



# Bethlehem Lutheran Church

## May 2021 Newsletter

Bethlehem Family and Friends,

What a fun and exciting spring we have had together! As friends return to worship, as we get back into the community and “share the bread of life with the hungry world”, and as new ideas continue to bloom and flourish in this place, it is sure an exciting time to be a part of the ministry that is happening here!

Our first Camp Bethlehem event was a huge success! We had 24 volunteers head out into the community and help with 11 different projects around town! Our youngest volunteer was 3 years old, reminding us all that no matter how young or old we are, we can make a difference in the world around us!



We have more folks returning to worship, and I know many of you have been longing to return to coffee fellowship hour. We are excited to announce that **starting June 6, as long as numbers stay steady or lower, we will be having coffee hour after worship**, following some safety protocols (ie wear masks when not sitting at tables, drinkware will be single use, etc). We will still be at this point wearing masks in worship, recognizing that not every member is ready or safely able to fellowship at this time.

For those of you still worshipping from home, we are excited to announce that we are finally able to livestream! So now you **can join us live for worship on Sundays at 10 am (9 am beginning Memorial Day Weekend)**. We look forward to being back live together with you!

We also are super excited for some exciting upcoming events. From fishing to campouts, from movies to food truck fellowship, there really is something for everyone this summer at Bethlehem! Look for more information on all these events coming soon...and a save the date for all of these events on the back of this newsletter!

As we move into a new phase of ministry together, I would love a chance to get to know you better. I am sure that our first year together has been nothing like any of us expected! I will be setting aside time on Thursdays outside on the green at Riverview Plaza downtown this month. Next month we will meet on my porch so you can meet Buhla too. I also am available to chat pretty much wherever you want to do so. Want to grab an iced tea and sit outside? Meet Buhla and go for a walk? Come to the church office and chat? I am here and look forward to time with you as our programming takes its summer break. Let's get together and get to know each other and dream about our future together!

Your partner on the journey, *Pastor Amy*



# Visitation Ministry

Greetings from Pastor Kristi!

Hope is in the air and there are signs of new life around us—in nature, at Bethlehem and our surrounding community! It has been a source of joy for me to begin this role as Visitation Pastor these last few weeks. I am beginning to get to know you and the story that makes this community who you are. Thank you for your spirit of openness and hospitality. Thank you also for your patience as I get oriented in this new role.

There is also hope in the air as many receive their vaccinations and some aspects of our daily lives improve. However, I know many others are still waiting with uncertainty. Many of us are tired from just trying to survive the pandemic, but also are dealing with a whole range of issues that make up human life: loneliness, a new diagnosis, or the loss of a loved one. Maybe you are dealing with a new role or responsibility in your daily life, struggling to keep up with sudden busyness and questioning your pre-COVID pace, or recovering from burnout from a difficult year. Maybe you are discerning what's next or wrestling with your purpose. Regardless of what you are dealing with right now, I would love to be able to support you. I am here to listen, pray with you, and help provide comfort and strength from Scripture, music, or the Sacrament of Holy Communion. I am available for a visit or conversation on the phone, in your home, care center, a park, or the church office. If there is something in particular we can do to foster a deeper connection with our Bethlehem community, please don't hesitate to call us and let us know!

You can reach me by email at [pastorkristi.grieder@gmail.com](mailto:pastorkristi.grieder@gmail.com) or by calling the church office, (319) 266-3541. I am available on Wednesdays and will be both in the office as well as on the road. Cayla, the Office Manager, can help you make an appointment. My office is across from the Heritage Room if you would like to stop in and say hi.

There is hope in the air during this Easter season on account of the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ! It is a joy to be able to dwell in God's promises of hope, newness of life, and eternal rest.

God's peace be with you!

Pastor Kristi



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



Mother's Day is May 9. To honor the important women in our lives: mothers, grandmothers, aunts, or sisters, we invite you to submit pictures of these individuals for a power point to be shared during worship. **Please submit your pictures to Pastor Amy at [pastoramy@bethlehemcf.net](mailto:pastoramy@bethlehemcf.net) by Monday, May 3 at noon.**

Now that Pandemic is finally slowing down, Pastor Amy would love a chance to get to know you better! She will be available for conversations outside on **Thursdays from 11 am-1 pm at the Riverview Plaza** (downtown CF next to Urban Pie). If it is cold or rainy, you can find her inside the Tea Cellar (right next to Second State Brewing Co) from 11 am-1 pm. Hope to see you there!

### Tea Talk



Mark your calendars!! June 6 will be a fun and exciting day as all members and friends of the congregation are invited to enjoy an afternoon of free fishing, followed by a Bible story and food at the church! Stay tuned for more details!

Want to be more involved? Looking for new ways to volunteer? Check out the new page on our church website called "Lend a Hand" under the "Giving at Bethlehem" tab for more ideas!



## From the mailbox...

Thanks to all the church for their wonderful dinner and yardwork help while Tony was hospitalized with hip surgery and his readmission to the hospital.

We appreciate Pastor Amy's visits and prayers. God bless you.

Love, Tony and Cindy Woodward, and Chris, Corey, and Matt Woodward



Thank you so much to everyone who donated snacks for the UNI students at Threehouse! Your generous donations will be greatly appreciated by students as they finish their spring semester!

# Youth NEWS AND EVENTS

**Calling all Confirmands!** Regular class will be held on April 28, and May 5. May 12 we will meet at Pastor Amy's for our final gathering of the spring. Friends are welcome on May 12 at PA's!



