



October 2025

Volume 19, Issue 2

Luther on Righteousness in Galatians

The Bethlehem Star



We are blessed to have an active youth group at Bethlehem from 5th grade through High School. Not only do these young men and women gather for fellowship, but they also study the Bible. As a pastor I am proud of the commitment of both parents and their children to spend time learning God's Word. This year they are studying the book of Galatians. We are studying the same book in our Sunday morning Bible Class and I strongly encourage everyone to attend. Even if you have never been or have gone in the past but no longer, join us after service. There really isn't anywhere better to be than where God's Word is being taught.

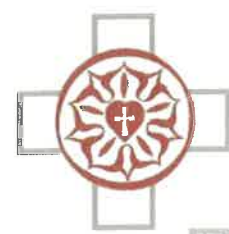
The following are some thoughts on the Epistle to the Galatians from Martin Luther's 1535 lectures.

"First of all, we must speak of the argument, that is, of the issue with which Paul deals in this epistle. The argument is this: Paul wants to establish the doctrine of faith, grace, the forgiveness of sins or Christian righteousness, so that we may have a perfect knowledge and know the difference between Christian righteousness and all other kinds of righteousness. For righteousness is of many kinds. There is a political righteousness, which the emperor, the princes of the world, philosophers, and lawyers consider. There is also a ceremonial righteousness, which human traditions teach, as, for example, the traditions of the pope and other traditions. Parents and teachers may teach this righteousness without danger, because they do not attribute to it any power to make satisfaction for sin, to placate God, and to earn grace; but they teach that these ceremonies are necessary only for moral discipline and for certain observances. There is, in addition to these, yet another righteousness, the righteousness of the Law or of the Decalog, which Moses teaches. We, too, teach this, but after the doctrine of faith.

Over and above all these there is the righteousness of faith or Christian righteousness, which is to be distinguished most carefully from all the others. For they are all contrary to this righteousness both because they proceed from the laws of emperors, the traditions of the power, and the commands of God, and because they consist in our works and can be achieved by us with 'purely natural endowments,' as the scholastics teach, or from a gift of God. For these kinds of the righteousness of works, too, are gifts of God, as are all the things we have. But this most excellent righteousness, the righteousness of faith, which God imputes to us through Christ without works, is neither political nor ceremonial nor legal nor work-righteousness but is quite the opposite; it is a merely passive righteousness, while all the others, listed above are active. For here we work nothing, render nothing to God; we only receive and permit someone else to work in us, namely, God. Therefore it is appropriate to call the righteousness of faith or Christian righteousness 'passive.' This is a righteousness hidden in a mystery, which the world does not understand. In fact, Christians themselves do not adequately understand it or grasp it in the midst of their temptations. Therefore it must always be taught and continually exercised. And anyone who does not grasp or take hold of it in afflictions and terrors of conscience cannot stand. For there is no comfort of conscience so solid and certain as is the passive righteousness" (Luther's Works, American Edition, Volume 26, pages 4-5).

Hope this whet your appetite. See you at Bible Class

Rev. Samuel Wirgau



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



October 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 10:00a Chapel 5:30p Catechesis Class 7p Divine Service Adult Choir	2 No School	3 No School	4
5 9a Divine Sev LWML Sunday 10:30a ABC 11-1:00 Carry out Pork Chop Dinner	6 2p WOB Bible Study 6p Holyfit 7p Handbell Choir	7	8 10:00a Chapel 7p Divine Service Adult Choir	9 6p Holyfit 7p WOB Bible Study	10	11
12 9a Divine Sev 10:30a ABC & SS 11:30a Elders	13 2p WOB Bible Study 6p Holyfit NO Handbell Choir	14 6p Visual Faith Right to Life Banquet	15 10:00a Chapel 7p Divine Service NO Adult Choir	16 6p Holyfit 7p WOB Bible Study 5:30 Board of Christian Ed Meeting	17	18
19 9a Divine Sev 10:30a ABC & SS 11:30a Church Council Meeting	20 NO WOB Bible Study 6p Holyfit 7p Handbell Choir	21	22 7p. Divine Service	23 6p Holyfit NO WOB Bible Study	24	25 Trunk or Treat (New Hope)
<h2 style="color: orange;">Fall Break – No School</h2>						
26 9a Divine Sev Reformation Observ 10:30a ABC & SS	27 6p PTL Meeting 6p Holyfit 7p Handbell Choir	28	29	30	31	

Church Membership



Please welcome, Mrs. Sandy Meyer as a transfer into Bethlehem. Sandy is the wife of Mr. Peter Meyer.



BAPTIZED , Sunday September 21, 2025 into the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ is Miriam Cynthia Dodgers, newborn daughter of Rev. Anthony and Betsy Dodgers. Sponsors for Miriam are Frederick and Sarah Hertwig and Jesse Muehler. We welcome Miriam to the Kingdom of God and joint heir with us of all God's blessings. Miriam is also joined by big brothers, Nicholas and Arthur.

