



## Bethlehem Lutheran Church

### NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2025

**Birthdays:** August 2- Joane Clark; August 3- Melody Rowan, Karal Schuknecht; August 4- Sue Roberts; August 5- Addilynn Ebert; August 6- Jack Letsche; August 8- Koreen Anderson; August 9- Terry Janssen, Todd Larsen; August 10- Jared Peterson, Roger Peterson, Matt Woodall; August 11- Phylis Conley, Michelle Sleezer; August 14- Karen Frandsen, Lynette Hyndman, Kent Wenck; August 15- Brian Janssen, Stacey Zwiefel; August 16- Kyle Lundy, Trish Tisthammer; August 17- Rose Beazley, Pat Friedrichsen, Jim Perrin, Rusty Rasmus; August 19- TJ Lundsgaard; August 21- Colleen Harrison; August 24- Heidi Woltman, Tanner Woodall; August 26- Deb Baker, Ella Simonsen; August 27- Everlee Fuller; August 29- Maeryn Cedar, Mason Lundy

**Anniversaries:** August 1- Lonnie & Jolene Puhmann; August 2- Nic & Laura Ebert; August 5- John & Quinn Woods; August 6- Dennis & Lois Alquist, Steve & Lori Thomas; August 10- Lynn & Pat Friedrichsen; August 11- Denny & Pam Allen; August 13- Phil & Barb Kindwall; August 19- Doug & Monica Kennebeck, Jim & Connie Mohn; August 22- Dave & Connie Ladwig; August 24- Pat & Lynette Hyndman; August 26- Ryan & Sara Husman

**Lectors Needed:** Bethlehem is in need of volunteers to read the scriptures on **August 17<sup>th</sup>** and **August 31<sup>st</sup>**. If you are interested in reading during Sunday morning worship service, please contact the office (712-225-4969, [blcelca@gmail.com](mailto:blcelca@gmail.com)).

**Summer Mowing Schedule:** There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex for those willing to mow this summer (weekly, May-September). The Property Committee greatly appreciates those who help with this task!

**Papa's Pantry-** Members of our community that are experiencing food insecurity look to us for assistance. The need is greater when children are home in the summer! Please remember them when you are shopping and add a few items to your grocery cart for them. You can place your donations in the tote in the office or place them in classroom B downstairs. Thanks so much for your continued support for this important outreach to our community!

**Summer Blast on August 17th at Bethlehem** -We are excited to host the First Time Ever – Summer Blast event at Bethlehem on Sunday, August 17th!! Many fun activities are being planned for the children and adults! Our entire community is invited to join us! One event will be a Cake Walk! Who doesn't LOVE a Cake Walk?! Of course, this will take lots of cakes! So, if you'd like to donate a homemade or purchased cake, please sign up on the sheet in the Narthex or contact Pat Friedrichsen at 712-229-3164. Let's make this a fun event for the kids and adults!



**Coffee Servers Needed:** Volunteers are needed to provide snacks this month. Snack providers also provide a container of juice and make coffee for Coffee Hours after the service. We have been making 1 and ½ gallons of coffee each week in the Bunn coffee makers in the basement kitchen. Sign up sheets are located in the Narthex. Thanks to all who provide and help out with this activity!



**Save the Date:** The annual special summer evening service will be held on Sunday, August 17th at the church. There will be activities for the kids (word is that a bounce house might be included), entertainment by the Anthon Band, food, and a short worship time. This should be a great time for all ages. More details to follow.

**Reminder:** Members are reminded to check out the sign-up sheets in the narthex and then encouraged to take this opportunity to serve Bethlehem in a variety of ways. The weekly expense for Bethlehem on the Air, altar flowers, mission support and world hunger is \$30. Thank you.

**Bethlehem on the Air:** Looking for a brief devotional time as you are getting ready for church, then tune in to KCHE (1440 AM or 92.1 FM) at approximately 8:15 AM each Sunday for Bethlehem on the Air. This devotional time (prepared and presented by members of Bethlehem) is one of the outreach efforts of your congregation.

