

Ask the Lord  
of the harvest to  
send out laborers

MATTHEW 9:38



+ The 3rd Sunday After Pentecost +

**June 17-18, 2023**

**Father's Day Weekend**

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### **AS WE GATHER**

The history of celebrating Father's Day in the United States begins with a church service held in West Virginia in 1908, which recalled and honored the fathers who had perished in a coal mine disaster in the area in the previous year. Two years later, a more general annual observance was begun at a YMCA in Spokane, Washington. But it was not until 1972 that the day was declared to be a national holiday. Among the many qualities of positive fatherhood celebrated on Father's Day is a sense of compassion. Many centuries ago, the psalmist wrote: "As a father shows compassion to his children, so the Lord shows compassion to those who fear Him" (Psalm 103:13). Each week in worship we recall and give thanks for the compassionate love of our God, the eternal Father, who bears His people on eagles' wings and crowns them with steadfast love and mercy.

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### **REGARDING COMMUNION**

*When we gather at the Lord's Table, the cup of blessing we receive is a sharing in the blood of Christ; the bread we break is a sharing in the body of Christ. We who are many are one bread and body in Christ (I Cor. 10:16-17). As a people baptized into the life of God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, Jesus comes to us in this holy meal to renew us individually and together in our life of faith and following him. **Since Christian denominations have differing understandings of Holy Communion, if you are not a member of a Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod congregation and have not communed here before, we ask that you speak with the pastor or elder prior to communing with us the first time. Those not communing are invited to cross their arms over their chests and approach the pastor for a blessing during the distribution. Also, if certain factors prohibit you from partaking of regular wine, non-alcoholic wine is available in the center circle of the tray. If you would like to begin sharing this sacred meal with us on a regular basis, please ask the pastor for a time of faith instruction and formation.***

*If you are in need of a gluten-free wafer for Communion,  
please let Pastor or an Elder know.*

## 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. **A cry-room for parents and children is just off from the front entryway, and there's a wonderful nursery downstairs at the end of the fellowship hall for you to make use of at any time.** Do you have any questions about anything here? Don't hesitate to ask one of the ushers or elders, or talk to the pastor.

## Prelude

*(Prayer request cards will be collected by an usher passing through the aisle.)*

## Invocation Hymn ..... "Lord, This Day We've Come to Worship", #911



1 Lord, this day we've come to wor-ship; Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost,  
2 In the pow'r of res - ur - rec - tion We have come to praise the Lord,  
3 May Your Word en - rich our spir - it, Give us strength to do Your will,  
4 As we meet our bless - ed Sav - ior At the Ta - ble of the Lord,  
5 Cel - e - brate the res - ur - rec - tion In the church and sing His praise,

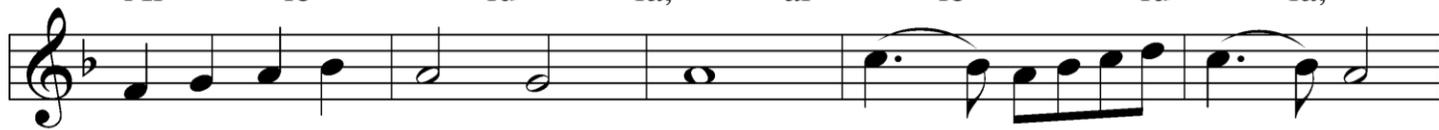


Grace us with Your bless - ed pres - ence; Bless - ed Sav - ior, be our host.  
Cel - e - brate His bless - ed sup - per, And to learn His ho - ly Word.  
Show the king - dom we'll in - her - it, When at last our voice is still.  
May this bod - y bro - ken for us Strength and com - fort, Lord, af - ford.  
Till we come to true per - fec - tion: Serve the Lord through all our days.

### *Refrain*



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,



Al - le - lu - ia, praise the Lord! Al - le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia, praise the Lord!

# Divine Service, Setting Four

## Confession and Absolution

Invocation and Confession & Absolution .....page 203

- P** In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**C** Amen.  
**P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,  
**C** who made heaven and earth.  
**P** If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?  
**C** But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.  
**P** Since we are gathered . . . God, be merciful to me, a sinner.  
**C** Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.  
**P** Almighty God, . . . through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.  
**C** Amen.

