



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

June 2025
Bethlehem Lutheran
Church & School

1837 Mountain Street
Carson City, NV 89703

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

Sunday Divine Services:
9:15 am

Sunday School & Adult
Bible Study: 8:00 am

Rev. Dr. Jedidiah Maschke
Pastor

Lora Spiker
Church Secretary

Mrs. Debra Winkelman
Principal

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

MISSION STATEMENT:

We joyfully proclaim Christ's
Word and share His love through
worship, education, and outreach.

Called to be Proclaimers
The Words That Define Our Mission: Part 3

As part of our ongoing series unpacking the mission statement of Bethlehem Lutheran Church, we turn our attention this month to the word “proclaim.” Our mission says, *“We joyfully **proclaim** Christ’s Word and share His love through worship, education, and outreach.”* Each word in this statement has been chosen prayerfully and with care, and proclamation stands at the heart of who we are and what we do. But why “proclaim”? Why not simply “teach,” “tell,” or “share”?

The word “proclaim” carries unique biblical meaning. It doesn’t describe any old communication. Proclamation is the bold and joyful announcement of something that changes everything. To **proclaim** is to announce good news with confidence and urgency. Proclamation is the voice of the herald charged by the coming king to announce, “The King is near!”

From the beginning of His ministry, Jesus sends out His disciples with this command: *“And proclaim as you go, saying, ‘The kingdom of heaven is at hand!’”* (Matthew 10:7). We see this again and again throughout the New Testament:

The man freed from demons in Mark 5 couldn’t keep quiet. He went to the Decapolis and *“began to proclaim how much Jesus had done for him, and everyone marveled.”*

Jesus commissions His Church to *“Go into all the world and proclaim the gospel to the whole creation”* (Mark 16:15).

In Acts, Paul boldly *“proclaims the way of salvation”* (Acts 16:17), even in places where Jesus’ name had never been heard (Acts 17:23). Paul and the apostles are constantly proclaiming the saving work of Jesus to skeptics, to seekers, to strangers, and to friends.

And in 1 Corinthians 11:26, Paul reminds us that every time we celebrate the Lord’s Supper, we *“proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.”*

To proclaim is to declare good news that demands to be heard. It’s public. It’s personal. It’s urgent. And it’s joyful. To proclaim is to make Christ known to a weary world, to hurting neighbors, and to the next generation. Proclamation happens in worship when God’s Word is preached. Proclamation happens in education as we pass on our faith to children and adults alike. Proclamation happens in outreach as we share the message with our neighbor, our community and around the world to say, “Christ is risen! There is hope!”

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We aren't interested in making our own personal name known or even the name of Bethlehem Lutheran Church and School. Paul writes in 2 Corinthians 4:5, "*For what we proclaim is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, with ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake.*" We proclaim the kingdom of God. We proclaim the forgiveness of God. We proclaim the goodness of God. We proclaim the promises of God.

This isn't just the job of the pastor or called staff or those in the church who have the gift of evangelism. Martin Luther says that St. Peter "speaks to the whole congregation, to all Christians" in 1 Peter 2:9. There, God commands us all to "*proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.*" So this word "proclaim" reminds us of who we are and what we do. We are not merely a non-profit, social organization. We are the Church: the called and sent people of God, entrusted with the best news the world has ever known. We are not spectators. We are proclaimers.

And we do this *joyfully*. As John writes in his first letter, "*we proclaim...so that our joy may be complete*" (1 John 1:4). There is deep joy to be found in telling others what Christ has done for us, for them, and for the world.

The word "proclaim" shapes our mission because it flows directly from Christ's command and the Spirit's calling of each of us in our baptism. So as we gather in worship, teach the faith, and reach out to our community, we do so as called proclaimers with this mission always before us.

In Christ, *Pastor Maschke*

Sunday Morning Bible Study -

Join us for a study series **at 8:00 a.m.**, led by Pastor Maschke. Together, we will delve into the **Augsburg Confession**, a cornerstone of Lutheran doctrine that boldly proclaims the truths of Scripture and our faith.

Studying the Augsburg Confession is not just a look at history—it's an opportunity to understand what we believe, why we believe it, and how it shapes our lives today. This confession of faith provides clarity on essential teachings such as grace, justification, and the sacraments, helping us grow in confidence as we live and share our faith in a complex world.

