

Ordering our Days: God's Word

• Even if it seems like the world and even our own lives are constantly in chaos, we do strive for order. God has given order to the days and the seasons and we work for this in our homes and our congregation. In teaching about orderly worship St. Paul writes to the Corinthians, "For God is not a God of confusion but of peace" (1 Cor. 14:33) and "But all things should be done decently and in order" (1 Cor. 14:40). The order of our worship, the structure of the service, has this order for the sake of hearing God's Word and calling upon Him in prayer and praise. So too does it extend from the congregation into our home in our days and weeks, our seasons and years. Order centers upon the peace of Christ in His Word and in our lives of prayer.

I hope to provide in the coming newsletters some practical advice on this ordering of our days to aid individuals and families in continuing to hear and read God's Word and to call upon him in prayer. Before we get to the order, we must start with what our order is centered upon: Scripture and prayer.

When we read and hear the Scriptures what are we looking for? Active reading and listening is most beneficial. This is what we mean by *meditating* on the Word of God, not looking in upon ourselves or finding God within, but by finding Him in His Word, where He wants to be found. What would He have us hear?

Teaching, Reproof, Correction and Training 2 Timothy 3:16 says, "All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness." When we are actively reading and actively hearing God's Word we are listening for Scripture to **teach**, that is, to instruct us in the doctrine of our faith, who God is and who we are. We are also looking for how Scripture **reproves** us, that is, how does God's Law call us to repent of our sins and unbelief and how does it **correct** our sinful behavior. Lastly how does it **train** us. The Greek Word here is *paidea*, which is a rich word indicating the raising up of a child in discipline and instruction, encompassing not only the mind but also the whole life of a person. But this *paidea* is specifically in righteousness, which is nothing else than the righteousness of faith in Christ Jesus.

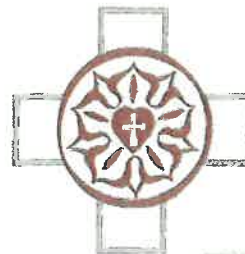
Put Your Jesus Glasses On Our Lord tells us that all the Scriptures are about Him (Luke 24:27) As you hear and read God's Word look for the big picture of salvation, the righteousness of faith in Christ Jesus our Lord, in every passage. It's all about Jesus and His love for you in the cross. This is not reading Jesus into the Scripture but finding Him where He has placed Himself for you and for your salvation.

Hear God's Law and God's Gospel As you listen to the preaching of God's Word and meditate upon the Scriptures see how His Word speaks both to accuse you of your sin and to give you the Good News of the free gift of the forgiveness of sins in Christ Jesus. God's Law serves God's Gospel. The Gospel must predominate. Do not be left in your sins. As Paul says "Woe to me if I do not preach the gospel!" (1 Cor 9:16)

Take these simply tips into your reading and hearing of God's Word, centering the order of your lives upon His Word. May we continually be catechized in His Word and Truth. Next month we will look more closely at prayer.

In Christ,

Rev. Samuel Wirgau



September 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
3					1	2
4 9 a Divine Service 10:15a Bible Class	4 Labor Day NO SCHOOL	5	6 10:00a Chapel 7p Divine Service 7:30p Adult Choir Practice	7	8	9
10 8a WOB Meeting 9 a Divine Service 10:15 ABC & SS Rally Day	11 7p Handbell Choir Practice	12	13 10:00a Chapel 7p Divine Service 7:30p Adult Choir Practice	14	15	16 Ossian Days Parade
17 9 a Divine Service 10:15 ABC & SS	18 7p Handbell Choir Practice	19 7p Women's Bible Study	20 10:00a Chapel 7p Divine Service 7:30p Adult Choir Practice	21	22	23
24 9 a Divine Service 10:15 ABC & SS 11:15 Board of Elders Meeting	25 7p Handbell Choir Practice	26	27 10:00a Chapel 7p Divine Service 7:30p Adult Choir Practice	28 5:30 Board of Ed Meeting	29	30

