



Traverse City, MI 49686 (231) 947-9880

2017

Website: www.bethlehemtc.org

Email: <u>bethlehem@bethlehemtc.org</u>

Building Hours:

Monday – Thursday, 9am to 3pm

Office Hours

Monday - Thursday, 9am to 3pm

Worship Times:

Saturday: 5 pm Celebrate! Worship Sunday: 8:45 am Traditional Worship

9:45 am Education Hr.11 am Modern Worship

Communion at all services

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."





Today is the beginning of May, and as we ended April with a fond farewell to Billie Thompson, today we say another goodbye as well.

Julia Nelson has announced that she will be leaving Bethlehem, effective May 1st (see attached goodbye message for this month's STAR), and we bid her farewell. Julia and Zack wish to focus on their new, growing baby girl (Mara Joy) and family. We wish them strength, guidance and all the best moving forward.

If there is such a thing as a "snapshot" of Bethlehem in this May of 2017, it would be the picture/s of a group planting the Buckley Elm clone in our northeastern "greenspace" – a tree that's more than a seedling, yet short of a giant – surrounded by the faithful cloud of witnesses we hold dear, praising the Creator of us all. We partake in the body of Christ together always, my friends.

So...as May is indeed a month when we witness the bloom of spring and the planting of new growth for the coming years ahead, please join me as we pray for God's ministry to flourish and our vision for the future to move in concert with our shared mission through Christ.

We journey with God, to serve with Love.

In peace, Pr. Paul









"For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven." Ecclesiastes 3:1

Dear Members & Friends of Bethlehem Lutheran Church.

It is with a heavy heart that I write to you one last time. My time at Bethlehem has come to an end. I am grateful for my time with you— time not just ministering to you, but also with you. This was a ministry that we shared together in Jesus' name and I am grateful for your partnership. I will always cherish the ongoing confirmation discussions, the exploration of how to best serve our community, the ministries of BLUES & senior high activities, & many other pieces of my time serving the Church with all of you.

On March 20th Spring came forth with our rainbow baby Mara's birth nearly eight weeks early. Mara was born a fighter, doing life her own way from the beginning. Amongst all of her medical anomalies, Mara's biggest challenge is respiratory based. She spent her first four weeks in Munson's Neonatal Unit growing beautifully & needing constant breathing support before being transferred to DeVos Children's Hospital in Grand Rapids for further medical procedures & treatments. We hope to be discharged around the time of her full gestation (May 12). My focus & call is purely family based at this time.

During this time of family medical leave from call, as a Deacon in the Evangelical Lutheran Church, we will reside in Traverse City. Zack continues to serve as pastor at Bethany Lutheran Church in Kaleva & as a Panera employee.

Thank you for all the ways you all have celebrated Mara's life with us. You are welcome to join us for a Well Wishes (meet Mara) gathering in the near future. More details to come pending

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Mara's discharge date. We will continue to keep you all, as Bethlehem Lutheran TC, in our
prayers in the coming weeks and months.
God bless you all!

Peace.

Deacon Julia Nelson

President's Corner

It's May, my favorite month of the year. We shake off the doldrums of winter and smell the richly fragrant air of spring. Just as we needed the Resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, we feel the anticipation of new growth and celebrate the return of all things green. We grow in love and in faith each day, just as the trees and the grass reach up to the heavens for warmth and the rains of spring. Christ reminds us to remain in faith, not to become discouraged, but know that all things are in God's hands. Like a lump of clay on the potter's wheel, we sometimes feel we are spinning in circles. But remember God's hands are around us, forming us with each turn. Without knowing it, we become what He wants for us – something of beauty, a person of value. Open your heart, open your mind and be receptive to our loving God who daily whispers in your ear to have compassion for his creation and all of the pilgrims you meet along life's journey.

This month we planted trees at the Brown Bridge site and on April 30th we will plant our 125th Anniversary Tree here at Bethlehem. These are great events and reflect years of dedication and support of Bethlehem Lutheran Church. Thanks to all the generations who have given so much.

