

WEEKLY CONNECTION SUNDAY AUGUST 1, 2021

This Week at Bethlehem

*Updates & Recorded Worship for
August 1 Available Sunday on website*
www.bethlehemsaginaw.org

BOAR'S HEAD 2021: Planning for Boar's Head 2021 has begun. Over 60,000 people have attended Boar's Head and heard the message of Jesus' birth through music and pageantry. Now we need to build the cast and backstage crew for the performances on December 4 and 5. Please let us know if you can share your time and talents to present the true Christmas story to our community. You can let us know by completing the "Interest Response" form at church or by contacting Marilyn Rodammer (marilynrod1@gmail.com)

JULY NOSIY OFFERING: Alaska Mission for Christ is a nonprofit Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod ministry established to proclaim and practice the love of Jesus in Alaska. Since we believe every Christian is part of the body of Christ, we encourage and equip volunteers to be involved in sharing the Gospel through various Servant Event opportunities.

AMC also partners with the LCMS congregations of Alaska to identify needs, build relationships, and witness throughout the state. Currently, four of Alaska's 13 LCMS congregations have their roots in the ministry of Alaska Mission for Christ.

Although a team from the Saginaw Area will not be going this year your support of this wonderful mission will help continue the 13 year relationship Bethlehem has had with AMC. Continue to pray that the Lord would allow opportunities to continue the VBS mission work in the future.

DRIVE-UP COMMUNION: Once again we will offer a drive-up communion for those who are unable to attend in-person worship. It will be held on Wednesday, August 4, from 4 to 5 pm.

LAST WEEK

Worship 7 - 25

Attendance: 111

Viewer Households:

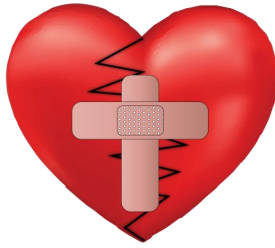
Offering: \$4,370

Electronic: \$1,460

Total: \$5,830

Weekly Need: \$14,750

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



The Spirit's Healing For Emotional Wounds

Sunday July 11

Theme: You are Not Alone - Luke 13:10-17

Sunday July 18

Theme: Just Come In – Isaiah 43:18-25

Sunday July 25

Theme: Learning to Trust – Ephesians 3:14-21

Sunday August 1

Theme: Healing the Hurt, Hate, and History of the Past – Luke 7:36-50

Sunday August 8

Theme: Your New Name – Mark 5:24-34

Sunday August 15

Theme: Filled with the Spirit – Ephesians 5:6-21

PRAYER FOCUS

HOSPITALIZED: Michelle Dingman, Jim Harris

SPECIAL PRAYERS: Rich & Gail LeClair for improved health. Pastor Korte broken left arm.

UPCOMING SURGERY: Grace Korte – July 29th

THANKSGIVING FOR HEALING: Cyndi Gnatkowski

SPECIAL PRAYERS: Michael DeChane nephew of Jim and Diane Harris, Taylor Bellinger & Family, Diane Weber, Giovanni (John) Montico

NEW CONNECT 7 DEVOTIONS: A new edition of daily devotions based on our sermon series, **The Spirit's Healing For Emotional Wounds:** Beginning July 11th 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: *"Your Heavenly Father loves you in spite of your many failings. The Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, is now interceding on your behalf at the throne of God every time you stumble and fall. The Holy Spirit of the blessed Trinity is at your side convicting you of your sin but then also assuring you that every last one of your sins has been totally forgiven. He, the Spirit, then also plants deep into your heart God's gift of faith and hope."* Rev. Dr. Wallace Schulz, *The Lutheran Hour*

STEWARDSHIP QUOTE: *"Abundance isn't God's provision for me to live in luxury. It's his provision for me to help others live. God entrusts me with his money not to build my kingdom on earth, but to build his kingdom in heaven."* — Randy Alcorn, *Money, Possessions and Eternity*

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 August 17th 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

OUR LENDING LIBRARY/RESOURCE CENTER: located at the top of the ramp is open this summer. If you find the door closed just open it and explore the resources our church has to offer. Our school library is not open in the summer but books and DVDs for students are also available here. Just use the sign out pad and enjoy. Sue Brandt Lending Library Librarian.

