



November 2024

Volume 18, Issue 3

The Bethlehem

Star



Giving Thanks for the Altar Guild

Every Sunday we gather for a meal. The meal does not appear as much, small wafers of bread and little wine. But we know it is Jesus' body and blood because He says so. So we gather in reverence to eat and to drink around the beauty of our Lord's altar. The meal is the Lord's work. It is His Word that gives the gift of His body and blood, we by faith simply receive.

Yet there is work surrounding this meal and surrounding all our worship on Sunday morning. We just celebrated Church Worker Appreciation Month and gave thanks to God and expressed our appreciation for the various workers in our congregation who serve so that God's Word and Sacraments can be received. Whether it is the pastors who preach and administer the Sacraments, the deaconess who supports the pastors in providing works of mercy, the kantor who helps provide the music and our singing of the faith, or the teachers who teach this faith to the young so that they would desire these things, all have a part in this work which culminates in this every week: we gather for a meal.

There is still more work that surrounds this meal, to get Jesus' body and blood into the mouths of those who would receive it. Week in and week, out the Altar Guild of Bethlehem help to prepare the Altar for the services of the Church. They change the paraments (the cloths on the altar, pulpit, and lectern) to fit the season of the Church Year. They replenish the candles, which remind us that Christ is the light of the world. They keep the area looking nice, because Jesus is present with us in the Divine Service. They prepare the bread and wine for His Holy Supper. They set the Altar with these elements, clean and press the purificators (the white napkins). Afterwards, they clean up the cups that held our Lord's blood and the vessels that held His body. They do this reverently and carefully, because this is no ordinary meal and this is not ordinary work. It is a lot of work, all done by volunteers.

This is a special job, which can go unnoticed. But we do give thanks for the Altar Guild, for their care and dedication, and for their service to Christ's Church and this congregation. It may seem at times that such work is less important than the work of pastor, deaconess, kantor, or teacher (or even acolytes), but it is God's work as He works in ordinary ways and it is of great service to the Church.

If you have ever thought of helping with the Altar Guild (or even if you haven't thought about it) I encourage you to check it out. I believe you will gain a greater appreciation of what goes on for this special meal. One additional note, we give thanks to God and to the individuals who helped with our recent renovation of the sacristy. If you haven't seen it yet, go take a look.

Peace in Christ,
Pastor Wirgau



072

Bethlehem Evangelical Lutheran Church
6514 East 750 North
Ossian, Indiana 46777
(260) 597-7121



Rev. Samuel Wirgau
Phone—(260) 273-7595
Email— samuel.wirgau@gmail.com
A congregation of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

November 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 8am Book Club (Crimson House) 
3 9a Divine Sev 10:30 ABC & SS 11-1:30 Holiday Bazaar	4 6:00p Wholyfit 7p Handbell Choir Practice	5 "Election Day"	6 10:00a Chapel 5:30p Adult Cat. 7:00p Spoken Divine Service Adult Choir	7 6:00p Wholyfit	8	9 5:15p Auction/ Gala (Lighted Gar- dens)
10 9a Divine Ser 10:30a ABC &SS 11:30a Elders Meeting 6:30p Youth	11 "Veterans Day 6:00p Wholyfit 7p Handbell Choir Practice	12 6:30p Women's Bible Study (youth room)	13 10:00a Chapel 5:30p Adult Cat. 7:00p Spoken Divine Service Adult Choir	14 5:30p Board of Education Meet 6:00p Wholyfit	15	16
17 8a WOB 9a Divine Sev 10:30a ABC & SS 11:30a Voter's Meeting	18 6:00p Wholyfit 7p Handbell Choir Practice	19	20 10:00a Chapel 5:30p Adult Cat 7:00p Spoken Divine Service Adult Choir	21 6:00p Wholyfit	22 6p Square Dance (Lighted Gar- dens)	23
24 9a Divine Service 10:30a ABC & SS 6:30p Youth	25 NO SCHOOL 6:00p Wholyfit 7p Handbell Choir Practice	26 NO SCHOOL	27 NO SCHOOL 5:30p Adult Cat 7:00p Spoken Divine Service Adult Choir	28 NO SCHOOL 9a Thanksgiving Service	29 NO SCHOOL	30 

November 1, 2024

BETHLEHEM FINANCIAL REPORT

General Fund (Home Fund) Account to Pay Operating Bills \$16.68

Savings Fund Balances

	Accrued <u>Amount</u>	Restricted <u>Amount Borrowed</u>	Account <u>Balance</u>
Improvement Fund	\$27,411.50	(\$ 0.00)	\$27,411.50
Scholarship Fund	\$ 9,780.27	(\$ 0.00)	\$ 9,780.27
Music Fund	\$ 3,272.22	(\$ 0.00)	\$ 3,272.22
Donation to Endowment	\$90,078.93	(\$26,300.00)	\$63,778.93
Relief Fund	\$ 2,500.00	(\$ 0.00)	\$ 2,500.00
Reserved (TBD)	<u>\$ 2,369.00</u>	<u>(\$ 0.00)</u>	<u>\$ 2,369.00</u>
TOTALS	\$135,411.92	(\$26,300.00)	\$109,111.92

Checkbook Balance \$ 16.68

Savings Account Balance \$109,111.92

Total Savings and Checking Balance \$109,128.60

Borrowed Amounts

Restricted Savings Account	\$26,300.00
Operating Loan Amount	<u>\$23,700.00</u>
TOTAL BORROWED	<u>\$50,000.00</u>

Bills due week of November 3 - \$14,000



LWML / Women of Bethlehem

Christmas Project - Seminarian and Vicar Christmas Gifts
We will be collecting Christmas gifts for Seminarian

Brandon Streeks and Vicar Morgan Phillips, November 17, 24 and December 1. A collection box will be available. Gift cards can be placed in the LWML mailbox in the church office or given to Judy Moehring.



