

Announcements for the week of
January 29-February 5, 2012
www.bethlehemmankato.org



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WEEKLY GIVING/ATTENDANCE

Week of January 22, 2012

Offered for the Lord's Work: \$9,938.00
January Mission Project:
CADA House - \$571.00

Worship attendance - Sunday, 1/22/12:
8:15 a.m. - 111 10:45 a.m. - 163

Wednesday, January 25, at 6 p.m.: 12

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

8:15 & 10:45 a.m. ~ Worship Services
9:30 a.m. ~ Education Hour; Adult Forum:
Bethlehem Earth Stewards -- Heritage
Room; coffee -- Grounds for Joy



A set of two keys was found in the parking lot. They can be claimed in the office.

Wednesday Night Suppers are in the dining room from 5:00-6:30. The cost is \$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 February 1, 2012:

Meat loaf, baked potato & gravy,
lettuce salad.

Team 2 will be serving.

NOTE: *Beginning on Feb. 22 and through Lent, suppers will be served from 4:50-5:50 p.m.*



Bethlehem Women Bible Study

Pastor Jay will lead a Bible study on **Wednesday, February 15, 2012**, at 9:00 a.m. in Grounds for Joy. All women are welcome. Invite your friends! Also save the date of **March 21**.



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.

RADIO BROADCAST



Today's radio broadcast is sponsored by the family of **Gordy Struss** in honor of **Gordy's 85th birthday**. 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 service is broadcast on **KTOE 1420 AM or KTOE 102.7 FM** every Sunday morning at 11:00.

BETHLEHEM MISSIONS

Echo Food Shelf Emphasis:

During the month of January, we'll be collecting pasta.

Our Mission Project for January: CADA House

Bethlehem's monthly mission project for January is CADA House. CADA stands for the Committee Against Domestic Abuse. Their Mission Statement is: To provide safety and support to victims of domestic violence and sexual assault through education, advocacy, and shelter. CADA provides 24-hour crisis intervention, emergency safety shelter, short- and long-term safety planning, legal advocacy, a supervised parenting time center, support groups, community education, information, and referrals. CADA serves not only Nicollet County and Blue Earth County, but the counties of Brown, Waseca, Watonwan, Faribault, LeSueur, and Sibley as well. For many in crisis, CADA may be the only place they can turn to.

~ Bethlehem Community &
Global Missions Board



The **Sunday volunteer schedule** is now on the BLC website:

www.bethlehemmankato.org

The Care Ministry Team will meet on Thursday, February 23, at 10:30 a.m. for coffee and fellowship in Grounds for Joy.

LECTIONARY FOR 2/5/12

First Reading: Isaiah 40:21-31

Psalm: 147:1-11, 20

Second Reading: I Corinthians 9:16-23

Gospel: Mark 1:29-39

IN OUR PRAYERS

Arlene Stenzel	Fred Otsea
Forrest Glick	Jean Beito
Eric Barnes	Donavon Johnson
Glenn Saxton	Violet Johnson
Paul Sullivan	Jon Ringgenberg
Pauline Halvorson	Richard Bahner
Bill Preiss	Deloris Guenther
Rachel Iverson	Allysa Bruns
Lorene Heaberlin	

(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:

Gloria Dei Lutheran in Rochester
Messiah Lutheran in North Mankato
Ushora & Ndago Lutheran Churches in Tanzania (partnered with Messiah)
First Lutheran in Hope
Cannon River Lutheran in Welch



Starting on February 3, the office will be closed at 3:30 on Friday afternoons. Both pastors will be available by phone should there be an emergency requiring immediate pastoral care.

Bethlehem needs up to six voting members for the Minnesota River Conference Annual Meeting on **Sunday, February 12, at 2 p.m.** This year's meeting is held at Crossroads Lutheran Campus Ministry Center on the MSU Campus. If you are interested in serving Bethlehem and the larger church in this way, please contact Pastor Jay.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

What's Your Water IQ?

1. The average person uses ___ gallons of water per day (largest use is to flush the toilet).
2. True or false: Only one in six people in the world have access to improved water.
3. True or false: Water acts as a natural insulator to regulate the earth's temperature.
4. Minnesota has _____ miles of shoreline -- which is more than California, Florida, and Hawaii combined.

