

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



720 S. Second St., Mankato, MN 56001
Ph. 507-388-2925 Fax - 507-388-6920
E-mail: blchurch@hickorytech.net

WEEKLY GIVING/ATTENDANCE

Week of October 30, 2011:
Offered for the Lord's Work: \$5,062.00
October Mission Project:
Theresa House/Welch Inn - \$1,713.00
Worship attendance-Sunday, 10/30/11:
8:15 a.m.: 105 10:45 a.m.: 286
Wednesday, November 2: 12

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

8:15 & 10:45 ~ Worship Services
9:30 a.m. ~ Education Hour; new member orientation in the Dining Room; Adult Forum in the Heritage Room (presentation by VINE); coffee in Grounds for Joy
6:30 p.m. ~ Financial Peace University, Heritage Room



New Member Orientation will be held this morning and November 13 at 9:30 in the dining room. If you are interested in joining the Body of Christ at Bethlehem, please contact the church office at 388-2925 or blchurch@hickorytech.net.

Join us on **November 16 at 10:30 a.m., and each Wednesday following**, as we look into the Gospel of Mark in our newest Book of Faith Bible Study. The 8-week survey course will take an in-depth look at the themes of the gospel and the person of Jesus as proclaimed by the evangelist. Course books are \$12, and there is a sign-up sheet in the office.



I would like to thank Bruce & Mary Beth Royer, Denny & Karen Sandersfeld, Bob & Sue Brown, Audrey Gatchell, Jill Evenson, and Jim Nagel for helping with my move to Pathstone Assisted Living. I also want to thank Pastor Jay, Pastor Collette, and my Bethlehem friends for their many prayers, visits, calls, and acts of kindness. **Blessings, Rae Allan**

The Kijota Tanzania Well Project Celebration planned for November 13 is postponed until January because Ryan Porath, the project leader, is staying in Tanzania until December. We are still looking for help to make the final payment on the well of \$3,444. If you are able, make your check out to Bethlehem and put *Kijota Well* on the memo line.

RADIO BROADCAST



RADIO MINISTRY

Today's radio broadcast is sponsored by **Rae Allan in memory of her husband, Ralph Allan.** 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.

BETHLEHEM MISSIONS

Echo Food Shelf Emphasis:

During the month of November, we'll be collecting canned fruit.

Our Mission Project for November:

ELCA World Hunger

ELCA World Hunger is a program that helps individuals and communities lift themselves out of poverty into self-sufficiency. It is a comprehensive and sustainable program that uses multiple strategies to address the root causes of hunger and poverty to our neighbors around the world, including the U.S. ELCA World Hunger responds to Christ's call to "Go and do likewise" [Luke 10:37] serving with compassion people who are most vulnerable. It is funded entirely by the ELCA World Hunger Appeal. Over 90 percent of every gift provides direct support for our church's hunger ministry. This mission is especially important today with the drought and subsequent famine in Africa. The World Health Organization estimates 1/3 of the world's population is starving; 15 million children die per year of hunger; and 10 million children under 5 die each year, over half of them from hunger-related causes. The bulletin inserts this month will illustrate how ELCA World Hunger has made a difference in the lives of people all over the world, including the U.S. Please make your check out to Bethlehem and put *World Hunger* on the memo line. Thank you!

~ Community and Global Missions Board

Fall Festival was a HUGE Success! TIMES

Teens provided entertainment and activities for over 40 kids at the fall festival held in Grounds for Joy on Oct. 26! Cookie decorating, games, candy necklace making, pumpkin decorating, treasure hunts, and face painting were provided by teens: Madi Bentdahl, Kenzie Doering, Maria Soroka, Emily Pipes, Matt Pipes, Megan Redling, and Sarah Blacksteid. Be sure and thank these teens for the awesome job they did!

LECTIONARY FOR 11/13/11

First Reading: Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18
Psalms: 90:1-12
Second Reading: I Thessalonians 5:1-11
Gospel: Matthew 25:14-30

IN OUR PRAYERS

Arlene Stenzel	Pauline Halvorson
Forrest Glick	Rachel Iverson
Marvis Glick	Lorene Heaberlin
Eric Barnes	Fern Merrill
Glenn Saxton	Judy Ledwein
Paul Sullivan	The family of
Rebecca Schreiner	Johanne Knudsen

(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:

St. Olaf Lutheran in Austin
Vida Nueva Mission in Colombia
(partnered with St. Olaf in Austin)
Round Prairie Lutheran in Glenville
Trinity Lutheran in Wanamingo
Principe de Paz Lutheran in Colombia
(partnered with Trinity in Wanamingo)
Saetersdal Lutheran in Harmony

Wednesday Night Suppers are in the dining room from 5:00-6:30. The cost remains at \$4.00 for adults and \$3.00 for students through confirmation age. Join the fellowship! Bring your neighbors and friends! All are welcome!

Menu for Wednesday, November 9:

Hamburger on a bun, French fries,
and baked beans

Team 1 will be serving.

DO YOU GET



E-NEWS?

The Bethlehem E-news goes directly to the inbox of many Bethlehem members and friends, informing them of all that is happening in and around Bethlehem. Do you get the E-news? To subscribe, send an e-mail to blchurch@hickorytech.net with the subject: subscribe to E-news.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FUN FUNDRAISER FOR VINE!

