

Bethlehem Lutheran
CHURCH & SCHOOL

1121 Georgia Ave. Sheboygan, WI 53081

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CONNECT WITH US

Bethlehem Lutheran


1121 Georgia Avenue
Sheboygan, WI 53081

www.ourbethlehem.com

Church: (920) 452-4331
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 [www.facebook.com/
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 [https://twitter.com/
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Rev. J. Patrick Niles
Administrative Pastor

Rev. Jeremy Hanson
Associate Pastor

Patrick Vanic
Principal

WORSHIP & BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

Worship Times

Saturday - 5:30pm

Sunday - 8:00am & 10:30am

Wednesday - 6:00pm

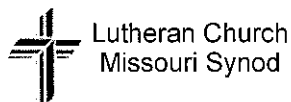
Bible Studies

Saturday evening ~ 4:15 to 5:15pm

Sunday morning ~ 9:15 to 10:15am

Feb 2024

MEMBERSHIP



Sheboygan Lutheran
High School
Association



Sheboygan Area
Lutheran Schools
Association

February 2024

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

				1	2	3
				Adult Choir practice 7:00pm		Bible class 4:15pm Worship w/HC 5:30pm
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Worship w/HC 8:00am & 10:30am Bible classes 9:15am Sunday School 9:15am Youth Group / Family Pool Party, Sheb Falls Aquatic 12-2	Bethlehem's Early Childhood Open House 6:00-7:00pm	Quilters 9:00am LWML meeting 7:00pm	Reading Partners 1:00pm Worship w/HC 6:00pm	Adult Choir practice 7:00pm		Altar Guild meeting 9:30am Bible class 4:15pm Worship w/HC 5:30pm "The Pizza Man" evening 6:30pm
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Worship w/HC 8:00am & 10:30am LHS Sunday Bible classes 9:15am Sunday School 9:15am			Ash Wednesday worship 8:30am Reading Partners 1:00pm Ash Wednesday worship 6:00pm	March Visitor Deadline (noon) Adult Choir practice 7:00pm	Daddy-Daughter Dance 6:00-8:00pm 	Bible class 4:15pm Worship w/HC 5:30pm
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Worship w/HC 8:00am & 10:30am Bible classes 9:15am Sunday School 9:15am	Rick Zeuner Bible study @ Bethlehem 6:00pm	Quilters 9:00am	Lent worship 8:30am Reading Partners 1:00pm Soup Supper 5:00pm Lent worship 6:00pm	Adult Choir practice 7:00pm		Bible class 4:15pm Worship w/HC 5:30pm
25	26	27	28	29		
Worship w/HC 8:00am & 10:30am Bible classes 9:15am Sunday School 9:15am	Rick Zeuner Bible study @ Bethlehem 6:00pm Board of Christian Day School meeting 7:00pm		Lent worship 8:30am Reading Partners 1:00pm Soup Supper 5:00pm Lent worship 6:00pm	Adult Choir practice 7:00pm		

<>< Tischreden with Pastor Hanson >>

Welcome to Table Talk with Pastor Hanson! Pull up a chair and let's talk about Ash Wednesday and the season of Lent. What is Ash Wednesday and what do we Lutherans do during the season of Lent?

"Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return" (Gen. 3:19) .

These are the words the Pastor speaks as he puts ashes on the face of believers on Ash Wednesday. This year Ash Wednesday occurs on February 14th. Ash Wednesday begins the season of Lent. Lent is a time of repentance. During this time consider the cost Christ had to pay for your sins. Lent is often times where people give things up. For instance, a lot of people use this time to try to quit smoking.

Early in the Church's history, the major events in Christ's life were observed with special observances, such as His birth, baptism, death, resurrection and ascension. As these observances developed, a period of time was set aside prior to the major events of Jesus' birth and resurrection as a time of preparation.

During Lent, the Church's worship assumes a more penitential character. The color for the season is purple, a color often associated with penitence. The "Hymn of Praise" is omitted from the liturgy. The word "Alleluia" is usually omitted as well. By not using the alleluia—a joyful expression meaning "Praise the Lord"—until Easter, the Lenten season is clearly set apart as a distinct time from the rest of the year. Additionally, it forms a powerful contrast with the festive celebration of Jesus' resurrection when our alleluias ring loud and clear.