September 1, 2023

BETHLEHEM FINANCIAL REPORT

General Fund (Home Fund) Account to Pay Operating Bills \$5,661.46

Savings Fund Balances

	Accrued <u>Amount</u>	Restricted <u>Amount Borrowed</u>	Account <u>Balance</u>
Improvement Fund	\$29,303.42	(\$ 0.00)	\$29,303.42
Scholarship Fund	\$ 6,721.02	(\$ 0.00)	\$ 2,333.20
Music Fund	\$ 2,333.20	(\$ 0.00)	\$ 5,288.38
Reserved (TBD)	<u>\$ 2,369.00</u>	<u>(\$ 0.00)</u>	<u>\$ 2,369.00</u>
TOTALS	\$40,726.64	(\$ 0.00)	\$40,726.64

Checkbook Balance \$ 5,661.46

Savings Account Balance \$40,726.64

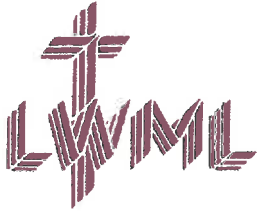
Total Savings and Checking Balance \$46,388.10

Borrowed Amounts

Restricted Savings Account	\$ 0.00
Operating Loan Amount	<u>\$ 5,500.00</u>
TOTAL BORROWED	<u>\$ 5,500.00</u>

Bills due week of September 3- \$5,000

Bills due week of September 10- \$14,000



Dear Ladies of LWML,

I would like to start by saying Thank You for the opportunity to be a delegate to the LWML

National Convention in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, in June. The convention's theme was,

"Celebrate the Lord of the Nations" based on Psalm 33:12-13. There were over 3,500 people in attendance at the 40 th biennial convention.

When my husband and I arrived in Milwaukee we delivered the Gifts from the Heart items that the Decatur Zone donated. We had a trunk full of boxes. We brought the following:

Phil's Friends and Place of Refuge

- 15 journals
- 56 puzzle books
- 10 decks of cards
- 22 pairs of fuzzy slippers
- 30 hats
- \$135 gift cards

MOST Ministries

- 38 pairs of glasses

Orphan Grain Train

- 18 Hygiene Kits
- 13 blanket/quilts



The total amount collected by EVERYONE was"

- Phil's Friends
- 2293 puzzle books
- 1268 journals
- 1576 decks of cards
- 1097 pairs of fuzzy socks
- 2545 hats
- \$16,296 gifts cards

A Place of Refuge

- 90 cases of hygiene and children's items
- \$26,793 gift cards

MOST Ministries

- 10,510 pairs of glasses
- 7051 eyeglass cases
- \$75

Orphan Grain Train

- 1449 quilts/blankets
- 1317 hygiene kits
- 24 school kits
- 7 layette kits
- \$25

Orphan Grain Train (local site drop-off)

- 629 quilts/blankets
- 469 hygiene kits
- 28 lap ropes

My husband and I worked in the Gifts from the Heart room the first day sorting and delivering packages that everyone brought.

The next morning we worked at the Servant Events. We assembled school backpacks for Orphan Grain Train and assembled calendars for Lutheran Braille Workers. In the afternoon I had choir practice for the opening and closing services. There were 300+ women in the choir- what a joyful sound! I had a delegates meeting to show us how to use our voting machine for voting and then the Indiana Caucus where we met our Young Women Representatives and received our purple scarves that the Indiana District participants wore each day.

Thursday evening we had the Opening Service of the Convention with Rev. Dwayne Lueck, President of the North Wisconsin LCMS District as the Proclaimer.

Each morning there was the opportunity to Wake Up with the Word Bible Studies before convention proceedings began. Kaye Wolff lead a Bible Study on the Lord of the Nations each morning during the convention proceedings. There was the Banner Procession from each districts LWML and the Mission Flag Procession from each nation that the LWML serves.

There were 4 offerings taken for: 2023-2025 LWML Mission Goal - \$54,922 was collected. We Are Called to Care, Plano, Illinois - \$31,037 was collected. Wolf River Lutheran High School, Shawano, Wisconsin - \$18,360 was collected, Milwaukee Area Crisis Pregnancy Centers -Concordia Gospel Outreach - \$2,872 was collected.

Each lunch recess there were opportunities to attend Mission Impact Luncheons to find out more about our Mites at work in the world. There was a large exhibit hall where you could find out about other ministries of the LCMS and visit the LWML store where an additional \$1,141.31 was raised by rounding up your bill!

