

Bethlehem Lutheran Church e-Blaze for February 8, 2024  
Office Hours: Tuesday - Friday 9:00am - 3:00pm  
317-283-6559

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**This Sunday** is Faith Formation.



**Service Sunday project** - Thank you to all who participated in the February service project for Laundry & More. We raised nearly \$400, donated supplies, and made lots of sandwiches!

Our next Service Sunday will be March 3 at 9a and will include a blood drive with Versiti and a supplies drive for [Indiana Prison Writer's Workshop](#). Information and a sign up for the blood drive will be posted on the bulletin board across from the church offices. To help understand the role your blood donation can provide, we've linked a video here [Sickle Cell - Mariah Roberts | Versiti \(youtube.com\)](#).

A list of supplies donations the Indiana Prison Writer's Workshop is looking for can be found here:  
[Composition notebooks](#)

[Pens](#)

[2-pocket folders](#)

We will be collecting these during the Service Sunday hour.

**Helping Hams** makes its triumphant return on Service Sunday April 7. Between services, we will pack 48 boxes of food bought with your generous donations to give to needy families. One box costs about \$72. Why not “buy a box” or more? Make checks out to Great Chicken Roundup/Helping Hams or donate through [Vanco](#), selecting Chicken Roundup/Helping Hams. To volunteer to help prep on April 6 or for more information, please contact Marty Benson, 317-696-9812, [mtb42@att.net](mailto:mtb42@att.net).



Greetings from your **2024 Nominating Committee** – Katie Bredehoeft, John Jordan, Julie Smith, Josh Tatum, John Todd and MaryBeth Wott. We are seeking nominations for Church Council and Synod Representatives. If you have a name to suggest or you are interested, please contact MaryBeth Wott in person or at [mbwott@att.net](mailto:mbwott@att.net) by February 13.

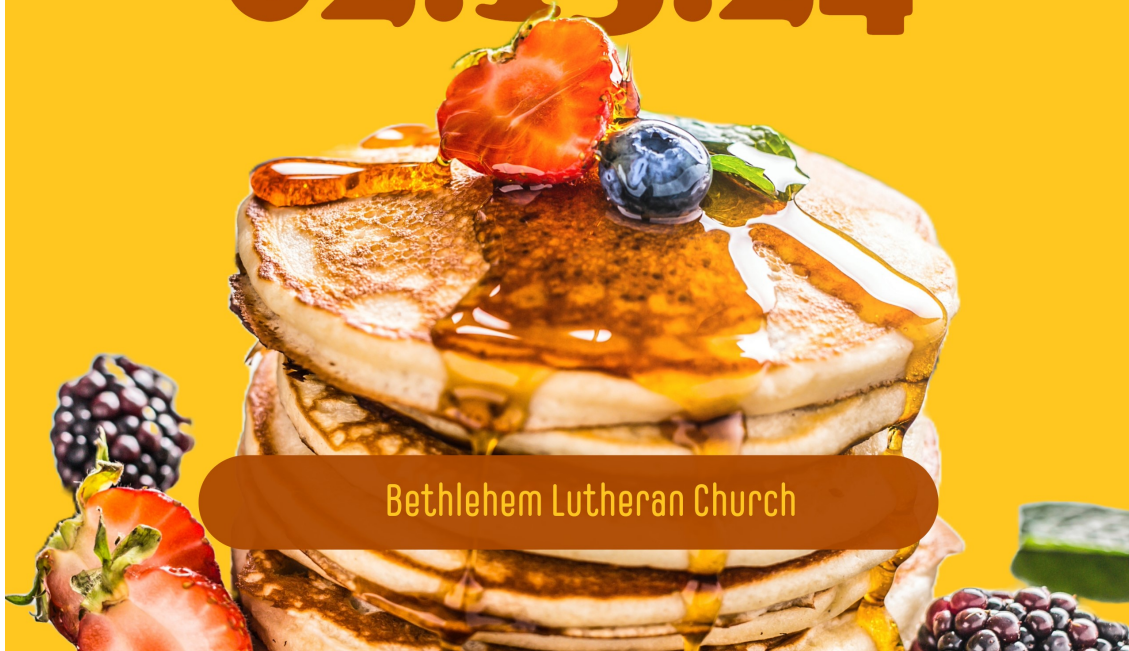
# Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner

Fundraiser to support BLC Youth

**6:30PM**

**All-you-can-eat  
Pancakes  
Sausage**

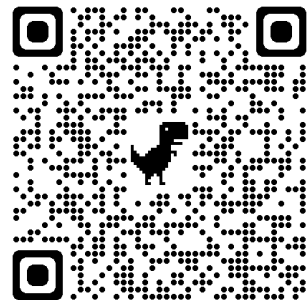
**02.13.24**



Bethlehem Lutheran Church

## **Stewardship Campaign needs**

**you!** Thank you to all that have completed their pledge. Current pledges are under what we received last year. The Council and Finance Committee need pledges to plan our budget for the upcoming fiscal year.



