



WORSHIP



GROW



LIVE



CARE



SERVE

JUNE 13, 2021

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost



BETHLEHEM  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

WEEKLY  
*star*



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

*As we prepare for worship this weekend, consider reading this week's lessons along with this reflection to ground yourself in the Word. This reflection comes from [sundaysandseasons.com](http://sundaysandseasons.com) and is also printed on the back of the worship bulletin.*

### The Mystery of Growth

In elementary school, when children learn about plants they inevitably plant a small seed in a clear plastic cup and watch it grow. This helps as they learn the parts of plants: leaf, stem, roots. As we get older we get more sophisticated in our ability to explain the details of the plant and the growth we see, but on some level the growth itself remains a mystery. Why do some plants thrive and others fail? Was it the soil? Too much water? Too little? And what of those plants growing in the tiny cracks in between slabs of concrete?

The growth of faith is a similar mystery. We can do the best we can to provide good soil, in the form of teachers and mentors, parents and pastors. Still, the faith seems to take root and grow in some people and not in others. And then there are people raised in the worst conditions who grow to be strong people of faith.

Jesus reminds us that faith is a gift which comes to us from God. We cannot control it in ourselves, and we cannot control it in others. We can plant, we can water, and then we can sleep and wake until the plant grows. In the end it is God who brings the growth and the Holy Spirit who gives us faith. As people of God we are called to be good soil. As people of God we are called to trust that God will do what we cannot. Faith will grow, and the church will flourish, not because of our grand schemes and plans, but because God will have it no other way.



### Worship the Living God

#### ARE YOU READY FOR SUNDAY WORSHIP?

Worship virtually at 8:30 am

1. [Facebook Live](#)
2. [Watch On YouTube](#) – Subscribe to our channel
3. [Livestream on the website](#)

Worship in-person at 10 am

Due to sanctuary capacity limits, reservations are required ([click here to save your seat\(s\)](#) or contact the office for assistance)

#### Lessons for Sunday, 6/13:

2 Corinthians 5:6-10, 14-17 and Mark 4:26-34

#### Lessons for Sunday, 6/20:

Job 38:1-11 and Mark 4:35-41

**Worship Schedule** – Our two worship times each week are on Sunday – 8:30 am Livestream and 10 am In-Person worship ([reservations required](#)). As we live into this new schedule, we may need to make changes. We will communicate changes that we make in the weekly STAR and the other email communication. Look at the [Gathering Again](#) page on our website, for the latest updates.

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

## Grow in Faith and Discipleship

**Wednesday morning Bible Study has gone hybrid!** Join us weekly at 9:30 am in person in the Fellowship Hall at BLC or on Zoom - use the 'join now' button in the [Calendar of Events](#) to join via Zoom. For the summer, we will be studying the lessons for the upcoming Sunday. They are usually posted on the first page of the Star. That makes it easy for you to join us as you are able without missing related content (though we're also happy for you to join us **every** week!) If you have questions, or would like more information, contact Kathy Moragne - [kathymoragne@gmail.com](mailto:kathymoragne@gmail.com)

## Live Our Faith in Daily Life

**Men's Lunch (no longer virtual!)** Gather with the men of BLC to share good food and informal Christian fellowship. The group will meet on the 1st Wednesday of the month at 8 am (note that there was an error in last week's calendar – and see the new time for 1st Wednesdays!) at the Landmark Restaurant in East Rochester, and the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 1 pm at the Penfield Wegmans (the first one is June 16!). For further information, contact Marshall Kurfiss at [mnkurfiss@yahoo.com](mailto:mnkurfiss@yahoo.com) or Jim Berner at [jamesberner1@yahoo.com](mailto:jamesberner1@yahoo.com)

**LYO has returned to in-person gatherings!!** LYO will meet on Sundays through July. They will start at 7:30 pm, in the courtyard for youth group! Please dress according to the weather, bring a lawn chair, a mask, and a personal snack to munch on! If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Bethany Trippi at [Bethany.trippi@blcfairport.org](mailto:Bethany.trippi@blcfairport.org)

**BLC On the Go:** Currently scheduled dates include **6/17** Quilt tying for Lutheran World Relief with GerryAnn Westcott and **6/20** Wacky Kickball with Marcy Adams and. Do you enjoy local hikes, playground meet-ups or other outdoor activities that you'd like to invite your BLC community to participate in? Please submit the details using the [online form](#) and we will help you spread the word and invite others to participate with you. Watch the BLC [calendar of events](#) and your email for a weekly update!

