BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN CHURCH

405 E. Ninth Avenue—Brodhead WI 53520
608-897-2341—office@bethlehembrodhead.org
www.bethlehembrodhead.org
Facebook: facebook.com/blcbrodhead Twitter: @blcbrodhead
Rev. Peder J. Johanson, Pastor

October 2017

From Pastor Peder

This past week, we launched our third year of Faith Night. We often describe this ministry as a mid-week opportunity for families and individuals of all ages to gather for a meal, conversation, and faith formation. Some might even describe it as "Sunday school" on a Wednesday.

I, however, have found it harder and harder to define, even as we have worked over the years to refine it. For me, it is simply (and broadly) the church being the church…on a Wednesday night.

What I see are friends gathering in faith.
This looks like adults, sharing in joys and sorrows as they chat about the days since Sunday morning.
It looks like kids bursting through the front doors, racing towards their friends (who aren't just the other kids, by the way) with eager faces.
It looks, in some moments, like strangers meeting each other for the first time, or old friends reconnecting after too much time apart.
It looks like families enjoying a meal together, and enjoying the company of the others nearby.
It looks like laughter and tears and occasional fussiness by the little ones…all the marks of real life, playing out in a sacred space, during a sacred time, in sacred relationship.

I see faith nourished by clever lessons, engaging bible stories, worship and prayer.
This looks like preschoolers learning to sing songs of faith, complete with dancing and hand motions.
It looks like bible stories acted out by children and adults alike - and it's hard to tell sometimes who is having more fun!
It looks like older children guiding the younger children as we all learn together about this faith.
It looks like the multiple generations of adults sitting at round tables discussing books on faith and spirituality.
And sometimes it looks like our hands at work for the sake of others, as we stuff school supplies into backpacks, or gifts into care packages, or as we make the world more beautiful with art to express the good news of God in Jesus Christ.

I see a lot of things at Faith Night, and (thanks to the great leadership of our members) it's one of the rare opportunities I get to simply look on and see our church being the church.
Above all, what I see on these nights is hope. Amid all the bad news of our broken world and all the negativity that courses around us (and, unfortunately, within us as well), when I step back and see the genuine Christian love and community being nurtured on these Wednesday nights, I am filled with hope for our world and for the mission of Christ to heal it and bless it.

I am reminded that we are the church – we who are gathered in love, fed and nourished by sacred story, blessed and sent by God's lavish grace. Church isn't a building or a worship time or a slate of programs. Church is us, together with Christ, living with one foot in this world and one in what Jesus calls the "reign of heaven" – a community that looks like love seeking justice, and grace bringing wholeness.

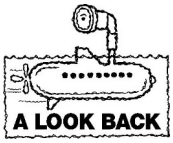
I'll be the first to admit that as the church, we don't always get it right. We miss opportunities to be gracious. We let anxiety and fear keep us from doing what Christ would have us do - and sometimes we do things in need of repentance. But because the grace of Jesus remains for us, we remain the church.

Whether it's on a Sunday morning, a Wednesday night, or some other time during the week that you experience God's love at work within us, it is my prayer that those moments remind you who you are, and who we are together.

It is my prayer and my hope that as we embrace, ever more fully, that blessed identity as Christ's church, our joy and our healing will shine through us into the world.

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Peder

P.S. There's always room at the table on Wednesday nights, and all are welcome!



Thank you to all those who sponsored special gifts during the month of September.

Sanctuary lamp was given…
Sept 3: by Doug and Janice Knight in memory of Doris Joranlien.
Sept 17: by Doug and Janice Knight in memory of Selmer Joranlien.

Sanctuary flowers were given…
Sept 3: by Pam Kessler in thanks to God for abundant blessings.

We extend our sympathy to Steve Foslin and the family and friends of Steve's mother, ***Betty Ann Foslin***, who died September 23rd.

PRAYER MINISTRY AT BETHLEHEM CHURCH

An important part of our ministry at Bethlehem Church is being prayer partners with those in need – whether they are members of our Bethlehem Church family, friends or relatives of members, people from our community, nation, or around the world.

We share the name of each individual in printed or verbal form in worship or the Prayer Chain who is to be lifted up in prayer. Since some of those for whom we pray are not members, we ask a couple of favors from you.

