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## BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS

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### LAST WEEK AT A GLANCE

ATTENDANCE: 79

Needed for Operating & Missions \$ 6,192.31

Offering for Operating & Missions \$ 4,424.00

Online Operating & Missions \$502.81

Designated Gifts \$ 747.00

Total Contributions \$ 5,673.81

### 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:** soup, peanut butter, boxed baking mixes, pasta sauce and tomato products.

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 Coffee Hour – FH

10:30am Education Hour - Adults –Café

### Monday, August 4

### Tuesday, August 5

10:00pm-11:30am Food Bank

6:30pm Board of Elders

### Wednesday, August 6

10:00am -11:30am Food Bank

### Thursday, August 7

10:00am-11:30am Food Bank

### Friday, August 8

11:00am LSUS Golf Outing

### Saturday, August 9

**4:00pm Worship w/Communion**

### Sunday, August 10

**9:00am Worship w/Communion**

10:00am Coffee Hour – FH

10:30am Education Hour - Adults –Café

WOB Core Committee – Rm 1

## 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) ..... Brian Bates  
 (9:00am) ..... Greg Shediack  
 Head Usher ..... Evans Branigan  
 Lay Reader  
 (9:00am) ..... Donna Volmerding  
    Dave Volmerding  
 PowerPoint Operators  
 (4:00pm) ..... Charlotte Ratliff  
 (9:00am) ..... Allison Cheng  
 Sound Operator  
 (9:00am)..... Dan Scheerer  
 Live stream ..... Randy Hapner

## SERVING AMONG US +NEXT WEEKEND+

Preacher ..... The Rev. Steve Ahlersmeyer  
 Pianist ..... Kasey Hapner  
 Altar Guild ..... Linda Stafford  
 Elder  
 (4:00pm) ..... Ed Ramos  
 (9:00am) ..... Peter Schlie  
 Head Usher ..... Dan Bates  
 Lay Readers  
 (9:00am) ..... The Hapner Family  
 PowerPoint Operators  
 (4:00pm) ..... Blake Sebring  
 (9:00am) ..... Aaron Brown  
 Sound Operator  
 (9:00am)..... Dan Scheerer  
 Live stream ..... Josiah Hapner

## **BETHLEHEM SERVICES ONLINE**

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

## **READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK (August 9<sup>th</sup> and August 10<sup>th</sup>)**

|                       |                 |
|-----------------------|-----------------|
| OLD TESTAMENT READING | Genesis 15:1–6  |
| EPISTLE READING       | Hebrews 11:1–16 |
| GOSPEL READING        | Luke 12:22–34   |

*The altar flowers are provided by Anoukone Somsanith  
in memory of his grandma Sengone Bounket.*

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

Our theme is **"Throughout All Generations"**

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

This is a tentative plan schedule.

- January 11, Sunday: Kick-off with sit-down meal
  - February, Sunday: Organ/Piano music
  - March 27, Friday: FISH FRY
  - April 18, Saturday: Great America Clean Up with the City event
  - May 31, Sunday: Church Potluck Picnic
  - June 20, Saturday: Neighborhood Walk – including 3205 Alexander Ave.
  - July 18, Saturday: Community Fest w/clubhouse
  - August: LSUS clean up
  - Sept. 13, Sunday: Education & Alumni Celebration with History of Education and recognition of Confirmation classes (a Charcuterie Table)
  - October: Missions featured the entire month
  - November: Collect food bank items the entire month
  - December: Wrap up with a special musical event TBD Organ recital, song fest, etc.
- Volunteers are still needed!** Please pray and consider using your skills and talents and join one of the following committees: Please contact Rhonda in church office for questions or you may contact a member of the steering committee—Pastor Ben, Rachele Dance or Sharon Dietrich.

**The next 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
Committee meeting:  
August 27, at 6:00pm in  
the Fellowship Hall.**

## **VIDEO RECORDING SESSION**

We're a little more than a month away from the final opportunity to be included in the video portion of the Bethlehem 100th anniversary celebration. We'll be conducting interviews on Sept. 7 from 1-4 p.m. in the sanctuary. This will be the final and only chance, so please mark your calendar!

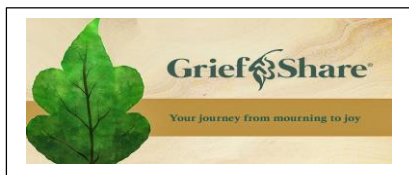
These 5-minute videos will consist of three questions: 1. When and why did you come to Bethlehem? 2. What are a couple of your favorite memories? 3. What has Bethlehem meant to you?

