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CONNECT WITH US

Bethlehem Lutheran

1121 Georgia Avenue Sheboygan, WI 53081

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



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https://twitter.com/ ourbethlehem

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

Mar 2022

MEMBERSHIP







Sheboygan Area Lutheran Schools Association

March 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	n	4	-
		LWML Meeting 7:00pm	Reading Partners 1:15-3:00pm	3	4	5 LWML Prayer Service @ Good Shepherd 9:30am
		7.00рш	Worship w/HC Ash Wednesday 8:30am & 6:00pm			Bible Class 4:15pm Worship w/HC 5:30pm
6 Worship w/HC	7	8	9	10	11	12
8:00am & 10:30am Bible Class & Sunday School 9:15am New Member Welcome Coffee Hour	Bible Class (Rick Zeuner) 6:00-7:00pm	Quilters 9:00am Texas Roadhouse Fundraiser Night for the Youth Group 4:00-8:00pm (bring a flyer along to the restaurant)	Reading Partners 1:15-3:00pm Worship - Lent 8:30am & 6:00pm Soup Supper 5:00pm			Bible Class 4:15pm Worship w/HC 5:30pm
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Worship w/HC 8:00am & 10:30am Bible Class & Sunday School 9:15am · · Youth Group (Junior & Senior) 5:30-7:00pm	Bible Class (Rick Zeuner) 6:00-7:00pm		Reading Partners 1:15-3:00pm Worship - Lent 8:30am & 6:00pm Soup Supper 5:00pm	Happy St. Patrick's Day!		Bible Class 4:15pm Worship w/HC 5:30pm
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Worship w/HC 8:00am & 10:30am Bible Class & Sunday School 9:15am	No School Spring Break	No School Spring Break Quilters 9:00am	No School Spring Break Worship - Lent 8:30am & 6:00pm Soup Supper 5:00pm	No School Spring Break April Visitor Deadline (noon)	No School Spring Break	Bible Class 4:15pm Worship w/HC 5:30pm
27 Worship w/HC 8:00am & 10:30am Bible Class & Sunday School 9:15am	28 Back To School! Board of Christian Day School Meeting 7:00pm	29	30 Reading Partners 1:15-3:00pm Worship - Lent 8:30am & 6:00pm Soup Supper 5:00pm	31	·	

FROM THE DESK OF PASTOR NILES

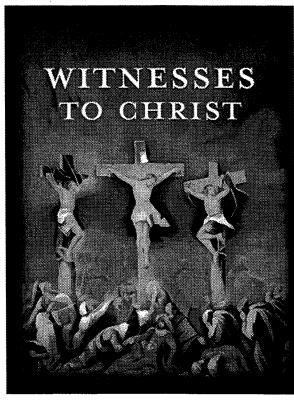
Witnesses to Christ: People from His Passion

John tells us why he wrote his Gospel: "Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in His name" (John 20:30–31). Life! When we believe that Jesus is the Christ, God gives us life—abundant life, forgiven life, and eternal life.

Historically, the Fourth Gospel is likened to an eagle — an image that suggests John soars to heights of glory and grandeur. That's because the evangelist paints a stunning portrait of Jesus, who is the bread of life, the resurrection and the life, the way, the truth, and the life. Life in Jesus. That's God's gift to you!

This Lent, our life in Christ will be strengthened as we hear the witness of those in John's Gospel who journeyed to the cross. Along the way, we'll meet villains, such as Barabbas and Pontius Pilate, as well as sinners, such as Peter (who denied

Jesus *three* times), Mary Magdalene (who was possessed by *seven* demons), and Judas Iscariot (who betrayed Jesus for *thirty* pieces of silver).



Please join us for worship as we hear the witness of these people in John's Gospel:

March 2nd - Ash Wednesday: John the Baptist, John 1:29-34

March 9th - Midweek of Lent 1: Mary, the Sister of Lazarus and Martha, John 12:1-11

March 16th - Midweek of Lent 2: Malchus, John 18:1-11

March 23rd - Midweek of Lent 3: Peter, John 18:12-27

March 30th - Midweek of Lent 4: Barabbas, John 18:33-40

April 6th - Midweek of Lent 5: Pontius Pilate, John 19:1–16

April 14th - Maundy (Holy) Thursday: Judas Iscariot, John 13:21-30

April 15th - Good Friday: John, the Gospel Writer, John 19:25-37

April 16th - The Vigil of Easter: Nicodemus, John 19:38-42

April 17th - The Resurrection of Our Lord: Mary Magdalene, John 20:1–18

Midweek worship services will be at 8:30 am and 6:00 pm with a light soup supper starting at 5:00 pm. We look forward to seeing you there!

