



WORSHIP



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SERVE

WEEKLY STAR FOR SEPTEMBER 26, 2021

18th Sunday after Pentecost

God's Work. Our Hands. Week of Service



BETHLEHEM
LUTHERAN CHURCH

WEEKLY
star



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

This week, we kick off a week of service, celebrating "God's Work. Our Hands." with ELCA congregations across the country. The following hymn was written for this annual celebration. Look at our [GWOH page](#) for ways you can participate in activities or gather your family and do an act of caring in your home this week. Share the service by taking a picture and sending to the church office!

God's Work, Our Hands

If you want to sing this poetry, it fits the tune of "Earth and All Stars" (ELW 731)!

God's work, our hands: working together,
building a future, repairing the world,
raising up homes, planting new gardens,
feeding the hungry and shelt'ring the cold.

Bless, God, our hands as we work in your name,
sharing the good news of your Gospel.

God's work, our feet: trav'ling together,
following Jesus to places unknown,
walking as friends, marching for freedom,
running the race with God's future the goal.

Bless, God, our feet as we follow your way,
sharing the good news of your Gospel.

God's work, our voice: singing together,
praising, proclaiming to all who will hear,
praying for peace, shouting for justice,
claiming God's love for the lost and the least.

Bless, God, our voice as we speak in your name,
sharing the good news of your Gospel.

God is at work in and around us:
seedlings are sprouting and bread's on the rise!
Washed and set free, humbled and honored,
gifted by grace, we respond in God's love.

Bless, God, our lives as we answer your call,
sharing the good news of your Gospel.

Text: Wayne L. Wold

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

ARE YOU READY FOR SUNDAY WORSHIP?

Worship with Communion (in-person and online) will be at 8:55 am (no reservations required!)

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



Worship the Living God

Lessons for Sunday, 9/26
1 Samuel 1:1-18

Lessons for Sunday, 10/3
Mark 5:21-43

Welcome Raelynn Clare... our new Music Director and Organist! As Raelynn begins her new duties, she is eager to know more about the musical gifts of the Bethlehem community! Reach out to her or to one of the pastors to express your willingness to share your musical talents. Raelynn is especially wondering if there are string players in the congregation, but welcomes all manner of musicians!

BLC Chancel Bells: Rehearsals will rehearse on Wednesdays at 6:00 pm in the bell room.

Come join us for our first rehearsal back this fall! Everyone is welcome and no prior experience is required. All you need to bring is your enthusiasm for making a joyful noise unto the Lord! High-school students are also welcome. Any questions, please contact Raelynn Clare raelynn.clare@blcfairport.org.

Worship: Our worship time each week is on Sunday at 8:55 am (both in-person and livestream). Visit [Share in Worship](#) for information on how to participate in the livestream. *Thanks for your patience last week as a family emergency and technical challenges prevented our ability to livestream worship as usual. We expect to be back on-line this week at 8:55am!* If you are joining us in-person, we ask people to wear masks while moving through our facility, in worship, and during Sunday morning faith formation activities. Look at the [Gathering Again](#) page on our website, for the latest updates. Our new Sunday morning format will give us a chance to intentionally engage one another, deepen relationships and ground us in faithful conversation as we start this next chapter as a community of faith.

100th Anniversary News

100 YEARS

This Sunday, before and after worship, we suggest your to-do list include the following:

*Head downstairs to have your photo taken for the 2022 Family Album. Only six Sundays remain for walk-ins - no appointment and no fuss! Photographer Bob Stock and his helpers will be waiting for you in the downstairs classroom facing the courtyard.

*Check out our History by the Numbers posted in the hallways. A sampling: Dan Juers reports more than 525 terminally ill people have called Advent House home over the 30 years since it opened. GerryAnn Westcott estimates that the quilt group has donated about 1000 to 1200 quilts since 2003.

Without numbers, it is often difficult to grasp just how many recipients have been blessed by BLC members truly living into being the hands and feet of Jesus through the years.

*Order your anniversary throw at the table in the narthex. Designed to reflect BLC's past, present, and future, this is a great keepsake of our anniversary year. Plus, it will feel really nice during our cold winter months! They are \$33 each. Cash and checks are accepted or order online from the anniversary section of our website (www.blcfairport.org).

*Hang an ornament on the 100th Anniversary Ornament Tree in the narthex. Either pick up an ornament found under the tree or make your own to represent an act of service. There is no limit to the number of ornaments you can display.

*Continue to follow our activities on the Anniversary Bulletin Board located in the narthex next to the sacristy. To view online go to our website at www.blcfairport.org and click on the 100th Anniversary link at the top right corner. From here, you will enjoy exploring all of the topics, ranging from History to video interviews with current and past members and staff to Events Media, featuring photos from recent anniversary events and much more.