## Service of the Word

Entrance Hymn ..... "God Love the World So That He Gave", #571



1 God loved the world so that He gave His on - ly  
2 Christ Je - sus is the ground of faith, Who was made  
3 God would not have the sin - ner die; His Son with  
4 Be of good cheer, for God's own Son For - gives all



Son the lost to save, That all who would in  
flesh and suf - fered death; All then who trust in  
sav - ing grace is nigh; His Spir - it in the  
sins which you have done; And, jus - ti - fied by



Him be - lieve Should ev - er - last - ing life re - ceive.  
Him a - lone Are built on this chief cor - ner - stone.  
Word de - clares How we in Christ are heav - en's heirs.  
Je - sus' blood, Your Bap - tism grants the high - est good.

5

If you are sick, if death is near,  
This truth your troubled heart can cheer:  
Christ Jesus saves your soul from death;  
That is the firmest ground of faith.

6

Glory to God the Father, Son,  
And Holy Spirit, Three in One!  
To You, O blessed Trinity,  
Be praise now and eternally!

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**Kyrie** .....page 204



**C** Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

**Gloria in Excelsis**.....page 204



**C** 1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;  
2 To You, O sole - be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;  
3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.



Good-will from God in heav - en Pro - claimed at Je - sus' birth!  
O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.  
For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor - shipped and a - dored;



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—  
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry,  
You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n-ly King.  
Where You in pow'r are seat-ed At God's right hand on high—  
In God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**Collect of the Day** ..... (*spoken in unison*)

**Almighty, eternal God, in the Word of Your apostles and prophets You have proclaimed to us Your saving will. Grant us faith to believe Your promises that we may receive eternal salvation; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

*Please be seated*

**Old Testament Reading**.....**Exodus 19:2-8**

[The people of Israel] set out from Rephidim and came into the wilderness of Sinai, and they encamped in the wilderness. There Israel encamped before the mountain, while Moses went up to God. The LORD called to him out of the mountain, saying, “Thus you shall say to the house of Jacob, and tell the people of Israel: You yourselves have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I bore you on eagles’ wings and brought you to myself. Now therefore, if you will indeed obey my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my treasured possession among all peoples, for all the earth is mine; and you shall be to me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation. These are the words that you shall speak to the people of Israel.”

So Moses came and called the elders of the people and set before them all these words that the LORD had commanded him. All the people answered together and said, “All that the LORD has spoken we will do.” And Moses reported the words of the people to the LORD.

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

**Gradual**..... (*spoken in unison*)

**Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised,  
and his greatness is unsearchable.**

**On your wondrous works, I will meditate,  
and I will declare your greatness. (Psalm 145:3, 5b, 6b)**

**Epistle Reading** .....**Romans 5:6-15**

For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. For one will scarcely die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good

person one would dare even to die— but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God. For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life. More than that, we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all sinned— for sin indeed was in the world before the law was given, but sin is not counted where there is no law. Yet death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sinning was not like the transgression of Adam, who was a type of the one who was to come.

But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if many died through one man's trespass, much more have the grace of God and the free gift by the grace of that one man Jesus Christ abounded for many.

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

*Please rise.*

**Alleluia and Verse .....page 205**



**C** Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



**C** These things are writ - ten that you may be - lieve that



Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.



**C** Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

**Holy Gospel .....Matthew 9:35-10:8-20**

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the ninth and tenth chapters.

**C** Glory to You, O Lord.

Jesus went throughout all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction. When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest."

And he called to him his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal every disease and every affliction. The names of the twelve apostles are these: first, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother; James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother; Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James the son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; Simon the Cananaean, and Judas Iscariot, who betrayed him.

These twelve Jesus sent out, instructing them, "Go nowhere among the Gentiles and enter no town of the Samaritans, but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. And proclaim as you go, saying, 'The kingdom of heaven is at hand.' Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse lepers, cast out demons. You received without paying; give without pay."

