



## LENT 2010

### The Word that Changed the World

Words can inform our mind, comfort our hearts, and excite our spirit. They can also feel like a slap in the face or a punch in the stomach. Words can build up or tear down. Words can destroy dreams or foster hope. Words have multiple meanings. Sometimes they come with baggage. Other times they bring a breath of fresh air. This is the power of language. In the beginning God's word was so powerful that it brought order to chaos and light to darkness. God spoke and nothing became something. That is the power of God's Word, a Word which ultimately became flesh in Jesus—the Word that changed the world.

**λόγος**

- February 21—Grace
- February 28—Sacrifice
- March 7—Repentance
- March 14—Mercy
- March 21—Righteousness
- March 28—Obedience

### Mid-Week Lenten Services Wednesdays, Noon & 7:00 pm Lunch at 1:00 pm; Dinner at 5:45 pm

#### More Like Jesus. . .

There's a lot we don't know about God; things we'll never understand. But in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus, God's face is revealed and it's a face of love. Jesus said that learning to love God and learning to love others is the most important work we do. Then he proceeded to show us how. Pay attention to Jesus' words and deeds and we learn the habits of love. And the more we discover how to love authentically, the more we become like Jesus.

#### Ash Wednesday, February 17

- ▶ Noon & 7:00 pm Service of Holy Communion and Imposition of Ashes
- ▶ 5:45 pm Family Blessing Service
- ▶ Lunch at 1:00 pm; Dinner 5:15-6:45 pm

## Pancake Breakfast

### Sunday, February 7, 8:30-11:30 am

Bethlehem Youth and their parents will be flipping pancakes in Iverson Hall on Sunday, February 7. The funds raised will support this summer's Mexico



Mission Trip. Mexico is more than a spring break destination. It takes center stage in debates about globalization, U.S. immigration policy, and economic development. Our specific Mexican destination is Cuernavaca, a vibrant and cosmopolitan city in central Mexico known for its innovative grassroots organizations, education, alternative health practices, and history of social struggle. Bethlehem will partner with the Center for Global Education at Augsburg College (CGE) to offer this unique mission experience. We will work through the theme "Who is Our Neighbor?" Bethlehem students will also have the opportunity to engage our Mexican American brothers and sisters through a Summer Service Blast, June 15-18. Together, we'll explore the history, contributions and struggles of our city neighbors. The debates on globalization, economic development and immigration policy are not just contained within the Mexican border. They impact all of us, as we live and grow together here in Minneapolis. Although registration for the Mexico Mission Trip is closed, you can find out more about our Summer Service Blast by turning to page 7.

Help our youth reach out in mission through PANCAKES, lots and lots of pancakes!  
Cost: \$6, \$3/under 10.

*Menu: Pancakes, sausage, orange juice and coffee.*

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## Pastor's Word

I am fast approaching yet another birthday. It seems the older I get the more I think about what my legacy might be. Years ago I read a quote by William Gladstone, a former prime minister of Britain. He suggested looking at your life from its end and planning your life accordingly. As Christ followers we may already be doing this. In serving others, we may not always realize the impact we're having.

Edgar Guest, a renowned American poet of the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, tells of a neighbor by the name of Jim Potter who ran the drugstore in the small town where Guest lived. Guest recalled that every day he would pass this neighbor on the street and they would smile and exchange greetings. But it was a mere casual relationship.

Then came the tragic night in the life of Guest when his firstborn child died. He felt lonely and defeated. The days that followed were grim, indeed, and he was overcome with grief. A week or so after his child's death, Guest had reason to go to the drugstore of his neighbor, and when he entered, Potter motioned for him to come behind the counter. "Eddie," he said, "I want to express to you the great sympathy that I have for you at this time. All I can say is that I am terribly sorry, and if you need me to do anything, you can count on me."

Many years later, Guest wrote of that encounter in one of his books. This is how he worded what it meant to him: "Just a person across the way – a passing acquaintance. Potter may have long since forgotten that moment when he extended his hand in sympathy, but I shall never forget it—never in all my life. To me it stands out like the silhouette of a lonely tree amidst a crimson sunset."

Potter's kind act and gentle, soothing words were probably offered without any premeditation, without intent to be remembered or be influential. But they were offered with care, from the heart, and they were of lasting significance in a life. We have the chance to influence others' lives like that hundreds of times along the way – without fanfare and without fuss, but with love.

As we have learned in the current sermon series, "Mission Possible," every one of us is created for a purpose and has been given gifts by God to accomplish our calling. When we use our gifts to serve God and to serve others, our very lives—how we live every single day—will speak about what is important to us. Have you ever wondered how people will remember you when you come to the end of life's journey? Perhaps people will say: "When I was hungry you gave me food, when I was thirsty you gave me something to drink, when I was a stranger you welcomed me.." Such small, seemingly insignificant but unforgettable acts, may be among the best legacies we could ever offer.

