

**Bethlehem Lutheran**  
CHURCH & SCHOOL



1121 Georgia Ave. Sheboygan, WI 53081

Non-Profit Org  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
Sheboygan Falls, WI  
Permit No. 11

Address service requested

**CONNECT WITH US**

**Bethlehem Lutheran**

1121 Georgia Avenue  
Sheboygan, WI 53081

[www.ourbethlehem.com](http://www.ourbethlehem.com)

Church: (920) 452-4331  
[infochurch@ourbethlehem.com](mailto:infochurch@ourbethlehem.com)

School: (920) 452-5071  
[infoschool@ourbethlehem.com](mailto:infoschool@ourbethlehem.com)



[www.facebook.com/  
ourbethlehem](http://www.facebook.com/ourbethlehem)



[https://twitter.com/  
ourbethlehem](https://twitter.com/ourbethlehem)

Rev. J. Patrick Niles  
*Administrative Pastor*

Rev. Jeremy Hanson  
*Associate Pastor*

Mr. Joshua Klug  
*Principal*

**WORSHIP & BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES**

**Worship Times**

Saturday - 5:30pm

Sunday - 8:00am & 10:30am

Wednesday - 6:00pm

**Bible Studies**

Saturday evening ~ 4:15 to 5:15pm

Sunday morning ~ 9:15 to 10:15am

# Dec 2025

**MEMBERSHIP**



Lutheran Church  
Missouri Synod



Sheboygan Lutheran  
High School  
Association



Sheboygan Area  
Lutheran Schools  
Association

# December 2025

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

|                                                                                                                              |                                                           |                                             |                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                 |                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                  |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                                                                              |                                                           |                                             |                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                 |                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                  |
|                                                                                                                              | <b>1</b><br>PTL meeting 6:00pm<br><br>BCDS meeting 7:00pm | <b>2</b><br>LWIM Christmas gathering 6:30pm | <b>3</b><br>Reading Part. 1:00<br>Public Confirm. 3:30<br><br>Soup Supper 5:00pm<br><br>Advent Worship 8:30am & 6:00pm<br>Stewardship 7:00                  | <b>4</b><br>Pastor Blas Spanish Class 6:00pm<br><br>Adult Choir practice 7:00pm | <b>5</b><br>Making Spirits Bright                                                                                | <b>6</b><br>Bethlehem Caroling 12:00-3:00pm<br><br>Bible class 4:15pm<br><br>Worship w/HC 5:30pm |
| <b>7</b><br>Worship w/HC 8:00am & 10:30am<br><br>Bible class & Sunday School 9:15am<br><br>Youth Group Christmas 4:00-5:30pm | <b>8</b>                                                  | <b>9</b><br>Quilters 9:00am                 | <b>10</b><br>Reading Part. 1:00<br>Public Confirm. 3:30<br><br>Soup Supper 5:00pm<br><br>Advent Worship 8:30am & 6:00pm                                     | <b>11</b><br>Adult Choir practice 7:00pm                                        | <b>12</b>                                                                                                        | <b>13</b><br>Bible class 4:15pm<br><br>Worship w/HC 5:30pm<br><br>LHS Christmas Concert 7:00pm   |
| <b>14</b><br>Worship w/HC 8:00am & 10:30am<br><br>Bible class & Sunday School 9:15am<br><br>LHS Christmas Concert 2:00pm     | <b>15</b>                                                 | <b>16</b>                                   | <b>17</b><br>Reading Part. 1:00<br>Public Confirm. 3:30<br><u>NO SOUP SUPPER</u><br><br><b>Advent Worship School Program 9:00am &amp; 6:00pm In the gym</b> | <b>18</b><br>Adult Choir practice 7:00pm<br><br>January Visitor Deadline (noon) | <b>19</b><br>LAST DAY OF SCHOOL<br><br>CHRISTMAS BREAK (Return Jan. 5)<br><br>Christmas Movie Trivia 6:00-9:00pm | <b>20</b><br>Bible class 4:15pm<br><br>Worship w/HC 5:30pm                                       |
| <b>21</b><br>Worship w/HC 8:00am & 10:30am<br><br>Bible class 9:15am<br><br>Sunday School Christmas Program 4:00pm           | <b>22</b>                                                 | <b>23</b><br>Quilters 9:00am                | <b>24</b><br>Christmas Eve Worship 4:00 & 6:00pm<br><br>Candlelight Worship 10:00pm<br>Church office closed                                                 | <b>25</b><br>Christmas Day Worship 10:00am<br><br>Church office closed          | <b>26</b><br>Church office closed                                                                                | <b>27</b><br>Bible class 4:15pm<br><br>Worship w/HC 5:30pm                                       |
| <b>28</b><br>Worship w/HC 8:00am & 10:30am<br><br>Bible class 9:15am<br><br>Making Spirits Bright                            | <b>29</b>                                                 | <b>30</b>                                   | <b>31</b><br>New Year's Eve Worship 6:00pm                                                                                                                  |                                                                                 |                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                  |

