



**Bethlehem Lutheran Church**

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Volume 2010 Issue 2

February 2010

**Bethlehem's  
Mission Statement**

Our Mission is to equip the saints for the work of ministry, to build up the body of Christ in faith, unity, maturity, and knowledge.

**Men's Bible  
Study**

The men of this community meet regularly each Thursday morning for fellowship, Bible study and prayer at 7:30 am at Peaceful Thymes.

Articles for the newsletter or bulletins can be sent to:

**blc312@gmail.com**

Thanks, Jennifer Slinden, Secretary

**Worship Service  
Broadcast Time**

Bethlehem Lutheran Church's Sunday morning service is broadcast on local Channel 8 on Mondays at 8 p.m.

**Remember Our Homebound**

**Brian Robert Detlefsen**, OID #223829, MCF Oak Park Heights, 5329 Osgood Ave North, Stillwater MN 55082-1117

**Harriett Johnson**, Bethesda Pleasant View-Room D3, 901 Willmar Ave. SE, Willmar MN 56201

**Bernice Slinden**, Bethesda Heritage – Room 227, 1012 East 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, Willmar, MN 56201

**Martin Buer**, Pleasant View Room E-9, 901 Willmar Ave SE, Willmar MN 56201

**Nettie Buer**, Pleasant View Room A6, 901 Willmar Ave SE, Willmar MN 56201

**Hazel Nielson**, Copper Leaf Senior Living Memory Care Unit Room 124, 1550 1st St N, Willmar, MN 56201

**Julene & Evelyn Johnson**, Copper Leaf Senior Living, 1550 1st St N, Willmar MN 56201

**Areline Slinden**, 122 West 4th St Apt 217, Litchfield MN 55355

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**Grace Matters**

*A radio ministry of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America*

Listen on

Sundays, 11:30 a.m. on KDUZ, 1260 AM

Sundays, 10:30 p.m. on WCCO, 830 AM

## From the Pastor

### Did You Know?

The Lenten season begins on February 17<sup>th</sup>. (Ash Wednesday) Lent is the time and season of the Church year in which we take an inward look in order to acknowledge our distance from God and God's will for our life along with acknowledging God's solution to our "sin" problem.

I know firsthand that the word "sin" has little meaning or relevance to today's modern liberal forward thinking people. I've even heard that "sin" has died because no one "sins" any more. Rather, they make mistakes, have personality quirks, or that things just aren't their fault because of the way that they were nurtured as children or by the way others have treated them in the past. So maybe we should just quite talking about "sin" altogether and begin to talk about ways that we can make ourselves better people through self-help books, or by offering physiological counseling to straighten out our pesky personality quirks or offer family counseling to insure healthy family systems.

While such suggestions have merit, they also have their consequences. If we are able to fix ourselves, if we are able to find other solutions to the problem of our, dare I say it, "sin", then we don't have a need for God. We don't need a God who loves us so much that he sent His only begotten Son to fix our "sin" problem and heal our relationship with God and with one another. If you don't like to use the word "sin" then feel free to insert any of the following: disobedient, arrogant, independent, willful, undisciplined, self-centered, etc.

For as outmoded and as political incorrect as it may be on Ash Wednesday, we will acknowledge our sin and be reminded that we are dust and to dust we shall return. But we will also acknowledge that because of what God has done for us in and through the life and death of Jesus, we are able to live and participate in a new life as "repentant sinners". A new life that is made possible through God's grace, that begins in baptism and continues throughout eternity in and through the resurrection of Jesus. What we cannot do for ourselves, God has done for us, because we are "sinners". Evidently, God doesn't care about being political correct.

In the weeks that follow Ash Wednesday we will be sharing our Lenten Journey with the members of the Immanuel congregation. We will learn about the *Six Spiritual Needs in America Today* and share in food and fellowship during this year's mid-week Lenten services. The mid-week Lenten services will begin at 7 p.m. Please watch the bulletin for times of food fellowship before the services.

