

A family of God sharing Jesus and serving Him faithfully

The Bethlehem Record

The Official Newsletter of Bethlehem Lutheran Church

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September 2020

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Our Mission Statement

As members of Bethlehem Lutheran Church who have been granted eternal life through Jesus Christ's death and resurrection, we worship Him as our Lord and seek to further His work of salvation through word and sacrament ministry in our community and world toward the goal of creating and strengthening personal faith in Him

The Pastor's Page

How long, O Lord? Will you forget me forever? How long will you hide your face from me? How long must I take counsel in my soul and have sorrow in my heart all the day? How long shall my enemy be exalted over me?

Consider and answer me, O Lord my God; light up my eyes, lest I sleep the sleep of death, lest my enemy say, "I have prevailed over him," let my foes rejoice because I am shaken.

But I have trusted in your steadfast love; my heart shall rejoice in your salvation. I will sing to the Lord because he has dealt bountifully with me. Psalm 13

The Psalm chosen for our Lenten worship this spring asks the very same question that many of were asking at that time, and possibly what we're asking right now. "How long, O Lord?" How long must we live with these interruptions to our lives? How long must we live under the shadow of this virus? How long must we be shaken by how quickly things are changing, seemingly every day? How long?

Our Psalm doesn't ever actually answer its own questions. The Psalmist never tells us how long he ended up having to wait. Or when the Lord finally chose to shine his face upon the psalmist again. And in the same way, we don't have the answers to our questions either. We didn't know how long we'd have to stay with our altered worship schedule. We didn't know when we'd be able to continue youth group and Sunday school, bible studies and potlucks. We still don't know how long this virus is going to be a part of our lives.

What we do know however, is the very same thing that the psalmist knew. We know of the steadfast and loyal love that our Lord has for us, and we trust in that love. We know of the salvation that our Lord earned for us on the cross, and we rejoice that no virus, nor even death itself can take that way from us. And we know that our Lord has most certainly dealt bountifully with us, and therefore even in the midst of crisis, fear and panic, we shall sing to the Lord for what He has already accomplished, trusting that He will continue to deal bountifully with us as he has promised to do.

May God bless you all,
 Pastor Christopher Craig

The LCMS Kansas District Rev. Justin A. Panzer, District President
1000 SW 10th Avenue | Topeka, KS 66604-1104 | (785) 357-4441

Together We Pray
90 Days of prayer in the Kansas District
September 1-November 29 ,2020

August 2020 To the Saints of the Kansas District, Last spring, our life together in Christ suffered a major disruption due to the coronavirus. Many congregations moved services and other activities entirely online under “Safer at Home” orders, while other churches opted for outdoor venues and tiny attendance caps. Our schools became virtual, as well.

We’ve made some progress since then, but we’re not out of the woods yet. Social distancing remains in force, preventing us from being together in ways we once took for granted. We continue to struggle not only with isolation but with unemployment, civil tensions, uncertainty, and fear.

But we have reason to hope. As Paul writes in Romans 8:38-39, “For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.” Our good and gracious God has promised to help us, saying, “Call upon me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you shall glorify me” (Psalm 50:15).

Calling for God’s help is something we can do TOGETHER. As our fight against the pandemic continues, I invite you to join your fellow believers in your own congregation and throughout Kansas and beyond in our 90-day prayer campaign, “Together We Pray.”

We’ll be praying from September 1 – November 29, the first Sunday in Advent. Take a minute or two each day to pray the prayers in this booklet and reflect on the corresponding verses. You can find a digital copy of the prayers on our website, kslcms.org. You can also find daily shareable verses and prayers on our Facebook page (@kslcms.org).

We hope these shared prayers will edify, strengthen and encourage the body of Christ here in Kansas as well as others who need God’s wisdom and encouragement in these challenging times. Be strong, Church!

In the service of Christ

Rev. Justin Panzer
President, LCMS Kansas District

(Note if you would like a copy of Together We Pray find them on the front Hall way table if they are out let the office know and we will print more)

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
LCMS Stewardship Ministry
Newsletter article – September 2020

“Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with all your might” (Eccl 9:10).

God bids us to be faithful in the tasks He calls us to do. He calls us to be members of a family (husbands and wives; fathers and mothers; sons and daughters). He calls us to be members of society (those who govern and those who are governed). And He calls us to be members of His family, the Church (those who preach and teach and those who hear and learn). Each of these callings from God places a duty on us.

