

## JUNE 2011

### *Summer Activities*

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During the summer, our ministry at Bethlehem takes on a different flavor. Plan to be an active part of our summer ministry.

- **Outdoor Worship:** The first Sunday of each month at the 10:15 AM service, we worship outside under the Stable.
- **Summer Coffees:** This wonderful fellowship opportunity is held between services on summer Sundays. On the second Sunday of each month we will move the coffee hour out to the front patio (weather permitting).
- **Day Camp:** Sky Ranch comes to Bethlehem to lead the day camp for elementary-aged kids, June 20–23.
- **Camping Opportunities:** Take advantage of the many offerings throughout the summer at Sky Ranch Lutheran Camp.
- **Farewell to Pastor Kirsten:** July 17
- **Worship and Church Picnic at Ryssby:** July 31
- **Faith Day at the Rockies:** August 21
- **New Photos for Church Pictorial Directory:** Photographers will be here August to update this directory. Look for sign-up info in the July Star.

These are just a few of the activities that will fill our summer here at Bethlehem.

**JUNE  
2011**

*Inside the Star*

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*Deadlines*

**Bulletin announcements:** The Wednesday before you want the announcement to appear in the bulletin. Send announcements to admin@bethlehem-lutheran.net.

**Star announcements/articles: June 15**  
 Email *Star* articles to news@bethlehem-lutheran.net.

**Alternate way to submit both bulletin and Star items:** go to www.bethlehem-lutheran.net and click on the *Submit Announcements* link. If your text is short, you can enter it into the form, but if you have a document with formatting, it is best to attach it using the attach button.

We're at it again.

Recently our congregational members and leaders took another Natural Church Development survey. This is the third one we have taken as a congregation. The point of these surveys is for the congregation to do a self-assessment of our ministry. The results from the survey then give us areas of ministry to concentrate on. The hope is that as we address those areas, Bethlehem is made stronger.

The first survey, taken over three years ago, showed that we were a healthy but fairly average congregation. Our "minimum factor" was Passionate Spirituality. That was not surprising. Most Lutheran congregations score themselves that way. That means that it can be hard for us to express our faith. We find it awkward to talk about how we experience God in our lives. But through small group discussions we began to see how that could happen more at Bethlehem. Members were given opportunities to share their faith. It is moving for me as your pastor to hear that faith talk happening at Bethlehem.

The second survey was done about a year later. It showed that we grew in every area of ministry. It was a good affirmation of what was going on in the congregation. The staff was coming together. New programs were being developed. We were reaching out in many more ways. Passionate Spirituality was still our minimum factor and we continued to address it.

A lot happened in the intervening period before conducting our third survey. Our larger

church took a vote on human sexuality; that vote caused several of our families to leave Bethlehem. As a result, we took a hit financially and had to reduce our budget. Some of the momentum we had going for us dissipated. To be honest, we thought a third survey would show a much different picture of the congregation.

The results really surprised us. The scores were off the charts. Instead of showing any kind of decrease, every area of ministry showed an increase. In other words, the congregation self-assessed very, very positively. To put it into perspective, over 40,000 Christian congregations have taken this survey. We now rank in the top 15% of all those churches. That is outstanding.



With this last survey, our minimum factor changed. The congregation felt that "Inspiring Worship" was now the area of ministry we need to focus on. So we have started the process again. There will be a number of small group discussions to delve into why the congregation feels this way. These are always energizing conversations.

We also found out that we are the first congregation in the Rocky Mountain Synod to take a third survey (most churches stop after two). But this has been such a helpful, insightful process for us. I am excited to see where this next conversation will take us.

Blessings,  
Pastor Peterson

My time here is winding down. Less than two months to go for this internship, and almost a month to go until my wedding. Looking ahead has become part of my life, especially with planning a wedding which has become a nine-month project. I'm already registered for fall semester's classes, and Tom and I are starting to look for an apartment in Berkeley.

Looking ahead, and sometimes living in the future, might be a reality in my life right now, but it does not define it, nor should it. Life is about the now—about today. It's like St. Matthew says, "Do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today's trouble is enough for today" (6:34). I don't think he's telling us not to look ahead or not to plan. I think Matthew is trying to tell us, first, not to stress about the future, and second, to live in the present.

Both of those things are hard, especially as Tom and I are planning what might be the biggest party in our lives, and an interstate move shortly after, which is no small thing. I have already been losing sleep over wedding stress, and I'm sure the transition from Colorado back to California is adding to that as well. Matthew's words give peace to my stress, but don't take it away. How are we really supposed to live that out—not worrying about tomorrow? What does that mean?

What I think Matthew is getting at is "live in the present"—be here, mentally, emotionally, physically. Someone I read said they start each day saying, "Stay where your feet are." It is so easy to live where our feet aren't! Right now it's easy for me to live in the future—where my wedding is, where the next chapter starts, where I finish my last year of seminary. I'm sure any graduate knows what I mean—it is hard to live in the here and now when everyone around you keeps asking you what's next.

When you're constantly looking forward, how do you stay where your feet are? For me this presence happens through awareness—noticing that I am straying away from my feet and simply coming back—over and over. Sometimes deep breathing helps. Sometimes exercise. Sometimes prayer. Sometimes mindful silence.

As you look forward to the things in your life, whatever they may be, may you stay where your feet are—in the present—where our living God resides and dwells with us. May you know of God's peace in your planning and may God call you back to the life you live now.

