



WEEKLY CONNECTION

SEPTEMBER 29, 2024

SUNDAY'S WORSHIP: Nineteenth Sunday After Pentecost

Bible Readings Numbers 11:4–6, 10–16, 24–29, James 5:(1–12) 13–20, Mark 9:38–50

Christ Jesus, the Son of God, Cares for Us and Serves Us with the Forgiveness of Sins

When the people of Israel wept, complaining that they had no meat to eat (Num. 11:4), Moses cried out to the Lord that *“the burden of all this people”* was too heavy for him and that he was *“not able to carry all this people alone”* (Num. 11:11–14). So the Lord had Moses gather *“seventy men of the elders of Israel”* (Num. 11:16), and the Lord *“took some of the Spirit that was on him and put it on the seventy elders”* (Num. 11:25), so that Moses would not carry the burden alone. All who thus labor are honored, and all the people are cared for, in the name of the Lord (Mark 9:39–41). Everything is done with reference to Christ Jesus. So we cling to Him, and we flee from all sins that would separate us from Him (Mark 9:42–48). The life of the Church is one of repentant faith in Christ. Christians confess their sins to one another, and they *“pray for one another,”* that each would be raised up and healed by the Lord Jesus, who covers *“a multitude of sins”* and saves our souls from death (James 5:15–20).

SCRIPTURE OF THE WEEK:

⁸You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand.
James 5:8

SERVING THIS SUNDAY –

Preacher –	Deacon Ken Kerouac
Officiant –	Deacon Ken Kerouac
Lay Reader –	Jim Ruthig
Elder in Charge –	9 am Gary Grauf 10:30 am Steve Harvey
Greeters –	9 am Nancy & Barry Wittig 10:30 am Ruth & Mike Hargash
Tech Team –	9 am Wil Conrad, Val Engelhardt 10:30 am Christian, Jackson, Owen White
Music Team -	9 am Audrey Englehardt
Music Leaders –	9 am Alex Holcomb 10:30 am Annelise Holcomb

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE (For more Information see blurbs below.)

September 29 - Worship @ 9:00 am & 10:30 am

September 29 – Sunday School Preschool – 4th 9:15 am

September 29– Bible Study Lower Level 9:15 am

September 30 – Braille Workers 5:45 pm

October 1 – Braille Workers 8:30 am

October 1 – Bible Study David Room 9:30 am

October 2 - School Chapel 8:15 am

October 2 – Drive Up Communion 4:00 to 5:00 pm

October 2- Worship Arts Team Rehearsal 6:30 pm

October 3 – Braille Workers 8:30 am

October 3 – Senior Choir Rehearsal 7 pm

October 4 - Men’s Bible Study via Zoom @ 6:15 am

October 6 - Worship @ 9:00 am & 10:30 am

October 6 – Sunday School Preschool – 4th 9:15 am

October 6 – Bible Study Lower Level 9:15 am

October 6 – Seventh Grade Communion Instruction noon to 3:30 pm

BOAR’S HEAD CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL: Bethlehem would like to revive our Annual Boars’ Head Christmas Festival. We need your help! Planning and work have already begun but much more remains. If you have questions or would like to be a member of the cast or volunteer in another capacity please contact Chris White by email Chrispartyof7@gmail.com or phone is 989-714-2832 by Sunday September 29th.

DRIVE UP COMMUNION will be held **Wednesday, October 2**, from 4 pm to 5 pm in the Weiss Street parking lot.

PRAYER FOCUS

SPECIAL PRAYERS: Paul Tomaszewski, Gordon Henry, Debbie Pappas, Marion Reimer, Milda Persons, Bob Egerer, Andrew Forsythe, David Goodrow, Daisy, daughter of Cammie Funnel (surgery) Randy & Sandy Pope, Betty Berkobien, Dorothy Rathje (former teacher end of earthly life), Yvonne Dennison,

HOSPITALIZED: Jacquelyn Willman, Jim Gould

OUR CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY is extended to the family of **Fred Bauer**, who entered eternal life on Monday, September 23. Fred was the father of Louanne Yurgens. May God comfort all who mourn Fred’s passing.