On Saturday the following were elected for the 2023-2025 biennium:

President: Eden Keefe from the Kansas District

VP of Organizational Resources: Arlene Naasz from the South Dakota District

VP of Special Focus Ministries: Karol Selle from the North Wisconsin District

Treasurer: Anita Werner from the Rocky Mountain District

Pastoral Counselor: Rev. Mark Maas from Cheyenne, Wyoming

Nominating Committee: Olajumoke Odedele (chairman), Deaconess Betty Knapp, Laura Strattman, Melissa Vance, Roxeanne Pieper

Each day we had Mites in Action Speakers. These speaker represented different organizations that were recipients of past LWML Mission Grants. They told us about how the mites were used that they received and updated us on how God is blessing their ministry. Friday evening there were games in the exhibit hall and popcorn for everyone. On Saturday evening the ladies from the Lutheran Ladies Lounge were on stage.

Our 2023-2025 Mission Goal being funded by the LWML is \$2,350,000! There are 31 grants from different countries around the world! Praise God from whom all blessings flow!

Blessing to you,
Vicki Schallhorn, Decatur Zone LWML Delegate 2023



September 3, 2023 –
Fourteenth Sunday After
Pentecost Psalm 26; Ro-
mans 12:9-21; Matthew
16:21-28 “Genuine
Love” – Sermon Text:
Romans 12:9-21 – Rev.

William Mueller God’s Word teaches us to
love our neighbors as ourselves. Is our love
“The real McCoy”? No fakes or forgeries will
suffice! How is our love impacted by the real
Jesus? No fakes or forgeries will suffice!

September 10, 2023 – Fifteenth Sunday After
Pentecost Psalm 32:1-7; Romans 13:8-10;
Matthew 18:15-20 “Courageous Conversa-
tions” – Sermon Text: Matthew 18:15-20 –
Rev. Dr. Thomas Ahlersmeyer God moved
heaven and earth, sending His Son Jesus
Christ to die and rise to life, because of His
great love for us. He calls you and me to exer-
cise such extravagant and urgent love in the
lives of others. He calls us to Courageous
Conversations with those He places among us.

September 17, 2023 – Sixteenth Sunday After
Pentecost Psalm 103:1-12; Genesis 50:15-21;
Matthew 18:21-35 “Forgiveness Benefits” –
Sermon Text: Genesis 50:15-21 – Rev. Dr.
Walter Maier III When wronged, we are
tempted to get revenge. But Jesus teaches us
to forgive those who have trespassed against
us. There are, in fact, great benefits associated
with forgiving others.

September 24, 2023 – Seventeenth Sunday Af-
ter Pentecost Psalm 27:1-9; Isaiah 55:6-9;
Matthew 20:1-16 “Unreasonable Generosity”
– Sermon Text: Matthew 20:1-16 – Rev.
Thomas Eggold The generosity of God goes
against everything we innately hold dear. It is
not fair. It makes no sense. And yet, because
of this unreasonable generosity given to us
through Jesus, we are saved!

September



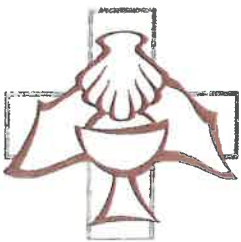
- 01) Kari Baker
Brian Bauermeister
Mike Meyer
Amelia Phillips
Lee Werling
- 02) Luke Harkless
Julie Werling
- 05) Lane Harkless
- 06) Kaitlin Meyer
- 07) Owen Lesh
Emma Roembke
- 08) Gloria Siela
- 09) Brad Meyer
Ralph Schumm
- 11) Otto Clausen
Jackie Werling
- 12) JT Holtzclaw
Jasson Werling
- 13) Clyde Holtzclaw
- 14) Graham Stoppenhagen
- 16) Susan Graft
Lacey Meyer
Aralee Price
- 18) Carlee Bryant
Piper Krumma
- 19) Caleb Rekeweg
Grant Scheumann
Jessica Schumm
- 25) Melissa Avey
Heather Crayner
Emily Werling
Garrett Werling
- 26) Nick Krick
- 28) Shelby Evans



Come Join Us! You are invited to attend the Concordia Theological Seminary Guild on Tuesday, September 12, 2023 at 1:00 pm in Luther Hall on the campus of CTSFW. The featured speaker will be The Rev. Dr. Jeffrey Pulse, Director of Certification and Placement. Mark your calendar for Donation day on October 10th. For further information, visit semguild@ctsfw.edu.