As members of a family, husbands are given the duty to die for their wives as Christ gave His life for His bride, the Church; while wives are given the duty to respect their husbands and submit themselves to them as the Church does to Christ. Fathers and mothers are to raise their children in the fear and admonition of the Lord, teaching them the Ten Commandments, the Creed, the Lord’s Prayer, and the Scriptures concerning Baptism, Confession, the Office of the Keys, and the Lord’s Supper. Children are to honor their parents throughout their lives, and even when their parents are no longer alive, serving and obeying them, loving and cherishing them, and speaking well of them.

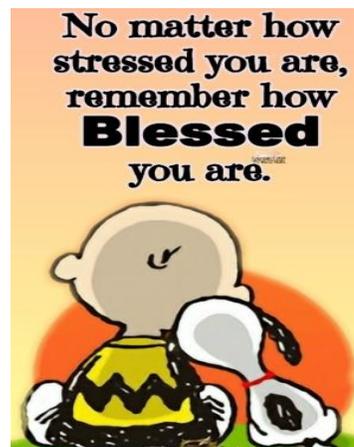
As members of society, God calls those who govern to bear the sword, that is, to punish those who do evil (those who live contrary to God’s will) and to reward those who do good (those whose lives are lived in conformity with God’s will). Those who are governed are to obey their leaders as to the Lord Himself, for their leaders bear the sword of God’s temporal justice for a purpose.

As members of God’s own family, the Church, He calls those who preach and teach to do so in faithfulness to His holy Word. To preach and teach the Law of God to convict the hearts of hearers of their sin and to encourage, admonish, and exhort them to do good works in accordance with God’s will. They are to preach and teach the Gospel, the full forgiveness of their sins accomplished by Christ and received through faith, not by works. They are to administer the means of grace in accordance with the Gospel and the Word of God. They do all this for the young and old alike, for those who are near and far off. Those who hear and learn are to submit themselves to their preachers and teachers. They are support them by their prayers and their gifts.

Each of these callings from God place a duty on us. They make a claim on our presence; on our prayers; and our time, talents, and treasures. So, “Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with all your might” (Eccl 9:10). Pray for your family, your government, and your church. Give of yourself by means of your time, your talents, and your treasures to your family, your government, and your Church. That is what it means to be faithful in the tasks that God has given us. That is what it means to do it with all your might.

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September Flower Committee
Shelly Keller, Coleen Ancell



Baptismal Birthdays September 2020



God's blessings to you for all His gifts of grace that you have received, and we pray for many more blessings for Jesus



Ron Nelson Jennifer Meitler Samuel Princ Terry Fischer Kale Sorensen	Bexton Pounds Jay Meyer Cody Trost Dean Thaemert Christina Kirk
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Family Bible Vacation 2020

Thank you to everyone who made Family Bible Vacation 2020 a success! We had an average of 42 people a night, including children and parents, members and community members. It was a great week full of the Word, fellowship, food and fun. This year our theme was the Three Estates, wherein we learned about the three circles or groups of people that God places us in in this life: Home, State, and Church. We also learned a bit about the two kingdoms as well, the kingdom of the left wherein our Lord keeps peace and order in our world through the governing authorities, and the kingdom of the right wherein our Lord grants us forgiveness and grace through His Word and Sacrament.

I particularly want to thank everyone who volunteered and made the week go off without a hitch. Cheryl and Tonya were awesome in the kitchen with Shelby helping as well. Anne coordinated our end of the week water day/carnival. Tyler, Dell, Ramie, and Shelby all helped by stepping in and hanging out with the children whose parents were unable to join us.

Most especially though, we want to thank those parents who allowed us to spend a week with their families, even if they themselves couldn't come. We love being able to spend time teaching children and their families the truth of what our Lord has done for them, and how he even still helps us in this world. May God bless you all,
Pastor Christopher Craig



A Letter from Pastor Craig Regarding the August Education Meeting

Greetings! On Wednesday August 12, 2020, our congregation had a meeting to discuss our education programs looking forward to the next year. It was requested at that meeting that I send out a letter letting people who couldn't attend know what was discussed and what was decided. So, let's get started!

After a brief opening prayer and devotion on Deuteronomy 6:4-9,20-23, we jumped in and started with Midweek. We are incredibly grateful for all the hard work, time, and love that Lorelei Dohl and Sophia Schofield invested in the Midweek Program over the last several years. They have shared the love of Christ with the children in ways that will not be forgotten by those children, by our congregation, or by our God. But due to some recent changes in their personal lives, they were unable to continue teaching Midweek, which means that we needed some new teachers.

