited to submit your pledges. Thank you to everyone who has submitted their Estimate of Giving Form for 2026. This is a great help and necessary component of our budget planning for next year.



If you haven't already done so, please submit your estimate by placing them in the boxes at the entrances to the Sanctuary. You can also do this online at tinyurl.com/BLC2026Giving

Celebrate with us on November 2!

Jazz Services will be held at 8:00 and 10:15 a.m. with a Louisiana style luncheon and stewardship celebration at 11:30 a.m. in the fellowship hall. The amount of estimated giving pledged so far will be announced.



I am grateful for each one of you. This past summer on Sundays where we "Gathered in Gratitude", I shared many events sponsored by Bethlehem that happen within our church, our community and other parts of the world. All of these events happen because you give your time, talents and financial resources. Thank you! Thank you for making Bethlehem Lutheran Church a very special place. **YOU MAKE IT HAPPEN!**

In Gratitude,
Cindy Thompson
Stewardship Ministry
stewardship@bethlehem-lutheran.net



“A Day in a Year at BLC” is a calendar fund drive that began May 1, 2025. The idea behind the drive was for everyone to choose a date/day and donate that amount of money to Bethlehem to be used to fill in the “gaps” we are having in our budget. I began representing you on Council in Stewardship Ministry in January. It wasn’t long after that I began to struggle with “surprise” expenses, such as the water heater failing, additional funding needed for VBS due to increased enrollment, and mechanical repairs required for Josephine. As a Council, we had to take funds from ministry budgets to pay for these costs. Council can now use the money from the calendar fund drive to pay for “surprise” expenses not covered in our budget.

So, how are we doing with the calendar fund drive? Thanks to you, after 4 months, \$13,717.00 has been raised. Many of you have chosen multiple days. If all the days are taken by May 1, 2026, a total of \$66,795 will have been raised. All of us doing “a little adds up to a lot”. Pick a day that works for you financially. The calendar has May 1 available (day 1 for \$1) and the highest number on the calendar is April 29th (day 364 for \$364).

Thank you again for your contributions to this fund drive.* Many of you donated funds in honor of someone or in memory of an event or person. I want to share these in this newsletter with you.

**The 3rd quarter financial statement you recently received represents the general fund only; your end-of-year statement will include monies given for this drive and other designated funds).*

Visit bethlehem-lutheran.net/365funddrive

Donations have been given in honor/memory of:

- Jan Tornow’s birthday
- The 50th wedding anniversary of Jenny and Mike Kelley
- The 56th wedding anniversary of Phyllis and Ken Wright
- The Father, Son, and Holy Ghost
- Frances & Keith Sickert
- Frank & Mary Cotton
- Jaryd Tiff
- John Goodman
- Bob and Sabrina Lee’s grandchildren
- The 64th wedding anniversary of Ed & Claudia Byrne
- The 34th wedding anniversary of Carolyn and Joel Buck-Gengler
- The wedding anniversary of Laura & Alex Hoime
- The wedding anniversary of Dennis & Betty Koch
- Helen Jensen Aumiller
- The anniversary of Laura & Mike Davis
- The anniversary of Carolyn & Dennis Bloemker
- Jaime Updegraff by her children
- Marcy’s birthday
- The wedding anniversary of Dawn & Matt Vines
- Light of Christ and BLC’s 20 years of collaboration
- The 44th anniversary of Nancy & Jim Tiff
- Tiffany Beisner’s dad, mom, and sons
- Wyatt, Ella, and Levi by Laura & Mike Davis
- Our four sons~Jane & Roger Lahman
- Texas flood victims
- Bob and Carol Dunkel’s birthdays
- Jim and Margo Hoffmeyer’s birthdays
- In gratitude for our youth
- Eva Summers’ birthday
- In gratitude for life on God’s earth
- Nancy Hughes’ children’s birthdays
- In gratitude for the birth of Sophia Hope
- Dora Summers
- Doris & Dave Slinger’s 76th wedding anniversary
- Jonathan Kelery
- Paul & Alice Steinke
- Wanda & Gene Schnabel’s anniversary
- Gene Schnabel
- Wanda Schnabel’s birthday
- Jennifer & Paul Puebla’s anniversary

125th Anniversary Celebration

The next 125th Anniversary meeting will be Sunday, November 16 at 11:15 a.m. after second service in the fireside room.

