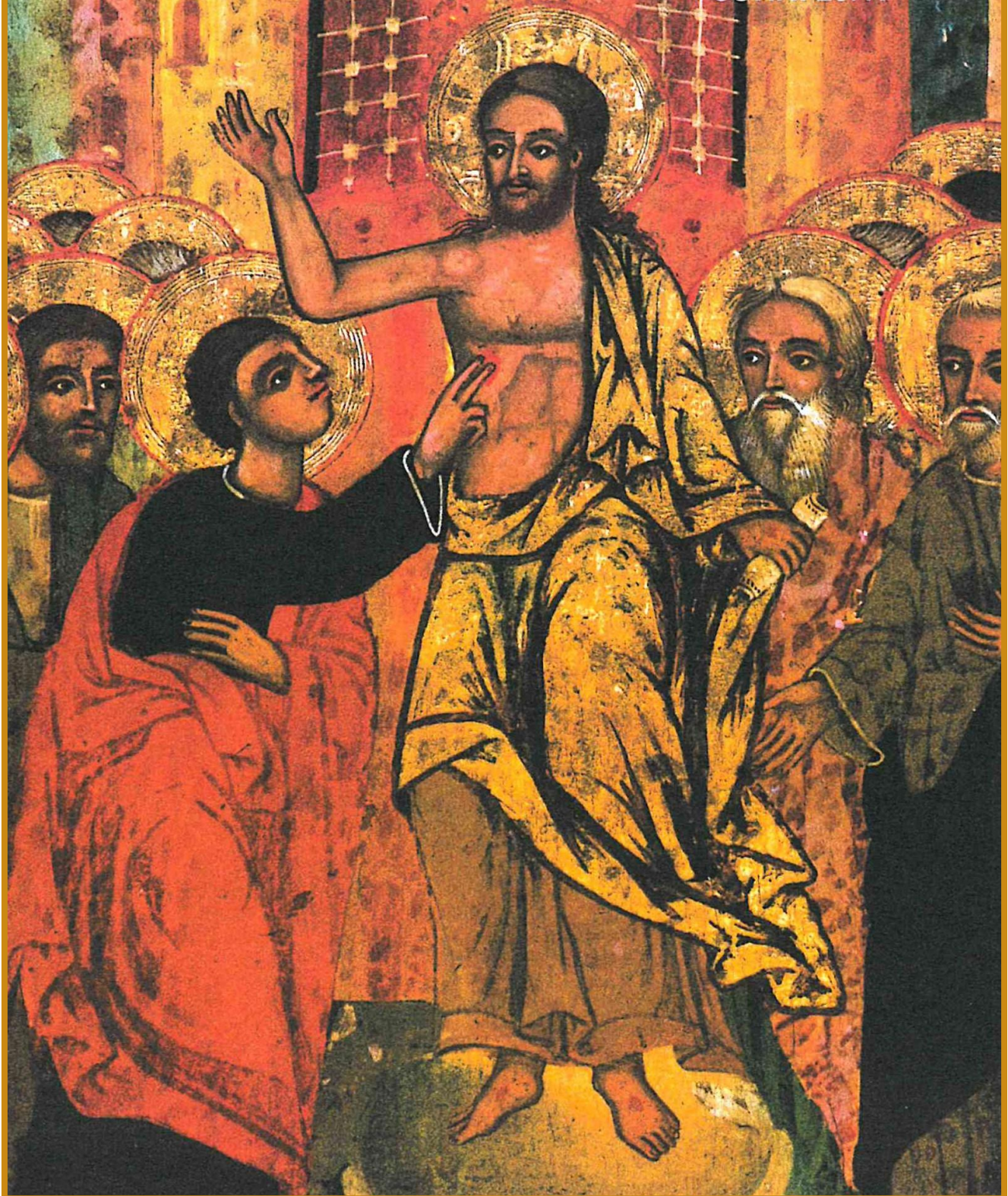


# Peace be with you

JOHN: 20:19







+ Second Sunday Of Easter +

**April 24, 2022**

**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 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> weekend (and major festivals).*