# From the desk of Pastor Niles

## Working While We Wait

*"Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain." — 1 Corinthians 15:58*

Advent is a season that teaches the Church how to wait. We rehearse Israel's long expectation for the Messiah, and at the same time we join the saints of every age in watching for Christ's return in glory. But Christian waiting is never passive. Scripture does not call us to sit with folded hands, watching the clock until Jesus comes again. Advent is not a season to just sit and remember with nostalgia the events and feelings of the past. Instead, Scripture calls us to a *hopeful, active, joyful* waiting—one that lives out Christ's love in the present moment. Advent is not just about waiting. It is about expectant preparation.

St. Paul reminds the Corinthian church that because Christ is risen—and because His return is certain—our work in His name is never wasted. The Lord who came once in humility and who will come again in glory continues to work through His people today. Advent waiting, therefore, is not idle; it is expectant and diligent. It is the life of those who know their Savior is near. Just as there are preparations to be made as we wait for holiday gatherings with friends and families, there are preparations and work for us to do as we wait on Christ to return.

We have a lot of work to do as the people of God at Bethlehem. In this season we take stock of our lives, our congregation, our families, and our callings. Where has God placed us to serve? Whom has He put in our path to love? What gifts has He entrusted to us for the building up of His Church? Every visit to the homebound, every act of mercy, every hour given to preparing the sanctuary, every gift and donation, every word of encouragement shared in Christ's name—none of it is forgotten by the Lord. These are not small things. They are Advent things.

And so, as we light the candles and pray, "Come, Lord Jesus," we also take up the work He has given us to do. Not to earn His favor—He has already come to us in grace—but because He has made us His own and filled us with hope. Until the day He appears again, we labor in confidence, knowing that our service is anchored in the promise of His resurrection and the certainty of His return.

May this Advent season renew our anticipation, strengthen our faith, and encourage us to *abound in the work of the Lord* as we wait for the One who comes to make all things new.

**Come quickly, Lord Jesus.**

In Christ,

Pastor Niles



# December News

## LEADING WITH MISSIONS

The Bethlehem Lutheran Women in Mission (LWIM) have chosen Lutheran Church Charities Comfort Dogs as the **December mission of the month**.

There are 7 comfort dogs living with host families in southern Wisconsin. Often they are called upon to deploy to disaster areas. This then becomes an out-of-pocket expense for the sponsoring families. Comfort dogs are one of the ways we can connect with people who may be open to hearing God's Word. Comfort dogs can bring calm and can offer comfort to people experiencing very difficult circumstances. Please support and pray for this mission.

## LADIES: HOW ABOUT A CHRISTMASTIME "LADIES NIGHT OUT"?

You're invited to join Lutheran Women in Mission (LWIM) for a Christmastime gathering in the Century Room on Tuesday, December 2 at 6:30pm. Featured will be "The Seasons of Mary", a dramatic presentation on the life of Jesus' mother, imbedded with Christmas carols & hymns. Following a short business meeting, refreshments will be served and fellowship will abound. Will we see you there?

