



Bethlehem
LUTHERAN CHURCH
Traverse City, MI 49686
(231) 947-9880

October 2016
STAR- STEWARDSHIP EDITION
(See Opening Section)



Website: www.bethlehemtc.org
Email: bethlehem@bethlehemtc.org

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

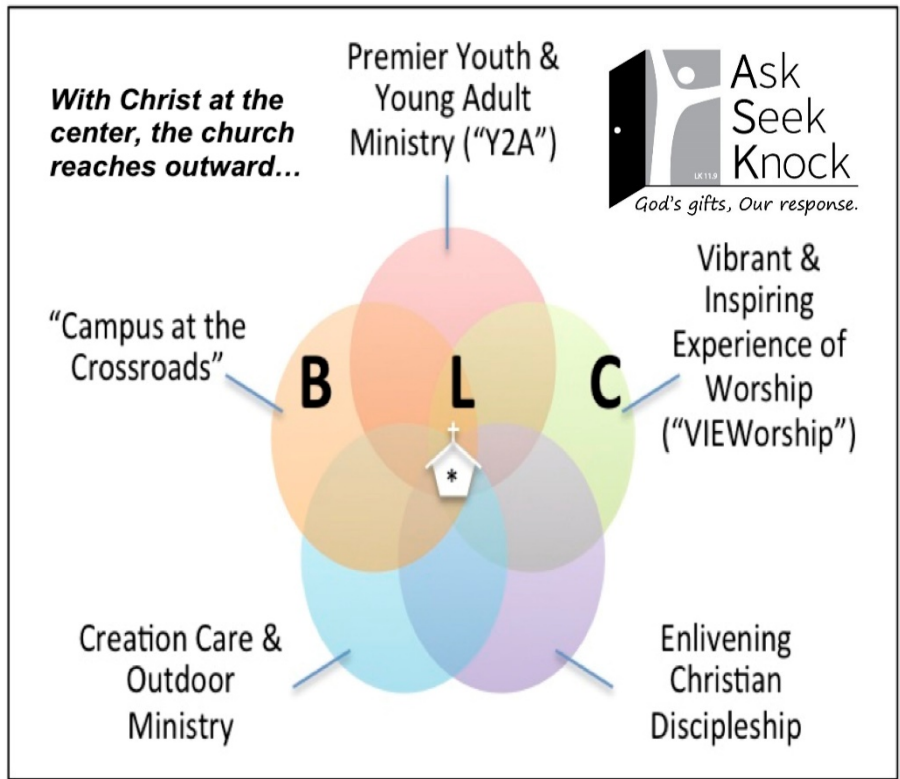
Follow the STAR to Bethlehem!
Our Mission...

“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.”

A.S.K. (Asking, Seeking, Knocking) – Delving Deeper into Discipleship

By now you have grown accustomed to this graphic (to the right), but each year we make it one of our centerpieces of stewardship because it brings together – in overlapping color and format – the five focus areas of our 2012-2022 vision for Bethlehem: Y2A (an abbreviation for “Youth and Young Adult” ministry, now expanded with Julia Nelson’s new position to “Education, Youth and Outreach”); Worship; Creation Care and Outdoor Ministry; (Being a) “Campus at the Crossroads...and the next vision area we are currently focusing upon: **“Enlivening Christian Discipleship,”** or “The Discipleship Task Force,” as its members affectionately call it.



**The overlapping “ministry zone” is a growing church at its best!*

What is the job of the ECD, or “Discipleship Task Force”?

The best answer is less about them, and more about US, as disciples. As another church’s mission statement once said, as disciples of Christ, “our mission is to be a church of disciples, who make disciples, who make disciples.” Of course, that mission was based on the Great Commission from Jesus’ words at the end of Matthew’s gospel. But its message rings true today as much as 2000 years ago. And when we deepen our sense of discipleship, and spread that knowledge, relationship and love to others...We indeed co-create something bigger with Christ: a church that does God’s work with the hands and feet of His disciples.



Our new ELCA “God’s Work, Our Hands” t-shirts, proudly displayed when out in the community!