*Bill MacLean, Intern*



## Community News

### Deaths

**Norma Jean Hanson**, 12-30-09

### Births/Adoptions

**Luke William Erickson**, 1-14-10

*Parents:* Chad and Nicole Erickson

**Nathan Ronald Klein**, 11-28-09

**Rachel Kjerstine Klein**, 11-28-09

*Parents:* Ann and Steve Klein

**Callie Joy Gosselin**, 12-22-09

*Parents:* Kati and Chris Gosselin

*Grandparents:* Polly and Lee Henderson

### Baptisms

December 20, 2009

**William Lawrence Garrett**, 9-18-09

*Parents:* Darren and Kristin Garrett

December 27, 2009

**Evan Mitchell Weiler**, 9-10-09

**Erica Reagan Weiler**, 9-10-09

*Parents:* Kayne and Claudine Weiler

**Lilian Grace Anderson**, 8-20-09

*Parents:* Wade and Sara Anderson

**Mari Grace Christopherson**, 11-15-09

*Parents:* Timothy Christopherson and Caroline Cochran

January 10, 2010

**Porter Lars Johnson**, 7-11-09

*Parents:* Nicolas and Valerie Johnson

**Miles Benjamin Stannard**, 8-11-09

*Parents:* Benjamin and Jodi Stannard

**Marit Elise Bipes**, 10-15-09

*Parents:* Jeffrey and Kristy Bipes

**Preston Alexander Ehlers**, 10-14-09

*Parents:* Jeremy and Karla Ehlers

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## *Thank You, Thank You*

*Our heartfelt thanks to the Bethlehem community and staff for your support, visits, and prayers during Judy's surgery. Being part of a faith based community like Bethlehem makes a difficult situation more tolerable.*

*Rolf and Judy Running*

*Rebecca, Mike, Hannah, Sam, and Rachel Nicklay*

*Thank you to all who have been so instrumental in Jim's recovery from surgery with your kind words and prayers. Most especially, grateful thanks are extended to Pastor Chris, Diane Waarvik, and the Potholder volunteers.*

*Linda and Jim Masica*

*Thank you to all who participated in writing notes to our military on Sunday, December 13 during worship. Each of the 14 listed military persons received approximately 45-50 notes including Sunday School students of all ages. Here is a note from one of them: I received a very cool little package from Bethlehem Church the day after Christmas. It was a batch of Christmas greetings from Bethlehem friends, both young and old. As you can imagine, the holidays here were kind of a downer so receiving that gave me a big lift. Drew Winter*

## Grow

### Conversations with Dr. Phil

[Sunday Morning, 9:00 am]

Discussion on the day's Bible readings every Sunday morning. Drop in when it works for your schedule.

### Putting an End to Youth Homelessness Speaker Series

[Sundays, Feb. 14, 21 & 28, 10:15 am]

**Feb. 14**—President and CEO of Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota, Mark Peterson, will lay the groundwork and lead the discussion of "Homelessness in Minnesota."

**Feb. 21**—Cathy ten Broeke, City/County Coordinator on Homelessness, will present an update on the challenges and priorities in city and county efforts to end homelessness in our community. She currently heads up the Heading Home Hennepin Initiative.

**Feb. 28**—Susan Phillips, Director Metro Homeless Youth Services, Lutheran Social Service, will give a personal account of the reality of the plight of homeless youth in our communities. Susan battles daily with the details of providing support for struggling Minnesotans, particularly "invisible" homeless youth.

### Dead Sea Scrolls: Words that Changed the World

[Sunday, Mar. 21, 10:15 am]

Kathryn Schifferdecker, Assistant Professor of Old Testament at Luther Seminary, gives an overview of the Dead Sea Scrolls. Since their discovery in 1947, the Dead Sea Scrolls have been the object of intense interest on the part of scholars and lay people alike. Dating from the 2nd Century BCE to the 1st Century CE, these scrolls include the oldest biblical manuscripts in existence, and provide a fascinating glimpse into the history of Judaism and into the background of early Christianity.

### Dead Sea Scrolls Adventure Outing

[Sunday, Mar. 21, 1:00-5:00 pm]

Join us for a luncheon with Dr. Phil Quanbeck and a trip to see the Dead Sea Scrolls exhibit at the Science Museum. Middle Eastern lunch served at Bethlehem at 1:00 pm with Dr. Phil speaking. Leave Bethlehem on bus at 2:00 pm, for entrance to Science Museum at 3:00 pm, returning to Bethlehem by 5:00 pm. Tickets are limited so reserve your spot early. Register online, [bethlehem-church.org](http://bethlehem-church.org), or call Gena, 612.312.3364.

### Wednesday Night—6:30-7:45 pm

#### God Art

[ Wednesdays, Feb. 3 & 10, 6:30-7:45 pm ]

There is religious art and then there is seeing God in art. Anastasia Pydych guides us in discovering spiritual themes from ancient to modern art in the collection of the Minneapolis Institute of Art. We will explore the sermon series theme "Mission Possible" and ask ourselves how we relate to the art or the artist and what it means as we are asked to share with others the good news of God's love and mercy. Come to one or both classes. Anastasia Pydych is a Bethlehem staff member who is also a Senior Docent (tour guide) at the Minneapolis Institute of Art.



#### Befriender Training

[ Wednesdays, Feb. 3 & 10, 6:30-8:30 pm ]

Share your time by being a friend to someone in transition (grief, job loss, health, etc.) See Page 10 for details.

### Mondays and Wednesdays—

#### The Jesus I Never Knew

[ Mondays, Feb. 15-Mar. 22, 7:00 pm ] OR [ Wednesdays, Feb. 17-Mar. 24, 10:00 am ]

Learn more about the complex character who generates questions as well as answers; a disturbing and exhilarating Jesus who wants to radically transform your life and stretch your faith. Based on Philip Yancey's Gold Medallion Book of the Year on the life of Christ, this six-week series will help you experience the Jesus you may never have known. Join us during Lent on Monday evenings or Wednesday mornings. Register at [bethlehem-church.org](http://bethlehem-church.org) or call Gena, 612.312.3364.

