



# WEEKLY CONNECTION

## AUGUST 4, 2024

### **SUNDAY'S WORSHIP: Eleventh Sunday After Pentecost**

Bible Readings Exodus 16:2–15, Ephesians 4:1–16, John 6:22–35

#### ***Jesus Is the True and Living Bread from Heaven***

Having rescued Israel “*out of the land of Egypt*” (Ex. 16:6), the Lord manifested His glory and made Himself known to His people. He fed them with “*meat to eat*” in the evening and with “*bread from heaven*” in the morning (Ex. 16:4, 8, 12). But now, the “*true bread from heaven,*” which the Father gives to you, is the Son, “*who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world*” (John 6:32–33). Whoever comes to Him “*shall not hunger,*” and whoever believes in Him “*shall never thirst.*” He is “*the bread of life,*” who gives Himself to you as “*the food that endures to eternal life*” (John 6:27, 35). By the gracious working of God, you believe in Him by the calling of one Spirit through the Gospel, so that you also have “*one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all*” (Eph. 4:4–6). As you eat His one body in the Holy Supper, so you belong to the one Body of His Church, in which you “*are to grow up in every way into him who is the head*” (Eph. 4:15).

#### **SCRIPTURE OF THE WEEK:**

*“I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst.”*

**John 6:35**

#### **SERVING THIS SUNDAY –**

Preacher – Rev Charles Buckhahn

Officiant – Deacon Ken Kerouac

Lay Reader – Ed York

Elder in Charge – 9 am Ryan Mulder & Bill Wurfel

10:30 am Steve Harvey & Larry Griffin

Greeters – 9 am Andrea & Paul Wagner

10:30 am Sharon & Walt Wehner

Tech Team – 9 am Adam & Ryan Birchmeier

10:30 am Jackson, Owen, & Christian White

Music Team - 9 am Deb Erikson

Music Leaders – 9 am Alex Holcomb 10:30 am George Frank

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

August 4 - Worship @ 9:00 am & 10:30 am with Holy Communion

August 6 – Parish Leadership Council

August 7 – Drive Up Communion 4 – 5 pm

August 9 – OFFICE CLOSED SUMMER HOURS

August 9 – Men’s Bible Study via Zoom @ 6:15 am

August 11 - Worship @ 9:00 am & 10:30 am

**AUGUST 18 CHURCH & SCHOOL PICNIC:** One Church worship at 10am It is an outdoor church service (in Weiss St. parking lot). There will be **No Communion** that day. You may want to bring a favorite lawn chair. Free Picnic Lunch to follow (hot dogs, chips, watermelon, water, and cookies.)

School Open House at 11:30am - come meet your teacher, check out your classroom, hang out with your classmates, meet new students and their families, etc.

“Shop” for school supplies - all off the donations from Stuff the Ambulance will be out for families to help themselves to whatever is needed.

**PRAYER FOCUS**

**SPECIAL PRAYERS:** Jon Braun, Bob Sell, Paul Tomaszewski, Dorothy Rathje (former teacher), Gordon Henry, Robert Emeott, Joan Otto, Herb Berlin, Jim Lutz, Gloria Colwell, Debbie Pappas, Bob Egerer, Gary Wille, Marion Reimer

**HOSPITALIZED:**

**THE FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR** are given in celebration of **Joyce Reinke’s 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday**. May God continue to shower her with His blessings.

**FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR** Sign up for altar flowers on the schedule on the bulletin board in the Narthex. Thank you for helping us to beautify our altar.

**OUR CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY** is extended to the family of **Leroy McCormick**. He entered eternal rest on Tuesday, July 30. Leroy was the father of Nancy Wittig and Mike McCormick and the grandfather of Jenna Fauske. God’s comfort to all who mourn.

**OUR CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY** is extended to the family of **Pam Hill**. She entered eternal rest on Tuesday, July 30. Pam was the wife of Paul and the mother of Lisa and Joshua. God’s comfort to all who mourn.

**THANK YOU**, Debbie Pappas would like to thank everyone, who is praying for her as she continues to heal from her injuries. We give thanks to God for looking after her.

## CHURCH ATTENDANCE:

Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

07-28-24

148

Online viewership: 33

**STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT** Ephesians 4:1 – “I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called.” The callings we have from the Lord are our “vocations.” Here Paul talks about our vocation as Christians. We are called to be His people and to reflect His love, generosity and peace within the church.

## CARING FOR OTHERS

**AUGUST NOISY OFFERING FUNDS THE BETHLEHEM CARES Fund** This month’s Noisy Offerings help people work through difficult situations by supporting The Bethlehem Cares Fund. The fund may help meet emergency needs such as food, gas, lodging and others. It is one way we can love our neighbors when times are tough.

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

**ORPHAN GRAIN TRAIN** See the bulletin board in the Narthex for details on how to pack a hygiene kit for the Orphan Grain Train. Contents include 1 bath towel, 1 wash cloth, 1 bar of soap, 1 plastic soap box holder, 1 toothbrush, 1 sturdy comp, 6 band-aids, 1 small package of facial tissues, 1 nail clipper, and 1 piece of strong ribbon or cord. The flyer also goes over how to assemble these items, and what not to include. Thank you!

