



# Bethlehem Star

July 2017

## **Bishop Aitken forwarded news about the YAGM program.**

Bishop Thomas Aitken sent a very exciting news story to all NE MN ELCA churches. **Young Adults in Global Mission** has increased so much, it is incredible. A number of the YAGMs are from our own synod. It brought fond memories back of the time when Janet and I were young adults in global mission in a predecessor program through the LCA, 1978-1980. Our years as short-term missionaries in Japan were priceless to us, and we hope we were a blessing to the people to whom we were sent. But this much I know, the people with whom we served were an amazing blessing to us. I will never forget their faith and their love of God and each other. These programs through which we send our young people do significant mission. But the additional benefit, the unintended blessing returns to the one who goes. I have seen it in so many lives. The one who seeks to be a blessing, receives such a blessing in return. Often times these experiences are life changing. That to me is a powerful reason to support our young people as they pursue God's call in their lives.

Bishop Thomas Aitken included this news excerpt from the ELCA Global Links.

### ***Record number accept call to Young Adults in Global Mission***

*Ninety-six volunteers from the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) have [accepted the call](#) to serve with Young Adults in Global Mission during the 2017-18 program year. This yearlong ELCA program, which started in 1999 with just eight young adults serving in the United Kingdom, has now grown to a record number. [Make a gift to the program today](#) to ensure that more young adults have an opportunity to serve in the future.*

### ***Choose your own (YAGM) adventure***

*Mallory Gonia, an ELCA Young Adults in Global Mission volunteer serving in Cambodia, [writes an exciting blog](#), offering readers a chance to choose their own adventure. Which adventure will you embark on?*

***Journey with the Global Church:*** *Don't forget that 2017 is the Global Church theme year for Always Being Made New: The Campaign for the ELCA. **Share Global Links:** Stay connected with Global Links which you will find on the [www.elca.org](http://www.elca.org) website. Just look for Resources and find Global Mission. There will be a wealth of exciting stories and good news!*

One more word about young adults in mission. Recently I brought our young Bethlehem campers to Camp Hiawatha on Deer Lake north of Grand Rapids. They were warmly welcomed into a Christ centered fun week at Bible camp by wonderful young counselors. One counselor told me how "camp" brought her back to "church," and that now she wants to share that excitement for Christ with others. Another counselor who wishes to become a pastor was preparing for an entrance interview with the Bishop and the Candidacy committee – seminary for her next fall! On Sunday, July 30 our middle school campers will meet these awesome young adults in ministry at Camp Vermilion. Lives will be touched, faith will be strengthened, paths may be chosen, and God will lead. I find it all so very encouraging!

Blessings will abound! See you in Church,  
*Pastor Mark*

## Worship Notes for Summer

Sunday worship featuring the new liturgy, the Detroit Folk Mass, has been great. We will continue this liturgy through the summer, with a few great interruptions. The first fabulous change will be the Fifth Annual Jazz Liturgy by Mike DeBevec on July 9. This year the Sky Blue Jazz Ensemble will be joined

by the Bethlehem choir directed by Paul Muus with an invitation to all members of the communities choirs to join in.

The next change in our liturgy will be July 16 when the North Shore Community Swing Band will lead our service with tunes from gospel traditions and some of that ol' time

religion.

Let me share a word of wisdom with you, from one of our saints from years ago, Mable Stoltz would often say, "You don't want to miss a single Sunday, because if you do, you'll miss something great!" Indeed, come and be inspired, and be sent out singing!

## Bethlehem Day at Wilderness Canoe Base ~ Wednesday July 19

Kristin and Bill Middlesworth invite all of Bethlehem to come to camp! Wednesday, July 19 anyone and everyone are invited to a day of fun at Wilderness.

There will be good food, crafts, nature hikes canoeing, swimming, sauna and songs around the campfire. We will carpool to Wilderness from church at 8:00 a.m. and return after supper.



