



**BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN**  
1121 Georgia Avenue, 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/ourbethlehem](http://www.facebook.com/ourbethlehem)

 <https://twitter.com/ourbethlehem>

Rev. J. Patrick Niles  
*Administrative Pastor*

Rev. Colin Moon  
*Associate Pastor*

Patrick Vanic  
*Principal*

**WORSHIP & BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES**

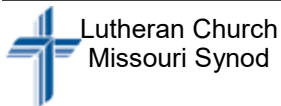
**Worship Times**  
  
Saturday - 5:30pm  
  
Sunday - 8:00am & 10:30am  
  
Wednesday - 6:00pm

**Bible Study**  
  
Sunday Morning  
9:15 to 10:15am

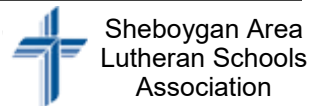
Thanksgiving Worship  
Wednesday, November 25 ~ 6:00pm w/Holy Communion  
Thursday, November 26 ~ 10:00am



**MEMBERSHIP**



Sheboygan Lutheran  
High School  
Association



# November 2020

*Happy Thanksgiving*



## Bethlehem Lutheran Church and School

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 All Saints Day Worship w/HC 8am & 10:30am Bible Class & New Member Class 9:15am Bd Elders 11:45am	2 Bible Class 6:30pm	3 LWML 7pm	4 Public School Confirmation 3:30pm Worship 6pm Church Bulletin Deadline Noon	5	6	7 BLS Online Auction Worship w/HC 5:30pm
8 Worship 8am Bible Class & New Member Class 9:15am Worship w/HC 10:30am Jr Youth Group 5pm Sr Youth Group 6pm	9 Bible Class 6:30pm	10	11 Church Bulletin Deadline Noon Public School Confirmation 3:30pm Worship w/HC 6pm PTL 7pm – Lib Parish Planning 7pm - CR	12	13 No School	14 Altar Guild Meeting 9:30am Worship 5:30pm
15 Worship w/HC 8am Bible Class & New Member Class 9:15am Worship 10:30am	16 Bible Class 6:30pm Board Christian Day School 7pm	17	18 Church Bulletin & December Visitor Deadline Noon Public School Confirmation 3:30pm Worship 6pm Voter's Meeting 7pm	19	20	21 Worship w/HC 5:30pm
22 Worship 8am Bible Class & New Member Class 9:15am Worship w/HC 10:30am Jr Youth Group 5pm Sr Youth Group 6pm	23 Church Bulletin Deadline Noon Bible Class 6:30pm	24 Board of Parish Ed 6pm - Lib	25 Thanksgiving Eve Worship w/HC 6:00pm No School	26 Thanksgiving Day Worship 10am No School	27 No School	28 Worship 5:30pm
29 Worship 8am & 10:30am Bible Class 9:15am	30					

Check for the most updated information on the Bethlehem website at [www.ourbethlehem.com](http://www.ourbethlehem.com)

# The Bethlehem Visitor - November 2020

## The Life that God Assigned You!

*“Only let each person lead the life that the Lord has assigned to him, and to which God has called him. This is my rule in all the churches.”  
(1 Corinthians 7:17)*

When we pastors talk about stewardship, it is easy for us to think “Oh boy... here we go again! Asking for money!” It is easy for us to fall into the trap that the devil, the world, and our sinful nature sets for us. This trap is to make us think that all we have in life is of our own making. I earn my money. I buy my stuff. I have worked for this. I... I... I.... However, the Biblical view of stewardship does not focus only on money. The Biblical view of stewardship does not focus on our material possessions. The Biblical view of stewardship focuses on our lives. Are we seeking to live the life that God has assigned and called us to live? That is the question of stewardship. It focuses on our various callings or vocations.

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 Son of God who loved us and gave Himself for us.



Over the course of November, we are going to be focusing on these vocations and blessings that God gives to us, and how we are stewards of our lives (time, talents, and treasures). This year, we will, once again, be urging ourselves to take another step in the right direction of service to our neighbors and our God! May God bless this journey as He continues to call, gather, enlighten and keep us with the Gospel!

In Christ,  
Pastor Niles

## *From the Desk of Pastor Moon*

### Thankfulness

Pumpkin Pie for breakfast on Black Friday might be the greatest tradition of all time. Maybe I'm biased because Pumpkin is my favorite kind of pie. Nevertheless, the morning after we have all filled ourselves with turkey, mashed potatoes, and gravy comes something that I cherish very dearly. I hope you will cherish this following idea: We have so much to be thankful for in this life.

