



Bethlehem Lutheran Church

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Volume 2012 Issue 1

January 2012

**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

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 3rd Street, Willmar, MN 56201

Martin Buer, Pleasant View Room A-4, 901 Willmar Ave SE, Willmar MN 56201

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

Hazel Nielson, Sunny View Assisted Living, Atwater, MN 56209

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

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

Ruth Brown, Rice Care Center, 1801 Willmar Ave W, Willmar, MN 56201

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



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From the Pastor's Desk

The New Year

To be truthful I'm not ready for a new year. It hardly seems possible that the last year is over. Yet, there is no stopping the march of time, so we move forward. But do we actually move forward? In a sense we do move forward chronologically. But do we really move forward emotionally and spiritually?

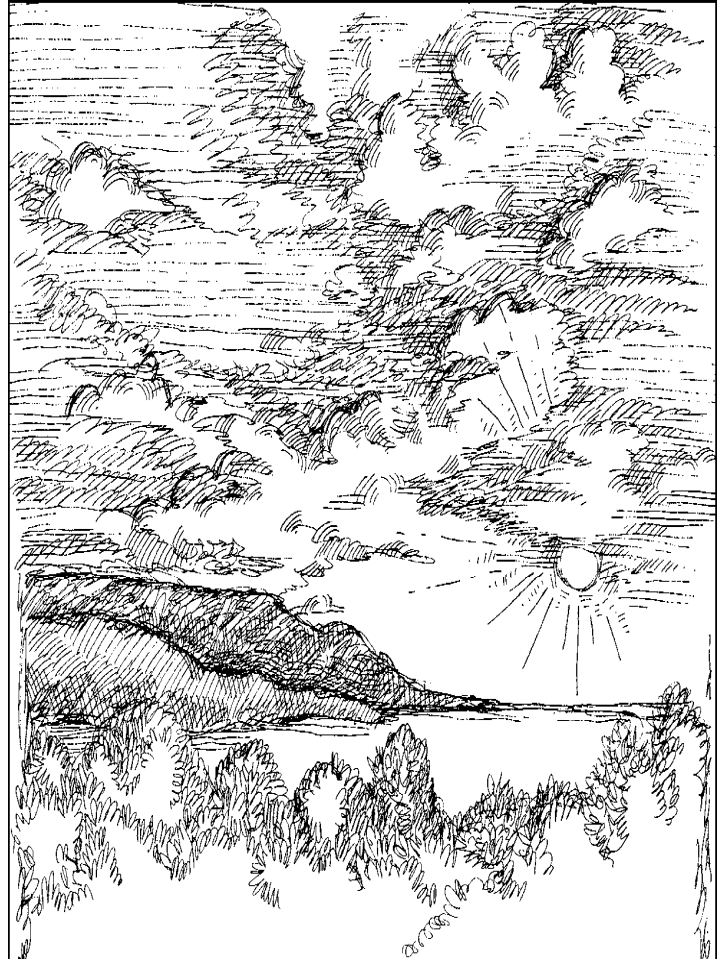
From where I sit, I observe most are just marking time, not making any real forward progress. They do the same things over and over again, all the while expecting different results. So for them a new year will look just the same as the old year. How sad!

In my reading last summer, I came across three summary statements. They were in reference to ways in which a congregation can evaluate themselves in the terms of identity, resources and mission. The three points are as follows: 1) Be who you are. 2) See what you have. and 3) Do what matters. These summary statements are written to be understood in the context of the "Great Commission" as found in Matthew 28: 19-20.

Now granted some assumptions are being made in the summary statements: 1) We actually know who we are. 2) We actually know what we have. and 3) We actually want to do what matters.

My thinking is that if we really want to experience a new year, it will be necessary to actually examine our identity both as individuals and as a congregation. It will be necessary to truthfully and realistically enumerate our resources as individuals and as a congregation. It will be necessary determine what it is that really matters for us to be about as individuals and as a congregation. In so doing, we may find that the new year will actually include new ways of view and living in a new year.

"So 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 encouraging one another," Hebrews 10:24-25



*From the rising of the sun
to the place where it sets,
the name of the
L O R D
is to be praised.*

Psalms 113:3

December Volunteers

January Birthdays

1. Richard Dahl
Kendra Pregler
2. Rachael Nelson
4. Bernice Slinden
5. Gerry Buer
Wayne Denton
Josie Hovey
6. Keith Thompson
Mackenzie Schmidt
7. VaLoris Anderson
11. Madison Denton
Amber Carlson
12. Jeff Benson
Isaiah Peterson
15. Kevin Christoffers
18. Erica Nelson
Kara Nonweiler
20. Justin Rierson
Richard Thorp
29. Sharron Shelrud
31. Sara Meyer

January Anniversaries

4. Andrew & Melissa Slinden
29. Brandon & Daniell Barker



Ushers: John & Laura Cunningham Family

Altar Care: Kathy Johnson
Megan Hoekstra

Deacon: Keith Detlefsen

Lectors: January 1 Julie Woltjer
January 8 Sally Belgum-Blad
January 15 Richard Thorp
January 22 Kathy Wallace
January 29 Jason Denton