## HELP SPREAD CHRISTMAS CHEER TO NURSING HOMES

On Saturday, December 6 the adult choir will be Christmas caroling at Pine Haven and Edenbrook (formerly Sunny Ridge). If you enjoy singing and want to help spread Christmas cheer, we would love to have you join us. All ages are welcome. Carpooling will be available. We'll meet in the Century Room at noon and will return to church at approximately 3:00pm. Questions? Contact David Ames at 920-901-0474.

## SHEBOYGAN LUTHERAN HIGH'S CHRISTMAS CONCERT, O HOLY NIGHT

Join us Saturday, December 13 at 7:00pm or Sunday, December 14 at 2:00pm in our Performing Arts Center for music, reflection, and holiday joy at our annual Christmas concert, *O Holy Night*. This program will feature a beautiful selection of sacred and seasonal works, including *Fum, Fum, Fum*, *A Child is Born Upon This Night*, and *Greensleeves*, that celebrate the hope, peace, and wonder of the Christmas season. The concerts are free but please select your seats in advance at [www.lutheranhigh.com/pac](http://www.lutheranhigh.com/pac).

## CHRISTMAS MOVIE TRIVIA NIGHT

Pause from the holiday hustle and join us for a fun evening of fellowship on Friday, December 19, from 6:00-9:00pm in the cafeteria. This 21+ event includes a light dinner and plenty of laughs! Form a team of 4 and sign up in the Century Room (by Dec. 14). Don't miss this chance to test your Christmas movie knowledge and celebrate the season together. Contact Martha Becker at [martha.becker.96@gmail.com](mailto:martha.becker.96@gmail.com) with any questions.

## LUTHERAN YOUNG ADULTS LEAGUE CHRISTMAS PARTY

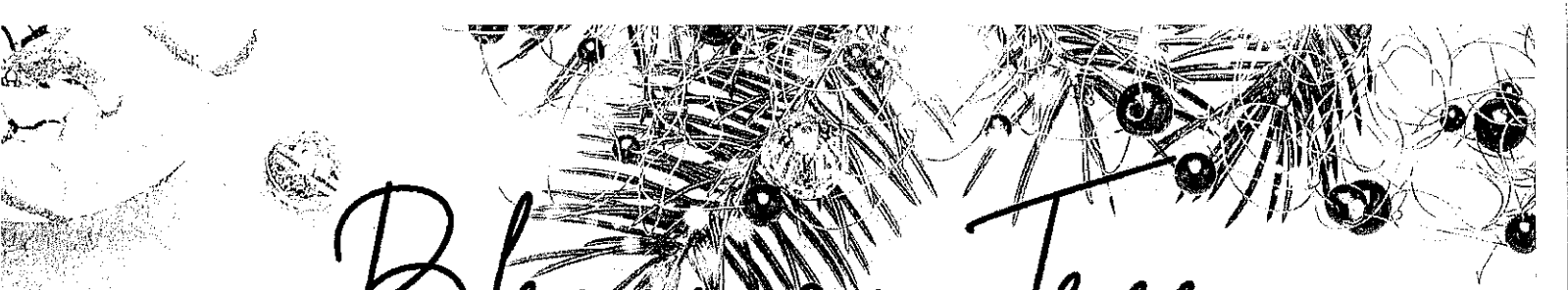
Young adults (ages 21-35) are invited to a Christmas celebration on **Saturday, December 20 at 5:00pm** at **Luther Memorial Chapel (gym)**, 3833 N. Maryland Ave, Shorewood, WI 53211. Join us for a semi-formal evening of fellowship, a Christmas meal, and reflection on the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. RSVP to: [lyalchristmasparty.rsvpify.com](http://lyalchristmasparty.rsvpify.com)

## A NEW OPPORTUNITY FOR CHRISTMAS CHEER

This year, the Sunday School Christmas program will take place on Sunday, December 21 at 4:00pm in the sanctuary. Start the Christmas week off by supporting Bethlehem's public school and home school children as they present "*From Heaven Above*", a Christmas service for all ages. Recitations, carols, hymns, special music, and more will be a part of this joyful, one-hour long service. The gift of your presence will be a great inspiration to the families involved. Mark your calendar and plan to attend.

