

#### **AS WE GATHER**

In the traditional "learning trio" of reading, writing, and arithmetic, the first two of the listed disciplines deal with words. Spoken and written communication are vital throughout life. But learning numbers and how to work with them, understand them, and use them well is also important. The books of the Bible include many numbers, each of which has special significance. The fourth book of the Old Testament is called Numbers because it contains the results of two censuses of the Hebrew people taken after the exodus from Egypt, one beginning in the first chapter and the second beginning in chapter 26. The Lord God demanded that each of His people was accounted for and known. His care for each of us continues, as is reflected in His Word through the prophet Isaiah, "Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are Mine" (Isaiah 43:1b). God sees each of us as "number one" in His loving view!

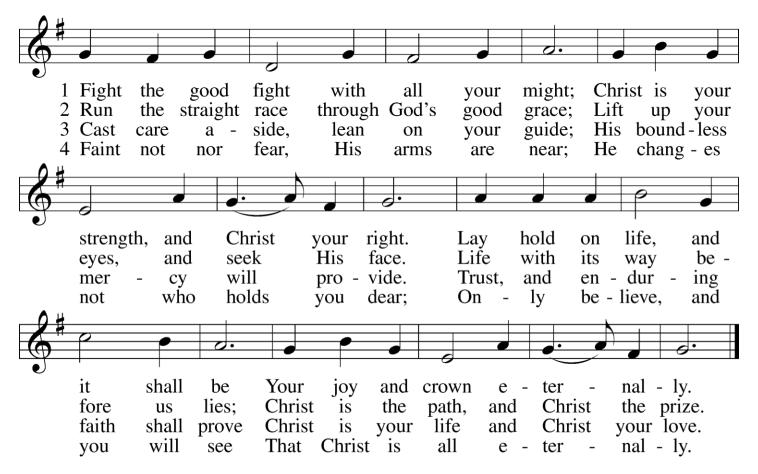
The pottery vessels on the altar remind us that although Holy Communion is not celebrated today, our Lord's sacred gifts are still central to our life of faith. Holy Communion is celebrated every 1st, 3rd, and 5th weekend (and major festivals).

## **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.

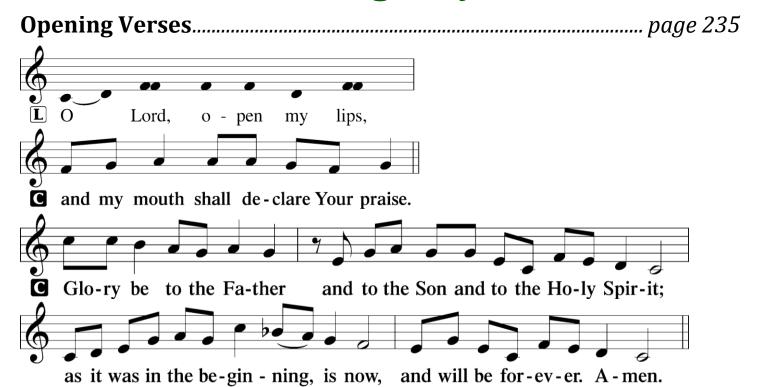
**Prelude** ....... Cody Clemons **Gathering Hymn** ..... "Fight the Good Fight", #664