Baptized:

On Sunday, October 27th, three children of Ronald and Mariah Trammel were Baptized into the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. June Nichole, Robert Christopher and Luke Thomas. Sponsors are Jeff and Jill Holtzclaw. We welcome these children to the Kingdom of God and joint heirs with us of all God's blessings.



The Women of Bethlehem would like to thank everyone for their monetary donations toward the Sacristy renovation project. A big thank you to the committee and the volunteer laborers for their wonderful planning and hard work! What a wonderful difference this will make!





The Great Reversal November 3, 2024 – All Saints Day
Rev. Paul Shoemaker All of us were destined to spend our eternity apart from God.

Because of Christ Jesus and His suffering, death, and glorious resurrection, a great reversal of our fate has taken place. By God's grace we are now saints and true believers who are destined for heaven. Sermon Text: Matthew 5:1-12 Readings: Psalm 149; 1 John 3:1-3; Matthew 5:1-12

When Picking Up Sticks... November 10, 2024 – Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost
Rev. William Mueller First Kings 17:8-16 brings us to the encounter of the prophet Elijah and the unnamed widow at the town of Zarephath. In this meeting, the Lord provides a miracle to care and support His people. Perhaps you feel like this widow. You're picking up sticks and expect nothing good to come. But wait upon the Lord! Sermon Text: 1 Kings 17:8-16 Readings: Psalm 146; 1 Kings 17:8-16; Mark 12:38-44

Don't Give Up November 17, 2024 – Twenty-Sixth Sunday after Pentecost
Rev. Dr. Thomas Ahlersmeyer Christians face two major temptations – placing too much faith in things that don't last and giving up on the one thing that is eternal. When you are tempted to invest your hopes and dreams in the things of this earth, fix your eyes upon Jesus and don't give up! Sermon Text: Mark 13:13 Readings: Psalm 16; Hebrews 10:19-25; Mark 13:13

Praise the King November 24, 2024 – Twenty-Seventh Sunday after Pentecost
Rev. Dr. Walter Maier III In the Book of Revelation, the Apostle John presents us with a glimpse of the reign of Jesus Christ. Revelation 1 shows us that this King is almighty and that He is coming again on Judgment Day. The result is that we joyfully praise Christ the King. Sermon Text: Revelation 1:4 Readings: Psalm 93; Revelation 1:4-8; Mark 13:24-27

Birthday Blessings!



November

- 02) Whitney Smith
- 03) Raeann Stoppenhagen
- 04) Nora Geiger
Andrew Roembke
- 06) Brian Scheumann
Dalene Springer
- 09) Victoria Bennett
Ashley Bultemeier
Shalynn Saalfrank
- 10) Amber Corwin
- 11) Joyce Bauermeister
- 13) Rev. Anthony Dodgers
Evan Springer
Ryan Werling
- 15) Bruce Bultemeier
- 16) Laura Meyer
- 19) Austin Miller
Greg Mishler
Tonya Pynaert
Tiffany Roose
Dean Scheumann
Ben Schueler
- 21) Kathy Nahrwold
- 22) Daniel Buchinger
- 24) Jeffrey Holtzclaw
- 25) Jerry Meyer
- 26) Addison Roembke
- 27) Lydia Harkless
- 28) Haley Green



The Endowment Committee thanks the Lord and the congregation for the generous gifts to the Endowment Fund.

Here is the monthly report for the Bethlehem Lutheran School Endowment Fund by the Lutheran Foundation. The following information is accurate as of August 31, 2024:

\$221,427.82 - Amount Bethlehem sent in since 2009
208,383.00 - Amount the Lutheran Foundation matched
302,098.64 - Amount generated since 2009
-149,500.00 - Amount disbursed to Bethlehem since 2009
\$582,409.46 - Value of the Endowment Fund as of August 31, 2024

Bazaar and Luncheon Saturday, Nov. 23 2024 from 10:30 am until 1pm at St Paul Preble located at the corner of 750N and 450W in Adams County. Serving homemade soups, sandwiches and delicious desserts! Also, please enjoy our cookie (Christmas cookies) corner, bake sale and of course homemade noodles!

SENIOR CITIZENS LUNCH AND PROGRAM – New Hope Lutheran Church on Thursday, November 7th at 11:30 a.m. Special speaker will be Arlene Stoller with a salute to our veterans. Please RSVP to Diane Garrett 260-415-1462 or Carol Schumacher 260-223-4830.

