

### Ordering our Advent and Christmas Days

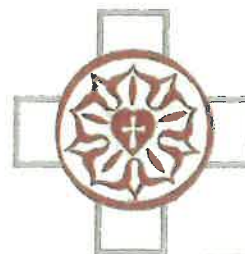
Advent begins a new Church Year. Many find this a helpful time to begin, increase, or strengthen their devotional life. Like our New Year's resolutions of the calendar year, Advent is a time of new beginnings. The extra observances in the church such as midweek Advent services and special services around Christmas and New Years add to this increased devotion. In many ways Advent serves the Christian as a season of preparation. We are prepared to meet our coming Christ by hearing His Word and receiving His gifts to strengthen and keep us in the one true faith. In short, Advent is another occasion to order our days.

We have looked at ordering our days in the various orders of hearing God's Word and of prayer for throughout our day, now I wish to encourage you to fit such order into the season of Advent. You may already have specific devotions and long-standing family traditions - I encourage you to use them. But if you are looking for something else or something more to direct your hearts and minds this Advent and Christmas season, I direct you to a Daily Devotion book for Advent through Epiphany that Bethlehem has made available this year.


Deaconess Boehm drew together several resources for this book. It has devotions from December 1-January 7, includes the "Recitation and Prayer" included in our weekly bulletins, hymns to learn by heart, and Scripture readings. Also included are the saints days and special devotions to use with a Jesse Tree, if you have one. It is packed full of devotional materials, yet is easy to use and adjust to your families needs.

Hard copies of the devotion book will be available at Church and a digital copy has been emailed out. If you would like a copy and don't know how to get one just let the church office know and we will make sure one is provided for you. May God bless us during this time and by His Word and make our holidays truly Holy Days in Christ.

*Rev. Samuel Wirgau*



# December 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 9a Divine 10:15a ABC & SS 12:30 Women of Bethlehem Christ- mas Party	4 11:30 Childrens Christmas Lunch 7p Handbell Choir Practice	5	6 10:00aChapel 5:30 Catechism 7p Advent Service Adult Choir Prac- tice	7	8	9
10 9a Divine Service 10:15 ABC & SS 11:15a Elders Meeting	11 7p Handbell Choir Practice	12 5:30 Board of Christian Educ.	13 10:00aChapel 5:30 Catechism 7p Advent Service Adult Choir Prac	14	15	16
17 9a Divine Service 10:15 ABC & SS 11:15a Church Council Meeting	18 7p Handbell Choir Practice	19	20 10:00a Chapel 5:30 Catechism 7p Childrens Christmas Service	21		
24 9a Christmas Eve Service 10:15 ABC & SS 7:00 Service of Light	25 9:00a Christmas Day Service	26	27 7p.m. Divine Spoken Service	28		
31 9a Divine Serv 7p New Years Eve Service						

November 30, 2023 (un-audited)

## BETHLEHEM FINANCIAL REPORT

General Fund (Home Fund) Account to Pay Operating Bills (\$7,165.44)

### Savings Fund Balances

	Accrued Amount	Restricted Amount Borrowed	Account Balance
Improvement Fund	\$31,051.52	(\$2,100.00)	\$28,951.52
Scholarship Fund	\$ 6,596.02	(\$ 0.00)	\$ 6,596.02
Music Fund	\$ 2,484.61	(\$ 0.00)	\$ 2,484.61
Reserved (TBD)	\$ 2,369.00	(\$ 0.00)	\$ 2,369.00
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$42,501.15</b>	<b>(\$ 0.00)</b>	<b>\$40,401.15</b>

### Checkbook Balance

(\$ 7,165.44)

### Savings Account Balance

\$40,401.15

Total Savings and Checking Balance

\$33,235.71

### Borrowed Amounts

Restricted Savings Account	\$ 2,100.00
Operating Loan Amount	\$29,750.00
<b>TOTAL BORROWED</b>	<b>\$31,850.00</b>

Bills due week of December 4—\$12,000

Bills due week of December 11— \$4,000





June 21-23, 2024 will be the Indiana District LWML Convention in Danville, Indiana. Each congregation can send 2 voting delegates to the convention. If you are interested in being a delegate from Bethlehem, contact Vicki Schallhorn or Judy Moehring. Ruth Armel Scholarships are available for anyone who has never attended the District Convention. Contact Marilyn Bulmahn if you are interested in this scholarship. The theme of the convention is Rooted in Christ- Ephesians 3:17b



## Church Membership



Please welcome: Gary and Deann Oliver transferred to Bethlehem from St. Peters, Rockford, MI. on November 5, 2023. Their current address is 2111 E US 224 Ossian, IN 46777



**BAPTIZED** into the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ is Nora Elaine Geiger, newborn daughter of Logan and Marissa Geiger. Nora was born on November 4, 2023. She was baptized on Sunday, November 26, 2023. Sponsors for Nora are Jessica Schumm and Landon Geiger. We welcome Nora as a member of the Kingdom of God and joint heir with us of all God's blessings. Nora is joined at home with older sister, Avery.



