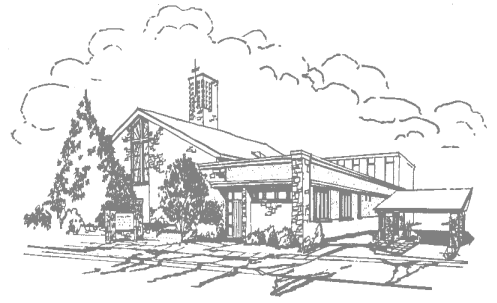


Bethlehem Star

Lutheran Church Lansing



Bethlehem Evangelical Lutheran Church, Lansing, Michigan

Pastor Matt

August 2020

God does great things beyond understanding, and marvelous things without number. Job 9:10

This is what the kingdom of God is like. A man scatters seed on the ground. Night and day, whether he sleeps or gets up, the seed sprouts and grows, though he does not know how. All by itself the soil produces grain. Mark 4:26-28 NIV

I pray that you are all safe and well...

Drive-in Worship

At 4:30 pm on the Saturdays in August we will have Drive-In Worship in our parking lot. You will simply drive in, park, and tune your car stereos to the FM frequency of our broad cast. You may also bring your lawn chairs and sit outside your vehicles, at a safe distance from others.

The service will include music, prayer, scripture reading, a preview of Sunday's message, AND COMMUNION. To join us in communion we ask that you bring your own elements (wine or grape juice and bread of some kind). When the pastor prays the Words of Institution (On the night in which he was betrayed...) you will lift your bread and cup at the same time.

I know I keep saying this, but I want everyone to know, this will in no way replace what we are doing, recording our Sunday Worship, live streaming it on Facebook, and making it available on YouTube. This is just a way for us to safely see one another as the gathered Body of Christ. The community that can form in this way is another sign of how God does great things beyond understanding and marvelous things without number (Job 9:10).

Waking Up White

This book study has been on Zoom at 6:30 on Wednesday evenings. The study is going well. We have two sessions left as of today. People have begun asking, "What's next?" Two books that I am looking at for us to work through next are *White Fragility: Why It's So Hard for White People to Talk About Racism* by Robin DiAngelo (Beacon Press 2018), or *How to Be an Antiracist* by Ibram X. Kendi (One World 2019).

I am leaning toward the second book, because it *seems* like it may be a book that will guide us to action. As Kendi says, "simply not being racist isn't enough." I know that we are all anxious to do things that will make a difference. I know I am, but I believe much of the work in becoming antiracist is internal work. It is about having our eyes opened to understand how our whiteness has gotten in the way for so many people. It is about embracing and loving who we are, so that we can love, embrace, and celebrate others.

Doing the work of antiracism is about scattering seed. Even if it is *just* a book study, it will sprout and grow. We may not even know how. It seems like the earth produces of itself, but it is God who grants the growth.

Communion by Appointment

If you are not able to join us for drive-in worship, or you would like to receive the sacrament in a more traditional way, Pastor John and I are available. We will meet you at the church, wearing masks. After prayer, scripture, and a brief communion liturgy, we will share Christ's Body and Blood with a pre-packaged wafer and wine or grape juice on the altar. I have truly appreciated being able to share the sacrament with people in this way.

*God of wonder help us to accept that your mysterious ways may never be understood by us, but that your plans are always the best and wisest choices. We surrender to the brilliant adventure that is our life in you.
Amen.*

May the Lord bless you and keep you,



Pastor Matt

Worship in August

Assisting Ministers Children's Sermons

August 2 - Don Telles	August 2 - Chloe Smith
August 9 - Susan Mahoney	August 9 - need someone
August 16 - Bob Meeker	August 16 - need someone
August 23 - Nancy Holderread	August 23 - Dave Holderread
August 30 - Crystal Collins	August 30 - need someone

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
 Vicki Leighton
 belcparishadm@gmail.com
 (517) 482-3225

Congregation President
 Jim Whitman

Organist
 James Schippers

Choir Director
 Sue Nelson

Handbell Choir Director
 James Schippers

Contemporary Worship Director
 Laurey Wyble

Office Hours
 8:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. (M-F)

Visit our website at:
www.bethlutheran.org

Worship Schedule

9:30 - Live Streaming
 Worship Service
 On Facebook
 BELC Worship Group

Resources to Nurture Faith and Spirituality

In our June/July newsletter we included a short list of resources you can use to strengthen your faith and spirituality, to deepen your relationship with God, especially in this time of crisis.

