

CHIMES Newsletter

NOVEMBER 2020 VOLUME 82, ISSUE 11

MESSAGE FROM PASTOR JEN...

Some Thoughts on Advent, Renewal, Tension, and Grace

As I write this, I am recovering from a three-hour Zoom session about preaching the Gospel texts for Advent. Good news! I've got ten pages of notes and four sermon outlines! This is good, as Advent is right around the corner.

Advent is a season in the church where we await the incarnation of the Word becoming flesh, or God with us. It is a time of waiting as we look to the prophecies of the Hebrew prophets and await the birth of the Messiah. In our faith tradition we await Jesus, born to a virgin and an adoptive earthly father. This is not the messiah that most of that day expected. That is still true today, in other faith traditions. Even so, the birth for which we wait is the breaking in of God into our time and space, for the redemption of creation.

Our Gospel texts for Advent are:

- Mark 13:24-37
- Mark 1:1-8
- John 1:6-8, 19-28
- Luke 1:26-38

Each of these texts features an upending of our expectations, or maybe even desire for this earthly domain. But hey, that's what happens when the Kingdom of God is here.

In our first passage on Advent 1 our text for the day highlights the revealing of things. This passage tells us that the veil is being pulled back. The bad news is that as the veil is pulled back, we see our society in the light that is Jesus Christ. The good news is that as the veil is pulled back, we see the light that is Jesus Christ in our society. This revelation brings both exposure and comfort. The world has been upended, and this is where God is present.

Our text for Advent 2 digs into the presence of God. I think one of our difficulties we may have as we hear this Gospel reading is the emotional barrier that many of us have developed during the pandemic. How can we hear and believe, "Your God is Here" through our car radios, through the pastor's mask in a taped-off sanctuary limited to 30 people, through the tinny speakers on our laptops and Smartphones, through the silence? This passage is all about beginnings. With the Holy Spirit as our Comforter, I pray our emotional barriers will be broken down and you will know in the depth of your souls that "Your God is Here."

Advent 3 has us dipping into the water that is the Gospel of John. In this text, the one that we usually refer to as John the Baptizer or John the Baptist doesn't actually baptize Jesus. In this text and in this Gospel the identity of this John is a/the witness to the Light that has



UPCOMING EVENTS

NOVEMBER 3

Finance Meeting 6 pm

NOVEMBER 5

Dwelling in the Word 7:30 pm

NOVEMBER 8

Highway Clean up 10 am

NOVEMBER 9

Dwelling in the Word 2 pm
Call Committee Meeting 5:30 pm
All Committee Meeting 6:30 pm

NOVEMBER 10

Dwelling in the Word 6:30 pm

NOVEMBER 10-16

Pastor Jen – Out of office

NOVEMBER 19

Church Council Meeting 6:30 pm

NOVEMBER 26 & 27

Thanksgiving – office closed

JOIN US WEEKLY

TUESDAYS



9am Quilters



11am Bible Study

Bethlehem Lutheran Church, ELCA

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Portage, WI 53901

608-742-8502

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come into the world. In this passage John the Witness shares his encounter with Jesus. By sharing his story, he invites us into this same identity, where we also share our encounter with Jesus to this aching and groaning world. Alas, again we have this tension where light both exposes and comforts, depending upon our perspective. The good news here is that witness leads to discipleship and witness leads to relationship. Salvation in the Gospel of John is relationship with Jesus and one another.

Our final text in Advent comes to us in Luke's account of the Gospel. One of the themes of this entire gospel is "Resistance and Rejection". We should be able to relate to this theme, as it continues into our society today. As followers of Christ we are familiar with the resistance to and rejection of the Gospel in our world. As followers of Christ we are familiar with the resistance and rejection of the Gospel in our selves. We may ask, "Does God see and regard me, when I cannot worship as I'm used to...when I cannot serve as I used to...when I don't feel God as I used to?" The good news is that what God has done in Jesus for those in the gospel narrative God also does in Jesus for us.