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## VBS was great!!

We had such an amazing leadership team: Laurie Spry and Shelby Anderson led the way and put in countless hours. Their amazing team was Bev Johnson, Greg Gentz, Joan Ege, Kathy Johnson, Shirley Soderholm, Cece Chmelik, Anna Heeren, Jamie Kirk, Taylor Everson, Abbie Prom, Amery Oberg, Theresa Oberg, Paavo Rova, Savanna Shepard, Molly Quello, Amy Carpenter, Molly LaVigne, Camryn Johnson, Isaac Sandstrom, Ryan Shannon, Barb Coe, Camron Coe, Morgan Starkey, Tina Eich, Joel Eich, Paul Muus, J. Shannon, Linnea Gesch, Weston Heeren, Emma Gesch, Janet Ditmanson, Jim and Janet Ringquist, Brooke Shannon, and Lyle Anderson. That is a great crew! Plus, over 68 kids attended and had a fantastic time learning that God is the maker of all things and that each and every person is created for a purpose. Our plan is to follow up with all those kids and offer an invitation to Sunday School next September!





## Mission of the Month

The mission this month for July continues the E.L.C.A. Always Being Made New Campaign for Global Church priority. We are called to be His “witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” Acts 1:8 Jesus gave us a big job. If we are ever doubtful about our ability, we just pray for the Spirit and we are able.

Your contributions aid global ministries touching countless lives in diverse helpful ways. Please use the envelopes in the pews and write ELCA Campaign in the memo line of your check.



## Habitat for Humanity Project in Superior WI June 9

Mike Youngquist led a group of five members from Bethlehem to Superior WI to install the rebar frame work for a poured concrete slab on a new home construction site. They were joined by Gregory Hanson of Thrivent Financial, Jonathan, the Habitat for Humanity contractor, and Daren the future home owner. It was a great project, a great work of love in the

name of Jesus. We will be invited to help out again. Soon we hope to hear the schedule of the next stages. Thank you to our team from June 9, Cindy Muus, Jim Ringquist, Pastor Mark, Gail England, Mike Youngquist.



## Youth and Family Ministry News

**Many thanks to Linda Zenk and Kathy Johnson:** On June 11 Linda and Kathy, our membership committee, organized a church wide picnic to honor our teachers and provide a positive time of fellowship. That day was too rainy for all the outdoor games that were planned, but a fabulous time of celebrating our life together was a great success.

**New Youth and Family Ministry Coordinator – Cara Sporn:**  
Cara gets started later this month.

We are looking forward to this new chapter in our ministry on the north shore and beyond.

**National Youth Gathering 2018** ~ Now is the time for youth entering grades 9-12 to start planning for the national gathering. But first these cautions: National Youth Gatherings are not for everyone! This is a big commitment! The Synod Journey to the 2018 Gathering is INTENSE! The financial and time commitment cannot be taken lightly! This is NOT a vacation! This will cost a minimum of \$1,250.00 per person! Dedication to Fundraising is essential!

### *So who should go to the National Gathering?*

Youth and adults who want to grow in their faith! Youth and adults willing to consider questions of faith and life and wonder about the ways God is active in their lives. Youth and adults willing to be challenged by a diverse gathering of 30,000 Lutherans from across the country united in Christ for service to the world! Youth and adults ready to experience the high energy of dynamic worship that will fill the Houston Dome!



## A Note from Stewardship

“Come on in and Tithe one on! Remember, we don’t give until it hurts! We give until it feels good!” We do want to say thank you for your strong support of God’s work through Bethlehem. You make the mission effective! We also want to remind you of the possibility of using automatic withdrawal as a giving style. Simply Giving, through Thrivent Financial allows you to choose your account from which your offerings will be automatically withdrawn and sent to church.

Forms are available through the church office or from Theresa Oberg. Through Simply Giving you can let go of any worry about forgetting your offering, or missing a Sunday when you are away. You are in charge and you can make sure that your offering in support of God’s work gets to your church.

