



March 2024

Volume 12, Issue 7

Star

Ordering our Days to and from His Table

Lent ends and we begin our Easter celebration on the final day of March. During Holy Week we observe Maundy Thursday, the night when our Lord instituted the Sacrament of the Altar. This affords us the opportunity to turn our attention to this gift which our Lord has given to the Church and the place it has in ordering our days in His peace. The Words of Institution which our Lord gave to us teach us what the Lord's Supper is, what it does, and who should receive it.

What is it? It is what Jesus says it is, namely, the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, under the bread and wine given for us Christians to eat and to drink. It does not represent an absent Christ. It is the God-man, our Lord Jesus Christ who comes down to us to feed us of Himself. It is His Word which does this, the same word that spoke creation into existence.

What does it do? Why does Christ feed us? Again we ask, "What does Jesus say?" "Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins." The forgiveness Christ won upon the cross He truly distributes in His body and blood. As great as our need is as sinners so He provides us the forgiveness of sins, which also strengthens our faith in Him as we live our Christian lives in faith to God and fervent love toward one another.

Who should receive it? We also learn from our Lord's Words of Institution who should be admitted to the Lord's Supper. We hear in the Small Catechism, "the words 'for you' require all hearts to believe." We sometimes call this the practice of "closed communion." Faith is how one is truly worthy and well-prepared. Such faith is in the words of our Lord. The "for you" shows that we must know our need, and know what we receive.

To know our need is to be able to examine ourselves (1 Cor. 11:28) in light of God's Law, the Ten Commandments. It is also to examine ourselves in light of who God is and what He has done for us in Christ in His Gospel. In short, it is to know our sin and to know our savior. It is also to know what Christ gives, not in some highly sophisticated academic sense, but in the simple confession that faith makes, "it is what Jesus says it is, His Body and Blood for the forgiveness of my sins."

It is neither age, grade, academic level, nor physical or mental maturity by which one is prepared to receive the Lord's Supper. It is not because one has the whole Small Catechism memorized (though learning by heart the chief parts of the Catechism is vital toward Christian growth and catechesis). It is not whether or not one is confirmed (though Confirmation is a good, right, and salutary practice in catechizing and confirming children and adults in their baptismal faith). It is for those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, who know what they receive and why. It is those who have been instructed, examined, and absolved, and who live their Christian life in continual catechesis, repentance, and forgiveness. God grant it to all of us.

Peace in Christ,
Pastor Wirgau



Bethlehem Evangelical Lutheran Church
6514 East 750 North
Ossian, Indiana 46777
(260) 597-7121



Rev. Samuel Wirgau
260-273-7595
Samuel.wirgau@gmail.com

A congregation of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

March 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 9a Divine Service 10:15 ABC & SS	4 7p Handbell Choir Practice	5	6 10:00a Chapel 5:30 Catechism 6p Lenten Supper 7p Divine Service Adult Choir	7	8	9
10 9a Divine Service 10:15 ABC & SS 11:15a Elders Meeting	11 7p Handbell Choir Practice	12	13 10:00a Chapel 5:30 Catechism 6p Lenten Supper 7p Divine Service Adult Choir	14	15 School Science Fair	16 9a Book Club meeting at Crimson House
17 9a Divine Service 10:15 ABC & SS 11:15a Board of Elders Meeting	18 6p.m. PTL Meeting 7p Handbell Choir Practice	19 5:30 Board of Christian Educ. Meeting	20 10:00a Chapel 5:30 Catechism 6p Lenten Supper 7p Divine Service Adult Choir	21	22 NO SCHOOL	23
24 9a Palm Sunday Divine Service 10:15 ABC & SS	25 7p Handbell Choir Practice	26	27	28 7p Maundy Thursday Divine Service	29 7p Good Friday Service	30
31 6:30a Easter Sunrise 7:30 Easter Breakfast 9a Easter Service	<div>Spring Break—NO School</div> <div>  </div>					

March 1, 2024

BETHLEHEM FINANCIAL REPORT

General Fund (Home Fund) Account to Pay Operating Bills (18,708.76)

Savings Fund Balances

	Accrued Amount	Restricted Amount Borrowed	Account Balance
Improvement Fund	\$33,800.84	(\$2,200.00)	\$31,600.84
Scholarship Fund	\$ 7,621.02	(\$ 0.00)	\$ 7,621.02
Music Fund	\$ 2,843.20	(\$ 0.00)	\$ 2,843.00
Reserved (TBD)	<u>\$ 2,369.00</u>	<u>(\$ 0.00)</u>	<u>\$ 2,369.00</u>
TOTALS	\$46634.06	(\$ 0.00)	\$44,434.06

Checkbook Balance

(\$18,708.76)

Savings Account Balance

\$44,434.06

Total Savings and Checking Balance

\$25,725.30

Borrowed Amounts

Restricted Savings Account	\$ 2,200.00
Operating Loan Amount	<u>\$14,600.00</u>
TOTAL BORROWED	<u>\$16,800.00</u>

Bills due week of March 3 \$14,000

Bills due week of March 10 \$12,500



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



SAVE THESE LWML DATES:

Spring Rally is Saturday, April 27 at St. John Flatrock

Fall Rally is Saturday, September 14 at St Peter Fuelling

Fall Workshop is Saturday, October 5 at St Paul Preble

HOLY WEEK SERVICE SCHEDULE Palm Sunday Divine Service will be held 24th at 9:00 a.m. *Procession of Palms - We will have the children participate in the procession of palms. All the children are invited to participate in this at the beginning of the service. Please arrive 10 minutes before the service. If you have any questions, see Deaconess Boehm.*

Maundy Thursday Divine Service held on March 28th at 7:00 p.m.

