

SEPTEMBER 2011

Get Connected in September

Sunday, September 11: Rally Day

- **Worship**—The Adult Choir returns to lead worship. We will have a special remembrance of the 9/11 tragedy. We will also be welcoming new members. Get connected to worship!
- **Taking Faith Home**—We will be reintroducing this excellent household ministry resource. Get connected to Household Ministry!
- **9:15 AM**—Sunday school classes will start for all ages. We invite parents and other adult members to join us for the special Adult Forum on using the Bible as a part of your household ministry. This class will run for three Sundays. Get connected to the Word!
- **11:30 AM**—Join us for a congregational Rally Day pot luck and Talent Show!

Wednesday, September 14, 7:00 PM: Confirmation

- We will be introducing the new **Re:Form** curriculum
- Get connected as a Confirmation Mentor!

Sunday, September 18: Grandparent's Milestone

- A special blessing will be offered for all "new" grandparents at both services.

SEPTEMBER 2011

Inside the Star

Pastor Peterson's	
Pericopes	3
Worship	4
Household.....	4
Youth	5
Education.....	6
Evangelism	8
Social Action	9
Stewardship	10
Finance.....	11
Members.....	12
News/Events	13
Worship Calendar....	15
Events Calendar.....	16
P.S.	17



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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: September 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.

So, what's new for the fall for Bethlehem?

Fall is often a time that congregations start new programs and ministries. Other ministries are strengthened or changed. It's a time to refocus our mission. You will find some of these plans and programs explained in more detail elsewhere in this newsletter, but let me try to give an overview.

1. **Confirmation Mentoring Program**—This has been a successful program linking adult mentors with our confirmands to talk about their faith. The past three years, we have limited this ministry to the Lenten season. This year we plan to grow this program and make it a yearlong event.
2. **New Confirmation Curriculum**—We will be introducing the new *Re:Form* curriculum for our middle school youth for Wednesday night confirmation classes and for their Sunday school class. It is more interactive. We also plan to have the parents more involved.
3. **ELCA National Youth Gathering**—A number of our youth and adults will be attending the youth gathering in New Orleans next summer.
4. **The Greatest Story Ever Told: Jesus**—This is an excellent Bible overview of Jesus. We will offer this as a Thursday evening study (something new) in October/November and January/February. It is a part of the Book of Faith curriculum that we have been using.
5. **The Lutheran Study Bible**—This is an excellent resource that we are

encouraging members to purchase to use for our Bible studies.

6. **Safe Haven Policy**—We want our kids to be safe. We want church to be a safe place for them. We will be implementing new policies and safeguards for all our adult members who work with our youth.
7. **Taize Worship in Advent**—Last Advent, under the leadership of Pastor Kirsten, we experimented with Taize worship. We would like to try it again, but on a better night (Wednesdays, 6:00–6:30 PM).
8. **Advent Conspiracy**—This is a challenging program that will encourage us to use the Advent season as a time to prepare for the coming Christ child through service and not through consumerism.
9. **Taking Faith Home**—This is an excellent home devotional guide that we have offered for several years now. This fall, we will be reintroducing it with more suggestions for how to make it a part of your household ministry.
10. **Household Ministry Home Kits**—We plan to put together a number of kits that families can use to celebrate milestones at home.

I'm excited about this fall and what it offers. As you can see, there is an emphasis on building up the body of Christ here at Bethlehem. I hope you plan to *Get Connected*.

Blessings,
Pastor Peterson

What's
NEW?



WORSHIP

What's Coming Up in September

Sunday, September 4

- Weather permitting, we will hold one last outdoor worship service over this Labor Day weekend at 10:15 AM
- The liturgy will be setting #10 out of the ELW hymnal
- The Bethlehem String Ensemble will play at both services

Sunday, September 11

- Rally Day...Potluck...Talent Show! (details in the Education section of the newsletter)
- New member reception into BLC with Affirmation of Baptism
- The Adult Choir makes its return
- Our Bluegrass musicians will lead us in the Bluegrass liturgy
- This is also the 10th anniversary of the 9/11 attack, and we will remember that event in our worship

Sunday, September 18

- Grandparents Milestone—we will offer a blessing to all the “new” grandparents
- The Gospel group will lead at both services

Sunday, September 25

- The Revelation Choir returns to lead worship at the 10:15 AM service

Jazz Service in November

In past years, we have held our Dixieland Jazz service on Pentecost and All Saints Sundays. That spirit-filled music works well on those two Sundays. However, we hope to add something new this year to the fall event and to do that we need to move the service back one week. Therefore, the fall Jazz service will be on **November 13** (and not on All Saints Sunday, which is November 6). So mark your calendars. This is a great event to invite friends and family to join you in worship at Bethlehem.



HOUSEHOLD

September 18 at 8:00 AM and 10:15 AM services—It's a Grandparent Milestone! Are you a new, or new again, or soon to be Grandparent? We want to lift you up and celebrate you as the pillar of faith that you are. Grandparents are wonderful blessings in the lives of their family and friends. Grandparents tell us stories and help us to name who we are in our family's history—and the history of God's family. They pass along wisdom and understanding, and for this we are thankful. Come to worship and let us bless you, Grandparents!