## A MOMENT OF INSPIRATION

The Bible is the owner's manual for life. The more you read it, memorize it, and meditate on it, the more successful and fulfilled you'll be. Watch upcoming announcements for Pastor-led studies, occasional Monday-night studies, small groups, and occasional Women's Online Group. Why not try one?



# Blessings Tree

~ *Sponsored by the Board of Social Ministry* ~

Help us provide Christmas blessings for our Bethlehem families and neighborhood friends.

## How to Participate:

- ~Pick a tag from the tree and replace it with an ornament from the basket next to the tree.
- ~You may also purchase any item from the lists below.
- ~Provide a monetary donation. Please make checks payable to *Bethlehem Social Ministry*.
- ~All gifts will be distributed to Bethlehem families, local nursing homes, shelters, and schools.

Please return unwrapped gifts under the tree or place them in the Social Ministry basket in the Century Room any time before NOON on Sunday, December 7.

## GIFTS FOR NURSING HOMES

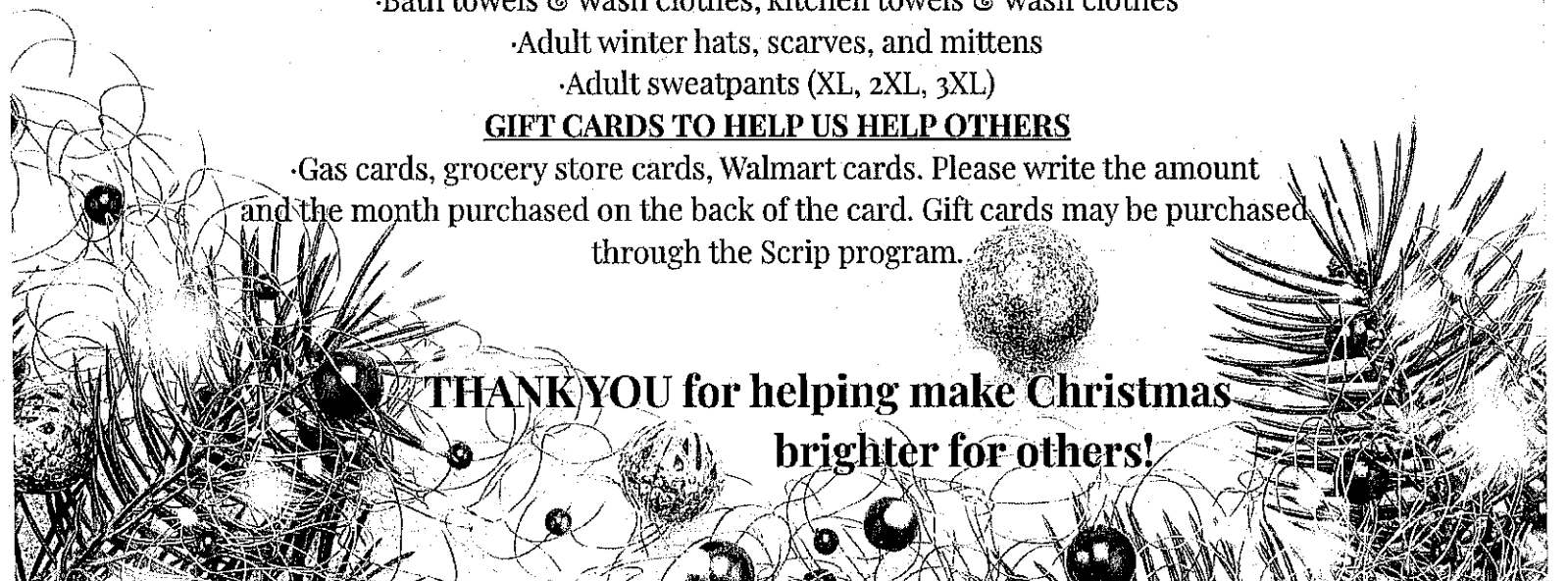
- Lap blankets for wheelchair patients
- Wisconsin team t-shirts and sweatshirts (Badgers, Brewers, Bucks, Packers – sizes XL, 2XL, 3XL)
- Easy LARGE PRINT ADULT coloring books and LARGE crayons
- LARGE PRINT word search puzzles, (please no crossword puzzles)
- Individually wrapped candy (regular and sugar free)

