

Announcements for the week of
November 20-27, 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 November 13, 2011:
Offered for the Lord's Work: \$10,009.00
November Mission Project:
ELCA World Hunger - \$1,885.00
Worship attendance-Sunday, 11/13/11:
8:15 a.m.: 120 10:45 a.m.: 160
Wednesday, November 16: 18

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

8:15 & 10:45 ~ Worship Services
9:30 a.m. ~ Education Hour; New Member Reception in the Heritage Room; coffee in Grounds for Joy
Noon ~ Semi-annual meeting, Dining Room
5 p.m. ~ Family movie night
6:30 p.m. ~ Financial Peace University, Heritage Room



Thank You! Thank you to the Bethlehem Bakers for the wonderful variety of baked goodies that were donated to our bazaar booth. *Mange takk!* ~ The Pantry Gals

Mange Takk

One comment heard over and over following the Nordic Bazaar was this: "It was so much fun!". Truly it was great! Such a splendid day came about because people were able to give of their time, talents, and resources so that others could experience joy and at the same time support mission work as the proceeds from the event are distributed.

The list of people to thank is very long -- not wanting to omit any names of those who served, we offer a huge, soft, and cozy blanket "THANK YOU" (mange takk). As you read this, thank yourself also. It is through the work of many that the load becomes light.

We invite and encourage involvement in the 2012 Bazaar on **November 7, 2012**. Plan ahead as to how you can use your time, talents, and resources to glorify God.
~ Bethlehem Bazaar Coordinators

RADIO BROADCAST



RADIO MINISTRY

Today's radio broadcast is sponsored by an anonymous person in appreciation of our pastors. 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 or KTOE 102.7 FM** 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



**Semi-Annual
Congregational Meeting
TODAY at noon
in the Dining Room**

LECTIONARY FOR 11/27/11

First Reading: Isaiah 64:1-9
Psalm: 80:1-7, 17-19
Second Reading: I Corinthians 1:3-9
Gospel: Mark 13:24-37

IN OUR PRAYERS

Arlene Stenzel	Rachel Iverson
Forrest Glick	Lorene Heaberlin
Eric Barnes	Fern Merrill
Glenn Saxton	Gladys Olson
Paul Sullivan	Berniece Royer
Pauline Halvorson	

(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:

Specialized ministry partners serving in the military, in nursing homes and hospitals, in retirement communities, in Bible camps, and all retired pastors

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!



**There will be NO
Wednesday night supper
on November 23.**

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

The community ecumenical Thanksgiving Eve service will be held at **7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 23**. There will be **NO ACTIVITIES** here at Bethlehem that evening.

We will have only one worship service next Sunday, **November 27, at 9:45 a.m.** There will be **NO LIGHT** program or adult forum that morning.

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!

TODAY - Sunday, November 20
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.**



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

www.bethlehemmankato.org

Parents' Morning Out will be offered on **Saturday, December 10 from 9:00-12:00**. We are extending the offer to all children ages 6 months up to 5th grade. The suggested donation amount is \$5.00 for each child for the FULL 3 hours. **You must register by Sunday, December 4.** Please contact Leah Garry to get your child registered.

Help Support the Backpack Food Program!

The **BackPack Food Program** sends bags of non-perishable, child-friendly food home each weekend to provide low-income students with a consistent source of nutritious food for breakfast, lunch, and a snack each day school is out. We currently have over 500 children in Mankato enrolled in the program. **Join Hy-Vee and shop for the Backpack Food Program.** Donation barrels are located at both Hy-Vee locations in Mankato. Food donations began on November 14 and will last through April of 2012. Shopping lists are provided at each store.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Evangelism Thought for the Week

An observation from a new member:
 "We are joining Bethlehem because it is a warm and friendly place."



Come join us TONIGHT for fun, family and fellowship. **Bring Friends!** Beginning at

5:00 p.m., we will be showing "Cars 2" in the downstairs theater. Pizza, pop, and popcorn will be provided for a free-will offering. The nursery will be open & staffed for younger children who cannot sit through the entire movie.



FAIR TRADE THANKS YOU!

Many thanks to all who made purchases at the Bazaar that brought our sales to \$1,141. By choosing to buy fair trade, you have helped many artisans and farmers to receive a fair wage for their labor. Remember that you can still buy coffee, tea, cocoa, and chocolate bars in the office. They make great gifts! Bars are now available in milk chocolate with almonds, coffee milk chocolate, dark chocolate, and mint dark chocolate. You can purchase chocolate bars whenever Debbie's office is open.

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.



Please join the congregation in celebrating Christmas by picking a name off the Sharing Tree and attending a Christmas Open House with coffee/treats on **Sunday, December 4, from 9:00 -10:30 a.m. in the Heritage Room.** Gifts for the Sharing Tree can be brought to the church office any time before December 16. This event is sponsored by the Fellowship Committee and the December serving group.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



The Christmas wreaths have arrived! **We have 11 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

FROM OUR LIBRARY

Resources for Your Bible Study

1. Life Application Study Bible is specifically designed to help you study and apply the Bible to everyday life (200.973 Bib).
2. Find It Fast in the Bible: The Ultimate A to Z Resource. This book is fully illustrated.
3. Harper's Bible Commentary -- a comprehensive reference for understanding and interpreting the meaning of the Bible (220.7 May).



Operation Christmas Child (OCC) boxes will be packed today and dropped off at our regional collection point at Hilltop United Methodist Church on Manitou Drive in Mankato.

Any late boxes can be dropped off tomorrow, but a \$7.00 check (made out to Samaritan Purse) for postage will be required at the drop-off site. Previously dropped-off OCC boxes should have checks for the \$7.00 postage made out to Bethlehem Lutheran Church. During the education hour today, the youth will be packing up all the individual items that have been donated. For everyone who supported this mission project this year, thank you for being an important part of teaching children the love of Jesus. All children are taught a Bible lesson in their language before their gift is given to them.