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

**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

**Nicene Creed** ..... page 206

**I believe in one God,  
the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth  
and of all things visible and invisible.  
And in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the only-begotten Son of God,  
begotten of His Father before all worlds,  
God of God, Light of Light,  
very God of very God,  
begotten, not made,  
being of one substance with the Father,  
by whom all things were made;  
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven  
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary  
and was made man;  
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.  
He suffered and was buried.**

And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures  
and ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of the Father.

And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,  
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord and giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,  
who spoke by the prophets.

And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,  
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,  
and I look for the resurrection of the dead  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Hymn of the Day ..... *"Church of God, Elect and Glorious", #646*



1 Church of God, e - lect and glo - rious, Ho - ly  
2 God has called you out of dark - ness In - to  
3 Once you were an al - ien peo - ple, Strang - ers  
4 Church of God, e - lect and ho - ly, Be the



na - tion, cho - sen race; Called as God's own  
His most mar - v'rous light; Brought His truth to  
to God's heart of love; But He brought you  
peo - ple He in - tends; Strong in faith and



spe - cial peo - ple, Roy - al priests and heirs of  
life with - in you, Turned your blind - ness in - to  
home in mer - cy, Cit - i - zens of heav'n a -  
swift to an - swer Each com - mand your Mas - ter



grace: Know the pur - pose of your call - ing,  
sight. Let your light so shine a - round you  
bove. Let His love flow out to oth - ers,  
sends: Roy - al priests, ful - fill your call - ing

Show to all His might - y deeds; Tell of love that  
 That God's name is glo - ri - fied And all find fresh  
 Let them feel a Fa - ther's care; That they too may  
 Through your sac - ri - fice and prayer; Give your lives in  
 knows no lim - its, Grace that meets all hu - man needs.  
 hope and pur - pose In Christ Je - sus cru - ci - fied.  
 know His wel - come And His count - less bless - ings share.  
 joy - ful ser - vice— Sing His praise, His love de - clare.

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*Please be seated*

**Sermon** ..... “Saying, Doing, & Giving”

**Offering & Offertory**

*Please rise*

**Prayer of the Church**

- P** Lord, in your mercy.
- C** Hear our prayer.

## Service of the Sacrament

**Communion Liturgy** .....pages 208-210

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** And also with you.
- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** We lift them to the Lord.
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.
- P** It is truly good, right, and beneficial . . . evermore praising You and saying:

**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;

Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.  
 Sing ho - san - na in the high-est, sing ho - san - na to the Lord;  
 Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

**Agnus Dei** .....page 210

1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
 2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
 You take the sin of the world a - way;  
 You take the sin of the world a - way;  
 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
 Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,  
 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.  
 And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

*Please be seated, until motioned to rise & proceed forward if going for Communion or a blessing.*

**Instrumental**

**(Sunday Only)**

**Communion Hymn** ..... "Christ, the Word of God Incarnate", #540

1 Christ, the Word of God in - car - nate, Lord and Son of  
 2 Christ, the liv - ing bread from heav - en, Food for bod - y,  
 3 Christ, the shoot that springs tri - um - phant From the stump of  
 4 Christ, our good and faith - ful shep - herd, Watch - ing all Your



A - bra - ham; Christ, the ra - diance of the Fa - ther,  
 food for soul; Christ, the man - na dai - ly giv - en,  
 Jes - se's tree; Christ, true vine, You nur - ture branch - es  
 lambs and sheep; Christ, the gate that guards the sheep - fold,



Per - fect God, the great I AM; Christ, the light, You  
 Nour - ish, strength - en, make us whole. Feed us with the  
 To bear fruit a - bun - dant - ly. Graft us in - to  
 Nev - er - fail - ing vig - il keep. When we stray, Good



shine un - van - quished, Light and life You bring to all; Light our  
 food of heav - en, Fore - taste of the feast to be; Quench our  
 You, O Sav - ior; Prune our hearts so we re - main Fruit - ful  
 Shep - herd, seek us, Find us, lift us, bear us home; Lamb of



path with Your own pres - ence, Grant us grace to heed Your call.  
 thirst with liv - ing wa - ter Spring - ing up e - ter - nal - ly.  
 branch - es in Your vine - yard Till e - ter - nal life we gain.  
 God, our shep - herd, keep us; Let us hear Your voice a - lone.

