

September 11, 2022 Mission Festival Weekend

AS WE GATHER

Although there are important times for silence in worship, the hearing of God's Word is central to the worship service. The reading of the Word becomes a focus for our growing in faith. From earliest times, God has directed His people to read His Word. In Exodus, it is recorded that Moses "took the Book of the Covenant and read it in the hearing of the people" (Exodus 24:7). In the Collect for "Grace to receive the Word," we pray that we may hear the Holy Scriptures and, most importantly, "read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them" (*LSB*, p. 308). We have that grace-filled opportunity once again. May we take full advantage of it to the glory of God!

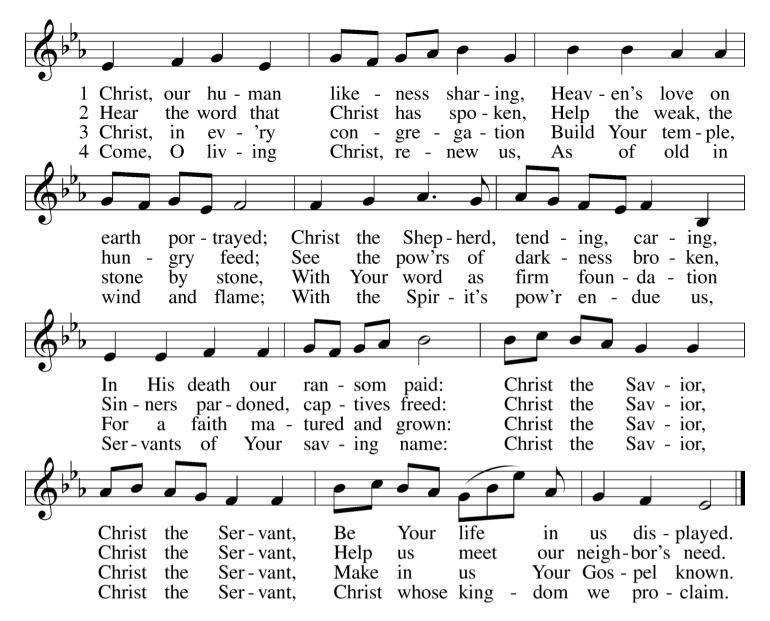
The pottery vessels on the altar remind us that although Holy Communion is not celebrated today, our Lord's sacred gifts are still central to our life of faith. Holy Communion is celebrated every 1st, 3rd, and 5th weekend (and major festivals).

Liturgical Color:

Green is the color of life and growth in the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Visitors: We are glad you have chosen to be with us today! We would especially like to follow-up with you beyond today, so please take a moment to leave your best contact information in the guest books at each entrance/exit or in the Record of Fellowship books found on each pew. Do you have basic questions about Bethlehem? Refer to the information sheet inside the Record of Fellowship books or ask. A cry-room for parents and children is just off from the front entryway and there is a nursery downstairs as well.

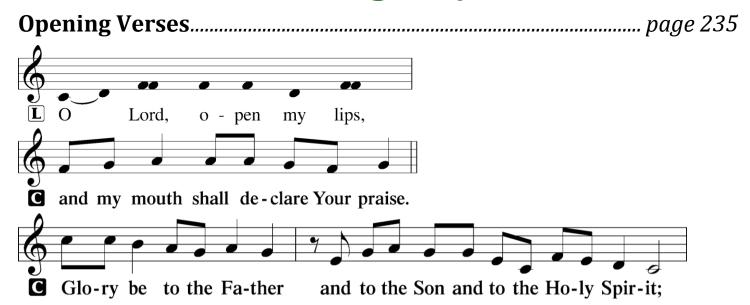
Gathering Hymn" "Christ, Our Human Likeness Sharing", #847



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Please rise.

Morning Prayer





Psalmody





Antiphon......page 237



Psalm 119 (vs. 169-176).....(front of hymnal, spoken in unison)

Let my cry come before you, O LORD;

give me understanding according to your word!

Let my plea come before you;

deliver me according to your word.

My lips will pour forth praise,

for you teach me your statutes.

My tongue will sing of your word,

for all your commandments are right.

Let your hand be ready to help me,

for I have chosen your precepts.

I long for your salvation, O LORD,

and your law is my delight.

