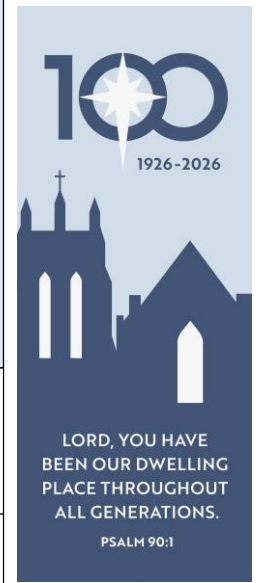


Address: 3705 S. Anthony Blvd. Fort Wayne, IN 46806

Phone: 260-744-3228 Fax: 260-744-3229

Email: [bethfw@yahoo.com](mailto:bethfw@yahoo.com) Web: [www.bethlehmlcms.org](http://www.bethlehmlcms.org)



## From the Pastor's Desk

### Living in a Bigger Kingdom

*But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you. - Matthew 6:33*

It has happened more than once. We're standing in the narthex after church. Coats half on, coffee still in hand. Someone leans in a little closer and says, "Pastor, have you seen this?" A phone comes out. An article is pulled up. A video is referenced. It starts calmly enough. Observations. Concerns. Questions. And then, almost without noticing, the tone shifts. The edges sharpen. The conclusions come quickly. Lines are drawn about what is right, what is wrong, who is to blame, what must be done. I've stood in those conversations enough now to recognize the moment it turns. And I've realized something I need to say clearly: As your pastor, I do not care about your politics.

Now hear me carefully. You are absolutely free as thoughtful people living in this country to hold political opinions. That is not the issue. What concerns me is something deeper. It's that, more and more, those opinions seem to be forming us. They are shaping our tone. Narrowing our vision. Training our instincts for what is worth our attention and what is worth our words. And when that happens, something else is quietly being pushed out. I see it in how quickly our conversations drift there. How easily the temperature rises. How certain we become. How willing we are to assume the worst about others. I've even heard things said about leaders and opponents that leave very little room for the kind of speech our Lord calls us to. Speech that is "gracious, seasoned with salt." Speech that builds up rather than tears down.

Let me say this plainly: If we let this continue, it will divide us. Not hypothetically. Actually. It will create suspicion where there should be trust, distance where there should be fellowship. And a divided church cannot bear a clear witness to Christ in our neighborhood. That matters too much to ignore. Part of the reason I have been so intentional in sermons, Bible studies, and our life together is because I am trying to keep placing a bigger story in front of you. I am trying, imperfectly but deliberately, to model what it looks like to let the Word of God set the agenda, not the news cycle.

Because something is always discipling you. And if, day after day, your imagination is fed by headlines, outrage, and commentary, then it should not surprise us when anxiety grows, patience shrinks, and hope starts to rise and fall with election cycles. That's not just a political issue. That's a spiritual formation issue. And it shows up in ways we don't always notice. In the conversations we start. In the things we feel we must comment on. In the way we begin to see our neighbor. But that is not the life you were baptized into. You were brought into something far larger. A story that was unfolding long before this nation existed and will continue long after it is gone. A story where the decisive victory has already been won not at a ballot box, but at an empty tomb.

The Kingdom of God is not fragile. It does not rise or fall with approval ratings. Christ is already reigning. Right now. So lift your eyes for a moment. Look at where your attention goes. Where your emotional energy is spent. What fills your conversations? Is it something that will last? Because there is real work to do. There are neighbors who need to hear the Gospel. There are burdens being carried quietly all around you. There are children to teach, prayers to pray, meals to share, sins to confess, forgiveness to speak. This is the work of the Kingdom. And it requires something different of us. A quieter mind. A steadier heart. A people shaped not by outrage, but by the Word of God.

So yes have your opinions. Fulfill your responsibilities as citizens. But do not confuse that with your calling. Your calling is to bear witness to Jesus Christ. And if you find that the noise of politics is crowding that out, then it may be time to do something both simple and difficult: Turn off the news. And pick up your Bible. Because I would love to see something different happen in those same moments where this so often begins.

