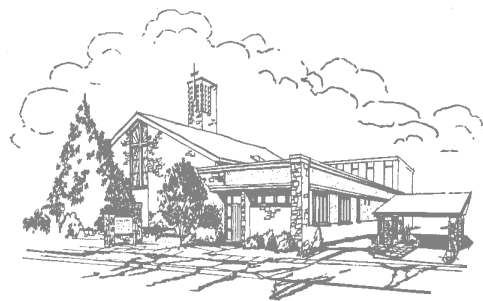


# Bethlehem Star

Lutheran Church Lansing



Bethlehem Evangelical Lutheran Church, Lansing, Michigan

**Pastor Matt**

**November 2019**

## All Saints Sunday

The custom of commemorating all the saints of the church on a single day goes back at least to the third century. All Saints Day celebrates the baptized people of God, living and dead, who make up the body of Christ. On this day or the following Sunday, many congregations will remember the faithful who have died during the past year. This year, in addition to lighting a candle in remembrance of members of our congregation who have died, we will also be lighting a candle for each person who was baptized into the Body of Christ in the last year. Please join us on Sunday, November 3, for our All Saints Sunday celebrations.

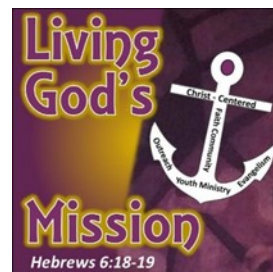
## Thanksgiving Eve and Pie Fest!

In addition to our regular Sunday morning services of worship we will also worship on Thanksgiving Eve, Wednesday, November 27, at 7:00 p.m. This will be immediately followed by our Annual Pie Fest. The worship will focus on our thankfulness and praise for everything that God has done for us in Christ and IS doing for us. Then the Pie Fest is just about eating good pie and having great fellowship; more things for which to be thankful. Please join us!

## Living God's Mission (LGM)

I know that all of our boards are hard at work exploring our Mission Plan. If you need more copies of the Adopted Mission Plan please visit <https://www.bethlutheran.org/printables>, or call the office. Copies of the Mission Planning worksheet to guide you in this process are also available in the office. You may find it most helpful to just take one area to focus on each month. I am looking forward to seeing how the Spirit moves your boards in this work.

We are also including a single area of our Mission Plan as part of our focus each Sunday morning each week. These are designated on the calendar with "LGM:". For example, on All Saints Sunday, November 3, our focus area to touch on in some way from our Mission Plan is Youth Ministry. There are wonderful connections to Youth Ministry in our tradition of remembering all the saints who have died in Christ in the past year.



## Advent Offering

There will be a special Advent Offering Envelope in the December newsletter. This offering has been designated for the Lansing SAVE accounts of K-5 children in our neighborhood and congregation who are in the Lansing School District. Our fifth Sunday offering in December is on Sunday, December 29.



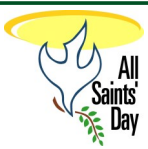
**LANSING SAVE**  
STUDENT ACCOUNTS VALUING EDUCATION

## Vacation

And lastly, please note that I will be on vacation November 4-10. We are not heading anywhere exotic. I will be using the time to get our house ready for winter, which will be here before we know it. Pastor John Burow will be available to cover any emergent pastoral care needs.

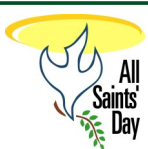


Pastor Matt



**ALL SAINTS SUNDAY**

On November 3 at 10:30 worship we will remember the great cloud of witnesses that have gone before us in the faith and those who have been baptized in Christ in the last year.



## Those Assisting in Worship during November

549 E. Mt. Hope Ave.  
Lansing, Michigan 48910  
Phone: (517) 482-3225  
FAX: (517) 482-2458

### Ministers

All of the members of  
Bethlehem Lutheran Church  
Pastor Matthew A. Smith  
pastormattsmith@gmail.com  
(517) 881-9890

Pastoral Assistant  
Pastor John Burow  
pastorjburow@yahoo.com  
(517) 614-4559

Church Secretary / Star Editor  
Tracy Baker  
bethlehemlansing@gmail.com  
(517) 482-3225