**Bethlehem Friends,** Please be selective when you donate clothing to the Church Clothing Closet. We would appreciate only gently used items. If you wouldn't wear it again, probably no one else will. We request that you only donate one or two bags. We don't have enough room for all of the donations we have recently received. Thanks for being more selective when you give to our Clothing Closet. Sincerely overwhelmed, Lynette Hyndman



### **Evangelism In Action**

Our **July Welcome Plate Meal** was held on **Thursday, July 31st from 5:30- 6:30 pm.** Lynette Hyndman led the devotions at **5:15 pm.** We served 128 including 24 deliveries and 19 carry-outs. Thanks to Filmore Gustafson, Hank Hayes, Lynn Friedrichsen, and Dale Springer for making the deliveries. Our guests enjoyed a meal of grilled hamburgers, jumbo hot dogs, brats, chips, cole slaw, ice cream treats, and drinks. We had a huge turn out and many were able to enjoy a meal and time of fellowship! All were able to take home baked goods, food, and clothing, as they left. Thanks to everyone who helped prepare and serve the meal, assisted with the baked goods, Papa's Pantry, and the Caring Closet. We are grateful for your donations to Papa's Pantry and generous monetary donations for future meals! You are all wonderful servants of God who are sharing the Love of the Lord!

Our **August Welcome Plate Meal** will be held on **Thursday, August 28th from 5:30- 6:30 pm.** Devotions will begin at **5:15 pm.** We will again be grilling hamburgers, hot dogs, and brats as our main entree'. Please invite your friends and neighbors to join us. All are welcome! It is our way of reaching out to our community and making them feel that we are there for them in their time of need. God blesses us and He wants us to bless others in return! God's Work Our Hands!

Please remember to donate to the **Papa's Pantry,** as many are looking to us for assistance. If you are out shopping please consider donating some items: cereal, pasta sauce, peanut butter, jelly, juices, pickles, Hamburger Helper, soups, canned spaghetti, snack crackers, pudding mixes, cake mixes, frosting, pickles, ketchup, mustard, canned veggies or fruit, or anything you choose. The containers are no longer in the Narthex, so please place your items in the container in the office or in Classroom B downstairs. Those who are attending our meals are very grateful for the many tables full of food items ready to take with them each month!!

We will be helping the Worship and Music Committee on **Sunday, August 17th** to serve the meal for the **Outdoor Worship Service, Summer Blast.** An ice cream sundae bar will be available to everyone following the meal. It will be a fun family event with activities for the youth, including a

Cake Walk. Of course, that will require A LOT of cakes! If you'd like to contribute a cake for that, please sign the sheet marked CAKE WALK in the Narthex. Anything will be appreciated, homemade or purchased! Invite your friends and neighbors to join us for an evening of fun! If you'd like to join our committee, we meet on the first Thursday of each month at 3:00 pm in the Library. We'd love to have additional members who would like to become involved in the events that we plan each month.

## August Volunteers & Sponsors

### Sunday Lectors:

August 3: Todd Anderson  
August 10: Chris Nelson  
August 17:  
August 24: Todd Anderson  
August 31-

### Altar Flowers:

August 3:  
August 10:  
August 17: Bill & Mary Larson  
August 24: Phylis Conley  
August 31: Jim & Connie Mohn

### Bethlehem On the Air:

August 3: Joane Clark  
August 10: Jim & Connie Mohn  
August 17: Terry & Donna Janssen  
August 24: Jim & Connie Mohn  
August 31: Pat & Lynette Hyndman

### Mission Support:

August 3: Joane Clark  
August 10: Lynn & Pat Friedrichsen  
August 17:  
August 24: WELCA  
August 31:

### World Hunger:

August 3:  
August 10: Bruce & Deena Jones  
August 17: WELCA  
August 24:  
August 31:



### Pulpit Supply for August:

August 2/3: Chuck Wolff  
August 9/10: Sarah Morphew  
August 16/17: Chuck Wolff  
August 23/24: Sarah Morphew  
August 30/31: Chuck Wolff

## **August 2025 MEETING DATES:**

Executive Board Meeting- August 3 - After the church service in the library

**Anna** Group- No meeting

**Vashti/Esther** Group- No meeting

**Lydia** Group- No meeting

**All are welcome at our group meetings. We'd love to have more fellow Christians participate.**

**Quilting- August 20, 2024**, 9:00, Church Basement- We have lots of fabric that has been donated. Please let us know if you'd like to sew quilt tops or bottoms for us. Thanks to all who have done this for years. A special thanks to Marlys Segar for sharing her expertise in quilting and finishing the quilts for us at home.

**"Gather" Bible Study**- Keep your magazine. We will use it in September.

**Cookbooks**- We are selling our cookbooks for \$5. This money will go toward our Mission Groups we support all year. Let us know if you'd like one for a gift.

**Personal/Health Kits** - Please help us make some personal/health kits. Bath towel- dark in color and 2 bath size bars of soap.