Finally, the penitential character of Lent is not its sole purpose. In the ancient Church, the weeks leading up to Easter were a time of intensive preparation of the candidates who were to be baptized at the Easter vigil on Holy Saturday. This time in the Church's calendar was seen as an especially appropriate time for Baptism because of the relationship between Christ's death and resurrection and our own in Holy Baptism (see Romans 6:1-11). This focus would suggest that the season of Lent serves not only as a time to meditate on the suffering that Christ endured on our behalf but also as an opportunity to reflect upon our own Baptism and what it means to live as a child of God.

We invite you therefore to the mid-week Lenten services in addition to the regular Saturday/Sunday services. Pr. Niles and I will be preaching a series based on Luther's Small Catechism. Starting with Ash Wednesday, we will preach on the six-chief parts of our Christian doctrine as it is found in Holy Scripture. Take this time during the Lenten season to dive into the history of the ancient Church and her confession and prepare our hearts for the joy and blessings that Christ Jesus' resurrection brings with the anticipation and expectation of Easter. In spirit of this season of Lent I also encourage you to read your Bible in light of the cost Christ paid on the Cross while you eagerly await the Easter Season.

<>< Pastor Hanson

Greetings from the 4th Grade!

This year has been full of exciting new experiences.

We began our year by learning about the early years at Heritage School. We experienced what a day in the life of a colonial student was like. The discipline was interesting and much different than today. We liked seeing how different our lives have changed in school over the years.

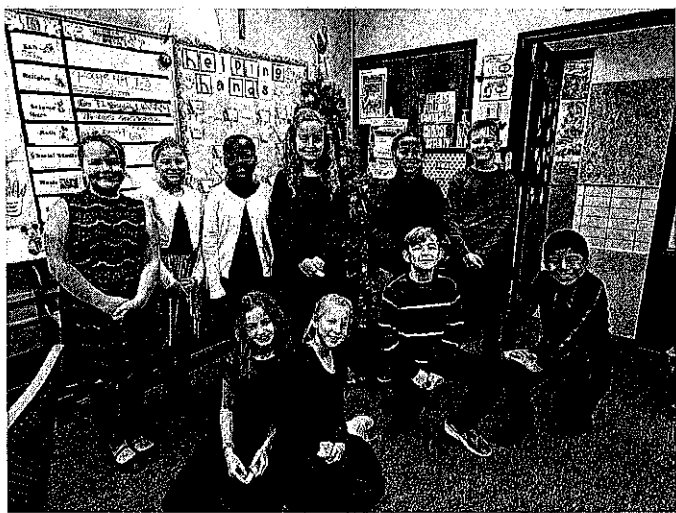
We are enjoying studying about our regions of the United States. We just finished the Northeast by taking a test on the states and capitals in that area. We are about to begin the Southeast region. By the end of the school year we will know the entire 50 states, their locations, and capitals.

We are multiplication wizards –we are working on 3 and 4 digit by 2 digit multiplication. We are learning how to multiply 3 different ways to help us find those products.

In 4th grade we began the study of the human body, we studied so far the circulatory system, and finishing up the respiratory system. In science, we also study our environment-the students are botanists and will try to grow a plant in the next few weeks.

We look forward to the spring when our last unit is all about Wisconsin and we finish out the year visiting our state Capital in Madison.

Finally, we are excited to be working with our Chromebooks, typing, learning how to be safe internet users and using google classroom.



We are all CONNECTED....I am the vine you are the branches...

February News

LADIES: JOIN LWML FOR A "HAPPY VALENTINE" THEME

"Many kinds of love" is the title of the topic for the February 6th meeting of the LWML. Wouldn't it be enjoyable to hear about various types of love and sing some old-fashioned secular and sacred songs, to highlight the readings? Just for fun, wear the reddest item in your wardrobe - sweater, scarf, jewelry - whatever you've got! Just be in the Century Room at 7:00pm on February 6th for an evening of "love". Remember, LWML loves company!

DO SCRIPTURE PASSAGES READ AT WORSHIP SOMETIMES CONFUSE YOU?

