

The Bethlehem Star

October 2021

We are a Christian community rooted in the gospel of Jesus Christ that gathers to worship, learn and share, and reaches out to welcome, witness and serve.

Blessing of our pets...

Blessing of the Animals Sunday will be on Oct 3. We'll have a special tribute to our pets during worship, plus an afternoon outdoor service of Blessing. **Send us a picture of your pet that we can use during worship.** A digital photo sent via email is best, but if you have a print, bring it to the office and we'll scan it. We'll also include a special segment for pets who have died, so feel free to send those pictures, too. Then, at 3PM we'll host a Blessing of the Animals – pets and their humans are welcome. Praise God for the animals!



God's Work. Our Hands.

A great day of service, sharing and learning was had at The HEART Locker, September 19. 11 faithful servants gathered to clean, sweep, dust, organize and de-clutter preparing a space for kids and parents to come and get some basic needs met with dignity and pride. A Thrivent Action Team grant of \$250 allowed us to buy all the cleaning supplies needed and leave the extras there for future use. Thanks to all who helped out!

(ps – another group of faithful guys spent the afternoon building at the new Serious Jujitsu Skatepark... Thankfulness for their hands and God's work through them, too!)



Remembering the Beloved Saints

All Saints Sunday is November 7. Once again we'll be remembering loved ones who have died and now rest in the promise of Jesus. If you have a photo of a loved one who passed in the last year (since November 2020), send it to office@bethluth.org along with their name and a SHORT thought or memory. We'll include them in our remembrance of All the Saints. Photos due before Halloween.



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Please allow me to share my perspective on why we require masks at church.

I always say if something is important to you, then it should have an elevator speech. That means you should be able to tell somebody about whatever that thing is that's important to you in the time it takes to ride an elevator with a stranger 2 or 3 floors. Not all the answers and details need to be given, but you should be able to state your case in that short a time.

So, my elevator speech for masks at Bethlehem is this: *We want families to feel comfortable bringing their children to worship and other church activities. So, we take on the minor inconvenience of wearing masks for the sake of their comfort and well-being. We also recognize that even a mild case of COVID can be dire for a vaccinated elderly or immunocompromised adult. Our desire is to care for others.*

I know wearing a mask is uncomfortable. I know it's hard to sing with them on. I wish I could see your faces. But this is our calling to love our neighbors. Philippians 2 says –

If there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy... be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others.

God is faithful, and God will guide us through these difficult days. I pray that we remain faithful to the love and grace that has been shown to us that we might praise God with our love and grace toward others.

Joy in the journey,
Pastor Scott

BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING– SEPTEMBER 14, 2021

Treasurer's Report

May Income \$29,689; Expenditures \$30,175; Ending balance August 31st \$62,991. Duane reports he has some preliminary figures for the Mission Plan. He needs all of this year's figures or he will use last year's. He will discuss adding \$2000 of proposed organ funding at next month's meeting.

Music Ministry Report

Marshall Jones reported practice has started for Choir, Handbell Quartet, and Mixture Groups. He notes that many people who showed initial interest in joining the groups failed to attend. He is looking into using a different type of bell for our upcoming All Saints worship service. Marshall continues to post Hymn Histories to our Facebook page weekly as well as videos teaching from the All Creation Sings supplement. He also confirmed compensation for Marlene Anderson as she has returned as accompanist.

Marshall was a finalist for the American Prize in Composition in the orchestral division for his work *Paramneses* and a semi-finalist in the instrumental chamber division for his *String Quartet*. His work for chorus and soloists, *Safe, Dark, Motionless, Airless*, based on C.S. Lewis text and the experiences of many during 2020 will be premiered by the Glacier Chorale in the concerts on Nov. 13th and 14th.

Pastor's Report

Pastor Scott reports we had 12-13 students enroll in Sunday School this past Rally Day. We also potentially have 2 young adults for Confirmation. Day of Service on September 19th will be at HEART Locker for a deep clean. We will pay for cleaning supplies out of the Thrivent fund. On September 26th, Pastor Scott will be out of town so Pastor Al Jensen will be leading worship. Blessing of the Animals will be held on October 3rd so he encouraged people send in pictures of their animals for a slideshow. In the last month we have welcomed three new church members. October 17th will be the New Member ceremony with a small meet and greet after worship. At that time, we will also hold the Church Ministry Fair so that members, old and new, can be informed regarding volunteer opportunities at the church.

