



BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN

1121 Georgia Avenue, Sheboygan, WI 53081

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CONNECT WITH US

Bethlehem Lutheran

1121 Georgia Avenue
Sheboygan, WI 53081

www.ourbethlehem.com

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infochurch@ourbethlehem.com

School: (920) 452-5071
infoschool@ourbethlehem.com



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Rev. J. Patrick Niles
Administrative Pastor

Rev. Colin Moon
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

Nov 2022

MEMBERSHIP



Lutheran Church
Missouri Synod



Sheboygan Lutheran
High School
Association



Sheboygan Area
Lutheran Schools
Association

November 2022

Sun

Mon


Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

		1 Quilters 9:00am PR meeting 6:30pm LWML meeting 7:00pm	2 Partners in Reading 1:00pm Worship w/HC 6:00pm	3 Board of Evangelism meeting 7:00pm	4	5 Property Cleanup Day 8:00am-12:00pm Bible class 4:15pm Worship w/HC 5:30pm
6 Worship w/HC 8:00am & 10:30am Bible class 9:15am Youth Group 5:30-7:00pm	7 Bible class 6:00-7:00pm	8 Election Day	9 Partners in Reading 1:00pm Worship w/HC 6:00pm Usher meeting 7:00pm	10	11	12 Altar Guild meeting 9:30am Craft & Vendor Fair 9:00am-2:00pm Bible class 4:15pm Worship w/HC 5:30pm
13 Worship w/HC 8:00am & 10:30am Bible class 9:15am	14 Bible class 5:30-6:30pm PTL meeting 6:00pm	15 Quilters 9:00am	16 Partners in Reading 1:00pm Worship w/HC 6:00pm Parish Planning Council meeting 7:00pm	17 December Visitor Deadline (noon)	18	19 Bible class 4:15pm Worship w/HC 5:30pm
20 Worship w/HC 8:00am & 10:30am Bible class 9:15am Youth Group 5:30-7:00pm	21 Bible class 5:30-6:30pm Board of Christian Day School meeting 7:00pm	22	23 No school Worship 6:00pm	24 THANKSGIVING Worship 10:00am  No school Church & School offices closed	25 No school Church & School offices closed	26 Bible class 4:15pm Worship w/HC 5:30pm
27 Worship w/HC 8:00am & 10:30am Bible class 9:15am	28 Bible class 5:30-6:30pm	29 Quilters 9:00am	30 Partners in Reading 1:00pm Worship w/HC 6:00pm Voters meeting 7:00pm			

FROM THE DESK OF PASTOR NILES

So. Many. Blessings.

When you read the title to this article, what goes through your mind? Do you have a hearty "AMEN!" well-up in your heart? Do you think "Ok?" Skeptical but willing to be happy for the recipient of said blessings. Are you a little more jaded and callous, and think "Yeah... thanks for rubbing it in my face!" I would like to let the following hymn verses, penned by Gregory Wismar, guide our thoughts in this article.

*Gracious God, You send great blessings new each morning all our days.
For Your mercies never ending, for Your love we offer praise.
Lord, we pray that we, Your people who Your gifts unnumbered claim,
Through the sharing of Your blessings may bring glory to Your name.*

*By Your Word You formed creation filled with creatures large and small;
As we tend that endless treasure, may our care encircle all.
Lord, we pray that we, Your people who Your gifts unnumbered claim,
Through the sharing of Your blessings may bring glory to Your name.*

*In His earthly life, our Savior knew the care of faithful friends;
May our deeds of dedication offer love that never ends.
Lord, we pray that we, Your people who Your gifts unnumbered claim,
Through the sharing of Your blessings may bring glory to Your name.*

*Heav'nly Father, may our caring bear the imprint of Your grace;
With the Son and Holy Spirit; praise be Yours in ev'ry place!
Lord, we pray that we, Your people who Your gifts unnumbered claim,
Through the sharing of Your blessings may bring glory to Your name.*

God abundantly and graciously grants us His blessings each and every day. Everything crucial to life such as air to breath, water to drink, and weather in order to preserve the planet. He also grants us everything that we need for this life such as shelter, family, and clothing. Last, but certainly not least, He grants us every spiritual blessing such as forgiveness, faith, mercy, and eternal life. Everything that we are and have is a gift from God. We are also stewards of all of those gifts. Every blessing that God gives is meant for our use in service to our neighbors.



