

# CHIMES Newsletter

JULY 2022 VOLUME 84, ISSUE 7

## MESSAGE FROM PASTOR JAIME

Greetings of grace and peace to you!

We are officially in summer, a season of growth! The summer solstice is behind us, the fields are planted, and plants are growing all around us. The snow and mud of winter and spring have made way for the rich and varied hues of green that summer brings. These signs of life and new growth can be seen outside as well as in our sanctuary where the paraments have changed to green for the season of Pentecost. A few weeks ago, in my children’s sermon, I shared with the kids about Pentecost and how the paraments (altar cloths) in worship have changed over to green for this season. The season of Pentecost is a long one, going all the way to the second-to-last Sunday in October. After the celebration of the festival of Pentecost and the coming of the Holy Spirit, we as a church and as individuals grow and change. That’s why we have paraments that are green to remind us of all the things that are growing and changing right now around us and in us as we are in a season of growth.

During this season of growth, I want to urge us to ponder, how are we showing up this growing season? What things are we tending to, helping them to grow and flourish? What pruning might we need to do? Are there weeds to pull? What do we do with the weeds? How diligent are we in our care? Where are we being invited to put in a little extra time and attention? What might God be growing this season? How might we be a part of that growth? The Spirit is working on producing marvelous things, let us join in this work together.

Blessings,  
Pastor Jaime Benson

## OUR CHURCH

### THANK YOU

A special belated Thank you to Gail and Linda Otto for their help mulching the church Prayer Garden.

*Thanks from Barb & Dick Olson*



## ALTAR GUILD TRAINING



If you would like to join Altar Guild, please come to training on Sunday, July 10<sup>th</sup> at 8:20 am.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

JULY 4

Happy 4<sup>th</sup>! Office Closed for holiday

JULY 5

5 pm Finance Meeting

JULY 10

8:20 am Altar Guild Training  
7:30 pm High School Bonfire

JULY 11- 17

Pr. Jaime out for continuing ed.

JULY 13

Food Pantry Helpers

JULY 21

6:30 pm Church Council Meeting

JULY 28

6 pm Stewardship Meeting

JULY 31

11 am Ecumenical Worship Service at the Columbia County Fair

## Bethlehem Lutheran Church, ELCA

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53901 608-742-8502

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[www.bethlehemLCportage.org](http://www.bethlehemLCportage.org)



## RUMMAGE SALE

**It's time to start cleaning your closets and gathering items for the BLC Rummage Sale.**



The sale will be held on August 6, 2022, so we need your new or slightly used items to be at church no later than noon on August 1, 2022

**Following is a list of items that we will accept:**

- Clothing – Children, Men, & Women – no soiled, torn, or dirty items accepted
- Household items
- Kitchen Items, (includes toasters, mixers)
- Linens
- Craft Items
- Furniture
- Glassware/dinnerware
- Tools
- Toys/bicycles

**The following items will not be accepted:**

- Large appliance of any kind
- TV's, radios
- Computers – In the past Goodwill will take these items
- Books, DVD's, VCR Tapes – Donate them to your local library for their resale event.
- No personal electronic devices, (ex: shavers, hearing aids, water picks.
- No gas-powered items

Make sure all items are clean and in working order. If you have items that you are not sure are appropriate, please call Barb Rothwell.

## MISSION KITS ARE BACK!!

Lutheran World Relief (LWR) reaches people in poverty around the world to help them adapt to challenges that threaten their livelihood and well-being, with the goal of becoming self-reliant. One way they do this is through their Quilt and Kit Ministry. BLC will collect items for:

**School Kits:** a backpack filled with basic school supplies to educate a child.

**Personal Care Kits:** a light towel wrapped with basic hygiene items.



We will be collecting the items at church and in the narthex. A complete list of the items is attached to the Chimes. No items with religious, patriotic, American Flag, or military symbols can be used.



