

Announcements for the week of
January 23-30, 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 January 16, 2011:

Offered for the Lord's Work: \$9,454.00
January Mission Project:
Lutheran Social Services - \$1,534.00

Worship attendance - Sunday, 1/16/11:
8:15 a.m.: 114 10:45 a.m.: 173

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

8:15 & 10:45 a.m. ~ Worship Services
9:30 a.m. - Education Hour; Adult Forum
(Alzheimer's and Dementia, Heritage
Room); Coffee (Grounds for Joy); LIGHT
2 p.m. - TEC meeting
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.

Mankato Area Fair Trade Town Initiative (MAFTTI) Open Meeting

MAFTTI members invite anyone interested in Fair Trade to join them on the journey towards the possibility of a Fair Trade Town being declared in the Mankato area by the end of 2011.

Date: Tuesday, January 25, at 7:00 p.m.

Venue: Community Room
North Mankato City Hall
1001 Belgrade Avenue

LECTIONARY FOR 1/30/11

First Reading: Micah 6:1-8

Psalm: 15

Second Reading: I Corinthians 1:18-31

Gospel: Matthew 5:1-12

IN OUR PRAYERS

Arlene Stenzel
Forrest Glick
Eric Barnes
Glenn Saxton

Bruce Royer
Paul Teigen

(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
St. Paul Kyengege 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 26:

Ham and scalloped potatoes, peas and carrots, and a dinner roll



I would like to thank the members of Bethlehem who sent me cards and inquired about my health. Thank you all so very much. ~ Jean Beito

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.

Hospice ~ "We Live Until We Die"

Hospice provides individuals and their families with comfort, compassion, and dignity at the end of life. Living with a terminal illness can be a time of stress and confusion, but you are not alone! For more information, call (507) 385-2618 or 800-327-3721, ext. 2618.

Immanuel-St. Joseph's Hospice Sponsors:

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

Evangelism: Making Christ Known

Like it or not, the church doesn't have the same moral authority, the same widespread admiration, the same assumed Biblical starting point as it did in the 1950s. Some of this is good. It has reminded us that we were originally mission-minded people. It has reminded us that Jesus said, "Go and make..." (Matthew 28:19), not "Come and sit". (The Lutheran, June 2009)

Bethlehem Women of the ELCA

At 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, February 9, 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 **March 9**, when the Bible study by Pastor Jay will continue.

Please join us!

FROM OUR LIBRARY

January 17 was the birthday of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. We have his autobiography and several other books that depict how African-Americans have struggled against poverty and racism.

1. Martin Luther King, Jr. (BC Kin)
2. A Choice of Weapons, by Gordon Parks (BC Par)
3. The Seventh Child, by Freddie Baxter (BC Bax)
4. Rosa, by Nikki Giovanni (J-Gio)
(this is a junior book)

MINNESOTA RIVER CONFERENCE

The Minnesota River Conference Annual Meeting is **Sunday, February 13, from 2-3:30 p.m.** at Grace Lutheran in Waseca.

If you are interested in what God is doing in the larger church and would like to represent Bethlehem that day, please contact Pr. Jay.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



ECHO FOOD SHELF

ECHO Food Shelf Needs Volunteers!!

Because of our move to a larger facility, and because some of our volunteers go south for the winter, we are in need of more help. We need helpers to sort food, restock shelves, and assist clients with shopping. Days and hours can be arranged to fit your schedules -- and, with our great staff and fellow volunteers, it is really a lot of fun! If you have a few hours to spare each week and would like to help, please call Deisy at 345-7477.



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.



Needed: an administrative assistant to work in growing Crossroads Campus Ministry at the Mankato State University Campus. We have a great work environment, and we offer flexible hours (approximately 15 hours/week). Pay is commensurate with experience. Start immediately. Call Phil at 726-6543 for more information.



"HE SAYS IT ENCOURAGES PEOPLE TO ADD A 15 PERCENT GRATUITY TO THEIR OFFERINGS."