



The

Parish Visitor

A Publication of Bethlehem Lutheran Church • Askov, Minnesota

August 2023						
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A Message From Our SAM



We are each called to be the HANDS and FEET of Jesus here on earth.
 What does it mean to be the HANDS of Jesus?
 The Hands of Jesus belong to those willing to do His work.
 It means doing the things Jesus did.

Mark 10:45

For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

1 Corinthians 12:27

Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it.

What will you do to be the hands and feet of Jesus?

Take time to serve the big and little people in your life this week!

Prayer in action begins when our heart is focused on showing Jesus' love to others.

4 Ways To Be The Hands & Feet Of Jesus

Partly taken from Nicki Schroeder

#1 Offer words of encouragement

When is the last time you wrote a note to your partner and kiddos, or friends - letting them know how much you appreciate them? It's amazing how this small, simple act can make someone feel cherished and loved. Tuck a note into your kid's lunchbox, or under their pillow. Stick a note of encouragement in your husband's shoe, coat pocket or briefcase. Tuck a note into your teen daughter's makeup case or put a word of affirmation on a bathroom mirror.

#2 Invest in quality time

Spend quality time with your friends, spouse and kids this week. Take time to ask important questions that get to the heartbeat of

where they are in their faith. Start off with simple questions, like "How was work/school today?" and progress to questions like "Where did you see God show up in your life today?" or "What lesson did Jesus teach you today?"

#3 Share small gifts

Tuck a post-it note with a "way to go" and a little candy bar in your kid's lunchbox or a spouse's briefcase. Bring a cup of coffee to a co-worker who needs a little pick me up. Send flowers to your bestie, or buy a couple bottles of nail polish and a lipstick for a friend who just went through a bad breakup. Take a cupcake to a friend you've been meaning to grab coffee with for weeks now. Visibly remind someone in your life today of how much you appreciate them. Offer to pray for someone.

#4 Serve others

Take time together to serve a neighbor or friend in need. Offer to do yard work or prepare a meal. As you cook together, pray over the food, deliver it together and talk about the importance that small acts of service can make in someone's life. Have your kids create dinner place mats with Scripture verses or ask them to choose their favorite Christian music to burn onto a CD to enjoy while eating dinner. Be creative!

I miss a ton of opportunities every week to spread a little of Christ's

love to others. And you may too!

Too often we choose the comfort of our own schedule over the chance to show practical love to others. Read the ideas above and recreate them into your life.



We have been asked to join with Grace Lutheran Church in serving some youth at our local high school with some of their needs. Here is a great opportunity for living Jesus to others. Take time to read the needs and possible be part of this serving others.

Go outside your comfort zone put faith into action this month by loving on someone in need



-Clara

August Worship Schedule

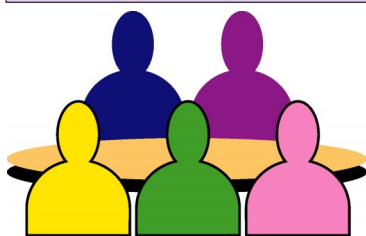
August 6 th Sunday Worship	Eleanor Eskuri	Worship 10 am
August 13 th Worship with Holy Communion	Clara Edin SAM	Worship 10 am
August 20 th Sunday Worship	Becky Gaede	Worship 10 am
August 27 th Worship with Holy Communion	Clara Edin SAM	Worship 10 am

IN OUR Thoughts and Prayers

Please include the following people in your daily prayers:

Jan, Lois, Don & Mike, Deb, Jo, Jeff, Bob, Daniel, Iver, Rita, Chardae, Lynda, Chase, McCoy, Ron, Gavin, Jerry, Justin, Randy, Rod, Kris and their families.

If you would like to add someone to the weekly list, please email the church office at blcaskov@gmail.com or let Clara know



COUNCIL MEETING July 11, 2023 Unapproved Minutes

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Yvette Maloney, Haley Loew via Zoom, Linda Jensen, Clara Edin, and Sandra Pavelka, absent Carolyn Steele.

Yvette called the meeting to order. Clara gave devotion.

ACCEPT MINUTES OF JUNE COUNCIL MEETING:

Motion by Linda to approve, second by Haley, motion carried.

JUNE TREASURER'S

REPORT: Report reviewed by council.

PASTOR'S REPORT: Clara submitted her pastoral care report for the month.

MINISTRY TEAMS:

- Property—Haley reports bug spraying of church property seems to be effective.
- Family Ministry—

Sandra reports information regarding Vacation Bible School at Grace Lutheran Church on July 24th-28th from 5:30-7:30 pm. No cost to attend and dinner will be served. Sandra will announce at church service.

- Circle of Faith—No report.
- Music & Worship—Linda reported no changes.

OLD BUSINESS:

- October 22nd pulpit supply—Council will lead church service.
- Confirmation—Will be on Reformation Sunday, October 29th.
- Kitchen rental fees—Updated: basement/kitchen for members no cost; inactive members \$100; non-members \$150. Other fees will remain the same. Motion to accept by Linda, second by Haley, motion carried.
- Sunday School/Youth Worship—Council agreed to begin Youth Worship September 24, 2023. A youth worship supervisor and teachers

are needed. Please volunteer.

- Church brochure—Being updated. Thanks to all who have contributed.

NEWS BUSINESS:

- BLC staff reviews—Heidi's annual review and Clara's 6 month review. Heidi will receive a raise per years of service in accordance with the Synod guidelines, motion to accept by Yvette, second by Linda, motion carried.

ACTION ITEMS:

- Clara will update the application form with Heidi's assist to reflect the new basement/kitchen usage fees.
- Haley/Linda will remove Sunday School from outdoor sign.

