

February 2022

Volume 10, Issue 6

# The Bethlehem Star

Giving Thanks to God throughout the Church Year

As we continue to celebrate the anniversary of Bethlehem we remember this celebration in the context of the Church's Year. God has granted Bethlehem 125 years of His service to us in this place as a congregation and for this we give thanks. These 125 years have followed the ebb and flow of 125 Church Years. Our celebrations and services revolve around these times as they draw our attention to God's work of salvation for us.

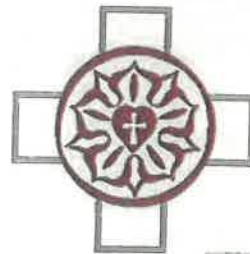
The Church Year is not a legalistic end in itself but it is the way that we Christians are catechized and strengthened in our faith in Christ. St. Paul writes to the Colossians, "Therefore let no one pass judgment on you in questions of food and drink, or with regard to a festival or a new moon or a Sabbath. These are a shadow of the things to come, but the substance belongs to Christ" (Colossians 2:16-17). That substance is proclaimed year after year as we hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, His Words and work for us.

Next week we leave the time of Christmas and Epiphany and enter into the time of Easter. Yes, Easter already, for the time of Easter encompasses also the seasons that lead up to Easter, namely Pre-Lent and Lent. The Feast of Transfiguration (February 6) is the culmination of the season of Epiphany and after it follows the season of Pre-Lent. Before we get to Ash Wednesday we have three Sundays commonly called "Gesima" Sundays: Septuagesima, Sexagesima, and Quinquagesima. These Sundays get their names from the Latin which was commonly used in the Church for centuries.

The names of the "Gesima" Sundays are pointing us forward to the Feast of the Resurrection. They serve as markers much like signs on a highway tell you how far you are from your destination. Septuagesima is approximately seventy days before the celebration of Easter, Sexagesima is sixty, and Quinquagesima is fifty.

Not only does Pre-lent point us forward to the Feast of the Resurrection, but it also serves as a kind of boot camp in preparation for the discipline and spiritual warfare of the penitential season of Lent, which begins on Ash Wednesday (March 2). We prepare ourselves to take seriously our repentance and discipline, the fast before the Feast of Easter itself. But again remember that the substance of these things is Christ and the purpose of the Church Year, of fast or feast, is the same for the entire Christian life: daily, by contrition and repentance, dying to sin and being raised by the life-giving Word of Absolution on account of the life, death, and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. This has been proclaimed through the 125 Church Years here at Bethlehem and will continue to be preached by God's grace for the years to come.

Rev. Samuel Wirgau



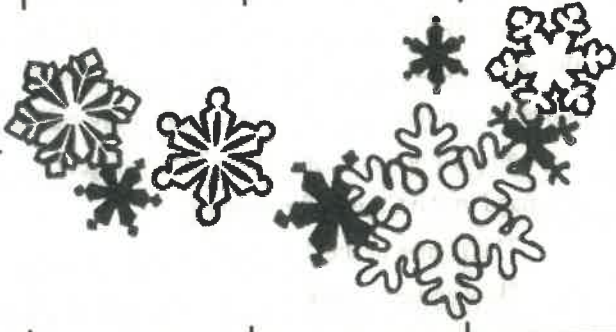
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A congregation of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

# February 2022

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 7p (LBI) Decatur	2 10:15 Chapel 1:30p Ladies Aid Meeting 7p Divine Service 7:30 Adult Choir	3	4 Varsity Girls Tournament	5 Varsity Girls Tournament
6 9a Divine Service 10:15a Bible Class and Sunday School	7 6p Board of Ed Meeting 7p Book Club 7p Handbell Choir	8 7p 125th Anniversary Meeting 7p (LBI) Decatur	9 10:15 Chapel 7p Service 7:30 Adult Choir	10	11	12 10:30a Women's Group to Kilwins
13 9a Divine Service 10:15 Bible Class and Sunday School	14 7p Handbell Choir	15 7p (LBI) Decatur	16 10:15 Chapel 7p Service 7:30 Adult Choir 7:30 Board of Elders Meeting	17	18 NO SCHOOL Teacher In-Service	19
20 9a Divine Service 10:15 Bible Class and Sunday School 11:15 Church Council Meeting	21 Presidents Day NO SCHOOL 7p Handbell Choir	22 7p (LBI) Decatur	23 10:15 Chapel 7p Service 7:30 Adult Choir	24	25	26
27 9a Divine Serv 10:15a Bible Class or Sunday School 4p PTL Kids vs Parents	28 7p Handbell Choir					

January 28, 2022

## BETHLEHEM FINANCIAL REPORT

General Fund (Home Fund) Account to Pay Operating Bills \$11,496.53  
Savings Fund Balances

	Accrued Amount	Restricted Amount Borrowed	Account Balance
Improvement Fund	\$75,468.27	(\$ 0.00)	\$75,468.27
Scholarship Fund	\$ 3,342.15	(\$ 0.00)	\$ 3,342.15
Music Fund	\$ 4,963.55	(\$ 3,500.00)	\$ 1,463.55
125th Anniversary	\$ 6,955.04	(\$ 0.00)	\$ 6,955.04
Sound/Video System	\$ 7,700.03	(\$ 0.00)	\$ 7,700.03
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$98,429.04</b>	<b>(\$ 3,500.00)</b>	<b>\$94,929.04</b>

Checkbook Balance

\$11,496.53

Savings Account Balance

\$94,929.04

Total Savings and Checking Balance

\$106,425.57

Borrowed Amounts

Restricted Savings Account (\$3,500.00)  
Operating Loan Amount \$ 0.00  
TOTAL BORROWED (\$3,500.00)

Current Improvement Fund Balance \$75,468.27  
Funds Already Committed \$46,947.75  
Total Available \$28,520.52

Bills due week of January 30—\$12,000

Bills due week of February 6—\$4,000



If you like to watch basketball, come join us for the Bethlehem Varsity Girls Basketball Tournament. February 4-5. There is also some yummy food in the concessions stand that helps support the Bethlehem Washington DC Group.



### Varsity Girls February 4-5

We get a lot of positive feedback from other schools each year on what a great tournament we run. It is a great tradition for the school to represent a Christian atmosphere and give our children a chance to show their talent and sportsmanship. Thank you so much for your support and help in making this another successful tournament season!