PRAYER FOR CALL LIST: Lord God, heavenly Father, you have given us pastors to proclaim Your word. We pray for Bethlehem's Pastoral search committee and **Pastor Andrew, Pastor Nate, Pastor Jacob and Pastor Andrew** as they consider Your calling on their ministry. Grant wisdom and guidance to all and if it be Your will reveal to us who will be our next pastor to join us in the ministry at Bethlehem. Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer. AMEN

CHURCH ATTENDANCE:

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost 09-22-24 227 Online viewership: 58

STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT Mark 9:45 – “And if your foot causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter life lame than with two feet to be thrown into hell.” So what is causing us to sin? Lust? Greed? Fear? Better to cut it off! We need the Lord's help to do this — and you are in the right place this Lord's Day to receive that help through Word and Sacrament!

GUARDIAN PRAYER ANGELS NEEDED! In this program, our aim is to encourage, support, and strengthen the faith of our 8th graders in this last year at Bethlehem and as they approach graduation. Guardian Prayer Angel duties include praying for your 8th grader and anonymously sending cards or small remembrance items for their birthday, Christmas and at Confirmation/graduation. Little “thinking of you” notes can be sent at any time. If you are interested in becoming a Guardian Prayer Angel, you can call/text Diane Gallegos at (989) 798-6006 or call the school office at (989) 755-1144.

THRIVENT ACTION TEAM GRANTS: Bethlehem is looking to “Share God's Love and Care for All People” through several upcoming servant events. We are in need of several Action Team Grants to help us help others. The events are “**Kids Against Hunger**” (October 13) the celebration of “**50 Years of Preschool**” (November 10) and a “**Food Bank of Eastern Michigan**” truck. (April 2025) If you have the ability to help please contact the church and school office and we will be happy to walk you through the process. Thank you for your consideration.

CARING FOR OTHERS

ORPHAN GRAIN TRAIN is in need of men's clothing! If you are able to donate, please drop off items at the church office, or in the Orphan Grain Train bin in the narthex.

NOISY OFFERINGS SUPPORT FUTURE PASTORS AND TEACHERS The September Noisy Offering supports men and women who are studying for various ministries within the LCMS. Many Bethlehem members have entered ministry and have brought the blessings of the Gospel to people all over the world.

FOOD PANTRY NEEDS are cereal and jam/jelly. Donations can be dropped off at the church office.

ONE CHURCH SUNDAY Please join us on **Sunday, October 13th** for our One Church "Servant" Sunday. At **10 AM**, we will have just one worship service together. We will pack 20,000 meals for kids and enjoy a fellowship meal together. How you can volunteer. Sign up in the narthex!

\$7,600 to \$1 to purchase meals

10-15 Volunteers to set up

100 Volunteers to package the meals.

8 Volunteers for Fellowship Meal

Bring a side dish or dessert to share

10-15 Volunteers to take down

Thrivent Action Team Grants

AROUND BETHLEHEM

BETHLEHEM STARS will be meeting for lunch on October 8th at 12 PM at Sullivan's Restaurant. RSVP to Billie Mull at 989-792-5843.

ALTAR GUILD SIGN UP October is Altar Guild Sign Up month! Altar Guild is not a hard job to do. You will be in a group where each person has a job to do for about an hour. We do not always meet on a weekend anymore for cleaning and preparing communion. We do clean up after communion on Sundays where it is offered. It is a blessing to work for our Lord. Please prayerfully think of joining us! Any questions, please call Ann Braun at 989-293-0439.

BETHLEHEM SUNDAY SCHOOL! Sunday school began on September 15 during the 9:00 AM church service. At 9 AM services, Sunday School will start around 9:20/30 after the Children's Message and finish at the end of the service. We will hold it in the church's lower level (the Latchkey area), and parents can go downstairs to pick up their children after the service ends. Kids from PreK to 4th grade are welcome to join us! We welcome kids that are in church on any given Sunday morning, but for planning purposes, it would be helpful to sign up your child beforehand if interested. You can do so on the Bethlehem website, or you can **scan the QR code to the right**. We also have a signup sheet in the back of the narthex if you would prefer that way. We are also looking for volunteers (5th grade through adult), so please email Annelise Holcomb at arholcomb@bethlehemsaginaw.org if you are interested, or you can sign up in the back of the church narthex. We look forward to teaching kids about God!



SEEKING WORSHIP ARTS TEAM MEMBERS Do you sing or play an instrument? Or can you see yourself working lights, sound, or visuals in our tech booth? Then you should consider joining our Worship Arts team! We are in need of new Worship Arts team members to lend us their talents at both the 9 AM and 10:30 AM service times. If you are interested, please see Alex Holcomb, email aholcomb@bethlehemsaginaw.org, or call 989-755-1144 to let us know.