We also celebrate the final year of our three-year KBB journey. Tom Rockne and Carl Lehto are humble fellows who want no credit, but deserve our thanks and praise for making the program so very successful. Many projects have been undertaken and completed because of your donations and their leadership. I am sure you have seen the banner, poster, and message on the electronic sign, announcing the final push of KBB. Please consider making a donation so we can complete this wonderful project. As Tom says, "Bee a part of KBB...let's keep it buzzing."

Enjoy this beautiful spring and feel the love of God surrounding and holding you.

My hand in yours, our hearts with Him,

Phil Anderson, Church Council President



125th Anniversary Plans Continue

As I write we are in the midst of our tree planting adventures. Today (Tuesday, April 25) we planted the Anniversary Celebration Tree in the east lawn outside the sanctuary. Pastor Paul held an informal communion service as the Property Committee, with the help of Jake Milarch, of the Archangel Ancient Tree Archive, planted the tree. The unused communion elements and a small wooden cross were buried in the tree's roots to symbolize continuing new life guided by Jesus' own life-giving blood. In its simplicity the occasion was a blessing to those present. By the way, already enough monies came in to cover our donation of \$1000 to the Archangel Ancient Tree Archive! Thank you to our generous donors.

On Saturday the 29th the big day of planting 250 trees and shrubs took place under the direction of Jim Hutchison at the Brown Bridge Quiet Area on the Boardman River. 40 to 50 people came to help. What a work crew! Lunch was prepared by our chief cooks, Chris and Steve Hubert and Margaret Hutchison. Thank you to all who participated.

The final event of the long-awaited tree adventure took place on Jubilee Sunday, April 30. A joyous service was held followed by a luncheon to honor Billie Thompson, a dedicated worker in our music department, as she moves to San Diego. The dedication of our Celebration tree followed the luncheon at the tree site.

We are going to make available to you a booklet that will give a brief history of Bethlehem. Patti Friedli has been spending a lot of time bringing past information up to date. Look for its completion at our closing event. Tracey Moyer and several others have been working on the anniversary quilt, also completing it by the closing of our celebration year on August 13.

NOW, ON TO OUR NEXT ADVENTURE: the float for the Heritage Parade on July 4th during the Cherry Festival. Preliminary plans are under way with our big bell as the centerpiece. If you would like to help with planning and minimal construction (and the opportunity to walk in the parade representing our church) please call Suzanne Lehto (633-2131) or Steve Hubert (938-2017). "Many hands make light work!" It promises to be another great experience.

OUR LAST AND FINAL EVENT will be a festive worship service and an "Old-Fashioned Church Picnic" at the Civic Center on August 13. A softball game for everyone and plenty of games for the young and young-at-heart. We could use a few more volunteers to make this a blessed event. Please call Suzanne if you can help.

Our Anniversary Celebration Task Force has worked hard for the past year and more. We hope many have been blessed by our efforts. Thank you to all who have made this a joyous year of celebration. (And we still have about 25 anniversary ornaments available; just ask!)



We are in need of teachers for two of our classes in Sunday School for the 2017-18 school year. Grades affected are K-2nd and 3rd-6th. Our material follows the lectionary. If enough people volunteer, teachers could tag-team for their class (one teach for a group of lessons and someone else take over for the next group) Please prayerfully consider enriching the lives of these young people. Contact Nancy Ammann 946-8433 for further information and to volunteer!!

UPCOMING EVENTS

GAME DAY - MAY 21ST

ALSO THE LAST DAY OF REGULAR SUNDAY SCHOOL UNTIL FALL

WATCH THE BULLETIN FOR FURTHER DETAILS

RECOGNITION OF BLC GRADUATES - MAY 28TH

DURING THE 11:00 SERVICE

CAKE & PUNCH SERVED FOLLOWING

"THE WELL" IS BACK FOR THE SUMMER!

(A SHORTENED VERSION OF REGULAR SUNDAY SCHOOL
FOR CHILDREN AGED 5 YEARS THROUGH 6TH GRADE
AFTER THE CHILDREN'S SERMON)

BEGINNING JUNE 4TH DURING 11:00 SERVICE

TRAIN UP A CHILD IN THE WAY HE SHOULD GO AND WHEN HE IS OLD, HE WILL NOT DEPART FROM IT.



