

# Star on the Hill

The Newsletter of Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Lanesboro, Minnesota

June 2024

## Contact us at:

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**Pastor Lisa Shank**

608-797-6954

[lisadshank@gmail.com](mailto:lisadshank@gmail.com)

Watch our Worship on  
Facebook

Sundays at 10:00 am:  
Bethlehem Lutheran  
Church, Lanesboro



## Congregational Hymn Sing on June 30!

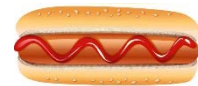
Tradition at Bethlehem is to have the congregation choose the music on the 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays of the month. June 30 is the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday. We are bringing this tradition to Fountain as well. Your job is to start thinking about hymns you would like to sing. If they are in the hymnal, we can sing them. Want to sing a Christmas carol – we can do that. Want to sing a reformation song – we can do it. It is all up to you. I challenge you to stump the musician!



Bethlehem's 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
Please watch for more information on this very special Sesquicentennial celebration. If you have ideas for how we might best mark this auspicious occasion, please contact  
Pastor Lisa or Jennifer Wood.



Recommendations for the Call Committee are Due by Sunday June 2<sup>nd</sup>



## Rhu-dog Stand June 1

Bethlehem Church will sell hotdogs with rhubarb ketchup during the Rhubarb Festival Saturday, June 1, in Sylvan Park.

Thank you to Everyone who has offered to Help with this event.



Thank you to the singers, instrumentalists, readers, and volunteers who helped to spread the GOOD NEWS of Easter through a memorable Cantata event!

The Lanesboro Community Choir, comprised of 31 members, held two performances: Saturday, April 27 at Bethlehem Lutheran Church with 65 attendees and \$494 in donations to the music fund; and Sunday, April 28 at the Sons of Norway Hall with 70 attendees and \$406 in donations to the Fillmore County Food shelf. The Highway 30 group enhanced the program with their upbeat music and sing-along songs!

## \* From the Desk of Pastor Lisa \*



*When I first met Christ  
It seemed as though life was  
rather like a bike ride,  
But it was a tandem bike,  
And I noticed that Christ  
Was in the back helping me  
pedal.*

*I don't know just when it was  
that He suggested we change  
places, But life has not been the  
same since.*

*When I had control, I knew the  
way, It was rather boring, but  
predictable...*

*It was the shortest distance  
between two points.*

*But when He took the lead,  
He knew delightful long cuts,  
Up mountains, and through  
rocky places, At breakneck  
speeds, It was all I could do to  
hang on! Even though it looked  
like madness, He said, "Pedal"*

*I worried and was anxious and  
asked, "Where are you taking  
me?" He laughed and didn't  
answer, And I started to learn to  
trust.*

*I forgot my boring life  
And entered into the  
adventure. And when I'd say,  
"I'm scared," He'd lean back and  
touch my hand.*

*He took me to people with gifts  
that I needed. Gifts of healing,  
acceptance, and joy. He said,  
"Give the gifts away; They're  
extra baggage, too much  
weight."*

*So I did, I gave them to the  
people we met, And I found that  
in giving I received, And still our  
burden was light.*

*I did not trust Him, at first, In  
control of my life.  
I thought He'd wreck it;  
But He knows bike secrets,  
Knows how to make it bend to  
take sharp corners,  
Knows how to jump to clear high  
rocks, Knows how to fly to  
shorten scary passages.*

*And I am learning to shut up  
and pedal in the strangest  
places, And I'm beginning to  
enjoy the view And the cool  
breeze on my face With my  
delightful constant companion,  
Jesus Christ.*

*And when I'm sure I just can't do  
anymore, He just smiles and  
says... "Pedal."*

This poem goes along with the thought "If God is your co-pilot in life, switch seats." The future is unknown to any of us. That fact can be especially troublesome for a church with a vacancy in the office of pastor. What will happen? Who will come? Will we like him or her?

The questions are endless and can cause us to freeze in fear. To that, Jesus says, "pedal." Bethlehem and Fountain are not going alone in this. You have Jesus to lead and guide you in the process. I have no idea who your next pastor may be, but I do know that God is already preparing that person.

S/he is learning new things this very day that will help your ministries and help you all to grow in faith. S/he will come to you when the time is right for them and for you. God's timing may require a bit of patience on our part, but God will provide.

As the call committee is formed, I would ask you all to pray for them and their work. If you are asked to be part of this committee, please prayerfully consider taking part in this work. The committee will be asking questions of the membership to shape the ministry profile that your future pastor will see. Please be willing to take part and be honest and truthful and forthright in your responses. The better the profile, the better the call process will be. Even now, before you have any idea of who that pastor may be, please pray for them, that God prepare them and open them to the possibility of a new venture. One last prayer request – please pray for yourself and the congregation, that you all would be open to that new pastor and the new ideas and ministry s/he might bring.