I'm seeing a connection to these four passages and Renewal. In our passages the breaking in of God into our world in the Incarnation is happening in our congregation. When you agreed to become a Renewal Congregation you entered into a period of upending, revealing, tension, and (thank God) a shift in perspective. That's what Renewal ultimately is, Beloved. Renewal is embracing the truth that God is in control, that God speaks to us, that God loves us, and that God would really like us to love others in heart, word, and deed. This is something I believe every congregation should be doing always. Renewal, I believe, is not a process or a plan, but an openness to God with Us. Kudos to BLC for being intentional about Renewal!

This is where tension comes in again. Anytime the status quo is disrupted or upended there will be tension. Anytime (which is all the time) God breaks into our concept of the world there is tension. Anytime the Light shines into the darkness there is tension, for we are faced with a choice.

(Now here come the REALLY Good News!)

God breaks into our lives in love. God breaks down our barriers and walls to ultimately unite us. God shines a light in our lives to illuminate, reveal, and redeem. This, my friends, is GRACE. We need not fear the tension. We need not fear the revelation. We need not fear our call to witness. God is present in our life. God is present in Love.

Now may the peace of God, which is beyond our human comprehension keep our minds on Christ Jesus, through the power of the Holy Spirit.

Amen, amen, AMEN!

Pastor Jen

GOD'S FAMILY SERVING CHRIST WITH LOVE

Greetings! In the time of our shared ministry we have re-embraced our identity as "God's Family Serving Christ with Love" to one degree or another. I'm hoping to use this space for us to look at our shared identity and see what God is saying to us in this. The plan is to focus on one aspect of this identity in the next three editions of The Chimes. My continuing hope is that we can somehow enter into a shared discernment regarding how each of these three aspects are reflected in our life together as a church family.

Of course, I realize how this sharing is hindered by our current situation in the pandemic. All the same, I have faith in our ability in the Holy Spirit to come up with a way (or ways) that we can share. I'm sensing that this is some important stuff we should be doing. Thank you.

"God's Family Serving Christ with Love"

with Love:

It has been said that the definition of insanity is doing the same thing over and over and expecting a different result. By that definition I am insane for writing this, the third of three articles on the identity statement, "God's Family Serving Christ with Love." Nobody in the congregation has responded to me about these articles. Nobody. I don't know what to say. I don't know what to think. Next month I will move on to another topic. Maybe you'll read it. Maybe you won't. That's out of my control, so I cannot worry about it. But I still have hope. *Pastor Jen*

OUR CHURCH

RENEWAL UPDATE – DWELLING IN THE WORD

The Renewal Team sent out a survey to determine the next steps for our congregation. As desired by those who responded to that survey, we will begin Dwelling in the Word Bible study groups via zoom. There will be three that you can choose from: Thursday, November 5th with Mark Teslik, Monday, November 9th with Pr. Jen, and Tuesday, November 10th with Dan Pulsfus All are welcome to attend!

Dwelling in the Word is the practice that is the spiritual foundation for our renewal. It's a practice that is integral to who we are as followers of Christ, and one that we grow into. Adding the Dwelling in the Word groups is something that will continue past the 3-year renewal term and will become a permanent part of the culture at BLC. You need no scripture background to participate. The leader invites and prepares the group to listen to the Spirit's nudging through spoken or silent prayer. Before the passage is read, the leader instructs hearers to be aware of what word or phrase captures their attention. The leader then invites group members to take turns listening attentively and carefully to one another as they share. Please contact Pr. Jen if you have any additional questions. The Zoom information is below:

