

PLEASE CONTINUE TO PRAY

For our members;

Teddy Bishop	Ina Gaunt	Louise Nahrwold
Ruby Bonner	Pastor Jeff and Vicky Geisler	Richard Pierce
Lois and Evans Branigan	Jean Hille	Nick Rasmussen
Margaret Burger	Linda Kalthoff	Jewel Robinson
Willard Brown	Earl and Nancy Kruger	Doris Scott
Derek and Dana Crane	Donna Melcher	Sharon Shediack
Joan Domrow	Gladys Middleton	Thomas Tinsley
Suzie Emley		Phil Urbahns

For our friends and family:

Ruby Ahart (sister-in law of Nancy Pierce), **Vicky Baker** (mother of Cathy Finner)
Al Bebout (brother of Amber Herndon), **Marilyn and Meg Busse** (sister and niece of Annette Diemer), **Darryl Calloway**, **Maria Gema Camumot** (aunt of Nancy Pierce), **Adrian Dance Jr.** (grandson of Rachelle Dance), **Matthew Derby** (friend of the Hapner family), **Donna Emley**, **Tammy Gibson** (sister of Threasa Lightning)
Larry Hollman (brother-in-law of Greg Finner), **Mary R. Harris-Hill** (sister of Claudia Harris), **Anna Jones**, (mother of Trena Jones), **Don Kovac** (father of Michelle Miller), **Pastor Larry Merino**, **John Moerer** (son-in-law of John and Shirley Davis), **Karen Norby** (friend of Linda Stafford), **Brian Rasso** (brother of Gene Kalthoff), **Salgado Rivera** (client of Food Bank), **Paul Roach** (son of John and Linda Stafford), **Patricia and Natasha Saylor** (friends of Kathy Brehm), **Stacey Self** (friend of Kim Brooks), **Chris Terrazas** (son of Donna Adams)
Beverly Van Nalten (mother of Jennifer Bradley), **LaToya Williams** (daughter of Oclewa Williams)

For the families of Bethlehem Lutheran Church

Tina Adamonis	Charles Adams	Pastor Ben Ahlersmeyer	
Brian Bates	Dan Bates	John Bates	Kent Bearman
Dawn Beaty	Steve Bercot	Omar Bernabe	Karl Bernabe
Marlene Berning			

For our church

Heavenly Father, we ask for Your guidance as we seek to use our church building to become a beacon of hope in our neighborhood. Open our eyes to new opportunities. Open our ears to new conversations. Open our hearts to new partnerships. Empower us to launch ministries that renew our congregation and lead every heart to know the transforming work of Jesus.

BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS

LAST WEEK AT A GLANCE

ATTENDANCE: 60	
Needed for Operating & Missions	\$ 6,192.31
Offering for Operating & Missions	\$ 2,707.00
Online Operating & Missions	\$ 430.67
Designated Gifts	\$ 60.00
Total Contributions	\$ 3,197.67

OFFERINGS

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

Help keep their shelves stocked this winter.
Bring a grocery bag of a few non-perishable items on Sundays. Bring to the front pews during the offering.

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

ACTIVITIES AND BIBLE STUDIES

+ THIS WEEK +



TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

9:00am Worship w/Communion
10:00am Coffee Hour – FH
10:30am Education Hour - Adults – Café
Kids – Sonshine Club Room

Monday, February 17

Tuesday, February 18

10:00-11:30am Food Bank

Wednesday, February 19

10:00-11:30am Food Bank
6:00pm - Choir
7:15pm - Handbells

Thursday, February 20

10:00-11:30am Food Bank

Friday, February 21

Saturday, February 22

4:00pm Worship w/Communion

Sunday, February 23

9:00am Worship w/Communion
10:00am Coffee Hour – FH
10:30am Education Hour - Adults – Café
Kids – Sonshine Club Room

SERVING AMONG US +THIS WEEKEND+	SERVING AMONG US +NEXT WEEKEND+
Preacher The Rev. Ben Ahlersmeyer Pianist (4:00pm)..... Kasey Hapner Organist (9:00am) Janelle Deal Altar Guild Linda Stafford	Preacher The Rev. Ben Ahlersmeyer Pianist (4:00pm)..... Kasey Hapner Organist (9:00am) Noah Vancina Altar Guild Mary Snow Allison Cheng
Elder (4:00pm) Brian Bates (9:00am) Greg Shediack Head Usher Dan Bates Lay Readers (9:00am) Donna Volmerding Dave Volmerding	Elder (4:00pm) Ed Ramos (9:00am) Peter Schlie Head Usher Ron Gallmeyer Lay Readers (9:00am) Peter Schlie
PowerPoint Operators (4:00pm) Charlotte Ratliff (9:00am) Allison Cheng Sound Operator (9:00am)..... Dan Scheerer Live stream Josiah Hapner	PowerPoint Operators (4:00pm) Blake Sebring (9:00am) Aaron Brown Sound Operator (9:00am)..... Dan Scheerer Live stream Joshua Hapner
<u>BETHLEHEM SERVICES ONLINE</u> The link to watch online: https://www.facebook.com/bethlehemfortwayne	
<u>READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK (February 22nd and February 23rd)</u>	
OLD TESTAMENT READING	Genesis 45:3-15
EPISTLE READING	1 Corinthians 15:21-26, 30-42
GOSPEL READING	Luke 6:27-38