Parish Administrator  
Laurey Wyble  
belcparishadm@gmail.com  
(517) 482-3225

Congregation President  
Jim Whitman

Organist - James Schippers

Choir Director  
Sue Nelson

Handbell Choir Director  
Amanda Schneider

Contemporary Worship Director  
Laurey Wyble

Office Hours  
8:30 a.m. - 12:00 noon  
12:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. (M-F)

Visit our website at:  
[www.bethlutheran.org](http://www.bethlutheran.org)

### Worship Schedule

8:15 - Worship Service  
8:30 - Jr. Choir rehearsal  
9:15 - Sunday School  
9:30 - Adult Forum &  
Second Breakfast  
10:30 - Worship Service

<b>NOVEMBER 3</b> <b>ALL SAINTS SUNDAY</b> <b>Assisting Minister</b> Bob Meeker <b>Children's Sermon</b> <b>Liisa Whitman</b> <b>Acolyte</b> 8:15 - Easton Matteson 10:30 - <b>need someone</b>	<b>Lay Reader</b> 8:15 - Susan Mahoney 10:30 - Carole Kienke <b>Communion Assistants</b> 8:15 - Candy Barnes Vicki Leighton Margaret Sergent 10:30 - Kyra Pohl, Kris Burow, Sherry Bass-Pohl	<b>Greeters</b> 8:15 - Joe & Cheryl Shreffler 10:30 - Bob & Connie Meeker	<b>Ushers</b> 8:15 - John Ransom Susan Mahoney Brian Pickford Jeff Kosloski 10:30 - Don Cairns Judy Pardee Tom Armstrong Dick & Sandy Rollis
<b>NOVEMBER 10</b> <b>Assisting Minister</b> Phil Frame <b>Children's Sermon</b> Pastor John Burow <b>Acolyte</b> 8:15 - <b>need someone</b> 10:30 - Carmen Jones	<b>Lay Reader</b> 8:15 - Debbie Viele 10:30 - Crystal Collins <b>Communion Assistants</b> 8:15 - Debbie Viele <b>need 2 more</b> 10:30 - Sherry Bass-Pohl Kyra Pohl, Connie Scott	<b>Greeters</b> 8:15 - Debbie Viele Liz Viele 10:30 - Pat Lebsack Lois & Don Cairns	<b>Ushers</b> 8:15 - Kurt Kollmeyer Nancy Miesner Ron Miller 10:30 - Otto Kern Phil Hassler Joe Skidmore Michael Kern
<b>NOVEMBER 17</b> <b>Assisting Minister</b> Don Telles <b>Children's Sermon</b> Need someone <b>Acolyte</b> 8:15 - Justyn Prowdley 10:30 - Megan Jones	<b>Lay Reader</b> 8:15 - Mary Jakubiak 10:30 - Beatrice Backhaus <b>Communion Assistants</b> 8:15 - Dorothy Martin Candy Barnes Diane Miller 10:30 - Judy Pardee Dick & Sandy Rollis	<b>Greeters</b> 8:15 - Carol Wank Dorothy Martin Candy Barnes 10:30 - Joni & Jim Schalkhauser	<b>Ushers</b> 8:15 - Steve Viele Liz Viele Ralph Sergent Tim Stanley 10:30 - Kelly Carpenter Joanne Dyer Carol Kinney David Westover
<b>NOVEMBER 24</b> <b>CHRIST THE KING</b> <b>Assisting Minister</b> Nancy Holderread <b>Children's Sermon</b> Dave Holderread <b>Acolyte</b> 8:15 - Amaya Fernandez 10:30 - Izabelle Smith	<b>Lay Reader</b> 8:15 - Ron Miller 10:30 - Jim Whitman <b>Communion Assistants</b> 8:15 - Don Telles Susan Mahoney Dorothy Martin 10:30 - Jim Whitman Mel White Otto Kern	<b>Greeters</b> 8:15 - Ron & Diane Miller 10:30 - Michelle Smith Marilyn & Ron Clark	<b>Ushers</b> 8:15 - Bob Christiansen Joe Shreffler David Snider Don Olson 10:30 - Pat North Judy Pardee Tom Armstrong Jim Koessel
<b>NOVEMBER 27</b> <b>Thanksgiving Eve</b>	<b>Greeters</b> 7:00 - Michelle Smith Chloe Smith Madelyn Smith	<b>Ushers</b> 7:00 - Otto Kern Phil Hassler Joe Skidmore Michael Kern	

### Statement of Purpose and Guiding Principles for Bethlehem Evangelical Lutheran Church

God's purpose for our church, as disciples of Jesus Christ, is to share with all people God's word, love and saving grace.

