

Bethlehem Lutheran Church e-*Blaze* for June 6, 2024 Office Hours: Tuesday - Friday 9:00am - 3:00pm 317-283-6559

This Sunday begins Summer Worship schedule. Worship will be at 7:30 am and 9:30 am. There will be Lemonade on the Lawn following the 9:30 am service.

General Operating Net Income Update

Below is a snapshot of fiscal year to date ("FYTD") income, expenses, and net income:

FYTD income \$351,275 Excluded ERTA (\$50,190) FYTD Operating income \$301,085

FYTD expenses \$338,082 Excluded major roof repair (\$11,790) FTTD operating expenses \$326,292

FYTD Operating net income (\$25,207)

Note: period shown is fiscal YTD: 7/1/23-4/30/24

1 Timothy 6:18 Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share.

Please contact us with questions you have.

Thank you for your financial support of the ministries at Bethlehem.

Barb Alder and Bill Slover, Finance/Endowment Ministry

Youth! You're invited to help plan worship

Music! Here at Bethlehem, Youth Sunday will be on July 28, following the National Youth Gathering. I'm getting ready to plan music for this service and I want input from you. If you're a rising fifth-grader or older, I'd like to invite you to help me plan for this day. Email me at susan@indylutheran.org by Sunday, June 9 to let me know you're interested. We'll schedule a planning meeting to include everyone interested. You'll find out what goes into choosing and preparing music for worship, share your ideas, and help pick our hymns for the day. And if you're interested in participating in leadership as a cantor, or by playing an instrument you're learning, I'll help you prepare for that too.

Wednesday... Podcasts?

The Wednesday Books group is doing something a little different this time. Instead of a book, the group is discussing a five-part podcast series on Martin Luther. The podcast is "The Rest is History" hosted by Dominic Sandbrook and Tom Holland (no, not that Tom Holland), and we're listening to episodes 433-437. Each is about an hour long and can be found through most popular podcast apps and sites, as well as at https://therestishistory.com/episodes/. We're discussing one episode a week, so come and join us at 7:00 pm on Wednesday nights after 6:30 pm Evening Prayer.



ELCA YOUTH GATHERING

Sponsorship



PLEASE CONSIDER SPONSORING AN ITEM OR TWO FOR OUR TRIP!

Shirts

THE GIRLS HAVE SELECTED THIS SHIRT FOR THE TRIP. THE BACK WILL SAY BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN CHURCH. THE COST PER SHIRT IS \$20 AND WE HAVE 6 PARTICIPANTS GOING TO NEW ORLEANS.



Meals



JUMBALAYA! PO BOYS! SHRIMP AND GRITS! NEW ORELANS IS KNOWN FOR THEIR AMAZING FOOD. HELP US HAVE A NICE DINNER OUT! WE WILL ALSO BE DOING A BEIGNET TASTING. ANY AMOUNT IS APPRECIATED.

Glear Bags & Water Bottles.....

CLEAR BAGS ARE REQUIRED FOR THE ARENA. BIG THANKS TO NANCY SLOVER FOR PURCHASING BAGS FOR THE TEENS!

THE STADIUM ALSO REQUIRES CLEAR WATER BOTTLES. THEY ARE \$15 EACH AND WE NEED 3.





Miscellaneous

WE WILL ALSO NEED A FIRST AID KIT, SUNSCREEN, PINS OR OTHER SMALL ITEMS TO TRADE, AND SNACKS

CHECKS SHOULD BE MADE OUT TO BLC WITH "GATHERING SPONSORSHIP" IN THE MEMO. DONORS WILL RECEIV UPDATE EMAILS AND PHOTOS. PLEASE REACH OUT TO CANDICE TATUM IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS.

THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION AND SUPPORT!

Summer Days Together: June 23-27, 2024

A joint summer ministry of Bethlehem and Cross & Crown congregations Please join us for this reimagined VBS opportunity. As a group, we will participate in service projects, worship, fellowship, and lots of fun! Lunch, snacks, and t-shirts provided. An adult chaperone must attend with their child. Register here. Reach out to Candice Tatum at ctatum@indylutheran.org or 317-426-1833 with any questions.





JUNE 23-27, 2024

Summer Days Together

An opportunity for Families to Enjoy Worship, Service, Fun, and Food Together

Bethlehem will be joining Cross & Crown for Summer Days Together this June! Each day will include a service opportunity, short worship, lunch and snacks, and a fun outing to a local venue. We will meet at Cross & Crown in the morning before driving to a service site.

We will meet from 9:15 AM – 2:00 each day. All kids must be accompanied, and transported, by a designated adult 18 years of age or older. If you need help providing supervision for your child, please contact Candice, CTatum@indylutheran.org.

More volunteers are needed:

*Communion preparers are needed for July & August. 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 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.



The Joy of Talking to Strangers and the "Happiness Trifecta"

There is a boost in your mood when you do something nice for someone, and that feeling is more than a coincidence. It is a biochemical brain reaction and positive proof that you were actually created (and pre-wired) to do things like that. Even in kindergarten we learn that we all benefit when we work together for the common good. Life is better when we all get our snack,

when we all cooperate during story time, and when you know someone will come running if you fall. Caring about someone besides yourself makes all the difference. It's why we contribute to our churches and the causes we love. It's why we whisper prayers when we hear of a tragedy or a friend's personal need. It's also why we smile at strangers.

