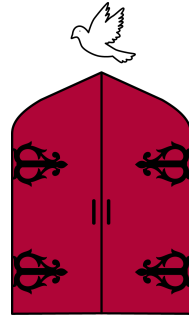


[View this email in your browser](#)



Bethlehem Lutheran Church e-Blaze for March 13, 2025

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

317-283-6559

This Sunday is Stephen Ministry Sunday, Brunch and Cards from Kids. Please bring a dish to share if you are able, sign some cards and learn more about our wonderful Stephen Ministry. Then at 2:00 pm please return for the Lenten hymn festival performed by St. Mary's and our own Bethlehem choirs.

General Operating Net Income Update

As of February 28, 2025, net income for Bethlehem's general operating fund for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2025 was (\$9,069), which is a negative figure. Actual receipts for the period were \$243,061 as compared to budgeted receipts of \$270,845. Actual expenses for the fiscal year were \$252,130 as compared to budgeted expenses of \$270,845. The main driver of the negative net income figure was smaller giving totals of \$17,270 in October, \$12,013 in November and \$22,014 in January. We need pledges and offerings of \$33,206 per month to be on budget. This amounts to \$7,663 per week.

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

Reminder: Thank you to all that submitted their [2025 Stewardship Intent cards](#) and the [Council Survey](#). If you have not done so already, PLEASE complete both by tomorrow am. Your input is very important!!



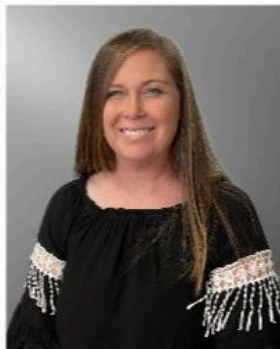
Bethlehem's Cards From Kids

For The Kids!

(or kids at heart)

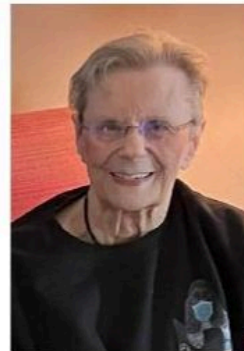
Let's show our fellow BLC members how much we love and care for them!

.....



Jayme Beneker

Jayme Beneker is our IN-KY Synod disaster response coordinator and we are so fortunate to have been led by Jayme over the last couple months during our disaster response adult educational hour. Let's send our gratitude for not only what she was able to teach us in these 3 sessions, but for the hard work she does year round to help our community prepare for and respond to disasters in our community.



Carol Sternecker

On our prayer list this week is Carol who joined Bethlehem Lutheran Church after Our Redeemer Lutheran Church closed their doors in 2018. Lately, Carol has been dealing with some health issues and she could use a dose of BLC support to encourage and love her through these trials.

The choir of Bethlehem Lutheran Church is presenting a **Lenten hymn festival** entitled "O Love of God." There will be two performances: Thursday, March 13 at 7:00 p.m. at St. Mary Catholic Church, 317 N New Jersey Street; and Sunday, March 16 at 2:00 p.m. at Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 526 E 52nd Street.

Sculpture: "Trinity" by Kelly Davies, Wayzata, Minnesota. www.daviesartstudio.com



Thursday, March 13, 2025
St. Mary Catholic Church
317 N New Jersey Street
7:00 p.m.

Sunday, March 16, 2025
Bethlehem Lutheran Church
526 E 52nd Street
2:00 p.m.

BETHLEHEM
LUTHERAN
CHURCH CHOIR

SUSAN POWELL
DIRECTOR

*O LOVE
OF GOD—
A HYMN FESTIVAL*



Please join us **Wednesday evenings through Lent** for a soup and salad Supper and Holden Evening Prayer. We will offer a soups and salads and PB&J sammies for our more discerning eaters 😊, beginning at 6:15 pm in the Fellowship Hall. At 7:00 pm, we will worship together with the simple yet beautiful Holden Evening Prayer in the sanctuary. **Childcare** (in the Nursery) will be provided beginning at 7:00 pm. Choir rehearsal will follow Evening Prayer at 7:30 pm.

March and April 2025 Life Learning Sessions on Faith Formation Sundays

Adult Life Learning sessions will meet on March 23, April 13, and April 27 in the lounge from 9:00-10:00 am.



Coming Out as Christians *4th Sunday in March (3/23/2025)*

Maury Plambeck and Sam McHenry have been together for 38 years. They both grew up in Christian homes. Maury and Sam will lead a dialogue about their struggles as gay Christians, their relationship, and their lives.

Disease Precautions *2nd Sunday in April (4/13/2025)*

Shari Watts, Bethlehem member

Planned Giving *4th Sunday in April (4/27/2025)*

Karl Biermann, Regional Gift Planner for ELCA Foundation, Indiana, Kentucky, and Ohio

Meal Train for the Ranos family! While the Ranos family is settling in with their new little one, meals would be very much appreciated. If you are able to help, please use this [meal train](#) for scheduling and information.



Easter Flowers:

Please help us decorate the sanctuary with beautiful Easter Lilies. Each 6" pot is \$8.00. Please submit your [orders](#) by **March 20th**. Or [email](#)/call the office, 317.283.6559. Pay by check, cash or [Vanco](#). Thank you!

Helping Hams, the proud offspring of the Great Chicken Roundup (GCR), returns on Service Sunday, April 6. Starting at 9 a.m., between services, we'll pack 48 banana boxes of groceries bought with your donations and haul them to Lutheran Child & Family Services (LCFS). They will deliver them to households in need.