**Liturgical Color:**

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

**Prelude** .....Abby Humphrey, Rich Vanderburgh  
(Minuet K. 205, W. A. Mozart/Arr. H. Voxman)

**Welcome**

**Gathering Hymn** ..... “See This Wonder in the Making” #593

**Rite of Holy Baptism for  
Caroline Renée Hulshizer**

*Stand*

**Service of Prayer and Preaching**

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

*Sit*

**Readings**

## First Reading .....Acts 5:12-32

Now many signs and wonders were regularly done among the people by the hands of the apostles. And they were all together in Solomon's Portico. None of the rest dared join them, but the people held them in high esteem. And more than ever believers were added to the Lord, multitudes of both men and women, so that they even carried out the sick into the streets and laid them on cots and mats, that as Peter came by at least his shadow might fall on some of them. The people also gathered from the towns around Jerusalem, bringing the sick and those afflicted with unclean spirits, and they were all healed.

But the high priest rose up, and all who were with him (that is, the party of the Sadducees), and filled with jealousy they arrested the apostles and put them in the public prison. But during the night an angel of the Lord opened the prison doors and brought them out, and said, "Go and stand in the temple and speak to the people all the words of this Life." And when they heard this, they entered the temple at daybreak and began to teach.

Now when the high priest came, and those who were with him, they called together the council and all the senate of Israel and sent to the prison to have them brought. But when the officers came, they did not find them in the prison, so they returned and reported, "We found the prison securely locked and the guards standing at the doors, but when we opened them we found no one inside." Now when the captain of the temple and the chief priests heard these words, they were greatly perplexed about them, wondering what this would come to. And someone came and told them, "Look! The men whom you put in prison are standing in the temple and teaching the people." Then the captain with the officers went and brought them, but not by force, for they were afraid of being stoned by the people.

And when they had brought them, they set them before the council. And the high priest questioned them, saying, "We strictly charged you not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching, and you intend to bring this man's blood upon us." But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than men. The God of our fathers raised Jesus, whom you killed by hanging him on a tree. God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior, to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey him."

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

**Psalm 148**.....(*spoken responsively*)

**Epistle Reading** ..... **Revelation 1:4-18**

John to the seven churches that are in Asia:

Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, and from Jesus Christ the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of kings on earth.

To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood and made us a kingdom, priests to his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. Behold, he is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see him, even those who pierced him, and all tribes of the earth will wail on account of him. Even so. Amen.

“I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God, “who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.”

I, John, your brother and partner in the tribulation and the kingdom and the patient endurance that are in Jesus, was on the island called Patmos on account of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus. I was in the Spirit on the Lord’s day, and I heard behind me a loud voice like a trumpet saying, “Write what you see in a book and send it to the seven churches, to Ephesus and to Smyrna and to Pergamum and to Thyatira and to Sardis and to Philadelphia and to Laodicea.”

Then I turned to see the voice that was speaking to me, and on turning I saw seven golden lampstands, and in the midst of the lampstands one like a son of man, clothed with a long robe and with a golden sash around his chest. The hairs of his head were white like wool, as white as snow. His eyes were like a flame of fire, his feet were like burnished bronze, refined in a furnace, and his voice was like the roar of many waters. In his right hand he held seven stars, from his mouth came a sharp two-edged sword, and his face was like the sun shining in full strength.

When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. But he laid his right hand on me, saying, “Fear not, I am the first and the last, and the living one. I died, and behold I am alive forevermore, and I have the keys of Death and Hades.

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

**Hymn**..... *“All You Works of God, Bless the Lord”, #930*  
*(stand for the last verse)*

## Holy Gospel .....John 20:19-31

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

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

## Lord's Prayer

*Sit*

**Hymn**..... "These Things Did Thomas Count as Real" #472

**Sermon**..... "Saints with a Past—Sinners with a Future"

## Offering

*Worshippers 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)

# Prayers

## Stand

**Prayers** .....page 265

**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** .....page 265

**Morning Prayer**.....page 266

**New Testament Canticle** .....page 266

**Blessing** .....page 267

**Sending Hymn**..... “*We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight*”, #720

**Dismissal** ..... (Bethlehem’s Mission)

**P** Grow in Christ,

**C** Live in Love and Share the Faith!

**Postlude** .....Rich Vanderburgh  
(Abby Humphrey-saxophone—“Minuet K.250”/Mozart)

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## Next Week’s Readings

**OT: Acts 9:1-22; Epistle: Revelation 5:1-14; Gospel: John 21:1-19**

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**Attendance Holy Thursday: 67**

