

# April 2023



**Bethlehem**  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

**Pastor Paul Busekist**  
Traverse City, MI 49686  
(231) 947-9880



Website: [www.bethlehemtc.org](http://www.bethlehemtc.org)  
Email: [bethlehem@bethlehemtc.org](mailto:bethlehem@bethlehemtc.org)

Building Hours:

Monday – Thursday, 9am to 2:30pm

Office Hours:

Monday – Thursday, 9am to 2:30pm

Worship Times:

Sunday: 10 am Modern Worship including  
Communion with service Livestreamed on  
Facebook and YouTube

Sunday School/Adult Ed: 9:15-9:45am

Third Thursday Worship 7:00pm

Nursery open during worship service

## Follow the STAR to Bethlehem!

### Our Mission...

**“We journey with God, to serve with love”**

### Our Vision...

*“As a community of believers journeying with God together, we at Bethlehem are called to serve with love by growing a premier youth ministry; enlivening Christian discipleship through lifelong learning, care, and spiritual formation; fostering a vibrant and inspiring worship experience; utilizing our natural setting and location for faithful creation care and outdoor ministry; and opening our doors always to be a “campus at the crossroads” for the mission and ministry of Jesus Christ.”*



*"...as for me and my household, we will  
serve the Lord."*

-Joshua 24:15b



## **"Christ is A...lmost Risen!"**

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ at Bethlehem,

As we come upon this most holiest\* of weeks (\*is that a double-positive?!?), Jesus enters Jerusalem in apparent triumph. Yet we know the celebration is short-lived, and the days of Holy Week (especially Maundy Thursday and Good Friday) are as rich in meaning as they are laden with anticipation and heavy emotion. (I appreciate the additional twists Gail adds (below) with references to "Spy Wednesday" and "Holy Saturday.") But perhaps the most compelling aspect of the resurrection for me this year is that it offers new breath, new life, and – yes – a new definition of the Sabbath. Notice how the tomb remains. In other words, the empty tomb is not meant to be *filled* after the risen Lord departs. But too often we feel we have to fill the empty spaces, don't we? We often take the new space we are given (in our hearts, schedules, and conversational space) to quickly fill it with content.

But the empty tomb might just be symbolic for more than just the absence of Jesus, and the conquering of death. Perhaps the vacant tomb is like the "God-sized hole" we feel after something momentous and unexpected happens. Maybe...just maybe...the tomb is meant to *stay* empty, for a while. When we read the *first* Creation story in Genesis, we hear God cap each day ("and God saw that it was good") and wrap up the week ("and on the seventh day, God rested.") The second creation story is the life and new life of Jesus (2 Cor 5:17). How often do we reflect upon the goodness of each day? Do we give God a chance to be in the spaces left open in our hearts? Trained by a world that focuses on doing, acquiring, and becoming...do we spend time just being?

Shortly after this month, Bethlehem and my family will all go on sabbatical, a three-month "gap" where we can reflect on the resurrection and maybe less upon where we are going (there will be time for that later.) Instead, how might we reflect on how we got here and whether we are living fully into the present. This could be a time to see what God has been and done for us. In the next page, Gail speaks as co-chair of the Sabbatical Planning Team, identifying all the activities BLC is invited to partake in this upcoming summer as we "sabbath" side-by-side.

As for my family and me, we will attempt to "BE" more than "DO" this summer. Yes, we will have some important trips – mostly small jaunts to Beaver Island and Illinois to spend time with friends and family...hopefully sneaking in a larger trip to Buffalo and Canada in July. But the sabbatical for us will be just as much about finding time to journal, hike, pray and be present to one another...perhaps attending to small tasks or hobbies around the house and locally that we simply never could find the time to do before. I don't want to bore you with all the details, but I have lists of areas to focus upon along with built-in time to focus on absolutely nothing but thankfulness! There are entire rooms I have always wanted to purge and organize, but...well, life always seemed to get in the way! ☺

Lastly, I want to say thank you. To Bethlehem, to my family and loved ones, and to the risen Lord. (With a "time-released" Alleluia! on April 9<sup>th</sup>!) Shalom and be well!