**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**



What Are You Waiting For?  
December 3, 2023 – First Sunday in Advent Rev. Dr. Thomas Ahlersmeyer Be it the second coming or your own mortality, Jesus will return! Are you ready? If not, what are you waiting for? Sermon Text: Matthew 5:1-12 Readings:

Psalms 149; Revelation 7:9-17; Matthew 5:1-12

Comfort, Comfort My People December 10, 2023 – Second Sunday in Advent Rev. Dr. Walter Maier III We all need comfort for various reasons, which includes our feeling sorrow over our sins. So, be comforted! Even though we are sinners, God shows us abundant grace, and Jesus, our Good Shepherd, carries each of us in his arms. These truths are certain, because they come from God's Word, which stands forever. Sermon Text: Isaiah 40:1-11 Readings: Psalm 85:1-9, Isaiah 40:1-11, Mark 1:1-8

The Way of the Lord December 17, 2023 – Third Sunday in Advent Rev. Thomas Eggold The message of Advent is not that we should get better or get busy. This is not a time to show God how qualified we are for the kingdom. Instead, Advent calls us to despair of our efforts and let go of our past performance and to die at the foot of the cross of Jesus Christ where our burden was carried, our sin was punished, comfort is given, salvation is found, and we receive the righteousness of Christ. And this is the way of the Lord. Sermon Text: John 1:23 Readings: Psalm 126; Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11; John 1:6-8, 19-28

In a Manger December 24, 2023 – Christmas Day Observed Rev. Shayne Jonker The manger in Bethlehem is the first step toward a hilltop called Calvary and Christ's death for the sins of the world. Rather than shy away from that truth, we remember and marvel: the Son of God wills to become a swaddled baby in a Bethlehem barn because He wills to go to the cross for you. Sermon Text: Luke 2:7 Readings: Psalm 98; Isaiah 9:2-7; Luke 2:1-20

At Home with Jesus December 31, 2023 – First Sunday after Christmas Rev. Paul Shoemaker Mary and Joseph brought Jesus to the temple. Simeon and Anna greeted Him with joy. For many, being in church is a source of great joy. Worship Anew seeks to bring that joy to those who are unable to attend church. Sermon Text: Luke 2:22-40 Readings: Psalm 111; Galatians; Luke 2:22-40

## December



- 1) Easton Anthony
- 3) Annabelle Fuhrmann  
Cassandra Shelton  
Rachel Werling
- 4) Sue Buchinger  
Matthew Dathe  
Erika Lesh  
Ava Pynaert
- 5) Bruce Meyer
- 6) Megan Dunham
- 9) Ruth Witte
- 10) Brian Bultemeier
- 13) Justin Rekeweg  
Cale Schumm  
Logan Taylor
- 14) Ruth Bienz  
Donna Scheumann
- 18) Natalie Wanner
- 19) Andy Price  
Rise' Taylor
- 20) Dan Springer
- 21) Isabella Janero  
Todd Ottinger
- 22) David Avey  
Ian Delaney  
Karl Goede  
Marcia Meyer  
LeeAnn Steele
- 23) Cole Louison  
Camilla Shelton
- 24) Patsy Gallmeyer
- 26) Mark Schallhorn
- 28) Lisa Gresley  
Coty Newnum  
Gavin Shelton
- 29) Trent Bultemeier  
Danielle Werling
- 30) Amy Adams  
Loren Dathe  
Olivia Wanner  
Nicole Williamson
- 31) Pat Krumma  
Kay Schumm





**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 August 31, 2023:

\$205,927.82 - Amount Bethlehem sent in since 2009  
192,883.00 - Amount the Lutheran Foundation matched  
243,525.78 - Amount generated since 2009  
-124,500.00 - Amount disbursed to Bethlehem since 2009  
\$517,836.60 - Value of the Endowment Fund as of August 31, 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](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.

**Emmaus Cookie Fair**

Mark your calendar and plan to attend the annual Cookie Fair at Emmaus Lutheran Church, School & PreSchool, 8626 Covington Road, on Saturday, December 9, 2023, from 9:00 a.m. – Noon. A wonderful variety of homemade Christmas cookies and other favorites (including gluten free) will be sold for \$8.00 per pound. These homemade goodies make a wonderful gift and an easy way to do your last minute “Christmas baking!” Rada cutlery, delicious homemade jams, and kitchen hand towels will also be available to purchase. Free decorative tins will be available to make “gift wrapping” easy!

Join us on December 9, 2023, at 4:00 p.m. as we gather in Kramer Chapel for a special evening prayer service on the campus of Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne. This special Advent candlelight service is available to all. You can join us in person or watch and participate online at [ctsfiw.edu/daily-chapel](http://ctsfiw.edu/daily-chapel). The service starts at 4:00 p.m. EST and should last about one hour.

