



Bethlehem Lutheran Church

April 2022 Newsletter

Bethlehem Family and Friends,

I hope that you have been enjoying this warmer weather, and that the longer days with more light have been filling you with hope of new life springing up all around us!

At Bethlehem we are continuing our Lenten journey "Filled to the Brim" and enjoying hearing from different members of our church family on Wednesday nights during midweek worship at 7. On Sundays we are gathering to walk through Luke's gospel and to be reminded of all the promises that we find there.

There is new life continuing to spring up around Bethlehem as well. Deb, our new Administrative Assistant, has settled in well and is doing a great job. We invite you to give her a call or stop in and meet her anytime Monday-Friday 8 am-3 pm.

Coffee fellowship and eating together has resumed at Bethlehem. We invite you join us for soup supper on April 6, or to help with renewed "community meals to go" April 19. We have fun events coming like the Easter Eggstravaganza on April 16, and a Joyful Times outing to a great concert that is coming to town.

There are chances to deepen your faith like our continued Beloved Community discussion on April 24, our "Families Talk Faith" happening for confirmation families on April 10, or by joining our ongoing Sunday morning Bible Study at 8 am or our Men's Bible Study Breakfast that is gathering on Saturday April 16 at 8:00 am.

There are new ways to serve too...whether you want to help pack the pack n' play for babies, serve on the newly forming Hospitality Task Force, the Finance Team, the church council, or join the offering counters... there truly is something for everyone.

We also are exploring the option of a once a month summer gathering of "Kids' Club" where our youth can go into the community and serve too...so let me know if your kids are interested in that!

However you choose to plug into what is happening at Bethlehem, we hope you too are filled with hope, new life, and the joy of the resurrection. Blessed Holy Week friends!

Your partner on the journey,

Pastor Amy

Youth NEWS AND EVENTS



Families Talk Faith, April 10 @ 10:30 am! Hey confirmands! We are getting back together! Come and talk with either your parent or another caring adult in your life. What did their faith mean to them while they were growing up? What does it mean to you today? We will have some guided conversation and some open discussion time about how we can grow in our faith together, and of course we will have some good snacks and a few games to play too! Let Pastor Amy know if you are coming so there is enough food for everyone!

Hey kids of all ages...join us **Saturday, April 16, at 10:00am, for our Easter Eggstravaganza!** From getting your picture taken with the Easter bunny, to carnival games, to the ultimate egg hunt, there is something for everyone! Invite your friends, family, & neighbors and come join the fun! Confirmands, you can earn some discipleship requirements if you help with this event!



Do you play spring or summer ball? Run track? Play an instrument? Do something else? Make sure Pastor Amy has a copy of your schedule! She would LOVE a chance to come out and cheer you on!



Save the date! On **Sunday, June 5**, we will have our annual fishing fun day as a part of Iowa's free fishing weekend! Following fishing, we will have a churchwide cookout.

We hope you will join us for fishing, the cookout, or both fun events!



Ways to get involved at Bethlehem in the next few weeks...

E-Eat Together



Part of our theme of BLESS is to eat together. Here are some places you can **come and dine or help others eat this month:**

April 6-Come and join us before midweek worship for soup supper and a time of fellowship together.

April 19-Community Meals resumes take out style! Talk to Keith Graber today if you would like to help make this event happen!

Also, save the date for our **all church cook-out** happening after fishing on **June 5!**

On Saturday, April 16 at 10:00am, an Easter Eggstravaganza is happening! Invite your friends, family, and neighbors to this fun and exciting event! **If you would like to help hide eggs, help sign participants in, be a group leader, or help in other ways, please contact Heather!**

We are also **looking for donations of plastic eggs, wrapped candy and stickers to go into the eggs.** Please bring them to Bethlehem by April 10, and then lend a hand stuffing eggs during coffee fellowship that morning!



S-Serve in love

Whether you are taking part in collecting items we need to make ministry happen, giving your time, or holding all that is happening in Bethlehem in your prayers, know that we appreciate you and are thankful that you are a part of our church family!

Pack the Pack 'n Play by April 15

We are about half way done packing our Pack n Play. Can you help?

The following items are being collected and can be placed in the pack n' play in the narthex: baby blankets, baby wipes, crib sheets, baby towels and wash cloths, baby shampoo, lotion, powder, Bibles for children, diapers, infant formula, baby cereal, baby food, baby clothing, baby socks, baby shoes, neutral color onesies, baby toys, new pacifiers, new baby bottles, baby monitors, breast milk storage bottles/bags, baby thermometers, medicine measurement spoons or droppers. All of the donated items will be given to Alternatives Pregnancy Center.



