



## Bethlehem Lutheran Church

417 First Avenue West, PO Box 638

Grand Marais, MN 55604

218-387-2227

[www.sharingchrist.org](http://www.sharingchrist.org) | [blc@boreal.org](mailto:blc@boreal.org)

December 11, 2024

*Worship Schedule:*

SUNDAYS 10:00AM

WEDNESDAYS 6:00 PM

# HOLDEN EVENING PRAYER



Wednesdays  
in Advent

5:30 pm

Community Meal

6:00 pm

Worship Service

Bethlehem Lutheran Church

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# Prayer Requests

**Darold Rosbacka**

In GM hospital with liver & kidney failure

**Dick Kayser**

Recovering from successful knee replacement surgery

**Kati Kristenson Stieler & family**

Living with painful cancer

**Barb Coe**

Dealing with health issues

**Gene Erickson**

Dealing with health issues.

**Cathy Hawkinson**

Continues to recover from neck surgery

*How can we pray for you?*

## Care Partners Annual **Light Up a Life Ceremony** **Thursday, December 12** 5:30pm, Johnson Heritage Post

Care Partner's annual *Light Up a Life* ceremony offers community members the opportunity to remember the life of a loved one during the holiday season. Each donation helps light up our memory tree, which will be located downtown in front of the Johnson Heritage Post. Donation forms are available at area businesses and in the November and December issues of Northern Wilds. Or, use the buttons below to download a mail-in form, or make an online donation.

The Tree Lighting will be held at the Johnson Heritage Post on Thursday, December 12th at 5:30 pm. The evening will begin indoors with a brief ceremony of remembrance and connection, followed by the lighting of the Memory Tree. A short reflection will be shared by Mary Ellen Ashcroft, and special music will be provided by Erik Torch. Light refreshments will be served following the ceremony.

Donations to Light Up a Life help Care Partners support older adults in Cook County on the journey of aging and end-of-life. For more information, contact Care Partners at 387-3788 or email [info@carepartnersofcookcounty.org](mailto:info@carepartnersofcookcounty.org).



*Rejoice*  
**IN THE LORD**  
*always.*  
PHILIPPIANS 4:4



O come, o come  
**Emmanuel**

**December 15th**

**10:00 am Worship &  
Sunday School**



*Readings and Psalm for Sunday December 15<sup>th</sup>:*

*Zephaniah 3:14-20 Rejoice, the LORD is in your midst*

*Isaiah 12:2-6 In your midst is the Holy One of Israel.*

*Philippians 4:4-7 Rejoice, the Lord is near*

*Luke 3:7-18 One more powerful is coming, baptizing with fire*



**WORSHIP**  
*with us!*  
**CANDLELIGHT**  
SERVICE

**CHRISTMAS  
EVE WORSHIP  
SERVICES:  
3:00 AND 5:00 PM  
CANDLELIGHT  
LESSONS & CAROLS**



Care for our neighbors experiencing homelessness and poverty by supporting Chum (Churches United in Ministry), our December Mission of the Month. Chum is "People of faith working together to provide basic necessities, foster stable lives, and organize for a just and compassionate community," serving people from the Duluth area and beyond with Stabilization Services (drop-in center, medical clinic, helping people in crisis transition), Food Distribution Services (operating Duluth's largest food shelf), Housing Services, and Congregational Outreach, Advocacy, and Organizing. In addition to financial contributions, we encourage you to consider supporting Chum's mission by volunteering, joining Chum's advocacy efforts, or donating warm winter hats and mittens to the tree in the narthex.

## Chum Is Made Up Of 4 Big Parts



Stabilization Services  
*Helping those in Crisis transition*



Food Distribution Services  
*Making sure everyone stays fed*



Congregational Outreach, Advocacy, and Organizing

*The backbone of our organization*



Housing Services  
*Responding to the housing shortage in the area*

## DECEMBER

## MEMBER

## CHALLENGE:



*Warm Winter*

The season of snow and cold is upon us! Please help our neighbors stay warm this winter by filling up the tree in the narthex with hats, mittens, scarfs and warm socks. Collected donations will be shared with CHUM and Damiano Center in Duluth. The tree will be up until Epiphany, January 5, 2025.