Election Day Prayer Vigil @ Emmaus Lutheran -On Election Day Tuesday Nov 5, Emmaus Lutheran (8626 Covington Rd.) is holding a prayer vigil by the cross outside while the polls are open from 6am – 6pm, with a brief Prayer Service at the close of the polls at 6pm. Emmaus would like to invite you to join us for prayer for our nation, state and local leaders. Materials such as Bibles and hymnals will be available for use. This Prayer Vigil is NOT for a political party or specific candidates. Please come and join us at any time during the day and pray with us.

Wedding Anniversary Blessings

Nov. 3 David and Michelle Bowman (45)
Nov. 4 Brad and Amanda Meyer (6)
Nov. 14 Kim and Gina Graft (44)
Nov. 16 Jay and Cheryl Louison (33)
Nov. 20 Rory and Tina Geiger (31)
Nov. 20 Stan and Pat Meyer (42)
Nov. 23 Landon and Emily Sands (5)
Nov. 25 Neil and Susan Stoppenhagen (35)
Nov. 27 Morgan and Amelia Phillips (3)
Nov. 27 Brian and Janice Scheumann (25)
Nov. 28 Lane and Jeni Harkless (26)
Nov. 28 Seth and Natalie Wanner (9)
Nov. 29 Steve and Clara Conrad (28)
Nov. 29 Ted and Denise Schumm (38)
Nov. 29 Leon and Arlene Werling (49)



Elder Routes

Bruce Werling	A-B
Glen Werling	C-F
Ted Schumm	G-K
Jerry Meyer	L-P
Steve Conrad	Q-S
Bruce Meyer	T-Z

HEALTH & WELLNESS

Caring for Caregivers

On a Sunday morning, a child who seems old enough to know better makes noise at the wrong time during the service or sings along during the pastor's responses. Perhaps a certain adult cannot be silent during the sermon or comes to church disheveled. It appears they may have a mental illness. People in our congregations may exhibit behaviors or perform actions that violate the basic norms of our culture and society. The behaviors may be as mild as difficulty looking into your eyes during conversation or as severe as a complete inability to communicate.

They are children for whom Christ died; they are beloved by Him.

Mental illness, like all disease, has sin as its root. Original sin, that is. When Jesus was asked who sinned that a certain man was born blind, He said, "It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be displayed in him" (John 9:3). So also, God does not punish parents or family members when a loved one suffers from mental health issues. Rather, the sin of Adam and Eve broke the entire creation, and every human being suffers the consequences of sin.

At the same time, recent advances in medical technologies have enabled us to better understand those who suffer with these diseases and to develop techniques and tools to help them live with or even overcome their illnesses. Advancements in psychology and psychiatry have helped many people who suffer with ailments such as depression or schizophrenia live more contented lives.

And that's the key: Mental illness is not an either/or proposition. Psychologists and psychiatrists, therapists and counselors can provide sound advice and medical help according to their training and resources. At the same time, Christ provides spiritual care through His church to resolve the root of the problem and provide eternal healing. It does not mean, of course, that receiving the absolution will make your depression go away. It does mean that God's care for you is not limited to services on Sunday morning. He provides daily ongoing care for you in body, soul and mind.

If you or someone you know is struggling, please reach out to one of the Pastors or Deaconess.

Snippets of article taken from Mental Health, A Lutheran Perspective by Roy S. Askins from The Lutheran Witness.

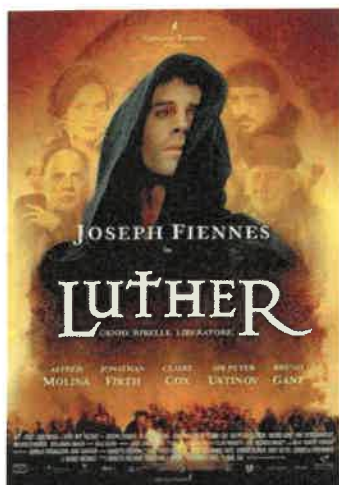
TIPS TO HELP

- CALL 988- SUICIDE AND CRISIS LIFELINE (AVAILABLE 24 HRS A DAY)
- TEXT LOOKUP TO 494949 ANONYMOUSLY CHAT THROUGH REMEDY LIVE (AVAILABLE 24 HRS A DAY)

HELPFUL WEBSITES

- LOOK UP INDIANA
 - THE LUTHERAN FOUNDATION - MENTAL HEALTH
- CONNECT ALLEN COUNTY
 - [HTTPS://WWW.CONNECTALLEN COUNTY.COM/](https://www.connectallencounty.com/)
 - A "ONE-STOP SHOP" COMMUNITY ACCESS CENTER HELPING YOUTH, FAMILIES AND INDIVIDUALS GET INFORMATION ON THE RESOURCES AND SUPPORTS THAT ARE AVAILABLE —AND HOW TO ACCESS THEM.

High School Youth Group



The High School youth have been learning about different denominations each bible study. This month, they watched the "Luther" movie.