-Pastor Paul and Team Busekist

## **A Word from the President**

It is April, and Holy Week. Such a somber week in Christian history. Are you aware that every day has special significance? Starting with Palm Sunday as Jesus entered Jerusalem on the donkey. Monday is the day Jesus cursed the fig tree and sent the merchants out of the temple. Tuesday is the day Jesus foretold his own death. Wednesday is also known as Spy Wednesday as it was the day Judas arranged the betrayal of Jesus with the chief priests. We as Christians are more familiar with Maundy Thursday as we gather at church to mark the Last Supper, the arrest in the Garden of Gethsemane and often have a foot washing commemorating Jesus washing his disciples feet. Good Friday of course is such a somber day remembering the crucifixion of Jesus Christ. Then the week ends with Black or Holy Saturday, the day Jesus rested in the tomb. Then we celebrate Easter Sunday, the day Jesus resurrection from the dead. We can be joyous that Jesus died and rose for us to wash away our sins. What a Celebration!

Enjoy the month of April and Spring is upon us.  
Gail

## SHEPHERDING A SABBATICAL

Here we are in April and the Sabbatical will be starting the end of May. The Sabbatical Committee has been planning activities for the members of the congregation. Pastor Paul has been planning his activities also. Here is the list of activities with some dates. There will be more information to come and there are signup sheets in the Narthex with the poster of the activities.

- o There will be a **sendoff lunch** on May 21st after worship service. There will be hot dogs, brats, buns, condiments and beverages provided by the Sabbatical fund with Sundaes on Sunday provided by Y2A. Thrivent funds will provide paper products. There will be signup sheets for the members of the congregation to provide salads and side dishes.
- o There will be 4 occasions with **Sundaes on Sunday** immediately after worship service. The dates are May 21, June 25, July 23, and August 20.
- o Let's learn to **decorate cookies with Sandy Parkinson** in June and you can take some cookies home to enjoy. A date will be coming soon.
- o **Making Cinnamon Rolls with Phil Bossardet** will be held at the church on June 10th. It will take most of the day. We may learn his secret ingredient.
- o **Volunteer with Freedom Builders** on their local opportunity to build or remodel homes to make them more accessible for families. July 18th through the 22nd.
- o **Bike and Beer:** Paul Wiemerslage will be leading this adventure to bike or hike from Traverse City to HopLot Brewery in Suttons Bay. If you are not up to biking or hiking, meet the group on June 17th to enjoy a brew. Alcohol will not be purchased by the Sabbatical Funds, but appetizers will be provided.
- o **Wine Tour:** July 22nd from noon until 4:00, the Sabbatical Funds will be used to rent a van for 4 hours to go to 3 wineries on Old Mission for up to 14 people to do wine tasting. There may be a cost for the wine tasting, which will not be provided. Participants may purchase wine at the different wineries also. For those who would like, the group could meet at a restaurant after to have dinner.
- o **"Four on the Floor" Chair Yoga Class** will be offered Mondays at 4:00, beginning June 5th for 12 weeks at Bethlehem. We will not have a class on July 3rd. Jeana Seidelman from Enhanced Fitness who teaches chair yoga at the YMCA and Senior Center will lead participants to be healthier this summer. There will be a signup sheet for this event.
- o There is an opportunity to help serve at the **National Cherry Festival**. We are signed up to volunteer at the Pie and Ice Cream Tent on Monday July 3rd from 1:45 until 6:00. Volunteers will be able to use the NCF Oasis for food and drinks. Training will be provided by the NCF. There is a signup sheet for those interested in participating and the Sabbatical Fund will purchase shirts to show our Community Spirit here at Bethlehem.
- o Our own **Zeke Clemens will be teaching ukulele lessons** starting on August 13th after worship service with a few practices during the week to perform on August 20th at the Welcome Back Celebration.
- o **A painting workshop** is being planned. This will be an opportunity to gather at a workshop to paint what you would like on a piece of wood. This will be held on August 13th from 4:00 until 6:30. The Sabbatical Funds will be used for some or all of this event.
- o There may be some **hiking opportunities** this summer also.
- o August 20th will be the **Welcome Back Celebration** with Detroit Wings to cater the dinner. There will be Sundaes on Sunday at this event also.