- Lutheran Hour Ministries <https://www.lhm.org/covid-19/> Daily Devotions, Learning Resources, and even kid's activities.
- Richard Rohr's Daily Meditations <https://cac.org/category/daily-meditations/>.
- Centering Prayer App from <https://www.contemplativeoutreach.org/> available on Google Play and the App Store.

As you explore these resources, or engage in your own time of pray, ask yourself, "What is God inviting me to do in this time? What is God inviting Bethlehem to do?" My deepest prayer for all of you is that you will continually find ways to abide in God's love (John 15:9).

Virtual Worship

As a community we are continuing to worship at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/belcworship/>. The service is also uploaded to our YouTube channel each week.

Our Website

There is a button on the Home page for prayer requests and there is so much other information on our website. It is a great resource to keep you connected to the community of faith. I also encourage you to text "belcprayer" to 81010 to join our Prayer Corner 2.0.

Drive-in Worship

I wrote about this on the front page, so I am not going to go through all that again, just know that we are continuing to find ways to be together, even though we are apart.

When I ask myself, "What might God be inviting us to do?", my first response is one of joy, because God IS continuing to seek us out in this time. Next, I believe that God is inviting us to continue to be faithful, in our love toward God and one another. So keep being faithful, know that you are loved, and keep reaching out with God's love for others.

God's Peace and Love,



Pastor Matt

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



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

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

Dear Friends of Bethlehem,

Pastor Matt's sermon "Asleep at the Wheel" on Sunday, July 19th was very timely for me as I was getting my thoughts together for this newsletter message. Church leadership has been so deeply involved in policy and protocol planning for the future re-opening of our church building that it made me wonder if we are asleep at the wheel. Actually, it made me think that I was asleep at the wheel, so I don't cast a shadow on everyone else. During the past four months, it now seems to me that the entire focus has been on how and when we can safely open the doors of Bethlehem and resume in-person worship services. That certainly was the most important work to do because it is what we all want, so it was the correct priority and very well thought out. It is just not the right time.

After attending our last Council call and listening to that sermon, I feel that our priorities need to change because it is clear we are further away from re-opening Bethlehem than we were just a couple of weeks ago. Based on current events, I think we can all agree that the pandemic is moving in the wrong direction and will keep us apart longer. Our most important work now is not to focus on the church being closed, but on the continued mission work and opportunities that are available to us as we focus on the future. The truth is that the church has never closed. While it is true that it is not functioning with non-stop activities, meetings and worship, it is still functioning internally with our staff doing the great work they do for us. Food Bank volunteers are still filling orders for those in need every week. The Food Bank continues to thrive as maybe the longest running outreach program Bethlehem undertakes and the need will only grow. We are still supporting our mission partners at Pine Ridge whose generous contributions continue to change lives for the better. We own the Mission Home that sometimes gets overlooked even though it is sitting right in front of us and has enhanced the lives of all that have passed through its door. Our faithful and generous members are still making sure their offerings get to the church via the mail, Simply Giving, dropping them off, or using the digital offering link on our website. Most of the boards are meeting regularly to stay connected with some able to accomplish more than others based on their respective responsibilities. As we have reported previously, Council remains very active in maintaining the on-going decision making that must be done regarding all aspects of the church. Our live-stream worship services are replete with music from our choir, Praise Team, youth, organist and soloist's aided by dedicated and talented technology assistance. None of these things are easy in this uncertain time, but guess what? We are still accomplishing much and all of it is good.

Things are very different and none of us know how close we will ever be to what things used to be like. The old saying "we never did it like that before" or, "we tried that once and it didn't work" are now truly obsolete. We are doing things now in a way that none of us could have ever imagined. People serving on boards with little technology capabilities are now calling in to Zoom meetings on a regular basis. Though we are in our respective homes, we can at least see and hear each other for the meeting. It is wonderful to see the faces we miss and connect them to the voice we all know. We are able to have discussions regarding the best interests of Bethlehem and its members even though we are not in the same room. We are finding a way to make it work and we will continue to for as long as it takes.

Pastor Matt has challenged us to think "out of the box" with regards to how we can recreate ourselves and our ministry during this time. It is also critical to reach out and maintain connectivity to our membership. This is a time to think about how each of us can contribute to our on-going mission in a different way. While there are boards, Council and other groups that seemingly appear to be the functioning entities of the church, the most important group of all is us collectively. We are truly the ones that make things happen. Leadership is important from a visionary standpoint, but there is no way anything happens unless we all believe in the same vision and pull together to make it happen. That is how everything at Bethlehem happens and it is more important now than it ever has been.