September 11, 18, and 25 at 9:15 AM—At Baptism, parents make a promise to their children to “place in their hands the Holy Scriptures” and the congregation promises

to lift up and support parents in this task. In preparation for Bible Sunday (October 2), the Middle School Sunday School, the parents of Middle Schoolers, and the Adult Forum will come together as a cross-generational group to work together to become familiar with the Bibles the congregation will be gifting to all pre-school through high school students who are transitioning to the next “level” of Bible reading. Pastor Mark and Deaconess Kristen will show you new ways to use these Bibles for caring conversation, devotions, rituals and traditions, and even service! You are invited to attend even if no one in your family is receiving a new Bible. As a congregation we navigate the Scriptures *together*, so come learn some new and innovative ways of doing this!

Middle School Youth

- Confirmation Class starts up again on **September 14!** We look forward to seeing all sixth, seventh, and eighth graders on Wednesday nights, 7:00–8:00 PM, in the Youth Room (brightly colored room in the NE corner of the building). This year we will be using the *Re:Form* curriculum which sounds boring—but TRUST ME—it's exciting stuff! Confirmation families should be watching the mail for detailed information.
- **September 18, 4:00–6:00 PM**—Eighth-graders: You will be old enough to go to New Orleans for the ELCA Youth Gathering next summer. Please see below for

more information on an important get-together.

- **September 25, 4:00–6:00 PM**—Game night! All Middle Schoolers are invited to come on over to the church building for fun and games! Bring your



friends and get ready for a good time. Wear comfortable clothing that you can move around in and don't mind getting a bit dirty.

High School Youth

September 18, 4:00–6:00 PM—IMPORTANT MEETING! And a fun one too! We will gather to do some planning for the year, including things to do just for fun, things to do to raise funds for the ELCA Youth Gathering in July 2012, and more. This meeting won't be ALL planning, so come ready to have some fun together too. **This year's eighth graders are also eligible to go to New Orleans, so you are invited to this meeting as well.**

Middle and High School Girls

...and the Adult Women Who Love Them

Come knit with us! **STITCH NICHE** is now open to all middle and high school youth and any other women who like to knit late at night. We meet on the first and third Wednesday nights of the month in the Fireside room, 8:30–10:00 PM. Come drink some tea and chat a bit! You are welcome to craft your own project, or participate in our knitting project for Women4Women-Knitting4Peace. Patterns and yarn provided!

Camp

Sky Ranch Work Weekend, September 23–24

Details:

- Sponsored by Thrivent Community–Front Range
- All ages welcome
- 6:00 PM Friday to 7:00 PM Saturday
- Cost is just the expense of getting up to Sky Ranch and back (gas). Food and lodging are covered, as well as the supplies for our service project.



During this intergenerational ministry event we will:

- Grow together through fellowship & worship
- Move out old/dead trees
- Re-wood chip the floor of the outdoor chapel
- Repair benches in the outdoor chapel

Sign up by contacting Kristen at kristen@bethlehem-lutheran.net. It is important that people sign up so we know how many to expect!

Greetings, Bethlehem!

When I think about all the fun things that Education Ministry has planned for September, I can't help but think of what the Apostle Paul writes to the Corinthians in his first letter to them:

Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone.

1 Corinthians 12:4-6

September

The First Day of Sunday School— "Rally Day"—is September 11!

1. **Rally Day/New Member Potluck** lunch after second service. Weather permitting, we will be outside. Bring a dish to share!
2. **Bethlehem's Got Talent!** Can you sing? Can you dance? Can you burp the alphabet? Do you do magic? Do you tell jokes? Tie knots? Perform gymnastics? Do you have a skill that you'd love to show off? Then come and share your talent with us at the Bethlehem Talent Show, on **September 11**, immediately following the Rally Day Potluck lunch! Individual and group entries are encouraged. Come sign up for your spot at this cross-generational event on the bulletin board outside the Education Office! (There's a rumor that Pastor Mark already has *his* talent planned.)
3. **High School Sunday School**—Hey high schoolers! How often do you get a chance to effect change? We want to know what topics feel relevant to you. Please bring a list of two or three topics that you would like to study this year during Sunday school, and Rally Day will be an exciting

day of planning and preparation with the fearless Gene Tesdahl leading the way.

And, as a reminder:

Confirmation begins on **Wednesday, September 14 at 7:00 PM**. Middle schoolers, we can't wait to see you there!

October

September is going to fly by, and October will be here before you know it. Here's a quick look ahead at a couple of exciting things Education has planned:

- **Bible Sunday**, October 2—Please see Kristen's article in the Household Ministry section for more information about this exciting day!
- **First Communion Classes**, October 9 and 16—More information to come in the next issue of the *Star* on this exciting educational opportunity for our elementary students.

Blessings to you as we get back into the swing of learning and teaching! I can't wait to see the gifts that Spirit has activated within you all!

