



Bethlehem this Week

A Welcoming Community of Christ's Disciples

February 18, 2012 - February 24, 2012

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



www.elca.org

CALENDAR

Saturday, February 18 -

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

Sunday, February 19 -

8:00 am *Worship-Communion*
9:00 am *Worship-Communion*
10:10 am Sunday School & ☆56
10:10 am Adult Ed Forum
11:00 am *Worship-Communion*
12:00 pm Concordia Choir lunch
12:15 pm New Member Gathering I
12:30 pm *Worship-Nuer language*
1:00 pm Jr High Trip Meeting
2:00 pm *Worship-St Benedict's Center*
4:00 pm Concordia Choir Concert
4:00 pm National Youth Gathering Meeting

Monday, February 20 -

8:00 am Mission Quilters
9:00 am LEAPP FROG Day Camp
10:00 am Prayer Shawl Crafters
11:00 am Preschool Chapel
6:00 pm Liturgical Environment Lent prep
6:30 pm Women's Bible Study
9:00 pm Church of the Week

Tuesday, February 21 -

8:00 am Mission Quilters
9:00 am Bethlehem Preschool

February 21 (continued) -

10:00 am BLC Staff meeting
4:00 pm Property Board
6:00 pm So. Sudanese ELL Class
6:15 pm Bells of Bethlehem
7:00 pm Boy Scout Troop 14
7:30 pm St Cloud Call Up (AA)
9:00 pm Church of the Week

Wednesday, February 22 -

6:30 am Men's Bible Study at Perkins Downtown
8:00 am Wednesday Morning Prayer Group
9:00 am Bethlehem Preschool
9:15 am Preschool Parent Ed Class
5:30 pm Lenten Meal-Chili & Corn Bread
6:30 pm *Worship-Ash Wednesday*
9:00 pm Church of the Week

Thursday, February 23 -

9:00 am Bethlehem Preschool
9:00 am Preschool Parent coffee & conversations
10:00 am Wedding Assistants & Pastors Mtg
1:30 pm Renovare
6:00 pm So. Sudanese ELL Class
6:30 pm Alzheimers Assoc. "Get the Facts"
7:15 pm Be Alive! ensemble rehearsal
7:30 pm BLC on Charter Cable ch. 12
9:00 pm Church of the Week

Friday, February 24 -

9:00 am Bethlehem Preschool
2:00 pm So. Sudanese ELL Conversations
7:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous
9:00 pm Church of the Week

Saturday, February 25 -

9:00 am Suzuki Studio
10:00 am Gr. 1 & Kindergarten Milestones
11:30 am BLC serves Community Meal at Hope Covenant Church

5:00 pm *Worship-Baptism*

7:00 pm Narcotics Anonymous
9:00 pm Church of the Week

Sunday, February 26 -

8:00 am *Worship-Baptism*
9:00 am *Worship-Baptism*
10:10 am Sunday School & ☆56
10:10 am Adult Ed Forum
11:00 am *Worship-New Members*
12:00 pm SS Teachers Meeting
12:15 pm New Members Gathering II
2:00 pm ELCA Bold Women's Day
6:00 pm Great River Chorale
9:00 pm Church of the Week

Disciples Pray

Hospitalized? Please Let the Church Know: If you or a loved one is admitted to a hospital, either for a planned procedure or via the Emergency Room, please be sure to call the church office so pastors and BeFriends know of this hospitalization and are able to visit.

Let's Keep in Touch! Have you dropped your landline phone service? Changed your email address? Moved? Headed south for the winter? Please update the Church Office whenever your contact information changes. Thanks!

Crafting Weekend

Crafters: please join in a weekend of crafting & fellowship March 8 & 9 at Bethlehem. You can start setting up at 4pm on Friday and craft until 9pm; leave your projects set out and continue where you left off starting at 9am on Saturday. The space is free, but we need reservations; contact Lori at 253-3084 or ljbuegler@charter.net by March 5! Bring your own snacks & drinks; meals are on your own.