Consider praying for the following this month:

*For the people of Bethlehem and other congregations across our community and world as they live into Holy Week & Easter

*For people of all religions, as they celebrate their holy days (Passover, Ramadan, and Easter are all in April this year)

*For police officers, fire fighters, and all who work for public safety services

*For musicians, pastors, and altar guilds as they lead others through Holy Week & Easter

*For those who are lonely and those dealing with chronic health conditions

*For those who struggle with mental illness

*For farmers as they begin the planting season

B-Begin with Prayer



A prayer for the busy days of April:

God of grace, there are some days when it feels like we have more to do than there are hours in the day. We ask that you help us not let the pace of life rob us of your peace in our life. Teach us to know when to say yes and when and how to say no. Keep us from letting our task list become our taskmaster. May we always remember that what matters most is our relationship with you and each one another. In your heavenly name we pray, Amen.

Part of truly hearing one another means that we take the time to listen.

L-Listen to others



Here are some places that you can either listen or be heard this month:

Tea Time-Join Pastor Amy down at the **Tea Cellar** for fellowship & conversation **Thursday mornings at 10 am.**

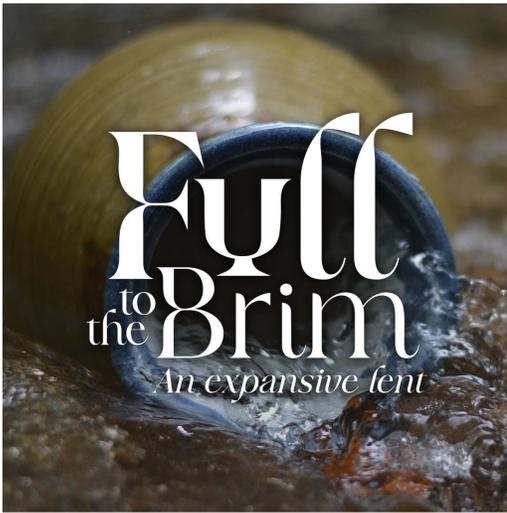
Hospitality Task Force-Join others who have a heart for hospitality as we take some time looking around our building and looking at our ministries for ways that we currently welcome others and how we might become an even more welcoming church! Sign up with Deb in the church office.

Remember there is No All Team Meeting in April!

Next All Team will be Tuesday, May 10

7:00 pm in the Sanctuary





We have been enjoying hearing the stories of Bethlehem member's this Lenten season. If you missed any of the following, you can find their stories on the Bethlehem CF YouTube page under midweek worship:

March 9-Reed Hunemuller

March 16-Jeff Hermanson

March 23-Kathy Thede

We also invite you to join us for the remaining services:

March 30-Rumen Hulmequist

April 6-Jill Schulte

S-Share your story



Thanks to all who were willing to share their stories!

Our Bethlehem CF YouTube page can always be found here:

<https://www.youtube.com/c/BethlehemLutheranCF>

Not able to join us for worship in person on Sundays or Wednesdays? No problem! All of our worship services can be found online on our church website at:

<http://www.bethlehemcf.org/online-worship.html>



Join the Joyful Times gang as they head to hear the Proud Image Chorus of Waterloo and the River City Chorus of Mason City together in "Back in Harmony" on Saturday, April 23 at 7 pm.

Cost of tickets is \$12. Sign up on the church welcome table or talk to Jerry Mohling who will be purchasing our group tickets for us. We will meet at Central Middle school and enjoy a great night of music together!



Join us for our 2nd Annual Women's Retreat out at the Stone Center of EWALU April 30. Come away for the day to rest and renew, or stay for the longer overnight option and end with worship before heading home on Sunday! All female members and friends of Bethlehem are invited to attend this retreat. Sign up on the welcome table. For more info, talk to Pastor Amy today!



