

Bethlehem Lutheran Church e-Blaze for February 15, 2024  
Office Hours: Tuesday - Friday 9:00am - 3:00pm  
317-283-6559

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**This Sunday** is Fellowship Sunday.

*Come one, come all!*

9am Continental Brunch, in the Bridesroom

9am Chili setup, Fellowship Hall

Lunch and Cookoff - following worship in the Fellowship Hall

Chili luncheon is open to all!



**Thank you** to everyone who came to the Pancake Supper Fundraiser on Tuesday evening. It was a wonderful night of food and fellowship. We raised \$900 for the Youth Gathering thanks to your generous support!



# The Bethlehem Chili Cookoff is this Sunday, Feb 18

Luncheon and judging is open to all

**Bring us your best to try!**

The luncheon and judging is open to all, no reservation needed.

Chili, nachos, cornbread, slaw and a dessert auction.

Categories for chili (and yes, we have prizes 😊) RSVP appreciated.

Traditional: Red Meat WITH tomatoes

Non Traditional: Any protein but NO tomatoes

Vegetarian: Any base, but NO MEAT

Fan Favorite: What you liked best regardless of style

## Lenten suppers – a visit to New Orleans

**Wednesdays at 6pm**

**(Feb 21, 28, Mar 6, 13, 20)**

**Lent Soup and Salad Suppers return, but with a twist.**

No serving teams this year, instead our youth continue their fundraising to attend the 2024 ELCA National Youth Gathering in New Orleans. Plan to 'eat out' at Bethlehem on Wednesdays for a taste of the Big Easy. All donations directly support youth ministries.

### Feb 21 Menu

Traditional Seafood/Sausage Gumbo (LF, GF)

Chicken Barley Vegetable (LF)

Coconut Curry Lentil (GF, LF, V)

Assorted Breads

Salads

PB&J

Beverages

**Holden Evening prayer follows supper at 7pm.**



**Easter Flowers:** Please help us decorate the sanctuary with beautiful spring flowers for Easter. Each 6" pot is \$8.00. There are Easter Lillies, Tulips and Daffodils to order. Please submit your [orders](#) and payment by February 29th. Or [email](#)/call the office, 317.283.6559. Pay by check, cash or [Vanco](#). Thank you!

**Service Sunday project** - 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 for the blood drive is posted on the bulletin board outside from the church offices. You can sign up to donate blood [here](#). 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](#)

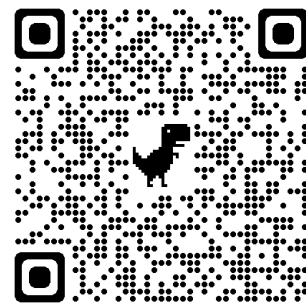
[2-pocket folders](#)

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).

**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).

### **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 new **Flower Chart** is posted on the Sign up board in the hall. Please stop by and sign up to sponsor flowers throughout the church year. Thank you!

**Greeting Cards:** Micheal Smith has generously donated greeting cards from his business, [Crown Point Graphics](#), for anyone interested in grabbing some. They are located on the tables outside the church office while supplies last. Make sure to visit and support his business if you have a chance. Thanks Mike!



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.



Through Stephen Ministry, our congregation is able to equip and empower a team of laypeople—Stephen Ministers—who provide one-to-one, Christ-centered care to people experiencing grief, health issues, divorce, spiritual crisis, job loss, infertility, or other life difficulties. Since Stephen Ministry began in 1975, millions of people have received care from a Stephen Minister. **Visit [stephenministries.org](http://stephenministries.org) to see stories about the difference Stephen Ministers are making in people’s lives.**

**For more information about Stephen Ministry at BLC 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:

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:

--- 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: Chris Burke, Steve Clark, Rick Graverson, Betty Griffis, Eric Hanson, Sam Hazlett, Adam Hege, Kurt Hofbauer, Julie Hudson, Deby Koss, Heather Patrick, *Jeremiah Ray (Kaaren Rodman's cousin's grandson, rare autoimmune disorder)*, 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, Werner Reicken, Jane & Jim Reinhart, Linda Ruisz, Wayne & Michelle Russell, Edwin Stephenson, Judy Williams, Wendy

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

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## Upcoming Birthdays

2/15 Dan Scharbrough

## Upcoming Anniversaries

2/19 Erin Schickel, Seth Schickel  
2/20 Kris Barringer  
2/21 Luke Hreno

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## What's happening this week?

**TODAY**, February 15, 2024

**FRIDAY**

**SATURDAY**

**SUNDAY**, February 18, 2024

7:30 am Holy Communion (Spoken)

9:00 am Coffee Hour & Hymn Sing

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

12:00 pm Chili Cookoff & Dessert Auction

**MONDAY**

**TUESDAY**

7:00 pm Stephen Ministry (BLC)

**WEDNESDAY**

9:00 am Wednesday Walk (Crown Hill)

12:00 pm e-Blaze submission deadline

6:00 pm Lenten Soup Supper

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

7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal & Wednesday Books

**NEXT THURSDAY**, February 22, 2024

10:00 am e-Blaze arrives

[Church Calendar:](#)

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

Lector - Candice Tatum

Acolyte -

Communion Asst. - Brent Vaughn

Children's Sermon - Katie

Bredehoeft

Usher - Erik Tysklind

### Serving Next Sunday (Feb. 25th)

Lector - Barb Alder

Acolyte -

Communion Asst. - *needed*

Children's Sermon - Karen Feder

Usher - Rick Roberts

A/V - Nancy Slover



A/V - Nancy Slover  
Communion Setup - K. Rodman &  
B. Grable  
Counters - N. Slover & J.  
Scharbrough  
Flower Delivery - *needed*

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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

Holden Evening Prayer in-person prayer 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!



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