Though we don’t want to give it away completely, expect your ECD Task force to address this during this month’s Temple Talks for **“Discipleship 101,”** as they focus on these areas at BLC:

- **Discipleship and Volunteerism**
- **Reimagined Small Groups**
- **Relaunched Mid-Week Gatherings**
- **Church Outdoors**
- **Reinvigorated Confirmation**

Exciting new things are happening at Bethlehem when we embrace God’s gifts with our response!



“So I say to you: Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you.” –Luke 11:9



This verse from Luke 11:9 was one I held up this year in a sermon about authority, racism and injustice. (Yes, both black and “blue” lives matter!) It is a verse that challenges us to ask God for guidance by asking one another...for Christian healing, for fairness, and for understanding. That interpretation is indeed relevant, especially when we hear another timeless gospel message (Mt. 25:40): “Whatever you do for the least [fortunate] of my brothers and sisters, you did for me.”

But October is Stewardship Month, and for the next few weeks we look upon this verse from Luke chapter 11 – and specifically the word “ASK” – as the ultimate acronym for prayer:

Ask. Sometimes the most difficult thing for Christians (or anyone, for that matter), is to *ask: for help, guidance, money/resources or time*. It’s why so many people feel alone and so many churches suffer (for fear of asking their people for help.) “God’s gifts just *happen*,” we often tell ourselves. But Jesus tells us specifically in this verse...to ASK.

Seek. Though it is indeed true that WE do not seek God in the same way that God seeks us (“We once were lost, but now we are FOUND!”), seeking truth and love is a huge part of being disciples. We often search scripture together and search within our hearts for Christ’s food that sustains our lives and the God-given gifts that will help realize God’s kingdom today and always.

Knock. After asking for guidance, and seeking ways we can help, the last step is *doing the work*: the ministry, the action, the giving, and – in some cases – the receiving...all in the name of Christ. Join me and your Stewardship Committee this October as we **A**sk, **S**eek and **K**nock on the door of Christian Discipleship, within and beyond our walls...journeying with God, serving with love. –Pr. Paul



Half-way there, Full STEPS ahead toward 2022!



Each year we hope to keep building steps upward together toward our 10-year vision. We began in 2013 with our **Y2A ministry** and **A/C** in the sanctuary and Gathering Space, continuing through 2014 with sanctuary audio-visual and worship enhancements through Vibrant and Inspiring Experience of Worship (VIEWorship) efforts. And like a set of stairs, when every year a new step is added, steps last year we continue through 2021.

Through the end of 2017, we began a special effort to **"Keep Bethlehem Blooming"**. KBB was a three-year campaign, from 2015-2017, designed to focus on key (capital) areas of improvement, building up to our **125th Anniversary year** (2017).

2015 brought a **new, renamed Y2A/EYO** position, a **new electronic outdoor sign**, and two new part-time positions – **Music Coordinator** (Billie Thompson) and **Associate Music Director** (Linda Davis). Since then, Sharon Weller came on board as our **new choir director** and Associate Music Director in 2016.

BLC also installed a **new hearing loop** in the sanctuary for folks with hearing aids, as well as other property enhancements. Billie Thompson is retiring soon, so we hope to consolidate both music director positions into one with our very own Sharon Weller.

More to come!

We Can do It!

2014

VIEWorship (Vibrant & Inspiring Experience of Worship) – Screen, 3 worship svc, Sustaining Y2A

2013

Y2A (Youth & Young Adult) Ministry Director Melissa
Air Conditioning in Sanctuary and Gathering Space
On track to meet budget (1/8 pt. reduction in mortgage)

2017

1st Full Year as Apprentice Series site, Bethlehem's 125th Anniversary, New Small Group programs and more!

2018

Hearing loop in sanctuary, Fellowship Hall blinds, Steel Pan Drums, Gathering Space electronic kiosk, and Enlivening Christian Discipleship Task Force

2019

New electronic sign, bike racks, Music Coordinator and Associate Music Director positions; Deacon Julia Nelson, Minister of Education, Youth and Outreach

2020

This year the **Stewardship Committee** is challenging us to do **one thing: pledge!** (sharing your gifts as generously as the Spirit moves you! 😊)

2022

Bethlehem Mission and Vision Statement



Mission Statement: *“We journey with God to serve with Love.”*

Vision Statement: *“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.”*

Areas of Concentration – What we want Bethlehem to look and feel like by or before 2022:

Growth: A welcoming place that is *growing* in faith, people, and diversity; a place where members and non-members participate together in faith-based activities, events, and worship; a place that resonates with activities several days a week (like our current Tuesdays), even into the evening (e.g. Wednesday “Family Nights”).