2024 ALTAR GUILD SCHEDULE is now posted on the bulletin board. Please consider signing up to prepare the altar for church services. Thank you

**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. Groups using the gym on a regular basis are reminded to please give a donation to help with maintenance of the gym. A donation box and envelopes are available at the north entrance of the school. Thank you



**Happy Anniversary!**

Dec. 3 Rick and Pat Krumma (46)  
Dec. 13 Sheldon and Cindy Meyer (37)  
Dec. 17 Rob and Kristin Gresley (1)

**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

# I am the Heart of LWML



## Our Vision

... is to **promote a strong LWML identity** among the women of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.

## Our Treasure

*For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also (Matthew 6:21).*

... **is Christ**; our heart is with Him and is shown in service to others through the LWML.

**We are the Heart of the LWML because we are HIS:**

- **Held** by His Word;
- **Inspired** to share His Gospel; and
- **Surrounded** by His grace.

## Our Goals

That each woman **recognizes** she is the Heart of LWML, **created to praise His name, reflect His glory, and share His love.**

That our church understands that **the Heart of LWML lies within each woman** as she engages in **mission education, mission inspiration, mission service, and mission support.**

That each woman of the LCMS **embraces her role as a Lutheran Woman in Mission.**

## Our Hearts

### **I am the Heart of LWML!**

"I will encourage all women to share their ideas, their traditions, their stories, and help them understand that they are a vital part of the Heart of the LWML."

### **I am the Heart of LWML!**

"I will embrace my role as a Lutheran Woman in Mission and personally invite members of my church to LWML activities."

### **I am the Heart of LWML!**

"As I serve, I share HIS mercy and love."

### **I am the Heart of LWML!**

"As I am forgiven — as I forgive others, HIS grace surrounds me."

### **I am the Heart of LWML!**

"As a Lutheran Woman in Mission, I will share the joy and wonder of what is done through the LWML by the grace of God — the resources created, the missions supported, and the ministries provided."

Each woman may confidently say, **"I am the Heart of LWML!"**



[lwml.org/heart-of-lwml](http://lwml.org/heart-of-lwml)