**February 17<sup>th</sup> Ash Wednesday @ Bethlehem**

**February 24<sup>th</sup> *Six Spiritual Needs in America Today* @ Bethlehem "What are you holding on to?"**

**March 3<sup>rd</sup> "No Longer Home Alone" @ Immanuel**

**March 10<sup>th</sup> "You are My Beloved" @ Bethlehem**

**March 17<sup>th</sup> "Is Anybody Listening?" @ Immanuel**

**March 24<sup>th</sup> "Growing In God's Freedom" @ Bethlehem**

**April 1 Maundy Thursday @ Bethlehem**

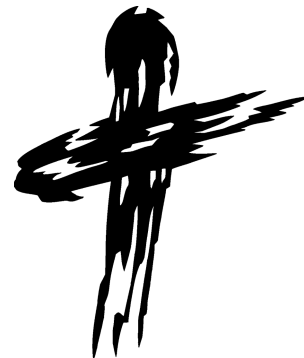
**April 2 Good Friday @ Immanuel**

**Bethlehem:**

**April 4 Easter – Sunrise 6:30 a.m.  
- Festival w/Communion 9:00 a.m.**

**There will be coffee following the first Easter service.**

*"Let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but to encouraging one another." (NRSV Hebrews 10:24-25a)*



**February Birthdays**

1. Tim Wallace  
Micah Peterson
4. Sean Buer  
Jonathan Slinden  
Cheryl Lamecker  
Jaden Amdahl  
Mina Paquette  
Eli Paquette
6. Carol Slinden  
Erin Koval  
Danny Buer  
Elijah Slinden  
Austin Mueller
7. Brian Roiland  
Liane Webb
9. Brenda Knacke
11. Jeana Denton
14. Kathleen Wallace
15. Karen Thompson
16. Cindy Peterson
17. Ruth Brown  
Hannah Sauter  
Josh Berg
21. Ann Peterson
23. Brody Larson
24. Casey Gipaya
25. Jade Bierwerth
26. Jennifer Amdahl
27. Bev Slinden  
Cheryl Miller
28. Marge Rierson

**February Anniversaries**

16. Julene & Evie Johnson
20. Josh & Janine Berg

**Ushers:** Jerry & Geraldine Ness  
John & Joan Larson

**Altar Care:** Va Loris Anderson  
Sandy Dorn

**Acolytes:** Feb. 7 Michael Larson  
Feb. 14 Jaden Amdahl  
Feb. 17 Tori Hayunga  
Feb. 21 Emily Kaiser  
Feb. 24 Zachary Krogman  
Feb. 28 Brody Larson

**Deacon:** Jerry Ness

**Readers:** Feb. 7 Terry Miller  
Feb. 14 Julie Woltjer  
Feb 21 Darlene Buer  
Feb 28 Jon Erickson

**Coffee Servers:**

Feb. 7  
Feb. 14 Sunday School  
Feb. 21 Ringler's  
Feb. 28 Linda Johnson

**Wanted** people or groups to sign up to  
serve coffee.

**Bethlehem Church Council Minutes  
December 9, 2009**

Present: Terry Miller, Janine Berg, Kathy Wallace, Larry Slinden, Phil Slinden, Jerry Ness, Pastor Grant Fischer, Lori Carnes, Darren Amdahl, David Johnson, Jan Dorn, John Larson  
Absent: Roger Kaiser

Meeting called to order by President Darren.  
Agenda was approved. Opening devotions by Pastor Grant.

