



We have seen His star in the east
and have come to worship Him.”
Matthew 2:2b

March 2023
Bethlehem Lutheran
Church & School

1837 Mountain Street
Carson City, NV 89703

(775) 882-5252
(775) 882-9278 Fax
www.blcs.org

Sunday Divine Services:
8:00am & 10:30am

Sunday School & Adult
Bible Study: 9:15am

Rev. Jedidiah Maschke
Pastor

Lora Spiker
Church Secretary

Mr. Lonnie Karges
Principal

"Please follow us on
Facebook! www.facebook.com/blcscarsoncity/"

MISSION STATEMENT:

To proclaim the Gospel of our
Lord Jesus Christ through witness,
mercy, and
Christian education

Places of the Passion

This past week, on Ash Wednesday, we began our worship series for Lent. During the coming weeks, we will follow the footsteps of Jesus and contemplate at each place what happened to our Savior as He follows the path of His passion for our sake. Each service explores the meaning, history and spiritual inspiration associated with the location highlighted. You will grow to understand more deeply the hard road our Lord took that the way to heaven might be open to us.

Ash Wednesday – February 22nd, 6:30 p.m.

The City of Jerusalem • Matthew 26:1-5

Jerusalem is the place of the Passover, where Jesus gathers with the crowds.

Week 1 – March 1st, 6:30 p.m.

Bethany • Matthew 26:6-13

Jesus is anointed for burial by His friend Mary at her home in this small town.

Week 2 – March 8th, 6:30 p.m.

The Mount of Olives • Matthew 26:30-35

The disciples sing a hymn with Jesus before they head out to this place of prayer.

Week 3 – March 15th, 6:30 p.m.

Gethsemane • Matthew 26:47-56

Jesus is betrayed and arrested in this garden under cover of darkness.

Week 4 – March 22nd, 6:30 p.m.

The Courtyard • Matthew 26:57-69

While Jesus is put on trial before the high priest, Peter denies Jesus in this place.

Week 5 – March 29th, 6:30 p.m.

Pilate's Judgment Hall • Matthew 27:11-23

Pilate is positioned here to set Jesus free, but turns Him over to be crucified instead.

Palm Sunday – April 2nd, 8:00 & 10:30 a.m.

Bethphage • Matthew 21:1-11

This place is where the ride into Jerusalem on a donkey begins for Jesus.

Maundy Thursday – April 6th, 6:30 p.m.

The Upper Room • Matthew 26:17-29

Climb the stairs to join the disciples in receiving the body and blood of Christ in bread and wine.

Good Friday – April 7th, 6:30 p.m.

Golgotha • Matthew 27:45-56

The Place of the Skull is where Jesus breathes His last.

Easter Sunday – April 9th, 8:00 & 10:30 a.m.

The Garden Tomb • Matthew 28:1-10

See the place where they laid Him who is now arisen.

We hope you will join us for each of our special Lenten worship services.
In Christ,

Pastor Maschke

Elder Page**Hunger and Thirst**

As most of you know, I spent most of my life in the Third World before I came to the United States. So, it was quite a surprise for me when I arrived here to see the abundance of food. It did not matter whether or not it was at a Church meeting, a private home, or some fund-raising function. There was always not only lots of food but a variety of food. Even with the recent supply chain problems, it does not appear to have radically affected the supply of food around here.

In some of the places that I have lived, supply and demand did not apply as it does in the United States, and it was quota system that was in place. So if you did not get to the store in time, you were greeted with empty shelves. Hunger and thirst were a reality for me.

But as I have grown in the Faith here in the United States, I have realized that hunger and thirst have a deeper meaning, where I Hunger and Thirst for God. And love for God comes only from Him, as a gift to those who belong to Christ (1 John 4:19) This means that the only ones who can truly hunger and thirst are believers, while the rest of the people yearn for other material things like wealth, security, control, or prominence, which they mistakenly think will satisfy their soul.

One of the great examples in the Bible can be found in (Luke 10:38)), when Jesus came to a village where a woman named Martha opened her home to Him. She had a sister called Mary, who promptly sat at the Lord's feet listening to what He said, but Martha was distracted by serving all the food preparations.