In Christ -

Pastor Niles

FROM THE DESK OF PASTOR MOON

Locational Vocation

The three most important things in the realm of real estate are location, location, and location. Maybe you've heard that one before, maybe you haven't. Essentially, the price or worth of a property has nothing to do with the quality of the land or the condition of the building that might sit on that property. The only thing that matters is where. Where is the dot on the map? Is it a desirable place to be? The value will increase. The correlation will follow this pattern regardless of other factor. At least that has been true and looks to continue for as long as humanity remains on this side of the resurrection.

I would like to change one letter and shift gears now. Vocation, vocation, and vocation is the most helpful filter to use when looking at our Christian lives. Vocation is translated as "calling'. The word is Latin originally. It refers to the relationships we have with the people we encounter all around us. When we ponder questions about what we are called to do to serve the people around us we must consider the angle of Vocation. My favorite example is actually a quote from Luther. He said something to the effect of... "A mother changing a child's dirty diaper is more pleasing in God's sight than a priest who offers empty and meaningless prayers in the sanctuary." Sorry, Luther I completely butchered your quote just now.

But you get the idea. A mother has a responsibility to care for that child. If the diaper remained unchanged, it could lead to lots of health problems for that poor baby. Jesus offers this thought on the idea of Vocation and I think it is the most well-known parable in all of Scripture: Good Samaritan.

But he, desiring to justify himself, said to Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" Jesus replied, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and he fell among robbers, who stripped him and beat him and departed, leaving him half dead. Now by chance a priest was going down that road, and when he saw him he passed by on the other side. So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan, as he journeyed, came to where he was, and when he saw him, he had compassion. He went to him and bound up his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he set him on his own animal and brought him to an inn and took care of him. And the next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper, saying, 'Take care of him, and whatever more you spend, I will repay you when I come back.' Which of these three, do you think, proved to be a neighbor to the man who fell among the robbers?" He said, "The one who showed him mercy." And Jesus said to him, "You go, and do likewise." Luke 10:29-37

The vocation of neighbor is an interesting one. It is also daunting in a way. Everyone on earth is my neighbor. Do I really have to serve everyone in the same way the Good Samaritan helped the man who was half dead? Jesus did say to go and do likewise. And indeed we should, with a caveat. Jesus knows that we are mere mortal human beings, broken, and sinful. We do not have unlimited capacity the way God Himself does. He does know, however, that collectively as the Holy Christian Apostolic Church we can serve our neighbors. So how do we go about embarking on this task? Start close to home, close to work, close to school. Let's call it Locational Vocation. Go in peace and serve the Lord.

Peace of the Lord,

Pastor Moon

March News

LWML NEWS

Ladies, please join us at our next meeting on March 1st at 7:00pm in the Century Room. The focus will be all about Lent, as we prepare for this pertinent time of the year. All are welcome! Check out our bulletin board in the Century Room to learn about upcoming events and view photos of past events that the LWML has been involved in.

LWML PRAYER SERVICE

Lord, Teach Us to Pray is the 2022 Prayer Service prepared by Lutheran Women's Missionary League. You are invited to join on Saturday, March 5th at 9:30am at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church (1614 S. 23rd St., Sheboygan). Servant event and fellowship with an emphasis on Hispanic culture is suitable for men, women and children.

DO YOU FEEL LIKE YOU HAVE FRIENDS AT CHURCH?

Do you carry on conversations, before or after church, that go beyond the "Hi, how are you?" or "How's it going?" level? Do you ever do anything social with church people? If the answer to these questions is "Not really", or maybe a flat-out "No", maybe it's time to do something about that. The best way to get to know your fellow worshippers is to become a part of a small group. Here are some ways to do that:

- 1). Select either the Saturday evening or Sunday morning Bible class and attend regularly. People who usually come are very friendly and you'll find yourself chatting with others before you know it. And remember, you'll never be called on to answer.
- 2). Talk to one of our pastors, or to Executive Director, David Ames, about serving on an administrative board.3). Offer to help with a short-term project. Look around. There's always something that could use an extra hand or two.
 - 4). Attend Coffee Hour between Sunday services and begin a casual conversation with someone you don't know.

Those are ideas to start with. Maybe you have some of your own. Now's the time to make a move!

SIMPLIFY YOUR LIFE TO DO GOD'S WORK

Over-scheduled, over-worked, over-committed? Is that you? Do you feel like you're living in the "Aspirin Age"? Maybe it's time to let go of something. 1 Corinthians says, "Everything is permissible, but not everything is helpful". We need to remember that if the devil can't make you bad, he'll make you so busy that you won't have time for the important things. What can you let go of?