Imagine it. We're standing in the narthex again. Coats half on. Coffee in hand. You lean in but this time not with a headline, not with a video, not with the latest outrage. Instead, you say, "Pastor, can I tell you what I'm struggling with?" Or, "Can you help me think about this situation through Scripture?" Or even, "Would you pray with me about something going on in my life?" One kind of conversation pulls us into anxiety, division, and endless reaction. The other pulls us into the life of the Kingdom: into prayer, into wisdom, into bearing one another's burdens.

Or imagine this: before asking, "What do we think about what the government should do?" we begin asking, "What would faithfulness look like for us here? Right now? With the people God has placed in front of us?" Not outsourcing hope somewhere far off but living it, right here, together. Because the Church has never been at her strongest when she had the most influence. She has been strongest when she was most faithful. So the next time you feel that urge to share the article, to rehearse the argument, to draw the line pause. And ask a better question. "What does the Kingdom of God call for here?" Then step into that. Speak differently. Listen more carefully. Pray more readily. Love more concretely. Because in the end, the question is not whether you kept up with every political moment. The question is whether you became the kind of people who made the reign of Christ visible right there in the narthex, coffee in hand, with a neighbor in front of you. That is a story worth telling. That is the bigger one, more impactful on your life and mine. And it is one we get to live together.

*Pastor Ben*

## BETHLEHEM FAMILY LIFE MINISTRY

**EDUCATION HOUR**  
**10:30am-11:30am**



### LENT OFFERINGS

Thank you for joining us in worship throughout this Lenten season. Through God's grace and your generosity, we were blessed to gather **\$1,753.23** in Lenten offerings to support the Bethlehem Food Bank in making a meaningful impact in our community.

### Food Bank Report

By Sharon Shediack

#### March

We provided food to 286 individuals. They included 115 children under the age of 18, and 41 individuals over the age of 60.

Our congregation provided 422# of food. We went to Community Harvest 4 times this month to purchase 1889# of food in the amount of \$674.

Our 16 volunteers gave 127 hours of their time. Thanks to ALL of you for all your many volunteer hours, dedication and the financial support you give to help provide this mission at Bethlehem.



Every  
Donation  
Makes A  
Difference

### IN CHRIST ALONE

*Sunshine Club 2025 - 2026*

Children ages 3 yrs - 5<sup>th</sup> grade are invited to join us in the Sunshine Club room during the Education Hour after Sunday worship. Our theme this year will focus on stories of Jesus and how we can live in Him. Parents are always invited to join us and even children under 3 are welcome to participate with a parent present.



**MAY 30**

What is Christian brotherhood at Bethlehem? In his book *Life Together* Dietrich Bonhoeffer tells us, "In Christian brotherhood everything depends upon its being clear right from the beginning, first, that Christian brotherhood is not an ideal, but a divine reality." Please join us at our Men's Prayer Breakfast in the Bethlehem cafeteria on Saturday, May 30, at 8:30am to have breakfast and time for prayer and to study God's Word. *"Judas and Silas, who themselves were prophets, said much to encourage and strengthen the brothers."* Acts 15:32 NIV.



**Ways to watch WORSHIP ANEW:**

**Online - <https://worshipanew.org/>**

**Watch Worship Anew locally on**

**WPTA 21.2 (NBC) at 7:00 AM Sundays**

**WPTA 21.3 (MyNet) at 8:00 AM Sundays**

**May 3, 2026 – Fifth Sunday of Easter**

**Rev. William Mueller**

**You Are Chosen! - 1 Peter 2:2-10**

We live in a world where everyone wants to be special; everyone wants to receive a trophy. As the redeemed people of God in Jesus Christ, we are so much more than special. We receive so much more than a trophy! We are chosen and “mercied,” and Christ has given us a glorious mission!

