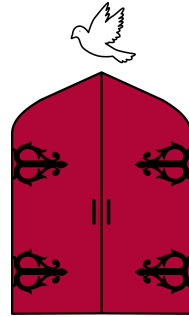


[View this email in your browser](#)



Bethlehem Lutheran Church e-Blaze for January 30, 2025

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

317-283-6559

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**This Sunday** is Service Project Sunday. See info on Urban Acres below.

## **General Operating Net Income Update and Appeal**

As of December 31, 2024, net income for Bethlehem's general operating fund for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2025 was (954), which is a negative figure. Actual receipts for the period were \$187,067 as compared to budgeted receipts of \$203,134. Actual expenses for the fiscal year were \$188,021 as compared to budgeted expenses of \$203,134.

December was a big comeback month for us on the fiscal front. The net income figure at the end of November was (\$35,742), which is a much bigger negative figure. But in December, pledges and offerings totaled \$58,506 which well exceeded the \$33,206 per month that we need to be on budget. There were also some savings on the expense side in several categories that helped to provide this result. So hearty thanks go out to all who contributed!

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

**Calling All Singers:** If you're interested in singing with the choir, this Sunday (2/2) is a great time to try it out. Rehearsal is at 9:00 a.m. in the choir loft and the anthem for the week is easy to sing and simple to learn.

We'd love to include some extra voices. Reach out to Susan at [susan@indylutheran.org](mailto:susan@indylutheran.org) if you have any questions or want to RSVP.



**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)

Bethlehem Lutheran Church

# BINGO & Karaoke



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

Prizes!  
Food!  
Fellowship!

Plan to stay after 10:30 worship this Sunday for **Pizza, Bingo, and Karaoke!** This fun-for-all-ages event is a great opportunity to build connections with one another while eating, playing Bingo, and hopefully winning fabulous prizes. Stay for as little or as long as you like. Bring a side to share if you're able or just come as you are. You don't want to miss it!



**Life Learning Sessions:** Adult members, have you been hoping for learning opportunities for yourselves on our faith formation Sundays? Please join us for a series of Life Learning Sessions that will take place in the months of February, March, and April of 2025 from 9:00-10:00 AM on the second and 4th Sundays of the month in the lounge.

**Disaster Response:**

Our first three sessions will be led by Jayme Beneker, IN-KY Synod Coordinator for Disaster Response. Topics for the sessions:

**February 9** Learn about the stages of a disaster and find out about how the IN-KY Synod responds in case of a disaster.

**February 16** Join in a hands-on disaster simulation and discussion to better understand what individuals and groups face in an emergency.

**March 9** Together, we will identify the assets Bethlehem has that would be helpful to our community in case of a disaster and ways we may be uniquely suited to offer help.

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

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

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

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



The **IYG 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.**



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## Can you find this week's shield?

2 February 2025: Fourth Sunday after Epiphany — "Lamb of God", white (green)

*The lamb with a tri-form or three-rayed nimbus is a symbol of Christ's divinity.*

Festivals for which there are no shields: 2 February 2025: Presentation of Our Lord

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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!

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BLC Members: Chervyl Leshner

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, 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 Salem Lutheran Church and the family and friends of the [Rev. Dr. James Capers](#) on his passing.*

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

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### Upcoming Birthdays

1/31 Cissie Hennig, Peter Russel  
2/3 Karen Gallagher, Melissa Pritchard  
2/4 Bill Brown  
2/5 Alicia Aaholm, Benjamin Vurva, Travis Wilson  
2/6 Michael Pritchard, Gunnar Queck

### Upcoming Anniversaries

2/3 Darrel & Kimberly White

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## What's happening this week?

**TODAY**, January 30, 2025

### FRIDAY

12:00 pm Men's Bible Study

### SATURDAY

9:00 am Choir Retreat

**SUNDAY**, February 2, 2025

7:30 am Holy Communion (Spoken)

9:00 am Service Project: Urban Acres

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

12:00 pm Bingo/Karaoke/Pizza

**MONDAY**

**TUESDAY**

7:00 pm Stephen Ministry (BLC)

**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**, February 6, 2025

10:00 am e-Blaze arrives

[Church Calendar](#)

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**Serving This Sunday  
(Feb. 2nd)**

Acolyte - Levon Evans

Lector - Lori VanEvery

Children's Sermon - Natalie Goss

Communion Assistant - Barb Alder

Communion Prep - Brenda Grable

A/V - Nancy Slover

Usher - E. Tysklind & K. Moeller

Counters - N. Slover & J.

Scharbrough

**Serving Next Sunday  
(Feb. 9th)**

Acolyte - Kingston Queck

Lector - Brent Hege

Children's Sermon - Karen Feder

Communion Assistant - Traci

Rodgers

Communion Prep - Brenda Grable

A/V - Nancy Slover

Usher - R. Roberts & M. Benson

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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[office@indylutheran.org](mailto:office@indylutheran.org)

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