



CHIMES Newsletter

MARCH 2022 VOLUME 84, ISSUE 3

MESSAGE FROM PASTOR JAIME

Greetings to you,

The season of Lent is nearly upon us. In previous years you may remember referring to Lent as a journey and indeed we travel with Jesus these 40 days as we tell Christ’s story and remember all that he gave up for us. All of us.

With any journey, we often get caught up in the movement of travel, but a journey is about more than just the path we take, it is also about the places we land. The places we find ourselves. This Lent we will be focusing on place through the theme of our Lenten series, “You Are Here”. In this series, we will take time to reflect on the places where Jesus goes and the places where we are today. To wonder about where the Spirit is and where the Spirit is calling us to. And to remember and trust in the assurance that Rev. Katie Pocalyko writes about, “no matter where you are-death included-God can find you. Any location-including wherever you are right now-can become a place for resurrection.” God is with us here and now in this place and always.

The resources we are using this Lent will help us reflect on the places we are now. The history of these places may include some highs, lows, and flat places in between. During this season, I want to encourage all of us to reflect on the many layers these places hold from what is here now, what has been, and what will be. The language used in worship and the topics covered in our Lenten devotional and Stations of the Cross may name some things that are unexpected. I want to encourage all of us to not tune these things out, but rather to lean in and listen more intently. Let us pay attention to where we are, where Christ is in this place, and where the Spirit is leading.

May God be with you here,
Pastor Jaime Benson

OUR CHURCH

2022 SYNOD ASSEMBLY REPRESENTATIVES FOR BLC

We are looking for volunteers to be Bethlehem’s (BLC) representatives for the Synod Assembly. Please contact a Council member, Pr. Jaime, or the church office if you’re interested. You would attend the assembly in May and vote on any matters addressed during the assembly on behalf of BLC. Our Church Council will then vote to elect these members as BLC reps. Synod Assembly is Friday, May 6 - Saturday, May 7 at the Kalahari Resort in Wisconsin Dells. Requirements to be a representative:

- Be a voting member of BLC (communed & a recorded contribution in last year)
- We need one male & one female, both over the age of 30
- We can also have two reps under the age of 30: one male & one female

UPCOMING EVENTS

MARCH 1

5 PM Finance Meeting

MARCH 2

5:30 pm ASH WED Worship & Soup Supper* every Wed
6:30 pm Stewardship Mtg

MARCH 6

10 am 1st Communion Classes begin (every Sunday or Wed see schedule), Hand Chimes practice

MARCH 9

Food Pantry Helpers

MARCH 10

9 am Women’s Group

MARCH 13

Daylight Saving – Spring forward

MARCH 17

6:30 pm Church Council Meeting

MARCH 18

CHIMES Articles Due to office

MARCH 20

Easter Flower Orders Due
10 am Hand Chime Practice

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OUR CHURCH

LENTEN SOUP SUPPERS



responsible for providing food and which Confirmation kids are responsible for setup & clean up.

Join us every Wednesday during Lent for 5:30 pm worship followed by fellowship & a soup supper. Below please find the schedule of which groups will be

LENTEN SOUP SUPPER SERVING SCHEDULE

March 2: Women's Group & Quilters

Clean up: All Confirmation kids

March 9: Sunday School & Confirmation Families

Clean up: All Confirmation kids

March 16: Choir/Praise Team/Music Folks

Clean up: Confirmation Last Name A-G

March 23: Council/Office Staff

Clean up: Confirmation Last Name H-Z

March 30: High School Youth

Clean up: Confirmation Last Name A-G

April 6: Finance/Covid Task Force

Clean up: Confirmation Last Name H-Z

DWELLING IN THE WORD

Dwelling
in the
WORD



Dwelling in the Word is back for part of Lent. Mark Teslik will be leading the group

to review the Gospels. Everyone is welcome; no bible knowledge is needed! No reservations needed. For more information on what Dwelling in the Word is, see our website (a link for the Zoom call is also found there as well):

<https://www.bethlehemlcpportage.org/dwelling-in-the-word.html>

The group will meet via Zoom on the following dates & time:

Thursdays: March 3rd, 10th, 24th, 31st at 7:00 pm
Meeting via Zoom:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83442286002?pwd=VXI0eHZxeUphUDFhR1FHh1Z3ekwvUT09>

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.

Here are the current needs:

dish drainers, narrow cutlery trays, metal ladles & serving spoons and forks, kitchen tongs, brooms and dustpans, cookie sheets w/rims, cutting boards, stand up paper towel holders, rolls of scotch tape, smaller scissors, clean stuffed animals, kids puzzles (culturally neutral themes), nail clippers and emery boards, hair combs, and first aid kits.

If you're able to provide any of these items, please email Ann Ciske

WOMEN'S GROUP



The Women's Group is scheduled to meet on Thursday, March 10th at 9 am. Save the date: the annual tea is scheduled for April 30th

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.

