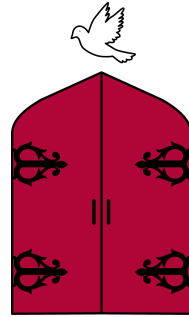


[View this email in your browser](#)



Bethlehem Lutheran Church e-Blaze for December 19, 2024

Office Hours: Tuesday - Friday 9:30am - 3:30pm

317-283-6559

This Sunday: Faith Formation, Kid's Christmas Play, Hanging of the Greens. Please join us at 10:30 for the Kid's Christmas play that will take place during the worship service. Immediately following, all who can stay will "Hang the Greens," decorating the church for Christmas. Many hands make light work!

General Operating Net Income Update and Appeal

As of November 30, 2024, net income for Bethlehem's general operating fund for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2025 was (\$35,742), which is a negative figure. Actual receipts for the period were \$127,844 as compared to budgeted receipts of \$169,278. Actual expenses for the fiscal year were \$163,586 as compared to budgeted expenses of \$169,278. The main driver of the negative net income figure was smaller giving totals of \$17,270 in October and \$12,013 in November. We need pledges and offerings of \$33,206 per month to be on budget. This amounts to \$7,663 per week.

Please check your funds available and consider additional giving. Regular giving is most helpful for meeting monthly expenses, and this can be automated via VANCO or your bank's bill paying service.

Thank you for your financial support of the ministries here at Bethlehem.
Bill Slover, Finance/Endowment Ministry

Christmas Eve: One lector for 10:30 pm service, an acolyte for 7:30 pm and an acolyte or worship assistant for 10:30 pm service are needed. Please contact [Nancy](#) ASAP if you can help. Thanks!!



How to Give Gifts of Securities to Bethlehem

Bethlehem uses LPL Financial as the broker for managing security donations. Below is the information you need to donate shares to Bethlehem.

For calendar year-end gifts, please initiate your donation well in advance of December 31st to allow time for processing and settlement. The securities must be received in Bethlehem's LPL account on or before December 31st for your tax purposes in 2024.

Data Required:

- DTC: 0075
- Account Titled to: Bethlehem Lutheran Church
- Account Number: 1483-0905

Please opt-in to have the transaction identified with your name so we know who is sending it

- Investment Representative: [Mike Harper](#) 317-584-3126

Please send Nancy Slover, [Parish Assistant](#), a letter or email explaining how to use your gift. If no donor is included in the transaction, we will not know who donated. Nancy will acknowledge your gift by written letter.

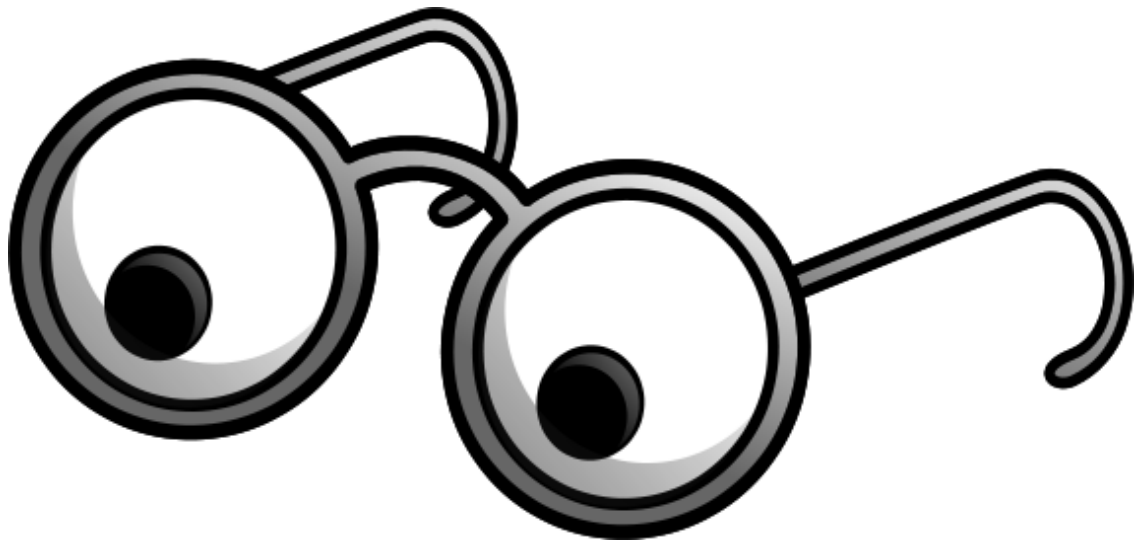
Contact [Barb Alder](#) or [Bill Slover](#), Finance Ministry with questions.



A special thanks to Beth Tysklind and all the "saints" who made St. Lucia Sunday a great day. A special shout-out to Antonio Ladrón de Guevara for a fantastic St. Lucia. We couldn't continue the Sunday fellowship time with the support of all of you.

Thanks again. Merry Christmas.

Jennifer Scharbrough, council fellowship representative



Service Sunday project on January 5

We partner with the Lion's Club and are collecting and sorting eyeglasses for mission trips across the world. Their last mission trip was to Mexico, pre-Covid, where 43 volunteers took 65,000 pairs of eyeglasses and fit 9,000 glasses in one week. As you're doing your new year's cleaning, collect those old eyeglasses that have been hiding in the back of drawers to bring to church on January 5.