1. Please keep us updated on the status of the individual as to whether they should remain on the list or be removed.
2. Before putting someone on the list or the Prayer Chain, please get their permission first. We have to respect the privacy of the individual. Although we may want them on the prayer list/chain, they may not want their health concern made public.

If you would like a visit or prayer, please let us know when you will be going into a medical facility, or please have a family member notify us. Due to privacy laws, they do not notify us without your permission.





If you need a ride to church or a church activity, contact one of our "*Share-A-Ride*" volunteers.

Chairperson: Jo Pinnow	897-4275
Doug Bliss	897-4618
Renata Olsen	558-4969

If you would like to help out as a driver, please call Jo Pinnow at the number above.

Expressions of Gratitude

Thank you from Marilyn Hauser for the cards, prayers and concern during her recent illness.

Many thanks are given to everyone who remembered me on my birthday with cards, greetings, well wishes and gifts. Your love and kindness means so much to me and made my birthday super special. I'm happy to report I survived my 60th birthday! –Pam Kessler

Thank you to everyone who donated school supplies for the school kits for Lutheran World Relief. We reached our goal of filling 30 bags!! Thanks to all for donating so generously. Thanks to Peggy Huseman for sewing the bags and to Deb Malcook for spearheading the program. The kits will be packed and sent to Lutheran World Relief in October, along with the quilts and health kits. **We will bless the quilts/kits on Sunday, October 1st during the worship hour.**

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

In a couple of weeks a signup sheet will be provided for you to list the name(s) of loved ones who have died **since last All Saints Day** who will be remembered in prayer during the worship hour on Sunday, November 5th. Our Bethlehem members who have died since last All Saints Day will automatically be listed so there is no need to place them on the signup sheet.

The worship of God....should be free at table, in private rooms, downstairs, upstairs, at home, abroad, in all places, by all peoples, at all times. –Martin Luther

Family Faith Night

WEDNESDAYS

WE BEGIN WITH A MEAL AT 5:30

In October:

Oct 4:	Introduction to Moses
Oct 11:	The 10 Commandments
	The Greatest Commandment
Oct 18:	Holy Moly—The Stone Tablets
	Exodus 19:1–20:17
Oct 25:	The Golden Calf
	Drama: The Lord Intercedes

JOIN IN THE EXCITEMENT!

FAITH FAMILY FRIENDS FUN FOOD

(Yearly schedule and Registration Form included. Share with family, friends & neighbors!)

Freed & RENEWED in Christ 500 YEARS OF GOD'S GRACE IN ACTION

The South-Central Synod of Wisconsin Invites You to a Special Reformation Commemoration Synod-Wide Event!
Save the date and Join In!
SATURDAY, NOV. 4 at 7:00 pm

Join the Reformation 500th Choir!
All choirs and singers are invited to join in the SCSW-ELCA sponsored *Reformation 500th Commemoration,* held at the First Lutheran Church of Janesville on Saturday, November 4, at 7pm. This ecumenical event will feature full orchestra, hand bell groups, and a festival choir composed of many different Protestant and Catholic backgrounds. Through music, word and prayer, we will highlight the role the Reformation has served in the development of the modern age. Above all, our joint commemoration focuses on the amazing mercy and love of God in Jesus Christ, the firm foundation by which all people of God stand. For more information and to sign up, please contact Jan Knutson, jknutson604@gmail.com (608) 921-6534.

PENNIES FOR A PURPOSE



We continue to collect donations of your spare pennies, etc. to help women in the Brodhead community. A large container is in the narthex for your donations. Thank you for sharing!

BOOK OF FAITH BIBLE STUDY

The Book of Faith Bible Study group continues on the second and fourth Mondays of the month in members' homes at 7:00 p.m. We continue in the book of Genesis. We'd love to see some new folks join us for this interesting study! Watch future bulletins for locations.

CHANGE IN OCTOBER H.O.M.E. DELIVERY

For those of you who receive a monthly H.O.M.E. meal, please note that the day of delivery has changed from the third Wednesday, October 18, **to the second Wednesday, October 11th**. This change will be for October only.