*We will pursue this purpose by:*

1. Being a Christ-centered, joyful community of baptized believers who gather regularly for worship, the Lord's Supper, study and prayer.
2. Inviting, accepting, and supporting all people as we build attentive, respectful relationships.
3. Taking action and risks with bold faith, acknowledging our imperfection, while trusting in Christ.
4. Actively engaging in community outreach near and far.
5. Being faithful stewards of our time, talents, possessions and all of God's creation

Adopted January 29, 2017

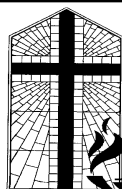
# Stewardship

Our next phase of “A Lifetime of Stewardship” emphasis, will focus on Living God’s Mission. Over the next few weeks, we will hear about the celebration of what we do with what God has given us, the understanding of what our gifts and time mean relating to stewardship, and the relationship we share with each other at Bethlehem and in other parts of our lives.

As evidenced throughout the past year with “Following Your Heart: A Lifetime of Stewardship”, we have made a concerted effort to introduce a new building block, on a monthly basis; keeping stewardship front and center in our walk of faith. I pray that this new approach has been positive and enlightening for you. We will continue to add new building blocks to the evolving foundation of our stewardship story, as well as hear stories of how some of your stewardship efforts have changed lives.

We must have faith that God will always provide what we need and that we can live a disciple’s life as he calls us. It is understood that we need financial resources to keep Bethlehem strong so our mission work can continue. We must also remember that we are not to be consumed by money and worry that we will not have enough. We will begin the annual budget process very soon. Often this is a time of discernment and worry, but we must always remember that God is with us in the process. He will continue to provide the answers if we are asking and listening. Stewardship is not something that results from a forced obligation or a bad attitude. It is good to remember that we are commanded to “*Do all things without complaining and arguing*” (Philippians 2: 14) and to “*not be anxious about anything*” (Philippians 4:6). When we choose to complain or be anxious, we put out the Spirit’s fire. I think by celebrating all the amazing work we do, we can be energized to continue that work. Stewardship is not worrying, but rather, trusting in Christ. Stewardship is the giving of ourselves and our resources with joy and gratitude for what we have been given.

There are myriad reasons why people choose not to live a lifetime of stewardship. We all encounter obstacles that hinder our service and financial giving and here are a few examples:



Sharing the blessings we receive from the Lord will surely give us joy!

**Make a gift to the  
Bethlehem Evangelical  
Lutheran Church  
Endowment Fund**

## Obstacles to Stewardship as a Way of Life

- Fear that if we share our time, we won’t have enough to do what we want to do.
- Fear that if we give our money away, we won’t have enough to buy what we want for our loved ones and ourselves.
- Fear that if we offer our talents, they won’t be good enough to meet our expectations.
- Fear that if we love without strings, we won’t receive enough love in return.

Stewardship is a priority. We need to take what we have and put it to the right use. Our God-given gifts are needed to practice Christian stewardship. Stewardship is the comfort of knowing that everything comes from God. He gives us clarity and the vision and character of what to be and do. We can trust Him and not our materialistic goods. Stewardship is recognizing that we belong to Him as a human being; that the church is not the building, but the body that gathers for worship and leaves for ministry. Stewardship is not just focusing on our self-interests, but on His interests and on the interests of others. Stewardship is the attitude of gratitude, being thankful in all things, even when we do not feel grateful. Stewardship is about being in community, working together and complementing one another’s gifts and abilities. It is the way we use the gifts He has given us to benefit the people in our church and those around us.

Another area of focus is about our relationships and how they relate to stewardship. Stewardship honors God with all the relationships and resources in our life. Christian believers are to practice love and hospitality; ready to offer service for one another as good stewards of God’s grace. We demonstrate our love by how we interact and treat one another. I have always thought that Bethlehem members are the most loving, giving, caring people I have ever had the blessing of being associated with. It really is a family. When there is someone in need you respond with cards, phone calls, meals and most importantly...prayers. When there is a financial need of the church, you have answered the bell every single time and your hearts assure us that will continue. Your naturally giving nature is not something that is, or ever will, be taken for granted.

