

Announcements for the week of
February 6-13, 2011
www.bethlehemmankato.org



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WEEKLY GIVING/ATTENDANCE

Week of January 30, 2011:

Offered for the Lord's Work: \$6,360.00
January Mission Project:
Lutheran Social Services - \$1,754.00

Worship attendance - Sunday, 1/30/11:
8:15 a.m.: 99 10:45 a.m.: 182

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

8:15 & 10:45 a.m. ~ Worship Services
9:30 a.m. - Education Hour; Adult Forum
(Adult Education Fair, Heritage Room);
Coffee (Grounds for Joy); LIGHT
A Life Worth Living
will NOT meet tonight.

SCHOOL BAG KITS FOR LWR

A Bethlehem member has challenged us to make 2011 school kit bags for Lutheran World Relief by August, 2011! This member has pledged to fill the bags with school supplies and cover the cost of fabric and thread if we will sew the bags. We already have 50 yards of fabric and matching thread, which will make about 150 bags. There are two sewing machines in our church. Could we schedule a monthly mass production of school bags in our church basement by bringing portable sewing machines, fabric, thread, and snacks? Do you have any other ideas on how we could accomplish this goal? Call or e-mail the church office if you are interested in helping with this project for our August Mission of the Month, Lutheran World Relief. Go online to lwr.org/schoolkits to read about this project and download a school kit bag pattern. There will also be school kit patterns and a sign-up sheet in the church office.

Come to the organizational meeting for this project on **Tuesday, February 8, at 10:30 a.m.** in the Bethlehem basement dining room!!!

~Community and Global Mission Board

RADIO BROADCAST



**RADIO
MINISTRY**

Today's broadcast is sponsored by Elizabeth Englin in honor of her god-daughter, Nina Marie Englin. To sponsor a radio broadcast in honor of or in memory of someone, sign up on the bulletin board near the church office. The 8:15 a.m. service is broadcast on KTOE 1420 AM every Sunday morning at 11:00 a.m.

BETHLEHEM MISSIONS

Echo Food Shelf Emphasis:

During the month of February, we'll be collecting personal care items.

**Our Mission Project for February:
Global Health Ministries**

"Helping the hands that heal."

Thank you to everyone who has supported Global Health Ministries now and in the past. The needs are great, but together we have helped this organization ship sea containers filled with needed medical/dental supplies that are sent to countries requesting specific items. Over the past 15 years, Bethlehem has provided funding for shipping costs, thousands of newborn (formerly midwife) layette kits, hospice kits, rolled bandages, and useable medical supplies such as crutches, canes, walkers, wheelchairs, and arm/leg braces. It has been spectacular to witness the outpouring of love and concern for people in the midst of extreme suffering. Together we have been able to offer hope for a better life.

Prayerfully consider how you can "help the hands that heal" through contributing to Global Health Ministries, which is headquartered in Fridley, MN, with paid and volunteer staff led by Director Rev. Tim Iverson. Please write checks to Bethlehem Lutheran Church and put "GHM" on the memo line. For more information, please see the February Star.

~ Community & Global Mission Board

LECTIONARY FOR 2/13/11

First Reading: Deuteronomy 30:15-20
Psalms: 119:1-8
Second Reading: I Corinthians 3:1-9
Gospel: Matthew 5:21-37

IN OUR PRAYERS

Arlene Stenzel	Paul Teigen
Forrest Glick	Eileen Dalluge
Eric Barnes	Margaret Walswick
Glenn Saxton	Linda Tieg

(Prayer request forms are in the pews and the office. Please place the completed form in the offering plate or in the Prayer Requests box in the narthex.)

Included in our prayers each week are several "sister" congregations of our SE Minnesota Synod of the ELCA. The Synod is focusing upon prayer this year, "A Synod Joined in Prayer," and is encouraging congregations to pray for one another. This week we pray for:

- Bethlehem Lutheran in Lanesboro**
- Bethel Lutheran in Rochester**
- Central Diocese Dispensaries in Tanzania (partnered with Bethel in Rochester)**
- Bethany Lutheran in Frost**
- Christ Lutheran in Faribault**
- Ruruma Lutheran in Tanzania (partnered with Christ Lutheran in Faribault)**

Wednesday Night Suppers

Join us from 5:00 - 6:30 p.m.! Cost is \$4 for adults, \$3 for students through confirmation age, and \$11 for families. Join the fellowship! Bring your neighbors and friends! **Let's make Wednesday night BETHLEHEM NIGHT!**

Menu for February 9:
Beef commercials, cole slaw, and fresh fruit

Heritage Room Display Cases

It's high time to clean and update the Heritage Room display cases! Our first meeting will be on Thursday, February 17, 2011, from 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. in the Heritage Room. We'll start by cleaning a few dusty glass shelves, planning our strategy for updating the historical information and searching for Bethlehem artifacts. We need helpers and ideas! Come to the meeting or call Marsha Qualset, 388-4970, with questions or suggestions.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A NOTE ABOUT CANCELLATIONS...