Please faithfully consider what you are able to pledge to Bethlehem, so we may continue our church and community programs. Use this QR code, the paper pledge cards (found in the hallway outside the church office OR [here](#), to complete a pledge. Thank you!!



**Dining In for 2024** We had another delicious Dining-In year! There were teams of 7-8 members, with each couple/pair taking a turn as host, who then assigned dishes for other team members to bring. These dinners are a good way to get together with other members in a small group setting and also a good time to try new recipes.

Won't you join us for the 2024 season? No gourmet experience or matching tableware is necessary. A sign-up sheet can be found on the Sign Up bulletin board. The deadline is Sunday, February 25, after which you will be notified of your tablemates. If you need a partner or have questions, contact Norma Crabiel at 317/845-1966 or [crabiel@sbcglobal.net](mailto:crabiel@sbcglobal.net).



**Calling all bakers!** The Youth are hosting a Dessert Auction during the Chili Cook Off on Sunday, February 18<sup>th</sup> to raise money for the National Youth Gathering this summer. Please bring your most scrumptious cakes, pies, or other confections to be auctioned off to the highest bidder. We need treats of all kinds and the more, the better. If you are able to contribute a dessert for the auction, please email Candice Tatum at [ctatum@indylutheran.org](mailto:ctatum@indylutheran.org) or sign up on the bulletin board, and plan to bring your treat to church on the 18th. Storebought items are also welcome!



## **The Bethlehem Chili Cookoff Returns, February 18**

Calling all chili aficionados. Mark your calendar for lunch at Bethlehem, instead of a 9am brunch in February we will meet immediately following worship for our annual Chili cookoff and luncheon. In addition to chili, we will have slaw, cornbread, and beverages for everyone. There are three categories for those entering the cookoff: Traditional (red meat with tomatoes), White (no tomatoes), and Meatless (any style but must be vegetarian). And as always, GF, LF and sugar free options will be available.

### **More volunteers are needed:**

\*Communion preparers are needed for March and April. Please contact Beverly Emmons 317.414.5634 if you have questions.

\*Communion Assistants are needed to distribute communion during the 10:30 service. If you can help, please let the [office@indylutheran.com](mailto:office@indylutheran.com) know.



The IYG Pantry is running dangerously low on food for the LGBTQ+ youth that we serve. Are you able to help??

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 provides a Biblical solution to caring for people who are hurting. Galatians 6:2 says, "Bear one another's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ." 1 Thessalonians 5:11 says, "Therefore encourage one another and build each other up." Stephen Ministry helps congregations put these verses into action. Laypeople are trained to provide emotional and spiritual care and support to both congregation members and non-members alike. A foundational part of their training is learning to listen to care receivers as they share painful feelings. Stephen Ministers may at times help people carry some of the most difficult feelings they will ever bear. In addition to listening, they learn and use many other skills, such as processing feelings and maintaining boundaries. Stephen Ministry caring relationships can last for a few weeks, a few months to one or two years, depending on the circumstances. Men are matched with men, and women are matched with women. Stephen Ministers generally meet once a week with their care receivers for about an hour. The meeting time and frequency is flexible and is arranged between the Care Giver and Care Receiver. Brochures are available on the Stephen Ministry Bulletin Board!

**For more information about Stephen Ministry and becoming a Stephen Minister contact ....**

[Pastor Ken Ranos](#), [Abbi Todd](#), 253.905.3148, or [Shari Watts](#), 317.753.7323 for a confidential conversation.



## **Liturgical Shields**

In 1945, Pastor Don Elder created two shields decorated with liturgical symbols--one for the Epiphany of Our Lord, and one for Reformation Sunday. He organized an Ecclesiastical Arts Group in 1949 and proposed

decorating the entire ceiling of the sanctuary with similar shields to represent every Sunday, Principal Festival, and Lesser Festival celebrated in the church year at that time. Pastor Elder designed two series of shields (essentially the church year twice), 130 shields in total, and the EAG painted them, completing the project in 1952.

The shields don't always correspond to particular lectionary readings of the day, but they do draw on the themes for the seasons and incorporate symbols related to them. Each series runs from the top row to the bottom, from the front of the nave to the back.