**School Kits**- Backpack, notebooks, ruler, eraser, unsharpened, pencils, pens, scissors, crayons, pencil sharpener

**Baby Kits**- Socks, gowns, sweater or jacket, cloth diapers, diaper pins, receiving blankets, towels, T-shirts, soap. Watch for sales! Thanks to Lori Thomas for putting together many kits!

**Thanks to all who helped at the Welcome Plate in July.** If you'd like to help in August, please contact Pat Friedrichsen. We are all God's Hands and Feet! Let's help our neighbors in need. If you'd like to help in the Caring Clothing Closet, please contact Lynette Hyndman

**Summer Retreat**- August 12- 8:30 AM meet at church. 10:00 arrive at Lutheran Lakeside Camp. Tour on golf carts, lunch, craft, sing along, Bible study, and fun! Please call Lynette Hyndman ASAP to reserve. 712-225-2081 or 712-261-1432. Let her know if you can drive that day. This retreat will be in place of our August meetings.



**Bethlehem Lutheran Church**  
**Cherokee, Iowa**

MEETING: Church Council Meeting  
DATE/TIME: Thursday, July 10, 2025  
MEMBERS PRESENT: Rusty Rasmus, Steve Shuck, Karen Ferris, Kaleb Sleezer, Simon Fuller, Terry Janssen, Bruce Jones, Kelley Clausen  
MEMBERS ABSENT: Allen Campbell  
OTHERS PRESENT: None  
OTHERS ABSENT: None  
GUESTS PRESENT: None  
PRESIDING: Rusty Rasmus  
RECORDING: Linzi Bierman

<u>AGENDA</u>	<u>DISCUSSION</u>	<u>RESPONSIBILITY</u>
<b>Call to Order</b>	Meeting called to order by Chairperson Rusty Rasmus @ 6:30 pm.	
<b>Approve Agenda</b>	Motion to approve agenda by Karen, second by Terry; motion carried.	
<b>Devotions</b>	Devotions by Allen, read by Kelley: Scripture- 3:5-6 – Trust in the Lord. Uncertainty is a part of life, it is essential to trust God and acknowledge that he knows best.	Devotions for August by Karen
<b>Secretary's Report</b>  <b>Financial Report</b>	No full Treasurer's report this month, but an itemized list of payments for the month was distributed. Council would like to see this list every month going forward. Motion to approve report by Kelley, second by Terry; motion carried	<b>Council members to text approval or email approval to Linzi</b>
<b><u>Correspondence</u></b>  <b><u>Old Business</u></b>	<b>Received:</b> Bills received from Dave Hickman and Kyle Carey. Dave's invoice is ok to pay, Kyle was not hired by the Council.  <b>Treasurer Position</b> – Treasurer's duties are in the Constitution- Linzi to look over list and determine what she can do and how long it will take each week. Remaining items could possibly be done by the accountant. Linzi will also review Secretary's duties in Constitution for what is currently being done and what is not. Motion to approve by Karen, Second by Terry; motion carried.  <b>Synod Discussion / Pastor Candidate</b> – Pastoral Candidate would prefer not to do Saturday services but would do some in the beginning. He would like to be in the office 2 mornings a week, because he also works fulltime as a chaplain; Council would prefer at least 3. He is planning to keep his other fulltime position for the next 3 years, then might look at working only as a pastor, planning to work until his 70's and would stay here until then if it is a good fit. He would still like to be considered full time here, in order to keep his pension – maybe because of lighter schedule he would	