Until then, I'll keep pedaling with you all,

Pastor Lisa

# Worship & Evangelism



**\*\*Please see Revised Communion Setup Instructions**

**Sunday, June 2**

**Sunday, June 16**

**Sunday, June 30**



**\*\*Anyone from the congregation willing to fill in open slots in June, please contact Julie Kiehne [julie.kiehne@gmail.com](mailto:julie.kiehne@gmail.com) 507-272-4581.**

**Sunday, June 2**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
Green**

Doors: Wayne Lukkason

Ushers: Tim & Julie Kiehne

Reader: Tim Kiehne

Altar Care & H/C:

Tim & Julie Kiehne

Refreshments:

Wayne & Margaret Lukkason

Mike & Krissy Kelly

**Sunday, June 9**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
Green**

Doors: Vern Groen

Ushers: Gary & Judy Kingsbury  
Chris Olson

Reader: **\*\*Needed \*\***

Altar Care:

Refreshments: John & Denise  
Dahle

**Sunday, June 16**  
**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
Green**

Doors: Vern Groen

Ushers: Vern & Diann Groen  
Tim & Jody Ruen

Reader: **\*\*Needed \*\***

Altar Care & H/C:

Vern & Diann Groen

Tim & Jody Ruen

Refreshments: Vern & Diann  
Groen & Tim & Jody Ruen

**Sunday, June 23**  
**5<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
Green**

Doors: Wayne Lukkason

Ushers: **\*\*Needed\*\***

Reader: **\*\*Needed\*\***

Altar Care: **\*\*Needed\*\***

Refreshments: Wayne & Marge  
Lukkason

**Sunday, June 30**  
**6<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
Green**

Doors: Vern Groen

Ushers: **\*\*Needed\*\***

Reader: **\*\*Needed\*\***

Altar Care & H/C: **\*\*Needed\*\***

Refreshments: Julie Kiehne

## July Service Group

Members of the July service group are Dave Campbell, Andy & Mara Drake, Kevin Drake, Steve & Marilyn Erickson, Duane & Melissa Gilbertson, Joan Groszbach, Diane Hanson, Jork & Sue Miehlich, Gary & Mavis Musselman, Rick & Sharon Peterson, Andrew & JoAnna Pruett, Marilyn O'Rourke, David & Jennifer Rogers, Mark & Pam Ruen, Peter & Cynthia Ruen, Tyler & Karlee Spande, Pat & Chris Troendle. Group coordinators are Dave & Jennifer Rogers and Mark & Pam Ruen.

## Senior Dining Servers at Kenilworth apartments

June 7: Denise Dahle &  
Phyllis Penheiter

June 14: Deane Benson &  
Tom Holst

June 21: Norine Ask & Sue Holst

June 28: Mavis Musselman &  
Jennifer Wood

# Children, Youth & Family



## Our Confirmands

**9th grade:** Hunter Kelly, Jentrey Schreiber, Grace Tuft

**8th grade:** Preston Clarke, Kaylee Gilbertson, Trinity Hareldson, Isabelle Peterson, McKenna Peterson, Henry Semmen, Prailey Willford

**7th grade:** Lux Holst, Theodore Pruett

## Those recovering from Illness or Surgery

Julie Jensson, Marilyn O'Rourke

## Those Living with Cancer

Diane Haugen, Tom Papenfuss, Carroll Gilbertson

## Those Living in Care Centers

Jerry Johnson at River Bend Assisted Living, Rochester

Sandy Dybing at Birchwood Cottages, North Mankato

Lois Gilbertson at Chosen Valley Assisted Living, Chatfield

Marilyn Erickson at Harmony Nursing Home, Harmony

Evelyn Larson at Chosen Valley Care Center, Chatfield

## Our Members in the Military

Esme Decker, daughter of Sara Xavier and Eric Decker

Lisa Peterson Abell, daughter of Linda (Hareldson) Peterson

Leon Peterson, son of Linda (Hareldson) Peterson

Tom Moen, son of Lolly Melander, grandson of Everett Johnson

Claire Peterson, daughter of Joe & Jody Peterson

Devin Troendle, son of Pat & Chris Troendle, grandson of Ed Taylor

**\*\*\*\*Please notify the office if there are updates to any of these lists**



We Extend our Sympathy to Dave and Jennifer Rogers and Family on the Passing of Daves Father Phil Rogers. Funeral was held at Bethlehem Lutheran Church on May 6<sup>th</sup>.



Adelaide Mary Ihrke was welcomed into the family of God through the sacrament of Holy Baptism on May 12<sup>th</sup>. Adelaide is the daughter of Jacob & Claire Ihrke. Her godparents are Molly Borsch & Joseph Ihrke.

