

# WEEKLY CONNECTION

## SUNDAY JUNE 13, 2021

### This Week at Bethlehem

*Updates & Recorded Worship for  
June 13 Available Sunday on website*  
[www.bethlehemsaginaw.org](http://www.bethlehemsaginaw.org)

**ORDINATION:** Bethlehem is blessed to be able to celebrate the ordination of the **Rev. Brandon Mark Wittig** into the office of the holy ministry. Brandon is a graduate not only of our Bethlehem Lutheran School, but also Valley Lutheran High School, Concordia University – Ann Arbor, and Concordia Seminary – St. Louis. Brandon has received his first divine call into the ministry to serve as pastor at Trinity Lutheran Church and Preschool in Sawyer, Michigan. Bethlehem is privileged to ask God’s blessing upon Brandon by celebrating his ordination on **Sunday, June 20<sup>th</sup> at our 10:30 am service**. All members and friends of Bethlehem are invited to join in giving thanks to God for Pastor Wittig and celebrating his ordination.

**NOSIY OFFERING:** During the month of June, Bethlehem has the opportunity to contribute to the Michigan District of the LC-MS mission fund. This includes support for “Acts 2 Enterprise (A2E)” which is a strategic and holistic urban outreach initiative of the Michigan District, LCMS based on the work of Jesus and His disciples in the early church as recorded in the book of Acts. As well as ministries that care for people of all walks of life, including those with special needs or who are experiencing difficult circumstances. These ministries include Chaplains, Blind Ministries, Ethnic Ministry, Prison Ministry, Special Friends Camp, Deaf Ministries, Parish Nursing, Lutheran Ministries, and the Proven Character Task Force. [www.MichiganDistrict.org/ministries/](http://www.MichiganDistrict.org/ministries/)

**Annual Meeting:** This Voters Annual Meeting will be held, **Thursday, June 17<sup>th</sup>, at 6:30 pm**. Important items for running the church to be considered include repair to the building’s brickwork and soffit, rebuilding of the church sound system, approval of the annual budget, election of officers, and more.

**SUMMER OFFICE HOURS:** The regular summer office hours for the church and school beginning June 14 thru August 20 are Monday thru Thursday, 8 am – 4pm.

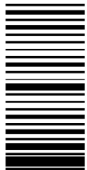

#### LAST WEEK

Worship 6 - 6

Attendance:256

Viewer Households:21

You may mail your offering. You may like to sign up for electronic giving. Visit our website for more information on electronic giving.

Travels with Jesus		Themes
	<b>Passenger Name:</b>	Date: 6/6 - 7/4
	Bethlehem Lutheran	June 6
	<b>From:</b>	Theme: Hope for the World
	Saginaw, MI	June 13
	<b>To:</b>	Theme: Growing in the Lord
Jesus	June 20	Theme: God Over Nature
	June 27	Theme: Our Generous God
	July 4	Theme: Power in Weakness
		

**“Our Journey/Travels with Jesus”  
Summer is the time of vacations....**

**Sunday June 6  
Theme: Hope for the World**

**Sunday June 13  
Theme: Growing in the Lord**

Many of the parables of Jesus have to do with agriculture—from the parable of the sower to this short description of the Kingdom like a mustard seed. There are so many little details with application to our lives, but today the focus is on the seed and the mystery of how it grows. What brings the seed from planting to harvest is the providence of God and His goodness and power. This is both the object of our interest and the domain of faith

that trusts what the eye does not see and the mind does not comprehend. At the end of it all is the harvest; God brings into His storehouse all the fruits of His seed planted in good soil. The blissful ignorance we have of this process should not deprive us of the joy of its outcome.

The kingdom of God . . . is like a grain of mustard seed, which, when sown on the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth, yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes larger than all the garden plants and puts out large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade. *Mark 4:30–32*

**Sunday June 20  
Theme: God Over Nature**

**Sunday June 27  
Theme: Our Generous God**

**Sunday July 4  
Theme: Power in Weakness**

## PRAYER FOCUS

**HOSPITALIZED:** Beulah Poellet, Dianne Weber, Lucy Helmreich - Great Lakes Bay Rehab

**MARRIED:** We ask God’s blessings upon **Michelle Morgrette and Collin Schwartz** who were married at Bethlehem and also upon **Hannah Scott and Jared Rial** who were married June 12 at Trinity, St.

