



sharing the bread of life with the hungry world

bethlehem lutheran church *newsletter*

Volume 37, Issue 4 · April 2016



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.



I am, at times, inclined to push toward a major event, arrive at the special day, enjoy it thoroughly, and then start looking for the next one. Easter was great, I'll think, but now I've got to see what's next. May Day? Mother's Day? Graduations? Pentecost?

I might just recognize that there are seven more Sundays when we will celebrate Easter. Seven more Sundays during which the Easter candle will be lit. Seven more Sundays with white altar cloths. Seven more Sundays in which the resurrection of Jesus is the upfront focus of our lives.

Perhaps that was why Paul needed to write to the people in Corinth (who seem to have lost this focus):

"Now I would remind you, brothers and sisters, of the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you—unless you have come to believe in vain.

For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me has not been in vain."

During Easter, Jesus continues to appear to us in Word, Baptism, and Holy Communion, regardless of whether we deserve it or not. By God's grace we are resurrection children of God, and God's grace toward us has not been in vain. Happy Easter.

Pastor Gary

NEW MEMBER CLASS

April 10, 17, 24, 10:00am, in the Heritage Room. This is for anyone who is interested in finding out more about Bethlehem.

??? Contact Pastor Gary, pastorgary@bethlehemcf.net or 266-3541.

MEMBERSHIP
CLASSES

Growing Together



COMMUNITY MEALS

After a brief hiatus, Community Meals will resume April 19. It will continue to be held at United Methodist Church, 718 Clay Street, Cedar Falls. Bethlehem will kick off its return and serve meatloaf, mashed potatoes, green bean casserole, fruit salad, relish and dessert. Watch for the sign-up sheet on the Welcome Table in the Lobby if you're able to help. ??? Contact Keith Graber, 269-7784.



NEW BLC OFFICE MANAGER

We happily announce that Paulette Standing is joining our staff Monday, March 28 as BLC Office Manager. She will be a great partner in ministry.

BETHLEHEM'S MONTHLY POTLUCK will be Sunday, April 3, following 11:00 worship. All are welcome.

BEER & HYMNS

Monday, April 4, 7:00pm at Beck's on the Hill

Beer and Hymns is an event that is growing and making its way into a lot of communities.

All congregation members in the community are invited to join in an evening of fun and fellowship. Enjoy beverages and/or appetizers while we sing ancient hymns and contemporary worship music. Music leaders from the LSC will guide us while we sing. ??? Contact Robin Souhrada, 266-3541 or robin@bethlehemcf.net.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT MEALS



*March 30- Pizza	*April 20- TBA
*April 6- Sloppy Joes	*April 27- TBA
*April 13- Pizza	*May 4- TBA

Wednesday Night Meals return March 30, and we are in need of volunteers who would like to help prepare, serve and/or cleanup **one** meal during the months of April or May. The schedule is flexible. If you are able to volunteer, contact Heather Schneider, 266-3541 or heather@bethlehemcf.net.

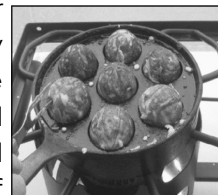
BLC GARAGE SALE

The Service Council's annual sale will be Saturday, June 6. ??? Contact Becky Anderson, 266-4866.

QUARTERLY MEETING Sunday, April 24, 9:45am

ÆBLESKIVER DINNER

Bethlehem's annual Æbleskiver Dinner will be Sunday, April 24, 5:00-7:00pm. (Seniors will be served at 4:30pm.) Cost is \$7 for adults, \$3 for children (ages 5-10) and free for those younger than 5. This event needs many volunteers to make it work. Please consider sharing your gifts (we need cooks, mixers, dining room help and cleanup help), donating a pan of dessert bars or Jell-O or letting us use your Æbleskiver pan. Sign-up sheets are in the Fellowship Hall. Proceeds will go to the Youth Trip Fund. ??? Contact Vicki Newgard, 240-3905 or vnewgard@cfu.net.



QUILT 'N CRAFT



Thursday, April 28, 7:00pm, at the home of Donna Hansen, 3110 Alameda, Cedar Falls, 290-4486. Bring your own craft or learn a new one. All are welcome!