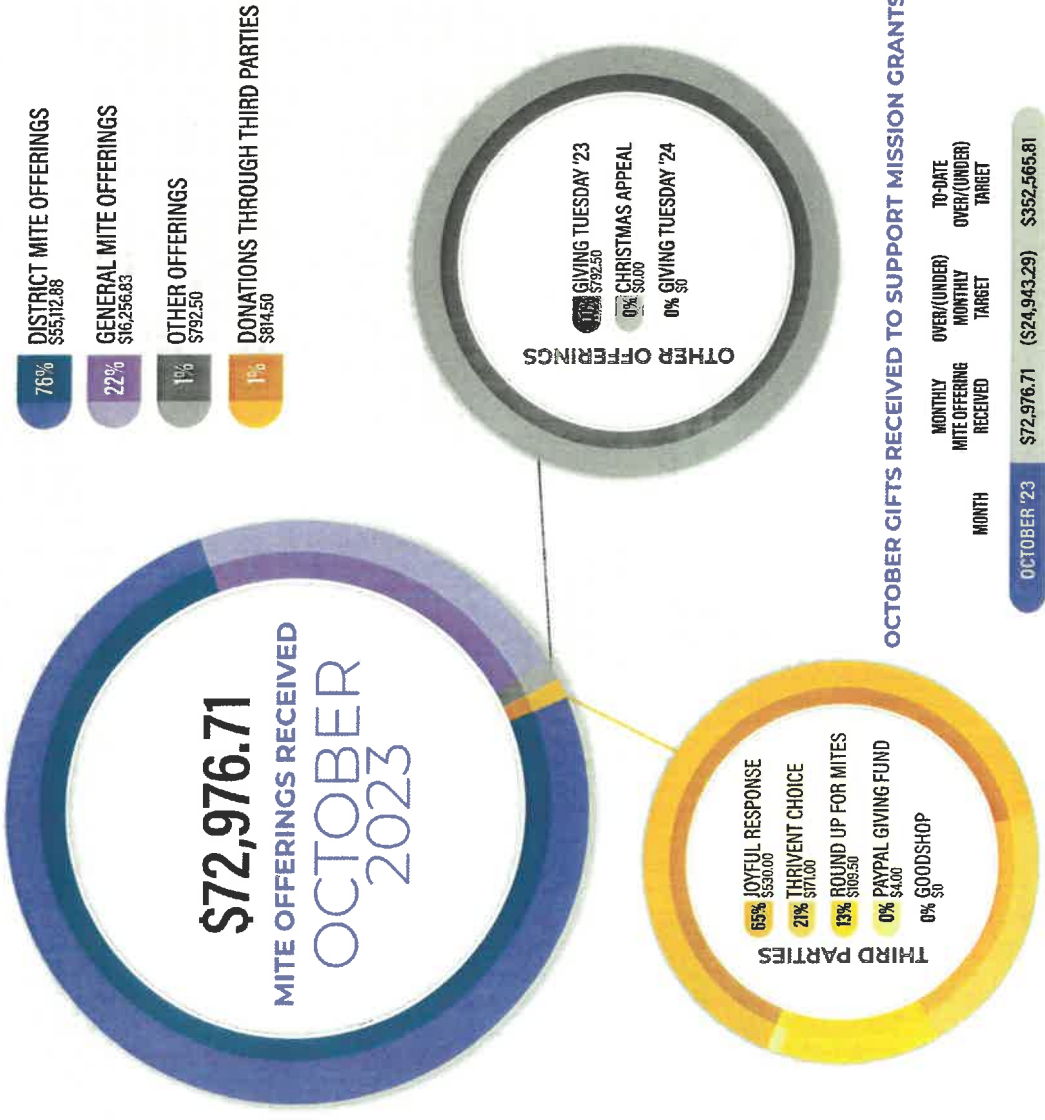
\$744,245.81

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

MISSION GOAL \$2,350,000

OCTOBER MITE SOURCES

MONTHLY MITE OFFERING TARGET: \$97,920

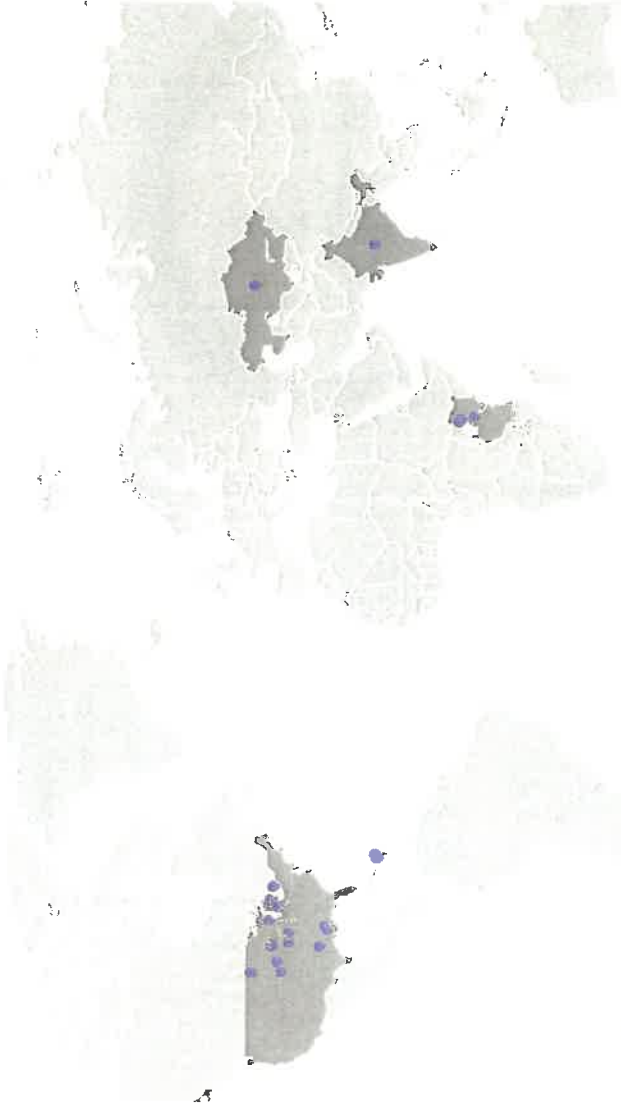


BIENNIUM TO-DATE MITE OFFERINGS REPORT July 1 – October 31, 2023			
	MITE OFFERINGS COLLECTED	BALANCE APPLIED TO MISSION GOAL	PERCENT ALLOCATED TO GRANTS
CARRYOVER FROM PREVIOUS PERIODS*	\$445,028.39		
DISTRICT OFFERINGS	\$169,203.56		90%
JOYFUL RESPONSE	\$2,120.00		100%
ROUND UP FOR MITES	\$433.00		100%
THRIVENT CHOICE	\$431.00		100%
PAYPAL GIVING FUND	\$4.00		100%
GOODSHOP	\$0.00		100%
GIVING TUESDAY-2023	\$42,732.28		100%
GIVING TUESDAY-2024	\$0.00		100%
CHRISTMAS APPEAL	\$821.00		100%
MITE OFFERINGS-RESTRICTED	\$51,133.45		100%
MITE OFFERINGS-UNRESTRICTED	\$24,573.94		90%
ENDOWMENT DISBURSEMENTS	\$7,765.19		100%
TOTAL	\$744,245.81		
		\$1,022,578.77	