*Featured Choirs: St. Paul Lutheran School, Fort Wayne, Ind.; Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Fort Wayne, Ind.*

*Featured Art and Architecture: Emmaus Lutheran Church, Wauseon, Ohio*

**May 10, 2026 – Sixth Sunday of Easter**

**Rev. Scott Zeckzer**

**Keep on Keeping - John 14:21**

Keepsakes – we all have them – those special things that remind us of special people, places, or events in our lives. God has given you keepsakes to remind you of what He’s done for you. He also has sent the Holy Spirit to help us to “Keep on Keeping.”

*Featured Choirs: St. Paul Lutheran School, Fort Wayne, Ind.; Holy Cross Lutheran School, Fort Wayne, Ind.*

*Featured Art and Architecture: Redeemer Lutheran Church, Convoy, Ohio*

**May 17, 2026 – Ascension of Our Lord (observed)**

**Rev. Dr. Walter Maier III**

**Lifted to a Higher Reality - Luke 24:44-53**

Why celebrate Christ’s ascension? He visibly left this earth, and we cannot see Him! There are wonderful reasons to celebrate this event. Christ’s ascension lifts us to a higher reality.

*Featured Choir: St. Paul Lutheran Church, Decatur, Ind.*

*Featured Art and Architecture: St. James Lutheran Church, Archbold, Ohio*

**May 24, 2026 – Pentecost**

**Guest Pastor – Rev. Thomas Eggold**

**Living Water - John 7:38**

People who think they are healthy don’t go to the doctor, and those who are satisfied in themselves can’t accept a Savior. But to those whose sin has left them desolate — to the one whose life is dry and whose spirit is wilting; to the one who is cracked and broken by their sin; to the one who finds no fulfillment in this world; to the one who rightly despises his own skill and wisdom and sees the futility of his own efforts at salvation; to the one who hungers and thirsts for righteousness — these words mean everything!

*Featured Choir: Indiana District LWML Choir*

*Featured Art and Architecture: Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Fort Wayne, Ind.*

**May 31, 2026 – The Holy Trinity**

**Rev. Dr. Thomas Ahlersmeyer**

**Let God Be God! - Matthew 28:19**

Christians across the world gather today to worship the Triune God. In Jesus Christ, we encounter the true God — One who challenges our expectations, yet gracefully comes to us with purpose and promise. The invitation given to us is simple and profound: Let God Be God!

*Featured Choir: Holy Cross Lutheran School, Fort Wayne, Ind.*

*Featured Art and Architecture: Trinity Lutheran Church, Auburn, Ind.*



**[www.myfwl.org](http://www.myfwl.org)**

# Bethlehem Lutheran Church

## Celebrating 100 years 1926-2026



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

### **100<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY UPDATE**

When Bethlehem started celebrating its 100th anniversary in January, a worthy goal would have been to average 100 participants at each monthly event. Through the first three events, those numbers have been doubled. A highlight was serving more than 300 meals during the three-hour March 27 Big Eyed Fish fry.

Motivated by donuts and a picture-perfect day, a group of 15 Bethlehem members pitched in on a clean-up day April 25 to help Shepherd's Hand prepare for its annual fundraising walk. This was the April event as part of the congregation's 100th anniversary celebration. Over three hours as part of the organization's largest-ever squad of volunteers, the Bethlehem brigade picked up trash in the surrounding neighborhood over the 3.1-mile course. A few members also planned to return the following week to participate in the event. The next day, former Bethlehem field worker Eli Voigt returned to Fort Wayne to lead the Sunday service.

The next two events in the celebration include an **EDUCATION CELEBRATION ON MAY 31** with Bethlehem product Phil Rigdon returning to preach at the 9 a.m. service with assistance from former Bethlehem pastor Jeff Olsen, followed by a panel discussion of former teachers and a traditional Lutheran potluck lunch. Alumni from Bethlehem, Bethlehem-Trinity and Lutheran South Unity School are invited to attend.