## Care for One Another

★ **Summer opportunity!** We still need help in the gardens to maintain the flowers we have planted: Watering and Weeding. Please email or call Kathy Forney: [katwire@gmail.com](mailto:katwire@gmail.com) (585-455-0229) A special thanks to the Clements who are maintaining the Courtyard; and to Lil Lassen-Ward and Sue Towsley who worked to prepare the beds prior to 6/5.

★ **Thank you** to all the volunteer gardeners who helped to put in annuals, including Pentecost Geraniums, at BLC, Saturday, June 5. Sue Towsley, John Schmeelk, Carolyn Ann Straub, Marge Yaeger, Karen Bigenwald, and Haley (our Scout from Troop 2019). Everyone worked hard and we were able to complete the project before 12:00 noon.

~ Thank you all, K. Forney

*Thank you so much for all your prayers, support and cards as I recover from surgery. I am so very blessed to be part of such a caring, supportive and loving community. Your thoughtfulness and kindness is so very much appreciated and helped my spirits so very much. Blessing to you all. ~ Cathy Gottermeier*

## Serve Our Neighbor

As part of the Serve Ministry, **Missions and Social Concerns (M&SC)** reaches out to the world for the purpose of serving our neighbors near and far, especially those who are marginalized and easily forgotten. Our vision includes actively advocating for justice (Micah 6:8: What does the Lord require of us but to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with our God"). Who are our neighbors? How might we recognize those who are marginalized and easily forgotten? What does actively advocating for justice mean? We invite you to explore these questions and more! The M&SC Committee continues to meet virtually and invites you to join us for one meeting or many – we welcome you in whatever way you may contribute! If you have questions or feedback, please contact Julie Owen at [jowen@heritagechristianservices.org](mailto:jowen@heritagechristianservices.org) or 585-766-8728.

**Conversation about the Role of Women in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Zimbabwe (ELCZ) with a member of the ELCZ (Sunday, June 13, 2021 from 1-2pm via Zoom)** Zvipozvashe Ngwenya, a member of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Zimbabwe (ELCZ), is currently studying at Syracuse University. She has graciously offered to spend time with members of the UNYS discussing the role of women in the ELCZ and answering questions. Zoom with our Global Companion and discover common ground! Please contact the UNYS Global Mission Chair, Beth Walker, at [rbowsend@rochester.rr.com](mailto:rbowsend@rochester.rr.com) to receive a link for this call.

**A new BLC opportunity against hunger!** BLC and Moll Farms, Williamson are partnering to provide fresh fruit and vegetables to those in need.

- What: Four Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) Bounty Baskets will be delivered to BLC, biweekly
- When: Every other Tuesday beginning mid-June
- What you can do to help: BLC members will pick up the boxes and take them to the Pines Mini Food Cupboard, open them, and stay with the boxes for one hour as community members stop by to “shop”. Any food remaining is yours to use or share.
- Why: Food pantries do not often provide fresh food resulting in food deserts. CSAs support local and sustainable agriculture.
- More information to come as Moll Farms sets their delivery schedule.
- M&SC will be sure to advertise when fresh food will be available and encourage Fairport and the Pines community member to come and partake.