November

2ND

Cheeseballs & Escape Room

10TH

Bible Study at 6:30

24TH

Bible Study at 6:30

Donuts

Volunteer

WOMEN OF BETLEHEM

ALL WOMEN MEETING (VOTING) NOV 17

EQUIPPING SAINTS TO SERVE

NOV. 11TH 2PM

Devotion: Struggles and Challenges — Oh, My!
Bible Study: The Light No Darkness Can Overcome



Nov 12th 6:30pm Chapter 10, 11, 12 & 13

Nov 26th 6:30pm Chapter 14 & 15

RAGGED

SPIRITUAL DISCIPLINES FOR THE SPIRITUALLY EXHAUSTED

Adult Fellowship Group

The purpose of this group is to provide fellowship among those widowed, single, homebound and in need of companionship.

Sun. Nov. 3 4-6 pm **SURVIVING THE HOLIDAYS EVENT**
Emmanuel Community Church—Fort Wayne

Sun. Nov 10 Noon **SHARE A MEAL**
Rich's Cafe—Waynedale

Sun. Nov 17 3-5 pm **GREIFSHARE SURVIVING THE HOLIDAYS**
Hope Missionary Church—Bluffton



Sarah Shafer

2024-2025 Season

Concert I: In Peace and Joy **Sunday, November 10, 2024 at 4 pm** **Zion Lutheran Church, 2313 S. Hanna St., Fort Wayne**

Ashlee Bickley, *mezzo-soprano*
Daniel McGrew, *tenor*
Edward Vogel, *baritone*

J.S. Bach: *Ich lasse dich nicht, du segnest mich denn*, BWV 157
J.S. Bach: *Ich armer Mensch, ich Sündenknecht*, BWV 55
J. Brahms: *Warum ist das Licht gegeben dem Mühseligen*, Op. 74, No. 1 [a cappella]
J.S. Bach: *Mit Fried und Freud ich fahr dahin*, BWV 125



Daniel McGrew

Messiah Sing-Along **Sunday, December 1, 2024 at 2 pm** **Queen of Angels Catholic Church, 1500 W. State St., Fort Wayne**

The joy of singing *Messiah* is open for everyone in our annual *Messiah* Sing-Along, with **Thomas Remenschneider** directing. Bring your own score or borrow a copy we will have available. Holiday cookies will be served.



Edward Vogel

Concert II: Toll the bells: Death and Resurrection **Sunday, February 16, 2025 at 4 pm** **Trinity Lutheran Church, 1636 St. Mary's Ave., Fort Wayne**

Sarah Shafer, *soprano*
Ashlee Bickley, *mezzo-soprano*
Jonathan Busarow, *tenor*
Keith Brautigam, *baritone*

J.S. Bach: *Herr, wie du willst, so schick's mit mir*, BWV 73
J.S. Bach: *Komm, du süße Todesstunde*, BWV 161
A. Bruckner: *Motets; selection* [a cappella]
Zwei Totenlieder, No. 1, WAB 47
Vexilla regis, WAB 51
Zwei Totenlieder, No. 2, WAB 48
J.S. Bach: *Christus, der ist mein Leben*, BWV 95



Ashlee Bickley



Brad Tatum

Concert III: Word and Sacrament **Sunday, April 27, 2025 at 4 pm** **Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 917 W. Jefferson Blvd., Ft. Wayne**

Sarah Shafer, *soprano*
Ashlee Bickley, *mezzo-soprano*
Mark Vogel, *tenor*
Edward Vogel, *baritone*

J.S. Bach: *Wer da gläubet und getauft wird*, BWV 37
J.S. Bach: *Alles nur nach Gottes Willen*, BWV 72
U.W.v. Wassenaer: *Concerto armonico III in A major* [instrumental]
M. Duruflé: *Tantum ergo*, Op. 10, No. 4 [a cappella]
T. Kverno: *Corpus Christi Carol* [a cappella]
J.S. Bach: *Mein liebster Jesu ist verloren*, BWV 154



Leighann Daihl Ragusa

Trip Report - Rev. Samuel Wirgau

I taught a two-week intensive on Christian Dogmatics at the end of May and beginning of June 2024. This course was structured around *The Saving Truth* by Kurt Marquart. Through the generosity of Luther Academy, we procured copies of the book for each of the 25 students (1st-3rd years) participating. Each morning we began class with Responsive Prayer, and three hours were given for instruction, with a break for Matins. I enjoyed worshiping with the students, and the opportunity to preach twice for Matins. We read and discussed the following topics in my lectures: Holy Scripture



(including the nature and characteristics of Scripture and its relationship to tradition and reason), the doctrine of God (including who God has revealed Himself to be, and the relationship of the Holy Trinity); Christology (including the Incarnation and Two Natures of Christ, and His work); Justification and Sanctification (including the relationship of faith and good works); Law and Gospel and the Means of Grace; Holy Baptism; and the Sacrament of the Altar. Though the scope of the lecture was broad, we were able to have deep and lively discussion over important truths of the Christian faith and apply them to the life of the Church in local congregations.

HOW TO SUPPORT THE LTS:

IF YOU LIVE IN NORTH AMERICA: Send your donation via **St. Philip Lutheran Mission Society - SPLMS.**

• **Saint Philip Lutheran Mission Society**

c/o Rev. Anthony Oliphant, Redeemer Lutheran Church
123 E. St. Charles Rd., Elmhurst, IL 60126

• **PayPal via www.splms.org**

• **Thrivent Choice:** SPLMS can be supported through Thrivent Choice dollars. You can direct Thrivent Choice dollars through www.thrivent.com or by calling 1-800-THRIVENT.

