



WEEKLY CONNECTION

MAY 8, 2022

The Lord is Risen! ... So, Now What? Hear His Voice! John 10:27-28

Join us this weekend as we continue to explore our post-easter theme, **“The Lord is Risen! ... So, Now What?”** In the weeks after the first Easter, the disciples were slow to re-act to the Good News of the Resurrection. So, if the resurrection is such a big deal, such a life changing event, why are they still stuck in the same place? What difference has the empty tomb made? How has it changed them? Has it let them see themselves and their world differently? Has it done anything for them? It doesn’t look as if it’s made much difference. They are in the same house behind the same locked doors as a week ago. What’s changed? Nothing! We need to ask ourselves the very same question **“... So, Now What?”** Jesus said to his first disciples and us, *“My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me. ²⁸ I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand.”* John 10:27-28

OFFERING COLLECTION: Beginning this weekend we will once again pass 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 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.

OUR WORSHIP LAST WEEK:

Attendance 05/01/22: 188

Unique Viewers: 13

Drive Up Communion 05/04/2022: 36

OUR GIVING LAST WEEK:

Giving: \$9,912.00

Need: \$15,631.00

Offerings may be mailed in or you may give electronically at bethlehemsaginaw.org/give or contact our church office for assistance

PRAYER FOCUS

WE REJOICE AT THE BIRTH of Emmanuel the son of Brittney Walkowski on Friday, May 6, 2022. May God protect him and his mother.

OUR PRAYERS OF COMFORT are with the family of Kerry Conrad, wife of James and mother of Jeff. We pray that God would be with her as she prepares to enter eternal life.

OUR CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY is extended to the family of Melvin Hecht, who entered eternal life on January 20, 2022. He is the father of Janet. Mel’s memorial service will be held at Bethlehem on Tuesday, May 24th at 11 am. Visitation will be held from 10 am until the time of service.

CARING FOR OTHERS

PANTRY NEEDS are muffin mix, hamburger, tuna or chicken helper, scallop potatoes, rice, tuna fish, canned chicken & peanut butter. Items can be dropped off at the office. Thank you for your support!

OUR NEXT FOOD PANTRY is **Tuesday, May 17 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.

NOISY OFFERING: For the month of May our Noisy Offering will go towards the Underground Railroad. The Underground Railroad is a safe shelter for women and children that have had to flee their residence because of violence or abuse. The Underground Railroad served victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking and human slavery in Saginaw County. Since 1977, Underground Railroad, Inc. has been the only provider of emergency shelter and services to end domestic and sexual violence in the community. Annually the Underground Railroad provided over 14,000 safe bed nights for over 500 women and children, and over 4,000 families in Saginaw County access one or more of our services.

AROUND BETHLEHEM

WEEKLY ADULT BIBLE STUDIES

- **Sundays, 9:15 am** in lower level. New series on the book of "James" begins Sunday March 27 at 9:15 a.m. For info: brandtjohn1964@gmail.com
- **Tuesdays, 10 am** in the David Room. "The Gospel of Luke" For info: 989-497-8474
- **Fridays, 6:15 am** on Zoom. "2 Peter." For info: mp_denno@yahoo.com

BACON BOYS BREAKFAST: We will meet on **Saturday, May 14th at 7:30 am** (we will finish by 9:00 am) in the lower level of Bethlehem. Please enter the Main Office doors on the Hermansau parking lot side.

Join us for a great time of fellowship, prayer, discussion of God's hope for the future, and of course a hearty breakfast which will include bacon. This month our theme will be: "**Get Your Life Back.**" No RSVP is necessary. We are looking forward to seeing all our brothers in Christ.

LUTHERAN WOMEN IN MISSION (LWML): Lutheran Women in Mission (LWML) Saginaw Valley Zone will be holding our **Spring Rally on May 21, 2022** at Faith Lutheran Church in Bridgeport. Registration is \$6.00. 8:30 a.m. is registration with a light breakfast followed by the program from 9:00 a.m. until 12 noon with a luncheon to follow. Teen Challenge will give song and testimony. In-Gathering items: Shampoo, conditioner, body wash, feminine products, shower scrunchies, finger nail polish in spring colors, nail polish remover, cotton balls, Q-tips. Please plan on joining us. Any questions call Ann Gould (989) 928-9089.

FREE LITTLE LIBRARY: It's Free! Check out the white Little Free Library at the front corner of the Weiss Street parking

lot. This small library is for everyone. Young, old, neighborhood, school families and congregation members. Take a book. Share a book. We hope the books and book marks will be a blessing to you and to those you invite to use it. Thank you to Gary Jacques who designed and made this for Bethlehem. The school children and Braille workers helped us unveil and dedicate the library on Thursday.



SCHOOL NEWS

Our enrollment at this time is allowing us to combine our 2nd and 3rd grades into one classroom next year with Mrs. Sundae Peterson as their teacher. Mrs. Kristi DeVries will move from 3rd grade to the 6th grade (ELA for 6-8) teacher position, replacing Mrs. Jane Weiss who will retire at the end of the school year. We are all really excited about this new plan and look forward to another great year!

We were **SO spoiled** for **Teacher Appreciation Week!** From an omelet station to chair massages to treats of all kinds, the teachers and staff were beyond blessed by our PTL team and our families. Thank you so much for showering our beloved faculty and staff with your generous gifts!

The talent displayed at our **Lutheran School Music Festival** this week was beyond compare. Mrs. Weiss and her musicians were shining brightly with all of their God-given talents. We thank Mrs. Weiss for all of the love, hard work, and attention she has given this event over the years. Her dedication to music at BLS has been a true blessing from above.

Speaking of Mrs. Weiss, please join us as we honor Mrs. Jane Weiss during both church services on Sunday, June 5th. **Mrs. Weiss is retiring after 40 years** as a music educator, teacher, and director of school music (37 years at Bethlehem) and we want to give her the send-off she deserves! There will be a cake and punch fellowship time after each service.

MUSIC EXTRAVAGANZA AND ART SHOWCASE: Please join us for an enjoyable evening of music and digital art displays by our talented choir, band and art students. The showcase will be held in the Bethlehem church on **Wednesday, May 11 @ 6:30 p.m.**

SCHOOL ENROLLMENT: Bethlehem Lutheran School enrollment is now open for the 2022-2023 school year. We have openings available in all grades from Preschool (3- and 4-year-old) through 8th grade. You are invited to see what we have to offer at our **Open House on Monday, May 9th, from 5:00-6:30 p.m.** Please call the school at 989-755-1144 with any questions.



VL

Summer Camps



Information and
Registration at
[www.vlhs.com/
camps](http://www.vlhs.com/camps)



JUNE
14-17,
20-23,
27-30


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