

Star on the Hill

The Newsletter of Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Lanesboro, Minnesota

March 2020

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Remember to set your clocks ahead Saturday night, March 7



In this issue

Worship News	2
Assistants & Servers.	3
Prayer list & Youth News. 4	
WELCA News.....	5
Easter Lily Form	6

Everyone is invited to attend midweek Lenten services each Wednesday evening, March 4 – April 1. The location will alternate between Fountain Lutheran and Bethlehem. A light supper will be served beginning at 6:00 pm. Worship begins at 7:00 p.m.

Volunteers are needed to provide the Lenten suppers on March 11 and 25, when the services are at Bethlehem. Please sign up on the sheet in the fellowship hall or contact the church office.

By His Wounds We Are Healed Lenten Series

Our Lord and Savior suffered mortal wounds as punishment for the commandments broken by us. Yet, those very wounds are the means by which our sins are forgiven and we are made whole again.

March 4

Supper and worship at Fountain
The Wounds of Violating the Sabbath
Luke 6:6-11

Jesus is accused of violating the Sabbath when he heals a man with a withered hand.

March 11

Supper and worship at Bethlehem
The Wounds of Dishonoring Authority
John 19:12-16

Jesus is accused of dishonoring authority when he calls himself a king.

March 18

Supper and worship at Fountain
The Wounds of Murder
John 11:47-53

Jesus is accused of inspiring rebellion and the destruction of Israel.

March 25

Supper and worship at Bethlehem
The Wounds of Adultery
Mark 2:13-17

Jesus is accused of associating with tax collectors and prostitutes.

Worship & Evangelism

New Worship Furnishings

The church council approved the purchase of a new chalice and two candelabras for the altar. Memorial funds given by the family of Bea Burmeister will be used for this purchase. We are grateful for the many years that Bea served on our altar guild.

Root River Conference Assembly March 1

The annual Root River Conference Assembly originally scheduled for February 9 was postponed due to weather. The meeting will take place Sunday, March 1, at Chatfield Lutheran Church. Glen Jenson and Bob & Phyllis Penheiter will represent our congregation.

2019 Choice Dollars are lost after March 31

Thank you to Thrivent members who have designated their 2019 Choice Dollars to Bethlehem! To see if you have undesignated Choice Dollars, please call Thrivent at 1-800- 847-4836 or go to www.Thrivent.com. The deadline to designate 2019 Choice Dollars is March 31.

**Remember, you may designate your Choice Dollars to a specific ministry within our congregation, if you wish.

Letter-writing Party Was a Success!

A special thank you to the 16 people who took time on Sunday, February 2 to write letters to the college students from Bethlehem. A total of 69 letters were written to the 28 college students. Most letters were written on Sunday, but a couple of people gave me letters later in the week. Thank you for caring for our Christian brothers and sisters who are furthering their education. Thank you for the encouragement you offered with your time and talents.

Vern Groen

College Students Say Thank You

We got our Valentines mail from the church! We always enjoy reading those letters. It is nice to see all the people supporting us back home. Tell the congregation thank you!

Rachel and Nathan Eversole

Chiefs over 49ers in Souper Bowl

Thank you to everyone who contributed to our Souper Bowl of Caring offering on February 2. Donations in the Chiefs' kettle totaled \$52.50; donations in the 49ers' kettle totaled \$23.50 for a grand total of \$76.00. This was reported to the Souper Bowl website where it was added to the national total. The money was then given to the Preston food shelf.



Holy Communion

Sunday, March 8
At the altar rail

Sunday, March 22
In procession

****Please note the change in the Communion schedule for March**



Girl Scout Sunday

March 8

Lanesboro Girl Scouts will help usher and greet for our worship on March 8 in honor of National Girl Scout Sunday.



The Senior Choir will begin rehearsing for Good Friday worship on Sunday, March 8, 10:45-11:30. We will sing selections from last year's cantata. All singers are welcome!