Now is the time of year when Bethlehem Lutheran School looks to encourage all its friends to consider taking advantage of the SGO tax law by making significant gifts.

Since 2010, the State of Indiana has permitted a direct, 50% tax credit, for residents who donate to create guaranteed scholarships for students in need. In effect, your Indiana tax bill can be reduced by an amount

equal to half of any gift you give for scholarships. That keeps tax money in your hands to be given to the school of your choice. Your gifts are used by schools to provide tuition dollars for students to attend their school of choice. Like all regular tuition payments, SGO tuition scholarship dollars help fund the school's budget. Gifts for SGO scholarships need to be sent through The Lutheran SGO of Indiana. Visit their website at [www.lutheranSGO.org](http://www.lutheranSGO.org) for online/stock giving or send a check with "Bethlehem Lutheran School" in the memo line to PO Box 5174, Fort Wayne, IN 46895. Thank you



### Serving the Church in Russia

The Lutheran Theological Seminary in Novosibirsk, Russia, graduates men, not only to serve as pastors in the Siberian Evangelical Lutheran Church, but in other confessional churches in and around Russia. What's more, of the 11 Lutheran seminaries founded since the 1990s, 10 have suffered significant challenges. The Lutheran Seminary in Novosibirsk is the only confessional Lutheran seminary still fully operating in Russia and

the surrounding area. Saving it is essential!

To find out more about our mission please visit our website: <https://savetheseminary.org>

**MISSION FESTIVAL** – The 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Mission Festival originally scheduled for January 23<sup>rd</sup> has been re-scheduled to March 27<sup>th</sup>, 2022. A guest speaker with the Siberian Lutheran Mission Society will be here. As a fundraiser for the society, there will be a board located in the narthex with envelopes on it. For those who would like to participate, they would just need to pick an envelope and whatever number the envelope has on it would be the amount of money they would donate (returning the envelope with that amount). Here is a link to their website with more information: <https://siberianlutheranmissions.org/> if all envelopes are filled, we will have raised about \$5,000.



**MEMBERS ARE REMINDED TO SIGN UP FOR FLOWERS TO BE PLACED ON THE ALTAR OR HYMNBOARD.** Simply use the new 2022 flower chart posted on the bulletin board to sign up on the date you wish to have flowers. Purchased flowers should be brought to church before the designated date to be sure they are placed properly. For help in placing the flowers, please contact Tisha Laley, Amy Schueler or Deaconess Wendy Boehm. **Announcements concerning the flowers should be given to the church office.** Thank you



**February 6, 2022 – Fifth Sunday after Epiphany**

Psalm 100; Isaiah 6:1-8; Luke 5:1-11

"Like Isaiah" - Sermon

Text: Isaiah 6:1-8 - Rev. Dr. Walter Maier III

In Isaiah 6, the chapter describing the call of Isaiah to be a prophet, we see four characteristics God brought forth in the prophet. The good news is that God has given these same characteristics to us.

**February 13, 2022 – Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany**

Psalm 1; Jeremiah 17:5-8; Luke 6:17-26

"Blessed" - Sermon Text: Luke 6:20 - Rev. Thomas Eggold

The term "blessed" is one of the most misunderstood and misused words in our cultural vocabulary. Today we find this word "blessed" coming out of the mouth of Jesus...but the way He uses the word stands in blatant contrast to the way it's used in the world. Everything about today's reading challenges our natural and cultural understanding of what it means to be "blessed."

**February 20, 2022 – Seventh Sunday after the Epiphany**

Psalm 103:1-13; Genesis 45:3-15; Luke 6:27-38

"The Baptized Life" - Sermon Text: Luke 6:27-28 - Rev. Shayne Jonker

Our Lord Jesus Christ has had mercy on us, even though we did not deserve it. Our ingratitude should be punished, but instead He forgave it and gave us even more. Our wickedness should be judged as worthy of hell, but He gave His own Son hell and us heaven instead. Living in and under the love, grace, and mercy of God in His Son Jesus Christ, life looks different, sinners look different, enemies look different, and love and mercy is not only possible, but natural.

**February 27, 2022 – The Transfiguration of Our Lord**

Psalm 99; Hebrews 3:1-6; Luke 9:28-36

"Preparing for Challenges" - Sermon Text: Luke 9:28-36 - Rev. Paul Shoemaker

We all face challenges in life. Jesus was preparing for the challenges of the cross and He was preparing His disciples for a life of service following His resurrection and ascension. Are you able to see past life's challenges to the glory that awaits you?

## February 2022



- 01 Joyce Schaper
- 03 Jennifer Lukins
- 04 Denise Schumm
- 05 David Brege
- 06 Joshua Boehm
- 08 Keith Krick
- 09 Pat Meyer
- 10 Ralph Bauermeister
- 11 Cynthia Nahrwold
- Deb Patrick
- Dean Stoppenhagen
- 12 Michael Bultemeier
- 13 Linda Bultemeier
- Jason Glisson
- Judy Moehring
- Melissa Tolson
- Bruce Werling
- 14 Rick Meyer
- 15 Megan Morrow
- Leon Werling
- 16 Christine Biggs
- Nick Fuller
- 18 Judy Clausen
- 19 Milton Gallmeyer
- 20 Martha Bauermeister
- 22 Charlotte Bultemeier
- 24 Hildegard Bauermeister
- 25 Stephanie Conrad
- Jonathon Fuhrmann
- 26 Emily Sands
- Leah Werling
- 27 Wellesley Brege
- Rick Krumma
- 28 Rylee Werling



**The Endowment Committee thanks the Lord and the congregation  
for the generous gifts to the Endowment Fund.**

Here is the monthly report for the Bethlehem Lutheran School Endowment Fund by the Lutheran Foundation that just became available today. The following information is accurate as of November 30, 2021:

\$176,927.82 - Amount Bethlehem sent in since 2009  
164,283.00 - Amount the Lutheran Foundation matched  
247,801.38 - Amount generated since 2009  
-104,500.00 - Amount disbursed to Bethlehem since 2009  
\$484,512.20 - Value of the Endowment Fund as of November 30, 2021

**Enjoy the convenience of Electronic Giving!**

Please consider setting up a recurring giving plan. Automating your financial commitments means your contributions will be received on a steady, uninterrupted basis. If you wish to make a single online donation or set up recurring donations, you may do so on our website, [www.bethlehemossian.org](http://www.bethlehemossian.org) through our third-party provider-Vanco Payment Solutions. Online giving may be done as a credit card payment or ACH bank transfer. Please note, the church will incur a \$0.45 processing fee on each online transaction. Credit card transactions will be charged at least 2.75% fee. For ACH bank transfers, there is a fee of 1% of each dollar charged. This may affect how you wish to direct your online donations. You may also elect to increase your gift to cover the cost of the transaction fees.