## Property Committee Issues its Gratitude

### **The Paint Angel is at it again:**

The sanctuary windows are getting a coat of new paint. Thank you so much!! All that scraping and finishing, hard work!

### **Thank you to Lyle Anderson:**

The storage shed looks great with a new coat of stain and all the brushing out. What a job getting rid of all the shrubs and junk that accumulated. It looks great! Thanks a million.

### **VBS/Youth Theater Installed:**

Thanks to Larry Spaulding for the installation of the ceiling mounted projector and screen in the youth room.

### **Gardens Planted and Watered:**

Many thanks to Joni and Nathan Kristenson and Janet and Mark Ditmanson for planting the raised bed gardens behind the church.

Potatoes are in for the Wednesday school kids to harvest next fall.

Tomatoes, onions, parsley, beets, zucchini, beans and more. Thank you to Kathy Johnson for watering our planters and summer flowers.

### **Sanctuary Projects get under way:**

Thanks to Bruce Johnson who is starting the project to install projection screens in the sanctuary.

### **LED Tube lights purchased and soon to be installed:**

Ben Hallberg will be organizing a crew to install over 200 new LED tube lights to replace our old fluorescent tubes.

The council voted to change over to these energy saving and long lasting LED lights. We will cut our electric use for lighting in half. If you want to help, contact Ben.

### **The Yard Crew is Great:**

Thank you to Gene Erickson for mowing the church yards, sometimes twice a week



## Thank You from the membership committee

The Membership Committee would like to give a really big and grateful THANK YOU to everyone who helped make the recent Sunday School Picnic

a huge success. We hope it will become an annual event Although we called it the Sunday School picnic,

it was in honor of ALL educators at Bethlehem Lutheran Church. Kathleen Johnson & Linda Zenk Membership Committee.







## Inside Story Headline

This story can fit 150-200 words.

One benefit of using your newsletter as a promotional tool is that you can reuse content from other marketing materials, such as press releases, market studies, and reports.

While your main goal of distributing a newsletter might be to sell your product or service, the key to a successful newsletter is making it useful to your readers.

A great way to add useful content to your newsletter is to develop and write your own articles, or include a calendar of upcoming

events or a special offer that promotes a new product.

You can also research articles or find “filler” articles by accessing the World Wide Web. You can write about a variety of topics but try to keep your articles short.

Much of the content you put in your newsletter can also be used for your Web site. Microsoft Publisher offers a simple way to convert your newsletter



*Caption describing picture or graphic.*

to a Web publication. So, when you’re finished writing your newsletter, convert it to a Web site and post it.

## Inside Story Headline

This story can fit 100-150 words.

The subject matter that appears in newsletters is virtually endless. You can include stories that focus on current technologies or innovations in your field.

You may also want to note business or economic trends, or make predictions for your customers or clients.

If the newsletter is distributed internally, you might comment upon new procedures or improvements to the business. Sales figures or earnings will show how your business is grow-

ing.

Some newsletters include a column that is updated every issue, for instance, an advice column, a book review, a letter from the president, or an editorial. You can also profile new employees or top customers or vendors.

*“To catch the reader's attention, place an interesting sentence or quote from the story here.”*

## Inside Story Headline

This story can fit 75-125 words.

Selecting pictures or graphics is an important part of adding content to your newsletter.

Think about your article and ask yourself if the picture supports or



*Caption describing picture or graphic.*

enhances the message you’re trying to convey. Avoid selecting images that appear to be out of context.

Microsoft Publisher includes thousands of clip art images from which you can choose and import into your newsletter. There are

also several tools you can use to draw shapes and symbols.

Once you have chosen an image, place it close to the article. Be sure to place the caption of the image near the image.

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*Belonging to Christ, Sharing Christ on  
the North Shore and beyond.*