May is Bethlehem's month for finding volunteers to help residents of NewAldaya get to and from Chapel services on Sunday mornings. May has five Sundays, and we can use all the help we can get. We need four, but more is better. Please plan to arrive about 9:50am to start gathering worshipers for 10:30am service. A sign-up sheet will be on the Welcome Table in the Lobby. ??? Contact Marie Gregersen.

APRIL'S FEATURED MISSION COUNCIL: Faith and Learning

One of our goals for 2016 is to "increase awareness of and participation in mission council ministries."

Our mission councils create and direct many of the acts of ministry that the congregation does within our community of faith and throughout the Cedar Valley and the world.

Faith and Learning Council members help form faith in people by providing meaningful learning opportunities. Children grow in faith through Sunday school, Vacation Bible School, and Kids Klub as they learn more and more about our God revealed in Jesus. Adults grow in faith by engaging in Sunday forums, monthly Tuesday evening studies, Friends in Faith, and monthly Men's breakfasts. Moments of faith sharing and learning take place in the Cross Generational events that draw young and old together to witness and learn together. The Cross Generational Christmas Worship joins adults and children in the proclamation of the birth of Jesus.

Special learning experiences like preparing ashes from last year's palms for Ash Wednesday and Earth Day celebrations draw people into the church year and into God's creation. We are grateful for all those who teach, administer, direct, and participate in the ministries of the Faith and Learning Council.



Council on Faith and Learning members are, Helen Pearce, Courtney Lubs, Mary Bro, Jack Gregersen, Amber Halvorsen, Ellen Hermanson, Lisa Newgard, Kari Rea and Jody Streicher.

**Coffee Fellowship:
Youth & Family**



April

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
*Wednesday Night Activities 5:45pm-Supper 6:15pm-Celestial Choir 6:30pm-Cherub Choir 6:30pm-Confirmation 7pm-Kids Klub 7pm-Chancel Choir 8:30pm-Worship@the LSC					1	2
3 8:30am-Traditional Worship 9:30am-Coffee Fellowship 9:45am-Sunday School 10am-Adult Education 11am-Contemporary Worship Noon-BLC Monthly Potluck Noon-Elementary Youth Group	4 6:30pm-Service Council Mtg. 7pm-Congregational Home Council Mtg.	5 8:30am-BLC Staff Mtg. School Bond Elections 6pm-Faith & Learning Council Mtg. 7pm-Pints of Grace @Beck's on the Hill	6 5:15pm-Contemporary Worship Rehearsal *Wednesday Night Activities* Supper: Sloppy Joes	7	8	9
10 CELEBRATE OUR YOUTH GRANDPARENT MILESTONE 8:30am-Traditional Worship 9:30am-Coffee Fellowship 9:45am-Sunday School 9:45am-New Member Class 10am-Adult Education 11am-Contemporary Worship 7pm- Finance Council Mtg.	11 7pm-Congregational Council Mtg.	12 8:30am-BLC Staff Mtg. 9am-Do Day 7pm-Laleche @Beck's on the Hill	13 5:15pm-Contemporary Worship Rehearsal *Wednesday Night Activities* Supper: Pizza	14 9:30am-Bethlehem Fellowship@NewAldaya 6:30pm Girl Scout Leaders	15 BLC NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	16
17 EARTH DAY CELEBRATION 8:30am-Traditional Worship 9:30am-Coffee Fellowship 9:45am-Sunday School 9:45am-New Member Class 10am-Adult Education 1am-Contemporary Worship 6:30pm-Friends in Faith	18 8:30am-Keepsake Quilters 6pm-Youth & Family Council Mtg.	19 8:30am-BLC Staff Mtg. Community Meals 7pm-Pints of Grace @Beck's on the Hill	20 9:30am-Joyful Times 5:15pm-Contemporary Worship Rehearsal *Wednesday Night Activities* Supper: TBA	21 7pm-Quilt 'n Craft	22	23 7:30am-Men's Bible Study
24 QUARTERLY MEETING SNOWBIRD BLESSING 8:30am-Traditional Worship 9:30am-Coffee Fellowship 9:45am-Sunday School 9:45am-New Member Class 9:45am-Quarterly Meeting 11am-Contemporary Worship 5pm-7pm- Ableskiver Dinner	25 7pm-Nurture Council Mtg.	26 BLC NEWSLETTER MAILED 8:30am-BLC Staff Mtg. 7pm-Adult Bible Study 7pm-Pints of Grace @Beck's on the Hill	27 5:15pm-Contemporary Worship Rehearsal *Wednesday Night Activities* Supper: TBA	28	29	30 <div>Current calendar may be found at bethlehemcf.org/#/calendar.</div>



