

Bethlehem Star

June 2017

500th Anniversary of the Reformation

Bethlehem Lutheran Church has been participating in the **Always Being Made New: The Campaign for the ELCA**. We have contributed each year toward Renewing Congregations, Youth and Young Adult Ministries, Ending Malaria, and World Hunger. More than halfway through this historic effort, ELCA members have come together to contribute \$113 million in support of these ministries. From growing communities of faith and welcoming our neighbors to confronting hunger and poverty, accompanying our global companion churches and forming new leaders, the campaign offers each of us an opportunity to get involved in God's amazing work.

A message from the Campaign: This year, as we commemorate the 500th anniversary of the Reformation, we are reaffirming our commitment to restoring and reconciling communities in Jesus' name throughout the world through the Global Church priority, including Missionaries and Young Adults in Global Mission, International Women Leaders and Global Ministries. Through these programs, we are building up Christ's church by sending missionaries and volunteers, training leaders, planting new churches and growing existing ones. Join us by supporting this work and sharing the impact of these programs on the lives of our neighbors around the world. The church owes a great deal of thanks to generous donors, congregations, synods, partner ministries and volunteer leadership tables – like the Campaign Steering Committee and Bishop's Advisory Council, who are stepping forward to extend the impact of the campaign. Thank you for your support!

A message from our Bishop: "We said about the campaign, 'Together we can do more.' I think we surprised ourselves. Responding to God's generosity, our people have also been generous. Through the campaign, we have changed lives across this church and around the globe. But our lives have changed too. We have discovered that the E.L.C.A. is neither helpless nor poor, and that truly, with God all things are possible. Many thanks to members, congregations and synods for their faithful and adventurous participation in the campaign." Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton, presiding bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

Together we can do more! What are we accomplishing together?

- ***17 Women*** received International Women Leaders Scholarships including four-year scholarships to E.L.C.A. colleges and universities.
 - ***21 New or Enhanced Youth and Young Adult Ministries*** received campaign grants.
 - ***250 Seminary Students*** with an E.L.C.A. Fund for Leaders scholarship in 2016-2017.
 - ***63 Countries*** around the world with E.L.C.A. World Hunger supported programs.
 - ***84 Young Adults in Global Mission*** volunteers sent into service in August with two new countries Senegal and Australia.
 - ***225 Missionaries*** served with E.L.C.A. in 2016.
 - ***300 Domestic hunger grants*** support sustainable solutions that get at the root causes of hunger and poverty across the U.S.
 - ***21 Renewing Congregation Grants*** in 18 synods distributed.
 - ***372 New Start Ministries*** under development across the E.L.C.A.
- 79 International Lutheran Women*** representing 38 countries participated in the International Women Leaders Seminar, Wittenberg, Germany.

A message from your Pastor: **"Wow!"**

Worship Notes for Summer

Wednesday Worship will not be held during the summer months; we will start again in September. Sunday worship will feature a new liturgy the Detroit Folk Mass. Come and enjoy a service that will not only move your spirit but will get your feet moving too.



Sunday, June 4th a special India Presentation Lisa Rillo

Sunday, June 4th a special India Presentation by Lisa Rillo. Lisa is daughter of Howard and Joan Abrahamson. I hope you will come to hear this powerful program. In her words: "Come hear about my recent mission trip to Kolkata, India and about how one organization, **Freeset**, is helping women who are in trapped in the sex trade start a new life of freedom for themselves and their children.

Freeset sits at the gateway to the largest red light district in Kolkata, Sonagacchi. Ten-thousand women live there and sell their bodies to the approximately 40,000 men who visit daily. As is written in the book of Isaiah 61:3," to bestow on them a crown of beauty instead of ashes, the oil of joy instead of mourning and a garment of praise instead of a spirit of despair", this is what you see on the faces of those women who have found freedom!"

Welcome new members: Stephen and Rae Poynter; Emma Spoon and Shane Steele

This month we announce the addition of these new members. Emma and Shane were welcomed into fellowship at our closing Wednesday worship service May 24th. Rae and Stephen are being welcomed at our June 4 service.



New Group Forming

Stephen Poynter, our new member, is excited to create a new group at Bethlehem for members in their 20s and 30s. The group will decide on format and time, hoping to share faith, listen to the Word, be a social group for each other. Call Stephen at (cell) 715-271-8591



Mission of the Month

The mission this month for June is 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 and members from our community will be heading down to Superior WI to help get a new house started. The date is Friday, June 9. We will be leaving bright and early and returning

late. There may still be room for you to join the work crew. A great work of love in the name of Jesus and a great way to have worthwhile fellowship doing good!



Augsburg College Choir! Wednesday, May 3rd

We had such a great response by people welcoming students into their homes. 54 students had home stays. Thank you to all of you.