Grace + Peace,
Jasmine

Upcoming Adult Forums

Sunday mornings, 9:15–10:10 AM

How Lutherans Interpret the Bible: October and November

This will be a seven-week study led by Dr. Mark Allan Powell. Dr. Powell is a Lutheran pastor and a professor at Trinity Lutheran Seminary. This is an excellent video series looking at topics such as:

- What Lutherans Say About the Bible
- Interpreting the Bible in Context
- Determining Right From Wrong
- The Many Meanings of the Bible

To be a part of this class you don't need to be a Bible scholar, you don't need to know the exact order of the books of the Bible, you just need a willingness to learn some new Bible-reading skills.

The Book of Mark: November, December, and January

This past liturgical year most of the gospel lessons we heard in worship came from the book of Matthew. Beginning in Advent (November) we will turn to the book of Mark.

This eight-week study from the *Book of Faith* curriculum will look at the major themes in Mark's gospel. Not only will you come to have a better understanding of this first gospel, but also it should help you also get more out of the worship service.



“Get Connected” to the Word...to God...to Others...through Bible Study

Ongoing Bible studies resuming this fall:

- **Manna Bible Study (Monday mornings, 9:30 AM)**—This group meets weekly in a member's home (for those willing to host), and uses the *Lectio Divina* method of Bible study. A Bible passage is assigned each week. The group members are asked to read that passage again every day and then bring their thoughts and insights to the group meeting. There are no right or wrong answers; you just need a desire to let the Spirit lead. This group also works with HOPE Ministries, reaching out to the homeless in our community. If interested, please contact Phyllis Wright.
- **Daily Discipleship (Tuesday mornings, 7:00 AM at Santa Fe Coffee & Burrito Company)**—This is a breakfast Bible study

that meets in local restaurants. Currently we are at this new location (33 S. Main in Longmont—great food!). You can come for breakfast or just a cup of coffee. The group studies the gospel lesson for the coming Sunday using the Daily Discipleship worksheet (readily available). You will often hear this group referred to in sermons as the discussion helps the pastors get inspiration on the text. Just show up with an appetite for the Word.

- **Naomi Circle (Second Tuesday of each month, 9:30 AM)**—This women's group will be starting up again this month with

meetings at BLC. They are using the new Bible study from *Lutheran Woman Today* on the Gospel of Mark, "To Follow and To Serve." They also offer good food and fellowship. Just show up if you are interested.

- **Deborah Circle (Third Friday of each month, 1:30 PM)**—Same as for the Naomi Circle, just a different day and time.
- **Friday Men's Bible Study**

(Friday mornings, 6:30 AM)—This breakfast Bible study meets in a member's home (for those willing to host). It includes Bethlehem members as well as others in the community. They do a variety of book and Bible studies. Currently they are studying/reading/discussing *The Greatest Story Ever Told: Jesus*. Contact Jerry Phipps if you are interested.

Or, plan to join this new Bible Study:

The Greatest Story Ever Told: Jesus (Thursday nights, 6:00-7:30 PM)—This 16-week course will meet at BLC. The first eight weeks will run October 6 to November 17, and the second eight weeks will run January 5 to February 23. Each lesson is self-contained, so if you miss one you can easily get caught up and continue.

This course is for anyone who wants to encounter the Jesus of the four Gospels and see how his story connects to our stories. It has been developed especially for adults who are



new to Bible study, but all are welcome and encouraged to attend. The goal of this study is to introduce the story and let it speak for itself.

We will first look at the big picture of each Gospel. We will then walk a journey from Jesus' birth, through his brilliant ministry, along the dark path of trials and crucifixion and into the bright light of Easter morning. We'll ask the question that those who encountered him asked, "Who is this?" The hope is to take the conversation off the page and into our lives. This story has the power to transform and we hope to tap into that power.

We want to make it family friendly. We will offer a light meal from 6:00–6:30 PM. The class will run from 6:30–7:30 PM. Baby-sitting will

be provided, and if older children come, we will also try to offer "homework helpers."

There will be a sign up in the narthex starting in September. There is a textbook offered that can be purchased. We also encourage participants to consider buying *The Lutheran Study Bible* (see below). For those who wish to take the challenge, the course offers a schedule to read all four Gospels by the end of the 16 weeks.

The Lutheran Study Bible

This is a new study Bible (NRSV, New Revised Standard Version) that was developed as a part of the ELCA's Book of Faith Initiative. The goal of the Book of Faith curriculum is to help the whole church become more fluent in "the first language of faith, the language of Scripture." This Bible is an excellent resource for that vision. We are encouraging Bethlehem members to consider purchasing this for use in our Bible studies and also as a devotional guide. We will be taking orders for it during the month of September. The hardcover edition costs \$35 and the soft cover \$25.

EVANGELISM

Pictorial Directory

The pictures have been taken and the pictorial directory will be on its way to publication soon. Thanks to all Bethlehem members who participated by smiling for the cameras.

A special thank you to those who volunteered to help greet families as they came to be photographed—your assistance was necessary to keep the photographers on schedule. They include Audrey Dillan, Don and Alpha Wuertz, Barbara Price, Patty Fagler, Mary Fjeld, Lu Kluck, Dick and Reita Kyllö, Frances Rhoades, Jan Geiser, Irene Marconnet, Debby Olson, Colleen Beyer, Deanna Hebbert, Nancy Tiff, Virginia Postle, Nancy Habegger, Beth Mills, Emily Kunselman, and Wanda Schnabel.