Women's Spring Retreat

The Women's Spring Retreat is March 24-25 at Breezy Point Resort. Our guest speaker will be Rev. Nancy Lee Gauche from Luther Seminary. She will help each participant identify & embrace their strengths and think about how God is calling us to use them for God's mission in the world. Registration Forms are located by the Discipleship office, and are due March 4 or until spots are filled (*and space is limited!*).

Bach Society Workshop

The Bach Society of Minnesota is bringing their team of skilled director/musicians to St. Cloud to lead a Bach Cantata Workshop on Saturday, February 25. The event begins at 9:30am and concludes with a free performance of the Cantata at 3pm, all at St Mary's Cathedral. Please register at bachsociety.mn.org: \$40/person or \$30/person if you register with a friend (includes lunch. Questions? Email Brenda.bhandeljohnson@hotmail.com

Celebrate Bold Women's Day

The Women of Bethlehem invite all women of the community to celebrate ELCA Bold Women's Day on Sunday, February 26 at 2pm. We will view the film, *Pray the Devil Back to Hell*. It tells the story of our Lutheran sister Leymah Gbowee, who won the 2011 Nobel Peace Prize for leading a non-violent movement that helped end Liberia's civil war. RSVP at the Serve Board.

Community

Ash Wednesday Feb. 22

Lent begins with a service of Holy Communion and marking with ashes at 6:30pm on Wednesday, February 22. Worship help is needed, sign up at the Serve Board. Mid-week worship opportunities continue at 6:30pm Feb. 29-March 28. Each week, a Lenten Supper will be served by BLC Youth from 5:30 to 6:20pm. Menu for 2/22: Chili with corn bread. Cost: \$4/student, \$5/adult and \$15/family.

Concordia Choir Concert

The Concordia Choir from Concordia College, Moorhead, under the direction of René Clausen, will be in concert at Bethlehem Lutheran on Sunday, February 19 at 4pm. Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$10 for students; available at the door, from the church office, online at www.concordiatickets.com or by phone (800) 838-3006.

Disciples Learn

Adult Ed Forums

Grab a cup of coffee and join in the final session in a series examining God's call to be a light in our changing community at 10:10am in the Magi Room.

February 19 - Mayor Dave Kleis will share his perspectives on our changing communities.

Feb. 26-April 1—*Making Sense of The Cross*: Join the pastors to explore Luther Seminary Professor David Lose's book.

Prayer Milestones

On Saturday, February 25 **Kindergarten** and **Grade 1 students** along with their parents will gather for a morning focused on prayer as our primary way to communicate with God. There will be practical, fun, and engaging activities that bring prayers to life for the students in meaningful ways! First Graders will focus specifically on The Lord's Prayer. The instruction for both these Milestones will be February 25 at 10am and the Celebration will be Sunday, February 26 at your choice of the 9 or 11am service. Please pre-register by calling the Discipleship Office at 251-8356 x130.

Disciples Give

Gifts for Global Mission

During Epiphany we are celebrating partnerships with the Lutheran Church in Liberia and the Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus and seeking gifts (use special yellow envelopes) to fund projects.

In 2007 Bethlehem began conversation with ELCA Global Mission and leaders of the Lutheran Church in Liberia about plans for a mission outpost in Troh. This year, the church in Troh is ready to launch.

So what will it take to build Gee-Troh Bethlehem Lutheran Church?

Foundation	1,600
Floor Work	900
Walls	1,500
Roof	4,500
Doors	2,300
Plaster	450
Ceiling	600
Plumbing	800
Electrical	1,750
Painting	1,400
140 Pews	1,455
Chancel furniture	225
<i>Plus Labor, Transportation, Contingency</i>	
Total Goal:	\$20,000

On July 9, 2011 South Sudan declared independence. As families begin returning to their villages from refugee camps, there is need for medical & spiritual care. Bethlehem is committed to funding the education of evangelists to serve Nuer villages and to help support a medical clinic in the village of Lare. **Total goal=\$6,000.**

LEAPP FROG Day Camp

Students in Kindergarten–Gr.

4: Don't miss this opportunity to hang out with the LEAPP FROGS in a day packed with fun on the Presidents Day holiday, February 20, 9am-3pm! Campers will spend time with the LEAPP FROGS singing, crafting, playing games, watching skits, hearing Bible stories, eating snacks and worshipping in really amazing ways!