**Women's Group Event:** Saturday, February 12th at 10:30am we will be touring Kilwins Chocolates, Fudge and Ice Cream in Fort Wayne. They will be preparing a tour/demonstration for us of either carmel corn, brittle or fudge with private V.I.P pre-opening shopping/browsing for us afterwards. There is a signup sheet on the women's bulletin board or contact Wendy Boehm to reserve a spot (260-415-8526).

**Women's Group Event:** Church Basement Ladies musical at Niswonger Event Center in Ohio is on Sunday, March 6th at 2:00pm. We will plan to leave after Sunday school and have lunch in Decatur. Deadline to sign up is Sunday, February 13th. There is handi-cap seating available at the show. Parking is free. Tickets are \$27.50 a person. All are invited to attend. For more information about the show, covid policies, weather restrictions, etc. visit: <https://www.vanwertlive.com/events/detail/church-basement-ladies-2>. If you are interested in attending (carpool or driving) please contact Wendy Boehm (260-415-8526).

***Happy Anniversary!***

Feb. 3 Dave and Ronda Flesch (38)  
Feb. 11 Doyle and Laura Werling (60)  
Feb. 12 Tom and Colleen Patrick (50)  
Feb. 14 Randy and LeeAnn Steele (26)  
Feb. 21 Ryan and Kari Baker (13)  
Feb. 25 Charles and Melissa Tolson (27)



**Elder Routes**

Brian Bauermeister	A-B
Glen Werling	C-F
Mike Meyer	G-K
Bruce Meyer	L-P
Lloyd Meyer	Q-S
Dave Flesch	T-Z





## Decatur Lutheran Bible Institute

2022 Sessions: February 1, 8, 15 & 22

*Choose one of these stimulating courses:*

***1 Peter – Hope for Dark Days***

Rev. Dr. Adam Koontz – Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne

***Comparing World Religions – Christianity... In a class by itself!***

Rev. Zachary Oedewaldt – Associate Pastor, Zion Lutheran Church, Decatur

***How to Read the Old Testament and See Jesus***

Dr. Jeffrey Pulse – Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne

***Revelation: Joy for the church in the Last Days***

Rev. James Voorman – Senior Pastor, Zion Lutheran Church, Decatur

Tuition: \$10 per adult (covers 4 sessions), FREE for all students!

Enrollment: Opening night at 6:30 pm followed by classes from 7-9:15 pm

Location: Wyneken Memorial Lutheran School,  
US Hwy 27, just north of Decatur

**Minimal Time Commitment! Low Cost! No Homework!**



# February 2022

## Mite Challenge Calendar



**UNCEASING PRAYER:** For this reason, since the day we heard about you, we have not stopped praying for you. We continually ask God to fill you with the knowledge of his will through all the wisdom and understanding that the Spirit gives, so that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and please him in every way: bearing fruit in every good work, growing in the knowledge of God (Colossians 1:9-10 NIV).

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Read and pray for Mission Grant 6. <b>Donate 20¢</b>	Read and pray for Mission Grant 7. <b>Donate 40¢</b>	Read and pray for Mission Grant 1. <b>Donate 20¢</b>	Read and pray for Mission Grant 2. <b>Donate 50¢</b>	Read and pray for Mission Grant 3. <b>Donate 25¢</b>	Read and pray for Mission Grant 4. <b>Donate 35¢</b>	Read and pray for Mission Grant 5. <b>Donate 45¢</b>
Read and pray for Mission Grant 13. <b>Donate 35¢</b>	Read and pray for Mission Grant 14. <b>Donate 50¢</b>	Read and pray for Mission Grant 8. <b>Donate 25¢</b>	Read and pray for Mission Grant 9. <b>Donate 50¢</b>	Read and pray for Mission Grant 10. <b>Donate 40¢</b>	Read and pray for Mission Grant 11. <b>Donate 30¢</b>	Read and pray for Mission Grant 12. <b>Donate 45¢</b>
Read and pray for Mission Grant 20. <b>Donate 40¢</b>	Read and pray for Mission Grant 21. <b>Donate 20¢</b>	Read and pray for Mission Grant 15. <b>Donate 20¢</b>	Read and pray for Mission Grant 16. <b>Donate 35¢</b>	Read and pray for Mission Grant 17. <b>Donate 45¢</b>	Read and pray for Mission Grant 18. <b>Donate 25¢</b>	Read and pray for Mission Grant 19. <b>Donate 50¢</b>
Read and pray for Mission Grant 27. <b>Donate 20¢</b>	Read and pray for Mission Grant 28. <b>Donate 45¢</b>	Read and pray for Mission Grant 22. <b>Donate 30¢</b>	Read and pray for Mission Grant 23. <b>Donate 45¢</b>	Read and pray for Mission Grant 24. <b>Donate 25¢</b>	Read and pray for Mission Grant 25. <b>Donate 50¢</b>	Read and pray for Mission Grant 26. <b>Donate 30¢</b>

