



CHIMES Newsletter

FEBRUARY 2022 VOLUME 84, ISSUE 2

MESSAGE FROM PASTOR JAIME

Grace and peace to you, Bethlehem Lutheran Church!

For the past few weeks and for the next few weeks all our second readings in worship come from 1 Corinthians. Some of these passages may be quite familiar to you. Paul writes to the church in Corinth about spiritual gifts, the unity we share in the body of Christ, and the need for love in all that we do. We are each gifted with unique gifts and make up a vital part of Christ’s body in the world. In sharing and embodying these gifts however, if we do it without love, it means nothing. As Paul continues in chapter 13, he describes love this way:

“⁴Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant ⁵or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; ⁶it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. ⁷It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. ⁸Love never ends... And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.”

As we begin a month which is often bursting with a commercialized “love”, let us take a moment to reflect on this love as described in this first letter to the Corinthians. This love is not envious, boastful, arrogant, or rude. This love is patient and kind. It bears all, believes all, hopes all, and endures all. This love is expansive and powerful but not abrasive, rather embracive. Where do you witness this love in action? When and how do you experience this kind of love? How do you embody this love in all that you do?

Let us turn back to the ultimate example of this love in Christ Jesus and may we all embody this love in all that we do. Because this love is something we all need, ourselves, our community, and our world.

With God’s love,
Pastor Jaime Benson

OUR CHURCH

MISSION TRIP UPDATE



On Sunday, February 6, the group that went on the mission trip will be leading worship. They will share with us their experiences and the good works they did in the Dominican Republic.

UPCOMING EVENTS

FEBRUARY 1

5 PM Finance Meeting

FEBRUARY 6

9 am Youth Led Worship
10 am Sunday School

FEBRUARY 9

Food Pantry Helpers

FEBRUARY 10

9 am Women’s Group

FEBRUARY 17

Life Line Screening
6:30 pm Church Council Meeting

FEBRUARY 28

6:30 pm All Committee Meeting

Bethlehem Lutheran Church, ELCA

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THE MARKET FOOD DRIVE



The Market is a community partnership between the Portage Community School District and the Portage Food Pantry. Its mission is "to create an equitable sustainable food source for all

members of our school district that also educates its users about healthy eating and food preparation." The Market is open from 2 - 4 p.m. on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays, and 12 p.m. - 2 p.m. on early release Fridays and 2 p.m. - 4 p.m. all other Fridays beginning September 2, 2021. The Market is open to all families in the Portage Community School District and is located off the commons area in the Portage High School.

BLC will be collecting food for The Market until March 2nd that is on their wish list. Below please find their Food Item Wish List.

Individually packaged snacks:

Granola / protein bars / cereal bars

Cheez Its

Goldfish Crackers

Teddy Grahams

Popcorn

Pretzels

Chips

Trail mix

Fruit cups

Applesauce cups

Boxes of:

Crackers (graham crackers/ritz/ cheez its

Cereal

Pop Tarts

Rice cakes

Miscellaneous:

Jelly

Salsa

Gatorade/Powerade/Bottled Water/100% juice boxes

String cheese

Men's/Women's deodorant

Other Items that we could use are:

Spaghetti Sauce

Alfredo Sauce

Ketchup

Mayo

Ramen Noodles

Granola Bars

Individual Snacks

Bottled Water

Soup that is not chicken noodle or tomato

LIFE LINE SCREENING



Lifeline Screening will once again be here on **February 17th** to offer health screenings. Life Line Screening looks inside your arteries for dangerous plaque buildup that can increase your risk for stroke and cardiovascular disease. They offer 5 vital screenings for \$139 and take 60-90 minutes to complete. If you are interested in reserving a spot you can register here: <https://ilsa.social/HSC> or by calling toll free 1-888-653-6441, or text the word "circle" to 797979



WOMEN'S GROUP



The Women's Group is scheduled to meet on Thursday, February 10th at 9 am.

ALTAR FLOWERS

Please consider signing up to donate for altar flowers in February. We have all Sundays filled but one.

ALL COMMITTEE NIGHT

All Committee Night is scheduled for **Monday, February 28th at 6:30 pm.** We will meet in the Fellowship Hall. All are welcome.



LEAD CONFERENCE



The ELCA South-Central Synod of Wisconsin is welcoming the return of their Leadership, Education and Development Day, “LEAD,” event which will take place on **February 26, 2022** from 8:30 a.m.- 4:00 p.m. at St Luke’s Church in Middleton.

This year, the theme and keynote relates to John 15:11, with the focus on the complexity of joy in troubled times and how the currencies and gifts God has given us can nurture this joy. Pastor Julie Boleyn and James Fielder from Kaleidoscope Institute will be the keynote speakers. There are 24 workshops on a variety of topics that are relevant to all. The Synod has invited all BLC staff, lay leaders and people that help our congregation thrive to attend.

The cost is only \$30.00 per person and includes lunch. The registration deadline is **February 11, 2022**. If you have any questions please reach out to Donna Maysack or Robyn Zimmerman in the synod office at Register here: <https://scsw-elca.org/lead2022/>

DECORATING COMMITTEE

The Decorating Committee is looking for people to join them. You don’t need to have the decorating gene – you just need to have the desire to want to help out! They can especially use some help for Lent. Please contact the office or Margaret Molden if you are interested in joining them.

OPEN DOORS FOR REFUGEES

The Local & Global Committee will be helping organize this collection. Open Doors For Refugees furnishes and sets up apartments for refugees who arrive in Madison using furniture & housewares donated by the community. After a brief pause over the holidays, 4 more families are due to arrive in Madison in the next few weeks! We need several items to furnish apartments for them, and are asking our community for donations.

