

**Bethlehem Lutheran**  
CHURCH & SCHOOL 

1121 Georgia Ave. Sheboygan, WI 53081

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**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/  
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 [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

**Mar 2026**

**MEMBERSHIP**



Lutheran Church  
Missouri Synod



Sheboygan Lutheran  
High School  
Association



Sheboygan Area  
Lutheran Schools  
Association

# March 2026

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
<p>Worship w/HC 8:00am &amp; 10:30am</p> <p>Bible class &amp; Sunday School 9:15am</p>	<p>PTL meeting 6:00pm</p> <p>BCDS meeting 7:00pm</p>	<p>Quilters 9:00am</p> <p>LWIM meeting 6:30pm</p>	<p>Lent Worship 8:30am &amp; 6:00pm</p> <p>Read. Part. 1:00pm Public Conf. 3:30pm</p> <p>Assimilation 4:00pm Soup Supper 5:00pm Stewardship 7:00pm 7th Grade mtg 7:00p</p>	<p>Adult Choir practice 7:00pm</p>		<p>LWIM Prayer Service - Breakfast: 9:00am - Service: 10:00am</p> <p>Bible class 4:15pm</p> <p>Worship w/HC 5:30pm</p>
<p>8</p> <p>Worship w/HC 8:00am &amp; 10:30am</p> <p>Bible class &amp; Sunday School 9:15am</p>	<p>9</p> <p>Youth Board meeting 7:00pm</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Lent Worship 8:30am &amp; 6:00pm</p> <p>Read. Part. 1:00pm</p> <p>Public School Confirmation 3:30pm</p> <p>Soup Supper 5:00pm</p>	<p>12</p> <p>Adult Choir practice 7:00pm</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p> <p>Bible class 4:15pm</p> <p>Youth Group Torte Sale</p> <p>Worship w/HC 5:30pm</p>
<p>15</p> <p>Worship w/HC 8:00am &amp; 10:30am</p> <p>Youth Group Torte Sale</p> <p>Bible class &amp; Sunday School 9:15am</p> <p>Elders mtg 11:45am Youth Group 4:00pm</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Quilters 9:00am</p> <p>7th Grade Texas Roadhouse fundraiser 3:00-9:00pm</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Lent Worship 8:30am &amp; 6:00pm</p> <p>Read. Part. 1:00pm</p> <p>Public School Confirmation 3:30pm</p> <p>Soup Supper 5:00pm</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Adult Choir practice 7:00pm</p> <p>April Visitor deadline (noon)</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p> <p>Bible class 4:15pm</p> <p>Worship w/HC 5:30pm</p>
<p>22</p> <p>Worship w/HC 8:00am &amp; 10:30am</p> <p>Bible class &amp; Sunday School 9:15am</p>	<p>23</p> <p><b>SPRING BREAK</b> (3/23—3/27)</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Lent Worship 8:30am &amp; 6:00pm</p> <p>Soup Supper 5:00pm</p>	<p>26</p> <p>Adult Choir practice 7:00pm</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Easter Egg Hunt 9:00am</p> <p>Bible class 4:15pm</p> <p>Worship w/HC 5:30pm</p>
<p>29</p> <p>Worship w/HC Palm Sunday 8:00am &amp; 10:30am</p> <p>Bible class &amp; Sunday School 9:15am</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31</p> <p>Quilters 9:00am</p>				

## <>< Tischreden with Pastor Hanson ><>

*Welcome to Table Talk with Pastor Hanson! Pull up a chair and let's talk about what it means to grow in Christian Discipleship through Repentance and Faith.*

### **Living by Faith: The Daily Life of Repentance**

*"Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness." (Romans 4:3)*

With these words, Paul reminds us that righteousness—right standing before God—does not come through our works, our spiritual achievements, or our moral record. It comes through faith. It is given. It is credited. It is received.

And this is not only the beginning of the Christian life. It is the pattern of the Christian life. It is the very heart of discipleship.

### **Discipleship Begins with Repentance**

If salvation is by grace through faith, then discipleship does not begin with self-improvement. It begins with repentance.

Repentance is not merely feeling bad about sin. It is turning from trust in ourselves to trust in Christ. It is confessing that we cannot justify ourselves before God. It is admitting that our works—even our best works—cannot secure our righteousness.

Paul makes this abundantly clear:

*"To the one who works, his wages are not counted as a gift but as his due. And to the one who does not work but believes in Him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is counted as righteousness." (Romans 4:4–5)*

Notice that phrase: *"Him who justifies the ungodly."* Not the improved. Not the nearly perfect. Not the spiritually advanced. The ungodly.

