
BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS

LAST WEEK AT A GLANCE

ATTENDANCE: 78

Needed for Operating & Missions \$ 6,192.31

Offering for Operating & Mission \$ 6,479.00

Online Operating & Missions \$ 342.55

Designated Gifts \$ 943.00

Total Contributions \$ 7,764.55

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

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 18

Tuesday, August 19

10:00pm-11:30am Food Bank

Wednesday, August 20

10:00am -11:30am Food Bank

Thursday, August 21

10:00am-11:30am Food Bank

Friday, August 22

Saturday, August 23

4:00pm Worship w/Communion

Sunday, August 24

9:00am Worship w/Communion

10:00am Coffee Hour – FH

2026 Community Festival meeting – Café

10:30am Education Hour - Adults –Café

SERVING AMONG US +THIS WEEKEND+

Preacher The Rev. Ben Ahlersmeyer
Pianist (4:00pm)..... Kasey Hapner
Organist (9:00am) Noah Vancina
Altar Guild Kim Ellison
. Sharon Shediack

Elder
(4:00pm) Greg Shediack
(9:00am) John Bates
Head Usher Ron Gallmeyer
Lay Readers
(9:00am) John Stafford
Linda Stafford

PowerPoint Operators
(4:00pm) Charlotte Ratliff
(9:00am) Josiah Hapner
Sound Operator
(9:00am)..... Dan Scheerer
Live stream Joshua Hapner

SERVING AMONG US +NEXT WEEKEND+

Preacher The Rev. Ben Ahlersmeyer
Pianist (4:00pm)..... Kasey Hapner
Organist (9:00am) Janelle Deal
Altar Guild Mary Snow
Allison Cheng

Elder
(4:00pm) Michael Johnson
(9:00am) Greg Shediack
Head UsherEvans Branigan
Lay Readers
(9:00am) Dena Schult
Kimberly Brooks

PowerPoint Operators
(4:00pm) Carla Johnson
(9:00am) Allison Cheng
Sound Operator
(9:00am)..... Dan Scheerer
Live stream Dave Volmerding

BETHLEHEM SERVICES ONLINE

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

READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK (August 23rd and August 24th)

OLD TESTAMENT READING	Isaiah 66:1-23
EPISTLE READING	Hebrew 12:4-24
GOSPEL READING	Luke 13:22-30

The altar flowers are given by Dorothea Thompson in memory of her grandmother, Doris Norman, for her birthday August 15th.

BETHLEHEM'S 100th 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.

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?

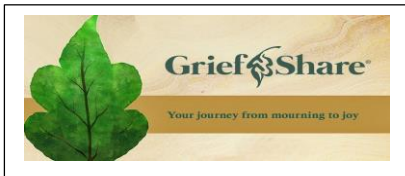
These recordings will be played before services throughout the anniversary year. **Also, those being interviewed do not need to be current members.**

If you are interested, please consider emailing Blake Sebring at blakeds@frontier.com 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.

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

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.



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.

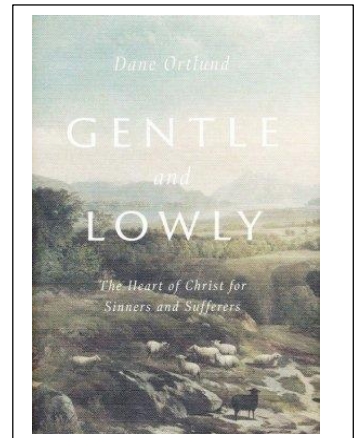
Churchwide Bible Study starting 9/21/25

Groups are to meet on a weekly basis through the course of the study to discuss the assigned chapters for each week.

The study guides will be provided.

The books cost \$10 and will need to be purchased by those who want to participate and don't already have a copy.

To get an idea as to how many books we'll need to purchase and when people can meet, look for sign-up sheets at both Church *entrances*.



LWML/WOMEN OF BETHLEHEM

MITES

Over \$75 was collected from full Mite boxes deposited at the Mite Exchange Station.

Here's one of the Missions your Mites will help support.

Breaking Generational Poverty in Detroit
2023–2025 Mission Grant 31 — \$58,988.62 (partial)

This grant will fund furnishings for both houses, tools for learning including Bibles, SMARTboards, and computers. Additionally, a Maker's Space and a Storybook Learning and Reading Garden for community members and their children will be created.

"Lettuce" Gather & Play

WOB Fall gathering will be **Saturday, September 20th** at 10:00am in the Fellowship Hall.

Our LWML service project will be "Crosses for Benny" - assembling a cross necklace to be sent to Forged by Fire Ministries. The crosses will be given out with meals served to disaster victims. More information on this ministry at fbf501c3.com.

We will then enjoy a salad potluck followed by Games (Tables of euchre, seven, spoons, Rummikub, etc.), and prizes!



THE LUTHERAN DARTBALL LEAGUE

Want Something Social and Fun? – The Lutheran Dartball Leagues offers both for men, women and youth. Our game is a dart with an easy throw like cornhole at a 4ft x 4ft baseball diamond. Can only guarantee you a good time. 7-8 people on a team and we will show you how. Signups close on Sept 15th. Please contact Rich Greener at 260-437-4933 or greenrich065@gmail.com

LSUS News



August 20, 2025

IT'S NOT TOO LATE!!!!

LSUS is still registering for the 2025-2026 school year. 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.

A large, stylized illustration of an eagle with its wings spread wide, flying towards the right. The background features a bright sun, a blue sky, and green trees. The text 'RISE UP AND SOAR!' is written in a large, bold, brown, hand-drawn font across the center of the image.

RISE UP AND SOAR!

HAVE YOU NOT KNOWN? HAVE YOU NOT HEARD? THE LORD IS EVERLASTING GOD, THE CREATOR OF THE ENDS OF THE EARTH. HE DOES NOT FAINT OR GROW WEARY: HIS UNDERSTANDING IS UNSEARCHABLE. HE GIVES POWER TO THE FAINT, AND TO HIM WHO HAS NO MIGHT HE INCREASES STRENGTH. EVEN YOUTHS SHALL FAINT AND BE WEARY, AND YOUNG MEN SHALL FALL EXHAUSTED; BUT THEY WHO WAIT FOR THE LORD SHALL RENEW THEIR STRENGTH; THEY SHALL MOUNT UP WITH WINGS LIKE EAGLES; THEY SHALL RUN AND NOT BE WEARY; THEY SHALL WALK AND NOT FAINT.



ISAIAH 40:28-31

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



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!

CHOIRS RESUME FOR THE FALL!

It's that time again - come and sing and/ or ring with the Bethlehem Choirs. Whether you've participated in the past or are interested in getting involved, we'd love for you to join us as we practice, worship, and share in the beautiful fellowship these ensembles provide.

Sept 3- Beginning-of-the-Year Choir Potluck

6:30pm-8pm in the Fellowship Hall

New and prospective choir members are welcome to attend! Let's start out the season together with fellowship! Sign-ups for food outside the 1st floor choir room.

Choirs Resume rehearsal Sept 10!

Sanctuary Choir 6:00pm-7:00pm Choir Room (1st Floor)

Handbell Choir -7:15pm-8:15 pm, Sanctuary Balcony

PLEASE CONTINUE TO PRAY

For our members;

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

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 Rachelle 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), **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 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

Trena Jones, Tamala Kahn, Gene Kalthoff, Kathy Kalthoff, Carla Kay, Kari Kiger, Lori Kilpatrick, Tonisha King, Melody King, Ken Knipstein, Carolyn Knox, and Yvonne Krill. We also pray for Josie Reed and Brittany Ingrams.

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.