



Bethlehem Lutheran Church e-Blaze for June 27, 2024

Office Hours: Tuesday - Friday 9:00am - 3:00pm

317-283-6559

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**This Sunday:** Please stay after the 9:30 am service and join us for Lemonade on the Lawn.

If you can help host a LOL on July 7th or August 25th, please let [Jennifer Scharbrough](#) know. Thanks!

## General Operating Net Income Update

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

FYTD income	\$375,881
Excluded ERTA	<u>(\$50,190)</u>
FYTD Operating income	\$325,691
FYTD expenses	\$363,591
Excluded major roof repair	<u>(\$11,790)</u>
FTTD operating expenses	\$351,801
FYTD Operating net income	(\$26,110)

Note: period shown is fiscal YTD: 7/1/23-5/31/24

"One person gives freely, yet gains even more; another withholds unduly, but comes to poverty. A generous person will prosper; whoever refreshes others will be refreshed." Proverbs 11 24-25.

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



**Summer Days VBS Update:** Thanks to all that stayed to help sort shoe laces on Sunday to kickoff our week of VBS/service projects. We have had a great week so far. We packed boxes for the Salvation Army,

served lunch and built chairs at Wheeler Mission's Center for Women and Children, and cleaned at The Sharing Place. We also went bowling, played Bingo, and had lunch and games at Ft. Ben.



**Camp Scholarships:** It's summer camp season! Bethlehem has multiple kids attending Lutheran Hills for fellowship, games, hiking and God time!!

This year we have been asked by some BLC attendees for camp scholarships. If you are able to help, please make checks payable to Bethlehem (Memo: Camp Scholarship) or select "Camp Scholarships" on [Vanco](#).



**Scam Alert from Pastor Ken:** You may have received suspicious emails or text messages claiming to be from Pastor Ken asking for your help with a private matter, usually asking to buy gift cards for someone.



This is a VERY common scam. If you receive any message from me that looks suspicious, please keep the following in mind:

- My ONLY cell phone number for begins with a 715 (Wisconsin) area code. If you receive a text message from any other number, it is NOT me.

- I send emails from one of two email addresses. Bulk messages sent to the entire congregation come from "pastor@indylutheran.org" and are sent through the ICON Database system the congregation uses.

All other messages are sent from my personal email account "ken@ecumenicallife.com". Emails sent from this account are always digitally signed with a public cryptographic key. It will either be included as part of the message itself or sent as an attachment. You can use a program like GnuPG or Enigmail to verify the validity of the public key, proving that I really did send the email.

If you receive an email from any other address, even if it comes through from "Pastor Ken Ranos", it is NOT from me.

- Lastly, if you are ever suspicious of a text or email, contact me directly a different way--don't reply to the text or suspicious email itself.

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

\*Communion preparers are needed for July. 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.



## How has Stephen Ministry training enhanced your personal and professional life?

“Previously, I was uncomfortable offering a listening ear and knowing how to express care, especially when I least expected it. I’m amazed how many people welcome that kindness *in the moment*.”

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 June & July this year in the South series:

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), they 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.

3 July 2024: Thomas, Apostle — "St. Thomas the Apostle", green (red)

The carpenter's square in this apostle's shield refers to Thomas's calling as a builder of churches. He is said to have preached the gospel in India until his death from a spear wound, hence the spear in his shield.

\*This shield is on the north ceiling.\*

7 July 2024: Time after Pentecost (Lectionary 14) — "Wheat and Tares", green

This recalls that both believers and hypocrites dwell in the church and shall be separated at the Last Judgment, as described in the parable in Matthew 8:24-30.

14 July 2024: Time after Pentecost (Lectionary 15) — "Holy Baptism", green

The universal symbol for the sacrament of Holy Baptism is the font. This octagonal shape symbolizes regeneration while the font cover is surmounted by a cross representing redemption.

21 July 2024: Time after Pentecost (Lectionary 16) — "St. Jude the Apostle", red (green)

A carpenter by trade, Jude's missionary vision took him on extensive travels with Simon. Thus, Jude's shield is a boat hook and a carpenter's square.

25 July 2024: James, Apostle; and 28 July 2024: Time after

Pentecost (Lectionary 17) — St. James the Greater", red (green)

The scallop shell does not refer to St. James or any event in his life, but symbolizes him because the scallop shell was the badge of pilgrims to his shrine at Compostella, Spain. The scallop shell eventually became the badge of any Christian pilgrim.

Liturgical festivals for which there are no shields:

31 May 2024: Visit of Mary to Elizabeth

22 July 2024: Mary Magdalene, Apostle

--- 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: Roger Gregory, Bob 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, 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.

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### Upcoming Birthdays

6/27 Carl Crabiel  
6/30 Rowan Clark, Monroe Little  
7/3 Luke Crabiel, Fitz Harber, Laura Hreno  
7/4 Jennifer Scharbrough

### Upcoming Anniversaries

6/27 Susan & Jon Lewis  
6/29 Candice & Josh Tatum  
6/30 Sarah & Brett Quandt  
7/2 Katie & Kyle Bredehoeft

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## What's happening this week?

**TODAY**, June 27, 2024

**FRIDAY**

**SATURDAY**

**SUNDAY**, June 30, 2024

7:30 am Holy Communion (Spoken)

9:30 am Holy Communion (Live & Streamed - YouTube)

10:45 am Lemonade on the Lawn

**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



**NEXT THURSDAY, July 4, 2024**

10:00 am e-Blaze arrives

## [Church Calendar](#)

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### **Serving This Sunday (June 30th)**

Lector - Carl Crabiel

Acolyte - Zeke Bredehoeft

Communion Asst. - *needed*

Children's Sermon - Karen Feder

Usher - T. Wott/E. Tysklind

A/V - Nancy Slover

Communion Setup - The Daniells

Counters - J. Scharbrough & N.

Slover

### **Serving Next Sunday (July 7th)**

Lector - Ardy Hollingsworth

Acolyte - Lucia Ladrón de Guevara

Communion Asst. - *needed*

Children's Sermon - *needed*

Usher - Rick Roberts

A/V - Nancy Slover

Communion Setup - *needed*

Counters - J. Smith & K. Steele

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

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!