Thankfully, two wonderful women of our congregation have stepped forward to continue teaching these children. Marmie Schultz has agreed to teach the younger grades, grades 1-3, and Anne Dohl has agreed to teach the older grades, grades 4-6. This frees me up to be able to teach the Jr. and Sr. High School students who come to help, giving them their own class. There was also some discussion as to what curriculum would be used. The plan is for Marmie, Anne and I to choose our curriculums, with me helping the ladies to make any theological adjustments, as necessary.

I had spoken with Mr. Stecklein about USD 299 busing the children over to the church after school, and the school has agreed to continue their long and very generous practice of bringing the kids to us. There will need to be social distancing practiced on the bus, and we will do our best to make that happen. Dena Sorensen has graciously agreed to continue coordinating the food for midweek, though this year we will be doing more of a snack than a full meal, on account of the shorter length of Midweek this year.

Speaking of which, it was decided at our meeting to shorten Midweek from 3:45-5:45 P.M. to 3:45-5 P.M. This was requested by two of the active volunteers of midweek, who felt that two full hours was too long after the full day of school that the children already had. It also will allow us to move our First Communion Catechesis from 6 P.M. to 5 P.M. and make it an hour long instead of the half hour that we had been doing for the last two years. In addition, this means that we won't have to cancel our First Communion Catechesis during Lent and Advent to avoid our Lenten and Advent meals. We also decided to stick with our basic midweek format for now (meal, recess, class time, worship) but will adjust as we need to for the new time.

After concluding our midweek discussion, we moved on to speak of Sunday School. We asked for volunteers to teach Sunday School for the first six weeks, and Justine Dohl and Dena Sorensen volunteered to do so. Ramie Schulteis and Shelby Craig also said that they would be willing to take a six-week block but weren't quite ready to commit to a specific block. They wished to wait and see where they were needed most before deciding when to teach. However, even with those four willing to teach, we will still need more! So, if you have any desire or calling to teach the faith to our children, please reach out to Dena Sorensen who is coordinating our Sunday School Teachers. We also decided that we would start Sunday School on our traditional start date, the Sunday after Labor Day, and that we would continue with the Enduring Faith Curriculum from Concordia Publishing House.

Once we were done speaking about Sunday School, we moved onto Vacation Bible School, and had an extensive and occasionally passionate discussion. At our July quarterly voter's meeting we voted to do both Vacation Bible School and Family Bible Vacation next year. During the discussion many wonderful ideas were thrown out, such as going out of our way to invite whole families to come to Vacation Bible School, and thoughts on curriculum and making sure that what we were teaching is true to the Bible and our Lutheran Confessions. Ramie Schulteis volunteered to be the VBS Coordinator for next Summer, and Katie Lyne volunteered to help her. I'm incredibly appreciative of these women for stepping forward and being willing to devote their time and energy to make VBS awesome! Once the summer gets closer, Ramie and I will start working on getting things organized to make VBS a great and educational experience for both our congregation and anyone else who decides to come.

We also discussed a little bit about Family Bible Vacation as part of our discussion about VBS. The plan is to continue doing FBV in the same format as we have done it for the last three years. The VBS that we do will be in addition to that. We didn't have much time to discuss FBV as our meeting had already gone on for two hours. So, I simply wrapped it up by saying that we averaged 42 people total at FBV this year, including three new families who had never been to our congregation before. Overall, everyone who came expressed that it went very well, and some even gave us some thoughts on how to make it even better. I very much love it when I receive feedback on the things that our congregation is doing.

The meeting was quite productive in the end. However, it is worth noting that only fifteen people were in attendance. I'm very grateful to those who showed up and offered their input. The only way that I can know how people feel and think about things is if they tell me, and those that showed up did a great job of sharing with us all. That being said, it will take more than just the people who showed up at that meeting to make our educational programs successful. Most obviously of course, it will take our Lord sending his Spirit down upon us and our students to empower the teachers to teach the Word rightly, and the students to hear and receive the Word. But it also takes our members being willing to invest their time and energy into both our congregational children, and into the community children that we have access to.