#### Words to Live By

Join this women's writing group on Thursdays in February, 7:30-9:00 pm in the Viking Room (3rd Floor). Exploring purpose and vision—learning to listen to and trust ourselves, paying attention to what brings us joy, and finding ways to serve using our best gifts and passion. Facilitated by Siri Myhrom, Bethlehem member and therapeutic writing facilitator. Contact: [siri@winter-oak.com](mailto:siri@winter-oak.com).

Women's  
Retreat

Wonder Women Sharing the Word—Saturday, March 6, 9:30 am—2:00 pm in Iverson Hall  
Guest Speaker: Dr. Nuha Khoury, Dean of Dar-al-Kalima College in Bethlehem

**2 Corinthians 4:7**

*by Judy Thompson, Stewardship Ministry Team*

**W**hen we build on God's generosity to us, a seed is planted and we begin to grow to a place more in line with God's orientation.

A story is told about John D. Rockefeller's younger years. The tycoon was always on-the-go and rarely able to rest. He went from meeting to meeting facing the chance of success or failure each time. Soon it became clear that Rockefeller was putting his very health at stake. Even so, when someone asked him how much success and wealth was enough, Rockefeller would always answer "A little more."

Some Americans have a self-imposed obsession of "keeping up with the Joneses." Many psychologists recognize this creates stress. And even though the cure is so simple, we just continue to acquire things. Let's just stop. Admit that no one is keeping score and the winner is not the one with the most toys. Take a deep breath and take a break from accumulating so much stuff. After all, how much is enough?

Sadly, the common thread for both Mr. Rockefeller and the Jones is "I." "I need a little more... I have to keep up." Perhaps some of us do believe it is all about us and what we can do, but scripture points us toward another reality.

If we start with the truth that our power belongs to and comes from God alone, we can begin to realize the accumulation of material goods gives us no additional standing with God or others. When we build on God's generosity to us, a seed is planted, generosity begins to flower in us, and we begin to see material things not as stuff for us to

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Paul writes in **2nd Corinthians 4:7**  
"...we have this treasure in clay jars, so that it may be made clear that this extraordinary power belongs to God and does not come from us."

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acquire, but as items to be given to those in need—in the same manner that God gives to us! That's the hidden pearl in Paul's comment to the Corinthians. If we can rely on God's generosity to us, we don't need to exert ourselves trying to accumulate or keep up with the Joneses.

Where does our wealth really come from? What kind of investment rates does this produce? If true wealth starts with giving our riches away, what will be your response?

This column is based on ELCA's Salt Seasonings, July 2004.

*"Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not rely on your own insight. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths." Proverbs 3:5-6*

**Share the Spirit  
Capital Campaign Final Report**

The *Share the Spirit Capital Campaign* which officially started in March of 2006 closed its books as of December 31, 2009. \$2,560,733 was received from 712



contributors. This represents about 93% of our goal of \$2,744,304.

Add to that interest and contributions from the Bethlehem Foundation and BLCW and the total received was \$2,612,531. After fundraising and campaign expenses, \$2,462,059 was available for programs.

How did we spend these resources?

- ✘ \$1,011,343—to transform West Hall 3rd floor into an exciting meeting place for our junior and senior high youth and to completely remodel Iverson Hall kitchen as well as for new West Hall windows, exterior building cleaning and stone repair.
- ✘ \$450,000—to launch Jacob's Well, a new congregation in south Minneapolis
- ✘ \$365,293—for outreach through the English Learning Center, Bee Vang of Luther Memorial Lutheran Church in north Minneapolis, Lutheran Healthcare Bangladesh, our partner church San Juan Bautiste in Comodoro Rivadavia, Argentina, The Wellness Connection, Lutheran Social Services and the Minneapolis Area Synod of the ELCA.
- ✘ \$635,423—to pay down the Thrivent mortgage and to help the Operating Fund make the monthly mortgage payment which included both principal and interest.

We could not have accomplished these things without the generous support of Bethlehem members. Bethlehem has been blessed in many ways and we are a much stronger congregation because our members did truly "Share the Spirit." A hearty congratulations and thank you to all!

**Council Highlights**

The Bethlehem Church Council met on December 15, 2009 at Betsy Hoium's home. Special thanks to her for hosting our December meeting.

The Living Giving Thriving campaign has received \$1.8 million in pledges.

2010 budget planning has begun by the staff and Finance Committee. The full council will vote to approve the budget at the January meeting.

Council approved Pastor Mary Pechauer's expanded role as Executive Pastor.

Council information is available online. Email us at [council@bethlehem-church.org](mailto:council@bethlehem-church.org). Let us know your thoughts.



## Couple's Mystery Outing Friday, February 5, 6:00-11:00 pm Meet at the South Parking Lot

Here's your chance for a date night you don't have to plan and you won't soon forget. Join us for an evening of FUN with your partner and other couples. Transportation for the evening will be provided. We will meet in the south parking lot and travel to. . . oh, that would be giving away the surprise now, wouldn't it? Bring your friends along! \$75 per couple. Space is limited. Reserve your spot online, [bethlehem-church.org](http://bethlehem-church.org), or with Gena, 612.312.3364.