Many families go around the table for thanksgiving and mention one thing they are thankful for before they dive into the yearly feast. I have grown to like this practice more and more over the years. As a child it was just one more thing that came between me and that delicious meal. Now it is a chance for me to actually sit for a moment a think about everything I have been given.

The shift started to happen in High School as the words of Luther, in his explanation to the first article of the Apostles' Creed, would resonate in my head. God has given me my eyes, ears, and all my members, my reason and all my senses. I can be thankful that I have been given a body that works! (for the most part) He also richly provides all I need for this body and life. I may not have grown up in a mansion, but I could be thankful for the things I did have. I was always fed, I was always clothed (some days more stylishly than others), and I even had more toys, books, and games than I had time to enjoy them.

Then I went off to college and my understanding of thanksgiving went even deeper. I was away from my family for nearly 3 months and I missed going home to see them at dinner time. I was making new friends, but I certainly missed old ones. I came home for Thanksgiving as a college freshman and Luther's 1st article explanation still resonated, but Paul's words to the Philippian church started to resonate even louder than Luther.

Philippians 1:3-5 I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now.

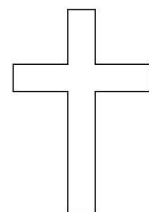
It's the people in our life that we should be most thankful for. As a kid, having to wait at the dinner table looking at all the delicious food while my family adult family members said they were thankful for family and friends typically made me roll my eyes. But they were right all along. Family and friends are the greatest blessings we could ever receive.

I became a father just recently and the perspective I now have isn't all that different than it has been around the thanksgiving dinner table in recent years. The big difference is that I remember to be thankful more often.

In this month of thanksgiving, this is my encouragement to you: be thankful out loud. Tell your family and friends that you are thankful for having them in your life. In your prayers, remember those who remain partners in the Gospel. They are a wonderful blessing from God.

Peace of the Lord,

Pastor Moon



# November News



Announcing the Arrival of  
Zoey Marie Moon  
Born on October 6, 2020  
8lbs 2oz



Congratulations Pastor Moon and Emily

## Next 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 Wednesday, November 18, 2020. You can email it to [jodi.damrau@ourbethlehem.com](mailto:jodi.damrau@ourbethlehem.com) or drop it off in the church office with a note attached that it is for the December *Visitor*.

## Church Office Hours

Effective Monday, November 2 the church secretary office hours will be 8am-2pm Monday through Friday.

## Youth Group Upcoming Dates

Jr and Sr youth groups please mark your calendars for November 8th and 22nd as these will be the next meeting dates. The Jr Youth meets with Pastor Moon from 5-6pm and the Sr Youth meets with Miss Rinkinen from 6-7pm. If you have any questions about Jr youth contact Pastor Moon at [colin.moon@ourbethlehem.com](mailto:colin.moon@ourbethlehem.com), any questions about Sr youth contact Miss Rinkinen at [jenna.rinkinen@ourbethlehem.com](mailto:jenna.rinkinen@ourbethlehem.com).

## Altar Guild Meeting

Attention Altar Guild Ladies ~ your presence would greatly be appreciated at the next Altar Guild meeting on Saturday, November 14 at 9:30am.

## Voters Meeting

A Voters Meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 18 at 7pm. The primary item of business will be ratification of the 2021 budget.

## Weekend Scrip Sales Returning

Beginning the weekend of November 7/8 we are going to resume Scrip weekend sales on Saturdays after the 5:30pm service and Sundays between services - approximately 9:15 to 10:15am. Please be advised that the sales will take place by the church office window and you MUST follow the CDC guidelines given in order for this to work. This means that you must have a mask on and stay 6 ft. apart from the person in front or behind you. You will place your order at the window and once you get your order will proceed through the church office and exit through the Work Room door. Please be patient as our volunteers are adjusting to the new procedures.

## Bethlehem Mission Quilters

Our quilters groups has now finished our 6th year in October. We are temporarily unable to meet together in the Century Room. But a number of ladies are working individually at home, on various parts of the quilt making process, and returning the results to Bethlehem. In October, we donated a total of 86 twin size quilts to Lutheran World Relief, Salvation Army, Bethlehem Social Concerns and Bethlehem Auction. We also gave 26 baby quilts to a local baby ministry. We thank Bethlehem congregation members for their donations of supplies - fabric, sheets, thread, yarn, blankets. And we thank Thrivent for their Action Team program, providing us with money to purchase any additional needed quilting supplies. Please continue your generous donations, so that we can continue to turn them into quilts to keep the need warm.