We are planning to have an entry in the Longmont Holiday Parade on Saturday, December 13 at 5:00 p.m. We will dress up in the Living Nativity costumes. Anyone who would like to participate and help with decorating a float are welcome.

Kristal Hopp will be making decorations for the anniversary luncheon if anyone has ideas for table centerpieces let us know.

Living Nativity

If you'd like to volunteer there will be more info in the narthex closer to the date. The Living Nativity will be December 21 from 5:00–8:00 p.m. by the stables. You can view it by driving thru or by walking up. During the event we'll be collecting donations for the OUR Center (more info on page 13).



Table Talk

Table Talk is a gathering for adults looking for a place to ask questions, think about hard topics, and grow together in faith and learning. Most of the time, we do not have required reading or prep. Our only real rule is that you have to come ready to love your neighbor as yourself. Please note that there are a few weeks for breaks this fall and winter. We meet **Wednesdays at 12:00 p.m. in the Fireside Room**. Contact Pr. Katie for more info.

- November 5: Wesley's Strangely Warmed Heart
- November 12: Church and State in the US and France
- November 19 & 26: Break
- December 3: The Great Christian Reversal
- December 10: Advent
- December 17: Advent
- December 24 & 31: Break
- January 7, 14, 21, 28: TBD



Open Forum

Open Forum (formerly known as Adult Forum) is held in-between services on select Sundays and is led by a group of volunteers. All adults and youth are encouraged to come support this effort and share in exploring more about our faith and community.

Upcoming topics include:

- November 16: The Concept of Original Sin with Mike Smith
- November 30: Elder Fraud Recognition and Prevention with Dave Hooley
- December 28: led by Pr. Katie

For more information contact Margot (nordatter@gmail.com), Jane (janelahman@hotmail.com), or Pastor Katie (pastor@bethlehem-lutheran.net)

Sunday School

Thank you to all of our Fall Semester Sunday School teachers! This is the tentative schedule for Sunday School this winter. Watch the Weekly Email for updates!

- November 2: Zacchaeus
- November 9: Sadducees' Question
- November 16: God's Love is Forever
- November 23: NO SUNDAY SCHOOL
- November 30: NO SUNDAY SCHOOL
- December 7: God's Peaceful world
- December 14: John the Baptist
- December 21: Angels Visit
- December 28: NO SUNDAY SCHOOL
- January 4: NO SUNDAY SCHOOL
- January 11: Jesus' Baptism
- January 18: The Lamb of God
- January 25: The Disciples



MS/HS Sunday School

Middle and high school church members and friends will gather on Sundays at 9:15 am in the youth room for Sunday School. We have a rotation of plans for each week which includes: scripture study, games, current event conversations, and just chilling. No need to RSVP, just show up when you can.

Confirmation

We will continue confirmation classes this Fall and Winter with our friends at First Lutheran. ***We are in need of volunteers to provide a meal for 10–12 students/teachers on January 25.*** Please contact Pastor Katie if you would like to provide food. Students and families, please save this updated schedule.

- November 9: Commandments 1–2 at First Lutheran
- November 23: NO CONFIRMATION –Happy Thanksgiving
- December 14: Attend Annual Meeting at Bethlehem Lutheran
- December 25: NO CONFIRMATION –Merry Christmas
- January 11: Commandments 3–10 at First Lutheran
- January 25: Baptism at Bethlehem Lutheran

HS Youth Group

We will continue to host monthly gatherings with our friends at First Lutheran.

- November 16 from 4:00–6:00 p.m. at Bethlehem – Youth Room
- December 21: Volunteer/Attend Living Nativity!
- January 18 from 4:00–6:00 p.m. at First Lutheran – TBD



Gather & Connect

First Friday

- November 7 at Margo and Jim Hoffmeyer's home.
- December 5 at Pam and Todd Bischoff's home.
- January 9 TBD

Please use the church directory or Sunday bulletin for members' addresses. Open to all adults. Please bring an appetizer and beverage to share. For questions call Shirley K. We meet on the first Friday of the month at 6:00 p.m.

Bethlehem Book Club

The Bethlehem Book Club welcomes all interested readers to join our group. We meet on the second Thursday of each month at 9:00 a.m. We usually meet on Zoom during the school year and plan for in-person meetings in the summer months. Please contact Mary Jane at mjvoogt2003@yahoo.com to be added to the communications list if you would like to participate.

