



**Bethel
Lutheran
Church**

Making Disciples!

May 14, 2020

E-Memo To the Saints

This Sunday, May 17th, the Lord's Supper will be offered again at Bethel Lutheran Church.

This Sunday, May 17th Bethel Lutheran Church will host another "drive up" Holy Communion opportunity.

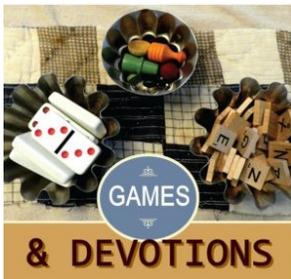
From 10 am to 2 pm we will be offering brief services of the Lord's Supper in socially distanced family groups.

The weather forecast is for rain during this time, so please pay close attention to those working the parking lot who will direct you to new locations so that we can stay dry.

May our Lord Jesus continue to bless us as we remain a congregation who are not yet congregating!

Pr. Eden and Pr. Bard

Go Online to Hear Pastor Bard tell us How this is going to work! <https://boxcast.tv/view/drive-up-holy-communion-2-aae8z3opre5ixrl0pqttd>



Devo and Games Night

Our next Devo and Games night will be held on **May 22nd at 6:00pm**. We will be meeting via Zoom. If you would like to participate please e-mail DCE Jeff

dcejjeff@blcbcs.org to get the zoom contact information.

Sharing Information

These times are difficult. It is difficult to be separated from one another. However, as Christians we know that God is in control. In His hands we find peace. In Jesus we have hope.

With the current restriction of social distancing the Board of Parish Education has wrestled with how to offer Christian encouragement and instruction to our congregation. We are thankful for this Board and the difficult decisions they have had to make. In this effort, I would like to share some of our effort to plan in an ever changing circumstance. We will be reviewing our meeting again in person in August for Bible Study at church.

The Board of Parish Education and myself have sought to continue current online Sunday School offerings. This means that throughout the summer we will continue to offer online Adult Bible Class. Pastor Tim and Myself will be leading a look into the books of Ezra and Nehemiah. Sunday School for children will still be offered online from Mrs. Amanda and Mrs. Connie. Youth, Junior High, and 5th & 6th Grade will continue to meet via zoom during the normal Sunday School hour 10am-11am on Sunday. To access any of the zoom Bible Studies please contact DCE Jeff.

Vacation Bible School

VBS will be offered in a virtual manner this year. We will be creating resource bags for our Preschool – Kindergarten and bags for first through fifth grade. We will have some online content to help assist families in leading crafts and games with their children. These items will be made available in June. Though we are unable to meet in person you may find other ways, as you are comfortable, to make VBS special for your child. If you are willing to assist with putting bags together please contact DCE Jeff.



We are looking into developing small groups. We would see this as an opportunity for increasing fellowship and discussion with one another. I will be sending out an e-mail seeking some people who would like to lead a group discussion. Discussion content could be questions developed from Sunday Bible Class or a small group study. We are hopeful that gathering around the Word of God together will strengthen us in these times while we are separated.

I have been asked a few times, “What can we do?” If you are interested in any of these options please contact DCE Jeff.

- If you would like to be a small group leader
- If you would like to be a tech organizer for small groups, like running a zoom meeting.
- If you are interested in being a substitute for teacher for one of our zoom Sunday School Classes.
- If you would like to help organize our small groups. If you have a desire to be a contact person sharing resources for Bible Studies.

May our Lord Jesus Christ continue to strengthen and encourage us.

Christ’s Peace,
~jeff~ dcejeff@blcbcs.org

LCMS Stewardship Ministry

Newsletter Article – May 2020

Our Savior calls us to follow Him in generosity. “For I have given you an example, that you also should do just as I have done to you.” (John 13:15) We cannot give our lives for the salvation of the world, of course. Praise God – that job’s already done!

But with hearts full of thanksgiving for what Jesus has given us, we can follow Jesus’ example of generous giving. And this is not merely an example alone. It’s also our Lord’s command. “The one who contributes, (let him give) in generosity.” (Rom. 12:8)

So, when we give to help others who are in need, and when we bring offerings to the Lord, we should strive to heed His command and follow the pattern He has established for us. Jesus did not give us leftovers. He gave His best. So, we should not give leftovers, either, but the first and best of what He has given us. Jesus did not give as an afterthought, but according to the plan of salvation God established from the foundation of the world.