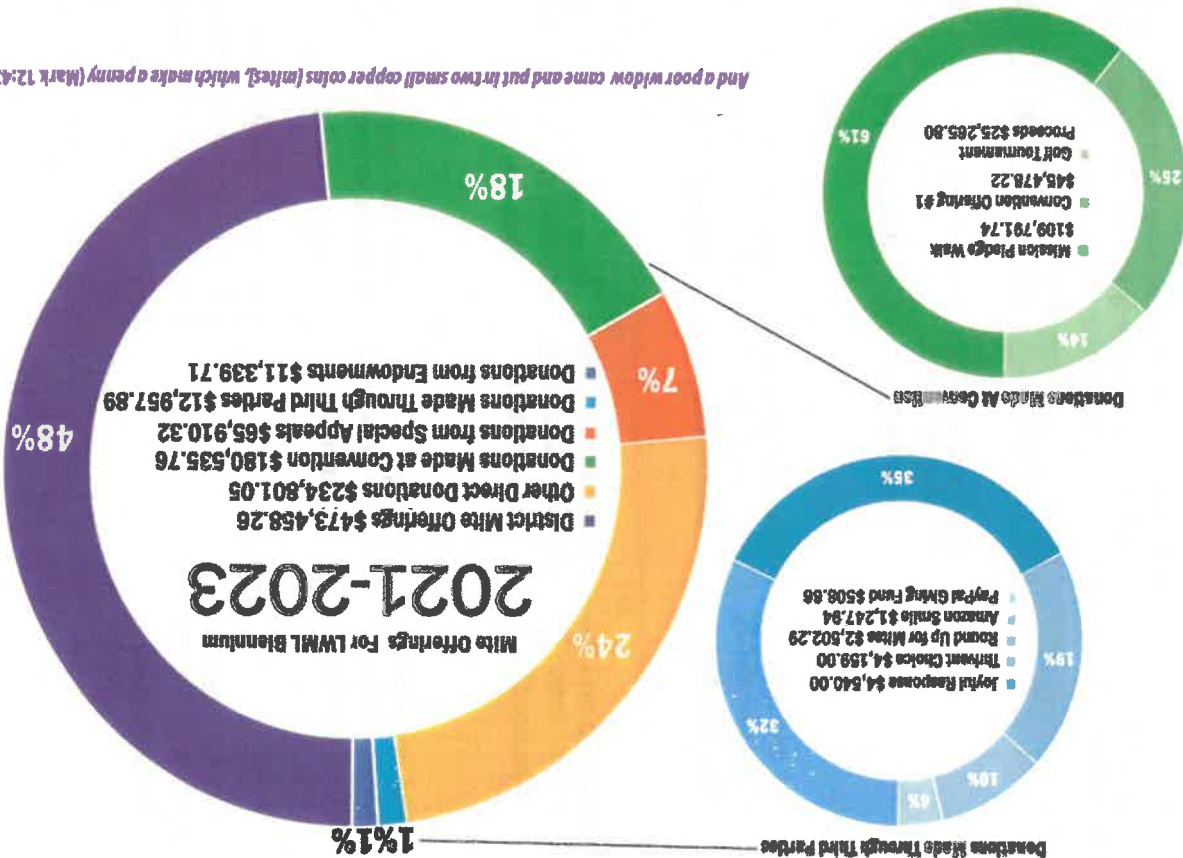
To read about each Mission Grant, go to the LWML website, Missions tab, Mission Grants, click on the grant number in the 2021-2023 Mission Grant list.

<http://www.lwml.org/mission-grants>



December 31, 2021

## Overall Mite Sources



And a poor widow came and put in two small copper coins (mites), which make a penny (Mark 12:42).

2021-2023 Biennium  
Mission Goal:  
\$2,150,000

Total Mites Received:  
\$979,002.99

Total Mites  
Still Needed:  
\$1,170,997.01

Mission Grants Goal  
\$2,150,000

Mite Offerings  
Received December 2021  
\$161,011.44



\$979,002.99

## Monthly Gifts Received To Support Our Mission Grants

MONTH	MONTHLY MITE OFFERING RECEIVED	CUMULATIVE MITE OFFERING RECEIVED	CUMULATIVE BUDGETED MITE OFFERINGS	CUMULATIVE OVER/UNDER BUDGETED MITE OFFERINGS	TOTAL MITE OFFERINGS STILL NEEDED
Apr 2021	\$79,467.09	\$79,467.09	\$89,583.33	\$(10,116.24)	\$2,070,532.91
May 2021	\$64,574.90	\$144,041.99	\$179,166.66	\$(35,124.67)	\$2,005,958.01
Jun 2021	\$136,829.26	\$280,871.25	\$268,750.00	\$12,121.25	\$1,869,128.75
Jul 2021	\$62,195.89	\$343,067.14	\$358,333.33	\$(15,266.19)	\$1,806,932.86
Aug 2021	\$208,122.84	\$551,189.98	\$447,916.66	\$103,273.32	\$1,598,810.02
Sep 2021	\$92,978.28	\$644,168.26	\$537,500.00	\$106,668.26	\$1,505,831.74
Oct 2021	\$80,269.10	\$724,437.36	\$627,083.33	\$97,354.03	\$1,425,562.64
Nov 2021	\$93,554.19	\$817,991.55	\$716,666.66	\$101,324.89	\$1,332,008.45
Dec 2021	\$161,011.44	\$979,002.99	\$806,250.00	\$172,752.99	\$1,170,997.01
Jan 2022					
Feb 2022					
Mar 2022					
Apr 2022					
May 2022					
Jun 2022					
Jul 2022					
Aug 2022					
Sep 2022					
Oct 2022					
Nov 2022					
Dec 2022					
Jan 2023					
Feb 2023					
Mar 2023					

For more questions, or to learn more about us, 1-800-252-5965 or lwml.org





# "Where are they now?"

## Field Worker Edition

In honor of Delores Scheumann and in memory of Rev. William Brege

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

I began seminary and my fieldwork at Bethlehem in March, 2002. What a privilege it was to gather with you around Word and Sacrament. Perhaps the last you saw me—we maybe visited once or twice since—was as I prepared to begin vicarage in November, 2004.

My vicarage was at Concordia, Berwyn, IL, a suburb of Chicago. During that year, in July, 2005, I married Rebekah Kollmeyer, who'd been teaching for in Lanesville, IN. She's been a great gift of God, an excellent help meet for me over these 16 wonderful years.

In May, 2006, my first child was born, Chloe Ella. Shortly after her first birthday, in May, 2007, I graduated from Concordia with my M.Div.

In July, 2007, I was ordained as pastor at my first Call, to serve two congregations, bordering on the north edge of the Ozarks of Missouri: Zion, Owensville, and Mt. Calvary, Belle.

In March, 2008, my second daughter was born, Julia Katharine. As my children quickly began learning, I became more interested in Lutheran education, a subject that sparked curiosity already at the seminary. Around the time Chloe started preschool, I became a little active in the closest Lutheran school to us, Immanuel, Rosebud.

In November, 2010, my third child was born, Aaron Martin. He was 2 years old, Julia had just finished Preschool, and Chloe first grade, when I received the Call to serve as Associate Pastor at St. Paul's, Brookfield, IL, just west of my vicarage. It was a larger congregation with a school. Rev. Joel Brondos was the Senior Pastor and Headmaster, an expert in classical Lutheran education. I began my ministry here in August, 2013.

