



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

**May 2024**  
**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. Dr. Jedidiah Maschke  
Pastor

Lora Spiker  
Church Secretary

Mrs. Debra Winkelman  
Principal

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Facebook! [www.facebook.com/  
blcscarsoncity/](https://www.facebook.com/blcscarsoncity/)"

**MISSION STATEMENT:**

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

## A Time for Everything

### Reflections on Seasons and Celebrations

In the book of Ecclesiastes, King Solomon writes: "For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven." (3:1). This May marks eight years at Bethlehem Lutheran Church and School for me, and in that time, we have shared many of these seasons together. We have rejoiced together, welcoming new members and celebrating weddings, anniversaries, graduations, confirmations, and other milestones. We have also grieved the loss of beloved members of our church family, offering each other comfort and support and finding hope in Christ's ultimate defeat of death and the devil and the proof He offered for His victory in His Easter resurrection.

The winter weather seems to have finally subsided for good, making way for springtime and summer activities, and with the end of the school year we also come to a pivotal point in the church year. The Church year is beautifully divided into two halves. The festival half, from Advent through the season of Easter and the Ascension, focuses on celebrating Jesus' life, ministry, and sacrifice. The other half, sometimes referred to as "ordinary time" or the non-festival half of the church year, emphasizes Jesus' teachings and how we can apply them to our lives. You may notice these themes reflected in our Gospel readings for each week.

Even the way our sanctuary is decorated reminds us of these seasons. During Lent and Holy Week, our attention is directed to the crucifix as a tool for practicing repentance and remembering Jesus' sacrifice on the cross. Likewise, the empty tomb reminds us of Jesus' glorious resurrection during the Sundays of Easter, and this is reflected when the crucifixes are removed for a season leaving only empty crosses until Trinity Sunday.

With the end of the school year and the warmer weather and longer days, many of us naturally find ourselves slowing down and taking some time for rest and travel during the summer months. This period allows us to recharge and return to our commitments with renewed energy. By taking time to rest, we confess our belief that God is still working even when we are not. Ultimately, His work will be what endures and will truly last until the end.

By understanding these rhythms, we can deepen our connection to our Lord. Whether it's taking time for quiet reflection during summer or actively celebrating during Easter, each season offers an opportunity to connect with God and one another.

May these coming months be filled with both joyful celebrations and peaceful moments of rest for each of you.

In Christ,

Pastor Maschke

### *Elder Page by Joshua Karges*

A Thought for Mothers Day When God would save the world from sin, He chose with mothers to begin; And, through a virgin mother birth, To bring good will to men on earth. When Christ the way of life would tell, A woman listened by a well; When He was tired and need rest, Two women honored Him as guest; He caused a maid to walk again, And raised a widow's son at Nain. When Christ was hanging on a cross, A mother's heart most felt the loss; Two women were the first to see At dawn, the empty sepulcher; The resurrected Christ was seen, At first, by Mary Magdalene. (Author Unkown) As we celebrate mothers day. It is good to remember that Jesus too loved his mother. Even as Jesus suffered on the cross, he made sure that his mother was taken care of by one of his disciples. "When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing nearby, he said to his mother "Woman, behold your son!" Then he said to the disciple, "Behold, your mother!" And from that hour the disciple took her to his own home." (John 19:26-27). Even though each of us may have something causing us hardships or suffering in our lives. Let us remember to take care of those around us, starting with our mothers

***NOTE: The Elders and Pastor Maschke have decided to extend the 9:30am service through May.***

***Pastor Maschke will be serving with assistance from the elders.***

**Presidents Post May 2024**

Blessings to all;

Every spring in Northern Nevada brings the hope of fresh mountain water flowing down rivers to fill lakes and replenish the ground water table for drinking. It is easy to take water for granted. The snow filled mountains melt as spring arrives and all living creatures use the water to sustain their life as vegetation and trees come to life. When god created the earth, he separated the salty seas from the land and then created fresh water areas for animals and man. This is just another reminder that God is in charge. He wants us to thrive on earth and one day join him in Heaven.

In God’s love; Marshall Henningsen, President

**MARCH 2024 BETHLEHEM CHURCH FINANCIALS**

DESCRIPTION	12 MONTH ANNUAL BUDGET	JUL 2023 - MAR 2024 (YTD)			% VAR. ACTUAL vs. ANNUAL BUDGET
		BUDGET	ACTUAL	DIFF.	
REGULAR OFFERINGS	\$283,650	\$212,250	\$224,739	\$12,489	5.88%
RENT AND MISC. INCOME	\$21,600	\$16,200	\$22,649	\$6,449	39.81%
<b>TOTAL OPERATING INCOME</b>	<b>\$305,250</b>	<b>\$228,450</b>	<b>\$247,388</b>	<b>\$18,938</b>	<b>8.29%</b>
PAYROLL & BENEFITS	\$157,007	\$114,749	\$115,466	\$716	0.62%
SCHOOLS SUPPORT (BLCS & SLHS)	\$42,000	\$32,748	\$30,250	(\$2,498)	-7.63%
INSURANCE	\$16,000	\$0	\$83	\$83	0.00%
OTHER OPERATING EXPENSE	\$90,243	\$68,294	\$71,355	\$3,061	4.48%
<b>TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSE</b>	<b>\$305,250</b>	<b>\$215,791</b>	<b>\$217,153</b>	<b>\$1,362</b>	<b>0.63%</b>
<b>FINANCIAL INCOME/(EXPENSE)</b>	<b>(\$0)</b>	<b>\$12,659</b>	<b>\$30,235</b>	<b>\$17,576</b>	