Pastor Kirsten



## *Worship in June*

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- **June 5**—First Outdoor Worship of the summer at 10:15 AM
- **June 12**—Driver's License Milestone, Blessing for Nicaragua Missionaries
- **June 19**—Father's Day Blessing
- **June 26**—Blessing for youth attending Confirmation Camp

Our summer worship will also include special music provided by our many gifted musicians. Pastor Peterson will be at Luther Seminary working on his Doctor of Ministry from June 6-24, plus travel time. Pastor Kirsten, Deaconess Kristen, and our new Pastoral Assistant, Jasmine Tesdahl, will be sharing the word on those Sundays in June. Pastor Deb Abbott, Father Don Rickard, and Deaconess Kristen will be helping to lead worship.

## *Worship Thank You's*

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- **Thanks** to the **Adult Choir** for another year of sharing their special gift in worship. A special thanks for their leadership on Maundy Thursday and Easter Sunday. (And to John Goodman, Ray Leake, and Florence McKinney for their leadership.)
- **Thanks** to our two **Children's Choirs** who enlivened our Palm Sunday worship. (And to Diane Penny and Cindy Tayler for their leadership.)

- **Thanks** to **Pastor Kirsten** for her worship leadership on Maundy Thursday. Her chanting added so much to that worship experience. (Cindy Tayler too.)
- **Thanks** to **Light of Christ** for the inspired worship on Good Friday and the Easter Vigil.
- **Thanks** to our **youth** who led the Easter Sunrise Service.
- **Thanks** to our **Bell Choir** for their ringing on Easter Sunday.
- **Thanks** to our new **Brass Ensemble** for adding so much to our Easter worship.

Easter comes alive in worship and music. We are blessed with so many gifted musicians.

## *Communion Assistant Refresher*

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There will be a "refresher" training and gathering of all Communion Assistants from both first and second services on Sunday, **June 5**, immediately following the second service. This is an opportunity for us to (1) review and provide feedback on the Communion Assistant responsibilities that have been developed by Intern Pastor Kirsten Sauvey as part of her Worship Handbook project, and (2) to ensure consistent communion distribution practices by training as a group. Refreshments will be served. Please RSVP to Pastor Kirsten (ksauvey@bethlehem-lutheran.net or 303-776-3290).

## *Adult Volunteers Needed*

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### **2012 ELCA Youth Gathering**

- Faith is formed through personal trusted relationships.
- Faith is caught more than taught.
- Where Christ is present, home is church too.

- There is a living partnership between the home and the congregation.
- We need Christian adults if we are going to have Christian kids.

These are the Five Principles of Faith Formation that we know are true. We also know that youth need five mentors of the faith,

in addition to their parents. Also, when our young people were baptized, we promised as a congregation to walk alongside these children in forming their Christian identity. It is for these reasons that Bethlehem Lutheran Church's commitment to Household Ministry exists. One of the ways that adults from our congregation can walk alongside young people and pass on the faith is through volunteering at the ELCA Youth Gathering in 2012. Have you ever wanted to visit or revisit New Orleans? Over 30,000 ELCA youth are expected to be a part of this every-third-year event taking place July 18–22, 2012.

Adult volunteers are needed to contribute to its success. Consider volunteering if you want to be part of our youths' personal and spiritual development...can you say "priceless"?! Volunteers must pay a \$75 application fee and their travel expenses to and from New Orleans, but all other expenses will be covered (room, board, materials). WHAT A DEAL! Volunteers must be at least 19 years old and out of high school for at least one year (as of July 2012). If you are interested, contact Deaconess Kristen to discuss the three categories of volunteers (Community Life, Gathering Volunteer Corps, Servant Companion). Don't delay—the application process has already started.

## YOUTH

### *Middle School*

#### **"So am I a Middle Schooler now?"**

If you just finished fifth grade, then YES! Here at Bethlehem Lutheran, our summer youth activities are designed for youth according to the grade they will be entering next fall. Letters will be coming out mid-summer for all students who will be entering confirmation explaining that ministry in detail. For now, look for all the fun stuff going on this summer in the newsletter, bulletin, and Facebook page! For more information, see Deaconess Kristen.

### *High School*

2012 ELCA Youth Gathering: It's not too early to start making plans to attend! In fact, all students who will be in grades 8–12 in the academic year 2011/2012 will be eligible to participate. The 2012 ELCA Youth Gathering (July 18–22, 2012) is a unique community in size and scope, and serves as a distinctive sign of the ELCA's evangelical mission as it works with synods and congregations to accompany young people in their faith journey

helping them understand their vocation and articulate their faith in Jesus Christ. It is the goal of the Gathering that all young people will love like Jesus by practicing discipleship, peacemaking, and justice. And just think...when else can you spend five days with 30,000 other Lutherans? You should have received an informational letter in the mail. If you did not receive the letter, or have any questions, please contact Deaconess Kristen. We'd like to get a feel for who is interested in participating by **June 15**.



**June 12:** Drivers License Milestone Blessing. Please join us in worship as we gather around our new drivers and bless them on their way! This is a time of newfound freedom and responsibility, so as we pray for our new

drivers we surround them with a language of faith that assures them of God's presence "by day and by night." (Exodus 13:21-22)

### Middle School and High School Youth



**June 13: ELITCHES!** **Open to close, baby, open to close!** It's time for our annual day at the park for Middle and High School students. We will leave BLC at 9:00 AM, and return by 10:00 PM. Please pack a lunch for tailgating at the church

van and bring enough spending money to purchase dinner in the park and to cover all your additional expenses throughout the day. If you want to hang in the water park at all, bring your swimsuit and towel! You can rent a locker there if you so desire. Group tickets are \$23 and you **MUST SIGN UP NO LATER than June 8** with Deaconess Kristen.