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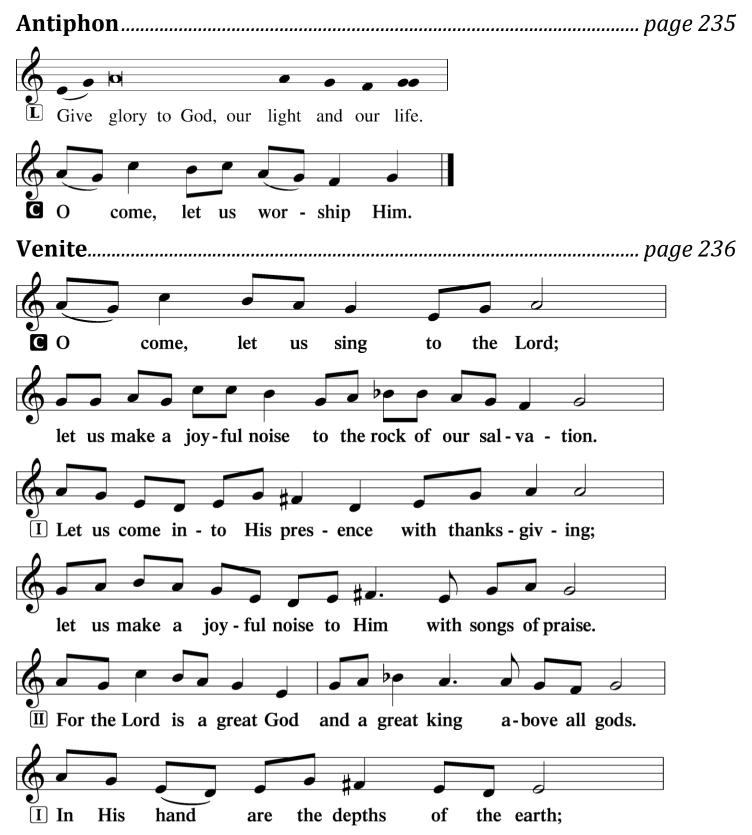
Please rise.

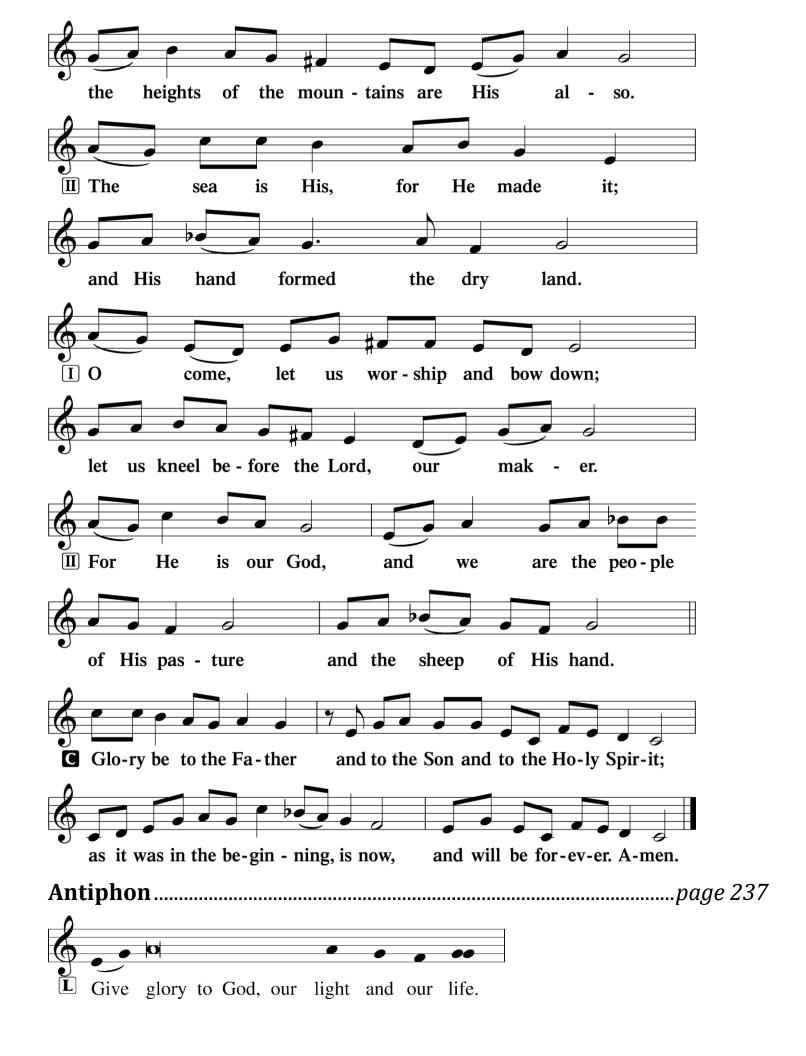
# **Morning Prayer**



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Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.
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# **Psalmody**







**Psalm 146**.....(front of hymnal, spoken in unison)

Praise the LORD!

Praise the LORD, O my soul!

I will praise the LORD as long as I live;

I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.

Put not your trust in princes,

in a son of man, in whom there is no salvation.

When his breath departs he returns to the earth; on that very day his plans perish.