LWML Decatur Zone will be gathering Saturday morning, September 16, 2023. Pastor Zach Oedewaldt will be installed as our Pastoral Advisor. Our workshop will be sewing cancer pads for the Cancer Services of Northeast Indiana. Please bring your own scissors, needles, thimble and white thread. All other supplies will be furnished. Registration: 8:30 AM. Place: St John Lutheran Church-Bingen. 11555 N US Highway 27, Decatur, IN. 46733. Lunch will be served by host congregation. All ladies of the LCMS are welcome and encouraged to attend. Please park at rear of church to gather in fellowship hall. Any questions may be directed to Marilyn Bulmahn, Cell: 260-919-5007.

Friends of Wyneken Beer & Wine Oktoberfest Fundraiser - Saturday, September 9 - Event will be held 6:00-9:00 P.M. Doors Open at 5:30 P.M. Dinner begins at 6:30 P.M. Beer and Wine Tasting from 6:30-8:00 P.M. Live music provided by String Theory, (Wayne Erxleben and Rich Schwartz); Silent Auction - For Reservations, call or text 260-437-0420 and see Facebook Friends of Wyneken. Adults Only Must Be 21. Location is at The Wyneken House 11730 NW Winchester Rd., Decatur IN 46733



Two of our Bethlehem students, Lucas Haiflich in 2nd grade and Anna Haiflich in 1st grade were baptized on Wednesday, August 30th during the evening divine service. Lucas and Anna are the children of David and Katy Haiflich. Recognition of this baptism will take place on Sunday September 10th during the divine service.

School Gym Use after school hours – Before using the school gym after school hours, please be sure to contact our current Athletic Director, Josh Boehm. Please call or text him at 260-258-3998 to make arrangements. Thank you



MEMBERS ARE REMINDED TO SIGN UP FOR FLOWERS TO BE PLACED ON THE ALTAR OR HYMNBOARD. Simply use the 2023 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, Cheryl Louison or Deaconess Wendy Boehm.

Announcements concerning the flowers should be given to the church office. Thank you

**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 June 30, 2023:

\$205,927.82 - Amount Bethlehem sent in since 2009

192,883.00 - Amount the Lutheran Foundation matched

238,606.64 - Amount generated since 2009

-124,500.00 - Amount disbursed to Bethlehem since 2009

\$512,917.46 - Value of the Endowment Fund as of June 30, 2023

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 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.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!! Bethlehem Lutheran Church will be sponsoring a Pork Chop Drive-thru Dinner on Sunday, October 1st at Lighted Gardens Parking Lot.

Happy Anniversary!

Sept. 2 Lloyd and Joellen Meyer (51)
Sept. 6 Ben and Heather Crayner (9)
Sept. 7 Brandon and Sara Fowler (4)
Sept. 9 Mark and Deb Patrick (28)
Sept. 10 Burk and Shelby Evans (40)
Sept. 26 Jon and Nikki Caldwell (14)
Sept. 27 Denis and Joyce Glisson (48)
Sept. 29 Brian and Sara Nahrwold (11)



Elder Routes

Bruce Werling	A-B
Glen Werling	C-F
Ted Schumm	G-K
Jerry Meyer	L-P
Steve Conrad	Q-S
Dave Flesch	T-Z

YOUTH GROUP

SEPTEMBER 2023



Kick off Event

BY DEACONESS WENDY BOEHM

The end of August we had a joint LYF back to school kickoff event at Ouabache State Park with New Hope Lutheran Church. The families enjoyed food and fellowship. Thank you to all who attended and helped out to make this a wonderful evening!



