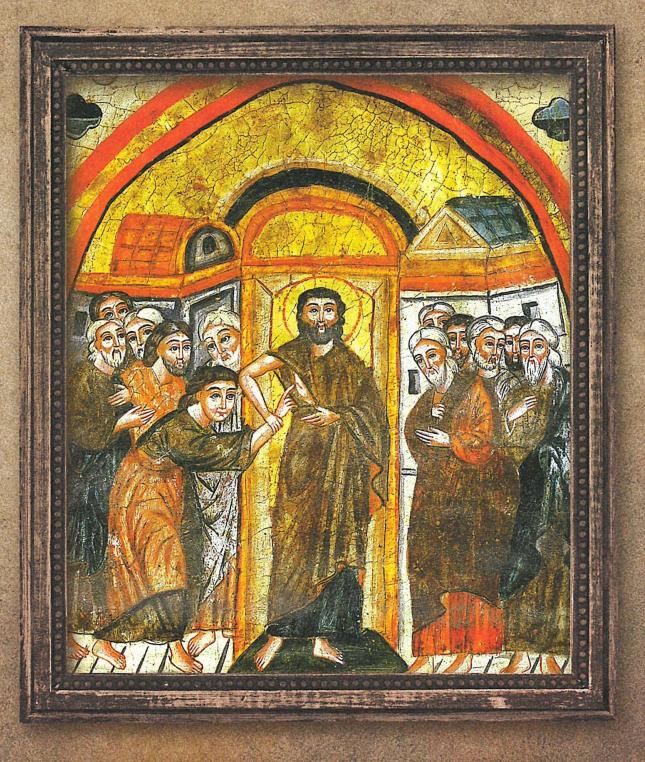
Heace be with you JOHN 20:19





April 11, 2021 Mission in Motion Weekend

AS WE GATHER

We tend to look for things to make faith easier. Signs, wonders, or just little hints here and there would help. But the disciples had all these things and heard Jesus promise His resurrection, and still they gathered behind the locked doors of their fears. What we do have is Christ, His Word that bestows and sustains our faith, and His Holy Sacrament wherein He feeds us with His body and blood. Though we have not seen with our eyes, we see with faith and join with doubting Thomas to confess, "My Lord and my God!"

The pottery vessels on the altar remind us that although Holy Communion is not celebrated today, our Lord's sacred gifts are still central to our life of faith. Holy Communion is celebrated every $\mathbf{1}^{st}$, $\mathbf{3}^{rd}$, and $\mathbf{5}^{th}$ weekend (and major festivals).

Liturgical Color:

White is the color of purity and is associated with festivals of Christ and his Church

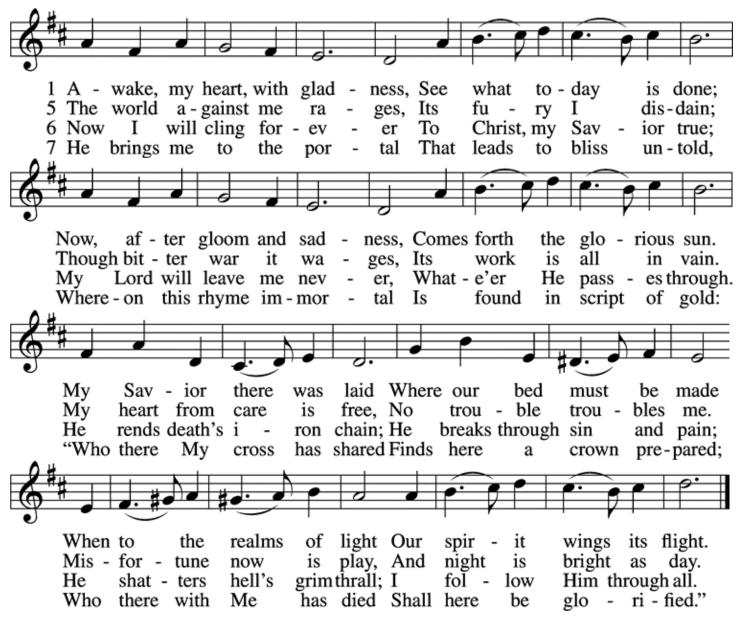
Bethlehem's Spring Mission Festival is this weekend. The theme is "Mission in Motion." You will hear about the various forms of outreach and service that happen on a regular and occasional basis in our congregation. There are many opportunities to serve, and we hope that you learn about one to support or get involved with—if not already doing so! Make sure you pick up the "Mission in Motion" booklet to take home with you.