Let my soul live and praise you,

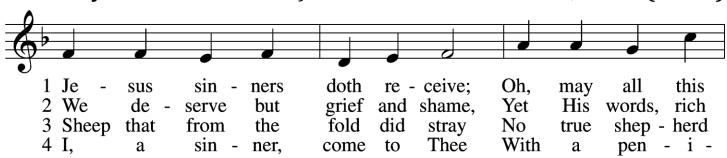
and let your just decrees help me.

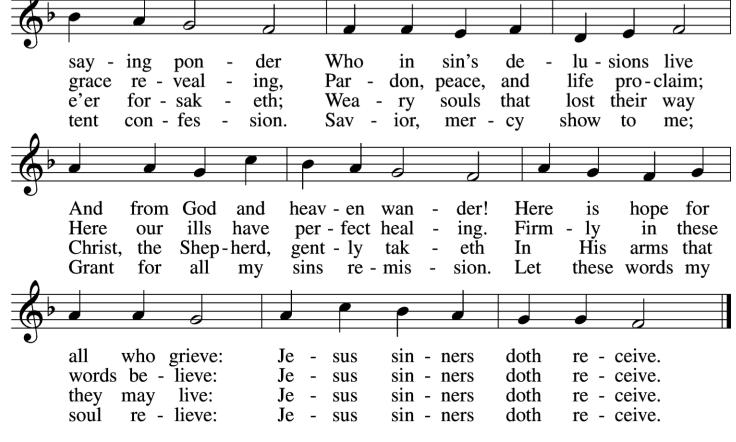
I have gone astray like a lost sheep; seek your servant,

for I do not forget your commandments.

Please be seated.

Office Hymn......" "Jesus Sinners Doth Receive", #609 (v. 1-4)





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Readings

Old Testament Reading..... Ezekiel 34:11-24

"For thus says the Lord God: Behold, I, I myself will search for my sheep and will seek them out. As a shepherd seeks out his flock when he is among his sheep that have been scattered, so will I seek out my sheep, and I will rescue them from all places where they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. And I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land. And I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the ravines, and in all the inhabited places of the country. I will feed them with good pasture, and on the mountain heights of Israel shall be their grazing land. There they shall lie down in good grazing land, and on rich pasture they shall feed on the mountains of Israel. I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I myself will make them lie down, declares the Lord God. I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, and the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them in justice.

"As for you, my flock, thus says the Lord God: Behold, I judge between sheep and sheep, between rams and male goats. Is it not enough for you to feed on the

good pasture, that you must tread down with your feet the rest of your pasture; and to drink of clear water, that you must muddy the rest of the water with your feet? And must my sheep eat what you have trodden with your feet, and drink what you have muddied with your feet?

"Therefore, thus says the Lord GoD to them: Behold, I, I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. Because you push with side and shoulder, and thrust at all the weak with your horns, till you have scattered them abroad, I will rescue my flock; they shall no longer be a prey. And I will judge between sheep and sheep. And I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. And I, the LORD, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them. I am the LORD; I have spoken."

- P O Lord, have mercy on us.
- Thanks be to God.

Epistle Reading 1 Timothy 1:5-17

The aim of our charge is love that issues from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith. Certain persons, by swerving from these, have wandered away into vain discussion, desiring to be teachers of the law, without understanding either what they are saying or the things about which they make confident assertions.

Now we know that the law is good, if one uses it lawfully, understanding this, that the law is not laid down for the just but for the lawless and disobedient, for the ungodly and sinners, for the unholy and profane, for those who strike their fathers and mothers, for murderers, the sexually immoral, men who practice homosexuality, enslavers, liars, perjurers, and whatever else is contrary to sound doctrine, in accordance with the glorious gospel of the blessed God with which I have been entrusted.

I thank him who has given me strength, Christ Jesus our Lord, because he judged me faithful, appointing me to his service, though formerly I was a blasphemer, persecutor, and insolent opponent. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the foremost. But I received mercy for this reason, that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display his perfect patience as an example to those who were to believe in him for eternal life. To the King of ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

- P O Lord, have mercy on us.
- C Thanks be to God.

Please rise.

Holy GospelLuke 15:1-10

Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear [Jesus]. And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying, "This man receives sinners and eats with them."

So he told them this parable: "What man of you, having a hundred sheep, if he has lost one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the open country, and go after the one that is lost, until he finds it? And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders, rejoicing. And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and his neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.' Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

"Or what woman, having ten silver coins, if she loses one coin, does not light a lamp and sweep the house and seek diligently until she finds it? And when she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.' Just so, I tell you, there is joy before the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

- P Oh Lord, have mercy on us.
- C Thanks be to God.
- **P** In many and various ways, God Spoke to His people of old by the prophets.
- But now in these last days, He has spoken to us by His Son.