**Pastor's report:** Light bulbs need replacing in church & back entry, a new switch is needed by the back door.

**Secretary's report:** no report, no meeting last month

**Treasure's report:** approved and filed for audit

**Financial secretary's report:** approved and filed for audit

**Deacon's report:** no meeting

**Parish Education:** no meeting

**Worship Committee:** no meeting

**Trustee's:** no meeting

**Stewardship committee:** no meeting

**Endowment:** no meeting

**Youth:** no meeting

**Old business:** no old business

**New business:** Break-in - security issues-motion made and seconded to use the old safe and to have an electronic keypad installed, Motion carried. Records will be put into a digital format and originals to be kept in fire proof box. Cleaning person: Julie Woltjer has resign effective as of December 21,2009. Kathleen Wallace will be taking over as of that date. Executive committee met and made out a budget, budget was presented to the full council. Motion made to accept and to present to the congregation at annual meeting. Motion seconded and carried. Motion made to give the secretary a raise in pay to be at \$12 per hour. Motion seconded and carried. Motion made to have the stained glass window repaired immediately and to have it reinstalled before Christmas. Motion seconded and carried. Motion to adorn. Motion carried. The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer by Darren Amdahl

**Dear Friends,**

Please know that LWR is putting your gifts to good use. We've been working with partners on the ground to ensure that the people of Haiti get access to food, water and shelter. Many of you have asked what else you can do to help. I am writing today to alert you of an opportunity. Today, along with partners at Church World Service, we sent a shipment of health kits and layettes to Haiti. That shipment depleted our stock of health kits in the Maryland warehouse. And we will need many more to fulfill needs in the coming weeks and months. Will you help us fulfill the need for health kits, quilts and school kits? We want to bring relief and comfort to the people of Haiti, but we also need to continue to fulfill requests from around the world. To do this, we need your help. Here's how:

\* Continue to \*give generously\*

\* Make \*health kits\*

\*quilts and \*school kits\*

There are several ways to get them to our warehouses, Drop your items off at one of our warehouses, or one of the year-round collection sites:

LWR Warehouse in South St. Paul, MN or Bring your items to one of the spring Ingathering collections, or Mail your items to one of our warehouses.

Thanks for being God's hands and heart to those in need in Haiti and across the world. I look forward to sending you more reports on how your love is helping to restore lives.

In Christ,

John Nunes

President and CEO

Lutheran World Relief.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after the Epiphany (Green) 8:45 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship w/communion	8	9	10 Quilting 9am 5:45pm Confirmation 7 pm Committee Mtg. 8 pm Council	11 7:30 am Men's Bible Study @ Peaceful Thyme	12 Lincoln's Birthday (Traditional)	13
14 Last Sunday after Epiphany (White) Valentine's Day 8:45am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship	15 Presidents' Day LAHBN Pie & Ice Cream 1pm	16	17 Ash Wednesday (Black/Purple) Quilting 9am 5:45pm Soup & Sandwich supper	18 7:30 am Men's Bible Study @ Peaceful Thyme	19	20 Uff da Day Grab Bag Wrapping 9 am
21 1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday in Lent (Purple) 8:45am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship	22 Washington's Birthday (Traditional) Legion Mtg. 8 am. @ Thompson's Bakery	23	24 Quilting 9am 5:45pm Soup & Sandwich Supper	25 7:30 am Men's Bible Study @ Peaceful Thyme	26	27
28 2nd Sunday in Lent (Purple) 8:45 am Sunday School 10:00 am Contemporary Worship w/communion						

### Addresses for college students:

**Megan Daun**, PO Box 3451, Concordia College, 901 8th St. S., Moorhead MN 56562

**Mary Larson**, Sterns Hall, 410 3rd Ave South, Room 924, St Cloud MN 56301-4495

**Joel Slinden**, Augustana College, PO Box 1801, 2001 S. Summit Ave, Sioux Falls SD 57197

**Liberty Slinden**, 500 Meredith Hall, 201 North Martin Jischke Drive, West Lafayette IN 47906-4230

**Bryce Thorp**, 1423 7th St S. Apt 207G, Waite Park MN 56387

**Kathy Lamecker**, 395 2nd Ave S Apt 2, St Cloud MN 56301

If you have any other addresses for college students please turn in to church office. Thanks

**Kendra Kinzler** has been overseas on deployment since mid Sept. and will not be back in the U.S. until sometime in May.

ABFAN KINZLER, KENDRA, R.  
AIR DEPT. /V-O  
USS BONHOMME RICHARD LHD-6  
FPO, AP 96617



Scott J. Buer. Scott passed away on January 22nd. Please keep the family in your prayers. Our Sympathy goes out to all his family and friends.