Premier Youth and Young Adult Ministry: A place that is *recognized* throughout the community for its successful and growing youth ministry, its strong Sunday school program, especially for junior and senior high school youth and young adults; a place with programming that extends throughout the week and reaches out to both members and non-members and includes a balance of service, spiritual formation, and fellowship; a place that has space that belongs exclusively to youth and offers Christian leadership and support; a place where youth are visible, recognizable, and empowered to play significant roles and become more involved as members of the congregation and are recognized as Christians beyond the walls of Bethlehem; and a place that is attractive to young adults and families with children.

Enlivening Christian Discipleship: A place that provides lifelong Christian learning opportunities for members and the community at large; a place that cares for members of its own family; a place that studies, prays, plays, and shares together and invites fellowship experiences with the community beyond its walls.

Vibrant and Inspiring Experience of Worship (V.I.E.W.): A place where many new faces are seen in worship leadership roles, including youth; a place that offers a variety of worship styles and formats that appeal to the spiritual needs and comfort levels of different worshipers; a place that uses modern technology (audio and visual) and music to enhance the worship experience and establishes strong connections for and between worshipers; a place that is recognized for *uplifting* worship experiences and a congregation that is not limited to its own space but sends disciples into the community and world at large; and a place where pews are regularly filled with comfortable, excited, and expectant believers.

Faithful Creation Care and Outdoor Ministry: A place that utilizes its unique natural setting as its signature for outdoor ministry and care of the environment consistent with the teachings of the bible; a congregation that sometimes seeks to worship beyond its own church walls in order to acknowledge and appreciate the sacred nature and connectedness of God’s creation and; when appropriate, advocates for environmental and social causes that are clearly scripturally based; a congregation whose members look to outdoor activities and mission as ways to engage together in God’s Creation and learn from its beauty, its interconnectedness and our common need for sustainability.

Campus at the Crossroads: A place with doors open wide for *partnering* with other churches, ministries, and organizations, both religious and secular, consistent with the spirit of Christ’s mission to feed the hungry, welcome the stranger, visit the lonely, and bring good news to the poor; a place that is *recognized* for big events and activities that are of value and interest to members and the larger community; a place that enjoys a *culture of welcome* that warmly greets visitors and follows up with those who may be seeking new worship experiences; and a place that God would have us share with friends and those in need; a people whose very property and grounds may expand in size and scope (e.g. a gymnasium or other “campus” expansion) to meet the needs of our ministry and outreach.

Electronic giving is both easy and practical. The setup is simple (see form below), and you'll never have to worry about missing a week/month or forgetting to bring a check or checkbook...Many of us have employers or utilities who use auto-transfer, and EFT (electronic fund transfer) is becoming as common as it is ecofriendly.

AUTHORIZATION FORM

for

On Line Giving

On line giving is available at Bethlehem Lutheran Church. This enables you to give automatically through your bank, and allows the congregation to better manage its resources. If you wish to participate in this service, please fill out this form and return it to the church office. It may be placed in an envelope and put in the bookkeeper's mail slot in the hall by the office door.

Last Name _____ First Name _____

Address _____ City, State, Zip _____

Please provide your routing and account numbers **or** provide us with a voided check. The process may take up to two weeks from the date we receive the completed form.

Routing Number _____ Account Number _____

Frequency Weekly OR Monthly Amount to be deducted \$ _____.

Agreement

I authorize Bethlehem Lutheran Church to process debit entries to my account. I understand that this authority will remain in effect until I provide reasonable notification to terminate the authorization or change the amount of the deduction.

Signature _____ Date _____

The Stewardship Committee realizes that your weekly giving is a sacred and personal response to God's love and grace...

