

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



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### WEEKLY GIVING/ATTENDANCE

#### Week of February 27, 2011:

Offered for the Lord's Work: \$7,186.00  
February Mission Project:  
Global Health Ministries - \$1,180.00

Worship attendance - Sunday, 2/27/11:  
8:15 a.m.: 128 10:45 a.m.: 177

### SUNDAY SCHEDULE

8:15 & 10:45 a.m. ~ Worship Services  
9:30 a.m. - Education Hour; Adult Forum;  
ECHO Food Shelf (Heritage Room); Coffee  
(Grounds for Joy); LIGHT  
3 p.m. - Handbell Festival - Sanctuary  
5-7 p.m.—A Life Worth Living—Heritage Room

### 2,011 School Kit Bags For Lutheran World Relief



Good news! We've found a company which sells school kit bags for less than we can sew them ourselves. We'll fill the bags you've already sewn with school kit supplies, and we'll set a date this summer to fill 2,011 bags for Lutheran World Relief. We welcome other ideas to help us meet our goal.

~ Community & Global Mission Board



### 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".



Bethlehem Lutheran will host the *Minnesota Valley Handbell Festival* **TODAY at 3:00 p.m.** The concert will feature 11 handbell choirs from six area churches, plus the River Bend Bells, Mankato's Community Handbell Ensemble. Solo numbers by each choir and three massed numbers will be performed. A free-will offering will be received. The Bethlehem Gospbells and the Junior Gospbells will both be participating, so plan to attend and listen to our "joyful noise"! Don't miss it!

### RADIO BROADCAST



RADIO  
MINISTRY

Today's radio broadcast is sponsored by **Jack Halvorson in memory of his parents**. 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 March, we'll be collecting peanut butter.

#### Our Mission Project for March:

##### ECHO Food Shelf

Bethlehem is supporting the local community's need for food assistance by designating the ECHO Food Shelf as our March Mission Project Partner. In addition to food collection in the Narthex and monetary donations, there is a real need for volunteers. With the new facility, there are new needs. Helpers are needed to sort food, restock shelves, and assist clients with shopping. If you have some time and would like to help, please contact Deisy at 345-7477. Thank you for your support of this important organization and mission.

~ Community & Global Mission Board

#### What is Your Carbon Footprint?

How about "giving up" part of your carbon footprint for Lent? Why is your carbon footprint important? Global warming becomes a problem when too much heat remains in the atmosphere. One of the main elements that traps heat within the earth's atmosphere is carbon, specifically in the form of carbon dioxide. Our lifestyle is a big contributor. When oil, coal, gasoline, or natural gas is burned, carbon is released into the atmosphere. So when we run our cars, light and heat our homes, and manufacture our goods, we emit more carbon. You don't have to be a scientist to recognize that since the dawn of man, we have been doing more and more of this. How do I know what my carbon footprint is? You can spend 3 minutes at [www.earthlab.com](http://www.earthlab.com) answering a few questions about your energy use. In the weeks during Lent, we will help you with ideas on how to "give up" part of your carbon footprint.

### LECTIONARY FOR 3/13/11

**First Reading:** Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7  
**Psalm:** 32  
**Second Reading:** Romans 5:12-19  
**Gospel:** Matthew 4:1-11

### IN OUR PRAYERS

Arlene Stenzel  
Forrest Glick  
Eric Barnes  
Glenn Saxton  
Paul Teigen  
Eileen Dalluge

Margaret Walsvick  
Linda Tiegs  
Harvey Menk  
Donna Smesrud  
Elizabeth Englin  
Lorraine Carpenter

*(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:

**Evanger Lutheran in Sargeant**  
**Bricelyn Lutheran in Bricelyn**  
**Dennison Lutheran in Dennison**  
**Faith Lutheran in Janesville**  
**San Marcos Lutheran in Colombia**  
**Issuna Lutheran in Tanzania**

