



Bethlehem Star

Bethlehem Mission
Statement

*“To build the
family of God
through relationship
with Jesus Christ”*

Bethlehem Lutheran Church and Preschool

Love One Another

1 John 4:11: *“Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.”*

Although a cliché, it is still true: Experience is the best teacher. Wisdom is having the humility to accept and admit failure as a way to learn. But if that is true, why do I not feel very wise? Why do I keep doing the same things thinking it might work *this* time? Isn't that the definition of “insanity?”

Will Rodgers once said, *“Good judgment comes from experience, and a lot of that comes from bad judgment.”* Most of us learn from making mistakes, bad choices, and wrong decisions. Most of us have something from our past that we wish we could do differently. But we can not erase the past. We can not hit the “rewind” button and start again. This isn't a movie stage where a scene can be done many times until it comes out right. We get one chance. Only one.

However, mistakes, regrets, bad judgment can be erased as though it never happened. But it doesn't come from us. It comes from God. And only God. David writes in Psalm 103:12: *“As far as the East is from the West, so far has He removed our sins from us.”*

I absolutely love that! People may hold grudges, vindication, even anger toward me or toward you. But God does not. Because of Jesus taking my sins away on the cross, by faith in Him, sins are forgiven! Completely erased. Gone! No more! Not there! Deleted! Never to be brought up again! Can you feel the fresh air of freedom in that? Breathe it in!

Wouldn't it be wonderful if we forgave each other like that? So what is holding us back? Pride. Sinful human nature pride. Power-hungry-vengeful thinking-better than you pride! And pride is fed by fear. Fear of discovery. Of the truth. Of being exposed.

Deadly.

What, then, should we do? How should we live? Confess an unforgiving heart as sin, because that is what it is: sin. Ask God to soften your heart to forgive as He forgives. Ask God to teach His mercy and be quick to forgive! Because that is how God treats us.

For the sake of Christ. And now we, in turn, ought to do the same for one another.

Happy Valentine's Day!

Pastor Brad

February 2011 Bethlehem STAR

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VOLUME 11 ISSUE 1



February 2011

Tired of all of the stuff that you don't need sitting around your house? Well, now is your chance to get rid of it! Donate your items to the

2nd Annual BLC Rummage Sale!



Items can be dropped off at Bethlehem beginning March 1st or have your items picked up by our wonderful volunteers.

Items especially welcome:
usable furniture,
household goods,
gently used clothing & toys,
DVDs

Sorry, but we can't use:
large appliances,
TVs,
paint
computers

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

We are looking for volunteers to help pick-up items, sort, set-up, price and clean up afterwards. You can sign up on the LI F board or talk to Joyce Maier or Chris Cullen.

COME TO THE SALE!

Once your house is cleaned out, come over to the Rummage Sale and fill it again!

Friday, March 11th
Saturday, March 12th

Tell your Friends! Bring your neighbors!

Questions? Contact:

Joyce Maier 503.626.4239 joycemaier@yahoo.com

Chris Cullen 503.642.1198 ccullen820@hotmail.com

More information to come!



Join the Journey ~ Destination Known!

"You know... I am the way..." John 14:4-6

**Women's Retreat Weekend
April 8 - 10, 2011**

Located in Turner, OR, Aldersgate Retreat Center's Hilltop Lodge is nestled among 38

forested acres in the heart of Oregon's beautiful Willamette Valley, 60 miles south of Portland. Go to aldersgateretreat.com for more information about the Center.

The weekend program invites you into an intimate retreat with the God who loves you and friendship with other women seeking the same.

Registration options include:

- **Full weekend with all linens and 4 meals:** Thanks to the generous gift of an anonymous donor, the full weekend price is **only \$100!**
- **One night lodging with all linens and 3 meals @ \$95**
- **Saturday only with lunch and dinner @ \$35**

If you would like to contribute to a retreat scholarship fund, contact Robin Fossum at the church office, 503-649-3380.

Registration begins February 13th. Register with as little as a \$20 deposit. Balance due on March 27th.

Why Make the Women's Retreat a Priority?

An interview with Susan Dippon by Nan Dubberke

- Q. What are the values you see in attending the Women's Retreat?
- A. An opportunity to get to know people whom you don't normally worship with on Sunday. You can talk with someone on a deeper level than just the usual, "Hi, how are you?"
- Q. Does age matter?
- A. Yes, it makes it nice to have women of various ages. We had a lot of younger women attend last year, and that was wonderful. You have an outlet for discussing anything and everything that affects you. It's not just a bible study; you form new relationships that grow into friendships.
- Q. Can any woman benefit from attending, whether they are new to the congregation, or just new to attending a women's retreat?
- A. Absolutely! The presence of new and very longtime members both, allows us to get to know each other better. It's open to all women, and we have accommodations for everyone's needs –

interview continues in next column

including a newborn last year, which we adored getting to hold and cuddle.

Q. What was your mood upon arriving at the retreat, compared to how you felt at departure?

A. Generally, my mood is that there is much to get done, arranging for things to get taken care of at home while I'm gone, so there is a high level of stress. Afterward, I feel peace and a sense of calm, especially after the thought-provoking worship service. It builds on the newfound relationships.

Our Women's Retreat supports Bethlehem's vision with opportunities for women to . . .

Befriend all women who attend with a welcoming, relaxed setting...

Grow more deeply in love with Jesus as we study and proclaim what we Believe ...