While we all probably understand this theoretically, the practical aspect of living with a mind towards those blessings is much harder. We're surrounded daily with the message that we do not have everything that we need. Advertisements and monetary support of suppliers and companies depend on the feeling of lack. Our sinful nature gravitates toward this messaging; and we convince ourselves that we need the latest vehicle, the newest tech devices, and the nicest of homes. We, subsequently, spend our time aiming towards gaining what we do not own. This causes our lives to feel tiring, unfulfilled, and like a never-ending rat race. If we spent more time thinking about the blessings that we already have each and every day, how would this change our attitudes and thoughts.

So as we, the church, spend this month thinking about the blessings that God has given to us, I encourage you to do the same. Before you watch television where you will see numerous advertisements, spend a few moments thinking about the blessings that you have already been given. Spend some time at dinner discussing your family's blessings with your children. Take a few moments to do something for someone who has less than you. And never forget to come to worship where God, again and again, meets you with His blessings. And as you think of the unnumbered gifts of God, may your blessings bring glory to His name!

In Christ,

Pastor Niles

FROM THE DESK OF PASTOR MOON

The Certainty of Comfort

There was a long stretch of time where I was unable to sleep due to sport activity related injury. My doctor at the time wanted me to stay away from pain management medications because I was young enough that with physical therapy and athletic training my body "should be able to heal on its own with some time".

I am thankful for that advice. I have indeed healed well enough to fall asleep comfortably again. But having gone through that time period gives me a different outlook on comfort. Not just physical comfort or the lack of any serious pain in the body, but the comfort of the mind and the spirit as well.

I cannot help but think of Jesus healing the man at the pool of Bethesda. John 5:2-9

Now there is in Jerusalem by the Sheep Gate a pool, in Aramaic called Bethesda, which has five roofed colonnades. In these lay a multitude of invalids—blind, lame, and paralyzed. One man was there who had been an invalid for thirty-eight years. When Jesus saw him lying there and knew that he had already been there a long time, he said to him, "Do you want to be healed?" The sick man answered him, "Sir, I have no one to put me into the pool when the water is stirred up, and while I am going another steps down before me." Jesus said to him, "Get up, take up your bed, and walk." And at once the man was healed, and he took up his bed and walked.

That man was no doubt thankful for the healing Jesus offered him that day, but he also likely got old and one day returned to a state of painful suffering. The reason these Bible stories end with the "happy endings" is because there will eventually be a happy ending. But we need to wait for it.

Jesus began restoring creation during his ministry. His work of salvation was completed through the cross and empty grave. However, the restoration of all creation is still something we await with eager anticipation.

Spending time in the house of the immobile, near the hospice bed of the dying, beside the graveside of the loved one, all of these experiences make me yearn for the day Jesus has promised. The judgement day when you and I will be numbered with the sheep. The day when our comfort will last forever.

There will be no more pain of any kind: physical, emotional, spiritual or otherwise; only gladness and cheer.

So in these coming days, look to the resurrection and the life everlasting that awaits you. No matter what your level of pain and suffering in that moment. May the promise of eternal comfort bring you a confident hope in your savior.

Peace of the Lord,

-Pastor Moon

November News

DO YOU FEEL LIKE YOU'RE A CAPABLE PERSON?

Many people live with a gnawing sense of insecurity. They don't feel "capable". They still believe the negative things people said to them years ago. But those things weren't true then, and they're not true now.

You have God's spirit inside you. You can do everything through Christ's strength. You might think that being called by God is something only missionaries, pastors, and full-time church workers experience, but the Bible says that every Christian is called to serve.

What is God calling you to do that you've thought you were not qualified to do? Take a chance! Offer your services! God promises to make you capable!