This is not something that I can do all by myself, and our congregation has some wonderfully talented people who could help these children and the teachers. You don't have to be a good teacher or have children in the right age group. Any of our members are always welcome to come, and simply being in a classroom with a teacher and assisting them is of invaluable service to the teacher and the students. I encourage all of our members to consider how they are able to assist in passing the faith on to the next generation; primarily to your own children and family, but also to those children around you who are coming to this congregation to learn the truth of what our Savior did for them

May God bless you all,

Pastor Chris Craig

BOCL

The BOCL met on Monday, August 17 at 7:00 p.m. Members present were Coleen Ancell, Stephanie Lloyd, Tyler Gier, Dena Sorensen, Lloyd Gier, Brock Mueller, Ruth Mueller, and Pastor Craig. Pastor led the meeting with prayer and devotion.

It was decided to have a combined church service along with St. Paul's, north Ellsworth, at the Wilson Lake Chapel on Sunday morning, August 30 at 9:30 a.m. with a potluck held at the north Sylvan lake picnic area. Coleen made a motion to reserve the picnic area for the amount of \$20.00, Ruth seconded, motion passed.

Midweek was discussed, teachers are in place, we will follow the schools guidelines as far as masks are concerned. Volunteers are still needed for different areas, especially on the playground towards the end of the day.

Lois Walter joined us to discuss the up-coming benefit for Rylan Gier on September 20 at the Sylvan Grove city park. Hot dogs, chips, peach cobbler and ice cream will be provided, for a free-will donation. All checks should be made out to Laura Pahls with "Rylan Gier" in the memo line. The benefit will begin at 4:00 p.m. Stephanie volunteered to make advertisement flyers to pass around for this event. We will need bakers for the peach cobblers, a sign-up sheet will be placed in the front hall of the church.

Our next meeting will be held on Monday, September 28 at 6:30 p.m. We closed with a prayer.

Respectfully submit Ruth Mueller



Announcement from BOCL beginning a new school year

Midweek will begin September 16. We are looking for a few volunteers to stay with the kids after Midweek until their parents pick them up. Look for a sign up sheet on the bulletin board.

Kids Sunday School will begin September 13. Sunday School will be divided into two classes, and teachers are needed for both. We will do six week teaching blocks. A sign up sheet is on the bulletin board.

Stephanie Lloyd is updating the church directory & need your participation! Forms will be available in your church box & passed out on Sunday. Please fill out all information requested on the forms with just one per household & include the years for birthday & anniversary. The information will be used only for the church directory that will be published for church members, office use & communication. If you do not want your information published please let Stehania Lloyd know. Return forms to Stephanie Lloyd or put in her box by Sept 20. If you have any questions please contact Stephanie at sclloyd0525@gmail.com or 757-707-5393. Thank you!

Lois Walter (Prayer requests for members and friend)

If any of you members of Bethlehem would like to be placed on the ‘email prayer request’ list, please let Lois Walter know, along with giving her your email address! If any of you have changed your email addresses, be sure and get the change of addresses to me, otherwise I don’t know if you’re getting these prayer requests. Thanks - - Lois

Taunya Becker Campos She has requested prayers for her and her family. Let's flood her with prayers and cards for when she arrives home. **Taunya Becker Campos 432 Copperhead Lane, Alvarado, TX 76009.**

A benefit for Rylan Gier and his family will be held September 20 at 4 p.m. at the north shelter at the Sylvan city park. Hot dogs, chips, peach cobbler and ice cream will be served for free will donation. To go containers will available for anyone who wants their meal to go. Checks should be made out to Laura Pahls (Rylan Gier in the memo). A sign up sheet for peach cobbler bakers is on the bulletin board.

Continue to keep Rylan Gier in your Prayers

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Update on Rylan. Gier

Rylan is at home and doing well. He is currently in remission thanks to the Car-T cell treatment that he received. He is doing He is doing school from home this year. He goes back for a checkup here in September. He doesn’t have to have another bone marrow aspiration until October. Thanks you! Everyone for all the prayers and support
Ryan Gier

News from Rev. Eric & Johanna Stinnett serving in Ethiopia eric.stinnett@lcms.org

Did you know . . . ? Ethiopia has seen an 80% increase in Covid 19 cases last week. This has worried many people. The government has also postponed national elections until May of 2021 because of the pandemic which is causing unrest.

