



WORSHIP



GROW



LIVE



CARE



SERVE

WEEKLY STAR FOR OCTOBER 24, 2021

22nd 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, we offer this poem as a reflection to prepare for Sunday's theme:
I've been meaning to ask . . . where do we go from here?*

Flashlight

I wish I could draw you a map of the next steps—
the next conversation,
the next brave truth,
the next fumble,
the next apology.
Wouldn't it be nice to know what's coming?
Wouldn't it be nice to prepare our hearts?

But I don't know where to go from here. I am a child with a flashlight—
deeply hopeful and a little nervous,
all at the very same time.

What I *do* know is I don't want to go anywhere without you.
So I'm hoping that you will
take my hand.

See this truth.
Trust my voice.
Look for the good.
And day by day,
we can go from here,
because we were never meant to go alone.

And maybe we'll get lost; but then again,
maybe we'll be found.
So if you're willing,

if you'll just say yes,
I will let you hold the flashlight. We can find our way,
step by step,
light in hand,
abolishing shadows
together.

Who needs a map when you have the light, anyway?

Prayer by Rev. Sarah Are | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

★ *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, 10/24

Ruth 1:1-22

Lessons for Sunday, 10/31

Jeremiah 31: 31-34; Psalm 46;
Romans 3:19-28; John 8:31-36

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. 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.

Altar Flowers: Do you enjoy seeing flowers on the altar? Flowers may be donated to memorialize or celebrate a special event or person. *Contact the church office to place your order!*

★ **Reformation Sunday... October 31, 2021 (next Sunday!)**... Please remember to Wear RED to help celebrate.

All Saints' Sunday... Sunday, November 7... The church remembers those who have lived and died in the faith, having been entrusted to God for care and keeping. In the Apostles' Creed, we confess that we believe in the communion of saints, and this Holy Day is one of the ways that we remember the faithful departed who have joined the Church Triumphant. If you would like to acknowledge a family member or a friend who has died since last All Saints' Sunday (November 1, 2020) please call the church office (585) 223-0634 or send an email to office@blcfairport.org

100th Anniversary News

100 YEARS

Only two Sundays are left to have your photo taken for the 2022 Friends and Family Album. Head downstairs before or after worship where photographer Bob Stock and his helpers will be waiting for you. Help us reach our goal of 100% participation! After November 1, photos will be taken by appointment only. As in the past, Doug Topping will be calling to set up mutually convenient times for him to visit the homebound to take their photos for our album.

Looking ahead to November, please mark some important dates on your calendar. On November 14, we will welcome Rev. Gregory Brown (Associate Pastor from 2013–2016) back to the pulpit. Pastor Greg will be coming with his family to preach and preside. Also returning that Sunday will be organist

Dr. Catherine Rodland (Director of Choirs and Organist from 1990–1992) who will play the prelude and postlude. This will be your first opportunity to hear our anniversary anthem, hymn, and children's song, which were specially written for our 100th Anniversary. There will also be a Welcome Back reception following service, although COVID restrictions may curtail refreshments. How wonderful to reconnect with Pastor Greg, Leah, and their children!

The following Sunday, November 21, we will welcome Rev. David Nevergall to the pulpit. Many of us remember Pastor Nevergall when he and his young family were fellow members here at BLC before he changed careers and entered the ministry. The congregation helped him financially through his four years of study and we were touched when he returned to Bethlehem for his ordination in 1994 upon accepting his first call in Ohio. His wife, Karen, who served as our Financial Secretary in 1990, will be returning with him. You will have the opportunity to meet and greet Pastor Nevergall and Karen at the Welcome Back reception following the service.

Wearing a name tag will be helpful to our visitors throughout our anniversary celebration. We encourage everyone to wear theirs starting this week so we'll be in practice. If you do not have a name tag, leave your name at the table.