LWML Upcoming Events

LWML Sunday—October 5 Please bring you mite boxes. Vicar McLain will be speaking at Bible Class today. Refreshments will be served. We will have quilts displayed on the pews that our women have made.

You are all invited to join us for a fun day of fellowship with our sisters in Christ on the Concordia Theological Seminary Fort Wayne (CTSFW) campus on **Tuesday, October 14!** In the morning, CTSFW invites you to **Donation Day 2025**. Activities begin at 8:30 a.m. EDT. This annual tradition provides an opportunity for friends and supporters to bring donations, attend chapel, eat lunch, and hear about the impact of Co-op donations on the lives of the seminary students and their families. As a special highlight this year, guests will hear about plans for a new Food and Clothing Co-op that will better accommodate the needs of shoppers and donors alike. To learn more, visit ctsfw.edu/donationday or contact events@ctsfw.edu.



Enjoy the convenience of Electronic Giving!

Please consider setting up a recurring giving plan. Automating your financial commitments means your contributions will be received on a steady, uninterrupted basis. If you wish to make a single online donation or set up recurring donations, you may do so on our website, www.blcsossian.org through our third-party provider-Vanco Payment Solutions. Online giving may be done as a credit card payment or ACH bank transfer. Please note, the church will incur a processing fee on each online transaction. Credit card transactions will be charged at least 2.75% fee. For ACH bank transfers, there is a fee of 1% of each dollar charged. This may affect how you wish to direct your online donations. You may also elect to increase your gift to cover the cost of the transaction fees.



Fan Into Flame October 5, 2025 –
Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost
Rev. William Mueller The Apostle Paul, while imprisoned and most likely very near his upcoming execution on, writes one

more letter to Pastor Timothy. Through this text God is reminding us – who are the people He has used in our life to bring and grow us in faith in Jesus Christ? And He is challenging us – who are the people God is using us to encourage and grow someone in faith in Jesus Christ? Sermon Text: 2 Timothy 1:1-14 Readings: Psalm 62; 2 Timothy 1:1-14; Luke 17:1-10 Featured Choirs: St. John Lutheran School, Plymouth, Wis.; Holy Cross Lutheran School, Fort Wayne, Ind. Featured Art and Architecture: St. John’s Lutheran Church, Lexington, Ky.

Thankful for Being Thankful October 12, 2025 –
Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost Rev. Paul Shoemaker The miracle of healing the 10 lepers reminds us of the earthly healing and support we receive from God. The one thankful leper reminds us of the miracle of true faith in Jesus, a faith that heals us eternally. Sermon Text: Luke 17:11-19 Readings: Psalm 111; 2 Timothy 2:1-13; Luke 17:11-19 Featured Choir: Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Fort Wayne, Ind. Featured Art and Architecture: Immanuel Lutheran Church, Hamler, Ohio

What Will Jesus Find? October 19, 2025 – Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost Rev. Scott Zeckzer Prayer is one of the gifts that God has given to us. Sometimes it is easy to pray and other times it seems difficult. The Good News is we always have help when we pray and a loving Father who always listens. Sermon Text: Luke 18:1 Readings: Psalm 121; Genesis 32:22-30; Luke 18:1-8 Featured Choirs: Lincoln Lutheran High School, Lincoln, Neb.; St. Peter’s Lutheran School, Fort Wayne, Ind.; Featured Art and Architecture: St. Peter’s Lutheran Church, Fort Wayne, Ind.

In Christ’s Word October 26, 2025 – Reformation Day “observed” Rev. Dr. Daniel Brege Christ’s Word is what Christians must continually hear. That Word spoken again and again by Jesus includes the harshest Law and then the sweetest Gospel. Martin Luther realized this truth. Sermon Text: John 8:31-32 Readings: Psalm 46; Romans 3:19-28; John 8:31-36 Featured Choir: Choir of the Council of Presidents of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod Featured Art and Architecture: St. Paul’s Lutheran Church, Fort Wayne, Ind.