<p><b><u>New Business</u></b></p>	<p>accept a lower base salary than the typical recommended salary for full time, however, for him to leave where he is now need more than his current salary. Council discussed base salary and negotiables, and created a package based on guidelines from the ELCA. Motion to present the proposed salary package to the congregation at a congregational meeting after worship service on July 27<sup>th</sup> made by Terry, second by Karen. One opposed, motion carried. Linzi will send out postcards about the 27<sup>th</sup> meeting. Per the Synod, our Constitution should include a harassment policy. We have not heard back from our lawyer about our current constitution, will wait to see what comes out of National Assembly and table discussion until fall.</p> <p><b>August 17<sup>th</sup> Event-</b> Family Fun Event will take place from 1-4 here at Bethlehem. Looking for donations and volunteers to help at the event. Will have 2 inflatables – Christian Ed will sponsor. Will also have face painting by Nicole Campbell, hair tinsel by Karlee Fuller, lawn games, carnival games (ring toss, balloon popping, ball toss, etc.) with prizes. Anthem Band at 4:30- Bring your own chair! Food at 5:30- burgers, hot dogs, ice cream sundae bar. Council will take care of sides, plates, silver ware, napkins, etc.</p> <p><b>KCHE Sponsorship</b> – KCHE promotion to be featured on stadium cups to hand out to Braves fans. \$250 to be on 1000 cups. Motion to participate in promotion by Bruce, second by Terry, Simon abstained from voting; motion carried.</p> <p><b>Steve Schuck &amp; Rusty Rasmus Resignations-</b> Rusty and Steve gave their formal resignations from Council. Motion to accept with deep regret by Terry, second by Bruce; motion carried. Table election of President and Vice President until next month with recruitment of 2 Council members.</p>	
<p><b>Committee Reports</b></p>	<p><b>Christian Ed</b> – VBS video available to show during service sometime. YouNite will start up again at the end of September and will take place at Bethlehem though December.</p> <p><b>Endowment</b> – Committee was previously made up of Nikki, Jim, and Bruce. Jim resigned as of June 1. Nikki can't be on the committee because of our account with Farm Bureau. Going forward, will put Kaleb and Bruce on the account and talk to Brandon Henke about being on the committee. Linzi will create a physical file in the office for the Endowment Committee.</p> <p><b>Evangelism/Social Ministry/Missions</b> – June Welcome Plate was on 6/26, served 120 people with 25 deliveries and 17 carry out meals and received \$255 in donations. July Welcome Plate will be on 7/31 with grilled brats, burgers, and hot dogs, coleslaw, chips, and ice cream treats. August will also be grilled meats with beans and potato salad. Will be providing Sundae bar at the August 17<sup>th</sup> event and having a Free Laundry Day in the fall.</p> <p><b>Worship &amp; Music</b> – During meeting the August 17<sup>th</sup> event was discussed as well as license and recording for music. Would like to make a change on Bethlehem's Facebook Page: change to state "We are an ELCA Lutheran Congregation that welcomes all people no matter where you are on your faith journey." Linzi to make changes. Jim submitted letter of resignation as Chair of Worship and Music Committee in order to find a new leader in an effort to incorporate new music and innovation.</p>	

	<b>Finance –</b> <b>Gifts &amp; Donations Committee –</b> <b>Property –</b> Concrete in the back is a hazard, would be approximately \$30,000-\$40,000 to fix. Handicap parking could be along the side of the church. Brian Benson to be approached about Soffitt. <b>Stewardship –</b> <b>Spiritual Formation –</b>	
<b>Pulpit Supply</b>	<b>Aug 2/3 – Chuck Wolff</b> <b>Aug 9/10 – Sarah Morphey</b> <b>Aug 16/17 – Chuck Wolff</b> <b>Aug 23/24 – Sarah Morphey</b> <b>Aug 30/31 – Chuck Wolff</b>	
<b>Communion Schedule</b>	<b>August 3 – Karen, Simon, Kelley, Allen</b> <b>August 9 - Karen</b>	
<b>Adjournment</b>	Motion to adjourn by Terry, second by Kaleb; motion carried. Meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.	Next meeting Thursday, August 14 @ 6:30 pm



## School Kits

Dear Bethlehem Members,

This is the time of year when school supplies are on sale at many stores. If you are out and about shopping, please consider purchasing one or all of the following supplies to send to Lutheran World Relief. Let's help children in need. There will be a receptacle in the Narthex. Thanks! WELCA

### School Kit Supplies:

- FOUR** 70-sheet notebooks of wide- or college-ruled paper, approximately 8" x 10 ½"; no loose leaf paper
- ONE** 30-centimeter ruler, or a ruler with centimeters on one side and inches on the other
- ONE** pencil sharpener
- ONE** pair of blunt scissors (safety scissors with embedded steel blades work well)
- FIVE** unsharpened #2 pencils with erasers; secure together with a rubber band
- FIVE** black or blue ballpoint pens (no gel ink); secure together with a rubber band
- ONE** box of 16 or 24 crayons
- ONE** 2 ½" erase





# Welcome Plate

## Free Community Meal



Thursday, August 28 • 5:30-6:30 pm

Devotions • 5:15 pm

Bethlehem Lutheran Church

300 E Bow Drive (lower level)\*

\*Handicapped Accessibility Available

*Everyone is welcome!*

Food Pantry and Clothing Closet  
will be open during this time