*(continued on page 5)*

**DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS**  
Don’t forget to set your clocks back to make  
sure you make it to church on time.

**COUNCIL MEETING**  
Thursday, November 21 at 6:30 p.m.  
(meets on the 3rd Thursday of each month)

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# November 2019 Youth News

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## November 2019 Youth News

The biggest date coming up is the Senior Dinner and Children's Christmas Program scheduled for December 8. We will be making invitations and favors in November and early December, and families are hard at work creating the menu.

On December 15, we will be Christmas caroling, along with many others, to members of our congregation who are homebound. Looking ahead into 2020, some of the main activities to make note of are the Gathering-February 7-9, Youth Sunday-February 16, and of course the Easter Breakfast-April 12.

## Care Packages

Luther League will be putting together care packages for our seven high school graduates from 2019 (and one bonus youth from 2018) on Sunday, November 3, following worship at 10:30. This will be BYOL (Bring Your Own Lunch). We thank the congregation for all their generous contributions this year. We know that our youth will be blessed by these packages.

## Great Lakes (Youth) Gathering (Kalamazoo, MI, February 7-9, 2020)

The Great Lakes Gathering is an authentically welcoming community of faith focused on making an impact in the world. The community of the Great Lakes Gathering brings together groups of high school youth and young adults throughout the Great Lakes region for a weekend of faith, service, and leadership. This event is designed to walk alongside participants as they connect faith and life in ways that unlock their specific gifts and interests. It is our hope that each member of the Great Lakes Gathering community become an agent of change in a hurting world as they experience and learn to share the radical, transformational, and countercultural love of Christ.

Participants will dig deeper into Faith Tracks during the Great Lakes Gathering! Each activity-based Faith Track will be facilitated by a team of experienced mentors and provide an opportunity to connect faith and life around a specific topic of interest throughout the entire Great Lakes Gathering. Faith Track selections will be made at the event. High School Faith Tracks in 2020:

- Faith & Jesus
- Faith & Service
- Faith & Worship
- Faith & Peer Ministry
- Faith & Justice
- Faith & Science



The cost for the event this year will be \$150. Your \$50 deposits are due for the Gathering Sunday, November 24, along with your t-shirt size. You can find out more about the event, in-kind offering, and other key details by visiting: [www.elcalivingwater.com/gathering/](http://www.elcalivingwater.com/gathering/). The total cost will be \$150, plus the cost of meals, and if you bring a friend it will be just \$75.00 for you and \$75.00 for your friend. As always, scholarships are available, so don't let finances keep you from being part of this awesome experience!

## TNT Charge – Traverse City, MI - March 20-22, 2020

'Charge' is an event much like the Great Lakes Gathering, but for junior high-aged youth. It is being held again this year at Great Wolf Lodge in Traverse City. The cost for the trip, which includes registration, hotel and waterpark passes, is \$150. Registration Worksheets will be distributed to TNT students and we ask that they return them by Tuesday, November 26, but no deposit is due at that time.



*Pastor Matt*

**Christmas Program Practice and Pizza Party!!**  
**Sunday November 17, following 10:30 worship.**



# Prayer Corner

**Please Note:** Hospitals no longer notify churches when a member has been hospitalized; even if you inform them at registration of your church membership. If you would like a visit from the pastor, please call the church office at 482-3225 or call Pastor Matt directly at 881-9890.

## **REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS** and with your cards and visits:

Janenne Grinnell in Ingham Co. Medical Care Facility  
Shelby Waters in The Willows at Okemos  
(Barbara) Jean Collins in The Willows of East Lansing



**Those at home:** Mary Ann Allen, Cloyd Barnes, Virginia Bauman, Mary Brenke, Pam Butts, Donna Clarizio, Crystal Collins, Deanna Darling, Ernie Hassell, Rhoda Hunter, Ray Kenger, Marilyn Kostrzewski, Michael Mahoney, Linda McClellan, Nancy Miesner, Stephanie Moneypenny, Yvonne Nelson, Tharin Palmer, Chris Ransom, Bob Robbins, Carol Roush, Paul Schmidt, Audrey Skidmore, Ken Teter, Cheryl VanPatten, Ron Wescott

If you know of a member you would like us to include on this list or remove from this list, please call the church office.

