sharing the bread of life with the hungry world bethlehem lutheran church newsletter

Volume 37, Issue 2 · February 2016

ent comes early this year. Ash Wednesday February 10. which means Easter is March 27. It seems that we have been rushed from the wonder of Christmas, through an abbreviated time of God's revelation to through Jesus US (Epiphany), into a time when we admit brokenness of the world and our brokenness as well. Lent is a time when we watch as Jesus gathers the shattered world into himself, experiences that shattering at the hands of humans, dies and rises to

WORSHIP DURING LENT

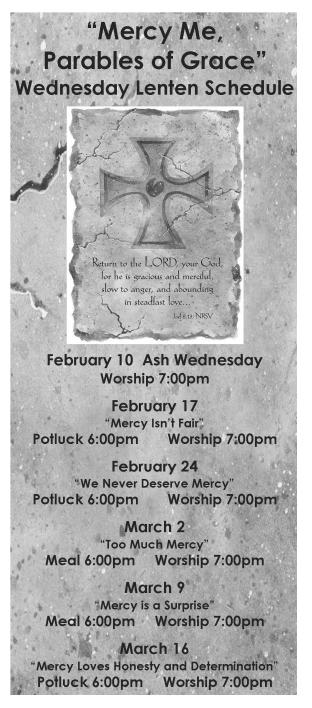
Weekday worship in Lent will be Wednesdays, Feb. 10-March 16. Messages will be brought through a series of Lenten chancel dramas, titled "Mercy Me, Parables Grace." Parables of mercy presented by Jesus will be brought into our present day as a man waits for a jury to decide his fate. We will worship with Holden Evening Prayer and Taize. Our offering will go to ELCA World Hunger. Supper will be at 6:00pm, and worship will begin at 7:00pm. Come, and be made ready for Lent.

bring hope and wholeness back into the life of the world. I don't feel ready for that quite yet, but then, I may never be quite ready for Lent.

Through worship I am made ready for Lent. Through songs, Bible passages and ashes I am pulled into the time of Lent. Through bread and wine I do remember you on the night in which you were betrayed, Jesus. Through Wednesday worship I am confronted with my need for mercy and Jesus' outpouring of mercy. Lent comes for me, ready or not. Lent removes hope in me, and in the world's ability to give hope, and makes me really, really ready for Easter.

Pastor Lay





THANK YOU for the generous gifts given to us by members of the congregation for Christmas and New Year's. Your support is valued and appreciated. — Bethlehem Staff Members

CHILI COOK-OFF/POTLUCK

The Souper Bowl of Caring Chili Cook-Off/Potluck will be Sunday, February 7, at noon, in the Fellowship Hall. If you think your chili recipe is a winner, look for the sign-up sheet on



the table in the Fellowship Hall. If you're not a chili cook, consider bringing something that pairs well with chili for the potluck. For more information on the Souper Bowl of Caring, see the "B.L.Y.M.P. & FM 4000 News" page.

JOYFUL TIMES

Joyful Times will attend "Agnus Die Ministry Lenten Lessons and Prayers: A Musical Journey with Christ" on Sunday, February 14, 3:00pm, at St. Mary Catholic Church, Waverly. The group will carpool, leaving from BLC at 2:00pm. If you would like to go, sign up on the Welcome Table. ??? Contact Kathy Timmer, 277-4789 or gustimmer@cfu.net. *Note: In case of bad weather, we will postpone and attend this event at Blessed Sacrament, Waterloo, on February 19, 7:30pm.

QUILT 'N CRAFT



Thursday, February 11 and 25, 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!