Personal Care Kits

Here are links to buying bulk items:

Most items on Amazon:

[https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/2N4VW2BMYTTMC?ref=wl\\_share](https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/2N4VW2BMYTTMC?ref=wl_share)

Best site for towels:

<https://directtextilestore.com/Prison-Towels-10s-Colored>

If you have questions, you can call Janice or Jeanette

## WORSHIP & MUSIC UPDATE



**The Praise Team** is ready to get up and running again and is looking for singers, a guitar player and a drummer. See Carla Gerhardt if you're interested.

**Hand chime** practice will be suspended over the summer and will start up again in September.

## ALTAR FLOWERS

There are several spots available to sign up to provide altar flowers for the rest of the year. The sign up is in the narthex. The cost is \$40 and we ask that this money is donated at the time of sign up. Thank you for helping decorate our beautiful sanctuary.



Altar Flowers

## ECUMENICAL WORSHIP

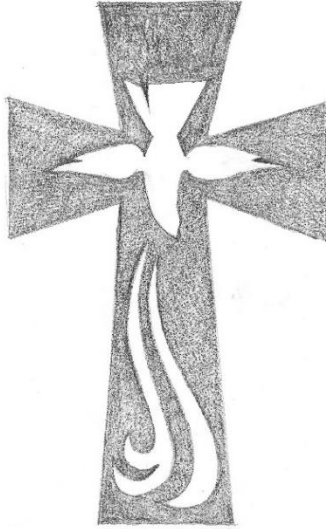


On Sunday, July 31<sup>st</sup> at 11 am, Pr. Jaime will be leading an ecumenical worship service along with the pastors from the Portage United Methodist Church and Portage Presbyterian Church at the Columbia County Fair. All are welcome to come. This is a great opportunity to worship as a community. We will still have worship at 9 am at church.

## SYMBOL FOR WIND BREAK WALL

Thank you to all who submitted ideas for the symbol for the anodized metalwork going on the wind break wall. All submissions were reviewed and narrowed down to the following three options which we would like all members to vote on once by August 1st. If you don't have internet access, you can vote by calling the church office. Otherwise, please use [this link to cast your vote](#). If you have any questions, please contact Del Molden.

**OPTION #1 Greeting of the Holy Spirit**



**OPTION #2 Immortal God Christian Love**



**OPTION #3 – Trinity**



The BLC community compost bin is now open! Why is composting so important? Composting reduces waste, makes us less dependent on landfills, and decreases greenhouse gas emissions. But now that we have a compost bin that anyone can use, what is appropriate to add?

<b>DO Compost</b> <i>100% Natural</i>		<b>DO NOT Compost</b>
<b>NITROGEN</b>	<b>CARBON</b>	
		Bones
Fruit & Vegetable Scraps	Ash	Litter
Flowers	Bread	Chicken/Meat
Coffee Grounds	Coffee Filters	Diapers
Weeds	Dry Leaves	Diseased Plants
Barnyard Manure	Egg Shells	Oils & Fats
Grass Clippings	Hair	Dog/Cat Feces
Sod	Shredded Paper	Peanut Butter
	Sawdust	Salad Dressing
	Tea Bags	Dairy Products

Please remember to turn the pile over to aerate it when you add compost; an auger has been provided at the compost bin site for this purpose. A properly aerated pile will compost faster than an oxygen-starved pile. Although water needs to be added from time to time, be careful about adding too much. A moisture content of 40% is desired. Watch for our **up-cycled garden art** project, coming soon!

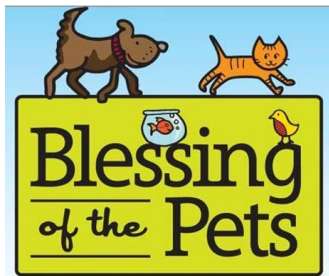


COMMUNITY COMPOST BIN

BLESSING OF THE PETS – SAVE THE DATE



August 14th will be the Blessing of the Pets and an outdoor worship service. There will also be fun pet-related activities this day. We plan to make this a community event. Stay tuned for more information.