Women of Bethlehem

Thankoffering Sunday

November 19th

We will be holding our Thankoffering Sunday on November 19, during the worship hour. Thankoffering boxes are available on the ledges in the sanctuary. Please take a box with you and when you have special thanks place an offering in the box, then return your box on Sunday, November 19, for our special Thankoffering service.

Offering will be sent to the Women of the ELCA for special mission giving.

Faith Night 2017-18

Faith Night starts Wednesday, September 27, 2017
A meal is served from 5:30 until 6. All are welcome.
Lessons are 6-6:30 for littles and 6-7 for elementary age students.
Parents are welcome to stay and join in the fun.
Below is an outline of what to expect this year.

September 27.....Registration /Project /Scavenger hunt/ Matthew 20:1-16
October 4.....Introduction to Moses
October 11.....The Ten Commandments - The Greatest Commandment
October 18.....Holy Moly - The Stone Tablets Exodus 19:1-20:17
October 25..... The Golden Calf - Drama The Lord Intercedes

November 1..... Intro to Parables -- The Humble and Exalted- Matthew 23:1-12
November 8..... Holy Moly - John the Baptist / Project for homebound- Mark 1:1-11
November 15..... The 10 Bridesmaids Drama- Matthew 25:1-13
November 22..... Thanksgiving week - **No Faith Night**

November 29..... Christmas Program Practice - Advent Candles
December 6 ..... Christmas Program Practice - Holy Moly Annunciation- Luke 1:26-38
December 13.....Christmas Program Practice - Holy Moly - Magi- Matthew 2:1-12
Sunday, December 17..... Christmas Program
December 20.....Holy Moly - The Birth of Jesus- Luke 2:1-20
December 22-31..... Christmas Break - **No Faith Night**

January 3 .....Family Fun Night - Project for homebound
January 10.....Holy Moly - Samuel- 1 Samuel 3:1-10
January 17.....Holy Moly - Jonah- Jonah1:1-3:3
January 24..... Jonah
January 31..... Healing the Demoniac- Mark1:21-28

February 7..... Noah
Febraury 14..... Ash Wednesday Kid's Service - What is Lent?
February 21 ..... Holy Moly Noah - The Rainbow Covenant- Genesis 6-9
February 28..... Star Promise- Genesis 15 (Dress Warm Tonight)

March 7..... Abraham and Sarah Named- Genesis 17
March 14..... The Serpent on the Pole- Numbers 21:4-9
March 21..... The Passion Story
March 24 - 31..... Spring Break **No Faith Night** Easter April 1

April 4..... Holy Moly The Easter Story-Luke 24:1-12
April 11..... Holy Moly Thomas Believes- John 20:19-29
April 18..... Road to Emmaus-Luke 24:13-35
April 25.....Last Night of Faith Night - Fun Night



We need helpers to prepare and serve the meal from 5:30-6:00. If we can get enough helpers, this should be no more than a once a month commitment. We are also looking for an individual or two to help or be a teaching substitute during our lesson times as needed. If you can help, please see Kathy Matteson or Donna Millard.

The Little Kids Class (5K and under) will be held from 6-6:30. The Class will consist of: learning stories from the Frolic Bible (made for this age group), learning songs, and a craft or game. The students may also join in with the older kids for the Holy Moly videos.



Faith Night

REGISTRATION FORM

Wednesday Nights
5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Bethlehem Lutheran Church
405 E Ninth Ave, Brodhead
608-897-2341
For all children - Infant through 6th grade

(One form needed for each child registered)

Child's Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip:_____

Home Phone: (____)_____ Cell Phone: (___)_____

Home e-mail address:_____

Child's Age: _____ Grade – current year:_____

In case of emergency, contact: _____

Mother: _____ Phone number: _____

Father: _____ Phone number: _____

Other: _____ Phone number:_____

Allergies or other medical conditions: _____

Photos of your child may be used for Bethlehem Lutheran Church publications and/or social media.
_____ *(please initial)*

[ ] Yes, I am willing to help with Faith Night as: a [ ] group leader, [ ] storyteller,
[ ] kitchen helper, [ ] where needed.