Worship & Evangelism



Sunday, March 1

Greeters/Ushers: Bryan & Melissa Guber and Walter & Susie Bradley

Acolytes:

Reader: Phil Rogers

Altar care: Elve Albrecht

Refreshments: Susie Bradley and Melissa Guber

Sunday, March 8

Greeters/Ushers: Ron & Cheryl Flaa, Bryan & Teri Benson family, TJ & Aimee Stettler family

Acolytes: Levi Rogers and Holdyn Willford

Reader: Phyllis Penheiter

Altar Care & Communion: Susie Bradley and Elve Albrecht

Refreshments: Ron & Cheryl Flaa

Wednesday, March 11 Lenten Worship

Supper servers:

Sunday, March 15

Greeters/Ushers: Tim, Lori, Cale, Caden, Niko & Chase Anderson

Acolytes: Morgan Hanson and Taylor Hanson

Reader: Phil Rogers

Altar care: Elve Albrecht

Refreshments: Susie Bradley and Elve Albrecht

Sunday, March 22

Greeters/Ushers: Harriet Lawston, Kim Wagner, Grace Tufte, Elve Albrecht

Acolytes: Natalie Pittelko and Carson Berg

Reader:

Altar Care & Communion: Harriet Lawston and Elve Albrecht

Refreshments: Harriet Lawston and Elve Albrecht

Wednesday, March 25 Lenten Worship

Supper servers:

Sunday, March 29

Greeters: Kim Wagner, Alison Tufte, Rob & Melissa Wagner

Acolytes: Kaden Stettler and Amanda Amdahl

Reader: Melissa Wagner

Altar Care: Elve Albrecht

Refreshments: Kim Wagner and Alison Tufte

Meals on Wheels March 2-6

Ron & Cheryl Flaa

Senior Dining Servers at Kenilworth Apartments

March 6: Dianne Dunn and Phyllis Penheiter

March 13: Corky Olson, Norine Ask and Gwen Harmon

March 20: Diann Groen and Kathie Rogers

March 27: Joan Groszbach and Cindy Eversole



Additional Meals on Wheels Delivery this Month

Bethlehem has been asked to cover a second week of Meals on Wheels delivery this month only— March 30-April 3. Please contact the church office to volunteer for any day that week.

March Coffee Offering Benefits Briggman family

Derek Briggman and his son, Ethan were injured in a car accident in January. Our March coffee offering be given to them to assist with medical expenses.

April Service Group will meet soon

April service group members are: Mike & Norine Ask, Dave Campbell, Andy & Mara Drake, Kevin Drake, Marge Drake, Phillip Erickson, Darrel & Karen Flattum, Jork & Sue Miehlich, Duane Peterson, Joe & Jody Peterson, Steve & Sue Rahn, Tom & Barb Schramm, Milton Solberg, Scott & Karla Strom, Jon & Barb Willford, Mike & Laura Willford. Group coordinators are Joe & Jody Peterson.

Children, Youth & Family



Our Confirmands

9th grade: Cameron Dahl, Sarah Eversole, Nadia Highum, MaKenzie Kelly, Peyton Olson, Andrew Peterson, Chloe Schnebly, Jessie Schreiber, Brock Taylor, Logan Torgerson

8th grade: Luke Ruen, Lynsey Ruen, Kaden Stettler

7th grade: Taylor Hanson, Dayton Haugen, Emma Highum, Cora Schnebly, Holdyn Willford

Those Living with Cancer

Carroll Danielson, Diane Haugen, Sue Miehlisch, Tom Pappenfuss

Those Residing in Care Facilities

Eva Bakken at Good Shepherd Lutheran Home, Rushford

Kay McCarthy at Traditions of Preston

Lois Gilbertson at Chosen Valley Assisted Living, Chatfield

Allene Haugstad at Clara House in Harmony

Betty Hanson, Elizabeth Hollenbeck, Doris O'Dell and Lois M. Peterson at Park Lane Estates, Preston

Nancy Soukup at The Gardens at Cannon Falls

Our Members in the Military

Nicholas Benson, son of Deane Benson

Tom Moen, son of Lolly Melander and grandson of Everett Johnson

Brian Peterson, son of Larry & Debbie Peterson, grandson of Lois Peterson

Lisa Peterson Abell, daughter of Linda (Hareldson) Peterson

Leon Peterson, son of Linda (Hareldson) Peterson

Claire Peterson, daughter of Joe and Jody Peterson, granddaughter of Lois Peterson



We extend our sympathy to Mary Treu and her brother and sister-in-law, Lowell and Mary Aakre. Lowell and Mary's grandson, Jacob Aakre, passed away on February 15 in South Carolina following heart surgery. He was 11 months old.