# For what shall we pray?

December 10, 2024



## Prayer prompts:

For the nation of Syria of conflict, transition, and uncertainty...

For peace among nations of the world...

For all victims of gun violence...

For victims of gang violence in Haiti and for grieving families...

For those struggling to afford or access healthcare...

For safety and advocacy for those without stable housing...

For those affected by earthquakes in California and Nevada, and for those affected by brush fires in southwestern California...

For continued political stability in South Korea and France, and for the safety of political protesters in the nation of Georgia...

## Events and observances:

Human Rights Day (Dec 10)

Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe (Dec 12)

Lucy, martyr, died 304 (Dec 13)

John of the Cross, renewer of the church, died 1591 (Dec 14)

Bill of Rights Day (Dec 15)



## *Gratitude makes the difference*

Most nights before bed, I write in a gratitude journal a few things from my day that made me smile, that I'm proud of or that brought me a sense of peace.

Journaling trains me to focus on life-giving, joyful moments and not lose track of these when I'm struggling or feeling overwhelmed. Something about physically keeping track of joys helps me remember them and look for more of them the next day.

Cultivating gratitude helps me take more notice of what I focus on. Even if it is just that a particularly hard day is over, goodness exists. Naming this goodness helps it to become more real and present. I think of Scripture, where the author of Lamentations writes:

*"The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning;*

*great is your faithfulness"*

*(Lamentations 3:22-23).*

When I write down the goodness I see, I tend to see goodness more easily.

This message is excerpted from "Singing, writing, moving, connecting" by Jordan Miller-Stubbendick in the December 2020 Gather magazine.

# Borealis Orchestra & Chorale Community Concert

ΠΡΟΣΑΡΧΑ, ΔΕΚΕΜΒΡΙΟΣ 13

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ΣΑΒΒΑΤΟΜΑΧΗΡΙΟΣ ΔΕΚΕΜΒΡΙΟΣ 14

7:00 πμ αι

ΒΕΘΛΕΗΜ

LUTHERAN CHURCH



Come to enjoy this marvelous Advent experience, where our community comes together for a fabulous night of marvelous music that will warm your hearts and soul as you prepare for Christmas.



**“Thanks be to God for his  
incredible gift!”**  
2 Corinthians 9:15

In the hustle and bustle of the season, we pray that you will be renewed in faith, encouraged by hope, and filled with the love of God.

To celebrate together, we invite you to join us for a special virtual Christmas concert – **Home for the Holidays** featuring Steven Curtis Chapman. Take time with family and friends to enjoy the sounds of this joyous season.

**On-demand Dec 10-24, 2024**

[https://www.thrivent.com/member-network/  
events/steven-curtis-chapman](https://www.thrivent.com/member-network/events/steven-curtis-chapman)

**thrivent**<sup>®</sup>

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

If you have any questions, please contact  
[goodsteward@thrivent.com](mailto:goodsteward@thrivent.com)



## **Christmas Poinsettias**

*We are decorating the sanctuary with poinsettias on Christmas Eve. If you would like to have a poinsettia placed in the sanctuary for the Christmas Eve services, please fill out a form and bring it to the church office or place it in the offering plate no later than Sunday, December 22<sup>nd</sup> 2024. Cost is \$12.00.*

Cornerstone Community Church  
1 Cedar Grove Lane  
Grand Marais, MN

invites you to our 2024  
*Community Christmas*  
*Open House*

Saturday December 14, 2024  
2:00 - 4:00 PM

Featuring  
**Arrowhead Animal Rescue**  
and  
**Fountain of Christ School and Children's Home**  
Pingon, Haiti

All donations and sales to Animal Rescue and Fountain of Christ.

Free Event!  
*Everyone is welcome!*

*I know many of you live out of city limits, but it's important that we all observe these parking rules. Think of those that have to live here and may have to hike over the mounds of snow drifts left on our street because parking rules aren't considered when in town.—Thanks so much, Denise.*

# WINTER PARKING ORDINANCE CHANGES

**WINTER IS HERE, AND SO ARE THE NEW PARKING RULES TO KEEP OUR STREETS CLEAR AND SAFE! HERE'S WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW TO AVOID GETTING SNOWED IN OR TOWED:**

## **NEW HOURS FOR OVERNIGHT PARKING:**

Remember, parking on Highway 61 is now prohibited from 2 AM to 7 AM. Give those plows room to work their magic!