(continued on page 4)

August Birthdays

Marilyn Kostrzewski	Aug. 4
Mel White	Aug. 13
Ron Miller	Aug. 17
John Burow	Aug. 18
John Riverside	Aug. 20
Bob Christiansen	Aug. 21
Tom Armstrong	Aug. 29
Kay Bloom	Aug. 30



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

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.

(continued from page 3)

If this situation we are all in is our reality for the foreseeable future, let's make it a time to think about things in a different way. Let's say "yes we can" when it would be easier to say "how do we do that"? I don't want to see us sit and wait for the pandemic to go away because no one knows when that may be. I don't want to see us waste our talents and passions to do good works as we always have because we don't think we can do anything while we are away from the church building. It is still the people that make the church and this group of people and those before us have always risen to the occasion. Bethlehem is the rock in our lives and our community and we can't fade into obscurity over something we had no control over. If there was ever a time to make lemonade out of a bunch of lemons we didn't ask for, this is it.

So that is my pep talk. I would ask that we all look inside our incredible collective hearts and find one little thing that we can do more of, or better. It can start with picking up the phone and calling someone from church that we don't always keep in touch with. Hearing a voice that you haven't heard in a while can be very therapeutic and we have no idea how it can impact the person on the other end of the phone. We received a beautiful postcard today with a picture of Pastor Matt, Michelle, Chloe and Madelyn. What a surprise and it made it feel like we were with them. So maybe a selfie from your cell phone is a new way to say hello. We will start a late Saturday afternoon parking lot ministry in August that Pastor Matt has announced. This is a way to at least see each other from the safety of our car, or a lawn chair. Maybe I will fire up the grill and we can have a burger and hot dog after the service in a safe way. These are a couple of ideas that we need to think of and start to live our lives as children of God again together. Any idea is a good idea and I would ask that you get creative and let us know how we might do more together, apart.

Thank you for your continued faith in and support of Bethlehem Lutheran Church.

Peace,
Jim Whitman
Congregation President

Dear Friends,

It is with a heavy heart that I write to inform you that there will not be a Faith Family Fun Day in August. This decision did not come lightly. After speaking with the Ingham County Health Department about all the logistical needs they require and communicating with the main committee, we feel that we need to hold off on assisting the neighborhood at this time.

Since it has become painfully obvious that this COVID state we are in is going to last up to a year, we think we should hold off assisting until there is an obvious need. Unfortunately, we feel that may present itself when the extra monies run out. So if it does, we will be ready to help feed our neighbors. At that time we can revisit how we can best serve our community. Faith Family Fun Day is an Outreach event. If we can serve others in another form of outreach that's what we will do. A few ideas have been tossed out and we would like to hear any that you may have in relation to how best we can serve our neighbors.

Liisa Whitman

Prayer Corner

Please Note: Hospitals do not 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:
Shelby Waters in The Willows at Okemos

Those at home: *Mary Ann Allen, Virginia Bauman, Mary Brenke, Crystal Collins, Ernie Hassell, Rhoda Hunter, Kurt Kollmeyer, Marilyn Kostrzewski, Michael Mahoney, Linda McClellan, John Nelson, Yvonne Nelson, Tharin Palmer, Chris Ransom, Bob Robbins, Carol Roush, Audrey Skidmore, Don Spencley, Cheryl VanPatten, Matthew White, 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.

SEMINARY STUDENT Jason Mills, from BELC, 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 / Committal Services for:

Margaret Nelson June 20, 2020
Craig Walker July 18, 2020

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

Chris Browne – U.S. Air Force	Christopher Morgan – U.S. Marines
Darian Doan – U.S. Army	Ben Painter – U.S. Air Force
Andrew Devine – U.S. Nat'l Guard	Ryan Schiffner – U.S. Air Force
Carson Kosloski – U.S. Marines	Jake Sonnenberg – U.S. Army
Joshua Kosloski – U.S. Army	Eric Wheeler – U.S. Army
Rusty Landry – U.S. Air Nat'l Guard	