Apostles' Creed

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.

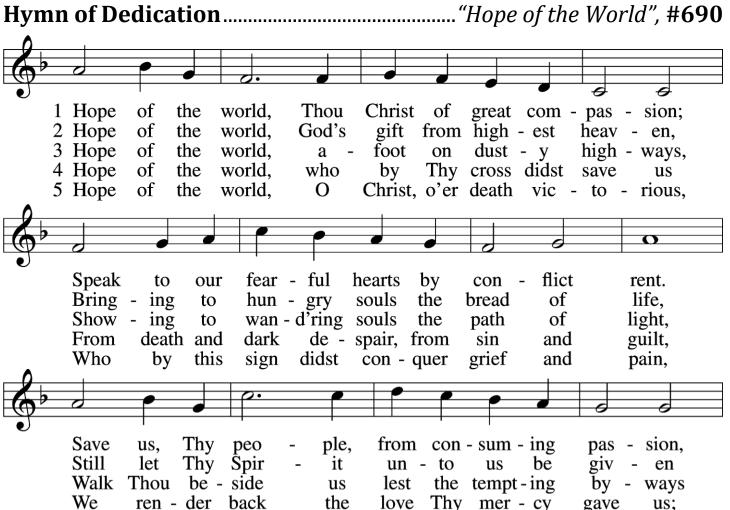
Please be seated.

We

would be

Children's Message

Sermon....."How Lost (?/!) & How Found (?/!)" Mission SpeakersRudy & Dorothy Schaser, WGLO Please rise.



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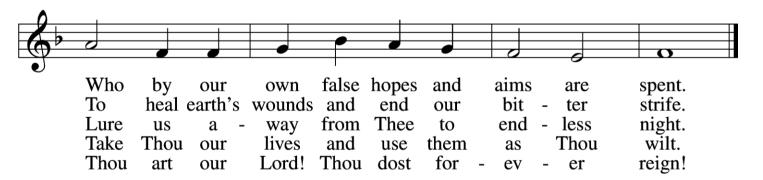
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back

faith



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Offering

Offering plates are not being passed during the service; worshipers may place their offerings into the plate located at the west 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)

Prayer

Collect of the Day	(spoken in unison)
Lord Jesus, You are the Good Shepherd, withou	it whom nothing is secure. Rescue
and preserve us that we may not be lost forev	er but follow You, rejoicing in the
way that leads to eternal life; for You live and I	eign with the Father and the Holy

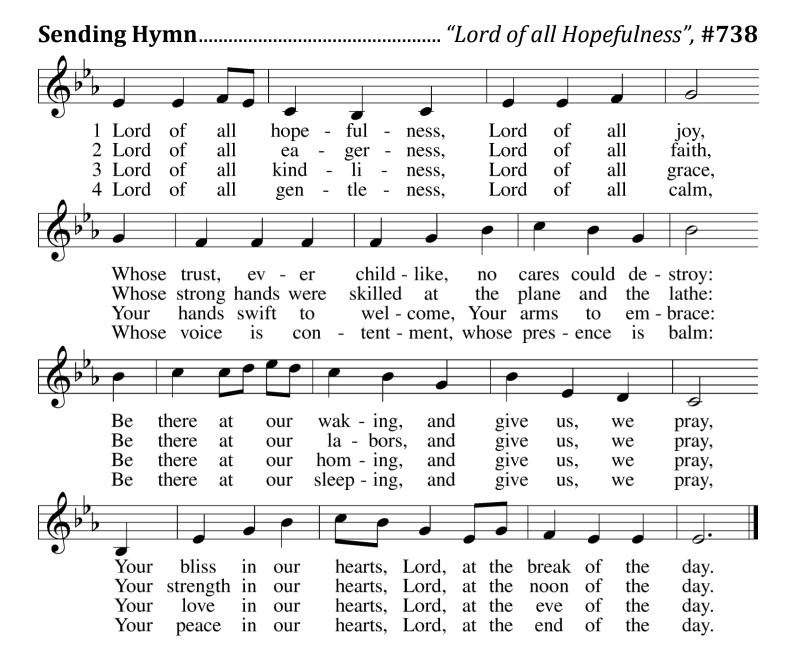
Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

(Additional Collects of Intercession and Thanksgiving)

Collect for Grace	naae 241

- P O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, You have safely brought us to the beginning of this day. Defend us in the same with Your mighty power and grant that this day we fall into no sin, neither run into any kind of danger, but that all our doings, being ordered by Your governance, may be righteous in Your sight; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

Lord's Prayer	page 241
Benedicamus	page 241
Benediction	naae 242



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Dismissal (Bethlehem's Mission)

- P Grow in Christ,
- C Live in Love and Share the Faith!