The Looney Lutherans, featuring actresses from the **Church Basement Ladies,** use music, comedy, and audience

participation to teach us how to live a long and healthy life. Join us for fellowship, musical entertainment, coffee, and a delicious piece of pie from the Rapidan Dam Store!

Sunday, November 20, 2011
5:45–6:45 p.m. • pie and coffee
6:45–8:15 p.m. • program
Hosanna Lutheran Church
105 Hosanna Avenue, Mankato

Tickets are \$20 each (a tax-deductible contribution to VINE) and can be purchased at the Summit Center, the VINE Home Thrift Store, and the VINE office. Tickets may also be purchased by mail. Send payment to VINE Faith in Action, 1618 Third Avenue, Mankato. Call (507) 387-1666 for more information. **Proceeds from this event will support VINE's efforts to repurpose the Nichols Office Building.**



Reminder: the Christmas wreaths will be arriving the week of November 14 - 18. We will call when they are in so you can pick them up. We order in case lots, so we have

22 wreaths/sprays yet to sell. They are listed in the office with prices. If you would like a wreath or a spray, put your name on the sheet and leave a check for the amount and the order form in Lance's mail box behind the counter. Thanks. ~ Lance



The Sunday volunteer schedule is now on the BLC website:
www.bethlehemmankato.org

Mary Circle will meet at 101 Main on **Wednesday, November 16, at 9:30 a.m.**

**Semi-Annual
Congregational Meeting**
Sunday, November 20, at noon
in the Dining Room



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Evangelism Thought for the Week

Bishop Mark Hanson said, "Our engaging in the world is guided and empowered by prayer...our inviting can be directed by prayer as we begin to actively invite others into the praying community. Our connecting with other Christians is based on prayer." A praying church is open to the Holy Spirit, who makes the impossible become possible. Scriptures affirm that apart from Christ we can do nothing, and yet, with Christ all things are possible. Evangelism starts with prayer.

ECHO Food Shelf is in need of volunteers to help in several areas. We need drivers to pick up 'food rescue' items from local grocery stores, volunteers to help clients while shopping at ECHO, and volunteers to help restock shelves. If you have an interest in ECHO and time to help, please call Deisy at 345-7477. Thank you.

The **Via de Cristo** weekends are coming up soon! Jesus invited his disciples to come away and rest awhile. This time is devoted to sharing our lives in Christ with others, and being renewed along the way. The weekends are November 10-13 for men, and November 17-20 for women in New Ulm. For more information, or to apply, see Pr. Jay, or go to mnviadecristo.org.



Help Support Homeless & Hunger Awareness Week

Come to the Happy Chef on Hwy. 169 on November 14 from 4:30-7:30 p.m. for an all-you-can-eat spaghetti dinner (beverage included). Only \$8 for adults and \$4 for children 4-12; ages 3 and under are free. Proceeds will go to the Welcome Inn & Theresa House homeless shelters.



Habitat for Humanity is accepting applications for families that are interested in a Habitat home. If you or someone you know currently has substandard housing and low to moderate income and the ability to pay a mortgage, Habitat for Humanity may be the answer! Please call for an application, or for more information call the Habitat office at 507-388-2081.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Milestone News: Today during the LIGHT (Sunday School) hour, the first graders and their parent(s) or grandparent(s) made prayer placemats. The students put 12 different table prayers on a large piece of construction paper and glued pictures of their favorite foods on this paper, too. It was then laminated so it could be used at mealtimes. The purpose of this Milestone is that the student can pick out the mealtime prayer for the family. This also teaches different mealtime prayers so that the same prayer is not being said so many times that we forget what it means. If a grandparent of a child who does not attend BLC wants a copy of these prayers, please contact Vee M.G. Williams at 387-5154. The first graders are: Andrew Bastian, Cameron Dugger, Jack Heuer, Elizabeth Kalina, Parker Keenan, Olivia Lanz, Samuel Padilla, Blake Pipes, Matthew Smith, Kelsey Veith, and Kiley Veith.

Operation Christmas Child (OCC) is now set up in the narthex. Plastic shoeboxes, postage money of \$7.00, individual items and completed boxes can be put by the display. All postage money should be placed in Elizabeth's mailbox. Checks should be made out to Bethlehem Lutheran Church with OCC postage on the memo line. Flyers are on the table for ideas for the boxes. **Deadline for Operation Christmas Child is Sunday, November 20, at the beginning of the 10:45 a.m. church service.** The 7th, 8th, and 9th graders will be packing up the boxes in the youth room during the education hour. This is a mission project, with each child getting a Sunday School lesson on Jesus' love for them in their own language. Let's try to break last year's record of 37 boxes!

FREE HEALTH CHECK-UPS FOR OLDER ADULTS

VINE Faith in Action and Rasmussen College School of Nursing will offer free senior health check ups at Summit Center in Mankato. Most services will be provided by nursing students under the supervision of their clinical instructors.

Services provided include:

Blood pressure checks, foot care, ear care, blood glucose screenings, fitness information, and medication review with a pharmacist.

Wednesday, November 16, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at Summit Center, 518 South 5th Street, Mankato. Contact VINE Faith in Action at 387-1666 to reserve a time and to arrange for transportation, if needed.