

Bethlehem News



Dear Friends in Christ.

We have all been saddened by the news of all the lives lost in Afghanistan. While our first response is more of anger at the situation and those responsible, ask yourself, "What would God's will be for you and I in this situation, how would he have us act?" If we act on our own for revenge, we sin. If we do nothing and ignore, can we truly not have the sin of anger rage up within us? Are we innocent when we don't act? These are questions we must ask ourselves. So, what are we to do?

I would turn you to the Lord in prayer, specifically the Lord's Prayer.

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

Remember who your Father is and continue to keep His name Holy. Be faithful, continuing to seek His will. Continue to hear His word often. Continue to engage fellow Christians in discussion of His word. Continue to live a life that honors God. Give Him thanks and praise for all He provides for your daily life and continue to seek to forgive as you have been forgiven.

We live in a world full of sin and it is beneficial that we continually seek God's favor through repentance for He is slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. Let your light shine in the darkness of a suffering and sinful world.

Ask God to not lead you into temptation, or in other words, that he strengthen us that we would be able to resist sin. God tempts no one. We pray in the sixth petition that God would guard and keep us so that the devil, the world, and our sinful nature may not deceive us or mislead us into false belief, despair, and other great shame and wicked or immoral behavior. We are attacked by these things, and we pray that we may finally overcome them and win the victory.

The world was corrupted by sin after the fall and continues to this day and beyond. Remain faithful to God. Remember God sent His Son into the world to save it, not condemn it. Lift each other up because of God's love for you found in Christ. Continue to encourage each other in Love.

1 Corinthians 4 Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. 5 It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. 6 Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. 7 It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.....13 And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.

Peace be with you all,

Pastor Karl

News and Updates



The trustees are planning to get all the floors in the church professionally cleaned. The cost will be approximately \$1500. If you would like to contribute to this please mark your donations as "Floor Cleaning"

Thank you, Jeff Kirsch



I hope everyone had a relaxing summer.

Remember Bible studies after church on Sundays and at 10:30 on Wednesday mornings. I wish to again express my heartfelt thanks to Vi for taking care of our books and cards that are for sale and supporting our Youth Group. Hopefully covid will slow down a little and we will get the young people back together again soon. I miss all of them as I am sure you do. I pray God keeps them safe
As always, yearn to learn,
Sandy Grage



We have begun to return to our social time after Sunday worship and during Sunday Bible Study. This requires the donation of snacks and willing helpers in our kitchen. We have sign-up sheets on the wall board next to the kitchen entrance. Please sign up for a Sunday when possible. Any questions regarding these items may be brought to members of the Ladies Guild. Our Ladies Guild monthly meetings will begin on Monday, October 4th at 1:00 pm. All ladies are welcome. We're excited to begin our activities for the coming months.

Also a reminder to sign on the flower calendar in the narthex to celebrate your special occasions with beautiful altar flowers.

We are all so blessed with time and talents given to us by our Lord and Savior. Also, we are blessed with a Church and Church Family to enjoy and share our friendship with. We should share these gifts whenever possible.

Thanks,
Pam Rugenstein



We are collecting shoe boxes for Operation Christmas Child again this year. Samaritan's Purse collects our boxes and distributes them to children in need throughout the world. Each one, prayerfully and uniquely packed, is just the beginning. Through The Greatest Journey, which accompanies each box, the children learn about Jesus' love and how to share that love.

Bethlehem provides the boxes with instructions on how to pack them. Suggested items include toys, hygiene items (no liquids), school supplies and clothing. Betty Willis and Joann Erdman each have requested and received Thrivent cards for \$250. We'll use that money to pack even more boxes.

If you have question call Terri Gerlach 239-243-8733 or Betty Willis 239-240-5972



Thrivent Choice: So far this year, through the Thrivent Choice program, Bethlehem Lutheran Church has received \$1,208. Great work. Let's keep it up. Donations can be made quarterly. **Amazon:** Don't forget to use amazon smile.com, not amazon to order so that free cash will be donated back to the church. Use it to order your items to fill your Operation Christmas Child boxes.

Thrivent.com/southeast will let you know all the Thrivent zoom classes available. They include money classes, interviews, musicians and others.

Betty Willis



We would like to encourage members to attend one of our weekly Bible classes. Our Wednesday morning class meets in the fellowship hall at 10:30 a.m. and ends at noon. We have completed the life of Saul and most of David's life. We will continue with the life of Solomon and then the division of the northern and southern kingdoms with their individual kings. It is a fascinating study with a lot of questions that allow the class members to discuss many aspects of Christian living.

We also have a Bible class after church on Sunday mornings that starts around 11:30 and lasts until 12:30. We have discussed various topics and have a lot of discussion. As Christians, we can never learn enough about God's Word. Please join us on Wednesday or Sunday morning or better yet both mornings. You will be most welcome.

Paul Rugenstein

SEPTEMBER 2021

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

SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES	
15	Carrie and Brad Stecklein

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS	
4	Dorothy Hanson
12	Joyce Kelnosky
14	Pete Remmers
15	Pat Duckwitz
20	Sharon Goers

May God Bless Each One of You As We Celebrate Your Special Day!



Betty Willis brought a birthday cake to celebrate her 75th Birthday

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Prayer Chain Needs

Do you know that Bethlehem has a prayer chain that prays for the sick, dying and hurting needs of our church family?
Call or email Linda at (239) 693-5026 or jlkirsch3@comcast.net
Your needs will be taken to the Lord!

Sunday Worship

10:30 AM Worship Service

Rev. Karl Glander

pastorkarlglander@gmail.com

239-293-1489

Organist: **Holly Bell**

Church Secretary: **Linda Kirsch**



We have started an "Air Conditioning Fund" to raise the needed money to replace our aging units in the Sanctuary. Please label your donations as "A/C Fund".

Goal: \$25,000 Raised: \$ 11,850

IN MEMORIAM

RON MUELLER

AUGUST 24, 2021

In Memory of

Memorials totaling \$965 have been given for:

- GARY BELL
- LESTER BRADTMILLER
- JIM KEIPER
- JOYCE KIMBRELL
- JAN LARSON

Today I will...

- ❖ *give thanks for all that comes my way.*
- ❖ *walk and talk through the Holy Spirit within me.*
- ❖ *see God's presence in every element of creation.*
- ❖ *remember that every person I encounter was created by God.*
- ❖ *remember that I am here to serve others.*

Because... that is what my Savior has first done for me.