The books for our next three months are:

- November 13: *Brave the Wild River* by Melissa Sevigny.
- December 9: *My Friends* by Fredrik Bachman.
- January 8: *Lovely One: A Memoir* by Ketanji Brown Jackson.

Naomi Circle

Naomi Circle meets the second Tuesday morning of the month. We meet in the Youth Room and on Zoom from 9:15–11:00 a.m. We have a short business meeting at 9:30 am and a bible study at 10:00 a.m. If you are interested in joining us please contact Linda H. (holstell@outlook.com) or Sue S. (suesmith512@msn.com).

- Meeting Tuesday November 11 and January 13
- December meeting will be a Christmas Brunch with Manna Bible Study and the Quilters on Tuesday, December 9, from 10:00–11:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

Men's Group (LMM)

- November 8
- December 13
- January 10

All men are invited for fellowship and a bible lesson. This is a great way to get to know each other and share a meal. We meet at 9:00 a.m. on the second Saturday of the month.

Manna Bible Study

We meet on **Mondays at 9:00 a.m.** to have a discussion and would love to have you join us. Please contact Phyllis W. (pkwright1360@gmail.com) if you have any questions.

Quilting Group

We meet on **Thursdays 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 to learn something new!

Brewsday Mornings

All are welcome to gather for coffee, tea, and conversation on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month at 8:00 a.m. Coffee/Tea provided when at Bethlehem.

- November 4 at Bethlehem
- November 18 at Best Day Ever
- December 2 at Bethlehem
- December 16 at Brewing Market
- January 6 at Bethlehem
- January 20 at TBD



Bakers and Donors Needed to Provide Shoes for Children in Nicaragua!

"Make a treat, put shoes on a child's feet" is happening again!!

For the last two years, we have been able to provide new shoes for the children in our children's project in Somoto, Nicaragua with our December bake sale. Families cannot afford shoes at \$15–\$20 a pair!



BEFORE DECEMBER 14, sign-up to bake an item for the sale, package it for sale, and bring to the church clearly marked "Bake Sale" by 9:00 a.m. December 14. A sign-up is on the service bulletin board in the narthex or email Cathy G. at cegood47@aol.com

ON DECEMBER 14, purchase baked items! Every donation will purchase shoes for children in abject poverty in our children's project in Somoto, Nicaragua.

Hope for the Holidays

For the fourth year in a row Bethlehem Lutheran and Light of Christ will join people from across our nation in writing Christmas cards of support and encouragement to incarcerated immigrants who are waiting for their court cases to be heard. Many have faced life-threatening situations and are traumatized. We send them the message that they are not forgotten. We write messages in English or in Spanish. Our cards join thousands of others that are distributed to detention centers by Global Refuge, the humanitarian ministry arm of the ELCA.

Take-home card packets are available now in the narthex. Each comes with suggested greetings to help you in your writing. There is a basket for returning completed cards by November 23. On the Sundays of November 16 and 23 there will be tables in the narthex before and after each service with cards. Stop by and add your encouraging message, bringing some kindness to distressed people. Thank you for considering participating in this kindness!



Music Ambassadors

We invite everyone to join us—if you can or can't sing, young or old. The residents at the Atria appreciate and enjoy our monthly visits. We meet at 11:30 a.m. on the second Sunday of the month: **November 9, December 14, January 11**

Habitat Build Day

Our last build day for 2025 is **Saturday, December 6**. Please sign up on the sheet at "Bob's Corner" in the narthex. Thank you to all who have helped this year in building the 12 homes at "Sugar Mill".

OUR Center Volunteers

We'll be serving lunch at the OUR Center on **November 16**. Let Bob Lee know if you'd like to help.

11th Hour Project

An Inter-Faith coalition of people who intend to build hope and actions that lead to solutions to the growing Climate Crisis. Join us at the BLC Bell Tower on the 11th day of each month at 11:00 a.m.

Service (con't)

OUR Center Food & Toiletries Drive

During the month of December and the Living Nativity on Sunday, December 21 (5:00–8:00 p.m.), we are collecting food, toiletries and monetary donations to benefit the Longmont OUR Center.

Please drop off items in the basket in the Narthex anytime in December or drop-off during the Living Nativity.

Email Mark H. if you have a donation you would like picked up.

You can also make monetary donations via check or online

at <https://secure.myvanco.com/L-YXX6/home>.

Please contact Mark H. (holstemarka@outlook.com) with questions.