A very large amount of gratitude also goes to Jerry Phipps (see additional message below) who is in charge of completing the layout and getting everything to Lifetouch by the deadline so we can have these directories in our hands by Thanksgiving.



Sunday Morning Coffee

Thanks a million to everyone who made coffee or brought goodies for our summer coffees over the past weeks. The neighborhood

groups do a wonderful job of providing Bethlehem members with treats and caffeine during the summer months. But summer is over, we are returning to the regular schedule, and that means if you enjoy Sunday coffee between services now is the time to step up and help out.

If you are willing to make coffee occasionally, sign up on the poster by the coffee pot for dates in October and November. Volunteers can make coffee on Sunday mornings, or the coffee can be prepared in advance on Saturday afternoons (the church is open 4:00–6:00 PM; arrange to have the ushers or pastors plug it in on Sunday morning).

Naomi Circle members have signed up to cover the month of September—thanks to this group for its help.

Bethlehem invites you to

GET JAZZED!

Mile
High



Gospel

AZZ
and Ray Leake

November 13, 2011
8:00 AM & 10:15 AM

with special guest singer, **Wende Harston**
of the Queen City Jazz Band

Bring your family and friends to this very special event!

SOCIAL ACTION

Thank You to:

- Manna Bible Study who made 20 sack lunches for HOPE.
- The Manna member who went “on the street” with HOPE.
- Bethlehem church council for serving 15 workers Saturday, July 23 at the 15th and Baker Habitat work site.
- Bethlehem members who donated food to the OUR Center.
- The crew who served 100 clients at the OUR Center lunch August 14: Neil Stewart, Mark Abromski, Marcy and Dennis Smith, Sharon and Howard Wirth, Dean Wilder, Larry Twito, Jan Geiser, Jim Ferguson, Carolyn and Marv Greeb, and Colleen Beyer. The next opportunity to serve lunch is November 13. If you are interested in this outreach, please contact Colleen Beyer (303-651-2816).

Bonfils Blood Drive

Monday, September 12
Noon–5:00 PM
Moose Lodge
Pratt and 21st, Longmont

Thrivent/Habitat Longmont Home

Plan to come and help us on our next build date Saturday, **September 17**. See Bob Cotton for time and location details.



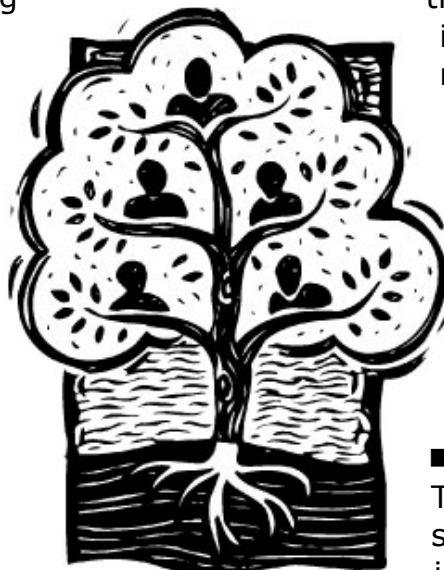
HABITAT
Project

Thank you to the congregation for supporting this project by approving \$2,000 for the build in the 2011 budget. Thank you also to the 20+ volunteers who came on Saturday, June 25 to help on the build.

Fall Stewardship

by Neil Stewart, Co-Chair for Stewardship

Well, it's that time of the year again when we will soon be starting our annual Fall Stewardship Campaign for 2012. We begin our efforts at a time in our country of serious economic and financial uncertainty. Just as many of us had hoped that the worst was over, it seems that it is only getting worse, and as I write this article, there seem to be no agreeable solutions or a clear way out. Virtually all our members here at Bethlehem, our families and our friends have been impacted in some way or another; loss of income, loss of jobs, retirement savings dwindling, cost of living expenses increasing, just to name a few. It is a difficult time we are living in. However, at a time like this, I try to remember that God is in the midst of this crisis with us. We can use this economic uncertainty to remember that we are called and led by the Holy Spirit to be stewards of God's gifts and God's grace to each other. It is an opportunity to merge our spiritual and financial lives. I am reminded of a quote from Martin Luther: "I have held many things in my hands, and I have lost them. But whatever I have placed in God's hands, that I still possess."



Highlights of this year's campaign:

- In his Stewardship article last month, Gene Tesdahl stated that new volunteers in worship, social action, and congregation life have helped our community flourish. We believe that our *Get Connected* theme from 2011 has impacted this new volun-

teerism. As a result we are going to continue the *Get Connected* theme in 2012.

- Last year's Temple Talks, as part of *Get Connected*, were well received and we will once again have member volunteers stress to us what makes them passionate about their particular area of volunteering; how it makes them feel connected to that program or ministry, their brothers and sisters in Christ, and most importantly, how it connects them with their Lord and Savior.