It has been a couple months since our last newsletter. I do apologize for that, but among other challenges, the internet in Ethiopia was turned off at the end of June through most of July due to unrest in the country. I don't want to spend time on the details of that, but if you are interested, you can find a few articles about it on the BBC. I will simply say, the government acted quickly to get things under control and we have been safe the entire time. Through it all, we have been busy trying to finish up the school year (see last newsletter) and just this week, we have finally been able to collect all the assignments and tests from our graduating students, hold thesis defenses and give final grades. We do not have a final decision from the government, but the hints they are giving have made our Seminary President, Dr. Bruk, confident that we will be allowed to open the campus for fall classes and we are preparing to do so. We will probably have to start late, maybe the end of September or as late as mid-October. I don't know what the school calendar will look like, but as Dr. Bruk put it, "Once we are able to start, we will have to be 100% on, full-time, for the year." I expect it to be a very busy year, but also very rewarding. In the meantime, we keep busy, making good use of the opportunities opening before us, such as recording television shows for Mekane Yesus TV. It has proved to be an excellent way to reach a great number of people. As gatherings have been restricted, including churches, and social opportunities are limited, people are spending a lot of time on their televisions. The EECMY has a TV station that reaches 20-30 million viewers and we have been working with them to record shows teaching the basic truths of the Bible – Grace, Faith, understanding the Bible as the perfect the Word of God, etc. Based on the feedback we have gotten, it has been a great way to fill the time I would have had in the classroom and is reaching many, many more people. We truly thank and praise our Lord for this opportunity. We also thank you. We know things are difficult and uncertain where you are. Thank you for your care and support, even in the midst of your own challenges. We are praying for all of you also. More COVID-19 Challenges Our oldest daughter, Rachael was confirmed in the living room of our missionary partners, Rev. Dr. Mark and Stefanie Rabe. We had hoped to be home in the United States and be with family and friends for this special occasion, but as with all things related to Covid, those plans changed. We were so thankful to hear her confession of the Lutheran faith articulated so clearly and pray that God grants her growth in her faith all her life long. Thanks be to God. Addis Ababa

Please Pray for: - the seminary students and professors who are hoping to have classes this year -**a way** to pay salaries of seminary professors and workers -**peace** regarding a new date for the recently postponed national elections -**for relief** from locusts and help for farmers and those without food -**coping** with not being able to see family for now -**all Covid problems** worldwide **Give thanks For:** - having a restful summer here in Ethiopia -**ways to contact** our family and friends around the world and know they are well praise God for: -**our fellow missionaries**, the Rabes & Kaisers -**all of our supporters** in prayer and finances -**for chameleons**, hiking & the new campus building In Service to Christ–

Closing Thoughts . . . Our Lord is always working through His people. We remember the Ethiopian eunuch: "So Philip ran to him (the eunuch) and heard him reading Isaiah the prophet and asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" 31 And he said, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" (Acts 8:30ff) Thank you in Jesus' Name for your support of the work which God has laid before us.

Eric, Johanna, Rachael, Naomi, Luke & Levi Missions Anyon

E-Mail received by Les Walter

During this critical period, Lutheran Hour Ministries has free resources available online for you! The Lutheran Hour delivers sermons every Sunday morning that are relevant and share truth. The sermon is available to listen to online and as a podcast. LHM Learn is an online learning platform that has free courses on many different topics. Take some classes while you have some extra time on your hands. Gospel Adventures provides kids and adults a way to take a mission trip, from your living room! And, don't forget the daily devotions, available as a mobile app or via email! Visit <https://www.lhm.org/covid-19/> to find these resources and more!

Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.
Philippians 4:6



Tune into radio stations

KRSL AM 990, FM 98.1 & FM 95.9
for the Lutheran Hour Sunday mornings 8 a.m



'THE LUTHERAN HOUR' MOBILE APP NEW APP AVAILABLE!

You can take **The Lutheran Hour**® program with you anywhere you go! An updated mobile app is now available for the world's longest-running Christian outreach radio program!

- Play or download the audio or read the text of the program's current sermon
- Search and play a sermon from **The Lutheran Hour** archive
- Save your favorite sermons for easy access
- Share sermons with your friends and family directly from the app!

LHM DAILY DEVOTIONS MOBILE APP

You can now access Lutheran Hour Ministries' **Daily Devotions** on your mobile device by using the new Daily Devotions app!

- Inspirational Scripture-based messages at your fingertips every day
- Season-themed devotions during Advent and Lent
- Read the devotion text or listen to the audio version
- Share the devotion with a friend using Twitter, Facebook or e-mail



LHM VIDEO BIBLE STUDIES MOBILE APP

Take a minute to download the free LHM Video Bible Studies app from Lutheran Hour Ministries! When you do you have immediate access to award-winning, original Bible studies with streaming video, study guides, downloads, and more - the Studies app puts a host of Christ-centered tools at your fingertips.

