

Announcements for the week of
January 9-16, 2011
www.bethlehemmankato.org



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WEEKLY GIVING/ATTENDANCE

Week of January 2, 2011:

Offered for the Lord's Work: \$8,611.75
January Mission Project:
Lutheran Social Services - \$153.00

Worship attendance - Sunday, 1/2/11:
9:30 a.m.: 130

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

8:15 & 10:45 a.m. ~ Worship Services
9:30 a.m.- Education Hour; Adult Forum
(Partners for Affordable Housing, Heritage
Room); Coffee (Grounds for Joy); LIGHT
3:30 p.m. - New Member orientation
5-7 p.m.-A Life Worth Living - Heritage Rm.

Lutheran Social Services Crisis Nursery Program

The Mankato Lutheran Social Service Crisis Nursery Program is located in over 39 licensed homes in a five-county area (Blue Earth, Nicollet, LeSueur, Rice, and Sibley counties). LSS Crisis Nursery provides a temporary safe haven where parents experiencing a family or personal crisis can call this 24-hour crisis hotline - 507-995-9259. Any child from infancy through 12 years of age can be given safe care hourly, daily, or overnight for up to three days by licensed providers when there is a crisis in the family. Some examples of a family crisis or stress include: sudden illness, housing problems, financial crisis, or divorce/separation of caregivers. Education about additional community services and crisis counseling is also provided via this 24-hour crisis hotline and through face-to-face contact.

LSS Crisis Nursery Services are provided on a voluntary and confidential basis and are available at no charge to the family. LSS has received funds for this Crisis Nursery Program through grants and fundraising since 2007. This program is currently in need of money to continue to place children with licensed providers who are paid \$2.50 an hour for up to 8 hours, or \$25 per day. Please help support LSS Crisis Nursery by writing a check to Bethlehem Lutheran Church, with LSS Mankato Crisis Nursery on the memo line. Thank you!

~ Community & Global Mission Board

RADIO BROADCAST



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 January, we'll be collecting pasta.

Our Mission Project for January: Lutheran Social Services of Minnesota

Lutheran Social Services, with the Mankato office located right here in the Bethlehem building, offers a variety of services to our community. These services include adoption, foster care, crisis nursery, counseling, youth programs, financial counseling, guardianship/conservatorship, and various counseling services for children, adults, couples, and veterans. But - did you know that there are many ways in which YOU can serve our community through LSS? There are several ways that you can support LSS and the clients that we serve. By matching up the variety of needs with the variety of gifts that you have to share, we can work in partnership to better serve our community! See the January STAR for some ideas about how to share your talent, or contact your LSS Ambassador, Shannon Butler, at 507-625-6693, ext. 4.



A key for a Dodge vehicle was found in the church parking lot two weeks ago. Please stop in the office to claim it.

LECTIONARY FOR 1/16/11

First Reading: Isaiah 49:1-7

Psalms: 40:1-11

Second Reading: I Corinthians 1:1-9

Gospel: John 1:29-42

IN OUR PRAYERS

Arlene Stenzel
Forrest Glick
Eric Barnes
Glenn Saxton

Bruce Royer
Paul Teigen
The family of
Jim Davis

(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:

East Chain Lutheran in Blue Earth
First Lutheran in Red Wing
Medo Lutheran in Mapleton
Fountain Lutheran in Fountain
Las Delicias Mission in Colombia
(partnered with the Sunday School
of Fountain Lutheran)
Nazareth Lutheran in Tanzania

Wednesday Night Suppers

Join us from 5:00 - 6:30 p.m.! Cost is \$4 for adults, \$3 for students through confirmation age, and \$11 for families. Join the fellowship! Bring your neighbors and friends! **Let's make Wednesday night BETHLEHEM NIGHT!**

Menu for January 12:

Baked chicken, mashed potatoes & gravy, corn, and a biscuit



Our thanks to Pastor Jay Dahlvang and Betty Sanger for their many visits and prayers while Jack was in the hospital for his final stay. We are truly grateful. Also, thanks to all who sent flowers, cards, called, visited and prayed with us and for us. Thanks to the lunch committee and to those who furnished cakes and served the lunch after the funeral. God bless you all for your love and support.
Caroline (Mrs. John H.) Jones & family

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A NOTE ABOUT CANCELLATIONS...