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

<u>AUGUST</u>	<u>08</u> Psalm 145:8-21	<u>16</u> Matthew 15:1-28	<u>24</u> Isaiah 51:1-6
<u>01</u> Psalm 119:129-136	<u>09</u> Matthew 14:22-33	<u>17</u> Isaiah 56:1-8	<u>25</u> Romans 12:1-8
<u>02</u> Matthew 14:13-21	<u>10</u> 1 Kings 19:9-18	<u>18</u> Romans 11:1-32	<u>26</u> Exodus 1:8-2:10
<u>03</u> Isaiah 55:1-5	<u>11</u> Romans 10:5-15	<u>19</u> Genesis 45:1-15	<u>27</u> Psalm 124
<u>04</u> Romans 9:1-5	<u>12</u> Genesis 37:1-28	<u>20</u> Psalm 133	<u>28</u> 1 Peter 1:13-25
<u>05</u> Genesis 32:22-31	<u>13</u> Psalm 105:1-45	<u>21</u> Matthew 28:16-20	<u>29</u> Psalm 138
<u>06</u> Psalm 17:1-15	<u>14</u> 1 Thess. 3:6-13	<u>22</u> Psalm 67	<u>30</u> Matthew 16:21-28
<u>07</u> 1 Timothy 6:11-19	<u>15</u> Psalm 85:8-13	<u>23</u> Matthew 16:13-20	<u>31</u> Jeremiah 15:15-21

Bethlehem Evangelical Lutheran Church Women



**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.

WOMEN OF BETHLEHEM:

A Letter from our President:

Hello Everyone! First I want to express how thankful I am that we have been able to adapt and still be able to come together virtually. Second, I want to say I pray you all are staying safe and well.

The Women’s Board met on June 1st via Zoom. We have had to make some tough decisions in regards to the remainder of 2020. The changes are as follows:

1. Annual Rummage Sale: With great sorrow we have decided to not have the 2020 rummage sale, due to COVID-19. We plan to have the rummage sale in 2021.
2. Lutheran World Relief: We will not be having our kit assembly/project day this year. All items collected to date will be included in our 2021 donations. Anyone that would like to individually collect and assemble kits, please go to LWR.org, and scroll down the page for instructions on kits. For all quilts made so far, we have to determine who is accepting donations. We will decide if they can be sent to LWR or Pine Ridge in the fall.
3. General Meetings: We will not be having our September 2020 general meeting. The December 2020 general meeting is still to be determined. The board will continue with the Synod’s and the CDC’s recommendations to host “in-person” gatherings, when making this decision in the fall.
4. Offerings: With in-person meetings being cancelled and postponed, we are still welcoming all offerings that members wish to send in. Checks should be made to BELCW and can be mailed to the church, ATTN: Carole Kienke, or mailed directly to Carole at: 13624 Pearwood, Dewitt, MI 48820.
5. Thankofferings: Please remember to keep collecting those Thankofferings! We have lots to still be thankful for during this pandemic.
6. Board Meetings: Our board is still meeting throughout the summer. If there is anything you wish for us to discuss, please email our President Jamie Andrews: jamieandrews1307@gmail.com.

“May God’s Love Surround You”
Jamie Andrews

Altar Flowers

The Altar Guild is again able to order Altar Flowers for Sunday worship services. We are grateful to those who are willing to sponsor the floral arrangements as they enhance the worship experience for all. Given that few of us are making visits to the church building, if you would like to sponsor flowers for a selected Sunday, please text or email Kris Burow to 2bakrisjohn@gmail.com or call (517) 599-7685. Please include information for your preferred date and if there is a special reason for that Sunday (birthday, anniversary, etc). We will add your name to the Flower Chart. Floral arrangements are \$35. Kris will contact you to confirm your order. After worship service is taped Pastor Matt will deliver the flowers to your home or you can request to have them taken to another member.

Thank you to all who are willing to be Altar Flower sponsors!