## GIFTS FOR SCHOOLS AND SHELTERS

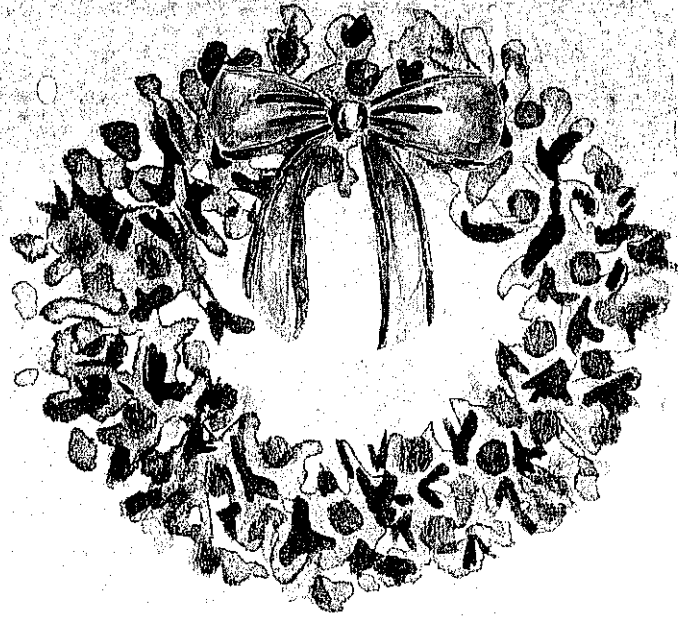
- Kids socks and underwear (grades 3K – 5)
- Kids sweatpants (grades 3K – 5)
- Kids hats, scarves, and mittens (grades 3K – 5)
- Bath towels & wash clothes, kitchen towels & wash clothes
- Adult winter hats, scarves, and mittens
- Adult sweatpants (XL, 2XL, 3XL)

## GIFT CARDS TO HELP US HELP OTHERS

- Gas cards, grocery store cards, Walmart cards. Please write the amount and the month purchased on the back of the card. Gift cards may be purchased through the Scrip program.



**THANK YOU** for helping make Christmas  
brighter for others!



# FROM HEAVEN ABOVE

*A Children's Christmas Service  
for All Ages*

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21 | 4 PM

Come one, come all. Join the Sunday School children to joyfully usher in the Christmas season. This program will feature recitations and songs by the Sunday School children, carols by the congregation, special music, and more.

**Bethlehem**  
**Lutheran**   
CHURCH & SCHOOL



November 19, 2025

## **Twenty Families in an Aisle: When God Opens a Mission Field in Walmart**

Not long ago, I experienced something that reminded me why the Lord calls us to go out, to walk, to seek, and to speak the Gospel everywhere. One day I went to the Walmart in Sheboygan with a handful of business cards, some church flyers... and a heart willing to listen and to serve.

I didn't have a perfect plan. There wasn't an organized event. I only had the conviction that Jesus sends His servants to **where the people are**.

For three hours I walked through those aisles: through toys, vegetables, the bakery, electronics, cleaning supplies... ordinary places where almost no one would expect the Holy Spirit to be at work. But God has no limits.

That day, I met **twenty new families**. Twenty faces, twenty stories, twenty voices full of hope and pain. And to my surprise... **they were all Venezuelan families**.

Some had just arrived; others didn't know anyone; most were searching for stability, community, a place where their children are safe, and a warm embrace in the middle of so much change. But deeper than all of that... they carry a longing that only Christ can fill, even if they don't yet know how to express it.

Between aisles, shopping carts, and timid smiles, I was able to hand out cards, share information about our church, and above all... **share the Gospel**. Right there, in Walmart, in the heart of Sheboygan.