Acolyte: January 1 Stacey Larson
January 8 Brody Larson
January 15 Hannah Sauter
January 22 Allison Smith
January 29 Erik Belgum

Offering Counter Helper:
John Cunningham all month

Coffee Servers:

January 1
January 8
January 15 Pot luck meal
Farewell to the Ness's
January 22 Sunday School
January 29

Open House Three Generation Birthday Party

for:

Doris Hanson—90th
Richard Thorp—60th
&

Danielle Stotesbery—30th
On

Saturday, January 7, 2012
2:00-4:00pm

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thurs.	Fri.	Saturday
1 First Sunday after Christmas (White) 10:00 am Worship w/communion Cub Scouts 6 pm New Year's Day	2	3	4 Quilting 9am 6:30 pm Alternate Confirmation Time	5 No Men's Bible Study	6	7 Thorp 3-Generation Birthday Party
8 1st Sunday after the Epiphany (White) 8:30 am Sunday School/Confirmation/Adult Forum 10:00 am Worship	9	10	11 Quilting 9am 6:30 pm Alternate Confirmation Time 7 pm Committee Mtg. 8pm Council	12	13	14
15 2nd Sunday after the Epiphany (Green) 8:30 am Sunday School/Confirmation/Adult Forum 10:00 am Worship Farewell Potluck for the Ness's	16 Martin Lutheran King Jr Day (Observed) 9:30 am Naomi-Sarah-Rachel Circle Monday Matinee @ 1:30 pm	17 American Legion Mtg 8 am @ Thompsons W.O.B. leadership mtg @ Kathy Johnsons 6:30 pm	18 Quilting 9am 6:30 pm Alternate Confirmation Time	19	20 Newsletter Deadline	21
22 3rd Sunday after the Epiphany (Green) 8:30 am Sunday School/Confirmation/Adult Forum 10:00 am Worship w/communion Annual Meeting	23	24	25 Quilting 9am 6:30 pm Alternate Confirmation Time	26	27	28 New Council Workshop 8:30am to noon
29 4th Sunday after the Epiphany (Green) 8:30 am Sunday School/Confirmation/Adult Forum 10:00 am Worship	30	31				

Bethlehem Lutheran Church
Council Minutes
November 9, 2011

Present: Jerry Ness, Marge Rierson, Pastor Fischer Julie Woltjer, Phil Slinden, Keith Detlefsen, Tim Wallace, Andy Slinden, Janine Berg, Jon Erickson, Ryan Lee

Absent: Lori Carnes, John Cunningham

Pastor led the council in devotions.

The meeting was called to order. A motion was made to accept the agenda. Motion seconded and approved.

Pastor's Report. Pastor reviewed his report with the council.

Secretary's report was approved as presented.

The Treasurer's and Financial Secretary's reports were approved as presented and placed on file subject to audit.

Deacons. No meeting

Parish Ed. No meeting

Worship. No meeting

Trustees. They are set to go on the Lipsit property. The purchase agreement was signed at the meeting. A permit for demolition is being applied for. Fall maintenance on the water-spouts is needed. Also, the gutters on the back of the church by the library need tightening.

Stewardship. No meeting

Endowment. No meeting

Youth. No meeting

Old Business:

Lipsit property. Discussion of funding for the project.

New Business:

The job to repair the joints and caulk the basement windows on the west side of the church has been delayed until spring.

The executive committee will meet before the December council meeting to develop a Proposed Financial Plan for Ministry for 2012.

The council will serve bars and coffee after the Thanksgiving service on November 23. Professional cleaning of the carpets in the basement and front entry. Discussion. A motion was made to hire someone to professionally clean the carpets in the basement and front entry. Motion seconded and approved. The trustees will find the appropriate people to do this job.

Motion to adjourn. Motion seconded and approved. The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.

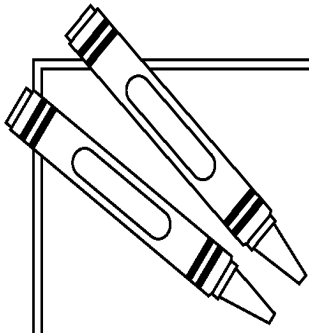
Respectfully Submitted,
Marge Rierson
Council Secretary



Thank you to Pastor Grant and everyone at Bethlehem for your prayers, support, and encouragement during my accident and recovery. Especially to Jason Denton who drove me to the ER and

insisted he stay until my family came, to Judy Stark who stepped up immediately to play for me during recovery, and to Bethlehem's choir, who continue to inspire me. I am so blessed to be a part of this warm and caring congregation and I look forward to the new year in your service.

Shirley Capistrant



Just for KIDS

Worship and Celebrate

In our many different denominations and congregations, we worship in many different ways. Although we may worship differently, we believe in the same God! We go to one God in worship and celebration!