- It has been a while since we have had a Time & Talents survey completed by members. We will distribute one this month, or early next month.

- Dr. Mark Allan Powell of Trinity Lutheran Seminary has said, "Stewardship means belonging to God—all that we are and all that we have comes from God.

We are grateful to God for it all, and responsible to God for how we use it. There is a connection between stewardship and spirituality: generous giving as a spiritual discipline helps us to grow in Christ." As we consider our monetary pledges this year, we are going to emphasize the connection of spirituality to stewardship.

There will be more on our Stewardship campaign in future articles, and as I conclude, I offer you another quote from Martin Luther: "The heart of the giver makes the gift dear and precious." We are so blessed at Bethlehem with a community of givers; givers from their hearts, of their time, their talents, and treasures in support of God's ministry.

*Choice Dollars*SM

Thrivent Financial has implemented a program that allows its members to recommend how they distribute their charitable outreach funds. Eligible members are designated Choice Dollars based on a number of factors. Thrivent members then direct their allotted Choice Dollars to the Lutheran organization of their choice. We are grateful that many Bethlehem members have chosen BLC. Those monies are put into a restricted account. The church council then receives requests for those funds. This year Choice Dollars have already helped to support the mission trips to Nicaragua and New Orleans.

This month the church council received and acted upon the following requests:

- \$700 was requested and given to the Pine Ridge Mission trip. This is a mission trip organized by Light of Christ to the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota. There are a few members from Bethlehem also going on the trip.
- \$1,000 was requested and given to our Heritage Endowment Fund for education

scholarships. Bethlehem's endowment fund, the Heritage Fund, recently received \$25,000 specifically to fund education scholarships. In the future, yearly interest from the fund will be used to provide scholarships. The church council likes the idea of building up the Heritage Fund to support education scholarships so they passed a continuing resolution that half of all future Choice Dollars received will go into this fund.

Thanks to all the Bethlehem Thrivent members who designated the church as the recipient of their Choice Dollars. The church council is trying to use that gift faithfully.

Agape Fund Update

The Agape Fund tries to help church members and people in the community with financial needs. It is totally funded by donations from Bethlehem members. In July:

- we helped a gentleman in the community get his truck out of the impound lot
- we helped a Bethlehem member with child care costs

Those two gifts have depleted the Agape Fund. We again ask for your generosity. Many people have financial needs in this economy.



FINANCE

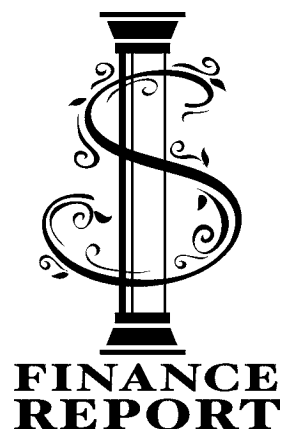
Highlights from the financial report to the church council at the August council meeting, as of the end of July:

- Envelope (pledged) giving was right on track with the budget with \$226,066 having been received.
- At the January annual meeting, the congregation approved a deficit budget for 2011. That Faith Challenge was set at \$26,000. To date, just \$500 has been received.
- Ministries have been closely watching their budgets. We are currently \$5,211 in the red (total giving and income of

\$259,579 less total ministry spending of \$264,790).

- However, at this time last year we were \$8,800 in the red.

Thank you for your faithful stewardship to date. Please consider giving to our Faith Challenge to keep our ministry strong.



September Birthdays

Removed for Security Reasons

September 11 Jasmine & Gene Tesdahl (7 yrs)
September 12 Roberta & Paul Fjeld (19 yrs)
September 12 Pat & Mike Goecke (30 yrs)
September 12 Ursula & Brian Laas (13 yrs)
September 13 Phyllis & Ken Wright (42 yrs)
September 15 Raven & David Astrom (32 yrs)
September 15 Dotty & George Choun (66 yrs)
September 17 Cindy & Mark Ballard (28 yrs)
September 18 Becky & Travis Aker (18 yrs)
September 22 Shirley & Tim Adams (7 yrs)
September 24 Laurie & Jeff Parker (23 yrs)

Prayers...

Healing for Paul Hopp, Evelyn DePew, Vincent Byrne, Mildred Hart, Dan Jube, Jim Boyd, Lucille Morris, Tillie Schopbach, Judi Ahlgrim, Agnes Ronneberg, Bud Tornow, Marv Peterson, Kate Adams, Ryan Wappel, Jordan Trujillo Dirkes, Chris Downing, Doris Cotton, Michael Kasperbauer, Dotty and George Choun, Jeremy Goodman.

Sympathy for the Bjeldanes family on the death of Mitch; the Frank family on the death of Mike's mother, Shirley Webber; the Beyer family on the death of their good friend Marie; the Ahlgrim family on the death of Judi's sister-in-law's mother, Virginia Hurley.

... & Thanksgiving

We rejoice at the the birth of **Rohne William Hunter**, son of Danielle and Josh Hunter, great-grandson of **Irene Marconnet**, on July 27; and **Bradley Marcus Luere**, son of Jill and Adam Luere, and grandson of **Shirley Kasperbauer**, on August 22.