'PROJECT CONNECT' MOBILE APP (NEW APP AVAILABLE!)

As a topical booklet ministry **Project Connect**, from Lutheran Hour Ministries, is an excellent evangelism resource. It gives congregations and individuals an outreach program that works and is easy to maintain. This app not only allows you to download and share these great resources, but to listen to high quality recordings as well.

- Topic categories include "Abuse Addiction", "Domestic Violence", and "Life Skills".
- NEW! Includes booklets for children that you can read with them when you're on the go!
- Share the resources with a friend through a variety of social media and communication outlets



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History by Lester Walter

50 year's ago and much longer, this congregation was blessed with having a men's chorus, of never less than 8 voices. As was a custom, the last verse of Abide with Me was always sung, as the closing of Lenten services, with lights out and the cross illuminated. 50 year's ago during this season was the last time this occurred.

During Christmas of 1970, teacher Robert Degner left to be with his daughter Joann. While he was there, he passed away. Since this happened, and because he was the Choir director and Organist, the men's chorus ceased to preform and the assistant organist at that time, has now been on duty for 50 years beginning January 2021

WHERE HAVE THE YEARS GONE!

Lois Walter is the organist and Les Walter is the only living person that sang in the men's chorus for a time. Some other names from the past that sang in the Men's Chorus were Ray Eckelman, Erwin Thaumert, Harlan Heinze, Salem Thaumert, Albert Holle, Louis Persigehl, Fred Schmoekel Ray Blasé, Louis Blasé, Herbert Blasé, Ortwin Fischer, William Holle, Herman Stueber, Herman Dohl, Chris Rasmusson, There may have been others long forgotten. Many of these voices were heard in the mixed Chorus also for many years

TO GOD BE THE GLORY

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**Lake Wilson Combine Worship Service
St Pauls Ellsworth and Bethlehem August 30 2020**

**Awesome church service, with great weather and a delicious potluck.
Can't wait until next year to do it all again**

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Photos by Cheryl Gier



LWML and helpers making May Basket disturbed in SYVan Grove



Willis Becker instructing Altar Guild how he fill oil into altar candles



Evanleigh Jean Hirsch Born May 5, 2020
Daughter of Caleb and Corey (Nee Gier) Hirsch
Baptized June 21, 2020

Picture by Tyler Gier



Bethlehem Lutheran Church Worship service
May 3, 2020

Pictures by Cheryl Gier



2020 BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN CHURCH DIRECTORY

Pastor: Christopher Craig
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Email: christopher.craig@ctsfw.edu

Church Telephone number: 785-526-7152
Email: bethlehem@wtciweb.com
Website: www.bethlehemsylvangrove.org

Church Office Secretary: Mrs. Shirley Small, Cell # 785-658-5886

CHURCH COUNCIL

President:	Dell Gier (2018) [2Yr Term] (2020)	785-738-8328
Vice-President:	Art Dohl (2018)	785-526-7281
Recording Secretary:	Cheryl Gier (2017) (2020)	785-658-6140
Financial Secretary:	<u>Emilie Wacker (2015) (2018)</u>	785-526-7298
Treasurer:	Dena Sorensen (2017)(2020)	785-277-3515
Board of Elders:	<u>Jason Dohl (2018)</u>	785-526-7704
Board of Trustees:	Phil Chegwidden (2017)	785-810-8261
Board of Church Life:	Tyler Gier (2020)	785-534-0673

CONGREGATIONAL BOARDS

ELDERS

<u>Jason Dohl (2018) (Chairman)</u>	785-526-7704
Tyler Gier (2016) (2019)	785-534-0673
John Sorensen (2017) (2020)	785-277-3515

CHURCH PROPERTY (Trustees)

<u>Calvin McCoy (2018)</u>	785-534-0857
Phil Chegwidden (Chairman)(2019)	785-810-8261
Warren Meitler (2020)	785-658-5559

BOARD OF CHURCH LIFE

Brock Mueller (2020)	<u>Tyler Gier (2020)</u>	<u>Corey Hirsch (2019)</u>
Ruth Mueller (2020)	<u>Lloyd Gier (2019)</u>	<u>Sara Gier (2019)</u>
Coleen Ancell (2020)	<u>Dena Sorensen (2019)</u>	
Serena McCoy (2020)	<u>Caleb Hirsch (2019)</u>	

Board of Church Life members are listed with the year most recently elected and underlined if serving final year of their term.(no term limits for this board)

Elected Council and Board members are noted with the year first elected, year reelected, and underlined if serving the final term.