Postlude Jerrode Marsh

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Next week's readings:

OT: Amos 8:4-7; Epistle: 1 Timothy 2:1-15; Luke 16:1-15

Attendance Last Saturday: 25
Total Offering: \$2,739.00
Home Use: \$2,149.00
Attendance Last Sunday: 57
Missions: \$20.00
Benevolences: \$570.00

Serving us today:	
Elders/Ushers	Willie Crespo
Musicians	Jerrode Marsh
Altar Committee	Cindy Schnell (Chair), Judy Schache, Samantha Schnell
	Lauren Schumaker, Stephanie Schumaker
Flower Committee	Lana Vanderburgh (Chair), Karen Haase

This Week's Schedule

Sunday	12:00 p.m.	Congregational meeting regarding roof replacement
	2:30 p.m.	Country Club Care Center Service
Monday	9:30 a.m.	Exercise Class
	10:00 a.m.	Moms and Tots
	6:00 p.m.	Mary Martha Guild Meeting
Tuesday		Pastor at Circuit Conference
	9:30 a.m.	Quilting
	7:00 p.m.	Church Council Meeting
Wednesday	9:30 a.m.	Exercise Class
	10:30 a.m.	Bible Study
	7:00 p.m.	Scout Leader Meeting
Thursday	9:30 a.m.	Pastor at WCS
	11:30 a.m.	The Lunch Bunch
	1:00 p.m.	Games and Card Group
	5:30 p.m.	Fellowship Board Meeting
Friday	9:30 a.m.	Exercise Group
Saturday	11:00 a.m.	Trustees' Meeting
	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
		www.blchurch.com, under the Sermons tab)
	9:15 a.m.	Sunday School, Adult Bible Class
	12:00 p.m.	Thrivent Meeting
	12:00 p.m.	Elders' Meeting
	3:00 p.m.	Youth Get-TogetherCongregational Volleyball

Congregational Meeting

Our Church Building's Roof—There will be a short congregational meeting immediately following the morning service on **Sunday, September 11**, to hear about and vote on the urgent need of replacing our building's roof.

Prayers

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: Mel Bockelman, Paula Brewer, Felisa Brown, Ben Burd (friend & coworker of Jeremey VanWey), Ray & Mary Carstensen, Bob & Barbara Compton, Donna Cuellar (Betty Weinberg's daughter), Marion Droege, Wilma Gertz, Karen Haase, Maxine Jaeger, Mary Johnson, Wanda Kreisel, Johnny Nichol, Judy Pierce, Maryanna Savery, Denny Spanton, Rose Steitz, & Joe Zeman.

For Pregnant Mothers (& Waiting Fathers), especially Colleen & Jeremiah Murrell—as their due date is in less than a month! The Lord's good provision to all parents in the daily welcome and care of their children.

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 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 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.

Sunday School and Christian Education

Sunday School is at 9:15 a.m. on Sunday mornings. The new calendar year will kick off for both on **Sunday, September 11** with the Fall Mission Festival combined Christian Education time mentioned above!

Sunday Bible Study—Steward the Harvest of Autumn with the GLEANINGS. Beginning on September 18 and continuing through the last Sunday of the Church Year (November 20), we'll be embarking on a study that will survey hunger and harvest, feasting and sharing in Scripture. The Old Testament sessions are: 1) Hospitality, 2) Trickery, 3) Obedience, 4) The Miraculous, & 5) Hunger. The New Testament sessions are: 6) Breakfast, 7) Lunch, 8) Dinner, 9) Midnight Snack, & 10) Party. Join us in the conference room at 9:15 a.m. to find out what those titles are about and how they'll take us further into Scripture and life. Each attendee will get

a personal study booklet which includes all of the sessions. Prepared by the Society of St. Andrew (SOSA)—an organization which gleans America's fields to feed the hungry—this exploration and discussion will take you through the harvests of autumn to Thanksgiving with new awareness and generous stewardship. To learn more about SOSA, go to www.endhunger.org.