### Camp

Confirmation Camp: Not just for the campers anymore! June 26–July 1, thirteen of our middle school youth will be up at Sky Ranch at Confirmation Camp. It will be a week of interactive fun and learning focusing on the Passion of Jesus. But these thirteen youth aren't the only ones who can join in on the fun! Here are three ways you can join:

1. Pray for a camper, or campers, each day. You can pray for their physical safety, their emotional wellbeing as they are away from home for a week, and for their spiritual growth. You can pray specifically that as these youth learn the Biblical narrative, they can see how their lives are part of the story.
2. Send them a letter or a care-package.

"Mail call" is a highlight of camp—hearing from home and even getting a treat in the mail can lift a young person's spirits and help them feel connected to home even as they are on the mountaintop.



Please send your mail early, though, as it will go to the office in Ft. Collins and will need to be driven up to camp. The address is: Name of camper—Confirmation Intensive, c/o Sky Ranch Camp, 805 S. Shields, Ft. Collins, CO 80521-3541

3. Join us for a workday at the camp. Students will culminate their learning in a service project day on Thursday, **June 30**, 1:00-4:00 PM, followed by a BBQ and picnic party. Please join us! Cross-generational service is key to a young person's faith formation—and even your own, if you are a grown-up. "Freed to serve" is our theme of the day, so if you are free that afternoon, come join us and share your story as you work alongside youth on what it really means to be free. If you plan on coming, please RSVP to Deaconess Kristen to arrange carpooling.



# EDUCATION

## *Nicaragua Outreach Project*

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On May 22 the children assembled over 100 toiletry kits that will be taken to Nicaragua. We felt that this was a wonderful way to end the Sunday School year. The children and youth had fun putting the kits together and writing notes to the children who will receive them.

## *Learn by Heart*

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On May 15 we recognized all of the children who participated in the LBH program this past school year. We celebrated with 30 children for their accomplishments in memorizing specific Bible verses, books of the Bible, the Ten Commandments, and the Apostles' Creed. Way to go, kids!

## *Day Camp June 20-23!*

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### **2011 Summer Day Camp Theme: *Journey***

Day Camp will take place **June 20–23**, 9:00 AM–3:00 PM. If you are interested in your child participating and have not yet registered, please contact Dawn Reed. The Day Camp program that Sky Ranch brings

to our congregation is for children entering first through fifth grades. Be a part of this wonderful summer program to help children grow in their learning of Jesus!

### ***Preschool-age Program***

If your child is not old enough to attend Day Camp, we also have a special half-day program planned for your little one. The preschool program is designed for children three years old through kindergarten and will be held the same dates as Day Camp, **June 20–23**, from 9:00–11:30 AM. We will spend the week playing, singing, doing arts and crafts and having a ton of fun! Through stories of Moses, Daniel, Jonah, and the gift of the Spirit, the children will learn how God walks beside them in their daily journey. Join us!

## *Social Media Q&A on June 26*

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Hosted by BLC members Luke and Emily Kunselman of Social Sweet Tooth. Bring all your questions about social media—Facebook, Twitter, etc.! In the fireside room between services.

# EVANGELISM



## *Caffeine Update*

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Thank you to the coffee makers in May. The church council took on this responsibility for the month and thanks so much to these willing volunteers: Sally and Fred Fanton, Colleen Beyer, Pam Bischoff, Debby Olson, Jan Geiser, Shirley Kasperbauer, Wanda Schnabel, and Gordon Potts.

Consider whether your ministry group/organization would be willing to take on the task for a month in the fall; the good news is that Naomi Circle has already committed to September. Contact Shirley Kasperbauer or Wanda Schnabel with questions or to volunteer.

## Summer Coffee Hour

During the summer months our tradition at Bethlehem is to have a coffee hour **with treats** between services. The neighborhood groups bring the goodies and make the coffee during June, July, and August. The June schedule is below:

- June 5            Green
- June 12          Red
- June 19          Blue
- June 26          Pink

This is a wonderful opportunity to respond with an enthusiastic 'yes' when your fellowship shepherd contacts you and maybe try out a new recipe! Then plan on spending the time between services eating, drinking, and chatting whenever you are in town.

## Summer Save the Dates

- July 31: Ryssby service and picnic
- August 21: Faith Day at the Rockies— Rockies vs. Dodgers, with Casting Crowns concert following the game. Tickets are \$12 and will be sold beginning in July.

## New Pictorial Directory

It is time to complete a new pictorial directory for Bethlehem.

LifeTouch will be taking photographs of individuals and family groups in August— appointments will be made beginning in July.

New technology has made this an easy process for participants and will give us the ability to update online as new members join Bethlehem.



# FINANCIAL

## Financial Update

Thank you for your good stewardship through the month of May. Here are some updates on our financial situation:

- Our "envelope giving" is \$5,000 over what has been budgeted. Thank you!
- This year's budget had another Faith Challenge of \$17,000 built into it. To date, no contributions have come into meet that goal.
- Our ministries are watching their budgets. They are \$6,000 under what was budgeted at this point. Thank you! But, we are still \$2,000 over income.

- The \$5,000 matching fund for the new narthex carpet was matched and then some. (Carpet has been selected.) Thank you!

## Agape Fund



The economy may be picking up, but we are still getting frequent requests for financial assistance. We have helped a number of people with gas money. We also paid a month's rent for a young mother. Her premature baby was in the hospital for 2-1/2 months, and that wiped out her savings. We also helped a church member with their utility bills. Once again, we thank those members who donate to the Agape Fund. Your generosity does make a difference.

## Past Events/Thank You's to:



- Manna Bible Study for providing 20 dinners for H.O.P.E.
- The Manna member who went out "on the streets" to hand out food and supplies for H.O.P.E.
- The 23 volunteers from Bethlehem, Light of Christ, and Highlands Lutheran who

travelled to New Orleans April 2-9 to help rebuild homes in St. Bernard Parish.