Nov 5, 2020 07:30 PM

<https://zoom.us/j/99346910901?pwd=bWpRdy9ZbFEwTDZHRmZHNEZKVVWlxQT09>

Meeting ID: 993 4691 0901

Passcode: 497094

Nov 9, 2020 02:00 PM

<https://zoom.us/j/99320101294?pwd=U0NkUXBtNjNeVVxWHpqQINtclhXUT09>

Meeting ID: 993 2010 1294

Passcode: 587048

Nov 10, 2020 06:30 PM

<https://zoom.us/j/97546730077?pwd=WEZKYVgvdFFaZXVNTFdaNWFRaFVVZz09>

Meeting ID: 975 4673 0077

Passcode: 624310

SUGGESTED CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAW CHANGES

Council has been working on changes in the Congregational and Bylaws based on needs the past few years. At the next Congregational meeting (to be determined), we will ask the congregation to vote on these changes. Please look over the proposed changes and contact any council member on any questions you may have about changes proposed in the upcoming few weeks prior to the November 19th Council meeting. Council Member include: Robin Kvalo, Ann Ciske, Halley Harms, Don Bender, Jack Paulson, Geoff Gilbert, Ruth Price, Kory Anderson.

**CONSTITUTION OF
BETHLEHEM **EVANGELICAL** LUTHERAN CHURCH
PORTAGE, WISCONSIN
New Date when voted on**

Chapter 8. MEMBERSHIP

C8.02. Members shall be classified as follows:

Current: c. Voting members are confirmed members. Such confirmed members shall have communed and made a financial contribution of record during the preceding **6 months**

Suggested: c. Voting members are confirmed members. Such confirmed members shall have communed and made a financial contribution of record during the preceding **calendar year.**

Chapter 10. CONGREGATION MEETING

Current:

C10.03. Notice of all meetings of this congregation shall be given at the services of worship on the preceding two consecutive Sundays and **by mail** to all voting members at least 10 days in advance of the date of the meeting. The posting of such notice in the regular mail, with the regular postage affixed or paid, sent to the last known address of such members shall be sufficient.

Suggested:

C10.03. Notice of all meetings of this congregation shall be given at the services of worship on the preceding two consecutive Sundays and **by mail and/or email** to all voting members at least 10 days in advance of the date of the meeting. The posting of such notice in the regular mail, with the regular postage affixed or paid, sent to the last known address of such members shall be sufficient.

Chapter 13. CONGREGATIONAL COMMITTEES

Current:

C13.02. A Nominating Committee of **six** voting members of this congregation, two of whom shall be, if possible, outgoing members of the Congregation Council, shall be elected at the annual meeting for a term of one year. Members of the Nominating Committee are not eligible for consecutive re-election.

Suggested:

C13.02. A Nominating Committee of **five** voting members of this congregation, two of whom shall be, if possible, outgoing members of the Congregation Council, shall be elected at the annual meeting for a term of one year. Members of the Nominating Committee are not eligible for consecutive re-election.

Current:

C13.04. A Staff Support Committee or, in the absence of a staff support committee their duties shall be fulfilled by the **executive committee**, shall be appointed jointly by the president and the pastor(s). Term of office shall be two years, three members to be appointed each successive year. Committee members will hold no other office in the congregation during their term.

Suggested:

C13.04. A Staff Support Committee or, in the absence of a staff support committee their duties shall be fulfilled by the **Executive Committee**, shall be appointed jointly by the president and the pastor(s). Term of office shall be two years, three members to be appointed each successive year. Committee members will hold no other office in the congregation during their term.

Current:

C13.05. When a pastoral vacancy occurs, a Call Committee of **six** voting members shall be elected by this congregation. (Term of office will terminate at installation of the newly-called pastor.)