Copies of the Augsburg Confession will be available to take home for **\$8**. Whether you're new to Lutheranism or seeking to deepen your knowledge, this study is for you. We look forward to learning together!

Elder Page

My Daily Devotion

If only for this life we have hope in Christ, we are to be pitied more than all men. *1 Corinthians 15:19.*

People often live only for this life. They deny any life beyond the grave. They hope and dream, make plans and carry them out, but only for this life. They may secure an outstanding education, succeed in business, gain great wealth, receive national honors, and help other people. But the hopes fade and the sand falls to the bottom of the hourglass.

Apparently some in Corinth were questioning whether there is such a thing as a resurrection from the dead. Paul points out that our very faith hangs in the balance on this question. With ringing certainty he declares, “But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep” (*1 Corinthians 15:20*). “Firstfruits” implies that more is to come. Because Christ, “the firstfruits,” died for us and rose physically from the dead on the third day, we who believe in Him will also rise physically from the dead on Judgment Day—and thus complete the harvest, so to speak. We have hope not only here, but also beyond this life.

Hope beyond the grave through Christ’s resurrection leads us to live hopefully here. We seek God’s purpose for our lives, tell others about His resurrection, and live daily with the quiet assurance that He will take us to heaven. Easter lives on all year long. Eternity beckons with the open, inviting arms of our risen and ascended Lord. Thank God for the hope beyond!

Prayer:

Thank You, Lord Jesus, for Your resurrection which assures me of eternal life with you beyond this earthly life. Amen.



Bethlehem Women in Mission
Serving the Lord with Gladness

MITE BOX SUNDAY: On the first Sunday of the month mite offerings are collected. The mites collected in June will go to the project “1 in Every One” New CNH Missions & Ministries sponsored by CNH District Mission Agency, Livermore, CA. In an ever-changing and very diverse region of our country, the CNH District has made it a point to reach new people with the lifesaving Good News of Jesus. The CNH District has set a goal to start a new mission or ministry start in each of its 18 circuits ahead of the 2025 district convention. The District Mission Agency provides coaching, resources, and financial help in seeing these missions get off the ground and change lives. This grant seeks funds to seed those new missions and ministry through 5 “Spark Grants” as part of the mission goal.



The BWM and Sunday School are working together during 2025 towards the goal of filling 50 Operation Christmas Child Shoe boxes through the Samaritan Purse. The gift items for June Operation Christmas Child are small ball, Lego sets, slinky, yo-yo, magnets, finger puppets. No knives, toy guns or military figures and war related items. Remember the items must fit in the red/green shoe box. Thank you to everyone who has donated items to this project. The yellow bin in the narthex has been emptied periodically because of your generosity.

SMILE

The definition for the word **SMILE**: “A facial expression indicating pleasure, favor, or amusement.” There are 43 muscles in your face, but it only takes 17 muscles to smile, while all 43 are needed to frown! Even though it is much easier to smile, on average, we smile only 11 times a day.

Continued on next page

If we look at SMILE as an acronym, it can be a great way to increase our faith:

S: Share: Share your faith stories with others.

M: Mentor: Jesus mentored His disciples during His ministry on earth to “*go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them...*” (Matt 28:19-20)

I: Involve/Invite: Use a verbal and *personal* invitation (An invitation in a bulletin or email is not personal)

L: Listen: God gave us two ears and only one mouth for a reason. Listen twice as much as you speak.

E: Encourage: “*Therefore encourage one another and build one another up*”. 1 Thess 5:11

Try to sing or say this as you start your day – I bet it makes you smile!!
sung to the tune of “The B-I-B-L-E”,

S – M – I – L – E

Yes, that’s the look for me!

I am very blessed,

can do nothing less

than S – M – I – L – E

Mark your calendar now:

Saturday 9:30-10:30am Women’s Bible Study in the Fellowship room will resume the study of “Peter ...from Fisherman to Fisher of Men” by Donna Pyle in July.

The second Wednesday of each month ladies from Bethlehem meet together for lunch at 11:30am. Watch the bulletin for the location. Please RSVP to Lora if you plan to attend. Bring a friend. We share friendly conversation with our fellow sisters in Christ.