## SCHOOL NEWS

**PRESCHOOL NEWS** Our GSRP program is a state-funded program, and is free to all 4-year-olds who qualify. Though it may function a bit differently than our traditional classrooms, we are so glad to be able to open up Bethlehem to families who would otherwise not be able to attend, and share the love of Jesus wherever we can. If you know a family who may be interested in this option, please have them call Lisa May at 989-755-1144 ext. 209.

## AROUND BETHLEHEM

**BETHLEHEM SUNDAY SCHOOL!** Sunday school will be starting this coming fall! It will begin on September 15 during the 9:00 AM church service. It 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](mailto: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. ***Adjourned for the Summer. See you in the fall!***
- **Fridays, 6:15 am (Men)** on Zoom. **"The Book of 1 Corinthians."** For info: [mp\\_denno@yahoo.com](mailto:mp_denno@yahoo.com)
- **Sundays, 9:15 am** ***Adjourned for the Summer. See you in the fall!***

#### **MARK YOUR CALENDARS:**

**August 18<sup>th</sup>** One Church Sunday at 10:00 am and Outside Picnic

#### **OTHER NEWS**

**GRIEFSHARE RETURNS TO GRACE AUBURN IN SEPTEMBER** On Thursday, September 5, a new cycle of GriefShare begins at Grace Lutheran Church (303 Ruth St, Auburn). All are welcome! This is a free resource; all materials are provided. We will be using the latest edition of GriefShare, intended to help anyone who is grieving find hope and peace in our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ! We will meet for thirteen weekly sessions on Thursdays at 6:30 p.m. beginning September 5 and concluding December 12 (we will not meet October 31 or Thanksgiving Day). Each GriefShare session stands alone and lasts about ninety minutes. Drop-ins are always welcome! Questions? Please contact Grace's church office at (989) 662-6161. More information, including how to register, can be found at [graceauburn.org/griefshare](http://graceauburn.org/griefshare).

**VALLEY LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL IS SEEKING A FULL-TIME SPANISH TEACHER** for the 24-25 school year. Please contact Dr. Lisa Meyers ([lmeyers@vlhs.com](mailto:lmeyers@vlhs.com) or 989-790-1676) with names of any person who might be interested. Thank you!

**HOST FAMILY NEEDED** Valley Lutheran High School is in need of a host family for a sophomore boy from S. Korea. He is a good student with high-level English skills. If you are interested in hosting, please contact Debbie Davis at [ddavis@vlhs.com](mailto:ddavis@vlhs.com) or 989-790-1676 for more information.

**COMMUNITY PRAYER CIRCLES** Youths and adults of all ages are invited to join Community Prayer Circles at Wickes Park on Sunday, August 18<sup>th</sup> from 2:30-4 PM. This includes participants from our own church and school families, as well as members of sister LCMS and other Christian congregations.

Prayer Circles participants gather once per month for prayer and socializing. To participate, fill out the form in the Narthex and mail it to: Peace Lutheran Church, ATTN: Community Prayer

Circles, 3427 Adams Ave., Saginaw, MI 48602. Questions? Contact Sharon Voss:  
[vossharon10@gmail.com](mailto:vossharon10@gmail.com).

**CARDINAL COMFORT** In the wake of recent events, most (if not all) of current Concordia University Ann Arbor Cardinals have faced fear, sadness, anger, and anxiety about the future. Cardinal Comfort, a new program, is looking for volunteer Champions to pray for and encourage current Cardinal students, faculty, and staff for the 2024/25 school year. Champions will be assigned a Cardinal to pray for daily, send an encouraging letter or card at least monthly, and send a care package at least once per semester. If you are interested in offering prayer and hope by becoming a Cardinal Comfort Champion, visit [bethlehemsaginaw.org/cuaa](http://bethlehemsaginaw.org/cuaa)

**AFTERNOON CUSTODIAN POSITION OPENING – VALLEY LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL** is seeking applicants for a part-time Afternoon Custodian to join our custodial team. Ideal candidates will recognize how this position supports and furthers the ministry of Valley Lutheran High School by contributing to an excellent Christian atmosphere for students and visitors. This part-time position will be approximately 20 hours per week during after-school hours. Interested candidates should send a resume and cover letter to Executive Director, Al Kaul, at [akaul@vlhs.com](mailto:akaul@vlhs.com) by August 9, 2024. The position will begin immediately.

**CAMPUS CONNECT** Do you have former students attending college in the state of Michigan? Michigan and English District's university campus ministries as well as local pastors and congregations are ready to engage with your college students this fall. Campus Ministry provides a nurturing environment where students can thrive and find belonging within a faith community during their time at school. Join us in creating meaningful connections and fostering spiritual growth among the next generation of leaders. Send us their contact information by going to <https://michigandistrict.org/campusconnect/> or forward this link to your students and/or their parents and grandparents. To see a list of active campus ministries in Michigan, go to <https://michigandistrict.org/ministries/specialized-ministries/campus-ministry/>

**CTSFW CONTINUING ED OPEN TO ALL AT GRACE AUBURN (AUGUST 5-7)** Concordia Theological Seminary (Ft. Wayne) Continuing Ed will be offered August 5-7 at Grace Auburn (303 Ruth Street). Rev. Bill Cwirla will lead a discussion titled "The Heard Word"! It will be a preaching workshop with both pastors and laypeople. All are invited! Two major questions will be discussed! What should pastors expect from their hearers? What should hearers expect from their preachers? It will be a great three days and we want all to know about it. To register, call 260-452-2204.