Suggested:

C13.05. When a pastoral vacancy occurs, a Call Committee of **five** voting members shall be elected by this congregation. Term of office will terminate at installation of the newly-called pastor. **The composition of the call committee, after prayerful consideration, should intentionally reflect the makeup of the congregation. There should be a diverse representation of gender, age, and ethnic/racial identity on the committee. All segments of the ministry of the congregation should be represented (Worship, Youth, Education, Evangelism, etc.). They should be strong spiritual individuals who are regular worshipers, prayerful, read Scripture regularly for their personal devotion, and those who share of their God given talents and resources. Beyond these considerations, there should also be a balance of long-term and newer members, people from different elements of the congregation, drawing upon a variety of contributing styles and gifts. This is not an appropriate place to invite an inactive member to become more active. This is also not an appropriate place for the congregation member who has an axe to grind or for a congregation member with an outspoken agenda that may not be in coordination with the mission of the congregation.**

It is advisable to have one congregation council member, who is not the president, sit on the Call Committee as a liaison. The council representative should not have a vote on the Call Committee. The council representative will report back to the Congregation Council on the progress of the Call Committee, but he/she may not violate the confidences of the Call Committee. The chairperson of the call committee will contact the Synod Office in order to schedule a call process orientation for the call committee.

**MISSION STATEMENT OF
BETHLEHEM EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
PORTAGE, WISCONSIN**

Current:

We reach out to others through our ministries of:
Christian Education
Worship and Music
Social Ministry
Evangelism
Stewardship
Property Management
Finance

Suggested:

Evangelism

Evangelism is to be incorporated into every ministry of the church to stimulate concerted endeavors to reawaken the spiritually indifferent and to reach others, who are as yet unwon, with the Gospel and attach them to Christ's Church.

We reach out to others through our ministries of:
Christian Education
Worship and Music
Social Ministry Local and Global

Current:

Section III - DUTIES OF THE CONGREGATION COUNCIL OFFICERS AND APPOINTEES.

- Item 4. The **financial secretary** shall receive and keep record of all income from contributing members and other sources.
- Item 5. The **treasurer** shall keep the books of account of the congregation and shall receive from the money counters all funds and disburse them on proper orders, making monthly remittance of benevolence receipts to the treasurer of the synod.
- Item 6. The **treasurer and the financial secretary** shall make written reports of all financial transactions to the Congregation Council monthly and to the congregation, together with a satisfactory audit, at its Annual Meeting. All financial officers shall give corporate surety, in amounts determined by the Congregation Council for which the premium shall be paid by the congregation. Fidelity coverage provided by the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America shall be deemed a fulfillment of this requirement.

Suggested:

Section III - DUTIES OF THE CONGREGATION COUNCIL OFFICERS AND APPOINTEES.

- Item 4. The **Treasurer or other appointed member (as determined by the BLC Financial Controls Manual)** shall receive and keep record of all income from contributing members and other sources.
- Item 5. The **Treasurer or other appointed member (as determined by the BLC Financial Controls Manual)** shall keep the books of account of the congregation and shall receive from the money counters all funds and disburse them on proper orders, making monthly remittance of benevolence receipts to

the treasurer of the synod.

Item 6: The Treasurer or other appointed member (as determined by the BLC Financial Controls Manual) will make regular remittance of benevolence receipts to the treasurer of the synod.

Item 7. The **Treasurer or other appointed member (as determined by the BLC Financial Controls Manual)** shall make written reports of all financial transactions to the Congregation Council monthly and to the congregation, together with a satisfactory audit, at its Annual Meeting. All financial officers shall give corporate surety, in amounts determined by the Congregation Council for which the premium shall be paid by the congregation. Fidelity coverage provided by the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America shall be deemed a fulfillment of this requirement.

Current:

Section VI - Committees.

Item 3. Evangelism. There shall be a committee on Evangelism. This committee shall stimulate and lead all members of the congregation in continuous and, from time to time, concerted endeavors to reawaken the spiritually indifferent and to reach others, who are as yet unwon, with the Gospel and attach them to Christ's Church. To this end, the committee shall devote itself to deepening spiritual life of members of the congregation and shall periodically study the congregation in the context of its surrounding community.

Suggested:

Section VI - Committees.