- Bethlehem Bunco Babes who served the Habitat lunch on April 9.
- Tonya Twito, Karen Sum, Nancy McLeod, and the many, many volunteers for making the 9Health Fair on April 14 and 15 a **huge** success.
- Naomi Circle for organizing and supplying the food for the OUR Center lunch on May 8. It was Mother's Day and 110 people were served. Volunteers included Mark Abromski, Colleen Beyer, Patsy and Bruce Bowman, Jim Ferguson, Jan Geiser, Pastor Kirsten, Tom Hofman, Nancy and Bob McLeod, the Michalski family and friend Scott, Wanda Schnabel, Neil Stewart, and Pat and Dean Wilder.

## Upcoming Events:

- **H.O.P.E.:**
  - One Manna member will go out on the streets of Longmont to hand out food and supplies.
  - Manna Bible Study will provide 20 dinners for H.O.P.E.
  - **Sharefest: June 4, 8:00 AM-Noon.** The location (school) has not been determined yet. Melissa Smith is in charge.
  - **Habitat Lunches:** July 23 (to be served by Church Council) and October 15.

- **OUR Center Lunches:** August 14 and November 13 (**Chairpersons still needed for these events**).

## OUR Center Food Pantry

June is Bethlehem's month to provide food for the OUR Center pantry. Needed items: cereal, canned meats, canned fruit, canned vegetables, and peanut butter. There is a collection basket in the narthex, marked OUR Center, for your donations. We will be collecting for the entire month of June. Thank you!

## 9Health Fair

Thank you for another successful year. The 2011 9Health Fair was held on April 14 and 15. We had more than 300 volunteers and saw approximately 1,400 participants. We thank you for your continued support and donations of time, talent, food and prayers. The mission of the 9Health Fair is to promote health awareness and to encourage individuals to assume responsibility for their own health. It is an important part of our church culture and mission and we truly appreciate everyone's help and understanding. We are looking forward to another successful year in 2012!

- The 9Health Fair Committee

## Nicaragua News

### **Fundraising Update**

All of the original matching challenges have been met! Thank you!

However: If you wish to make a donation that will be matched, a member has offered to match any donations from now to the time of the trip.

Additional funds will be used for additional roofs on shacks, micro-loans, medical needs, scholarships, operating expenses for the children's project, and/or mini-projects we often find when we are there. You may designate the project you wish to support.

**PROJECTS FUNDED TO DATE:**

1. 81 Water filters for three complete villages and NNF
2. Latrines for El Higo
3. Medication for the clinics,
4. 300 pair of eye glasses
5. Construction of two houses
6. Construction of five roofs
7. A sewing co-op micro-loan,
8. Scholarships for 13 of the 14 sponsored youth
9. Finishing construction of the second building for Ninos y Ninas del Futuro children's project

Envelopes are available in the pews! Clearly mark your envelope for the Nicaragua Mission with checks written to Bethlehem.

THANK YOU!

***Support our Missionaries***

The Somoto Mission will take place **June 14-24**. Please keep the 18 people who are going (including Margot Hoffmeyer and Cathy, John, and Racheal Goodman from Bethlehem, and Carol Kobel from Light of Christ) in your prayers as they travel to Somoto and work with and for the people there.

***Deydra needs your help to go to school!***

For the first ten years of her life in Somoto, Nicaragua, Deydra lived in a hut covered in plastic and slept on a dirt floor. Her mother works very hard cleaning houses for \$1 per day to feed Deydra and her four sisters.

Now, at 11 years of age, she lives in a small brick home built for her family last year. Despite the hardships, she is a good student who wants to become a nurse and help others. Every day after school she goes to the children's project to help with the young children. She has been a scholarship recipient for the last two years, but her sponsor cannot continue. For just \$20 a month, she can continue to go to school, get her school supplies, and have something to eat before her classes. Will you help?

If you are interested in sponsoring Deydra, Contact Cathy Goodman (cegood47@aol.com). You will receive one to two letters a year to hear about her life and progress.

***...and Thank yous***

Many, many thanks to the members of the Nicaragua Task Force for their hours of effort to make the spring matching funds drive a success: Jenny Kelley for writing and composing bulletin flyers, Dave Hooley for printing them, Pat Goecke for applying to Thrivent for matching funds, Margot Hoffmeyer for participating in the mission trip this year, and Cathy and John Goodman, Dave Hooley, and Margot Hoffmeyer for making announcements.

***Layette items needed***

Naomi Circle is planning on sending layettes to Lutheran World Relief along with the quilts again this year. Last year we sent 19 sets.

We need gowns, sleepers, shirts, and sweaters in sizes 3-6, 12 and 24 mos. as well as receiving blankets and cloth diapers. Gently used items or new are acceptable. Yard goods of flannel are welcomed too! Thank you for your support.

- Patsy Bowman and Bonnie Sorensen



## *Get Connected*

### **A Stewardship Forum**

by Gene Tesdahl, Co-Chair for Stewardship

As I have said, I am often humbled by the generosity of our congregation. People continue to give more as we fight the shortfall in this year's faith challenge. It is the generosity beyond dollars, however, that truly impresses me. Congregants visit others in the hospital or in other hard situations.

The high school youth, and you who give toiletries, impressed me once again last month when we visited Network Coffeehouse in the Capital Hill area of Denver. Others volunteer to make coffee, start a compost pile, till the community garden, and so much more. Our time and talents matter so much.

We are nearly to our goal of a brighter and more welcoming narthex. The sooner we reach that goal, the more welcoming we can be as children flood our space for our summer day camp program in conjunction with Sky Ranch and our brothers and sisters of Light of Christ. We can then get to the work of taking a harder look at our aging HVAC system and other needs within and without our worship space.