In Matthew 5:6, Jesus says, Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. In this verse, Jesus is referring to a spiritual hunger and thirst. Blessed is another word for happy and most of us are looking for happiness but eating your favorite meal might momentarily satisfy you, but things in this world do not have lasting fulfillment.

So, in conclusion, it might be time to distinguish which hunger and thirst are likely to provide lasting happiness for us.

Blessings, Colin Wigglesworth, Elder

Upcoming**2023 Holiday Church Schedule**

February 22nd – Ash Wednesday @6:30pm

March 1st—Wednesday @6:30pm—Lent Supper @5:30pm

March 8th—Wednesday @6:30pm—Lent Supper @5:30pm

March 15th—Wednesday @6:30pm—Lent Supper @5:30pm

March 22nd—Wednesday @6:30pm—Lent Supper @5:30pm

March 29th—Wednesday @6:30pm—Lent Supper @5:30pm

April 2—Palm Sunday @8:00am & 10:30am

April 6th—Maundy Thursday @6:30pm (communion)

April 7th—Good Friday @6:30pm

April 9th—Easter @:00am & 10:30am with brunch between services

President's Post

Bethlehem Lutheran family, this month's newsletter will focus on the season of Lent. There are some excellent resources available on the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod website (lcms.org). I found some links to Lutheran Hour Ministries (lhm.org) with a downloadable book called **"MAN OF SORROWS, PEOPLE OF JOY"**. This has daily devotions that can be used by yourself, with your family, or can be shared with others. I've included one of the devotions as our Catechism for this month. I've also included the church financials to keep you informed of our shared responsibilities to help spread the Word here in the Carson City/Carson Valley area.

Catechism –

IN THE MIDDLE WITH US

And over His head they put the charge against Him, which read, "This is Jesus, the King of the Jews." Then two robbers were crucified with Him, one on the right and one on the left. (Matthew 27:37-38)

It's a good place for Jesus, don't you think? Crucified between two thieves. Given the kind of people He welcomed during his life, I'm sure He felt right at home!

And that's good for you and for me – because we need Jesus just as much as those two dying men did. Oh, we may not be robbers; but we have our own sins, just as deadly, even if they're a lot less conspicuous. Hatred; gossip; pride; back-biting; cheating just a little, here and there, resentment; self-centeredness – all the ordinary sins that add up to have such a life-destroying effect. We may not be nailed to a cross like those robbers, but without Jesus, we'd be just as hopeless – just as surely heading for death.

But we do have Jesus – right here next to us, within call if not within physical reach. We can ask for the help we need, the same way one of those men did when he said, "Jesus, remember me when You come into Your kingdom" (Luke 23:42b). Jesus will sure give it. After all, it's the reason He came into our world – to seek out the lost and to bring us home to God through His own suffering, death, and resurrection.

Lord, bring me too into Your kingdom. Amen.

-----Reflect & Discuss

Do you think the thief who asked for mercy understood what he was asking for?

If so, how do you think he knew it?

How did you come to know Jesus and what He has done for you?

We're in the beginning of Lent, and we are considering the sacrifices the Jesus has made on our behalf. We're having our mid-week services and soup suppers during Lent. Please join us for the soup suppers and mid-week services. Please continue to pray for our Church, our school, our members, our pastor, our teachers, and our confirmands, and our students!!

I hope and pray that all our church families and members are well and in the Word. We have so very much to be thankful for with an awesome God who cares for us. He provides for us, comforts us in time of need, and is ALWAYS with us.

BETHLEHEM CHURCH FINANCIALS: (See below for any narrative/comments)

CHURCH OPERATING FINANCIAL INCOME AND EXPENSE:

DESCRIPTION	12 MONTH ANNUAL BUDGET	JAN 2023 - MONTH			% ACTUAL vs. ANNUAL BUDGET
		BUDGET	ACTUAL	DIFF.	
REGULAR OFFERINGS	\$273,200	\$23,319	\$24,481	\$1,162	8.96%
RENT AND MISC. INCOME	\$21,450	\$1,800	\$1,835	\$35	8.55%
TOTAL OPERATING INCOME	\$294,650	\$25,119	\$26,316	\$1,197	8.93%