MARCH SALES AT NEAT REPEATS

3/1-3/5 = purses and bags, 75% off, 3/8 = 30% off everything in the store, 3/9-3/12 = clear glass items, 75% off (sale includes clear glass vases, platters, stemware, décor and more!), 3/15-3/19 = ties and scarves, \$0.25, 3/22-3/26 = picture frames, \$0.25

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

- ◆ April 9th = Bethlehem's Easter Egg Hunt
- ◆ April 9th = Lutheran High School's Dinner Auction
- April 23rd = Bethlehem's Trivia Night (to benefit the Youth Group's upcoming trips)
 - ◆ April 29th = Youth Group Brat Fry (to benefit the Youth Group's upcoming trips)

APRIL VISITOR DEADLINE

If you would like to submit information for the April Visitor, please have your information to the church office no later than noon on Thursday, March 24th, 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.

YOUTH GROUP DATE FOR MARCH

Please plan on joining us for Youth Group on March 13th. Junior and Senior Youth will meet from 5:30-7:00pm.

SAVE THE DATE: BETHLEHEM PICNIC WILL BE AUGUST 21ST, 2022

Please consider volunteering for the planning of this year's picnic. With your time and talents, we can make this year's picnic spectacular! Watch for more information.



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 of, in honor of or for blessings received, will be published. *Please designate which category, by circling in memory of or in honor of.*

Please return to the church office. Make checks payable to Bethlehem Altar Guild.

Deadline for submitting donations is noon on Friday, April 8, 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			

UPCOMING LENTEN WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES AT BETHLEHEM

Wednesday, March 2 nd	Ash Wednesday	8:30am & 6:00pm (communion in both)
Wednesday, March 9th	Lent Midweek	8:30am & 6:00pm (no communion)
Wednesday, March 16 th	Lent Midweek	8:30am & 6:00pm (no communion)
Wednesday, March 23 rd	Lent Midweek	8:30am & 6:00pm (no communion)
Wednesday, March 30th	Lent Midweek	8:30am & 6:00pm (no communion)
Wednesday, April 6th	Lent Midweek	8:30am & 6:00pm (no communion)
Saturday, April 9th	Palm Sunday	5:30pm (communion)
Sunday, April 10 th	Palm Sunday	8:00am & 10:30am (communion in both)
Thursday, April 14th	Maundy Thursday	6:00pm (communion)
Friday, April 15 th	Good Friday	1:00pm & 7:00pm (communion in both)
Saturday, April 16 th	Easter Vigil	5:30pm (communion)
Sunday, April 17 th	Easter	6:00, 8:00,10:30am (communion in all)

Lenten Soup Supper will take place at 5:00pm prior to each evening Lent Midweek service (3/9, 3/16, 3/23, 3/30 & 4/6).

Do Not Be Afraid!

"A young man dressed in a white robe...said, 'You are looking for Jesus the Nazarene, who was crucified. He has risen! He is not here. See the place where they laid Him. But go, tell His disciples and Peter..." (Mark 16:5-7).

"Trembling and bewildered, the women went out and fled from the tomb. They said nothing to anyone, because they were afraid" (Mark 16:8).

Who wouldn't tremble and be afraid! You go to anoint a body to prepare it for a proper burial, but the body is missing. Then some ethereal creature tells you the body isn't there because it is no longer dead but alive. Who could take it in? "Don't be alarmed" the man in white said. Yeah, right!

Yet, looking back, perhaps the women remembered the thousands He had fed with only two fish and five loaves of bread (Matthew 14:15-21). Maybe they thought again about the raising of Lazarus from the dead (John 11:38-44). After all, He was the one who had stilled the raging sea (Mark 4:35-41).

Somewhere, sometime, that trembling and bewilderment turned to joy and faith, for they did go tell His disciples and Peter (Matthew 28:8). And Jesus met them and greeted them, and they worshipped Him. "Then Jesus said to them, 'Do not be afraid. Go and tell My brothers…" (Matthew 28:9-10).

Jesus' last command is the same as this one: Don't be afraid. Go and tell. We can understand the fear of the women at the empty tomb. What are we afraid of? Trouble? Or hardship? Persecution? Or famine? Nakedness? Or danger? Or sword? There is no fear in these things! "No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us" (Romans 8:35, 37). We have the benefit of history. The women at the tomb couldn't fathom the outcome, but we have God's Word that assures us of our victory in Christ. We have His promise, "And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age" (Matthew 28:20). So don't be afraid! Go and tell!

Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

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 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!

BETHLEHEM'S DAILY DEVOTION

Take a moment each day to get online! Check out our Facebook page, daily at 2:30pm!

VISIT US ONLINE

Bethlehem Lutheran Church and School are 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*.

SCRIP INFORMATION

If your Scrip credit went to Bethlehem Lutheran Church General Fund, Bethlehem Special Appeal or Bethlehem Guardian Angel Program, you can claim any profit on your income taxes. If you would like a copy of your report, please let us know. You can let one of the Scrip sellers know, you can send an email to BethlehemScrip@hotmail.com or you can call Brenda Kanz at 920-912-3086.

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 452-4331.

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