This is both humbling and freeing. Repentance strips away our pride, but it also lifts the crushing burden of trying to earn what can only be given.

### **Discipleship Continues in Faith**

Abraham did not merely have a moment of belief; he lived by faith in God's promise. Paul says he believed in the God *"who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist"* (Romans 4:17).

That is the God we trust as disciples of Christ.

We trust Him when we cannot see the outcome.  
We trust Him when circumstances seem contrary to His promises.  
We trust Him when we see our own weakness and sin.

(over)

Faith clings to the promise of God fulfilled in Jesus Christ—crucified for our sins and raised for our justification (Romans 4:25).

To live as disciples, then, is to live daily in this rhythm:

- Confessing our sin.
- Receiving Christ's forgiveness.
- Trusting His promise.
- Walking forward in grateful obedience.

### **The Freedom of Being Counted Righteous**

Paul uses the word *counted* again and again in this chapter. Righteousness is credited to us. It is not manufactured by us.

That changes how we live.

We obey not to earn God's love, but because we already have it.  
We serve not to secure our place in God's kingdom, but because Christ has already secured it.  
We confess our sins freely because we know forgiveness is certain in Christ.

Repentance and faith are not one-time events; they are the daily heartbeat of discipleship. The old Adam in us wants to return to self-reliance and spiritual pride. But the Holy Spirit continually calls us back to Christ—to His cross, to His promise, to His grace.

### **Living as Children of the Promise**

Paul concludes by reminding us that the promise comes by faith so that it may rest on grace (Romans 4:16). The Christian life rests not on our stability, but on God's faithfulness.

In a world obsessed with achievement and performance, Romans 4 calls us back to something radically different: living as children of the promise.

This month, I encourage you to examine your heart. Where have you been tempted to rely on your works? Where has pride crept in? Where has despair whispered that you are not enough?

Bring it all to Christ.

Repent.

Believe.

Receive the righteousness that is counted to you for His sake.

And then rise each day in the freedom of those who are justified by grace and called to walk by faith.

In Christ, <>< Pastor Hanson

# March News

## BETHLEHEM LWIM TO HAVE A CRAFT NIGHT

Anyone who is craft-minded is welcome to join Bethlehem Lutheran Women in Mission on Tuesday, March 3 at 6:30pm in the Century Room. We will be welcoming Debra Engelhardt of the Board of Social Ministry, who will lead us in assembling tchotchkes, which will be included in the Eastertime meals. These meals are delivered by Social Ministry to our homebound members. If you have a glue gun, please bring it.

## MEN AND WOMEN OF BETHLEHEM: COME PRAY WITH US

On Saturday, March 7, Bethlehem Lutheran Women in Mission is hosting the 2026 LWIM Prayer Service. This will be held in the Century Room. Anyone who would like to join, current or non-LWIM members, male or female, is welcome to attend. No advance registration is needed. Here's the plan:

- ◆ 9:00-10:00am: Light, continental breakfast.
- ◆ 10:00am: Prayer Service, including litanies on various aspects of prayer.

Pastor Hanson (Zone 8 counselor) will lead the assembly in handling submitted prayer requests.

## PLANS ARE BEING DEVELOPED FOR MARCH BIBLE STUDIES

As of now, we know that Pastor Hanson will be offering a series on "Christ in the Old Testament" (no, that's not a misprint). Watch future bulletins and Facebook for more detailed information as plans emerge.

## SUNDAY SCHOOL COMBINES FUN WITH LEARNING

Realizing that Sunday School is an extracurricular activity, our Sunday School teachers do their best to make their lessons enjoyable. In this Visitor, we'll take a look at typical lessons for pre-school and lower grade children. Watch for upper grade information next month.

Lessons often begin with a play-like activity (like coloring). Next the lesson is introduced with songs and a short video. The children then hear the Bible account of the day. Examples of March lessons are "Prophets talk about the coming King", "The Angel talks to Mary", and "Jesus is born". A coloring page based on the story follows. The lesson wraps up with a snack.

Remember, any child (3K-grade 8) can attend Sunday School, whether they are a Bethlehem member or not. To get started, bring your child to the BLS cafeteria at 9:15am any Sunday and teacher Dusty Stielow will direct newcomers to their class.

## NEXT NEW MEMBER CLASS WILL HAPPEN IN APRIL

*What Lutherans Believe*, also known as our New Member Class, will be coming soon to Bethlehem. This class is for those who would like to be members of the body of Christ in this place, as well as for those who have been members and would like to be refreshed in what we believe, teach and confess.