Good Friday Service on March 29th at 7:00 p.m.

Easter Sunday on March 31st with Sunrise Divine Service at 6:30 a.m.

Easter Breakfast at 7:30 a.m.

Easter Day Divine Service at 9:00 a.m.

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



MEMBERS ARE REMINDED TO SIGN UP FOR FLOWERS TO BE PLACED ON THE ALTAR OR HYMNBOARD. Simply use the 2024 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



Christ Cleanses the Temple
March 3, 2024 – Third Sunday
in Lent Rev. Dr. Walter Maier
III Christ's cleansing of the
temple was one incident in his
fight against evil. His carrying
on that fight is good news for
us, and guides us as to how we

believers are to live in today's world. Sermon Text:
John 2:13-16 Readings: Psalm 19:1, 7-14; 1 Corin-
thians 1:18-25; John 2:13-16

Lifted Up March 10, 2024 – Fourth Sunday in Lent
Rev. Thomas Eggold There is not a story or sign in the
entire Old Testament that points more directly to the
Cross than the serpent on the stake. Here a bronze ser-
pent hangs from a cross, and it was put there by God
precisely because of sin. The sign of our sin and the
image of the death we deserve is suspended between
heaven and earth and between God and man. And
there, on the wooden pole, God saved His people. Ser-
mon Text: John 3:14-15 Readings: Psalm 107:1-9;
Numbers 21:4-9; John 3:14-21

Greatness In His Glory March 17, 2024 – Fifth Sunday
in Lent Rev. Shayne Jonker Jesus alone was qualified,
there is no one on earth who can lift this miserable cup
of death to his lips and drink it to the bottom. There is
no one on earth who can be baptized into our death and
rise up out of it to life. Only Jesus Christ, the Word
made Flesh can stand in our place and do for all what
we can't do for ourselves. Sermon Text: Mark 10:45
Readings: Psalm 119:9-16; Jeremiah 31:31-34; Mark
10:32-45

The Suffering Savior March 24, 2024 – Sunday of the
Passion Rev. Paul Shoemaker Jesus took upon Himself
the sins of all people for all time. On Calvary's cross
He paid for those sins in full. His resurrection on East-
er was God the Father's "Well done." He accom-
plished His task. His victory is complete. Sermon Text:
Mark 15:1-47 Readings: Psalm 31:9-16; Mark 15:1-47

Boy! Do I Love Him! March 31, 2024 – Easter Sunday
Rev. William Mueller Easter Sunday is so filled with
joy! The sudden turn of events in the life of Jesus and
His disciples. Even though He had told the disciples
about it ahead of time, no one remembered this would
be. Death is swallowed up in victory. In the resurrec-
tion of Jesus death is undone. The plug is pulled on
death. And this brings us great joy! Sermon Text: Isai-
ah 25:6-9 Readings: Psalm 16; Isaiah 25:6-9; Mark
16:1-8

March

- 01) Dale Meyer
Cole Patrick
Sarena Wirgau
- 02) Jonathan Dathe
RieAnn Krinn
Arlene Werling
- 03) Kim Graft
Olivia Lambert
Lucas Werling
- 04) Jordan Flesch
Grayson Smith
Greyson Taylor
- 5) Betsy Dodgers
Betty Roembke
Vicki Schallhorn
- 06) Richard Brinkley
Jason Rekeweg
- 08) Kenneth Werling
- 09) Autumn Fisher
Michael Pursifull
Glen Werling
- 10) Brian Shelton
- 11) Lorie Bauermeister
Violet Boehm
- 13) Sheryl Bauermeister
- 14) Elijah Campbell
- 15) David Flesch
- 16) Archer Todd
- 17) Preston Graham
Nicole Walda
- 18) Trent Aschliman
Adalyn Patrick
- 19) Sandra Graft
Diana Thorpe
Julie Werling
Tori Wiese
- 20) Burk Evans
Collin Laley
Phillip Werling
- 21) Donald Avey
Don Schueler
- 22) Vinny Fuhrmann
Makena Scheumann
- 25) Cindy Meyer
- 26) Landri Bauermeister
Nathanael Werling
- 27) Emersyn Schumm
- 29) Emily Anthony
- 30) Sarah Bauemeister
Debbie Coty
Chandler Green
- 31) Sheldon Meyer



**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 December 31, 2023:

\$214,927.82 - Amount Bethlehem sent in since 2009
201,883.00 - Amount the Lutheran Foundation matched
261,264.13 - Amount generated since 2009
-124,500.00 - Amount disbursed to Bethlehem since 2009
\$553,574.95 - Value of the Endowment Fund as of December 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 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.

Funeral Pre-planning forms - For those interested in pre-planning their funeral service here at Bethlehem, there are planning forms available on the narthex table or in this issue of the Bethlehem Star. Please return to the church office to be filed. Contact our church secretary, Heidi Kleppinger if questions.