2023-2025 BIENNIUM MISSION GOAL \$2,350,000.00  
AMOUNT (NEEDED)/EXCESS OF MISSION GOAL (\$1,605,754.19)

# OCTOBER 2023

## 2023-2025 MISSION GRANT DISTRIBUTIONS



### MISSION GRANT SPOTLIGHT

#### TRANSPORTATION FOR SPECIAL NEEDS STUDENTS AT JOURNEYS LUTHERAN SCHOOL



**Serving God's Children with Special Needs**  
 Journeys Lutheran School,  
 Wisconsin | \$100,000

Journeys Lutheran School in Milwaukee is Serving God's Children with Special Needs by providing educational opportunities in a specialized setting to meet the children's needs. The vans purchased with grant funds will be used to transport the children to and from events, internships, and other activities.

*But Jesus called them to him, saying, "Let the children come to me, and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of God" (Luke 18:16).*

NO.	MISSION GRANT	DISBURSED	STILL NEEDED
1	Orphan Grain Train Servant Center Orphan Grain Train	\$0.00	\$100,000
2	A Healing Space for At-Risk Children Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch, ND	\$0.00	\$100,000
3	Serving God's Children with Special Needs Journeys Lutheran School, Milwaukee, WI	\$0.00	\$100,000
4	Fortifying Faith in Those with Vision Impairment Lutheran Braille Workers	\$0.00	\$100,000
5	Disaster Response Team Trinity Lutheran Church, Tyler, TX	\$50,000.00	\$0
6	Mobile Kitchen Forged by Fire Services, Gulf Coast Region, U.S.	\$42,500.00	\$42,500.00
7	Upheld by God's Hand, Mental Health Outreach LCMS Life Ministry	\$0.00	\$96,500
8	Expanding Gospel Proclamation Worldwide Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, MO	\$0.00	\$100,000
9	Equipping Young Leaders LCMS Youth Ministry	\$0.00	\$50,000
10	Set Apart To Serve LCMS Office of Pastoral Education	\$0.00	\$100,000
11	Lutheran Women in Mission Finish the Job Ministry in Mission, Haiti	\$0.00	\$85,000
12	Sharing Christ Crucified with High School Youth Lutheran High School of Greater New Orleans, LA	\$0.00	\$35,000
13	Water and the Word Evangelical Lutheran Church in Kenya	\$0.00	\$80,000
14	Enhancement of Deaf Ministry and Outreach Epiphania Lutheran Mission Society	\$0.00	\$47,000
15	Feeding Haitian Children Through Gospel and Meals Trinity HOPE	\$0.00	\$58,082
16	Care for Street Children of Western Kenya Capstone Ministries	\$0.00	\$50,000
17	Nurturing Faith for the Aging Lutheran Ministries Media (Worship Anew)	\$0.00	\$100,000
18	Zoe's Home Support Zoe's Home, Trinity Lutheran Church, Clinton, MO	\$0.00	\$75,000
19	Tanzania Children's Homes Evangelical Lutheran Church of Tanzania, Africa	\$0.00	\$74,500
20	Sharing Christ with Women and Children in Kazakhstan Lutheran Hour Ministries	\$0.00	\$100,000
21	Healthy Together: Healthy Workers, Healthy Church Lutheran Family Services, U.S.	\$0.00	\$106,000
22	Expanding Gospel Outreach to Hispanics in U.S. Lutheran Hour Ministries	\$0.00	\$100,000
23	A Legacy of Love for Special Needs Children Lutheran Special Education Ministries, U.S.	\$0.00	\$100,000
24	God's Word for Central and South American Missions Lutheran Heritage Foundation	\$0.00	\$100,000
25	Bringing God's Word to India India Bible Translation Project	\$0.00	\$100,000
26	Life Connection Events and Kits Lutherans for Life	\$0.00	\$70,000
27	Siouxland Lutheran Hispanic Ministry Hope Lutheran, South Sioux City, NE	\$0.00	\$50,000
28	Growing Our Place: Care for Special Needs Students Our Place After School Care, Inc., ME	\$0.00	\$20,000
29	Repairs for St. Paul's Lutheran School St. Paul Lutheran School, Cullman, AL	\$0.00	\$50,000
30	Showering Love on the Least of These Mercy Holistic Ministry, CA	\$0.00	\$100,000
31	Breaking Generational Poverty in Detroit Camp Restore Detroit, MI	\$0.00	\$58,988

Give all thanks and praise to God! **TOTAL DISBURSED: \$92,500.00**



# YOUTH GROUP

DECEMBER 2023



## Who Am I

Higher Things Conferences 2024

## Kick off Event

BY DEACONESS WENDY BOEHM

in November we had a wonderful fellowship event between New Hope and Bethlehem youth at Fort Wayne Escape Room. We have also been busy selling cheeseballs and still have some left if anyone is interested in purchasing some for the holidays. All proceeds will go towards our Higher Things trip in 2024.

