

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

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

School: (920) 452-5071
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

Patrick Vanic
Principal

WORSHIP & BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

Worship Times

Saturday - 5:30pm

Sunday - 8:00am & 10:30am

Wednesday - 6:00pm

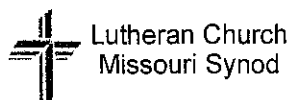
Bible Studies

Saturday evening ~ 4:15 to 5:15pm

Sunday morning ~ 9:15 to 10:15am

Nov 2023

MEMBERSHIP



Sheboygan Lutheran
High School
Association



Sheboygan Area
Lutheran Schools
Association

November 2023

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

| | | | 1 Reading Partners 1:00pm Parent-Teacher Conferences Worship w/HC 6:00pm | 2 Parent-Teacher Conferences | 3 NO SCHOOL | 4 Bible class 4:15pm Worship w/HC 5:30pm Fellowship Cornhole Tournament 6:00pm |
|---|---|-----------------------------|--|--|--|--|
| 5 Worship w/HC 8:00am & 10:30am Bible classes 9:15am Sunday School 9:15am | 6 School Forensics 3:15-4:30pm Bible class 6:00-7:00pm | 7 LWML meeting 7:00pm | 8 Reading Partners 1:00pm Worship w/HC 6:00pm | 9 Student Council meeting 3:15-4:00pm "Celebrate the Ministry" event 6:00pm | 10 | 11 Bethlehem's Craft & Vendor Fair 9:00am-2:00pm Altar Guild meeting 9:30am Bible class 4:15pm Worship w/HC 5:30pm |
| 12 Worship w/HC 8:00am & 10:30am Bible classes 9:15am Sunday School 9:15am Youth Group 4:00-5:30pm | 13 | 14 Quilters 9:00am | 15 Reading Partners 1:00pm Worship w/HC 6:00pm Parish Planning Council meeting 7:00pm | 16 December Visitor Deadline (noon) | 17 | 18 Bible class 4:15pm Worship w/HC 5:30pm |
| 19 Worship w/HC 8:00am & 10:30am Bible classes 9:15am Sunday School 9:15am Bible Study Task Force meeting 11:30 | 20 PTL meeting 6:00pm Board of Christian Day School meeting 7:00pm | 21 | 22 NO SCHOOL Thanksgiving Eve Worship 6:00pm | 23 NO SCHOOL (Church & school offices are closed) Thanksgiving Day Worship 10:00am | 24 NO SCHOOL (Church & school offices are closed) | 25 Bible class 4:15pm Worship w/HC 5:30pm |
| 26 Worship w/HC 8:00am & 10:30am Bible classes 9:15am Sunday School 9:15am | 27 | 28 Quilters 9:00am | 29 Reading Partners 1:00pm Worship w/HC 6:00pm Voters' meeting 7:00pm | 30 | | |

FROM THE DESK OF PASTOR NILES

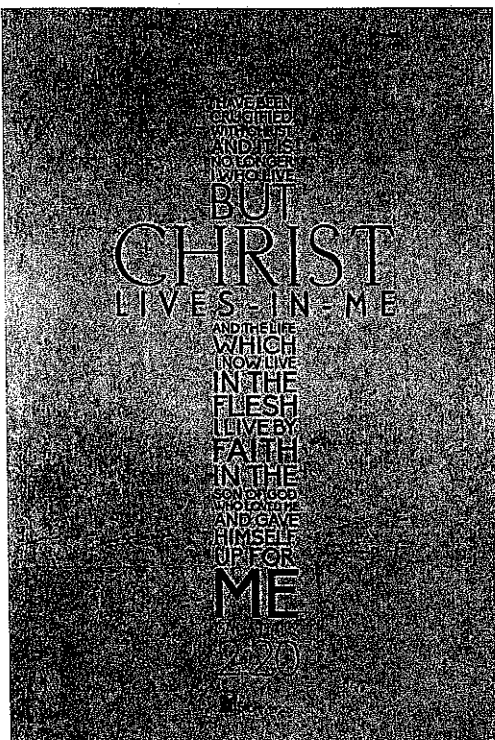
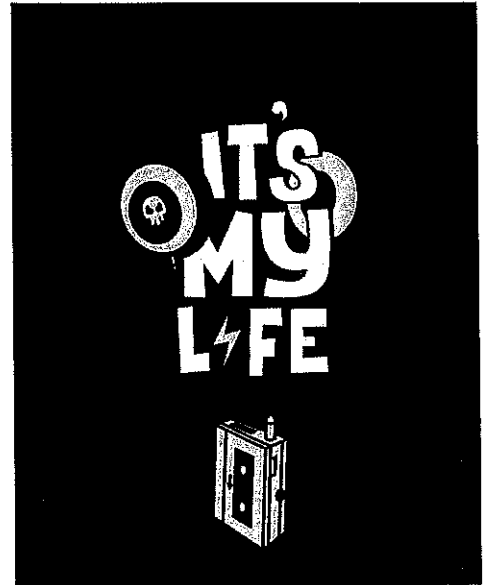
It is My Life... Isn't it?