## NEWS FROM THE CHURCH OFFICE

### NEW STAFF EMAILS UPDATE



The transition to the new system proved to be more complicated than expected, so there will be a delay in the "up and running" date. We are going to aim for all of us to be using the new emails by August 1<sup>st</sup>. You may have noticed a new address from Julie's office email. She has started to use hers, as well as Tania. You can start to use both of these:

Julie/Office email: [office@blcportage.org](mailto:office@blcportage.org)

Tania/Parish Associate email:  
[parishassociate@blcportage.org](mailto:parishassociate@blcportage.org)

We are finding that when Julie sends out a bulk email it sometimes ends up in a person's "Promotions" folder (if you have Gmail) or sometimes Spam. Please make sure you check here for the weekly newsletter as well. If it ends up here, you will need mark the church email address as being a safe email. If you have any questions, please contact the office.

## FAITH FORMATION

### VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL



Vacation Bible School will be taking place **August 1-5<sup>th</sup>**. Registration forms can be found [here](#) and printed ones in the narthex. We are looking for volunteers to help during that week. If you'd like to sign up, please use this [Volunteer Form](#). Printed copies will also be in the narthex. Both forms should be mailed to or dropped off at the Portage United Methodist Church. If you have any questions, please contact Tania Anderson.

### HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP BONFIRE



There will be bonfire for all high school youth on **Sunday, July 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm**. We will also discuss the upcoming plan for programming and events for the 2022-2023 school year. Hope you can join us!

### ENVELOPE NUMBERS ON OFFERING ENVELOPES

This is just a friendly reminder to put your envelope number on your offering envelopes, especially if you are using envelopes from the pews. This really does help our volunteers who do the weekly counting. If you don't know your number, you can contact Julie in the office. If you don't have envelopes and wish to use them, you can contact her about that as well. A great many thanks for your help with this!

## DID YOU KNOW?

We are welcoming suggestions from members for this section. It will be at the staff's discretion to make sure the topics are appropriate. Hope you have fun reading this!



### What is the meaning and use of liturgical colors?

In the Christian tradition colors are used for vestments and paraments (see also, "What are vestments and paraments and Why are they used?"), but a unified system of colors developed only gradually and haphazardly until and through the Middle Ages. Today, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America provides a system of colors for use by its congregations; for the most part, the same system is also used by Roman and Anglican churches, at least in the United States; and by many churches around the world, including the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada.

Many of the colors associated with the seasons are closely linked with the experience of Christians in the Northern hemisphere. Christians in the Southern hemisphere will experience the church year differently in that context, perhaps calling forth different color associations. It is also helpful to realize that colors have different associations across the globe, just as they have had different associations over the course of the church's history. For example, white is the color North American and European Christians typically associate with Christmas and Easter, the color white signifying the purity of Christ, light or joy. In many Eastern cultures, however, white connotes mourning. Red, associated with energy, blood or fire among other things in Western culture, is the color associated with purity in India.

The colors serve to adorn the worship space, and to call attention to the nature of the season or festival being celebrated. A brief summary of their usage, according to the church year, follows.

**Advent: Blue** is associated with Advent, suggesting hope. This association originated in Scandinavia, probably because purple dye was too expensive for churches to use. Some assemblies use purple in Advent, a color associated with royalty as the church awaits the newborn king. (note, this is a different meaning than when it is used in Lent; see below).

**Christmas, Epiphany of Our Lord, Baptism of Our Lord, Transfiguration of Our Lord:** White, calling to mind the purity of the newborn Christ, and to our light and joy in him. Some also use Gold.

**Time after Epiphany: Green** is used for its symbolism of our growth in Christ. Green, in a sense, is a "neutral color," used when more festive or more somber color is not appointed.

**Ash Wednesday: Purple** is the preferred color as this is the first day of Lent. Historically, black has also been used on this day, since it is the color of the ashes to which we will all return.

