



Bethlehem Lutheran Church



## Bethlehem News



Dear Friends in Christ,

Psalm 1 below is a contrast of those who walk with God in Christ and those who do not. We know that we are as followers of Christ, ridiculed and looked down upon. We don't have to look to far to find how David also was attacked and his enemies sought to kill him. The Psalms is a wonderful place to go when we need a pick-me-up or just to know we are not the first to feel tired and weary about the world around us. Psalm 1 shows us how we are to live. Let's take a look.

Psalm 1 "Blessed is the one who does not walk in step with the wicked or stand in the way that sinners take or sit in the company of mockers, 2 but whose delight is in the law of the Lord, and who meditates on his law, day and night. 3 That person is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither – whatever they do prospers. 4 Not so the wicked! They are like chaff that the wind blows away. 5 Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the assembly of the righteous. 6 For the Lord watches over the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked leads to destruction. "

The Psalms can teach, such as Psalm 1, 5 and 7. Psalms can praise God Psalms 46, 124 and others. Psalms can be Devotional 6,25, 3,16, 42, 63, 17,26. Some Psalms are historical such as 78,105 and 106. Prophetical 2,16 40 45 and many others.

We live in a world of contrast, just like in Psalm 1. There is good and there is evil in this world. But what a beautiful image is given of those who delight in the Lord: trees planted by streams of water, yielding fruit at the proper time, and never withering. I urge you to use the Psalms to focus your prayers toward God. Psalm 111:4 "He has caused his wonders to be remembered; the Lord is gracious and compassionate." Use the Psalms as we wait for our Lord and Savior to return. The Psalms can help focus us on what is important. Let us focus on remembering that God is in charge.

In this short letter I can't fully explain all the details and importance of the Psalms. Just think of this as a start.

As the world speeds by, get into the Book of Psalms and slow down as you absorb their beauty. Then we praise the Lord for all He has done for us.

Psalm 150 "1 Praise the Lord. Praise God in his sanctuary; praise him in his mighty heavens. 2 Praise him for his acts of power; praise him for his surpassing greatness. 3 Praise him with the sounding of the trumpet, praise him with the harp and lyre, 4 praise him with timbrel and dancing, praise him with the strings and pipe, 5 praise him with the clash of cymbals, praise him with resounding cymbals. 6 Let everything that has breath praise the Lord. Praise the Lord."

Let us Praise the Lord

Pastor Karl



News and Updates



The church directory is updated. Paper copies are available in the Narthex .The online picture directory is complete thanks to Ginny Glander. The email access to it was sent to all members .



Thanks to all who helped out with the Easter Egg Hunt on Easter Sunday. There

is still time to get involved in our next VBS which is being held from June 8-12, from 6pm -8:30pm. As we will be serving a light dinner before VBS nightly, there will be many ways to be involved and we will appreciate any and all. If you are interested, feel free to give me a call or contact Linda.

Thanks again

Mickie Naumann



With several of our LWM members already returning back north, things are a little quieter. If anyone has something that our group may be able to help with, please let one of our members know. Betty and Emmy are graciously continuing to take care of the Lord's altar. We thank them for their dedication. Mickie and Mary are taking care of preparing coffee and setting up snacks brought in for Sunday morning Bible study after worship. Consider signing up to bring in snacks for a Sunday or two over the summer months.

Have a blessed summer.

Sandy



Here's a recap of the countless ways

Thrivent clients and communities served their neighbors in 2025.

2.9 million clients and others who volunteered and donated to address community needs around the country. \$464.4 M funds raised and donated by Thrivent, clients and others. 17.2 M Volunteer hours of time and talent invested by clients and others in our communities. \$2.6M funds raised and donated by Thrivent, clients and others through the disaster response program, 190,795 Thrivent Action Teams. \$40.5M distributed through Thrivent Choice. \$1.7M funds raised and donated by Thrivent, clients and others through the Habitat for Humanity and Thrivent Partnership. Betty Willis

Elders' Monthly Devotion

COVENANT

Attention to justice and righteousness gives you access to the Lord

2 The one whose walk is blameless, who does what is righteous, who speaks the truth from their heart;

3 whose tongue utters no slander, who does no wrong to a neighbor, and casts no slur on others;

4 who despises a vile person but honors those who fear the Lord; who keeps an oath even when it hurts, and does not change their mind;

5 who lends money to the poor without interest; who does not accept a bribe against the innocent. Whoever does these things will never be shaken.