• **LCMS's Mission Central**

Gifts can be made online through the link <https://missioncentral.us/donation-form/?project=LTS%20Seminary%20Pretoria&reference=ZA0001-60604&id=IM0020ECXXXH000>

If writing a check, please make the gift to: **The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod.** In the memo line, write: **ZA0001-60604: LTS Seminary South Africa.** And send the gift to: **The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, P.O. Box 66861, St. Louis MO, 63166-6861.**

Or, to make a gift by phone, please call: **1-888-930-4438** and designate the gift to **"ZA0001-60604: LTS Seminary South Africa".**

Trip Report continued...



Rev. Wirgau feeding an elephant

I enjoyed wonderful hospitality from the faculty and staff of LTS of which I was very thankful. I enjoyed a braai both with Dr. Hiestermann and guests at his home, and with the students, faculty, and staff at LTS the night before returning home. I was also delighted to have lunch with the faculty and staff each day, and enjoyed wonderful conversations. It was an honor to teach alongside Dr. Schultz from CTSFW, to work with LTS's faculty, and to meet many wonderful people in the Church.

Overall I had a very positive experience. There was some challenge teaching students in three different years of study, but they all were receptive, engaged, and respectful. I was satisfied with the class and continue to be encouraged about LTS's work to train men for the pastoral office in southern Africa.



Left: Rev. Wirgau with Dr Detlev Schulz, who taught a course on "Anthropology and Sin", along with LTS lecturers Sithole (front), Hanfato and Hiesermann (back). Top: Rev. Wirgau and Dr Schulz receiving a small gift from the students at the closing braai.



TIGER TALES



“ENDURE”

FALL FESTIVAL HIGHLIGHTS!

Thank you for attending!
A special thank you to our volunteers!



CALENDAR

- Nov. 3 Daylight Savings
- Nov. 3 Bethlehem Holiday Bazaar
- Nov. 3 Jr Choir Hymnfest
- Nov. 4 Vision Screening
- Nov. 5 Election Day
- Nov. 8 Concordia High School Visit Day
- Nov. 9 Auction / Gala
- Nov. 13 Whole Day
- Nov. 14 Birthday Lunch with Headmaster
- Nov. 14 Board of Education Meeting
- Nov. 15 Mid-term sent home
- Nov. 22 Bethlehem Square Dance
- Nov. 25-29 NO SCHOOL

NOVEMBER 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- Nov. 12 Lucas Haiflich
- Nov. 13 Pastor Dodgers
- Nov. 27 Lydia Harkless



As a parent, you probably know that keeping your kids from spending all day (and night!) on their devices can be a challenge, and you're not alone. But finding a quick and easy way to manage screen time and filter the web doesn't have to be mission impossible — or cost an arm and a leg.

Bethlehem has partnered with Bark to offer our families a **free Bark Jr subscription (\$60/year value)** for life!

Use the URL below to activate your free Bark Jr account:

<https://www.bark.us/bark-jr/signup?ref=JFK944B>

What am I getting with a free Bark Jr account?

- Ability to manage screen time on mobile devices
- Set different rules for school time and bed-time
- Filter which websites your kids can visit
- Keep up with kids with location check-ins



What is Bark?

In addition to screen time, Bark can help parents proactively monitor text messages, YouTube, emails, and 30+ different social networks for potential safety concerns, so busy parents can save time and gain peace of mind. Bark currently helps protect over 5.6 million kids in the US.

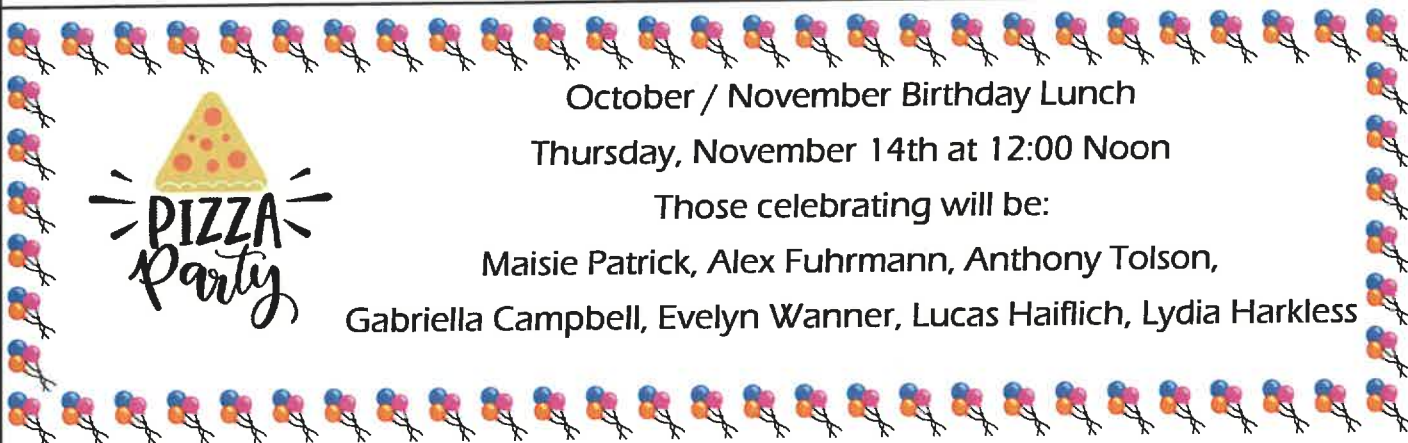
Thank you

Bethlehem Lutheran School

Parents may access the new church and school website at <https://blcsossian.org/> There you will find shortcuts to the student and parent dashboards.

