



WEEKLY CONNECTION

JUNE 8, 2025

SUNDAY'S WORSHIP: THE DAY OF PENTECOST

Scripture: Genesis 11:1-9, Acts 2:1-21, John 14:23-31

The Holy Spirit Gives Peace

Following the flood, Noah's descendants failed to spread out and fill the earth as God had spoken. Rather, they exalted themselves; with "*one language and the same words*" (Gen. 11:1), they spoke proudly and arrogantly. The Lord humbled them by confusing "*the language of all the earth,*" dividing and dispersing the people (Gen. 11:9). That dispersal was reversed on Pentecost Day (the 50th day of Easter), when God caused the one Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ to be preached in a multitude of languages. "*At this sound the multitude came together*" (Acts 2:6), for the preaching of Christ is the primary work of the Holy Spirit, whereby He gathers people from all nations into one Church. The Holy Spirit teaches and brings to our remembrance the words of Jesus, which are the words of the Father who sent Him. These words bestow forgiveness and peace to those who keep and hold on to them in love for Jesus. "*Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid*" (John 14:27).

SERVING THIS SUNDAY – June 8

Preacher –	Deacon Ken Kerouac
Officiant –	Pastor Charles Buckhahn
Lay Reader -	9:30 am Jim Ruthig
Acolytes-	9:30 am Liam Grossman and Max Grossman
Elder in Charge –	9:30 am Ryan Mulder and Bill Wuerfel
Greeters –	9:30 am Dave and Lisa May
Tech Team –	9:30 am Will Conrad, Adam and Ryan Birchmeier
Music Team -	9:30 am Annelise Holcomb, Kloey Hall, Deb Erickson and Gerry Freiman
Music Leaders –	9:30 am Annelise Holcomb and Alex Holcomb

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

June 8 – Worship @ 9:30 am
June 8 – Bible Study @ 10:30 am in David Room
June 10 – Parish Leadership Council @ 7 pm
June 13 – Men's Bible Study via Zoom @ 6:15 am
June 15 – Worship @ 9:30 am With Holy communion
June 15 – Bible Study @ 10:30 am in David Room
June 16-19 Vacation Bible School 6 to 8 pm

FOUND RING – Please Describe to Claim

A ring was found on Monday, June 2nd. If you believe it may be yours, please contact the office with a description including: Type of ring, material and any engravings or unique features.

VBS IS BACK! Join us for an Epic Australian Adventure at Vacation Bible School, open to all children from Preschool through 4th Grade! VBS will take place **June 16–19 from 6–8pm** at Bethlehem Lutheran Church and will include Bible stories, crafts, music, snacks, games, and more. Registration is open to the public—visit bit.ly/3S2c7 go to sign up. We are also seeking a few more Thrivent Action Grant cards to help cover costs. For questions, to volunteer or to offer support, please contact the church office or Jenna Wittig-Fauske at jwittig@bethlehemsaginaw.org. Thank you!

A THANK YOU FROM PASTOR KORTE Please scan the QR code to view a thank you letter from Pastor Korte. If you are viewing the connection online, you can also access the thank you letter by clicking [this link](#).



MARK YOUR CALENDARS Reminder- **Memorial Day Weekend, May 25** running through the Summer until **Labor Day Weekend, August 31** the Board of Elders announces that our summer worship schedule will be one blended service beginning at **9:30 am**. Elements from both services will be used at these worship services. The one weekly service will give Bethlehem members an opportunity to get to know the other service people and worship together as a larger group. We look forward to seeing you all.

SUMMER OFFICE HOURS: Beginning the week of June 16 through August 17 the church and school office will be open **every Tuesday and Thursday from 10:30 am until 3 pm**. Both the church and school office phones will be checked daily during the week for messages. Full office hours will resume Monday, August 18 from 7:30 am until 3:30 pm MTWTF.

PRAYER FOCUS:

SPECIAL PRAYERS: Paul Tomaszewski, Gordon Henry, Milda Persons, Barbara Ruhlig, Dave Vanderlip, Jimmy Lutz, Karen Schram, Wendy Sova, Leroy Lyvere, Pastor Korte, Marian Kasper, Irene Lange, Gary Harvey, Connie Gnotek, Grace Korte, Mary Gallegos, Shirley Fanger, Debbie Pappas, Herb Berlin, Edith Crowder, Linda Bixby-Scribner, Alicia Beechum

HOSPITALIZED: Melissa Bullard,

OUR CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY is extended to the family of **Cruz Chingman** who entered eternal life on Sunday, June 1st. He is the father of Carter and Chloe Chingman, Bethlehem students. We ask God's comfort to the whole family and the hope of the resurrection.

OUR CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY is extended to the family of **Shirley Pagenkopf**. Shirley entered eternal life on Wednesday, May 29. Her memorial service will be held at Bethlehem on Friday, June 20th at 2 pm.

OUR CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY is extended to the family of **Larry Schroeppel** who entered eternal life on Monday, June 2nd. His funeral will be held at Bethlehem on Friday, June 27th at 11 am.

FLOWERS ON THE ALTER are in celebration of **Irene Lange's 104th birthday**, given by her loving family. May the Lord continue to bless her.

UPDATE INTERIM PASTOR: On May 20th, we sent call documents to our candidate Intentional Interim Pastor candidate. Unfortunately, on Saturday June 1st, he has told us he is returning the call and will not be coming to Bethlehem. The Michigan District has given us a new name, we have contacted him, and we will be meeting with him early next week.