The quilts on the backs of the pews were made by our own Bethlehem quilters (who meet on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays from 9:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.) and will be distributed to those in need within our Warrensburg community.

Prelude		I	Lorraine Miller,	Cathy Welsh
	("Children Blessed of			-

Welcome

Gathering Hymn "Awake, My Heart, With Gladness" #467 (1, 5-7)



Text and tune: Public domain

Stand

Service of Prayer and Preaching

Opening Versicles (Common)......page 260

- P This is the day which the Lord has made;
- C let us rejoice and be glad in it.
- P From the rising of the sun to its setting,
- **C** the name of the Lord is to be praised.
- P Better is one day in Your courts than a thousand elsewhere;
- I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of the wicked.

- P Make me to know Your ways, O Lord.
- **C** Teach me Your paths.
- **P** Sanctify us in Your truth.
- C Your Word is truth.
- **P** From the rising of the sun to its setting,
- **C** the name of the Lord is to be praised.
- Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Old Testament Canticlepages 261-262





Readings

First Reading	Acts 4:32-35
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The full number of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one said that any of the things that belonged to him was his own, but they had everything in common. And with great power the apostles were giving their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. There was not a needy person among them, for as many as were owners of lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold and laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

- **P** This is the Word of the Lord.
- Thanks be to God.

Psalm 148.....(spoken in unison)

Praise the LORD!

Praise the LORD from the heavens;

praise him in the heights!

Praise him, all his angels;

praise him, all his hosts!

Praise him, sun and moon,

praise him, all you shining stars!

Praise him, you highest heavens,

and you waters above the heavens!

Let them praise the name of the LORD!

For he commanded and they were created.

And he established them forever and ever;

he gave a decree, and it shall not pass away.

Praise the LORD from the earth,

you great sea creatures and all deeps,

fire and hail, snow and mist,

stormy wind fulfilling his word!

Mountains and all hills,

fruit trees and all cedars!

Beasts and all livestock,

creeping things and flying birds!

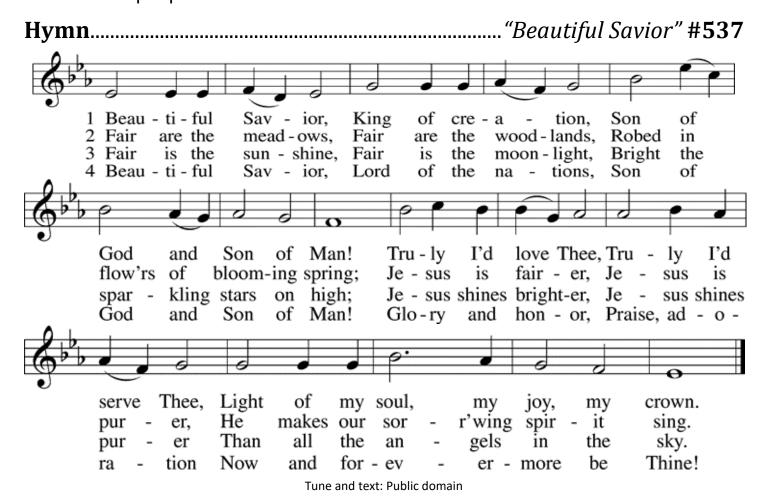
Kings of the earth and all peoples,

princes and all rulers of the earth!

Young men and maidens together,
old men and children!

Let them praise the name of the LORD,
for his name alone is exalted;
his majesty is above earth and heaven.