June 26-29, 2025 LWML National Convention in Omaha, NE “Growing in God’s Grace.” Scripture Verse: But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be the glory both now and to the day of eternity. Amen (2 Peter 3:18). Please remember Sally Allen, Bonnie and Hannah Krenz in your prayers as they travel and attend this event.

August 1-3, 2025 California Nevada Hawaii District Retreat will be held at St. Francis Retreat Center in San Juan Bautista, CA. More information and the registration form can be found at <https://lwmlcnh.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/03/2025-retreat-registration-form-1.pdf>

[If interested contact an Bethlehem Women in Mission officer so we can carpool.](#)

April 24 -27, 2026 California Nevada Hawaii LWML District Convention is being held at the Doubletree by Hilton Convention Hotel, 2001 Point West Way, Sacramento, CA 95815. **THEME:** Jesus is Our Passport. **SCRIPTURE:** *He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.* – Colossians 1:13-14 (ESV)

Fund Raiser for the Youth Group
Lets get our Youth to the National Youth Gathering in
New Orleans 7/19—7/23/25

Ever hear of the 100 envelope challenge??

There will be 100 envelopes with a dollar amount on them—numbered from \$1- \$100. If all envelopes are taken and returned, **the net result will be \$5,050.00.**

Total monies needed for the all the kids to go to New Orleans is \$14,000. So far we have collected 10,630. We have \$3,369 to go.
We would appreciate everyone's help in this endeavor.

The church is challenging all our members to take an envelope and place that amount or more or less in the envelope and return it in the offering plate or give it to Lora, church secretary.

YOUTH

If you are interested in this challenge, please get an envelope from Lora in the office.



Open Friday 10:00am-12:00pm

BLC Food Bank is in need of jelly/jams, cereal—hot or cold, canned potatoes, canned tomato sauce and cup-o-soups, spaghetti sauce, toilet paper, and canned tuna, chicken and salmon!!

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



The Outreach Committee is composed of Chairman Sally Allen, and members Evelyn Williams, Lora Spiker, Jaydyn Radtke, and Bonnie Krenz. This may be the committee however, **every member of Bethlehem** is involved in the outreach of the Church and School.

The word OUTREACH for members of Bethlehem has a twofold action:

- First to reach inside the church to both visitors and members to develop a relationship with the church.
- Second to reach outside the church body into the community to develop an awareness of Bethlehem Lutheran Church and School and share the love of our Savior.

At our last meeting, the Outreach Committee made plans for numerous events to be held during the month of June. Looking forward to your attendance.

June 15th—Father's Day—come and celebrate Father's Day after the service and enjoy hot dogs, hamburgers. Members and visitors are invited to bring desserts. Come and enjoy fellowship with the visitors and members of our church.

June 22nd—VBS—Celebrate the previous week's Children's Bible Study with a B B Q after the service. Members and visited are invited to bring bush beans and/or cookies for dessert. Come and see all their accomplishments. Chat with them to see how much they enjoyed the week long fun.

June 29th—5th Sunday of the month, let's all get together and bring a dish to share and enjoy visitors and members' company after the service. **All members and visitors are invited to attend.**

The ***Outreach Committee*** is looking at developing a program to train greeters. The program will be available to everyone who would like to practice greeting a visitor to church or maybe even that person you don't know even though you both have been members at Bethlehem for some time. Maybe some of the skills will even help you share the love of God with a new neighbor or someone you meet when you are out for your daily walk. Watch for more information.

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER JUNE 2025

As the 2024–2025 Sunday School year wraps up, we want to thank our amazing teachers and substitutes for their time, talents, and faithful service. ** May 18th, was the last day of Sunday School**, and we will be off for the Summer. We are so grateful for your continued support and look forward to seeing everyone in the fall!

Join Us for an Epic Australian Adventure This Summer!
VBS 2025: June 16th–20th | 9 AM to Noon
Sign in begins at 8:45 AM

Get ready for an unforgettable journey through the wonders of Australia! From incredible animals and breathtaking landscapes to vibrant sea life and rugged wilderness, there's so much to explore.

Kids will dive into exciting crafts, delicious snacks, fun games, and hands-on Bible exploration with science—all while discovering the greatest guide of all, our Savior, Jesus!