These recordings will be played before services throughout the anniversary year. **Also, those being interviewed do not need to be current members.**

If you are interested, please consider emailing Blake Sebring at [blakeds@frontier.com](mailto:blakeds@frontier.com) so we can get a rough estimate of those wishing to participate. Seating will be available in the Fellowship Hall, 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) 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.



If you have experienced the death of a family member or friend, you are invited and encouraged to register for the 13-week GriefShare program. You'll gain access to valuable resources to help you recover from your loss and look forward to rebuilding your life.

GriefShare groups meet weekly to help you face these challenges and move toward rebuilding your life.

**GriefShare will be held at Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 3705 S. Anthony Blvd., Fort Wayne in Room 1 on Tuesdays starting August 19, 2024 from 5:30pm-7:00pm.**

There is a suggested donation of \$10.00 for the workbook. Please register by contacting Rhonda in the church office at (260) 744-3228.

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## **SERVE AT THE RESCUE MISSION**

Help serve lunch at the Rescue Mission!

Volunteers needed every 4th Sunday of the Month - upcoming dates include Aug 24, Sept 28, Oct 26, Nov 23, and Dec. 28. This is a great way to serve our local Ft. Wayne Community. Sign-up at the bulletin board outside the library, just past Fellowship Hall, and make this a meaningful service experience! Can't serve physically? Bake instead!

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## LWML/WOMEN OF BETHLEHEM

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### WOB CORE COMMITTEE MEETING

On Sunday, August 10<sup>th</sup> The Women of Bethlehem Core Committee will meet during Coffee Hour in Room 1, We will plan our September Service Project - "Crosses for Benny" for Forged by Fire Ministries and LWML Sunday, October 5th. Join us if you can. This is a volunteer board, and always welcomes new members. Meetings will be posted and are open to all women.

### INDIANA DISTRICT LWML TREATSHOP

August 9, 2025, 9:30am-3:30pm

Trinity Lutheran Church 8540 E 16<sup>th</sup> St, Indianapolis, IN 46219

For \$20 registration, you get a light continental breakfast, a salad bar and Baked Potato Bar Lunch, and materials for the session!

Ingatherings go to: Crisis Pregnancy Center, Trinity Lutheran School teacher gift bags, and help in restocking Trinity's Gym Closet.

Registration Forms available in church office (to be sent in), or on [lwmlindiana.org](http://lwmlindiana.org)

**Dena Schult is attending, and has room for 3 more women.**

### **Let's Celebrate Pastor Jeffrey Geisler's Birthday with a Birthday Card Drive!**



Let's shower Pastor Jeff with love, gratitude, and blessings on his special day.

We want to shower him with lots of birthday cards to remind him how much he's cherished. **His Birthday is August 19**

Write a heartfelt message, share a favorite memory, or simply say "Thank you!"

#### **Send or Drop Off To:**

Rev. Jeffrey Geisler  
6701 S. Anthony Blvd.  
Magnolia Lane Rm #326  
Fort Wayne, IN 46816

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## LSUS News

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**1ST ANNUAL LSUS GOLF OUTING**  
FUNDRAISER BENEFITING LUTHERAN SOUTH UNITY SCHOOL

**TICKET \$65 PER PERSON**

**AUGUST 8<sup>TH</sup> 2025 11 AM**

**18 HOLE FLORIDA SCRAMBLE**

LUNCH PROVIDED | CASH BAR AVAILABLE ON COURSE

**McMILLEN PARK**  
3900 HESSEN CASSEL RD.,  
FORT WAYNE, IN 46806

**REGISTER NOW**

SCAN ME

<http://bit.ly/3FJokEq>

**LSUS registration is continuing for the 2025-2026 school year at Lutheran South Unity School.** Call Barb Johnson or the office at LSUS (260-744-0459) to make an appointment for a tour and the registration process. To help with tuition, we take Choice Vouchers. We also have scholarships and financial aid available. Someone is in the office Monday - Friday 9:00am to 3:00pm. Make your appointment now.

Please consider helping LSUS Art Classes with donating some items. See the display board in the narthex for items needed. (Crayola markers, crayons, Elmer's glue sticks, sharpies, pencils, erasers, scissors) and return the item to the designated box by August 17! Thank you for your partnership with LSUS!