We have a military display board in the church hallway. If you have a family member who is currently serving in the military and would like to add them to the board, please send Deaconess Boehm the following information: military picture, name, rank, branch and any other information you would like to add. If you have a family member who was a veteran please send: name, rank and time served. 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!

March 3 Andrew and Gay Stoppenhagen (23)
March 12 Brian and Kirsten Whitsitt (25)
March 14 Mark and Susan Sauer (43)



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

Church Membership



Hazel Laine Todd, newborn daughter of Andrew and Shelby Todd born on January 24th and Baptized on February 4th. Hazel's sponsors are Jared and Stephanie Fawcett and witnesses are Jessica Meyer, Kristina Todd and Thomas Bradtmueller. We welcome Hazel to the Kingdom of God and join with us of all God's blessings. Hazel joins her older brother Archer at home.

New Members by Transfer:
David, Michelle and son
Bryce transferred to Bethlehem with the Elders consent on February 11, 2024. Please be sure to welcome them.

Address:
5170 E 500 N
Craigville, IN 46731



Death: Margaret Whitesel passed away on January 10, 2024 Funeral Service was held here at Bethlehem on January 19, 2024 with burial in the Bethlehem Cemetery.

Current membership: 502 Baptized 394 Communicant



NEW WholyFit Classes! Ladies, join us for a Christ-centered alternative to yoga. These classes provide a safe way to increase flexibility, build muscle and core strength, improve mobility, reduce stress and improve mental well-being. And the best part, you will be memorizing Scripture as you move! Designed for all fitness levels. Classes will be offered Mondays at 6:00pm and 7:00pm and Thursdays at 7:00pm. Call/text Deann Oliver at 616-894-0144 for more information.

YOUTH GROUP

FEBRUARY 2024

BY DEACONESS WENDY BOEHM

We are so thankful to all who gave support to the youth Chili Cook-Off and Game Night at New Hope. The evening was filled with fellowship, food, and snow!



During one of our bible studies, we had special guest, Rev. Michael Trombley from Trinity Lutheran Church in Fort Wayne come to speak to the youth about demons and angels. If you are interested in hearing Pastor Trombley speak, he recently did a "Drive to School" video with Higher Things on this subject:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RRZCApkA9Ug>

The youth will continue to have lenten mid-week suppers with free will donation. Easter Breakfast will be on Easter morning between services.



Upcoming Events

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

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

**Doughnut
Duty
Sarena**

REMINDER



VBS 2024

SAVE THE DATE

JULY 8-11, 2024

Registration and more information coming soon.



Book Club

**THE NIGHTINGALE: A NOVEL
BY KRISTIN HANNAH**

WE WILL MEET IN PERSON AT CRIMSON HOUSE MARCH 16 AT
9:00AM TO DISCUSS THE BOOK IN PERSON.

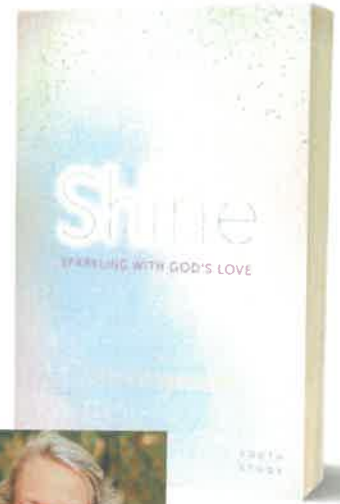
LET DEACONESS BOEHM KNOW IF YOU WILL BE ATTENDING!



Middle School

Shine

The middle school girls (5th-8th Grade) have been going through the study “Shine: Sparkling with God’s Love” by Christina Hergenrader. We recently went over the chapter “What Do You Want . . . More?” which talks about always wanting more, the human needs of never being fully satisfied...always wanting more. Each month we read a chapter and discuss along with a fun fellowship activity/snack.



March
20

Ten Steps to Transform Your Bedroom

Deaconess Discussion

2024
CONNECTED
NATIONAL LUTHERAN SCHOOLS WEEK

In honor of National Lutheran Schools Week in January, the students heard a presentation about the history of their Lutheran School, Bethlehem.

Since 1897



Bethlehem Lutheran Church

FUNERAL FORM

Full Name: _____

Date: _____

Full Name: First, Middle (Maiden), Last

Birth Date: _____

Baptismal Date: _____

Confirmation Date: _____

Confirmation Verse: _____

Marriage Date: _____

Spouse: _____

Children: _____

Please see back side for service selection details.

"I am the resurrection and the life..."

JOHN 11:25

Kantorei Lenten Tour

Lenten Evening Prayer led by the Kantorei
of Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne

Saturday, March 2

5:00 p.m. (regular weekly church service)

Trinity Lutheran Church

1122 W. Central Park Ave.
Davenport, IA 52804
(563) 323-8001

trinitydavenport.org

Sunday, March 3

10:00 a.m. (regular weekly church service)

Holy Cross Lutheran Church

4107 21st Ave.
Moline, IL
(309) 764-9720

holycrossmoline-lcms.org

Sunday, March 3

7:00 p.m.