He has raised up a horn for his people,
praise for all his saints,
for the people of Israel who are near to him. Praise the LORD!



Epistle Reading 1 John 1:1-2:2

That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we looked upon and have touched with our hands, concerning the word of life— the life was made manifest, and we have seen it, and testify to it and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and was made manifest to us— that which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. And we are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. If we say we have fellowship with him while

we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

- **P** This is the Word of the Lord.
- Thanks be to God.

Stand

Holy GospelJohn 20:19-31

- P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the twentieth chapter.
- **G** Glory to You, O Lord.

On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you." And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of anyone, they are forgiven; if you withhold forgiveness from anyone, it is withheld."

Now Thomas, one of the Twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see in his hands the mark of the nails, and place my finger into the mark of the nails, and place my hand into his side, I will never believe."

Eight days later, his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve, but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

- **P** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

Responsory (Common)......page 263

- P Forever, O Lord, Your Word is firmly set in the heavens.
- Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.
- P Blessed are those who hear the Word of God and keep it.
- Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.
- P Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.
- Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.

Catechism (All)......page 264

Ten Commandments

You shall have no other gods.

You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God.

Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy.

Honor your father and your mother.

You shall not murder.

You shall not commit adultery.

You shall not steal.

You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.

You shall not covet your neighbor's house.

You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his manservant or maidservant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried.

He descended into hell.

The third day He rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven

and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.

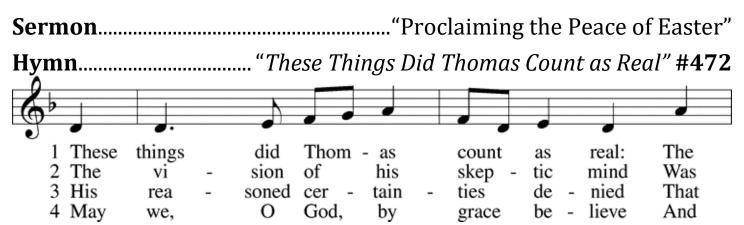
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

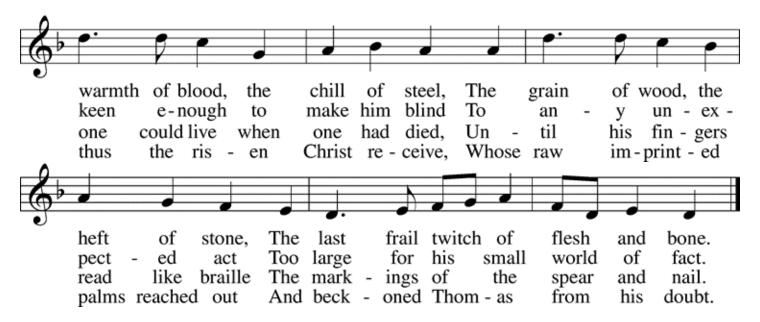
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

Sit





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Offering

Offering plates will not be passed during the service; worshipers may place their offerings into the plate located at the entrance.

"Through him (Jesus) then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name. Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God." (Hebrews 13:15-16)

Mission in Motion Presentation

Prayers

Stand

Collect of the Day(spoken in unison)

Almighty God, grant that we who have celebrated the Lord's resurrection may by Your grace confess in our life and conversation that Jesus is Lord and God; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Collect for	the Word	pa	ge 265
			0

P Blessed Lord, You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning. Grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn and take them to heart that, by the patience and comfort of Your holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, on God, now and forever.