Item 3. Evangelism. There shall be a committee on Evangelism. This committee shall stimulate and lead all members of the congregation in continuous and, from time to time, concerted endeavors to reawaken the spiritually indifferent and to reach others, who are as yet unwon, with the Gospel and attach them to Christ's Church. To this end, the committee shall devote itself to deepening spiritual life of members of the congregation and shall periodically study the congregation in the context of its surrounding community.

Current:

Item 5. **Social Ministry.** There shall be a committee on **Social Ministry**

Suggested:

Item 5. **Local and Global.** There shall be a committee on **Local and Global.**

COVID-19 TASK FORCE UPDATE & INDOOR & DRIVE-IN WORSHIP



We have been offering indoor worship on Sundays at 9am and Wednesdays at 5:30pm since October 4th. It has gone very well. We have put protocols in place to keep everyone safe so we can provide worship with low risk. In order for us to continue to offer a safe service we need people to volunteer to be ushers. We have decided that in order for us to provide a safe worship service, the two usher positions need to be filled by Friday at noon for a Sunday service, otherwise there will be no indoor service. Please sign up [HERE](#) to help out or contact

the office. Since we are only allowing for 10% of the sanctuary capacity, **a reservation is needed to attend either service.** You can sign up in several ways: call or email the church office by noon on Friday, our website has a link, a link is also sent out with the weekly email. At this time we have not reached capacity for either service (Sundays & Wednesdays), so until that happens we will continue to only provide the two services.

Sunday, October 25th will be our last official 10am drive-in worship. This is due to several reasons, but all leading back to the cold, windy, wet weather. These conditions are not good for the sound equipment and it is making it difficult for it to run properly. We understand that many of you are not comfortable coming into the church building for worship. You will be able to continue to listen to the 9 am worship from your cars if

you wish, as we will still use the FM transmitter to broadcast that 9am service. Please note, there will be no usher outside for bulletins or communion cards. A supply of communion cards will be left in the black mailbox near the office door if you choose to use them. You can also email or call the office letting us know you took communion.

Below are some instructions on what you can expect when you come to church for indoor worship.

Instructions for Church Members Attending Indoor Worship

Please bring your own communion elements at this time.

All must wear a mask.

Bathrooms are limited to 2 people at a time.

When you Arrive

You will be greeted at the front door by an usher who will:

1. open the door for you
2. offer you a mask if you do not have one
3. take attendance
4. offer you a bulletin, communion card and pen if needed
5. instruct you to wait at the spots marked on the floor (6 ft social distancing) until seated by the next usher

Hand sanitizer is available for use before you enter the sanctuary, which you are encouraged to use. The next usher will guide you to your seat. We will fill the church from the front to the back. Larger families will sit on the sides of the church.

During Worship

- During worship we ask that you remain in your pew with your mask on.
- Communion cards and offerings will not be collected. Please put them in the collection bowl upon exiting the sanctuary.

When you Depart

1. Please stay seated until you are excused by the usher. There are three sections (A, B, C) and each will exit by the appropriate door.
 - Center pews (Section A – main entrance/exit)
 - Right side of church (Section B- doors near Praise Band set up)
 - Left side of church (Section C – doors near cry room)
2. For the safety and comfort of all, please do not congregate in the Narthex or church building after worship. Thank you.

HIGHWAY CLEANUP

Highway Clean Up



Sunday, Nov 8th

Highway clean is scheduled for Sunday, November 8th after 9am worship. Due to Covid-19, we will stay in family groups while we clean up the highway. Minors are expected to stay with their adult family members. Please meet outside of church at 10am. If you have any questions, please contact Ann Ciske 608-742-6816.

NO INTERNET, COMPUTER OR CHURCH?

Do you not have a computer or connection to the internet at home to be able to enjoy “online” church? And are you not able or comfortable coming to church in person? BLC has purchased tablets that we can bring to those that have not been able to be a part of church worship services during the pandemic. You will be paired with a “buddy” who will either bring you the tablet and leave it for you to watch or will stay and watch church with you. If you are interested in this, please call the church office: 608-742-8502. We are also looking for “buddies”: people that would bring the tablet to those in need, watch it with them or drop it off, start it and pick it up later.