**Lent: Purple** is typically associated with Lent, suggesting repentance and solemnity.

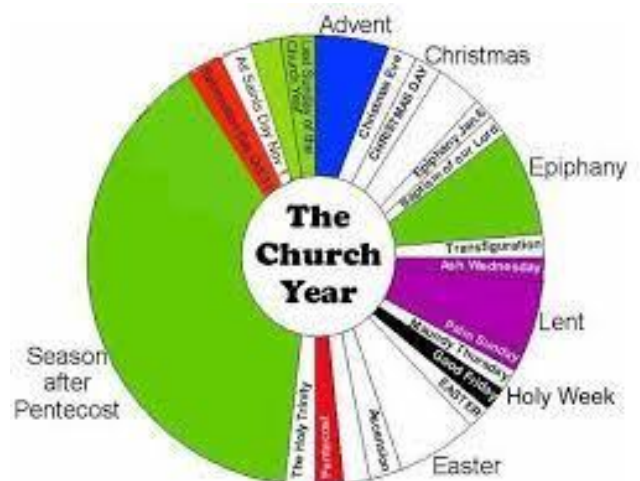
**Sunday of the Passion: Scarlet** is the preferred color of this first day of Holy Week, as it suggests the deep color of blood. (Scarlet is to be distinguished from the brighter color of red, which is appointed for the Day of Pentecost, martyrs' days, and certain church celebrations). If a parish does not have scarlet vestments, purple may be used.

**Days of Holy Week: Scarlet** or **purple** may be used for Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday of Holy Week.

**Maundy Thursday:** For this fourth day of Holy Week, celebrated as the institution of the Lord's Supper, **scarlet** or white is used.

**Good Friday:** No vestments or paraments are used on this day, after the stripping of the altar on Maundy Thursday night.

**Vigil of Easter:** White or Gold suggests of joy in the Resurrection is used on this night.



**Easter Day:** White or gold is suggested for this day. The gold color symbolizes that this day is the "queen of feasts," unique in the entire church year.

**Sundays of Easter:** White suggests the joy of the resurrection.

**Day of Pentecost:** Red as the color of fire is used on this day when we remember the tongues of fire descended on the crowd in Jerusalem. In contrast to the color of scarlet, Pentecost's red is a bright color.

**The Holy Trinity:** White is suggested, the expression of joy in the mystery of the Triune God.

**Time after Pentecost:** Green is used, to indicate our growth in faith as we follow the teachings and ministry of Christ. Some assemblies use differing shades of green throughout the Sundays after Pentecost, a lighter green in summer and a darker green in fall.

**Christ the King:** The final day of the church year uses white, a festive color suggesting light, joy, and the celebration of our Lord.

**Lesser festivals and commemorations** are white, unless a martyr is celebrated, in which case bright red is suggested.

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## FINANCIAL UPDATE

### Bethlehem Lutheran Church

#### Profit and Loss June 1-21, 2022

	TOTAL				
	JUN 1-21, 2022	MAY 1-21, 2022 (PP)	JUN 1-21, 2021 (PY)	JAN 1 - JUN 21, 2022 (YTD)	JAN 1 - JUN 21, 2021 (PY YTD)
▼ Income					
▶ Income	17,994.06	27,636.85	23,616.54	147,079.68	119,122.42
▶ Other Income	162.00	1,004.66	260.00	7,604.23	5,143.48
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$18,156.06</b>	<b>\$28,641.51</b>	<b>\$23,876.54</b>	<b>\$154,683.91</b>	<b>\$124,265.90</b>
GROSS PROFIT	\$18,156.06	\$28,641.51	\$23,876.54	\$154,683.91	\$124,265.90
▼ Expenses					
▶ Operating Expenses	21,254.54	13,675.69	11,012.14	128,150.96	106,025.06
▶ Other Expense	865.00			3,710.30	1,000.00
Unapplied Cash Bill Payment Exp...	-470.00			-470.00	
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$21,649.54</b>	<b>\$13,675.69</b>	<b>\$11,012.14</b>	<b>\$131,391.26</b>	<b>\$107,025.06</b>
NET OPERATING INCOME	\$ -3,493.48	\$14,965.82	\$12,864.40	\$23,292.65	\$17,240.84
▶ Other Income	\$1,650.00	\$2,356.45	\$801.74	\$17,056.09	\$11,633.16
▶ Other Expenses	\$2,132.00	\$740.00	\$0.00	\$15,655.72	\$10,364.50
NET OTHER INCOME	\$ -482.00	\$1,616.45	\$801.74	\$1,400.37	\$1,268.66
<b>NET INCOME</b>	<b>\$ -3,975.48</b>	<b>\$16,582.27</b>	<b>\$13,666.14</b>	<b>\$24,693.02</b>	<b>\$18,509.50</b>