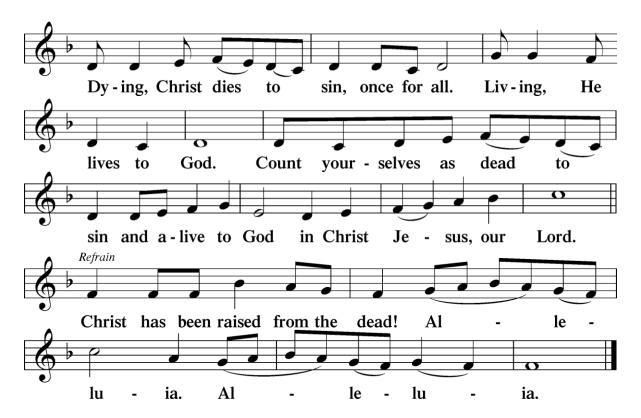
C Amen

Morning Prayer.....page 266

I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

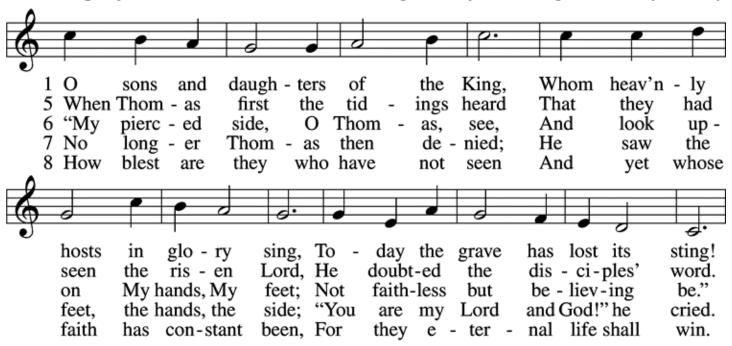
New Testament Canticlepage 266





- **P** Let us bless the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.
- **P** The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve us.
- C Amen.

Sending Hymn "O Sons and Daughter of the King" #470 (1, 5-8)





Tune and text: Public domain

Dismissal (Bethlehem's Mission)

P Grow in Christ,

C Live in Love and Share the Faith!

Postlude Cody Clemons

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Next Week's Readings

First: Acts 3:11-21; Epistle: 1 John 3:1-7; Gospel: Luke 24:36-49

Attendance Holy Thursday: 60
Attendance Saturday Vigil: 33
Attendance Easter: 66/71
Total Offering: \$7,606.00
Home Use: \$7,424.00

Attendance Good Friday:49
Attendance Easter: 66/71
Benevolences: \$150.00

Serving us today:

Elders/Ushers	Jeff Harris (Sat), Willie Crespo (Sun)
Musicians	Gary Moege (Sat), Cody Clemons (Sun)
Altar Committee	Sheree Moody (Chair), SueAnn Carter,
	Erika Freeman, Peggy Hoyer
Flower Committee	Lana Vanderburgh (Chair), Karen Haase

This Week's Schedule

inis week's Scr	ieauie	
Sunday-11	1:00 p.m.	Youth Catechesis
Monday-12	9:30 a.m.	Exercise Class
	10:00 a.m.	Moms and Tots
	7:00 p.m.	Mary-Martha Guild Meeting
Tuesday-13		Pastor at Monthly Circuit Gathering
	9:30 a.m.	Quilting
	7:00 p.m.	Church Council Meeting
Wednesday-14	9:30 a.m.	Exercise Class
Thursday-15	9:30 a.m.	Pastor at WCS

	1:00 p.m.	Card Group
	5:30 p.m.	Fellowship Board Meeting
	7:00 p.m.	Zoom Bible Study—"With God in the Garden"
Friday-16	9:30 a.m.	Exercise Class
Saturday-17	10:00 a.m.	SHINE Spring Giveaway Event (setup starts at 7)
	5:30 p.m.	Holy Communion
Sunday-18	8:00 a.m.	The Lutheran Hour broadcast on 96.9
	9:00 a.m.	Radio Broadcast 98.5 (can also be heard at
		www.blchurch.com, under the Sermons tab)
	9:15 a.m.	Bible Study and Jr. and Sr. Youth Sunday School
	10:30 a.m.	Holy Communion