Be part of a place where you Belong through small groups and conversations ...

Apply what we experience in our lives Beyond the retreat in actions of love with our families, friends and community.



Good Shepherd Auxiliary Membership

The Good Shepherd Auxiliary Mission is to enhance the lives of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities through services that share the good news of Jesus Christ. Your Membership dues of only \$5 go to help with this Mission of the Good Shepherd Auxiliary. You can join or renew your membership on Sunday, January 30th or Sunday, February 6th, at the Information Counter.

Would you like to serve the Lord by helping set up or clean up communion? If so, please join us at the **Altar Guild Brunch** to learn more about this important ministry. The Brunch will be held Saturday, February 5th at 10:30 am. in The Inn at Bethlehem. It is the only official meeting we have during the year and is an opportunity to discuss procedures and changes and to sign up for dates to serve during the year. If you have any questions, please call Laurie Siewert, 503-690-0531.



LWML REBEKAH MISSION SOCIETY

1.20.11 Minutes

Ladies gathered for a potluck lunch the first meeting since Christmas. With monies from our Holiday Bazaar, we had an opportunity to discuss mission outreach. Those voted on and approved are:

- Pilgrim Lutheran School
- Forest Hills Lutheran School
- Caleb and Emily Adams ~ Seminary student family
- Mits for Missions
- LCMS World Relief

Next regular meeting will be Thursday, February 17th at 11:30am in the Sonrise Room.

Watch for more information on an LWML Spring Rally at Grace Lutheran Church in Scappoose on Saturday, April 2nd. The next regular meeting will be Thursday, February 17th at 11:30a.m. in the Sonrise Room at Bethlehem.



Let's Thrive.



Learn more about Thrivent Choice SM

You are invited to attend a complimentary lunch meeting after the 11am worship on February 27th to learn more about the new Thrivent Choice charitable grant program.

We'll discuss:

- How Thrivent Choice works
- How the program can benefit Bethlehem Lutheran Church
- How you earn and are eligible for Thrivent Choice Dollars

The meeting is hosted by Thrivent Financial for Lutherans and your Financial Representative Ryan M. Mohr.

To reserve your spot, please sign up on the LIF Group Bulletin Board.

We hope to see you there!

[Securities and investment advisory services are offered through Thrivent Investment Management Inc, 625 Fourth Ave. S., Minneapolis, MN 55415, 800-847-4836, a FINRA and SPIC member and a wholly owned subsidiary of Thrivent Financial for Lutheran Thrivent Financial representatives are registered representatives of Thrivent Investment Management Inc.] (This language must be used only if a Thrivent Financial representative is hosting and/or presenting)

No products will be sold at this event. For additional important disclosure information, please visit www.thrivent.com/disclosures. 201001929

Event Details

After Late Service
February 27, 2011

Bethlehem Lutheran
Church

RSVP by signing up
on the LIF Group
Bulletin Board by
February 21st.

Lunch will be
served at this event.

THRIVENT 2010

Thank you Thrivent and the Tualatin Valley Chapter of Thrivent for your financial support in 2010. The \$7,380 received significantly helped to make the following activities possible:

Love INC. quilts

LWML Bake and Craft Sale

Election grant

VBS Activities and supplies

Preschool plant sale

Raising Kids of Character Event

Servant Scramble

Youth Car Show

60/60 Run & Walk

Rummage sale fundraiser

Additional funds: Received through Thrivent Choice Dollars

Thank you to all of the wonderful volunteers for your time and talents that made these activities a success. **Thank you** to our congregation Advocates: Keith Harn & Steve Bindewald.





Dear Supporters and Friends of Partners in Kenya Ministry,

After spending much time in Kenya over the past five years, we have decided to take Partners In Kenya down a new road. Since 2005, with the help of generous supporters, we have helped to pay school fees for over 100 students at Makasembo and Nyakongo Secondary Schools in Western Kenya. In 2011, we will be completing our commitment to the remaining secondary students who will be finishing their education in November.

We have learned the difficulties of following students from a distance without having a good line of communication. This has been even more difficult because the lead staff that we had initially built a relationship with has changed at both Nyakongo & Makasembo.

We are now turning our focus to a primary school in Mbita, Kenya called Christs Gift Academy. Paul and I have spent about 5 months, over the past two years, working at this amazing Christian school. For three months, this past year, "held down the fort" at CGA as the directors, Steve and Judi Cochran, came to the U.S.A. for to raise support for CGA and enroll their daughter in college.

Christs Gift Academy is a Christian day school located in a fishing village on the shores of Lake Victoria. This school has three full-time American staff who work tirelessly to oversee the school. There are 280 students enrolled from nursery class to eight grade. 65% of these students are orphans. The school staff has the opportunity to bring their own children to attend CGA. Most of the students have sponsors from the USA but every year there is a new nursery class and the search for sponsors is on-going.

Our goal, with the new direction of Partners In Kenya, is to help to find sponsors for children at CGA. These students get two meals a day, uniforms, shoes, food during school breaks and the opportunity to learn about God. The staff, both Kenyan and American, have wonderful hearts and care for the children with love and patience.

You can become a sponsor for only \$360 per year. You will receive three letters per year from your child and also a biography and photograph. You will be contributing to a better life for these kids and hope for the future.

If you would like to know more, we would be happy to talk to you and show you hundreds of pictures and tell you stories. You can also look on-line at www.cgakenya.org to learn more about Christs Gift Academy.