That is why we have created the "Offering Card" (pictured right) for those who sign up to give their regular offering electronically. The 2x3" card reads "Today I Simply Gave Electronically."

Starting in mid-October, before worship you may pick up an Offering Card on the back table of the sanctuary and place it in the offering plate during the offering. We can also re-use these cards to be good stewards of our resources.

In Peace,

Your Stewardship Committee



Fall is in the air! The temperatures are lower, but the excitement of the fall season is rising! Most of the tourists have gone, the beaches are empty, and football scores and baseball playoffs are the subjects around the water cooler.

October is also the kickoff month for the Stewardship campaign. The Finance Committee is hard at work creating a budget that includes all of the exciting programs that make Bethlehem Lutheran Church such a vibrant place of worship. We are growing and a growing church needs resources to fulfill its mission of journeying with God and serving with love.

The Stewardship Committee will be asking the congregation to participate in three important ways. One, if you are not pledging, to prayerfully consider taking that step in faith and make a pledge for 2017. Two, if you are pledging, make a commitment to increase that amount. Three, think about all God has done for you and consider giving of your time and talents. Your church needs you. Not just your money, but your gifts as well. There are many opportunities to serve and become an integral part of your faith family.

This past year has shown your dedication to growth and expansion here at Bethlehem. Our new Deacon is reaching out to the youth in new and exciting ways. The hearing loop has given our hearing impaired people a clearer message. The blinds in the Fellowship Room have helped reduce our energy footprint. A Nursery Attendant is on duty for our young families. Pastor's messages are feeding us the spiritual food we need to better serve God and each other. More improvements and programming are under discussion. These are exciting times at Bethlehem and we urgently need your support so the future can be as bright and enlivened as we vision it to be.

With your support, we can and will do more. God wants us to pray big and expect great things. Please help to make this campaign a BIG success.

My hand in yours, our hearts with him,

Phil Anderson, Council President



Diaconal Ministry now unified to be Deacon - exploring the intersections of our world and the church together, with the Trinity leading the way.

“He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?” Micah 6:8 NRSV



Fall is officially here! Fall programming has started at BLC & we have been one active church! Throughout all the activity we are learning to do justice, love, kindness, & to walk humbly with God. We held our 2016 ‘God’s Work, Our Hands’ weekend in early September in place of what we formerly call Rally Day. Over 70 people ordered the yellow shirts & have already worn them for multiple service opportunities. For the weekend of ‘God’s Work, Our Hands’ we had the opportunity to help Safe Harbor clean up their new property, create & deliver thank you cards & cookies to a few of our local police & fire stations, clean-up some of Bryant Park (our neighboring park), and partner with Habitat for Humanity. Since then we have been highlighting “Yellow Shirt Ops.” Ops is short for opportunity as our ‘God’s Work, Our Hand’s’ T-shirts are great for all sorts of service & ministry activities *all year round!* Each month we will try to highlight at least 1 ‘Yellow Shirt Op,’ but know that they can also be worn for home visits or flower deliveries or non BLC service opportunities any of you might participate in within the community. Please let me know if there are activities to highlight for all of BLC to participate in!

The October “Yellow Shirt Op” is Canning for Charity on Sunday, October, 30th at 1pm at Twin Lakes Lodge in Traverse City! Please register by October 24th. You don’t have to know how to can to participate & all ages are welcome. Donations will be collected at the door as well as donations of jars & lids of all sizes & apples beginning Wednesday, October 26 at the Traverse City Senior Center. Michelle Jarvie from MSU Extension will present the new science behind canning, provide tips on safely canning with a demo. Then all participants will get to try canning apples, get to take a canned item home, & the remaining items will be donated to those in need in the Traverse City area.

With the excitement of “Yellow Shirt Ops” leading the way we also kicked off our first Fall Senior High Night at Incredible Mo’s, our first Confirmation night, & our first B.L.U.E.S event at a local nature preserve. These are just a few of the pieces that kept BLC active in September. Coming up we have senior high night at BLC this month on Wednesday October 5th, Confirmation class on the 2nd & 4th Wednesdays, & B.L.U.E.S on the fourth Friday. Mix in a few other events like XYZ, Sew Peaceful Quilters, the new Scrapbook Club, & attending worship & Sunday School & we’ve got another exciting month of ministry with BLC.