**BETHLEHEM CHURCH FINANCIALS:** (Narrative/Comments)

**MONTH:**

- March offerings of \$26,581 were \$2,681 more than budgeted. Offerings were \$3,734 more than last March. The month included 5 Sundays, Lenten services and Easter.
- Monthly Income of \$7,659 exceeded budget by \$7,041.

**Y-T-D:**

- YTD Net Income of \$30,235 remains above budget by \$17,576. We are tracking ahead of our budgeted numbers with three months remaining in the fiscal year.



### BETHLEHEM WOMEN IN MISSION

**Mite Box Sunday:** On the first Sunday of each month, mite offerings are collected. Mites are the coins that video is a good way to catch up.

**Mark your calendar for happenings to grow with your sisters in Christ:**

Saturday mornings 9:30-10:30 Bible Study. We started the Bible study “Your Strong Suit: God’s Armor” based on Ephesians 6:10-18 by Donna Pyle. Please join the study.

On the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month join other sisters in Christ for lunch.



**May 5 @ 2:00pm**—Come and celebrate God’s Gift; sponsored by Bethlehem Lutheran Church—we will be hosting a tea cup party. All ladies (young to mature) are invited. Bring your favorite tea cup.

RSVP by May 1 to Lora at Bethlehem Lutheran Church office or Bonnie Krenz at 701-789-0561.

On Jubilee Sunday **June 30, 2024** the Outreach Committee is sponsoring a thank you potluck for everyone who volunteers at Bethlehem Lutheran Church. This means you if you bring can goods for the food pantry, you help usher, you donate through the mite offerings, you serve on one of the many committees, you bring something when there is a potluck, you offer prayers for those listed in the bulletin, you support the church through your offering. In other words, it means everyone who does more than sit in the pew on Sunday morning. Each of the Council Boards will have a table explaining their purpose and how they support the work of the church.

Please bring a finger food - munchy to share so that everyone can have something to munch while viewing the different displays.

**You may find a new way that you can help serve at Bethlehem Lutheran**

## 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 Head Elder Bob Spiker 775-745-6316.

**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. **(Calendar for 2024 is in the narthex)**

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

**Praise Members - please contact Susan Misner if you are interested.**

**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.

**Praise Church Choir**—contact Susan Misner

**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

**We are meeting in the Fellowship Hall in the church.** 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 @ 11:30am.

## **Refreshing the Fellowship Hall**

**Bethlehem Lutheran Church is still raising funds  
for new flooring for the Fellowship Hall.**

Thanks to some wonderful people and donations we are working towards refreshing the fellowship hall.

**Thank you in advance to all who are assisting in this refresh.**

**We have finished painting the walls—the ceiling has been repainted,  
and the doors are replaced.**

**What kind of flooring would you like to see in the Fellowship Hall?**



*Open Friday  
10:00am-12:00pm*

### **Food pantry presently needs**

*Macaroni & cheese, Top Ramen beef & chicken, canned chicken, pasta, spaghetti, ravioli, chili, canned green beans & corn, refried beans, peanut butter, & cereal.*

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

# CHILDREN'S Sunday School

*Join us each Sunday as we learn the Word of God and His love for us and others with songs, crafts, & Bible study.*

*TIME: 8:30-9:15am (currently)*

**PLACE:** [Meet in Youth Room](#)

*May 19, 2024 is our last day of Sunday School  
for the Summer Break.*

**Fall 2024-Spring 2025 Sunday School Year Dates: TBD**

*Contact Carrie or Todd for Summer Fun Ideas & Volunteering.*

**\*REMINDER:** Sunday School is not held on Jubilee Sunday, 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month

## **Summertime Bible A,B, C's**

**A** – *A soft answer turneth away wrath, Proverbs 15:1*

**B** – *Beloved, let us love one another, 1 John 4:7*

**C** – *Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right, Ephesians 6:1*

**D** – *Delight thyself also in the Lord, Psalm 37:4*

**E** – *Enter into his gates with Thanksgiving and into His Courts with praise, Psalm 100:4*

**F** – *Enter his gates with Thanksgiving and into His Courts with praise, Psalm 100:4*

## Bethlehem Lutheran School News

Grade Preschool through 8th grade

*Information regarding the school may be found on the school website [www.blos.org](http://www.blos.org)*

### School Update

May 3rd— Bike-A-Thon

May 10th—Speech/Drama Program at 6:00pm

May 17th—Chapel with Kindergarten & PreK Promotion at 8:30am and their last day of school

May 21st— Field Day and BBQ for student's 1st—8th grades

May 22nd—Closing chapel with 8th grade graduation at 8:30am

June 10th—14th Camp Invention.