ANNOUNCING THE SUMMER 2025 BIBLE STUDY - REVELATION

All are invited to attend our summer Sunday morning Bible Study on the book of Revelation. Seminarian Alex Holcomb and Deacon Ken Kerouac will lead the study following the 9:30 AM worship service; it will last for approximately one hour and will take place in the David Room (or lower level if a larger group). The study will be an overview of the book of Revelation, focusing on Revelation as a Living Word for the church today. For more information, please contact Alex Holcomb at aholcomb@bethlehemsaginaw.org or via phone at 989-755-1144x107.

CHURCH ATTENDANCE:

06-01-25	264	Online viewership: 68
06-04-25	14	Drive-up Communion

CARING FOR OTHERS

JUNE NOISY OFFERING June 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.

STEWARDSHIP MESSAGE

Acts 2:1 – "When the day of Pentecost arrived, they were all together in one place." Notice that Pentecost was actually an Old Testament festival. It happened around the time when the wheat and oats were ready to be brought in. In the New Testament, Pentecost foreshadowed the great harvest of humankind that God will bring in through the preaching of His Word. God gives the seed, and God brings about the harvest through the work of His church.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION - Your Chance to Help

Bethlehem members and friends are encouraged to join Habitat's Neighborhood Revitalization June 17-20. Who can help? Anyone, age 14 (with parent present) and older, with or without experience. It is a chance to "care for all people." Go to the website and pick a day to help make a difference in our community. Register at <http://sshfh.galaxydigital.com/>

FOOD PANTRY NEEDS The food pantry is in need of: canned fruit, canned pasta, jams/jelly, hearty soups, and stews. Donations can be dropped off at the church/school office.

AROUND BETHLEHEM

RECOGNITION OF GRADUATES: This Sunday, June 8 at our worship service we will give thanks to God for those who are celebrating graduations this year. We rejoice with all the young people at their achievement of graduations from grade school, high school, or college. The Bethlehem Family is proud of you and wishes you God's blessings in your coming endeavors.

CARD SHOWER

Our Business Manager, Mrs. Delanie Plamondon, and her husband Daniel are expecting their first baby in July! We would love to "shower them with love" in the form of a Card Shower from our Bethlehem congregation. If you feel so inclined, please drop a card into the Joash Box or the offering plate sometime during the next month with your encouraging wishes and any advice you might want to pass along to the new parents. You can also mail any cards to Bethlehem Lutheran c/o Delanie Plamondon 808 Weiss St. Saginaw MI 48602. Thank you for lifting them and their soon-to-arrive bundle of joy up in prayer.

HOMEBOUND MINISTRY TEAM -

If you would like to be part of this important ministry or if you know someone homebound who needs a bit of "Sonshine" in his/her life contact any of the Team members or email John Brandt (jbrandt@bethlehemsaginaw.org).

SHARE THE GOSPEL THRU MUSIC, ART, & TECH God has gifted us with tremendous beauty and power in the arts; the Worship Arts Team uses the arts to encourage the Church to grow in her faith. Our tech team similarly plays a vital role in communicating the Gospel. With the summer switch to one service, we have the unique and distinct privilege of working together, using the both of best services musically and artistically continuing to tastefully use tech to serve the church. Please prayerfully consider serving via music, visual arts, or tech. Contact Alex Holcomb at aholcomb@bethlehemsaginaw.org or 989-755-1144x107 for further info or to volunteer.

WEEKLY ADULT BIBLE STUDIES

- **Wednesdays, 8:00 am (Men)** Meeting at Immanuel Bible Church on Center Rd. in Saginaw. Men from Bethlehem, Holy Cross, Immanuel, and Peace will be in attendance. Currently in Romans. Bring your own coffee – donuts provided. Contact Bill Denno at 989-781-4851 or 989-295-8618 for more info. Bring your favorite Bible!
- **Fridays, 6:15 am (Men)** on Zoom. **"The Acts of the Apostles."** For info: mp_denno@yahoo.com

OTHER NEWS

FROM VALLEY LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL

You are invited to celebrate the Valley Lutheran Class of 2025 on June 8, 2025! Join us in-person for the 2:00 Commencement Service at Sargent Stadium at VLHS or attend via livestream at www.vlhs.com/graduationlive. Information about seating, parking, and more is available at www.vlhs.com/graduation. (Note: This location is weather permitting, the alternate location is Peace Lutheran School gym, Saginaw).

The Valley Lutheran Softball Program invites 6th-9th grade girls to a FREE softball clinic on July 15 and 16 from 10 am - noon at the VLHS softball field. Sign up to attend at www.vlhs.com/softballclinic. Attendees should plan to arrive 15 minutes ahead of time each day.

Registration continues for Valley Lutheran Youth Football and Youth Cheerleading for the fall. The 5-6th grade football team is full but spots remain on the 3-4th and 7-8th grade teams and on the cheer squad. Head to www.vlhs.com/youthsports to learn about these programs and get signed up!

FROM ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH of BAY CITY invites you to participate in our Golf Outing on Friday, June 27, at Green Hills Golf Course in Pinconning. Registration begins at 8 am and golfing begins at 9 am. The cost is \$75 per golfer or \$300 per foursome. We will have fun games and exciting prizes with plenty of food as well. For those interested, there are also sponsorship opportunities. You can find out more by emailing golf@zionbaycity.org and you can register by following this link: <http://bit.ly/44X4H5E>.

Josh Wilson in concert with special guest Steve Lampi

Wednesday June 18, 2025

Gates open at 5:00, Concert starts at 6:00

Bring your own chairs

Tickets \$10.00 at gate

Online tickets at: event.attendstar.com

Auburn Cornfest tent

US-10 at 9 Mile Road exit

435 S. Auburn Road

Auburn, MI 48611

Contact: 989 662-6050 for more information