Youth Catechesis—If you or your youth will be going into 7th or 8th grades and haven't been contacted by Pr. Joel yet, let him know. Due to busy schedules this September, there will be an at-home assignment for the month, then we'll aim to start meeting in person for classes in October—the 2nd & 4th Sundays being our class times in the afternoon.

Faith Discussion and Bible Study

Wednesday Bible Study has begun looking at the book of the prophet Zephaniah. Join us in the conference room from 10:30 to noon for this time of study, growth, and exploration together.

UCM Students—The UCM Lutheran Student Center is located at **215 S. Holden Street** and is a place on campus for students to gather for fellowship. The Student Center has a meal and Bible study every **Thursday, starting at 5:00 p.m**. Their contact number is 660-747-7603 and Facebook @UCMLutherans. You are also invited to gather with us at Bethlehem for worship, Scripture study, faith discussion, and projects at any time. We welcome you to grow and serve alongside us here at Bethlehem!

LSC Meal Support—Those who would like to help provide meals at the Lutheran Student Center can send a check directly to them or put it in your offering with a note in the memo line "LSC Meals." The suggested cost to cover a meal is \$35. As an alternative you can also come cook and serve the meal to the students. Contact Pastor Schweigert if you would like to do this. (660) 747-7603.

Opportunities to Help & Serve

Migrant Farmworkers—The Mission Board will deliver supplies to the Migrant Farmworkers in Lexington MO on September 26. These families come to that area each year to harvest the delicious apples from the orchards. The Migrant Farmworkers Assistance Fund was established to work with these Farmworkers when they first arrive at the orchards in late summer. That includes assistance with medical and dental needs as well as completion of school enrollment for their children. The MSAF continues to work with them for their critical needs until they migrate elsewhere. Some of those critical needs are food and clothing. We, at Bethlehem, have contributed to these needs for many years, as have other churches

in the area, and we plan to do so again this year. We will have a container at the northeast entrance to the church to collect white rice (not instant) and dry pinto beans. Please consider helping, as you can, by placing your contributions there by noon on Monday, September 26. We will deliver them that afternoon. Thank you for your consideration.

The Warrensburg Food Center is in need! As you may have seen on the news or heard on the radio lately, Harvesters are struggling. Harvesters is the primary source of food for our local food pantry. In the past our local pantry received 11 pallets of food twice monthly. The last delivery was 3 pallets and very little meat. Donations are down to Harversters and they are facing staffing issues as are many businesses. Harvesters contacted the local food pantry last week and told them they would need to begin to source their food locally. Several groups in the community have committed to food drives, but the need is great as they are currently serving over 400 families monthly and the number grows every time they are open as new families sign up for assistance.

Anything you can donate, either in the form of food items or cash, will be put to very good use! Our pantry is supplemental, which means we only try to give food for a week and the families must fend for the rest of the month. **There is a list of needed items on the bulletin board in the north foyer, and there is a donation barrel as well.** You can leave cash donations at the church office or mail to the Food Center, P.O. Box 872, Warrensburg, MO 64093, or put it in Sue Cottrill's or Pastor's mailbox. Thank you for helping to lessen food insecurity in our county!

Garden Work—There's not only plenty to do in our community vegetable garden and greenspace, but also much joy to be found in the gifts of Creation and the sharing of its abundance with others. *This has been a good year for peppers, tomatoes, and eggplant!* Talk to Shawn Lindley or Pr. Joel if you're looking for a regular way to plug in and help in the process. Thanks!

Fellowship

Mary Martha Guild will resume our meetings on Monday, September 12 at 6:00 p.m. We are looking forward to our program that evening which will be presented by Julie Crespo, Penny Humphrey, and Jeremy VanWey. They will talk about their experiences regarding "Christianity in the Workplace". Everyone is invited. We hope to see you there!

The Lunch Bunch will meet on Thursday, September 15 at 11:30 p.m. Any women of the congregation are invited to come and bring a friend. Bring your own lunch and dessert will be provided.

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.

Bethlehem's Junior & Senior Youth will resume their Third Sunday at Three gathering on September 18 with a volleyball challenge anyone in the congregation up for a game from 3:00-4:15 or so. Following that time, the youth will remain and talk over plans for the fall, and have some time for faith conversation and sharing until 5:00.