Thank you for your support over these past years. We have been on an incredible journey and our lives have been filled and blessed by these children.

Sincerely,

Joyce & Paul Maier
joycemaier@yahoo.com

ASANTE SANA TO MY BETHLEHEM FAMILY!!



I just want to extend another gigantic Thank You to all of you for your love and support of me as I embark on the next chapter of my Kenyan adventure. For those of you who don't know, I've been volunteering in Kisumu, Kenya for the past year as manager of the Kiwanis Junior Academy Nursery School. Now, due to the success of my "African Marketplace" and all your generosity, I am beginning my second year here at the school. KJA employs 4 teachers, as well as a cook, and we currently have about 45 children who attend our school. I, myself manage the money, run errands, buy uniforms, pay teachers, and serve lunch, in between wrangling squirming, giggling kiswahili-speaking pre-schoolers. I can hardly express what having this second year at my post means to me. As I said, my position is purely in a volunteer capacity, and if it weren't for you all, I wouldn't be here. This experience has meant the world not only to me, but to my teachers and students as well, and as my folks will tell you, these relationships are what make our time here worthwhile. So THANK YOU ALL AGAIN from the bottom of my heart. I am truly blessed.

Kwaheri sasa hivi!! (See you soon!!)

Morgan Maier

The Lutheran Hour
7:00am Sundays on
FM KPDQ 93.9
<http://www.lutheranhour.org>

Spiritual Landscapes: The Pathway In Tuesday, 22nd February at 7:00 PM

How does one initiate a conversation with another about deep spiritual matters? How does one explore one's own spiritual landscape? By grace, human beings are profoundly spiritual beings, but knowing how to help another with spiritual pain, or seeking understanding of one's own spiritual resources, is often unfamiliar territory. Rev Roy D. Green, Chaplain and Director of Spiritual Services at Hospice and Palliative Care of Washington County, will present "Spiritual Landscapes: The Pathway In", a caregiver's method for healing and blessing the human spirit.



Bethlehem Congregation members are welcome to join the Stephens Ministers for this presentation. Please sign up on the LIF Group bulletin board to reserve your spot. Thanks!

Open Registration for the 2011-2012 School Year Bethlehem Lutheran Preschool

Bethlehem Lutheran Preschool is now accepting applications for the 2011-2012 school year. Please call the Church Office (503.649.3380) or stop by during office hours (M-Th, 8am-3pm; F, 8am-Noon) to fill out an application for this fall. A \$100 refundable registration fee is due at the time of registration.

Bethlehem Lutheran Preschool offers classes for both 3 and 4-year-olds. Your child must be 3 or 4 by September 1, 2011.

preschool registration



3-year-old classes offered:

Monday/Wednesday or Tuesday/Thursday
Tuition is \$1,152 for the year or \$128 per month (9 months)

4-year-old classes offered:

Monday/Wednesday/Friday or Tuesday/Thursday/Friday
Tuition is \$1,440 for the year or \$160 per month (9 months)

We love it when you share this information with family and friends!
Classes fill up quickly, so don't miss out!

Preschool News



Make Note

The Preschool Children will sing at 11:00am worship on Sunday, February 6th.

Mrs. Meier's 4 Year Old Class, Mary Heck, teacher's aide

Happy New Year! In the 4 year old class we take a look each day at the calendar. When we returned to school after Christmas we not only welcomed in the new month of January, but a new year as well - 2011. We thank God for each and every day as we sing: "This is the day that the Lord has made. We will rejoice and be glad in it!" Our letters of the month were K, L, M and N. L is for Light and Jesus tells us that He is the Light of the world. He wants us to be His Light, too, and to shine His LOVE LIGHT for all to see. Letters K and M show us how we can do that - Ephesians 4:32 tells us, "Be Kind to one another" and Proverbs 17:22 says, "A Merry heart does good like a medicine." Favorite activities of the month included following the Jesus star and "meeting" King Herod along the way; shining our flashlights in our very dark room; building an ice castle and reading a book called "The Mitten;" making Models out of Marshmallows; and going on a field trip to the GymNest.

Mrs. Meier's 3 Year Old Class, Teri Robinson, teacher's aide

We had lots of fun in January as we took a deeper look at the Christmas story. During the first week we talked about how Jesus once was a baby and so were we! Our "baby Jesus" lay quietly in a manger while we played with baby dolls - dressing them, feeding them and even giving them a bath! We brought in baby pictures and tried guessing which picture belonged to each preschool friend. My, how we have changed (especially our teachers!). The next week we heard about how God told the shepherds the GOOD NEWS about baby Jesus. We made cute lamb masks and pretended to be sheep looking for Jesus. We also read the story about the Lost Sheep and took turns getting LOST. Each time the shepherd found us and the other sheep said, "Welcome baaaa-ck!" We are sure glad that Jesus is our Good Shepherd. Next, we learned how the 3 kings followed the JESUS STAR a very LONG way until they found him. They gave him very special gifts of love. We made beautiful jeweled crowns and rode our camels until we found him, too. Our last week of January was all about growing: Jesus grew just like we have. He went to classes, helped Mary and Joseph, played and prayed, just like we do! We celebrated all that God has made us into by going on a long trip ourselves - to Out Of This World Pizza And Play! We bet Jesus would have had fun there, too!

