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## BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS

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### LAST WEEK AT A GLANCE

ATTENDANCE 79

Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. 2 Corinthians 9:7

### OFFERINGS

You can make one-time or recurring gifts directly on our website. It's simple and secure.

[www.bethlehemlcms.org](http://www.bethlehemlcms.org)

Offerings may also be mailed to  
Bethlehem Lutheran Church  
3705 South Anthony Boulevard  
Fort Wayne IN 46806-4329.



Please make ALL checks payable to  
Bethlehem Lutheran Church. Use the  
memo line on check for designation.

### **FOOD BANK**

Bring a grocery bag of a few non-perishable items on Sundays. Bring to the front pews during the offering.

**OUR NEEDS ARE:**

**Soups and Tuna**

Copies of the sermon are available in the Narthex ask an usher for assistance.

### ACTIVITIES + THIS WEEK +



#### TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

9:00am Worship w/Communion  
10:00am Epiphany Coffee Hour – FH

**Monday, January 5**

**Tuesday, January 6**

10:00pm-11:30am Food Bank

**Wednesday, January 7**

10:00pm-11:30am Food Bank

**Thursday, January 8**

10:00pm-11:30am Food Bank

**Friday, January 9**

**Saturday, January 10**

4:00pm Worship w/Communion

**Sunday, January 11**

9:00am Worship w/Communion

10:00am Coffee Hour – FH

10:30am Education Hour - Adults –Café  
Children - Sonshine Club

## **SERVING AMONG US +THIS WEEKEND+**

Preacher ..... The Rev. Ben Ahlersmeyer  
Pianist (4:00pm)..... Kasey Hapner  
Organist (9:00am) ..... Janelle Deal  
Altar Guild ..... Sharon Dietrich  
Suzie Emley, Amber Herndon  
Elder  
(4:00pm) ..... Michael Johnson  
(9:00am) ..... John Bates  
Head Usher ..... Ron Gallmeyer  
Lay Readers  
(9:00am) ..... Suzie Emley  
PowerPoint Operators  
(4:00pm) ..... Carla Johnson  
(9:00am) ..... Josiah Hapner  
Sound Operator  
(9:00am) ..... Charlotte Ratliff  
Live stream ..... Hapner family

## **SERVING AMONG US +NEXT WEEKEND+**

Preacher ..... The Rev. Ben Ahlersmeyer  
Pianist (4:00pm)..... Kasey Hapner  
Organist (9:00am) ..... Janelle Deal  
Altar Guild ..... Kim Ellison  
Elder  
(4:00pm) ..... Brian Bates  
(9:00am) ..... Greg Shediack  
Head Usher ..... Evans Branigan  
Lay Reader  
(9:00am) ..... Dena Schult  
PowerPoint Operators  
(4:00pm) ..... Blake Sebring  
(9:00am) ..... Allison Cheng  
Sound Operator  
(9:00am) ..... Charlotte Ratliff  
Live stream ..... Hapner family

## **BETHLEHEM SERVICES ONLINE**

The link to watch online: <https://www.facebook.com/bethlehemfortwayne>

## **READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK (Jan. 10<sup>th</sup> & Jan. 11<sup>th</sup>)**

OLD TESTAMENT READING  
EPISTLE READING  
GOSPEL READING

Isaiah 42:1-9  
Romans 6:1-11  
Matthew 3:13-17

*The altar flowers are given by Steve and Donna Melcher in thanksgiving for their 60<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary.*

# **BETHLEHEM'S 100<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY**

Our theme is "Throughout All Generations"

*"Lord, you have been our dwelling place throughout all generations." Psalm 90:1*

## **EVENTS**

### **JANUARY 11**

**Kick-Off** - Service: 9:00am - Preacher: Rev. Dr. D. Richard Stuckwisch, Indiana District President - Video: Bethlehem 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
Lunch: 11:30am Speaker: Nathan Bienz, Historian, FW Lutheran Board Member

### **FEBRUARY 15**

Transfiguration Sunday - **Organ Recital** - 2:00pm

### **MARCH 27**

**Big-Eyed Fish Fry** 4:00pm -7:00pm - \$15 Carry out available

### **APRIL 25**

Clean up for Shepherd's Hand Walk - Preacher: Rev. Eli Voigt

### **MAY 31**

**Education Celebration / Church Potluck**

Service 9:00am – Preacher: Rev. Phil Rigdon - Blake Sebring – "Bethlehem Memories"

