



The

Parish Visitor

A Publication of Bethlehem Lutheran Church • Askov, Minnesota

July 2021						
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A Message From Our SAM

I want to thank you - this Bethlehem Church family for wrapping their arms around me during my emergency surgeries and the death of my mom Joyce. Your prayers and caring helped carry me through these really tough weeks. You were a blessing to me.

Christ asked us to love one another – This church community shows so much love to others - I praise God for each of you as you listen and follow his command in your daily walk.

John 15:11-17 The Message

¹¹⁻¹⁵ “I’ve told you these things for a purpose: that my joy might be your joy, and your joy wholly mature.

This is my command: Love one another the way I loved you. This is the very best way to love. Put your life on the line for your friends.

You are my friends when you do the things I command you. I’m no longer calling you servants because servants don’t understand what their master is thinking and planning. No, I’ve named you friends because I’ve let you in on everything I’ve heard from the Father.

¹⁶ “You didn’t choose me, remember; I chose you, and put you in the world to bear fruit, fruit that won’t spoil. As fruit bearers, whatever you ask the Father in relation to me, he gives you.

¹⁷ “But remember the root command: Love one another.



-Clara Edin, SAM

July Worship Schedule



July 4th Clara Edin, SAM Worship 10 am
Sunday Worship

July 11th Clara Edin, SAM Worship 10 am
Communion at the rail
(individual cups available for those who prefer)

July 18th Clara Edin, SAM Worship 10 am
Sunday Worship

July 25th Rev. Cindy Gray Worship 10 am
Communion Sunday (individual cups only)

Click or use the text below to watch our on-line recorded Sunday Worship Services on the BLC YouTube Channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/qXlcchWMIaCRqg>



Please include the following people in your daily prayers:

Millie Sorensen, Janet Jensen, Jan Ecklund, Lois Sahlen, Ann Olson, Tony Ecklund, Shirley Lund, 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

2021 Church Council Members



Marilyn Krogh
President



Chuck Moon
Vice Pres.



Denny Birkholm



Bill Jansen



Linda Jensen



Heidi Moon



Position Vacant



**June 9, 2021
Unapproved Minutes**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Bill Jansen, Clara Edin, Denny Birkholm, Marilyn Krogh, Linda Jensen, Heidi and Chuck Moon.

CALL TO ORDER, CHECK-INS, DEVOTION AND OPENING PRAYER: Council members checked in with each other and Clara offered the devotion.

ACCEPT MINUTES OF MAY 2021 MEETING: Minutes were reviewed. Clara asked that an addition to the minutes be made to reflect the fact that her absence at the May meeting was due to her hospitalization. A motion was made by Chuck to accept the minutes with the above mentioned addition, second by Bill, motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Reviewed.

PASTOR'S REPORT FOR MAY 2021: Three worships, Synod Assembly attendance, Kettle River planning meeting, one funeral, member visits outside the church and at the church, and a wedding meeting. Her class had to be postponed due to her hospitalization.

MINISTRY TEAMS:
• Property—Shrubs

around the exterior of the church have been removed and red mulch was put down in their place.

- Family Ministry—No report.
- Music and Worship—Bill and Linda reported hymns for June chosen.
- Circle of Faith—Marilyn reported the weekend of July 2 and 3 has been canceled at Chris' due to lack of staffing. However, the weekend of July 23 and 24 is still on the schedule.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Constitution Chapter 12—This chapter deals with number and terms of council members. Congregation members continue to work on this chapter, and the remaining chapters of the Constitution in an effort to bring it up-to-date.
- Clara's July Schedule—Clara updated council on what her worship schedule for July will be. Please consult the Parish Visitor for the calendar. Clara will offer at-the-rail communion. It was decided that whenever this occurs, cups will also be offered to accommodate anyone who is uncomfortable taking communion at the rail. On Sundays when a Pulpit Supply person may be offering communion, it will be left to the discretion of that person to decide which method is most comfortable to them.
- SMART Plan—

Members have not been meeting. Linda stated nursing homes have been opening and resuming worship services. Clara offered that there is a shortage of pastors and lay persons able to do these services when communion is involved. It was suggested the plan be removed from the website since the church is now fully open for worship. Linda stated statistics now show there is only a 1.3% chance of passing the Covid virus by touch. Chuck made a motion to suspend the SMART Plan, second by Bill, motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Labor Day Dinner—Denny discussed the possibility of there not being a Labor Day Dinner this year due to lack of interest in volunteers to work. This topic was tabled until more information is gathered. It will be discussed again during the next council meeting.
- Kitchen Monitor—Dating and disposal of food items discussed. Signs will be placed in the kitchen to remind anyone working with food, to date items when opened and when being placed in the refrigerator. Signs also will be placed in the kitchen to remind everyone to check expiration dates on food items in the cupboards and in the refrigerator. Marilyn will post time requirements as

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**June 9, 2021
Council Minutes
continued...**

required by the State Food Safety regulations.

ACTION ITEMS:

- Heidi will remove the SMART plan from the website.
- Marilyn will post Food Safety regulations pertaining to expiration requirements on stored foods.
- Bill and Jo Foss will continue to look at number of members, and rotation of terms for council members related to updates in the church constitution.