Because the Gospel is not tied to a building or limited to a schedule. The Gospel **walks, seeks, listens, embraces**, and is proclaimed in every place and to every tongue.

That day, I understood something very deep: **our ministry isn't passive—we don't wait for the Hispanic community to come to us. The community is already here, and that's exactly why we go to them wherever God leads us... even to Walmart**. Into the places where they live, shop, work, and learn. They need to hear Christ crucified and risen. They need a church that loves them, welcomes them, and walks beside them.

But this work cannot be done alone. Behind every conversation, every card handed out, and every family reached, God is at work—and so are the people who pray, support, donate, and believe that He is doing something great among the Hispanics of Sheboygan County.

That's why I invite you to join this mission. To be part of what God is doing. To support a ministry that goes out, that moves, that knocks on doors... and shares the love of Jesus where you least expect it.

Because if God can open a mission field in the aisles of Walmart, imagine what He can do with **your support, your prayers, and your generosity**.

The twenty families I met that day are only the beginning. With your help, we can reach many more. Christ is already at work. The harvest is ready. And you can be part of this beautiful mission.

Thank you for taking the time to read this letter and thank you for your continued support of our Hispanic Ministry. Thank you for partnering with us in this mission. Please continue to keep us in your prayers. May God richly bless you for your generosity, your love, and your faithfulness. We look forward to all that the Lord has in store for us!

Serving Christ through His humble servant and yours,  
Rev. David Blas



We believe there is no one-size-fits-all approach to caring and supporting individuals with dementia. This belief aligns with our core care concept of

***thoughtful positive risk acceptance;***

after all, some degree of risk-taking is part of normal daily living.

By embracing a dignity of risk approach those with dementia can engage more fully in life and are ***not defined solely by their diagnosis.***

Livasu's unique design and supportive care options, create an environment that ***empowers those living with dementia;*** an environment that instead of creating disabilities, fosters abilities.

## VILLAGE AMENITIES

Intentionally designed for person with dementia

Spa - haircare, footcare and massage

Gym - individual and group options

Sunroom and Clubhouse - hobby and gathering spaces

Grocery store - open to public

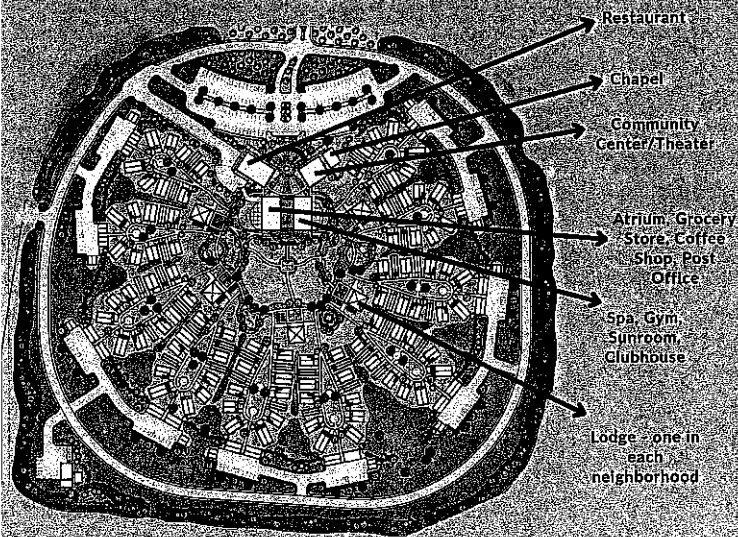
Walking paths - inside and outside

Golf cart transportation - heated and covered

Post Office

Coffee and Ice Cream Shop

Restaurant - open to the public



## NEIGHBORHOOD FEATURES

Court with 10 or 14 Homes

Lodge in each neighborhood: gatherings, optional meals, emergency shelter with generator