We are continually blessed by the people at Thrivent Financial for Lutherans. Did you know that a ministry or project within the congregation could still apply for matching funds from Thrivent? What's more, they still have their Choice Dollars program. This is a program that lets you decide where

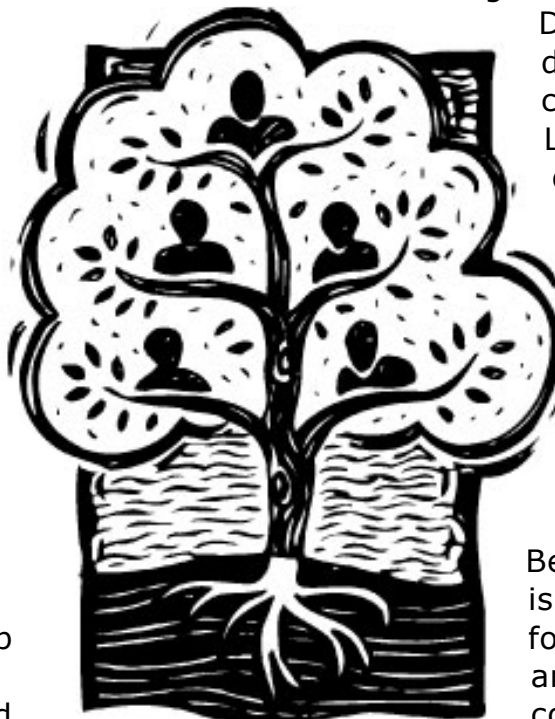
your philanthropy dollars from Thrivent go. If you are a Thrivent member and have been for some time, I urge you to dedicate your Choice Dollars to Bethlehem Lutheran Church. You may do this at the website or by calling (800) 847-4836 and stating "Thrivent Choice." You can set a recurring or ongoing direction of your Choice

Dollars to BLC, or you may direct them to a different cause like Sky Ranch or a Lutheran college. For more details on matching funds or Choice Dollars go to [www.thrivent.com](http://www.thrivent.com).

But where does this money go? It does not go into our general budget. Instead, it is open for use by all ministries and members of Bethlehem. All one must do is fill out the proper request form available in the office and it will be voted upon by council. Thus far in 2011, BLC Choice Dollars have

funded one scholarship for a New Orleans volunteer and now first aid items for the folks in Somoto, Nicaragua. Our congregation gets more dollars in its account quarterly. It is still a small amount but makes a huge difference. Please consider whether your cause could use these funds and put them to work.

I wish you all a blessed spring and many opportunities to "Get Connected."





# MEMBERS

## *June Birthdays*

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Removed for security reasons

## *June Anniversaries*

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- June 2 Deanna & Roger Hebbert (38 yrs)
- June 2 Sandy & Jim Woodruff (55 yrs)
- June 3 Ashley & Mark Bostock (5 yrs)
- June 3 Coqui & Mike Stetson (9 yrs)
- June 4 Kristy Moore & John Christianson (7 yrs)
- June 5 Ashley & Christopher Frank (1 yr)
- June 5 Jane & Loy Housewright (52 yrs)
- June 6 Lydia & Sam Boxberger (74 yrs)
- June 6 Marisa & Brian Carlson (2 yrs)
- June 6 Jeanne & Randy Robinson (30 yrs)
- June 7 Sue & Joe Darmofal (25 yrs)
- June 9 Mildred & Phil Hart (54 yrs)
- June 9 Colette & Craig Smith (21 yrs)
- June 9 Nancy & Will Tritthardt (55 yrs)
- June 10 Laura & Tim Steakley (16 yrs)
- June 11 Lydia Mott & Paul Dorn (44 yrs)
- June 12 Doris & Dave Slinger (63 yrs)
- June 13 Karen & Carl Sum (13 yrs)
- June 14 Helen & David Ramirez (8 yrs)
- June 15 Irene & Corey Heil (26 yrs)
- June 15 Joanne & Duane Larsen (53 yrs)
- June 16 Brenda & Chris Downing (4 yrs)
- June 16 Carolyn & Marv Greeb (54 yrs)
- June 17 Mona & Bryan Dirkes (11 yrs)
- June 17 Roxanne & Mike Kessler (33 yrs)
- June 21 Pam & Todd Bischoff (41 yrs)
- June 21 Reita & Dick Kylo (53 yrs)
- June 21 Kathy & Dave Loberg (25 yrs)
- June 22 Andrea & Ryan Kragerud (9 yrs)
- June 23 Helen & Erik Kessler (4 yrs)
- June 26 Sue & Steen Frederiksen (13 yrs)
- June 26 Debbie & Neil Stewart (28 yrs)
- June 26 Kristi & Biven Wray (18 yrs)
- June 28 Florence & Francis McKinney (7 yrs)
- June 28 Alpha & Don Wuertz (52 yrs)
- June 29 Marilyn & Dale Adams (53 yrs)
- June 29 Melanie & Kennar Bowman (9 yrs)

## Thank You!

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On behalf of the family of Kathy Jurgens, we want to thank Pr. Mark, Pr. Kirsten, and all the members of Bethlehem who supported us so much during our time of need.

- Roger, Brett, and Amanda Jurgens

Thank you all for your many prayers, words of sympathy, cards, and memorials in memory of my beloved mom, May Stender. A special thank you to the Prayer Shawl Ministry for the beautiful shawl and Stephen Ministry booklets. I do find comfort knowing that she is in God's arms.

- Jan Stoffer

**Office Helpers:** Nancy and Bob McLeod, Mary Schlagel, Doris Slinger, Ann Russell, LaVerna Pickett, Colleen Beyer.

**May Star Helpers:** Sally and Fred Fanton, Alpha and Don Wuertz, Peggy and Marv Peterson, Lucille Wollman, Deanna Hebbert, Patty Fagler, JoAnn Larsen, Ann Thompson.