Bill made a motion to adjourn the meeting, second by Denny, motion carried. Meeting was adjourned with The Lord's Prayer.

Our next meeting will be on Wednesday, July 14, 2021 at 6 pm.

*Submitted by,
-Marilyn Krogh
Acting Secretary*



**CONGREGATIONAL
MEETING
JUNE 13, 2021**

A quorum was established with 24 voting members in attendance.

Council Vice President Chuck Moon called the meeting to order.

Thank you to Council Member Linda Jensen for offering the opening prayer.

TOPICS DISCUSSED:

- Church Steeple Repair—Property Committee member, Denny Birkholm stated two years ago our insurance company recommended repair of roof citing insurance would not cover if damage occurred due to failure to perform up-keep. Recently an inspection was performed by Klocke Construction

and an estimate was received. Estimate included materials, labor, rental of a telescoping lift, debris removal and lawn repair. The estimate is for \$24,000. The Property Committee is asking for approval of \$30,000, the excess to be used as a cushion should any unforeseen expenses arise. Any money not used would revert back to the original account. A motion was made by Bill Jansen, second by Donald Petersen to approve the amount of \$30,000 for steeple roof repairs, motion carried.

- Selling or disposal of old tables and chairs—Currently there are numerous old tables and chairs in our pavilion, making it difficult to accommodate other items needing storage. Approval was asked for either the sale or disposal of these items. A motion was made by Bill Jansen to allow the Property

Committee latitude in deciding whether to sell or to dispose of these items, second by Gerry Knapp, motion carried.

- Replacement of Church Office Laptop—There was discussion about the age of the church office computer and the fact that there have been problems with it for a number of months, and that it had been in for repairs several times. An estimate of \$1,000 was received from Cybert PC. Denny Birkholm made a motion to approve \$1,000 toward the purchase of a new laptop, second by Nadine Loew, motion carried.

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Bill Jansen, second by Denny Birkholm, motion carried. Meeting was adjourned with The Lord's Prayer.

*Submitted by,
-Marilyn Krogh,
Acting Secretary*

JULY
Birthdays & Anniversaries

- Austin Peterson—2nd
- Shari Jensen—7th
- John Peterson—13th
- Adam Jensen—16th
- Gerry Knapp—16th
- Stephanie Dahl—19th
- Darren Fogt—19th
- Cookie Nielsen—19th
- Travis Sahlen—23rd

- Rob Sahlen—24th
- Greta Quigley—31st

Happy Anniversary!

- John & Judy Peterson—2nd
- Herman & Cookie—21st
- Bruce & Lynn Storrar—29th
- Dwain & Missy Ecklund—30th

In Loving Memory...

Leroy Larsen



January 8, 1940—
May 28, 2021

*A memorial service
was held at
Bethlehem on
Saturday, June 5th*



Circle of Faith met May 15, 2021 at church. The members in attendance were Tracy Zinter, Jo Foss, Cookie Nielsen, Marilyn Krogh, Shawn Jansen, and Mary Johnson. Tracy called the meeting to order.

Devotions: Jo’s devotion sharing a quote from Emily Dickinson, “Home is the definition of God,” and then asked us to envision our idea of paradise. Jo suggested we carve out a precious interlude of time for ourselves.

Reports: Secretary minutes from March meeting were read by Mary. Motion was made to approve by Cookie, 2nd by Jo, approved.

Treasurer’s report: Read by Mary, \$176.71 in checking and \$561.18 in savings.

Old business: Tracy updated us that the property team will be erecting the sign for Bethlehem Lutheran and community meals. Shawn will let Mary Jo know that we would be available for the Kettle River Conference planning committee on July 18th at 1:00 pm.

New business: Community meal will be egg bake with ham, cheese and veggies, homemade biscuits and melon. Marilyn is coordinating the food stand at Chris’s Foods for July 2nd and 3rd, and for July

23rd and 24th. Discussion on providing root beer floats for National Night Out on August 3rd.

Motion to adjourn was made by Cookie, 2nd by Marilyn, carried. The meeting adjourned with the Lord’s Prayer.

Our next meeting will be at church on Wednesday, June 16th at 6:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
-Mary Johnson
Secretary

BBQ FUNDRAISER **CHRIS’ FOOD CENTER PICNIC PAVILION**

July 23rd & 24th

Volunteers will be needed to work the stand, and of course—make plenty of baked goods for the bake sale!

Contact any Circle of Faith member if you would be willing to help!

As we all attempt to return to normal during this difficult time, we still need your help to make certain we continue to meet our budgetary needs

You can make safe and secure one-time or recurring online contributions through our website:

www.blcaskov.com/online-giving

Your checks are greatly appreciated too, for those who aren’t online

Thank you for your continued support!

RFB

The Original
COFFEE WITH JESUS

More Than We Can Handle

God will never give us more than we can handle, isn't that right, Jesus?

The verse you're thinking of is often misquoted, Lisa. God will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear.

Oh, that's a bit different. So, God might give us more than we can handle?

It can often feel that way, Lisa, absolutely. Until you let me handle it.

CoffeeWithJesus.com