**PRAY FOR JASON MILLS** Jason is studying at Gettysburg Theological Seminary. Please keep him in your prayers.

**MISSION PARTNERS** Pray for the people and ministry at Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota and the Baker Neighborhood Partners.

## **Pastoral Acts:**

### **Funeral:**

Shelley Duckett

October 8, 2019

### **Baptized:**

Lincoln Jeffrey Yuen

October 20, 2019

## **PRAY** for those who are on active duty in the United States Military Services:

Chris Browne – U.S. Air Force  
Jim Church – U.S. Navy  
Darian Doan – U.S. Army  
Ty Doan – U.S. Air Force  
Carson Kosloski – U.S. Marines  
Joshua Kosloski – U.S. Army

Rusty Landry – U.S. Air Nat'l Guard  
Christopher Morgan – U.S. Marines  
Ben Painter – U.S. Air Force  
Ryan Schiffner – U.S. Air Force  
Jake Sonnenberg – U.S. Army  
Eric Wheeler – U.S. Army



(continued from page 3)

So, where do we go from here?

Bethlehem and every other organized church is going through a great many changes regarding attendance and financial concerns that go with a shrinking church. The world is different, people's priorities are different and we all have to find a way to survive and know that we are children of God. Liisa will tell you that I am not good with change and that is true. However, I am learning that change will come whether I like it or not; and in many cases, I have no control over it. That is where I need to trust God more and maybe you do to. We don't know where we are headed in our lives, but He does and we have to listen.

Pastor Matt made a profound statement at the Council meeting on October 17th, regarding our changing dynamics at Bethlehem. He said that we need to accept the new reality and know that God is up to something. It doesn't mean that we forget and discount where we have been, but things change in our own lives and things will continue to change for Bethlehem.

This amazing place just celebrated its 95<sup>th</sup> anniversary and that is truly something to celebrate. Let us embrace what we are and what we can become as we continue to pursue "A Lifetime of Stewardship."

Jim Whitman  
Congregational President

## **Thanksgiving Eve Worship**

**7:00 p.m. Wednesday November 27, A Service of Praise and Thanksgiving**

Join with God's people to offer your worship and praise,  
to give thanks for God's love and manifold blessings.

**10th Annual Pie Fest to follow worship service!!!**

We have pie sign-up sheets in the social hall if you would like to help and bring a pie.



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# Bethlehem Evangelical Lutheran Church Women

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**Women of the  
Evangelical Lutheran Church  
in America**

All women of Bethlehem Lutheran Church are members of the Women of the ELCA and are invited and encouraged to participate in all activities listed in the newsletters, bulletins, flyers or on the bulletin boards.

## Dates to Remember

- **Harmony Circle** - Monday, Nov. 11 at 6:30P  
Lead - Joanna Alvera  
Hostess - Laura Halbakken
- **Friendship Circle** - Monday, Nov. 18 at 6:30P  
Lead - Candy Barnes  
Hostesses - Debbie Viele & Emily Viele
- **Rainbow Circle** - Tuesday, Nov. 19 at 1:00P  
Lead - Joni Schalkhauser  
Hostesses – Lois Cairns & Bara Raia
- **F.A.B.** - Saturday, November 2 at 9:30A
- **BELCW Board Meeting** -  
Monday, November 4 at 6:30P
- **Bible Study Leaders Meeting** - Nov. 5 at 12:00P  
Joanna Alvera, Candy Barnes, Joni Schalkhauser
- **BELCW Board Meeting** -  
Monday, November 25 at 6:30P

## VISIONS OF CHRISTMAS

All are invited to attend the Women's meeting on December 2<sup>nd</sup> at 6:30. We will be celebrating the holiday season with beautifully decorated tables and a Christmas performance by a husband and wife group. Please invite friends and family to attend this festive event.