This class will begin on Sunday, April 12. It will continue to take place on Sundays (4/19, 4/26, 5/3 and 5/10) during Bible Class hour (9:15-10:15am). These classes are a great time for fellowship and growing together. On May 10, during our 8:00am worship service, we will welcome all those who have come to Bethlehem since our last class. A special coffee hour will take place in between the services.

We would like to welcome you to continue your walk with Jesus here at Bethlehem. If you are interested in joining the *What Lutherans Believe* class, please contact Fred Jabs by email [pfkjabs@hotmail.com](mailto:pfkjabs@hotmail.com) or call/text him at 920-889-4304. Feel free to contact Amy in the church office as well.

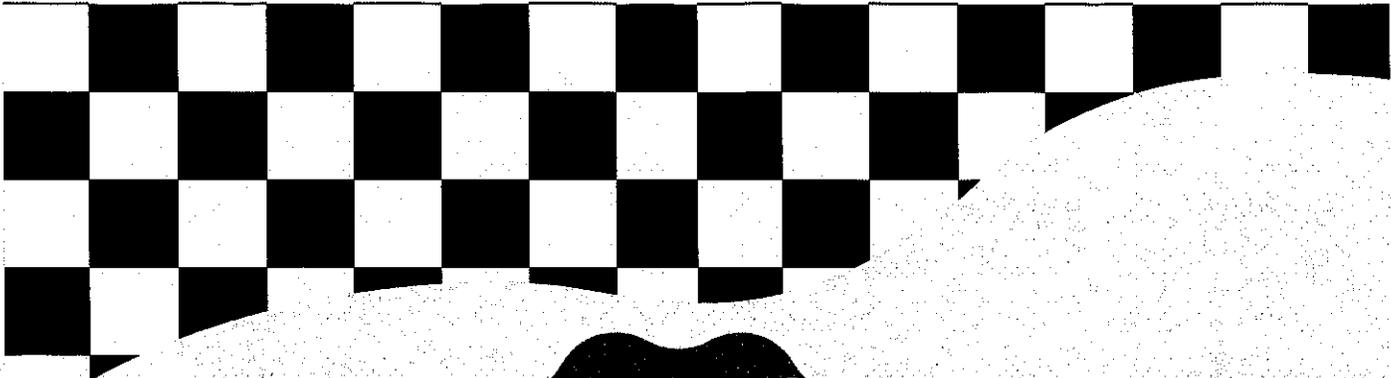
## SAVE THESE DATES

Youth Group Torte Sale: March 14-15 (see flyer)

7th Grade Texas Roadhouse Fundraiser: March 17 (flyers will be in the Century Room, closer to the date)

Easter Egg Hunt: March 28

Bethlehem's Celebrate the Ministry: April 24 (see flyer)



# *Torte Sale*

**March 14th & 15th**

**Free Will Donation!  
Sold by the slice!**



**Fundraiser for the Youth  
Colorado Mission Trip ~  
Summer 2026**



**Bethlehem  
Lutheran**   
CHURCH & SCHOOL



February 18, 2026

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Grace and peace to you from God our Father and from our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

I give thanks to the Lord for His continued faithfulness to the Hispanic ministry in Sheboygan County. Through the preaching of the Gospel and the administration of the Sacraments, Christ continues to gather, enlighten, and sanctify His people. It is a privilege for me to serve together with you in this shared mission.

After prayerful consideration, I have accepted the Divine Call to serve as pastor of Zion Lutheran Church. My installation will take place on Saturday, February 28, at 3:00 p.m.

Under this new arrangement, I will serve in a 50/50 capacity: as the settled pastor of Zion Lutheran Church in Glenbeulah and as pastor of the LCMS Sheboygan County Hispanic Outreach. This call provides stability for Zion while also strengthening the long-term sustainability of our Hispanic ministry. It also represents an opportunity for future Hispanic ministry on that side of the county, as the Lord may open doors for outreach, relationships, and Gospel proclamation in new communities.

It is important to clarify that the Hispanic Outreach will continue to be located at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Sheboygan. This will not change. Our Hispanic congregation will continue to gather for worship there, and our members will remain members at Good Shepherd. I am deeply grateful for Good Shepherd's ongoing partnership and hospitality in hosting and supporting this ministry.

I also want to emphasize that this mission is shared by all 21 LCMS congregations in Sheboygan County. The Hispanic Outreach is truly a county-wide effort, supported through prayer, encouragement, and financial partnership by our sister churches. I am truly thankful for this unified commitment. This partnership reflects the beauty of our life together as one Church—many congregations, one confession, one Gospel, one Lord.