Mrs. Sellke's 4 Year Old Classes, Mary Heck, Teri Robinson, teacher aides

During the first two weeks of December we read how the angel Gabriel gave Mary and Joseph the good news of Jesus' birth. We learned they took a long journey to Bethlehem and that a kind innkeeper let them stay in his stable where Jesus was born. In January, we also learned the letters K, L, M, N and O. We searched for King Jesus and found him in a manger. We learned that He is the light of the world. We brought flashlights and discovered that even one light shines bright in the darkness and that we are God's light to the world. We used mittens during M week and made cool ice sculptures. Our big event of the month was our field trip to the GymNest where we tumbled, bounced and jumped. It has been an exciting two months.

Mrs. Sellke's 3 Year Old Classes, Teri Robinson, teacher's aide

Mrs. Sellke's three year class learned several fun songs like "I Just Want to be a Sheep" and "This Little Light of Mine." Red was the color of the month in December. We painted red ornaments and made red and green handprint wreaths. White was the color of the month in January. We learned how to cut white snowflakes and had a great time painting penguins with shaving cream and glue. Our Bible stories centered on Jesus as a baby so we brought in baby photos and are making a baby book about ourselves. And our big fitness adventure was a trip to Out Of This World Pizza And Play. We are glad to be back in school!

STAR Lights . . . Stories to Inspire

from Ruth Dally

THE BUZZARD, THE BAT AND THE BUMBLEBEE

From Ruth Dally



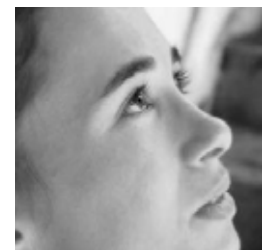
THE BUZZARD: If you put a buzzard in a pen that is 6 x 8 feet and is entirely open at the top, the bird, in spite of its ability to fly, will be an absolute prisoner. The reason is that a buzzard always begins a flight from the ground with a run of 10 to 12 feet. Without space to run, as is its habit, it will not even attempt to fly, but will remain a prisoner for life in a small jail with no top.

THE BAT: The ordinary bat that flies around at night, a remarkable nimble creature in the air, cannot take off from a level place. If it is placed on the floor or flat ground, all it can do is shuffle about helplessly and, no doubt, painfully, until it reaches some slight elevation from which it can throw itself into the air. Then, at once, it takes off like a flash.



THE BUMBLEBEE: A bumblebee, if dropped into an open tumbler, will be there until it dies, unless it is taken out. It never sees the means of escape at the top, but persists in trying to find some way out through the sides near the bottom. It will seek a way where none exists, until it completely destroys itself.

PEOPLE: In many ways, we are like the buzzard, the bat, and the bumblebee. We struggle about with all our problems and frustrations, never realizing that all we have to do is look up! That's the answer, the escape route and the solution to any problem! Just look up. Sorrow looks back, worry looks around but faith looks up!



LIVE SIMPLY, LOVE GENEROUSLY, CARE DEEPLY, SPEAK KINDLY AND TRUST IN OUR CREATOR WHO LOVES US MORE THAN WE CAN EVER KNOW.



The deadline for the March 2011 Newsletter is February 15th. Please get all information you wish to have published to the church office before this date!
Thanks!

February Anniversaries



Feb.	1	Dennis & Sandy Fredrick	46 years
	16	Rich Deanna Gohl	26 years
	24	John & Kristin Glover	11 years

February Birthdays

- Feb. 1 Ben Bauer
- 3 Matt Nuno
- 3 Vernice Overholser
- 4 Bob McLaughlin
- 5 Chuck Hoke
- 5 Kurt Larson
- 6 Ken Lindow
- 6 Katie Siewert
- 6 Mark Temme
- 7 Jared Beale
- 8 Douglas Bernhardt
- 8 Heather Harrell
- 9 Jesse Dill
- 10 Amy Hoffman
- 10 Robby Ruhnke
- 10 Ivan Weichbrodt
- 11 Wyatt Hanson
- 11 Peter Heck
- 12 Phyllis Campbell
- 12 Nancy Furby
- 12 Paul Maier
- 13 Donna McMeekan
- 13 Susan Williams
- 13 Lorin Wollmuth
- 14 Gary Heyne
- 14 Jeff Hoffman

- Feb. 13 Eleanor Olson
- 14 Eleanor Palmer
- 14 Lorna Zimbrick
- 15 Erin Eberlein
- 15 Amberly Gohl
- 15 Lauren Starts
- 16 Deanna Gohl
- 18 Don Braaten
- 18 John Ruhnke
- 18 Jason Todd
- 19 Mary Ellen Bastian
- 19 Edil Sigrist
- 20 Greg Long
- 20 Chirs Meinicke
- 20 Andrea Welch
- 22 Naomi Beale
- 23 Amber Sanders
- 23 Keith Sanders
- 24 Jennifer Blase
- 24 Dylan Johnson
- 25 Esther Reynolds
- 26 Tina Feldhaus
- 27 Chris Smeby
- 28 Heidi Bossert
- 28 David Langway





THIRD THURSDAY PARENT SEMINARS

Continue on the third Thursday of each month. The seminars are lead by Kandy Dicken, Director of Early Learning Matters, and are appropriate for parents with children of any age. For more information contact Kandy Dicken at kandy@strongthinkers.com or 503-648-8917 or call Forest Hills.