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church

2145 John F. Kennedy Rd.
Dubuque, IA 52002
(563) 588-1247

ourredeemerdubuque.360unite.com

Monday, March 4

11:30 a.m. (midday devotion service)

College Hill Lutheran Church

2322 Olive St.
Cedar Falls, IA 50613
(319) 266-1274

college-hill.org

Monday, March 4

7:30 p.m.

St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church

124 S. Iowa St.
Hubbard, IA 50122
(641) 864-2672

stjohnhubbard.com

Tuesday, March 5

6:30 p.m.

Zion Lutheran Church

1204 Center St.
Manning, IA 51455
(712) 655-3252

zionmanning.com

Wednesday, March 6

6:00 p.m.

First Lutheran Church

401 E. Pankishaw St.
Paola, KS 66071
(913) 294-3476

firstlutheran-paola.org

Thursday, March 7

7:00 p.m.

St. Paul Lutheran Church

239 Frank St.
Council Bluffs, IA 51503
(712) 322-4729

stpaulscouncilbluffs.org

Friday, March 8

6:30 p.m.

Trinity Lutheran Church

656 5th Ave. S.
Clinton, IA 52732
(563) 242-5328

trinitylutheranclinton.org

Sunday, March 17

4:00 p.m.

Concordia Theological Seminary

Kramer Chapel
6600 N. Clinton St.
Fort Wayne, IN 46825
(260) 452-2100

ctsfw.edu

Kantor Kevin Hildebrand, director

Rev. Dr. Ryan Tietz, preacher

Rev. Timothy Frank (St. Paul Lutheran Church,
Council Bluffs, IA), guest organist



Programs and resources to amplify your generosity

How to apply for a Thrivent Action Team

Your passion and excitement for your community are sure to make your Thrivent Action Team a success. Follow these steps to apply—and don't forget to share the results of your project with us.

1. Visit thrivent.com/actionteam for resources to help you brainstorm ideas and prepare for your project.
2. Once you have your project idea, get ready to apply. Here's what you'll need to have handy when you fill out the application:
 - Your User ID and password.
 - Your estimated project date. (Allow 14 days for your Thrivent Action Kit to arrive.)
 - A short description of your project and how your volunteer team will be involved.
 - The church or other nonprofit organization that will benefit from the project, if applicable.
 - How you'll use the Community Impact Card.
 - Number of volunteers on your team and T-shirt sizes.
3. Now that you have everything you need, visit thrivent.com/actionteam and click **Apply Now** to begin the application process. Applying for a Thrivent Action Team takes less than 15 minutes.
4. If it is your first time logging in, you will need your Thrivent ID. If you don't know your Thrivent ID, please contact your Thrivent financial advisor or call 800-847-4836 for assistance.

After you've completed the application, watch your email inbox to see if your project was approved. You should receive an email within 24 hours of submitting your application.

After your project

Go to thrivent.com/actionteam and share your story. Reporting on your project takes less than 10 minutes. Make sure you have the following handy:

- Your User ID and password.
- What your team accomplished.
- Number of:
 - Volunteers on your team (and their names).
 - Hours to plan the event and length of event.
 - Hours (on average) each person volunteered.
 - Total participants.
- The amount raised if you hosted a food drive or fundraiser.

Questions? We're here for you.

Call 800-847-4836 and say "Thrivent Action Teams."

Membership benefits are not guaranteed contractual benefits. The interpretation of the provisions of these benefits is at the sole discretion of Thrivent. These benefits are reviewed and evaluated regularly. Thrivent reserves the right to change, modify, discontinue or refuse to provide any of the membership benefits or any part of them at any time.

Directing Choice Dollars® and personal giving: A how-to guide

Direct Choice Dollars Online

1. Log in to thrivent.com with your username and password. (If you haven't yet registered on thrivent.com, click **Register now**.)
2. Select **Direct Choice Dollars** from the left side or at the bottom of your Account Overview screen..
3. Choose the organization to which you want to direct Choice Dollars:
 - a. To direct to a previous organization, simply locate the organization listed under **Previous organizations you've chosen**.
 - b. To direct to a new organization, **enter keyword(s)** like organization name, ZIP code, cause, etc. Click the **magnifying glass icon** to search.
4. **Enter the specific number** of Choice Dollars you wish to direct and click **Review**. If you are satisfied with your choices, click **Confirm and direct** to direct your Choice Dollars.

Direct Choice Dollars by Phone

1. Call 800-847-4836 and when prompted, say **"Thrivent Choice."**
2. **Press 1** to direct Choice Dollars or **2** to hear Thrivent Choice Dollars program Terms and Conditions. (If prompted, say or enter your phone number and date of birth.)
3. A client service professional will work with you to direct Choice Dollars.

Want to make an even bigger difference?

Make a personal donation at thrivent.com/thriventchoice. Thrivent pays the processing fees so 100% of your donation goes to help.* Click **Make a personal donation** and search the Thrivent Choice Catalog. Once you locate the organization to which you wish to donate, click **Make a Personal Donation**. You'll then be sent to Thrivent Charitable Impact & Investing® to make the donation.

*Thrivent will pay up to \$300,000 in online processing fees per calendar year for personal donations made through Thrivent's online giving platform. The Thrivent Choice® charitable grant program engages Thrivent clients with membership and Thrivent Member Networks in providing grants that support charitable activities, furthering Thrivent's mission and its purposes under state law. All grant decisions, including grant recipients and amounts, are made at the sole discretion of Thrivent. Directing Choice Dollars® is subject to the program's Terms and Conditions available at thrivent.com/thriventchoice.