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
27 8am - Bible Study 9am - Worship 10am - Coffee Fellowship	28 4pm - Piano lesson 6:30pm - Church Council	29 9am - Staff Meeting 11:30am - Text Study @ 4pm - Piano lesson	30 1pm - Knitters 1:50pm - Piano lesson 7pm - Midweek Worship 8pm - Choir	31 Synod Day of Renewal 4pm - Piano lesson	1 Pastor's Day Off 4:45pm - Piano Lessons	2
3 8am - Bible Study 9am - Worship 10am - Coffee Fellowship	4 4pm - Piano Lessons 5:15pm - Exec Team	5 9am - Staff Meeting 11:30am - Text Study @ 4pm - Piano Lessons	6 1pm - Knitters 1:50pm - Piano Lessons 5:45pm - Soup Supper 7pm - Midweek Worship 8pm - Choir	7 2:45pm - Piano Lessons	8 Pastor's Day Off 4:45pm - Piano Lessons	9
10 8am - Bible Study 9am - Worship 10am - Coffee Fellowship 10:30am - Families Talk	11 4pm - Piano Lessons	12 9am - Staff Meeting 11:30am - Text Study @ 4pm - Piano Lessons	13 9:30am - Joyful Times Mtg 1pm - Knitters 1:50pm - Piano Lessons 7pm - Choir	14 7pm - Maundy Thurs	15 4:45pm - Piano Lessons 7pm - Good Friday Worship	16 Easter Egg Extravaganza 8am - Men's Bible Study 2pm - Easter Breakfast
17 6:30am - Sunrise Worship 7:30am - Easter Breakfast 9am - Worship	18 Pastor Amy Off 8am - Keepsake Quilters 4pm - Piano Lessons	19 Newsletter Deadline 4pm - Piano Lessons	20 10am - NewAldaya Worship 1pm - Knitters 1:50pm - Piano Lessons 5:15pm - Finance Meeting 7pm - Choir	21 2:45pm - Piano Lessons 6pm - Girl Scout Meeting	22 4:45pm - Piano Lessons	23 7pm - Joyful Times Concert
24 8am - Bible Study 9am - Worship 10am - Coffee Fellowship 10am - Quarterly Cong. 12pm - Care and Connect	25 4pm - Piano Lessons 6pm - Church Council	26 Pastor Helping @ EWALU 4pm - Piano Lessons 5pm - LSC Board Meeting	27 1pm - Knitters 1:50pm - Piano Lessons 7pm - Choir	28 2:45pm - Piano Lessons	29 Pastor's Day Off 4:45pm - Piano Lessons	30 Women's Retreat



Sabbath Space

Did you know there is a **prayer chapel** called "Sabbath Space" for you to visit on your own time to pray and spend time with God throughout Lent? There are items for all ages, so you can come alone or with your family. The Sabbath Space is located in the children's choir room just inside the East Doors. Please enter the building by the church office. **Sabbath Space is open from 7:30 am-3:00 pm Monday-Friday. It is also open from 6:00 pm-8:30 pm on Wednesdays and 9:00-Noon on Sundays.**

Questions? Talk to Pastor Amy or call the church office.

How are YOU living into our theme for 2022: B.L.E.S.S.?

- B** **Begin** with prayer
- L** **Listen** with care
- E** **Eat** together
- S** **Serve** in love
- S** **Share** your story

BETHLEHEM STAFF

Church phone: 319-266-3541

Pastor Amy Eisenmann-Lead Pastor
Pastor Amy's cell phone: 218-290-3982
pastoramy@bethlehemcf.net

Heather Hurd-Schneider- Director of Fellowship and Outreach
heather@bethlehemcf.net

Deb Estrem-Administrative Assistant
office@bethlehemcf.net

Noah Anderson-Worship Tech
worshiptechbcf@gmail.com

Leah Gibbons-Choir Director
gibbonsl@uni.edu

Hudson Lourenco - Organist

Patty Nelson-Custodian



2021-2022

CONGREGATION COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mardy Holst-President
319-277-0328

Theresa Elverum-Vice President
319-277-3306

Jill Schulte-Treasurer
319-290-5725

Joan Christensen- Secretary
319-269-5634

Reed Hunemuller: 319-277-6381

Brendan Alexander: 319-290-1237

Ellen Hermanson: 319-573-0719

Kurt Leistikow 319-269-7178

Mindy Fisher 319-290-4365



GIVING MADE EASY!

Scan the QR code with your smart phone to share your offering with Bethlehem.

Holy Week Happenings

April 10-17



Palm Sunday

Worship @ 9am



Maundy Thursday

Worship at 7 pm
with Communion



Good Friday

Worship at 7 pm



Easter Sunday

Sunrise Worship
Drive-In 6:30 am
Easter Breakfast
7:30-8:45 am
Festival Worship
9:00 am

Our Pastor
Rev. Amy Eisenmann
(218) 290-3982 cell phone
(319) 266-3541 work phone
pastoramy@bethlehemcf.net

Our website:
www.bethlehemcf.org

Our YouTube Channel:
Bethlehem Lutheran CF

Our Facebook page:
[www.facebook.com/
Bethlehem-Lutheran-Church-
ELCA-451552121584266](https://www.facebook.com/Bethlehem-Lutheran-Church-ELCA-451552121584266)

Our Instagram page:
[@bethlehemcf](https://www.instagram.com/bethlehemcf)