Family Sledding

Please join in the BLC Family Sledding event at Riverside Park on Sunday, February 26 from 2 to 4pm. Bring your sleds, tubes, snowboards, etc. for a day of family fun. Event will be rescheduled, or cancelled if snow conditions don't improve! Call Shelly with questions, 492-0789.

Interested in Membership?

Contact LaNae Cobb, Membership Coordinator, lcobb@bethlehemlutheran.org or 251-8356 x107. **Introduction to Life at Bethlehem**, Sunday, April 22, 12:15-3pm. Lunch is provided. **Finding Your Neighborhood**, Sunday, April 29, 12:15-2pm, following a welcome to BLC at the 11am worship service.

Because of you . . .

Our offerings empower a host of ministries: worship, learning & discipleship, giving, serving, and providing for our church building. A portion of our offerings (\$1,000) provides music for choirs and ensembles at Bethlehem to lift our praises to the Lord.

Boy Scout Sunday Feb. 19

Sunday, February 19 is Boy Scout Sunday at Bethlehem. The scouts of Troop 14 will be serving in worship as ushers and greeters. They are also hosting *Bagels with the Boy Scouts*, as a fundraiser, from 8 to 11am in Bethlehem Square.

Current Financial Focus Our Congregation's Ministry

Offering Target for week of 2/12:	\$15,475
Actual Offerings the week of 2/12:	<u>\$10,457</u>
	-5,018
Offering Target Year-to-Date:	\$93,750
Actual Offerings Year-to-Date:	<u>\$92,915</u>
	-835

Our Congregation's Mortgage

Offering Target for week of 2/12:	\$4,063
Actual Offerings for week of 2/12:	<u>\$2,370</u>
	-1,693
Offering Target Year-to-Date:	\$23,025
Actual Offerings Year-to-Date:	<u>\$22,672</u>
	-353

Build Up Mortgage Reduction

Year to date gifts:	\$5,017
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Sunday School Corner

Visitors please know your children are welcome to join in the appropriate Sunday School Class (10:10-10:50am Sundays). Students age 4–Gr. 6 and the Adult Sunday School Class explore the same lessons. **Upcoming Sunday School Lessons:** February 19—*Serve & Follow*. February 26—*Our journey through Lent begins*. March 4—*No Sunday School 742 Spring Break*

Let the Good Times Roll!

Attn 7th & 8th Graders: Join in an evening of fun at The Skatin' Place on Friday, February 24, 6-9pm. For only \$13, you get admission, skates, unlimited pizza, pop & laser tag; in-line skates are just \$2 more. Please sign up at the Discipleship Bulletin Board. Pay at the door & you'll need transportation to/from The Skatin' Place. Friends are welcome!

Preschool Registration

Registration for the 2012-13 school year at Bethlehem Lutheran Preschool is now open for currently enrolled families, church members and alumni families (opens to the public on 2/27). Classes are 2, 3 or 4 mornings a week for ages 3–5 and a Parent & 2 year-old Child class one morning a week. Extended care is available 7:30–9am and 11:30am–12:30pm. Contact Anne in the Preschool office at 251-6775 or blpreschool@bethlehemlutheran.org to schedule a visit or learn more!

Disciples Serve

Community Meal Needs

Bethlehem will serve the Saturday Community Meal at Hope Covenant Church on February 25. Your help is needed for meal prep (9am), serving & cleanup (until 1:30pm). Contributions of milk, salads, fruit or vegetables are also needed. Sign up at the *SERVE* Board.

Wear Your Name Tags

All who regularly participate at Bethlehem are asked to order reusable name tags. Stop by the Welcome Center to order your name tag in your choice of fastener: magnetic or clip. A donation of \$2/tag is suggested.

Church of the Week Feb. 20-26

Bethlehem is hosting "Church of the Week" February 20-26. There are many ways to help, both by serving with your time and giving of your abundance. Check out the *SERVE* Board and sign up for overnight hosting, driving, serving meals or providing food.