Donations Needed

- Cereal, hot & cold
- Dried or canned beans
- Canned fruits, low sugar
- Canned vegetables, low salt
- Canned soups & stews, low salt
- Dish & laundry soap, cleaning products
- Granola bars, healthy snacks
- Pasta
- Tomato products
- Infant formula
- Protein – canned meats, peanut butter, etc.
- Personal care items – soap, shampoo, conditioner, body wash, deodorant, lotion, toothbrush, toothpaste, toilet paper, feminine hygiene
- Diapers – adult & baby

Worship

Sunday Worship Volunteers Needed!

Worship is successful because of our volunteers!! We are always needing extra hands so please sign up to help at worship! There are many positions available such as assisting minister, communion server, greeter.... Just reach out to Sabrina at worshipchair@bethlehem-lutheran.net. Or find the sign-up link online at <https://bethlehem-lutheran.net/worship/#volunteer>

Nursery

Sunday's from 10:10 to 11:30 a.m. for the 10:15 a.m. service. We are located in the preschool room and available to watch children 3 and under. Contact Sue Smith for more info.



Music

Upcoming Choir Schedule

- Sing at 1st service on 1st Sundays of the month (November 2, December 7)
- Sing at 2nd service on 2nd Sundays of the month (November 9, December 14)
- Rehearsals between services on 2nd and 4th Sundays (November 9, November 23, November 30, December 14, December 21)
- Sing at 6:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Service

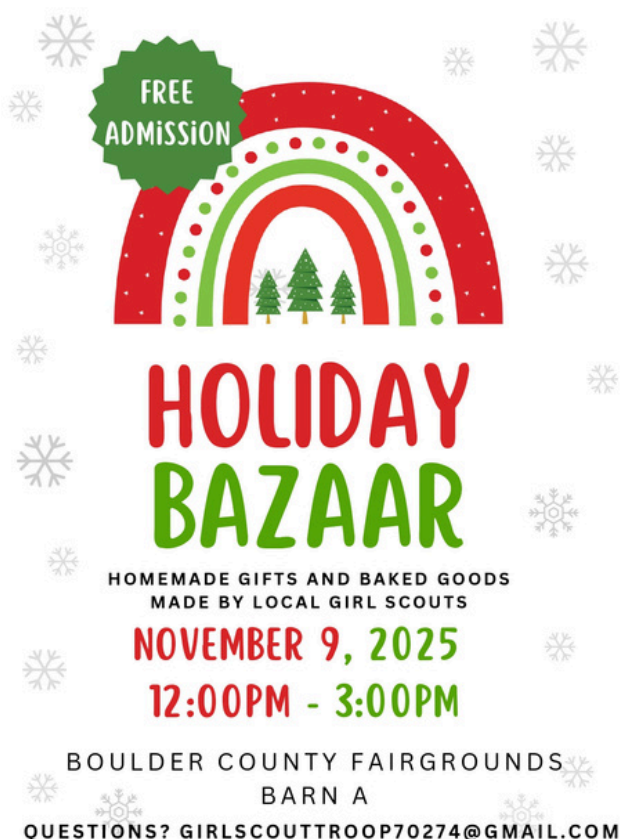
If you would like to lead a small group or share special music on Christmas Eve please contact both Pr. Katie and Betty BY November 15.



Community

Rainbow Trail

It is time to start thinking about summer camp. Rainbow Trail summer camp registration opens November 1 for children going into 2nd grade through high school. Rainbow Trail is not just for children. There are programs for young adults and adults as well. There is backpacking and even summer trips to Ecuador, Mexico and Appalachia to help others. Take a moment and check out their website. If you have further questions, speak to Rick Green



Community

Let There Be Light

Many churches participate in "Light Up The Church" or "Let There Be Light" initiatives on November 9 to commemorate Kristallnacht and stand in solidarity with the Jewish community. This is a modern tradition meant to counter antisemitism and acknowledge the church's failure to speak out during the Holocaust. The "Light from the Synagogue" initiative began with a group in Israel and expanded into a global movement that invited churches and other institutions to participate. BLC Council received and agreed to a proposal from Light of Christ ECC that our congregations leave a sanctuary light on overnight on November 9.



CHICKEN N PICKLE.
OUR S ARE LOCAL.

