



This Week at Bethlehem

A Welcoming Community of Christ's Disciples



July 3 – July 9, 2010

www.elca.org

4310 Cty Rd 137; St. Cloud, MN 56301 (320) 251-8356 www.bethlehemlutheran.org

Saturday, July 3 -

5:00 pm Worship-Communion
7:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous

Sunday, July 4 -

8:30 am Worship-Communion
10:30 am Worship-Communion
12:00 pm Worship-Sudanese language
2:00 pm Sudanese Mathiang Community

Monday, July 5 -

Church Building CLOSED

Tuesday, July 6 -

9:30 am Miriam Circle
10:00 am BLC Staff Meeting
1:00 pm Eunice Circle
1:00 pm Esther Circle
2:30 pm Priscilla Circle

July 6 (continued)-

4:30 pm Worship & Music Planning
7:00 pm Celiac Sprue Support Group
7:30 pm St Cloud Call-up (AA)

Wednesday, July 7 -

6:30 am Men's Bible Study @ Perkins
4:00 pm GRIP Leadership Team
6:00 pm Outdoor Worship-Communion
6:00 pm Jr High Trip Family Picnic/Meeting
6:30 pm Gr. 5 & 6 Mystery Mission

Thursday, July 8 -

6:30 pm Beginning Experience
6:30 pm LEAPP FROGS
7:00 pm Be Alive ensemble rehearsal
7:30 pm Services rebroadcast on ch. 12

CALENDAR

Friday, July 9 -

7:30 am Personnel Committee
11am-6pm Brat Sale at 33rd Ave CashWise
7:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous

Saturday, July 10 -

10am-5pm Brat Sale at 33rd Ave CashWise
5:00 pm Worship-Communion
7:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous

Sunday, July 11 -

8:30 am Worship-Communion
10:30 am Worship-Communion
12:00 pm Sudanese language Bible Study
5:30 pm Great River Chorale

Disciples Pray

Disciples Learn

Jr High Trip Schedule

Wednesday, July 7, 6-8pm—Family Picnic & Mandatory Parent Meeting. The entire family is invited to a potluck picnic; parents are required to attend the meeting following dinner.

Saturday, July 17, 1pm—Gear Check-in. Students must bring all their luggage for check-in.

Sunday, July 18—Group departs!

Friday, July 23—Group returns!

2010-11 Preschool Registration

Registration for 2010-11 at Bethlehem Lutheran Preschool is now open to the community. Half-day classes (2, 3, or 4 mornings/week) will be offered for children ages 3-5. A Parent & Child class for 2 year-olds will meet Tuesday mornings. For registration materials visit: www.bethlehemlutheran.org/preschool or call the Preschool Office, 251-6775.

LWT Summer Bible Studies

Barbara Bloomer invites all women of the congregation to her Sauk Rapids home to complete the *Lutheran Woman Today* Summer Bible Studies "Pray Always" on Wednesday, July 14 at 10am.

VBS Digs into God's Word

Vacation Bible School Children will learn how God takes root in our hearts and creation along with ways they can help address hunger both locally & globally! This will be a wonderful opportunity to work in Bethlehem's Community Garden while digging into God's word! VBS will be held August 2-6, 9am to noon. Cost is \$25/child up to \$50/family; scholarships are available. Extended day care (7:30-9am) is available for \$20/week or \$5/day. Children age 4 (by 6/1/10) through Gr. 6 are welcome to attend. Registration forms are available online and at the Discipleship Ministries Office.

A Mystery Mission for Gr. 5 & 6

Each Wednesday from 6:30 to 8:30pm students entering grades 5 & 6 unravel a mystery mission of the week. The Summer Youth Interns are coordinating each mission. All students entering grades 5 & 6 are welcome, so invite your friends!

Luther Crest Day Camp

Be "Filled With Joy!" at Luther Crest Day Camp July 19-22. This year, Bethlehem and Atonement Lutheran will partner in this day camp, which will be held at a different area park each day, a detailed schedule will be provided with registration. Each fun-packed day (9am to 3pm) is led by trained counselors from the Luther Crest Bible Camp staff and is offered to campers who have finished Kindergarten through Gr. 6. Cost is \$55/child. An extended day option is also available from 7:30-9am for \$10/day; scholarships available.