Birthday Blessings! October



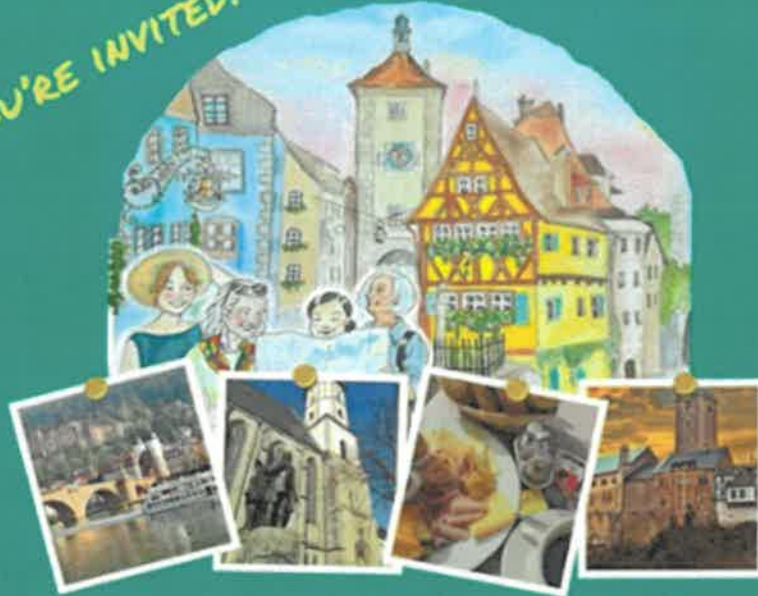
- 02) Kaden Laley
Gail Werling
- 04) Tyson Flora
Lauren Schumm
- 05) Rob Meyer
- 06) Holdon Eisaman
Jason Laley
- 07) Jeff Gresley
- 10) Maisie Patrick
- 11) David Bowman
Evan Delaney
Alex Fuhrmann
Alicia Krick
Emma Lesh
Jennifer Meyer
- 12) Allan Graft
- 14) MacKenzie Price
Mark Sauer
- 15) Maxine Nahrwold
- 17) Kyle Kleppinger
- 18) Noah Fowler
Grant Mishler
Shelby Todd
- 22) Avery Geiger
- 24) Ted Schumm
Ian Tolson
- 25) Evelyn Wanner
- 28) Katie Kleppinger
Brian Nahrwold
- 30) Tisha Laley
Haley Williamson
- 31) Greyson Mishler
Susan Sauer

Wedding Anniversary Blessings

- 10/6 Ron and Jean Anderson (57)
- 10/9 Rev Anthony and Betsy Dodgers (4)
- 10/11 Scott and Nicole Williamson (22)
- 10/17 Glen and Julie Werling (27)
- 10/19 Dale and Janelle Klingenberger (12)
- 10/21 Jeff and Lisa Gresley (36)
- 10/23 Bruce and Heather Bultemeier (32)
- 10/28 Brett and Grace Cornman (2)



YOU'RE INVITED!



FRAUEN AUF REISEN!

Lutheran Women on a Journey! For women who love a travel adventure and our Lutheran heritage. Do you welcome the chance to widen your circle of friends? There's no better way to achieve such things than to travel and explore with others! **Frauen auf Reisen is a tour across Germany in May 7-16, 2026, planned for Lutheran women: young and old, mothers and daughters, single or married women.**



Tour Germany
May 7-16, 2026!



Berlin, Wittenberg, Leipzig,
Seiffen, Erfurt, Eisenach,
Neuendettelsau,
Rothenburg ob der Tauber,
the Wartburg, Heidelberg,
and more!



This trip for Lutheran
women includes
daily devotions and
Sunday worship with
fellow Lutherans.

LEARN MORE AND REGISTER!

314-413-1055

www.lutheranwomenonajourney.org

Ladies Aid Society of St. Paul, Preble will be hosting our Autumn Bazaar and Bake Sale on Saturday, Nov. 15th from 10:30am-1:00pm at the corner of 450W and 750N in Adams County. As in the past we will be serving a luncheon with homemade soups, sandwiches, and desserts. Also available homemade Noodles, Decorated Christmas cookies, Cookie Corner along with a variety of home baked goods. All are welcome to come and enjoy fine food and fellowship. (Please note this is one week earlier than past years.)

Decatur Circuit Tanzania Fundraiser – Friday, November 21 beginning at 6 p.m. at Cross Creek Golf Course Double Eagle Pavilion in Decatur. For a first attempt at such a fundraiser, we are keeping things simple and casual. A full meal will be provided, and cards and board games will be available for relaxed Christian fellowship. The suggested donation is \$25 per person, but we will certainly be thankful for any amount below or above that, as the Lord gives us each means to support His work in Tanzania. Cash, check, and credit card will be accepted. If you would like to help with donations, set-up, service, and/or clean-up, please contact Jared Lengrich or Pastor Brock.