Blessèd is he whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the LORD his God,

who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them,

who keeps faith forever;

who executes justice for the oppressed, who gives food to the hungry.

The LORD sets the prisoners free;

the LORD opens the eyes of the blind.

The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down; the LORD loves the righteous.

The LORD watches over the sojourners;

he upholds the widow and the fatherless, but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin.

The LORD will reign forever,

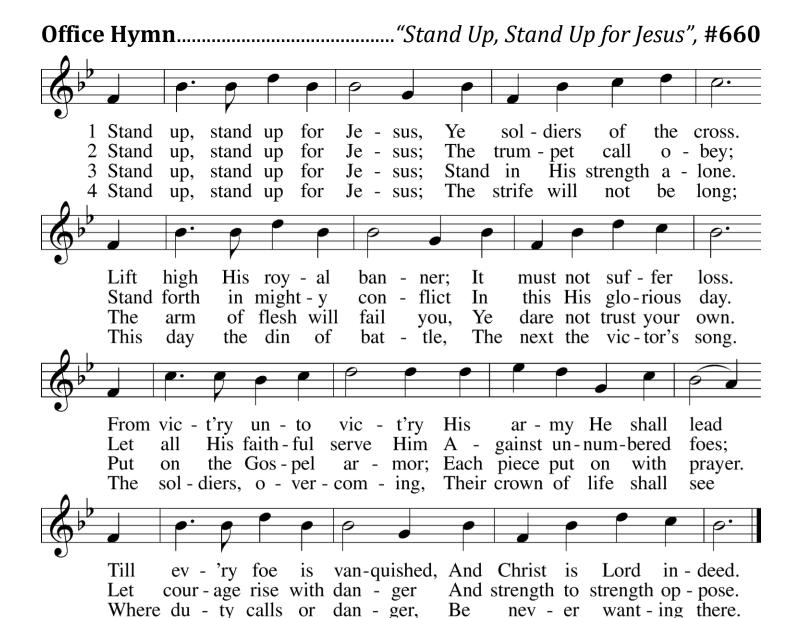
your God, O Zion, to all generations. Praise the LORD!

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.



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Shall reign

e - ter - nal - ly.

Please be seated.

And

# Readings

Old Testament Reading.....Amos 6:1-7

"Woe to those who are at ease in Zion,

and to those who feel secure on the mountain of Samaria,

with the King of Glo - ry

the notable men of the first of the nations,

to whom the house of Israel comes!

Pass over to Calneh, and see,

and from there go to Hamath the great;

then go down to Gath of the Philistines.

Are you better than these kingdoms?

Or is their territory greater than your territory,

O you who put far away the day of disaster
and bring near the seat of violence?

"Woe to those who lie on beds of ivory
and stretch themselves out on their couches,
and eat lambs from the flock
and calves from the midst of the stall,
who sing idle songs to the sound of the harp
and like David invent for themselves instruments of music,
who drink wine in bowls
and anoint themselves with the finest oils,
but are not grieved over the ruin of Joseph!

Therefore they shall now be the first of those who go into exile,
and the revelry of those who stretch themselves out shall pass away."

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

# Epistle Reading ...... 1 Timothy 6:6-19

Now there is great gain in godliness with contentment, for we brought nothing into the world, and we cannot take anything out of the world. But if we have food and clothing, with these we will be content. But those who desire to be rich fall into temptation, into a snare, into many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evils. It is through this craving that some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pangs.

But as for you, O man of God, flee these things. Pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, steadfastness, gentleness. Fight the good fight of the faith. Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called and about which you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses. I charge you in the presence of God, who gives life to all things, and of Christ Jesus, who in his testimony before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, to keep the commandment unstained and free from reproach until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ, which he will display at the proper time—he who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords, who alone has immortality, who dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see. To him be honor and eternal dominion. Amen.

As for the rich in this present age, charge them not to be haughty, nor to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who richly provides us with everything to enjoy. They are to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share, thus storing up treasure for themselves as a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of that which is truly life.

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

Please rise.