**Attendance Saturday Vigil: 50**

**Total Offering: \$6,611.69**

**Home Use: \$5,245.69**

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**Attendance Good Friday: 61**

**Attendance Easter: 56/110**

**Missions: \$32.00**

**Benevolences: \$1,314.00**

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## Serving us today:

Elders..... Caleb Thomas

Musicians ..... Lorraine Miller, Roy Schache, Rich Vanderburgh  
Abby Humphrey (saxophone)

Altar Committee.....Darlene Laubenstein (Chair), Erika Freeman, Peggy Hoyer,  
Lynn Lowe, Cindy Smith, Rebecca Stewart

Flower Committee ..... Lana Vanderburgh (Chair), Karen Haase

### **This Week's Schedule**

Sunday	12:00 p.m.	Thrivent Planning Meeting
	3:00 p.m.	Youth Catechesis
Monday	9:30 a.m.	Exercise Class
	10:00 a.m.	Moms and Tots
	6:30 p.m.	4-H
Tuesday	9:30 a.m.	Quilting
	7:15 p.m.	Education Board Meeting
Wednesday	9:30 a.m.	Exercise Class
	10:30 a.m.	Bible Study
Thursday	9:30 a.m.	Pastor at Warrensburg Christian School
	1:00 p.m.	Games and Cards Group
	7:00 p.m.	Zoom-Lent Bible Study
Friday	9:30 a.m.	Exercise Group
Saturday	8:00 a.m.	SHINE! Event—Setup starts!
	10:00 a.m.	SHINE! Event— <i>Grow Green—Glow &amp; Glean</i>
	12:00 p.m.	SHINE! Event –Takedown begins!
	5:30 p.m.	Holy Communion
Sunday	8:00 a.m.	The Lutheran Hour broadcast on 96.9
	9:00 a.m.	Radio Broadcast 98.5 (can also be heard at <a href="http://www.blchurch.com">www.blchurch.com</a> , under the Sermons tab)
	9:15 a.m.	Sunday School, Adult Bible Class
	10:30 a.m.	Holy Communion

### **Prayers**

**In Celebration** of Jeffrey Markworth, Jr.'s marriage to his bride Maggie this coming Saturday in Lawrence, Kansas (at which Pr. Joel will officiate). May the Lord fill their lives with much joy and goodness as they grow together in love!

**Of Rejoicing** for the Baptism of Caroline Renée Hulshizer and her family today. May the Lord indeed keep them in his ongoing love, mercy, and grace!

**For Sustenance, Healing, and Provision**—We remember those who are dealing with illness, are homebound or in nursing homes, are undergoing and recovering from surgery, as well as going through hospitalization and rehabilitation: Leora Baack (Charlene McCarter's mother), Melvin Bockelman, Paula Brewer, Felisa Brown, Ray

& Mary Carstensen, Barbara Compton, Marion & Leona Droege, Wilma Gertz, Ralph Hein, Maxine Jaeger, Mary Johnson, Marty Lehn, Judy Pierce, Maryanna Savery, Rose Steitz, and Joe Zeman.

**For Pregnant Mothers (& Waiting Fathers)**, especially Samantha & Nathan Schultz (Mark and Felisa Brown's daughter & son-in-law) and Jeremiah & Colleen Murrell. May the Lord grant good health and joyful expectation during the months ahead!

**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, Gabe Crespo, Luke Lockard (the Limback's grandson) and Chance Hillsman.

**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!

### Worship Services

**Saturday Services start at 5:30 p.m. Sunday Services are at 10:30 a.m.** Sunday's Services are live on Facebook and YouTube and the webpage at [blchurch.com](http://blchurch.com).

### Sunday School and Christian Education

**Sunday School for PreK-12<sup>th</sup> grade begins at 9:15 a.m.** in the Fellowship Hall. This is a great opportunity for children and youth to grow in knowledge of Scripture and in love toward the Lord and our neighbors, as Jesus said matters most!

**Vacation Bible School** is fast approaching and we need your help! If you can fill one of the following roles during the week of **June 5-9 (5:30-8:00 p.m.)**, please contact Ellen Pederson. Consider these ways to assist with VBS:

**Registration** (1-2 people)—Welcome participants and hand out name tags; volunteer for just one night or all five; this role would be from 5:00-5:45 each evening.