WEEKLY ADULT BIBLE STUDIES

- **Tuesdays, 9:30 am (Ladies)** in the David Room. Contact Mary Kay Hall for more information - (989) 497-8474.
- **Thursdays, 6:30 pm *Cultures in Conflict!* Beginning September 17 David Room** For

information call Pastor Korte 755-1144

- **Fridays, 6:15 am (Men)** on Zoom. “**The Book of 2 Corinthians.**” For info: mp_denno@yahoo.com
- **Sundays, 9:15 am** *Cultures in Conflict!* **Beginning September 15**

BIBLE STUDY AND SUNDAY SCHOOL BEGIN SEPTEMBER 15

Sign-up in the narthex now for our congregation-wide Bible Study “Cultures in Conflict” part of the Ray Vanderlaan series “That the World May Know.” Classes are scheduled on Sunday and several times during the week. The classes are appropriate for 5th graders through age 105!

And you can sign-up for Sunday School which also begins on September 15. You sign up in the narthex and there are online sign-ups described elsewhere in the Connection.

SUNDAY MORNING 9:15 A.M. - Meet Lower Level Leader: Charles Buckhahn, Larry Hauser

TUESDAY MORNING 9:30 A.M. - David Room Leader Mary Kay Hall

MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

October 13 – One Church Sunday at 10:00 am Kids Against Hunger 20,000 Meals Service Day

OTHER NEWS

COMMUNITY PRAYER CIRCLES 10/13 Members of Bethlehem are encouraged to join the Community Prayer Circles group for Praise and Prayer Worship at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 5335 Brockway Road, Saginaw 48603 in the Prayer Garden that is outside to the left of the sanctuary from Brockway on Sunday, October 13, 2:30-4:00 p.m.

At Peace-Saginaw in September, Community Prayer Circles members practiced Praying the Bible with about 15 participants, some of whom were new to CPC. If you have questions/comments, contact Sharon Voss at: voss.sharon@yahoo.com or 989 792 2106.

VALLEY LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL IS SEEKING QUALIFIED APPLICANTS who love our students and our school to fill the following positions:

- Part-time Food Service Assistant – work under the direction of the Food Service Director to prepare and serve daily student lunches and maintain kitchen facilities and equipment according to required standards.
- Part-time Business Office Assistant – work under the direction of the Business Manager to assist in carrying out regular financial processes and maintaining accurate financial data.
- Part-time Development Associate – work under the direction of the Director of Advancement to maintain accurate donor records, assist with event planning and production, and grow relationships with our community of supporters.

While each part-time position could be filled with different individuals, the Business Office Assistant and Development Associate could be combined to create a single full-time position by the right candidate. The ideal candidates have the desire to support and further the ministry of Valley Lutheran and contribute to an excellent Christian atmosphere for students and visitors.

VLHS FRUIT SALE The Valley Lutheran Booster Club's 2024 Fruit Sale Fundraiser, which benefits athletics, drama, music and many other activities at Valley Lutheran High School, begins October 3 and runs through November 8, 2024. Fruit is passed out Saturday, December 7th at Valley from 7:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. 20lb. boxes are \$39, 40lb. boxes are \$51, 10lb. Carton of Florida Mandarins are \$35, and a mixed carton is \$39. All fruit is guaranteed. For more information, please call Valley Lutheran at 989-790-1676, fax 989-790-1680, or Bill Ankoviak 989-781-5796 home. If you prefer not to purchase fruit, donations are gladly accepted by the Boosters.

COME TAKE A PEEK AT VALLEY LUTHERAN: Is high school right around the corner? Or thinking ahead to your child's future? Any and all interested families (students included!) are invited to come take a Peek at Valley on Thursday, October 10th. These one hour guided tours provide a peek into the Valley Lutheran experience and what sets Valley apart. Please let us know you're coming and pick an arrival time at www.vlhs.com/takeapeek. Contact Amy Cooper, Director of Communications and Admissions at acooper@vlhs.com with any questions.

ESTATE PLANNING The gift planning process of an estate plan requires multi-channel communication. The communication begins with your spouse if you are married. It is essential that both spouses buy into the whole process, expressing their wishes and becoming educated so that the plan can stay in place over many years. Your LCMS Foundation Gift Planning Counselor uses a special survey incorporating wishes from both spouses into a final design, even if one spouse ordinarily avoids involvement in financial affairs. To get started, contact...
Julie Burgess
Gift Planning Counselor
Church Extension Fund/MI District
Email: Julie.burgess@lfnd.org
Mobile: 713-822-5284