The **JUNE 20** event will be a short walk to the church's original 1926 site at 3205 Alexander Street, starting at 10 a.m. All current and former members are invited to join and hear stories from Ron Oetting, whose grandparents owned the house where the church was founded in their backyard.

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

#### **SATURDAY, JULY 18**

Outdoor Worship Service  
10:00am – 3:00pm Community Fest / Health Fair  
Fellowship, Food, and Fun

#### **SATURDAY, JULY 18**

Outdoor Worship Service 10:00am – 3:00pm  
Community Fest / Health Fair Fellowship, Food, and Fun

**It's not too late to order your  
100th anniversary shirts!**



Use the QR code to order shirts.

### **100TH ANNIVERSARY THANK OFFERING**

As of April 21<sup>st</sup>, we have raised \$35,762.98 toward our goal of \$100,000. Thank you to all who have already given! If you haven't yet had the opportunity to participate, you can give at upcoming anniversary events, use a special offering envelope, or give online. Thank you for joining in this response to God's goodness "throughout all generations."

## **BETHLEHEM TRIVIA**

- 1930 In January a Farewell service was conducted at Alexander and Drexel Streets.
- 1938 A third Sunday service was added. There was a German service at 8:00am and English services at 9:15am and 10:30am.
- 1939 The church building was designed as English Gothic. It consisted of Wisconsin limestone, Bedford trim stone and a variegated red tile roof. The nave seated 600 and the choir loft seated 85.



We have books in many categories in our library. If you browse for a few minutes, you will find both fiction and non-fiction books from many authors and on many topics. This month we are highlighting a few authors whose books we carry in our Small Groups Library. You may be familiar with these well-known authors. Their books have stood the test of time and have provided insight, encouragement and/or humor for millions of people.

Chuck Colson  
Ken Davis  
James Dobson  
C.S. Lewis

Janette Oke  
Gary Smalley  
Lee Strobel  
Charles Swindoll

Rick Warren  
Richard Wurmbrand  
Sarah Young

**Would you like to review a book that is in our library?  
Submit it to [hapners6@gmail.com](mailto:hapners6@gmail.com).**

## Bethlehem Mission News and Prayers

**Dear Bethlehem Family,**

**Thank you so much for warmly welcoming our children, Tim and Michelle Miller, to your 9:00 service and the following Bible Study hour in the sanctuary on the Sunday after Easter**

**I had hoped to be able to attend that morning also, but with my disabilities, I don't function that well that early in the morning. Thankfully, I had been able to attend a presentation they gave the previous week at our Tuesday**

**afternoon Bible Study here at Lutheran Life Village, and Pastor Ben had been able to lead the Friday Chapel Service, Bethlehem monthly Communion and following lunch here in the dining room; so Tim & Michelle had gotten to participate in that with him.**

**Their visit here was pretty short this time; so by last Thursday they needed to leave here, driving west and then north to friends and church groups in WI, MN, Iowa, and MO, staying two nights with our son Steve Miller's family south of St Louis, and speaking to a few of the classes in Steve and Cathy's Christian School, where they are principal and teachers. From there they've driven on to Texas, where they spent 2 years getting their Masters degrees in Linguistics, and have quite a few churches supporting them, plus Michelle's brother Dan Kovac and his family live in the San Antonio area.**

**So tonight I got a message from them that they have safely arrived in the Fort Worth area, which will be their base for a while! Good news, as they areas they've driven through have had tornado outbreaks, much rain, and even snow up in MN, and they've been well protected by our Lord thus far! Please keep praying for safe travels for them, including a weekend flight out to northern CA for their son Joel's Masters in Counseling graduation!**

**When they texted me tonight, I asked if they had any special prayer requests for you to be praying for them, and this was their answer:**

**"Please pray for protection for the Gospel of John team as they work hard to finish the New Testament by the end of 2026. Also please pray that many Shi believers will learn to read the Shi language. Critical to this is having a core group of local teachers. Many literacy teaching materials have been prepared."**