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date: _____



Would you like to receive synod stories of our ministry together, timely news updates and invitations to learning and ministry opportunities in synod? If you would like to receive ***What Matters*** and ***Walking Together: Faith for Our Journey***, please go to: http://bit.ly/SynodNews

---

AGRACE TO BEGIN GRIEF SUPPORT GROUPS IN OCTOBER

In October, Agrace will begin two grief support group series at its Janesville campus, 2901 N. Wright Road. The groups are open to anyone, regardless of whether the person who died was an Agrace patient.

Spouse/Partner Loss Support Group is a six-week grief support group series for adults who are grieving the death of a spouse or partner. It meets Tuesdays, October 10 to November 14, from 10 a.m. to noon. For information, call Fran at (608) 314-2919 or visit agrace.org/griefgroups.

Family Series Grief Support Group is a seven-week grief support group series for children aged 5 to18 who are grieving a death, and their parent/guardians. It meets Thursdays, October 5 to November 16, 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Dinner is included. For information, call Laura (608) 314-2924 or visit agrace.org/griefgroups.

The cost for each group is $50. If needed, this fee can be lowered or waived. There is no fee for family members of people who received hospice care in the past 12 months.

OCTOBER EVENTS AT SKAALEN

CRAFT FAIR
Saturday, October 7, from 9am to 2pm

ANNUAL FALL FESTIVAL
Tuesday, October 17, from 10am to 3pm
Held in the Chapel

See bulletin board for more information about these events. Proceeds benefit the residents of Skaalen.

Around Town And Beyond

Community Clothes Closet is open every Saturday from 10am—2pm. The Clothes Closet is located at the old Power and Light Building, 1108 11th St. All items at the Closet are free and is staffed by volunteers.

Healthy Eating, Healthy Living—The Senior Nutrition Program of Green Co. provides balanced nutrition to seniors. For a Dining Center reservation, contact Brodhead Senior Center: 897-4796.

White Gift food pantry hours are from 10—11am on the 3rd Saturday of the month. The pantry is located behind the Senior Center. If you have a need, please contact Vickie Krattiger at 897-6466.

HBO SCREENING
WARNING: THIS DRUG MAY KILL YOU

Better Brodhead cordially invites you and your guest to a screening and discussion of the HBO documentary *"Warning: This Drug May Kill You."* This documentary provides an eye-opening look at a terrifying epidemic that is devastating communities across this country. The documentary follows four families whose lives have been affected by prescription pain killers. Through the personal and emotional stories of people on the front lines of this epidemic, the film sheds light on the struggles of ordinary people who were prescribed highly addictive opioid pain medications, which are often the gateway to a very similar opioid, heroin. The documentary features home videos and photos that humanize this public health crisis.

The documentary will be shown at the Brodhead Memorial Library on Monday October 2nd starting at 5:30pm. Nancy Richardson from Green County AODA will provide a brief introduction prior to the film screening. Documentary attendees will also receive resources and information to assists with helping this epidemic in their community.

Better Brodhead recommends this documentary is not shown to anyone under the age of 16 and anyone under the age of 18 will need adult supervision.

Looking ahead: Narcan Training Sessions

- Nov. 6—Brodhead Public Library
- Nov. 13—Auditorium, Green County Human Services

Sessions are 1 hour from 6pm—7pm

Christmas Book Fair

Bethlehem Lutheran Church

Sundays: October 22, October 29, November 5
before or following the Worship Hour at 9:00 a.m.

Wednesdays: October 25, November 1, during Faith Night 5:30-7:00 p.m.
(or come in Monday—Thursday, 9am to noon to browse and order)

Shop faith-filled children's books at a special discount and earn money for Bethlehem's Children's Education Fund

Order forms will be available and payment is due with orders. Due by Nov, 5th.
Checks should be made out to Bethlehem Lutheran Church.

Parents, grandparents, godparents, aunts & uncles—shop for Christmas and share the special meaning of the season with your family and loved ones!



Bethlehem Lutheran Church
405 E 9th Avenue
Brodhead WI 53520

Phone: 608-897-2341
Email: office@bethlehembrodhead.org
pastor@bethlehembrodhead.org
Web: www.bethlehembrodhead.org

www.facebook.com/blcbrodhead

@blcbrodhead

Worship: Sundays at 9:00 a.m.
Office Hours: Tuesday—Friday 8am to 1pm

BEACON

October 2017

500TH Anniversary OF THE REFORMATION

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