NEW MEMBER CLASS



If you are interested or know of someone who is interested in becoming a member of BLC, please contact the church office for more information. Two new member receptions are scheduled for December 6th and 9th.

Want to share your faith story or moment when you felt God present in your life? Contact Pastor Jen or the church office.

FALL FESTIVAL



Thank you to all who volunteered and for those who stayed and purchased a brat, hotdog or pumpkin. Also a very special thank you to the members who donated to cover the cost

of the supplies. Despite the cold weather, the brat fry raised \$1,039 and the pumpkin and bulb sale raised \$231 for the ministries of BLC. Thank you for your continued support and generosity!

CALL COMMITTEE

The Call Committee has begun the call process. We have held two meetings so far including one with Rev. Steve Kottke from the synod office for set up help and guidance. Call Committee members were installed at the October 18 outdoor service. One goal is to have good communication throughout the process. We will strive for frequent communication to you, the congregation, via updates, the Chimes, the church website, etc. As a quick reminder, we are still in the 3-year renewal process with Pastor Jen. This renewal process came with the option of extending a call to Pastor Jen a candidate as well. This is also part of the call decision process in the upcoming year. Important survey questions are being worked on and the congregation's feedback (yours) will be vital to guide us as a committee in the important decision of a call. It is not simply the committee's decision; we need many Bethlehem members to help and guide us. When the call process results in a good match between a pastor and a congregation, the total mission of the church is furthered. Thanks, and stayed tuned for more updates. Respectfully,
Jeff Melby

ALL COMMITTEE NIGHT

All committee night will take place virtually. All are welcome. If you would like to attend the meeting, please contact the office for the Zoom link.



GIFTS OF BETHLEHEM – A VIRTUAL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM



The Gifts of Bethlehem event is still taking place this year although it will look a little different. Our 2020 event will consist of an online auction and a pre-recorded concert that will premiere on Sunday, December 13th. Proceeds

from this event will help our church as well as other non-profit organizations in the community, such as River Haven Homeless Shelter and the local PACAP program.

For our auction: We will be collecting gift baskets from our members and the community until Friday, December 4th. If you have a gift basket or item that you would like to donate to our church for the auction, please drop it off to the church office by Dec. 4th. We will be taking pictures of those items to place on our online auction page, which will be live and open for bidding on Sunday, December 6th. The auction will be open for one week, closing after the premiere of the concert. For those of you who would like to participate that do not have access to a computer or the internet, we will be setting up the narthex with all of the gift baskets for you to view. Please contact the church office to set up an appointment to view the baskets and make a bid in-person.

For our concert: We are looking for musicians!!! Members and non-members: please contact Tania Anderson if you are interested in participating: 608-697-5999 or tranderson1012@gmail.com. Because this is a pre-recorded event, we will be setting up appointments for each musician to record his or her song at the church (if possible). Once we have all of the songs recorded, we will compile everything into one video, which will premiere online the evening of Sunday December 13th. We will be collecting a suggested donation ahead of time from everyone that would like to view the concert. For anyone that would like to view the concert that does not have access to a computer or the internet, we may be selling copies of the DVD and might set up a small group, in-person viewing of the concert at the church (to be determined).

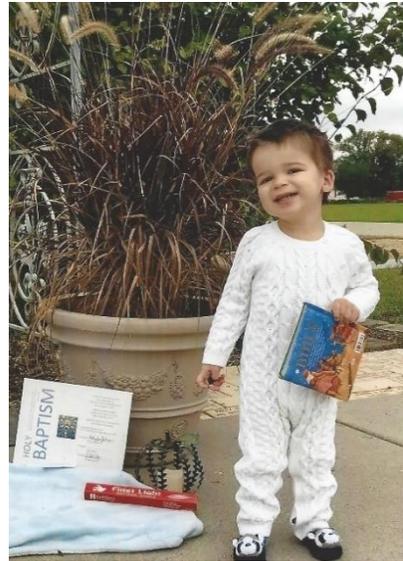
Thank you in advance to everyone that participates in our annual Gifts of Bethlehem event!! We are grateful for the opportunity to stay connected in small ways during these unusual times, and BLC thanks you for your continued support.