Disciples Give

Luther Crest Quilt Auction

Luther Crest Bible Camp's Quilt Auction will be Saturday afternoon, **July 10**. Quilts of all sizes & patterns, including a beautiful hand quilted one from Bethlehem, will be sold in a live auction. Gift baskets full of great gifts for a sports fan, a gifted cook, or a movie buff will also be auctioned. A quilt preview & Coffee House on Friday, 5:30-8:30pm will feature live music. Learn more at: www.luthercrest.org

Community

Special Mid-week Services

A number of special Wednesday evening outdoor worship services will be offered this summer. The next outdoor service will be held at **6pm** on **July 7** and will feature contributions of American folk-style music to the Church's song. These worship times are wonderful options for those who are away on the weekends, and work great for families with youth who will be participating in Bethlehem's Wednesday night youth activities.

Camping Trip for Families

A BLC family camping trip is planned for August 6-8. Cost of the campsite is \$50/family or \$25 if shared site. There are still a few campsites available! Contact Valerie 203-7413 or valeric1@charter.net to reserve a site.

Outdoor Worship 7/18 10:30am

The Congregational Life Board invites all to a "Picnic on the Prairie" immediately following the 10:30am service, on **Sunday, July 18**, which, weather permitting, will be held outdoors. The Board will provide burgers, hot dogs, lemonade, plates & utensils. Those attending are asked to bring a dish according to the list below:

- A-H Salads
- I-S Hotdishes
- T-Z Desserts

Thrivent Builds with Habitat Needs Your Support

This year's *Thrivent Builds with Habitat for Humanity* local project is fixing up two foreclosed homes in downtown St. Cloud. Construction is planned for June through October. Lutherans must fill 50% of the work shifts at these sites in order for Habitat to receive the grant from Thrivent Financial for Lutherans. Watch for more work dates later this

summer. A quick thank you to those who worked on the Thrivent Builds site on Tuesday & Wednesday, and to Mark Young for coordinating!

Donations are also needed: Bethlehem has committed a minimum of \$1,000 for this build. To make a donation, write a check to Bethlehem and write "Thrivent Builds" on the memo line.

GIVE Electronically

Gone a lot over the summer? Consider giving your offering electronically; it's easy! Download the form at www.bethlehemplutheran.org or call the church office.

Brat Sale July 9 & 10

Youth attending the Jr & Sr High Summer Trips are working the grill at the 33rd Ave Cashwise Store on Friday, July 9 from 11am to 6pm and Saturday, July 10 from 10am to 5pm (rain or shine!). Grab a quick lunch or supper & support our youth!

Disciples Serve

Confirmation Dream Team

All parents of confirmation students & others interested are invited to join a conversation on Wednesday, July 28, 6:30pm, to explore some exciting changes to the confirmation curriculum!

Community Garden Update

Bethlehem's Community Garden needs tending by anyone. Come alone, or bring your friends or family, and spend some good reflective time working with your hands and digging in the soil of God's creation. There is no set work schedule, come at a time that is convenient for you. Please sign-in on the garden log sheet in the tool shed and leave any comments, questions or suggestions. Want some fellowship while working? Join the small group that gathers on Thursdays from 6 to 7:30pm.

Financial Update

General Fund

| | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------|---------------|
| All Income thru 06/30/10: | \$405,023 | |
| Actual Expenses thru 06/30/10: | <u>443,073</u> | |
| | -38,050* | |
| * Compared to Previous Years | | |
| 2009: -37,225 | 2008: -44,981 | 2007: -26,444 |

| | |
|--------------------------------|---------------|
| Offering Target for June 2010: | \$65,000 |
| Offerings Received thru 6/27: | <u>52,353</u> |
| | -12,647 |

Building Fund

| | |
|------------------------|----------------|
| Mortgage Payments YTD: | \$116,400 |
| Gifts Received YTD: | <u>101,922</u> |
| | -14,478 |

Attendance (6/26-6/27): 333

VBS Partnering Opportunities!

Vacation Bible School is fast approaching and we have many opportunities for you to share your gifts with the youth at Bethlehem. Teachers are needed in all age groups, as well as people to help decorate. "Taking Root" is this year's theme - which is a perfect way to explore with others how God has "taken root" in your life. If you are feeling called to start building relationships with the youth at Bethlehem here is a great opportunity! Please contact Melanie for more information, 259-5330 x131.

Paid Staff Openings

Bethlehem is seeking a **Lead Sound Tech** to be the lead sound engineer and schedule assistant techs. **Assistant Sound Techs** are also needed. For details contact Diane Bublitz, 251-8356 x104 or dbublitz@bethlehemplutheran.org