**I notice in my LBT April Prayer Calendar that the SE Asia team is requesting our prayers also that their Khon team will continue to make good progress on checking of Romans, Corinthians, and Hebrews. THANK YOU FOR YOUR FAITHFUL PRAYERS for this mission, dear Bethlehem family! You are real prayer warriors!!! Next Month we will focus on other missions we support at Bethlehem!**

# LOVE OUR NEIGHBOR



The Mental Health Initiative at Bethlehem is under the direction of Joyce Knipstein. **Bethlehem seeks to be a caring community and to provide hope.**

## Celebrating Mother's Day during Mental Health Awareness Month

As we mark *Mental Health Awareness Month*, we also celebrate *Mother's Day*, a time to honor the nurturing figures in our lives, and the impacts of mental health challenges has on mothers from postpartum depression to anxiety and beyond. This presents a unique opportunity to reflect on the vital intersection of maternal care and mental health.

Mothers and mother figures often stand as pillars of strength and resilience, shouldering emotional burdens with a smile to ensure that their children and families thrive. Yet, beneath this veneer of invincibility, many mothers grapple with their own mental health challenges. The responsibilities of motherhood can sometimes amplify these struggles, making it essential for our community to support their well-being with as much vigor and commitment as they care for ours.

## Celebrating Every Mother

This *Mother's Day*, let's commit to being more attentive and supportive of the mental health needs of every mother and mother figure we encounter, be they colleagues, family members, patients or clients. Let's honor them not only with flowers and cards but with meaningful support that acknowledges this dual celebration and challenge of *Mother's Day* during *Mental Health Awareness Month*.

To every mother in our community, know that your health, both physical and mental is as important. Your strength and courage inspires and your resilience astounds, This month, and all year, we stand with you in all the roles you play, wishing you a heartfelt *Happy Mother's Day* filled with love, recognition, and wellness.

# BEREAVEMENT MINISTRY

If you feel you would also benefit from the care of our Stephen Ministry Bereavement program, please call Pastor Ben (989-907-9481), or Threasa Lightning (260-417-1450), our Grief Coordinators.



*Happy mothers day*

She opens her *mouth* with wisdom,  
and the teaching of *kindness*  
is on her *tongue*.

*Proverbs 31:26*



# The Joyful Corner

## THE JOY OF THE LORD!

Lori Reynolds Steller.

*The joy of the Lord is [my] strength.* Nehemiah 8:10 KJ21

Do you ever feel like you are chasing joy? As if it is elusive, always just beyond your reach? Well, if Christ is your personal Lord and Savior, you can rest in this: Joy is attainable because it resides inside of you already. Joy is a fruit of the Spirit. Galatians 5:22 lists it as evidence of the Holy Spirit within us. Successful “pursuit” begins in the quiet stillness of being with the Source of all joy.

My life has had ups and downs; intense heartaches, burdens to bear, and obstacles to overcome. I’m not sharing about joy from a life free of struggle. I’ve learned my joy is not dependent on a neat and tidy life.

Joy wells up within us from the deepest part of our soul, spilling itself all over us and those near us. It sets the tone for our attitude. Joyful hearts alter our perspective. They hone in on God’s goodness.

Joy should be evident in every believer’s life. Are you tapping into your joy? Is your mind trained on looking for the goodness of God?

*“Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit”* Galatians 5:25 NIV

Friends, with Christ’s power living in us, we have access to indescribable Joy! Think on that truth: let it sink down into the depths of your being. Joy is ours!

**Pursue it.**

**Claim it.**

**Thrive in it.**

Regardless of what life is throwing at you. Train your heart on joy. How?

Sometimes we may feel trapped in an endless cycle of sorrow and self-pity. It happens. Don’t beat yourself up over where you are if this is you. Instead, start pursuing joy now. Here are a few steps to get you started:

### **Be still.**

Set aside time each day to rest in the presence of God. Focus on Him. Pour out your heart to Him and then sit in silence as He fills your empty, broken places with more of Himself.

