



WORSHIP



GROW



LIVE



CARE



SERVE

JANUARY 17, 2021

Second Sunday after Epiphany



BETHLEHEM  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

WEEKLY

star



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

The 30 Hour Famine is an event our youth take part in each year. Not only do our youth learn about world hunger, serve others, and grow closer to God through this experience, they get a small glimpse into what physical hunger feels like. This unique opportunity creates an environment where youth genuinely connect to the experience on many levels. But why is it so important we participate in this event?

According to the ELCA World Hunger website, more than 820 million people (about 11% of people in the world) are hungry. 736 million (10% of the world's population) people live in extreme poverty on less than \$1.90 per day. In 2017, more than 40 million Americans were unsure where their next meal might come from. In a world where some have so much, too many have barely enough to get by. Taking time to learn, serve, give, and experience is crucial in the fight against world hunger.

This year BLC is giving the funds we raise through the 30 Hour Famine to ELCA's World Hunger. This ministry not only supports food pantries and soup kitchens around the world, but also provides health clinics, microloans, and advocacy for different communities. In 2017, ELCA World Hunger donations totaled to over \$21.3 million to help others. This ministry has projects in 43 U.S. states and territories as well as 62 countries all over the world.

The 30 Hour Famine begins on Friday, but there are still ways you can help. You can pray for BLC's 30 Hour Famine participants this weekend. You can spend some time learning more about food insecurity in our own community. You can donate here <https://blcfairport.org/support-our-ministry/> with "30 Hour Famine" in the description or mail a check to BLC with "30 Hour Famine" in the memo line. Any amount helps support the amazing effort of the ELCA World Hunger organization.

~ Bethany Trippi

WORSHIP TIME: SUNDAYS ~ 8:30 AM WORSHIP  
(FACEBOOK LIVE)

**Are you Ready for Worship?** There are now three ways to participate in our Livestream of Sunday worship.

1. [Facebook Live](#) - We encourage you to start your own watch party!
2. [Watch On YouTube](#) - Subscribe to our channel
3. [Livestream on the website](#)



Worship the Living God

**Lessons for Sunday: 1/17:** 1 Samuel 3:1-20; Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18; John 2:43-52 *God's love is knowing*

**Lessons for Sunday: 1/24:** Jonah 3:1-5, 10; Psalm 62:5-12; Mark 1:14-20 *God's love is transforming*

★ The bulletin artwork for our current theme was created by Madeleine and Isabel Hoffman. We give thanks for their willingness to share their artistic gifts with us. If you, or a member of your household has a gift to share with the Bethlehem community please contact the office or let Pastor Amy know.

★ Don't forget to look for this **star Icon (★)** to easily identify the newest information each week

# Grow in Faith and Discipleship

**Resuming (virtual) Sunday School in the New Year!** We continue to offer opportunities for connection with our Sunday School, Confirmation and LYO groups in the new year. Our [Calendar of Events](#) is the best place to look weekly for details and easy login access for virtual meetings. As always, please contact the church office, Marcy Adams, Bethany Trippi or Pastor Amy if you are looking for additional support around your faith formation in the home.

- **Weekly** – we will have a children’s moment in worship on Sunday, and additional ways to engage on our FAITH5 Page <https://blcfairport.org/faith5-at-home/>
- **★ NEW THIS MONTH! Story Time for Pre-K to 5<sup>th</sup> Grade students and their families** - Sunday, **January 17** & Sunday, **January 31** at 6:30 pm (note the new time!) we will host two virtual Story times this month. Hear a story and share in a time of connection and conversation!
- **Confirmation for youth (grades 6-8)** meets on Mondays at 7 pm – 30 minutes on Zoom. Please contact Pastor Amy if you have questions about your child’s involvement.
- **LYO (grades 9-12)** has resumed meetings at 7:30 pm on Sundays via Zoom. If you have any questions please contact Bethany Trippi at [Bethany.trippi@blcfairport.org](mailto:Bethany.trippi@blcfairport.org). Also keep an eye out for our monthly newsletter coming out on the last day each month!

**Devotional resources:** The January – March 2021 editions of Portals of Prayer and Christ in Our Home as well as some extra copies of The Lutheran magazine and Spark Family magazines are available at BLC. If you would like a copy of any of these resources mailed to your home, please contact the office and we’d be happy to send them to you (first come, first serve).