Prayers

For Sustenance, Healing, and Provision—We remember those who are dealing with illness, are homebound or in nursing homes, undergoing and recovering from surgery, as well as going through hospitalization, rehabilitation, and chemotherapy: Don Apprill (Cindy Schnell's dad), Paula Brewer, Ray & Mary Carstensen, Scott Compton (Bob & Barbara's son), Carie (Julie Crespo's friend), Crystal McDaniel (Diane McComas's daughter), Denise (Penny Humphrey's sister), Marion & Leona Droege, Wilma Gertz, Ralph Hein, Sharon Hochsprung, Mary Johnson, Creed Kueker (Pr. Jesse Kueker's son—Trinity, Clinton), Marty Lehn, Marvin Logan (Nicole Clemons' father), Kathy Marshall, Vivian Meyer (young daughter of a close friend of Kaye Fair), Johnny Nichol, Jim Rudy, Pat Spanton, Bryan Tebbenkamp, Lynne Trimble (Kaye Fair's sister). We remember as well all who are dealing with COVID—19, especially the healthcare providers who are working to prevent, stem the spread, and treat those who are ill!

For Pregnant Mothers, especially Brittany and Joe Brown as they await childbirth soon, along with Bridgette & Jonathan Sharp, Corinne & Jeremy Allison, and Bekah and Chris Kelley. May the Lord grant good health and joyful expectation!

For Seminarian Jonathan Sharp (and his wife Bridgette) as he continues his studies and prepares to receive his vicarage assignment at the end of April.

For Military Members—We remember all service and support personnel who are deployed and stationed away from us and their families: Andy Burden, Ty Carter, Ethan Hillsman, Chance Hillsman and Logan LeBaige.

For Our Confirmands who will be confirmed on Pentecost Sunday—the 50th day after Easter Sunday: Zach Brown, Gabby Fatka, Azriel Hartwig, Nate Stewart and Gracyn VanWey. The Lord continue to guide them with his Holy Spirit!

Prayer Requests & Spiritual Care—If you would like to make a prayer request, contact Pr. Joel or email the church office. Also, if you're feeling the strain and needing to talk and be encouraged in the living of life from day to day, don't hesitate to call or text Pr. Joel or contact your elder or the church office. We rely upon the Holy Spirit and his gifts in Christ during every time of uncertainty, and can never be thankful enough for the gift of each other!

Thank You

I would like to thank everyone for the Easter cards I received! Also, thank you for the CDs of the services I receive each week, along with the stone and hot cross bun that I received Easter weekend. I appreciate and miss everyone! Wilma Gertz.

Worship Services (Masks required at all services)

Sunday Services are at 10:30 a.m. You can also watch them live on Facebook or YouTube, or go to it directly from the webpage at blchurch.com.

Saturday Services are at 5:30 p.m. Holy Communion is observed on 1st, 3rd and 5th weekends of the month.

Opportunities to Serve

SHINE! A Spring Giveaway is happening this Saturday, April 17 here at Bethlehem (10 a.m. to noon)—with setup starting at 7 and teardown happening after! We are looking forward to a splendid (& busy) spring morning of giving, receiving, and sharing. Everyone can help in some way, so let the church office know if you'd like to be a part of this endeavor or make use of the signup sheet on the bulletin boards by the mailboxes. Each volunteer should be able to receive a bright yellow & green t-shirt—courtesy of the Missouri District LCMS—and will provided with snacks as well.

Crop Walk—This year's Crop Walk will be virtual. They are encouraging small groups or families to walk together and post pictures on social media. Groups and individuals can register and give online at https://events.CROPHungerWalk.org. Packets can be dropped off on April 24 between 8:30-9:30 a.m.

Bethlehem's Community Garden began its overhaul last fall and winter with the building of raised beds for this year's growing season. This is an exciting new venture to which everyone is welcome to participate, and spring planting will be coming up soon! Pick up one of the new pamphlets to learn more, talk to Pr. Joel or Shawn Lindley if you'd like to know more, or take a stroll to the far end of our backyard to see for yourself. Keep your eyes and ears open for ways to be involved!

Faith Discussion and Bible Study

"Reading Romans" Study on Sunday Mornings! We will start Chapter 11 on April 11 so please join us in the conference room from 9:15-10:10 a.m. as we cover a lot of good ground yet together.