South Sudan Now

The stories and news coming from South Sudan over the past few weeks have been extremely troubling. Ongoing civil war and famine have led to mounting food insecurity, leaving more than 5 million people at risk. This number is staggering, and because of this, the ELCA has increased its commitment to our brothers and sisters in South Sudan. From providing immediate relief through Lutheran Disaster Response, to providing sustainable food security and sustained ministry through ELCA World Hunger, to helping to establish the South Sudan Lutheran church and build a Lutheran center and health clinic in the capital city of Juba, the work of the ELCA in this country is significant, and we need your support to keep it going.

ELCA Presiding Bishop Issues Pastoral Message on Syria

ELCA Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton issued an Easter message regarding the situation in Syria. In her message, she writes, "Let us continue to pray, assist those in need, offer refuge to those fleeing violence, and encourage all efforts toward peace for all of the children of God created in God's image. We continue to place our hope in the Lord our God, the Prince of Peace."

What Are These Global Ministry Projects, Anyway?

Throughout the span of *Always Being Made New: The Campaign for the ELCA*, Global Links has shared updates about the global Ministry Projects that are happening around the world. In an effort to better show the impact these projects are having, we invite you to watch this video on the ELCA web site about what \$100,000 is going to do in Senegal and The Gambia. Each one of these 13 projects is an opportunity to support incredible and life-changing ministries, and we hope this video inspires you to consider how you and your congregation can become more involved in them.

An Update from Always Being Made New: The Campaign for the ELCA

The ELCA's campaign has entered its fourth year and has raised \$113 million, 57 percent of the five-year \$198 million goal. The Rev. Ron Glusenkamp, director of the campaign, shares, "We are making tremendous progress because of the generosity of our members. Just imagine what more can be done as we continue to grow in supporting the people, communities and projects that are a priority for us. All gifts – great and small – really make the difference for our church in the world."

A significant dollar amount from this campaign is directed to ELCA Global Mission.

BLC ENDOWMENT FUND

Were Making A Difference!

During the FIRST QUARTER of 2017, the BLC Endowment Committee has worked

hard to follow its mission of funding projects on a local and global level. Using only profits on our investments, we granted monies to:

Child and Family Services of Northwestern Michigan

Munson Hospice

Safe Harbor

The Grand Traverse Conservation District, for Anniversary Trees

The Boardman River Clean Sweep

Love, In the Name of Christ (Love, INC)

PLEASE consider recognizing the **BLC ENDOWMENT FUND** in your

Estate Plans! Will and Codicil Information is available.

Contact any committee member for more information:

Neal Kibby (231-941-8513) Paul Ton (231-421-9677 Patti Friedli (231-941-7416)

Norm Fred (231-947-2852) Jim Hutchison (231-714-6062)



BY Helen Steiner Rice

"Mother's Day is a perfect time for compliments and praise and saying all the nice things we don't say other days, A time for reminiscing and looking back with pleasure on happy little incidents the heart has come to treasure."

May God Bless all Mothers Everywhere!

UPCOMING EVENTS:

***SPRING EVENT ***

Friday May 5th 6:30 PM Salad Potluck

WOMEN OF THE ELCA TRIENNAIL GATHERING

July 13-16 - Minneapolis

In-kind gifts needed: socks & underwear in every size & color and white T-shirts for men, women, children & teens. Place in collection box by mailboxes prior to Sunday, July 9th

NORTHWEST LOWER MICHIGAN SYNOD

RETREAT/CONVENTION

September 29-30
White Cloud, Michigan
Watch for further details

MAY CIRCLE BIBLE STUDY

We will study 10 reflections from 10 diverse women of many generations, sharing what it means to trust God who knows us completely with our joys and struggles. These women reflect on a particular time in their lives in a way that might help others in similar circumstances. If interested in joining this study, please contact Nancy Ammann 946-8433

GOD'S BLESSINGS TO ALL!

Worship Servants Needed...Please help!

Recently, three BLC members volunteered to be Lectors for our church services. They are an 11-year old, a busy Oncologist and a 95-year old, so if they can volunteer, you can too.