**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 July 31, 2025:

\$367,127.82 - Amount Bethlehem sent in since 2009
 224,083.00 - Amount the Lutheran Foundation matched
 357,893.80 - Amount generated since 2009
-179,500.00 - Amount disbursed to Bethlehem since 2009
 \$769,604.62 - Value of the Endowment Fund as of July 31, 2025

Dr. David Nahrwold Fund
 \$ 90,078.93 - Amount sent in since November 2024
 5,605.93 - Amount generated since November 2024
-10,000.00 - Amount disbursed to Bethlehem since 2024
 \$ 85,684.86 - Value of Dr. David Nahrwold Fund as of July 31, 2025

As of: October 01, 2025

BETHLEHEM FINANCIAL REPORT

General Fund (Home Fund) to Pay Operating Bills:

Balance: \$ 18,212.28
 Outstanding Checks Paid: \$ 8,510.09
 Total Checking: **\$ 9,702.19**

Savings Fund Balance:

	Accrued Amount	Restricted Amount Borrowed	Actual Balance
Improvement Fund:	\$ 31,456.85	\$ 24,000.00	\$ 7,456.85
Scholarship Fund:	\$ 15,386.58	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 5,386.58
Music Fund:	\$ 3,809.03	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 809.03
Relief Fund:	\$ 4,181.31	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 181.31
Organ Fund:	\$ 3,803.78	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 803.78
Endowment:	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00	\$ -
Synod/Seminary Fund:	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Reserved (TBD):	\$ 2,469.26	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 469.26
Totals	\$ 61,406.81	\$ 46,300.00	\$ 15,106.81

Borrowed Amounts

From Restricted Savings Account \$ 46,300.00
 Operating Loan \$ - (of \$30,000 max available)
TOTAL BORROWED \$ 46,300.00 (\$0.00/day for interest)

Total cash available to pay operate church **\$ 54,809.00**

Bills due week of: 10/6/2025 \$ 15,000
 Bills due week of: 10/13/2025 \$ 6,000



Women's Bible Study

Oh, taste and see that the LORD is good!

Psalm 34:8

"Living a Chocolate Life" by Deb Burma

Living a Chocolate Life is a fun, chocolate-themed Bible study for women that blends sweet fellowship, Scripture, and faith-filled reflection on God's grace in Christ.

MONDAYS @ 2PM

Session 5: Oct. 6

Session 6: Oct. 13

Oct. 20 Fall Break: NONE

Session 7: Oct. 27

THURSDAYS @ 7PM

Session 4: Oct. 2

Session 5: Oct. 9

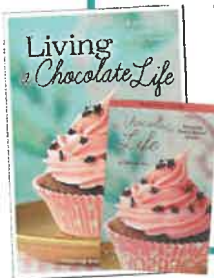
Session 6: Oct. 16

Oct. 23 Fall Break: NONE

Session 7: Oct. 30

Written with a fun chocolate theme, each session focuses on one aspect of life as a Christian woman, encouraging readers toward introspection and personal reflection.

Designed to be **45 to 60 minutes long**, each session includes at least **one recipe** for a chocolate dessert item, a **Bible verse** to memorize, **chocolate trivia**, and suggestions for **group activities**.



Adult Fellowship Group

Sun. Oct. 26

Noon

The Galley

622 N 13th St

Decatur, IN 46733

Women of Bethlehem

OCTOBER

- Pork Chop Dinner 10/5
- LWML Sunday 10/5
- (Seminary Guild) Donation Day CTSFW 10/14

NOVEMBER

- Holiday Bazaar 11/2
- All Women Meeting 11/16
- Square Dance 11/21

SAVE THE DATE

October 25
4pm-7pm



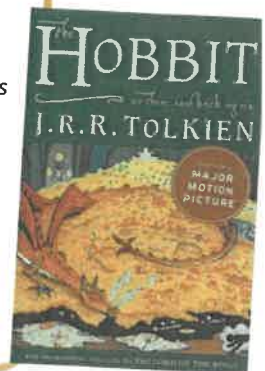
Book Club

THE HOBBIT

BY J.R.R. TOLKIEN

Like every other hobbit, Bilbo Baggins likes nothing better than a quiet evening in his snug hole in the ground, dining on a sumptuous dinner in front of a fire. But when a wandering wizard captivates him with tales of the unknown, Bilbo becomes restless. Soon he joins the wizard's band of homeless dwarves in search of giant spiders, savage wolves, and other dangers. Bilbo quickly tires of the quest for adventure and longs for the security of his familiar home. But before he can return to his life of comfort, he must face the greatest threat of all - a treasure-troving dragon named Smaug.

WE WILL MEET IN PERSON AT CRIMSON HOUSE
NOVEMBER 1 TO DISCUSS THE BOOK.



YOUTH Newsletter

OCTOBER
2025

WHAT WE'RE LEARNING

Bible Study

In October both groups have been studying the book of Galatians.

We look forward to our cheeseball fundraiser again in November. The youth will be making them on Saturday, November 1st.

Cheeseballs will be available to purchase at the Holiday Bazaar on November 2nd through Christmas.

Galatians 2:1-14

October 12th

New Hope 2nd year Seminarian

Middle: Seminarian William Harr.

High: Vicar Charles McLain

Galatians 2:15-21

October 26th

Bethlehem 2nd Year Seminarian

Middle: Seminarian Brandon Streeks.

High: Vicar Charles McLain

"I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me..."

