



WEEKLY CONNECTION

AUGUST 7, 2022

SUNDAY'S WORSHIP: Sunday's Epistle is from Hebrews 11, the "by faith" chapter. It lists heroes of faith, people who trusted in God's promises, assured of what they hoped for (the definition of faith). The Reading from Genesis singles out Abram believing God, for which God counted it to him as righteousness. Now we can look back, knowing that in one descendant of Abraham, Jesus, all God's promises were kept. His calming words in the Gospel give us the assurance we need to rely on God's care and concern when we don't have all we think we need. **"Seek [God's] kingdom, and these things will be added to you,"** He promises (Luke 12:31). Our faith-filled response echoes today's Psalm: **"Let Your steadfast love, O LORD, be upon us, even as we hope in You"** (Psalm 33:22).

NEW CONNECT 7 DEVOTIONS: For the Weeks of August 1 – September 9, please pick up your newest Connect 7 Devotions in the entryway of the church. The devotions are chosen to help you have a better understanding of the weekly Sunday theme and a closer Connection to our loving God. The first several weeks are based on the Letter to the Hebrews and will focus on faith and the gifts that it brings to our spiritual wellbeing.

RED LETTER CHALLENGE

Coming in few weeks (September 18 until October 30) our congregation, school and preschool will be united together in worship, small groups, Bible study, and purpose. We will explore together what Jesus says about our Christian walk. As God's family at Bethlehem we will learn how to grow in our relationship with God and our neighbors. We will look to Jesus to teach us how to increase our serving, our giving and our sharing of Christ's love. There are several ways in which you can volunteer.

1. Consider joining a small group. (Sign-up begins August 28 until September 18)
2. Invite friends, co-workers, neighbors, fellow school parents, other family members to join us for six weeks of small groups.
3. Prayerfully ask God if He is leading you to facilitate a small group. Contact Pastor Korte mkorte@bethlehemsaginaw.org or John Brandt jbrandt@bethlehemsaginaw.org by August 23. Groups can be organized in many different ways:
 - a. Current Bible Studies and Small Groups
 - b. Similar interests (like eating bacon! LOL), young parents, parents of teenagers, retirees, women, youth, friends, etc.
 - c. Various days of the week at convenient times.
 - d. Meeting at homes, church, coffee shops, etc.
4. Organize a small community service project to share Christ's love.
5. Serve at our sign-up tables August 28, September 11 & 18, before and after each service for 15 minutes. Contact John Brandt (989)799-0201

RED LETTER THOUGHT OF THE WEEK:

BY PUTTING GOD'S WORDS LITERALLY INTO PRACTICE, YOU WILL FIND THE LIFE GOD HAS MADE FOR YOU!

NEEDED: Red Letter Challenge Launch Volunteers

You can help launch the Red Letter Challenge, our congregation-wide Bible study by volunteering to help in a couple of ways -

Send out postcards encouraging people to sign-up. We need three people to stick mailing labels and stamps onto the postcards on Thursday August 18 beginning at 9 a.m. Contact John Brandt (jbrandt@bethlehemsaginaw.org or 989-799-0201) if you can help.

Assist with group sign-ups and book distribution at church on August 28, September 4, and September 11. We are looking for 4 people to serve after either the early service or late service on each Sunday. Sign-up for as many Sundays as you would like. Contact John Brandt (jbrandt@bethlehemsaginaw.org or 989-799-0201) if you can help.

OUR ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK:

In Person Attendance 7/31/22: 126 Online Unique Viewers: 11

Drive Up Communion 8/3/22: 22

STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT: Luke 12:24 – “Consider the ravens: they neither sow nor reap, they have neither storehouse nor barn, and yet God feeds them.” God feeds the birds of the air – this we know, it’s just that, as one wit put it: God sometimes feeds the birds....to the cats! Yes, crosses and hardships will always come, Christ said that no disciple is above his Master. But through it all, the Lord cares for us and He calls upon us to entrust ourselves to that care. He really is our Father, and He really will guard and keep us through whatever this life has to throw at us. And in the end, we shall receive the gift of eternal life.