319-266-3541, bethlehemcf.org

CHURCH OFFICE STAFF

Pastor Gary Hedding

pastorgary@bethlehemcf.net

Robin Souhrada - Director of Faith Formation

robin@bethlehemcf.net

Paulette Standing - Office Manager

office@bethlehemcf.net

Heather Schneider - Ministry Coordinator

heather@bethlehemcf.net



LIKE us on Facebook:

[www.facebook.com/pages/](http://www.facebook.com/pages/Bethlehem-Lutheran-Church-ELCA/451552121584266?ref=hl)

[Bethlehem-Lutheran-Church-ELCA/](http://www.facebook.com/pages/Bethlehem-Lutheran-Church-ELCA/451552121584266?ref=hl)

[451552121584266?ref=hl](http://www.facebook.com/pages/Bethlehem-Lutheran-Church-ELCA/451552121584266?ref=hl)

CONTACT INFORMATION If you are moving, or if you have changed your phone number or email address, please contact the church, 266-3541 or office@bethlehemcf.net, so we can stay in touch with you.

WHEN HOSPITALIZED Please call the church office, 266-3541, if you or a loved one is in the hospital. Due to changes in privacy policies, most hospitals no longer contact a church when a member is hospitalized.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

If you know of someone who is experiencing a difficult time, they may need a prayer shawl. If you would like to have one, contact Heather Schneider, heather@bethlehemcf.net or 266-3541.



UNIFIED GIVING THROUGH FEB. 29

Income: \$60,326

Mission Plan: \$60,616

(\$290)



DONATE NOW

Use your smartphone to scan the QR code or go to bethlehemcf.org and click on "Give Online" underneath the Worship tab.

Keep in prayer

BLC members:

Chuck Assink
Linda Assink
June Blanford
Mildred Gutknecht
Dew Hansen
Bill Heine
Dorothy Heine
Isabel Johnson

Zoe Lenton
Virginia Moothart
Lorraine Nielson
Betty Schmidt
Eldora Sturm
Adolph Wald
Florence Wald

Friends and family of our members:

Craig Arnold
Robin Arnold
Norb Borchering
Forrest Chaffee
Mike Christensen
Denise Cooper
Drew Cranston
Ginny Davis
Deloris Doehrmann
Dorene Doehrmann
Anne Dotzler
Rhys Fletcher
Charles Funderburk
Steve Godwin
Mary Griffin
Richard Gutknecht
Naomi Hagen
Jim Heiselman
Robert Johnson
Anna Jorgensen
Phyllis Jorgensen
Marcia Maifeld
Ann Marcie
Cindy McCarthy
Bill Nunn
Finigan O'Keefe
Jill Pechacek
Hilda Pennington

Paul Rohwer
Bob Schmitt
Barb Schroeder
Lawrence Seery
Jerry Shea
Liz Smith Warriner
Marlene Stricker
Robin Vasquez
Minnie Ward
Jeff Webb
Alise Williams
Cheryl
Chrissy
Janeen
Kelly
Michael

Those serving in the armed forces:

Sherry Mohling
Dan O'Connell

Tyler Seehusen
Bailey Smith



If you would like to add or remove someone on the prayer chain, contact Heather Schneider, heather@bethlehemcf.net or 266-3541.



Bethlehem Lutheran Youth Ministry Programs & Family Ministry at 4000 Hudson Road www.bethlehemcf.org

Æbleskiver Dinner Sunday, April 24, 5:00-7:00pm



Jr. and Sr. High Youth Groups (Grades 6-8) and (Grades 9-12)

We will help with the **Æbleskiver Dinner** as a service to our congregation and fundraising for the Youth Trip Fund. **Sign up** on the Æbleskiver Dinner poster in the Fellowship Hall to volunteer for the shift that works best for your family.

??? Contact Sue Jorgensen, 404.3942 or Theresa Elverum, 277.3306.

Æbleskiver Memories

Many of Bethlehem's members have fond memories of Æbleskiver rituals and traditions: some nurtured on the apron strings of grandparents and great-grandparents, some molded from family, others from congregation or community. There are silly stories of "cream"-filled Æbleskiver and tender ones of memories of yesteryear. All are seasoned with God's love and grace. Thanks be to God.