**The Women of Bethlehem will be working on making Health Kits for LWR.** These kits will be brought to the convention in June. We will have a work night to put them together sometime in the spring. You may bring the following items needed for these kits and place them in a box marked Health Kits that will be placed in the narthex of the church:

Hand Towels, Dark color recommended

Washcloths, Dark color recommended

Bath size bar of soap, 4-5 oz, any brand, in original wrapping

Adult size toothbrush in original packaging

Sturdy comb, remove packaging

Metal nail file or nail clippers with file attached, not packaged

Band aids 1/2 or 3/4 inch size.

Thanks for your help and generosity in donating these items.

**Good News Bearers** will be starting in February. Here are the dates for the remainder of the year:

February 3rd and 17th.

March 3rd, 17th, and 31st.

Then our last GNB date for the spring will be April 7.

**Ash Wednesday** services will be on Wednesday February 17th at 7 pm.

## Around the Community

**Brian Roiland and Lori Fischer** will be married in Oahu, Hawaii, March 30, 2010. There will be an open house Bridal Shower at Bethlehem Lutheran Church on February 6th from 10-12. Everyone welcome.

### **Atwater Lions Waffle Brunch & ACGC Preschool Bake Sale**

Sunday, February 7, 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Atwater Community Center.\*

All You Can Eat Dad's Belgium Waffles

\$5.50 per person and

children under 5 eat free.

Proceeds benefit the ACGC Preschool Scholarship Fund.\*

**Sunday School** is looking for **white cotton sheets**. We would like to make large band aids for February's Mission Sunday February 14th. If you would like to donate sheets, please give to Kim M Lee.

**Wanted items for grab Bags.** Boxes are also needed. Also wanted wool sweaters for an UF-FDA DAY project. All these items can be dropped off in the Uffda room. Any questions please ask Jennifer Slinden. Thanks. First wrapping of the grab bags will be on Saturday February 20th. Mark your calendars.

### WOMEN OF BETHLEHEM

The **Lakeland Conference WELCA Green Lake Bible Camp Winter Retreat** will be held on February 15 with registration and coffee beginning at 9AM. The speakers are Dani Lindner from the Shelter House and Corie Haverly from Lutheran Social Service.

The cost is \$12 and you should get your registration to Darlene Buer by Feb. 7<sup>th</sup>.

**The Living At Home Block Nurse Program** offers the following activities for the senior citizens of Atwater each month: First and Third Mondays of each month is bingo at the Community Center small meeting room starting at 1:00 pm. A variety of bingo games are played with prizes for each person who wins. Treats and coffee are also available. Second Monday of each month a movie is shown at Bethlehem Lutheran Church at 1:30 pm. Popcorn, coffee and treats are also available during or after the movie. Movie goers sit in comfortable chairs and watch the movie on a big screen.

You are welcome to join us for one or all of these events each month. There is no charge to attend these events. See you there!

**The Living At Home Block Nurse Program** is looking for drivers to deliver meals to the senior citizens of Atwater. We currently have an opening for delivery on Tuesdays. Delivery starts about 11:00 am and takes about a half hour. If you can help or would like more information, please call the LAHBNP office at 974-8737.

Block Nurse Program Living at Home Annual Presidents Day **Pie & Ice Cream** will be held on Monday, February 15th 1-4pm. At the Atwater Community Center.

**Spirit Paintings** the art of Jack Hayes. Please join us for this benefit event featuring the paintings of Jack Hayes, live music and refreshments. 50% of proceeds go to Haiti Disaster relief, Lutheran Campus Ministry, and other missions of University Lutheran Church. Supplemental funds provided by Thrivent Financial will amplify your support. February 6th, 3-6 pm at University Church, St Cloud Minnesota.

BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN  
CHURCH  
312 Main Street South  
PO Box 47  
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**TAKE UP  
YOUR CROSS**



**AND CARRY IT**