Much has changed since then: teacher turnover and Pr. Brondos' retirement left me the longest-serving staff member here. The school diminished and now started to grow again. Chloe is a sophomore, taking some classes at the 4000-student public high school and other classes at Wittenberg Academy. Julia is soon to do likewise, now in 8th grade. Aaron is in 5th grade. Rebekah has had various part-time roles in our school. I'm trying to keep up with the great tasks God has given me, to care for my family and for His sheep here at St. Paul's, teaching the truth as He has first given it to me, and as I once had the privilege of observing Pr. Brege give to you.

Peace in Christ,

*Pstr Kstr*

Rev. Kevin M. Koester



# BETHLEHEM LYF



## *February 2022*

BY DEACONESS WENDY BOEHM

In January we were only able to have one bible study. We were able to register for Higher Things and look forward to the trip in July.

In February we are hoping to do a joint event with Soest soon (depending on weather). We will have our normal bible study times/days.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

**February Donuts:**  
Grant Mishler

**February 13:**  
Bible Study at 6:30pm

**February 28:**  
Bible Study at 6:30pm

## Ladies Aid meeting January 5, 2022 for Newsletter

The January 5, 2022 meeting of Ladies Aid opened with devotions by Pastor Wirgau followed by installation of new officers.

Kathy Nahrwold led the meeting for Wendy Boehm. Joellen Meyer started by thanking Kathy Nahrwold and Dalene Springer for leading Ladies Aid with so many projects for the church. Since 2010 Kathy has been president for 7 years intermittently and Dalene has been president for 5 years during that time period. Both of them have done an outstanding job with leadership in so many areas. It was mentioned that there are some LYF cheeseballs left from Christmas and in the freezer. They are for sale for \$7 each.

We then followed with a regular format of roll call which showed 9 members and 5 guests present. The secretary's report and treasurer's reports were approved as read.

A reminder was voiced that any members that still owe dues from the past years can pay at any meeting. Going forward from here there will not be any more dues starting in 2022.

Committee reports: Altar guild-A chart is available on the bulletin board to sign-up for flowers and helping with the altar preparation for 2022.

Delores Scheumann the social secretary informed us of the ladies present that have birthdays and anniversaries this month as well as all of her correspondence for the last month.

The kitchen committee-Kay Schumm stated the kitchen seems to be working well for all events. Kathy mentioned we have only got one whisk available but used to have 3. Sue Buchinger had sent a note that the new cleaning mop and cleaner are working well for the floor.

Old Business: The Ladies Aid Christmas party was on Sunday, December 5. Thank you's were given to Kay and Kathy for making it such a wonderful event and to Jerry Springer for letting the Ladies Aid use the Lighted Gardens for the party. The children's Christmas luncheon was on December 6. The Ladies Aid provided hot dogs, sloppy joes, cheesy potatoes and drinks. Other members signed up and brought the remaining dishes for the meal. Mrs Moehring's classroom made gingerbread houses for centerpieces and candy was sprinkled on the tables. The children sang songs, and an ornament, candy and a pencil were handed out to all children.



Approximately 30 or more fruit baskets were put together by Dalene, Joellen, Peggy and Wendy on Monday December 13 and then followed by delivery to their homes.

A funeral dinner was served on Tuesday, December 21 for the Marcia Meyer family. Thanks to everyone that assisted and donated food. Approximately 85 were served. The school children sang at the funeral which was beautiful. The children also helped to bring in and put away tables and chairs. Due to viewings being held in the fellowship hall the set up for the meal has been more difficult to prepare ahead.

Also another funeral dinner was served on Tuesday, December 28<sup>th</sup> for the Mick Werling family. Thanks to all those that served and made food for this meal. Approximately 53 people were served. The meat and cheese tray came from Ginger Fresh due to being unable to order from the Ossian Deli until after January 1<sup>st</sup>.

Joellen reported on the cookbook sales for Sue Buchinger, she said that approximately 150 of the 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary cookbooks are printed. 96 cookbooks have been sold at present and 27 more have been ordered and not picked up yet. They are being sold for \$6.00 each.

Heidi had suggested that the Ladies Aid pay \$50 to the church for supplies of paper and for the lamination of the cover. A motion was made to pay \$100 to the church for church supplies. The motion was seconded. Colleen will take care of this expense.

For new business: The next soup and pie sale will be January 16 after church. This will be open to all the ladies in the church to bring a pie. This was explained to all women present.

There was a meeting after church on November 14<sup>th</sup> and some information of the new format was explained. A survey will be sent out and Wendy is hoping to get a lot of suggestions from the congregation.

For the upcoming Ladies Aid meetings, all women of the church 18 yr and older will be invited to attend. There will be new changes and Kathy discussed how this may work at the beginning. It will occur on Sundays, after Adult Bible class and no roll call will be made at meetings. We will have a new policies and procedures manual. There will be an updated constitution and bylaws booklet.

Some committees may have a chair and co-chair to assist with the duties of that position. Wendy is creating an organizational chart for these positions. We will have a yearly calendar of events. It will need to be determined what each committee will do and if we have snacks served at meetings. Contact Wendy if

you have any suggestions. Some suggestions at the meeting were to bring a church friend to a meeting (young or old). Also suggested was to have a pot luck meal with an occasional meeting. Ideas for a monthly project could be making an ornament to put in baskets to the homebound at Christmas or for the school children at the Christmas party.

Another activity suggested was a baby shower for Wendy. A suggested date was May 1 after Sunday school if approved by Wendy. Dorena Wirgau and Melissa Tolson will do the planning for this event.

Dalene stated that 2 sweepers are needed for the church. Only 1 is working at present. A suggestion was made to voice the need in the bulletin to see if anyone would want to donate towards this fund since they are used every day by the school, when lunch is served in the fellowship hall ,after all events and in the church sanctuary. A motion was made and passed to purchase 2 new sweepers and a warranty.

Also a suggestion was made that a paper should be laminated and posted in the church for people to know who to contact in case we have difficulty in certain areas of the church, such as blowing a fuse, equipment failures and searching for objects. This would need to be updated yearly.

Other items needed in the future will be plant stands to use in front of church Research will need to be done by the altar guild on types that could be stored easily and that are also sturdy.