Elementary Youth Group
(Kindergarten-5th grade)
Sunday, April 3
Noon Church Potluck
12:30-1:30pm Join Debbie and friends for lunch, devotions, activities and fun.

Parents are invited to join or visit in the Fellowship Hall following lunch.
??? Contact
Debbie Burroughs 239.7498.

Volume 16, Issue 9	
April 2016	
Upcoming Events	
Elementary Youth	Apr. 3
Grandparents Milestone	Apr. 10
Youth & Family Council Meeting	Apr. 18
Snowbird Blessing	Apr. 24
Æbleskiver	Apr. 24
Softball	Mondays beginning April 25
Pints of Grace for Young Adults 7pm	Tuesdays
LSC Worship 8:30pm	Wednesdays

As our Easter season continues, we hope you continue to use your family cross with it's white ribbon as a symbol of Jesus' resurrection. Find moments of "altar time", moments that are holy. Set aside a specific time in your schedule, gathered around your home cross, or use random, on the spot moments in the car, on a walk, at a restaurant, waiting in line at the post office, at work. Share "Alleluia" moments. Remember the holy time of past Easter celebrations with friends and family. Sing or hum a favorite Easter hymn or song like "Jesus is Risen, Alleluia!", "Jesus, Christ is Risen Today", "Allelu, Alleluia, Praise Ye the Lord" (BLC Sunday School Opening song). Look for new life in God's creation outside. Reflect on how God brings resurrection to your life daily to shower joy around and through you. **Happy Easter! Christ is risen! Alleluia!**



(Robin's cross at her desk.)

WHAT'S HAPPENING!

KEEP AN EYE ON THE YOUTH & FAMILY BULLETIN BOARD
IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL FOR THE LATEST INFORMATION!

Elementary (Kindergarten-5th grade)

Sunday, April 3, Noon-1:30pm
Youth Group

Sunday, April 24
Æbleskiver Dinner

Junior High (6th-8th grade)

Sunday, April 24
Help with Æbleskiver Dinner

Senior High (9th-12th grade)

Sunday, April 24
Help with Æbleskiver Dinner

Young Adult/Campus Ministry

Tuesdays, 7:00pm
Pints of Grace @ Beck's on the Hill

Wednesdays, 8:30pm
Worship @ the Lutheran Student Center

FM 4000

[Family Ministry at 4000 Hudson Road]

Sunday, April 10
Grandparents Milestone

Sunday, April 24
Snowbird Blessing

Sunday, April 24, 5:00pm
Æbleskiver Dinner

Mondays beginning April 25
Church Softball League

Bethlehem has a ministry of Blessings and Milestones that helps us mark life transitions, important parts of our daily lives and recognize the presence of God in our lives. This month we celebrate two.



Grandparents Milestone



Sunday, April 10, we will celebrate grandparents, as they have been a blessing to so many. Grandparents have often helped form faith in many by the power of the Holy Spirit through personal, trusted relationships.

"The Lord reigns forever... for all generations." Psalm 146:10.

Blessing of Snowbirds



In the spring, we like to recognize the return of our snowbirds. We hope this time of blessing during the Sunday, April 24, worship hours will be one of celebration as we welcome our friends and family back to our community.



Monday Night Church Softball League

Birdsall Softball Complex
off of West 12th Street

The season starts Monday, April 25. Times still TBA. The schedule also may be found on the BLC website, Youth & Family Ministry Bulletin Board or Sunday bulletin announcements.

??? Call Butch Naber, 235.9896.

Cheer for our team!



"Where Christ is present in faith, the home is church, too."

Vibrant Faith, www.vibrantfaith.org

Lutheran Student Center Young Adult & Campus Ministry

Pints of Grace
Tuesdays, 7:00pm

Beck's on the Hill, Cedar Falls
Pints of Grace is a ministry with young adults, 18-30 years old, for conversations of faith and fellowship. Come relax, enjoy a beer or soda and the company of other brothers and sisters in Christ.

Worship at the LSC Wednesdays 8:30pm

2616 College Street,
near campus

The LSC is an ELCA partner in ministry with Bethlehem and St. John Lutheran churches. For more LSC information, contact A.J. Houseman, lscuni@uni.edu or visit www.lutheranstudentcenter.org.