HOW ABOUT TRYING SOMETHING NEW?

Some new Bible classes have just started. Here they are:

- 1). Saturdays from 4:15-5:15pm in the Century Room one of two thought-provoking subjects will be explored.

Pastor Niles will lead "*Trials and Testing*" (the story of Job) and Pastor Moon will do a series on the Psalms.

No matter which pastor is in charge, you're sure to learn something new.

- 2). Sundays from 9:15-10:15am two subjects will be offered:

*Pastor Niles will lead "*Trials and Testing*" (the story of Job), in the Century Room.

*Pastor Moon will lead a series on the book of Daniel, a "minor" prophet who wasn't so minor, in the library.

- 3). Monday night class will be concluding during November, but there might be a new short series to follow. Watch the worship bulletin for more details.

- 4). Women's online study continues through November 18th but it's not too late to "jump on". Each day's devotion is complete in itself.

To sign up or receive more information, email maryjocyr4@gmail.com or call 920-912-2532.

LWML NEWS

Ladies, all are invited to come and join us on November 1st at 7:00pm in the Century Room for some fellowship and fun. Our theme will be *Fall and Thanksgiving*. As always, our focus is on missions.

Check us out before the snow falls!

COME AND SHOP!

The Bethlehem Winter Craft & Vendor Fair will be held on Saturday, November 12th from 9:00am-2:00pm. The cost of admission is \$2 and this will include one raffle ticket (more can be purchased at the event). Enter through the front doors on Georgia Avenue or through the Century Room door. The event will feature over 50 crafters and vendors, a bake sale supporting the BLS Youth Group, concessions, and raffles. The event is sponsored by Bethlehem PTL. Mark your calendars, you don't want to miss this event!

ALTAR GUILD MEETING

Attention Altar Guild Ladies—your presence would greatly be appreciated at the next Altar Guild meeting, which will be held on Saturday, November 12th at 9:30am. The meeting will be held in the sanctuary since the Craft & Vendor Fair will be utilizing the Century Room.

A NEW TIME: SOCIAL MEDIA & MENTAL HEALTH - IT'S COMPLICATED!

Understanding the risks and dangers of social media while acknowledging the curiosity and needs of our youth. Dr. Marie provides appropriate information for students, educators, and parents on the positives and negatives of the digital age with some real tips, helps, and personal responsibility.

Join us at the LHS Worship & Fine Arts Center on Wednesday, November 2nd, beginning at 6:30pm.

More Nov. News

BLESSINGS BOARD

* Check the insert in this edition of the Visitor for full details. *

WREATH WORKSHOP

* Check the insert in this edition of the Visitor for full details. *

SERVANT EVENT PLANNED AT NEAT REPEATS

An opportunity for Bethlehem members to show thanks by serving!
Saturday, November 26th, 2022.

Please watch the weekly worship bulletins for more details. Sign-up sheets will also be out starting in November.

DECEMBER VISITOR DEADLINE

If you would like to submit information for the December Visitor, please have your information to the church office no later than noon on Thursday, November 17th, 2022. Please feel free to email amy.weir@ourbethlehem.com or drop it off in the church office with a note attached that it is for the Visitor.

WELL DONE, GOOD AND FAITHFUL SERVANT

- ♦ Martha Bartel, September 21, 2022
- ♦ Victor Pautz, September 21, 2022
- ♦ Wilma Kasten, September 27, 2022



CHURCH DECORATION FUND



Please consider donating a monetary gift to the Altar Guild's Church Decoration Fund. All donor names, along with the designation as to whether the gift is being given in memory, in honor or for blessings received, will be published.

Please designate which category, by circling in memory of or in honor of.