English Country Dancing for Fun

Who: Anyone ages 0-99 (you, probably!)

What: informal English Country
Dancing, all taught on site, no prior
experience needed

Where: Bethany Lutheran Church,
2435 Engle Rd.

When: 2nd and 4th Sunday afternoons
at 3pm

Why: For fun!

Email reminder list

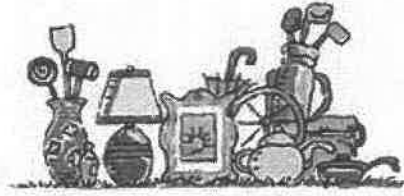


Google calendar
(option to add in lower right corner)

For more information or questions, contact kirsten.nus@cuw.edu



SPRING RUMMAGE SALE



ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH, FLATROCK
12912 FRANKE ROAD, MONROEVILLE
IN THE GYMNASIUM

FRIDAY, MARCH 22ND, 8-5PM
SATURDAY, MARCH 23RD, 8-NOON

BAG SALE ON SATURDAY

PRICED ITEMS NOT INCLUDED IN BAG SALE.
PRICED ITEMS HALF PRICE ON SATURDAY.

Proceeds go towards missions and church projects.

POE

Volunteer Fire Department
**Pancake & Sausage
Brunch**

Sunday, March 24, 2024

9:00 am to 1:00 pm

at: Poe Fire Station

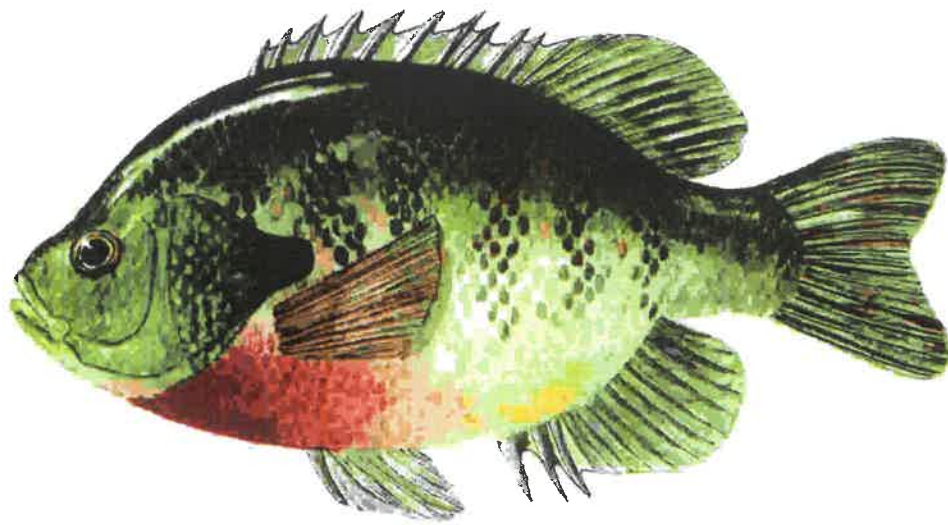
Adults \$8.00

Children 6-12 \$4.00

Children under 6 Free

Carry-out available





Fish & Tenderloin Dinner

St. John Lutheran Church – Bingen

Sunday March 17th, 2024

10:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

At: Wyneken Memorial Lutheran School

11565 N US 27 Decatur, IN 46733

Adults: \$14.00 Children: (6-12) \$10.00; 5 and under Free

All Welcome – All You Can Eat

Fried by: Dan's Fish Fry Service of Huntington

*Drive Thru Available

Info: 260-639-6178

Proceeds to: Family Assistance Fund



TIGER TALES

"Connected to Christ"



Please join us for Holy Week Worship Services:

Palm Sunday –
March 24th Divine Service at 9:00 a.m.

Maundy Thursday –
March 28th Divine Service at 7:00 p.m.

Good Friday –
March 29th Divine Service at 7:00 p.m.

Easter Sunday –
March 31st Sunrise Divine Service at 6:30 a.m.
Easter Breakfast at 7:30 a.m.
Easter Day Divine Service at 9:00 a.m.



Christ
THE LORD
is Risen

CALENDAR

March 8 End of 3rd Quarter
March 10 Daylight Savings
March 15 Report Cards Sent Home
March 15 Science Fair
March 18 PTL Meeting
March 19 Board of Ed Meet
March 20 Kindergarten Roundup
March 21 Birthday Pizza Lunch
March 22-29 Spring Break
April 1 No School-Easter Monday

MARCH 2024

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

BIRTHDAYS

March 2 Bryce Hapner
March 3 Lucas Werling
March 20 Mrs. DeFrain
March 22 Vinny Fuhrmann



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



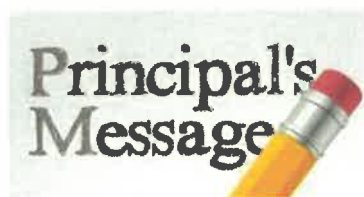
To access this information go to www.gradelink.com and click on the green Log In button.

