

WEEKLY GIVING/ATTENDANCE

**Week of May 15, 2011:**

Offered for the Lord's Work: \$8,217.00  
May Mission Project:

The Jacobsons in Tanzania - \$714.00

**Worship attendance - Sunday, 5/15/11:**

8:15 a.m.: 105 10:45 a.m.: 125

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

8:15 & 10:45 a.m. ~ Worship Services

9:30 a.m. - Education Hour; Adult Forum  
- Bryce Stenzel will talk about his play,  
"...To Bind Up the Nation's  
Wounds..." (Heritage Room); Coffee  
(Grounds for Joy); LIGHT

5-7 p.m. ~ How Lutherans Understand the  
Bible - Heritage Room



**Milestone News - by Vee Williams**

Today, we will be using the second graders' class prayer for the "Prayer of the Day". During the 8:15 service, the congregation will read their prayer printed in the bulletin. At the 10:45 service, the second graders will read their prayer to the congregation. Betty Sanger led the class on the importance of prayer in our daily lives. She explained to them the different parts of prayer -- asking, thanking, and loving God. Our second graders are: Brandon Bakke, Nyssa Borchardt, Jack Drewitz, Annabelle Hanke, Abigail Kalina, Sophie Nevills, Grace Palmquist, Alysen Pettis, Kaylee Sivertsen, and Jason Wendt. I want to thank Betty for passing down her faith to these young students.

Also today, we will be blessing our graduating high school seniors. After the service, they will have a luncheon at the church in their honor. Between Christmas and New Years, we will have our "Welcome Back" party to reconnect with these young adults about their new experiences. Past and present youth will be invited to this party.

RADIO BROADCAST



Today's broadcast is sponsored by John & Kathy Crosswell in memory of Kathy's parents, Clifford & Agnes Wilson. 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 May, we'll be collecting tuna and canned meat.

**Our Mission Project for May:**

**The Jacobsons in Tanzania**

Bethlehem's Mission Project for May is the work of medical missionaries Dr. Mark and Linda Jacobson. For over 20 years, the Jacobsons have lead the effort to improve health care in Tanzania through the development of two hospitals, Selian and Arusha Lutheran, and Bethlehem has supported them financially and through prayer. There is a plaque in the lobby of Arusha Lutheran recognizing those who have contributed to the building of that hospital, and Bethlehem's name appears on that plaque. A picture of the plaque is on display in the narthex. **We are fortunate that the Jacobsons will be visiting Mankato at 5:30 p.m. on June 15 at Messiah Church.** We will be co-hosting a potluck dinner and hearing first-hand about their medical mission. Please plan to attend!



**SUMMER WORSHIP** begins on Sunday, May 29, at 9:45 a.m., with coffee being served in Grounds for Joy from 9 a.m.-9:45. We will also have **Wednesday** worship services at 5:30 p.m. in the chapel beginning on June 1.



LECTIONARY FOR 5/29/11

First Reading: Acts 17:22-31

Psalms: 66:8-20

Second Reading: I Peter 3:13-22

Gospel: John 14:15-21

IN OUR PRAYERS

Arlene Stenzel

Forrest Glick

Eric Barnes

Glenn Saxton

Eileen Dalluge

Paul Sullivan

Harvey Menk

Virginia Asleson

Rebecca Schreiner

Gary Zimmerman

Hazel Neubert

Kaitlyn Braun

Frank Larsen

Deloris Guenther

The family of

Gerald Peterson

*(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:

**Our Savior's Lutheran in Lyle**

**Grace Lutheran in Fairmont**

**Katesch Lutheran in Tanzania (partnered with Grace in Fairmont)**

**Our Savior's Lutheran in Faribault**

**Manyoni Lutheran Church in Tanzania (partnered with Our Savior's in Faribault)**

**St. John Lutheran in Montgomery**

**Choma Lutheran in Tanzania**



**CONGRATULATIONS to all of Bethlehem's graduating seniors!**

**Jayd Abild**

**Alexander Ahl**

**Gunnar Boettcher**

**Logan Braun**

**Ethan Evenson**

**Cara Flom**

**Megan Jones**

**Bridget Kohn**

**Dalton Matthies**

**Kathryn Orchard**

**Brady Palmquist**

**Stacie Sprague**

**Amber Steen**

**Jennifer Street**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS



Do you knit or crochet? Prayer Shawl Ministry is running low on shawls, and we need your help! Yarn is furnished (three skeins per shawl) and is available in the prayer shawl closet in the office hallway. Directions for making the prayer shawls can be found on the kiosk in the narthex. If you have any questions, please call Kathryn Hanson (385-0220), Alice Haugen (387-7166), or Kathy Crosswell (388-2002).