Lutheran Child & Family Services will deliver them to households in need. Boxes run about \$75 each. Please consider donating with a check made out to Great Chicken Roundup/Helping Hams or through [Vanco](#). Thanks to those who volunteered for the

morning and/or afternoon of prep day, Saturday, April 5. We should be set. Those volunteers will be emailed instructions the week before. Please contact [Marty Benson](#), 317-696-9812. Thank you.



Calling all hockey fans! Bethlehem Lutheran Church members and friends are invited to an evening of hockey and fellowship at the Indy Fuel's new arena in Fishers for their final home game of the season against the Kalamazoo Wings on April 11th at 7:00 pm. Tickets are \$25/person. It's a great family event and we hope to see you there. Sign-up on the bulletin board or text Candice at 317-426-1833 to reserve your tickets. Checks should be made out to Bethlehem Lutheran with "hockey" in the memo.

Grace Unlimited is in search of a Treasurer for our Board. Grace Unlimited is an inclusive and affirming campus ministry for students that is supported by the Episcopal Diocese of Indianapolis and the Indiana-Kentucky Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). Weekly worship services incorporate elements of both faith traditions, but students of all religious backgrounds are welcome to attend, regardless of where they are on their spiritual journey.. Grace Unlimited is an inclusive and affirming campus ministry for students that is supported by the Episcopal Diocese of Indianapolis and the Indiana-Kentucky Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). Weekly worship services incorporate elements of both faith traditions, but students of all religious backgrounds are welcome to attend, regardless of where they are on their spiritual journey.

The Treasurer role is about 2 hours a week balancing the boards books and meeting with the board about 4 or 5 times a year. Any Questions? Ask Sarah Morgan, Brent Hege, or Carl Crabiel (who is our newly retired Treasurer)

First Trinity Admin needed: First Trinity Lutheran Church is seeking an Admin Assistant to put their bulletins together each week. The

position would be 3 to 4 hours a week after training and pays \$14/hr. If you know of anyone who might be interested, please have them send an e-mail to [Dan Mowry](#) or call 317-201-5230.

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

Madeline's most recent update (1/31/2025): can be read [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.



Stephen Ministry Sunday - March 16th

A service to highlight Stephen Ministry and its mission ... Bear one another's burdens, and in this way, you will fulfill the law of Christ (Galatians 6:2, NRSV). We are thankful for our Stephen Ministers generous response to God's call, to serve those in our congregations and the communities around us. Visit our table during Brunch for answers to your questions and find out how Stephen Ministry really can be of help to you or someone you know.

Your Stephen Ministers are looking forward to talking with you!

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 shield?

16 March 2025: Second Sunday in Lent — "Reed and Hyssop", purple
The apostle John mentions hyssop in his account of Christ's death. Hyssop was used in purgative Jewish rites. Legend says the Roman soldiers mocked the Jews by using hyssop to spatter the crowd with Christ's blood.

Festivals for which there are no shields:

19 March 2025: Joseph, Guardian of Jesus

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: David Daniell, Chervyl Lesher, Traci Rodgers, Carol Sternecker

Family of members: Holly Black, 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, *Rita (friend of Dee Simpson; cancer)*, *Craig (friend of Dee Simpson; health concerns)*, Rosie Kepple, Deda M., Margo, Monica, Joseph Morone, Miss Perez, Werner Reicken, Jane & Jim Reinhart, Linda Ruisz, Wayne Russell, Judy Williams

We offer our condolences to Mike Smith and family on the passing of his aunt, Liz Fisher; to Mary Loe on the passing of her friend, Lori and to the Rob Pritchard and family on the passing of his sister, Roxanne.

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

Upcoming Birthdays

3/13 David Michau

3/14 Debbie Ranos

3/15 Shari Watts
3/17 Gabriel Seitz
3/19 Kassy Cayer, Sharon Coffing,
John Ensley, Pam Monahan
3/20 Laura Leininger

Upcoming Anniversaries

What's happening this week?

TODAY, March 13, 2025

Hymn festival (St. Mary's Catholic church)

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

SUNDAY, March 16, 2025

7:30 am Holy Communion (Spoken)

9:00 am Stephen Ministry Sunday & Brunch

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

2:00 pm "O Love of God" hymn festival (BLC)

MONDAY

TUESDAY

7:00 pm Stephen Ministry (BLC)

WEDNESDAY

9:00 am Wednesday Walk (Crown Hill)

12:00 pm e-Blaze submission deadline

6:15 pm Lenten Soup Supper

7:00 pm Holden Evening Prayer (Live & Streamed-YouTube)

7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal

NEXT THURSDAY, March 20, 2025

10:00 am e-Blaze arrives

[Church Calendar](#)

Serving This Sunday (Mar. 16th)

Acolyte - Lucia Ladrón de Guevara

Lector - Bev Todd

Serving Next Sunday (Mar. 23rd)

Acolyte - Levon Evans

Lector - Juanita Keck

Children's Sermon - Erik Tysklind
Communion Asst. - Shari Watts
Communion Prep - Beverly
Emmons
A/V - Nancy Slover
Usher - Erik Tysklind
Counters - K. Steele & J. Smith

Children's Sermon - MaryBeth
Wott
Communion Asst. - Lori VanEvery
Communion Prep - Lori VanEvery
A/V - Nancy Slover
Usher - Erik Tysklind
Counters - K. Steele & J. Smith

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 Holden Evening Prayer in-person at 7:00 pm
Click [here](#) for 7:00 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.



office@indylutheran.org

Want to change how you receive these emails?
You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).