The concert was so inspired and featured such a great selection of music. The choir director Mark Sedio writes

“Sincerest thanks to you and the good people of Bethlehem Lutheran for your gracious hospitality during our stay in Grand Marais. I have to say that the concert and our time there was the highlight of our northern MN tour. You’re the best!”.

Thrivent Choice Dollars

We recently received the good news that \$4,368.00 has been donated to Bethlehem so far in 2017 through the Thrivent Choice Dollar program. That amount includes some of the donations that were eligible in

2016 but were not designated until the cut-off at the end of March 2017.

We will let you know of further “good news” donations. We want to say a very BIG THANK YOU to all our Thrivent members who designate their Choice Dollars to Bethlehem.





Bethlehem Honored and Blessed 2017 Graduates

This year we had a wonderful group of graduates to bless on May 21st at the Sunday service. Tarin Hanson, Hannah and Sarah Toftey, Bayley Cox, Maranda and Mariah Deschampe, Noah Roth, Logan Backstrom, and Krissy Backstrom.

Each received a quilt from the Bethlehem Quilters, and with the quilt they were blessed by the prayers of this congregation. This year a fun fact to remember is that four of these graduates were given a baptismal quilt in the first year we started that program.

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Bethlehem will host the 2017 Baccalaureate Worship Service, June 1st at 7:00 p.m.

Pastors Kris Garey and Beth Benson are creating the format for the worship service this year. Pastor Mark is preaching and has selected the story of Elijah's mantle and the promise of the Spirit of Truth in John 16 as the theme.

Paul Muus and friends will be leading the music. All Cook County congregations are invited to participate. Also leading in the worship will be Pastor Thomas Murray, Father Seamus Walsh, representatives of Spirit of the Wilderness Episcopal, and Zoar Lutheran.

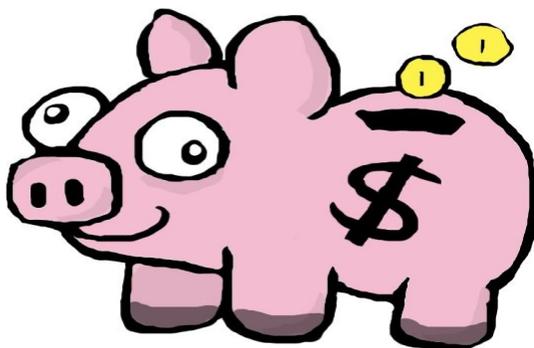


World Hunger Coin Jar: \$941.10

(\$741.10 in coins; \$200.00 in cash; plus 1 shekel, one Canadian nickel, 2 5cent pieces from the Netherlands, and one washer) Once again our children (helped by all our adults) collected a great donation for World Hunger!!

Pastor Mark and Janet Ditmanson took the check for \$941.10 to the April 30 Synod Assembly where our children's donation was combined with the 138 congregations of the NE MN Synod and reached a total of **\$9,317.25**.

I am so proud and amazed at the collections of our children (and your help) I am motivated to challenge the other 137 congregations to match our kids' donation. What a gift to world hunger that will be.



Vacation Bible School June 12-16

There are many opportunities for you to help or donate to the Vacation Bible School program. Volunteers are needed, supplies and donations as well. See the display in the narthex or call Laurie Spry or Shelby Anderson for information how you can make a difference.

Introducing our Youth and Family Ministry Coordinator – Cara Sporn:

Cara is well acquainted with all our programs for children and youth. We are very excited that she has stepped into this important role for our church and we anticipate the continuing blessing of all our programs of Christian nurture. With her own children in elementary, middle school and high school, Cara is passionate and knowledgeable about all our programs.

She has taught our classes in the elementary programs on Wednesday afternoons and now has been teaching our in our confirmation program, as well as having been a retreat leader for many years.

LSS Invites You to an Open House

Hello Northeast Minnesota Congregations!

We invite you for an opportunity to see the new Center for Changing Lives, Duluth. All are welcome to the Community Open Houses on Sunday, June 11th from 2:00-4:00pm and Monday, June 12th from 5:00-7:00pm. Did you know that Lutheran Social Service has been serving youth in Duluth for 101 years? Come and take part in the good work of Lutheran Social Service and this innovative model for helping youth experiencing homelessness. Please spread the word!

Thank you for all your support, making a difference in the lives of so many young people. We appreciate you!

With gratitude,
Robin (Maxwell) Pestalozzi,
MNM
Northeast Minnesota Development Officer

Bethlehem honored at the Synod Assembly

This year Bethlehem was honored as one of the 67 congregations of the Northland ELCA Churches who responded to the Building Appeal for the Center for Changing Lives. The Servant of Christ 2017 Award is posted on our bulletin board.







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.*