Congratulations to **Cassie Penny and Jonathan Kuehne** who were married on June 11. Cassie is the daughter of **Diane and Duane Penny**.

September Anniversaries

September 2 Joyce & Dave Stambaugh (56 yrs)
September 4 Audrey & Dave Marquardt (51 yrs)
September 4 Hilda & Greg Schlutz (51 yrs)
September 6 Dawn & Zane Reed (14 yrs)
September 11 Sally & Fred Fanton (51 yrs)

Good News! (and a party too!)

Congratulations to **Becky Kasperbauer**, daughter of Shirley Kasperbauer, who graduated on August 26 with a Masters degree from the University of Washington Physicians Assistant Program in Spokane, Washington. A party for her will be on Saturday, **September 10** at 3:00 PM at Shirley's home, 17 Vassar Ct., Longmont. Anyone wishing to attend please RSVP to 303-651-1396 or email to skasper23@yahoo.com.

Thank You!

My sincere thanks to my wonderful church family. Mitch's sudden death was very hard on me and my family but knowing I have all my friends at Bethlehem made it easier. A special thanks to the Quilting Queens for serving coffee and great treats. Pastor Mark could not have been more supportive and helpful. I thank him so much. May God bless you all.
-Marion Bjeldanes

Your generous support helped 9Health Fair reach over 81,000 people this year. Thank

you!! We very much appreciate your willingness to help through your coordination of such a successful event at Bethlehem Lutheran.

9Health Fair is an independent 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, and because we are community driven we rely on the generosity of organizations like yours and that of 19,000 volunteers every year to organize, coordinate and run our fairs. This annual "celebration of wellness" creates the opportunity for our communities to help all of us achieve access to health without unpredictable costs or other burdens like lack of insurance. Thank you so much for letting us use your church.

Thank you for all you do to make 9Health Fair a success,
- James Goddard, President of the 9Health Fair

Office Helpers: Betty Bluhm, Nancy and Bob McLeod, LaVerna Pickett, Doris Slinger, Ann Russell, Mary Schlagel

Star Helpers: Ann Thompson, Alpha and Don Wuertz, Mary Fjeld, Lucille Wollman, Fred Fanton, Peggy and Marv Peterson

Directory note: Karen Schamper has changed her name back to her maiden name, Karen Wade.



NEWS/EVENTS

Bethlehem Softball Teams

This year we fielded two rec league softball teams! They didn't win all their games (or even most of their games!) but they had a great time. And they had good fan support from members who came out to cheer them on. Thanks to Brian Carlson and Caleb Payne for coaching the Blue team, and to Tom Hofmann for leading the White team. A special thanks to Barb Payne for getting the helpful email reminders out each week. And of course, thanks to all the players: Jesse and

Nikki Ramer, Heather and Jeff Ditillo, Howie Wayne, Tyler Payne, Brandon and Jared Tiff, Alex Hebbert, Tim Steakley, Luke Kunselman, Alex Hoime, Amy Loberg, Kristen Baltrum, Brandi Curtis, Jacy and Kelly Neuhaus, Jenny Kelley, and Marisa Carlson. It was also open to friends and was a great form of outreach.

Bethlehem Book Club

The Bethlehem Book Club will meet Thursday, **September 8** at 6:30 AM, at the Francis Street Ziggi's (1139 Francis St.,

Longmont). We're reading *The Zookeeper's Wife* by Diane Ackerman. If you'd like a copy of the book, please contact Colleen Beyer (303-651-2816).

Update on the Hofmanns

Pastor Kirsten and Tom are back in Berkeley, CA. They had quite a bit of packing to do, especially with all the wedding gifts. Fortunately, they were quickly able to secure an apartment—they originally thought they would have to do some "couch surfing" with friends as they looked for a place to live. Tom was also able to obtain a full-time job at the agency he previously worked for that deals with autistic children. (That means that he won't have to be waking up at 4:30 AM to open up at Starbucks.) Kirsten will be starting her final year of classes soon. Please hold them in your prayers.

ELCA Lutheran Campus Ministry

Lutheran Campus Ministry Kicks off Fall Semester with Ice Cream, BBQ, & Worship

Over the summer months worship has brought parable after parable, evocatively describing how God's new kingdom is springing up and growing in the world. At Lutheran Campus Ministry at the University of Colorado-Boulder a new creation is most certainly emerging. New students are taking their first tentative steps on campus. New classes, schedules, roommates, and routines are all sprouting up around the seasoned, returning students. In the life of campus ministry a new group is forming; pieced together with new students, old students, and a new campus pastor.

That's right, LCM at CU has a new campus pastor! In July, I was thrilled to accept the call of the LCM Board to become the new Lutheran Campus Pastor at the University of Colorado.

My wife, Hannah, and I come most recently from Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Bakersfield, California after graduating from the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago. With experience in campus ministry at Clemson University and the University of Tennessee, I am excited to engage in this most exciting and critical ministry in the life of the church!