PRAYER FOCUS

SPECIAL PRAYERS: Ken Willman, Don Henne, Diane Weber

OUR CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY is extended to the family of **Matthew Mull** the son of Daniel Mull and the nephew of David Mull. May God comfort Matthew’s family with the assurance of victory over the grave. His Christian Funeral will be Friday, August 10th at 11 am.

CARING FOR OTHERS

PANTRY NEEDS are canned fruit, canned beans, peanut butter, pasta sauce, vegetable, vegetable beef, and chicken noodle soups and boxed potatoes. Items can be dropped off at the office. Thank you for your support!

OUR NEXT FOOD PANTRY is **Tuesday, August 16 from 10-11am**. We are doing a drive through distribution. People can line up in their cars along the church sidewalk in the Weiss lot next to the church. The line will start at the church entrance. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Trevor in the church office at 989-755-1144 x108.

SUPPORT FOR UKRAINE

The LCMS Office of International Mission is currently working with five partner churches to help refugees from this conflict. To support the people of Ukraine, please pray for them. If you desire to contribute to their needs, there are three ways to **donate**: Text LCMSUKRAINE to 41-444; Give online; or call 888.930.4438

ORPHAN GRAIN TRAIN BARREL: Bethlehem continues collecting infant supplies, (diapers, clothing, stuffed toys); medical equipment, (bed & bath linens, walkers, wheelchairs); hygiene supplies (toothbrushes, sanitary

items for women, bar soap, combs), and more for Orphan Grain Train Ministry. A more detailed wish list can be found at [OGT-Wish-List.pdf](#) or can be viewed in the narthex. We thank you in advance for your donations.

ORPHAN GRAIN TRAIN: Ukrainian Relief Update

Recently another 2 Air-Cargo shipments, making **a total of 6 air shipments have been made from Orphan Grain Train to assist Ukrainian families.** One shipment is on its way to Ternopil to “Charitable Foundation Light of Reformations” for many families in desperate need. The other is on its way to Moldova to assist impoverished families along with Ukrainian refugees.

Orphan Grain Train will continue to ship aid and food for those facing this humanitarian crisis as long as funds are available. If you would like to give online, please go to OGT.ORG. Thank you for your continued support and prayers.

AROUND BETHLEHEM

WEEKLY ADULT BIBLE STUDIES

- **Fridays, 6:15 am** on Zoom. “Hebrews.” For info: mp_denno@yahoo.com
- **Tuesdays, 10 a.m.** in the Church Lending Library. Do you miss Bible Study in the summer months? Come for a casual sharing of the Scriptures. All you need is your Bible. Call Sally for more info 989-781-4851 or 989-284-4090.

LENDING LIBRARY: Bibles, devotions, fiction and non-fiction books and DVDs for all ages are available in the Lending Library at the top of the ramp. You may find something perfect for summer reading.

OFFERING COLLECTION: We now are passing the offering plate during the worship services. If you desire you may place your tithe or offering in the collection plate as it is passed. For the time being, the wooden “Joash Box” will remain in the entry way of the church and you may continue to place your offering in it before or following the service. You may also continue to contribute your tithe by automatic withdrawal, electronically on the website, or by texting. We appreciate your gifts as we return a portion of what the Lord has given us.

BETHLEHEM’S PERPETUAL CHARITABLE TRUST FUND: The Gift that Grows. If you enjoy sharing Christ’s love and your blessings with others, you might consider a gift to your Trust Fund. You can help our congregation seed and expand our ministries and outreach with a gift to one of six funds. Just use your convenient envelopes in your giving packet or give directly through the office. Since 1994, over \$250,000 in earnings have been distributed. Contact Charmaine Wittig at 989 792-0669 with any questions or to donate.

COMMUNITY PRAYER CIRCLES

The next **Community Prayer Circle** on **Sunday, August 14th from 3:00 pm until 5:00 pm.** The event will be located at H.R. Wickes Park 3599 Hospital Rd, Saginaw, MI 48603. All are invited to join in a time of prayer, song, worship and fellowship.

