

Announcements for the week of
September 25-October 2, 2011
www.bethlehemmankato.org



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WEEKLY GIVING/ATTENDANCE

Week of September 18, 2011:

Offered for the Lord's Work: \$8,241.00
September Mission Project:
Crossroads Campus Ministry - \$1,720.00
Worship attendance - Sunday, 9/18/11:
8:15 a.m.: 162 10:45 a.m.: 154
Wednesday, September 21: 21

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

8:15 & 10:45 ~ Worship Services
9:30 a.m. ~ Education Hour; Adult Forum in
the Heritage Room ("Scripture", with Pastor
Jay); coffee in Grounds for Joy
Noon ~ Bethlehem serves meal at the
Salvation Army
5 p.m. ~ Family movie night in the Movie
Theatre room downstairs



Please join us in praying for the faithful use of all God has given us. From now until "Celebrate Generosity" Sunday on October 16, we hope all of Bethlehem will pray daily for the stewardship life of the church. There is a sign-up poster in the narthex for you to show your intent to pray for our life together.

~ The Bethlehem Stewardship Team



Lefse making!

The sign-up sheet for lefse making is on the counter in the office. Two people are needed on Mondays to mix dough, and 18 people are needed on Tuesdays for rolling, baking, and packaging.



Earth Stewards

The Earth Stewards Committee is pleased that the sharing table in the narthex is being used. As the seasons change from summer to fall, the things that we gather from our gardens will change as well. You may have apples that you just can't get around to using, or extra gourds or squash. Please share whatever you can't use, and please take whatever you feel that you can use from the table. Being able to share is its own blessing!

RADIO BROADCAST



RADIO
MINISTRY

Today's radio broadcast is sponsored by Jack Halvorson in honor of church volunteers. 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 September, we'll be collecting personal care items.

Our Mission Project for September:

Crossroads Lutheran Campus Ministry

Have you thought about donating to Crossroads LCM? That's our mission project for the month. Our love, prayers, and donations will assure an ongoing Lutheran presence at MSU under the leadership of Pastor Tammy Dahlvang. Financial support for Crossroads is no longer being given by the Statewide Lutheran Campus Ministry of MN. It depends on our support to continue. Crossroads is the only ELCA Lutheran Student Ministry on the MSU campus. Its mission is to have regular worship; to have a building where the students feel welcome for meals, fellowship, and friendship; and where peer-led small group ministry will help them grow spiritually. Please support the faith life of these students by writing a check with "Crossroads" on the memo line. Thank you!

~ Community and Global Missions Board



The Bethlehem Child Care Center is again participating in McEduicator Night at McDonald's on Adams St. Purchase supper on the 2nd Monday of each month (October 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!

LECTIONARY FOR 10/02/11

First Reading: Isaiah 5:1-7
Psalm: 80:7-15
Second Reading: Philippians 3:4b-14
Gospel: Matthew 21:33-46

IN OUR PRAYERS

| | |
|----------------|-------------------|
| Arlene Stenzel | Barry Bliesmer |
| Forrest Glick | Lorene Heaberlin |
| Eric Barnes | Rebecca Schreiner |
| Glenn Saxton | Pauline Halvorson |
| Paul Sullivan | |

(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:

United Lutheran in Red Wing
St. Matthew Lutheran in Granger
Solo por Fe Lutheran in Colombia
(partnered with St. Matthew in Granger)
Zion Lutheran in Stewartville
Wanzelya Lutheran in Tanzania
(partnered with Zion in Stewartville)
St. Paul Lutheran in Conger

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, September 28:



Baked chicken, mashed potatoes & gravy, rolls, corn
Team 1 will be serving.

DO YOU GET 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.



E-NEWS?

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Milestone News: Today is the first session of four on the study of the Bible. Our third graders, with their parent(s) or grandparent(s), will meet during the LIGHT hour to learn how to use their new Bibles. In three more weeks, the third graders will be given these Bibles that they have been studying from, thus the name of "used Bibles". The Bible is the tool of the Christian, and these classes are their instruction manuals. This might be a good time for all of us to use our Bibles more, too. If you have questions, please call or e-mail Vee M.G. Williams at fiveboys@chartermi.net.

FROM OUR LIBRARY

An Interesting Variety



CHURCH LIBRARY
News

1. Total Money Makeover, by Dave Ramsey (332.024 Ram). A proven plan for financial fitness.
2. Choosing To See, by Mary Beth Chapman (270.092). A journey of struggle and hope.
3. Chicken Soup for the Pre-Teen Soul, by Jack Canfield (158-Can).