Holy Gospel ......Luke 16:19-31

[Jesus said:] "There was a rich man who was clothed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. And at his gate was laid a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, who desired to be fed with what fell from the rich man's table. Moreover, even the dogs came and licked his sores. The poor man died and was carried by the angels to Abraham's side. The rich man also died and was buried, and in Hades, being in torment, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham far off and Lazarus at his side. And he called out, 'Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the end of his finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am in anguish in this flame.' But Abraham said, 'Child, remember that you in your lifetime received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner bad things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in anguish. And besides all this, between us and you a great chasm has been fixed, in order that those who would pass from here to you may not be able, and none may cross from there to us.' And he said, 'Then I beg you, father, to send him to my father's house—for I have five brothers—so that he may warn them, lest they also come into this place of torment.' But Abraham said, 'They have Moses and the Prophets; let them hear them.' And he said, 'No, father Abraham, but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent.' He said to him, 'If they do not hear Moses and the Prophets, neither will they be convinced if someone should rise from the dead.""

- 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.

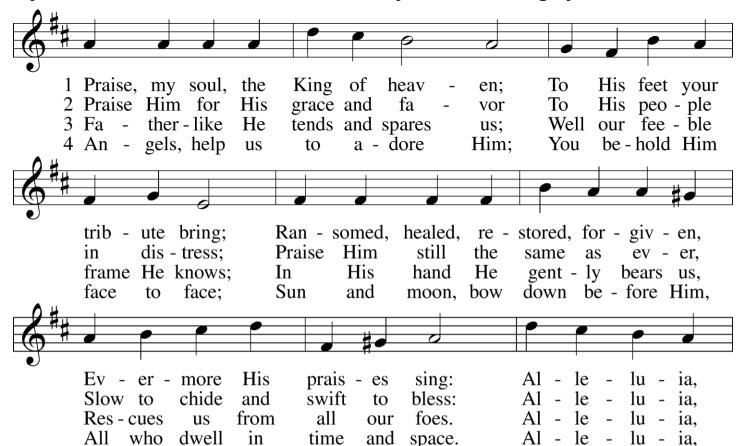
## **Apostles' Creed**

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.

Please be seated.

## Children's Message

Hymn of Praise ...... "Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven", #793





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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	(spo	ken	in	unisor	1)
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O God, You are the strength of all who trust in You, and without Your aid we can do no good thing. Grant us the help of Your grace that we may please You in both will and deed; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

(Additional Collects of Intercession and Thanksgiving)

Collect for Gracepage 2	41
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- 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	page 242



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## Next week's readings:

OT: Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4; Epistle: 2 Timothy 1:1-14; Luke 17:1-10

<b>Total Offerin</b>	ast Saturday: g: \$52,033.32	Missions: \$47,877.32
Home Use: \$2	1,261.00	Benevolences: \$580.00
Serving us tod	ay:	
Elders/Ushers		Alan Miller
Musicians		Cody Clemons
Altar Committe	ee	Cindy Schnell (Chair), Judy Schache, Samantha Schnell Lauren Schumaker, Stephanie Schumaker
Flower Commi	ttee	Lana Vanderburgh (Chair), Karen Haase
This Week's So	chedule	
Monday		Pastor's Vacation (Sept 26 <sup>th</sup> -Oct 3 <sup>rd</sup> )
	9:30 a.m.	Exercise Class
	2:00 p.m.	Moms and Tots
	3:30 p.m.	Migrant Farmworkers—Trip to deliver rice and beans
	6:30 p.m.	4-H Meeting
Tuesday	9:30 a.m.	Quilting
	7:15 p.m.	Education Board Meeting
Wednesday		No Bible Study
	6:30 p.m.	Volleyball
	9:30 a.m.	Exercise Class
Thursday	1:00 p.m.	Games and Card Group
Friday	9:30 a.m.	Exercise Group
	5:30 p.m.	Holy Communion—LWML Weekend
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
	10:30 a.m.	Holy Communion—LWML Weekend

#### **Absence/Presence**

Pr. Joel will be on vacation from the afternoon of September 25-October 3—visiting his sister in South Carolina. Pastor Bertels will be taking his place while he is

gone next weekend. If you need anything during his absence, please contact your elder, head elder Willie Crespo, or Pastor Bertels.