There are many opportunities for our members to be a part of any of BLC's three services. Some are "in front of the congregation" and many are behind the scenes. With more volunteers on the list for each worship team, the rotation could be every 4-6 weeks more or less. We also have music teams that could use your voice or musical skills. Please prayerfully consider joining one of these worship/music teams:

<u>Altar Guild</u>: Prepares the altar for worship and Communion (one group of two people per weekend)

<u>Assisting Ministers</u>: Assists the pastor during the worship service and helps serve Communion (one per each of three services)

A/V Team: Sits in the balcony & manages the weekly "Screen announcements" and worship power point presentations (Sat. 5pm/Sun. 11am)

Lectors: Reads the Scripture lessons at worship services (one per each of three services)

<u>Hospitality</u>: Greets people at the door to the Sanctuary and hands out worship folders (groups of two people each for the Sat 5pm and Sun 8:45am services and groups of four people for the Sun 11am service)

<u>Bell Ringers</u>: Rings the BLC bell in the Gathering Space at the beginning of the service (one per each of three services)

<u>Welcome Table</u>: Greets people as they enter the church from the parking lot and assists visitors with the layout of the church (coat room, restrooms, nursery, Fellowship Hall, etc) (one or two per each of three services)

Worship Assembly and Sanctuary Preparation: Assembles the weekly worship folder and prepares the Sanctuary (one group of two people per weekend)

<u>Counters</u>: Counts the weekly offering collection. (Teams of three or four will rotate on a monthly basis)

<u>Adult Choir</u>: Sings at different services each month. Rehearses weekly, except for summer months <u>Hand Bell Choir</u>: Plays approximately once per month in a Traditional and Modern service. Rehearses weekly, except for summer months

Worship Team: Leads music once a month at the Celebrate! And Modern services. Rehearses weekly, year round

<u>Steel Pans</u>: Plays once a month at various services, mostly during the summer months and Christmas services

For Worship Teams 1 through 8, please contact Barbara Oster at 231-668-7038 or beo6475@yahoo.com

For Counters (9), please contact Shelly McAllister at smcallister3@hotmail.com
For Music Teams (10-13), please contact our Music Coordinator, Sharon Weller at 231-947-9880

To the members of my Church Family,

My bride (Betsy) often refers to the congregation of Bethlehem as her "Church Family," and I've learned over the course of the last 17 months that "Church Family" is an accurate description.

I apologize for this note being long overdue. I want to thank all of you for your thoughts and prayers and well wishes over the course of the past year and a half; through the initial throat cancer diagnosis in November of 2015; through the chemotherapy and radiation in January, February and March of 2016; through the extended hospital stays as a result of my weakened immune system in February and March of 2016; through the blood disorder diagnosis and treatment in April through September of 2016; through the throat cancer recurrence and total laryngectomy in November of 2016; and through the extended recovery this past December, January and February.

Yes, it's been quite an ordeal. And yes, there were some very dark days. And yet through it all I took some comfort in knowing that you were all praying for me.

My life is finally returning to some semblance of normalcy. My health is returning. I am back at work fulltime. I'm still figuring out this voice prosthesis and breathing out of this hole in my neck, but I'm not letting that hold me back. I'm even back to riding my mountain bike.

It is probably safe to take me off the prayer list. (Then again, it wouldn't hurt to still throw a few prayers my way. The Lord knows I can use them.)

Thanks again,

Dan Morley



Book/Supper Discussion Group

We meet from 5 to 7 pm on the 4th Tuesday of the month Join us, and if you have any questions, please contact Ellie Long at 935-4595.

April 25 *Ordinary Grace* by William Kent Krueger (novel)

May 23 Our Souls at Night by Kent Haruf (novel)

June 27 All the Light We Cannot See by Anthony Doerr (novel)

July No Meeting—Film Festival

Aug. 22 LaRose by Louise Erdrich (novel)

Sept. 26 **The Nightingale** by Kristin Hannah (novel)



During the late 1960s, ground was broken for a new kitchen area was remodeled in 1970. Later, work began on a new administrative area and nursery. With the Women's Movement, our church followed suit and elected its first in female church council members, and Joan Maule was our first female president 1975.

Bethlehem Lutheran Church celebrated its 90th anniversary in 1982 with a potluck dinner for more than 200 members. During that time the church owned the house next door, and converted it from a rental house to a Youth House, allowing space for youth programming and Sunday School rooms.