Grow in Faith and Discipleship

★ **Faith Formation for All:** Join us each Sunday at 10:15 am!

- 6th-8th grade gathers in the Confirmation room
- 9th-12th grade gathers in the LYO Room
- Everyone else gathers in the Fellowship Hall! (children 5th grade and under will have special activities each week)

If you have someone under age 18 who plans to participate, please take a minute to [fill out this form](#)! The information you share will help us to communicate with your family, plan for your needs, and have accurate information on your child(ren) when they are in our care! All groups will reconvene in the Fellowship Hall at 10:55 am Final Blessing for Everyone.

Wednesday morning Bible Study is 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. *We are currently doing an 8-week session which started on 9/8, studying the "I AM" statements of Jesus found in the Gospel of John. Each week will look at a different statement so feel free 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

Live Our Faith in Daily Life

BLC Quilters: Like to sew? Like working with colors? Have time to send a hug/quilt to children (who may have nothing) in our community? or people in disasters worldwide through Lutheran World Relief? BLC Quilters are always glad to have new people help with this work. We have had quilt tying Thursdays during the summer for LWR. We will continue tying on the 5th Thursday of every month. **Join us for September 30. It's God's Work. Our Hands. Week!** On the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of each month at 7 pm we will work together in the Adult Sunday School room to create/cut quilt tops for Linus Blankets and LWR. You are welcome to take kits home to sew, cut pieces together at BLC or just come help sort colors and encourage those cutting. No supplies needed. Conversation is welcome! Let GerryAnn (gerryannwestcott@gmail.com) know if you wish to sew at home but cannot attend on Thursdays.

★ **Men's Breakfast...Wednesday, October 6:** 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 at the The Landmark Restaurant in East Rochester. For further information, contact Jim Berner at jamesberner1@yahoo.com

Ladies' Night Out: Join the women of BLC for a Ladies' Night Out on Tuesday, **October 12** at 7 pm in the Fellowship Hall! The theme for the evening will be "Our Bethlehem Family- Rooted, Growing, Sharing" and include a nature printing craft and music from our very own dulcimer group, among other activities! LYLAS (Love You Like a Sister) partners will be revealed at Ladies Night Out. Please bring one gift of no more than \$15.00 to present to your LYLAS as you reveal your identity. At that time, we will have information forms to fill out for participation in LYLAS for 2021-22. Sign up to attend [HERE](#) or under the LIVE portion of the kiosk in the Narthex! Masks will be required.

★ **It's not a race?** No, just points! Yes, there will be a winning car. Know your way around Fairport? You can't get lost. **Saturday, October 16** meet at Center Park (Ayrault Road) at 1 pm for your first clue. Each car will have different routes to the same 10 stops! Each stop has its own challenge. (Fun for all ages!) **You must register in advance** so we have a route for you! **Deadline for registration: Friday, October 8.** After 4 pm we'll meet back at Center Park to tally points, compare experiences and declare a winner! **Cost per car: 10 items for the Fairport Food Pantry.** Questions: gerryannwestcott@gmail.com Register at: <https://blcfairport.org/blc-great-race/> or sign up on the kiosk.

Love You Like a Sister (LYLAS): The Love You Like a Sister (LYLAS) program is like a prayer secret santa- each participant will be given another participant to keep in their prayers throughout the year and in turn, will have someone praying for them. The partners are kept anonymous until a final reveal at the end of the year. You can also send cards or a small gift for major holidays, birthdays, or other important dates for your partner (though not required!) If you are interested in participating for the 2021-2022 year, please complete a LYLAS information form so your partner will be able to get to know you better! Forms should be submitted by **October 24** and can be found [HERE](#) or under the LIVE portion of the kiosk in the Narthex! Please contact Sarah Morrisette (401-338-6602 or sarahmorrisette4@gmail.com) if you have any questions.

BLC On the Go: Do you enjoy hikes, corn mazes, apple picking, 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. Scheduled dates are listed below. You can visit <https://blcfairport.org/blc-on-the-go/> anytime to submit your event and view upcoming opportunities!