CONGREGATIONAL THEME & GOALS FOR 2016

"Home is Church, Too"

+Formation of Faith for All Ages
+Cross-Generational and Community Building
Within the Congregation
+Increase Awareness Of and Participation In
Mission Council Ministries
+Stewardship Growth and a Successful
Capital Campaign for Sanctuary Lighting

CASTING CALL We are looking for people to be part of our chancel dramas on Wednesday nights during Lent. If you are interested, contact Pastor Gary, 266-3541, or Kent Anderson, 319-290-4866.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT MEALS

*February 3@5:45pm - TBA

*February 10 - No Meal — Ash Wednesday

*February 17@6pm - Potluck

*February 24@ 6pm - Potluck

Wednesday Night Meals will resume after Easter, on March 30. If you are interested in helping with a meal, email Heather, heather@bethlehemcf.net.



BOWLING OUTING

Mark your calendars for an all-church Bowling Outing, sponsored by Nurture Council, at Maple Lanes, 2608 University

Ave., Waterloo, Sunday, March 6, 2:00-4:00pm. Cost is \$2.99 per game, shoes included. Look for a sign-up sheet on the Welcome Table. ??? Contact Diane Kestner, 277-2469 or tdk325@hotmail.com.

FEBRUARY'S FEATURED MISSION COUNCIL: Congregational Home

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.

The chief ministry of the Congregational Home Council is to provide an effective and safe space for worship, learning, fellowship, hospitality and outreach into the community. Members also work to make our space financially and ecologically sustainable. They care for and make improvements to the buildings and grounds. They create policies for the use of the building and grounds by the larger community. Their ministry supports much of what we do. For more information, or if you are interested in serving on this council, contact Chariman Butch Naber, 235-9896 or Imnaber@mchsi.com.



Congregational Home Council members are, from left, Denny Juel, Robin Hansen, John Eastland, Jeff Hermanson, Rich Fisher, Max Lowe, Fred Jorgensen and Butch Naber. Not pictured, Jerry Mohling.

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e Fello	o) dir
Coffee	Worst

February

Sethlehem (Lutheran church suring) world.

Sat	9		13		20		27 7:30am-Men's Bible Study		
Fri	s		n WAldaya	nal ncil Mtg. Hansen's	19		26	Hansen's	Current calendar may be found at www.bethlehemcf.org.
Thurs	4		11 9:30am-Bethlehem Fellowship@NewAldaya	7pm-Congregational Council Mtg. 7pm-Quilt 'n Craft @Donna Hansen's	18		25	7pm-Quilt 'n Craft @Donna Hansen's	Current co
Wed	3 5:15pm-Contemporary Worship	Rehearsal *Wednesday Night Activities Supper: TBA	10 ASH WEDNESDAY	5:15pm-Contemporary Worship Rehearsal 6pm-Altar Guild 6pm-Chancel Choir 7pm-Worship 8:30pm-Worship@LSC	17 9:30am-Joyful Times Meeting	5:15pm-Contemporary Worship Rehearsal 6pm-Worship Council Mtg. *Lenten Wednesday Activities Supper: Polluck	24	5:15pm-Contemporary Worship Rehearsal *Lenten Wednesday Activities Supper: Potluck	*Lenten Wednesday Activities \$m.Supper 6:15pm-Celestial Choir 6:30pm-Cherub Choir 7pm-Worship 7:45pm-Chancel Choir 8:30pm-Worship@LSC
Tue	2 8:30am-BLC Staff Mtg.	6pm-Faith & Learning Council Mtg. 7pm-Pints of Grace @Beck's on the Hill	9 8:30am-BLC Staff Mtg. 9am-Do Day (In Library)	7pm-Spiritual Renewal Council Mtg. 7pm-Pints of Grace @Beck's on the Hill	16 CF SCHOOL BOARD ELECT. 8:30am-BLC Staff Mtg.	7pm-Pints of Grace @Beck's on the Hill	23 BLC NEWSLETTER MAILED 8:30am-BLC Staff Mtg.	7pm-Adult Bible Study 7pm-Pints of Grace @Beck's on the Hill	*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@LSC
Mon	1	6pm-Service Council Mtg. 7pm-Congregational Home Council Mtg.	8		15 BLC NEWSLETTER DEADLINE 8am-Keepsake Quilters	6pm-Youth & Family Council Mtg.	22	7pm-Nurture Council Meeting	29
Sun			7 8:30am-Traditional Worship 9:30am-Coffee Fellowship 9:45am-Finance Council Mtg.	9:45am-Sunday School 10am-Burning of Palms 10am-Adult Education 11am-Contemporary Worship Noon-Chili Cook-Off/Potluck Noon-Elementary Youth Group	14 MARRIAGE BLESSING 8:30am-Traditional Worship 9:30am-Coffee Fellowship 9:45am-Sunday School	10am-Adult Education 11am-Contemporary Worship 2pm-Joyful Times to St. Mary's in Waverly	21 8:30am-Traditional Worship 9:30am-Coffee Fellowship 9:45am-Sunday School 10am-Adult Education	11am-Contemporary Worship 2pm-Jubiliee Conference 6:30pm-Friends in Faith	8:30am-Traditional Worship 9:30am-Coffee Fellowship 9:45am-Sunday School 10am-Adult Education 11am-Contemporary Worship 2pm-First Communion Class