5 Christ, the way that leads un failing  
 To the Father's home on high,  
 Christ, the truth that frees the captive,  
 Christ, the life that cannot die.  
 Mediator to the Father,  
 Sacrifice and great High Priest:  
 Lead us to Your heav'nly mansions,  
 There to share Your wedding feast.

6 Christ, the Alpha and Omega  
 Christ, the firstborn from the dead,  
 Christ, the life and resurrection,  
 Christ, the Church's glorious head:  
 Praise and thanks and adoration  
 And unending worship be  
 To the Father and the Spirit  
 And to You eternally.

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**Communion Hymn ... "Your Kingdom, O God, Is My Glorious Treasurer", #654**



1 Your king - dom, O God, is my glo - ri - ous trea - sure,  
 2 Your king - dom, O God, is a - live with the pow - er  
 3 Your king - dom, O God, is a field for the grow - ing



My pearl of in - com - p'ra - ble worth.  
 Your Word and Your Spir - it be - stow.  
 Of seeds that Your mer - cy has sown;



Its val - ue ex - ceeds ev - 'ry stan - dard of mea - sure,  
 Like yeast, they af - fect the whole mea - sure of flour, —  
 But still in our midst is the en - e - my sow - ing



Sur - pass - ing the wealth of the earth.  
 En - a - bling Your king - dom to grow.  
 The weeds that im - per - il Your own.



Lord, give me Your grace and the pow'r of the Spir - it  
 Em - pow - er me, Lord, as I live Your com - mis - sion,  
 Sus - tain me, O Lord, till Your day of re - turn - ing



To val - ue this trea - sure a - right  
 Though hum - ble my ser - vice may be,  
 And har - vest me home - ward at last,



That, nev - er al - lured by the world, I in - her - it  
 And bring ev - 'ry plant - ing to per - fect fru - i - tion,  
 To shine in the home - land that qui - ets all yearn - ing,



Your king - dom of glo - ry and light.  
 A mus - tard seed grown to a tree.  
 Where sor - row and dan - ger are past.

*Please rise*

**Post Communion Canticle.....** *“Nunc Dimittis” page 211*

1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -  
2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All  
part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the  
glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the  
glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:  
Spir - it, For - ev - er Three in One;  
A light to lead the Gen - tiles Un -  
For as in the be - gin - ning, Is  
to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your  
now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -  
peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.  
sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

**Post-Communion Collect.....** *page 212*

**Benedicamus and Benediction.....** *page 212*

**Sending Hymn .....** *“Children of the Heavenly Father”, #725*

1 Chil - dren of the heav'n - ly Fa - ther Safe - ly  
2 God His own doth tend and nour - ish; In His  
3 Nei - ther life nor death shall ev - er From the  
4 Though He giv - eth or He tak - eth, God His



in His bos - om gath - er; Nest - ling bird nor star in  
 ho - ly courts they flour - ish. From all e - vil things He  
 Lord His chil - dren sev - er; Un - to them His grace He  
 chil - dren ne'er for - sak - eth; His the lov - ing pur - pose



heav - en Such a ref - uge e'er was giv - en.  
 spares them; In His might - y arms He bears them.  
 show - eth, And their sor - rows all He know - eth.  
 sole - ly To pre - serve them pure and ho - ly.

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## Dismissal ..... (Bethlehem's Mission)

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

## Postlude

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### Next week's readings:

**OT: Jeremiah 20:7-13; EP: Romans 6:12-23; Gospel: Matthew 10:5a, 21-33**

<b>Attendance Last Saturday: 34</b>	<b>Attendance Last Sunday: 64</b>
<b>Total Offering: \$3,165.00</b>	<b>Missions: \$0.00</b>
<b>Home Use: \$3,065.00</b>	<b>Benevolences: \$100.00</b>