In case of inclement weather on Sunday mornings, listen to KTOE 1420 AM for cancellation announcements for worship and church activities. In case of inclement weather on Wednesdays, our evening events will follow the cancellation decision of the Mankato Public Schools.



Immanuel-St. Joseph's Hospice Sponsors:

Understanding Grief - A supportive gathering for those grieving the loss of a loved one.

Monday, January 17, 6-8 p.m.
First Congregational UCC
150 Stadium Court, Mankato
OR Thursday, January 20, 10 a.m.-noon
Christ the King Lutheran, 222 Pfau St.

Journey Through Grief - a 7-week grief group for people over 60 who have experienced the death of a loved one.

Thursdays, January 27-March 10
10 a.m.-noon at Christ the King Lutheran

Journey Through Grief - a 7-week grief group for anyone who has experienced the death of a loved one.

Mondays, January 24-March 7
6-8 p.m. at First Congregational UCC

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

For more information or to register, please call the Hospice office at (507) 385-2989 or 800-327-3721, extension 2989.



The price of **Fair Trade** coffee has increased to \$7/bag.

McEducator Nights!

The Bethlehem Child Care Center will receive a portion of funds from all in-store purchases at the Adams Street McDonald's from **5-7 p.m. on the second Monday of each month through May**. We like to call the second Monday "McBethlehem Night".

~ BCCC Board

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Evangelism Thought for the Week

God's Work, Our Hands

Studies indicate that a personal invitation continues to be the way most people come to church, join a congregation, or become part of a Christian education class or other small group. Sunday School classes or other small groups (i.e. Bible study, forums, or a choir) are places where people will go with a friend or acquaintance they trust. The two most important connections are a set of relationships and an intentional setting for exploring and maturing in the faith.

Bethlehem Women of the ELCA

At 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, January 12, 2011, Pastor Jay will lead a Bible study in Grounds for Joy. All Bethlehem women and all circles are invited to attend. Mark your calendars for **February 9** and **March 9**, when the Bible study by Pastor Jay will continue.

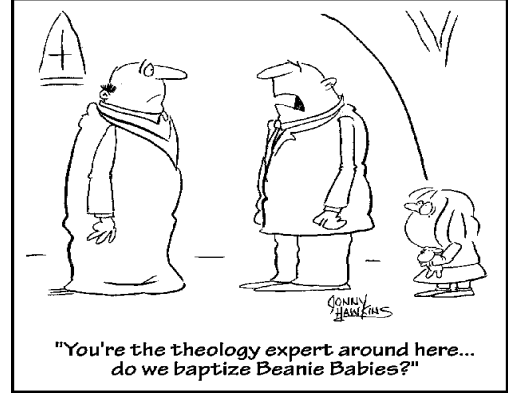
Please join us!

Cultivating Good Habits

Entering a new year is a good time to inventory our habits -- the bad ones as well as the good. Greek philosopher Aristotle once opined on this subject: "Moral excellence comes about as a result of habit. We become just by doing just acts. We become temperate by doing temperate acts. We become brave by doing brave acts." Just so, we will become faithful lovers of God by seriously worshiping and faithfully following the Christian way of life. Attending worship, learning more about Christianity, doing good deeds for others, and participating in fellowship events are all good habits. They enhance your life and bring joy to people around you.



ANNOUNCEMENTS



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.

Words of Wisdom

Remember and never doubt it: With God's help, you can do incredible things. Never think down; always think up.

~ Norman Vincent Peale

A Christian should be an alleluia from his head down to his feet.

~ St. Augustine

In darkness there is no choice. It is light that enables us to see the differences between things; and it is Christ who gives us light.

~ Augustus Hare

FROM OUR LIBRARY

Examples of courage in the face of adversity:

1. Saving Graces, by Elizabeth Edwards (B Edwards). Finding solace and strength from friends and strangers.
2. Resilience, by Elizabeth Edwards (973.931 Edw). Reflections on the burdens and gifts of facing life's adversities.