Thanksgiving
Service



All women of Bethlehem are invited to the Thankoffering service on **Wednesday, October 19**, at 11:30 a.m. in the chapel. Pastor Collette will lead the service, and a luncheon will follow in the Heritage Room. A sign-up sheet is in the office. The cost is \$7.00. A second offering will be taken at the luncheon for Thanksgiving baskets for the Salvation Army as the stewardship project. Please come and join this fellowship event.

TIMES teens make a big difference in less than one hour! On September 14, six TIMES teens went on a scavenger hunt and collected over 50 food items for the Echo Food Shelf, five winter coats for the "bundle me warm" program, ten items for The Reach homeless youth shelter, and \$20 toward the YG12 mission in New Orleans! AWESOME JOB!!!! In addition, they were seen doing crazy things around town -- including kissing a buffalo, singing the YMCA song in front of the YMCA, dancing with chickens, and other outrageous things. Teens included Maddie B., Molly B., Noah N., Kenzie, Jessica H., & Maria S.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Evangelism Thought for the Week

**Christians keep the faith,
but not from others.**

Journey Through Grief -- this is an 8-week grief group for people who have experienced the death of a loved one.

Thursdays through Nov. 3, 6-8 p.m.

Crossview Covenant Church

2000 Howard Drive, North Mankato

Journey Through Grief -- this is an 8-week grief group for people over 60 who have experienced the death of a loved one.

**Thursdays through Nov. 3,
10 a.m. - noon**

Christ the King Lutheran Church

222 Pfau Street, Mankato

There is no charge for these programs,
but pre-registration is required.

For more information or to register,
please call the Hospice office at 385-
2989 or 1-800-327-3721, extension 2989.

Foster Grandparent Volunteers Needed!

Earn an extra \$150-\$200/month tax-free. The Foster Grandparent Program is looking for individuals 55 years or older who enjoy children & have 15 hours/week or more to share at Hoover Elementary. For more information, contact Gail at (507) 530-2295 or (507) 337-0382.



Attention, 7th - 12th graders! Save the date (**October 1-2**) and find a box for the second annual SLEEP OUT to Fight Youth Homelessness at the Salvation Army parking lot. The REACH, a drop-in center for at-risk or homeless youth, will benefit from your \$5 registration fee. Any additional contributions will help pay the monthly rent at The REACH. Prizes will be given for most creative boxes and most money raised. Talk to Lance about getting a registration form.



Meals for the Hungry

Today, Bethlehem is serving the noon meal at the Salvation Army. Thank you to Ron and Etta Poole and their team for hosting today's lasagna dinner. Feel free to stop by the Salvation Army (700 South Riverfront Drive) and see what happens when local churches participate in this mission project. If you have questions or want to contribute your time, funds, or food, call Bob and Susan Brown (387-2976), Bethlehem's coordinators.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The South Central Crisis Center is a 12-bed short-term residential mental health facility in Mankato operated by Horizon Homes, Inc., in conjunction with the South Central Community-Based Initiative. Individuals who use the Crisis Center are experiencing mental health symptoms that affect their ability to function in the community and their everyday life. This may be an increase in symptoms, such as depression, anxiety, panic attacks, or even hearing voices and having false beliefs, plans or thoughts of harming oneself or others, the need for further stabilization after being discharged from a hospital, or monitoring after being prescribed a new medication. Referrals to the Crisis Center can be made by community providers, family/support persons, or the individual who is experiencing the crisis. Services offered include short-term counseling and support, problem-solving, symptom management, and relapse prevention. Nursing staff provide medication education and monitoring as well as education on wellness. The recovery-based setting focuses on hope, personal choice, and identifying supports in one's home environment. The goal of the Crisis Center is to accept people "where they are at" and to avoid costlier and more restrictive higher levels of care such as hospitalization. The Crisis Center also provides a warm line/crisis line that staff answers 24 hours a day. Individuals can call for support, resources, or to request admission to the Crisis Center. In addition, a mobile crisis team is being developed to respond to mental health crisis needs in the community.



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.

The Lutheran Social Service staff at The REACH reported 96 contacts with at-risk or homeless youth and arranged shelter elsewhere for 19 youth since February, 2011. The REACH has also become a food pantry, and outreach workers gave 100 food and drink items to youth in the last two months. The REACH needs the following items: winter hats, gloves, handwarmers, energy bars, first aid kits, adult backpacks, laundry detergent, young adult clothing, underwear, socks, shampoo, conditioner, body wash, combs, brushes, feminine hygiene products, and gift cards for clothing at thrift stores. Call The REACH, 720-0331, if you have any of these items to contribute. Thank you!