Care for One Another

★ **Thank you** for your caring prayers, cards and calls which have surrounded me with love and support during my recent diagnosis and surgery. The good news is that I'm on the mend and fast forwarding on to good health. - Celia Topping

Thank you! Dear BLC members, I want to thank you for 32 wonderful years serving as part of the music staff at BLC. I truly enjoyed working with so many children during my 15 years directing the Joyful Noise and Cherub choirs and have fond memories of our rehearsals, choir parties and the summers at Camp Cory. Accompanying the Chancel Choir, providing service music, leading you in song at organ and working with a staff and congregation who appreciate and value music have brought me great joy. Thank you for the lovely send off on August 29 as well as so many cards and good wishes. It has been such a blessing for me and my family to be a part of this congregation and I look forward to continuing to worship with you.
~ Susie DePasquale

Your Help Needed - BLC Fellowship Committee: Enjoy planning family gatherings? Think you missed your calling as an event coordinator? Wondering why the fellowship committee hasn't offered the things you like? We need you! Openings for shoppers, writers, movers, artists, hosts, idea people and more. Flexible hours. Limited travel. Must be willing to work for coffee and donuts. (as soon as permitted) Contact Gerry Ann (gerryannwestcott@gmail.com) or Dave (davehahn@rochester.rr.com)



Serve Our Neighbor

As part of the Serve Ministry, Missions and Social Concerns reaches out to the world for the purpose of serving our neighbors near and far, especially those who are marginalized and easily forgotten.

WE NEED YOU (yes, YOU) Join us for one meeting or many as we explore how we might increase engagement and build relationship outside our walls. Our meetings are now hybrid – you have the option of joining us in person at BLC or virtually using the link on the [BLC Calendar of events](#). Our next meeting is October 13 at 6:30 pm. If you are unable to join us and have questions or feedback, please contact Julie Owen at jowen@heritagechristianservices.org or 585-766-8728.

God's Work. Our Hands. (GWOH) WEEK of Service: September 26-October 3:

This week is an opportunity to celebrate who we are as the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America – one church, freed in Christ to serve and love our neighbor. Service activities offer an opportunity for us to explore one of our most basic convictions as Lutherans: that all of life in Jesus Christ – every act of service, in every daily calling, in every corner of life – flows freely from a living, daring confidence in God's grace. YOU can still participate! Visit <https://blcfairport.org/gods-work-our-hands/> to view ideas, existing opportunities and register a new activity!

It's HERE! This Week! And it's not too late to participate! BLC Planned activities include:

Canned Food Drive all week long! Drop off your donations at the Hedin's home, or in the collection box in the Narthex at BLC any time before October 3!

Clothing give-away for Learning Links of Fairport at the Pines Sunday September 26 from 11 am -2 pm. Meet in the BLC Fellowship Room at 11 am, transport already donated clothing to the Pines, set up tables and arrange clothing for members and friends of Learning Links to take. Team leaders: Beth and Rick Walker. RSVP on the BLC Calendar of Events.

Open Door Mission Project: On **September 28** from 10 am – 12 noon, we will be working in the clothing closet – sorting, organizing, distributing clothing to support Open Door Mission. Contact Julie Owen at jowen@heritagechristianservices.org to participate or learn more!

Quilt Tying! For Lutheran World Relief! Join us on **September 30** at 7:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Can you tie a square knot, think you need a review? If convenient, bring a small pair of scissors. Needles & thread provided. Many hands make light work! Contact GerryAnn gerryannwestcott@gmail.com with any questions!

IF I HAD A HAMMER (or paint brush)! Habitat for Humanity is BACKKKKKKK. BLC is getting a team back together to support Flower City Habitat! As part of the God's Work Our Hands week of service, seven slots (volunteer opportunities) have been reserved on Saturday, **October 2, 2021**, to assist in construction of 871 Smith Street, in Rochester. Celebrate "God's Work, Our Hands" by showing some love to a neighbor. Help them build a home!
[View and print a sign-up instruction sheet here](#) **Excited to grab one of these slots?**

- You must be least 16 years of age
- You must sign up via the web site: <https://give.rochesterhabitat.org/participants/202378-michael-joyce>. Scroll down to the Bethlehem slot!
- First come, first served so grab your spot NOW
- Experienced people will be on-site to guide you
- 9 am – 4 pm
- There will be a variety of tasks
- It is certain that God will be with us
- If unable to be there physically, the sign-up site has provisions for accepting financial donations as well.
- Contact Mike Joyce at 713.882.4471 or mjjoyceusa@yahoo.com for information or questions.



Council News

Save the dates! Our annual meeting is scheduled for Sunday, **October 31**. There will be a quarterly conversation on Sunday, **October 24** to review materials and prepare for our annual meeting. Check back here for additional information about how you can participate in these important conversations in the life of our congregation.