Community Partners:



- August has five Sundays, so Bethlehem again has a chance to positively impact the lives of Lansing School District students who are BELC members or live in the Baker Neighborhood. We have partnered with Lansing SAVE since early 2019 and your generosity continues to affirm and encourage students to strive for a future that holds options for continued education. For more information about the program go to: <https://www.lansingmi.gov/674/Lansing-SAVE>
- Partnering with the Lansing School District, the YMCA is serving free meals to our community from the BELC parking lot, Monday through Friday. The partnership with the Lansing School District will continue as it has – distributing lunches in our parking lot weekday mornings. According to their website, the YMCA distributed 110,057 meals (from all locations) between March 16 and July 18, 2020. For more information about the Healthy Living Mobile Food Bus go to: <https://www.lansingymca.org>
- Potter Park Zoo Passes: To comply with CDC guidelines Potter Park Zoo has implemented a system where only a certain number of people can come in at one time. When using a zoo pass you will have to take the chance that they may be at capacity when you arrive. Please take your Potter Park Zoo pass to the admission booth and show it to the zoo employee. If all of the time slots are full they will ask that you wait for the next available time slot, when you and your household will be admitted into the zoo for free. The only way to guarantee access into the zoo at a certain time is by purchasing tickets online but this makes your zoo pass invalid (you **cannot** buy tickets online and then show admissions your zoo pass to get a refund). Thank you for your cooperation during this time."

BELC/Building News:

- Considering the volume and quality of custodian applicants, the Board of Buildings and Grounds is exploring other options as we move through the rest of the summer and into early fall. Several bids have been received from custodial firms, and the Board is reviewing those. Fortunately, the custodial needs are reduced at this time, so they should be able to come up with a great interim solution. Please, if you see something that needs attention, email Vicki @ belcparishadmin@gmail.com.
- The boiler project has only progressed as far as delivery of the new unit. Labor has not begun due to the heat our summer has produced. Air conditioning needs are apparently more pressing now than anticipated, so installation has been delayed. We will have heat when we need it, regardless, but the work will surely be accomplished before the temperature drops too low.
- The Board recently conducted a walk-thru inspection of the Mission Home. This is the first of the inspections scheduled to occur twice yearly. It also precedes the triennial rental inspection required by the City of Lansing. The board members noted a few minor repairs, i.e. bad window screens, a cracked window, loose handrail, etc. They have been seen to and the inspection is scheduled for mid-August.

Bethlehem Wants/Needs/Encourages You

When the COVID pandemic started, council decided to postpone the normal election process until we could meet as a congregation. As things have progressed, we have discovered that we will likely not be able to meet again as a congregation for an indeterminate and potentially long time.

It is not reasonable to expect volunteers to extend their terms of service longer than they are able to or willing to serve. We want to allow people to follow their passions and give back as they are called and equipped to give.

It is also not reasonable to expect the remaining members of a board to function as a full board, especially in a dynamic situation such as the one in which we find ourselves.

We are, therefore, asking that you use the attached board descriptions to identify the one(s) that allow you to best use your gifts/passions. Call the appropriate contact person listed below to indicate your interest, or to further clarify the board's role. The first order of business as the boards reconvene is to align the missions and ministries of the boards to our new reality. This is an exciting time in which we can build on our strengths and traditions while finding new ways to accomplish our work and worship. Good, level heads, outside the box thinkers, and people steeped in, but not mired in tradition with a commitment to our church are needed. Open hearts and minds coming together to move our church forward are needed. We need all of us who love and trust God and who believe in the work, ministry, history, and future of our church to listen to and follow God's call.

I realize that ideally, we would seek nominations and input from members, approach individuals in person, hold elections, etc. We are in less than ideal times, so while not seeking to circumvent the system, we do need to keep the wheels turning in an intentional way. Additionally, board meetings have always been open to anyone who has an interest; and boards have always been allowed and encouraged to seek help from other members.

So, in this unprecedented time, we are calling for unprecedented action. If you have a passion for hospitality, please explore the Board of Congregational Care. If you have a passion for evangelism, Outreach. If you have a passion for leadership, perhaps look to a council position (also Board-related), or to a position as board chair. Since we cannot hold elections, these would be unofficial positions that could be affirmed at a later time.

A brief description of each of the boards' work is attached, as well as contact information in case you want to speak to a current board representative. Please do not hesitate to follow God's leading as we move forward together.

The responsibility of the **BOARD OF BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS** shall be the stewardship of all church property. Please contact Council Representative Marv Halbakken.

The responsibility of the **BOARD OF CONGREGATIONAL CARE** shall be membership concerns. . Please contact Council Representative Susan Mahoney.

The responsibility of the **BOARD OF CONGREGATIONAL LIFE AND ACTIVITY** shall be to promote fellowship in this congregation. . Please contact Council Representative Joe Shreffler.

The responsibility of the **BOARD OF EDUCATION** shall be the Christian education of all members of this congregation. . Please contact Council Representative Candy Barnes.