Motion to adjourn by Linda, second by Sandra, Clara adjourned meeting with prayer.

Next council meeting Wednesday, August 9, 2023 at 6:30 pm.

*Respectfully,
-Sandra Pavelka
Secretary*

AUGUST Birthdays

- Brenda Zinter—3rd
- Bruce Storrar—7th
- Hope Loew—6th
- Scott Peterson—6th
- Simon Ecklund—8th
- Sandra Pavelka—11th
- Lois Sahlen—18th
- Adalyn Fogt—19th
- Marion Clausen—21st
- Rosalie Nelson—21st
- Nick Ecklund—23rd
- Mark Maloney—23rd
- JoEllen Jensen—29th
- Kelly Leach—29th

AUGUST Anniversaries

- Tim & Joyce Tabor—August 14th
- Tim & Nadine Loew—August 16th
- Tony & Connie Ecklund—August 20th



Circle of Faith (COF) met July 8, 2023 at church. The members in attendance were: Tracy Zinter, Carolyn Steele, Cookie Nielsen, Jo Foss, Shawn Jansen and Mary Johnson. Tracy called the meeting to order.

Devotions: Jo’s devotion was from Psalms 33:1-9 “Isn’t life beautiful”.

Reports: Secretary minutes from May’s meeting were reviewed. Motion to accept the minutes made by Shawn, 2nd by Jo, motion carried. Due to scheduling conflicts COF did not meet in June.

Treasurer’s report: Checking \$825.76 savings 1,183.39.

Old business: Jo gave a report for Chris’ Food stand held June 2nd and 3rd, approved by Cookie, 2nd by Shawn, carried.

Discussed preparations for National Night Out on August 1, 2023. COF will provide root beer floats and kids games for the event. Carolyn, Tracy and

Mary will attend the National Night Out meeting, July 17, 2023 at 6 pm at the Community Center. Explored the possibility of holding a Farmer’s Market in August. Carolyn will check with the congregation on Sunday to see if anyone interested.

Community meal: Will be July 26, 2023.

Card mailing: Cookie/ July, August and September.

New Business: Mary will contact Heidi regarding the balance in COF’s designated account. Motion made by Cookie, 2nd by Jo to provide the BLC quilters \$300 as a

thank you for their support, motion carried. We discussed the possibility of making a donation to a school fund to cover sports gear or other activity costs for students who otherwise would not be able to afford to participate in sports.

Motion to adjourn: Motion made to adjourn the meeting by Cookie, 2nd by Shawn, meeting ended with The Lord’s Prayer.

Next meeting: August 12, 2023 at Jo Foss’s home.

Respectfully submitted,
-Mary Johnson,
Secretary



EAST CENTRAL SCHOOL SUPPLIES NEEDED!!!!

School supply sales have started, and our churches (Grace and Bethlehem) are starting a drive to help needy high school kids!!

Here’s what’s been requested—

(Highlighted equals priority item): Colored Pencils

1-inch 3-ring Binders

#2 Pencils

Expo Dry-Erase Markers

Pen-size Highlighters

Kleenex

Sanitizing Wipes

Chapstick

Folders

Pens (No gel)

College-ruled Paper

Markers

Scissors

College-ruled Notebooks

Protractors

Compasses

Tampons
Deodorant

Donations may be brought to the church (there is a tote by the secretary’s office to donate items or money to use to purchase items).

If you want to create a little noise in the way of offering and donate coin or cash, needed supplies will be purchased with JOY the beginning of August!! Supply blessing will be held in August prior to delivery.



If you’d like to receive your Parish Visitor by mail, please email the church office at blcaskov@gmail.com

Newsletters will continue to be available on-line at www.blcaskov.com/newsletter

June Treasurer’s Report Summary:

Month: We are **3,388.80** behind in income vs. expenses for the month of June 2023; and **923.85** over our projected budget for the month of June 2023. **Year-to-Date Totals:** We are **9,866.36** behind in income vs. expenses for the year 2023; and **2,797.58** over our projected budget for the year 2023.

WANTED:

Have you, or do you know anyone that may have this “old” BLC brochure on a computer file in their home?

If so, please contact Clara or the church office!

We are working on updating the brochure and would very much like to have the original file if it's out there somewhere!

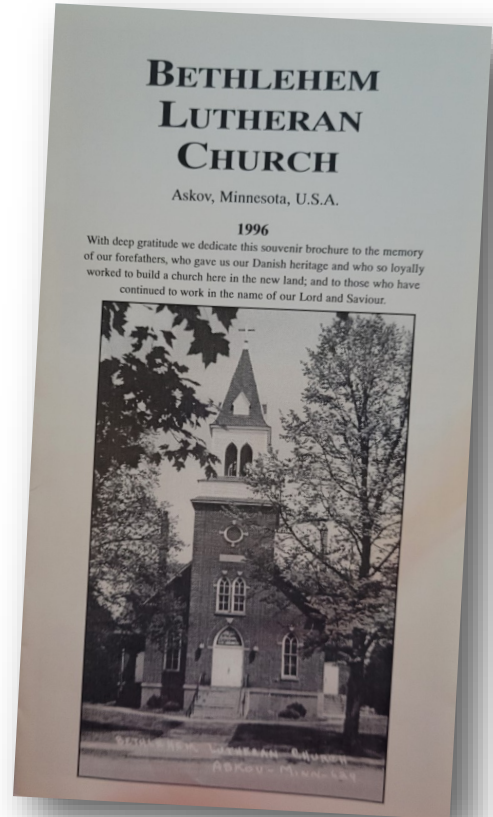


Photo Ops!

Thank you to all of those who have planned and worked

The Sanctuary is looking refreshed!