Faith & Learning Mission Council

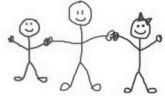


APRIL 2016

CELEBRATE OUR YOUTH!

Sunday, April 10 we will celebrate and showcase our youth! The kids will be reading the lessons, ushering, singing and assisting with Communion at the 8:30am and 11:00am worship services. This is a way to encourage our younger members to be more involved in worship.

??? Contact Lisa Newgard, 415-4204 or lisa11327@gmail.com.



EARTH DAY CELEBRATION

Sunday, April 17

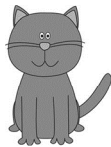
9:45-10:45am



This year's Earth Day Celebration will focus on all God's creatures. We will be making pet beds, holding a pet canned food drive for the Cedar Bend Humane Society, sharing photos of our pet family members and making bird feeders to take home. This is a cross-generation event, and all are welcome.

CAT FOOD DRIVE

The number one item on the Humane Society's want list is canned cat food. They prefer Friskies brand, but any brand will do. Please bring your donations to the church April 10-17. There will be a bin in the Fellowship Hall.



Our Earth Day Celebration will also include a pet photo gallery in honor and memory of pet family members. If you would like to include your pet's picture, bring your photo to the church office April 2-17. Please include your name and your pet's name with the photo. Pictures will be returned.

??? Contact Ellen Hermanson, 573-0719 or ellenhermanson@cfu.net.

PET PHOTO GALLERY

☆ I ♥ my Pet ☆

BIBLE STUDIES AND SMALL GROUPS

FRIENDS IN FAITH will meet Sunday, April 17, 6:30pm, at the church, to discuss the second half of Nadia Bolz-Webber's book "Accidental Saints: Finding God in All the Wrong Places." All are welcome! Bring a snack to share and your own drink. ??? Contact Linda Hedding, 464-7279.

ADULT BIBLE STUDY will meet Tuesday, April 26, 7:00pm, in the BLC library. ??? Contact Pastor Gary, 266-3541.

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY BREAKFAST will meet Saturday, April 23, 7:30am in the Fellowship Hall. ??? Contact Scott Davison, 466-6914.



Wednesday Night Activities

Supper 5:45pm

Celestial Choir 6:15-7pm

Cherub Choir 6:30-7pm

Confirmation Class 6:30-7:30pm

Kids Klub 7-7:30pm

Chancel Choir 7-8pm

Worship at the LSC 8:30pm

CRADLE ROLL



Bethlehem Cradle Roll uses "Splash!," faith formation resources for families with children, newborn through Sunday School age. To get started on the Cradle Roll, contact Carol Sorenson, carolasorenson@mchsi.com.

ACOLYTE SCHEDULE

Use the acolyte list if your child needs to switch dates or services. Contact the BLC office, 266-3541, with corrections for the bulletin by 9:00am Thursday.

Sunday worship with Holy Communion
 8:30am & 11:00am
 Nursery available 8:15am-12:15pm
 Pastor: Rev. Gary Hedding
 Church office phone: 319-266-3541
 Office hours: Monday-Thursday, 8:00am-3:00pm
 Friday, 8:00am-Noon
 Email: office@bethlehemcfc.org
 Website: www.bethlehemcfc.org
****Newsletter deadline: April 15****
Bulletin deadline: 9:00am Thursdays

APRIL USHERS

8:30 Worship

3rd John & Karen Eastland, Wayne & ElJean Bartelt
10th Youth
17th Rich & Suzette Fisher, Stephanie Schmidt & Family
24th John & Karen Eastland, Wayne & ElJean Bartelt

11:00 Worship

Larry & June Belz, Scott & Kathy Cessna
 Youth
 Scott & Kathy Cessna, TBA
 Scott & Kathy Cessna, TBA

APRIL LECTORS

8:30 Worship

3rd Marie Gregersen
10th Youth
17th Nancy Schwaab
24th Gwen Lowe

11:00 Worship

Sherri Larson
 Youth
 Dennis Juel
 Jerry Mohling

APRIL ACOLYTES

8:30 Worship

3rd Zoe Lenton
10th Emma Halvorsen
17th Kai Kuempel
24th Sabrina Leistikow

11:00 Worship

Zoey Golden Neessen
 Kaleb Larson
 Nathan Standing
 Mallory Grund

BETHLEHEM WEBSITE

Upgrade & Improvements



If you haven't visited lately, go to
www.bethlehemcfc.org.