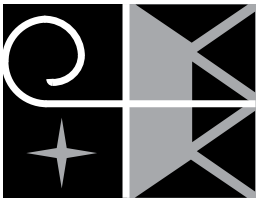
Campus ministry kicked off the fall semester with frozen treats and new pastor trivia on August 21 at our Ice Cream Social. Regular Sunday night programming began on August 28 with our Welcome Back Bar-B-Q and Worship. New life is springing up in our weekly PUB(lic) THEOLOGY discussion group and as we prepare for a fall retreat with the campus ministries from Colorado State, Northern Colorado, and Wyoming. It is an exciting time on campus!

I invite you to be a part of this growing creation. The principal campus ministry gathering occurs on Sunday evenings when students come together for worship followed by a home-cooked meal. We need people or church groups to provide these meals for students, to nurture the new life growing among us. If you, or a group you are involved with (youth groups, men's groups, women's groups, or circles would be great), are interested in preparing a meal for our students please contact me at lcmpastor@colorado.edu. Keep up to date with the latest new creation growing at LCM on our Facebook page (Lutheran Campus Ministry @ CU Boulder) and on Twitter (@LCMontheHILL).



As the semester gets under way campus ministry is moving forward full of energy, trusting that this new, exciting creation is a creation held together by the new life Christ brings. We give thanks for your continued prayerful support.

Peace,
Pastor Zach Parris
Lutheran Campus Ministry
@ University of Colorado



September 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

	September 4 Pentecost 12	September 11 Pentecost 13	September 18 Pentecost 14	September 25 Pentecost 15
Liturgy	ELW3	Bluegrass	ELW6	Now the Feast and Celebration
Assisting Minister	E: Dennis Smith L: Cindy Taylor	E: Joel Buck-Gengler L: Kay Lynn Baker	E: Bev Berry L: Todd Bischoff	E: Sharon Kirby Cole L: Shaylee Pierick
Greeters	E: Mary Fjeld, Lelia Thompson L: Barbara Price, Nancy Tiff	E: Shelley Kunselman, Thelma Abromski L: Karol Poetsch, Patty Drieth	E: Emily & Luke Kunselman L: Nancy & Bob McLeod	E: Carolyn & Marv Greeb L: Trudi Boaz & Jim Torrez
Ushers	E: Bruce Bowman, Kennar Bowman L: Darlene Borgmann, DeEtte Eikenberg	E: Doris Haave, Ken Creamer L: Roger Lahman, Jim Torrez, Larry Twito	E: Mary Fjeld, Bob Urbach L: Gerry Cole, Bob McLeod, April Vanous	E: Neil Stewart, Duane Larsen L: Candy & Don Tiff, Cindy Koenck
Lay Reader	E: Pam Bischoff L: Dave Hooley	E: Fred Fanton L: Sharon Kirby-Cole	E: Shelley Kunselman L: Shirley Wayne	E: Dennis Smith L: Mary Boyer
Acolyte	E: Cam & Steph Taylor L:	E: Cori Herbst L:	E: Cam & Steph Taylor L:	E: L:
Communion Asst.	E: Debby & Alan Olson L: Fred Fanton, Wanda Schnable	E: Thelma Abromski, Colleen Beyer L: Patty Fagler, Jenny Kelley	E: Alpha Wuertz, Neil Stewart L: Nancy Koob, Jenny Kelley	E: Ilene Ryan, Bonnie Mason L: Jeanne Phipps, Tonja Twito
Offering Counters	Thelma Abromski, Doris Haave, Carrie Watson	Audrey Dillan, Mary Fjeld, Nancy Koob	Ann Thompson, Nancy McLeod	Phyllis Wright, Brian Burrell

CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 9:00 AM - Quilters 10:00 AM - BLC Staff Meeting 6:30 PM - Healing Touch Clinic 7:00 PM - Boy Scout Troop 565	2	3 8:00 AM - Promise Keepers
4 8:00 AM - ELW 3 Worship 9:15 AM - Summer Coffee - Blue & Purple Groups 10:15 AM - ELW 3 Worship 3:30 PM - Girl Scouts 6:00 PM - Narcotics Anonymous	5 Labor Day 9:30 AM - Manna Bible Study Noon - TOPS 4:00 PM - Stephen Ministry 7:00 PM - Handbell Choir practice	6 7:00 AM - Daily Discipleship Bible Study	7 9:30 AM - Worship @ The Peaks Care Center 7:00 PM - BLC Choir Rehearsal 8:30 PM - Sr. High Girls Stitch Niche	8 6:30 AM - Book Club 9:00 AM - Quilters 10:00 AM - BLC Staff Meeting 7:00 PM - Boy Scouts	9	10 8:00 AM - Promise Keepers 8:30 AM - Delta Kappa Gamma 9:00 AM - Bluegrass Rehearsal
11 Rally Day 8:00 AM - Bluegrass Worship w/ Reception of New Members 9:15 AM - Learning Hour 10:00 AM - OUR Center Lunch 10:15 AM - Bluegrass Worship w/ Reception of New Members 11:30 AM - Rally Day Potluck Picnic 6:00 PM - Narcotics Anonymous	12 9:30 AM - Manna Bible Study Noon - TOPS 1:00 PM - BLC Library 7:00 PM - Handbell Choir practice	13 7:00 AM - Daily Discipleship Bible Study 9:30 AM - Naomi Circle 6:00 PM - Medication Administration Class 7:00 PM - BLC Council Meeting	14 7:00 PM - BLC Choir Rehearsal - Confirmation	15 9:00 AM - Quilters 10:00 AM - BLC Staff Meeting 4:00 PM - Delta Kappa Gamma 6:30 PM - Healing Touch Clinic 7:00 PM - Boy Scouts - Longmont Stamp Club	16 1:30 PM - Deborah Circle 2:00 PM - WELCA Bible Study	17 8:00 AM - Promise Keepers - Habitat for Humanity
18 8:00 AM - ELW 6 Worship 9:15 AM - Learning Hour 10:15 AM - ELW 6 Worship 2:00 PM - Worship at the Vistas 3:30 PM - Girl Scouts 6:00 PM - Narcotics Anonymous	19 9:30 AM - Manna Bible Study Noon - TOPS 1:00 PM - BLC Library 4:00 PM - Stephen Ministry 7:00 PM - Handbell Choir practice	20 7:00 AM - Daily Discipleship Bible Study 10:00 AM - Prayer Shawl Group 7:00 PM - Evangelism Ministry Meeting	21 7:00 PM - BLC Choir Rehearsal - Confirmation 8:30 PM - Sr. High Girls Stitch Niche	22 9:00 AM - Quilters 10:00 AM - BLC Staff Meeting 7:00 PM - Boy Scout Troop 565	23 8:00 AM - Northern CO Porcelain Artists	24 8:00 AM - Promise Keepers
25 8:00 AM - Now the Feast Worship 9:15 AM - Learning Hour 10:15 AM - Now the Feast Worship 6:00 PM - Narcotics Anonymous	26 9:30 AM - Manna Bible Study Noon - TOPS 7:00 PM - Handbell Choir	27 7:00 AM - Daily Discipleship Bible Study	28 9:30 AM - Worship @ The Peaks Care Center 7:00 PM - BLC Choir Rehearsal - Confirmation	29 9:00 AM - Quilters 10:00 AM - BLC Staff Meeting 7:00 PM - Boy Scout Troop 565	30	

For more information about these events, including room assignments, please visit the website: www.bethlehem-lutheran.net and select the Calendar & Events link

Passionate Spirituality - Sarah Loberg

Sarah Loberg has grown up here at Bethlehem. It has been a joy to watch her blossom personally and spiritually. This past summer, she worked as a counselor at Sky Ranch Lutheran Camp. That's just another sign of her growth. On Sunday, August 21, she shared with the congregation what the summer up at camp meant to her.

Her main role was to be a cabin counselor, but she did much more. She also served in the traveling Day Camps, as a camp hand, as the art specialist, and leading day hikes and back packing. In other words, she did it all. (And she met a lot of mosquitos too!)

What she enjoyed most was working with the kids, of course. The kids are the focus of the camp and the staff. She treasured those opportunities to have them share their faith and to be able to share her faith stories with them as well. She loves kids, but this gave her a chance to interact with them at a different level.

Through these summer experiences and others, Sarah has come to be more aware of God's presence in her life. She knows that God is always there. She was taught that,

but she had to learn it herself. Sometimes she couldn't see that holy presence in the moment. It wasn't until she was able to step back from some of those camp experiences and relationships, that she could see the holy around her.



Sarah will be heading back to Luther College in Decorah, Iowa for her sophomore year. She has continued to play basketball and will play on the JV team this year. That was one of the sacrifices she made to go to camp. She wasn't able to work on her basketball over the summer.

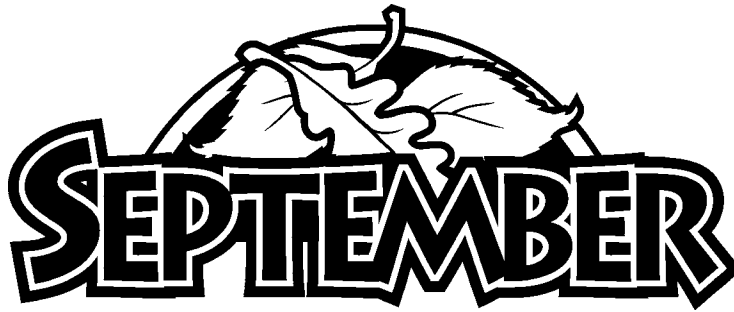
Sarah feels very connected to Luther. She likes being part of a small community where people share her same beliefs. But she also likes the diversity that is there, where she is challenged by other beliefs and ideas. She really likes the constant opportunities to worship. (She said she already misses all the worship up at camp.)

Sky Ranch has been a special place for Sarah, both as a camper and now as a counselor. It is a place where she connects to God. It is a holy place filled with God's presence. Its impact will no doubt leave a lasting impression on this special young woman.



Join us!

Sunday, September 11



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

John Goodman, Music Director
Nancy Tiff, Office Coordinator

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