**The promise of Easter is just around the corner. Our Holy Week schedule includes:**

April 2nd at 10:00am - Palm Sunday service. Please note that this service will begin in the Narthex.

April 6th at 7:00pm – Maundy Thursday service. This service includes Foot Washing, Communion and Stripping of the Altar.

April 7th at 7:00pm – Good Friday. This service will be a Tenebrae service of Light and Darkness

April 8th at 8:00pm – Easter Vigil service at Advent Lutheran Church in Lake Ann. Our confirmands will participate in this service.

April 9th at 8:00am – Resurrection of Our Lord - Easter service

April 9th at 9:00am – Easter Brunch in the Fellowship Hall

April 9th at 10:00am – Resurrection of Our Lord - Easter service

All of the BLC services except for the 8:00am service on Easter morning will be Livestreamed.

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**Two Wednesday Bible Studies:**

- **Adult Bible Study** gets together on Wednesdays from 9:30am-11:30am. It is a casual discussion of the Gospel of Luke. Bring your bibles and come, share, learn and grow with us.
  - **Zoom Bible Study**: meets on Wednesdays from 1:30pm—3:00pm. This group is studying the Book of Faith lessons on Paul's Letter to the Romans. Contact Pr Paul for Zoom information.
- 

**Sunday Mornings:**

- **Sunday School**: 9:15am-9:45am
  - **Adult Education**: 9:15am-9:45am. Discussion will be about the Lessons/Gospel for the day
- 

**Choir announcement:** The choir has some cool music planned for the Lent and Easter season. We will be rehearsing Tuesdays at 7:00 to accommodate Lenten mid-week services. Our next rehearsal will be held on April 4. The choir will sing on Palm Sunday, Good Friday, and Easter Sunday. If you'd like to know more, talk to Tony Bero at a Thursday mid-week service or contact him at 231-942-1162, email: [bero.tony@gmail.com](mailto:bero.tony@gmail.com).

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**A big thank you to all who have turned in Oleson's receipts.** We just received a check from them for \$186.58 for a grand total of \$651.20 for the year 2022. Please continue to drop off your Oleson's receipts at Bethlehem!!! Please note that they do not expire. Thank you so much!!!

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**BLC Book Club:** The BLC book club's Apr meeting is on the 25th at 5:30 via ZOOM. The choice for the book is still pending because hopefully multiple copies be available in the outdoor box. Cindy is planning to learn how to do a "Hybrid" meeting this month so that in the future those who want to come to church can do so and those who want to participate on "ZOOM" can also do that. If you are not on the email list and want to be involved send your information to [cmonroe@chartermi.net](mailto:cmonroe@chartermi.net)

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**Photo Directory:** We have a chance to make a new directory the final week of Sept., but with any project like this we need volunteers. Please leave your name in the office if you can help on this project in any way. Thanks to those who have already volunteered. And please, try to be in town that week. We want everyone's smiling faces in our new directory.

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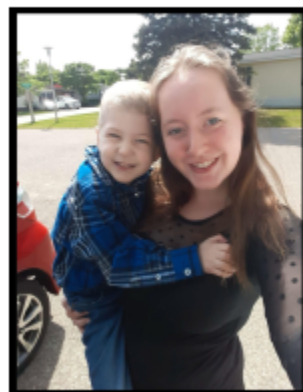
**The synod assembly will be back in person this year instead of on-line. It will be held May 7-9 in Mt Pleasant.** Immanuel/Bethlehem choir director Tony Bero will be leading the music. Our church is allowed to send one male and one female as voting members in addition to our pastor. Perhaps this is the year that you feel you are being called to do something new and different in your spiritual life? If so please tell Pastor Paul or leave your name in the office.