## Prayers...

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**Healing for** Ruth Peterson, Claudia Byrne, Bud Tornow, Carolyn Creamer, Agnes Ronneberg, Mildred and Phil Hart, Kate Adams, Karol Poetsch, Ryan Wappel, Chris Downing, Dion

Borgmann, Dave Slinger, Doris Cotton, Jordan Trujillo Dirkes, Bonnie Tedesco, Dottie and George Choun.

**Sympathy for** Curtis Lindberg on the death of Curtis' wife Joyce.

## .. & Thanksgiving

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We celebrated the following baptisms in May: **Daelyn Raeann Carlock**, the daughter of **Cynthia Carlock** and granddaughter of **JoAnn Haubert**, baptized on May 1; her sponsor is her uncle, Michael Kilzer.



**Jack Lansing Torrez**, the son of **Brenda Torrez** and **Victor Ross**, grandson of **Jim Torrez** and the late Dorothy Torrez, and great-grandson of **Golda Backowies**, baptized on May 8; his sponsors are Pasquale Navas and Mandi Salomon. Welcome to God's family, Daelyn and Jack!

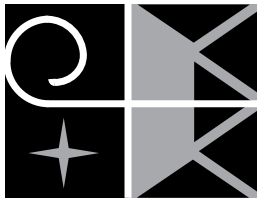
We rejoice at the birth of **Matthew James Backowies** in March in Columbia. Matthew is the son of Diana Monteaiagre Backowies and **Brent Backowies**, grandson of **Pat and Bob Backowies**, and great-grandson of **Golda Backowies**.

## Good News!

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- Congratulations to the following high school students who graduated this spring! From Berthoud High School: **Amy Loberg**; Boulder High School: **Jenelle Winter**; Longmont High School: **Adam Thornburg**; Niwot High School: **Andrew Hopp**; Silver Creek High School: **Justin Lamb**; Skyline High School: **Sarah Wagner** and **Ryan Wappel**.
- On May 4, the following BLC members were honored at the St. Vrain Valley School District Recognition Ceremonies: **Cindy Thompson**, 25 year anniversary, and **Carolyn Buck-Gengler**, Outstanding School Volunteer Individual Category Finalist.

*If you, or someone you know of from BLC, are graduating from college this spring (or any time), please let us know!*



**June 2011**  
**Sunday Worship Assistants Calendar**  
*We thank all those who offer their gifts in leading worship this month.*

**Key: E = 8:00 AM; L = 10:15 AM**

	June 5 Seventh Sunday of Easter	June 12 Pentecost	June 19 Holy Trinity/Pentecost 1	June 26 Second Sunday of Pentecost
<b>Liturgy</b>	ELW3	Bluegrass	ELW6	Now the Feast and Celebration
<b>Assisting Minister</b>	E: Kay Lynn Baker L: Cindy Tayler	E: Sharon Kirby-Cole L: Gene Tesdahl	E: Todd Bischoff L: Kristen Baltrum	E: Kirsten Sauey L: Shaylee Pierick
<b>Greeters</b>	E: Lelia Thompson, Sally Meyers L: Audrey & George Dillan	E: Jan Geiser, Anne Young L: Betty Culbertson, Nancy Tiff	E: Nancy & Will Tritthardt L: Mona & Justin Dirkes	E: Lisa & Kelly Thornburg L: Marcy & Dennis Smith
<b>Ushers</b>	E: Bruce Bowman, Kennar Bowman L: Tim & Laura Steakley, Bob McLeod	E: Doris Haave, Ken Cramer L: Darlene Borgmann, Mary Fjeld, DeEtte Eikenberg	E: Mary Fjeld, Bob Urbach L: Dick Killo, Neil Stewart Larry Twito	E: Neil Stewart, Dwayne Larsen L: Candy & Don Tiff Cindy Koenck
<b>Lay Readers</b>	E: Anne Lawhon L: Jeanne Phipps	E: Jenny Kelley L: Lydia Mott	E: Shelley Kunselman L: Dave Hooley	E: Pam Bischoff L: Darlene Borgmann
<b>Acolytes</b>	E: Cori Herbst L: Madison Dirkes	E: Maddie Baltrum L: Madison Dirkes	E: JR Baltrum L:	E: L: Maddie Baltrum
<b>Communion Asst.</b>	E: Debby Olson, Alan Olson L: Nancy Markham, Wanda Schnabel	E: Nancy Koob, Thelma Abromski L: Tonja Twito, Jenny Kelley	E: Deanna Hebbert, Frances Rhoades L: Patty Fagler, Nancy Koob	E: Ilene Ryan, Joanne Larson L: Fred Fanton
<b>Offering Counters</b>	Ann Thompson Nancy McLeod	Phyllis Wright Brian Burrell	Bob Gardinier Nancy McLeod	Thelma Abromski, Doris Haave, Carrie Pierick