Here are the current needs:

- Furniture: dining tables (with or without chairs), small to medium couches, living room chairs, dressers, end/bedside/tv tables, floor and table lamps, area rugs, and bunkbeds
- Appliances: small-to-medium flat-screen TVs, microwaves, good vacuums.
- Housewares: sheet sets and mattress pads (for twin & double beds), twin blankets, new pillows, pots & pans, large cooking pots, skillet, 13-gallon trash bins and small first-aid kits.

If you’re able to provide any of these items, please email Ann Ciske and include a picture of any furniture items.

FAITH FORMATION

SUNDAY SCHOOL

The Children will be singing on Sunday, February 13th. In February our lessons are The Disciples (Luke 5:1-22, 8:1-3), The Beatitudes (Luke 6:17-26), Joseph Feeds His Family (Genesis 45:3-11,15) and The Transfiguration (Luke 9:28-36). Ash Wednesday is March 2nd. First Communion classes for the 5th graders will start March 6th. Please continue to bring in food for the Food Pantry and pop tops for the Ronald McDonald house. We also are collecting Mission School kits and Personal Care kits.



NEWS FROM THE CHURCH OFFICE

WOMEN OF THE ELCA SPRING CONF.



The Women of the ELCA-Baraboo Conference Spring Gathering will be held at St. Peter's, Loganville, 325 Mill Street on Saturday morning, **April 9**. All women of BLC are

invited to attend. At this time, they require masks be worn at all times, except when eating or drinking.

The speaker will be from Sugar Creek Bible Camp at Ferryville. The focus will be on the impact Christian outdoor ministry has on our youth. Youth leaders are also encouraged to attend. Registration is from 8:30-9:30. Lunch is included for \$10. If anyone has special dietary needs, let Lorinda Broughton know when you make your reservations. **RSVP before April 4**.

NEW COMMUNION CARD

You will begin to see a newly designed communion card in the pews. Please only fill out one card per household. Children not receiving communion do not need to be listed. You only need to include your contact information if it has changed. If you have any questions about the new cards, please feel free to ask Julie in the office or Pr. Jaime. Here is a copy of the new card.



COMMUNION CARD—Holy Communion is a freely offered gift from God that is “given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins.” All are welcome to partake in this meal knowing this to be true. All wine used is non-alcoholic. Please fill out and hand it to the usher at communion.

Date: _____

One card per household/last name.

Last Name: _____

First Names of those receiving communion (do not include young children receiving a blessing):

Member/s Regular Attender/s Visitor/s (fill out reverse side if you'd like us to notify your home church of communion)

Interested in being a member Desire pastoral contact

New/updated contact info:

Address: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____ this is a cell receive texts

FINANCIAL UPDATE

Bethlehem Lutheran Church




Profit and Loss

January 1-26, 2022

	TOTAL		
	JAN 1-26, 2022	JAN 1-26, 2021 (PY)	DEC 1-26, 2021 (PP)
▼ Income			
▶ Income	19,551.27	15,710.34	16,089.62
▶ Other Income	1,807.25	600.00	6,115.25
Total Income	\$21,358.52	\$16,310.34	\$22,204.87
GROSS PROFIT	\$21,358.52	\$16,310.34	\$22,204.87
▼ Expenses			
▶ Operating Expenses	21,795.68	16,860.17	16,281.63
▶ Other Expense	400.00	600.00	1,500.00
Total Expenses	\$22,195.68	\$17,460.17	\$17,781.63
NET OPERATING INCOME	\$ -837.16	\$ -1,149.83	\$4,423.24
▶ Other Income	\$3,200.00	\$2,100.00	\$4,688.50
▶ Other Expenses	\$2,327.50	\$2,031.25	\$4,477.55
NET OTHER INCOME	\$872.50	\$68.75	\$210.95
NET INCOME	\$35.34	\$ -1,081.08	\$4,634.19

Bethlehem Lutheran Church

February 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><i>*Julie will be out of the office these days, but office is open</i></p>		<p>1 9:00 am Quilters 5:00 pm Finance</p>	<p>2* 10:30 am Tai Chi 5:30 pm Worship 6:30 pm Confirmation</p>	<p>3*</p>	<p>4* 10:30 am Tai Chi</p>	<p>5</p>
<p>6 9:00 am Worship Youth Led 10 am Sunday School</p> 	<p>7* 10:30 am Tai Chi 1:00 pm Card Club</p>	<p>8* 9:00 am Quilters</p>	<p>9* Food Pantry Helpers 10:30 am Tai Chi 5:30 pm Worship 6:30 pm Confirmation</p>	<p>10* Food Pantry Helpers 9:00 am Women's Group</p> 	<p>11* 10:30 am Tai Chi</p>	<p>12</p>
<p>13 9:00 am Worship 10 am Sunday School</p>	<p>14 10:30 am Tai Chi 1:00 pm Card Club 6:00 pm SREA meeting</p>	<p>15 9:00 am Quilters</p>	<p>16 10:30 am Tai Chi 5:30 pm Worship 6:30 pm Confirmation</p>	<p>17 Life Line Screening</p>  <p>6:30 pm Church Council Meeting</p>	<p>18 Chimes Articles Due 10:30 am Tai Chi</p>	<p>19</p>
<p>20 9:00 am Worship 10 am Sunday School</p>	<p>21 10:30 am Tai Chi 1:00 pm Card Club 6:30 pm SRA</p>	<p>22 9:00 am Quilters</p>	<p>23 10:30 am Tai Chi 5:30 pm Worship 6:30 pm Confirmation</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25 10:30 am Tai Chi</p>	<p>26</p>
<p>27 9:00 am Worship 10 am Sunday School</p>	<p>28 10:30 am Tai Chi 1:00 pm Card Club 6:30 pm All Committee Meeting</p> 			