## Sailing ~ Sailing

The boat is loaded with supplies and the crew is ready to begin a weekend in the Apostle Islands. Blue sky with puffy white clouds, perfect wind, and the Raspberry



Island lighthouse is our destination. As we motor toward the middle of the channel, everyone is excited for us to be underway. Quickly the sails are raised and start flapping in the wind.

Majestically the boat turns into the wind, the sails quickly fill, the boot heels and surges forward.

But wait, something is not right. The skipper reaches over and turns OFF the engine. It is instantly quiet, then we begin to hear the sound of waves lapping against the boat, the flutter of lines against the mast, and can hear the person next us. This is one of those magical moments of sailing. Now, let the adventure begin.

*Watch for details about a 15-year Sailing Ministry Celebration on March 5.*

**2010 Sailing Trips**  
**July 15-18**  
**September 16-19**

## Worship/Arts/Music

Bethlehem Music Series Presents. . .

### Awesome Aussies

**Dale Barltrop, Violin & Stephanie Wendt, Piano**  
**Sunday, February 14, 4:00 pm**

Both of Australian descent, Dale Barltrop, Concert Master of the Vancouver Symphony in British Columbia, and Stephanie Wendt, concert pianist of "Clara's Visitor" fame, blend their talents to create magical moments.

A special feature of this concert will be the premiere performance of a piece by David Evan Thomas entitled "Valentines" which was especially commissioned for this event.



## Staff News

Remember when.....the year is 1984: Ronald Reagan is reelected, defeating Walter Mondale by a landslide; the space shuttle Discovery makes its maiden voyage; the longest game in major league baseball is played between the Milwaukee Brewers and Chicago White Sox lasting 25 innings; and **Pam Paulson** has her first day on staff at Bethlehem! Pam has worn many different hats while on staff but always brings dedication and hard work to whatever work she is called to do. Most recently she held the title of Director of Shared Ministry. Pam is now moving to a part-time position coordinating the New Member process and working with Bethlehem's Leadership Development Team. Her commitment to this congregation has had immeasurable impact over the years and we are grateful for her willingness to share her gifts with this community. You will see Pam at worship services welcoming new members and if you're a guest to Bethlehem it'll be Pam's voice on the other end of the line asking you about your experience. Be sure to thank her for all she does to promote this community which seeks to connect people with God, each other and their mission in the world!

**Wendy Osman**, formerly Director of Connections and Wedding Ministry, is taking on some new responsibilities for our congregation. She is now our Director of Volunteer and Group Ministries and will be focused on helping everyone who walks through the Bethlehem doors take their next step in faith by using their gifts to connect with others and serve in ministry. The recent addition of the Bethlehem STAR (new sign-up insert in our worship bulletin on Sunday mornings) is the result of Wendy's work to find new ways to engage more people in the work that God calls Bethlehem to do. Wendy's gifts will be a blessing as we seek to better understand what it means to be the body of Christ in this place and in the world.

**Kathy Callahan**, Bethlehem's Director of Administration since April, 2009, works closely with Pastors Chris and Mary leading staff to effectively serve the congregation as we discern and answer God's call together for the sake of building his kingdom on earth. We welcome her gifts in this expanding role and are blessed to have her dedication and servant's heart working on behalf of our faith community.

At the December council meeting the council voted to ratify **Pastor Mary's** call at Bethlehem. While she will continue in her role as Pastor of Worship and Communications she will also now serve in the role of Executive Pastor. Her ability to balance organizational detail with keeping the big picture in mind will help our staff and congregation as we move forward in answering God's call to reach 20,000 by 2020.

## Children

### Summer 2010 - Family Camp

By Heather Roth Johnson,  
Early Childhood & Family Ministry



*Recently my 3rd grader, Noah, said he wished he could go back to Castle Park. Confused by what he meant, I asked him where Castle Park is and when did he go there. He excitedly reminded me that it was part of our family camp experience last summer when families went by car on a scavenger hunt and ended at Castle Park, which is filled with water sprays and a large climbing area. My mind flooded with great memories of the 10 Bethlehem families that went to family camp. We laughed together, prayed together and enjoyed getting to know each other better.*

*As a child, I attended family camp with my parents and church family. I got to know other kids on a deeper level than just the one hour a week in Sunday School. After camp, we had become good friends.*

*Do you wish for your kids to make good church friends? Then consider family camp, **July 9-11, 2010 at Shores of St. Andrew in New London, MN**, as a way to grow together in community and faith. There is something for all: meals are included so no cooking, free time in the afternoon allows for parents to relax while kids play on the lake trampoline. Bible study for all ages to grow in faith, campfires and games, crafts and scavenger hunts, all make for a fun and exciting weekend.*

**Register at [www.gllm.org](http://www.gllm.org) for July 9-11.**  
Bethlehem's own Heather Roth Johnson, Joannie Schwalen, & Gena Koeberl are your camp deans.

### Vacation Bible School

**June 21-25**

**9:00am-Noon**

**4-year-olds to 6th Grade** (6th graders assist)  
\$20 per child/ \$40 max per family

VBS is five action-packed mornings of fun and learning and a great opportunity to invite a friend. Adult and youth leaders needed to plan, decorate and staff for VBS. It's not too early to contact Heather, [hrothjohnson@bethlehem-church.org](mailto:hrothjohnson@bethlehem-church.org) or Kris, [ktostengardmichel@bethlehem-church.org](mailto:ktostengardmichel@bethlehem-church.org) to let us know you're interested.