**Story Reader**—Read and discuss the evening's Bible story with each group of children; volunteer for just one night or all five.

**Science station**—perform a small (scripted) science demonstration for each group of children and discuss what it illustrates about God; volunteer for just one night or all five.

**Music** (2 people)—Teach the children several songs and actions; lead the children in these songs during nightly opening and closing as well as the final program Thursday evening.



**Team Leaders** (3-4 people)—Stay with a group of children as they transition from one station to the next; help at each station as needed (i.e. handing out art supplies, etc.).

### Video Series

**Life Together as Synod**—Our denomination (the LCMS) has put out a new video series exploring what it means to be a “synod” —a people who walk together in faith. Ask yourself what it means for you to be a part of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod and then give these a view or your own, if you want. These videos are accompanied by a free, downloadable talk sheet with suggestions for studying Scripture and questions for further discussion. Learn more and view the “Life Together” video series at [resources.lcms.org/life-together-as-synod-video-series](https://resources.lcms.org/life-together-as-synod-video-series).

### Faith Discussion and Bible Study

**Sunday Bible Study** is working through the book *Death, Heaven, Resurrection, and the New Creation* (by Concordia Seminary faculty) and discussing our way through Scripture and personal experiences so that we can all be strengthened in believing and living through Christ’s own life, death, and resurrection. Plan to join us **in the conference room from 9:15 to 10:10 a.m.! No Bible study on Easter Sunday!**

**Wednesday Bible Study** is currently finishing the short book of the prophet Nahum and will soon start another book in Holy Scripture. Join us **in the conference room from 10:30 to noon** and see what we’ll be undertaking next.

**Thursday “Lent—Pentecost Zoom Bible Study is on Thursdays at 7:00 p.m.** We are discussing God’s forgiving love for us in Christ Jesus. This Bible Study focuses on the scripture readings each Sunday. If you would like to join, please contact Cindy or Rebecca if you are interested in joining this class.

**Evangelizing Easter Workshop**—Mark your calendars for **Thursday, May 11, from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.** to learn how to better “go and tell” (as the angel declared on Easter morning) in the places of our everyday life. We’ll still be in the Easter season and will be exploring the *Spiritual Conversation Curve* for sharing the faith. Invite and encourage others to attend as well!

### Opportunities to Help & Serve

**The LCMS has called for “Help for Ukraine”** through a recently established webpage ([lcms.org/Ukraine](https://lcms.org/Ukraine)). The site provides regular updates to inform the prayers of the church as well as links that provide additional information on how to help our Lutheran brothers and sisters in Ukraine.

**Bethlehem's 2022 SHINE! Community Outreach Event Will Be Happening Here This Saturday, April 30, from 10-noon! *Grow Green—Glow & Glean* will focus on stewardship living which is rooted in the Lord's Good Earth and known by growth, harvest, and generous sharing. There will be workshops, hands-on planting, *free seeds and free raffles*, information to glean, plus an appearance by the "Green Lantern." This is our unique congregational effort, as part of the district-wide outreach initiative, so the more members who help—including in the planning and preparation—the better! *We'll need help setting up **starting at 8 a.m.** and taking down that day **after noon**, plus during the event, so please write your name down and the hours you can help on the sign-up sheet by either entrance ... or let the church office know.* Let's make this a great endeavor of sharing the light and goodness of our sustaining Lord!**

**June is Bethlehem's Month at the Food Center.** Bethlehem's month to staff the Food Center is coming up. We will need **4 volunteers every Tuesday and Thursday in June from 12:45 to 3:45 p.m.** A sign-up sheet will be on the bulletin board by the mailboxes soon.

**The Warrensburg Food Center** is in need of the following items: canned vegetables, beans, diced tomatoes, hamburger helper, coffee (regular instant-no pods), dry cereal (regular boxes), tuna and chicken pouches, Vienna sausages, spam, Poptarts, juice pouches, Gatorade type drinks with electrolytes, stick deodorant, chapstick, small body lotions, medium size cloth or vinyl bags with sturdy handles, large backpacks (not book bags), dish soap and toilet paper. (No mac and cheese or dry beans). Please throw in a few items when you are doing your grocery shopping to help the Food Center. You can place them in the basket by the bulletin board at the north entrance of the building for delivery to the Food Center.