QUILT DRAWING

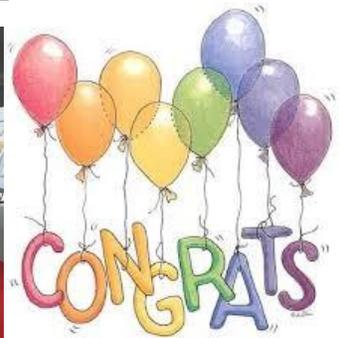


Get your tickets for this beautiful 70"x74" quilt drawing. This quilt was handcrafted with love by: Christie Rhinehart, Joanne Hanson, and Denise Bandt of Starry Lane Quilting. Tickets available at the church office during office hours or [HERE](#) on our website. The quilt is on display at church.

BAPTISM, 1ST COMMUNION & CONFIRMATION



Even with the pandemic, in October we were able to safely have a baptism, first communion for three 6th graders who were not able to have their first communion last spring, and confirmation. **Congratulations to each of you!**



How you can help
LOCAL & GLOBAL

The Local and Global Ministry committee is looking for people to help with rolled bandages for Global Health Ministries. We will be tearing strips and rolling bandages. People can do this project in their our homes if they wish. Contact Ann Ciske 608-742-6816 or the office if you want to help.



FALL FOOD DRIVE



We are collecting non-perishable food for the local food pantries **through the month of November**. There are so many people in need right now. Let's help make their day a little easier by providing some relief from their worry about where their next meal is going to come from. Donations can be dropped off at church in the narthex.



NEWS FROM THE CHURCH OFFICE

LOGO FOR BETHLEHEM

Things got a little busy here in the office once fall came around, so the logo project was put on hold. But let's get back to it! I have received two logos so far. We invite you to submit logo designs for BLC for consideration. Can you do this by submitting a hand-drawn image or digital drawing to the church office. The logo should represent BLC and our mission: "God's Family Serving Christ with Love". Also consider our church name, Bethlehem, in the design.

When we have received all of the designs by the submission deadline, we will then vote as a congregation and the one with the most votes will be our logo. Logo designs must be submitted to the church office no later than **December 31th** for consideration. In January, the designs will then be shared in the weekly newsletter and bulletin for members to vote for their favorite.

Here are five ideas about what makes for a successful logo. Great logos:

- represent a church's values and character.
- tell a story.
- are simple. Complex logos get out of date quickly. Simple ones last for decades.
- are distinctive. They're memorable and recognizable.
- are scalable. They look good in color and black and white and in small and large sizes.

If you have any questions, please contact Julie in the church office.

NEW OFFERING ENVELOPES

The 2021 offering envelopes have been ordered, and we chose to change the style to a secure mailable envelope due to more members mailing in

offerings due to Covid-19. This way you can save an envelope: you will not need to put your offering envelope into another envelope. They will be available for pick up in early December. Please note: new envelope numbers will be assigned this year. If you would like to forgo envelopes, but just be assigned a number, please contact the church office no later than November 30th.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

BLC is financially stable at this point and we are grateful for the continued support provided to our mission by our members. The increase in income this month reflects a large donation to the mortgage principle.

WE ARE TRULY BLESSED

In early October, BLC received confirmation from the Baraboo State Bank that our Payroll Protection Loan was fully forgiven by the Small Business Administration. For those of you that have not been following this closely, BLC applied for a Payroll Protection Loan through the SBA back in April. We were approved for a loan in the amount of \$20,169. Our recent confirmation from the Baraboo State Bank announcing that the loan was fully forgiven means that we do not need to pay that money back. This has truly been a blessing for our church as this money has helped us to get through these uncertain times. We are so grateful for the efforts of Janice Peterson and Jerry Saalsaa as they led us through this process and submitted the applications and required paperwork. Thank you, Janice and Jerry...and thank you to all of our BLC members for their continued support. We are truly blessed.