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**2023 Relay for Life:** The American Cancer Society will be holding their annual 24-Hour Relay for Life event on Saturday, June 10, 2023 starting at 10 AM with an opening ceremony to Sunday, June 11, 2023 ending at 10 AM at the Grand Traverse Mall. As a long-time volunteer with the organization, I would like to request your support in the form of monetary donations to the American Cancer Society in support of this great cause, which will impact so many wonderful people who need your help. Thank you very much for your generous donations in the past, which helped the American Cancer Society provide more programs and do more research and advocacy for cancer patients and their caregivers. Your kindness and thoughtfulness is really appreciated! Shelly Nellist

## Notes from Alanna...

Hello friends! I hope you all are doing well as Lent ends and we head into Holy Week. I am excited for spring and all the Easter activities, and I hope you are too. There is a lot going on at BLC to be a part of! Don't forget that we have two worship services Easter morning (8am and 10am) and an Easter breakfast at 9am between services!



### **An exciting update for this month -**

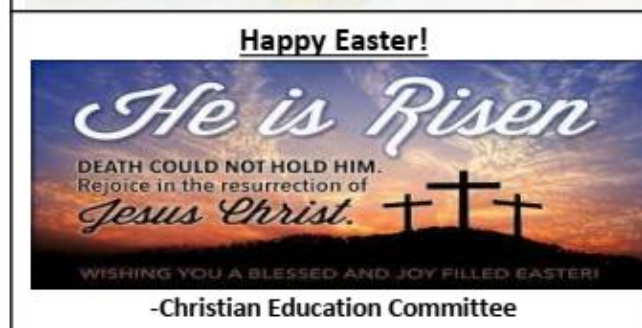
Bayside Travellers, a nonprofit organization that promotes traditional folk music and dance, will be holding contra dances here at BLC throughout the next year! Contra dancing is similar to square dancing, and always features live music by some wonderful local folk artists. **Their first contra dance here at BLC will be Saturday, April 15th, and I invite you to join us!** I have been involved in Bayside Travellers for years, and it's truly not an experience to miss out on. There should be lots of information going out about this - take a look, and join us for a dance!

**-Alanna Steffunick, Ministry Coordinator**

**This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it!**

**Psalms 118:24**

## Christian Education News April 2023





## **FINANCIAL NEWS**

February income was \$23,880 compared to budgeted income of \$30,119 resulting in receiving \$6,236 less than budgeted. Expenses were \$29,405 compared to budget of \$31,704 resulting in spending in \$2,299 less than budgeted. On a cash basis expenses exceeded income by \$5,522.

Year to date income was \$53,711 compared to budgeted income of \$59,713 resulting in receiving \$6,002 less than budgeted. Expenses were \$54,571 compared to budget of \$65,426 resulting in spending \$10,855 less than budgeted. On a cash basis expenses exceeded income by \$859.

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**ATTENTION:** At the June annual meeting there will be four openings for Council membership. If you would be interested, would like to know more about member ship or you know someone who would be interested, please contact one of the nominating committee.

**Nominating Committee:** Gail Goldsmith, Carl Lehto, Leonard Graf

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**Norm Fred has helped a previously homeless couple for a few years.** They are proud people and do not like to be given charity but they will accept help in the form of donated cans that they can recycle for money. Please bring in your recyclables in for them. Leave them by the garage. These are nice people. There, but for the Grace of our God, go we.

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**BABY PANTRY:** Suggested donations for April are: tissues, toilet paper, cleaning products such as hand soap, all purpose cleaner, laundry soap. Please have donations at church prior to April 12th. Food items are always appreciated, too Thank you!.

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**FOOD PANTRY:** With the return of good weather we will also be opening up our outdoor food pantry to the community. Please be watching for special deals so you can help us restock our pantry for the warmer months.