September Sand Volleyball sounds good, doesn't it? **How do Wednesday, September 14**th & 21st sound from 6:30 until 7:30 or so? If those work, we'll even make a connection with Holy Cross Day (the 14th) and St. Matthew's Day (the 21st). Pr. Joel will be here ready to play, unless another day or time works better. Let's take advantage of the newly restored court and cooler weather and enjoy some active and thoughtful time together!

This & That

The people of St. Matthew Lutheran Church in Ernestville invite you to join them for the installation of **Rev. Perry Copus** as their pastor. **The service will take place at 3:00 on Sunday, Sept. 18** and be followed by a reception in the church basement. St. Matthew Lutheran church is located in Ernestville at 2069 State Hwy KK.

Zion Lutheran Church in Corder, Missouri will be holding their **Annual Smorgasbord on Sunday, September 25 from 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.** in the church fellowship hall. Adults are \$12, Children 6-12 are \$5 and under 6 are free. Menu will be turkey and dressing, ham, mashed potatoes and gravy, green beans, corn, salads, rolls and desserts. All proceeds will be used in the renovation of the church property and/or mission projects.

Vendors wanted for the 3rd Annual Saint Paul Christkindlesmarkt! We are looking for people who hand-craft items such as jewelry, pottery, woodworking, ceramics, artwork, specialty food and drink, and more. We strive to keep our Christmas Market as authentically German as possible, so no direct sales companies are allowed. The event will take place outdoors on Friday, December 9th from 4:00-8:00pm and Saturday, December 10th from 11:00am-7:00pm on the 40-acre campus of Saint Paul Lutheran High School in Concordia, MO. Nearly 3,000 guests and 50 vendors were welcomed in 2021 and we're planning for an even bigger event

this year. Visit <u>splhs.org/events</u> for more information and the Vendor Application. Have questions? Email ChristmasMarket@splhs.org.

Country Kitchen Cards—We have a new batch of Country Kitchen Cards. Stop by the office if you would like to purchase one. They are \$10 and you get 10 buy-oneget-one free meal deals. All proceeds go to the youth group. Thanks for your support!

Ongoing thanks to those who generously give to the Bethlehem Emergency Fund, which enables Pr. Joel to assist members and certain people in the community who are in crisis situations. Much appreciation for your good support!

2022 Elders

Willie Crespo (last name begins A-D) 660-679-8121, crespo6fam@gmail.com
Ricky Bertels (last name begins E-H), 660-262-8080, rick1janice2@gmail.com
Jack Easterwood (last name begins I-Ma) 660-678-2045, easter.egg2380@gmail.com
Alan Miller (last name begins Mc-R) 660-909-1764, alorrmiller@aol.com
Caleb Thomas (last name begins S-Z) 660-441-2010, calebthomas50@gmail.com



MISSION FESTIVAL WEEKEND—SEPTEMBER 10-11 WITH GOD'S LITTLE ONES

For 18 years, our modest non-profit organization has worked to bring help and encouragement to people experiencing tough times. Sadly, the past year has been particularly painful. **Ukraine**. We're sharing resources with skilled, compassionate German and Polish partners, as they serve both those who have fled the war and those still struggling in Ukraine. (See our blog, And You Took Me In.). We've been doing our best to reach hungry, hurting villagers in **Madagascar**, already-impoverished people hit by COVID, malaria, and pneumonic plague, by cyclone and drought. In **Cambodia**, we've launched a concerted effort to reach and assist vulnerable older folks in Kratie Province. We're also helping pay poor folks' hospital bills, bringing food and toys to single mothers alone in the big city, and providing food to orphans in remote villages.

Rudy & Dorothy Schaser are WGLO's Executive Director and Secretary/Treasurer, respectively. Dorothy grew up here at Bethlehem, and Pr. Joel grew up knowing her and Rudy as they served in the mission field of the Philippines with his parents. Pr. Joel is blessed to serve as one of the members of the WGLO with them and the others.

Members of Bethlehem are invited to write personal notes to young students and their teachers in the hard-to-reach village of Kompong Kbeoung, on the Mekong in Sambo district, Cambodia. There are 70 students and three teachers divided into morning and afternoon groups. The school is hoping to use about 80% of the materials from the present building, plus purchase additional materials to construct a new facility. Notes can be written in advance and brought for the Mission Festival, or you can write them that weekend as well.

To learn more about the work of WGLO, go to their website: www.wglo.org.



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

Bookkeeper:

Teresa Hillsman Tuesday: 9am-11am Thursday: 9am-11am 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.