EASTER FLOWERS



Easter flowers are available to order this year. They will be used to decorate the sanctuary for Easter Sunday. You will be able to take them home after worship. An order form is included in this newsletter, as well as in the narthex. **Orders are**

due to the office no later than March 20th.

HAND CHIME CHOIR

The new hand chimes have arrived and we are ready to form a hand chime choir. Practices will be on the 1st and 3rd Sundays after worship. See Carla Gerhardt for any questions.



NEW COUNCIL MEMBERS

We voted on our new council members at the annual meeting. Their installation will be in March. Below please find a list of the council members and their positions:

- Kerry Melby, President
- Geoff Gilbert, Vice President
- Halley Harms, Secretary & Christian Ed liaison
- Kory Anderson, Property liaison
- Ruth Price, Local & Global liaison
- Jaimie Rudolph, Finance liaison
- Lisa Cook, Stewardship liaison
- Tina Thomas, Worship & Music liaison
- Pr. Jaime Benson, Personnel liaison

LENT DEVOTIONALS



We will be using a new resource for lent this year called "You Are Here". This theme will be weaved into all we do during lent. Included is a daily devotional. A few copies have been printed and can be found in the narthex or you can download an electronic copy from the This Week at Bethlehem newsletter when it comes out on Wednesday, Feb 23rd. Stations of the Cross will be set up the week after Ash Wednesday. They will be located in one of the classrooms, the narthex, and the nursery. Each station will have instructions for you to follow. All are welcome and encouraged to come experience this.

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING

The first Stewardship Committee meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 2 at 6:30 pm. This will be a dinner meeting (stop in to get your soup and sandwich and bring it to the meeting). We will be meeting in the conference room. This is meeting is open anyone interested in joining us.

ENSURING SUCCESS PROJECT

The Ensuring Success Project was created by the National Honor Society (NHS) students at eAchieve

Academy, based in the Waukesha area. Our fellow member, Carol Oh, is the President of this Chapter of the NHS. Their goal for this project was to help a unique part of their community. Many refugees, mostly from the Middle East, have been migrating to the Milwaukee area. To help these families as most of them have no personal belongings and no money to buy basic necessities, they have partnered with SEA Literacy and the Hanan Refugee Relief Group. Both of these organizations help refugee families learn English, find jobs, and get a successful start in creating a new life here. Through this project they have committed to helping 10 families receive basic household items (the list is down below). Carol would like to ask for our support in helping these families. A donation box has been put out in the narthex to collect items on the list and will be there until March 20th. The items being collected can be gently used or new, but due to religious reasons no used silverware can be accepted.

Here is the link to the Ensuring Success Project Website:

<https://www.ensuring-success.com/>

For each family:

- 1 Rug
- 2 Bedsheets
- 3 Towels
- 1 Microwave
- 5 Pairs of Socks
- 1 Set of New Eating Utensils
- 2 New Bowls
- 1 Vacuum Cleaner
- 2 Pots/Pans
- 3 Clothing Items

FAITH FORMATION

SUNDAY SCHOOL



The lessons we will be studying in March are Tempted (Luke 4:1-13), God's Promise to Abraham (Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18), Parable of the Fig Tree (Luke 13:1-9) and The Prodigal Son (15:1-3, 11-32).

Confirmation and Sunday School families will be serving Lenten Supper on Wednesday March 9th. You should have received an email from the office with more information about the supper.

First Communion classes for the 5th graders have been scheduled (see next page for more information). We will have special activities during Sunday School time on Palm Sunday, -more information next month. There is no Sunday school on Easter Sunday, April 17th.

We continue to collect food for the Food Pantry and aluminum tops for the Ronald McDonald house, school supplies and personal care items for missions.

2022 FIRST COMMUNION 5TH GRADE LESSON SCHEDULE

First Communion Parents & Students-

Your student will be spending the weeks during Lent preparing for their First Communion! They will be learning about the sacraments and why we participate in Communion at church. There are some important things to learn and we hope they ask questions! We are planning on in-person classes and at this time still recommend Covid precautions as encouraged in our church setting. Information and schedule:

The students will work on these activities:

- 1) They will be asked to **read, learn, and share thoughts from the weekly lessons.**
- 2) They will also learn **the Communion procedures that our church uses as well as the similarities and differences to other churches.**
- 3) We will also **review some information found in Luther's Small Catechism.**

Each student will also receive a **Communion Handbook** with learning activities for each week's lesson.

LESSON SCHEDULE – FOR YOUR CALENDAR OR DEVICE!