PAYROLL & BENEFITS					
SCHOOLS SUPPORT (BLCS & SLHS)	\$149,740	\$11,062	\$10,239	(\$823)	6.84%
INSURANCE	\$37,000	\$2,667	\$2,667	(\$0)	7.21%
OTHER OPERATING EXPENSE	\$14,440	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%
	\$93,470	\$6,995	\$6,301	(\$694)	6.74%
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSE	\$294,650	\$20,724	\$19,206	(\$1,518)	6.52%
FINANCIAL INCOME/(EXPENSE)	\$0	\$4,395	\$7,109	\$2,714	
DESCRIPTION	12 MONTH ANNUAL BUDGET	BUDGET	ACTUAL	DIFF.	% ACTUAL vs. ANNUAL BUDGET
REGULAR OFFERINGS	\$273,200	\$159,641	\$156,760	(\$2,881)	57.38%
RENT AND MISC. INCOME	\$21,450	\$12,450	\$12,959	\$509	60.41%
TOTAL OPERATING INCOME	\$294,650	\$172,091	\$169,719	(\$2,372)	57.60%
PAYROLL & BENEFITS	\$149,740	\$85,600	\$86,986	\$1,386	58.09%
SCHOOLS SUPPORT (BLCS & SLHS)	\$37,000	\$23,667	\$23,667	(\$0)	63.96%
INSURANCE	\$14,440	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%
OTHER OPERATING EXPENSE	\$93,470	\$53,450	\$45,948	(\$7,502)	49.16%
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSE	\$294,650	\$162,717	\$156,601	(\$6,116)	53.15%
FINANCIAL INCOME/(EXPENSE)	\$0	\$9,374	\$13,118	\$3,744	

BETHLEHEM CHURCH FINANCIALS: (Narrative/Comments)

MONTH:

January Offerings of \$24,481 were \$1,162 more than the budget. The average monthly need is \$22,767 (\$273,200/12 mos.) January Offerings were also \$3,186 more than last January. Giving Units at 64 increased by 8 over December and were the same as January of last year.

Payroll & Benefits were \$823 under budget due to a billing change by Concordia Plan Services for retirement benefits. They changed from advance month billing to current month billing which resulted in no bill in January.

Other Operating Expense was \$694 under the budget. The underrun is spread amount multiple expense line items, and most are likely related to timing issues.

Respectfully and Prayerfully submitted,
Jeff Davey, Bethlehem Lutheran Church President

BWM (LWML) newsletter information

March 2023 Newsletter Information

Bethlehem Women in Mission
Serving the Lord with Gladness

BWM luncheon is Sunday MARCH 19th at 11:45am. Following a “God blessed meal”, we will play candy bar bingo. Please bring your favorite dish to share. Extra “Thinking of You” card were made last month. The extra cards are on the BWM table in the northeast corner of the narthex. They are there for your use. If you need cards, please contact Bonnie Krenz and more cards will be furnished.

MITE BOX SUNDAY. On the first Sunday of each month, mite offerings are collected. The mites are sent to the California, Nevada, Hawaii LWML District to help fund the mission projects. Bethlehem Lutheran Church has sent The mites collected in February mites were used to help fund the *Walking with Women Leaders sponsored by LINC and LCMS Bay area churches in Hayward, California.* The mites collected in March will help with funding *International Seminary Students, Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, Missouri.* There is a significant shortage of well-formed Lutheran pastors in some parts of the world because options are few for advanced theological study for these pastors and few overseas Lutheran church bodies have the resources to send their most capable students to the US for this advanced study. Concordia Seminary, St. Louis currently has 50 international students from 25 different countries. After graduation the students will serve as seminary professors, theological instructors and church leaders in their respective countries. The estimated number of lives that these students/pastors/professors will impact in their home countries could be in the many thousands. A wide variety of cultures and ethnicities in many nations will be impacted, including a significant number of unchurched people. The grant funds will help provide vital support for Concordia Seminary’s international students.

Calling all women to fill out the **Serving the Lord with Gladness** form. We are forming a group of ladies willing to help serve food at church when needed. This may mean serving following a funeral, serving a meal for a small group meeting, or just cookies for a group meeting. If you haven’t received one or lost the form, there are more forms on the BWM table in the northeast corner of the narthex.