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**CONTRA DANCE – BAYSIDE TRAVELLERS,** a nonprofit organization that promotes traditional folk music and dance, will be holding a contra dance here at BLC on Saturday, April 15th. Contra dancing is very similar to square dancing, but is set up in long lines where you move through the line as the dance progresses. The dance will begin at 7pm with a learning workshop that will teach everything you need to know - no dance experience or partner required! Dances led by a caller will go from 7:30 - 10:30pm. Contra dances always include live music by local folk bands - if dancing isn't your thing, attend just to listen to the music and enjoy the experience! It's truly not something to miss. Alanna has been dancing with this group for years, so please reach out to her with any questions! [alanna.steffunick@bethlehemtc.org](mailto:alanna.steffunick@bethlehemtc.org)

## *Children's Messages*





Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
God's work. Our hands.

# ELCA GLOBAL LINKS

Stay informed. Be inspired. Get involved.



The 11th **Asian Lutheran International Conference (ALIC)** took place earlier this year in Chiang Rai, Thailand. The gathering included over 130 representatives from the U.S., Canada and Asia. Participants attended panel discussions, elected and installed new officers on the Association of Asians and Pacific Islanders executive committee, recognized and honored outgoing officers, and shared their stories with one another.

## WOMEN OF BETHLEHEM - APRIL 2023



**SPRING GATHERING:** There will be a gathering of the women of Michigan's Lower Michigan Synod at Trinity Lutheran Church in Kalamazoo on April 22nd. If you are interested in attending, please let Nancy Ammann know as soon as possible - 946-8433.

**BABY PANTRY DONATIONS:** Suggested donations for April are: tissues, toilet paper, cleaning products such as hand soap, all purpose cleaner, laundry soap. Please have donations at church prior to April 12th. Food items are always appreciated, too. Thank you!

**WELCA FUN DAY:** Our next 'fun day' will be Sunday afternoon, April 30th beginning at 2pm. We will be presenting a program on exercise, Please watch the bulletin for further details. We will have fun!!

**GATHER BIBLE STUDY:** Our April Bible Study will be on the last of the Ten Commandments: "Revising the soul - Trail markers for love of God and neighbor (Commandments 7-10)

JESUS DIDN'T SAY "I AM FINISHED." HE SAID "IT IS FINISHED."  
EASTER SAYS YOU CAN PUT TRUTH IN A GRAVE BUT IT WON'T STAY THERE.

## Health Concerns\*



# The Power of Prayer

*Richard Fernholz, Nancy Smith, Tom & Lee Miller,  
Margie Whitney, Ellie Tacke,  
Julie Lapeer, Alvin Kober, Milt & Carol Bowes,  
Lynn Hoyt, Tom Woodworth,,  
Jan Waisanen, Molly Eastman, John Stretlien,  
Russ Luttinen, Sherry, Leroy Schlagel,  
Roy & Marilyn Dumond, Sean Rivard,  
Brenda Denoyer and the Denoyer Family,  
Patti McCracken, Sharon Vanmeter,  
Margaret Hutchison, Carol Collins,  
Patience Lambert, Dale Leider, Craig Bauer,  
Jennifer Mowers, Jan Schmidt, Debbie Knopf,  
Betsy Morley, Gail Goldsmith, Beverly Richardson*

**French Manor South:** Brenda Denoyer      **Orchard Creek:** Jan Waisanen, Gail Goldsmith  
**Grand Traverse Pavilions:** Margie Whitney      **Boardman Lake Glens:** Inge Thomas

**Hospital Visits:** Please let the church office know if you are going into the hospital for a scheduled procedure or an emergency so Pastor Paul can visit you.

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### Prayer Requests:

- Prayer Chain:** Please contact Jan Stretlien at [jstretlien@gmail.com](mailto:jstretlien@gmail.com) or 231-947-3265
- Prayers read from the altar:** Please call the Administrative Assistant in the church office 231-947-9880

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Are you checking for the latest BLC updates at: [www.bethlehemtc.org](http://www.bethlehemtc.org)?