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***Enrollment/reenrollment**—Students will be accepted on a “first come, first serve basis” along with new families that are applying to Bethlehem. If you have questions about enrollment, please call the school office.*

#### ***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 2023-2024 year Theme: The Beatitudes***

*Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you” (Matthew 5:11-12)*

**We are thrilled to announce that our groundbreaking for the new facility at SLHS has been scheduled for Wednesday, May 15th @ 10:15am at the campus with light lunch to be enjoyed immediately afterward. All are invited to attend.**

**Currently accepting applications for the 2024-2025 school year. You can apply online at [slhs.com](http://slhs.com) or call our offices at 775-267-1921 for more information. Schedule a family tour or a student shadow day where your student can see what it is like to be a falcon for a day.**

**Every day is an open house at Sierra Lutheran High School**

**Submit your application at [slhs.com](http://slhs.com)**



## *Serving the Lord in May*

### Acolytes

Sun, May 5	9:30am	Noah Manning Shane Barry
Sun, May 12	9:30am	Logan Garrett
Sun, May 19	9:30am	Abi Maschke
Sun, May 26	9:30am	Jeb Bugg



### Altar Flowers

Sun, May 5	Dianne Medlock
Sun, May 12	???
Sun, May 19	???
Sun, May 26	Kathy Jackson

### Accompanists

Sun, May 5	Beverly Baumgartner
Sun, May 12	Ingrid Karges
Sun, May 19	Beverly Baumgartner
Sun, May 26	Ingrid Karges



### Altar Guild

Janelle Davey

### Elders

Sun, May 5	9:30am	Jarvis Manning
Sun, May 12	9:30am	Bill Scott
Sun, May 19	9:30am	Joshua Karges
Sun, May 26	9:30am	Bob Spiker Jimmy Poncsak

### Ushers

Sun, May 5	9:30am	Warren Coles, Chuck Kihm
Sun, May 12	9:30am	Curt Drumm, Todd Suesmith
Sun, May 19	9:30am	Zachary Karges, Alan Callanan, Sam Radtke
Sun, May 26	9:30am	Jim Gansberg, Del Bugg, Bob Gebel

Called to *Serve*

# Happy Birthday!

May 7 Dianne Medlock

May 8 Bonnie Krenz

May 11 Todd Suessmith

May 14 Aiden Fredlund

May 15 Joe Chambers

May 21 Benjamin Welter

May 25 Susie Bargmann

May 26 Samantha Martinovich

May 31 Lora Spiker  
Vanessa Bernhard

# Happy Anniversary

## Anniversary

## Years

May 10  
Jim & Gail Parsons 49

May 19  
Joe & Donna Chambers 62

May 28  
Mike & Lynn Tappan 47

May 31  
Bob & Julie Gagen 25

*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](http://www.blcs.org)



## **Happenings in May 2024**

- May 3 6:30am Men's Bible Study & Prayer Breakfast—**All men are invited to attend.**  
10:00am—12:00pm Food Bank Open to all church members and members of the community.
- May 4 9:30am—Women's Bible Study.
- May 5 **8:30am Bible Study/Sunday School**  
**9:30am Divine Service (one service only)**  
**Mite Sunday—We love your coins!**  
**2:00pm—Ladies Tea—Bring your own teacup.**
- May 7 **6:00pm Council Meeting—all members are invited to attend.**
- May 8 **11:30am Ladies Luncheon at Great Basin Brewery restaurant—RSVP 775-882-5252**  
**All ladies are invited to attend.**
- May 10 6:30am Men's Bible Study & Prayer Breakfast—**All men are invited to attend.**  
10:00am—12:00pm—**Food bank** Open to all church members and members of the community
- May 11 9:30am—Women's Bible Study.
- May 12 **8:30am Bible Study/Sunday School**  
**9:30am Divine Service (one service only)**  
**Happy Mother's Day!!**
- May 15 **11:30am Silver Lights Luncheon—All over 50 welcome. Bring your own lunch.**
- May 16 **Newsletter deadline.**
- May 17 6:30am Men's Bible Study & Prayer Breakfast—**All men are invited to attend.**  
10:00am—12:00pm Food Bank Open to all church members and members of the community.
- May 18 9:30am—Women's Bible Study.
- May 19 **8:30am Bible Study**  
**9:30am Divine Service (one service only) - Confirmation Sunday**
- May 24 6:30am Men's Bible Study & Prayer Breakfast—**All men are invited to attend.**  
10:00am—12:00pm—**Food bank** Open to all church members and members of the community
- May 25 9:30am—Women's Bible Study.
- May 26 **8:30am Bible Study/Sunday School**  
**9:30am Divine Service (one service only) Palm Sunday.**
- May 27 **Happy Memorial Day!! - Church office closed.**

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