The meeting was adjourned with the Lord's Prayer and Common Table Prayer. The next meeting will be after Sunday school on January 16.

Respectfully submitted  
Joellen Meyer, Secretary

## Ladies Aid / Women's Group, Sunday January 16, 2022

The meeting of Sunday, January 16 was held after Sunday school in the Fellowship Hall. Kathy Nahrwold led the meeting in Wendy's absence. She introduced all officers. An attendance sheet was passed around for everyone to sign.

A copy of the secretary's report and treasurer's report was given to everyone in attendance. All were informed that there would not be dues going forward into 2022.

There were 24 women present and all were also given an Organizational Chart with some of the participants listed. It is still not completed at present.

The main organization of the group and how it is run was explained by Kathy. The president is Wendy Boehm, vice-president will be Kathy Nahrwold, secretary will be Joellen Meyer and treasurer will be Colleen Patrick and will include a co-treasurer Pat Meyer.

Some of the committee leaders introduced how things were done. Tisha Laley and Dalene Springer informed us of the altar activities. Amy Schueler and Tisha will be in charge of this in 2022. This year the school girls will also help with altar preparation. Kathy talked about the social secretary and how duties will probably be divided. Dalene Springer and Sue Buchinger will be in charge of dividing those duties. Heidi can be helpful with finding addresses for them when needed.

Kitchen committee will include Kay Schumm and Dorothy Krick. If seeing that something is needed please contact them. For LWML Vicki Schallhorn will be president and Delores Scheumann will be vice-president. Vicki informed us of the foreign stamp that are saved for missions. No Forever stamps can be included. For the funeral committee, Maxine Nahrwold will be in charge and someone else will be added to that committee chart, fundraisers will include Kathy Nahrwold and Rhonda Flesh as leaders. Trips will be Joellen Meyer and Patty Baker. Other committees will include church dinners, crafts / quilts and church decorating for special events.

Kathy informed everyone present of the obligations that Ladies Aid and LWML has taken on in the past years, some of which we will need to continue.

At the present time \$800 worth of cookbooks have been sold and we may need to print more soon.

In the future we will have a soup and bake sales after church as a fund raiser.

A laminated paper of contact people of church workers and phone numbers for problems or concerns that might occur while you are here volunteering, will be placed on a wall in the kitchen when completed.



A suggestion of the cost of paper and toner and lamination come from the funds raised with sale of the cookbooks. Because we have already voted and approved that LA pay the church \$100 we need to keep that motion in place.

Many different suggestions came up for activities. Such as going to a show at Niswonger theater at VanWert or going to a fashion show with a dinner this year in place of a dinner theater for the summer event. A suggestion of making blankets for the food banks that could be knotted and use Thrivent cards to fund this event. Also making a Christmas ornament for the school children for Christmas

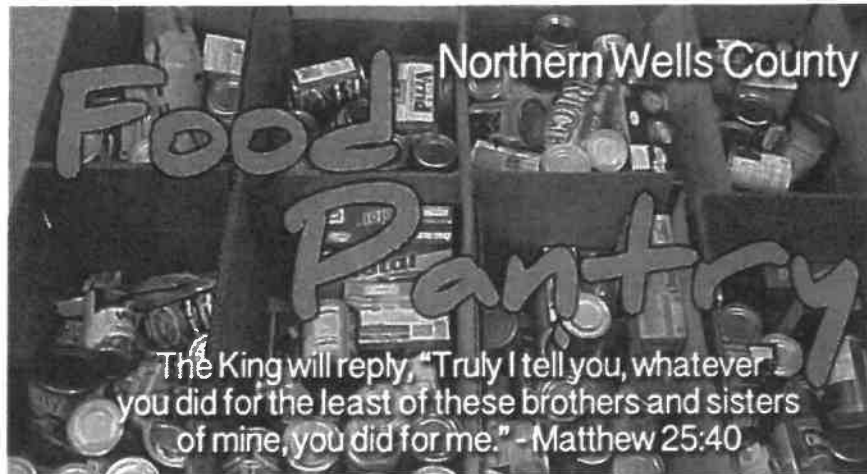
We discussed when we would meet next due to changes that will take place in the coming months when the sanctuary will be painted.

Also we will need to determine where the division of elder duties and Women's/ Ladies Aid are for decorating in the church for special holidays. There will need to be further discussion with the elders.

The meeting was adjourned with The Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,  
Joellen Meyer





January 20, 2022

Bethlehem Lutheran School  
6514 E 750 N  
Ossian, IN 46777

Dear Students and Staff of Bethlehem Lutheran School,

We are so pleased to have been designated for your student chapel offering for your last quarter. You are certainly caring for "the least of these." Because of your donations, families will be blessed in the Name of Jesus Christ. Thank you for being the arms of God to these folks.

No goods or services have been provided in exchange for your donation. We appreciate your support of our ministry.

Thank you for your contribution.

*Thanks!  
Betty*

Betty Maloney, Secretary on behalf of  
Northern Wells Food Pantry, Inc.

*BM*

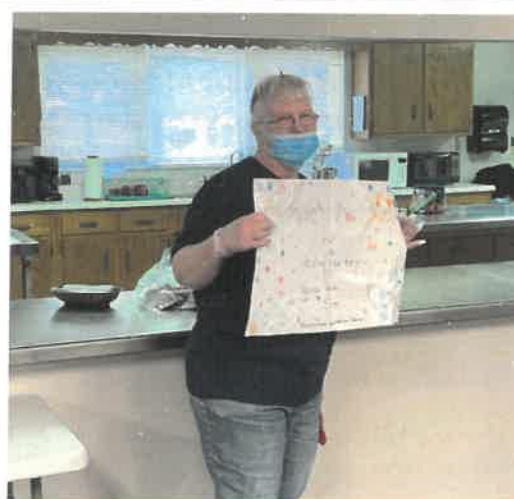


## TIGER TALES

"IN ALL THINGS"



WE WILL  
MISS YOU  
DEB  
THANK YOU  
FOR YOUR  
YEARS OF  
SERVICE



Dear Bethlehem Lutheran School

I would like to thank everyone from Bethlehem Lutheran School for giving me the opportunity the past 19 years to be a part of your family. The decision to leave was a hard one to make, but in the last few months my health reminded me that it was time. To say that I will miss the students, staff, parents and families is an understatement. I've been happy to hear about so much "News" over the years.... "I'm a Shepherd in the Christmas Pageant", "I have a loose tooth!" and the next day there's a grin with a little open space in it! I've listened to High School plans, College hopes and Occupation dreams. I was honored to be asked to Confirmation. I've heard your kids express their Faith in God, and also show God's love to other people. The friendships made with so many are a blessing to me that will not be forgotten. God has been good to me. He brought me to Bethlehem.