Galatians 2:20a

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Bible Study: October 12
(6:30pm-8:00pm)
- Bible Study: October 26
(6:30pm-8:00pm)



Bible Study
Middle School Group

REFRESHMENTS

Doughnut Duty: Vicar & Mrs. McLain

Bible Study 12th: Holtzclaw

Bible Study 26th: Fuller-Householder



OCTOBER EVENT SCHEDULE

FACEBOOK: BRIDGE 20/30 GROUP FT. WAYNE | INSTAGRAM: THEBRIDGE2030

7

OCT 2025

DEVOTION ANCHOR NIGHT: "PURSUING GOD DAILY"
WITH BRIAN LOESEL FOLLOWED BY CARDS & GAMES

7 PM THE GARDEN
3308 N. ANTHONY BLVD

14

OCT 2025

MEETUP - KEKIONGA CRAFT COMPANY

HANG OUT INSIDE OR ON THEIR LIT UP PATIO AND
SIP ON THEIR SEASONAL HARD CIDERS!

7-9 PM 7328 MAYSVILLE ROAD
FORT WAYNE

21

OCT 2025

THE PORCH NIGHT: SERIES ON VANITY: A STUDY OF
THE BOOK OF ECCLESIASTES

7 PM HOLY CROSS YOUTH CENTER
3420 N. ANTHONY BLVD

28

OCT 2025

COSTUME PARTY & PUMPKIN CARVING

COME IN COSTUME & BRING A PUMPKIN TO CARVE.

7 PM THE GARDEN
3308 N. ANTHONY BLVD

WIND SYMPHONY

OF CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY CHICAGO

**Dr. Richard R. Fischer,
Conductor**

*The Fred and Jane Wittlinger
Endowed Chair in
Music Performance*

FREE CONCERT!

**Saturday,
Oct 25
7 p.m.**

**DR. FISCHER'S
FINAL TOUR**

**Ascension Lutheran
Church & School**

**8811 St. Joe Rd.
Fort Wayne, IN**

Learn more at alcsfw.org



**CONCORDIA
UNIVERSITY**
CHICAGO

Christ at the Center

*A freewill offering in support of the
Wind Symphony will be received.*



TIGER TALES

“Make a Joyful Noise”



Thank you to all who turned out and showed their Tiger pride during the Ossian Days parade. Mr. Meyer shared a link to view more pictures.

https://www.canva.com/design/DAGzL2USAkE/7uMhaDyh0ZavQFMPdTO2w/watch?utm_content=DAGzL2USAkE&utm_campaign=designshare&utm_medium=link2&utm_source=uniquelinks&utlId=h54f8fdf7f0

CALENDAR

- Oct. 2-3 No School (Elearning)
- Oct. 5 Pork Chop Dinner Event
- Oct. 6 Vision Screening
- Oct. 9 K-2 Fieldtrip
- Oct. 10 End of 1st Quarter
- Oct. 13, 15, 16 Parent Teacher Conferences
- Oct. 16 Board of Ed Meeting
- Oct. 20-24 Fall Break—No School
- Oct. 25 Trunk or Treat
- Oct. 27 PTL Meeting

OCTOBER 2025

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	31	

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

- Oct. 10 Maisie Patrick
- Oct. 11 Alex Fuhrmann
- Oct. 19 Anthony Tolson
- Oct. 23 Gabriella Campbell
- Oct. 25 Evelyn Wanner





What a magical day at our Fall Festival 2025! The smiles, the laughter, and all those precious moments captured in time - it's like bottling up pure joy! From pumpkin-perfect poses to autumn adventures, every snapshot tells a story of fun and friendship. Swipe through these memories and feel the festive spirit all over again! These are the moments that make our school community so special. Thank you to our PTL committee for a wonderful event.

<https://animoto.com/play/I9qYI8NB1vaqBGBQtz0qBA>

Parents may access the 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

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, October 15th. 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 October 2-3 as our teachers will be attending the LEA Conference in St. Louis. Elearning has been implemented for those days.

Fall Break— Bethlehem will be closed October 20-24 for Fall Break

PTL NEWS

PTL Meeting—October 27th at 6:00 p.m.

Black Tie Gala and Blue Jeans and SILENT AUCTION! Mark your Calendars! Saturday, November 8th! Bethlehem Lutheran School will be having our 6th annual Gala and Silent Auction at The Lighted Gardens in Ossian. Be sure to check out the flyer in this issue of Tiger Tales.

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.



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

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.

Please be sure to check out our new scrip order sheet attached to this newsletter. Physical cards from local vendors and more are now available for order. **The next order date is October 5th.** Ordering dates are set to reduce shipping costs. For questions or for placing an order, please contact Mariah Trammel at 260-267-1614, our PTL representative.

As you purchase SCRIP you will also accumulate a percentage of profit to be applied to your child's tuition. Thank you to the church congregation and school families for supporting the Scrip Program.

Our Washington D.C. group appreciates your support.