## Mayo Hospice Grief Support Groups

If a significant person in your life has died within the past three years, please consider being a part of an upcoming six-week in-person or online Zoom grief group. These groups provide a safe way to connect with other people who are grieving and to share concerns and feelings. Grief group participants should be at least three months into their journey with grief after the death of their loved one.

## Summer 2024 schedule: Week of July 15 to Week of August 19

Groups will meet at the Mayo Clinic Hospice Office 3425 40<sup>th</sup> Ave NW Rochester, MN Mondays, 5:30-7:00 pm, Tuesdays, 1:30-3:00 pm.

## \*Online Zoom

Mondays, 5:30-7:00 p.m

To attend via Zoom you will need access to a computer with internet access, microphone and camera, and an email address for receiving materials and the Zoom link.

To register for a group, Contact Mayo Hospice at [rsthospicebereavement@mayo.edu](mailto:rsthospicebereavement@mayo.edu) or call 800-679-9084.

Registration closes June 10.



## Women's Activities this Month

**Quilters are taking a break for the summer. Quilting will resume in September.**

**Wednesday, June 26<sup>th</sup>**

9:00 a.m. WELCA Bible study  
in the fellowship hall

PLEASE NOTE: Men are welcome  
to attend our WELCA Bible study

### **Plan for the 2026 Gathering in Des Moines, Iowa!**

July 16-19, 2026  
Event registration will open  
July 15, 2025!

For more information go to  
<https://www.womenoftheelca.org/new-triennial-event-page>  
Southeast Minnesota SWO board is  
looking into having a bus for the  
event.



### **Rhubarb Pie Fundraiser**

As a fundraiser for the new roof  
a suggestion has been made to  
sell rhubarb pies at the Rhubarb  
Festival.

There are several ways to help:

- Provide rhubarb
- Join a baking get  
together on May 31
- Help sell at the Festival  
on June 1 (pies will sell  
fast - shouldn't have to  
stay long!)

If you'd like to participate, please  
contact Jennifer Wood.



### **The 150th Anniversary of Bethlehem**

As a part of the celebrations for  
the church's anniversary,  
WELCA will be coordinating a  
display of photos and  
memorabilia in the Narthex  
starting in August. If anyone has  
pictures or items they don't mind  
leaving on display please let me  
know. Thanks.

Jennifer Wood 507-273-2080 or  
[jbalsawood@gmail.com](mailto:jbalsawood@gmail.com).

## Women's Day at Good Earth Village Saturday, June 29

Good Earth Village Bible Camp,  
rural Spring Valley, invites all  
women to its annual Women's  
Day, Saturday, June 29,  
9:00 am – 3:30 pm.

Join us at Good Earth Village on  
June 29th for Women's Day:  
Tuning In. Come together with  
Pastor Marla Rotman as we  
discover and practice embodied  
ways to connect with the Creator  
through scripture, stories, walks,  
art, and more. Explore ways to  
connect with the One who longs  
to connect with you, sees you  
with deep love, and will never  
lead you astray. Let's get  
together and "Tune in" with God.

### **Schedule for the Day:**

9:00AM Check-in and coffee in  
Log Lodge  
9:30 Welcome and devotion  
9:45 Keynote Session lead by  
Pastor Marla Rotman  
12:00PM Lunch in Barr Lodge  
1:15 Breakout 1 Begins  
2:00 Breakout 2 Begins  
2:45 Closing worship at Log  
Lodge  
3:30 Go in Peace to Love and  
Serve the Lord!

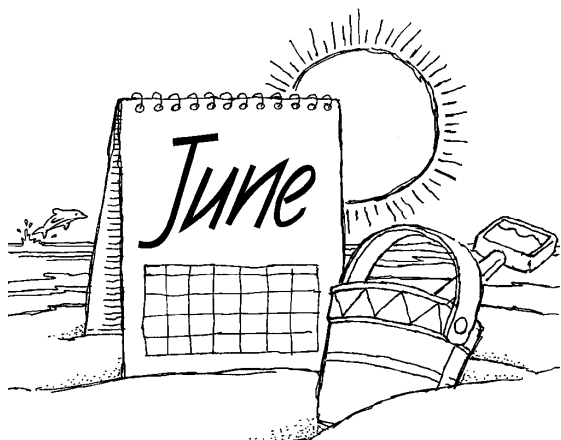
### **Pre-registration is requested, with limited walk-ins**

**available.** Check-in starts at  
9:00 AM and the cost is \$40 per  
person. Handicap parking is  
available at all buildings. Please  
feel free to contact us with any  
questions or concerns at (507)  
346-2494 or at  
[info@goodearthvillage.org](mailto:info@goodearthvillage.org).

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