**Reservations are required.**  
**(to make sure we have enough beautiful tables prepared)**  
**Please look for a sign-up sheet in the fellowship hall.**  
**The performance begins at 7 p.m. in the sanctuary,**  
**followed by desert in the fellowship hall.**



There will be a brief BELCW meeting prior to the performance at 6:30. We will be electing new board members, approving the new budget and voting on which groups our money will go to.

**We hope to see you there.**

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## THANKOFFERINGS

On **Sunday, November 17**, we will gather our Thankofferings during worship. You may bring them in the container you have been using, write a check to BELCW or give a cash donation.

The Women of the ELCA Thankofferings support the total outreach of the organization.

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## PINE RIDGE RETREAT CENTER

*“The mission of the ministry at Pine Ridge Retreat Center is to foster understanding between Indian and non-Indian peoples and to make contributions to the life of the people on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation.”*

Bethlehem supports the Center with financial donations and contributions of quilts. Another way people can contribute is with diapers and baby wipes. The Center provides diapers and baby wipes to low-income families in need to improve the lives of the babies and toddlers. You may support this ministry directly with a financial contribution to the Center or by placing an order on their behalf through Amazon's Baby Registry. Under “baby registry” simply search for Pine Ridge Retreat Center and their wish list is shown. Items will ship directly to the Retreat Center.

# taking<sup>+</sup>faith home

Here, you will find a list of the scripture readings that are part of the Daily Lectionary which move us from one Sunday to the next. You can also find these readings on our “Taking Faith Home” sheets we distribute after worship. They are also posted daily on our Facebook page. We encourage you to read your Bible every day as you live out your life of discipleship.

◊◊ Pastor Matt

<b>NOVEMBER</b>			
<b>01</b> 2 Corinthians 8:1-7	<b>08</b> Acts 24:10-23	<b>16</b> Psalm 98	<b>24</b> Matthew 24:36-44
<b>02</b> Psalm 149	<b>09</b> Psalm 17:1-9	<b>17</b> Luke 23:33-43	<b>25</b> Isaiah 2:1-5
<b>03</b> Luke 20:27-38	<b>10</b> Luke 21:5-9	<b>18</b> Jeremiah 23:1-6	<b>26</b> Romans 13:11-14
<b>04</b> Job 19:23-27a	<b>11</b> Malachi 4:1-2a	<b>19</b> Colossians 1:11-20	<b>27</b> Hebrews 11:1-7
<b>05</b> 2 Thess. 2:1-5, 13-17	<b>12</b> 2 Thess. 3:6-13	<b>20</b> Jeremiah 30:18-24	<b>28</b> Psalm 125
<b>06</b> Exodus 3:13-20	<b>13</b> Isaiah 26:7-15	<b>21</b> Philippians 4:4-9	<b>29</b> 1 John 1:5-10
<b>07</b> 1 Peter 1:3-12	<b>14</b> Romans 5:1-11	<b>22</b> Revelation 21:5-27	<b>30</b> Psalm 122
	<b>15</b> Hosea 2:10-16	<b>23</b> Psalm 46	

## ELCA CAMPAIGN

CHICAGO (Oct. 1, 2019) – The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America’s (ELCA) first comprehensive fund raising campaign, *Always Being Made New: The Campaign for the ELCA*, has concluded after more than five years with a total impact of \$250 million, including \$195 million in cash gifts and gift commitments, as well as \$55 million for planned gifts to campaign ministries.

“*The Campaign for the ELCA* began in 2013 with a goal of nearly \$200 million,” said the Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton, ELCA presiding bishop. “That was a big goal. But with God’s help and our members’ generous support, we made it. I thank God for what this church has done for the ELCA’s ministries — here at home and around the world.”

Through the campaign, ELCA members and congregations helped strengthen and expand the ministries of this church in four priorities — congregations, hunger and poverty, leadership, and the global church. The campaign focused on areas that include growing this church’s communities of faith, forming new leaders, welcoming neighbors, overcoming malaria, confronting hunger and poverty, and accompanying our global churches.

“It’s been an amazing blessing to be able to direct this campaign,” said the Rev. Ron Glusenkamp, director of *Always Being Made New: The Campaign for the ELCA*. “To be able to be in so many different places and spaces across this church and to see how people have responded to the call to give — to give from the heart and to give generously — has really been a gift. And, while the dollars are impressive, what is most important is the impact these gifts are having. And so, for all of that, I say thank you and God bless you.”

