

Announcements for the week of
September 4-11, 2011
www.bethlehemmankato.org



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WEEKLY GIVING/ATTENDANCE

Week of August 28, 2011:
Offered for the Lord's Work: \$5,226.00
August Mission Project:
Lutheran World Relief kits - \$4,688.00
Worship attendance - Sunday, 8/28/11:
9:45 a.m.: 231
Wed., August 31, at Sibley Park: 48

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

9:00-9:45 a.m. ~ Coffee in Grounds for Joy
9:45 a.m. ~ Worship Service
10:45 a.m. ~ Congregational meeting in
the sanctuary



WORSHIP

Next Sunday, our worship times will be at 8:15 and 10:45 a.m. We also will have **Wednesday evening worship services in the chapel beginning on September 7 at 6:00 p.m.** Please see the center of today's bulletin for the Wednesday evening schedule.



Please join us in praying for the faithful use of all God has given us. From September 1 to 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.



A congregational meeting to approve the replacement of the security/fire alarm system in the north side of the building will be convened **TODAY at 10:45 in the sanctuary.** This meeting will be held in accordance with the Bethlehem constitution, which requires all non-budgeted expenditures greater than \$10,000 be approved by congregational vote.
~ Bethlehem Church Council

RADIO BROADCAST



Today's radio broadcast is sponsored by **Chuck & Lorene Heaberlin in memory of George Heaberlin.** To sponsor a radio broadcast in honor of or in memory of someone, sign up on the bulletin board near the church office. The 9:45 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 September, we'll be collecting personal care items.

Our Mission Project for September:

Crossroads Lutheran Campus Ministry Attention!!! Crossroads LCM needs our attention. The number of students involved is growing, and talented student leaders are emerging under the new leadership of Pastor Tammy Dahlvang. Since LCM is no longer receiving funding from the Statewide Lutheran Campus Ministry of Minnesota, they need our financial help more than ever. Crossroads is now a local ministry, working for our local churches and needing to be funded by us. It also needs our prayers. Crossroads is the only ELCA Lutheran Student Ministry on the MSU campus. Its mission is to have regular worship, to have a building at which the students feel welcome for meals, fellowship, and friendship, and where peer-led small-group ministry will help them grow spiritually. Will this ministry survive and thrive? Wouldn't it feel good to help support the faith life of our students beyond high school? You can assist them with your gifts to this September mission project. Remember to put "Crossroads" on the memo line of your check. Thank you.

~ Community and Global Missions Board



**Medo Lutheran Church
Annual Buffalo Roast
Sunday, September 18
4:00 - 6:00 p.m.**

3 miles south of Pemberton on Cty. Rd. 53
Menu includes buffalo, ham, mashed potatoes & gravy, beans, coleslaw, bread, beverage, and dessert. Adults: \$10; children ages 5-12: \$5; children under 5 free. Take-out is available. If you have questions, please call 869-3161.

LECTIONARY FOR 9/11/11

First Reading: Genesis 50:15-21
Psalm: 103:[1-7] 8-13
Second Reading: Romans 14:1-12
Gospel: Matthew 18:21-35

IN OUR PRAYERS

Arlene Stenzel	Lorene Heaberlin
Forrest Glick	John Hansen
Eric Barnes	Rebecca Schreiner
Glenn Saxton	Pauline Halvorson
Paul Sullivan	The family of
Barry Bliesmer	Harvey Menk

(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 Frost
Salem Lutheran in Albert Lea
Ngimu Congregation in Tanzania (partnered with Salem in Albert Lea)
Trinity Lutheran in West Concord
Vista Lutheran in New Richland
Nkinto Lutheran Church in Tanzania

Wednesday Night Suppers will be starting in the dining room on **Wednesday, September 7**, from 5:00-6:30. There will be a meal every Wednesday night, with exceptions being October 19, Thanksgiving Eve, the weeks of Christmas and New Year's, and during Holy Week. The cost remains at \$4.00 for adults and \$3.00 for students through confirmation age. Join the fellowship! Five serving teams are established, with room for more volunteers. Volunteers serve only six times during the year. Call Etta at 387-7398 or Sandy at 388-9149 to get on a serving team. **BRING YOUR NEIGHBORS AND FRIENDS!** All are welcome! This is an opportunity for fellowship with members of Bethlehem and also a community outreach.