BLC Investment in Ministries Fund – Learn More and Ask Questions. Hopefully, you received in this past week's mail, a letter from the Investment in Ministries Committee more fully describing our intent to create the *BLC Investment in Ministries Fund (IMF)*, and its purpose. We also included an initial list of Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs). As a reminder, the IMF will enable BLC to grow participation in ministry, both through personal involvement and financial assistance. We seek to establish the IMF at this time as part of BLC's 100th anniversary celebration.

While we attempted, through the FAQs, to pose and answer the key questions which the congregation would have, we know you may have others. So, we have scheduled two virtual Question and Answer sessions – one on *Monday, **September 27** at 7:00 pm* and *Monday, **October 11** at 7:00 pm* – for the Committee to make a very brief presentation and for you to ask us questions.

The links to the virtual meetings will appear on the BLC web site on the Events Calendar. Until then, if you have questions, please contact any member of the committee – Paulette Costanza, Mark Gaul, Roger Kolker, Julie Owen, John Panko, Neil Vokes.

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

We pray for those in need of healing, especially:

- Don Raw (brother of Kim Kulik) who is undergoing chemotherapy for pancreatic cancer
- Meredith Hedin (daughter-in-law of Jeff & Ruth Hedin) who is experiencing a difficult pregnancy
- Dave Moczarski who is recovering from surgery on 9/17
- Rose Costanza (grandmother of Andrea Purvis)
- Kris Kerr who is recovering from surgery on 9/20
- Celia Topping who is recovering from surgery on 9/14
- Linda Juers as she recovers from a fall on 9/12
- Jim Peterson (father of Hans Walter-Peterson) who has been diagnosed with leukemia and has transitioned to hospice care
- Connie Specht who is continuing to heal following a severe fall on 8/25
- Sandra Smith (sister of Jan Sharp) as she continues chemotherapy
- Erin Schneemann (daughter of Kathy & Joe) as she faces challenges in her recovery from spinal surgery and emergency abdominal surgery
- 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 September long-term prayer listing](#) – or contact the church office for a copy!

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



BETHLEHEM
LUTHERAN CHURCH

48 Perrin Street, Fairport, NY ~ (585) 223-0634 ~ www.blcfairport.org



<https://www.facebook.com/BLCfairport/>

Calendar for September 26 – October 3

(Last updated on 9/22/21 at 12 noon, visit <https://blcfairport.org/event-directory/> for updates)

Sunday, September 26

God's Work. Our Hands. Week of Service begins!

8:55 am Worship with
Communion (in-person
and livestream)
10:00 am Fellowship
10:15 am Faith Formation for All
11:00 am GWOH Clothing
& Coat Give-Away
11:00 am GWOH College Care
Package assembly

Monday, September 27

7:00 pm Q&A Session (via
Zoom) for BLC Investment
In Ministries Fund
([Join](#) or use ID 875 5556 4411)

Tuesday, September 28

10:00 am GWOH Open Door
Mission Project
2:00 pm Support Group for
Caregivers
6:30 pm BSA Troop 2019

Wednesday, September 29

9:30 am Bible Study - Hybrid
(In-person or [Join](#) via Zoom –
ID 943 3691 2942)
5:30 pm Pines of Perinton
Produce Give Away
6:00 pm Chancel Bell rehearsal
6:15 pm Folk Group Rehearsal
7:30 pm Chancel Choir rehearsal

Thursday, September 30

7:00 pm GWOH Quilt Tying

Friday, October 1

Pastor's Sabbath

2:30 pm Dulcimer Group
Rehearsal

Saturday, October 2

9:00 am GWOH Flower City
Habitat Event in Rochester
11:00 am Gates/Price
Wedding

Sunday, October 3

Welcome New Members

8:55 am Worship with
Communion (in-person
and livestream)
10:00 am Fellowship
10:15 am Faith Formation for All

GWOH Canned Food Drive collection boxes will be at the Hedin Home and in the Narthex all week!

Beth Schoenfeld will be out of the office on Monday, September 27 for planned time away.

100th Anniversary Photo Sessions: Starting in September, the Anniversary Committee will have slots available for you and your family to update your BLC Photo Directory Photos before and after worship. Please contact GerryAnn Westcott if you'd like to volunteer or Bob Stock to sign up!

Church Office Hours: We continue to hold remote office hours M, W, Th & F from 9 am to 12 noon. Our co-Pastor's schedules vary from week to week. Both are available for scheduled appointments.

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!

In-Person Meetings at BLC: To help us schedule and plan for our increased facility use requests, we now require scheduling with this simple form (found at <https://blcfairport.org/blc-facility-request/>) for each planned meeting, event and activity at BLC. Please complete the form so that we can check for availability, reserve the space, and plan accordingly. If you have any questions, or do not hear back within 3 business days of submitting a form, please call the church office to check on the status of your request.