So, when it comes to our offerings to the Lord, we should make a thoughtful plan to give generously, in proportion to the way He has blessed us. Like the Macedonian Christians, who gave according to their ability – and even beyond their ability (2 Cor. 8:3) – we can and should give a generous portion of the income that God provides us to honor the Lord.

So also, we should give freely, just as Jesus gave freely for us. There is no compulsion involved in our works of love and our offerings to the Lord. Nor do we give grudgingly. We should give freely and cheerfully because we want to out of thanksgiving. “Each as he purposes in his heart,” as the Lord says. (2 Cor. 9:7) There is no New Testament ceremonial law involved here. Rather, we are free to give as generously as our Savior has given for us.

In the same way, our Lord teaches us to give generously out of love – love for Him and for our neighbor. Genuine love is always love in deed (1 John 3:18), love such as Jesus showed us all. It is love that sees our neighbor in need and gives generously to help him. It is love that hears the Word of the Lord and does what it says. If we truly love, we give generously. If we give without love, our giving is not truly following Jesus.

Finally, we follow Jesus in generosity when we give for a good purpose to thank the Lord and support His gospel ministry and other works of mercy. The people of Israel gave generously for the service of God’s gospel purposes, to construct and support the operation of the tabernacle. For that was the place where the Lord received the Old Testament sacrifices, through which He bestowed the forgiveness of sins on His people. So, they gave abundantly – so abundantly that they had to be told to stop giving. (Ex. 36:5-6)

In the same way, we should bring generous offerings to support the Lord’s work of bestowing His gifts of forgiveness, life, and salvation in our congregations through the preaching and teaching of His Word, Baptism, and the Lord’s Supper. We should support the Lord’s work of caring for those who are poor and needy.

Our Savior calls us to follow His example in generous giving. Let us then, with thankful hearts, rededicate ourselves to following Him in generosity.

“Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing”

I Thessalonians 5:11

The Board of Witness and Outreach is taking up a collection of cards, letters, crafts and activities for our Bethel family shut-ins at this difficult time. Our beloved shut-ins have been isolated from their families and loved ones for a long time now and it is time to send them some cheer! We have now gotten a taste of what their lives are like day in/day out and we know how hard it is to be isolated from others. What they are dealing with is even harder because they can't physically interact with any of their loved ones at all!

Ways you can help:

- make a card or write a letter. It can be to a specific shut-in(s) or in general.
- put together a care package with a card and some activities or crafts for them.
- send them a scripture card or church bulletin to inspire them to continue to hope in the Lord

Examples of activities/crafts (not the only things you can give, just ideas):

- puzzle
- Sudoku, crossword etc
- Magazines
- a newspaper
- a book
- a music CD with a player
- a craft like mosaic cross, beaded jewelry, coloring book and colors, pottery making, cross stitch, paint book, yarn to make a yarn doll, etc.
- a plant or seeds to grow and a pot
- pictures of past church events with some shared memories
- a small, musical instrument like a harmonica or flute
- NO food items please



Get creative! Pray over your donation and for the person it is going to. Get the kids involved!

Where and when to take your donation: Drop off your items at the church. There will be a table set up right outside of the church office and you can enter through the door on the Boonville side of the church between 10:00am-4:00pm M-F. **PLEASE DROP OFF YOUR DONATIONS BY SUNDAY, MAY 17th!** *And THANK YOU for giving some love to our dearest!*

YOU CAN HELP



Brazos Church Pantry

May Food Drive

May is Bethel's month to hold a Food Drive for Brazos Church Pantry. We are collecting for this Food Drive.

You may bring your food items to the church and we will gather them in the narthex by the office door. Office hours are different now. But someone should be here between 10am and 4pm. Thank you.

Hope Pregnancy Center

All of the items on the May 19th Baby Shower list have been bought.

However, they are in need of things to keep their "closet" stocked for benevolence and class rewards. Right now, they need: **diapers of any size, wipes, bottles, formula, and hygiene items.**

You may bring your items to the church and come in the office doors off Boonville Dr., 10am – 4pm.



Virtual Baby Bottle Boomerang

We want everyone's life to be safe, happy, and healthy - especially during times like these. So this year's Baby Bottle Boomerang campaign has moved online!