Menu for Wednesday, September 7:

Meatloaf, hash brown bake,
green beans, and rolls
Team 4 will be serving.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



This is your invitation to join a choir!

Come; make a joyful noise unto the Lord! We have a choir for everyone at Bethlehem. You can join a choir at any age! Rehearsals begin on **Wednesday, September 7.** Please join us in what promises to be an inspiring musical year!

Lift every voice and sing...

Chancel Choir - 5:00-6:00

The Children of Bethlehem - 6:00-6:45

Gather Choir - 6:45-7:45

The Messengers - 7:45-8:30

For more info, contact Laurie Rossow at ljam@hickorytech.net or 779-9114.



Thank you for wearing your name tags! We have been blessed by a new pastor and many new members joining us. They want to know who you are -- please help them by consistently wearing your name tags. ~ *Evangelism Board*

FROM OUR LIBRARY



A Well-Known Writing Team

Brodie and Brock Thoene have combined their talents into many successful fiction series, including The Zion Covenant, The Zion Chronicles, The Saga of the Sierras, and The Shiloh Legacy. Brodie's background as a writer and researcher for John Wayne's film production company, being a writer for U.S. News and World Report, and having degrees in history and education all combine in these historically accurate, highly acclaimed novels. Introduce yourself to these rewarding books! They're in the *Fic Tho* section.



WALK TO END ALZHEIMER'S

The Mankato Alzheimer's Walk will take place at **9:00 a.m. on September 17 in Sibley Park.**

This is a fundraiser to provide assistance for families struggling with Alzheimer's and for research support to find a remedy to end this tragic disease. A poster about this event is on the bulletin board in the narthex. If you have any questions, call Mel Alms, 625-4913.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Evangelism Thoughts for the Week

**Where will you be sitting in eternity?
Smoking or non-smoking?**

We've been under the same management for over 2,000 years.

Mayo Clinic Health System Hospice sponsors:

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

**Thursdays, from Sept. 15-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, from Sept. 15-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.



Men's Tuesday Noon Bible Study will resume on **September 6** at 101 Main.



Mankato MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolers) invite you to their first meeting on **Tuesday, September 20, at 9 a.m.** Meetings are held the first and third Tuesdays of the month throughout the school year at Hosanna Lutheran Church. Child care is provided. For more information, please visit www.mankatomops.blogspot.com.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



The Earth Stewards Committee has set up a table in the narthex labeled Sharing the Harvest. The table will remain up for most of the summer. When those cucumbers and zucchinis get to be more than you can handle (you can only bake so much zucchini bread, right?), feel free to bring it in and leave it on the table. If you have any produce that would otherwise go unused (don't let it go to waste), please share the bounty that God gives us every summer.

Whether your marriage is rocky or rock solid, you'll be glad you attended a Lutheran Marriage Encounter Weekend! Presentations by lay and clergy leaders give you tools and information to deepen your understanding, communication, and compassion. The fall Lutheran Marriage Encounter Weekends in Minnesota are October 14-16 in Duluth and November 18-20 in Brooklyn Center. Please register several weeks in advance. For more information, contact Dick & Judy Dehnel at 952-432-3105, Pete & Phyllis McMahon at 763-561-1575, or visit www.godlovesmarriage.org.



Bethlehem Child Care Center Update

I am happy to share that our Preschool and Non-Mobile Infant rooms are full! This is exciting news for the center. In September, we are celebrating "Back to School". August highlights included spaghetti painting, matchbox car races in shaving cream, riding on our new trike area, and going to chapel with Pastor Jay on Wednesdays! In order to serve our families and children to the best of our ability, the center has developed a playground improvement plan and a debt reduction plan. The playground improvement plan includes extending the fenced-in area for the trike track, finishing the safety padding, removing the hill, and replacing the grass areas with rubber mulch for safety. We are seeking grants and looking into fundraising to help with this project. The total estimated cost of the project is \$20,000. In order to assist with operating costs, the center has utilized a loan and a line of credit. At this time, we are now working to reduce this debt with a two-phase debt reduction plan. Phase I includes paying off our loan totaling \$6,000. Phase II includes paying off our second line of credit in the amount of \$10,000. We ask for your prayers as we continue to serve our families and share God's message of salvation.