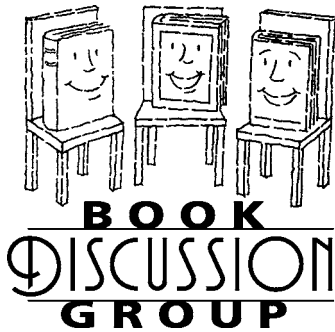
# CALENDAR

JUNE 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			<b>1</b> 9:30 AM - Worship @ The Peaks Care Center 8:30 PM - Sr. High Girls Stitch Niche	<b>2</b> 9:00 AM - Quilters 10:00 AM - BLC Staff Meeting 6:30 PM - Healing Touch Clinic 7:00 PM - Boy Scout Troop 565 - BOFB Practice	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> 8:00 AM - Promise Keepers
<b>5</b> 8:00 AM - ELW 3 Worship 9:10 AM - Learning Hour 9:15 AM - Summer Coffee - Green Group 10:15 AM - ELW 3 Worship 11:15 AM - Communion Assistant Training 3:30 PM - Girl Scouts 6:00 PM - Narcotics Anonymous	<b>6</b> 9:30 AM - Manna Bible Study Noon - TOPS 4:00 PM - Stephen Ministry 6:00 PM - Intern Committee 7:00 PM - Handbell Choir practice	<b>7</b> 7:00 AM - Daily Discipleship Bible Study	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> 9:00 AM - Quilters 10:00 AM - BLC Staff Meeting 7:00 PM - Boy Scouts - BOFB Practice	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> 8:00 AM - Promise Keepers 8:30 AM - Delta Kappa Gamma 9:00 AM - Bluegrass Rehearsal
<b>12</b> 8:00 AM - Bluegrass Worship 9:10 AM - Learning Hour 9:15 AM - Summer Coffee - Red Group - NCD Small Group Meeting 10:00 AM - OUR Center Lunch 10:15 AM - Bluegrass Worship 6:00 PM - Narcotics Anonymous	<b>13</b> 9:30 AM - Manna Bible Study Noon - TOPS 1:00 PM - BLC Library 7:00 PM- Handbell Choir Practice	<b>14</b> 7:00 AM - Daily Discipleship Bible Study 9:30 AM - Naomi Circle 10:00 AM - Prayer Shawl Group 6:00 PM - Medication Administration Classes 7:00 PM - BLC Council Meeting	<b>15</b> 8:30 PM - Sr. High Girls Stitch Niche	<b>16</b> 9:00 AM - Quilters 10:00 AM - BLC Staff Meeting 6:30 PM - Healing Touch Clinic 7:00 PM - Boy Scouts - Longmont Stamp Club - BOFB Practice	<b>17</b> 1:30 PM - Deborah Circle 2:00 PM - WELCA Bible Study	<b>18</b> 8:00 AM - Promise Keepers 9:30 AM - Bethlehem Card Ministry
<b>19 Father's Day</b> 8:00 AM - ELW 6 Worship 9:10 AM - Learning Hour 9:15 AM - Summer Coffee - Blue Group 10:15 AM - ELW 6 Worship 2:00 PM - Worship at the Vistas 3:30 PM - Girl Scouts 6:00 PM - Narcotics Anonymous	<b>20</b> 9:00 AM - Day Camp-VBS 9:30 AM - Manna Bible Study Noon - TOPS 1:00 PM - BLC Library Committee 4:00 PM - Stephen Ministry 6:00 PM -Intern Comm. 7:00 PM- Handbell Choir Practice	<b>21</b> Day Camp-VBS 7:00 AM - Daily Discipleship Bible Study 7:00 PM - Evangelism Ministry Meeting	<b>22</b> Day Camp-VBS 9:30 AM - Worship @ The Peaks Care Center	<b>23</b> Day Camp-VBS 9:00 AM - Quilters 10:00 AM - BLC Staff Meeting 7:00 PM - Boy Scout Troop 565 - BOFB Practice	<b>24</b> 8:00 AM - Northern CO Porcelain Artists	<b>25</b> 8:00 AM - Promise Keepers
<b>26</b> Confirmation Camp 8:00 AM - Now the Feast Worship 9:10 AM - Learning Hour 9:15 AM - Summer Coffee - Pink Group 10:15 AM - Now the Feast Worship 6:00 PM - Narcotics Anonymous	<b>27</b> Confirmation Camp 9:30 AM - Manna Bible Study Noon - TOPS 7:00 PM - Handbell Choir	<b>28</b> Confirmation Camp 7:00 AM - Daily Discipleship Bible Study	<b>29</b> Confirmation Camp	<b>30</b> Confirmation Camp 9:00 AM - Quilters 10:00 AM - BLC Staff Meeting 7:00 PM - Boy Scout Troop 565 - BOFB Practice		

**For more information about these events, including room assignments,  
please visit the website: [www.bethlehem-lutheran.net](http://www.bethlehem-lutheran.net) and select the Calendar & Events link**

## Bethlehem Book Club



The Bethlehem Book Club will not be meeting in June. The book club will next meet on July 14 at 6:30 AM at Ziggi's newly opened Francis Street location (1139 Francis Street, Longmont) and will discuss *Bless Me,*

*Ultima* by Rudolfo Anaya. Copies are available for checkout at the local library.

## Lutheran Family Services

Lutheran Family Services of Colorado has updated its website. Check it out and register for these events! [www.lfsc.org](http://www.lfsc.org).

## Join LFS for a ZOO-BQ!

We have reserved the Denver Zoo for a private event for friends, family and guests of LFS. All who come will enjoy admission to the zoo, an all-American grilled dinner, carousel rides and much more, while helping LFS grow and thrive. The Annual Family & Charity event is on Friday, **June 10**, at 6:30 PM at the Denver Zoo.

## Save the Date—Tee Off for Hope

The Annual LFS Golf Classic will be on Monday, July 25 at the beautiful course at Arrowhead Golf Club in Littleton. Shotgun start is at 7:30 AM, followed by lunch, awards, and a live auction. Registration fee includes greens fee for 18 holes, golf cart, breakfast, unlimited snacks, lunch, exceptional prizes and more!

## P.S.

### Passionate Spirituality - Confirmands' Statements of Faith

*Several young people publicly confirmed their baptisms and proclaimed their faith in God on May 22. Here are some of their statements of faith.*

#### Morgan Abromski

When I went to the camp Sky Ranch I got to do many fun things. Some things like the high ropes course, hanging out with friends, and going on hikes. When doing all of these things I really felt like myself. Throughout camp I had to have trust. When I was on the high ropes I had to trust the people under me. In my life I need to trust God that I will make it through, just like trusting the people on the high ropes.