PRIVACY NOTICE

We all love to share pictures of our child's school activities and accomplishments. However, we have to be very careful where those pictures are posted and respect that other students might also be in the picture. Parents, please remember to not post pictures that may have students in them other than your own child. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the school office before posting anything. Thank you



October / November Birthday Lunch

Thursday, November 14th at 12:00 Noon

Those celebrating will be:

Maisie Patrick, Alex Fuhrmann, Anthony Tolson,
Gabriella Campbell, Evelyn Wanner, Lucas Haiflich, Lydia Harkless



Bethlehem basketball season has started!

The parents should have been notified by the coaches about practices this week.

Please be sure that you have a current sports physical on file at the school and have paid the sports fee of \$20 per student per year.

First scheduled game is Tuesday, November 12th at Central Lutheran in New Haven.

Girls play at 5:00 p.m. and Boys at 6:15 p.m.



School Gym Use after school hours – Before using the school gym after school hours, please be sure to contact our current Athletic Director, Brandon Schumm. Please call or text him at 260-273-7403 to make arrangements. Thank you

With Gradelink you can stay updated on your child's academic progress at school and get information on upcoming assignments such as assignment descriptions and due dates. The following information is available to you when you **log in to Gradelink**:

- Current Grade in each class
- Current GPA for the term, if applicable
- Descriptions, Grades, and Teacher Comments for graded assignments
- Descriptions and Due Dates for upcoming assignments
- Assignment handouts or documents (attachments)
- Email Alerts you can configure for grades and attendance
- Attendance Information
- Transcript Information, if applicable
- **Billing Information, online payment for tuition and lunch fees**

To access this information go to www.gradelink.com and click on the green Log In button.



PLEASE CALL THE SCHOOL OFFICE IF YOU NEED ANY HELP logging in.

Weather permitting the students will be going outside for recess time. Please have your child dress appropriately for the weather.



Potential delays and cancellations for Bethlehem will follow the same as Northern Wells Community Schools.

Bethlehem will NOT be following the Northern Wells Community Schools 2 hour delay on **Wednesday, November 13th**. Therefore, unless a weather related delay or closing comes along, Bethlehem will operate on a regular schedule. Morning bus service will NOT be provided. The 7-8th grade students will be excused from their NW morning classes and are asked to be at Bethlehem by 9:15 a.m. Please contact the school office if you have any questions.

NO SCHOOL—Bethlehem will be closed November 25-29 for Teachers Conference and Thanksgiving.

Potential delays and cancellations for Bethlehem will follow the same as Northern Wells Community Schools. Sign up for text alerts at www.wane.com/text-alerts.

PTL NEWS

Black Tie Gala and Blue Jeans and SILENT AUCTION! Mark your Calendars! Saturday, November 9th! Bethlehem Lutheran School will be having our 5th annual Gala and Silent Auction at The Lighted Gardens in Ossian. Tickets are still available from the school office and need to be purchased by Saturday, November 2nd.



First Quarter Honor Roll
 A/B Honors
 MaKayla Berkey
 Jonah Bultemeier
 Emma Campbell
 JT Holtzclaw
 Hunter Householder
 Bailey Meyer
 Matthew Rekeweg
 Vinny Fuhrmann
 Emma Wirgau



MaKayla Berkey was not present on the day of the picture.



Sign up today!

Shop at Kroger and help Bethlehem Lutheran School tuition assistance fund with the Kroger Community Rewards Program.

Register online at krogercommunityrewards.com, be sure to have your Kroger Plus card handy and register your card with Bethlehem Lutheran School as your organization for the reward. The NPO number for Bethlehem is WG595#.

If you don't have a Kroger Plus card, they are available at the customer service desk.

Members must swipe their registered Kroger Plus card or use the phone number that is related to their registered card when shopping for each purchase to count.



To redeem Box Top products, you will need to download the Box Tops app on your phone and then scan each receipt that contains your Box Tops products. **KEEP ON SCANNING!**

PLAN TO USE SCRIP FOR ALL YOUR SHOPPING NEEDS

This year we would like to encourage all of our church and school families to purchase scrip products online www.raiseright.com. Please see the flyer attached to this newsletter for information on how to create your own account through Raise Right using Bethlehem's enrollment code noted on the attached flyer. Physical cards, ecards and reloadable cards are all available for your purchase and can be sent directly to your home. As you purchase cards online you can also accumulate a percentage of profit to be applied to your child's tuition. Be sure to login regularly to find bonus percentages! Thank you to the church congregation and school families for supporting the Scrip Program. **Please contact our Scrip coordinator, Melissa Price at 260-433-5307 for any questions.**



Please save your newspapers, catalogs, magazines, junk mail, old phone books, office/school papers and hard/soft cover books. Along with cereal type boxes (**NO CARDBOARD**). Bring your recycled paper to school and dispose of it in our "PaperGator" located right next to the trash dumpster in the front parking area of the school.