Psalm 15:2-5

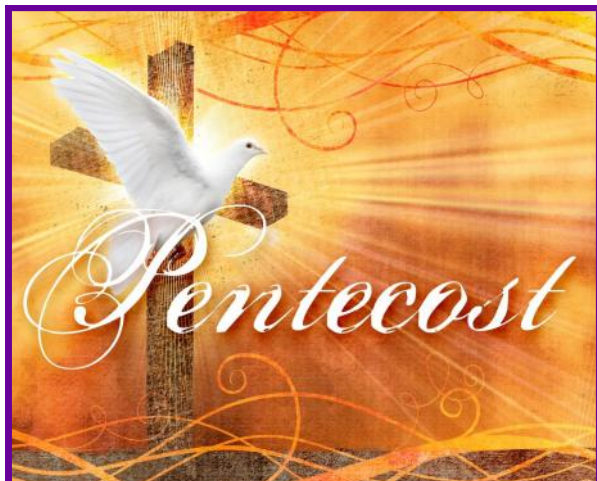
Always show loyalty to God and Faithfulness to His covenant direction.

Lord, would you bless and keep us,

Lord, please make your face shine upon us.

Amen

Klaus Naumann



April Results:  
Offering:\$8516  
Expenses:



MAY 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 VBS Meeting 9AM
3 10:30 Worship 11:30 Bible Study; Sunday School	4	5	6 10:30 Bible Study	7	8	9
10 Mothers Day 10:30 Worship 11:30 Bible Study; Sunday School	11	12	13 10:30 Bible Study	14	15	16
17 10:30 Worship 11:30 Bible Study; Sunday School	18	19	20 10:30 Bible Study	21	22	23
24 Pentecost 10:30 Worship 11:30 Bible Study; Sunday School	25 	26	27 10:30 Bible Study	28	29	30
31 10:30 Worship 11:30 Bible Study; Sunday School						

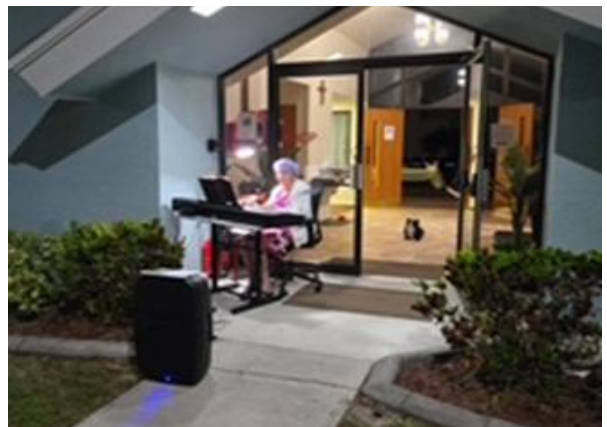
MAY ANNIVERSARIES	
1	Pam & Gary Barkhaus
15	Beverly & Joe Kogoy
22	Linda & Chester Rust
25	Linda and Robert Hedrick

MAY BIRTHDAYS	
7	Harlan Spurgin
15	Sam Harrison
24	Laurie Schroskey
25	Johnieann Smith
28	Nancy Rybak
31	Sandy Lohr; Don Thornton

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



Pics from Easter Sunrise Service





## **Bethlehem Lutheran Church**

Phone: 239-694-3878

Website: [www.bethlehemplutheranfortmyers.org](http://www.bethlehemplutheranfortmyers.org)

Email: [bethlehemlc@gmail.com](mailto:bethlehemlc@gmail.com)

## **Sunday Worship**

**10:30 AM** Worship Service

**Rev. Karl Glander**

[pastorkarlglander@gmail.com](mailto:pastorkarlglander@gmail.com)

239-293-1489

Organist: **Holly Bell**

Church Secretary: **Linda Kirsch**

## **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](mailto:jlkirsch3@comcast.net)

Your needs will be taken to the Lord!



**Thank you!** That's right....it's my BIG thank you to everyone who has stepped up to help out with their own special approach to stewardship.

We have had a terrific number of dedicated folks who have helped with cooking/baking, preparing and serving at our monthly dinners. There was set-up and clean-up. a lot of work to benefit the church and the community. That's stewardship.

There were also several individuals or families that contributed a total of over \$20,000 using their Required Minimum Distribution from their retirement funds...reducing their taxes and benefitting Bethlehem Lutheran church at the same time.

We've had ushers, readers, counters to handle your offerings which exceeded budget. You served snacks on Sunday after church and so much more.

So, you get a big thank you from your stewardship committee.

Now come our summer months when many friends from up north are returning to escape the Florida summers. Our work isn't done. We have the same need for volunteers, the same budget...and fewer people during the summer months. So ask yourself, "what can I do? What haven't I tried before?" God's gifts to us still come every day. Let's remember to offer Him our BIG THANKS for what He has done for us and continues to do.

Ephesians 5:15-17 "Let us not become weary of doing good...."

Your stewardship committee,

Tim Tobeck