Joseph. May God multiply and increase the love of all husbands and wives for each other.

**SPECIAL PRAYERS:** Michael DeChane nephew of Jim and Diane Harris, Taylor Bellinger & Family

**NEW CONNECT 7 DEVOTIONS:** A new edition of daily devotions based on our sermon series, **Travels with Jesus:** Beginning June 6th is available for you in the entry way of the church. They are also available on our website under the Christian Life button.

**PRAYER** Pray for governmental officials, pray for police officers and first responders, and pray for an end to racism, destruction and violence. Pray that God might grant justice, unity and peace to our land.

**IN NEED OF PRAYER?** The prayer chain is taking all calls thru Ronda Ehlert (616-583-8670). If no answer leave a message and name, number. I will call you back ASAP.

Anyone interested in the prayer chain please call me, we pray for healing, strength and blessing for those in need and their families if requested. Our Goal is simply “Power of Prayer.” Thank you.

**ANOTHER WAY TO PRAY** A Prayer Request form is now available on Bethlehem’s web-site under contact button. Submitted prayer request forms are sent directly to the church. These requests will be prayed for daily for a week. Thank You.

**LIFE QUOTE:** “It’s a terrible thing to see any life that is used and abused instead of being protected and cared for. The value of life should not be based on the benefits it can offer. So we pray to the Lord to move all people to value and appreciate all life as God’s gift.” - Rev. Peter Sulzle

**STEWARDSHIP QUOTE:** “If God was the owner, I was the manager. I needed to adopt a steward's mentality toward the assets He had entrusted - not given - to me. A

steward manages assets for the owner's benefit. The steward carries no sense of entitlement to the assets he manages. It's his job to find out what the owner wants done with his assets, then carry out his will." - Randy Alcorn

## CARING FOR OTHERS

**PANTRY NEEDS** are muffin mix, hamburger helper, scallop potatoes, rice, tuna fish, & peanut butter. Drop off any food collected to the office. Thank you for your support!

**NEXT FOOD PANTRY** June 15th 10-11a.m. We are doing a drive through distribution. People can line up in their cars along the church sidewalk in the Weiss lot next to the church. The line will start at the church entrance. If you are interested in volunteering please contact Trevor in the church office.

## AROUND BETHLEHEM

**THANK YOU:** Dear Bethlehem Family---Thank you all for the well wishes, cards, donations, flowers and waiting in line to see me at the drive-by, as I celebrated my 100th birthday. God has truly blessed me! Irene Lange

**COMMUNITY PRAYER CIRCLES:** Youths and adults of all ages are invited to join a new Bethlehem effort: Community Prayer Circles. Community Prayer Circles will include participants from our Bethlehem church and school, as well as members of sister LCMS and other Christian congregations. Objectives of the new Community Prayer Circles initiative include:

1. Glorifying and praising God with brothers and sisters in Christ through prayer
2. Applying and magnifying the ACTS of worship in prayer (Adoration, Confession, Thanksgiving and Supplication)
3. Growing socially in our understanding of our neighbors and their hopes and challenges
4. Integrating youths and adults in the ACTS of worship prayer process

Leaders envision Prayer Circles participants gathering once per month for prayer and socializing, starting this spring. The third event is scheduled for Sunday, June 13<sup>th</sup>

from 3 pm - 5 pm at Peace Lutheran Church at 3427 Adams Ave. Please contact Mary Kay Hall or Alex Holcomb to join in this event.

**Volunteers Needed:** We need at least one more crew to help with our lawn mowing needs at the church and school. A crew consists of three people, who rotate with our other crews to mow and trim once every 5 weeks. TWO more crews would make it possible to cut that down to once every 6 weeks. Each crew needs to mow Thursday or Friday evening, or anytime Saturday on their assigned weeks. Mowing season usual runs from April through the end of November. We will put crews together, if you are an individual interested in helping with others.

If this is something you would be willing to help out with, please call the school office and leave your contact information with Mrs Krystena. Thank you!

