

Bethlehem News



Grace mercy and peace, dear friends in Christ,

"3 Grace, mercy and peace from God the Father and from Jesus Christ, the Father's Son, will be with us in truth and love. 4 It has given me great joy to find some of your children walking in the truth, just as the Father commanded us. 5 And now, dear lady, I am not writing you a new command but one we have had from the beginning. I ask that we love one another. 6 And this is love: that we walk in obedience to his commands. As you have heard from the beginning, his command is that you walk in love." (2 John v3-6)

These words written by Saint John have never meant so much to us as they do now.

As the United States and the world recovers, we ask for God's grace, peace, and mercy. Every day, in good seasons and bad, we should ask because that indicates that we are in need of such grace, peace, and mercy. Why? We should ask because we often lack these things in our daily lives and in our interactions with others.

Every day, we receive God's grace, mercy, and peace and every day we should reflect that grace, mercy, and peace in our lives toward others. John's letter is a matter of what is required because of what God has done for us in Christ Jesus. God has given us His Son, and through our faith in His Son, we now live out that faith toward others.

The orange tree naturally bears oranges, while the Christian bears love towards his neighbor. Just as the orange tree needs water and nutrients, the same is true with the Christian. The Christian, throughout his life, needs to be fed the word of God. To be fed the word made flesh which is Christ. Without the nutrients of word and sacraments, we become weak and frail. If you know someone who is suffering, give them a call or better yet sit and talk with them to encourage them, and you will be encouraged.

Love one another by being patient and kind, slow to anger, and not keeping a record of wrongs. At times loving your neighbor is easy, and sometimes it is a little harder. Keep working toward that perfect love God the Father in Christ Jesus has for us. But remember loving your neighbor is an expression of your faith in Christ and it is a response to what God has done for us in Christ Jesus.

"The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you; the Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace."

Let us share the Peace of God

Blessings,

Pastor Karl

News and Updates



We will follow the new CDC guideline that states that fully vaccinated people no longer need to wear a mask or socially distance within the church. People who are not vaccinated can choose to wear a mask and socially distance if they are concerned about their safety. The council will meet on June 6 to discuss other possible changes to our Covid regime. We will keep you posted.

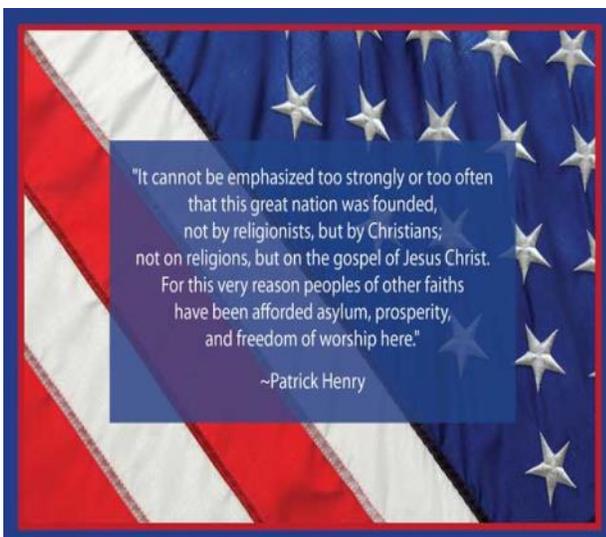


Confirmation classes are on hiatus for the summer. Bible studies are continuing over the summer-very interesting. You can attend in person or on Zoom. Please give one a try. We are looking forward to the day when we can get the youth group together once again. As always, yearn to learn!
Sandy Grage



So far this year, through the Thrivent Choice® program, Bethlehem Lutheran Church has received \$1,072.

Betty Willis 239-240-5972



JUNE 2021

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

JUNE ANNIVERSARIES	
8	Sue & Dennis Hartman
12	Joanne & Darrell Erdman
18	Pat & Rollin Duckwitz
19	Debbie & Robert Wiersum

JUNE BIRTHDAYS	
4	Karen Johnson
17	Terri Gerlach
22	Gwen Nicholson
27	Emeline Larson
28	Robert Wiersum
29	Mathew Glander



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

Linda Rust presents the beautiful banner that she made for use with Bethlehem's Sunday School, VBS, and Confirmation classes.

Bethlehem Lutheran Church
14531 Old Olga Road
Fort Myers, FL 33905
Phone: 239-694-3878

Website:
www.bethlehemplutheranfortmyers.org
Email: bethlehemlc@gmail.com

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**

Ushers Needed

Looking for a great, safe way to connect with members of the Bethlehem congregation? Consider being an usher for our Sunday services. You will greet everyone entering the church, show them where to pick-up a bulletin, their communion kit, and place their offering. At the end of the service you'll collect the attendance cards as they depart.

Sign up on the sheet in the fellowship hall or call the church office.



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: \$ 11,580



IN MEMORIAM

JOYCE KIMBRELL

GARY BELL

MAY 25, 2021



Thank you to all those who have sent in their offerings. In addition to mail, you can give online on the church website

(bethlehemplutheranfortmyers.org) or through your bank's bill pay system.

We need your continued support.

Richard Gerlach, Council President

**One
Nation
Under God**

**SAVED BY
GRACE**