Mark your calendar now:

April 2 “Sweets Easter Treats” Bake Sale

April 16 BWM Luncheon. Guest speaker Diane Drumm with oil tasting

May 7 Mother’s Day Tea

June 22-25 National Convention Milwaukee, WI

Theme: Celebrate the Lord of the Nations.

August 25-26 LWML CNH District Retreat at Episcopal Conference Center - Oakhurst, CA

Theme: Unwrapping our Spiritual Gift

April 19-21, 2024 LWML CNH District Convention at Holiday Inn, Redding, CA

Theme: Gifted to Serve by God’s Grace.

Respectfully submitted,

Bonnie Krenz

Get involved at Bethlehem Lutheran Church

Church needs:

Video Recording Staff for Sunday and mid-week services:

Contact Clay Soderstrom, (775) 883-1035, or any of the elders if you are interested.

Ushers: Contact Jeff Davey 775-790-1964.

Board of Outreach is looking for members: Contact Sally Allen, (775) 721-4629.

Board of Christian Education is looking for members.

Questions? Contact Carrie Suessmith, (775) 720-8797.

Altar Flower Sign Ups: see chart in narthex.

Church Greeters (no hand shaking and/or hugs).

Choir Members, Handbell Choir Members and Handbell Choir Director.

Altar Guild: Contact Janelle Davey, (775) 721-5686.

Fund raisers (school and church)

Buy a brick and help a child: check with the school, or church secretary.

Groups you can join:

Sunday School teachers and helpers needed for the upcoming Sunday School year,

Questions? Contact Carrie Suessmith, (775) 720-8797.

Church singers/musicians - soloists, duets, etc.—Contact Jeanne Denison, (775) 220-4082.

Handbell choir participants and leader:

Contact church secretary, Lora Spiker, (775) 882-5252.

Silver Lights: meets monthly on 3rd Wednesday at 11:30am **Contact the office for the meeting place.**

All over 50 are welcome to attend.

BWM (formerly LWML) All ladies are welcome. Contact Bonnie Krenz for questions.

Men's Bible study: meets weekly on Fridays at 6:30am in the Fellowship Hall, BYO breakfast.

Women's Bible study: meets weekly on Saturdays at 9:30am in the Fellowship Hall.

Women's Luncheon group—held on the second Wednesday of the Month at 11:30am at Red's 395.

Contact Debbie 775-430-0808 or Lora Spiker (775-220-0639) to RSVP.

Attention Ladies!!!

Our members of Bethlehem Lutheran Church have started a new women's monthly social lunch group. The group consists of members of our church and also any friends you would like to invite along with you. Everyone is welcome! We are meeting for lunch for fellowship, the enjoyment of getting to know one another, and delicious food.

We have been having a wonderful time!

The next meeting is scheduled for

Wednesday, 3/8 @11:30am

At the Red's 395. RSVP the church office please.

If you would like to be called or emailed for a reminder of this luncheon, please give Lora or Debbie your email address and/or phone number. Also, if you need transportation, we can assist you with that also.

If you would love to be a part of our lunch group,
please **RSVP by 3/5** to Lora, the church secretary,
or to Debbie at (775) 430-0808.

We hope you will join us!!!!



Refreshing the Fellowship Hall

Bethlehem Lutheran Church is in the process of raising funds for painting and new flooring for the Fellowship Hall.

We had a great dinner / dance the beginning of December and raised a bit of money. Around \$7,000.00—we do have a ways to go but this is a great beginning.

Anyone interested in assisting with this project, please chat with Lora, church secretary.

We are looking for painting and flooring contractors to assist with quotes and the process of getting this work completed. If you know of anyone you think may be interested, please contact Lora, church secretary.

**Open Monday
2:00pm — 4:00pm**



**Open Friday
11:00am — 1:00pm**

Food pantry is currently in great shape.

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to the food pantry!

Join us @ Sunday @ 9:15 am for
✝ SUNDAY SCHOOL

We invite you and your family to join us for Sunday School where we will explore the scriptures with **preschool through highschool** (adults meet at the same time in the fellowship hall).