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/bethlssossian.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



The Cross is our Tree of Life

The Lord is into living things, growing things, “vegetation, plants yielding seed, and trees bearing fruit in which is their seed” (Gen. 1:12). It’s really no surprise that He was once mistaken for a gardener (John 20:15). In His teaching, Jesus talks about sowing seeds, pulling weeds, planting vineyards, and tending vines. Our theme this year, Connected to Christ, reminds us that Jesus is the Vine and we are the branches (John 15:5). So also, the first home God made for man was a garden (Gen. 2:8). And in that first garden, there were two trees: the Tree of Life and the Tree of Knowledge. We all know what happened: Adam and Eve listened to the devil and disobeyed God by eating fruit from the Tree of Knowledge and so they are barred from eating fruit from the Tree of Life. But did you know about the Other Tree of Life? It looks like a tree of death: bare, dead wood, and instead of beautiful fruit hanging from its limbs, there’s a bloody corpse. This tree is the cross of Jesus our Lord, “who accomplished the salvation of mankind by the tree of the cross that, where death arose, there life also might rise again and that the serpent who overcame by the tree of the garden might likewise by the tree of the cross be overcome.” The devil used a tree to bring the fruit of sin and death into the world. But Jesus used the tree of the cross to bring the fruit of forgiveness and life into the world. “And of this fruit so pure and sweet the Lord invites the world to eat, to find within this cross of wood the tree of life with every good” (LSB 561:4).

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.



A reminder that Bethlehem will NOT be following the Northern Wells Community Schools 2 hour delay on Wednesday, March 13th. Therefore, unless a weather related delay or closing comes along, Bethlehem will operate on a regular schedule. Morning bus service will NOT be provided. The 7-8th grade students will be excused from their NW morning classes and are asked to be at Bethlehem by 9:15 am. Please contact the school office if you have any questions.

NO SCHOOL—Bethlehem will be closed March 22-29 for Spring Break

NO SCHOOL— Bethlehem will be closed April 1 for Easter Monday

E-learning packets will be used this year for weather related closures.

An email or text message 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, 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 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 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



Third Quarter Chapel Mission Project

During the 3rd quarter (Jan. 8-Mar. 8)

The LCMS Ministry to the Armed Forces supports all LCMS chaplains who serve on active duty, in the reserves, the National Guard, Civil Air Patrol, and Coast Guard Auxiliary. LCMS chaplains deliver Word and Sacrament ministry to our military personnel and their families.

The LCMS cares deeply for those who currently serve, for those who have donned the cloth of our nation in uniform, and for those who served our nation and live in our communities.

For the 4th quarter of this school year, we will be collecting items and monies for LCMS Disaster relief by building "Flood Buckets" Please see flyer for more information. More details will be coming home soon. Thank you for all your support.



February / March Birthday Pizza lunch

with Pastor Dodgers

Thursday, March 21st

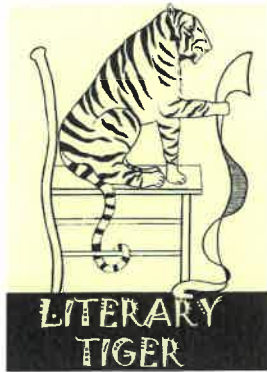
Students celebrating birthdays are:

Owen Book Alejandro, Madeline Schumm, Jon Fuhrmann,
Bryce Hapner, Lucas Werling, Vinny Fuhrmann

Donations for New Library Bookshelves - Library Improvement Phase II

Once again, thank you to everyone who contributed to Phase I of our room swap for the Library and Kindergarten. It was a great success! We are now beginning to raise money for Phase II, which will improve our library with new bookshelves. These will be wooden bookshelves, handmade by a member of our church. This project will also create more space for books, with shelves for all three walls of the new library, which will add room for our collection to grow. Please consider making a donation to this beautiful and useful project. Make checks out to Bethlehem Lutheran School and include a memo: Library Phase II.

Please join us on March 18th at 6:00 p.m. A special representative with the Lutheran Scholarship Granting Organization will be speaking at our rescheduled PTL meeting. Information will be presented on how to become a donor and get a State Tax credit along with how to achieve a scholarship towards school tuition.



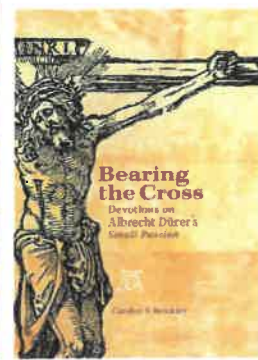
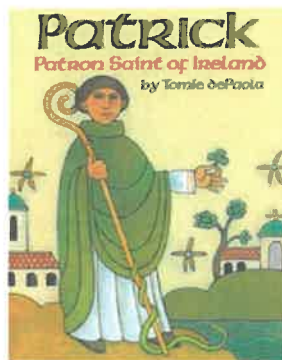
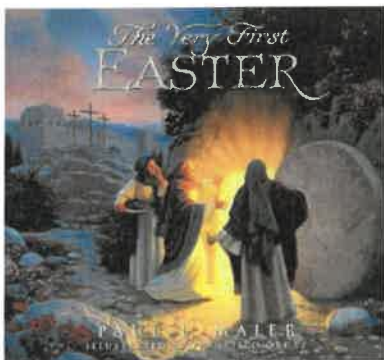
We are pleased to share many new additions to our Bible Story and Lutheran Resources collection. These books were donated in honor of our Bethlehem church workers. Thank you to the church members who donated during Church Worker Appreciation Month last year!