Upcoming Dates:

- Sept. 19: God's Work. Our Hands at HEART Locker
- Sept 22-29: Pastor Scott out of town
- October 3: Blessing of the Animals
- October 9: FLBC Fall Harvest Festival and Auction

Nursery Clean Out

Peggy Aagenes-Janzer informed the council that the quilters and knitters would like to use the old nursery to for children and parents who wish to bring their kids to church functions/ meetings. Concerns were raised regarding the need for a cleaning schedule for the space as well as for the need to emphasize that children are welcomed and encouraged to be part of our worship service and not be made to feel they should be relegated to the nursery if they become noisy. Amber volunteered to speak with Gaylynn Nelson regarding information on cleaning requirements and to decide on a plan of action.

Strategic Planning Team Update

John Erfle reported on the Strategic Planning Committee. Currently the team are reaching out to our community partners as well as other businesses and neighbors in the area to find out what the needs of our community are at present and how we can best be of service.

Boiler Replacement

Bill Pursell reported he received three quotes from three different heating and cooling companies to handle the repairs needed for the heating systems in Church Building, Hjortland Building, and Church Office. Bill Pursell **MOTIONED** we use Central Heating and Cooling for the repairs for the Church Building and Church Office only and requested \$60,000.00 in total to cover the costs. Judy Cundy **SECONDED** the motion, and it was **APPROVED**.

Semi-Annual Meeting Date

Judy Cundy **MOTIONED** for the Semi-Annual meeting should be held on Sunday, October 24th at 10:20am in the Sanctuary. Cindy Galvin **SECONDED** the motion, and it was **APPROVED**.



Regular Gatherings

- Wednesday Evenings - Starting Sept 15 - 5:30-7:30 - High School Youth Group meets for a meal and discussion around topics of faith and life.
- 1st and 3rd Sunday Evenings - starting Sept. 19th - 5-7pm - Group Time for Games, Movies, check-in, discussion, and general hanging out together.

Upcoming events

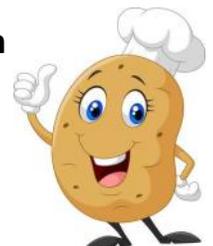
- Glass Recycling fund raiser - Saturday, Sept 18 - 10am-4pm - We need all hands for lifting, weighing, and moving glass. Plus, a few parents. Plan to save your glass and encourage your neighbors to do the same. More info at <https://www.bethluth.org/pages/kids-and-youth>.
- Youth Auction fund raiser - Sunday, Nov 7 - time tbd - Youth (and any parents who can help) will prepare a "potato and fixin's" dinner and host an auction with items donated by the congregation. All youth are expected to attend and help out.

ELCA Youth Gathering - Minneapolis - July 24-28, 2022

We're hoping for a great group to attend next summer. Details will be coming out soon about registration costs and travel plans. Just a reminder here, though, that for those attending the Gathering, fundraisers and regular attendance at Youth Group gatherings will be required. Watch for more in emails to come.

Youth Auction and Potato Feed

No, we are not auctioning off the youth of our congregation! Instead, on **Nov 7th** we are auctioning off some wonderful items, services, and foods with all of the proceeds going to benefit BLC youth. Also, our youth volunteers will be serving delicious potatoes with all of your favorite toppings and trimmings. It will be a fun afternoon of food, fellowship, and financial extravagance. Come and support our youth.



Rally Day 2021– Huge Success

Thank you to everyone who participated in the Rally Day/Ice Cream Social on September 12th. Sunday School is off to a great start – remember, kids can go to Sunday School following the Children's Sermon and parents can pick them up in the Hjortland Building after worship! Also – Don't forget, Adult Bible Study takes place in the Fellowship Hall after church (and after donuts!) at about 10:20. Stay a little while and learn with us through the Parables of Jesus!



Choirs and Handbell Ensembles for the Fall

Choir----We have Bethlehem Lutheran Choir on Wednesdays at 7 PM, but we are singing things geared for smaller choirs. If we had at least one more on each part (2 more tenors and sopranos ideally) we would have the numbers to be in better shape to sing music geared for a larger choir. We will supplement that with a virtual choir once every 3 months as an opportunity to sing music that would require a larger choir to cover more parts.

