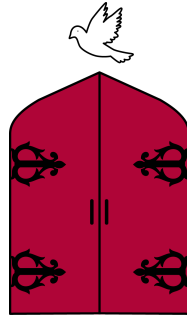


[View this email in your browser](#)



Bethlehem Lutheran Church e-Blaze for January 23, 2025  
Office Hours: Tuesday - Friday 9:30am - 3:30pm  
317-283-6559

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**This Sunday** is Faith Formation: Jesus Goes to Nazareth, Luke 4:14-30.

**Funeral Services for Betsy Davis:** Betsy's visitation is on **Saturday, 25 January**, at **Flanner Buchanan - Broad Ripple**, 1305 E Broad Ripple Ave, Indianapolis, from 9:00 - 10:30 am. The funeral will be immediately after **at 10:30 am**, with a burial for family members to follow. Betsy's obituary can be found [here](#).



**Join us for Service Sunday** on February 2nd at 9:00 for a service project helping Indy Urban Acres (IUA), a local non-profit urban farm started in 2011 that harvests 60,000 pounds of produce annually at four sites and distributes all of its produce to local community partners that serve individuals experiencing food insecurity. IUA serves 250 families in need through its farm share veggie box program and also distributes food through 20 distribution partners including Gleaners Food Bank and New Bethel Food Pantry. In addition to growing food for those in need, IUA also grows over 30,000 native plants throughout winter and hosts an annual native plant sale every Spring to help fund this incredible operation. **Our Service Sunday project will help create species tags for the native plants currently being grown in their eastside greenhouse!** More information about IUA and their native plant sale can be found here: [www.iuaplantsale.com](http://www.iuaplantsale.com)



**Join us in February, March and April for Life Learning Sessions!**

In February, March, and April 2025, we invite all Bethlehem adults to expand their understanding of a variety of topics and issues in our new Life Learning sessions, held at Bethlehem from 9:00 AM to 10:00 AM on Faith Formation Sundays, the second and fourth Sundays of each of these three months.

Get ready for impactful experiences on **February 9th** and **February 23rd** as we welcome our Indiana-Kentucky Synod disaster coordinator, Jayme Beneker. Jayme will guide us through interactive discussions in her first session and hands-on activities in the second that explain the cycle of disasters, delve into emergency preparation suggestions, and point to which responses to embrace and which to avoid.

Take this opportunity to learn and collaborate with fellow Bethlehem members and guests as we explore how to make a meaningful impact. Please mark your calendar and join us for these informative sessions. Watch the Blaze for upcoming descriptions of the March and April sessions.

Contact Susie Swenson, 317-251-1605 or [sgswenson@comcast.net](mailto:sgswenson@comcast.net) if you have questions or would like additional information.



Bethlehem Lutheran Church

# BINGO & Karaoke



Sunday, February 2nd  
Immediately following 10:30 Worship  
Pizza provided. Bring a side to share.

Prizes!  
Food!  
Fellowship!

This is an overdue **note of thanks** for all those helpers that made our church look so beautiful again this year over the Christmas season. The sanctuary has the most magical look of Christmas that is a gift for all of us and our guests to enjoy for several Sundays. The sanctuary does not get decorated by itself and we just wanted to say thank you to all those who spent time out their day to help assemble and disassemble this most wonderful treat of the holiday season. Thank you, Erik and Beth Tyskland. (And we are sure so many others!)



**Updated Directory:** Do you need an updated directory? There are a few, printed and available for taking. They are located outside the main office.

**Sharing Books** - the women's reading group meets on the second Monday each month at 7pm (for about an hour.) We choose one book per month to read as a group, share books we have read individually that might be of interest to others, and enjoy a small snack as we get to know each other a bit better. We invite any women of Bethlehem to join us. Below are the books we have chosen for the first quarter.

February 10 - So Late in the Day by Claire Keegan

March 10 - The Five Wishes of Mr Murray McBride by Joe Siple

April 14 - The Women by Kristin Hannah

Hint: put your holds in at the library now as the wait lists are long for The Women.

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

Madeline's most recent update: you can read it [here](#).



The **ITYG 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.



**Prayer of Thanksgiving for New Stephen Ministers**

We thank you, God, for our new Stephen Ministers, who have just completed their training and are ready to be commissioned to serve our congregation, Cross and Crown Lutheran and our communities, in your name. We ask you to strengthen their hearts and be with them as they begin this important work of caring for others. Grant them courage and wisdom, and give them gentle hands and discerning ears so that they may bring your care to those who are hurting. In Christ Jesus, we pray. Amen.

**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.**



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## Can you find this week's shield?

26 January 2025: Third Sunday after Epiphany — "Shining Light", white (green)

Represented by the seven branch candlestick or menorah, this symbolizes the church holding the light of the Gospel aloft. The symbolism is based on the Apocalypse.

Festivals for which there are no shields: 25 January 2025: Conversion of Paul

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## 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: Chervyl Leshner (@Hamilton Trace)

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

Friends of members: *Father Michael Barton (friend of John Todd)*, Kristin Colber-Baker, Rosie Kepple, Lori, Deda M., Margo, Monica, Joseph Morone, Miss Perez, Werner Reicken, Jane & Jim Reinhart, Linda Ruisz, Wayne Russell, Judy Williams

*We offer our condolences to the family and friends of Betsy Davis, on her passing.*

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

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## Upcoming Birthdays

1/27 Jenna Beatty, Kari Singleton,  
Benjamin Wood, Tim Wott  
1/29 Lew Harber

## Upcoming Anniversaries

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## What's happening this week?

**TODAY**, January 23, 2025

### FRIDAY

### SATURDAY

9:00 am Visitation for Betsy Davis (Flanner Buchanan - Broad Ripple)

10:30 am Funeral for Betsy Davis (Flanner Buchanan - Broad Ripple)

**SUNDAY**, January 26, 2025

7:30 am Holy Communion (Spoken)

9:00 am Faith Formation

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

### MONDAY

6:00 pm Joint Staff and Ministry Lead Meeting

### TUESDAY

### WEDNESDAY

9:00 am Wednesday Walk (Crown Hill)

12:00 pm e-Blaze submission deadline

6:30 pm Evening Prayer

7:00 pm Wednesday Books

7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal



**NEXT THURSDAY**, January 30, 2025

10:00 am e-Blaze arrives

### [Church Calendar](#)

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#### **Serving This Sunday (Jan. 26th)**

Acolyte - Lucia Ladrón de Guevara  
Lector - Carl Crabiel  
Children's Sermon - Erik Tysklind  
Communion Assistant - Jennifer  
Scharbrough  
Communion Prep - Kaaren  
Rodman  
A/V - Phoebe Tatum  
Usher - Kent Alder  
Counters - B. Slover & K. Alder

#### **Serving Next Sunday (Feb. 2nd)**

Acolyte - Levon Evans  
Lector - Lori VanEvery  
Children's Sermon - Natalie Goss  
Communion Assistant -  
Communion Prep -  
A/V - Nancy Slover  
Usher - Erik Tysklind  
Counters - N. Slover & J.  
Scharbrough

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

Wednesday Evening Prayer in-person at 6:30 pm  
Click [here](#) for 6:30 pm Live-Stream

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

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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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