All of this is to ask if perhaps you are looking for a new way to serve. There are people around you with troubles, and you can help so much if you choose to walk with them through this time, understand their pain, offer encouragement, and share a prayer. Could you be this person? Remember, there's a new Stephen Ministry class starting this fall, and this sounds interesting, or if you feel called to serve in a new manner, please talk to any Stephen Minister (our pictures and names are on the bulletin board in the hall) to learn more.

For more information about Stephen Ministry at BLC contact <u>Pastor Ken Ranos</u>, <u>Abbi Todd</u>, 253.905.3148, or <u>Shari Watts</u>, 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 June this year in the South series:

9 June 2024: Time after Pentecost (Lectionary 10) — "God the Father", green

The eye within an equilateral triangular form nimbus symbolizes God's allseeing eye.

11 June 2024: Barnabas, Apostle — "Burning Pyre", green (red)

One of the early church fathers, Saint Barnabas was a missionary companion of the Apostle Paul who was burned to death.

This shield is on the north ceiling.

16 June 2024: Time after Pentecost (Lectionary 11) — "God the Son", green

Christ represented as a lamb has a basis in Scripture, such as Isaiah 53:7, John 1:29, and Revelation 5:12. The oldest examples show the lamb resting on the banner of victory, symbolizing the Lord as the Lamb of God.

23 June 2024: Time after Pentecost (Lectionary 12) — "God the Holy Spirit", green

The dove descending within a radiating nimbus is the traditional symbol for God the Holy Spirit.

24 June 2024: John the Baptist — "St. John the Baptist", violet (white)

This saint's symbol is a locust and leather girdle. The girdle represents John's humble clothing, the locust of his food, while preaching the coming of Christ. John is considered the last Old Testament prophet and the first New Testament saint.

29 June 2024: Peter and Paul, Apostles — "Spiritus Gladius", red

An open Bible bearing the words "Spiritus Gladius" with a cross-hilted sword behind is the most common symbol of the apostle Paul. The Bible represents the word of God and the sword that of the Spirit.

Two keys saltire refer to Peter's confession and Christ's response that Peter held the keys to the kingdom (Matthew 16:13-19). Together, with an inverted Latin cross (referring to Peter's mode of execution in Rome), the serve as the shield of Peter.

30 June 2024: Time after Pentecost (Lectionary 13) — "The Church", green

A ship with a cross-shaped mast, sailing through troubled waters, recalls the storm-tossed ship on the Sea of Galilee and represents the Church tossed by the waves of persecution, heresy, and false teachers.

Liturgical festivals for which there are no shields:

31 May 2024: Visit of Mary to Elizabeth

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

Ask The Pastor

Got questions about religion, Christianity, faith, church history, theology, worship, etc.? Send your questions to <u>Pastor Ken</u> and you'll find your answer featured in the weekly e-Blaze newsletter!



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

Family of members: Chris Burke, Dean, Liz Cantey, Steve Clark, Melanie Cochran, Rick Graverson, Betty Griffis, Eric Hanson, Sam Hazlett, Adam

Hege, Kurt Hofbauer, Deby Koss, Jim Kovach, Heather Patrick, Player family, Sharise Powell, Jeremiah Ray, Rich Scaer, David Schmidt, Robin Serafin, Steve Smith, Barry Storlie, Mike Todd

Friends of members: Kristin Colber-Baker, Jeannie & Marvin Galbreath, Becky Halcomb, Stacey Keaffaber, Rosie Kepple, Judy Kreger, Lori, George L., Deda M., Lynn Medley, Joseph Morone, Brooke Feister O'Brien, Miss Perez, Werner Reicken, Jane & Jim Reinhart, Linda Ruisz, Wayne & Michelle Russell, Judy Williams, Wendy

Let us know if you'd like to add/remove someone.

Upcoming Birthdays

6/6 Ben Levine, Derek Urban 6/7 Todd Rainer 6/10 Ardy Hollingsworth, Melissa Knutson 6/11 Kai Beatty 6/12 Steve Aaholm

Upcoming Anniversaries

6/6 Claire & Corey White

What's happening this week?

TODAY, June 6, 2024

FRIDAY

12:00 pm Men's Bible Study

SATURDAY

SUNDAY, June 9, 2024

7:30 am Service of the Word (Spoken)

9:30 am Service of the Word (Live & Streamed - YouTube)

10:45 Lemonade on the Lawn

MONDAY

7:00 pm Women's Sharing Books

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

9:00 am Wednesday Walk (Crown Hill) 12:00 pm e-Blaze submission deadline

Church Calendar

Serving This Sunday (June 9th)

Lector - Mary Lapworth Acolyte - Ben Levine Communion Asst. - n/a

Children's Sermon - Jennifer

Scharbrough

Usher - M. Benson/T. Wott

A/V - Bredehoeft/Slover

Communion Setup - n/a

Counters - J. Scharbrough & N.

Slover

Serving Next Sunday (June 16th)

Lector - Kaaren Rodman

Acolyte - Phoebe Tatum

Communion Asst. - needed

Children's Sermon - Erik Tysklind

Usher - Ken Moeller

A/V - Nancy Slover

Communion Setup - Daniells

Counters - J. Scharbrough & N.

Slover

If you can help with any of these upcoming services please contact the office!

Worship With Us

Sunday in-person Worship at 9:30 am Click here for 9:30 am Live-Stream

There will no Wednesday Evening Prayer on June 12

Click here to access BLC's Youtube channel

Got something to add to the e-Blaze? The deadline to <u>submit articles</u> is every Wednesday at noon!







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