Answers:

1. 80-100
2. True
3. True
4. 90,000

~ Bethlehem Earth Stewards

Winter Water Challenge: Drink water from a faucet or refill your water bottle with tap water instead of drinking bottled water. ~ Bethlehem Earth Stewards



JEANS FOR TEENS

Donate your jeans and get 25% off a new pair of jeans at Aeropostale (River Hills Mall) from January 16 to February 12. All donated jeans will be donated to homeless teens.

FROM THE ENDOWMENT BOARD

What is the *Endowment Board*? How does it work? We invite you to attend the Educational Forum on **Sunday, February 19**, in the Heritage Room. This will be an informative session so that everyone understands the rules and regulations of our Endowment Fund. The Board members will be present for you to meet them, and you will have a chance to get answers to any questions you may have. Meanwhile, should you have a question, please contact Mavis Saxton, Chair; Robert Qualset, Treasurer; Susan Brown, Secretary; Barb Girtz, PR; or Audrey Gatchell.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Evangelism Thought for the Week

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.

~ Acts 1:8



The Bethlehem Child Care Center is participating in McEduicator Night at McDonald's on Adams Street. Purchase supper on the second Monday of each month (**February 13**) through May between 5 and 7 p.m. and give your receipt to the volunteer so the Center can receive a percentage of sales. It's a fun way to eat and visit with friends while supporting the Center!



Valentine Cookie Sale and "Love Potion" Tea -- **Sunday, February 12, in the Narthex between services.** Be good to your sweeties and buy them some sweets! All proceeds go for the Youth Gathering in New Orleans.

Mayo Clinic Health System Hospice offers a number of grief support groups for people in our area. These groups include:

Men's Grief Support Network: a social support for men who have lost a spouse or significant other. They meet on the **first and third Sundays of each month from 5:30-7 p.m.** Call the Hospice Office for the meeting location.

New Chapter: a support group for men and women in their 30s, 40s, and 50s who have experienced the death of a partner. They meet on the **second Wednesday of each month from 6:30-8 p.m.** at the EastRidge Clinic conference room.

Weavers: a support group for men and women over the age of 60 who have experienced the death of a partner. They meet **every Thursday from 10-11:30 a.m.** at Christ the King Lutheran Church.

Understanding Grief: a supportive gathering for those grieving the loss of a loved one. Meeting times are **February 13 from 10 a.m.-noon** at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church; and **February 16 from 6-7:30 p.m.** at Christ the King Lutheran Church.

There is no cost to participate in the support groups. For more information or to register, please call the Hospice Office at 507-385-2989 or 1-800-327-3721, ext. 2989 (toll free).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FAT TUESDAY IS COMING TO BETHLEHEM -- TUESDAY, FEB. 21!

Traditional New Orleans "Fat Tuesday" food, games, face painting, a silent auction, jazz music, & lots of FUN!!! You won't want to miss this! All funds raised will go towards the youth trip to the ELCA Youth Gathering in New Orleans in July. Help support our youth and have some Mardi Gras Fun! Dinner service will be from 5:00-7:30 p.m. in the dining room. Cost for adults is \$8; children under 5 eat for free.

FROM OUR LIBRARY

You can hardly call yourself a "Mankatoan" if you haven't heard of Maud Hart Lovelace or read one of her beloved Betsy-Tacy books. We have all of these books in our library. We also have Julie Schrader's new book, Discover Deep Valley: A Guide to Maud Hart Lovelace's Mankato. The book is full of photographs and gives readers a tour of the historic Lincoln Park neighborhood, where the childhood homes of Betsy and Tacy still stand today. Julie has authored other works on the history of Blue Earth County, which our Bethlehem library has in our non-fiction section (977.621 Sch).



The NCD Health Team invites you to share your faith for Lent. We are commissioning devotional writing for the forty days of Lent from forty members of Bethlehem. Your words will be collected and distributed to Bethlehem members in the form of a Lenten devotional booklet. **Submissions will be due by February 5.** If you are interested, please put the word "Dev." by your name in the pew pad, and we will give you more details.

Please pick up your 2011 year-end contribution report in the narthex.



Please welcome Rasmussen College students on **Sunday, February 5, from 9:30-10:30 in the Heritage Room** for a Heart Health Fair promoting education on several different topics: nutrition, exercise, sleep hygiene, hypertension, and more. They will have several stations set up where they will be able to provide education and answer questions about topics that affect heart health.