Zion Lutheran Church will now have a resident pastor faithfully caring for that flock through preaching, teaching, pastoral care, and the administration of the Means of Grace. At the same time, Zion has committed to assisting with the financial support that allows me to continue serving the Hispanic ministry.

In addition, approximately six times each year, I will preach and serve in our sister congregations throughout the county. These visits will strengthen bonds of fellowship, share updates and encouragement from the Hispanic ministry, and solidify our unity as congregations walking together in mission.

Although this new structure brings stability and encouragement, the Hispanic ministry will continue to rely on the financial and prayerful support of all 21 sister congregations. Outreach ministry requires ongoing commitment: pastoral support, evangelism and catechesis, discipleship resources, and care for families being gathered into Christ's Church. This ministry belongs to all of us. It is a shared expression of our Lord's command to make disciples of all nations—even within our own communities.

We move forward not trusting in human arrangements, but in Christ's promises. As our Lord declares in Matthew 28, He sends His Church to make disciples, baptizing and teaching. That mission continues here in Sheboygan County.

(over)

I give thanks for faithful congregations, supportive pastors and leaders, generous donors, and volunteers who serve with joy. Please continue to pray for Zion Lutheran Church in Glenbeulah, the Hispanic Outreach ministry at Good Shepherd in Sheboygan, my family and me, and the many individuals and families hearing the Gospel.

Together, united in confession and sustained by Word and Sacrament, I trust that the Lord who has begun this good work among us will bring it to completion.

In Christ's service,  
Pastor David Blas

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## **UPCOMING WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES AT BETHLEHEM**

<u>Wednesday, Mar. 4<sup>th</sup></u>	Lent Midweek	8:30am & 6:00pm (no communion)
<u>Wednesday, Mar. 11<sup>th</sup></u>	Lent Midweek	8:30am & 6:00pm (no communion)
<u>Wednesday, Mar. 18<sup>th</sup></u>	Lent Midweek	8:30am & 6:00pm (no communion)
<u>Wednesday, Mar. 25<sup>th</sup></u>	Lent Midweek	8:30am & 6:00pm (no communion)
<u>Saturday, Mar. 28<sup>th</sup></u>	Palm Sunday	5:30pm (communion)
<u>Sunday, Mar. 29<sup>th</sup></u>	Palm Sunday	8:00am & 10:30am (communion)
<u>Wednesday, Apr. 1<sup>st</sup></u>	NO WORSHIP	
<u>Thursday, Apr. 2<sup>nd</sup></u>	Maundy Thurs.	6:00pm (communion)
<u>Friday, Apr. 3<sup>rd</sup></u>	Good Friday	1:00pm & 7:00pm (communion)
<u>Saturday, Apr. 4<sup>th</sup></u>	Easter Vigil	5:30pm (communion)
<u>Sunday, Apr. 5<sup>th</sup></u>	Easter	6:00am, 8:00am & 10:30am (communion)

Soup Supper will take place at 5:00pm prior to each evening  
Lent Midweek service (3/4, 3/11, 3/18 & 3/25).



**Bethlehem Lutheran**  
CHURCH & SCHOOL

INVITES YOU TO

Celebrate  
the  
Ministry

FRIDAY, APRIL 24TH

PINE HILLS COUNTRY CLUB  
4914 SUPERIOR AVE. SHEBOYGAN

6PM-DOORS OPEN & CASH BAR  
7PM-DINNER & PROGRAM



The cost is \$10 per person, collected at the door.  
This is not a fundraiser — just a special Adults-only evening  
to gather and enjoy time together.

Seating is limited. Please RSVP to the church office at  
(920) 452-4331 or amy.weir@ourbethlehem.com by April 10.

# 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

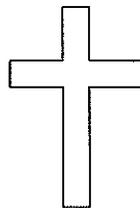
Bethlehem Lutheran Church and School is on Facebook. Please also visit us at our website, www.ourbethlehem.com. Check out the main page where you will find information about upcoming events and activities. See the calendar of important items. Find helpful information by clicking on the various tabs under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

## APRIL VISITOR DEADLINE

If you would like to submit information for the April Visitor, please have your information to the church office no later than noon on **Thursday, March 19, 2026**. 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.

## JOIN OUR EMAIL & COMMUNICATION LIST!

Stay informed with weather-related cancellations, receive The Visitor newsletter by email, and obtain special event announcements. Simply scan the QR code. We kindly ask that each adult in your household completes their own sign-up. We look forward to keeping you informed on all the happenings at Bethlehem Lutheran Church!



# 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.

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

### Congregational Sponsors

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