PLEASE NOTE – Each week's lesson is presented on Sunday morning (regular Sunday School time) and then *repeated* on Wednesday evening. Students only need to attend either the Sunday OR the Wednesday class each week and can mix attendance between Sundays and Wednesdays through Lent to accommodate family schedules. We hope this way that students will have more options and be able to attend all FOUR class sessions and Review day.

Week	Date/Time	Lesson
# 1	Sun. March 6 @ 10:15 am (OR) Wed. March 9 @ 6:15 pm	<i>Jesus Gives Us the Gift of Communion</i>
# 2	Sun. March 13 @ 10:15 am (OR) Wed. March 16 @ 6:15 pm	<i>Communion Connects Us with God's Love</i>
# 3	Sun. March 20 @ 10:15 am (OR) Wed. March 23 @ 6:15 pm	<i>Communion Feeds Us in Many Ways</i>
# 4	Sun. March 27 @ 10:15 am (OR) Wed. March 30 @ 6:15 pm	<i>Communion Prepares Us to Serve Others</i>
# 5	Sun. April 3 @ 10:15 am (OR) Wed. April 6 @ 6:15 pm	<i>Review & Plans for Palm Sunday</i>

Palm Sunday, April 10 – 9:00 am Service: First Communion Celebration! Any other questions, please call Jeff Melby Thanks!

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**

FREE AT HOME COVID TESTS

Every home in the U.S. is eligible to order 4 free at-home COVID-19 tests. The tests are completely free. Orders will usually ship in 7-12 days. You can go to this website to order your free test kits: <https://www.covidtests.gov/>



REMINDER: PLEASE RECYCLE YOUR OLD ENVELOPES!



If you received new envelopes this year, please either recycle your old envelopes or bring them into church for us to reuse them. This is very important this year because new numbers were assigned. It gets confusing for office staff and the money counters when you use your old envelopes. Thank you so much for helping us out!

JOB POSTING – PARISH ASSOCIATE



We are looking to fill a position we have had in the past, Parish Associate. This position is important to Bethlehem for the growth of our educational offerings for people of all ages. Developing faith

formation opportunities for all generations of our church community is a lofty task, but one worth pursuing. With this position, all the volunteers and leaders involved in faith formation and education can be better supported and move together in our development and growth. A Parish Associate will help us develop a more cohesive program and continue to grow in our faith and our identity as “God’s Family Serving Christ with Love”.

RESPONSIBILITIES: Assist & support Christian Education Committee, Pastor & volunteers with comprehensive educational programming for all ages; Provide leadership in coordinating and recruitment for special churchwide projects

QUALIFICATIONS: Should be self-motivated; organized; perceptive, self-confident in public speaking; effective written communication; Tech savvy; have knowledge of program development and implementation; enjoy working as a team toward a common goal; passionate about youth development.

TIME COMMITMENT: Normal expectation of 20 hours/week, with seasonal variations due to the changes accompanying the church year. Must be available to work most Sunday mornings and some evenings as needed.

INTERNAL APPLICATION DEADLINE: March 15th. Applications & full job description here and in narthex.

NEW PRAYER REQUEST CARDS

A member had brought something similar into the office that they saw at another church and office staff thought it was a good idea; so we are trying something new. You will find “My Prayer Request” cards in the narthex for you to fill out and turn into the office. They look like the image here printed on blue card stock and can be found under the Council Bulletin board with other resource brochures. If you have any questions, please let us know.

My Prayer Request...

We include prayer requests in the weekly bulletin. Please note: these bulletins are shared on our website. If you would like us to include your prayer, please fill out this card and place in the offering plate or put in the office mailbox and we will include in next week’s bulletin.

Prayer requested by:

Please pray for: (please print neatly)

Is there a specific length of time you would like the person’s name on prayer list. (*we will keep names on the list for one month. Please check in monthly to let us know if you’d like the name to remain on the list*).

Other requests:

- I would like my prayer to be private and NOT published in the bulletin
- I would like a pastor to follow up with me.
- I would like to request a visit from the pastor.

DID YOU KNOW?

At a member's suggestion, we are adding a "Did you know?" fun trivia section to the CHIMES! 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!



Why do people say, "God bless you," after someone sneezes?

"There are varying accounts as to the origin of this response. One belief is that it originated in Rome when the bubonic plague was raging through Europe. One of the symptoms of the plague was coughing and sneezing, and it is believed that Pope Gregory I (Gregory the Great) suggested saying "God bless you" after a person sneezed in hopes that this prayer would protect them from an otherwise certain death.