Did you know that Love in the Name of Christ has a Medical Equipment Loan Ministry? If you, a friend or family member needs a wheelchair, walker, cane or bathroom

equipment on a limited basis we can help! We have closet locations at Christ the King in Acme, Grace Episcopal and mid-town at the Love INC offices on East Front Street. Equipment is a loan for the length of time needed-no cost to you! Call us at 941-5683 to speak with us about a loan of equipment or a donation of equipment.



Thank you to all who attended the April lunch and program. We had another good turn out and as usual the food was great with a wonderful variety of main dishes as well as desserts. A special thank you goes to Dr. Paul Hanrahan of Family Hearing Care. We all learned a lot about hearing issues and he was even able to help a few folks with their hearing aids.

The **final XYZ pot luck lunch** of the season will take place on Friday, **May 19th at noon.** The program will be presented by the Grand Traverse Baykeeper, Heather Smith of the Watershed Center Grand Traverse Bay. Thank you to all who have attended and helped with the XYZ gatherings during past year. We are always looking for ideas for programs so please share with us any ideas, thoughts and/or questions. Feel free to give us a call, 231-271-3802 or email etwaisanen@centurytel.net or let us know when you happen to see us, thanks Jan and Butch.

Older upright piano, FREE to a good home! Call Patti Friedli at 941-7416.



Check out Rudy Kelly's adventures in New Zealand on her blog: www.rudykellyblog.wordpress.com

ANNUAL SPRING EVENT

Attention: Ladies of all ages (0 - 100+)

Bethlehem Lutheran's Spring Event will be held **Friday, May 5.** It will be a salad potluck and an evening of great entertainment. Bring your family and friends. Please have your salads to the church by 6:15 pm. **Festivities begin at 6:30 pm.** We need men to volunteer and help in the kitchen. Any questions, call Cheryl Wegener at 231-258-4658.

In honor of Bethlehem's 125 year anniversary the worship and music committee would like to restore the custom of honoring new members of the family of God with a rose on the baptismal font. Those who wish to celebrate their new child or grandchild can contact committee chair, Barbara Oster at: beo6475@yahoo.com or via phone 668-7038. The cost is \$10.00 to be submitted to the church office or labeled as such and placed in the collection plate. The rose and vase can be taken by the family after the 11:00 service on Sunday.

Musicality

Another way to support your Bethlehem Music Department is to join one of the music groups. Depending on the one you join, you could be a part of services once every 2 months, once a month, once every three weeks, or about every other week. They all have different schedules. **What fits you best?**

Your choices are steel pans, bells, Worship Team, and choir. They rehearse once a week with trained directors and really build up quite a comradery. It's fun. Think about it.

Health Concerns

Jeri Boike, Richard Fernholz, Karen Anderson, Bob Jahnke, Christian Stretlien, Carol Collins, Margie Whitney, Ava Oleson, Brenda Denoyer, Tom Miller, Thad Hellenga, Dee Springer, Kate Holtfreter, Virginia Fleming, and Paul & Jessica Wiemerslage

<u>Grand Traverse Pavilions:</u> Walter & Jenni Goff, Virginia Fleming <u>French Manor:</u> Martha LaVire; <u>Joy Givers</u>: Hazel Lautner <u>Traverse Manor:</u> Margie Whitney, Juanita Lautner, Jane Witkop

<u>French Manor Lafranier</u>: Jo Hasse; <u>Culver Meadows AFC:</u> Janet Hinds <u>Boardman Lake Glens:</u> Ingie 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.



BLC's PRAYER CHAIN is always seeking partners in prayer.

More volunteers are needed for this crucial ministry.

For more information or to set the Prayer Chain in motion, call Jan Stretlien @ 947-3265 or email jstretlen@gmail.net.

Are you checking for the latest BLC updates at: www.bethlehemtc.org?

You saw Norm and others take the photos...be sure you see them at www.bethlehemtc.org!

Good News...and great news...at www.bethlehemtc.org...