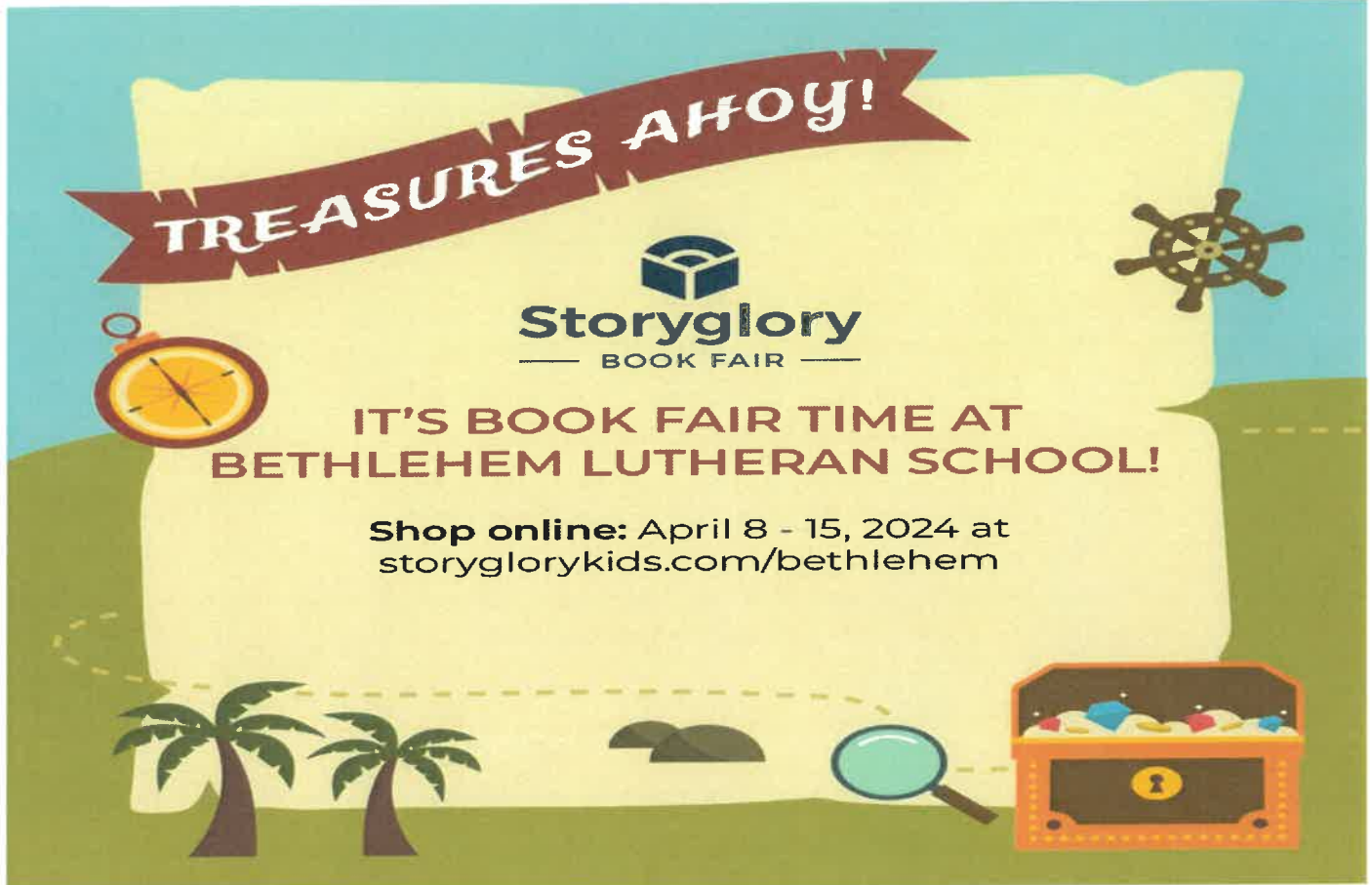
It is especially appropriate to have these resources available as the church continues to observe the season of Lent. The "Follow and Do" collection pairs nicely with the Lenten devotion booklet the students helped to illustrate. These books include catechism memory work, sweet illustrations, and simple explanations for young readers. Bible story books with simplified language for almost every reading level can help even early readers



build a habit of regular scripture or devotion reading, on their own or with their families. We also have resources for older students, including "Bearing the Cross: Devotions on Albrecht Durer's Small Passion" written by Bethlehem member Deaconess Brinkley, which is especially appropriate to enjoy as we approach Holy Week.

March also brings us St. Patrick's Day, the first day of spring, and Easter. Your school library has books for all of these occasions!





We are also getting excited for our spring book fair, coming in April! Watch for more details coming soon!

Coming Soon:

Creative Arts Dance Company Spring Showcase

Featuring Excerpts from the ballet "Sleeping Beauty"

Friday, April 26 and Saturday, April 27

Tigers in the Cast: Jonah Bultemeier, Annabelle Furhmann, Alex Furhmann, Emma Wirgau, Gianna Wirgau, Jude Wirgau

Look for more details coming next month!