### Afternoon Day Camp

**Monday-Thursday, June 21-24** (Same week as VBS)

**Noon - 5:00pm**

**\$55/child**

**Completed 1-5 Grades**

New this year, students who have completed grades 1-5 may extend their day and spend the afternoon with counselors from Green Lake Lutheran Ministries! A great introduction to camp for those considering a week at Shores of St. Andrew in the future. Friends are welcome. **Hosts Needed:** contact Kris Tostengard Michel, 612-312-3410 if your family would like to house one or more counselors Sunday through Thursday or host a meal one of those nights.

### Andy's Gang at Shores of St. Andrew

**August 1-6**

**Completed 2-5 Grades**

Swimming, crazy games, and exciting worship are just a few of the things you'll do. Whether it's your first time at summer camp or you're an old pro, you will be having fun before you know it. Bring a friend.

### Beach House at Green Lake Bible Camp

**August 1-6**

**Completed 6-7 Grades**

Start off Confirmation with a blast by spending a week soaking in the rays, playing games, and learning more about what it means to be a Christian in today's world.

### Special Needs Camp

**July 5-8**

Bible Camp is for everyone! If you have a child with special needs, participate in a week tailored especially for you. A staff to camper ratio of 1:1 will lead your family in worship, games, Bible studies, and more. Parents have an opportunity to meet with other parents and discuss parenting and other issues in a Christian camp setting.

## Senior High Summer Opportunities

*Written by Mandy Licklider Baseman,  
Senior High Ministries Director*

With a strong tradition of mission trips and the large numbers of participants year after year, it may often seem like it is the only summer opportunity for Bethlehem's young people. And honestly, it is the opportunity that gets the most attention. This summer, there are indeed some other ways to engage faith, connect with friends and respond to God's call for your life. Read on to find out more, and then prayerfully consider how you might live out your faith this summer. For more details or registration, contact Mandy at 612-312-3406 or [mlickliderbaseman@bethlehem-church.org](mailto:mlickliderbaseman@bethlehem-church.org)

## Wilderness Adventure

**At Prairie Woods Environmental Learning Center  
Completed Grades 10-12**

**August 1-6**

**Cost: \$300**

Love the outdoors? Want to spend a week camping, hiking, paddling, climbing and learning about this great place we call Earth! Learn and practice environmentally sustainable techniques, and explore Christian stewardship of our natural resources. *Wilderness Adventure Week* is offered through *Green Lake Lutheran Ministries* (a camping ministry of which Bethlehem has corporate membership for over a decade; [www.gllm.org](http://www.gllm.org)). College staff, along with a NOLS trained director will provide leadership.



## Summer Service Blast

**Completed Grades 8-12**

**June 15-18**

**Cost: \$100**

You don't need to travel half-way across the world to reach out in mission. Discover the needs in your own backyard by staying in the city and giving 3 1/2 days to service and outreach. To help create the feel of "traveling," you'll be required to pack your bags and enjoy the accommodations of local churches and service agencies. Various cultures and communities exist within the city perimeter you probably take for granted. After serving with your hands, you'll have the opportunity to serve with your heart through worship and small group devotions.

## Serve Children at Vacation Bible School & Day Camp

**June 21-25**

Help God's story come alive for the youngest among us by volunteering at Bethlehem's VBS and Day Camp. It has often been said that "it takes a village to raise a child." For **VBS**, it's a whole army - an army of adults and youth to lead games, crafts, storytelling/drama, music and large group assembly, not to mention all the behind-the-scenes opportunities like set design and sound. **Day Camp** operates on a smaller scale but is still in need of young people to work with campers. You'll work with trained college students from Green Lake Lutheran Ministries in the afternoons, after morning VBS.

## How To Register for ALL Green Lake Lutheran Ministries Camps

Complete the registration form in the back of the camp booklet (available at the church office) or register online at: [www.gllm.org](http://www.gllm.org)

You can make a check or credit card payment online or make checks payable to Green Lake Lutheran Ministries and mail directly to the camp: 9916 Lake Avenue South, Spicer, MN 56288. Contact the camp directly at 320-796-2181.

*Make sure "Bethlehem Lutheran Church of Minneapolis" is listed as your church on the registration form. We are a "corporate member" congregation; look in that price category for camp.*

Once campers are registered for camp, information is emailed to parents. If no email is provided upon registration, information is mailed to your home. The information is also available at [www.gllm.org](http://www.gllm.org) under "**Find a Form**".

- ◆ Each camper **must bring their completed health form** when arriving at check in.
- ◆ *Wilderness Adventure* campers must also bring the Prairie Woods Environmental Learning Center form, completed and signed by their parent or guardian.

## Confirmation Camp is more than a requirement

The summer before you enter 7th grade is an amazing time to make the transition into Junior High. Kick things off by connecting with new and old friends at camp while receiving an introduction into Confirmation education. Missed camp before entering 7th grade? Then spend a week with the friends you made this past year and bring new friends to share in your faith journey by going to camp after completing 7th or 8th grade. Find the camp that fits you and connect with your confirmation instructors while enjoying a week of fun at Green Lake Bible Camp. Cost: \$335 (Scholarships available - contact Pastor Beth Warpmaeker, [bwarpmaeker@bethlehem-church.org](mailto:bwarpmaeker@bethlehem-church.org))

### Beach House - Green Lake

Completed Grades 6-7

August 1-6

Spend a week soakin' in the rays as we play games and learn more about what it means to be a Christian in today's world.