# Bethlehem Lutheran Church Mission Kit Needed Supplies

## SCHOOL KIT ASSEMBLY INSTRUCTIONS

Include the following items in each School Kit:



**x1**

One sturdy drawstring backpack-style cloth bag, approximately 14" x 17", with shoulder straps (no standard backpacks)



**x4**

Four 70-sheet notebooks of wide- or college-ruled paper, approximately 8" x 10½"; no loose-leaf paper



**x1**

One box of 16 or 24 crayons



**x1**

One 30-centimeter ruler, or a ruler with centimeters on one side and inches on the other



**x1**

One pencil sharpener



**x1**

One pair of blunt scissors (safety scissors with embedded steel blades work well)



**x5**

Five unsharpened No. 2 pencils with erasers; secure together with a rubber band



**x5**

Five black or blue ballpoint pens (no gel ink); secure together with a rubber band



**x1**

One 2½" eraser

## PERSONAL CARE KITS

Include the following items in each Personal Care Kit:



**x1**

One light-weight bath-size towel (between 20"×40" & 52"×27"), dark color recommended



**x2**

Two bath-size bars (4 to 5 oz.) of soap, any brand, in original wrapping



**x1**

One adult-size toothbrush in its original packaging\*



**x1**

One sturdy comb, remove packaging



**x1**

One metal nail clippers (attached file optional), remove packaging










Wrap all the items in the towel and tie securely with ribbons or yarn.

**Bring supplies and completed kits to the Church Narthex**



# Bethlehem Lutheran Church

# July 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
						1 10:30 am Tai Chi	2
3 9:00 am Worship	4 <b>Office closed for holiday</b>  10:30 am Tai Chi 1:00 pm Card Club	5 5:00 pm Finance	6 10:30 am Tai Chi 5:30 pm Worship	7	8 10:30 am Tai Chi	9	
10 8:20 am Altar Guild Training  9:00 am Worship 7:30 pm HS Bonfire 	11 <b>Pr. Out</b> 10:30 am Tai Chi 1:00 pm Card Club 6:00 pm SREA mtg 6:30 pm WCL Class	12 <b>Pr. Out</b>	13 <b>Food Pantry Helpers Pr. Out</b>  10:30 am Tai Chi 5:30 pm Worship	14 <b>Pr. Out</b>	15 <b>Pr. Out Chimes Articles Due</b> 10:30 am Tai Chi	16	
17 <b>Pr. Out</b> 9:00 am Worship	18 10:30 am Tai Chi 1:00 pm Card Club 6:30 pm SRA	19	20 10:30 am Tai Chi 5:30 pm Worship	21 6:30 pm Church Council Meeting 	22 10:30 am Tai Chi	23	
24 9:00 am Worship	25 10:30 am Tai Chi 1:00 pm Card Club	26	27 10:30 am Tai Chi 5:30 pm Worship	28 6:00 pm Stewardship Meeting 	29 10:30 am Tai Chi	30	
31 9:00 am Worship 11:00 am Ecumenical County Fair Service							