Bethlehem Lutheran Church

PROFIT AND LOSS COMPARISON

October 1-19, 2020

	TOTAL				
	OCT 1-19, 2020	OCT 1-19, 2019 (PY)	SEP 1-19, 2020 (PP)	JAN 1 - OCT 19, 2020 (YTD)	JAN 1 - OCT 19, 2019 (PY YTD)
Income	\$28,718.54	\$15,208.10	\$16,245.88	\$236,553.66	\$237,936.52
GROSS PROFIT	\$28,718.54	\$15,208.10	\$16,245.88	\$236,553.66	\$237,936.52
Expenses	\$14,981.51	\$14,982.07	\$11,753.44	\$195,376.58	\$209,727.57
NET OPERATING INCOME	\$13,737.03	\$226.03	\$4,492.44	\$41,177.08	\$28,208.95
Other Income	\$0.00	\$25.00	\$1,500.00	\$9,004.88	\$16,362.01
Other Expenses	\$0.00	\$1,080.50	\$1,448.00	\$8,612.22	\$14,876.95
NET OTHER INCOME	\$0.00	\$ -1,055.50	\$52.00	\$392.66	\$1,485.06
NET INCOME	\$13,737.03	\$ -829.47	\$4,544.44	\$41,569.74	\$29,694.01

Bethlehem Lutheran Church

November 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Daylight Saving Time Ends. Fall Back 9:00 am Worship Indoor/Online 	2 10:30 am Tai Chi 5:30 pm Call Committee Mtg	3 9:00 am Quilters 11:00 am Bible Study 6:00 pm Finance Committee	4 10:30 am Tai Chi 5:30 pm Worship - Indoors 7:00 pm Confirmation Grades 6th - 8th Via Zoom	5 7:30 pm Dwelling in the Word w/ Pr. Mark Dwelling in the WORD 	6 10:30 am Tai Chi	7
8 9:00 am Worship Indoor/Online 10:00 am Highway Clean Up 	9 10:30 am Tai Chi 2:00 pm Dwelling in the Word w/ Pr. Jen 5:30 pm Call Committee Mtg 6:00 pm SREA meeting 6:30 pm All Committee Meeting 	10 PrJ vacation 9:00 am Quilters 11:00 am Bible Study 6:30 pm Dwelling in the Word w/ Pr. Dan Dwelling in the WORD 	11 PrJ vacation 10:30 am Tai Chi 5:30 pm No Worship 7:00 pm Confirmation Grades 6th - 8th Via Zoom	12 PrJ vacation	13 PrJ vacation 10:30 am Tai Chi	14 PrJ vacation
15 PrJ vacation 9:00 am Worship Indoor/Online	16 PrJ vacation 10:30 am Tai Chi 5:30 pm Call Committee Mtg 6:30 pm SRA meeting	17 9:00 am Quilters 11:00 am Bible Study	18 10:30 am Tai Chi 2:30 pm Dr Villareal Televisit. 5:30 pm Worship - Indoors 7:00 pm Confirmation Grades 6th - 8th Via Zoom	19 6:30 pm Council Meeting	20 Chimes Articles Due 10:30 am Tai Chi	21
22 9:00 am Worship Indoor/Online	23 10:30 am Tai Chi	24 9:00 am Quilters 11:00 am Bible Study	25 10:30 am Tai Chi 5:30 pm Worship - Indoors 7:00 pm No Confirmation	26 Thanksgiving - Office Closed 	27 Office Closed 10:30 am Tai Chi	28
29 9:00 am Worship Indoor/Online	30 10:30 am Tai Chi 5:30 pm Call Committee Mtg					