### **Look for the positive.**

This requires asking God to make you aware of instantaneous negative thoughts that march through your mind. With each one, stop and replace it with a positive thought.

### **Find the humor.**

Laughter heals. It just does. A woman who can laugh at herself and life will radiate joy.

### **Focus on gratitude.**

There is always the choice to be grateful. Look for the reasons. Praise God for them.

**Meditate on Scripture.** Here are a few to get you started: 1 Peter 1:8, Romans 15:13, Hebrews 12:2 NIV

**Father God, You have laid this on my heart to share, but I know full well that it is a lesson You have prepared for me as well. Thank You for the gift of joy that came with the Holy Spirit at our salvation. Remind us when we fail to let that joy bubble up from within. It’s there Lord, you’ve already given it to us. Help us to make the pursuing of it a habit in our lives. Amen**

## WOMEN OF BETHLEHEM

### **LWML South Zone Fall Rally**

The LWML South Zone Fall Rally was held on Saturday, April 11, 2026. There were over 100 people in attendance. The speakers Rev. Jeffrey and Deaconess Gina Teeple gave a wonderful presentation.

You are invited to join the WOB Core Committee (WOB Board) for a **Welcome Spring Brunch** At Dena Schult’s home on Sat. May 2, 10:30am. 10710 Lake Pointe Drive

DRAFT, not yet approved by the board  
Bethlehem Evangelical Lutheran Church  
Board of Directors Regular Monthly Meeting  
April 14, 2026

Members present: Pastor Ben Ahlersmeyer, Greg Shediack, Brian Bates, Dan Bates, John Bates, Rachele Dance, Dave Schult, John Stafford, Blake Sebring. Guest: Dena Schult.

April's regular meeting started at 6:29 p.m.

Pastor Ahlersmeyer started with our devotion based on Psalm 16. "Preserve me Oh, God, because in you I take refuge." This is same Psalm we focused upon during Lent. Christ's pre-death, pre-tomb prayer, and this bold hopeful prayer is for us also.

Community Center update: John Stafford and Blake had a successful meeting with Windswell recently, and we are meeting April 23 with a suggested possible tenant, Lloyd Jones of Life Adult Day Academy, which offers professional adult day care services. We are also meeting May 8 with Tony Hudson of Blue Jacket Services. Tony played football for Bethlehem as a student at St. Paul on the Lutheran South team.

As for the March minutes, John Bates made a motion to accept, and John Stafford seconded. It was accepted unanimously.

Soul Accounting noted the loss of Annette Diemer on March 15 and Johanna Hoffacker on March 22. Annette's memorial service will be held May 16 at Bethlehem.

In the treasurer's report from Brian Bates, the offerings received for March were about \$2,700 below budget and we are slightly under budget for the year. Despite that, we are about \$3,900 under budget for the year on expenses. We have spent 23.74 percent of our overall budget through the first quarter of the year, which is a good thing. Brian made a proposal for acceptance and Dan Bates seconded it.

\* The discussion included the thank offering for the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration, which has received over \$27,000. Building and grounds is also studying the need for a new mower, which would be a significant cost. We also need to get on repairing other projects around the building, so we can move toward other repairs, including the stained glass windows. The carpeting in the sanctuary was cleaned on April 7. The work of waxing the floors in the main hallways and the cafeteria are going to be redone. The treasurer's report was accepted unanimously.

\* Brian also presented the quarterly report from the Lutheran Foundation about our endowment, which shows we have essentially averaged 10 percent improvement every year but one since 2019. The endowment currently stands at \$1.5 million.

In the Pastor's Report, Pastor thanked everyone who pitched in during Lent and the Holy Work services. There were dozens of volunteers who made everything possible. Thanks especially to Kasey Hapner for all of her extra and dedicated work during Lent.

\* Pastor said he's trying to put together a confirmation group and believes he has four or five potential students.

\* Pastor will be out the first week in May.

\* Denise DeYampert and Lisa Bratton have graciously stepped up to take over leadership of the Summer Festival coming in July.