BLC Contacts

Church Office

Pastor Paul Busekist

Deacon Julia Nelson

Diane McWethy, Admin. Asst.

paul.busekist@bethlehemtc.org

julia.nelson@bethlehemtc.org

diane.mcwethy@bethlehemtc.org

Mary Lou Deutsch, Interim Bookkeeper <u>bookkeeper@bethlehemtc.org</u>
Sharon Weller <u>sharon.weller@bethlehemtc.org</u>

Website <u>www.bethlehemtc.org</u>

Church Council

Phil Anderson, President <u>president.council@bethlehemtc.org</u>

Jim Parkinson, Vice President <u>vicepresident.council@bethlehemtc.org</u>

Tom Rockne, Secretary <u>secretary.council@bethlehemtc.org</u>

Dave Peppler, Treasurer <u>treasurer@bethlehemtc.org</u>

Shelly McAllister, Financial Sec. secretary.council@bethlehemtc.org

Jan Stretlien, Christian Care Giving christiancaregiving.committee@bethlehemtc.org

Dianne Blair, Christian Ed. christianeducation@bethlehemtc.org

Barbara Overdier, Evangelism <u>evangelism@bethlehemtc.org</u>

______, Fellowship <u>fellowship.committee@bethlehemtc.org</u>

Barbara Overdier, Membership <u>membershipevangelism.committee@bethlehemtc.org</u>

Leonard Graf, Personnel <u>personnel.committee@bethlehemtc.org</u>
Carl Lehto, Property <u>property.committee@bethlehemtc.org</u>

______, Social Ministry <u>socialministry.committee@bethlehemtc.org</u>

, Stewardship <u>stewardship.committee@bethlehemtc.org</u>

Barbara Oster, Worship and Music <u>worship.committee@bethlehemttc.org</u>

Jodi, Youth/Y2A <u>youth.committee@bethlehemtc.org</u>

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

Brown Bridge Tree Planting

















































Farewell to Billie Thompson













3:30pm - RehearsalFrStJazz 5pm - Worship-S 5pm - B.L.U.E.S 5pm - B.L.U.E.S 5pm - AlAnon-B 2 5pm - Worship-S 3:30pm - RehearsalFrStJazz	6:30pm - Gamblers 7:30pm - Choir Reh 9am - Baby Pantry-FH 3pm - LessonsWarne 6:30pm - ACOA (LR) 6:15pm - BellChoir Reh 6:30pm - Choir Reh 6:30pm - Choir Reh 6:30pm - Gamblers 7:30pm - Gamblers 3:30pm - Choir Reh 6:30pm - Gamblers 3:30pm - Choir Reh 6:30pm - Choir Reh 6:30pm - Choir Reh	6pm - Confirmation (YR)	9am - LSSM-LWR Sewing 9am - Prayer Shawl 9am - Work Group 3pm - LessonsWarne 5pm - Book/Supper Club 5:30pm - Newcomer's 6:15pm - ECD Meeting-C 6:15pm - ECD Meeting-C 9am - LSSM-LWR Sewing 9am - Prayer Shawl 9am - Work Group 3pm - LessonsWarne	leasant 10am - AlAnon-B 11:15am - StaffMeeting-C 6pm - Sew Pieceful Quilters 7:30pm - Gambler's Anon 11:15am - StaffMeeting-C 7:30pm - Gambler's Anon	6pm - Synod Assembly - Mt Pleasant 8:45am - Worship-S 9:45am - Children's Christia 11am - Modern Worship - S 6pm - 7:30p 9:45am - Children's Christia 9:45am - Children's Christia 11am - Grad Sunday 11am - Grad Sunday 7:30p
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30pm - RehearsalFrStJazz	nen		9am - Work Group	7pm - Monroe SG @ Betty	
	_		9am - Prayer Shawl	3pm - Oster SG (C)	11am • Modern Worship • S
12pm - XYZ 5pm - Worship-S			9am - LSSM-LWR Sewing	11:15am - StaffMeeting-C	9:45am - Children'sChristia
10am - AlAnon-B 10am - ScrapbookCrop	3pm·LessonsWarne 10:		8am - Pr. Conference - Nike	10am - AlAnon-B	8:45am - Worship-S
19 20	18	17	16	15	14
	7:30pm - Choir Reh		3pm - Executive		
	6:30pm - Gambiers		12pm • Sarah Circle (GS)		
	6:15pm - BellChoir Reh		10am - Finance-CR	7:30pm - Gambler's Anon	
7pm - Bridge-GS	5:30pm - ACOA (LR) 7p		9am • Work Group	6pm - Sew Pieceful Quilters	11am • Modern Worship • S
6pm - Food for Thought	3pm·LessonsWarne 6p		9am - Prayer Shawl	11:15am - StaffMeeting-C	9:45am - WELCA-C
3:30pm - RehearsalFrStJazz 5pm - Worship-S	1 pm • Rebecca/Ann Circle 3:3	6pm - Confirmation-YR	9am - LSSM-LWR Sewing	10am - AlAnon-B	9:45am - Children'sChristia
10am - AlAnon-B WeddingPavlishinMyronchu	10am - Baby Pantry-FH 10:	9:30am - QuiltersByBay @	9am - Baby Pantry	9am - SeasonalSwitchBaby	8:45am - Worship-S
12	=	10	9	6 6	7
			6:30pm • Evang/Membershi		
			6:30pm - AAUW		
	7:30pm - Choir Reh		6pm • Christian Ed Mtg.		
6:30pm • SPRINGFLING	6:30pm - Gambiers 6:3		3pm · LessonsWarne	7:30pm - Gambler's Anon	
3:30pm - RehearsalFrStJazz	6:15pm - BellChoir Reh 3:3		9am - Work Group	6:30pm • Wor. & Mus. Mtg•	
1pm-SpringFLsetuup 5pm-Worship-S	5:30pm - ACOA (LR) 1p	5:30pm - Senior High Night	9am - Prayer Shawl	11:15am - StaffMeeting-C	11:30am - Jubilee Potluck
10am - AlAnon-B 12pm - KellyNigborMemori	3pm·LessonsWarne 10:	2pm · CommParty @ Bay	9am - LSSM-LWR Sewing	10am - AlAnon-B	10am - Jubilee! Worship
On On	4	ω	2	-	30
Fri Sat	Thu	Wed	Tue	Mon	Sun