**Share in BLC’s Crucial Conversation at 9:45am on Sunday (Jan 17)!** Pastor Amy and Pastor Hoffman will lead us in the 2nd of four conversations on the ELCA social statement *Freed in Christ: Race, Ethnicity and Culture*.

**Prepare for the conversation** by viewing the Ted Talk - [The Danger of a Single Story](#). As you view it, consider a time when you had to face the possibility of a different story. We promise to have more space and time to hear your voices on Sunday.

**Join** the Zoom session on Sunday, **January 17** at 9:45am through our Calendar of Events  
*Did you miss the first session? Don't have time to prepare? Your voice and presence are still welcome!*

**Resources for further reflection:** At last week’s Crucial Conversation, a number of resources were referenced. Here are the links to those resources that are available online.

From the ELCA:

[Social Statement - Freed in Christ: Race, Ethnicity, and Culture](#)  
[Racial Justice Ministry Resources](#)

From the United Way of Greater Rochester:

[21-Day Racial Equity Challenge](#)

Information on [Housing Segregation in Rochester](#)

Book: Jesus and the Disinherited by Howard Thurman - order from your favorite bookseller or available as a [free download](#).

**★ BOOK/BIBLE STUDY, *Love Is The Way*** begins **Sunday February 14**. David Gerhardt will lead this study using the book, *Love Is The Way, Holding On To Hope In Troubling Times*, by Bishop Michael Curry, who is the Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church. Much of the world met Bishop Curry when he delivered his sermon on the redemptive power of love at the royal wedding of Prince Harry and Meghan Markle at Windsor Castle. In *Love Is The Way*, Bishop Curry shares a message of hope as we follow the way of Jesus, living a life of love and grace towards others. The way of love is essential for addressing the seemingly insurmountable challenges facing our world today: poverty, racism, selfishness, deep ideological divisions. Only love has the power to move us forward to reconciliation, healing and renewal. Such love comes from God and God empowers us to then live this way of love. This 6-week class will take place through Zoom on Sundays (**February 14, 21, 28 and March 14, 21, 28**). You can purchase a book through a book seller of your choosing such as Amazon, Barnes Noble, Target, etc. Please let David know if you plan to attend. You can contact him through his email, [dgerha4616@aol.com](mailto:dgerha4616@aol.com).

**Midweek Bible Study:** The group meets weekly at 9:30 am on Wednesday mornings. While our fearless facilitator, Kathy, is caring for family, the group will continue meeting and discussing the texts for each Sunday. Check the calendar for our Zoom codes! Questions - contact [Bob Stolze](#).

## Live Our Faith in Daily Life

★ **The 30-hour famine is THIS weekend (1/15 – 1/17)!** It's not too late to sign up for BLC's 30 Hour Famine Virtual Experience! Participation can be flexible. Fast the whole 30 hours, split up the 30 hours among family members, only participate in the activities, or donate to the cause! All congregation members are welcome! Please email Bethany Trippi at [bethany.trippi@blcfairport.org](mailto:bethany.trippi@blcfairport.org) with any questions. Sign up here <https://blcfairport.org/30-hour-famine-sign-up/> or donate here <https://blcfairport.org/support-our-ministry/> online with "30 hour famine" in the description.

**Preparing for Lent:** For our observance of the Lenten season this year, we are creating a devotional to share with all our members and help draw closer together in spirit. We invite anyone who wishes to write a meditation/reflection to contribute to that devotional at <https://blcfairport.org/preparing-for-lent/>

The often-used image for Lent is that of a wilderness; just as Jesus wandered for forty days in his own wilderness. We certainly have been through a wilderness experience these past several months with the virus and separation from each other and our physical church, and through it all, many questions have arisen: Where have we experienced the wilderness? How did we walk? Who helped us walk? What unexpected things did we find? Where did we see the light? What does our future look like after we come through it?

We want to hear *your* story. You are welcome to use any of these themes for your meditation or to compose whatever inspiration the Holy Spirit brings to you. Please begin your reflection with a simple phrase from Scripture, a poem or a song, if you make your reflection a drawing (black and white only, please!) use the Scripture as a caption. Please also close with a simple one-line prayer. The format is: Title, quote or scripture, the body of your reflection, and the one-line prayer.