### 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 March 9:

**Baked chicken, stuffing, cranberries, corn, and biscuits**

#### Italian Flair Dinner at Grace TODAY!

Grace Lutheran Church in Mankato extends an invitation to you as we begin celebrating our 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Please join us **TODAY** for an Italian Flair Dinner! Serving will be from **11 a.m. to 1 p.m.** in Grace's Fellowship Hall. The menu will include Italian marinara meat sauce with fettuccine, chicken & broccoli alfredo with bow tie pasta, spring mix salad with Italian dressing, breadsticks, and frozen Italian dessert. Take-out orders are available. Freewill donations will be accepted for the meal.



## 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.

### **Lenten Retreat: "O Taste and See How Good God Is" ~ Psalm 34**

**Date:** March 16, 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

**Presenter:** Sister JoAnn Haney

In this Lenten season, are you open to a new experience of God's love for you? Come and reflect on your journey this Lent with prayer, quiet, and input. A good trilogy for Lenten practice is Scripture, trust, and worship; we will explore these three in anticipation of Easter joy. Suggested donation: \$20, which includes lunch.

**Location:** Holy Spirit Retreat Center, 3864 - 420th Avenue, Janesville, MN  
retreat@frontiernet.net

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### ***Evangelism Thought for the Week***

Bishop William Temple (of the Church of England) said, **"the church is the only cooperative society in the world that exists for the benefit of its non-members. The whole purpose of a church is to grow. We need to be converted to this."** Say to yourself, "I can do something". Then do it.

### **Looking for Spiritual Growth this Lenten Season?**

Join the River of Life Prayer Group, dedicated to prayer, worship, praise and renewal by the power of the Holy Spirit. Ecumenical prayer meetings will be every first and third Tuesday at Holy Rosary School (first floor), 546 Grant Avenue, North Mankato, Minnesota, 7:30-9:00 p.m. Join us for an opportunity to meet Jesus Christ and receive his gifts. For further information, contact Darlene Schorn, 345-8667, or [www.riveroflifemankato.com](http://www.riveroflifemankato.com).

## FROM OUR LIBRARY

### **What You Find in the 252 Section**

1. **A Pioneer's Proclamation: Uncompromising Truth/Unfailing Love.** A big title for a book of sermons (which were in Norwegian) that were preached by Anton Gustav Helgeson Overn many years ago starting in 1895. Our Savior's Church was one of the three churches that formed Bethlehem.
2. **Sermons for All Seasons,** by Chaplain Frank Brown. Many topics on many everyday things.
3. **52 Fun Family Prayer Adventures,** by Mike Nappa. Many ideas for prayer calendars and other activities.

*As one of our mission partners, we would like to invite your members to join with us in celebrating 25 years of ministry at Epiphany Lutheran Church in Eagle Lake.*

**Sunday, April 3, 2011**

***Schedule for the day:***

***10:00 a.m. - Worship***

*Guest Speaker - Bishop Harold Usgaard  
Pastor Mary Iverson*

***11:15 a.m. - Celebration Meal***

***12:30 p.m. - Anniversary Program***

*Please join us!*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS



The Worship and Music Committee invites you to usher! Let us know if you can help welcome people to worship and serve the church in this way. You can contact the church office or Mary Beth Royer at 345-3113.

### ***Bethlehem Women of the ELCA***

**At 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, March 9,** Pastor Jay will lead a Bible study in Grounds for Joy. All Bethlehem women and all circles are invited to attend.

**Please join us!**



### **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.



The fourth annual **"Pasta with the Padres"**, a fundraising dinner to benefit the ECHO Food Shelf, will be held on **Sunday, March 20,** at St.

Joseph the Worker Catholic Church, Blue Earth and Hubbell Streets, in Mankato. The spaghetti dinner will be served from 4-7 p.m. There will also be an extensive silent auction. A free-will offering will be collected. If you would like to volunteer to help with this event, please contact Carolyn Kanyusik at 345-3270.