This year's trip for our 7th & 8th graders will take place in April 2026

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.

Aluminum cans and scrap metal are also being collected for fundraising efforts. A trash receptacle for cans is located at the north entrance to the gym. For scrap metal collection, please contact Jason Rekeweg or Jay Werling.





As you are able, please bring an Offering for Chapel on Wednesdays

Our God has given so much to us! One way that we worship Him is by giving back a portion of His gifts to Him and to His Church. Students may place their offerings in the offering plate as they come into chapel every Wednesday.

Chapel Offering Project for the First Quarter: Church Music Student

During the 2nd quarter (Oct. 13--Dec. 19) our school families will be supporting the Northern Wells Food Pantry. Along with our weekly chapel offerings, we will be collecting different items:

October —13- 28 Canned Goods 150 cans

October 29– November 18 Personal Hygiene items 50 items

November 19- December 9 Boxed Food 100 items

December 10– December 19 Paper Products and Snack Foods 100 items

Please feel free to join us for Wednesday morning Chapel at 10:00 a.m.



When Problems Come Up

We don't always get along. We don't always see eye to eye. We often have different ideas of how things should go. We often want to see things done our way. And problems come up.

This is what happens when sinners live and work together, which means this is what happens all the time—even for Christians. Because we're sinners too. This is true for Christian marriages and families, Christian congregations, and Christian schools.

Even though we're all sinners, living and working together, what makes these Christian places different from all the other places in the world is that we live and work together in love. The love of God in Christ covers everything, tempers every word, and softens every thought. Paul tells us to live and work together *with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace (Ephesians 4:2-3)*. Even though we won't always agree with each other, we love one another and work to maintain our unity, our community, with one another.

To help us achieve that goal, we also have an order for communication. When sinful Christians live and work together, it's best for everyone to be on the same page, all moving in the same direction. Paul reminds us that *God is not a God of confusion but of peace... all things should be done decently and in order (1 Corinthians 14:40)*. So, when a problem comes up at a Christian school, this is the way we do things decently and in good order:

- Start with the person involved - if it's a problem in the classroom, start by talking to the Teacher.
- If concerns are not resolved, request a meeting with the Headmaster.
- At times, it may also help the conversation to include the Senior Pastor in meetings.
- If no resolution is found after meetings with Headmaster, Teacher, and Pastor, then the concern may be brought before the School Board.

This kind of decency and good order takes time and it needs everyone's cooperation. But that's how we maintain our community. That's how we bear one another in love. That's how we keep living and working together as Christians.

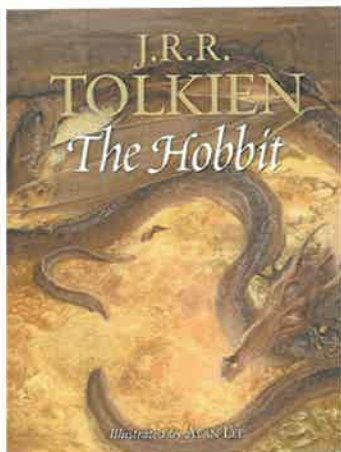
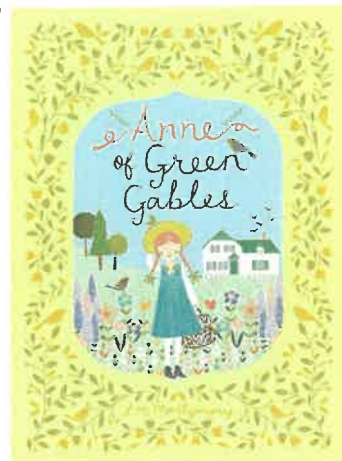
May the God of peace be with you all.
Your servant in Christ,
Pastor Dodgers



LITERARY
TIGER

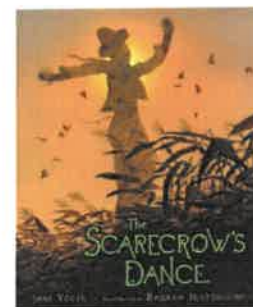
"I'm so glad I live in a world where there are Octobers."
(Anne of Green Gables by L.M. Montgomery)

Autumn is a perfect season for reading. Earlier sunsets and crisp air make many crave some cozy time with a great book. Anne of Green Gables would be a good choice, and Anne's enthusiasm for October just might rub off on the reader.



Or maybe Bilbo Baggins is your kindred spirit, "He found himself wondering at times, especially in the autumn, about the wild lands, and strange visions of mountains that he had never seen came into his dreams." If so, The Hobbit by J.R.R. Tolkien may be your cup of tea. (Many Bethlehem members are reading this for the book club. Discussion will be Nov. 1 at Crimson House. All adults are welcome to join!)

Younger readers can enjoy our collection of picture books, including autumn titles about the changing seasons, scarecrows, pumpkins, and fall holidays.