## Care for One Another

★ **Thank You!** Please thank all the BLC knitters who wove so much love into 120 warm hats, donated to our Learning Links students at Christmas time! We are warmly grateful to you all! Kate Thon, director Learning Links Youth & Tutoring Program

★ **Soup & Bread Recipes:** Send us your Soup recipes! The next quarterly mailer will include information about the seasons of Lent & Easter. Although we do not expect to be able to gather for Simple Suppers this year, we would like to include a page of recipes in the mailer for soup and bread. If you have an easy recipe for soup or bread, please send it to GerryAnn Westcott or the church office. We will include as many as fit reasonably on 1 or 2 sheets of paper. Please submit your recipes by January 20!

**Homebound Member Birthdays in January:** Anita Trabold (1/3). We encourage you to reach out to these members who are not able to attend worship and related activities with us on a regular basis. Birthdays are a great time to remind them that they remain in our thoughts and prayers as members of our community of faith here at BLC.

We have a wonderful card ministry to remember our homebound members throughout the year. In this ongoing time apart, you are encouraged to take a moment to send notes of encouragement to any and all of the people in our BLC community. Contact the church office if you need a copy of the most recent directory. If you would more information, or would like to join the Card Ministry, email [Donna Berner](mailto:Donna.Berner) or call 585-314-5732.

## Serve Our Neighbor

**M&SC** stands for the Mission and Social Concerns Committee. The next M&SC meeting is **February 10, 2021**, at 6 pm via Zoom. If you would like to attend but are not part of the committee, please contact Beth Walker at [rbowsend@rochester.rr.com](mailto:rbowsend@rochester.rr.com) for the zoom link.

### **Community Mission News:**

**House of Mercy** has temporarily shut down due to internal cases of COVID-19. They have convened a committee to design an operating and reopening plan. Please pray for the staff and those served, as well as all who engage in social ministry.

**Resolve of Greater Rochester** – providing services virtually.

**Open Door Mission** – As of their 2020 Christmas newsletter, the Mission and the Coldwater House for Women and Children are still up and running. Pray for those who serve and those who are served!

**Coffee Connection** has two locations where you can buy ground or whole bean coffee: 681 South Ave, Rochester and The Greenhouse Café, 2271 E. Main St. Rochester

**Yarn Ministry Hats** – Cathy Gottermeier has offered to pick up knit winter hats from church and deliver them where needed. Hats may be placed in the tub in the coat room off the narthex, or on the table in the Yarn Ministry room across from the choir room.

**Food Pantries** – Food insecurity is real. Consider a monetary donation to your local food pantry. Here are addresses for some of the food pantries located where members of BLC live.

- Brighton Food Cupboard 220 Idlewood Rd, Rochester, NY 14618
- Brockport Ecumenical Food Shelf, 14 State Street, Brockport, NY 14420
- Foodlink, 1999 Mt. Read Blvd, Rochester, NY 14615
- Greece Ecumenical Food Shelf 500 Maiden Lane, Greece, NY 14616
- Irondequoit Community Cupboard c/o Debbie Evans, PO Box 17834 Rochester, NY 14617
- Marion Food Pantry 2<sup>nd</sup> Reformed Church, PO Box 32 Marion, NY 14505
- Pal-Mac Food Pantry PO Box 173 Palmyra, NY 14522
- Perinton Food Shelf, PO Box 381, Fairport, NY 14450
- Penfield Ecumenical Food Shelf, 1618 Jackson Rd, Penfield NY 14526
- Pittsford Food Cupboard, 3800 Monroe Ste 26, Pittsford, NY 14534
- St. Andrews Food Cupboard, 890 Portland Ave, Rochester, NY 14621
- The Community Food Cupboard of Rochester, 11 Nester St #3, Rochester, NY 14621
- Victor Farmington Food Cupboard PO Box 154, Victor NY 14564

**Purchase items with a Smile** – If you purchase items on Amazon, consider switching to AmazonSmile.com. You can designate a not-for-profit and a percentage of your purchase will support that organization.



## Council News

★ The **Re-Opening Team** met for a check-in on Tuesday, January 12. We continue to monitor safe building use. We'll meet next on **February 9** at 6:30 pm. Members include: Matt Beutel, Brian Edwards, Margie Gaul, Kristina Henry, Julie Owen, Bob Stolze, Rick Walker, and Pastor Amy Walter-Peterson

★ **Time Away:** Pastor Amy has worked with leaders at Bethlehem to arrange time away to be with family in Minnesota over the coming weeks. Coronavirus quarantine requirements mean that she will be working remotely from Minnesota for a portion of the next two weeks prior to her vacation, January 29 – February 7. You will continue to see her in leadership during this time of remote quarantine. Pastor Amy has made arrangements for emergency coverage and pastoral leadership during this time if she cannot respond directly. Continue to contact the church office (585.223.0534) or reach out through the Pastoral Care Emergency line (Option 1) if you have a need for immediate pastoral care.

