



BETHLEHEM  
LUTHERAN  
CHURCH

## BETHLEHEM NEWS APRIL 2024

401 West Main Street  
West Dundee, IL 60118

### BETHLEHEM'S MISSION...

"To share the Living Water of Jesus Christ with all who thirst."

### WORSHIP

5:00 p.m. Saturday - Traditional

*(Please note the new Saturday time)*

8:00 a.m. Sunday - Traditional

10:30 a.m. Sunday - Contemporary at BCMC

**HOLY COMMUNION** - 1st, 3rd, & 5th Sundays

**FELLOWSHIP TIME** - 9:10 a.m.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL** - 9:15 a.m.

**ADULT BIBLE STUDY** - 9:30 a.m.

**VACANCY PASTOR** - Reverend Bob Pudell

**Pastor's cell:** 847-340-5888

**Pastor's email:**

[pastorbob@bethlehemchurchdundee.onmicrosoft.com](mailto:pastorbob@bethlehemchurchdundee.onmicrosoft.com)

**WEBSITE** - BethlehemDundee.org

**E-MAIL** - [BethChurchDun@aol.com](mailto:BethChurchDun@aol.com)

# HE IS RISEN!



Thank you Pastor Bob for leading us in our Easter Week worship. We appreciate you sharing your faith, knowledge, and time with us.

Thank you to everyone who ordered flowers to beautify our church on Easter. We applaud the Altar Guild once again for decorating our church so beautifully both inside and outside. Thank you to Steve Stayner and Gia Winkler for the delicious Easter breakfast. To everyone who helped with the breakfast, your assistance was appreciated.

## WHERE DID THE NAME APRIL COME FROM?

April takes its name from the Latin word *aperire*, meaning 'to open' (like flowers do in springtime). The Romans called the month *Aprilis*.

So, we are entering a new month in this year named after one of the wonders of spring!

In addition to the blooming of flowers we have the blooming of God's love during these weeks of the Easter season leading up to Pentecost in May.

When the Risen Lord appeared to the disciples, he did the same things he did as before the resurrection: he shared food and offered healing, forgiveness, and hope in God's name, and he called on his followers to continue this work.

The work of the gospel goes on by those touched by the presence and voice of Jesus. ***“My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me.” (John 10:27).***

The amount of worldly noise distracting us from our Savior's voice can be overwhelming. We can get hundreds of channels on cable TV. There are over 1 billion websites on the Internet. Every minute, 500 hours of new video are uploaded to YouTube. With all those voices seeking to distract us and keep our attention on things unrelated to faith, we need to make an intentional effort to focus on and prioritize Jesus.

Here are three things we can do to keep Jesus' voice resonating in our hearts and in our lives:

**1. Pray daily.** Connect yourself to Him and to His love and grace.

**2. Worship weekly.** Put yourself in the fellowship of other believers who gather around God's Word and the sacraments, where Jesus promises to be present.

**3. Read scripture regularly (preferably daily).** Through the Scriptures, we learn the foundations of faith and the record of God's people, including their joys, and like us, their struggles. We also see the love of God for His people then and for us today!

My prayer for you is that during this month of April, you fully enjoy the love of God, the fellowship of other believers, and that like Jesus' sheep – you know that He knows you, that you truly know Him, and that you follow Him where He leads!

In His grace and peace!  
Pastor Bob

### VERSE OF THE MONTH FOR APRIL:

“My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me.”  
(John 10:27)

### † FUNERAL †

The funeral for Don Pate, Sr. is scheduled  
for Sunday, April 21 at 2:00 pm.

## **CALL COMMITTEE UPDATE**

The Bethlehem Call Committee has been diligently working each month to move through the process of calling a new pastor to guide our congregation. The Northern Illinois District has outlined steps that we must follow and those steps require time to coordinate and complete. Last year, we asked that the congregation submit responses to a survey. Those responses were collected, reviewed, and compiled into 5 Characteristics - as a summary of what our congregation is looking for in a new Pastor. The call committee will be keeping the congregation updated each week on those 5 Characteristics, explanations of them, and how we will be using your input and responses to complete the process in calling a new pastor. This week, the update includes the 5 Characteristics:

- Inspirational Leadership
- Outreach
- Preaching and Teaching
- Versatility
- Relational

In the following weeks, the congregation will receive more updates and information from the Call Committee as we work through the District's process. We appreciate your patience and understanding that we are all working to achieve the same goal of finding our next shepherd.

-Bethlehem Call Committee

## **Church Council Board Update Schedule**

April: Elders - see following

May: Financial Secretary

July: Deacons

September: Treasurer

November: Financial Secretary

June: Education

August: Trustees

October: Education

December: Elders

## **Board of Elders Update**

Lynn Petersen, Chairman

The Board of Elders currently consists of the following members: James Dawson, Robert Kaup, Dale Ihssen and Lynn Petersen. The Board of Elders and the Pastor are concerned with the spiritual matters of Bethlehem Lutheran Church. We are to keep ourselves up to date on the total programs of the Bethlehem congregation. We also maintain a personal calling program to our assigned group of families especially with the shut-in members. The Board is currently short two members, so we do ask for your patience and assistance in making calls. If you have a concern for yourself or a fellow member, please reach out to any of the Board members or me for a visit.