### Serving us today:

Elders ..... Jack Easterwood, Willie Crespo  
 Musicians ..... Rich Vanderburgh  
 Altar Committee ..... Darlene Laubenstein (Chair), Erika Freeman, Mary Creswell  
 Peggy Hoyer, Lynn Lowe, Cindy Smith  
 Flower Committee ..... Lana Vanderburgh (Chair), Penny Humphrey

### This Week's Schedule

Monday 9:30 a.m. Exercise Class  
 2:00 p.m. Moms and Tots at the Park  
 Wednesday 9:30 a.m. Exercise Class

	10:30 a.m.	Bible Study
	6:30 p.m.	Start Summer with Sand Volleyball!
Thursday	1:00 p.m.	Games and Cards Group
	7:00 p.m.	Ezekiel Bible Study
Friday	9:30 a.m.	Exercise Class
	5:00 p.m.	Vacation Bible School <i>Starts</i>
Saturday	10:00 a.m.	Vacation Bible School <i>Continues</i>
	5:30 p.m.	Worship
Sunday	9:15 a.m.	Christian Education
	10:30 a.m.	Worship
	12:00 p.m.	Vacation Bible School <i>Ends</i> —Potluck/Celebration

### Thank You

Thank you from the bottom of my heart for everyone who came to my birthday celebration and for all of the cards and well-wishes from everyone! Bethlehem is truly a family of loving and caring people full of God's love for each other! THANK YOU is not enough, but I guess it will have to do for now. **Yours in Christ, Darlene Laubenstein.**

### Prayers

**Of Baptismal Rejoicing** for Brayden Matthew Rohner (who was born early to Matthew & Madison Rohner on June 10 and was baptized by Pr. Joel at Overland Park Regional Medical Center on June 13). May Christ the Lord increase his health and uphold all of his family with abundant grace ... as we keep them in trusting prayer!

**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: Charlie Becker, Mel Bockelman, Paula Brewer, Mark Brown, Carrie Brunkhorst, Holli Burge, Ray & Mary Carstensen, Bob & Barbara Compton, Marion Droege, Wilma Gertz, Karen Haase, Karon Harding, Abby Humphrey, Mary Johnson, Wanda Kreisel, Jeannie Peterson, Judy Pierce, Brayden Rohner, Maryanna Savery, Denny Spanton, Rose Steitz, & Joe Zeman.

**For Roy & Judy Schache** as they are once again back in Papua New Guinea working with the brothers and sisters of the Gutnius Lutheran Church—until August.

**For Military Members**—We remember all service and support personnel who are deployed and stationed away from us and their families: Andy Burden and Ty Carter.

**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!

### Special Days for Members This Week

**Birthdays**—Paige Hart-19<sup>th</sup>, Christine Moege-19<sup>th</sup>, Jonathan Sharp-21<sup>st</sup>, Wilma Gertz-22<sup>nd</sup>.

### 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

**Wednesday Bible Study** continues to work its way through the book of the prophet Zechariah. Join us in the conference room from 10:30 to noon and be a part of this time growing in faith together. *This weekly study will be taking a hiatus for July as Pr. Joel is on sabbatical!*

**Thursday Bible Study**-Pastor Ricky is holding a Bible Study on the Old Testament book of Ezekiel on **Thursdays at 7:00 p.m.** Everyone is invited to attend and learn about the word of the Lord that Ezekiel prophesied long ago and its meaning for us still.

**Combined Summer Sunday School & Bible Study/Faith Formation—From June 4<sup>th</sup> thru September 3<sup>rd</sup>,** we will be having family-style Sunday School **each Sunday morning at 9:15** in the church basement/fellowship hall. Whether you are part of a large family, small family, or are single, we hope you can join us for this opportunity to learn about God's love and grace in an intergenerational setting. *We're currently gearing up for and exploring the VBS theme—God's Living Water!*

**Book Study: The Spiritually Vibrant Home**—Jeremy VanWey and Rebecca Holland will host a book study on the second and fourth Sundays from 4-7 at their home in Warrensburg **starting in July.** We will use resources from Lutheran Hour Ministries Households of Faith kit for the study. Each evening will include a potluck meal. Children are welcome and the chaos that shall ensue is just an average day around our house. Please RSVP to Rebecca if you are interested in attending any or all meetings so that she can order an appropriate number of books.