Love Deb (The lunch lady)

## CALENDAR

Feb. 4-5 Varsity Girls Tournament  
Feb. 7 Board of Ed Meeting  
Feb. 8 Hearing Testing  
Feb. 11 MidTerm  
Feb. 17 MidTerm sent home  
Feb. 18 NO SCHOOL Teacher InService  
Feb. 21 NO SCHOOL Presidents Day  
Feb. 27 PTL Kids vs Parents Basketball  
Feb. 28 Terra Nova Testing begins

## FEBRUARY 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28					

## FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

Feb. 13 Mrs. Moehring







**Bethlehem 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Invitational Basketball Tournament**  
 The dates have been set and brackets are being worked on.  
 Please mark your calendars and plan to come cheer the Bethlehem Tigers!  
 Varsity girls February 4th & 5th



**Parents vs. Kids basketball games/pizza party/ and sport recognition event-** This is for ALL school students and their families even if you didn't participate in a sporting activity, please join us for a fun afternoon of basketball. Kids will play based on their grades (preschool joins in as well, so don't forget the young ones too!), they compete against their parents to see who is better! It is such a fun family fellowship day, and after we have pizza, what could be better than that! Please plan to join us on February 27th at 4:00pm.

As a parent, you probably know that keeping your kids from spending all day (and night!) on their devices can be a challenge, and you're not alone. But finding a quick and easy way to manage screen time and filter the web doesn't have to be mission impossible — or cost an arm and a leg.

Bethlehem has partnered with Bark to offer our families a **free Bark Jr subscription (\$60/year value)** for life!

Use the URL below to activate your free Bark Jr account:

<https://www.bark.us/bark-jr/signup?ref=JFK944B>

**What am I getting with a free Bark Jr account?**

- Ability to manage screen time on mobile devices
- Set different rules for school time and bedtime
- Filter which websites your kids can visit
- Keep up with kids with location check-ins



**What is Bark?**

In addition to screen time, Bark can help parents proactively monitor text messages, YouTube, emails, and 30+ different social networks for potential safety concerns, so busy parents can save time and gain peace of mind. Bark currently helps protect over 5.6 million kids in the US.

Thank you

Bethlehem Lutheran School

This is the student portal Mr. Meyer maintains that gives the students quick access to a lot of our programs. Parents may also access this site to see what is going on in grades 3 - 8 grades. <https://sites.google.com/bethlsossian.org/bethlehemstudentportal/home>

**PRIVACY NOTICE**

We all love to share pictures of our child's school activities and accomplishments. However, we have to be very careful where those pictures are posted and respect that other students might also be in the picture. Parents please remember to respect do not post pictures that may have students in them other than your own child. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the school office before posting anything. Thank you

## Negative Ions

***Train a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not turn from it. Proverbs 22:6***

Sometimes raising children can be like sending an astronaut into space. Early space probes launched from Cape Canaveral in the 1960s created anxiety for the safety of the astronauts. It was especially intense when the spacecraft was re-entering the earth's atmosphere. At the most dangerous part of the journey, negative ions would accumulate around the heat shield and interfere with radio contact for about seven minutes. Seven-very-long-minutes! Finally the reassuring voice of Chris Kraft would break in and say, 'We've made contact with Colonel Glenn again. Everything is A-OK'. In a very real sense, our children can be like that spacecraft. After the training of childhood, a thirteen-year-old is blasted into space with a flurry. Then something like 'negative ions' begins to interfere with communication just as the adults want to be assured of the child's safety. Why won't he or she talk to them? Why has he or she disappeared behind a wall of silence? It's a confusing and terrifying time. Fortunately, in a few years the first scratchy signals will begin to come through again and contact will be re-established. The negative environment will gradually dissipate, and the 'splashdown' during the early twenties can be a wonderful reunion for both generations. What should you as a parent do during this time? First, you must pray for them and stand on the truth of God's Word: *'Direct your children onto the right path, and when they are older, they will not leave it'.* Second, you must exercise patience. *'Let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing' (James 1:4).*

The workers at Bethlehem are much like the Space Center at Houston, we do our best with the Lord's help to guide the students throughout the years, the take-off years as they enter school to the years of 'negative ions' while keeping the main focus on Christ, our Mission Control, where the final splash down will be in heaven with Him.

In Christ,  
Mark Schallhorn



 **RANDOM ACTS**  
*of* **Kindness**  
February 13-19, 2022

Weather permitting the students will be going outside for recess time. Please have your child dress appropriately for the weather.

**Potential delays and cancellations for Bethlehem will follow the same as Northern Wells Community Schools.** Sign up for text alerts at [www.wane.com/text-alerts](http://www.wane.com/text-alerts).



**Bethlehem will be closed February 18th for a teacher In-service (E-learning) and February 21 for President's Day**

More Elearning packets will be sent home and used this year for weather related closings

**SGO TAX CREDITS are GOING FAST!** The Scholarship Granting Organization of Indiana is urging donors wanting to support SGO scholarships and receive the 50% State Tax Credit to make your donations NOW. Your donation will go to help our Bethlehem Lutheran School families who struggle with tuition cost but want to be sure they are providing a Christian Education for their children. Thank you  
To donate, go to: [www.lutheransgo.org](http://www.lutheransgo.org) or pick up an application in the school office.

With Gradelink you can stay updated on your child's academic progress at school and get information on upcoming assignments such as assignment descriptions and due dates. The following information is available to you when you **log in to Gradelink**:

- Current Grade in each class
- Current GPA for the term, if applicable
- Descriptions, Grades, and Teacher Comments for graded assignments
- Descriptions and Due Dates for upcoming assignments
- Assignment handouts or documents (attachments)
- Email Alerts you can configure for grades and attendance
- Attendance Information
- Transcript Information, if applicable
- Billing Information, if applicable



To access this information go to [www.gradelink.com](http://www.gradelink.com) and click on the green Log In button.

PLEASE CALL THE SCHOOL OFFICE IF YOU NEED ANY HELP



Sign up today!