Handbells--- We have one handbell quartet that meets on Mondays at 5:30 PM. From the responses I received, we would need 4 more ringers for GosBells to start again.

Mixture (tentative name and reference to a type of organ stop)----We have begun a new ensemble dedicated to leadership on hymns and liturgy through vocal leadership for congregational singing and the addition of instruments as appropriate for hymns and liturgy. This group rehearses music for the upcoming few weeks of worship at 6:30 PM on Mondays.

A Matter Of Balance

First Presbyterian Church, Kalispell is holding a class about managing concerns about falls. It is a free class which begins on Tuesday, October 5, 1:00pm-2:30pm. Call 752-7488 to reserve a spot. Topics discussed will include:

- Falls awareness
- How our brain works with our body
- How to gain or retrain muscle strength
- Bone strengthening
- What affects balance
- Gaining confidence
- How to help others
- How to exercise from a chair

School Kits

Thank you to all who donated school supplies or money for Lutheran World Relief school kits. We will be able to assemble 100 kits to be distributed throughout the country and world!

Thank You

We extend our sincere gratitude for the outpouring of support given to us following the sudden and unexpected passing of our loving husband and father, Ken. Your thoughts and prayers have been a gift to us, and we have found strength and peace in the care and the grace we have received from you.

With love and thanks,

Rhonda, Maverick, Olivia and Erik Kalvig



FLBC'S FALL HARVEST FESTIVAL AND AUCTION

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 9TH, 2021 @ Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp
550 Lutheran Camp Rd, Lakeside MT 59922

An event to help make camp financially accessible to all!

4PM-5:30 PM Silent Auction, Happy Hour, & Appetizers

5:30 PM Dinner Served

6:15 PM Live Auction \$ Program

Silent Auction closes after program

Individual Tickets: \$30 each

Table Package (8 Tickets): \$200

(Kids 16 & Under are free; activities & dinner for youth from 4-7pm)

Contact FLBC at 406-752-6602 to purchase tickets, or visit one.bidpal.net/flbcauction/ to buy tickets online and browse our online auction items (online bidding opens 10/1/21 and ends 10/10/21).

Thomas Keesecker in Concert

Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Columbia Falls (401 7th St W)

Friday, October 29, 2021

7:00 P.M. - a free-will offering will be taken

Composer and pianist Thomas Keesecker will lead us in an inspirational hour of piano music, reflection, poetry, and laughter, featuring his collections of piano music, *The Quiet Harvest* and *The Quiet Heart*. Hymns featured in the program include: "Praise and Thanksgiving," "Let All Things Now Living," "Beautiful Savior," "Over the River and Through the Wood," and others.

Tom will have CDs available for purchase after the program.

Biography

Tom retired in 2019 after serving as a church musician for over 40 years in both Lutheran and Roman Catholic parishes in Virginia, Montana, and Maryland. His award-winning choral music is published by several publishers. His studies at the Berklee College of Music in Boston and the Catholic University School of Music in Washington, D.C. prepared him for a career in which he has mixed classical technique and jazz improvisation.