The recycling company pays us by the ton so the more you feed our Gator, the more funds we can collect!

If you need help with large amounts, please call the school office and we will make arrangements to help you.

Please spread the word to all your family and friends.

Our Washington D.C. group appreciates your support.





2nd Quarter Chapel Offering Project: Food Drive for the Seminary

This quarter we are supporting the Food Co-op at the Seminary in Fort Wayne. They help the families of seminary students provide for their needs while these students are preparing to serve the church as pastors and deaconesses. These students and their families sacrifice a lot for the sake of the Gospel, so the seminary co-op is an invaluable resource for these future servants of the church.

Along with our weekly Wednesday Chapel offerings, we will be collecting the following items:

Oct 7 - 18 Canned Goods

Oct 28 - Nov 8 Personal Hygiene Items

Nov 11 - 22 Boxed Food

Dec 2 - 20 Paper Products and Snack Foods

*Miscellaneous items that can be donated at anytime are:
Over the counter medicine and baking goods*

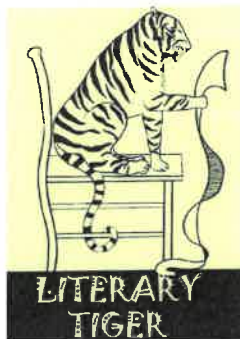


The First Thanksgiving Proclamation

By Governor William Bradford

Plymouth, Massachusetts in 1623

Inasmuch as the great Father has given us this year an abundant harvest of Indian corn, wheat, peas, beans, squashes, and garden vegetables, and has made the forests to abound with game and the sea with fish and clams, and inasmuch as he has protected us from the ravages of the savages, has spared us from pestilence and disease, has granted us freedom to worship God according to the dictates of our own conscience. Now I, your magistrate, do proclaim that all ye Pilgrims, with your wives and ye little ones, do gather at ye meeting house, on ye hill, between the hours of 9 and 12 in the day time, on Thursday, November 29th, of the year of our Lord one thousand six hundred and twenty-three and the third year since ye Pilgrims landed on ye Pilgrim Rock, there to listen to ye pastor and render thanksgiving to ye Almighty God for all His blessings.



Tales for Tigers

From Your Bethlehem School Library

*"The husky, rusty rassel of the tossels of the corn,
And the raspin' of the tangled leaves, as golden as the morn;
The stubble in the furries—kindo' lonesome-like, but still
A-preachin' sermons to us of the barns they grewed to fill;
The strawstack in the medder, and the reaper in the shed;
The hosses in theyr stalls below—the clover over-head!—
O, it sets my hart a-clickin' like the tickin' of a clock,
When the frost is on the punkin and the fodder's in the shock!"*
-excerpt from "When the Frost is on the Punkin" by James Whitcomb Riley*

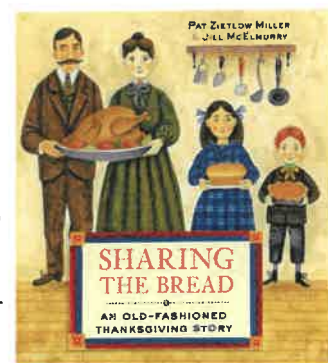
This time of year, as we watch the harvest in the fields around Bethlehem, these lines from Indiana poet James Whitcomb Riley may come to mind. The stubble in the field *is kind of lonesome looking, but we are thankful for the harvest.*

As we approach the national day of Thanksgiving, we thank our Heavenly Father for His many gifts to us, and are reminded to share these gifts with others. Your school librarians, of course, are thankful for books and the opportunity to share them with you!

We appreciate the enthusiastic support of our PaperPie book fair. We earned over \$600 in free books for the school. We hope all the students enjoy the new books, at home and in the library.

"Sharing the Bread" is a lovely book about a family working together to prepare, and share, a Thanksgiving feast. Students may find it in our holiday collection in the library.

*Riley intentionally misspelled words in this poem so they would sound like the country dialect of his time/region.



BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL LIBRARY POLICIES

Library Purpose

The purpose of the library is to supplement classroom learning and provide motivation for reading enjoyment. Visiting the school library helps students learn the basics of library use and etiquette.

Circulation Policies

Kindergarten students may have a maximum of one book checked out, loaned for one week.

1st - 8th grade students may have a maximum of two books checked out, loaned for two weeks.

Books may be renewed a maximum of two times (i.e., three weeks for Kindergarten students, six weeks for other students) and **the book must physically be in the library to be renewed**. If a book is not returned by its due date, fines will accrue at a rate of \$0.25 per item per week.

Due dates and a maximum checkout exceptions may be made for book reports, research reports, and other classroom assignments, at the discretion of teachers and/or librarians.

Lost or Damaged Books

Parents will be notified when a book is overdue. If an overdue item is not returned within four weeks after parents are notified (or by the library deadline at the end of the school year) the item will be considered lost and a replacement fee will be charged. A handling fee of \$5.00 will be added to the cost of the book replacement.