Coming up in December we will have a meeting to discuss more information about the trip and get an accurate headcount for the event. We will also have an LYF Christmas party which will be determined soon.

Keep a look out in the bulletin for upcoming fundraiser information including information about Wednesday evening Advent Suppers.

### Upcoming Events

**Sunday, December 10:**  
LYF Bible Study 6:30pm

**TBD:**  
LYF Christmas Party

**Sunday, December 24:**  
NO bible study

Doughnut  
Duty  
Leah



# THANK YOU

*For your support!*

## **Wells County 4-H Association, Inc.**

**Wells County 4-H Backpack Program**

**1240 4-H Road, Bluffton, IN 46714**

**EIN: 35-1152326**

November 1, 2023

Bethlehem Lutheran Church  
6514 E 750 N  
Ossian, IN 46777

Thank you for your donation to the Wells County 4-H Backpack Program a/k/a Feeding Tomorrow's Future Today is as follows for the year so far.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Check #</u>
5/10/2023	\$ 43.00	Cash Donations at Fish Fry
8/21/2023	\$1,969.81	31648

This organization is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization by the standards of the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). Therefore, the donation may be tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.

Again, thank you so much for helping feed the hungry families of Wells County.

*Susan Girod*

Susan Girod, Treasurer  
Wells County 4-H Backpack Program







# TIGER TALES

"Connected to Christ"



## Principal's Message

### Christmas Connects us to Christ

Christmas is a celebration of our connection to Christ! Picture that little Baby in the manger. That Baby is a human child just like all of us, born from a human mother as all babies are. And His birth is even more lowly than most, laid in a feed trough. He is connected to our blood, our bodies, and He is connected to our poverty and pain. But that poor Baby is also the true Lord, the eternal Son of the Father, the Second Person of the Holy Trinity. He is the source of all the life and glory of heaven. So if He is connected to us, then that means we are

also connected to God. Christmas is all about our connection to Christ. He connects Himself to us—being a man like us, connected to our flesh, our weakness, even our sin and death. And He does that so we can be connected to Him, to God—sharing His divinity, connected to His strength, His joy, even His righteousness and life.

Christ, by highest heaven adored,  
Christ, the everlasting Lord,  
Late in time behold Him come,  
Offspring of a virgin's womb.  
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see,  
Hail the incarnate Deity!  
Pleased as Man with man to dwell,  
Jesus, our Immanuel!  
Hark! The herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the newborn King!" (LSB 380:2)



Merry Christmas!

Your servant in Christ,

Pastor Anthony Dodgers

## CALENDAR

Dec. 4 Children's Christmas Lunch  
Dec. 8 Skating Party  
Dec. 12 Board of Education Meeting  
Dec. 20 Children's Christmas Service  
Dec. 22 End of 2nd Quarter  
Dec. 25-Jan.5 Christmas Break  
Dec. 24 Christmas Eve  
Dec. 25 Christmas Day  
Dec. 31 New Year's Eve

## DECEMBER 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

## NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Dec. 3 Annabelle Fuhrmann  
Dec. 5 Anna Haiflich  
Dec. 6 Maddox Kelley  
Dec. 7 Everett Sommer  
Dec. 12 Violet Nahrwold  
Dec. 13 Emma Campbell  
Dec. 23 Eliana Leamon





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](http://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

**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

We have chapel families made of a few students of each grade, so older students can help younger students when we go to chapel. Each family has a name, in alphabetical order, and the names are from the Bible. Each family has a color, to help students who can't read find their family.

The old chapel family signs were paper and kept ripping, so we made banners to hang on the pews in church. Micah, Jacob, and I cut the fabric, embroidered the names with Mrs. Krumma's embroidery machine, sewed layers of fabric together, sewed a pocket for a dowel rod, and glued ribbon onto the rod for hanging.

Thank you Mrs. Krumma and Mrs. Stuckwisch for helping with this project. We hope everyone enjoys the new banners!

-Emma Wirgau



Everyone is invited to attend the PTL Skating Party on Friday, December 8th from 4-6 pm at the West Park Skating Rink in Huntington. There is no cost for this event except for food and drink. PTL will be paying the cost. Please plan to attend for a fun evening with family and friends!

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 Norwell Community Schools.**

**NO SCHOOL—December 25-January 5 Christmas Break (does not follow Norwell's schedule)**

Please note that because Norwell does not have school December 21 & 22, Bethlehem will NOT be provided with hot lunch or morning/afternoon bus service.



E-learning packets will be used this year for weather related closures and teachers will be distributing 5 days this week for parents to have on hand. An email will be sent on the day of closure to indicate an E-learning day.