### **Fellowship**

**Exercise Class** is being held at **9:30 a.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays** in the Fellowship Hall. This class is low impact exercise open to anyone, men or women. For more information, contact Judy Smith.

**The Games and Card Group** meets on **Thursdays at 1:00 p.m.** in the Youth room downstairs. Anyone, men and women, are welcome to come. If you have any questions, please contact Melvin Theroff.

**The Quilting Group** meets on the **second and fourth Tuesday** of the month from **9:30 a.m. until 2:30 p.m.** (September through May). Anyone is welcome to help with this project. No special sewing skills needed. Bring your own lunch. If you have any questions, please contact Georgia Luker.

## This & That

**Grief Share Classes (via Zoom)** will be starting again through the First Baptist Church on **Tuesday, April 26 at 6:30 p.m.** **In-person classes will start on Wednesday, April 27 at 1:30 p.m.** Classes will run for 13 weeks. You can register by calling the church or by going to their website at [www.griefshare.org](http://www.griefshare.org). If you have any questions, please contact Melvin Theroff.

**LLL Concordia Spring Rally**, hosted by Trinity Lutheran Church in Alma, on **Sunday, May 1.** Guest Speaker is State Representative Mike Haffner, from Cass County District 55. Rep. Haffner is a retired Navy pilot, with 20 years of service. **The business meeting starts at 5:00 in the church sanctuary. The banquet will follow in the church basement at 6:00.** Tickets are \$15 per person, please RSVP by April 25 to Rodney Roepe, 660-238-1894 or Larry Becker, 660-641-3669, or Trinity church office, 660-674-2376.

**Benefit Concert**—Save the date for **Sunday, May 8 (Mother's Day), at 4:00 p.m.** Bethlehem will be holding a benefit concert for the women and children refugees in Central Europe. The concert will focus on prayer and peace. Participants will include members of the Saint Paul Singing Saints and members of the Sedalia Symphony. If you have any questions, please get in touch with Pastor Joel or Jerrode Marsh. Funds raised will be donated to the inter-denominational organization which began after World War II—Church World Service.

**The public is invited to the Mid-Missouri Artists 2022 Fine Arts Show: May 14-15** in the Warrensburg Community Center. **Open for viewing Saturday, May 14, from 1-4 p.m. and Sunday, May 15, from 12:30-4 p.m.** Enjoy music by Gary Moege Saturday and the Schoolhouse Jammers on Sunday. Several BLC members will have entries in the show.

## Offerings

*Simply Giving* is the online program for donations and offerings. The website has changed a bit recently. If you need assistance, please let the office know and we will provide you with the steps to start it or help you change where you place your funds.

## 2022 Elders

**Willie Crespo** (last name begins A-D) 660-679-8121, [willie.crespo@fairwaymc.com](mailto:willie.crespo@fairwaymc.com)

**Ricky Bertels** (last name begins E-H), 660-262-8080, [rick1janice2@gmail.com](mailto:rick1janice2@gmail.com)

**Jack Easterwood** (last name begins I-Ma) 660-678-2045, [easter.egg2380@gmail.com](mailto:easter.egg2380@gmail.com)

**Alan Miller** (last name begins Mc-R) 660-909-1764, [alormiller@aol.com](mailto:alormiller@aol.com)

**Caleb Thomas** (last name begins S-Z) 660-441-2010, [calebthomas50@gmail.com](mailto:calebthomas50@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](mailto:pastor@blchurch.com)

Website: [www.blchurch.com](http://www.blchurch.com)      Facebook: [blcwarrensburg](https://www.facebook.com/blcwarrensburg)

#### **Office Manager:**

Cindy Smith

Monday–Friday: 8am-5pm

660-747-6742

[officemanager@blchurch.com](mailto:officemanager@blchurch.com)

#### **Congregational Life Facilitator:**

Rebecca Stewart

Tuesday: 8am-5pm

Thursday: 8am-5pm

[clf@blchurch.com](mailto:clf@blchurch.com)

#### **Bookkeeper:**

Teresa Hillsman

Tuesday: 9am-11am

Thursday: 9am-11am

[financial@blchurch.com](mailto:financial@blchurch.com)

Please note that Bethlehem Lutheran Church has a closed-circuit video system. This allows for live streaming on the web, 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.