319-266-3541, www.bethlehemcf.ora

CHURCH OFFICE STAFF **Pastor Gary Hedding**

pastorgary@bethlehemcf.net

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robin@bethlehemcf.net

Joni McDonough - Office Manager

joni@bethlehemcf.net

Heather Schneider - Ministry Coordinator

heather@bethlehemcf.net

LIKE us on Facebook: 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 DEC. 31

\$349,187.38 \$353,775.00 (4,587.62)

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN FOR LIGHTING Jan. 1, we have raised \$75,990 in gifts and pledges of the \$80,000 needed.



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:

Bertie Jepsen Chuck Assink Isabel Johnson Linda Assink Betty Schmidt June Blanford Adolph Wald Shirley Christensen Mildred Gutknecht Florence Wald

Dew Hansen

Friends and family of our members:

Craig Arnold Robin Arnold Bill Nunn Finegan O'Keefe Norb Borcherding Forrest Chaffee Jill Pechacek Denise Cooper Hilda Pennington **Drew Cranston** Paul Rohwer **Bob Schmitt** Ginny Davis

Cyndi McCarthy

Barb Schroeder Deloris Doehrmann Lawrence Seery Dorene Doehrmann

Jerry Shea Anne Dotzler

Liz Smith Warriner Rhys Fletcher Marlene Stricker Charles Funderbur Robin Vasquez Steve Godwin Minnie Ward Mary Griffin Annette Warren Richard Gutknect

Jeff Webb Naomi Haaen Alise Williams Jim Heiselman

Robert Johnson Cheryl Chrissy Anna Jorgensen Franny Phyllis Jorgensen Pat Junk Janeen Kelly Robert Junk Michael Marcia Maifeld

Ann Marcie

Those serving in the armed forces:

Sherry Mohling Tyler Seehusen Dan O'Connell Bailey Smith



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



Over and over again, we get notes and phone calls from our Bethlehem members at NewAldaya or those who are shut in, telling us how much they love getting the crafts that the Elementary Youth make for them. It is such a rich connection for them to be remembered in their home congregation, even if they are not able to attend worship at Bethlehem any longer. They appreciate it so much. Our Elementary Youth have a tender way of communicating Jesus' love through their projects, too. Thanks, kids!



Kindergarten through 4th grade youth are invited to join us Sunday, February 7, Noon-1:30pm, for lunch at the Chili Cook-Off/Potluck. Debbie and friends will gather about 12:30pm for a valentine service project. Parents are invited to join or visit in the Fellowship Hall following lunch. ??? Contact Debbie Burroughs, 239.7498.

Chili Cook-Off/Potluck Sunday, February 7, Noon

Sr. and Jr. High Youth will serve a variety of chili for our Chili Cook-Off. Please bring a side or dessert to share at the potluck, hosted by the Nurture Council.

Jr. and Sr. High Youth should sign up on the Family Youth and Ministry Bulleting Board

to help with set-up, serving and clean-up.

??? Contact Sue Jorgensen, 268.0011 or Theresa Elverum, 277.3306.