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](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 HOLIDAY SHOPPING**

*Everyone is encouraged to use the online "ShopwithScrip" app to buy and reload gift cards for faster turn around. Create an account on [RaiseRight.com](http://RaiseRight.com) and enter our Bethlehem enrollment code:*

***43ALE7851441.** Or for physical 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. Thank you for your support.*



Help our 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> 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

During the 2nd quarter (Oct. 9-Dec. 22) our school families will be supporting the Northern Wells Food Pantry.

Along with our weekly chapel offerings, we will be collecting different items and there will be a school-wide reward if we reach our collection goals.



October 9—25 Canned Goods 150 cans (accomplished!!)

October 30– November 10 Personal Hygiene items 50 items

November 13-December 1 Boxed Food 100 items

**December 4– 22 Paper Products and Snack Foods 100 items**

Thank you for supporting this project!

Thank  
You

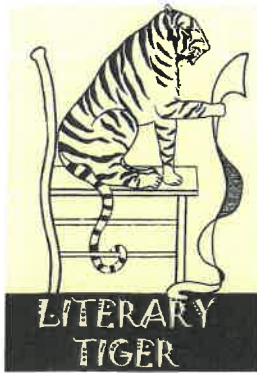
Dear students of Bethlehem Lutheran School,  
We wanted to thank you all so much for supporting us during this fall quarter. Your gifts are very much needed, and we will put them to good use. It is because of the support, prayers, and encouragement of fellow servants of Christ that we can

continue our time at the seminary. I truly enjoyed being able to serve during the Matins Chapel Service and worship with everyone supporting us. One of our favorite experiences this quarter was visiting all the classrooms and being able to meet and answer questions with everyone. Thank you all again for everything and continue with zeal in your studies as well, you will be in our prayers.

Seminarian Travis and Monica (*Seminarian that we supported with our 1st quarter Chapel offering.*)

### Reminder to parents:

For those parents needing early morning drop off, we will have the doors unlocked by 8:45 a.m. However, we need your help to remind those students to sit quietly in the hallway outside their classroom until permission to enter is granted. Thank you



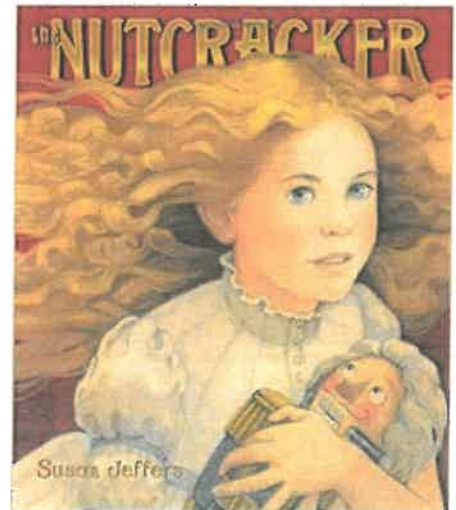
## Tales for Tigers

Many families enjoy watching Christmas movies together this time of year. If you don't already, consider making it a tradition to enjoy Christmas stories together, too. Parents or Grandparents (or kids!) can read aloud to the whole family. We have a variety of Christmas books for all ages in the school library.



"A Christmas Carol" is an obvious choice (and can be paired with my favorite, "Muppet Christmas Carol" movie), and perhaps you already enjoy "A Visit from St. Nicholas" every December 24th. The ever-popular "Best Christmas Pageant Ever" is a light-hearted story, which will likely cause giggles for parents and children alike. "The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe" or even the whole Narnia collection, would be worthy additions to your yearly re-read pile.

Some newer options include "The Vanderbeekers of 141st Street" by Karina Yan Glaser, about five siblings who try to solve a big problem – their family may be kicked out of their beloved home, at Christmas! This is the first book in a delightful series. You could also check out "A Place to Hang the Moon" by Kate Albus, which is not really a Christmas story, but includes some satisfying Christmas moments. This historical fiction novel takes place in England during World War II, and follows children who are evacuated from London and search for a home.



Picture books can also be enjoyed by the whole family, not only younger students. We have a few music-related offerings - you could admire the lovely Edward Riojas illustrations in "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" and try to memorize the hymn together, and listen to a recording of "The Waltz of the Snowflakes" while reading about the story of the Nutcracker ballet in a picture book adaptation by Susan Jeffers.

Your school librarians would love to help you find a new family favorite in the school library!