Be sure to check out the new Faith Formation booklet that came out this past month with listings of many Bethlehem ministries that happen regularly & be in touch if there are more “Yellow Shirt Ops” while we are all out & about doing justice, loving kindness, & walking humbly with God.

Peace,
Deacon Julia

Ask, Seek, Knock. – October 2016 star page 8

XYZ - Extra Years with Zest

XYZ is a long-standing ministry of Bethlehem Lutheran Church and it provides a monthly fellowship setting for our seniors. XYZ is aimed at our seniors however all are invited and non-Bethlehem members are also welcomed.

The history of XYZ is rather vague, it is believed that a small group of ladies started getting together with bagged lunches; at one time it was also a travel club. At some time the group started gathering at church for lunches and a program.

A potluck lunch and program is the usual format. The gatherings take place on the third Friday of the month (September-May). Attendance over the past several years has average 35, with a high of 52 for Ken Scott's presentation of "Ice Exploration." Santa Claus was a huge hit when he had lunch and visited with us in 2014.

Some of the past programs have been a presentation by Barbara Oster (who lived in New Orleans) on the 10th anniversary of Hurricane Katrina, music by 10 year old Katy Haag, a member of a couple of bands including her family band, The West Side Horns, Jack O'Malley local radio personality, Ted Lanham spoke about his experience with The Honor Flight, morning radio talk host Ron Jolly, Karen Schmidt of the Botanic Garden, Don Piche spoke to us about the Traverse City Curling Club, Neal Kibby informed us about BLC's Endowment Program, and Fred Tank, park ranger of Power Island finished last season for us. Our first lunch of this fall was an entertaining presentation by Jim Anderson about taking aerial photographs.

Butch and Jan Waisanen are currently taking the lead in setting up the lunches and programs. Jim Rumbach, Pastor Fred Overdier, Betty Rutila, Roy and Arlene Stowe, Fay Miller, and Ron and Sherryl Hellenga have been there to help each month. Many others have also helped with setting up, cleaning up and assisting with a lot of the other details involved in making each lunch a success.

XYZ presents a great opportunity for fellowship and welcomes you to attend, all are welcome and we thank everyone who has attended in the past and we look forward to seeing new faces in the future. For more information please contact Jan or Butch at 231-271-3802 or etwaisanen@centurytel.net



And They're Off!

In mid-August, 84 **Young Adults in Global Mission** [YAGM] volunteers gathered in Chicago for a week of orientation and were sent off to their countries of service! We are excited about the new stories and lessons that the young adults are going to learn and share over the coming year. Please consider the ways that you can support these young adults – whether it is financially through a donation, through prayer, by following the Young Adults in Global Mission Facebook and ELCA Global Church Facebook pages, or by sharing information with others so that even more people can become involved. Join these 84 young adults in this year of service!

Music and Dancing Must Go On in the Midst of Life's Tragedies

The Rev. Linda Johnson-Seyenkulo is serving as a missionary in **Liberia** and recently wrote a blog about a church service that she attended. At this service, she shared the story of a mother who spoke of the devastation caused by Ebola. Though the service was filled with many tears and much sadness, it also was filled with music and dancing. Pastor Linda ends the blog with, "My hope is that the sharing and the music and the dancing will heal her spirit."

Inspiring International Women Leaders

A new video was shared at the 2016 Churchwide Assembly that highlights the **International Women Leaders initiative**. As Tammy Jackson, the director of the International Leaders Program, says in the video, "When you educate a woman, you educate a family, you change a community, you change a nation and you eventually change the world." Learn more about this initiative and consider the ways you can support women who are (and will be) changing the world. <http://www.elca.org/en/Our-Work/Global-Church/Global-Church-Sponsorship/Supporting-International-Women-Leaders>

Stories of Accompaniment

Julie Gerrish is a Young Adults in Global Mission volunteer who is serving in Senegal this year – one of two new country programs receiving volunteers for the first time. After arriving in Senegal, she wrote a blog about the ways in which she has already experienced accompaniment. Read about how strangers and new friends ate, walked, taught languages and listened to stories with the new volunteers. Julie encourages her readers, "Look around and see who is accompanying you. ... They are there where you don't always expect." <https://julieinsenegalblog.wordpress.com/2016/08/23/first-blog-post/>

Plan now to attend the adult forum on October 9 in the Fellowship Hall during the Sunday School hour. You are invited to a brief journey of thought, discovery, and reflection on ELCA Global Mission. In the words of former ELCA Secretary the Rev. Lowell G. Almen, "We will find, much to our delight, that we are part of a beautiful Lutheran tapestry of faith, commitment and service."