The responsibility of the **BOARD OF OUTREACH MINISTRIES** shall be to share the gospel through outreach and service to the community. . Please contact Council Representative Liisa Whitman.

The responsibility of the **BOARD OF STEWARDSHIP AND FINANCE** shall be congregational stewardship concerns and finances. . Please contact Council Representative Diane Miller.

The responsibility of the **BOARD OF WORSHIP LIFE** shall be the worship life of this congregation. . Please contact Council Representative Carole Kienke.

I am experiencing many feelings I don't like during this time, but I am also experiencing the ones I do like....hope, excitement, anticipation, love, and appreciation as well. It is with a sense of hope and excitement that I end this appeal. Move forward with us into the unknown, trusting in our congregation of believers and trusting in our God.

Vicki Leighton
BELC Treasurer

Thank You!



Dear Bethlehem Lutheran Church,

Please allow us to express the gratitude of Samaritas for your generous donation of \$175.00 in June of 2020. Samaritas appreciates your members' commitment to serving people as an expression of the love of Christ.

For 85 years, and because of the support of you Women's Group, Samaritas has been an advocate for so many children and families across Michigan. Your support helps Samaritas to empower the people we serve, enabling them to overcome the challenges of trauma, hopelessness, poverty, social isolation, and disability.

Your partnership in connecting, empowering and transforming lives in our community is priceless. Again, thank you!

Gratefully,
Sam Beals
Chief Executive Officer

Hello Friends,

I'm really happy for the support of the Lutheran Lakota Job Corps. Through all of this that's been happening around the world, I still have a job to take care of my two kids. Thank you from me and my kids.

God Bless You!
Staff members;
Jeanene Two Two
Austin P.

Dear Bethlehem Lutheran Church,

Thank you for the generous gift to "The Table" our cabin campaign. Your support of this effort will provide safe, comfortable and state-of-the-art housing for campers for decades! Thank you for your leadership and generosity!

Peace,
C.J.

Dear Partners in Ministry,

I write with a sense of excitement and hope for the future of the ministry taking place at the Pine Ridge Reconciliation Center. As I near the end of my fifth year at Pine Ridge, I am humbled to take in the sweeping changes in the overall ministry of this place among the Lakota people. Your partnership has been, and will continue to be, a vital component in the trajectory of this ministry. You should be proud of the work we have done here together.

The Lutheran/Lakota Job Corps has become a reality and is now an integral part of every aspect of this ministry. The Pine Ridge Presbyterian Church is serving as a space for children and youth to gather and a faith community is beginning to take shape.

My time at Pine Ridge will end in July, so please pray for each of us and this ministry as we navigate these transitions. I give thanks to YOU for your faithful support of this ministry.

Servants Together,
Pastor Karen Ressel
Director/Pastor Lutheran Lakota Shared Ministry

Dear Bethlehem Family,

What a heartwarming surprise for all the cards we received for our 65th Anniversary - Thanks be to all!

A special thanks to those responsible for implementing the technology of bringing Pastor Matt's Sunday services to us through "YouTube". A true blessing to enjoy!

Chris & John Ransom

Bethlehem Star

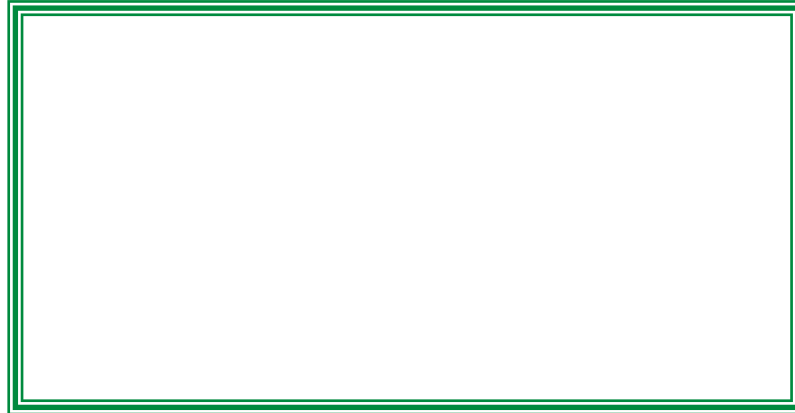
Lutheran Church Lansing



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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Newsletter Deadline is **August 15**
for the **September 2020** Bethlehem Star.

Also available at
www.bethlutheran.org

In-Home Date: August 1, 2020
Mailed on July 27, 2020

August 2020