Upcoming Events

Sunday, September 10:
LYF Bible Study 6:30pm

Sunday, September 24:
LYF Bible Study 6:30pm

**Doughnut
Duty**
Ava Pynaert

**WOMEN OF
BETHLEHEM**



Ladies Night Out

**CONTACT JESSICA SCHUMM TO
RESERVE A SEAT 260-414-6559**

**Sept.
20th**

**6:30
pm**

**Patio
Seating**

**MI CASA
1140 DEHNER DRUVE
OSSIAN, IN 46777**

<https://micasamexicanrestaurantin.com/>



TIGER TALES

"Connected to Christ"



Welcome Back to School 2023-2024

CALENDAR

Sept. 4 Labor Day—No School
Sept. 8 Mrs. Streeks last day
Sept. 13 School Pictures
Sept. 16 Ossian Days Parade
Sept. 21 Principal Pizza Lunch
Sept. 28 Board of Ed Meeting

SEPTEMBER 2023

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	29	30

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Sept. 1 Mrs. Phillips
Sept. 7 Vincent Schumm
Sept. 10 Ivan Bales
Sept. 12 JT Holtzclaw
Sept. 13 Clyde Holtzclaw
Sept. 16 Aralee Price
Sept. 19 Caleb Rekeweg



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

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. Login information is available from your child's teacher or from the school office.

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 and click on the green Log In button.

PLEASE CALL THE SCHOOL OFFICE IF YOU NEED ANY HELP

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



Bethlehem Lutheran School had 22 students who successfully completed the 2023 Summer Reading Program.

Congratulations to: Ellie Bales, Ivan Bales, Makayla Berkey, Emma Campbell, Gabriella Campbell, Alex Fuhrmann, Anna Fuhrmann, Jon Fuhrmann, Vinny Fuhrmann, Kyndal Fuller, Savannah Fuller, Lacey Garwick, Anna Haiflich, Caroline Haiflich, Lucas Haiflich, Hunter Householder, Aralee Price, Matthew Rekeweg, Vincent Schumm, Madeline Schumm, Sienna Sommer, Emma Wirgau, Gianna Wirgau, Jude Wirgau, Sarena Wirgau

SGO for tuition assistance

If you have not done so already, Scholarship Granting Organization (SGO) application forms need to be turned into the school office by **Friday, September 15th**. Forms are available from the school office or by downloading at www.lutheransgo.org. Proof of income and household size will need to be included, such as your 2022 federal tax return showing Adjusted Gross Income and Household size. Please contact the school office if you have any questions.

This scholarship is **donor based** assistance that will be determined by how much is in the fund in order to equally distribute. If assistance is not what you need and you'd like to help another student by donating to this fund and in return get a State tax allowance, go to www.lutheransgo.org.



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.

NO SCHOOL—September 4th for Labor Day



Bethlehem **WILL NOT** be following the Norwell Professional Development 2 hour Delay on Wednesday, September 20th. Morning bus service will **NOT** be provided. Parents are asked to be sure your Bethlehem student arrives at 9:00 a.m. The 7th & 8th graders will be excused from their Norwell Classes. Please be sure to call the school office if transportation is an issue.

Sometimes it is necessary for our teachers to provide extra clothes for students. We could use a few more gently used clothes to fit our Kindergarten – 2nd grade students. If anyone would have girls or boys shorts, sweatpants, t-shirts, underwear to possibly fit these students and are willing to donate we would appreciate it.

Farm Fresh Eggs for Sale
\$3.00 per dozen
 Please contact
Natalie Eschenbacher
260-273-3978 or natalie-knowles77@gmail.com



School pictures Wednesday, September 13th

Order forms are being sent home TODAY.

Please return the order form along with your payment on picture day.

All students will be included in the classroom composites.

PTL NEWS

OSSIAN DAYS! On Saturday, September 16th Bethlehem Lutheran School will be walking in the Ossian Days Parade. Asking all parents and students to meet at the old drive in across from the Marathon gas station in Ossian at 4:40. The parade will kick off at 5:00pm. We will be passing out candy and Bethlehem info to parade goers. Come join us for a fun time as we show our Bethlehem pride! Don't forget to wear your Bethlehem shirts!

FALL FESTIVAL! Mark your calendars for Sunday, October 8th from 3:30-6pm! This is a great evening of fun games, food and fellowship. We will need lots of volunteers to help with preparing and serving food as well as running some of the games/activities. We will begin contacting people very soon to help with this event!

Black Tie Gala and Blue Jeans and SILENT AUCTION! Mark your Calendars!

Saturday, November 4th! Bethlehem Lutheran School will be having our 4th annual Gala and Silent Auction at The Lighted Gardens in Ossian. This year's theme is Around the World! More details and tickets are coming soon!