Make checks payable to **Bethlehem Altar Guild.** (drop off in the church office)

**Deadline for submitting donations is
noon on Tuesday, December 13, 2022**

Given by: _____ in memory/honor of _____

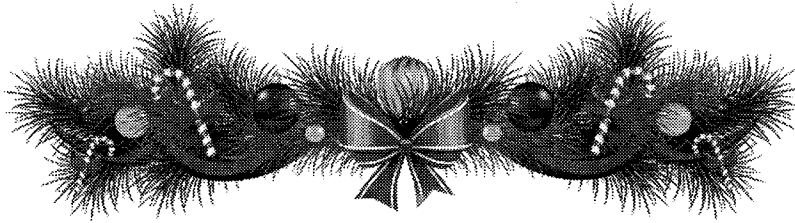
Given by: _____ in memory/honor of _____

Given by: _____ in memory/honor of _____

Given by: _____ for blessings received

Given by: _____ for blessings received

Given by: _____ for blessings received



Blessings Board

Organized by the Board of Social Ministry

The Blessings Board will be replacing the Angel Board previously set up. The new board will be set up in November and there will be no need to pick a tag or record your name.

Please help us provide Christmas blessings for our Bethlehem families and our neighborhood friends.

Choose from suggestions on the Blessings Board and return the gifts, unwrapped, at any time but no later than December 4th, 2022. Items purchased can be put in the Social Ministry basket located in the Century Room or under the Christmas tree once it is set up in the Century Room.

Listed on the back are **suggestions only**. Any and all gifts are appreciated and will be distributed to Bethlehem families, local nursing homes, and schools.

You decide how much to purchase and how much to spend.
THANK YOU for helping us make Christmas brighter for others!

(over)



ITEMS FOR NURSING HOMES

- Lap blankets
- Individually-wrapped candy (regular & sugar free)
- Wisconsin team apparel (t-shirts & sweatshirts, Badgers, Brewers, Bucks & Packers, popular sizes XL, XXL & XXXL)
- Easy to do and easy to see LARGE PRINT coloring books and fat crayons
- LARGE PRINT word searches



ITEMS FOR LOCAL SCHOOLS

- Boys & girls tops and bottoms (any size)
- Sweatshirts and sweatpants
- Wisconsin sports team apparel
- Boys & girls socks, underwear and pajamas (any size)
- Boys & girls NEW mittens, gloves, hats and scarves (any size for school aged children)
- Kohls Cares children's books with matching stuffed animal
- Toys and games for school aged children (Legos, Play-doh, action figures, Barbies, and craft kits)
- Young person makeup, lip gloss, and body sprays



GIFT CARDS TO HELP US HELP OTHERS

- We are looking for gas gift cards, grocery store gift cards, and Walmart gift cards. Any amount would be greatly appreciated (please write the amount on the back of the gift card, along with the month purchased).
- We will also gladly accept cash or checks and will therefore do the shopping for you. Checks should be made payable to Bethlehem Social Ministry.

**Please save this sheet and take it with you when you shop.
It is not too early to start your shopping.**

**Together we can make a difference.
Thank you in advance for all of your support!**



WREATH WORKSHOP!

THE BOARD OF ASSIMILATION
INVITES YOU TO
A PRIVATE WREATH WORKSHOP.

The cost is \$50 per wreath. This will include standard decorations of pinecones and a bow. You have the opportunity to pay extra the day of the event to upgrade the decorations. Bring your own garden gloves!

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 25TH

3:00-4:00PM

CAAN FLORAL & GREENHOUSES
SHEBOYGAN, WI

Register by calling the church office at 920-452-4331. Deadline is November 10th. Payment must be turned in to the church office prior to the event. Cash or a check *made payable to Caan's* will be accepted. Please note that this event is limited to 25! Questions? Call Lisa Hackbarth 920-889-8556.

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

PERSONAL INFORMATION CHANGES

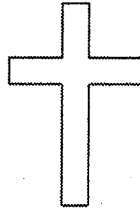
If you have changed your name, address, phone number or email address, please notify the church office with your information. You can call the church office at 920-452-4331 or email amy.weir@ourbethlehem.com with your new/current information. Thank you for your help.

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.

Congregational Sponsors

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Jim & Ruth Behrens

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Beverly Bauer

Bev Fischer
Jim & Judy Heinecke
Cliff & Gail Schlegel
Anita Krimmel
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