Take heart! Help is always on the way in the form of Saturday night Bible study. Each Saturday, Pastor Niles or Pastor Hanson clarifies the weekly Biblical content and takes our questions. Join them in the Century Room from 4:15-5:15pm any Saturday. And remember, you don't have to be a Saturday worshipper to attend these sessions.

WHO WANTS TO KNOW MORE ABOUT SATAN?

If your hand is in the air (physically or mentally), Pastor Niles' 4-week February Bible class series is for you! Beginning Sunday, February 4th, from 9:15-10:15am in the Century Room, Satan's true nature will be revealed. Is he real? How can we combat his power? These are just some of the questions that will be discussed. Pastor Niles always welcomes your questions. This series is not-to-be-missed.

MONDAY NIGHT BIBLE CLASS RETURNS ON FEBRUARY 19TH!

Rick Zeuner will lead a 4-session series on Monday nights from 6:00-7:00pm in Bethlehem's Century Room. The topic will be "*Mysteries of the Bible: People we don't often talk about (continued)*". You're sure to enjoy Rick's down-to-earth informative and inspiring classes. He's more than willing to answer your questions as well. Why not give Monday night class a try? Join us on 2/19, 2/26, 3/4 & 3/11.

A SPECIAL MESSAGE FOR WEDNESDAY WORSHIPPERS

For many of you, weekends are not a good time for church activities. As a result, you don't get to experience our great weekend Bible classes. How about trying Monday nights from 6:00-7:00pm? Review the details above on the class beginning February 19th. You won't be sorry that you came.

HAVE YOU EVER OBSERVED "TAKE YOUR CHILD TO WORK" DAY?

If not, you've probably at least heard of the idea. So, borrowing from that concept, how about "*take a friend (or relative) to church or Bible class day*"? Your personal invitation will do more good than many, many Visitor articles. Try the idea - you might like it!

ALTAR GUILD MEETING

Attention Altar Guild ladies: your presence would be greatly appreciated at the next Altar Guild meeting, which will be held on Saturday, February 10th at 9:30am.

SIGN UP NOW - AN EVENING WITH THE PIZZA MAN!

Saturday, February 10th, beginning at 6:30pm.

Join the Board of Assimilation & Frank Marzano for an evening of delicious pizza, great stories, and fellowship! The cost is \$20/person and this includes pizza, soda, and entertainment. Feel free to bring your own adult beverages. Either use the sign-up sheet located in the Century Room or stop by the church office. Please note that due to space & planning, payment will be due at the time of sign-up (not the evening of). Questions can be directed to Brenda Kanz at 920-912-3086.



More February News

FREE FAMILY POOL PARTY

St. Paul Lutheran Church, Sheboygan Falls, is partnering with Bethlehem's Youth Group program to offer a free family pool party on Sunday, February 4th from 12:00-2:00pm. This will be held at the Sheboygan Falls Aquatic Center (connected to Sheboygan Falls High School).

BASKETBALL TOURNAMENTS

Do you love to bake? The Bethlehem PTL is looking for people to make specific items for the BLS Girls Tournament on February 2nd & 3rd and for the BLS Boys Tournament on February 23rd & 24th. They are looking for several 9x13 pans of strawberry tortes, chocolate éclair tortes, Oreo tortes, Rice Krispie treats, and scotcheroos. If interested, please contact Keeli Johnson at 920-207-0044 to sign up and receive drop-off details. You can also use the following sign-up link:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050445A8A72CA2FB6-concession>

The Bethlehem PTL and basketball program thank you for your support.

SUPER BOWL BRAT FRY

The St. Mark Men's Club will be holding their annual Super Bowl Brat Fry on Sunday, February 11th from 10:30am-1:30pm. The menu includes brats, hamburgers, German potato salad, beans, and desserts. The food will be served in the fellowship hall, on the lower level (handicap accessible). Take-out orders will also be available. Ticket prices are \$2 and are available from the St. Mark church office at 1019 N. 7th St. in Sheboygan.

DADDY-DAUGHTER DANCE

Don't miss out on this fun evening!

All Bethlehem church or school girls and their father figures are invited.

The dance is taking place on Friday, February 16th from 6:00-8:00pm in Bethlehem's Parish Activity Center. Hosted by Bethlehem's PTL & Fellowship committees.