## **CALENDAR PARKING IN EFFECT:**

Starting November 15 at 12:01 a.m. through April 15 at midnight, follow this rule daily:

- **Odd days:** Park on the side with odd-numbered addresses
- **Even days:** Park on the side with even-numbered addresses

## **ADDITIONAL RESTRICTIONS:**

Some areas will be off-limits for parking all winter long.



**Thank you  
for your help keeping our  
roads cleared and safe!**



# Christmas Poinsettias

If you would like to have a poinsettia placed in the sanctuary for the Christmas Eve services, please fill out the following information and bring this form to the church office or place it in the offering plate

**By Sunday, December 22<sup>nd</sup> 2024**

The cost for each poinsettia is \$12.00



Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ I will pick up my poinsettia after worship

\_\_\_\_\_ I wish to leave my poinsettia in the sanctuary



## Hey Sunday School Kids!

Did you miss the photo shoot last Sunday? If you want to be in the Christmas Pageant slideshow, track down Hilja Iverson at church and she'll get your picture. This Sunday, Dec 15, is the last day to be included.

**Did you fill out and return your commitment card? We'd sure appreciate your help to develop next year's budget. Please fill out the form and drop it off.**



# GOD'S BECAUSE OF GREAT MERCY



In support of the ministry of Bethlehem Lutheran Church:

I/We will give \$ \_\_\_\_\_ per week/month/year for the coming year. (circle one)

- This represents an increase of at least ½ of 1% or more of our household income. (check box if this is true)
- I/We would like offering envelopes. \_\_\_ Weekly \_\_\_ Monthly \_\_\_ Holiday (check your choice)
- I/We do not need envelopes. I will send or place my offering in the plate at church.
- I/We would like to set up automated giving. (Complete the Authorization Form.)
- Please update my/our automated giving to reflect the above amount. I already have an authorization form on file.

Name/s \_\_\_\_\_ Signature/s \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

This commitment can be changed at any time by contacting the church office.



# Bethlehem Lutheran Church

417 First Avenue West, PO Box 638

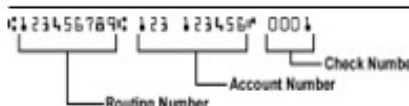
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## AUTOMATIC CONTRIBUTIONS AUTHORIZATION FORM

Powered by VANCO

Last Name		First Name	
Address			
City		State	Zip
Email Address			
DATE OF FIRST DONATION: ____ / ____ / ____		FREQUENCY: <input type="checkbox"/> Monthly on the 1 <sup>st</sup> <input type="checkbox"/> Monthly on the 15 <sup>th</sup> <input type="checkbox"/> Weekly – Mondays	FUNDS: <input type="checkbox"/> General/Operating <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____
		AMOUNTS: \$ _____ \$ _____ Total \$ _____	
CHECKING / SAVINGS	Please debit my donation from my (check one): <input type="checkbox"/> Savings Account (contact your financial institution for Routing #) <input type="checkbox"/> Checking Account (attach a voided check or account verification letter below)		Routing Number:  <b>Valid Routing # must start with 0, 1, 2, or 3</b>  Account Number:  
	I authorize the above organization to process debit entries to my account. I understand that this authority will remain in effect until I provide reasonable notification to terminate the authorization.  Authorized Signature: _____ Date: _____		
FOR OFFICE USE ONLY		ENVELOPE/DONOR #	DATE
Effective date of authorization: ____ / ____ / ____			
Type of authorization: <input type="checkbox"/> New authorization <input type="checkbox"/> Change donation amount <input type="checkbox"/> Change donation date <input type="checkbox"/> Change banking information <input type="checkbox"/> Discontinue electronic donation			

*If using a checking account, please attach a voided check or account verification letter to the bottom of this page.*



*On-line giving is encouraged using this QR Code or through automatic transfer using this form.*