Variation and signage to assist with wayfinding

Gardens and walking paths



## HOME FEATURES

Individually - owned

One bedroom, one + den, two bedroom

Adaptable

One story

Full kitchens

Washers and dryers

Spacious bathrooms for ease of use

Front porch

Variety in exteriors for better identification

Pets are welcome



## CARE AND SUPPORT

Caregivers available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week

Purchase blocks of time for caregiving to use as needed

Part time Registered Nurse available

Discreet technology to encourage exploration

Meal options available for in home or community dining



Information Office

Located in Town of Wilson Hall

5933 South Business Drive, Sheboygan

Open Houses/Appointment Times can be found on:

<https://teamup.com/c/44f9o7/livasu>

- ✓ Tour a model home & view all floor plans
- ✓ Learn about care concepts & why we are not a facility
- ✓ Discuss process for home ownership
- ✓ Learn more about LIVASU's amenities



## CHURCH DECORATION FUND

Please consider donating a monetary gift to the Altar Guild's Church Decoration Fund. All donor names, along with the designation as to whether the gift is being given in memory of, in honor of, or for blessings received, will be published.

***Please designate which category, by circling in memory or in honor of.***

Make checks payable to **Bethlehem Altar Guild** (drop off in church office).

**Deadline for submitting donations is  
noon on Friday, December 12, 2025**

Given by: \_\_\_\_\_ in memory/honor of \_\_\_\_\_

Given by: \_\_\_\_\_ in memory/honor of \_\_\_\_\_

Given by: \_\_\_\_\_ in memory/honor of \_\_\_\_\_

Given by: \_\_\_\_\_ for blessings received

Given by: \_\_\_\_\_ for blessings received

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## Upcoming December Worship Opportunities

Wednesday, December 3, 8:30am & 6:00pm - Advent (Soup Supper, 5:00pm)

Wednesday, December 10, 8:30am & 6:00pm - Advent (Soup Supper, 5:00pm)

Wednesday, December 17, 9:00am & 6:00pm - Advent and All-School Christmas Program

Sunday, December 21, 4:00pm - Sunday School Christmas Program

Wednesday, December 24, 4:00pm - Christmas Eve Family Service

Wednesday, December 24, 6:00pm - Christmas Eve Family Service

Wednesday, December 24, 10:00pm - Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Thursday, December 25, 10:00am - Christmas Day Service



# **IMPORTANT REMINDERS**

## **PERSONAL INFORMATION CHANGES**

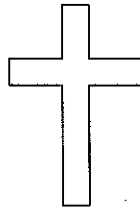
If you have changed your name, address, phone number or email address, please notify the church office with your information. You can call the church office at 920-452-4331 or email amy.weir@ourbethlehem.com with your new/current information. Thank you for your help.

## **VISIT US ONLINE**

Bethlehem Lutheran Church and School is on Facebook. Please also visit us at our website, www.ourbethlehem.com. Check out the main page where you will find information about upcoming events and activities. See the calendar of important items. Find helpful information by clicking on the various tabs under *Church* and *School*.

## **JANUARY VISITOR DEADLINE**

If you would like to submit information for the January Visitor, please have your information to the church office no later than noon on Thursday, December 18, 2025. Please feel free to email amy.weir@ourbethlehem.com or drop it off in the church office with a note that it is for the Visitor.



# **VISITOR SPONSORSHIP**

To help us defray expenses for producing and mailing our monthly newsletter, we have established a sponsorship program which includes a congregational contributor for the cost of \$50 per year; and a commercial contributor for the cost of \$120 per year. If interested, please drop off your payment or call the church office at 920-452-4331.

### **Congregational Sponsors**

Dennis & Nancy Bearn  
Sandra Fischer  
Leonard Johnson  
George & Karen Haecker  
Linda Hulbert-Ertel

Bev Fischer  
Bob & Lori Gottowski  
Linda Nikisch  
Beverly Bauer  
Steve & Peggy Hotz

Jim & Judy Heinecke  
Cliff & Gail Schlegel  
Anita Krimmel  
Keith & Christine Wyckoff  
James Schmidt

### **Commercial Sponsors**

Advanced Comfort Systems  
Irish Roofing

Boneck Printing  
Irish Studios

Irish Hauling  
Knier Storage