Moll Farms (<https://mollfarms.com>) is a family owned and operated farm in Wayne County. Weekly and biweekly subscriptions are available if BLC members are interested in ordering for themselves. Weekly or bi-weekly baskets are delivered to your doorstep. If you have questions, please contact Beth Walker, [rbowsend@rochester.rr.com](mailto:rbowsend@rochester.rr.com)

**Stay Tuned for these ways you can use your AAA (Advocacy, Allyship & Activism) membership:**

- We will be collecting school supplies for the Learning Links tutoring program this summer. Details are forthcoming for specific items and ways to purchase.
- Continuing the conversation: Book study – “Jesus and the Disinherited” by Howard Thurman. Details on dates and times of virtual meetings coming soon!
  - *“In this classic theological treatise, the acclaimed theologian and religious leader Howard Thurman (1900-1981) demonstrates how the gospel may be read as a manual of resistance for the poor and disenfranchised. Jesus is a partner in the pain of the oppressed and the example of His life offers a solution to ending the descent into moral nihilism. Hatred does not empower—it decays. Only through self-love and love of one another can God’s justice prevail.”*

★ **Quilts for Lutheran World Relief** Several quilters have assembled entire tops for Lutheran World Relief. LWR prefers to have the quilts tied. We will meet on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays from 7-9 pm in June, July and August in our Fellowship Hall (approved for 12 people) from 7-9 pm. Non-quilters are welcome, too. We'll wear masks. You're qualified if you can tie a square knot ... or believe you can learn! [gerryannwestcott@gmail.com](mailto:gerryannwestcott@gmail.com)

★ **Second Sunday Dinner Ministry re-starting (delivery only) on July 11:** On the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of every month, BLC serves meals to elderly and needy individuals and families in our Fairport community. Other local churches provide meals on the remaining Sundays. It takes a dedicated team of 20-30 volunteers each month to prepare, package, deliver meals, and clean up. We receive much of the food we need for this ministry through the Perinton Food Shelf. However, each month there are food items needed to round out the meals that we prepare. Drivers needed for deliveries between 1 and 4 pm on the 2nd Sunday of the month. Find a partner and contact Toni Thompson at (585) 223-2666 to sign up for a single week or recurring schedule. If you would like to donate food or explore other ways you might help as we re-start this important ministry, please contact Paulette Costanza ([p.stanza@hotmail.com](mailto:p.stanza@hotmail.com) or 223-9255).



## Council News

**COVID-19 update** from our Council President, Rick Walker. A communication was shared on 5/26. [View & print the letter here](#). Visit our [Gathering Again Page](#) anytime for the most recent updates.

**Pastoral Care** – Pr. Amy continues to recuperate from her recent knee replacement surgery. She is currently working a reduced schedule and coordinating pastoral care with Pastor Hoffman. In the event of a pastoral care emergency (i.e. death, family or individual crisis), please contact the church office and leave a message on the Pastoral Care line.

**Re-Opening Team** –The team continues to monitor recommendations made by our local and state governments and will adapt our practices as needed. Look for the most current information on the [Gathering Again page](#) on our website. The Re-Opening team meets next on Tuesday, **June 15** 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.

# Community News

**Troop 208 Eagle Scout Project (6/12 and 6/19):** My name is Jack Janish, and I am doing my Eagle Project at the Lutheran church. My Eagle project is collecting bikes from people, who no longer want them, around the community. I will then be repairing them with the help of R Community Bikes, a local nonprofit bike repair shop, so that we can donate them to the less fortunate in the community.

**House of Mercy Charity Golf Outing** – Saturday, **July 10**. Reserved tee times beginning at 1 pm. \$75 per golfer. Deerfield Country Club in Brockport, golf cart and sleeve of House of Mercy golf balls. Please visit <https://givebutter.com/HOMGolf> to purchase tickets by June 30.

**Perinton Concert Band to perform Outdoor Concert on July 1, 2021** at 7:00 pm, the Perinton Concert Band will perform a free outdoor concert in Perinton Park, 99 O'Connor Rd, Fairport. After more than a year without music, we look forward to performing together for you again. Please join us outside on the lawn in Perinton Park as we perform light summer music. This concert is free and sponsored by the Town of Perinton Recreation and Parks. This concert is contingent on New York State regulations. For more information, contact 585-490-4751, or find us online at <http://www.perintonconcertband.org/> or on Facebook at: [Perinton Concert Band](#).