In New Business, thank you, thank you, thank you!!! to everyone who took part and pitched in on the Fish Fry which was a huge success, serving more than 300 people. It was a tremendous success. Praise God!

\* The boiler has been shut off for the season.

The next board meeting will be May 12 at 6:30 p.m.

After prayer, the meeting closed at 7:20 p.m.

# LSUS NEWS



## Registration is open! Lutheran South Unity School!

We are excited to continue providing a strong academic foundation rooted in Christ-centered values. If you know any families with elementary-aged children who are looking for a nurturing, faith-filled school community, please help us spread the word. Your invitation and support make a meaningful difference as we grow this ministry together!

## Mrs. Bahr Awarded the Founders Fund Award



Amber Bahr was recently honored as the recipient of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Founders Fund Award at Cross Connections Counseling Ministry's Spring Partnership Celebration. This award recognizes a member of the community who consistently advocates for personal, emotional, spiritual and relational wellness in the lives of those around them—while living it out in their own life.

Cross Connections Counseling, a professional Christ-centered counseling organization, provides master's-degreed counselors who are uniquely equipped to walk alongside individuals and families through life's challenges. Our school is blessed to partner with Cross Connections for counseling services, making this recognition especially meaningful to our community.

The Founders Fund Award reflects the heart of Cross Connections' mission: ensuring that no individual or family is turned away from receiving care due to financial hardship. Through the Founders Fund, Cross Connections provides subsidized and fully funded counseling services to individuals and families in need, helping bridge the gap between professional care and affordability.

The Founders' Award is presented to leaders who actively champion mental health and make a lasting impact in their communities. Mrs. Amber Bahr is recognized for her daily commitment to fostering a culture of care, encouragement, and relational health within her school community. Through her leadership, she has intentionally supported students, staff, and families by prioritizing emotional well-being, modeling Christ-centered values, and advocating for healthy relationships. Her influence extends beyond the classroom, impacting the broader community through her dedication to nurturing both academic and personal growth. We are grateful for her service and proud to celebrate this well-deserved honor.

## MAY BIRTHDAYS

- |                       |                       |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 – David Stocking    | 16 – Derek Crane      |
| 2 – Jennifer Bradley  | Lo'real Davis         |
| 3 – Antonio Rogers    | Patti Niday           |
| 4 – Trinity Dance     | Cassandra Ort         |
| William Ihssen        | 17 – Hut Nguyen       |
| 5 – Hans Bernabe      | Jewel Robinson        |
| Tambra Jackson        | Michael Vachon        |
| 6 – Demetra DeYampert | 18 – Gladys Middleton |
| Jayle'an Raines       | 19 – Janee' Smith     |
| Linda Stanley         | 20 – Rafael Flores    |
| 7 – Adrien Hill       | 22 – Brian Bates      |
| Joan Richter          | Priscilla Brown       |
| 8 – Alexcia Finan     | 23 – Randy Stewart    |
| Bounma Vongphachanh   | 24 – Suzie Emley      |
| 9 – Greg Fuller       | Terrence Fuller       |
| Durane Harris         | Dorothy Oetting       |
| 10 – Rebecca Mitchell | Susan Schott          |
| 11 – Kelsey Berning   | Sandi Wright          |
| Virginia Bryant       | 25 – Eldaer Magadan   |
| Lisa Finner           | Miley Moore           |
| 12 – Lamarcus Moore   | Ocleva Williams       |
| 13 – Vivian Brown     | 26 – Davina Crawford  |
| Claudia Harris        | Lauren Wagner         |
| 14 – Nicole Hill      | 27 – Clarence Parker  |
| 15 – Omar Bernabe     | 28 – Willa Brown      |
| Kayden Hutchinson     | Kathy McKee           |
| Elfriede Plettner     | 29 – Angela Stanley   |

## MAY ANNIVERSARIES

- 5 – Christopher and Kari Kiger  
 15 – Shea Hutchinson and Carmen Alexander  
 19 – John and Deborrah Richards  
 24 – James and Joanne Soest



LUTHERAN HOUR MINISTRIES  
[www.lhm.org](http://www.lhm.org)

To find airings near you, check the broadcast guide at [lhm.org/guide](http://lhm.org/guide).