A NIGHT IN THE ORIENT 2011

Forest Hills Lutheran School Auction
Saturday, April 30th

Enjoy the sights and sounds of the orient while supporting Forest Hills

Lutheran School. Join 250 other guests for a night to remember.

Tickets can be purchased online at the school website www.fhls.org. or by calling the school 503-359-4853. Individual tickets can be purchased for \$30.00 or you may purchase a table for 8 guests. Corporate tables are available which include advertising and a table gift. The auction will be held at Trinity Lutheran Church. We are encouraging donations of items and services to make this a successful event. Please contact the school if you would like to make a tax deductible donation.



ENROLL YOUR CHILD AT FOREST HILLS LUTHERAN SCHOOL

Become a part of the thriving Forest Hills Lutheran School Community. Join 173 flourishing students, 20 devoted faculty and staff, 125 involved families, and 7 supportive association churches. Call the school for a tour of the 12 acre campus and see the beautiful facility God has blessed us with. Meet teachers, observe classrooms, set up a date for your child to shadow one of our students. **APPLY ONLINE TODAY AT FHLS.ORG.** or call 503-359-4853 or buucks@fhls.org. The school serves students in grades Kindergarten - 8th grade. Kindergarten is a full day program with an option to enroll in a multiage class which serves students in grades K - 2. Forest Hills Lutheran School is proud to be a Leader in Me school embedding the 7 habits of highly effective people into our daily routine, steadfast in God's word, grace and faith.



BOARD OF TRUSTEES' REPORT
ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL MEETING 01-18-2011

- **Volunteers Driver Policy** – The Trustees generated a straw man policy for screening volunteer drivers. Staff has reviewed and modified the plan and presented it to the Elders. It now needs to be reviewed by the council and enacted.
- Rich Gohl repaired/replaced a seal for a Preschool toilet that was leaking water.
- Trustees are working on a plan for more senior / “less-mobile” parking in front of the Sanctuary. Trustees will present the plan to the Elder’s at their next meeting for approval. Additional handicap parking is not possible, due to required permits and the costs associated with meeting ADA Accessible Parking Standards.
- Initial meeting between LCS and Trustees was held 12/17/2010 to review their requirements for using Bob’s office. Subsequent, to that meeting, LCS felt that Bob’s office was too small and wanted Pastor Haak’s office in addition to Bob’s. The conditions are summarized in the proposed “understanding and agreements” (not yet presented to LCS).
SEE HANDOUT
 - From BLC’s standpoint, there may not be enough power in Bob’s office. We will not know until their IT person reviews the space, which should be sometime this week.
 - No move-in date at this time. IT person needs 30 days and LCS needs time to put together a move.
 - Rick Refsland and the Building Use Committee have been update on the progress.
- A congregational member has requested that a coat rack be added near the main Narthex entrance. There is space to add a 36 in. wall mounted metal coat rack (in front of stair well closet door). After investigating and consulting with others, the request is a reasonable one.
- Trustees are looking into having a meeting with other local Trustees for fellowship and for comparing resources and practices. Hopefully, a “network” can be established for sharing common problems/solutions and ideas.
- Trustees are looking into possible solutions for fixing a raised sidewalk on 187th Ave. This is a potential safety and liability issue.
- Mike Turner is in the process of fixing the chairs in the INN. A considerable number of them have the dowels in the front legs coming loss.



World Mission News

February 2011

Herb Tretzen

World Mission News

February 2011

Focus Ministry

A few weeks ago we had the first Coffee House for the 2011 season. At that particular evening, we had a good reminder about one of the main purposes of the ministry. As students started showing up for the evening activities, there were two new Muslim couples. A few of the associates connected with the first couple, and one of my friends and I connected with the second couple. After introducing one another, I learned that the male student had been joined by his sister—they were from Saudi Arabia. He had been at the Coffee House a few times before; but it was the first time for his sister. He told me that one of the things that he really appreciated about the Coffee House was the willingness of associates to connect with him and find ways to help him. I told him that was one of the purposes of the Coffee House—to connect with International students and to make them feel welcome in a country with different customs and traditions that their own. Because of the positive experience, he said that he wanted to come back. It was a good way to experience Christian hospitality in public.



Later on, we were joined by two young Korean girls who also enjoyed the positive Christian atmosphere. There were six of us at our table that evening, with people from both sides of world. During the fellowship and discussion session, we were able to learn more about the customs of the individual students. Some of us exchanged email addresses with the hopes of reconnecting with each other outside of the Coffee House and school activities. We often have experiences like these. With the help of the Holy Spirit, we can often reconnect with students to get to know them better and some of their needs. At times we have the opportunities talk about our faiths and begin to lead them to Jesus. There are several times when some of the students actually make a commitment to Christ and go back home to their native lands as new Christians.

Update on Don Leonard and Project Video

In a recent email from Don, he shared with me some positive things going on with Project Video. Although the economy has been a real challenge, Don told me that a few churches came forward to sponsor one or more video packages. Also, two people volunteered to take the trip to Thailand in January to deliver a video package and experience for themselves the hunger for God's Word. Don and Pam will return to Thailand at the end of January and stay there for a few months ministering to the needs of the people. They will then return to the United States with opportunity to share Project Video with more churches and to find other people to take a trip into the mission field. Don told me that he is keeping Bethlehem in their prayers with hope that someday, Bethlehem might be able to sponsor either a complete video package or part of a video package. Look for more information on the recent events on Project Video on the Missions bulletin board at Bethlehem.