We can't wait to share this adventure with you!
Register early to secure your spot!
First 30 registrations get a special gift!

Sponsored by Bethlehem Lutheran Church & School For kids who have completed Pre-K* through 5th grade
*Must be potty trained

Register here: <https://vbsmate.com/events/blcscarsoncitynv/30201>

VOLUNTEERS ARE STILL NEEDED. PLEASE CONTACT CARRIE SUESSMITH @775-720 8797 OR MARSHA EGBERT @ 209-815-1557

VBS

Get involved at Bethlehem Lutheran Church

Church needs:

Video Recording Staff for Sunday and mid-week services:

Contact Pastor 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 2025 is up and ready for signing)**
Church Greeters.

Organist: Can you play or do you know anyone who can? Chat with Pastor.

Handbell Choir Members and Handbell Choir Director.

Altar Guild: Contact Kathy Jackson 775-691-6144.

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.

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

Church singers/musicians - soloists, duets, etc.—Contact Lora Spiker, (775-882-5252).

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.
Bring your own lunch.

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 various locations.

Ask Your Father!

By Rev. Jonathan Meyer – Zion Lutheran Church, Mission Valley, Texas

The website www.Fatherly.com has a series of articles called, “Twelve Important Questions to Ask Your Dad.” Some are about your father’s childhood, or his career, or just about life in general.

With that as my springboard, I have come up with my own list of twelve questions. I share them with you to help start a conversation about faith with your dad or with your children! Make the conversation as formal or casual as you want. The goal is to talk about our faith and pass that story on to our children. You can take written notes, but I also suggest that you record the conversation so you also have your father’s voice or your voice speaking the answers. If your kids are little, take the list and work through the questions yourself, leaving them either a written journal (that’s what I did) or a voice or video recording of you answering the questions.

1. Who do you remember first teaching you about Jesus? Was it a family member, Sunday school teacher, or pastor? Is there someone in particular who helped you grow in faith and understand “Jesus Loves Me” is more than just a song?
 2. When and where were you baptized and confirmed? What do you remember about them?
 3. What family member, friend, or other individual best modeled God's grace to you when you were young, a teen, and as an adult?
 4. Tell me about your prayer life. How do you pray? How often? What do you pray for? Do you have a favorite place for prayer?
 5. Tell about a time when you had to trust the promises of God. What happened? How did that affect your life?
 6. Tell about a time when it seemed God was silent, or when you felt distant from Him. How did that affect your faith? What did you learn from that experience?
 7. Tell about a time when God answered your prayers or a time when He did not answer your prayers like you had hoped. What did you hope would happen? What did that teach you?
 8. What has been the greatest joy as a child of God? What has been the biggest challenge or struggle?
 9. Has there ever been a moment where you thought or felt that your faith died? When has your faith grown?
 10. Has there been a moment where you particularly felt God's love, grace, mercy, and compassion?
 11. Finish this sentence: "I go to church because..."
 12. Finish this sentence: "My prayer for you is..."
- Bonus: What is your favorite Bible story? Why?

Copied with permission from Rev. Jonathan Meyer.



Bethlehem Lutheran School News

Grade Preschool through 8th grade

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

School Update

June 9th—13th	Camp Invention.
June 16-20th	Bethlehem Lutheran Church Vacation Bible School.
August 13th	First Day of School 2025-2026 year.

Please join us in thanking Antonucci Lawn and Garden! Due to their generosity, the playground woodchips will be replenished this summer. This is an amazing donation from one of our school families and we are extremely grateful for their work, time, and donation of wood chips that will beautify our campus. Thank you so much Antonucci Lawn and Garden!!

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 2024-2025

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)

Currently accepting applications. You can apply online at 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.