APPOINTMENTS AND OTHER CONTACTS

Sunday School Superintendent: Dena Sorensen

Midweek teachers: Lorelei Dohl, Pastor Craig

Organists & Music Directors: Lois Walter, Shelly Keller

Head Usher: (Appointed yearly by Elders) Duties to be shared by Altar Guild and Elders for now.

Mercy Team: Ramie Schulteis, Tonya Chegwidden, Lorelei Dohl, Board of Elders

Altar Guild: Ruth Mueller, Cheryl Gier, Shelly Keller, Tonya Chegwidden, Dena Sorensen, Coleen Ancell

Cemetery Sexton: (re-appointed 2019) (3-year appointed by President) Terry Lilak (2013-19) 785-526-7868

Endowment Funds Committee: (Appointed Yearly by President) Tonya Chegwidden (Chair), Ruth Sorensen, Emilie Wacker, John Thaemert, Dena Sorensen

Financial Review Committee: (Appointed Yearly by President) Shelly Keller, Ruth Sorensen, Lloyd Gier

BLTeens & Youth Group: Marcy Hurlbut (Sponsor), Pastor Craig

BLC Scholarship Committee: Art Dohl, Marmie Schultz, Roger Gier

Kansas District Lay Delegate: Tyler Gier (2018-2020)

Circuit 13 Contacts: Lay Delegate: Art Dohl (elected annually)

Circuit Visitor: Pastor Luke Brown, Immanuel, Ellsworth

Synod Delegates: (2019-22) Pastoral: Pastor Christopher Craig

Synod Lay Delegate: Samantha Toombs

Revised 2-1-2020

2020 CLEANING SCHEDULE

January 5-18	Jason Dohl Family
January 19-February 1	Brian & Shonda Meitler/Barbara Meitler
February 2-15	Phil & Tonya Chegwiddden
February 16-29	Gary & Ruth Sorensen
March 1-14	Kenny & Shirley Small
March 15-28	Coleen Ancell/Ethan & Katie Lyne
March 29-April 11	Emilie Wacker/Roger Gier Family
April 12-25	Jerret Kubick Family
April 26-May 9	McCoy Family/Lisa Gier
May 10-23	Ryan Gier Family
May 24-June 6	Lorelie Dohl Family
June 7-20	Mark Sebesta Family & John Thaemert Family
June 21-July 4	Marmie Schultz Family/Calvin McCoy Family
July 5-18	Warren Meitler & Tyler Gier
July 19-August 1	Kirk Schulteis Family/Kylie Heller
August 2-15	David Hurlbut Family
August 16-29	Phil & Tonya Chegwiddden
August 30-September 12	Terry Lilak & Lloyd Gier
September 13-26	Les & Lois Walter/Shelly Keller
September 27-October 10	Trey & Ronda Watson
October 11-24	John Sorensen Family
October 25-November 7	Dean & Euni Thaemert/Larry & Billie Groth
November 8-21	Scott & Britney Carney/Broc & Ruth Mueller
November 22-December 5	Shirley Krueger & Dale Krueger
December 6-19	Dell & Cheryl Gier
December 20-January 2	Art & Justine Dohl