Youths and adults of all ages are invited to join Community Prayer Circles. Objectives of the Community Prayer Circles initiative include:

- Glorifying and praising God with brothers and sisters in Christ through prayer
- Applying and magnifying the ACTS of worship in prayer (Adoration, Confession, Thanksgiving and Supplication)
- Growing socially in our understanding of our neighbors and their hopes and challenges
- Integrating youths and adults in the ACTS of worship prayer process

Prayer Circles participants gather once per month for prayer and socializing. Questions? Contact Sharon Voss: vosssharon10@gmail.com.

SCHOOL NEWS:

AUTUMN SHARING & CARING

The Evangelism Board's sharing and caring mission for this fall is aimed at supporting our Bethlehem School. We will be collecting much needed supplies, and will accept cash/check donations.

Items needed: post it notes, Scotch tape for dispensers, Gel pens (black, purple, pink, red), skinny expo markers, ultra-fine sharpie markers, small/medium/ large storage containers with lids, paper fasteners, paper towels, napkins, whiteboard cleaner, manila folders, black Sharpies- fine point (boxes of 36 on Amazon), Pendaflex manila file folders- letter size, box of 100, award ribbons, Mr Clean magic erasers, masking tape, clear packing tape, larger sticky note pads with lines, glue sticks, twistables (Crayola), white cardstock paper, snacks, waters, 2 pocket folders with 3 prongs, white out tape.

COLLECTING NOW UNTIL SEPTEMBER 5: Items can be left in the wicker box below or in the church /school office. Any questions- contact Brenda Wilson **THANK YOU!**

BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN SCHOOL AND PRESCHOOL JOB POSTINGS:

Bethlehem Lutheran Preschool and Extended Care is looking to hire a part time Preschool Assistant Teacher for our growing program.

Qualifications include: • High School Diploma • Experience working with young children and/or enrollment in a Child Development program. • Current infant, child, and adult first aid training (or willingness to get upon hiring) • Be at least 18 years of age. • Physically able to lift children (minimum 25 lbs.) and ability to participate in floor activities. • Must complete 16 hours of training yearly. • Complete blood-borne pathogen training. • Submit to fingerprint background check. • Submit negative TB test within 30 days of hire. • Enjoy working with children ages Preschool- 8th Grade. Duties include: • Working closely with the Director. • Abide by Bethlehem Lutheran School and the State of Michigan Licensing Policies and Procedures. • Maintain professional confidentiality. • Help to maintain and ensure a safe and developmentally appropriate setting. • Assist in general housekeeping duties in the classroom.

Pay: Competitive Wages

Hours: 29 hours/ week (M-W-F 7:45- 3:15 T/TH 7:45- 11:45)

If interested please send cover letter, resume and references to (please reference the job posting for which you are applying): Lisa May c/o Bethlehem Lutheran School 2777 Hermansau Rd. Saginaw, MI 48604 Or email to: lmay@bethlehemsaginaw.org

Church & School Administrative Assistant (full-time)

Bethlehem Lutheran Church and School is seeking a qualified, friendly individual to join our team. Duties of the Administrative Assistant include providing support to our managers and employees, assisting in daily office needs and managing our organization's general administrative activities. The ideal candidate should have excellent oral and written communication skills and be able to organize their work using tools, like MS Excel and office equipment. If you have previous experience as a Secretary or administrative assistant and familiarity within our industry, we'd like to meet you. Ultimately, a successful Administrative Assistant should ensure the efficient and smooth day-to-day operation of our office.

If interested, please submit a resume with references to thenry@bethlehemsaginaw.org

VALLEY LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL JOB POSTINGS:

Valley Lutheran High School is accepting applications for the position of Assistant Cook to work in the kitchen for 30-35 hours per week while school is in session. The ideal candidate would have experience cooking/serving for groups, a love for working with teens, an interest in learning required paperwork and ordering processes, and a willingness to support the mission of VLHS. The starting date would be August 22. Salary is commensurate with experience and there is opportunity for advancement. If interested, please send a resume and cover letter to Dr. Lisa Meyers at lmeyers@vlhs.com or 3560 McCarty Rd. Saginaw, MI 48603. Deadline for applications is August 17.

Valley Lutheran High School is in search of a Freshman Volleyball Head Coach for the upcoming season. Practices start 8/8. If you are interested or know someone who is interested, please send a resume and contact information to VL Athletic Director, Tyler Yahn at tyahn@vlhs.com.