★ **To Strive for Justice & Peace in All the Earth: How Lutherans Engage with Social Issues (Tuesday, June 15 at 7 pm via Zoom)** Presenters: Bishop John Macholz, Rev. Dr. Roger Willer, Pastor Dustin Wright  
One of our core baptismal commitments as Lutherans is to "strive for justice and peace in all the earth," but how do we define justice? Few would argue that the Bible can guide us in leading a moral life, both individually and as a society, but how can we teach and preach about right and wrong without becoming simply another politically partisan organization? The bad news (that we certainly all know) is that living in such a politically and culturally divided country makes it perhaps more difficult than ever to answer these questions. The good news though is that as Lutherans, we have decades of carefully researched and widely agreed upon [Social Statements, Social Messages and related documents](#) that can help guide our thinking and action around the complicated social issues of our day. Join Rev. Dr. Roger Willer (ELCA Director for Theological Ethics in the Office of the Presiding Bishop), Bishop John Macholz (Upstate New York Synod bishop) and Pastor Dustin Wright (Messiah, Rotterdam) for a community forum on how Lutherans engage in social issues, how social statements are formed and what to do if you don't agree. If you're someone who's ever thought or said, "Pastor, you're being too political!" this conversation is for you! If you're someone looking to understand how your faith relates to the wider justice issues of our day, this conversation is for you, too! You can join us both live "in the room" on Zoom to ask questions or watch the event streamed on [Facebook Watch](#). **Zoom Link:** <https://zoom.us/j/96254992788>

**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:*

- Mr. Nyathi (the father in the family in Bulawayo, Zimbabwe that Beth and Rick Walker stayed with) who died on 5/21
- Richie (friend of Chris Meetze) who died of a heart attack on 5/18
- Bryon Schmidt (family friend of David & Marsha Gerhardt) who died in a boating accident over Memorial Day weekend

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

- Charles Levene (father of Terri Pries) who is recovering from surgery
- Cheryl Newton as she deals with ongoing health concerns
- Abby Teasdale who is recovering from brain surgery on 6/3
- Nancy Malik (mother of Colleen Sousa) who is recovering after a recent hospitalization and continuing treatment for lung cancer
- Dick DePasquale as he recovers from surgery on 6/1 to repair his bicep following an injury
- Waverly, who continues to face multiple health challenges
- 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

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



## Calendar for June 13 – June 20

(Last updated on 6/9/21 at 12 noon, visit <https://blcfairport.org/event-directory/> for updates)

### Sunday, June 13

8:30 am Facebook  
Livestream Worship  
10:00 am In-person Worship  
([Reservation required](#))  
7:30 pm LYO

### Monday, June 14

6:00 pm 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday Planning  
Meeting  
([Join](#) or use ID 868 6979 8493)

### Tuesday, June 15

6:30 pm Re-Opening Team  
([Join](#) or use ID 824 6235 3239)

### Wednesday, June 16

9:30 am Bible Study - Hybrid  
(In-person or [Join](#) via Zoom –  
ID 943 3691 2942)  
9:30 am Education Planning  
Meeting  
([Join](#) or use ID 871 8823 9638)  
1:00 pm Men's Lunch at Penfield  
Wegmans (*note the change  
from Zoom to in-person!*)

### Thursday, June 17

6:30 pm BLC Council  
([Join](#) or use ID 856 5035 0877)  
7:00 pm Quilts for Lutheran  
World Relief

### Friday, June 18

#### **Pastor's Sabbath**

### Saturday, June 19

9:00 am Eagle Scout Bike  
Restoration Project

### Sunday, June 20

#### **Senior Recognition Sunday**

8:30 am Facebook  
Livestream Worship  
10:00 am In-person Worship  
([Reservation required](#))  
11:30 am BLC On the Go! Wacky  
Kickball at Center Park with  
Marcy Adams  
7:30 pm LYO

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**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.

**Worshipping In-Person:** To accommodate our sanctuary capacity limits, we are currently requiring reservations for worship. You may [reserve space here](#) (the link is also available on BLC's [Share in Worship page](#)). If you need assistance making a reservation or don't have internet access, please contact the church office.

**Zoom Meetings at BLC:** The easiest way to join is to use the direct link available in the [Calendar of Events](#) on our website. If you don't see your meeting in the Calendar of Events or have questions, please contact your group leader or the church office for assistance or additional details!

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



BETHLEHEM  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

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