FINANCE COMMITTEE UPDATE

Income for year to date (January thru August) is \$239,697. Budgeted income was \$242,883 so we are \$3,186 behind where we budgeted to be for income as of August 31st.

Expenses for this same period were \$258,860. Budgeted expense was \$255,388 so we are \$3,472 over budget for expenses.

When you add the shortfall in income of \$3,186 with higher expenses of \$3,472 you end up with a combined shortfall of \$6,658 thru August 31st.

The net message is that our giving is less than budgeted while expenses are higher...not a sustainable pattern. The Finance Committee and Church Council are examining steps that can be taken to address this shortfall and enable us to balance the budget by year end.

We are also entering 2017 budget cycle and will be sharing those efforts with you in upcoming STAR articles.

Year To Date	Actual	Budget	Variance	Key Message
Total Income	239,697	242,883	3,186	Contributions below budget
Total Expenses	258,860	255,388	3,472	Expenses exceed budget
Over/Under			6,658	Combined shortfall



Scandinavian Smorgasbord Kicks off our Anniversary Celebration



For a couple of months now, you as a congregation have been hearing about an event that will be taking place in October as part of our 125th Anniversary celebration. This event is the hosting of a Scandinavian smorgasbord on October 29th, by Connie Barrow, Laura Hahn, Kim Mende, and Christine Hubert, as a subcommittee of the Centennial Committee.

Laura has given you a nice description of what a smorgasbord is in this Month's bulletins. You may have noticed pictures of heavily laden tables appearing on the walls around our gathering area, put up by Connie, to help inspire you with what to expect at our own smorgasbord. You maybe asking yourself, what can I to do for our feast? Two things come to mind. First and foremost, decide what recipe you will choose. It can be your own choice or with our help, if you choose. Our committee has gathered many wonderful recipes from the four Scandinavian countries: Norway, Sweden, Finland, and Denmark, to help you with choosing a recipe.

Second, you will be asked to sign up for this event, which is free, but we need to know the numbers for seating and to guarantee that we will have enough food. Sign up for this event will begin the weekend of the 8th of October. If you would like to bring a former member of Bethlehem to this event, wonderful, or perhaps a neighbor, you may do so. We just ask that you bring enough food for any extra people you may be bring to assure that we have enough food for everyone. It will be a wonderful time for old and new to gather for the renewal of what was a yearly event for many years.

Yay!!! Jubilee is Coming

Mark your calendar for a full-blown traditional Lutheran Jubilee service as a part of Bethlehem's upcoming 125th anniversary year. We'll bring back sections of Lutheran service that you may not have seen for a while - like processional, recessional, chanting and full leader regalia.

Yes times have changed.

This special Jubilee is Sunday, October 30 at 10, with a unique reception following. For the reception you don't have to bring a thing, and there's no cake involved - just come and enjoy. Details will be in the weekly bulletin.



The next XYZ Pot Luck Lunch will be on Friday, October 21st at noon. The program will be, "Our National Parks", presented by Pastor Paul. All are welcome and encouraged to attend. Questions can be directed to Jan or Butch 271-3802 or etwaisanen@centurytel.net

SPECIAL SERVICES!!

Saturday, October 8 at 5pm

Sunday, October 9 at 11am

The singing group, **Praise Time** will make their 4th October appearance here at Bethlehem to add a little spice to our services. Most of their performances are in the Chicago area under the direction of Paul Halvey. Be sure to catch one of these services!

SOME OCTOBER events & announcements!