Calling youth of all ages! We have a fun fishing day coming up just for you!

On **Sunday June 6** we will be fishing out at Prairie Lakes, and then coming back for some fun fish stories and fish snacks to share too! Grab your friends and family and let's go fishing!

**Come and join us in worship on May 16th to celebrate with our high school graduates and bless them on the next steps of their journey!**

You are also invited to join in on the following celebrations:

**Jill Kestner at Kestner's -**

**715 Fireside Dr. May 29th 6 - 9 pm.**

**Alex Schmidt at Bethlehem Lutheran Church**

**Saturday, May 22, 3:30-5:00 pm**

**Austin Sternhagen at Sternhagen's-**

**4025 Maryhill Drive**

**May 29 3-6 pm**



# Worship

WITH US ONLINE

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

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



### To add yourself to the prayer chain team:

Email Cayla ([office@bethlehemcf.net](mailto:office@bethlehemcf.net)) or call Cayla at the church office (319-266-3541) and let her know that you would like to receive prayer chain emails.

### To add a loved one to the prayer list:

Email Pastor Amy ([pastoramy@bethlehemcf.net](mailto:pastoramy@bethlehemcf.net)) or call Pastor Amy at the church office.



### Holy Communion Options During May

- Join us in worship on Sundays on May 2, 16
- Grab your friends and neighbors and set up a time with the church office to have your own communion service at Bethlehem with Pastor Amy presiding.
- Call Pastor Amy to bring communion to you at your residence (garage, etc).



### GIVING MADE EASY!

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

### BETHLEHEM STAFF

Church phone: 319-266-3541

**Pastor Amy Eisenmann-Lead Pastor**  
Pastor Amy's cell phone: 218-290-3982  
[pastoramy@bethlehemcf.net](mailto:pastoramy@bethlehemcf.net)

**Pastor Kristi Grieder-Visitation Pastor**  
Pastor Kristi's email:  
[Pastorkristi.grieder@gmail.com](mailto:Pastorkristi.grieder@gmail.com)

**Cayla Morris- Office Manager**  
[office@bethlehemcf.net](mailto:office@bethlehemcf.net)

**Heather Hurd-Schneider Director of Fellowship and Outreach**  
[heather@bethlehemcf.net](mailto:heather@bethlehemcf.net)

**Seth Bullerman-IT Director**  
[bullerms@uni.edu](mailto:bullerms@uni.edu)

**Hanna Stolper-Contemporary Music Director**  
[hstolper@yahoo.com](mailto:hstolper@yahoo.com)

**Hudson Lourenco - Organist**

**Patty Nelson-Custodian**



2020-2021

### CONGREGATION COUNCIL MEMBERS

Kurt Leistikow - President  
319-269-7178

Kent Anderson-Vice President  
319-290-4866

Jill Schulte- Treasurer  
319-290-5725

Mindy Fisher - Secretary  
319-290-4365

Mardy Holst: 319-277-0328

Reed Hunemuller: 319-277-6381

Brendan Alexander: 319-290-1237

Ellen Hermanson: 319-573-0719

Joan Christiansen: 319-269-5634

YouTube

Live streaming

Did you know you can now worship with us live??  
We are excited to announce that we are finally livestreaming worship on **Sunday mornings at 10 am** (9 am beginning Memorial Day weekend).

# All Team Meeting Project Night!

**Tuesday, May 11, 7:00 pm, in the Sanctuary**



We invite you to join us for our May All Team Meeting! **Whether or not you served on a team previously, we invite you to come to All Team if you are interested in any of the following this month:**

**CAMP BETHLEHEM**-The first Camp Bethlehem event was a huge success! Come and help us plan the next couple...a fun day of fishing and fish stories in June and an overnight campout on the Bethlehem fields in July. If you are interested in any of these happenings, then **CAMP BETHLEHEM** is the breakout for you!

**CONGREGATIONAL HOME/PROPERTY**-Do you like to help with projects around the church? Would you like to learn how you could be more involved in the behind-the-scenes happenings? Do you have time to volunteer to help set up and take down events when needed? Then **CONGREGATIONAL HOME/PROPERTY** is the breakout for you!

**FELLOWSHIP ACTIVITIES**-This group is the place to meet with Heather and talk about fellowship activities for the spring and summer. Some ideas this group is brainstorming about are: Fishing Day, Moonlight Movie, Bounce on over to Bethlehem, Garage Sale this fall and live nativity this December. Want to know more? Then this **FELLOWSHIP** breakout is for you!

**EDUCATION**-The time has come to start dreaming and planning for fall education. Whether you are interested in helping plan Adult Education/Bible Studies, Intergenerational Events, or Youth/Children's Education, we welcome you to join the discussion and bring your ideas for what we want Bethlehem's education program to look like this coming school year. If you are interested in being in on the ground-level of educational happenings, then **EDUCATION** is the breakout for you!

**Still confused about how all of this All Team stuff works? No problem! Come and join us on May 11th at 7 pm in the sanctuary and we will figure it out together!**

**Save the dates of these fun upcoming summer events!**



**June 6-A fun day of fishing and fish stories!**

**July 17-Family Camp Out on the soccer fields at Bethlehem!**



**July 31- Moonlight Movie- Enjoy a movie outside!**

**August 28 11:00am-2:00pm- Bounce over to Bethlehem-A fun time to enjoy a bouncy house, food trucks, and fellowship.**



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

Our website:  
[www.bethlehemcf.org](http://www.bethlehemcf.org)

Our YouTube Channel:  
**Bethlehem Lutheran CF**

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

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