For a detailed look at the campaign’s impact in its four priority areas, as well as a breakdown of giving, please visit [ELCA.org/campaign](http://ELCA.org/campaign).

## POINSETTIA PLANTS

Looking ahead to December, Altar Guild members will be taking orders for red poinsettia plants to adorn the Altar in celebration of the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Team members will be taking orders on **December 1 & December 8** between services and after the 10:30 service.

***Cost per plant is \$8.00. Payment is due with the order and checks should be made payable to Kris Burow.***

You may mail your orders directly to Kris Burow. Please designate how you want your plant acknowledged in the bulletin on Christmas Eve – In Honor Of; In Memory Of; or To the Glory of God.

Again, please remember, checks should accompany order and made payable to Kris Burow. Orders will be accepted until December 8.

**Plants may be taken home after the second service on Christmas Eve.**

## Community Partners:



Bethlehem is extending Lansing SAVE deposits to our BELC members. The criteria for inclusion:

1. Recipients must be either a member or actively involved in BELC activities.
2. Recipients must be in grades Kindergarten through 5th grade and currently attend school in the Lansing School District. (Note: students in 3rd grade that attend Lewton School, Post Oak Academy or Wexford Montessori won't be included in the program until the 2020-2021 school year.)
3. The child's name, address and school must be submitted to the BELC office to be cleared for inclusion. (This happens with the help of the City of Lansing.) If your student is included in the program, they will receive a letter informing them of the deposit to their account.

Submit your child's/grandchild's information and we'll get the ball rolling for the next 5th Sunday offering on **December 29<sup>th</sup>**. Please consider contributing to this awesome cause.

For more information on the program go to: <https://www.lansingmi.gov/674/Lansing-SAVE>

## Building News:

- The north sidewalk has been replaced and the asphalt repair will soon be complete. Thank you John Iszler Concrete! We came in under budget because of the careful tear out of the old concrete.
- A new light pole has been installed on the northeast side of the parking lot. This replaces the one that fell during one of our heavy rains this fall.
- Sealant has been applied over the block and stone in the east window wells. This will stop the leaking that has occurred around the basement windows over the last few heavy rainfalls. The fix will hold for a season, or so. The Board of Buildings and Grounds is looking at putting the repair for this area on their long range plans for the building.

**POSTER POLICY** - We are such a vibrant and involved community of believers; BELC members are involved in so many outside groups, which equates to many outside activities! To better control the myriad of posters that line our walls, the church office is re-implementing the poster approval policy. If you have a poster that you want to hang on the walls around the church (whether for BELC events or outside events), please submit it to the office for *pre-approval*. There is an approval stamp that will be stamped on each copy prior to the poster being hung. You may drop off one copy for approval or email it to Tracy ([bethlehemplansing@gmail.com](mailto:bethlehemplansing@gmail.com)) or Laurey ([belcparishadm@gmail.com](mailto:belcparishadm@gmail.com)). Thank you!

## Wellness Corner:

### From Corinthian's:

Your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit.

### From Living Lutheran: Faith and Family

Fearfully and Wonderfully made practices:

- **Focus on wellness:** Our bodies are a gift from God we can steward together. As a family, make healthy meals together and get active together by taking a walk or having a dance party. Say a prayer of thanks when you eat and when you play.

~ Board of Congregational Care





Dear Bethlehem Lutheran Church,

Thank you for attending the Community Champions Program Luncheon. We would not be here without you.

Your partnership is a blessing for Lansing SAVE and our students. I've never met such a generous faith community. I cannot wait to see what the future brings!

Sincerely,

*Ben Thompson*

*Financial Education Coordination*

*Lansing SAVE*

Dear Pastor Matt & Tracy,

How can I thank you for the wonderful "Happy Birthday" duet. It really made my day special and it was a wonderful day! Celebrating with my circle members and all of my Bethlehem family.

Love to all!

*Pat*

Dear BELC Family,

Words cannot express how much I appreciate the support I have received from all of my Church family. The outpouring of prayers, love, cards, and phone calls are giving me the strength I need to successfully complete my recovery from my kidney transplant. Peggy and I are very blessed to part of such a loving Church family.