For if I rebuild what I tore down, I prove myself to be a transgressor. For through the law I died to the law, so that I might live to God. I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. I do not nullify the grace of God, for if righteousness were through the law, then Christ died for no purpose. (Galatians 2:17-21)

Bon Jovi sang the following in a popular song of the 2000's:

*It's my life
It's now or never
I ain't gonna live forever
I just want to live while I'm alive
My heart is like an open highway
Like Frankie said
I did it my way
I just want to live while I'm alive
It's my life!*

The substance of these lyrics have become an anthem of American society over the last decades. Throughout our lives, we are taught that our happiness is of utmost importance. We are taught that we are individuals with our own truths, our own thoughts, and our own lives. No one can tell us what is true for us. No one can infringe upon our opinions, our identities, or any aspect of our lives. Our pride and self-esteem are then, necessarily, attached to the ability to function as an individual amongst other individuals. My opinions are only accepted when they do not disagree or differ from the opinions and life of someone else. It becomes unimportant and, to a certain extent, immoral to try to convince others of my opinions because they are only true for my life.



However, the Scriptures remind us that the base assumption of this way of thinking is incoherent with the truth of God. Our lives are not our own. When a Christian receives the gift of faith in Christ via baptism or the Word, the Christian's life is killed, and a new life is given... a life that belongs to Christ. We have been crucified with our sins with Christ. And Christ, through faith, lives in us. We are called to live by faith in the Son of God who gave His life for us. Since we live in Christ forever, we no longer are bound to only worry about ourselves and we are free to be stewards of God's blessings to us.

Our blessings of time, talents, treasures, and everything else are used for serving our neighbors. God takes care of us, and then, uses us to care for our neighbors. Our lives are not our own. They were bought with a price that grants us freedom, and unites us with the entirety of the people of God. We are no longer individual people, but part of the body of Christ in the world. The life we now live in the flesh we live by faith in the Son of God who loved us and gave Himself for us.

In Christ, Pastor Niles

It's a 2nd GRADE Thing

WHAT IS HAPPENING IN SECOND GRADE?

The second graders have been busy this fall. They were able to go on two field trips so far. The first trip was to Bookworm Gardens where they explored the gardens and acted out their favorite stories. *The Three Little Pigs* was a class favorite.

They also went to see *Fancy Nancy the Musical* at Lutheran High. It was so much fun to see a cast of all kids their age putting on a great performance.

Another highlight this year was when the firefighters came to talk about fire safety. They gave the kids some great safety tips and a tour of the fire truck and ambulance.

The students also look forward to reading partners every Wednesday. They have been making some great friendships with the reading partners and have been improving their reading along the way.

The second-grade class has been working hard on academics, too. They are learning how to add and subtract two-digit numbers as well as solve word problems. They practiced their first Reader's Theater and learned the difference between nouns and verbs. In religion, they have been learning about the Israelites and their journey through the wilderness.

We have had a fun start to the year and the second graders are also looking forward to some exciting things coming up in November. They will be creating ornaments for the Bethlehem tree at the Sheboygan County Historical Museum. They will start working on their Advent pieces for their service on December 20th.



November News

LWML ZONE 8 PRESIDENT TO VISIT BETHLEHEM

On Tuesday, November 7th at 7:00pm in the Century Room, the Bethlehem LWML will welcome zone president Hannah Schultz. She will share her experiences as a delegate to the national LWML convention, which was held in Milwaukee this past June and was attended by over 3,000 women. Hear her first-person account. You might be surprised at what you discover about the wide scope of LWML on a national basis.

ARE YOU GETTING THE FULL "COMMUNITY OF FAITH" EXPERIENCE?

Try this check list:

1. Do you get to weekly worship services on a regular basis?
2. Do you avail yourself of at least one of the excellent adult Bible classes your church offers on Saturday evenings, Sunday mornings, and Monday evenings?
3. Do your children attend Bethlehem Lutheran School? Sunday School? Youth Bible study? Youth Group activities?
4. Do you and your family go to fellowship events at church?
5. If you're a Sunday worshipper, do you attend coffee hour in between services and chat with your fellow worshippers?

How did you do with the check list? If you found a few things missing, you're not getting full value from your Bethlehem experience. Get involved! Stay involved! Join us!

FAMILY FELLOWSHIP EVENT

The Cornhole Tournament will be held on Saturday, November 4th, beginning at 6:00pm.

The event will be held in the school gym.

The event is free and open to school and church members of all ages.

A free will offering will be taken. Light snacks and drinks will be provided.

ALL SAINTS DAY CONCERT

St. John Lutheran, 824 Fredonia Ave., Fredonia, WI — November 5th at 1:00pm

Join us for a choral and instrumental concert, featuring Concordia University Wisconsin's Kammerchor choir, directed by Dr. Alexa Doebele.

A free will offering to benefit the St. John music program is suggested.

CALLING ALL SHOPPERS!

Bethlehem's annual Craft & Vendor Fair is coming up! Pay the \$2 entry fee and then shop the **over 50** crafters and vendors. Enjoy breakfast and lunch items in the cafeteria. Save room for the bake sale! This event takes place on Saturday, November 11th from 9:00am-2:00pm.