These shields correspond to the Sundays and festival days of January this year in the South series:

11 February 2024: (Sixth Sunday after Epiphany - see note) — "Hope", green  
The anchor has long symbolized Christian hope. It originated in the catacombs of the early church. The imagery comes from Hebrews 6:19, "Which hope we have as an anchor to the souls sure and steadfast."

(In the current liturgical calendar, the Transfiguration of Our Lord is celebrated on the last Sunday after Epiphany, which falls anywhere from four to nine weeks after Epiphany, depending on the date of the Resurrection of Our Lord. The shields were designed according to the calendar in use at the time, which designated 6 August as the Transfiguration of Our Lord and designated the last three Sundays before Ash Wednesday as Septuagesima Sunday, Sexagesima Sunday, and Quinquagesima Sunday as a "pre-Lent" season of their own. For this reason, the shields and the calendar don't line up well this time of year.)

14 February 2024: Ash Wednesday — "Cross and Chalice", purple  
This symbolizes the agony of Christ with specific reference to Christ's cup of suffering, as recorded in Luke 22:42

18 February 2024: First Sunday in Lent — "The Scourges", purple  
A pillar and scourges in saltire are a symbol of Christ's trial and condemnation.

25 February 2024: Second Sunday in Lent — "Betrayal", purple  
A purse with thirty pieces of silver above is symbolic of Judas's betrayal of

Christ.

Liturgical Festivals for which there are no shields:

11 February 2024: Transfiguration of Our Lord

--- Excerpts expand on the work of Sheryl D. Vanderstel, historian, in "Christianity and Community: A History of Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 1923-1990".

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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: Walter Bartz, Roger Gregory, Bob Keck, Ken McCune, John Pitts, Todd Rainer

Family of members: Kim & Mark B., Chris Burke, Steve Clark, Rick Graverson, Betty Griffis, Eric Hanson, Sam Hazlett, Adam Hege, Kurt Hofbauer, Julie Hudson, Deby Koss, Heather Patrick, Rich Scaer, David Schmidt, Robin Serafin, Steve Smith, Barry Storlie, Trieu family

Friends of members: Kristin Colber-Baker, Jeannie & Marvin Galbreath, Becky Halcomb, Stacey Keaffaber, Rosie Kepple, Judy Kreger, Lori, George L., Deda M., Jenny & Amelia Morris, Brooke Feister O'Brien, Jason Peters, Werner Reicken, Jane & Jim Reinhart, Linda Ruisz, Wayne Russell, Jon Skarie, Edwin Stephenson, Judy Williams, Wendy

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

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## Upcoming Birthdays

2/8 Elliot Levine  
2/12 Ron Gyure, John Hertig  
2/13 Keith Beatty  
2/14 Libby Price  
2/15 Dan Scharbrough

## Upcoming Anniversaries



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## What's happening this week?

**TODAY**, February 8, 2024

**FRIDAY**

**SATURDAY**

**SUNDAY**, February 11, 2024

7:30 am Holy Communion (Spoken)

9:00 am Faith Formation

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

**MONDAY**

7:00 pm Congregation Council Meeting

**TUESDAY**

6:30 pm Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

**WEDNESDAY**

9:00 am Wednesday Walk (Crown Hill)

12:00 pm e-Blaze submission deadline

12:00 pm Ash Wednesday Service (Live & Streamed - YouTube)

7:00 pm Ash Wednesday Service (Live & Streamed - YouTube)

**NEXT THURSDAY**, February 15, 2024

10:00 am e-Blaze arrives

[Church Calendar:](#)

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### Serving This Sunday (Feb. 11th)

Lector - Norma Crabiel

Acolyte - Zeke Bredehoeft

Communion Asst. - *needed*

Children's Sermon - Erik Tysklind

Usher - Rick Roberts

A/V - Nancy Slover

Communion Setup - K. Rodman &  
B. Grable

Counters - N. Slover & J.

### Serving Next Sunday (Feb. 18th)

Lector - Candice Tatum

Acolyte -

Communion Asst. - *needed*

Children's Sermon - Karen Feder

Usher - Erik Tysklind

A/V - Nancy Slover

Communion Setup - K. Rodman &  
B. Grable

Counters - N. Slover & J.

Scharbrough  
Flower Delivery - *needed*

Scharbrough  
Flower Delivery - *needed*

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

## Worship With Us

Sunday in-person prayer at 10:30 am  
[Click here](#) for 10:30 am Live-Stream

Ash Wednesday in-person prayer at Noon  
[Click here](#) for 12:00 pm Live-Stream

Ash Wednesday in-person prayer at 7:00 pm  
[Click here](#) for 7:00 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!



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