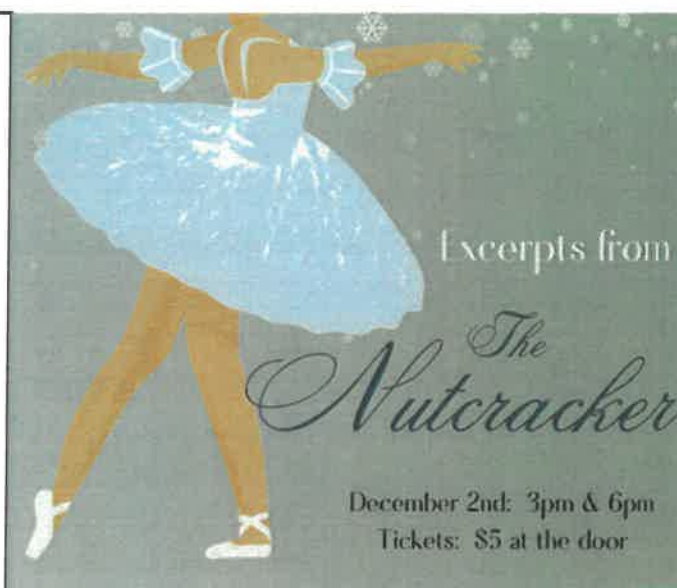


Many Bethlehem students regularly participate in music, dance, theater, and other arts activities outside of school. We would love to share information about upcoming performances and recitals featuring Bethlehem students! Contact the school office with any details you wish to be shared in future issues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

#### Upcoming Events:

All are welcome to the Bluffton Creative Arts Council performance of excerpts from The Nutcracker ballet!

Tigers Jonah Bultemeier, Anna Furhmann, and Gianna Wirgau will all be dancing as party guests and polichinelles. Tiger Emma Wirgau will be in the Snow, Flower, and Spanish



#### First Quarter Honor Roll

##### A/B Honor

##### 5<sup>th</sup> Grade

Hunter Householder  
Emmalee Kelley  
Matthew Rekeweg

##### 6<sup>th</sup> Grade

Ivan Bales  
Savannah Fuller  
Lucas Werling

##### 7<sup>th</sup> Grade

Vinny Fuhrmann  
Emma Wirgau

##### A Honor

##### 5<sup>th</sup> Grade

Bailey Meyer



#### Please join us in cheering for our Bethlehem Tigers

Everyone is welcome!

Monday, December 4<sup>th</sup>

5:15 p.m. JV Girls vs Harlan  
Christian School (HOME)

6:15 p.m. JV Boys vs Harlan  
Christian School (HOME)

Monday, December 11<sup>th</sup>

5:15 p.m. JV Girls vs St. Louis Academy (away)

Monday, December 18<sup>th</sup>

5:15 p.m. JV Girls vs Zion Lutheran, Decatur  
(HOME)

6:15 p.m. JV Boys vs Zion Lutheran, Decatur  
(HOME)

Tuesday, December 19<sup>th</sup> **CANCELLED**

Be sure to visit the concession stand supported by our Washington D.C. students and parents.





**HOLIDAY SERVICES -** Please join us for worship:

December 3 First Sunday in Advent Divine Service at 9:00 a.m.

December 6<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> Wednesday Evening Advent Services at 7:00 p.m.

*The Bethlehem Youth Group will be providing a free-will light supper before the service*

December 20<sup>th</sup> Bethlehem Lutheran School Children's Christmas Service 7:00 p.m.

**Students should arrive between 6:30-6:45 p.m.**

*The Bethlehem Youth Group will be serving a free-will light supper before the service*

December 24<sup>th</sup> Christmas Eve Divine Service 9:00 a.m.

Christmas Eve Service of Light 7:00 p.m.

December 25<sup>th</sup> Christmas Day Divine Service 9:00 a.m.

December 31<sup>st</sup> Divine Service 9:00 a.m.

New Year's Eve Divine Service 7:00 p.m.



**On Monday, December 4<sup>th</sup>, the Women of Bethlehem will be providing the school children and staff with a special Christmas luncheon. The regular school lunch will NOT be served.**



On Nov. 10, the 7th and 8th graders visited Concordia High School in Fort Wayne. They heard performances from the marching band and choir. They got a tour of the school and got to visit each department where various activities were held like math games and science experiments. There was also a big interactive event featuring the ROTC program. They were served lunch and got to talk to high school students, teachers, and coaches. It was a fun day experiencing what this Lutheran High School has to offer.



### **NLSA (National Lutheran School Accreditation)**

Congratulations Bethlehem Lutheran School

Thank you to everyone for their prayers of support during the process of this year's school accreditation.

Thank you to the members of the 6 standard committee for participating in this process.

Thank you to the Women of Bethlehem for a wonderful dinner.

The visitation team was very impressed with our school and recommended us for Accreditation.

Grab your partner & promenade over to a

# SQUARE DANCE

*The Mirage Banquet Hall*  
**Friday, Dec. 8th**

Christmas is  
a comin!  
And guitars will be  
strummin



The wheat's in the ground  
The harvest is done (almost)  
Come to the M I R A G E  
And have some fun!

**Music by BILL WERLING & BREAKAWAY**

**Square Dancing: 8-11 p.m.**

**Doors Open: 7:00 p.m.**

**Square Dance Lessons for Beginners: 7:30 p.m.**

*For more information contact Bill W: 260-442-4333*

**Proceeds to benefit St. Peter-Immanuel Lutheran School**

**Admission: \$10 - Full Cash Bar Available**