Because of the many activities here at BLC, this is only a partial calendar. You can view the entire calendar at http://www.bethlehemtc.org/community-calendar or call the office at 947-9880 for more information (and corrections/additions).

Keep Bethlehem Blooming

The final year effort of our preparation for the 125th Anniversary – April 17 through May 15, 2017

Stewardship, Property, and your congregation thank you for your participation and support.

- 1. Praise God!
- 2. Make a donation ...
- 3. Take a seed packet...and Keep Blooming!

Just a quick update... After our first weekend, so as of April 25th we have \$2,818.00 in contributions...and more in the box as this update is turned in on 26 April.

We are making good progress...but we need your support at any level. Remember, these are the items that are making Bethlehem more comfortable for us and for our visitors.

Thank you all again for "bee"ing cheerful givers!

Keep Bethlehem Blooming 2017 Goals

Property has proposed and the Council has endorsed these three key goals for Keep Bethlehem Blooming. We, of course, would love to complete these three...and more. That will be dependent on your response.

Paint all exterior wood surfaces. Portions of the building have not been painted in 30 years. Repair stucco ceiling along sanctuary wall as well. Two estimates are already in hand. Work will happen this Spring.

Estimate: \$6900

125th **Anniversary Tree.** This is a hope of the 125th Anniversary Task Force. The tree recommended by the Milarchs of the Archangel Ancient Tree Archive is a "Buckley Elm". They put the value of the tree at \$5,000, but will give it to Bethlehem for a \$1,000 donation. It will be about 14 feet tall when planted. The Milarch family has a distant connection to Bethlehem.

Grand piano. There is a steady group of voices advocating for this enhancement to our worship space. A used baby grand in Northport was evaluated, but sold (@\$4000) before we could act. Other options are looking more dear. .

Estimate: \$18,000+/-

There is no need to designate any specific item as you give. We will use good judgement in delivering for the congregation.

Again, at the end of Keep Bethlehem Blooming, residual funds will be allocated as appropriate to already established funds- i.e. Asset Replacement, Worship & Music, etc.

Thank you all once more for contributing to the success of Keep Bethlehem Blooming!