### **JUNE 20**

**Neighborhood Walk** - 10:00am

3205 Alexander St. Site of Bethlehem's 1926 Portable Chapel - Talk: Mr. Ron Oetting

### **JULY 18**

**Community Fest / Health Fair** 10:00am – 3:00pm - Fellowship, Food and Fun

### **AUGUST 8**

**LSUS Clean up**

### **SEPTEMBER 12**

**Alumni Dance** 7:00pm – 11:00pm - Allen County Fairgrounds

### **SEPTEMBER 13**

**Alumni Events** - Alumni Service 9:00am - Preacher: Rev. Steve Ensley  
Reception with charcuterie

### **OCTOBER**

**Mission MONTH**

### **NOVEMBER**

**Food Bank MONTH**

### **DECEMBER 20**

**Service of Song** w/Don Wharton - 2:00pm - Closing & Looking Forward to the Future

# BETHLEHEM'S 100<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY – T-SHIRTS



In 2026, Bethlehem will be celebrating our 100th anniversary! As a way to celebrate and fundraise for the coming year, we have started a campaign to order shirts. Please take a look and consider supporting our church!



## BETHLEHEM TRIVIA

September 13, 1925 the Christian day school opened at 3205 Alexander Ave.

There were 46 charter members who started Bethlehem Lutheran Church.

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## SERVE AT THE RESCUE MISSION

Help serve lunch at the Rescue Mission!

Volunteers needed every 4th Sunday of the Month. Can't serve physically? Bake instead!

## BETHLEHEM MEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST

At the Bethlehem Men's Prayer Breakfast set for this Saturday, December 27, we shall prepare to leave 2025 and began to consider 100 years of life together at Bethlehem Evangelical Lutheran Church as we head to the centennial year of 2026. Please plan to join your friends in the cafeteria starting at 8:30am. that day as we have breakfast together followed by a devotion, time for prayer, and a study of God's Word. All are welcome. *"How good and pleasant it is when brothers live together in unity!"* Psalm 133:1 NIV.

## BEREAVEMENT MINISTRY

If you are a member of Bethlehem and experience the death of a family member who was not a member of the congregation, but feel you would also benefit from the care of our Stephen Ministry Bereavement program, please call Pastor Ben (989-907-9481), Threasa Lightning (260-417-1450) our Grief Coordinator. The Bereavement program provides a set of four short books, journeying through Grief, to send to people at four crucial times during the difficult first year after losing a loved one. Each book focuses on what the person is likely to be feeling at that point in their grief, providing care, support, compassion, and hope.

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## **LWML/WOMEN OF BETHLEHEM**

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### **CLEANING & ORGANIZING CREW**

The Cleaning & Organizing Crew meets on Wednesdays at 9:30am in the WOB room.

### **WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY**

We are preparing to begin Season 3 of The Chosen in January. We have opted to return to our every-other-Saturday routine. Consequently, we will meet in Room 1 at 9:30 on the following dates in 2026:

January 3, 17, 31      February 14 & 28      March 14 & 28      April 11

### **CHURCH KITCHEN TRAINING CLASS TODAY**

Planning to use the church kitchen? A training class is offered for anyone who would like to learn how to use the kitchen. Learn kitchen policies, equipment use, safety guidelines, and clean-up procedures. **Today after the Epiphany Coffee Hour in the kitchen.**

## **WE NEED YOU!**

### **HELP SHARE OUR WORSHIP BEYOND THE WALLS**

Our church's **Livestream Ministry** helps us reach members who are homebound, traveling, or unable to attend in person—and it's only possible because of faithful volunteers behind the scenes. Right now, we are in need of **Livestream operators** and **PowerPoint operators** to help support our worship services.

No experience is required—we **will provide training** and ongoing support. If you're comfortable with basic technology, willing to learn, and have a heart to serve, this could be a meaningful way to use your gifts. Even serving **once or twice a month** makes a big difference.

By volunteering, you're not just running equipment—you're helping people worship, stay connected, and feel included in our church family.

If you're interested or would like more information, please contact the church office to sign up or for more information (260-744-3228).

Thank you for prayerfully considering serving in this important ministry!

## **CHANGING FOOTPRINTS**

Changing Footprints collects both new and gently worn shoes and distributes them to individuals who are homeless, affected by disasters, or otherwise in need. They are currently operating right here at Bethlehem and could use volunteers to help sort the many shoes they receive. If you can donate just a few hours a month, your help would make a big difference! For more information or to sign up to volunteer, please contact Cheryl at 260-341-0167.