**GIVEBACK
NIGHT**

**NOVEMBER 11TH
6PM - 8PM**

14225 Lincoln St. Thornton, CO 80023

BENEFITING:
**ANNIE & MILLIE'S
PLACE**

Annie & Millie's Place

10% OF FOOD & DRINK
PURCHASES WILL
BE DONATED BACK



OUR Center will serve its traditional Thanksgiving Meal

OUR Community Café

220 Collyer St., Longmont

Thursday, November 27, 2025 11:30am – 1:00pm

**ST. VRAIN VALLEY COMMUNITY MEMBERS ARE WELCOME TO JOIN US
THIS DAY.**

**All other OUR Center services will be closed Thursday and Friday,
November 27 and 28, 2025.**

HAPPY THANKSGIVING TO ALL!

Questions? Call 303-772-5529 or email info@ourcenter.org

Council



You can find the Approved Council Meeting Minutes, Consolidated Council Reports and Treasurer's Report in the church office or library in the fireside room. Each month's approved minutes will also be sent out in the weekly email.

Keep those in your prayers

Members: Lydia M., Duane L., Patsy B., Howie W., Claudia B., Doris S., Irene M., Bob D., Matt J., Gerry C., Patty F., Doris C., Jamie A., Florence M., Coqui S., Darlene B., Kristal H., Jeremy G., **friends and relatives of our community:** Duane, Sam C., Lori C., Becky K., Ruthie W., Jim S., Dan S., Joyce P., Karen S., Joanne C., Teri M., Emma S., Joe G., Don C., Linda M., Ilene M., Scarlett K., Michael S., Yvonne A., Joann B., Brendan P., Katie P., Shawn M., Staci S.



Local Resources

If you need assistance during this time, there are several resources available:

- **HOPE Longmont**, located at: 804 Lincoln St. Longmont, CO 8050, (720) 494-4673
- **THE OUR CENTER**, located at: 220 Collyer St. Longmont, CO 80501, (303) 772-5529
- **THE ROUND PANTRY**, located at: Westview Presbyterian Church 1500 Hover St. Longmont, CO 80501, (303) 776-3242

Church Office



Office Closures

- November 27–28
- December 25–January 1
- January 19

Upcoming Newsletter

ALL items for February, March, April are due by **January 20!** Please submit them to news@bethlehem-lutheran.net

Email Scams

When opening emails from church leaders, please check the sender's email address before responding. Many scammers will have typos or misspellings in their email addresses, names, or in the content of their email. Bethlehem emails will come from addresses at "bethlehem-lutheran.net". No staff or council member will email any individual asking for funds or gift cards.



Home Communion and Visits

Our Visitation Ministry Team loves to visit members in the comforts of their homes. If you would like us to bring you communion at home or just sit to chat, please call the office!

November

Events

- Worship Service: Sundays, 8:00 a.m. & 10:15 a.m.
- Manna Bible Study: Mondays, 9:00 a.m.
- Table Talk: Wednesdays, 12:00 p.m.
- BLC Quilters Group: Thursdays, 9:00 a.m.
- Men's Promise Keepers: Saturdays, 8:00 a.m.
- Jazz Service: November 2
- Brewsday @BLC: November 4, 8:00 a.m.
- First Friday: November 7, 6:00 p.m.
- Property Clean up Day: November 8, 8:30 a.m.
- Men's Group LMM: November 8, 9:00 a.m.
- Budget Forum: November 9, 9:15 a.m.
- Music Ambassadors: November 9, 11:30 a.m.
- Confirmation: November 9, 11:45 a.m.
- Naomi Circle: November 11, 9:00 a.m.
- 11th Hour Project: November 11, 11:00 a.m.
- Council Meeting: November 11, 7:00 p.m.
- BLC LOC Joint Meeting: November 12, 10:50 a.m.
- Book Club: November 13, 9:00 a.m.
- Hope for Holidays: November 16 & 23, 8:00 a.m.
- Open Forum: November 16, 9:15 a.m.
- 125th Planning Meeting: November 16, 11:15 a.m.
- High School Youth Group: November 16, 4:00 p.m.
- Brewdays: November 18, 8:00 a.m.
- Prayer Shawl: November 18, 10:00 a.m.
- CARE Team Meeting: November 18, 6:00 p.m.
- Girl Scout Bake Sale: November 23
- Thanksgiving: November 27
- Office Closed: November 27–28
- Open Forum: November 30, 9:15 a.m.