Volume 16, Issue 7

February 2016

Upo	oming Events		
Souper Bowl of Caring Collection	Through Feb. 7		
Chili Cook-Off Jr. & Sr. High Youth Group	Feb. 7		
Elementary Youth Group	Feb. 7		
Ash Wednesday Worship	Feb. 10		
Marriage Blessing	Feb. 14		
Youth & Family Council Meeting	Feb. 15		
Lenten Worship Wednesday Evenings	Feb. 17- Mar. 16		
First Communion Class	Feb. 28		
Pints of Grace for Young Adults 7pm	Tuesdays		
LSC Worship 8:30pm	Wednesdays		

Jr. High Youth will be participating in Souper Bowl of Caring "Lord, even as we enjoy the Super Bowl football game, help us to be mindful again this year. \$600 is our fundraising goal.

Look for the "soup cans" to make your donations to the NFC or AFC team you think will win, or the IDC (I don't care) "soup can." We will collect through "Souper" Bowl Sunday, February 7.

??? Contact Sue Jorgensen, 268.0011.

Donations this year will go to the **Student Ministry Food Pantry** at the UNI Lutheran Student Center. The food pantry is an ecumenical program to serve all college students in the Cedar Valley and is open at the LSC Wednesdays, 4:30-

of those who are without a bowl of soup to eat." - Souper Bowl of Caring Founding Prayer



6:30pm. The Student Food Pantry mission statement is based on Matthew 25:35 (NRSV), "For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me."

WHAT'S HAPPENING!

Elementary (Kindergarten-5th grade)

Sunday, Feb. 7, Noon-1:30pm Youth Group

Junior High (6th-8th grade)

Now through Sunday, Feb. 7 Souper Bowl of Caring Collection

> Sunday, Feb. 7 Chili Cook-Off/Potluck

Senior High (9th-12th grade)

Sunday, Feb. 7 Chili Cook-Off/Potluck

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, Feb. 7 Chili Cook-Off/Potluck

Sunday, Feb. 14 Marriage Blessing

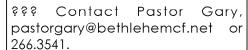
Sunday, Feb. 28, 2:00-4:30pm First Communion Class



First Communion Class Sunday, February 28 2:00-4:30pm

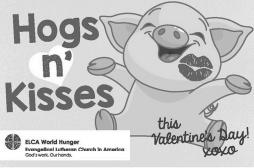
We believe Holy Communion may be taken when parents feel their child is ready to receive it. Pastor Gary Hedding and artist Dawn Deines-Christensen will co-teach the class in the Fellowship Hall. Along with Pastor Gary's theology, ritual and practices training, Dawn will participants in an experiential learning time by helping each individual make their own paten chalice and for Holy Communion. The personal paten and chalice will be used when we celebrate the First Communion Milestone durina Maundy Thursday worship Thursday, March 24, 7:00pm. Please sign up on the Milestones Blessings Ministry bulletin board in the MILES ONES

Fellowship Hall.



Valentine's Celebrate Day with the purchase of an ELCA Good Gifts gram that helps provide families in need with fruit-tree seedlings, honeybees, pigs and other animals and resources they need to escape hunger and poverty. See the bulletin board at the east end of the





Wedding Anniversary Milestone Sunday, February 14

Bethlehem is a congregation that recognizes milestones and special moments that recur in the lives of people. During worship February 14, we will recognize those who are living in the adventure of marriage. We hope this time of blessing will be one of celebration, encouragement and MILES ONES dedication.











Resources for Lent and Holy Week are available on a table in the lobby to take for your personal or family devotions.

Nontraditional things to give up or add this Lent:

*Check phone only 3 times a day. *Ask a person each day if you can pray for them, then pray for their requests.

*Post a Bible verse each day on social media.

*Give a big tip when you eat out.



Young Adult and 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 St. near campus

An ELCA partner in ministry with Bethlehem and St. John Lutheran churches.

For more LSC information, visit www.lutheranstudentcenter.org.