**WE WILL FOCUS ON GOD'S PROMISES FROM HIS WORD AS WE
STUDY THE LIVES OF MEN AND WOMEN, JUST LIKE US, WHO
LOOKED TO GOD FOR FREEDOM, DELIVERANCE, PROVISION, HOPE,
RECOVERY, HEALING, AND SO MUCH MORE!**

Call Carrie Suessmith or Lora Spiker if you have any questions. Do **you** have any talents, skills, or training that you'd like to share with our ministry?
Please let us know. 775-882-5252

Romans 10:12 "Let us also continue steadfast in the faith, proclaiming Christ, not merely for ourselves, but for the future generations, that they, too, may call upon the Lord and be saved."

Bethlehem Lutheran School News

Grade Preschool through 8th grade

Information regarding the school may be found on the school website www.blcs.org

School Update

March 10th	Teacher Work/Meeting Day—NO School K-8th grade
March 24th	Teacher Inservice—No School or Preschool
March 30th	Spring Program Choir & Chapel Band at 6:00pm.

Please consider choosing Bethlehem Lutheran Church as your Amazon Smile donation.

For every eligible item that you order through Amazon Smile, the school gets 0.5%.

Please go to smile.amazon.com to choose **Bethlehem Lutheran Church** as your designee for Amazon Smile.

Box Tops for Education—Please place your box tops in the cereal box in the narthex.
They will be used by the school for rebates for the school to use.

BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN SCHOOL OPEN ENROLLMENT

1837 Mountain Street, Carson City, NV 89703 (775) 882-5252, ext. 100

Bethlehem Lutheran School provides an alternative to public education. We offer an academic environment coupled with Christian principles and values fostered by Christian faculty members. We look forward to meeting you and answering any questions you may have about our academics and daily routine. Now enrolling for the 2022-2023 school year in our Preschool thru Eighth grade. Preschool and Pre-Kindergarten enrollment ages 3-5. **Please check us out at www.blcs.org or call Sandy in the school office. Kindergartener must be 5 years old by August 1st**

Buy a Brick and Help a Child by Leaving a Legacy—Bethlehem Lutheran School Endowment Fund

Bethlehem Lutheran is excited to announce that it has established an Endowment Fund with the purpose of funding future scholarships for students. We are seeking donations for this worthwhile project. As an Endowment your contribution will be used year after year supporting student scholarships.

Will you please consider donating to this Fund? Your gift of any amount will be appreciated.

How can I leave a legacy with an Alumni/Supporter Brick?

*One of the most exciting ways in which you can make a gift to Bethlehem Lutheran School and leave your name or the name of a loved one, on campus is to purchase a brick. Your name will be engraved on a brick which will be installed either in the cross in front of the school entrance for a \$250 donation or on the back field walk area (The Bethlehem Byway) for \$150. Brick Color is Regimental Red. **Stop in or call the school to donate to this fund.***

Sierra Lutheran High School 2022-2023 year Theme: Love

Gifts of Grace Dinner-Auction is set for Saturday, March 4 at the Casino Fandango. Great food, fun and fellowship highlighted by inspiring student performances, fabulous silent and live auction items, and amazing food. Contact SLHS for ticket information.

SLHS-WNC Dual Credit - Sierra Lutheran is excited to continue partnering with Western Nevada College on the dual credit program offered between the schools. The two institutions allow the students to enroll in WNC—If you have any questions, please contact SLHS.

Parents in Prayer —All staff and parents are welcome to Thursday morning prayer group where we pray over SLHS and each student individually.

We meet in Room 116 between 7:15 and 7:45am.

Serving the Lord in March

Acolytes

Wed, Mar 1	6:30pm	Jeb Bugg
Sun, Mar 5	8:00am	Abi Maschke
	10:30am	Jeb Bugg
Wed, Mar 8	6:30pm	Abi Maschke
Sun, Mar 12	8:00am	Noah Manning
	10:30am	Josiah Maschke
Wed, Mar 15	6:30pm	Josiah Maschke
Sun, Mar 19	8:00am	Noah Manning
	10:30am	Logan Garrett
Wed, Mar 22	6:30am	Noah Manning
Sun, Mar 26	8:00am	Jeb Bugg
	10:30am	Abi Maschke
Wed, Mar 29	6:30pm	Logan Garrett



Altar Flowers

Sun, Mar 5	Volunteer Needed
Sun, Mar 12	Volunteer Needed
Sun, Mar 19	Tim Ken
Sun, Mar 26	Denison