You saw Norm and others take the photos...be sure you see them at [www.bethlehemtc.org](http://www.bethlehemtc.org)!

Good News...and great news...at [www.bethlehemtc.org](http://www.bethlehemtc.org)...

**Looking for a link to last month's full Council minutes?**  
Type this address/url into your web browser to get the latest approved minutes from Council (or call the office for a copy:

**[bethlehemtc.org/Council-Minutes](http://bethlehemtc.org/Council-Minutes)**



# BLC Contacts

## PLEASE NOTE SEVERAL ADDRESS UPDATES

### Church Office

Pastor Paul Busekist	<a href="mailto:paul.busekist@bethlehemtc.org">paul.busekist@bethlehemtc.org</a>
Admin. Asst. Barbara Oster	<a href="mailto:admin@bethlehemtc.org">admin@bethlehemtc.org</a>
Bookkeeper, Phil Anderson	<a href="mailto:bookkeeper@bethlehemtc.org">bookkeeper@bethlehemtc.org</a>
Tony Bero, Music Director	<a href="mailto:bero.tony@gmail.com">bero.tony@gmail.com</a>
Alanna Steffunick, Ministry Coordinator	<a href="mailto:Alanna.Steffunick@bethlehemtc.org">Alanna.Steffunick@bethlehemtc.org</a>
Website	<a href="http://www.bethlehemtc.org">www.bethlehemtc.org</a>

### Church Council

Gail Goldsmith, President	<a href="mailto:president.council@bethlehemtc.org">president.council@bethlehemtc.org</a>
Maureen Bauer, Vice President	<a href="mailto:vicepresident.council@bethlehemtc.org">vicepresident.council@bethlehemtc.org</a>
Jana Rockne, Secretary	<a href="mailto:secretary.council@bethlehemtc.org">secretary.council@bethlehemtc.org</a>
Leonard Graf, Treasurer	<a href="mailto:treasurer.council@bethlehemtc.org">treasurer.council@bethlehemtc.org</a>
Jim Monroe, Financial Sec.	<a href="mailto:financialsecretary.council@bethlehemtc.org">financialsecretary.council@bethlehemtc.org</a>
Jim Hinds, Christian Care Giving	<a href="mailto:christiancaregiving.committee@bethlehemtc.org">christiancaregiving.committee@bethlehemtc.org</a>
Paul Wiemerslage, Christian Ed.	<a href="mailto:christianeducation.committee@bethlehemtc.org">christianeducation.committee@bethlehemtc.org</a>
Laura Hahn, Fellowship	<a href="mailto:fellowship.committee@bethlehemtc.org">fellowship.committee@bethlehemtc.org</a>
Cindy Monroe, Membership/Evangelism	<a href="mailto:membershipevangelism.committee@bethlehemtc.org">membershipevangelism.committee@bethlehemtc.org</a>
Chuck Ardingo, (not on Council), Property	<a href="mailto:property.committee@bethlehemtc.org">property.committee@bethlehemtc.org</a>
Maureen Bauer, Personnel	<a href="mailto:personnel.committee@bethlehemtc.org">personnel.committee@bethlehemtc.org</a>
Scott Farley, Stewardship	<a href="mailto:stewardship.committee@bethlehemtc.org">stewardship.committee@bethlehemtc.org</a>
Denice Bossardet, Worship and Music	<a href="mailto:worshipmusic.committee@bethlehemtc.org">worshipmusic.committee@bethlehemtc.org</a>
Paul Wiemerslage, Youth/Y2A	<a href="mailto:youth.committee@bethlehemtc.org">youth.committee@bethlehemtc.org</a>
Pastor Paul Busekist	<a href="mailto:paul.busekist@bethlehemtc.org">paul.busekist@bethlehemtc.org</a>

If you have an interest in serving on any of the above Committees,  
Please contact the Committee Chairperson(s).