Faith & Learning Mission Council

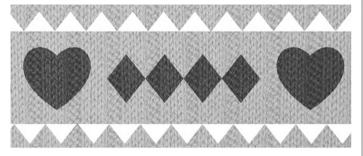


FEBRUARY 2016

BURNING OF PALMS

Join us Sunday, February 7, at 10:00am, for a cross-generational Sunday School lesson on the burning of the palms in preparation for Ash Wednesday.





Wednesday Night Activities

Feb. 3

Supper 5:45pm
Celestial Choir 6:15-7pm
Cherub Choir 6:30-7pm
Confirmation Class 6:30-7:30pm
Kids Klub 7-8pm
Chancel Choir 7-8pm
Worship at the LSC 8:30pm

Feb. 10

Chancel Choir 6pm
Ash Wednesday Worship 7pm
Worship at the LSC 8:30pm

Feb. 17 & 24

Supper 6pm
Celestial Choir 6:15-7pm
Cherub Choir 6:30-7pm
Lenten Worship 7pm
Chancel Choir 7:45pm
Worship at the LSC 8:30pm

*There will be no Confirmation or Kids Klub during Lent.

BIBLE STUDIES AND SMALL GROUPS

FRIENDS IN FAITH will meet Sunday, February 21, 6:30pm, at the church to discuss the first half of Nadia Bolz-Weber's newest book, "Accidental Saints: Finding God in All the Wrong People." All are welcome. Bring a snack to share and your own drink. ??? Contact Linda Hedding, 464-7279.

ADULT BIBLE STUDY will meet Tuesday, February 23, 7:00pm, in the library. ??? Contact Pastor Gary, 266-3541.

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY BREAKFAST will meet Saturday, February 27, 7:30am in the Fellowship Hall. ??? Contact Scott Davison, 486-6914



FEELING SICK?

With cold and flu season upon us, please keep your children home if they are showing signs of illness, such as fever, sore throat, upset stomach and body aches. A child should be fever-free for 24 hours before participating in church activities or being in the nursery.

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.



4000 Hudson Road, Cedar Falls, Iowa 50613

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

"BETHLEHEM" (USPS 565-290) is published monthly by the BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN CHURCH, 4000 Hudson Road, Cedar Falls, Iowa 50613, Periodical Postage Paid at Cedar Falls, lowa 50613.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Bethlehem, 4000 Hudson Road, Cedar Falls, Iowa 50613

VOLUME XXXVII NUMBER II JANUARY 26, 2016

FEBRUARY USHERS

8:30 Worship

0.20 Warship

7th Wayne & ElJean Bartelt, Megan & Lily Hermanson

14th Rich & Suzette Fisher, Stephanie Schmidt & Family

21st Kurt & Shelby Wiethorn, Megan & Lily Hermanson

28th Wayne & ElJean Bartelt, Kurt & Shelby Wiethorn

11:00 Worship

Scott & Kathy Cessna, Denny & Mary Jo Juel Scott & Kathy Cessna, Denny & Mary Jo Juel Scott & Kathy Cessna, Scott & Barb Davison Scott & Barb Davison, Denny & Mary Jo Juel

FEBRUARY LECTORS

	8:30 Worship	11:00 Worship
7 th	Keith Graber	Marty O'Connell
14 th	Glenn Nelson	Janet O'Connell
21st	Linda Lewis	Becky Anderson
28 th	Calvin Quattlebaum	Becky Juel

FEBRUARY ACOLYTES

11:00 Warship

	6.30 WOISHIP	TI.00 WOISHID
7 th	Jenna Engbrecht	Trenton Holden
14 th	Alex Schmidt	Chayse Avino-Smith
21st	Turner Kaufman	Jackson Barth
28 th	Jill Kestner	Isaak Dengler



Bethlehem Lutheran Church has a weekly update called eConnect. It highlights important events, points you to the website for Pastor Gary's blog and the current calendar of events. If you would like to receive eConnect, send your email address to office@bethlehemcf.net.