BRAILLE START DELAYED: Plans to resume the braille ministry on August 31 are on hold. Plumbing leaks in the braille room coupled with last weekend's big rains are the cause. If you are interested in knowing more about this important partnership with Lutheran Braille Workers contact Ann Gould (989-928-9080, louclip1@sbcglobal.net) or Becky Bullard (989-280-5130, raagrs@msn.com). Better dryer days are ahead!

CEMETARY UPDATE: There is now a rain barrel for water at the cemetery behind the shed. Please make sure to bring a container to fill and make sure the faucet is fully closed so there is water for the next person.

NEW PARAMENTS: Have you noticed the improvements (replacement) of the green paraments on the altar? The original ones had been damaged by water and over 40 years of use. They were in great need of repair. Charmaine Wittig and Kathy Forsythe made new green paraments following the pattern of the old ones. The cost of the materials were funded with the memorials from Arlene Bennett, who served on the Altar Guild. A big THANK YOU is extended to both Charmaine and Kathy. If you are interested in helping to prepare God's House for worship, contact Ann Braun.

BETHLEHEM ANNUAL CAMPING: Come join us for the Bethlehem Family & Friends Annual Camping!

When: September 24-26, 2021 Where Churchgrove Park Frankenmuth, Michigan Don't Camp? You are welcome to join us for campfires and other activities. More information coming soon. Questions? Call Cheryl @ 989 907-1812,

SCHOOL & CHURCH ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT: We are looking for a Christ-centered individual to fill the full-time position of Church & School Administrative Assistant. This person should be responsible and have strong communication skills. Please contact the church office (989)-755-1144.

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.

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 APPROVES SOUND SYSTEM REBUILD: At our annual Voters' Meeting, Bethlehem authorized the purchase of a new sound system; about \$23,000 was raised, and we received congregational approval to pay the remainder (approximately \$13,000) via our Special Gifts & Funds (SG&F) account. We thank you for your support! If you'd still like to make a donation, it will be used to reduce the amount taken from SG&F. 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.

CONNECT TO THE WORD

FRIDAY MORNING MEN'S BIBLE STUDY: will continue to meet via zoom on Friday mornings at 6:15 am. We are studying the Book of Colossians.

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

SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY Suspended for the summer. Will resume Sunday September 12th

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!

OPEN HOUSE AUGUST 12 from 5 pm to 6:30 pm. Are you looking for a new school for the fall of 2021? Come check out Bethlehem Lutheran School and Bethlehem Little Stars Preschool where we pride ourselves on providing a high quality, Christian education with small class sizes! We have openings in 3 and 4 year old Preschool as well as Kindergarten through 8th grade!

CALLING ALL CARPENTERS AND TRADESPEOPLE! We are in the process of renovating a room to serve as a STEAM (science, technology, engineering, art, and math) Lab for our students PS-8. The room will need some things removed, and then the addition of more cabinets, countertops, plumbing and such to make it user-friendly for hands-on learning. If anyone can contribute time or materials to this project, we would be eternally grateful! As of now, we are using the money we raised through our Fun Run to purchase tables, chairs, and new science tools, so any volunteer help we can get will allow us to update more curriculum and materials. If you have talents you would like to contribute, please call the school office and leave your information with Mrs. Krystena so we can reach out to you accordingly. Thanks in advance - Brenda Wilson and Trevor Henry

ASSISTANT TEACHER POSITION OPENING: will assist the preschool director in providing a safe and caring environment for children. The Assistant Teacher will assist the teacher they are working with instruction and maintaining, cleaning, and organizing the classroom.