Librarians should be notified of any damage that occurs to a library book. If a damaged item needs to be replaced due to inappropriate handling or accident (i.e. water damage), a replacement fee may be charged. A handling fee of \$5.00 will be added to the cost of the book replacement.

Talented Tigers



Tiger Jonah Bultemeier, and many other local dancers, will be performing excerpts from The Nutcracker ballet.

Creative Arts Dance Company Presents



The Nutcracker

December 7th, 3:00 pm

\$5 Admission at the Door
Creative Arts Auditorium
428 S Oak St
Bluffton, IN



CREATIVE ARTS THEATER PRESENTS

BEST
The ~~Worst~~ Christmas
Pageant Ever
By Barbara Robinson

Performances
December 12th, 7:00pm
December 13th, 7:00pm
December 14th, 3:00pm
December 14th, 7:00pm

Admission: \$15

260-824-5222
Creative Arts Auditorium
428 S Oak St, Bluffton, IN

Many Tigers are in the cast of “The Best Christmas Pageant Ever” presented by Creative Arts Theater in Bluffton.

Alex Fuhrmann
Annabelle Fuhrmann
Savannah Fuller
Emma Schueler
Ginny Wirgau
Jude Wirgau
Emma Wirgau

... and a couple of other familiar faces.

Coffee Fundraiser The Washington DC group will be selling fresh, locally roasted, ethically sourced coffee from Old Canal Roasters in Wabash (old-canal.com). You can order during the Holiday Bazaar, or any time before November 4 from any current 6th/7th student. Contact DoRena Wirgau for more information.



MIDDLE SCHOOL GIRLS

NOT-SO-NICE BIBLE STORIES



MASTER CRIMINALS

Q

PROPHET PROFIT

Middle School Youth Group

November

1ST
Sky Zone

10TH
Bible Study at 6:30

24TH
Bible Study at 6:30

In October, we had a Reformation Party with Martin Luther Quiz.



ENDURE
HEBREWS 12:1-3



DEACONESS DISCUSSION

24 NOV CHRISTMAS BANNER



A huge thank you to all who came out!

We had around 150 kids plus their families come out to participate along with 15 trunk participants.



Trunk Winner:
Melissa Householder-Harry Potter

SATURDAY
26 OCTOBER
4-6 PM 2024



Bethlehem Lutheran School Las Vegas Legends Silent Auction and Gala

~ Featuring entertainer Micheal Carluccio ~

Join us for a legendary night of fun...
all while raising money for our wonderful school!

November 9, 2024

at The Lighted Gardens ~ 10794 St Rt 1, Ossian, IN

Doors open & Silent Auction begins at 5:15pm ~ Dinner served at 6:30pm
Silent Auction ends at 7:10 ~ Glen performs at 7:15

Ticket Prices

\$65 individual ~ \$115 couple ~ \$480 table of 8 (guaranteed seated together)

If purchasing a table, please have everyone at your table fill out a registration.

*** Last day to purchase tickets is *Saturday Nov. 2* October 27th! ***

Seating is limited!

Contact Jennifer Bultemeier 419-230-8068, Melissa Price 260-433-5307, or the school office 260-597-7366 for tickets

**GRAB YOUR PARTNER!
IT'S TIME FOR A
SQUARE DANCE!
AND DINNER**

MUSIC BY BREAKAWAY

EVENT SPONSORED BY THE WOMEN OF BETHLEHEM

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 22

MEAL AT 6 PM

DANCING BEGINS AT 7:30 PM

LIGHTED GARDENS

10794 N. STATE RD. 1, OSSIAN, IN

PRE SALE TICKETS INCLUDE:

PULLED PORK DINNER & 2 DRINK TICKETS



\$20 ADULT (HIGH SCHOOL & OLDER), \$10 (K-6TH GRADE)

FREE FOR AGES 4 AND UNDER

(\$25 ADULT TICKET DAY OF EVENT)

TICKETS MAY BE PURCHASED AT

THE BETHLEHEM CHURCH OFFICE, LIGHTED GARDENS,

OR BY CALLING PAT MEYER 260-227-0400

Or email spmeyer82@gmail.com

TURN SHOPPING INTO EARNING



EARN
\$1,000+
per year

Experience the right way to fundraise

Gift card fundraising is the best way to raise money. Buy gift cards from your favorite brands to earn on your daily purchases. It's never been easier to create opportunities for what matters most to you. No extra money spent. No extra time wasted.

How it works



You buy a gift card

You get the full value.



The brand gives back

No extra money comes
out of your pocket.



Your organization earns

Impacting what
matters most to you.

Shop 750+ popular brands

Getting your morning coffee. Doing DIY projects around the house.
Ordering takeout. Conveniently raise money by doing everyday things.



amazon



STARBUCKS



"It's super convenient. All I need to go shopping is my phone—I don't even need credit cards or my purse. I'm going to pay for these things anyway, I love being able to use gift cards so we get something in return."

Jen H., earns for hockey

Get started by downloading the [RaiseRight™ app](#) on your phone or go to [RaiseRight.com](#) on your computer.

For step-by-step instructions, visit [RaiseRight.com/m/StartEarning](#).

Enter our organizations enrollment code: 43ALE7851441

Link your bank account to enroll in online payments and place your first order.

For questions, contact our coordinator: Melissa Price at 260-433-5307



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