### Hill Town - Green Lake

Completed Grades 8-9

August 1-6

Spend time in worship, playing games, and at Prairie Woods Environmental Learning Center's high ropes course.



### New Sunday Morning Class Session

February 21 - March 28

9:00am Core Class - More New Testament Stories

9:00am Elective Class - The Jesus I Never Knew

10:15am Core Class - Martin Luther & the Reformation

10:15am Elective Class - The Jesus I Never Knew

### Volunteer at CES

Sunday, February 7

12:30-2:30pm

Help out at CES (Community Emergency Services). Meet at Bethlehem's South Lot at 12:15pm and carpool to CES or meet at CES at 12:30pm. Help restock the food shelf. Sign up online or contact Katy, 612.312.3413.

### Next Junior High Ministry Team Meeting

◆ Tuesday, February 2 @ 7:00pm

## 30 Hour Famine February 19-20



This overnight event lasts from 7:00pm Friday to 7:00pm Saturday. **All Junior and Senior High students and their parents are invited to participate.** This is an excellent event to share with friends, as well.

**Adult Volunteers Needed:** We especially need parents and other adults to drive and serve as chaperones for a couple of

hours or the entire event. Contact Pastor Beth Warpmaeker at 612.312.3367.

## Healthy Relationships Retreat

March 19-21

Confirmation students, peer ministers and small group leaders go to Luther Park in Danbury, WI for a spring retreat (different in content from last year's retreat).

Students are expected to attend the spring retreat each year. **Parents' meeting is March 3 at 5:30pm in Harrisville** to answer questions about content.

**Permission slips are due February 24.**

**Cost:** \$ 90

**Depart:** Friday, March 19 @ 6:30pm, South Lot

**Return:** Sunday, March 20 @ 12:20pm, South Lot

### Announcements

- ◆ Ash Wednesday Worship: February 17
- ◆ During Lent small groups meet at 6:30pm for check in and attend worship together. **Excellent time to do sermon notes!**



## Bethlehem STAR

Beginning in January, you may have noticed a different insert in your Sunday bulletin. It is the Bethlehem STAR and is meant to help each of us shine our light into the world. Each week in the STAR you will find opportunities to serve both within and outside the walls of Bethlehem. Here is a chance to find out what inspires you, to try some new things and see what gives you a sense of purpose. Each Sunday take a moment to read the STAR opportunities, check the one you would like to try and place the insert in the offering plate. We will connect with you to give you more information and answer any questions you have.

*“We were delighted to share with you not only the gospel of God but our lives as well.” 1 Thessalonians 2:8*

## Knitters Pass On the Love

The Bethlehem Knitters have been very busy. In December they donated 31 hats and mittens to Lutheran Social Service, 6 baby sweaters, 20 baby hats and 6 baby afghans to the Crisis Nursery. What a great way to pass on the love in this cold Minnesota winter.

If this sounds like something you would be interested in pursuing, join the group on the third Thursday of the month in the Bethlehem Gallery. Questions, contact Kristi Sagsveen, 651.695.8067.



## Women's Day of Service

**Saturday, February 6, 9:30-1:00 pm**

Join Bethlehem women of all ages, for a morning of fellowship and service preparing quilts and midwife, health and hospice kits. No experience necessary. Lunch will be provided. You are free to come for part, or all of the morning. Janet Krofta will be speaking at lunch about her experience as a Lutheran World Relief volunteer. Register online or call the church office, 612.312.3400.

Donations are being collected for the following:

- ▶ new or gently used regular size, not oversize bath towels;
- ▶ washcloths;
- ▶ bars of Ivory soap;
- ▶ picks or wide-toothed combs;
- ▶ newborn size onesies or t-shirts;
- ▶ infant receiving blankets;
- ▶ 2-3 gallon plastic bags;
- ▶ toothbrushes; and
- ▶ yellow kitchen gloves. Cash donations are also needed to purchase items in bulk.

## Meeting Jesus Opportunities. . .

*“Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food?” Matthew 25:37*

### **Volunteer at Community Emergency Services Sunday, February 7, 12:30-2:30 pm**

Restock the food shelf at CES (Community Emergency Services). Meet at Bethlehem parking lot at 12:15 pm and carpool to CES or meet at CES at 12:30 pm. Pastor Don Rudrud will help to make this an educational time for all ages. Sign up to help at [bethlehem-church.org](http://bethlehem-church.org) or call Katy at 612.312.3413.

### **Participate in Bethlehem's 30 Hour Famine February 19, 7:00 pm to February 20, 6:30 pm**

30 Hour Famine is an international, hunger-fighting program sponsored by World Vision. Participate in the famine with Bethlehem youth by helping raise money through donors and sponsors, participate in the famine by going 30 hours without food, perform service projects in and around our neighborhoods alongside our youth, be a chaperone or a cook to break the fast. Adults especially needed to drive and chaperone for a couple of hours or the entire event. Call Pastor Beth, 612.312.3367.

### **Serve Meal at Loaves and Fishes Friday, February 19**

Preparation shift 2:30-5:00 pm. Serve meal 5:15-7:15 pm at River of Life Lutheran Church, 2200 Fremont Ave. N. Contact Michelle, [michellemattox@hotmail.com](mailto:michellemattox@hotmail.com).