Through camp, I have learned how to be myself and enjoy everything I do.

#### Dalton Aker

With the high unemployment rates of the United States, my dad was laid off from his job. This cut off over half my family's income. This could have been a disaster for us when God showed up. After about a month with my dad not having a job, his old employer called him asking about an interview. My dad showed

up in Boulder early in the day and left late with a job. This has helped to create a better relationship with God because it shows that no matter what happens he will help anybody. I wasn't quite sure of this until my dad lost his job and got it back. This experience will help my relationship with God grow because I know that he will always be there, not only in family hardships but also in personal hardships such as weak bones. It seems to me that I have had weak bones ever since I was born. I am only 14 years old, and I have already broken 14 bones. I have seen God in this because every time I have broken a bone I was all right. Good thing there is no limit to God's help because if there was I would be running out. Throughout all of the twists and turns in my life God has been there to help me through it.



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***Kristy Lee***

*"Do unto others as you would have them do to you."* Luke 6:31

This Bible verse is important to me because it's a perfect rule to live by. Every human being makes mistakes. The greatest accomplishment for someone to achieve in my opinion is the ability to forgive those who hurt you. This is the example that Jesus has set for us and it's the rule that God guides us to live by. I believe that all of the messages, like this one, that God gives us are very important to use in our everyday lives. Sometimes it's hard to live like God wants us to. And, it's not always easy to treat others the way that you would want to be treated, especially when we are angry or hurt. As I

have grown in my faith through confirmation and through church it has become easier for me to understand the importance of this message. I am very grateful to be continuing on my journey.

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***Clarissa Mills***

*"Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful."*  
Colossians 3:15

The reason I want to be confirmed is because, like every person in the world, there is that point where you become an adult. Well, I feel like in "church world" this is the step to becoming an adult. My faith is a very big part of me and maybe at times it doesn't seem like it, but for every church we have been to, this church has had the most impact in my

life and always will.

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***Molly Ritzen***

Jesus is God's only son who came to earth to save me and all the people. As a Christian I know I am loved and forgiven which gives me the strength to help others. I feel I want to belong to the church out of thankfulness for life ever after.

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***Brittany Steele***

Being confirmed is like graduating from high school. Except this isn't high school. This is being confirmed. You are becoming an adult in the church's eyes. Almost all of my family has been confirmed so I feel that it would be im-

portant for my family to see me and have me be confirmed. I have learned a lot of things this year in confirmation and I have done a lot of fun things. I would love to learn a lot more. I came into confirmation class not knowing a thing about the Bible because I have never really taken the time to read a little of it. But after confirmation I know more about it.

### *Anthony Taylor*

Being confirmed is very important to me because these past two years in confirmation class made me understand everything that I didn't understand before in church. This class gave me the opportunity to finally understand every part of the Sunday service. It's important to me because being a Lutheran and being confirmed is a big part of my life and I'm very happy to be finally getting confirmed. I saw my sister get confirmed and knew that I wanted to too. Being confirmed represents being a member of the Lutheran church. My favorite part about this class at Bethlehem Lutheran Church was learning this stuff with people my age and talking to them. I met many cool kids through this class and I'm happy to be getting confirmed with all of them.

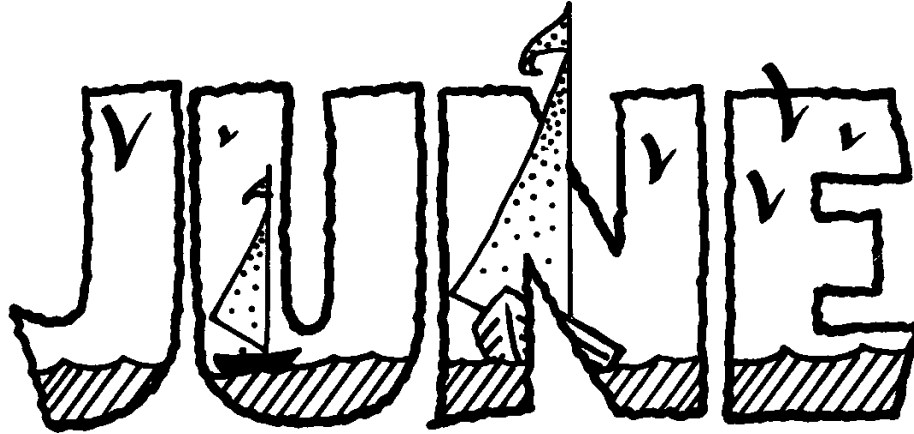
I'm glad to be getting confirmed because I am affirming my baptism. I am making my own choice of letting Christ and the Lord into my life. Opening them into my life makes me believe that they are always with me. I know about that feeling a lot more when I'm listening to gospel music and it just makes me understand things they are talking about in the lyrics. Another thing that makes me understand better is talking one on one with my mom and dad. Since I am very close to them, I can express what I'm thinking without them making any fun of me.

# CONFIRMED

*In Faith*

Everyone is a child of God in this world and it feels good to know that I am one also even though everyone is too. It kind of makes you more special when you know that you're a child of God. Something else that this class made me understand was caring for other people because it feels so good inside and you know that it is the right thing to do. This confirmation class did so much for my life and it will continue to do a lot for my life as I grow up. I would like to thank Pastor Mark, Kristen, Kirsten, Bethlehem Lutheran Church and above all, God.





Mark Peterson, Senior Pastor  
Deaconess Kristen Baltrum, Youth/Household Ministry Director  
Jasmine Tesdahl, Pastoral Assistant

Kirsten Sauey, Intern Pastor  
John Goodman, Music Director  
Nancy Tiff, Office Coordinator

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