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
Palm Sunday 10am - Worship Service(S) 11:30am - Chili Cookoff	3	4	5	6	7	8
2	Bulletin articles due today 9am - LWR Quilters(FH) 9am - Property Work Group 10am - Staff Meeting 7pm - Choir Rehearsal	11:30am - Music Rehearsal 11:30am - WELCA Board meeting 1:30pm - Zoom Bible Study 4:30pm - Safety and Security	6:30pm - ACA 7pm - Maundy Thursday Service	7pm - Good Friday Service		
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Easter Sunday Have a Blessed Easter 8am - Traditional Easter Service 9am - Easter Breakfast 10am - Traditional Easter Worship	1pm - Finance Cmte.	Bulletin articles due today 9am - LWR Quilters(FH) 9am - Property Work Group 12pm - Sarah Circle - FH 1pm - Friendship Bible Study 6pm - Y2A/Christian Ed Meeting 6:30pm - Executive Comte.(CR)	9:30am - Adult Bible Study 11:30am - Music Rehearsal	9am - Baby Pantry Setup 10am - Baby Pantry-FH 1pm - Rebecca Anna Circle 5:30pm - ACA	12pm - XYZ Potluck	7pm - Bayside Travellers Contra
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
10am - Worship Service(S)	Bulletin articles due today 9am - LWR Quilters(FH) 9am - Property Work Group 6:30pm - Council Meeting 7pm - Luther SG @ at the home	Bulletin articles due today 9am - LWR Quilters(FH) 9am - Property Work Group 5:30pm - Book/Supper Club (O) 6:30pm - Newcomers	9:30am - Adult Bible Study 11:30am - Music Rehearsal	5:30pm - ACA 7pm - Third Thursday service	STAR articles due today 10am - Sew Pieciful 6pm - All Star DE	WELCA Spring Gathering
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
10am - Worship Service(S) 12:30pm - Confirmation Class	Bulletin articles due today 9am - LWR Quilters(FH) 9am - Property Work Group	Bulletin articles due today 9am - LWR Quilters(FH) 9am - Property Work Group	9:30am - Adult Bible Study 11:30am - Music Rehearsal 1pm - Johnson SG (Offsite)	5:30pm - ACA	6pm - All Star DE	
30	1	2	3	4	5	6
10am - Worship Service(S) 11:30am - New Member meeting 2pm - WELCA Fun Day						



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Personal Risk Manager

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*Kristen Rivard*  
231.590.9728  
[kristen.rivard@cbgreatlakes.com](mailto:kristen.rivard@cbgreatlakes.com)



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## BLC MISSION ENDOWMENT FUND

# We're Making A Difference!

During 2021, the BLC Mission Endowment Fund Committee has worked hard to follow its mission of funding projects on a local and global level. Using only profits on our investments, more than \$18,000 was disbursed to many organizations in support of our mission, including:

<b>Love Thy Neighbor</b>	<b>Keys to Freedom</b>
<b>Safe Harbor</b>	<b>Habitat for Humanity</b>
<b>Lutheran Immigrant &amp; Refugee Services</b>	<b>Generations Ahead</b>
<b>ELCA World Hunger</b>	<b>Food Rescue of NW Michigan</b>
<b>ELCA Disaster Relief</b>	<b>Womens Resource Center</b>
<b>Meals on Wheels</b>	<b>Salvation Army</b>
<b>Father Fred Foundation</b>	<b>GT Conservation District</b>
<b>Boardman River Clean Sweep</b>	<b>Freedom Builders</b>
<b>NW Michigan Supportive Housing</b>	

In comparison, 5 years ago we granted out about \$6000. Our Vanguard funds are serving us well and continue to grow! PLEASE consider recognizing the **BLC Mission Endowment Fund** in your personal **Estate Plans or Year-End Giving!**

If you would like to serve on this incredible committee, or have further questions about giving, please contact any of the current members:

Neal Kibby Dave Peppler Barb Wright Patti Friedli Chuck Ardingo