I thank God and the donor's family for the gift of this kidney. The transplant doctors have told us the first three months after transplant are the hardest. I have had some challenges but I am getting the very best of care. I continue to gain strength and the new kidney is functioning very well with no signs of rejection. I hope soon to be back worshipping with all of you.

In Christian Love, *Ken Teter*

Dear Pastor Smith,

Thank you for partnering with Samaritas in doing good and sharing what you have with our neighbors in need. The people of Bethlehem Lutheran Church are one of the growing number of rocks making ripples of positive transformation throughout Michigan in serving people as an expression of the love of Christ. This year, Samaritas celebrates 85 years of impact and this mission remains the foundation for our work every day. Last year 2520 refugees were resettled, taught English, and provided health care. We provided emergency housing to 358 homeless individuals and families. Through our Foster Care Programs, we helped 1352 children find loving homes while their parents regained stability in their lives and helped 459 foster children find forever homes through our adoption services.

Thankfully, in Christ's service,

*Kelli Dobner, Chief Advancement Officer*

## Happy Birthday

Marilyn Clark	Nov. 1
Carol Roush	Nov. 2
Gary Danbrook	Nov. 4
Norma Mackenzie	Nov. 5
Marilyn Bass-Huyser	Nov. 14
Jeff Kosloski	Nov. 15
Connie Meeker	Nov. 15
Margaret Nelson	Nov. 17
Marvin Cole	Nov. 18
Cheryl Shreffler	Nov. 20
Eleanor Finn	Nov. 21
Bill Puffenberger	Nov. 22

Susan Mahoney  
Vicki Leighton

Nov. 23  
Nov. 29



Each year our birthday list of members 62 and over is updated from the church records. If for some reason you do not wish to have your name appear in the newsletter or if you see someone we have missed, please call the church office.

# COMING EVENTS

## Thanksgiving Food Baskets

Sign-up sheets are in the social hall.

**November 20:** Deadline to receive food and monetary donations

**November 22:** Shopping & packing non-perishable Food

**November 23:** Distribution of Baskets



**Thank you in advance for your continued support of the Holiday Food Baskets.  
We couldn't do it without your help!**



## Bethlehem Night Out a.k.a. BNO

We are inviting **ALL** the members of BELC to join us for a bi-monthly night out. Each **BNO** night will be at a different location in the Greater Lansing Area.

The next BNO will be Saturday, November 23 at 6:30 p.m.  
at the Brookshire Inn in Williamston.

RSVP on Facebook or email

[Rebeccaxjordan@gmail.com](mailto:Rebeccaxjordan@gmail.com) or text to 517-303-6701.

**For questions contact Rebecca Jordan. Hope to see you there!**

## BBC - Bethlehem Book Club

We had a great turnout at our first book club discussion. Twelve of us spent about an hour talking about, "Before We Were Yours" by Lisa Wingate. If you didn't get a chance to read the book we unanimously recommend it. Some mentioned a companion book, before and after, co-written by Lisa Wingate and Judy Christie, that tells the real story of some people who were involved in adoption through Georgia Tann's homes. We also learned there are some videos on YouTube about this true story. If you Google Georgia Tann, you will find links to some of these videos.

We chose our next two books, leaders and dates. They are;

November 19 at 6:00 p.m. - "Sarah's Key" by Tatiana Rosnay, Cheryl Shreffler is leading

Jan 28 at 6:00 p.m. - "Where the Crawdads Sing" by Delia Owens, Joni Schalkhauser leading

At the November meeting please bring books to recommend and think about when you want to lead our discussion, it was painless! Everyone contributed to a great evening.

## The Red Kettle Campaign

This is another outreach opportunity. Bethlehem Lutheran Church will again be Bell Ringers on Saturday, November 30 at the Kroger store on the corner of Willoughby and Cedar Street in Holt.

If you are interested please see Judy Pardee.

**This opportunity lets us show our faith and Christ's love.**

**Thank you for your continued support.**

# Bethlehem Star

Lutheran Church Lansing



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Lansing, Michigan 48910

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Newsletter Deadline is **November 15**  
for the **December 2019** Bethlehem Star.

Also available at  
[www.bethlutheran.org](http://www.bethlutheran.org)

In-Home Date: November 1, 2019  
Mailed on October 31, 2019