Your school librarians are looking forward to helping you find something you'll enjoy!

Note for parents – as stated in our school mission statement, we are here to work with parents in guiding children, and this includes their reading choices. Feel free to contact the librarians or teachers at any time if you have concerns or requests about your child's library selections. You can reach us through our Library Ladies profile on Class Do-jo, or email library@blcsossian.org.



Talented Tigers

Anne of Green Gables
Presented by Creative Arts Theater
428 S. Oak Street, Bluffton, IN 46714

October 10th @ 7pm

October 11th @ 3pm

Cast includes Bethlehem Tigers:

Jonah Bultemeier, Savannah Fuller, Anna Fuhrmann, Ginny Wirgau, and Jude Wirgau.

Bethlehem Alumni:

Vinny Fuhrmann, Emma Wirgau, and Sarena Wirgau.

Admission for 12 & under is \$10. Admission for Adults is \$15.



Tigers,

As this volleyball season has come to a close, we want to take a moment to say how incredibly proud we are of each and every one of you. Your dedication, grit, and growth—on and off the court—have inspired us more than words can say.

You've faced challenges head-on, pushed through tough matches, and supported each other like true teammates. That's what being a Tiger is all about. But remember, the journey doesn't end here. Keep practicing. Keep pushing. Keep rising to every obstacle that comes your way. Champions aren't made in the spotlight—they're built in the quiet moments of hard work and perseverance.

And never forget:

**"Good, better, best.
Never let it rest. Un-
til my good is my
better and my better
is my best."**

123.. TIGERS!



With pride,
Your Coaches
Coach Katy and
Coach Erin



MIDDLE SCHOOL GIRLS

SEPT. 17 GETTING A BELLYFUL

OCT 15 STAKING A CLAIM

SCRIPTURE: JUDGES 3:12-20

SUMMARY: GOD USES THE LEFT-HANDED EHUD TO DELIVER THE ISRAELITES FROM MOABITE OPPRESSION BY ASSASSINATING THE OBESE KING EGLON. THE INCIDENT SHOWS GOD USES THE UNEXPECTED TO BRING JUSTICE AND SALVATION TO HIS PEOPLE.



DATES

9.18
Bible Trivia

10.16
Advent Devotional

Deaconess Discussion

Bible Trivia

Scripture teaches that faith is created and sustained through God's Word (Romans 10:17). Growing in faith, children learn to trust God's promises and carry His love with them throughout life.

Would You Rather?



Charades



Pictionary



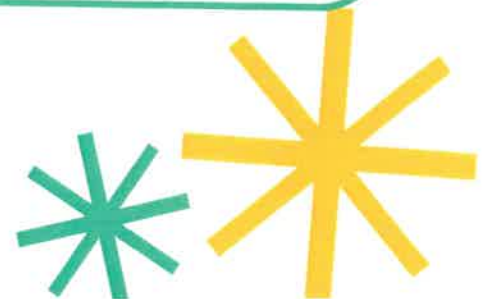
Bible Questions



Catechism



Let's
Make
a Joyful
Noise PSALM 98:4



HEALTH & WELLNESS

RESOURCES

lookupindiana.org

*Martin Luther on Mental Health:
Practical Advice for Christians Today*
by Stephen Saunders

*Grace Upon Grace: Spirituality for
Today*
by John Kleinig



LUTHER'S ANSWERS TO ANXIETY

Martin Luther knew firsthand what it was to feel despondent and anxious. He experienced these struggles throughout his life and developed practical remedies he shared with others. While ongoing depression requires medical attention, Luther's advice can help those feeling "down."

Luther spent much of his youth alone and understood how solitude could magnify melancholy thoughts. He observed that when we are alone, we often dwell on our misfortunes and imagine the worst, while assuming others are happy. His remedy: "Undertake to do anything else you are able—play, sports, music, meals—just to free yourself from these thoughts," encouraging activity and companionship. He advised engaging in enjoyable pursuits with others, noting that gladness and good cheer, when proper, are "the best medicine."

God created gifts such as friendship, leisure, and nature for us to enjoy, and comfort from others is ultimately comfort from God. If alone, Luther suggested doing simple, earthly work, like tending fields. He also found solace in Scripture, prayer, and the examples of faithful Bible figures, emphasizing perseverance in affliction.

Prayer was central for Luther, who distinguished it from worry. Psalm 118, he noted, reminded him to call upon God rather than dwell on troubles alone. Music, too, offered relief: playing or singing joyful songs could lift melancholy.

Other remedies included sports, gardening, Bible reading, prayer, and social connection. Most importantly, Luther urged remembering baptism and God's steadfast love: "Rest assured that [Christ loves] you, the Father loves you, and the Holy Spirit... loves you," a reassurance stronger than our sins or worries.