Students are working on science experiments and research projects. Through science, we observe and study God's creation and how it works. Come to the Science Fair on March 15 to see what our students have discovered!





We saw a lot of improvement from the first day of practice to the last game of the season. We are thankful to all the players that played the entire season. We might not have won a game this year, but we improved a lot as a team. I am thankful for the coaches that volunteered to help the team. Isaac, Natalie, and Ben. To the boys: continue to work on your basketball skills. There are summer basketball camps at Norwell and Squires that help improve your basketball skills. Thank you for allowing me to work with your children. We look forward to seeing everyone return and seeing some new player's next season. Good luck Jacob and congratulations on your upcoming graduation. Thank you, parents, for getting your children to the games and practices.
Coach Don Bales



SCHOOL
SPIRIT



FLOOD BUCKETS

The LCMS Disaster Response flood relief project engages LCMS congregations, districts and other groups in an outreach ministry to provide pre-assembled flood relief buckets to flood and hurricane survivors as part of a disaster preparedness plan.

The project calls for flood relief buckets to be assembled by LCMS congregations, districts and groups and then shipped across the United States for easy distribution following a disaster. Local congregations in the disaster-affected areas serve as the key distribution point in their communities with a special focus on those who may be homebound or otherwise unable to provide for themselves.

As part of the project, each congregation, district or group fills empty 5-gallon buckets with items from a suggested list provided by LCMS Disaster Response. The items are purchased locally and/or donated by the members of the congregation or group.

The total cost of preparing a flood relief bucket is \$25-\$30 including the cost of the 5-gallon container and lid. The cost of the suggested cleaning items range between \$15 and \$25, depending on the quality and quantity of the items purchased, including the optional broom and mop.

How to prepare flood relief buckets

Each flood relief bucket contains:

- › Devotionals
- › Cleaning tips
- › Paper towels
- › Disposable rags
- › Glass cleaner
- › Cleansing powder
- › Liquid cleaner
- › Bleach (1-gallon size)
- › Scrub brush
- › Two pairs of rubber gloves
- › Sponge(s)
- › (Optional) broom and/or mop



Cleaning supplies and 5-gallon containers may be purchased locally.

The flood relief project is intended to be a congregation activity hosted by various groups such as the youth group, a Bible study group, men's or women's group, Lutheran Women's Missionary League or Lutheran Laymen's League group, etc.

The project is coordinated on a district level by LCMS District Disaster Response Coordinators and District Disaster Response Teams.

For additional information, logo decals and devotional materials, please contact LCMS Disaster Response at 888-THE LCMS (843-5267) or lcms.org/disaster.



February 22, 2024

Bethlehem Lutheran School
7545 N 650 E
Ossian, IN 46777



Dear Students and Staff of Bethlehem Lutheran School,

Thank you so much for the \$216.80 gift given to the Northern Wells Food Pantry. Thank you also for all the food! The work your 3rd and 4th graders did was outstanding! We help around 30 families each month with the amount of people increasing. Because of your donations, these families are blessed in the Name of Jesus Christ. Thank you for being the arms of God to these families.

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 again!
Betty*

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



TURN SHOPPING INTO EARNING



EARN
\$1,000+
per year

Experience the right way to fundraise

Gift card fundraising is the best way to raise money. Buy gift cards from your favorite brands to earn on your daily purchases. It's never been easier to create opportunities for what matters most to you. No extra money spent. No extra time wasted.

How it works



You buy a gift card

You get the full value.



The brand gives back

No extra money comes
out of your pocket.



Your organization earns

Impacting what
matters most to you.

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Ordering takeout. Conveniently raise money by doing everyday things.



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"It's super convenient. All I need to go shopping is my phone—I don't even need credit cards or my purse. I'm going to pay for these things anyway, I love being able to use gift cards so we get something in return."

Jen H., earns for hockey

Get started by downloading the [RaiseRight™ app](#) on your phone or go to [RaiseRight.com](#) on your computer.

For step-by-step instructions, visit [RaiseRight.com/m/StartEarning](#).

Enter our organizations enrollment code: 43ALE7851441

Link your bank account to enroll in online payments and place your first order.

For questions, contact our coordinator: Melissa Price at 260-433-5307



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Convenience fees apply based on payment method.



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View earnings

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Look for brands labeled as "Ship to home eligible"

Shipping fees apply.

Start earning with gift cards. Learn more at [RaiseRight.com](https://www.RaiseRight.com)



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Kindergarten Round Up and Open House

**Come and experience
the Bethlehem
difference! See how we
still embrace the basic
fundamentals of
education in a small
classroom setting!**



**Our Mission
Statement:
Embracing,
Nurturing, and
Equipping
Christ's
Children for Life.**



BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN SCHOOL KINDERGARTEN ROUND UP AND OPEN HOUSE

If you have a student or know of a
student who will be attending
Kindergarten next year, please join us

**Wednesday, March 20, 2024
4:00-6:00 p.m.**

Kindergarten students must be age 5 by
August 1, 2024

All students entering K-8 and their families
interested in our school are also welcomed
to come for a tour at this time!

Appointments are also available for a
private tour.

For more information, please contact us

Bethlehem Lutheran School

7545 N 650 E

Ossian, IN 46777

(260) 597-7366

bethlehemossiansec@gmail.com

www.bethlehemossian.org