In case of inclement weather on Sunday mornings, listen to KTOE 1420 AM for cancellation announcements for worship and church activities. In case of inclement weather on Wednesdays, our evening events will follow the cancellation decision of the Mankato Public Schools.



Hospice ~ "We Live Until We Die"

Hospice provides individuals and their families with comfort, compassion, and dignity at the end of life. Living with a terminal illness can be a time of stress and confusion, but you are not alone! For more information, call (507) 385-2618 or 800-327-3721, ext. 2618.

Immanuel-St. Joseph's Hospice Sponsors: Journey Through Grief - a 7-week grief group for people over 60 who have experienced the death of a loved one.

Thursdays through March 10
10 a.m.-noon at Christ the King Lutheran

Journey Through Grief - a 7-week grief group for anyone who has experienced the death of a loved one.

Mondays through March 7
6-8 p.m. at First Congregational UCC

There is no charge for these programs, but pre-registration is required. For more information or to register, please call the Hospice office at (507) 385-2989 or 800-327-3721, extension 2989.



Valentine's Day Party for Bethlehem Families!

Join us at **5:00 p.m. on Sunday, February 13**, in the Youth Room of Bethlehem. We will be making crafts and homemade chocolates! We will also be playing Valentine Bingo as a group.

This is a GREAT way to meet other families while having fun! Friends are welcome! Pizza and beverages will be provided. RSVP to Leah Garry at 507-382-2205 or lgarry@hickorytech.net.

McEducator Nights!

The Bethlehem Child Care Center will receive a portion of funds from all in-store purchases at the Adams Street McDonald's from **5-7 p.m. on the second Monday of each month through May**. We like to call the second Monday "McBethlehem Night".

~ BCCC Board

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Evangelism Thought for the Week

Evangelism: Making Christ Known

Research indicates that growing, vital, and missional congregations are deeply involved in Bible study and prayer; invite, welcome, and integrate newcomers effectively; recognize the need for joy, love, and community in those around them; reach out to children and youth in their communities; have a clear vision of God's mission; are focused on Jesus Christ and His commission to reach out to those outside the church; and work for justice and community transformation.

Bethlehem Women of the ELCA

At 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, February 9, Pastor Jay will lead a Bible study in Grounds for Joy. All Bethlehem women and all circles are invited to attend. Also mark your calendars for **March 9**, when the Bible study by Pastor Jay will continue.

Please join us!

FROM OUR LIBRARY



Valentine's Day Reading

We have purchased 12 little kids' Valentine books, which are ready to be checked out! Elmo's Fuzzy Valentine, Marley's Valentine, and The Story of Valentine's Day are ready to read. How about The Night Before Valentine's Day or the Berenstain Bears Valentine Party? Some of these books are board books or flip books. Enjoy!

MINNESOTA RIVER CONFERENCE

The Minnesota River Conference Annual Meeting is **Sunday, February 13, from 2-3:30 p.m.** at Grace Lutheran in Waseca. If you are interested in what God is doing in the larger church and would like to represent Bethlehem that day, please contact Pr. Jay.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



ECHO FOOD SHELF

ECHO Food Shelf Needs Volunteers!!

Because of our move to a larger facility, and because some of our volunteers go south for the winter, we are in need of more help. We need helpers to sort food, restock shelves, and assist clients with shopping. Days and hours can be arranged to fit your schedules -- and, with our great staff and fellow volunteers, it is really a lot of fun! If you have a few hours to spare each week and would like to help, please call Deisy at 345-7477.



Needed: an administrative assistant to work in growing Crossroads Campus Ministry at the Mankato State University Campus. We have a great work environment, and we offer flexible hours (approximately 15 hours/week). Pay is commensurate with experience. Start immediately. Call Phil at 726-6543 for more information.



If you haven't filled out a Parish Nurse Survey, there are some on the counter in the office. Please pick one up and fill it out!



NEW AT BETHLEHEM: NATURAL CHURCH DEVELOPMENT (NCD)

Bethlehem has begun a process to develop natural church growth. Our team has chosen two focus areas for development: that of passionate spirituality and loving relationships. We believe that people here at Bethlehem live committed lives and practice their faith with joy and enthusiasm devoted to Jesus Christ and His work. To this end, it is our hope to inspire a Christian walk that extends from church on Sunday to everyday life on Monday. In the future, we hope to implement practices which will promote Christian love and care for each other.

NCD team members: Karla Van Lith (leader), Pastor Jay Dahlvang, Laurie Rossow, Pastor Al Girtz, and Tom & Betty Sanger.