## Vacation Bible School

**Decorating Help Needed**—If you would like to help decorate for VBS, join us at the church on June 18<sup>th</sup> or June 19<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m. or June 20<sup>th</sup> or 21<sup>st</sup>, from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Contact Ellen Pederson if you have any questions.

**Coming Next Weekend! *God's Living Water Vacation Bible School***—From Friday, June 23<sup>rd</sup> thru Sunday, June 25<sup>th</sup>, Bethlehem Lutheran Church will hold a special Vacation Bible School for children in grades preschool (age 3+) thru sixth grade called *God's Living Water: Covered in Jesus' Grace*.

Be sure to join us from **5:00 to 8:00pm Friday, 10:00am to 4:30pm Saturday, and Sunday from 9:00am thru the 10:30 church service** for fun lessons, music, crafts, snacks, and activities that explore God's abundant grace in Bible stories that stretch from creation to the early Church. A free meal will be served at 5:00pm Friday evening as well as snacks and lunch on Saturday. Parents and community members are invited to join us during Sunday's 10:30am service to get a glimpse what of we have learned.

**Next Sunday, June 25th** will conclude our Vacation Bible School program, *God's Living Water: Covered in Jesus' Grace*, and we want your help in celebrating! Join us for fun activities and a potluck meal after the church service. The main dish will be provided; please bring a side dish if you plan to attend.

## Opportunities to Serve

**Food Center Help**—Bethlehem's month to staff the Food Center is June! We are responsible for **Tuesday and Thursday afternoons, starting at 12:30 p.m.** If you signed up to help and cannot make it for some reason please call Sue Cottrill.

**How Do Our Gardens Grow?** Well, with the recent rain and attentive planting, but better your involvement cultivating, weeding, harvesting, and so forth as able! Let Pr. Joel or Shawn Lindley know if you'd like to help in any way over the next several months, and we'll do our best to plug you in. We have a raised bed community vegetable garden, a culinary herb garden, flowerbeds, and blackberry bushes that have been flowering ... *plus cherry trees that have been producing abundantly!*

## Fellowship

**Start Summer with Sand Volleyball!** Join Pr. Joel and everyone else who shows up from **6:30 p.m. to sunset** (or whenever) on the first day of summer—**Wednesday, June 21**. Come when you can, kick off your shoes, and leave when you must!

**Exercise Class** happens 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.

### **This & That**

**Medical & Dental Care/Housing Assistance**—Katy Trail Community Health continues to be in Warrensburg each Tuesday from **9am to 3pm**—in the basement fellowship hall of First Presbyterian Church (located beyond The Food Center's back 137 E. Culton lot, where the mobile clinic unit is). A free lunch is served **from 11:30am-1pm**, plus case managers from Journey Home are present to help with housing and employment needs. All are welcome, and financial assistance for medical & dental treatment is available! **As of June 1<sup>st</sup>, the mobile dental clinic (a partnership of Compass & Katy Trail) is present every Thursday from 9am to 3pm as well, and lunch is served as well. Call 877-733-5824 to schedule an appointment.**

**Country Kitchen Cards**—We have Country Kitchen Cards. Stop by the office if you would like to purchase one. They are \$10 and you get 10 buy-one- get-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 in shining the light of Christ! If you'd ever like to hear some of the stories from how these funds have been used, just ask Pr. Joel.

### **Looking Ahead/Pastor's Sabbatical**

In recognition of his 15 years at Bethlehem and 25 years of ordained ministry last year, Bethlehem graciously gave Pr. Joel a sabbatical month. He'll be taking that month off this July and will be traveling & working on writing projects. If you need to connect with him before he leaves, please do so sooner rather than later. Pr. Ricky Bertels and Pr. Jeffery Kuddes will be covering services during his absences.

### **2023 Elders**

**Willie Crespo** (last name begins A-F) 660-679-8121, [crespo6fam@gmail.com](mailto:crespo6fam@gmail.com)

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

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

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

#### **Congregation Life Facilitator:**

Rebecca Holland-VanWey

Wednesday: 1pm-5pm

Thursday: 1pm-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.