October Calendar 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 <u>9:00am</u> Worship/ Sunday School <u>9:00am</u> KOFI <u>10:20am</u> Adult Bible Study <u>3:00pm</u> Blessing of the Animals <u>5:00pm</u> HS Youth Group	4 <u>5:30pm</u> Handbells <u>6:30pm</u> Mixture	5 <u>7:00pm</u> Committees, FH	6 <u>6:45am</u> Men's Bible Study, FH <u>10:00am</u> Staff <u>10:30am</u> Spinners, FH <u>5:30pm</u> HS Youth Group <u>6:00pm</u> FLY	7 <u>9:00am</u> Quilters, FH <u>9:00am</u> Knitters, FR	8	9 <u>4:00pm</u> FLBC Fall Harvest Festival and Auction
10 <u>9:00am</u> Worship/ Sunday School <u>9:00am</u> KOFI <u>10:20am</u> Adult Bible Study	11 <u>5:30pm</u> Handbells <u>6:30pm</u> Mixture	12 <u>9:45am</u> Dorcas Circle, FH <u>6:00pm</u> Council, FH	13 <u>6:45am</u> Men's Bible Study, FH <u>10:00am</u> Staff <u>5:30pm</u> HS Youth Group <u>6:00pm</u> FLY <u>7:00pm</u> Choir	14 <u>9:00am</u> Quilters, FH <u>9:00am</u> Knitters, FR <u>6:00pm</u> Strategic Planning Committee Mtg, FH	15	16
17– New Member & Ministry Fair Sunday <u>9:00am</u> Worship/ Sunday School <u>9:00am</u> KOFI <u>10:20am</u> Adult Bible Study <u>PM</u> God's Work Our Hands– Sparrow's Nest <u>5:00pm</u> HS Youth Group	18 <u>5:30pm</u> Handbells <u>6:30pm</u> Mixture <i>Newsletter deadline</i>	19	20 <u>6:45am</u> Men's Bible Study, FH <u>10:00am</u> Staff <u>10:30am</u> Spinners and Weavers, FH <u>5:30pm</u> HS Youth Group <u>6:00pm</u> FLY <u>7:00pm</u> Choir	21 <u>9:00am</u> Quilters, FH <u>9:00am</u> Knitters, FR	22	23
24 <u>9:00am</u> Worship/ Sunday School <u>9:00am</u> KOFI <u>10:20am</u> Adult Bible Study	25 <u>1:00pm</u> Women on the Go, FH <u>5:30pm</u> Handbells <u>6:30pm</u> Mixture	26	27 <u>6:45am</u> Men's Bible Study, FH <u>10:00am</u> Staff <u>5:30pm</u> HS Youth Group <u>6:00pm</u> FLY <u>7:00pm</u> Choir	28 <u>9:00am</u> Quilters, FH <u>9:00am</u> Knitters, FR <u>6:00pm</u> Strategic Planning Committee Mtg, FH	29	30
31 <u>9:00am</u> Worship/ Sunday School <u>9:00am</u> KOFI <u>10:20am</u> Adult Bible Study						

Locations:
 CM-Commons
 FH -Fellowship Hall
 FR-Fireside Room
 HB-Hjortland Bld.
 KB– Kalispell Brewing

Join us on October 17th as we welcome new members to the church. We will have a small celebration after worship as well as a Ministry Fair with tables set up explaining all the ways to get involved with BLC.





Bethlehem Lutheran Church
 603 South Main Street, Kalispell, Montana 59901
office@bethluth.org / www.bethluth.org
 Facebook: Bethlehem Lutheran Kalispell
 406/752-6140 - 406/752-6145 FAX
 KOFI 1180AM at 9:00am Sundays

Non Profit Org.
 U.S. Postage
 PAID
 Kalispell, MT 59901
 Permit #11

bethluth.org

Electronic service requested



Cyndie	Grace	10/3	Gabe	Durgan	10/26
Andrew	Mattson	10/3	Click	Christianson	10/28
Linda	Smith	10/4	Chloe	Hensley	10/28
Steve	Johnson	10/5	Mckenna	Couch	10/28
Alan	Young	10/5	Patti	Young	10/29
Duane	Anderson	10/7			
Wendy	Marshall	10/9			
Peggy	Aagenes-Janzer	10/11			
Wally	Wilder	10/12			
Tony	Nelson	10/12			
Susan	Stadler	10/14			
Hannah	Phillips	10/15			
Irna	Thoms	10/17			
Erik	Kalvig	10/21			
Bob	Borgen	10/22			
Don	Beller	10/23			
Carolyn	Hardel	10/26			
Bill	Pursell	10/26			
Kay	Linguist	10/26			

**The deadline for
 the November
 newsletter is
 October 18th.
 Thank you!**

Church Council

President:

Tony Nelson

Vice Presidents:

Amber Brohn

Treasurer:

Duane Anderson

Recording Secretary:

Kellie Nelson

Committee Chairs

Christian Education

Lisa Jones

Fellowship:

Peggy Aagenes-Janzer

Outreach:

Cindy Galvin

Property:

Bill Pursell

Stewardship:

John Erfle

Worship and Music:

Judie Cundy

Youth:

Bill Erickson