Altar Guild

Diane Drumm

Called to *Serve*

Elders

Wed, Mar 1	Jarvis Manning
Sun, Mar 5	Colin Wigglesworth
Wed, Mar 8	Colin Wigglesworth
Sun, Mar 12	Bob Spiker
Wed, Mar 15	Bob Spiker
Sun, Mar 19	Jeff Davey
Wed, Mar 22	Jeff Davey
Sun, Mar 26	Colin Wigglesworth
Wed, Mar 29	Colin Wigglesworth

Ushers

Wed, Mar 1	6:30pm	Warren Coles, Charles Kihm
Sun, Mar 5	8:00am	Zachary Karges Alan Callanan
	10:30am	Marshall Henningsen Jeff Davey
Wed, Mar 8	6:30pm	Marshall Henningsen Jeff Davey
Sun, Mar 12	8:00am	Zachary Karges Alan Callanan
	10:30am	Mike Harris, Dave Richison
Wed, Mar 15	6:30pm	Hal Martin, Jarvis Manning
Sun, Mar 19	8:00am	Hal Martin, Jarvis Manning
	10:30am	Mike Harris, Dave Richison
Wed, Mar 22	6:30pm	George Parmenter, Tom Ruhoff
Sun, Mar 26	8:00am	John Monson, Chris Soderstrom,
	10:30am	George Parmenter, Tom Ruhoff
Wed, Mar 29	6:30pm	John Monson, Chris Soderstrom



Happy Birthday!

Happy Anniversary

Anniversary

Years

March 4 *Hannah Krenz
Sue Farcello
Jim Partington*

March 21 *Gary & Kathryn Smith
42 years*

March 13 *Christopher Soderstrom*

March 18 *Carrie Suessmith*

March 22 *Ray & Maureen Johannessen
25 years*

March 24 *Cora Manning
Marilyn Maruca*

March 25 *Jeanne Denison*

March 26 *Bob Spiker
Dan Zuber
Earl Medlock*

March 28 *Diane Drumm*

March 29 *Pati Stefonowicz*

***A successful marriage requires falling
in love many times, always with the
same person.***



REMINDER:

Please feel free to submit articles or information for the weekly bulletins and/or newsletter. Input is due in the church office by **Wednesday at noon** each week.

Thanks, Lora Spiker, Church Secretary
Phone: (775) 882-5252, Email: lspiker@blcs.org



Bethlehem Lutheran Church

1837 N. Mountain Street

Carson City, Nevada 89703

775-882-5252

www.blcs.org



Happenings in March 2023

- March 1** 5:30pm Lent Supper
6:30pm Lent Service
- March 3 6:30am Men's Bible Study & Prayer Breakfast—All men are invited to attend.
- March 4 9:30am Women's Bible study.
10:30am community crafters.
- March 5** Mite Sunday—We love your coins!
- March 6 2:00—4:00pm Community Crafters.
- March 7** 6:00pm Church Council meeting. All members are invited to attend.
- March 8** 11:30am Ladies Luncheon at Red's 395—All ladies are invited to attend.
5:30pm Lent Supper
6:30pm Lent Service
- March 10 6:30am Men's Bible Study & Prayer Breakfast—All men are invited to attend.
- March 11 9:30am Women's Bible study.
10:30am Community Crafters.
Change your clocks tonight!!
- March 12** Daylight Savings Time.
- March 13 2:00-4:00pm Crafters.
- March 15** 11:30am Silver Lights Luncheon—All over 50 welcome.
—Bring your own lunch to the Fellowship Hall.
5:30pm Lent Supper
6:30pm Lent Service
- March 17 6:30am Men's Bible Study & Prayer Breakfast—All men are invited to attend.
Happy St. Patrick's Day!!
- March 18 9:30am Women's Bible study.
10:30am Community Crafters.
- March 20** First Day of Spring.
2:00—4:00 pm Crafters.
- March 22** 5:30pm Lent Supper
6:30pm Lent Service
- March 24 6:30am Men's Bible Study & Prayer Breakfast—All men are invited to attend.
- March 25 9:30am Women's Bible study.
10:30am Community Crafters.
- March 27 2:00—4:00 pm Crafters.

"This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.."—Psalm 118:24.