Sneeze responses from around the world:

English – "Bless you" or "God bless you"

German – "Gesundheit"

Greeks and Romans – "Banish the Omen"

Hindu – "Live" and responds "With you"

Zulu – "I am now blessed"

Source: <https://www.loc.gov/everyday-mysteries>



ASH WEDNESDAY

There will be two options to receive ashes on March 2 for Ash Wednesday:

- Drive-by from 12:00 – 12:30 pm (in front of church)
- Ashe Wednesday Service at 5:30 pm followed by soup supper

FINANCIAL UPDATE

Bethlehem Lutheran Church

Profit and Loss Comparison

February 1-15, 2022

	TOTAL				
	FEB 1-15, 2022	FEB 1-15, 2021 (PY)	JAN 1-15, 2022 (PP)	JAN 1 - FEB 15, 2022 (YTD)	JAN 1 - FEB 15, 2021 (PY YTD)
▼ Income					
▶ Income	12,597.00	10,326.00	9,440.26	35,413.14	28,118.43
▶ Other Income	1,343.00	90.00	2,258.00	3,311.25	690.00
Total Income	\$13,940.00	\$10,416.00	\$11,698.26	\$38,724.39	\$28,808.43
GROSS PROFIT	\$13,940.00	\$10,416.00	\$11,698.26	\$38,724.39	\$28,808.43
▶ Expenses	\$12,955.30	\$12,066.90	\$12,059.52	\$35,119.73	\$32,677.61
NET OPERATING INCOME	\$984.70	\$ -1,650.90	\$ -361.26	\$3,604.66	\$ -3,869.18
▶ Other Income	\$3,650.00	\$0.00	\$2,300.00	\$6,850.00	\$2,100.00
▶ Other Expenses	\$3,469.50	\$0.00	\$1,445.25	\$5,797.00	\$2,031.25
NET OTHER INCOME	\$180.50	\$0.00	\$854.75	\$1,053.00	\$68.75
NET INCOME	\$1,165.20	\$ -1,650.90	\$493.49	\$4,657.66	\$ -3,800.43

Cash basis Tuesday, February 15, 2022 02:18 PM GMT-06:00

Bethlehem Lutheran Church

March 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 9 am Quilters 5 pm Finance	2 10:30 am Tai Chi 5:30 pm Worship & Soup Supper 6:30 pm Stewardship  	3 7 pm Dwelling in the Word 	4 10:30 am Tai Chi	5
6 9 am Worship 10 am Sunday School 1st Comm Class Hand Chimes Practice 	7 10:30 am Tai Chi 1 pm Card Club	8 9 am Quilters	9 Food Pantry Helpers 10:30 am Tai Chi 5:30 pm Worship & Soup Supper  	10 9 am Women's Group 7 pm Dwelling in the Word  	11 10:30 am Tai Chi	
13 Daylight Saving 9 am Worship 10 am Sunday School 1st Comm Class 	14 10:30 am Tai Chi 1 pm Card Club 6 pm SREA meeting	15 9 am Quilters	16 10:30 am Tai Chi 5:30 pm Worship & Soup Supper  	17 6:30 pm Church Council Meeting	18 Chimes Articles Due 10:30 am Tai Chi	19
20 Easter Flower Orders due 9 am Worship 10 am Sunday School 1st Comm Class Hand Chimes Practice 	21 10:30 am Tai Chi 1 pm Card Club 6:30 pm SRA	22 9 am Quilters	23 10:30 am Tai Chi 5:30 pm Worship & Soup Supper  	24 7 pm Dwelling in the Word 	25 10:30 am Tai Chi	26
27 9 am Worship 10 am Sunday School 1st Comm Class 	28 10:30 am Tai Chi 1 pm Card Club	29 9 am Quilters	30 10:30 am Tai Chi 5:30 pm Worship & Soup Supper  	31 7 pm Dwelling in the Word 		



Easter Flowers

We will celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus Christ with a garden of flowers to brighten our worship space.

We have a larger selection to choose from this year. See the chart below for flower types and prices.

All orders must be received in the church office by **Sunday, March 20th.**

Completed forms and payment can be dropped off in the church office mailbox.

The flowers may be taken after the 9 am Easter Worship Service.

Please be sure to indicate which type of plant you are ordering and how many

	Price Ea.	# Ordered
Easter Lily – Single Stem 6.5”	\$10	
Easter Lily - Double Stem 6.5” Pot	\$18	
Hydrangea – Blues or Pink 6.5” Pot	\$18	
Hydrangea Jumbo – Blues or Pink 9” Pot	\$25	
Tulips - Assorted Colors 6.5” Pot	\$10	
Daffodils - Yellow 6.5” Pot	\$10	
Hyacinth Blue or Pink 6.5” Pot (3bulbs/pot)	\$10	
Mum – Easter Mix (daisy mix) 6.5” Pot	\$10	
Mum Yellow (daisy type) 6.5” Pot	\$10	
Total Amount Enclosed:	\$	

in Honor of _____

in Memory of _____

given by _____

Collaborative Easter Art Project! Color in (using any medium) as many of the eggs as you wish and send them back to the church office for a collaborative art piece which will be displayed on Easter Sunday. Please send by April 8th. For all ages!!