Birthdays

- Nov 2 Robert Romero
- Nov 3 Anne Hovick
- Nov 3 Diane Penny
- Nov 3 Famuer Rasmussen Jr
- Nov 3 Laura Steakley
- Nov 4 Alpha Wuertz
- Nov 4 Sue Anderson
- Nov 5 Dan Larsen
- Nov 7 Donna Nupen
- Nov 8 Doris Slinger
- Nov 8 Roger Lahman
- Nov 8 Glenn Summers
- Nov 9 Robert Cotton
- Nov 9 Amy Anderson
- Nov 12 Hayley Rawlins
- Nov 14 Kallen Box
- Nov 15 Kamron Hosier
- Nov 16 Neil Hebbert
- Nov 17 Howard Wirth
- Nov 17 Lori Bloemker
- Nov 19 Ryan Bloemker
- Nov 19 Hillary Varas
- Nov 19 Madison Reed
- Nov 21 Renea Watts
- Nov 21 Tristan Steakley
- Nov 23 Rosemary Holste Miller
- Nov 24 Mike Smith
- Nov 25 Sharon Wirth
- Nov 26 Lauren Doop
- Nov 27 Dave Twait
- Nov 30 Ilene Ryan

Anniversaries

- Nov 12 Betty & Doug Rasmussen (42)
- Nov 18 Ryan & Lori Bloemker (23)
- Nov 19 Becky Kasperbauer & Peter Dickinson (9)

Nov 22 Hank & Retta Meyer (57)

Nov 25 Dave & Rini Twait (59)

Nov 30 Matthew & Heather Barnhouse (34)



December

Events

- Worship Services: Sundays, 8:00 a.m. & 10:15 a.m.
- Manna Bible Study: Mondays, 9:00 a.m.
- Table Talk: Wednesdays, 12:00 p.m.
- BLC Quilters Group: Thursdays, 9:00 a.m.
- Men's Promise Keepers: Saturdays, 8:00 a.m.
- Brewsday @BLC: December 2, 8:00 a.m.
- Advent Midweek Potluck: December 3, 6:00 p.m.
- Advent Midweek Prayer: December 3, 7:00 p.m.
- First Friday: December 5, 6:00 p.m.
- Habitat Build Day: December 6
- Staff Meeting: December 8, 9:15 a.m.
- Naomi Circle: December 9, 10:00 a.m.
- Council Meeting: December 9, 7:00 p.m.
- BLC LOC Joint Meeting: December 10, 10:30 a.m.
- Advent Midweek Potluck: December 10, 6:00 p.m.
- Advent Midweek Prayer: December 10, 7:00 p.m.
- Book Club: December 11, 9:00 a.m.
- 11th Hour Project: December 11, 11:00 a.m.
- Mens Group LMM: December 13, 9:00 a.m.
- Nicaragua Bake Sale: December 14
- Annual Meeting: December 14, 11:30 a.m.
- Music Ambassadors: December 14, 11:30 a.m.
- Brewsday: December 16, 8:00 a.m.
- Prayer Shawl: December 16, 10:00 a.m.
- CARE Team Meeting: December 16, 6:00 p.m.
- Advent Midweek Potluck: December 17, 6:00 p.m.
- Advent Midweek Prayer: December 17, 7:00 p.m.
- Living Nativity: December 21, 5:00–8:00 p.m.
- Staff Meeting: December 22
- Family Christmas Service: December 24, 4:00 p.m.
- Candlelight Service: December 24, 6:00 p.m.
- "Midnight" Service: December 24, 10:15 p.m.
- Office Closed: December 25–January 1
- Open Forum: December 28, 9:15 a.m.

Anniversaries

- Dec 2 Sharon Kirby-Cole & Gerry Cole (31)
Dec 19 Cindy & Byron Thompson (33)
Dec 27 Jenny & Michael Kelley (50)

Birthdays

- Dec 1 Elise Eidsness
Dec 1 Kyle Buck-Gengler
Dec 2 Jill Haney
Dec 5 Doris Cotton
Dec 5 Kirk Moors
Dec 7 John Holste
Dec 8 Lilah Corner
Dec 9 Ethan Hebbert
Dec 10 DeEtte Eikenberg
Dec 11 Pam Bischoff
Dec 13 Dennis Koch
Dec 13 Jeff Ditillo
Dec 13 Viviana Jurkovich
Dec 13 Reegan Zigler
Dec 14 Hank Meyer
Dec 16 Gail Schurman
Dec 16 Barbara Wedemeyer
Dec 16 Ella James
Dec 17 Ruby James
Dec 19 Duane Larsen
Dec 21 Jeff Hopp
Dec 21 Carrie Crespo
Dec 22 Jerry Phipps
Dec 23 Mason Watts
Dec 24 Lynda Coonrod
Dec 24 Dale Grindeland
Dec 24 Nolan Zigler
Dec 25 Mary Fjeld
Dec 26 Ruth Tilson
Dec 27 Carol Wissink
Dec 30 Beatriz Ramos
Dec 30 Roxanne Kessler
Dec 30 Levi Davis
Dec 31 DJ Christian