Good News from the Lutheran Church of the Philippines

The Lutheran Church of the Philippines (LCP) is engaging in mission. The church leadership writes, "In 2005, the LCP made a goal to plant 100 new congregations by 2017. District and congregational leadership have

(continued on page 15)

(continued from page 14)

worked to develop outreach programs for all members of the LCP. It is estimated that pastors and members have reached out with the Gospel to 110,000 individuals in 2010 alone. The average member brings more than five guests to church each year in two of the districts. Since setting the goal of 100 congregations five years ago, the LCP has started six new congregations and established 40 mission stations. The mission stations are church plants and it is the prayer of the church that these will all grow into strong and healthy congregations. The Holy Spirit is working powerfully through the LCP.”

Good News Kyrgystan!

In Kyrgyzstan, the Lutheran Church Concordia is serving the Kyrgyz people. The church leadership shares, “A year or so ago, the website of LCMS World Mission in Eurasia published material called ‘Kyrgyzstan Training Trainers,’ which is a project seeking to train and prepare members of the Lutheran Church in how to witness their faith and to expand the church through their witness. Since then, the project has been continuously growing and currently we have 38 Bible study groups led by 12 tutors and six leaders under the ‘training trainers.’ One of the new groups was set up in a settlement in December 2009. This tiny settlement is populated by about 30 people and located about four kilometers from a village where we have a house church. There is no public transportation to the settlement, where most inhabitants are unemployed. About one year ago, Oksana, a member of the house church in the village, asked if it would be possible for someone to lead Bible classes at the house of her relatives in the settlement. Our evangelist, Gulia eje, and Oksana began to walk to the settlement twice a month.

“That’s how a new Training Trainers group was established in December 2009. At first, there were only four people in that group, but it was amazing to see how quickly the group grew and matured. In September 2010, Bishop Kenjebek baptized seven and confirmed 14 members in that group and three women became members of our Women’s Issues program. Evangelist Osmon goes to the settlement one a month to give Holy Communion to the confirmed members. Praise God!”

Good News from Cambodia!

Rev. John and Susan Mehl share the following good news about the work in Cambodia: “Pastor Kosal serves Trinity Lutheran Church in Battambang, Cambodia. John, the regional director for Asia, recently visited Cambodia and helped bring water filters and farming tools to a village. The 15 families that make up this village lived at one time in Battambang and were members of Pastor Kosal’s congregation. He now travels every other Sunday afternoon to visit the people and hold a worship service for them. The road to the village is a dirt path near the end, and the homes are mostly grass and thatch. The people didn’t seem to mind. They were smiling and very appreciative of the gifts.



“Pastor Kosal’s congregation was started with help from a relative who is a member of the LCMS in Stockton, Calif. Many immigrants to the United States come to know their Lord and Savior, and want to bring the Good News back to their home countries and towns.

“Rev. Dr. Funghatou Lo is our missionary in Cambodia, and he continues to work with these emerging Lutheran groups to address their theological education and human care needs. The water filters that we delivered are five-gallon buckets fitted with porous clay pots. Water is poured into the clay pots and filters down to the bottom of the white bucket where a spigot will be attached. The farming tools were made by a local blacksmith who took extra time to sharpen each tool before it was purchased.

(continued on page 16)

(continued from page 15)

“Clean water cannot be taken for granted in Cambodia, and a good supply is important for life in the community. For our spiritual well-being, we need the ‘water of life,’ Jesus our Savior. As we step into the Epiphany season, we consider again His coming to us, and the gifts that only He can bring for us, and for the people of Cambodia, and for all people. Please pray for the people of Cambodia and for the Lutheran churches that serve their people all over the country.”

Good News from Lithuania!

Rev. Mark and Rose Krause serving in Lithuania share the following news: “The Lithuania Lutheran Church has developed a lay ministry education program to train and equip lay people for missional ministry. Under the leadership of Bishop Mindaugas Sabutis, a team of Lithuanian pastors, with consultation from Dr. Charles Evanston of Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, and Mark, as the LCMS mission area facilitator, have designed a 10-session program. The program will be offered to church leaders as day-long conferences for the next 10 months. The first conference was held in Sakiai, Lithuania on October 30, with more than 70 participants. The leadership team was amazed with the spirit of the participants. It was clear that they were excited to be there. Most stayed for the entire day. The day’s theme was ‘Sin and Grace.’ This theme was developed through Bible study, theological, historical and practical presentations. The participants were even given homework to do before the next conference.”

Prayers

In addition to praying for the people and activities that I mentioned in this newsletter, please keep all missionaries, their mission, and the people that they touch in your prayers. If the Lord leads your heart, consider a financial donation to support God’s work in the various ministries. For more information on our LCMS missionaries, please visit: <http://www.lcmsworldmission.org>. For more information on the Focus Ministry or Project Video, please contact me at h.tretzen@frontier.com.

In the Name of Christ,

Herb Tretzen



***The deadline for the March 2011 Newsletter is February 15th. Please get all information you wish to have published to the church office before this date!
Thanks!***



YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS!

Connecting Youth to Christ, each other & the family of God

Did You Know??

Our students are actively involved in Sunday morning worship in a variety of ways:

- The Youth Choir has sung several times over the past couple months. They continue to practice regularly in order to share their gifts with you on Sunday mornings.
- Luke & Jared Beale run the sound board every Sunday during the 11am service.
- Megan Stewart is an active member of the Worship Team.
- Our Jr. High students serve as acolytes every week for both services.
- Ethan & Aaron Crisi are responsible for running the Power Point during the 11am service.