The Lutheran Hour is available today in many other ways beyond traditional radio. From the American Forces Network, Sirius XM satellite radio, [lutheranhour.org](http://lutheranhour.org), the Connected by LHM mobile app, Amazon Alexa, Spotify, iHeartRadio, YouTube, dialing in on your phone, and more, listeners can hear the weekly sermons whenever and wherever they are.

For more information about Lutheran Hour Ministries, visit [lhm.org](http://lhm.org).



**IS YOUR  
INFO UP  
TO DATE?**

If you have had a change in home address, home or cell phone number or email address, please be sure to let us know so that we can update our database.

If your children have moved out on their own please provide the office with their updated information.

**We want to stay in touch, so having accurate contact information is important to us.**

Please call, mail, or email the church office with any updates.



**Bethlehem**  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

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provided.



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9AM EVERY SUNDAY

Access the livestream by  
visiting

[www.facebook.com/bethlehemfortwayne](http://www.facebook.com/bethlehemfortwayne)



# May Servant Schedule

<u>Date</u>	<u>Altar Guild</u>	<u>Elder</u>	<u>Head Usher</u>	<u>Lay Readers</u>	<u>Power point</u>	<u>Live Stream</u>
2	Sharon Dietrich Suzie Emley Amber Herndon	Brian Bates			Carla Johnson	
3		Peter Schlie	Dan Bates	Suzie Emley	Aaron Brown	Hapner Family
9	Kim Ellison Sharon Shediack	Ed Ramos			Charlotte Ratliff	
10		John Bates	Peter Schlie	Dena Schult	Josiah Hapner	Hapner Family
16	Linda Stafford	Peter Schlie			Blake Sebring	
17		Greg Shediack	Evans Branigan	Donna Melcher Threasa Lightning	Allison Cheng	Hapner Family
23	Mary Snow Allison Cheng	Michael Johnson			Carla Johnson	
24		Peter Schlie	Dan Bates	Peter Schlie	Aaron Brown	Hapner Family
30	Sharon Dietrich Suzie Emley Amber Herndon	Brian Bates			Charlotte Ratliff	
31		John Bates	Peter Schlie	Donna Volmerding	Josiah Hapner	Hapner Family



## 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).

# May 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		<p><i>Give her of the fruit of her hands, and let her works praise her in the gates.</i> <b>Proverbs 31:31</b></p>			1	2 8:30am Men's Bible Study <b>4:00pm Worship w/Comm</b>
3 9:00am Worship w/Comm 10:30am Education Hour	4	5 6:30pm – Bd. of Elders	6 6:00pm - Choir 7:15pm - Handbells	7	8 6:30pm LSUS Celebration of the Arts - GYM	9 8:30am Men's Bible Study <b>4:00pm Worship w/Comm</b>
10 9:00am Worship w/Comm 10:30am Education Hour	11	12 6:30pm – Bd. of Directors	13 6:00pm - Choir 7:15pm - Handbells	14	15	16 8:30am Men's Bible Study <b>4:00pm Worship w/Comm</b>
17 9:00am Worship w/Comm 10:30am Education Hour	18	19	20 6:00pm - Choir 7:15pm - Handbells	21	22	23 8:30am Men's Bible Study <b>4:00pm Worship w/Comm</b>
24 9:00am Worship w/Comm 10:30am Education Hour	25	26 6:30pm – Bd. Of Property	27 6:00pm - Choir 7:15pm - Handbells	28	29	30 8:30am Prayer Breakfast <b>4:00pm Worship w/Comm</b>
31 9:00am Worship w/Comm Education Celebration / Church Potluck				<p><i>Greater love has no one than this, that someone lays down his life for his friends.</i> <b>John 15:13</b></p>		