August/September

Pizza Birthday Lunch with the Principal
 Thursday, September 21st at 12:00 Noon

Those celebrating will be:

Leila Stuchell, Emmalee Kelley, Daisy Glisson, Micah Leamon,
 Vincent Schumm, Ivan Bales, JT Holtzclaw, Clyde Holtzclaw,
 Aralee Price, Caleb Rekeweg

Bethlehem families who shop at Kroger are encouraged to Sign up today! Shop at Kroger and help the Bethlehem Lutheran School tuition assistance fund with the **Kroger Community Rewards Program**.

Register online at 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 Parents are encouraged to use the online **"ShopwithScrip"** app to buy and reload gift cards or for orders, contact our Scrip coordinator, **Melissa Price at 260-433-5307**. 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.



Help our 7th and 8th graders raise funds for their Washington D.C. class trip!

Please save your newspapers, catalogs, magazines, junk mail, old phone books, office/school papers and hard/soft cover books. Along with cereal type boxes (NO CARDBOARD). Bring your recyclable paper to school and dispose of in our "PaperGator."

The recycling company pays by the ton so the more you feed our Gator, the more funds we can collect!

If you need help with pick up for large amounts, please call the school and we will make arrangements to help you.

Let your family, neighbors, and friends know!

Thank you



First Quarter

Chapel Mission Project

Chapel Offering for the 1st Quarter: Helping a Seminarian

This fall quarter, our Wednesday Chapel Offerings are being collected for a seminary student, studying to be a pastor, at Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne. We reached out to the school and they provided us with a name: Seminarian Travis Hartman and his wife Monica.



Travis and Monica are recently married, so in addition to the expenses of school, they are also beginning to set up their life together. Let's help them out as they prepare to serve the Lord and His Church. Later in the quarter, we'll invite the Hartmans to visit our school.

Principal's Message



Pruning hurts but it makes good fruit

Have you ever imagined how a tree, bush, or vine might feel about you chopping off its branches? If it could feel pain, it probably wouldn't like it! But you know that pruning is good for the plant. It might seem hurtful, but it actually helps the plant grow better. This is especially true for grape vines. If they're never pruned, they'll just keep using their energy to grow more leaves. They won't produce very good fruit. But if the branches are pruned and forced to struggle, they will produce more flavorful grapes. Jesus tells us that's what His Father does to us. Jesus said: "I am the true Vine, and My Father is the Vinedresser. Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit He takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit He prunes, that it may bear more fruit" (John 15:1-2). This is the first part of our school's theme passage for the year: Connected to Christ. If we are connected to Christ, like branches on a vine, then we can grow and bear fruit. If there are dead branches, God the Father takes them away. But for living branches connected to the Living Vine, the Father prunes so that we can grow better, stronger, and produce better fruit. God sometimes forces us to struggle in life, but it's always for our good. We might not understand how, but we trust God knows what's best. In the end, we learn from difficulty and challenges, and rejoice to see the good outcomes and fruit in our lives. The Father disciplines us for our good, and Christ supplies our life now and forever.

In Christ

Pastor Anthony Dodgers

BABY SHOWER – The Women of Bethlehem are having an ingathering Baby Shower for Mrs. Streeks. Her due date is September 14th and she is having a boy! Diapers and gift cards would be appreciated and can be left on the table set up in the church hallway or in the school office before Sept. 17.



Mrs. Streeks' last day is Friday, September 8th. Please welcome back, Mrs. Margaret Moore as her full time substitute. Mrs. Moore will be helping in the K-2 classrooms until Mrs. Streeks comes back from leave.

♥ LITTLE
answered
= prayer =

Thank you to everyone for their ongoing prayers and support for MaKayla Berkey our current 4th grade student who was diagnosed with Hodgkins Lymphoma last year. We are thankful to report that she is doing well and is now in remission. Thanks be to God.
"MAKAYLA STRONG"

Tales for Tigers

After an adventurous summer being sorted, sifted, and stored, the library books are stocked on the shelves and ready to be read! The librarians are excited to have students visit the new space and to explore the many new books being added to the collection.

What adventures will you choose this year? Will you journey through Narnia, or discover a Secret Garden? Perhaps you want to solve a mystery with Nancy Drew or Sherlock Holmes? Maybe you'll explore the past, visiting ancient Greece and American colonies. The library shelves are full of books that can take your imagination anywhere.