**Council Installation:** On Sunday, **January 10**, we installed Council for the new year and affirmed the leadership of our Core Ministry Team. We give thanks for the ministry of Julie Owen, Sherry Cook who have completed their terms as members of Council and Erik Sorensen who resigned from Council earlier this year due to his job relocation, and Kevin Dunn who left council to begin college. We welcome Glenda Lockard & Liana Thibault as new council members. They join our existing council members: Brian Edwards, Andy Gates, Margie Gaul, Mike Higgins, Lisa Meetze and Lisa Rosenbauer & Rick Walker, The Council will elect officers at their first meeting in January. Our Core Ministry Team (CMT) leaders include Toni Thompson (Worship), Marcy Adams (Grow), Cathy Gottermeier (Live), GerryAnn Westcott (Care) and an open position for the leader of (Serve). We give thanks for the ministry Beth Walker, who continues to work closely with Pastor Amy to lead the Serve ministry. Above all, we give thanks to God for the many talents and willing servants found among this community of faith!

★ **2021 offering envelopes:** Offering envelopes will be in the Narthex, starting on Sunday, **January 17**. We will have a 1-hour pick up time on **January 16** from 11 am to 12 noon, where you can drive through on the District Office side of the building and pick up your envelopes. Contact Beth in the church office or Dave Wideman (BLC Financial Secretary) to make arrangements for pick up as needed outside of that time. Also please let us know if you no longer wish to receive physical envelopes.

**Save the Date:** Quarterly Dialogue on Sunday, **February 14, 2021 at 9:45 am via Zoom**. Watch the STAR for more details and plan to attend to learn about the many ways Bethlehem continues to live out our mission of Worshipping the Living God, Growing in Faith and Discipleship, Living our Faith in Daily Life, Caring for One Another, and Serving our Neighbor.

★ **This is the last plea for BLC Confirmation photos.** We are planning to have a display of pictures of all Confirmation Classes at BLC during our 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary year in 2021-22. These are the Confirmation Class pictures that are missing from our photo archive. If you can help provide one of these missing photos, please contact Bob Stock. 585-329-2550 or [rstock@rochester.rr.com](mailto:rstock@rochester.rr.com). Don't let your class be one of the missing ones! Thank you!

Missing Confirmation Class Pix	Years ago	Age of class member now
1958	60	73
1959	59	72
1960	58	71
1962	56	69
1964	54	67
1965	53	66
1967	51	64
1968	50	63
1971	48	61
1972	46	59
1973	45	58
1974	44	57
1980	39	52
1981	38	51
1982	37	50
1984	35	48
1986	33	46
1988	31	44
1990	28	41
1999	19	32
2000	18	31
2012	6	19
2015	5	18
2020	1	13

★ **Will You Share Your BLC Story?** During our 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary we will be compiling a Storybook that includes BLC stories. Do you want to write your story to include in the booklet? We know you have a story worth telling. What brought you to BLC? What keeps you coming back? What do you participate in at BLC? How has BLC impacted your family? What does BLC mean to you? The possibilities are endless.

We have many stories already including:

- Stories from previous & current BLC pastors & musicians
- Stories about trips to Zimbabwe, Italy, Germany
- Stories from PKs – Preacher's Kids
- Stories about BLC missions & ministries
- And many more

If you have a story to tell, please write it. It should be one or two pages of text. Include pictures if you have them – that will increase your page count which is OK.

Please let the office or Bob Stock know now, if you plan to participate in this story-telling opportunity. Bob's cell phone 585-329-2550 or email [rstock@rochester.rr.com](mailto:rstock@rochester.rr.com).

If you have photos to include with your story but don't know how to digitize them and get them into your document, contact Bob Stock. He will do it for you.

You have until the end of February to submit your story to the church office or Bob Stock.