### "...To Bind Up the Nation's Wounds..." Lincoln's Last Days Dramatic Play

Written and Directed by: Bryce O. Stenzel  
Published in 2007 by Minnesota Heritage  
Publishing of Mankato, MN

The title of this play, "To Bind Up the Nation's Wounds," was derived from Lincoln's Second Inaugural Address. This phrase set the tone for what he hoped to accomplish in his second term as President of the United States. Tragically, Lincoln's dream for a "just and lasting peace" was cut short by the fanatical, misguided actions of John Wilkes Booth in Ford's Theatre. Although Lincoln is the central figure in the drama, it is being told through the eyes of his faithful bodyguard, William Crook; through the eyes of his military officers: General Grant, General Sherman and Admiral Porter; and through the eyes of his wife Mary and sons, Robert and Tad. Of all the characters, Tad grew the most in appreciation for his father. Please join our talented troupe of child actors and community members from the greater Mankato area in the Dining Room of Bethlehem Lutheran Church as they bring the story of Lincoln's Last Days to life. The final performance will be **TODAY at 2 p.m.** Tickets are \$7.00 for adults and \$5.00 for students 5-16. Children under 5 are free. Tickets may be purchased at the door. Checks may be made out to: "Abraham Lincoln Dramatic Play." Proceeds will be used to purchase equipment for future productions and to cover rental fees. (Please note: a copy of the play is available for review in Bethlehem's Library.)



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Evangelism Thoughts for the Week

"Evangelizing in the church is like fishing in a bathtub: it's terribly convenient, but you don't catch much."

"The test of a preacher is that his congregation goes away saying, not, 'What a lovely sermon!' but 'I will do something'". ~ Billy Graham

## FROM OUR LIBRARY



Did you know that our library has a wonderful humor section to cheer your day? All of these books are listed in the 817 section.

1. Scandinavian Humor, by John Louis Anderson.
2. German Humor, by John Louis Anderson.
3. Sleeping at the Starlite Motel, by Bailey White.
4. Mama, Get The Hammer, by Barbara Johnson.
5. And More, By Andy Rooney, by Andrew Rooney.



### RECYCLE YOUR HEARING AID BATTERIES!

On a counter in the church office, you will find a small wooden box for you to put your old hearing aid batteries in.



campbell

"Naming me Solomon didn't work."

## ANNOUNCEMENTS



### Earth Stewards Tips of the Week

#### Earth Stewards

Microwave cooking is more energy efficient than your stove.

Re-use store bags (paper or plastic) as wastebasket liners to save oil and trees.

Install a water filter for your faucet instead of buying bottled water.

As your light bulbs wear out, switch to compact fluorescent to increase energy efficiency and light output.



### *Amaryllis*

Early one spring, I planted a couple dozen amaryllis bulbs. With great anticipation, I watched for blooms. But weeks turned into months before the first sign of life appeared. By the end of summer, the bed of pink flowers I'd envisioned was nothing more than a scattering of green leaves. So I pulled them all up to make room for other plants. I wasn't about to waste another growing season. Imagine my surprise the following spring, when a single delicate amaryllis blossom appeared. My delight quickly turned to dismay — for I realized I'd given up too soon. Had I the least bit of patience or a little faith, I might have had a glorious garden. Then I wondered: Are there other things or people I give up on too soon? What might a little patience and faith do for a difficult relationship or troublesome circumstances? — Kari Myers (adapted from Homiletics)

### *God bless you!*

Prohibitions against prayer are now common in most public school graduations. But some students at a high school in Washington, Illinois, came up with a way around the ban. Ryan Brown, a graduate scheduled to give a speech, paused to bow in silent prayer as he approached the podium. Moments later, with all eyes on him, Brown faked a sneeze. In response, a handful of his friends shouted, "God bless you!"