## LWML Info

VOTE for Christian women gathering together!

VOTE for collecting money for missions both locally and around the world!

VOTE for praying for those in need!

VOTE for serving the Lord with gladness!

VOTE for LWML by attending our next meeting on Tuesday, November 3rd at 7:00pm in the Century Room!





# November News Con't



## **What is the Bethlehem Grief Ministry?**

The Bethlehem Grief Ministry is designed to help our congregation members cope with feelings of sadness and grief that often linger for quite awhile following the death of a close family member. A group of dedicated volunteers sends a series of books to the bereaved over the course of the first year following the loss. The author of this inspirational material is the founder of Stephen Ministries - a program which trains laypersons to be compassionate listeners and helpers to anyone experiencing serious trouble in their life. The Grief Ministry is conducted completely by mail. About three weeks after death, the bereaved receives a book entitled "A Time to Grieve." Three months after death a second book is sent, entitled "Experiencing Grief." At the six month mark the book is "Finding Hope and Healing" and eleven months after death the final mailing is "Rebuilding and Remembering." Each book is accompanied by a pre-written letter explaining that the material is sent with the loving concern of the bereaved faith community, Bethlehem Lutheran Church. We have found that the books are a loving reminder that their church hasn't forgotten them in their time of need.

If you would like to join our team of book senders, contact Yolanda Graf at 920-254-7634 or email jimyograf@charter.net for more information. Men or women: here's a ministry you can do on your own schedule and from the comfort of home. Can you help?

## **Information from Social Ministry regarding Food Donations and the Angel Tree**

*Food Donations* ~ Our yearly food drive is underway! Place donations in the basket in the Century Room or the food barrel at the back of church. If you are in need of other arrangements please call Pam Crneckiy and leave a message at 920-980-3659. We are so thankful that donations are still coming in from the congregation and school families. Due to COVID-19 we now need to ask for closed packages. We will be unable to accept open packages of food items and toiletries. All donations need to be in a sealed package, including toilet paper or paper towels. Our Board would like to thank everyone for their generous donations to help our church families and to share with other food pantries in the community. This is a wonderful community outreach project for our board. You truly are making a difference in the lives of families who are in need that have lost employment or under employed, and trying to make ends meet. As always if you know of a family who might need some assistance, please call the church office or Cheryl Senkbeil at 920-980-9427. This information is confidential and we will reach out to the family.

*Social Ministry Angel Board* ~ Due to COVID and all the changes of the world we are going to try to have an Angel Board this year but different than we've ever had. This year the need seems greater than ever before and we are looking for gift cards from any grocery store, gas station, Walmart, Target and Kohls. For the safety and welfare of all we will not be making house calls this year but we are hoping to give the families gift cards so that they can do their own shopping for their family. We know that all do not like buying gift cards but we feel this is the best way to handle the situation. Please prayerfully consider this alternative for the 2020 Christmas season. Cards can be put in the collection plate or mailed to the church office. Please mark Social Ministry on the envelope. We ask that the cards be submitted no later than December 13, 2020. Stay safe and stay healthy. If you have any questions call Cheryl Senkbeil at 920-980-9427 or Pam Crneckiy at 920-980-3659 and leave a message.

*Kohl's Cares Children's Books* ~ Since the Angel Board is changing due to COVID this year, we thought for anyone looking to purchase a small gift, to think about maybe going to Kohls and purchasing one of their Kohl's Cares children's books with the matching stuffed animal. They are \$5 each. For \$10 you have a small gift for a young child, to read and cuddle with the family. Reading is a great way for family togetherness at this frustrating and somewhat frightening time for young children. Please prayerfully consider this option. Thank you for the support of the congregation, you truly help enrich the lives of those served by Social Ministry. If you have any questions please call Pam Crneckiy at 920-980-3659 and leave a message. Blessings to all!

## **Free Turkey Dinner Notice**

All are invited to this event! Once again a Free turkey dinner on Thanksgiving Day is being offered to all. Although this event is free to all, cash donations will be accepted. Location is at Immaculate Conception Parish Hall, 2722 Henry St., Sheboygan from 11am-2pm. Due to Covid19 concerns, all meals are curbside pickup only - no dine in. No reservations required. The free Thanksgiving Dinner committee greatly appreciates the generosity of so many who provided pies and volunteered to help feed our community over the years. Due to the safety concerns presented by Covid-19, we are not taking volunteers or pies this year. We have moved to a curbside pickup format with no dine-in option, so we need fewer people to run the event and we will only be serving commercially prepared pies this year.