Many thanks to these students who are contributing to the Bethlehem family in significant ways, especially on Sunday mornings!

What We Are Doing...

Our students have been working hard to help with several church events this month. They put their energy to good use at the Marriage Conference and Trivia Night!

Sr. High students meet most Sunday nights for Youth Group. Our time together includes sharing the best moments of our week, snacks, songs, games and Bible study. Right now we are studying ways to share our faith with others in tangible ways. We always welcome visitors, so if you'd like to experience Sardines or fun and crazy songs, we'd love to have you!

What's Coming Up...



February 11-12th the Sr. High group will be participating in World Vision's 30 Hour Famine. Over the weekend, students voluntarily give up eating for 30 hours in order to learn more about world hunger. We will spend the night together at church doing activities and games that help us understand the condition of the world today. Saturday morning we will help with a service project called "Matt's Chemo Bags." We have opportunities to raise money for World Vision (\$1 a day feeds a starving child!) and to contribute supplies for the chemo bags over the next couple weeks. Watch the bulletin for specific ways in which you can be involved in this great event!!

February 2011

Bethlehem Lutheran Church

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
6 8:30 AM Worship with Communion 9:45 AM Sunday School for all ages 11:00 AM Morning Song/Preschool sings 12:30 PM Youth Leadership Team (Starlight) 4:00 PM Youth Choir (Starlight) 4:15 PM Organ/Piano Lesson (Sara)	7 9:30 AM Quilting 6:30 PM First Communion Class (Inn) 6:30 PM TOPS (Manger) 7:00 PM Hidden Hurt Meeting (Sourise) 7:00 PM Women's Small Group Bible Study (Magi)	1 12:00 PM Staff Meeting (Inn) 7:00 PM Elders Meeting (Inn) 7:00 PM Trustee Meeting (Angels)	2 9:00 AM Joyful Singers (Sourise) 10:30 AM Adult Bible Class (Inn) 6:00 PM Russian School (ECC) 6:30 PM Adult Bible Study (Inn) 6:30 PM Children's Choir Rehearsal (Sourise) 6:30 PM Marriage Class (Inn)	3 7:30 AM Commission on Children & Families Mtg (C.C.) 10:00 AM Thursday Morning Women's Bible Study (Inn) 6:30 PM Adult Choir 7:30 PM Project Homeless Connect Mtg (Fossams) 7:45 PM Worship Team Rehearsal	4 9:00 AM Altar Guild brunch decorate (Inn) 7:00 PM Piano Recital w/ Sandra Harper (Sanc, FH, Kitchen)	5 8:30 AM Russian School (ECC) 10:30 AM Altar Guild Brunch (Inn) 11:00 AM Jr & Sr High Youth to Sky High
13 "Mite Box" Sunday 8:30 AM Worship 9:45 AM Sunday School for all ages 11:00 AM Morning Song w/ Communion 12:30 PM Youth Board Meeting (Starlight) 4:15 PM Organ/Piano Lesson (Sara) 5:00 PM Confirmation Class 6:30 PM Basics in Christianity (Inn)	14 9:30 AM Quilting 6:30 PM First Communion Class (Inn) 6:30 PM Men's Small Group Bible Study (Magi) 6:30 PM TOPS (Manger) 7:00 PM Hidden Hurt Meeting (Sourise)	15 12:00 PM Staff Meeting (Inn) 7:00 PM Administrative Council (Inn)	16 9:00 AM Joyful Singers (Sourise) 10:30 AM Adult Bible Class (Inn) 6:00 PM Russian School (ECC) 6:30 PM Adult Bible Study (Inn) 6:30 PM Children's Choir Rehearsal (Sourise) 6:30 PM Women's Retreat Meeting (Inn) 6:30 PM Marriage Class (Inn)	17 10:00 AM Thursday Morning Women's Bible Study (Inn) 11:30 AM Rebekah Guild (Sourise) 6:30 PM Adult Choir Rehearsal 7:45 PM Worship Team Rehearsal	18	19 8:30 AM Russian School (ECC)
20 8:30 AM Worship with Communion 9:45 AM Sunday School for all ages 11:00 AM Morning Song/Preschool sings 12:30 PM All Youth Family Potluck & Parent Mtg (CC) 4:15 PM Organ/Piano Lesson (Sara) 5:00 PM Confirmation Class 6:30 PM Basics in Christianity (Inn)	21 No School - President's Day 9:30 AM Quilting 6:30 PM First Communion Class (Inn) 7:00 PM TOPS (Manger) 7:00 PM Hidden Hurt Meeting (Sourise) 7:00 PM Women's Small Group Bible Study (Magi)	22 12:00 PM Staff Meeting (Inn) 6:30 PM Women's Small Group (Magi) 7:00 PM Handbell Rehearsal (Inn)	23 10:30 AM Adult Bible Class (Inn) 11:10 AM Preschool Chapel 12:00 PM LOVE INC Luncheon (CC) 6:00 PM Russian School (ECC) 6:30 PM Adult Bible Study (Inn) 6:30 PM Children's Choir Rehearsal (Sourise) 6:30 PM Women's Retreat Meeting (Inn) 6:30 PM Marriage Class (Inn)	24 11:10 AM Preschool Chapel 6:30 PM Adult Choir Rehearsal	25	26 8:30 AM Russian School (ECC) 9:00 AM Sisters of Encouragement (Inn)
27 8:30 AM Worship 9:45 AM Sunday School for all ages 11:00 AM Morning Song w/ Communion 12:00 PM Good Shepherd "Cross Walk" (Sourise room) 12:30 PM "Thirtvent Requests" Luncheon (Inn, CC) 4:00 PM Youth Choir (Starlight) 4:15 PM Organ/Piano Lesson (Sara) 5:00 PM Confirmation Class 6:30 PM Sr. Youth Group 6:30 PM Basics in Christianity (Inn)	28 9:30 AM Quilting 6:30 PM First Communion Class (Inn) 6:30 PM Men's Small Group Bible Study (Magi) 6:30 PM TOPS (Manger) 7:00 PM Hidden Hurt Meeting (Sourise)	29	30	31	11 6:30 PM Senior High Youth 30 Hour Famine (Starlight, CC, Kitchen)	12 Senior High Youth 30 Hour Famine (Starlight, CC, Kitchen) 8:30 AM Russian School (ECC)