It took many hands and many hours, but these and many other Phase One tasks have been completed:

- New carpet and paint
- Old metal shelving painted
- New posters and decor
- Picture Book collection reorganized—books were sorted into labeled “browsing bins” according to genre or alphabetized by author’s name. (This system is modeled after Wells County Public Library, so will help students learn general library skills.)
- Many worn or damaged books were repaired, replaced, and/or removed.
- New books added (many purchased with memorial funds in memory of Marsha Meyer)

In Phase Two we are hoping to:

- Fund new, uniform, sturdy wooden shelving, to accommodate picture book bin system, and to provide adequate space for current collection and future expansion.
- Purchase comfortable seating
- Expand to include books for adults (school parents and church members) to browse and borrow.

Ongoing projects include taking inventory of fiction series collections that are missing volumes (and purchasing necessary books), expanding and updating collection (especially upper-level nonfiction, Bible stories and theology books for all ages), applying genre stickers to all fiction books (all reading levels), using displays and signs to label shelves, and auditing library catalog.

Along with an updated space, the library circulation policies were updated and clarified. Parents and students should take a few moments to read over these policies.

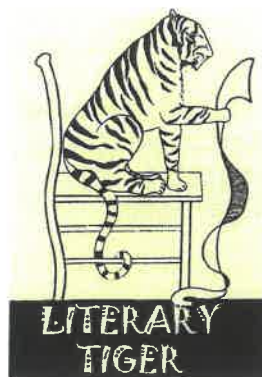
We are grateful for the many volunteers and generous donations that were necessary for this project, and for your continued support!

Happy Reading!

Your Librarians,
Mrs. Jenny Bultemeier and Mrs. DoRena Wirgau



Bethlehem Lutheran School Library Policies



Library Purpose

The purpose of the library is to supplement classroom learning and provide motivation for reading enjoyment. Visiting the school library helps students learn the basics of library use and etiquette.

Circulation Policies

Kindergarten students may have a maximum of one book checked out, loaned for one week.

1st – 8th Grade students may have a maximum of two books checked out, loaned for two weeks.

Books may be renewed a maximum of two times. If a book is not returned after two renewals (ie, three weeks for Kindergarten students, six weeks for other students), fines will accrue at a rate of \$0.25 per item per week.

Due dates and maximum checkout exceptions may be made for book reports, research reports, and other classroom assignments, at the discretion of teachers and/or librarians.

Lost or Damaged Books

Parents will be notified when a book is overdue. If an overdue item is not returned within four weeks after parents are notified (or by the library deadline at the end of the school year) the item will be considered lost and a replacement fee will be charged. A handling fee of \$5 will be added to the cost of book replacement.

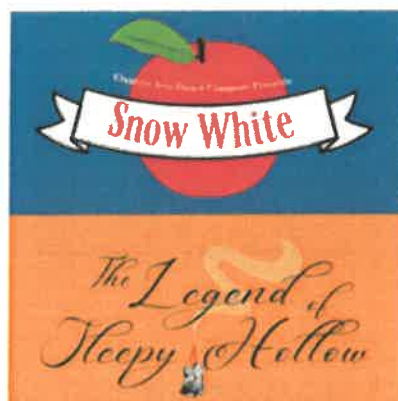
Librarians should be notified of any damage that occurs to a library book. If a damaged item needs to be replaced due to inappropriate handling or accident (i.e. water damage), a replacement fee may be charged. A handling fee of \$5 will be added to the cost of book replacement.



Talented Tigers

Many Bethlehem students regularly participate in music, dance, theater, and other arts activities outside of school. We would love to share information about upcoming performances and recitals featuring Bethlehem students! Contact the school office with any details you wish to be shared in future issues of Tiger Tales.