### **LOST ITEM**

**\*A large black/brown fabric basket w/metal handles – last seen in the Fellowship Hall.  
If found please return to the church office. Thank You**

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## **LSUS News**

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**Please pray for all the students/staff**

### **Encouragement Found in Scriptures:**

And the angel said to them, “Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.

— Luke 2:10-11

**PHOENIX SPORTS CORNER**  
WEEK OF DEC. 29<sup>TH</sup> - JAN. 10<sup>TH</sup>

**CHEERLEADING**

**BOYS BASKETBALL**

**GAMES:**

Monday, Jan. 5<sup>th</sup> vs. Emmaus  
4:30pm Varsity @ Bethlehem

Wednesday, Jan. 7<sup>th</sup> vs. Holy Cross  
4:30pm Varsity @ Bethlehem

Thursday, Jan. 8<sup>th</sup> vs. Concordia  
4:30pm Varsity @ Bethlehem

# ADULT BOARD GAME NIGHT

HAVE SOME FUN. ENJOY GETTING TO KNOW  
THE LSUS TEACHER & PARENT. BRIDGING THE  
GAP BETWEEN THE CHURCHES AND PARENTS

Food & Drinks  
will be provided



FRIDAY, JANUARY 9, 2026  
6:00 PM

2313 S. Hanna Street

TEACHERS, PARENTS & CHURCHES

## PLEASE CONTINUE TO PRAY

### For our members;

Teddy Bishop	Beau Bishop	Ruby Bonner	Lois Branigan
Margaret Burger	Willard Brown	Derek Crane	Dana Crane
Cathy Dykstra	Ina Gaunt	Pastor Jeff Geisler	Vicky Geisler
Jean Hille	Carla Johnson	Carla Kay	Gladys Middleton
Bob Miller	Jane Miller	Louise Nahrwold	Eddie Pierce
Adam Rice	Jewel Robinson	Doris Scott	Sharon Shediack
Thomas Tinsley	Phil Urbahns		

### For our friends and family:

**Vicky Baker** (mother of Cathy Finner), **Al Bebout** (brother of Amber Herndon), **Meg Busse** (niece of Annette Diemer), **Darryl Calloway**, **Jeremiah Caper** (nephew of Deanna Nelson), **Maria Gema Camumot** (aunt of Nancy Pierce), **Mark Curten** (Deanna Nelson), **Adrian Dance Jr.** (grandson of Rachelle Dance), **Matthew Derby** (friend of the Hapner family), **Donna Emley**, **Tina Foster** (mother-in-law of Sara Robinson), **Tammy Gibson** (sister of Threasa Lightning), **Tony Griggs** (brother of Denise DeYampert), **Collins Gusching** (great-granddaughter of Pam Morvilius) and her parents, **Alec and Georgia Gusching**, **Karly Herndon** (granddaughter of Dan Scheerer and Amber Herndon), **Larry Hollman** (brother-in-law of Greg Finner), **Mary R. Harris-Hill** (sister of Claudia Harris), **Don Kovac** (father of Michelle Miller), **John Moerer** (son-in-law of John and Shirley Davis), **Karen Norby** (friend of Linda Stafford), **Brian Rasso** (brother of Gene Kalthoff), **Paul Roach** (son of John and Linda Stafford), **Patricia and Natasha Saylor** (friends of Kathy Brehm), **Beverly Van Nalten** (mother of Jennifer Bradley), **LaToya Williams** (daughter of Ocleva Williams), and those we name in our hearts.

**For the families of Bethlehem Lutheran Church:** We pray for Pamala Morvilius, Corinne Nahrwold, Louise Nahrwold, Ashley Nelson, Joseph Nelson, Terri Nelson, Barb Netterville, Loan Nguyen, Patti Niday, Tom Oberholtzer, Dorothy Oetting, Eddie Pierce, Josie Reed and Brittany Ingrams. We give thanks for 60 years of marriage to Steve and Donna Melcher.

**For our church:** Dear Father, as we envision the future of our church, help us to create a space where hope flourishes in our community and our members are refreshed in spirit. Guide our discussions as we consider what you have planned for our church, our building and our community. May every effort we undertake proclaim the person and work of Jesus in a way that touches lives and restores hope.