Jelly Drive

Peanut Butter is missing its best friend! Did you know that Cathedral Kitchen gets lots of donated peanut butter but sadly is low on jelly? Bethlehem will be collecting jars and bottles of jelly from now through the end of the month. Please purchase a container or two of your favorite strawberry, grape, or other flavor jelly, and place them in the box labeled "Jelly Drive" in the hallway. Thanks for your generous support!



Young Adult in Global Mission: [Madeline](#)

Madeline sent a new update last week: you can read it [here](#). Thank you!



The **YIG Pantry** is running dangerously low on food for the LGBTQ+ youth that we serve. Can you support Indy's LGBTQ+ Youth by ordering much-needed items from our Amazon Wishlist. Click the [here](#) to order for a list of their most-needed items. If you would like to drop donations, you may do so M=F 10am-3pm at 3733 North Meridian St., 46208 or in the bins at BLC outside the church office.



If you have any questions about Stephen Ministry training and caregiving, please contact [Pastor Ken Ranos](#), [Abbi Todd](#), 253.905.3148, or [Shari Watts](#), 317.753.7323 for a confidential conversation.



Can you find this week's shields?

22 December 2024: Fourth Sunday of Advent — "The Passover", violet (blue)

The door lintel and jambs smeared with blood represent God's protection of the Hebrews from the angel of death.

25 December 2024: Nativity of Our Lord — "Christmas Manger", white

This symbolizes the Lord's nativity.

26 December 2024: Stephen, Deacon and Martyr — "St. Stephen", red

Falsely accused of blasphemy, St. Stephen was stoned to death in the first century CE (Acts 7). The symbol of this first Christian martyr is a coat and three stones.

Ask The Pastor

Got questions about religion, Christianity, faith, church history, theology, worship, etc.? Send your questions to [Pastor Ken](#) and you'll find your answer featured in the weekly e-Blaze newsletter!



BLC Members: Roger Gregory, Mike Smith

Family of members: Carol Boyd, Chris Burke, Steve Clark, Melanie Cochran, Rich Grady, Rick Graverson, Eric Hanson, Sam Hazlett, Adam Hege, Kurt Hofbauer, Deby Koss, Jim Kovach, Heather Patrick, Jeremiah Ray, David Schmidt, Robin Serafin, Steve Smith, Barry Storlie

Friends of members: Kristin Colber-Baker, Jeannie Galbreath, Stacey Keaffaber, Rosie Kepple, Lori, George L., Deda M., Margo, Lynn Medley, Monica, Joseph Morone, Miss Perez, Werner Reicken, Jane & Jim Reinhart, Linda Ruisz, Wayne Russell, Judy Williams

We offer our condolences to the friends and family of Brooke Feister O'Brien on

her passing. Brooke was a former, long-time member of Bethlehem.

[Let us know](#) if you'd like to add/remove someone.

Upcoming Birthdays

12/19 Tonya Bergeson, Bill Slover
12/23 Micheal Smith, Milo Kaser
12/24 Katie Harber, Raymond Horn

Upcoming Anniversaries

What's happening this week?

TODAY, December 19, 2024

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

SUNDAY, December 22, 2024

7:30 am Holy Communion (Spoken)

9:00 am Faith Formation: Play practice

10:30 am Holy Communion (Live & Streamed-YouTube)

MONDAY

TUESDAY

7:30 pm Nativity of Our Lord: Lessons & Carols (Live & Streamed – YouTube)

9:00 pm Cookie Reception

10:30 pm Nativity of Our Lord: Holy Communion (Live & Streamed – YouTube)

WEDNESDAY

Merry Christmas!

NEXT THURSDAY, December 26, 2024

10:00 am e-Blaze arrives

[Church Calendar](#)

Serving This Sunday (Dec. 22nd)

Acolyte - Kingston Queck
Worship Assistant - Gunnar Queck

Serving Next Sunday (Dec. 29th)

Acolyte - James Queck
Lector - Carl Crabiel

Lector - Phoebe Tatum
Advent Wreath - Beatty family
Children's Sermon - none
Communion Assistant - Lucia
Ladrón de Guevara
Communion Prep - *needed*
A/V - Nancy Slover
Usher - Logan & Dylan Boddy
Counters - G. Price & B. Alder

Children's Sermon - Susie Swenson
A/V - Nancy Slover
Usher - *needed*
Counters - G. Price & B. Alder

If you can help with any of these upcoming services please contact the [office](#)!

Worship With Us

Sunday in-person Worship at 10:30 am

Click [here](#) for 10:30 am Live-Stream

Nativity of Our Lord: Lessons & Carols in-person

Click [here](#) for Dec. 24th 7:30 pm Live-Stream

Nativity of Our Lord: Holy Communion in-person

Click [here](#) for Dec. 24th 10:30 pm Live-Stream

[Click here](#) to access BLC's YouTube channel

Got something to add to the e-Blaze? The deadline to [submit articles](#)
is every Wednesday at noon!

Bethlehem Lutheran Church.

Created to...

**connect.
grow.
serve.**



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