Shop at Kroger and help Bethlehem Lutheran School tuition assistance fund with the **Kroger Community Rewards Program**.

Register online at [krogercommunityrewards.com](http://krogercommunityrewards.com), be sure to have your Kroger Plus card handy and register your card with Bethlehem Lutheran School as your organization for the reward. **The NPO number for Bethlehem is WG595#.**

If you don't have a Kroger Plus card, they are available at the customer service desk.

Members must swipe their registered Kroger Plus card or use the phone number that is related to their registered card when shopping for each purchase to count.

**PLAN TO USE SCRIP FOR ALL YOUR SHOPPING NEEDS** Please contact our **Scrip coordinator, Melissa Price at 260-433-5307**. Thank you to the church congregation and school families for supporting the Scrip Program. Over the years, we have been able to financially support the church general fund and participating school families who have applied credits toward their child's tuition.

### **Keep On Clipping... . NEW INFORMATION**

Box Tops receipts, Spirit of America labels, and Tyson labels are all worth money for our school. To redeem Box Top products, you will need to download the Box Tops app on your phone and then scan each receipt that contains your Box Tops products. The Spirit of America and Tyson labels can still be turned in to school. Since Community Market has closed in our area, we will no longer be collecting receipts from them. **For questions, contact Jeni Harkless our new label coordinator,**

**KEEP ON CLIPPING and SCANNING!**



### THIRD Quarter Chapel Mission Project



#### Saint Philip Lutheran Mission Society

Who we are: In the spring of 2008, a group of students from Concordia Theological Seminary-Fort Wayne (Pastor Wirgau was included) were given the opportunity to travel to Lutheran Theological Seminary in Pretoria (Tshwane), South Africa.

While visiting, they saw firsthand the immense impact that the education at LTS had

on Lutheran church bodies throughout the entire continent of Africa. Students were brought to LTS from several African countries, educated in the Scriptures and Lutheran Confessions, and sent home in order to be ordained as pastors in their own communities.

Upon seeing the importance of LTS for the future of the confession of the Lutheran Church in Africa, these students formed the Saint Philip Lutheran Mission Society.

The current role of the Saint Philip Lutheran Mission Society is to support and promote confessional Lutheran theological education of future pastors and deaconesses at LTS and raise financial aid to support the needs of both residential students and visiting professors.

The financial needs associated with bringing students to LTS often exceeds what the students and seminary are capable of providing. The Saint Philip Lutheran Mission Society seeks to bridge that gap so that well-qualified men and women may receive a well-rounded education to serve the Lord of the Church as pastors and deaconesses.

### Recycling Guide

#### Yes

#### What can go in Bins?

School/Office Paper

News Paper

Junk Mail

Hard & Soft Cover Books

Magazines

Shredded Paper (bagged in clear plastic)

**NEW!!** - Paperboard (cereal type boxes)

**NEW!!** - Cardboard (12" x 12" or smaller)



Thank you from the student's raising money for their class trip to Washington D.C.

## Bethlehem Lutheran School Annual SPELLING BEE

Was held on Wednesday, January 26th at 1:15

This year Bethlehem did not join the National Spelling Bee.

Bethlehem winners will be awarded a special prize  
on the last day of school.

### Winners

- 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Ginny Wirgau (miss)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade JT Holtzclaw (space)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Hunter Householder (library)
- 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Savannah Fuller (paid)
- 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Rachel Werling (influence)
- 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Sarena Wirgau (tangents)

### Runner-ups

- 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Maddox Kelley
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Jonah Bultemeier
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Matthew Rekeweg
- 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Paizley Price
- 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Coral Weiss
- 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Max Eisaman



Weslynn Nahrwold – Kindergarten  
Parents: Brad and Laura Nahrwold



Lacey Garwick – Kindergarten  
Parents: Matt and Keri Garwick



Sienna Sommer – Kindergarten  
Parents: Sam and Kylie Sommer

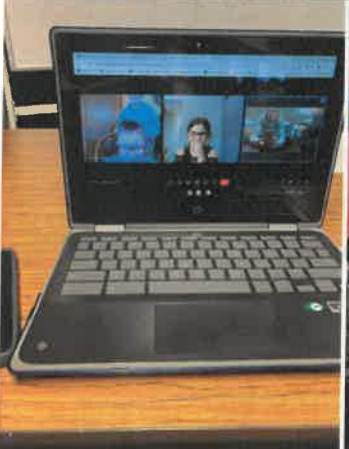


## Lutheran Schools Week 2022 at Bethlehem had the theme of: "In All Things."

Bethlehem students started the celebration by singing in church on Sunday – "Shout for Joy, Loud and Long." On Monday we had inside-out day where the students went on a scavenger hunt following clues from a riddle. On Tuesday we wore our favorite sports team apparel and had an all-school kickball game. On Wednesday we dressed nicely for chapel and in the afternoon, we tied blankets for babies in the Nic-u. On Thursday we dressed as our favorite book character and read books to each other. The end of our week we wore our Bethlehem shirts and went bowling in Decatur. We are so thankful for our Lutheran School.











## The everyday way to make an impact every day

Join us in raising money for our organization simply by using gift cards where you're already shopping. It's easy, rewarding, and fits perfectly into your busy life.

A family can  
earn over  
**\$1,000**  
per year

### Shop and earn with over 750 top brands

- Gas
- Grocery
- Clothing
- Dining
- Entertainment
- Home Improvement
- Travel
- Retail



See all available brands at [ShopWithScrip.com](http://ShopWithScrip.com)

“

Scrip is different because we aren't selling stuff that people don't want or need and we're not spending any extra money.

Nicole, Byesville, OH

”

### How it works



Buy physical gift cards, eGift cards, and reloadable gift cards at face value on [ShopWithScrip.com](http://ShopWithScrip.com) or the mobile website, [MyScripWallet.com](http://MyScripWallet.com).



Easily pay online and earn a rebate between 2% and 16% that immediately goes toward funding for our organization.



Use your gift cards for your everyday shopping.

### Start earning today

1. Join our program by creating an account on [MyScripWallet.com](http://MyScripWallet.com) or [ShopWithScrip.com](http://ShopWithScrip.com).
2. Enter our organization's enrollment code: **43ALE7851441**
3. Link your bank account to enroll in online payments and place your first order.

Have a question? Contact our coordinator at: Melissa 433-5307