All teachers, staff, students, and families are invited to attend the 9:00am Worship Service at Bethlehem on **Sunday, August 17<sup>th</sup>** to receive a special blessing ahead of the school year.



## Bridge of Grace Summer Clubhouse

Bethlehem Lutheran Church hosted Bridge of Grace Summer Clubhouse from June 16-July 18. As many as 70 students, grades K-4, spent their summer cruising aboard the S.S. Bethlehem on the Great Jungle Journey into the Wild on their trip through the Bible.

Each day students spent three hours developing their literacy and math skills. Students enjoyed lunch together where they were intentionally taught table manners. Students were taught about six pillars of character: respect, responsibility, trustworthiness, fairness, caring and citizenship. They were encouraged to memorize five key Bible verses that told God's story from Genesis to Revelation and were presented with how they could have a relationship with Jesus. Students enjoyed guest speakers and field trips.



**They engaged with interesting animals from Mark's Ark and Indiana Wild.**



**Students shared their Bible-based songs with the residents of Lutheran Life Villages.**



Younger students spent an afternoon at Jungle George while **the older students took a ride on the Sweet Breeze canal boat at Promenade Park.**



The staff and families who spent the summer at Bethlehem wish to thank the staff and congregation of Bethlehem for being such gracious hosts and for your prayers and support for this program.

## **PLEASE CONTINUE TO PRAY**

### **For our members;**

|                          |                        |                            |                        |
|--------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------|
| <b>Teddy Bishop</b>      | <b>Beau Bishop</b>     | <b>Ruby Bonner</b>         | <b>Lois Branigan</b>   |
| <b>Evans Branigan</b>    | <b>Margaret Burger</b> | <b>Willard Brown</b>       | <b>Derek Crane</b>     |
| <b>Dana Crane</b>        | <b>Ina Gaunt</b>       | <b>Pastor Jeff Geisler</b> | <b>Vicky Geisler</b>   |
| <b>Jean Hille</b>        | <b>Carla Johnson</b>   | <b>Carla Kay</b>           | <b>Joyce Knipstein</b> |
| <b>Earl Kruger</b>       | <b>Donna Melcher</b>   | <b>Gladys Middleton</b>    | <b>Bob Miller</b>      |
| <b>Jane Miller</b>       | <b>Louise Nahrwold</b> | <b>Deanna Nelson</b>       | <b>Eddie Pierce</b>    |
| <b>Adam Rice</b>         | <b>Jewel Robinson</b>  | <b>Doris Scott</b>         | <b>Sharon Shediack</b> |
| <b>Tashayla Sutorius</b> | <b>Thomas Tinsley</b>  | <b>Phil Urbahns</b>        |                        |

### **For our friends and family:**

**Vicky Baker** (mother of Cathy Finner) **Al Bebout** (brother of Amber Herndon), **Tori Bruce** (granddaughter of Sharon Shediack), **Marilyn and Meg Busse** (sister and niece of Annette Diemer), **Darryl Calloway**, **Maria Gema Camumot** (aunt of Nancy Pierce), **Adrian Dance Jr.** (grandson of Rachele Dance), **Matthew Derby** (friend of the Hapner family), **Madalene Eggold**, **Donna Emley**, **Tammy Gibson** (sister of Threasa Lightning), **Tony Griggs** (brother of Denise DeYampert), **Larry Hollman** (brother-in-law of Greg Finner), **Mary R. Harris-Hill** (sister of Claudia Harris), **Shawn Hemmestad** (son of Deanna Nelson), **Marilyn Hyatt** (sister of Deanna Nelson), **Butch Johnson** (brother of Deanna Nelson), **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 Sayler** (friends of Kathy Brehm), **Beverly Van Nalten** (mother of Jennifer Bradley), **LaToya Williams** (daughter of Oclea Williams), and those we name in our hearts.

### **For the families of Bethlehem Lutheran Church**

Valeria Harris, Claudia Harris, Elaena Harris, Lina Harris, Robin Harris, Constance Hawkins, Pat Hawkins, Camilla Helmuth, Karen Herring, David Hille, Johanna Hoffacker, and Doris Holmes. We also pray for Josie Reed and Brittany Ingrams.

### **For our church**

Loving Father, guide us as we reimagine our church space and outreach efforts. Give us a renewed sense of vision and purpose in this ever changing neighborhood. May our building serve as a haven of hope and renewal for both our community and our members, drawing all into a closer relationship with the life-changing work of Jesus.