SHEBOYGAN LUTHERAN PRESENTS: A MURDER MIS-STORY

November 10th & 11th @ 7:00pm.

Join us in the Performing Arts Center at Sheboygan Lutheran High School for an interactive mystery dinner theater that everyone is dying to see! Written by the cast of the LHS drama department and directed by Rachel Thuermer, this 'whodunit' experience includes a 3-course Italian dinner in the thick of the plot.

Seating is limited! \$15/person (includes dinner; beverages will be available for purchase).

Tickets are available at lutheranhigh.com/pac. The evening is ideal for ages 10+.

GERMAN RUSSIAN MEETING

The Sheboygan Chapter of the Historical Society of Germans from Russia will be meeting on Saturday, November 11th at 1:00pm in the Trinity Sheboygan Fellowship Hall. Please enter through the north door from the parking lot. The program will include the singing of German Christmas carols and the sharing of family Christmas traditions. Light refreshments will be members' favorite cookies.

Call 920-452-9434 with questions.

More Nov. News

2023 SHEBOYGAN COUNTY CAREGIVER CONFERENCE

The conference will be held on Thursday, November 16th from 8:30am-3:30pm, at Acuity in Sheboygan. Take a look at the flyer posted in the Century Room for more details.

GIFTS FOR SEMINARY STUDENTS

The Board of Stewardship and the Board of Social Ministry are teaming up to invite you to participate in a giving project. Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, IN (our own Pastor Hanson's stomping grounds) runs a Christmas Marketplace, where seminary students are gifted quilts, gift cards and other gifts. Join us in donating a gift card or two! Gift cards should be in increments no greater than \$25.

Some suggested merchants/gas/restaurants are Walmart, Target, Meijer, Kohl's, BP, Wendy's, McDonald's, Pizza Hut, Texas Roadhouse or Buffalo Wild Wings. Don't forget that you can purchase these through Bethlehem's SCRIP program. For your convenience, cards purchased through the SCRIP program can be left with the SCRIP sellers. Otherwise, please bring all donated gift cards to the church office (in a sealed envelope) by the November 19th deadline.

Questions? Contact Brenda Kanz at 920-912-3086.

A MESSAGE FROM READING PARTNERS

If you are interested in reading with the 5K-3rd grade students, the program is looking for additional volunteers (including substitutes). Reading Partners meet every Wednesday from 1:00-3:00pm.

If you are interested or if you have any questions, contact Judy Heinecke at 920-207-8886.

DECEMBER VISITOR DEADLINE

If you would like to submit information for the December Visitor, please have your information to the church office no later than noon on Thursday, November 16th, 2023. 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.

WELCOMED THROUGH HOLY BAPTISM

Josiah David Bjorn - October 29, 2023

A STEWARDSHIP MESSAGE

"The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it, and all who live in it." Psalm 24:1

Are you a thankful Christian? What exactly are you thankful for? The usual items come to mind, such as time, talent, treasure, family, and friends. Now, dig a bit deeper and realize where all these "things" come from. You would have nothing to be thankful for if not for your Father in heaven.

You have all of the things mentioned above plus the forgiveness of your sins, through the gift of His Son, and you have received the gift of faith through His Holy Spirit. Everything you have, everything you are, and everything you hope to be are gifts from Him for eternity. This Thanksgiving, take time to be by yourself in a quiet place, and thank God in heaven for His presence. The best gift you will receive is His presence in your life.

Now, extend that quiet time with thankfulness to Him not just on Thanksgiving Day, but to every day of your life.



Winter Vendor & Craft Fair

Bethlehem Lutheran School

1121 Georgia Ave, Sheboygan, WI

Saturday, November 11th

9:00—2:00

50+ Vendors & Crafters

Raffles* • Bake Sale

Food & Beverage Concessions

**Get one free raffle ticket with each
\$2 entrance fee*

(purchase additional raffle tickets for \$1 each)

Eliminate shipping delay worries...

SHOP LOCAL for Christmas!

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

PERSONAL INFORMATION CHANGES

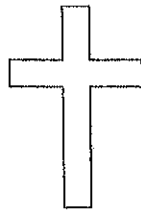
If you have changed your name, address, phone number or email address, please notify the church office with your information. You can call the church office at 920-452-4331 or email amy.weir@ourbethlehem.com with your new/current information. Thank you for your help.

ROOM RESERVATION REMINDER

Just a reminder to make sure that you let the church office know if and when you need to reserve a room so we can be sure that there are no conflicts. Thank you!

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. Scroll down to see a calendar of important items. Find helpful information by clicking on the various tabs under *Church* and *School*.



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 a 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 Bearns
Sandra Fischer
Leonard Johnson
George & Karen Haecker
Jim & Ruth Behrens

Congregational Sponsors

Bev Fischer
Bob & Lori Gottowski
Linda Nikisch
Beverly Bauer
Linda Hulbert-Ertel

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

Advanced Comfort Systems
Irish Roofing
Thrivent / Cesar & Kirsten Lemus

Commercial Sponsors

Boneck Printing
Irish Studios

Irish Hauling
Knier Storage