LEAP News Nugget

In recent years, members and friends of our Great Lakes Bay Region Lutheran schools have joined together in various workshops known as "LEAP-Shops," where they have sought to "Advance Christ-Centered Education through Collaboration." Half of the twelve or so *LEAP-Shop* past events have specifically brought together education board members, school leaders and/or other representatives of Lutheran schools to share, grow, and plan together. A next such LEAP-Shop "Training/Enrichment Event for Members and Leaders of Lutheran School Education Boards (or Equivalent Governing Entities)" had twice been scheduled and postponed in 2019. That LEAP-Shop is now once again slated to occur at Valley Lutheran High School in Saginaw on the evening of October 26 (with a light supper and optional tours of the beautiful new, expanded VLHS facilities included). Descriptive information will be disseminated by mid-August, particularly to education board members and other leaders of our Great Lakes Bay Region Lutheran schools, inviting them to meet together at the LEAP-Shop around such topics as selecting board members, evaluating school administrators, developing effective board policies, caring for and supporting school administrators and staff, and maintaining and growing our Lutheran schools. Interested persons desiring related details are encouraged to watch for forthcoming information . . . and/or they may contact LEAP "Effectiveness Training for Education Boards Task Force representative," Brian Young, at bbyoung32@gmail.com or at 989-971-9732 . . . or they may contact one of the school principals or education board chairs associated with our Lutheran schools.

May God bless the learning and sharing which will occur at the October 26 LEAP-Shop! And certainly, day by day, may God continue to bless the Christian growing, learning, sharing, praising and celebrating which occurs among the students, teachers, and other members of our Lutheran school families!

FRIENDS OF BETHLEHEM

COMMUNITY PRAYER CIRCLE: Come join us for Prayer in the Park Sunday, August 15 from 3 - 5 PM (Wickes Park, Hospital Road). Our goals are to Glorifying and praising God, Applying and magnifying the ACTS of worship in prayer, Growing socially in our understanding of our neighbors and their hopes and challenges & Integrating youths and adults in the ACTS of worship prayer process. For more information contact Mary Kay Hall (mkhall2004@yahoo.com).

HERE WE RIDE: This 2021 event is an opportunity to go for a bike ride with brothers and sisters in Christ for the benefit of your local congregation, future church workers, and the Body of Christ across the world. The in-person event will take place the morning of Saturday, August 7 at Zion Lutheran churches in Bay City starting at 8 am. Participants will be able to ride together from Zion along the Bay City trail system. Sign up today to register for the event on the website [Here We Ride - Michigan District, LCMS](#) . Once you're registered, you can use our donations form to collect pledges. Donations will be split 50/50 between your local ministry and the ministries supported through the Michigan District's *Here We Stand* campaign.

8th Annual Classic Car Show Coming to St. John Amelith Lutheran Church (1664 Amelith Rd., Bay City, MI) Mark your calendars for **Thursday, August 5** from 5-8 pm. This year's community benefit recipient is the Firefighters' Association of Frankenlust Twp. This organization provides much needed funding to assist the Frankenlust Fire Department with needed supplies and equipment. Please bring your classic vehicle and/or just come out to enjoy food, fellowship and entertainment by the Kowalski Brothers Polka Band. For more information contact 989-450-9058 or crosslwml@gmail.com

Men's Breakfast Bible Study: Meeting at Immanuel Bible Church on Center road, Saginaw. Studying with men from Bethlehem, Holy Cross, Immanuel, and Peace for over twenty years. Presently we are in Genesis. Meet every Wednesday. Breakfast and social time from 8 to 8:30 a.m. and Bible study 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. Bring your own coffee - donuts provided. Contact Bill Denno at 989-781-4851 or 989-295-8618 for more info. Bring your favorite Bible

Christian Fellowship Booper Ball Tournament: Trinity Lutheran Church-Monitor will be holding its 38th Annual Pig Roast and Chicken BBQ August 13th-15th. In conjunction with the pig roast and bbq there will be a Christian Fellowship Blooper Ball Co-ed Tournament. Each team must have a minimum of 3 women on the field at a time. Entry fee is \$100 and each team is guaranteed a minimum of 3 games. If your church or anyone else would like to enter a team, or if you have any questions contact Matt Burk at (989)757-7509. The deadline to enter a team is July 26.

FOOD-A-THON - Lutheran Fraternities of America is once again holding their Food-A-Thon to help feed the students being trained for the ministry at Concordia

Theological Seminary. They're asking if you feel moved to donate that you can drop donations towards this cause with the church office.

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.