October 2: Blessing of the Animals 2:30

October 5: Senior High Night 5:30-7:30

October 8 at 5pm: Praise Time Vocal Group

October 9 at 11am Praise Time Vocal Group

October 10: Verse ONTAP 7:00 at Right Brain Brewery

October 12: Confirmation Night 6-7:30pm

October 14: Food For Thought 6-8:30pm

October 22: Scrapbook Club 10am-2pm

October 26: Confirmation Night 6-7:30pm

October 28: BLUES Night 5:30-7:30pm

October 29: Scandinavian Smorgasbord

October 30: Jubilee (Traditional focus)

*All month: sign up for free smorgasboard

For more details see calendar at end of STAR.

Health Concerns

Jeri Boike, Richard Fernholz, Karen Anderson, Bob Jahnke, Christian Stretlien, Carol Collins, Imogene Gray, Dan Morley, Hazel Lautner, Nikki Juntunen Manquen, Margie Whitney, Brenda Denoyer, Tom Miller and Virginia Fleming

Grand Traverse Pavilions: Walter & Jenni Goff

French Manor: Martha LaVire, Helen Arnston; French Manor/Lafranier: Jo Hasse

Culver Meadows AFC: Janet Hinds

Cherry Hill Haven: Paul Oppliger

Southridge: Jo Hasse

Traverse Manor: Juanita Lautner, Jane Witkop, Margie Whitney,

Boardman Lake Glens: Ken and 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...



ANNIVERSARY TIME CAPSULE



During the 1910's and early 1920's, our church relied on student pastors from Rock Island, Illinois in the summer months and during the Christmas season. Ordained "supply" pastors from the surrounding district of Ludington, Manistee, Cadillac, Big Rapids, and Tustin took turns holding services and conducting weddings, funerals, baptisms, and confirmations. It was during this time that we acquired our BELL for the steeple from a church in Rapid City, Michigan. Even during a time of few members and financial difficulty, **it rang**, beckoning young and old, as a call to worship.

Ask, Seek, Knock. – October 2016 star page 15

Attention BLCers! Did you know that we have three very talented music employees at our church? All are accepting new students at this time. To reach any of them, you may call the office at 231-947-9880 or contact them directly at:

David Husser – piano:

davidhusser81@gmail.com

www.davidhusserpianostudio.com

231-929-1055

David Warne – percussion:

dwarne@acegroup.cc

231-223-4662

Sharon Weller – flute, guitar (bass, acoustic and classical), piano, clarinet, sax, percussion and more

sharon.weller@bethlehemtc.org 231-649-4641



Book/Supper Discussion Group meets from 5 to 7 pm on the 4th Tuesday of the month in the Church Office & Conference Room. Join Us. If you have any questions, please contact Ellie Long at 935-4595.

CHANGES in the Book & Supper Club schedule!

- September 27 ***The Last Runaway*** by Tracey Chevalier (novel)
October 25 ***After You*** by Jojo Moyes (novel) sequel to *Me Before You*
November 22 **no meeting**
December 6 **Potluck** at Helen Rafeld home @ 6pm, Share Christmas time church memories
January 24 ***The Japanese Lover*** by Isobel Allende (novel)
February 28 ***The Nightingale*** by Kristin Hannah (novel)
March 28 ***Dead Wake! The Last Crossing of the Lusitania*** by Erik Larson (non-fiction)

BLC Contacts

Church Office

Pastor Paul Busekist	paul.busekist@bethlehemtc.org
Deacon Julia Nelson	julia.nelson@bethlehemtc.org
Diane McWethy, Admin. Asst.	diane.mcwethy@bethlehemtc.org
Mary Lou Deutsch, Interim Bookkeeper	judy.conant@bethlehemtc.org
Sharon Weller	sharon.weller@bethlehemtc.org
Billie Thompson	billie.thompson@bethlehemtc.org
Website	www.bethlehemtc.org