The altar flowers are provided by Michael Johnson

EDUCATION HOUR

Education Hour meets each Sunday from 10:30am-11:30am. Adults meet in the cafeteria, and the Kids in the Sonshine Club room, ages 3 years - 5th grade are welcome.

LSUS News

PRAYING FOR YOU!

Please pray for our students/staff; Sam, Willow, Nolan, Layla, Skylar, Charli, Javi, Laydia, Damari, Ishawn, and Mrs. Bahr.



NLSW Wrap up!

We wrapped up last week’s National Lutheran Schools Week last week! Students came to school in their PJs and beach wear. Students made Valentine’s Day cards that will be distributed to shut in members of our associated churches and made prayer chains. NLSW allows us the opportunity to recognize the educational and



spiritual impact of Lutheran schools in nurturing both the academic and Christian faith development of students. It also serves as a reminder of the importance of Lutheran education in promoting a Christ-centered environment for students of all ages.



Students vs. Staff

During the pep rally Friday, 1/31, students watched a thrilling showdown where members of the boys basketball team faced off against their teachers and staff members in a lighthearted yet competitive basketball match. Mr. A even brought in a special guest, Sydney Curry, to give the staff team an extra boost. The staff team beat the students 46-40! The game was a chance for everyone to show off their athletic skills, share laughs, and bond as a school.



Kindergarten ROUND UP

Thursday, March 6th, 2025 @ 6 – 7 PM

Where: Lutheran South Unity School
5401 South Calhoun Street
260-744-0459



What to Expect: Children welcome to come!

Kindergarten scavenger hunt

New Families tour of the school

Repeat families meet with kindergarten teachers and principal — learn about the program.

We look forward to hearing from your family!
RSVP by phone or use the QR code to LSUS today!

BETHLEHEM'S 100th ANNIVERSARY

Our theme will be "**Throughout All Generations**" Psalm 90:1 *"Lord, you have been our dwelling place throughout all generations."*

Kick-off will be on Sunday, January 11, 2026 (same month as the first meeting of the church)

Education Celebration will be on Sunday, May 31, 2026 (History of education and

recognition of Confirmation classes) Main Event will be on Sunday, September. 27, 2026.

To honor Bethlehem's 100th anniversary in 2026, we offer an opportunity to participate in a second videotaping session on April 13 from 1:00pm-4:00pm in the sanctuary.

These 5-minute videos consist of three questions:

- 1. When and why did you come to Bethlehem?**
- 2. What are a couple of your favorite memories?**
- 3. What has Bethlehem meant to you?**

Understanding that everyone could talk for an hour, we are asking to keep the sessions to five minutes so we can include more people. These recordings will be played before services throughout the anniversary year. Those being interviewed also do not need to be current members.

If you are interested, please email Blake Sebring at blakeds@frontier.com so we can get a rough estimate of those wishing to participate. Seating will be available, and we will not schedule appointments, but we'll start a line and keep going until we are finished. Hopefully this will be a fun time of reminiscing.

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), Thresa Lightning (260-417-1450) or Richard Pierce (260-450-2280), our Grief Coordinators. 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.

THE AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS RECITAL

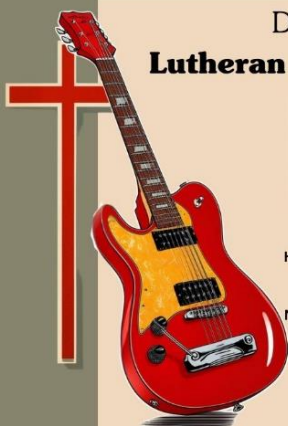
YOU ARE INVITED to a free organ recital in the Bethlehem sanctuary on Sunday, Feb 23 at 2:30pm. The American Guild of Organists Fort Wayne chapter hosts an annual recital featuring winners of the chapter's scholarship. This year, our sanctuary will host the recital. Come hear the area's most talented young organists, plus performances by AGO chapter members.

Rockin' My Salvation



Dinner Benefits

Lutheran South Unity School



Hannah Koch is a 2014 graduate of LSUS. She attended Concordia High School and University of Notre Dame. Now she is attending IU School of Medicine.