Use the code to find words and phrases of things that God's people do in worship.

A	👤	F	🕯️	K	📖	P	🍷	U	👉	Z	🕊️
B	👤	G	🕯️	L	👉	Q	👉	V	👉		
C	👉	H	👉	M	👉	R	👉	W	👉		
D	🎵	I	👉	N	👉	S	👉	X	🕊️		
E	😊	J	👉	O	👉	T	👉	Y	😊		

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2. 🍷 😊 👤 😊

3. 🕊️ 🕯️ 🕯️ 🕯️ 🕯️ 🎵 👤 🕯️ 🎵 🕊️ 🕯️ 🕊️

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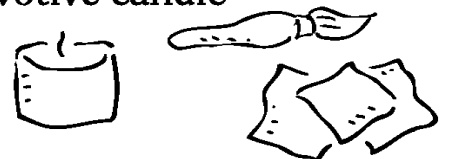


Make a Stained-Glass Candle



You will need:

- an empty glass jar
- colored tissue paper
- white glue
- paint brush
- votive candle



How to make it:

- Cut the tissue into small pieces.
- Paint the jar with glue.
- Arrange the pieces on the jar on the wet glue. Do not leave any empty spaces.
- Paint over the tissue with more glue. Let dry.

Place candle inside.



1. Praise, 2. Pray, 3. Light Candles, 4. Play Music, 5. Give Offerings, 6. Sit Quietly, 7. Communion, 8. Lift Your Hands, 9. Read Scriptures, 10. Sing, 11. Say "Amen"

Around the Community

To Bethlehem Church, Your donation of \$250 will help us in serving our neighbors in need. On behalf of the twenty thousand men, women, and children who used the foodshelf last year...thank you for your support. We couldn't continue our fight against hunger with out people like you.

Thank you,
The WAFS Board of Directors and Staff

UFFDA Ladies,

Thank you so much for your donation to our program. It is sincerely appreciated.

Connie Fieg
Program Director

On behalf of the West Central Tribune and

Main Street Willmar, partners in the Warm the Children program, we would like to extend our sincere thanks and appreciation for you generous donation. During this holiday season it is important for each of us to take a look inside and extend a hand to help those in need. We know that, with your help, we have made a difference for many needy children. In the last 17 years of the program we have served 6,424 children. And you are the one who has helped make this possible.

Thank you, Sharon, Donna & Cindy

Women of Bethlehem,

Thank you so much for your generous donation to the Grove City Area CARE program. E appreciate your thinking of us in this way!,

Sincerely,
Ronda Johnson

Women of Bethlehem

A meeting was held after church service on December 4, 2011 to disperse the Uffda Day funds. A detailed report will appear in the annual report.

A full Leadership Team meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 17th, at Kathy Johnson's house. It will begin with supper at 6:30 pm. We will brainstorm different ideas for the coming year.

Women of Bethlehem Uffda Day,

On behalf of the rice Hospice Program in Willmar, thank you for your generous and thoughtful donation of \$250. Your gift will help ensure that the programs and services of Rice Hospice are available for the people who need them. Your thoughtfulness and support are deeply appreciated.

Sincerely, Mary Beth Potter, RN, BAN, CHPN

Green Lake Lutheran Ministries

Green Lake Lutheran Ministries presents the life-changing love of Jesus

through the vibrant setting of camps and retreats.

CAMP REGISTRAR

Green Lake Lutheran Ministries is a non-profit organization that is owned and operated by 186 Lutheran congregations in Minnesota. This position requires a person who is eager and able to join the rest of the staff at GLLM in an open, caring, supportive and cooperative ministry whose purpose is to serve campers, retreat guest and congregations in spreading the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Serve as Camp Registrar from January-August (approx. 30 hours per week)

Process camper registrations

- Entering campers in books and in the computer
- Camper correspondence
- Balancing records daily
- Maintain registration and congregational files
- Communicate by phone/mail/fax/email with individuals and/or congregations concerning camp registrations.

June-August -this may require some Sunday evening work

- Prepare weekly registration lists.
- Enter final registration data in the computer and printouts for the week

Secretarial Duties

-Assume miscellaneous duties as assigned by the Business Manager.

- Assist with answering phones
- Greet guests

Salary & Benefits

Average of 30 hours a week, 5 or 6 hours a day. During the summer months your workload will lighten and hours may be 20-25/week.

Hourly pay is \$9.00 an hour.

Vacation and Sick Time are provided based on percentage of employment.

Please see Jennifer Slinden in the church office if you would like an application for this job.

**BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN
CHURCH**

312 Main Street South
PO Box 47
Atwater MN 56209



**Jerry & Geraldine Ness fair well potluck will be on
January 15th, 2011. Please bring a dish to share.
Beverage and bread will be provided.**

**The Annual Meeting for Bethlehem Lutheran Church
will be held on January 22, 2012
Following the Worship Service.**