Grief Support Groups Forming

Mayo Clinic Hospice is offering eight-week grief support groups on Monday afternoons or evenings, March 30 through May 18, in Rochester. There will be a group for those who have experienced the death of a spouse or significant other; death of a child or grandchild; and death of a parent or grandparent. The groups are free of charge and open to everyone. For information and registration, call

1-800-679-9084. Pre-registration is required. Registration deadline is March 16.



LYO winter service project continues

Thank you to everyone who signed up to take out the trash for the residents of Sylvan Manor and Kenilworth apartments.

Here is the schedule for March:

- March 4:** Karen & Cameron Dahl
- March 11:** Karen & Cameron Dahl
- March 18:** Ben & Sarah Eversole
- March 25:** Karen & Cameron Dahl

Tacos for Everyone

Twenty-five youth and adults enjoyed a taco supper on February 19. The group learned about the next ELCA National Youth Gathering which will take place in Minneapolis in 2021. They also began discussing a possible youth-led Sunday worship service.

Ski Trip Recap

Thirty-one youth and adults enjoyed a day of skiing and boarding at Welch Village on February 23. Thank you to trip coordinators & chaperones, Rochelle Gathje and Cindy Eversole.

Women of the ELCA

Women's Activities this month

Wednesday, March 4

9:00 am WELCA Sew day

Sunday, March 8

9:00 am World Day of Prayer
observed in worship

Every Thursday

2:00 pm Knitting Ministry at
Sylvan Manor Community room

Wednesday, March 25

9:00 am Martha Circle at
Kenilworth Apts. community room

3:00 pm Ruth & Sarah Circles at
Sylvan Manor community room



World Day of Prayer March 8

The WELCA has decided to include World Day of Prayer as part of our Sunday morning worship on March 8, rather than having a separate worship service. This year's featured country is Zimbabwe.



Women's Bible Study

This month we continue our four-part study entitled *We Are Called!* Martin Luther used the word "vocation" or "calling" to refer to all aspects of human life. We are called to respond to God not just in our personal relationship with God but in our relationships with family and friends, in our work, and in our communities. This Bible study will explore stories from both the Old and New Testament. As we reflect on how our biblical forebears heard and responded to God's call, we will gain insight into how God is calling us – and how God may be calling others through us.

Session Three: *Called to Serve*. In this session we will discuss what we are being called to do. In particular, we will see how God's call is a call to serve others, and how the call to love God is linked to the call to love our neighbors. We will examine Jesus' parable of the Good Samaritan as an example of the call to respond to individual need. We will look at Joseph's stewardship in Egypt as an example of the call to respond to community needs. Finally, we'll revisit the story of Esther as an example of the call to respond to political need.

The Bible study is included in every issue of *Gather* magazine. If you would like to begin a subscription to *Gather*, call 844-409-0576 or go to gathermagazine.org.

Noisy Offering Update

Thank you for contributing to our weekly noisy offering. Loose change totaling \$121.73 was recently donated to the Preston food shelf from our congregation.

National Quilting Day is March 15

Thank you to our Lutheran World Relief quilters for all the wonderful work they do. Last year, the group completed 58 quilts. Fifty-three of the quilts were sent to Lutheran World Relief; three were given to the Ronald McDonald House in Rochester; two were given to Christmas in Fillmore County. Lutheran World Relief distributes over 300,000 quilts per year to 25 countries around the world.

Root River Conference Spring Event April 18

The women of Chatfield Lutheran Church will host the Root River Conference spring gathering on Saturday, April 18. Watch for more information and a sign-up sheet.



You are cordially invited to provide lilies or other flowers to decorate our sanctuary on Easter Sunday, April 12, and throughout the seven weeks of Easter.

We would like to know if the plant is given "in honor of" or "in memory of" a loved one, or even in celebration of a birthday, baptism, anniversary, etc., so this information can be included in the Easter bulletin. Please complete the form below and deliver it to the church office no later than Monday, April 6. Please bring your flowers to the church by Friday, April 10.

___ In memory of _____

___ In honor of _____

___ In celebration of _____

Name _____

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