Tickets are \$50 per person
5:00- doors open
with social hour
6:00 - dinner
RSVP by Feb. 14



SCAN ME

Feb. 22, 2025
Quimby Hall
1502 Bluffton Rd

Encouragement Found in Scriptures:

And I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" Then I said, "Here I am! Send me." —Isaiah 6:8

THE LORD'S MESSAGE ON EDMOM IN OBADIAH

The book of Obadiah begins, "This is what the Sovereign LORD says about Edom. . . ." A nearby neighbor of Israel, the nation of Edom had likewise descended from Abraham but had a very hostile relationship with Israel. To understand why this was so, we shall look at Edom's origins and history. Please plan to join the Men's Prayer Breakfast on Saturday, February 22, at 8:30am in the Bethlehem cafeteria as we get together for breakfast, prayer, a devotion by Bill Ihssen, and God's Word in Obadiah. *"We have heard a message from the LORD: An envoy was sent to the nations to say, 'Rise, and let us go against [Edom] for battle. . . .'"* Obadiah 1b NIV.

NAME YOUR FAVORITE HYMNS

Our organist Janelle Deal requests your input! What hymns do you wish we sang in worship more frequently? What hymns do we sing frequently that you want to keep singing? Janelle is compiling your answers to help us plan meaningful worship services. Pass on your answers in person after worship, via email at Janelle.Buford@my.wheaton.edu, or via voicemail at (360) 626-3516.

LENTEN MEALS 2025

We know gathering over food and conversation can bring our church community together, especially before we share in the Gospel Message during this Holy season of Lent. This year, Pastor Ben will be using famous art works to inspire our hearts - so why not tie in our meals to the weekly themed artwork? Meals will begin at 5:15pm and end at 6:15pm in the Fellowship Hall. PB&J for kids and kids-at-heart. We will need some help to put this together. If you are willing to help (set-up, food, clean up) - please consult the sign-up station in the Fellowship Hall or email Rhonda Cheng.

Bethlehem Lenten Dinners Menu

March 5 - Peace Lutheran's Chilli Cook Off Contest. Proceeds benefit Peace's chapter of LWML, 5:15PM-6:15 PM in their Fellowship Hall. Reservations recommended, submit a chili if you like!

March 12 - *The First Temptation Dinner* - Stone Soup, Bread, and fruits.

Need: Beef Veggie Soup, bread, and fruit salad.

March 19 - *Sleepy Disciples Dinner* - Turkey Tetrazinni, mashed potatoes, green beans. Turkey Tetrazinni (Kasey will make). Need: Mashed potatoes, green beans, dessert.

March 26 - *Take-Out Night* - Pizza Need: Pizza, carrots/ranch, fruit, dessert.

April 2 - *The Rooster crows Dinner* - Chicken Noodle Soup, Bread, and Salad

Need: Chicken Noodle Soup, Bread, Salad, dessert.

April 9 - *Mockary Mess Hall* - breakfast for dinner Sheet Pan "Pancakes" (Kasey will make).

Need: syrup, sausages, fruit salad.

SHEPHERD OF THE CITY HYMN FEST

Shepherd of the City, 1301 S. Anthony, will be hosting its annual Hymn Fest at 4 p.m. on Sunday, Feb. 23. This year's theme is based on the words of the prophet Isaiah (40:8): **"The word of our God will stand forever,"** and will feature esteemed organist Audrey Partipilo on the bench and the Rev. Dr. Jon Bruss, president of CTSFW, in the pulpit. Please join us for this FREE event! A free-will offering will be accepted at the door to help the congregation pay for much-needed repairs to the church building. For more information, please visit our website: www.shepherdofthecitylutheran.org.

"TOLL THE BELLS" CONCERT

The Bach Collegium Fort Wayne, a local, non-profit community organization that performs the works of J.S. Bach in a historically informed manner with period instruments, invites you to their second concert of the 2024-2025 Concert Season "Toll the Bells" on February 16th at 4:00pm at Trinity Lutheran Church on St. Mary's Avenue. Through three inspiring cantatas, the Collegium will explore the subject of mortality--not with grief and mourning--but with hope and joyful expectation. Tickets are \$30 for general admission and \$10 for students, 12 and under are free. For tickets and more information visit <https://bachcollegium.org/>.

FREE COMMUNITY WELLNESS EVENT



Manchester University is having a FREE Community Wellness event on March 8 from 9:00am-1:00pm at McMillen Park Community Center at 3901 Abbott St.

Free health assessments, Learn about important health topics, and Giveaways.



Help us share Christ's love with your
THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS!

All Choice Dollars must be directed by March 31, 2025!
Call Thrivent Customer Service at (800) 847-4836 with any questions.