Respectfully, your fellow member of Bethlehem.

## **OFFERINGS FOR MARCH**

March 3	General - \$3,942.19	Other - \$1,742.00
March 10	General - \$2,347.19	Other - \$613.01
March 17	General - \$3,094.19	Other - \$762.00
March 24	General - \$5,215.19	Other - \$1,332.00

Please see May newsletter for Holy Week offerings

## **CHOIR PRACTICE**

The choir will practice on Wednesday, April 17 at 7:00 pm. All are welcome!

## **WOMEN'S FRIENDSHIP GROUP**

All are welcome! Mondays at 10 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

## **APRIL MISSION OF THE MONTH**



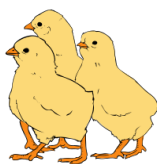
**Friend, I Shall Help**

F.I.S.H. is a volunteer-run food pantry that provides help to local families in need. The pantry serves Carpentersville, Dundee, Sleepy Hollow, Gilberts and Pingree Grove.

Founded in 1970, the number of people visiting F.I.S.H. has never been higher. Last year, thanks to the generous support it received from the community, the pantry served over 37,000 people from more than 8,000 households. And the need continues as families struggle to meet the rising cost of groceries.

New volunteers are always welcome. If you have a few hours a week to spare, F.I.S.H. would love to hear from you. Visit [www.thefishfoodpantry.org](http://www.thefishfoodpantry.org) and click the volunteer link or email [help@thefishfoodpantry.org](mailto:help@thefishfoodpantry.org). or **designate a donation through your giving envelope.**

~ H.I.S. "Hearts in Service" Ministry/Missions



## **LUTHERAN CHICKS BIBLE STUDY**

The Lutheran Chicks Bible Study group has started a new series "Women and Identity." This series is focusing on learning about women who embraced God's strength and wisdom to live whole lives. This women's study group meets on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month from 1:00 pm-2:00 pm. The next meeting dates are April 9th and April 23rd. All ladies are welcome.

## **SUNDAY SCHOOL - Operation Christmas Child donations**

Thanks to everyone for their continuous support of our Operation Christmas Child Mission. We are so grateful to all of you.

For the month of April we are collecting mini flashlights with batteries, sidewalk chalk, and children's underwear for boys and girls (all sizes - ages 3-6 years old, 8-10 years old, and 12-16 years old). If able, we are still collecting jump ropes, coloring books, and simple picture books (so that students can practice their English) for example: A is for Apple, B is for Banana, or books with simple sentences. These types of books can be found at the dollar store.

Donations can be placed in the bin under the table across from the church office. Thank you again for your support.

## **PILATES** "Let's Get Moving"

Classes are offered every Friday at 9 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Please arrive 15 minutes early and bring water. We'll be meeting on:

April - 5, 12, 19, 26

May - 3, 10, 17, 24, 31

Everyone is welcome! Experience the fun of exercise and good health!

Questions? Linda Bryant 630-338-6515



## HAPPY BIRTHDAY - APRIL 🎂

6	Linda Frost	18	Ashley Stennett
6	Denise Korosec	20	Ken Lohman
7	Jan Berghahn	20	Mark Reimers
8	Debbie Smith	22	Tim Johnson
9	Donna Kaup	22	John Sabella
10	Lori Lee	26	LeAnne Sakowicz
15	Michael Skibley	27	Todd Stennett
16	Nadine Soulier	29	Rick Krumsee
17	Rachael Lawson	30	Dan Wilbrandt



### A THANK YOU TO THE QUILTING LADIES

*My son was at Fort Mead VA hospice and received this quilt while he was there. Your church's name was on it and the letters clc-e. He was 48 and died of brain cancer. I wanted to thank you for the quilt you made, it was such a comfort to him, and me after he passed. I thank God for you and the service you provided to your Vets.*

*Sincerely, Sarah Miller*

## ♥ HAPPY ANNIVERSARY ♥

April 9	Bob & Debbie Smith	41 years
April 18	Gerry & Kelli DeDina	32 years
April 25	Steve & Anita Stayner	33 years
April 27	Scott & Heidi Heifetz	33 years
April 28	Tom & Debbie Newman	45 years

You are invited to the LCMS NID

Zone 3

## Spring Rally

In gathering for Calvary Lutheran in Elgin: Swaddling Clothes  
Bring new or gently used size T3 and T4 clothing or diapers.

**Where:** Immanuel Lutheran Church  
310 E Main St East Dundee

**When:** April 27, 2024

**Time:** 8:30 am registration  
9:00 – 11:00 am