#### **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 almost here) and Paige & Colin Hart (December). 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, feel free 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 <a href="block">block</a> block of block of block of block of the webpage at <a href="block">block</a> block of block of

## **Sunday School and Christian Education**

Sunday School is at 9:15 a.m. on Sunday mornings downstairs for ages Preschool through 12<sup>th</sup> grade. Our teachers for the fall are as follows: Rebecca Holland-preschool & kindergarten; Jack Easterwood-elementary; Rich Vanderburgh-junior & senior youth and Penny Humphrey-superintendent. The children will be working on songs with the goal of singing in church once per month. We invite all children of the congregation (and outside too) to come and be a part of this time growing together in Christ!

Sunday Bible Study—Steward the Harvest of Autumn with GLEANINGS. Continuing through the last Sunday of the Church Year (November 20), we're undertaking a

study that surveys hunger and harvest, wasting, feasting, and sharing in Scripture and in our lives today. The Old Testament sessions still ahead are: 2) Trickery, 3) Obedience, 4) The Miraculous, & 5) Hunger. The New Testament sessions will be: 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.

### **Faith Discussion and Bible Study**

**Faith Night**—Join others in the Fellowship Hall on **Wednesday, October 5 from 5:30-6:00 p.m.** for a simple meal (bring something simple you'd like to share) and conversation, followed by a discussion from **6:00 to 6:45.** We will be focusing on the 5<sup>th</sup> petition of the Lord's Prayer (And forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us").

Wednesday Bible Study will not meet this week but will resume on October 5<sup>th</sup> and begin looking at the book of the prophet Haggai. Join us in the conference room from 10:30 to noon for this time of study, growth, and exploration together.

**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!

#### **Opportunities to Help & Serve**

The Warrensburg Food Center is in need! Harvesters is the primary source of food for our local food pantry. The Food Center currently serves over 400 families monthly and the number grows every time they are open as new families sign up for assistance. Several groups in the community have committed to food drives, but the need is great. 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!

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.

**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**

**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**

10<sup>th</sup> Annual Ladies' Night Out—October 11, 2022 from 5-8p.m. at the UCM Multipurpose Building. Tickets are \$15. This event is for any ladies who would like to help support Breast Cancer Awareness. Bethlehem's Felisa Brown, as a survivor of breast cancer, will be the honorary guest speaker this evening. Please come out and support Felisa and all of the others that had or have breast cancer. Your ticket gets you a free T-shirt, VIP bag with coupons and goodies and you will be entered into multiple raffles.

The UCM Homecoming Parade will be held on Saturday, October 15th at 9:00 a.m. We are in need of people to help decorate the float, ride on the float and/or walk during the parade handing out a variety of items. We also need some candy

donations to hand out. There will be a tote by Pastor's office to put these in. Adults and children are welcome!

The Singing Saints of Saint Paul Lutheran High School in Concordia, Missouri will be presenting their annual "Down by the Riverside" concert on Sunday, October 16th at 3:00 p.m. at Eagle Bluff Ranch in Waverly, Missouri (31827 US-65, Waverly, MO 64096). The 62-voiced concert choir will present an outdoor concert featuring a program of songs about rivers, water, Baptism, and God's creation at a beautiful venue overlooking the Missouri River. The concert is free, but a free-will offering to help support the expenses of the spring choir tour are greatly appreciated. Fall-themed refreshments will be served after the concert.

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 splhs.org/events 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, <a href="mailto:crespo6fam@gmail.com">crespo6fam@gmail.com</a>
Ricky Bertels (last name begins E-H), 660-262-8080, <a href="mailto:rick1janice2@gmail.com">rick1janice2@gmail.com</a>
Jack Easterwood (last name begins I-Ma) 660-678-2045, <a href="mailto:easter.egg2380@gmail.com">easter.egg2380@gmail.com</a>
Alan Miller (last name begins Mc-R) 660-909-1764, <a href="mailto:alorrmiller@aol.com">alorrmiller@aol.com</a>
Caleb Thomas (last name begins S-Z) 660-441-2010, <a href="mailto:calebthomas50@gmail.com">calebthomas50@gmail.com</a>

### **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: <a href="mailto:pastor@blchurch.com">pastor@blchurch.com</a>

Website: <a href="https://www.blchurch.com">www.blchurch.com</a> Facebook: <a href="https://www.blchurch.com">blcwarrensburg</a>

#### 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.