## **Thanksgiving Worship**

**Wednesday, November 25 ~ 6:00pm w/Holy Communion**

**Thursday, November 26 ~ 10:00am**

# November News Con't



## **Sunday School Update**

Sunday School is planning to resume as a movie (individually bagged snacks) or craft (individually bagged parts) opportunity in the Cafeteria if possible, November 8th. We will be following all guidelines of the times, however parents should be responsible in deciding whether or not their children should attend. For those parents interested, I can email you the status each Sunday, if you email me at [ljlienau@hotmail.com](mailto:ljlienau@hotmail.com). Sunday School will supply a monthly box/bag of activities for all children 3K-8th grade including 4 weekly lessons. The November bags will be available October 31, outside the church office for pickup, one per child please. There will also be a form on the bag to fill out. Just the name and grade of child so that accurate numbers can be planned each month. If the Sunday School children from last year remember the cool surprises in the brown bag, each week in class, the same fun stuff will be bagged special for them.

## **Evangelism News**

It is time to spread the news, the Evangelism group is starting a "JESUS love YOU" coloring book. The front cover is going to include a part of every colored page submitted. Kids can color the sheep below and submit it or create their own JESUS loves YOU art. Pictures can be dropped off in the Century Room by the coffee hour table, up to Thanksgiving, the box will be removed November 27, 2020.

# My Thanksgiving List

Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name. Psalm 100:4 (NIV)



H K S S J H S K E F I A T S L  
 C T T V T D J C O U N T R Y R  
 M E R L N H A P P I N E S S U  
 P L A E R X D S E I W T T L S  
 Q E I I E R F V C O P S E A C  
 H R J M O S O X L H E U A E H  
 F C R A D L F F O O A N C Y O  
 S P C P A R E N T S C S H L O  
 M B R H E K X I H J E H E F L  
 F U I A U R T N E C F I R R S  
 A H S B Y R A M S Y O N S E F  
 M F O I L E C I T P O E G E N  
 I U T U C E R H N C D D Q D L  
 L O I U S A L V A T I O N O F  
 Y X S R J E S U S V N S G M N

FOOD	FRIENDS	FAMILY	FLOWERS	HAPPINESS
SUNSHINE	PRAYER	HOUSE	SCHOOLS	BIBLE
COUNTRY	CLOTHES	RAIN	HEALTH	LOVE
CHURCH	PEACE	FREEDOM	TEACHERS	PETS
MUSIC	PARENTS	SALVATION	TREES	JESUS



# **IMPORTANT REMINDERS**

## **Pastoral Care**

When you are hospitalized, please notify the church office (or have a family member or friend notify us). Due to privacy laws the hospitals no longer contact the church.

## **Personal Information Changes**

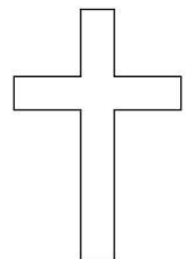
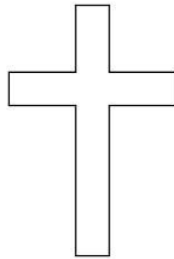
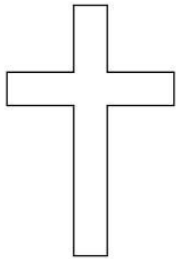
If you have changed your name, address, phone number etc. please notify the church office immediately with your information. You can call the church office at 452-4331 or email [jodi.damrau@ourbethlehem.com](mailto:jodi.damrau@ourbethlehem.com) with your new/current information. Thank you for your help.

## **Room Reservation Reminder For Heads of Boards**

Just a reminder to make sure that you let the church office know ASAP 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.com. Look for updates and information by typing Bethlehem Lutheran School. For more school information, please visit us at our website, [www.ourbethlehem.com](http://www.ourbethlehem.com).



# **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 452-4331.

## **Congregational Sponsors**

Jim & Judy Heinecke  
Bethlehem MusicFest  
Joan Osthelder

Bob & Lori Gottowski  
Leonard Johnson  
Dennis and Nancy Bearns

Cliff & Gail Schlegel  
Bev Fischer  
Sandra Fischer

## **Commercial Sponsors**

Advanced Comfort Systems

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