### **Prepare Meals at Feed My Starving Children Saturday, March 6, 7:00-9:00 pm**

Prepare meals to send to Haiti and other destinations at Feed My Starving Children in Chanhassen (18738 Lake Drive East). Carpool from Bethlehem at 6:15 pm. 30 spots reserved. Sign up at [bethlehem-church.org](http://bethlehem-church.org) or call Katy, 612.312.3413.

### **Project Homeless Connect March 29 at the Minneapolis Convention Center**

Volunteers of all ages, backgrounds and experience come together to serve people in our community experiencing homelessness. Guide and partner with guests to help them find resources they need. Background in social services is not required; just the willingness to help, a sense of humor and the ability to be on your feet for long periods. Training provided. Must be 18 years of age. Visit [www.homelessconnectminneapolis.org/volunteer.htm](http://www.homelessconnectminneapolis.org/volunteer.htm)

### **Assemble Holiday Food Baskets Saturday, April 3, 9:00-Noon**

Help hand out Easter food baskets to families in Phillips neighborhood. Messiah Lutheran Church, 2400 Park Ave. Call Katy, 612.312.3413.

# Health Ministries

## Restorative Yoga Classes

New To Bethlehem. Open to all! Two **FREE** classes!

Restorative Yoga is a helpful support as we experience the process of aging and healing and can restore the body to balance as we live with the stress that has become part of our everyday lives. It can also teach us new skills for dealing with the demands of busy lives, which often move at a speed which prohibits deep reflection.



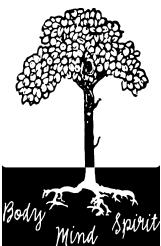
The music used for this class is Christian chant and liturgy. The class begins with a very short reading as a bridge or transition to shift awareness from the outer world to the inner workings of spirit.

This leads into a series of modified sun salutations, approximately 15 minutes. The next 20-25 minutes section of the class is a series of standing poses. This section builds strength and awareness of the body's alignment, preventing falls by building balance skills. We then work with a series of seated poses which, typically performed on the floor, are modified to be performed in chairs. This means that the poses may be performed by persons with limited mobility, joint injuries or replacements, arthritis or other conditions.

The class finishes with a brief relaxation, visualization and reading.

Starting February 1– Mondays at 11:30am. Wear loose clothes. Bring water and a yoga mat if you have one. Instructor is Julie Mueller, fitness columnist for Good Age and 35 years in fitness and dance. First two classes are free– just come and try it out!

Cost: \$10/class for a 1-month package or \$15 for a single/drop-in class.



One of the ways we bring healing and wholeness to people near us when they are ill is to take time to understand what the cause of their illness is and discover ways to alleviate the suffering or prevent it from ever happening again. But what happens when someone has an illness of the mind or of the brain? We clam up, people with mental illness and emotional disorders feel ashamed, stigmatized and don't seek the help that can make the difference. We want to change that way of looking at mental health issues.

NAMI (National Alliance for the Mentally Ill) will be holding classes for families struggling with these issues at Bethlehem in March and May. If you would like more information, please call the Health Ministries office 612.312.3405.

## Foot Clinic

Friday, February 12 (Note this is a week later than normal)

10:00 - 2:00 Room 204

Call 612.312.3400 to register.



## Health Ministries Upcoming Trainings

### Befriender Training

Would you like to learn to be an active, compassionate listener, learn how to accept people where they are in life's journey of transitions and struggles? If so we'd love for you to join us for Befriender trainings on **February 3 and 10, 6:30-8:30pm**.

After the training you will work with the Health Ministries staff and be connected with someone who is going through a time of transition.

### Healing Touch Trainings

Healing Touch™ is a well-known complementary therapy using light or near-body touch to clear, balance, and energize the human energy system. There are three levels of training and Bethlehem will be offering two classes in the upcoming months.

**Level 1– February 26-27 8:30am-6:00pm**

**Level 2– April 9-10 8:30am-6:00pm**

Course fee: \$200 (Bethlehem and Trust members) \$270 (non-members)

Includes tuition, class handouts,\* Healing Touch International™ certificate fee, snacks, and Friday lunch. (Saturday is bag lunch)

\*Participants are responsible for course text books. Syllabus available ahead of class.

Continuing Education Credits: 18 CEUs

For more information or to sign-up please go to [bethlehem-church.org](http://bethlehem-church.org) or call the Health Ministries office at 612.312.3405 or 612-312-3413.

## Warm up that bed

**The colder the room you sleep in, the better the chances are that you'll have a bad dream.** It isn't entirely

clear to scientists why this is the case, but if you are opposed to having night-

mares you might want to keep yourself a little toastier at night.



## Trinkets & Treasures Sale

It has been 5 years since our last (very successful) Bethlehem Garage Sale, so it's time to clear out your closets once again and donate your unwanted items for this year's Trinkets & Treasures sale.

**This year's sale dates are:**

**Thursday, June 10, 9:00 am-3:00 pm**

**Friday, June 11, 9:00 am-3:00 pm**

**Saturday, June 12, 9:00 am-12:00 pm**

We will offer large item pick up in May. More information will be given on that service in the next couple months. We will also have a special display area at the sale where you can submit a photo and description of your large item. Interested parties will then be encouraged to come to your home to look at the item.



Other donated items can be dropped off at church beginning on June 1. Please note that we will not accept TVs, computers, printers, typewriters, large appliances or clothing. All donated items must be in good condition and good working order. Remember, your donation is tax deductible.