"With God in the Garden" Study on Thursday Evenings! Gardening is more than growing flowers, fruits, and vegetables. It is a spiritual experience that allows us to reflect on our lives, sins, and biblical truths. Martin Luther wrote, God is entirely and personally present in the wilderness, in the garden, and in the field. This Zoom Bible Study will begin Thursday, April 8 at 7:00 p.m. We will be using "With God in the Garden" by Christianity Today International. If you are interested in finding God in your garden, please contact Rebecca or Cindy.

Easter Season/Spring Bible Study & Discussion Groups—Pr. Joel plans to offer the study *Death, Heaven, Resurrection, and the New Creation* (by Kent Burreson and Beth Hoeltke at Concordia Seminary, with whom he's worked on projects) during the Easter season, as well as restarting the study and discussion *Reforesting Faith (What Trees Teach Us About the Nature of God and His Love for Us)* this spring. These are great opportunities to expand your grasp and scope to what is biblical regarding life in all its fullness. Keep a lookout for days and times based on the responses he received!

Youth

Sunday Youth Bible Study—Jeremy VanWey has started a new one that is exploring C.S. Lewis's classic on the wily ways of evil, *The Screwtape Letters*. Make sure to make it, and spread the word to others so that a good group can work through it together!

Fellowship

Mary-Martha Guild will be having its monthly meeting on Monday, April 12 at 7:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. If you have not been able to attend, please join us and bring a friend along. Some discussion items will be the LWML Concordia Spring Rally on April 24 and our "Dinner Out" meeting in May.

Exercise Class has started back up at **9:30 a.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays** in the Fellowship Hall. This class is low impact exercise open to anyone. For more information, contact Judy Smith.

Card Group will meet on **Thursdays at 1:00 p.m.** in the Fellowship Hall. Anyone is welcome to join in for some games, coffee and fellowship. If you have any questions, please contact Melvin Theroff.

Offerings

You can mail your offerings to Bethlehem and have pastor put it in the offering plate on the altar with a prayer of trust for you, or you can give through the online offering called "Simply Giving".

Elders

Jeff Harris (last name begins A-E) 660-624-1571, elvis100669@yahoo.com
Willie Crespo (last name begins F-H) 660-679-8121, willie.crespo@fairwaymc.com
Jack Easterwood (last name begins I-Ma) 660-678-2045, easter.egg2380@gmail.com
Caleb Thomas (last name begins Mc-R) 660-441-2010, calebthomas50@gmail.com
Jeremy VanWey (last name begins S-Z) 606-909-4765, jeremy.vanwey@gmail.com

Contact Information

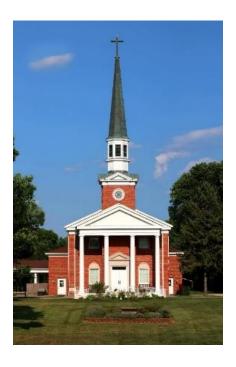
Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 607 N. Maguire, Warrensburg, MO 64093

Our Mission

· Grow in Christ · Live in Love · Share the Faith

Our Vision

To be a community of believers, disciples, and servants while we deepen our personal faith and reach others for Christ.



Rev. Joel R. Kurz

Tuesday & Thursday: 8am-5pm, Wednesday & Friday: 10am-5pm

Otherwise by appointment Office: 660-747-6742

Cell Phone: 660-441-5710 Email: pastor@blchurch.com

Website: www.blchurch.com Facebook: blcwarrensburg

Office Manager:

Cindy Smith
Monday–Friday: 8am-5pm
660-747-6742
officemanager@blchurch.com

Congregational Life Facilitator:

Rebecca Stewart MTW: 8am-2pm Thursday by appointment clf@blchurch.com

Bookkeeper:

Teresa Hillsman
Tuesday: 3pm-6pm
Thursday by appointment
financial@blchurch.com

Please note that Bethlehem Lutheran Church has a closed-circuit video system. This allows for the viewing of the service on screens in the building and helps to enhance our security. Please see a trustee or an elder if you have any questions.