TAKEN FROM "LUTHER'S ANSWERS TO ANXIETY"
BY BARBARA OWEN
FOR FULL VERSION SEE
LW ARTICLE APRIL, 2001 ISSUE



FIFTH ANNUAL

CAR & CRAFT FEST

STAUFFER FARMS

October 4th & 5th

OCT 4TH 10AM-10PM

Concert @ 6pm with Trevor Hunt & The Sleepers

OCT 5TH 12PM-5PM

Worship Service @ 4pm

3584 NW SR-116 MARKLE,
IN 46770



CAR SHOW · KID ZONE · 50+ VENDORS · HAYRIDES · FOOD TRUCK

Bethlehem Lutheran & New Hope Lutheran



SATURDAY
25 OCTOBER
4-6 P M 2025

- ✓ Vote for your favorite trunk.
- ☂ Rain location in the gym.
- 🍔 Hot dogs and other refreshments available for purchase.
(Proceeds supporting the New Hope/Bethlehem Middle School Youth Group trip to the Ark Encounter and Creation Museum.)

Bring the kids for an evening of treats, decorated trunks, and activities!

New Hope Lutheran Church
8643-8691 IN-1, Ossian, IN 46777

This year, we'll also feature community booths with helpful information and resources for families in our area.



TRUNK PARTICIPATION

- You are responsible for decorating your trunk and providing a treat for attendees.
 - Please have your vehicle parked by 3:15 p.m.
 - Trunks must be decorated by 3:45 p.m.
 - Be ready to hand out candy by 4:00 p.m.
- Dressing up in costume is encouraged!
- For safety, vehicles must remain parked throughout the event, and at least one person should stay at your trunk the entire time.
- Each vehicle will receive a number for its assigned location for voting purposes.
- Because this is a church and school event with many young children present, please avoid scary costumes / decorations.
- In case of inclement weather, tables will be provided in the gym for you to decorate instead.
- This event is free to participate in and free to attend.
- A prize will be awarded at the end of the night for the Best Trunk!

1. Group / Family Name: _____

2. Contact Person Name / Number: _____

3. Home Church: _____

4. Type of Vehicle: _____

5. Make / Model: _____

6. Trunk Theme: _____

ASSUMPTION OF RISK AND IMAGE RELEASE FORM:

I do hereby fully release and discharge Bethlehem Lutheran Church and New Hope Lutheran Church, its employees and volunteers from any and all claims from injuries, damage or loss which I and / or my property may incur as a result of my participation or attendance in the Trunk or Treat event. Additionally, I give my permission to be photographed during my participation and for the photographs to be used on social media and for future advertising / promotion of the event.

- Yes, I agree.
 No, I choose not to participate.

PLEASE TURN THIS FORM INTO THE CHURCH OFFICE



Bethlehem Lutheran School
St Paddy's All Clover Again
Silent Auction and Gala

Featuring entertainment by The Ragtag Bunch

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

November 8, 2025

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 ~ The Ragtag Bunch 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 October 26th! ***
Seating is limited!**

**Contact Jennifer Bultemeier 419-230-8068 or the school office
260-597-7366 for tickets**

Bethlehem Lutheran School

VETERAN'S DAY PROGRAM



TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 11TH

PROGRAM 1PM-2PM

DOORS OPEN AT 12:30PM

**JOIN US AS WE HONOR THE MEN AND WOMEN WHO HAVE
SERVED OUR COUNTRY WITH COURAGE AND SACRIFICE.**

**ALL VETERANS, FAMILIES, AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS ARE
WARMLY INVITED.**

LIGHT REFRESHMENTS WILL BE PROVIDED.



BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN SCHOOL

7545 N. 650 E.
OSSIAN, IN 46777



RSVP FOR ACCURATE HEADCOUNT

(260) 597-7366 OR
BETHLEHEMOSSIANSEC@GMAIL.COM

**FREE
ADMISSION**

Bethlehem Lutheran School Ossian, Indiana Coffee Fundraiser



Instructions: Scan the QR code. Add your selections to the shopping cart. When you've finished with your selections, check out using your preferred payment method. The discount code (AHZAVZFWRH) should appear on your checkout page. \$25 minimum purchase required. **A discount of \$2 will be subtracted from your order total and BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN SCHOOL will be credited for your purchase.** Use this code every time you place an order. Share it freely.

If the discount code does not appear automatically, enter it manually. The code must be used to receive your discount and for Bethlehem Lutheran School to receive proper credit.

Your order will be prepared and shipped promptly.

OLDCANALROASTERS.COM



OLD CANAL ROASTERS

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/mi/StartEarning](#).

Organization enrollment code: 43ALE7851441

For questions, contact our coordinator: Mariah Trammel at (260)2671614



The merchants represented are not sponsors or otherwise affiliated with RaiseRight™. The logos and other identifying marks used are trademarks of and owned by each represented company and/or its affiliates. Please visit the company's website for additional terms and conditions. © 2024 RaiseRight