Church Council

Phil Anderson, President	president.council@bethlehemtc.org
Jim Parkinson, Vice President	vicepresident.council@bethlehemtc.org
Tom Rockne, Secretary	secretary.council@bethlehemtc.org
Dave Pepler, Treasurer	treasurer@bethlehemtc.org
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	evangelism@bethlehemtc.org
_____, Fellowship	fellowship.committee@bethlehemtc.org
Barbara Overdier, Membership	membershivevangelism.committee@bethlehemtc.org
Leonard Graf, Personnel	personnel.committee@bethlehemtc.org
Carl Lehto, Property	property.committee@bethlehemtc.org
_____, Social Ministry	socialministry.committee@bethlehemtc.org
_____, Stewardship	stewardship.committee@bethlehemtc.org
Barbara Oster, Worship and Music	worship.committee@bethlehemtc.org
Jodi, Youth/Y2A	youth.committee@bethlehemtc.org

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



Senior High Night @ Incredible Mo's



Bethlehem Camp Out at Turtle Lake



Upper Manistee River Clean Up Yellow Shirt OP



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
25	26	27	28	29	30	1
8:45am - Worship-S 9:45am - Christian 11am - Modern 2:30pm - BlessingAnim	11:15am - StaffMeeting 6:15pm - Apprentice-O 6:30pm - Wor. & Mus. 2:30pm - AAUW Mtg 6pm - Christian Ed Mtg. 6:15pm - ECD Meeting	9am - LSSM-LWR 9am - Prayer Shawl 9am - Work Group 5:30pm - AAUW Mtg 6pm - Christian Ed Mtg. 6:15pm - ECD Meeting	5:30pm - Senior High	10am - Church Women 6:15pm - BellChoir 7:30pm - ChoirRehears		5pm - Worship-S 5pm - Worship-S
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
8:45am - Worship-S 9:45am - Christian 11am - Modern	11:15am - StaffMeeting 6pm - Sew Pieceful 6:15pm - Apprentice-O 7pm - VerseONTAP @	9am - LSSM-LWR 9am - Prayer Shawl 9am - Work Group 12pm - Sarah Circle 12:30pm - Finance-CR 3pm - Executive 6:15pm - SteelPansReh	8am - EndwomentCom 10:30am - Stewardship 6pm - Confirmation	9am - Baby Pantry-FH 1pm - Rebecca/Ann 6:15pm - BellChoir 7:30pm - ChoirRehears	6pm - Food for Thought 7pm - Bridge-GS	5pm - Worship-S
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
8:45am - Worship-S 9:45am - Christian 11am - Modern	11:15am - StaffMeeting 6pm - Sew Pieceful 6:15pm - Apprentice-O 7pm - VerseONTAP @	9am - LSSM-LWR 9am - Prayer Shawl 9am - Work Group 12pm - Sarah Circle 12:30pm - Finance-CR 3pm - Executive 6:15pm - SteelPansReh	8am - EndwomentCom 10:30am - Stewardship 6pm - Confirmation	9am - Baby Pantry-FH 1pm - Rebecca/Ann 6:15pm - BellChoir 7:30pm - ChoirRehears	6pm - Food for Thought 7pm - Bridge-GS	5pm - Worship-S
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
8:45am - Worship-S 9:45am - Christian 11am - Modern	11:15am - StaffMeeting 6:15pm - Apprentice-O 7pm - Oster SG (O) 7:30pm - Monroe SG @	9am - LSSM-LWR 9am - Prayer Shawl 9am - Work Group 6pm - Council Meeting 6:15pm - SteelPansReh 7pm - Hughes/Gray SG 7:30pm - WT Rehearsal		6:15pm - BellChoir 7:30pm - ChoirRehears		10am - Scrapbook Club 5pm - Worship-S
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
8:45am - Worship-S 9:45am - Christian 11am - Modern	11:15am - StaffMeeting 6pm - Sew Pieceful 6:15pm - Apprentice-O	9am - LSSM-LWR 9am - Prayer Shawl 9am - Work Group 5pm - Book/Supper 5:30pm - Newcomers 6:15pm - SteelPansReh 6:30pm - ECD Meeting	6pm - Confirmation.	9am - Baby Pantry-FH 6:15pm - BellChoir 7:30pm - ChoirRehears	SmorgPrep @ kitchen & 5:30pm - BLUES night	Smorgasboard @
30	31	1	2	3	4	5
10am - Jubilee! Service	11:15am - StaffMeeting 6pm - Sew Pieceful 6:15pm - Apprentice-O					

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).