Many people are needed to run this event. We need sorters and setup workers beginning on Monday, June 7; we'll need security people throughout the event, and cleanup workers at the end of the sale on Saturday. If you can help, please contact Ruth Broman at 952.942.0750. Just a two-hour time commitment would be a huge help!

Proceeds from this sale will go to the following groups: Second Harvest Food Shelf, scholarships for summer mission trips and Habitat for Humanity.

**The Middle East through the Eyes of a Palestinian Christian—An Evening with Rev. Dr. Mitri Raheb**  
Tuesday, March 2, 7:00-8:30 pm *in the Sanctuary*

Born and raised in Bethlehem, Raheb has been pastor of the Evangelical Lutheran Christmas Church in Bethlehem since 1988. An internationally acclaimed author and speaker, Raheb is the President of DIYAR, a consortium of three Lutheran institutions that he founded: The International Center of Bethlehem, Dar al-Kalima Health and Wellness Center, and Dar al-Kalima College. He will be in the Twin Cities for a week and will also be speaking at Luther Seminary, Augsburg College and Concordia University. A reception will follow the presentation.

## Greetings from Comodoro, Argentina, and San Juan Bautista Congregation

We want to tell you about **Ropero Comunitario**. Since September, two women from San Juan Bautista go once a week to one of the poorest neighborhoods, offering free clothing and talking with the people. Many are Bolivian women who are often discriminated against. We tell them we want to be friends and share our faith and our church. We try to be available in many ways. Pocha and Alejandra developed this project and all the congregation helps with support, prayers, and clothing. Most who live there came to Comodoro to get work with oil companies, often without success. They are far from home with no money, family, health insurance or support. It is hard to change cultural ideas about women's rights, kids' rights, and the importance of education but Pocha and Alejandro are trying to confront the needs of these poor women.

And **Pinguinitos**: (*note*: The Day Care Center in the addition to the church partially financed by Bethlehem's capital campaign is called Pinguinitos del Sur or 'Little Penguins of the South.') It is important that people who work in child care continue to have training and are open all day to receive the kids. We want the staff to be able to participate in workshops. Some congregational women share their time, gifts and love taking care of the kids during those workshops so the staff and then the children will benefit.



**Marcelo with advent wreath.**

Greetings in Christ to all the wonderful people in your wonderful congregation that is in your wonderful city!

*Pastor Gustavo Gomez*



**Kate Lawler and David Wunsch are the ELCA missionaries Bethlehem supports in South America.**



# THE BEACON

**February 7—Mission Possible: Grander Vision Living**

1 Corinthians 15:1-11      Luke 5:1-11

**February 14—Transfiguration**

2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2      Luke 9:28-36

**February 21—Grace**

Deuteronomy 26:1-11      Luke 4:1-13

**February 28—Sacrifice**

Philippians 3:17-4:1      Luke 13:31-35

**Service times: Sundays – 8:00, 9:00, 10:15, 11:30  
& 7:00 pm****Nursery available at 9:00, 10:15 & 11:30 am Sundays****Bethlehem  
Lutheran Church**Visit us at [www.bethlehem-church.org](http://www.bethlehem-church.org) orEmail at [church@bethlehem-church.org](mailto:church@bethlehem-church.org)

Telephone 612.312.3400      Fax 612.312.3399



It was midnight on Christmas Eve, and snow was falling. Bill and Pastor Beth were just finishing up their night at church by extinguishing the luminaries that led the way to our church doors for Christmas Eve services. What a peaceful

way to end a very busy day, and a busy month. Bill participated in all of the Christmas Eve services and preached the Christmas Day service. Bill also took part in the Edina Care Center worship service, the 7500 York Christmas gathering and attended a Christmas party at the Waarvik's for the Health Ministries group. Bill and Pastor Beth are teaching the Wednesday night class called *Just Walk Across the Room*, which will help guide people on how to point others to faith. Bill continues to participate in his weekly meetings which include worship planning, pastoral care, adult discipleship and staff meetings.

In February, Bill will take some well-deserved vacation time and go to Florida to visit his daughter at Rollins College, where Bill also attended and is on the Board. Then he'll visit another daughter at Amherst for parents' hockey weekend.

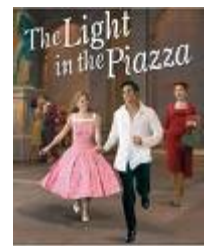
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**DATED MATERIAL****PEP Club at the Theater***The Light in the Piazza*

Saturday, February 13, 7:30 pm

Bloomington Civic Theater (Tickets \$19)

*The Light in the Piazza* is a beautiful romantic musical with its setting in Florence, Italy. A young American woman, a young Italian man and a mother make for an interesting plot. Winner of 6 Tony awards, this is an area premiere. Preceding the show, a dinner will be served at the Yorke Room, 7500 York Ave. S. for those wishing to attend. Cost is \$14, payable at the Yorke Room.



Call Margaret Beenken, 952.831.6149, for tickets.

**@ Beacon Online**

Your favorite church newsletter can now be found online at [bethlehem-church.org/about-us/beacon-newsletter](http://bethlehem-church.org/about-us/beacon-newsletter).



**Next Beacon Deadline: February 10, 2010**  
**[pdunn@bethlehem-church.org](mailto:pdunn@bethlehem-church.org)**