Serving the Lord in June

Acolytes

Sunday, June 1	Jeb Bugg
Sunday, June 8	Noah Manning
Sunday, June 15	Abi Maschke
Sunday, June 22	Shane Barry
Sunday, June 29	Jeb Bugg

Accompanists

Sunday, June 1	Beverly Baumgartner
Sunday, June 8	Beverly Baumgartner
Sunday, June 15	Mark Swanson
Sunday, June 22	Ingrid Karges
Sunday, June 29	Beverly Baumgartner



Altar Flowers

Sunday, June 1	Jackson Family
Sunday, June 8	Hartley Family
Sunday, June 15	Krenz Family
Sunday, June 22	Lehmann Family
Sunday, June 29	Ruhoff Family



Altar Guild

Kathy Jackson

Elders

Sunday, June 1	Jarvis Manning
Sunday, June 8	Bob Spiker
Sunday, June 15	Bill Scott
Sunday, June 22	Jimmy Ponscak
Sunday, June 29	Jarvis Manning

Ushers

Sunday, June 1	John Monson, Del Bugg Curt Drumm Stan Zuber
Sunday, June 8	Warren Coles Charles Kihm Alan Callanan Sam Radtke
Sunday, June 15	Marshall Henningsen Duane Allen Bob Gebel Todd Suessmith
Sunday, June 22	Mike Harris Dave Richison Jim Gansberg Philip Broderick
Sunday, June 29	Tom Ruhoff Joshua Karges Bill Egbert Logan Garrett

Called to *Serve*

Happy Birthday!!

June 4—Kathryn Smith

June 7—Daren Winkelman

June 8 Sandra Hartley

June 11 Tom Maruca

June 14 Mandy Henningsen

June 15 Tewodros Asmamaw

June 16 Donna Partington
Duane Stevens

June 20 Analise Garrett
Judi Harris

June 26 Gale Jackson

June 27 Anna Maschke

June 28 Lilith Alice Hill



Happy Anniversary

Anniversary

Years

June 1

Christopher & Rindi Fredlund

June 3

Richard & Sandra Hartley

June 15

Hal & Debra Martin
Tom & Marilyn Maruca

June 17

David & Bonnie Krenz
Gary & Sharon Gebhard

June 20

Ted & Joclaire Lehmann

June 22

Bill & Lynn Scott

June 27

Clay & Kellie Soderstrom

June 28

Jarvis & Amanda Manning
Tom & Gwenn Ruhoff



REMINDER:

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

Newsletter articles are due NO LATER than the 15th of the month previous to the 1st of the next month (example: August newsletter articles were due by July 15th.) If articles for the newsletter are submitted after the 15th, there is a possibility of your article not being included in the next month's newsletter.

Any questions, please contact Lora, Church secretary.

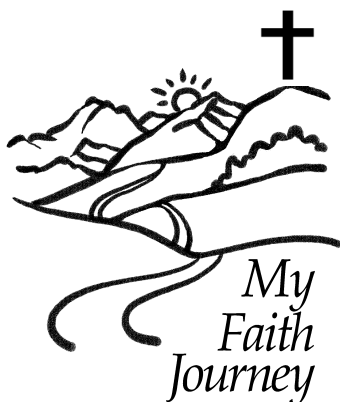
Phone: (775) 882-5252,

Email: lspiker@blcs.org



Bethlehem Lutheran Church

**1837 N. Mountain Street
Carson City, Nevada 89703
775-882-5252 www.blcs.org**



Happenings in June 2025

- June 1** **8:00am Bible Study.**
 9:15am Divine Service
 Mite Sunday—we love your coins!!!
- June 3** **6:00pm Council Meeting—All church members are invited to attend.**
- June 6** **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.
- June 7** **Radtke Baby shower @2:00pm**
- June 8** **8:00am Bible Study.**
 9:15am Divine Service.
- June 11** **11:30am Ladies Luncheon at LA Bakery, Carson City—RSVP 775-882-5252.**
 All ladies are invited to attend and bring a friend or two.
- June 13** **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.
- June 14** **Flag Day!!**
- June 15** **8:00am Bible Study.**
 9:15am Divine Service.
 Happy Father's Day—after service luncheon celebration, hot dogs, hamburgers.
 All visitors and members are invited to attend!!
- June 16** **Newsletter DEADLINE for July.**
- June 16—20** **VBS—Vacation Bible School 9:00am—noon**
- June 18** **NO Silver Lights**
- June 20** **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.
- June 22** **8:00am Bible Study.**
 9:15am Divine Service.
 VBS BBQ—All are invited to attend.
 New member class after VBS BBQ
- June 27** **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.
- June 29** **8:00am Bible Study.**
 9:15am Divine Service.
 After service, fifth Sunday Celebration. Bring a dish to share. All members and visitors welcome.