ANNUAL EASTER BREAKFAST

Breakfast will be served immediately following the Easter sunrise service and will continue until 10:00am. As in previous years, the cost of the breakfast is a free will donation. We are in need of volunteers to help with set-up & prep on Saturday, March 30th from 9:00am-noon and then also on Easter Sunday, March 31st from 6:30-10:00am (cook, serve & clean-up). Volunteers do not need to stay the entire time; any and all help is appreciated. The menu will include scrambled eggs with various toppings, cheesy hashbrowns, sausage links, fruit, baked goods, milk, juice, and coffee. We are also asking for donations of baked goods. These can be brought to the kitchen on Saturday, March 30th between 8:30-10:00am. If you are able to help with this event, please contact Megan Boerger at 920-889-0056 or m-boerger@hotmail.com

MARCH VISITOR DEADLINE

If you would like to submit information for the March Visitor, please have your information to the church office no later than noon on Thursday, February 15th, 2024. Please feel free to email amy.weir@ourbethlehem.com or drop it off in the church office with a note that it is for the Visitor.

WELL DONE, GOOD AND FAITHFUL SERVANT

John Weir - December 29, 2023

Terry Knier - January 7, 2024



**BETHLEHEM EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
FINANCIAL INFORMATION AS OF**

November 30, 2023

ASSETS	Nov 2023	Oct 2023	
Cash	\$ 171,847	\$ 87,556	
Endowment Funds – Principal Only	\$ 840,123	\$ 840,123	
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 6,521,328	\$6,401,552	Includes buildings & land
 <u>CURRENT LIABILITIES</u>			
General Accounts Payable	\$ 103,285	\$ 88,468	
SYNOD	\$ 4,166	\$ 3,332	
Lutheran High School	\$ 12,500	\$ 10,000	Monthly Pmt \$2,500
 <u>LONG TERM LIABILITIES</u>			
Mortgage Thrivent	\$ 1,484,349	\$ 1,492,769	Monthly Pmt \$11,778
Total Liabilities	\$ 1,738,542	\$ 1,737,754	
 <u>REVENUE</u> (selected accounts)			
Adult Envelopes	\$ 99,090	\$ 67,913	
Tuition	\$ 16,057	\$ 21,432	
School Choice Program	\$ 167,242	\$ 0	
Total Monthly Income	\$ 296,546	\$ 161,562	
Total Monthly Expenses	\$. 164,952	\$ 185,475	
Total Monthly NET INCOME	\$ (23,912)	\$ (23,912)	
<u>TOTAL REVENUE 2023</u>	\$ 1,885,031	\$ 1,588,485	
<u>TOTAL EXPENSES 2023</u>	\$ 1,872,452	\$ 1,707,500	
<u>NET INCOME 2023</u>	\$ 12,578	\$ (119,015)	

Cash is up to \$171,847 due to the choice program check that we received in November. Accounts payable climbed \$15,000 to \$103,285. We are back in the black by \$12,578 through November. Hopefully December's income stays strong and we finish the year in the black.

We Hope you had a blessed Christmas!!

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

PERSONAL INFORMATION CHANGES

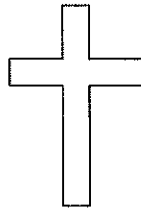
If you have changed your name, address, phone number or email address, please notify the church office with your information. You can call the church office at 920-452-4331 or email amy.weir@ourbethlehem.com with your new/current information. Thank you for your help.

ROOM RESERVATION REMINDER

Just a reminder to make sure that you let the church office know if and when you need to reserve a room so we can be sure that there are no conflicts. Thank you!

VISIT US ONLINE

Bethlehem Lutheran Church and School is on Facebook. Please also visit us at our website, www.ourbethlehem.com. Check out the main page where you will find information about upcoming events and activities. Scroll down to see a calendar of important items. Find helpful information by clicking on the various tabs under *Church* and *School*.



VISITOR SPONSORSHIP

To help us defray expenses for producing and mailing our monthly newsletter, we have established a sponsorship program which includes a congregational contributor for a cost of \$50 per year; and a commercial contributor for the cost of \$120 per year. If interested, please drop off your payment or call the church office at 920-452-4331.

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