Upcoming Events:



Fine Arts Day (Parlor City Plaza): September 9 @ 9:45am
"Story Time" (Wells County Public Library): September 16 @ 10:30am
Bluffton Street Fair (Parlor City Plaza): September 22 @ 5pm

October 27 @ 7pm *
 October 28 @ 3pm *
 October 28 @ 7pm *

Located at Auditorium at Creative Arts

Creative Arts Dance Theater Presents:

"Snow White"

September 9, 16, 22

Featuring Tigers: Jonah Bultemeier ("Sneezy") & Alex Furhmann ("Grumpy")

Creative Arts Council of Bluffton Presents:

"The Legend of Sleepy Hollow"

October 27 & 28

Featuring Tiger: Jonah Bultemeier ("Rolf") and Sarena Wirgau (Margaret)

For more information on both events, visit:

<https://www.wellscocreativearts.com/>



Parlor City Shakespeare Artist: Rachel Werling as Mercade and the Forrester. This is Rachel's 5th production and first Shakespeare play. Rachel is joining her big sister, Leah a Junior at Norwell who is in her 8th production performing as Maria. Play starts at 7:30 p.m. on the dates listed above.



Very Important Partnerships Event

October 7, 2023

Parkview Mirro Center



SCHOOL SPIRIT TABLE

SPONSOR A TABLE FOR \$1250 AND RECEIVE 8
TICKETS WITH YOUR SCHOOL'S NAME PROUDLY
DISPLAYED ON THE TABLE. FILL YOUR TABLE
WITH SCHOOL STAFF, BOARD MEMBERS,
DONORS, & CHURCH MEMBERS



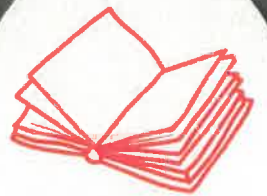
TO SPONSOR OR PURCHASE TICKETS,
PLEASE SCAN THE QR CODE
OR VISIT
VERYIMPORTANTPARTNERSHIPS.ORG

PLEASE RSVP BY SEPTEMBER 22

Book Club

sponsored by Women of Bethlehem

** anyone can participate*



HOUSE OF LIVING STONES BY KATIE SCHUERMANN

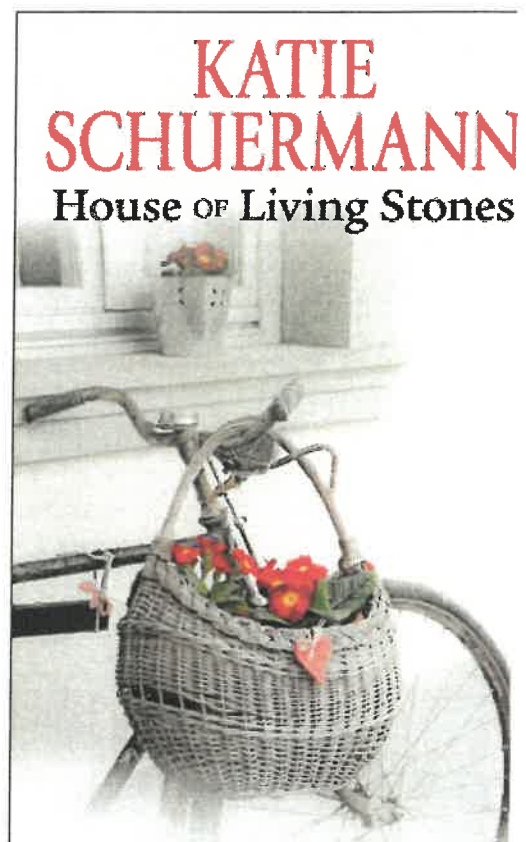
In the small town of Bradbury, change doesn't come often, and it certainly doesn't come easily. There, things are predictable and comfortable. At least, they were, until Pastor Fletcher hires Emily Duke as the new choir director at Zion Lutheran Church and sets in motion a chain of events that turns the life of his congregation upside down.

Join Emily and her lovable choir in the church balcony as they learn that life together in a small town is anything but small.

HOW IT WORKS

- PURCHASE THE BOOK (AUDIO, EBOOK OR PHYSICAL COPY)
- WE WILL HAVE A GROUP TEXT GOING TO BOUNCE BACK QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS.
- WE WILL MEET IN PERSON AT CRIMSON HOUSE ~~FEB~~ SATURDAY, ~~FEB~~ Oct. 21 TO DISCUSS THE BOOK IN PERSON.

CONTACT DEACONESS WENDY BOEHM TO JOIN: 260-415-8526



KATIE
SCHUERMANN
House of Living Stones



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

“

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 or the mobile website, 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 or 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