**BETHLEHEM SOUND SYSTEM REBUILD:** Bethlehem continues to seek donations to rebuild our aged sound system; the total cost for parts and labor is approximately \$36,000. The new system will greatly improve the sound for both services in the music and spoken word. The Elders have recommended we proceed with the rebuild this summer. We will seek congregational approval to pay any remaining balance via SG&F during our June Voters' Meeting. Please make donations out to Bethlehem & indicate your donation is for the sound system or use one of the designated envelopes on the table in the narthex.

**LIVE STREAM WORSHIP** of Bethlehem's 9 am **Contemporary Worship** The Live Stream worship will be recorded and placed on Bethlehem's website, our YouTube channel, and our new Vimeo channel for your viewing. **At this time, we will not be able to provide a Live Stream of the 10:30 service because of a lack of volunteers.** If you are interested in volunteering to provide this valuable service for our Bethlehem family, training is available. Contact Alex Holcomb at 755-1144 ex 107 or [aholcomb@bethlehemsaginaw.org](mailto:aholcomb@bethlehemsaginaw.org).

## CONNECT TO THE WORD

**FRIDAY MORNING MEN'S BIBLE STUDY:** Continues to meet via zoom on Friday mornings at 6:15 am. Unfortunately you must brew your own coffee. However they are currently studying the Letter to the Colossians. For information contact Pastor Korte or Mike Denno

**LADIES BIBLE STUDY** The group is done meeting until this coming fall. Contact Mary Kay Hall at 497-8474 for questions.

**SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY** Join us beginning Sunday March 14 at 9:15 a.m. to study the Book of Acts. Learn about those inspired men and women who braved persecution to share the news of Jesus from Jerusalem to Rome and beyond. Did you know that in his Pentecost sermon Peter spent one verse on Jesus life, one on his death, and 9 on his resurrection? The class is held in the lower level with plenty of spacing.

## SCHOOL NEWS

**BETHLEHEM LITTLE STARS PRESCHOOL:** Are you looking for a school home for your 3 or 4 year old preschooler this fall? Spots are filling quick, so please give us a call to schedule a tour!

## FRIENDS OF BETHLEHEM

**CUSTODIAN NEEDED** St. Michael Lutheran Church in Richville is looking for a full time custodian to start as

soon as possible. This person would be working with the Head Custodian at our church, school and child care. For more information contact Jason Bierlein at 989-529-5733 or [jhbierle@svsu.edu](mailto:jhbierle@svsu.edu). Resumes can be mailed to St. Michael, P.O. Box 98, Richville, MI 48758 by July 1st.

## May Memorials 2021

### In Loving Memory of Bonnie Greuber

Rev. Charles & Etta Buckhahn

### In Loving Memory of Joyce Thormeier

S.F. & C.J. Labrake

### In Loving Memory of Darcy Gregor

Rev. Michael & Cindy Korte

### In Loving Memory of Jean M. List

Michael List

**2021 OFFERING ENVELOPES** If you have any questions please contact the church office.

**ELECTRONIC GIVING** Would you find it helpful to have your offerings debited directly from your bank account? Bethlehem offers electronic giving for those of you who wish to have your offering transferred electronically to the church's account. If you travel, this is particularly helpful in keeping up with your intended offerings. One simple, easy-to-use authorization form can begin or change your electronic contribution amount. Contact the church office for more details.

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ at Bethlehem;

June 3, 2021

Bethlehem Lutheran Church, School, and Preschool announces it's Annual Meeting. This Voters Annual Meeting will be held, **Thursday, June 17<sup>th</sup>, at 6:30 pm**. Important items for running the church to be considered include repair to the building's brickwork and soffit, rebuilding of the church sound system, approval of the annual budget, election of officers, and more.

This meeting will be held in person at the church and via zoom. All voting members of Bethlehem are encouraged to attend the meeting by the following options.

Topic: 2021 Annual Meeting

Time: Jun 17, 2021 18:30 Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89145122211?pwd=MHhaOG9kQU1PMEQ4OGpldGRQ2x1dz09>

Meeting ID: 891 4512 2211

Passcode: n7QcAa

One tap mobile

+13017158592,,89145122211#,,,,\*472079# US (Washington DC)

+13126266799,,89145122211#,,,,\*472079# US (Chicago)

## Dial by your location

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 929 436 2866 US (New York)

Meeting ID: 891 4512 2211

Passcode: 472079

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84401201234>

Thank you in advance for your prayers and participation.

## Pastor Korte