March

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	1	2	3	4	5	
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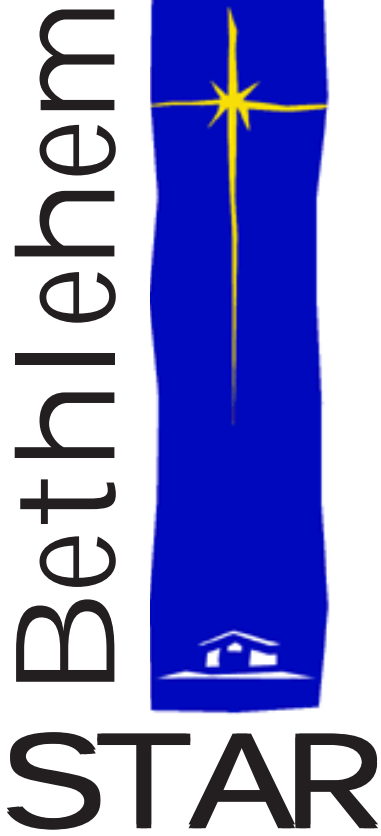
January

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30	31					

Service Roster for February 2011

Please call the church office (503-649-3380) in advance if you are unable to serve on your scheduled date. Thanks.

	February 6th	February 13th	February 20th	February 27th
Altar Flowers	Michael & Michelle Whitman			Chris & George Smeby
Elder of the Day	Wayne Moses Rick Reifland	Steve Bindewald Bob Baker	Herb Tretzen Ivan Weichbrodt	Dave Dubberke Ron Hoffman
Acolytes	Riley Brown, Rachel Starts Jaylynn Bernhardt, Sarah Sellke	Michael Cox, Ian Isaak Jared Beale, Aaron Crisi	Daynan Vice Jaymin Bernhardt, Lij Kachmarek	Jaden Vice, Riley Brown David Gehlen, Jarrett Bernhardt
Lay Reader	Jeff Weiblen Dale Blasé Sr.	Dena Bindewald Mark Leinhos	Chuck Hoke Mark Leinhos	Herb Tretzen Karen Goode
Ushers	Brad and Mary Loseke, John Loseke, Susan Halvorson	Scott Gray, Roger Lindquist, Hank Modro, Brian Pfund	Steve Finney, Darrell Hagen, Susan Halvorson, Greg Starts	Brad and Mary Loseke, John Loseke, Bill Weber
	Lonnie and Anthony Norris, Rick and JoAnna Reifland	Brian Amberg, Larry Laws, Mary Russert, Steve Stewart	Bryant and Rose Hedrick, Dave and Lorna Zimbrick	Roy Fletcher, Larry Laws, Dan and Sandra Seim
Communion Servers	Brad Loseke, Dave Dubberke, Duane Dippon, Herb Tretzen, Steve Bindewald		Jim Cullen, Brad Loseke, Duane Dippon, Rick Reifland, Wayne Moses	
		Bryan Luttrell, Kipp Martin, Ron Hoffman, Roy Fletcher, Ivan Weichbrodt		Bob Baker, Bryan Luttrell, Kipp Martin, Roy Fletcher, Steve Bindewald
Altar Guild				
Determined at Feb. 5th mtg				
Info Counter	Set up Clean up			
	Early Late	Nancy Furby Nancy Furby	Jan Brown Jan Brown	Sarah Hengel Ruth Dally
Guest Hosts	Harley and Eleanor Olson Mike and Shirley Odell	Ed and Evelyn Gieszler Bill and Karen Goode	Jennifer Vice and Pat Mackall Daleen Harris	Roger and Marilyn Lindquist Dave and Lorna Zimbrick



Bethlehem Lutheran Church and Preschool
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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

February 2011

Brad Hirsch, Senior Pastor
Bob Fossum, Minister of Family Life
Carolyn Meier, Preschool Director
Kerry Bauer, Worship Coordinator,
Children's Ministry Director
Melissa Shults, Interim Youth Director
Robin Fossum, Parish Administrator
Brenda Shults, Receptionist & Preschool Secretary

Worship Services: 8:30, 11:00am
Sunday School : 9:45am
Office Phone: 503-649-3380
FAX: 503-649-1530

Email: blc.aloha@frontier.com
<http://www.blcfamily.org>