Bethlehem Lutheran Church
2020- Second Quarter - Pastor's Report
July 26th, 2020

	April	May	June	Total	Last Qtr	Last Yr
Sunday Services	2	5	3	10	11	12
Average Weekly Church Attendance	37	39	57	44	58	71
Midweek Services	3	3	4	10	4	9
Average Midweek Service Attendance	5	5	5	5	6	5
Special Services	0				2	4
Church Attendance	#DIV/0!				53	38
Number of Communion Services	2	3	2	7	9	9
Average communed per service	25	17	38	32	35	44
Sunday Bible Class (Adult)	#DIV/0!	6	12	9	13	18
Sunday School	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	N/A	#DIV/0!	9	11
Midweek	N/A	N/A	N/A		31	29
Life Light Bible Studies	N/A	N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A
First Communion Class	N/A	N/A	N/A		9	8
Adult Catechesis	N/A	N/A	N/A		1	1
Men's Bible Study	N/A	N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A
Youth Group	N/A	N/A	5	5	4	5
					Ellsworth Numbers	
Pastoral Visits	1	1	4		2	
Pastoral Hospital Visits	0	0	0			
Individual Communion	1	1	5			
Counseling/Special meetings	1	2	2			
Funeral/Memorial/Committal Services	0	0	0		1	
Weddings	0	0	0			
Special Services	0	1	0			
Nursing Home Services	0	0	0			
Regular Meetings (Elders, BOCL, Council, Voters, LWML, Winkel, etc.)	1	1	2		1	
Special Meetings (New Parents, Planning, Special Committees, Etc.)	0	0	1		1	
Continuing Education Events	2	2	1			
Baptisms						
Evanleigh Hirsch (6-21-2020)						
Request For Membership						
Dylan Dorsey (Confirmed 5-9-2020)						
Danyelle Hoard (Confirmed 5-9-2020)						
Evanleigh Hirsch (Baptized 6-21-2020)						
Members Received						
Continuing Education						
Sermon Critiques	4/4/2020					
	4/20/2020					
	5/7/2020					
	5/21/2020					
	6/4/2020					



July 11, 2020 LWML Minutes

Pastor Craig opened meeting with a selection from the book *Pew Sisters*. This story was about Emily who was afraid about her eternal life. She compared herself to other Christians who had a perfect life of talent and a life of exceptional service. Relief from such cares came to her knowing what God did for all on the cross. God does the actions for us. He is always the subject and we are the object of His gracious actions. We love God because of what he first did for us. God clings to us. We need to hold on to our faith and not prove our faith. In the book of Romans all fall short. Faith is a gift of God to save us from our sins. Emily discovered that the Law leads to despair and pride. The Gospels lead us to what Christ did for us.

Lorelei Dohl opened the meeting with a daily inspiration *From The Courage to See*. Authors Garrett and Fountain present quotes from great literature that have a corresponding Bible verse and they followed with a prayer.

Coleen Ancell opened by having the secretary take roll call and read the minutes. Ten members were present along with guest Miranda Watson. Minutes of June's meeting were read and accepted.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Coleen Ancell asked Miranda Watson about her dad's health. She was resigned to accept his decision to refuse chemo.

LWML Sunday is coming up. Chairwomen are Cheryl Gier and Barb Meitler.

Labor of Love - We will donate 40 school kits to Lutheran World Relief by Oct 8.

Church Fund Raiser for Rylan Gier - LWML and the BOCL will make arrangements for the event in the Sylvan Park shortly after Labor Day.

Bazaar - Shelly Keller and Justine are in charge for Oct 3rd 30th Bazaar.

NEW BUSINESS

Lorelei Dohl moved to donate \$100 to the 2020 Kansas District Convention offering. Seconded and passed.

Lorelei Dohl moved to donate \$ 100 to "September to Remember Drive" for the Ks. District shortfall for 2020 grant drive.

Lorelei Dohl closed with prayer.

Justine Dohl, secretary

Coleen Ancell, president

Banner designs needed!

Do you have some creative energy built up? Could you use an outlet to do something positive? Why not design a banner for The LWML Convention coming up June 24-27, 2021, in Lexington, KY? The theme is *Running the Race...Looking to Jesus*, based on Hebrews 12:1-2

The Kansas District is accepting designs for a banner to represent our district, now through October 15. Please send your design to KS District President Kim Burdett at president@kansaslwml.org. The Executive Committee will review the submitted designs and the BOD (Board of Directors, including the Exec. Comm., Zone presidents, and Committee Chairs) will vote on the final design to represent the district. Thank you!

Coming Events at Bethlehem

Also available online at www.BethlehemSylvanGrove.org

Sunday

9 a.m. Education Hour & Adult Bible Study

Children Sunday School(Beginning September 13

10 a.m. – Worship Service (Can also be found on Line on Face book)
(Holy Communion on 2nd and 4th Sundays and some festivals)

Mondays Beginning September 21 Life light Women's Bible Study contact
Lois Walter for A book

Wednesday's September 16

3:45-5 p.m. .Midweek (Contact Pastor Craig for more information)

5 p.m. First communion

6 pm Midweek Worship Service

God's Promise
isn't that He'll keep bad
things from happening; it's that
He'll be there if they do.

Bethlehem Lutheran Church
308 N Indiana Ave
Sylvan Grove, KS 67481-8835

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