- Dec 28 Mike & Laura Davis (8)
Dec 28 Carrie & Brandon Crespo (7)

Events

- Worship Services: Sundays, 8:00 a.m. & 10:15 a.m.
- Manna Bible Study: Mondays, 9:00 a.m.
- Table Talk: Wednesdays, 12:00 p.m.
- BLC Quilters Group: Thursdays, 9:00 a.m.
- Men's Promise Keepers: Saturdays, 8:00 a.m.
- Office Closed: January 1
- Brewsday: January 6, 8:00 a.m.
- Book Club: January 8, 9:00 a.m.
- First Friday: January 9, 6:00 p.m.
- Men's Group LMM: January 10, 9:00 a.m.
- 11th Hour Project: January 11, 11:00 a.m.
- Music Ambassadors; January 11, 11:30 a.m.
- Confirmation: January 11, 11:45 a.m.
- Staff Meeting: January 12, 9:15 a.m.
- Naomi Circle: January 13, 9:00 a.m.
- Council Meeting: January 13 7:00 p.m.
- BLC LOC Meeting: January 14, 10:50 a.m.
- Land Stewardship: January 15, 6:30 p.m.
- High School Youth Group: January 18, 4:00 p.m.
- Office Closed: January 19
- Brewsday: January 20, 8:00 a.m.
- Prayer Shawl: January 20, 10:00 a.m.
- CARE Team Meeting: January 20, 6:00 p.m.
- Confirmation: January 25, 11:45 a.m.
- Staff Meeting: January 26, 9:15 a.m.

Birthdays

Jan 1 Alisha James
Jan 1 Emily Dawson
Jan 2 Zephyr Lautenschlager
Jan 3 Bonnie Mason
Jan 3 Racheal Goodman
Jan 5 Heather Barnhouse
Jan 7 Frances Rhoades
Jan 7 Bob Urbach
Jan 10 Mike Davis
Jan 11 Ryan Kragerud
Jan 11 Alex Hebbert
Jan 12 Nancy Habegger
Jan 13 Colten Corner
Jan 14 Justin Woodley
Jan 15 Molly Summers-Stiver
Jan 16 Emily Kunselman
Jan 17 Mark Abromski
Jan 19 Mark Herbst
Jan 19 Callie Bowman
Jan 19 Emily Dickhans
Jan 20 Betty Culbertson
Jan 20 Mendy Goodman
Jan 21 Margot Hoffmeyer
Jan 21 Lily Romaszewski
Jan 22 Marcella Myers
Jan 22 Patty Fagler
Jan 24 Morgan Dimmitt
Jan 24 Hannah Thompson
Jan 26 Dean Mickelson
Jan 27 Alex Dickhans
Jan 29 Steven Byrne
Jan 31 Dennis Bloemker

Anniversaries

Jan 3 Mark & Linda Holste (50)
Jan 5 Sandy & John Frazer (24)

Jan 7 Dennis & Marcy Smith (59)
Jan 22 Howard & Sharon Wirth (60)

Bethlehem Lutheran Church
1000 15th Avenue
Longmont, CO 80501

Return service requested

Worship Services

Sundays
8:00 a.m. & 10:15 a.m.

Office Hours

Monday – Friday
9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Bethlehem Staff

Pastor Katie Chullino, pastor@bethlehem-lutheran.net
Nancy Tiff, Hospitality Coordinator - nancy@bethlehem-lutheran.net
Karen Haag, Bookkeeper - bookkeeper@bethlehem-lutheran.net
Linda Holste, Financial Secretary - financialsec@bethlehem-lutheran.net
Tiffany Beisner, Office Administrator - admin@bethlehem-lutheran.net
Aaron Jurkovich, Webmaster - webmaster@bethlehem-lutheran.net
Amanda Bueschen, Director of Cornerstone Preschool - cornerstone_director@bethlehem-lutheran.net