<https://secure.ministrysync.com/ministrysync/event/website/home/?e=20213>

DON'T FORGET! We are . . .

- Live Streaming – Sunday worship at 8:30 & 11:15, Also videos of Adult Bible Study and Children's Sunday School. And ZOOM encounter for the Youth Group.
- Live Streaming Tuesday Ladies Bible Study – At our regular time on Tuesdays.
- Providing Confirmation for the Youth by video or ZOOM. We will let you all know when we will have Confirmation Sunday.
- Providing Men's Friday Morning Bible Study Group by ZOOM. Contact Marty Criswell.
- Providing Men's Monday Evening Bible Study Group by ZOOM. Contact George McIlhaney.
- Our Boards are meeting through ZOOM or at church (practicing social distancing).
- Also, Pastor Eden continues to have his *Daily Briefing from God's Word* available on Facebook and our website. So, don't forget to tune into that each day of the week.

If you or someone you know would like a DVD of the services, please call 822-2742 or email us at office@blcbcs.org.

Happy Birthday!!

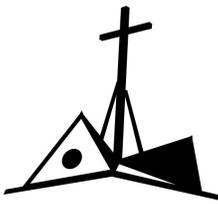
May

Our Bethel Family

Charlie Coble	1	Michael Clark	12	Henry Nettles	21
Stephanie Goehring	1	Kallie Markert	12	Ben Ehlers	22
Garrett Kuhlmann	1	Dan Scholz	12	Katy Hoffman	23
Theiss Cumbie	2	Ruthie Bard	13	Pastor Randy Bard	24
Nathaniel Jungklaus	2	Art Herwald	13	Sarah Bellach	24
Dawn Spence	2	George Lubber	14	Michael Clark	24
Hannah Jackson	3	Tara Nipps	14	Faith Clark	24
Madison Rutledge	3	Kenslee Palasota	14	Cidnie Amann	26
Tucker Jackson	4	Scott Kronstedt	15	Virginia Becker	26
Sara Galow	5	Michael Zucker	15	Kamryn Crocker	26
Leann Jones	5	Jennifer Bolting	16	Leonard Fritsche	26
Sally Olson	5	Nathan Sinclair	17	Sylvia Kraeft	26
Sarah Wilson	5	Mason Smith	17	Heather Clark	27
Wayne Beesaw	6	Jim Wuthrich	17	Kristin Paholek	27
Bendyl Dunkin	6	Katie Ellison	18	Brittney Samford	27
Tim Kappler	6	Josh Addison	19	Andrew Jungklaus	28
Presley Luckey	6	Eric Jones	19	Beverly Catalina	29
Molly Wilder	6	Timothy Eden	20	Connie Silber	29
Sophi Anderson	9	Kamryn Frenzel	20	Lauren Hightower	30
Annemarie Hoffzimmer	9	Mardell Byer	21	Jenna Beyer	31
Wade Douget	10	Cullen Galow	21	Amanda Pannkuk	31
Alex Janda	10	Richard Hammerness	21	Kaylie Scheffler	31
Kelly Montgomery	11	Laura Lawrenz	21		

THE LUTHERAN HOUR is on KAGC, 1510 AM on Sundays at 12:30 p.m. sponsored by Bethel.

Thank you to David & Rita Baumann for sponsoring it for the month of May.



Bethel Lutheran Church

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Staff:

Rev. Randall Bard, Senior Pastor, (979) 422-0046

Rev. Tim Eden, Associate Pastor

Mr. Jeff Bellach, Director of Christian Education

Mrs. Debbie Sadler, Dir., Bethel Lutheran Preschool

Mrs. Kathy Herwald, Director of Operations

Rev. K. Lynn Stroud, Pastor Emeritus

Mr. Randall Moerbe, DCE Emeritus

Mrs. Ruthann Stroud, Church Secretary

Mrs. Connie Bard, Children's Ministry Coordinator

Mr. Nic Duncan, Facilities Manager

Mrs. Katie Bentley, Office Assistant

Mr. Jeremy Shilling, *His Praise* Band Leader

May 14, 2020



Join Us Online at

www.blcbs.org

We are Live Streaming our
Sunday Morning Worship
Sunday Adult Bible Class
Children's Sunday School