**We Ask Your Prayers:** *We pray for those whose thanks or needs are known to us.*

*We pray for those who are grieving, especially the family and friends of:*

- Walter Zagorski, father of Glen Zagorski who died on 1/10
- Judy Buck, mother of Mary Osgood's friend who died on 1/7
- John Adler, son of former BLC pastor Dallas Adler who died on 1/2
- Bob Paoni, father of Sherry & Jim Cook's son-in-law who died on 12/27

*We pray for those in need of healing, especially:*

- Evelyn Ekegren, mother of Kay Slattery who is recovering from a recent fall
- Joanne Goethais, mother of Vicki Beutel who is recovering from a recent stroke
- Bernice Stevens, mother of Kathy Moragne who is recovering after a recent hospitalization
- Anne, aunt of Marja Roney who is starting chemotherapy following a recent lung cancer diagnosis
- Those impacted by fires, hurricanes and other disasters
- Those who are involved with the ongoing work of caregiving for loved ones
- Those who are infected with or recovering from Coronavirus, and their caregivers
  - Olive Jameson, mother of Jackie Stivers
  - Waverly, friend of Phyllis Stock
  - Clara & George, parents of Waverly

[Click here to view and print the January long-term prayer listing](#) – or contact the church office for a copy!

## Calendar for week of January 17 – January 24

(Last updated on 1/13/21 at 12 noon, visit <https://blcfairport.org/event-directory/> for updates)

### Sunday, January 17

#### **30 Hour Famine 1/15 – 1/17**

8:30 am Facebook Livestream  
Worship  
9:45 am Zoom\* Coffee & Crucial Conversation hosted by the Pastors  
([Join](#) or use ID 823 7018 2058)  
6:30 pm Zoom\* Story time for pre-K through 5<sup>th</sup> grade and families  
([Join](#) or use ID 815 7566 9638)  
7:30 pm Zoom\* LYO  
([Join](#) or use ID 818 2417 6546)

### Monday, January 18

#### **BLC Office closed in observance of Martin Luther King Day**

6:00 pm Virtual Youth Choir  
([Join](#) or use ID 816 9461 2911)  
6:30 pm BSA Troop 208  
7:00 pm Zoom\* GFL Confirmation  
([Join](#) or use ID 859 4816 8778)

### Tuesday, January 19

#### **BLC Office Closed\*\***

6:30 pm BSA Troop 2019

### Wednesday, January 20

9:30 am Zoom\* Bible Study  
([Join](#) or use ID 943 3691 2942)  
1:00 pm Zoom\* Men's Lunch  
([Join](#) or use ID 874 8853 3240)  
3:00 pm Education Planning Meeting  
6:30 pm Chancel Bells  
7:30 pm Zoom\* Chancel Choir Rehearsal  
([Join](#) or use ID 869 2314 9200)

### Thursday, January 21

10:00 am Zoom\* Liturgy Planning Meeting  
6:30 pm Zoom\* Council Meeting  
([Join](#) or use ID 856 5035 0877)

### Friday, January 22

10:00 am Folk Group Rehearsal  
3:00 pm Dulcimer Group Rehearsal

### Saturday, January 23

### Sunday, January 24

8:30 am Facebook Livestream  
Worship  
9:45 am Zoom\* Coffee & Crucial Conversation hosted by the Pastors  
([Join](#) or use ID 823 7018 2058)  
7:30 pm Zoom\* LYO  
([Join](#) or use ID 818 2417 6546)

**\*\*Beth Schoenfeld will be out of the office on Tuesdays from January 5 – March 10. Pastor Amy remains available on Tuesdays and can be reached by phone when she is not in the office.**

**For additional details** about any of the meetings, events and activities listed above contact the church office!

**Church Office Hours:** We continue to hold remote office hours M-F from 9 am to 12 noon. During these times, please call (585) 223-0634 to reach us directly, otherwise you may continue to email us at [office@blcfairport.org](mailto:office@blcfairport.org) and we'll respond as we're able. For further assistance or urgent pastoral care needs outside of office hours, please call the office and leave a message on the pastoral care line. Pastor Amy remains available by phone and email at other times.

**\*To join any of our BLC Zoom meetings, use the ID provided or contact the church office and/or group organizer.**

**\*Zoom Options:** For recurring meetings, the info will remain the same each time. Participants can join with the link provided (above where applicable, or via email), or by using the Meeting ID and manually enter the password (the 10-digit BLC phone number with area code, no spaces or hyphens). **Please contact the group leader or the church office for assistance or additional details! If you have trouble accessing a Zoom meeting in real-time, you can call or text (585) 364-2129 for assistance.**

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**Announcements for the STAR** should be submitted through the office by Wednesday morning at 9am. Visit [www.blcfairport.org](http://www.blcfairport.org) and to sign up for reminders and special announcements (including the STAR!)



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