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)

★ **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. Midweek Bible Study will **begin a new series on Wednesday, November 10**. Join us as we use Adam Hamilton's book and DVD "The Journey". "Using historical information, archaeological findings and personal reflections", Hamilton takes us on a journey with Mary and Joseph to Bethlehem. Pastor Hamilton filmed on location in the Holy Land. Join us on Zoom or in person at BLC - Hope you can join us for this 6-week journey. (We will not meet the day before Thanksgiving.) If you have questions, or would like more information, contact Kathy Moragne - kathymoragne@gmail.com

Live Our Faith in Daily Life

★ **Ruth Circle** will meet at BLC on Monday, November 8 at 1:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. We will be discussing Chapter 7 (Great Gratitude) from the book by Max Lucado, "Anxious for Nothing". All are welcome to join us for study and fellowship. Any questions, please call Ruth Kurtz at 388-2608.

★ **ELCA National Youth Gathering:** It's time to start getting ready for the ELCA National Youth Gathering Minneapolis, MN for July 24th-28th 2022! Every 3 years around 30,000 lutheran youth from across America come together for a week of services, worship, and community. Any youth who is in 8th-12th grade is eligible to attend the gathering this summer! Our registration deadline, including the deposit, will be due Sunday November 19th. Registration forms will be emailed to families and physical copies will be available in the LYO room. If you have any questions please contact Bethany Trippi, Bethany.trippi@blcfairport.org.

★ **LYO Lock-In!** We will be having and LYO Fall Lock-In Saturday November 20th! Permission forms as well as a sign up sheet will be posted in the LYO room. Keep an eye on your email for more information about this event. We hope to see you there!

Last Chance to sign up for 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

★ **Support Group for caregivers... Tuesday, October 26:** If you are caregiving for a loved one, an elderly parent, spouse, relative or other loved one, feel free to join us! We meet on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month at 2 pm in person in the Fellowship Hall at BLC. The participants will learn from each other; this is not a lecture or class! Please notify Lisa if you are coming so she has the number of attendees to ensure we are following the COVID guidelines. If you have ANY questions, or you are unable to join because you are not able to meet in person, please contact Lisa Rosenbauer (585) 698-6189.

★ **Thank you to all my BLC friends** for your cards, calls and visits during my recent shoulder accident. The support was overwhelmingly uplifting, and I appreciate all your prayers and concern. I am on the mend and am anxiously looking forward to seeing you all soon. My heartfelt thanks, Joanne Swanson

Thank you from Beth Schoenfeld: I wanted to offer sincere thanks for all of your support and outreach following my father's recent death. This has been an incredibly difficult time for my family and I. Your generous outpouring of love, thoughts, prayers, cards, and flowers have been a comfort. Also, a special thanks to the individuals who assist in ongoing ways throughout the year and stepped in without hesitation to help ensure that things were prepared and published on time these past few weeks!

Dear BLC, Thank you so much for the box. I really appreciate the rainy day cards. They were so cute and meaningful. I'm having an amazing time at college, but I'm missing my BLC family. Thanks, Paige Harman



Serve Our Neighbor

GWOH - Thank you BLC! Sincere gratitude for the success of God's Work Our Hands! GWOH provides "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." Whether you volunteered your time to help a neighbor, wrote notes of encouragement, assembled college care packages, supported one of our mission partners, tied quilts that will be shared with those in need, hosted/contributed to a food drive, your contribution had an impact, and we are grateful. Please [click on this link](#) to see the video shared in worship on October 10.

With gratitude from our mission partners

- From Advent House: "thank you for your caring and compassionate commitment to our Home. Your generosity blesses us and touches the hearts of many."
- From Saving Grace Ministries: "thank you for your recent extremely generous offering....today because of your help, hundreds upon hundreds of lives have been positively impacted. This results in individuals finding their rightful place in society."

A message from our friends in Puerto Rico: With generous support from BLC members, nine people participated in a transformational service trip to Puerto Rico to assist in ongoing recovery efforts. Our hosts from Eduardo Roig Lutheran Camp recently shared an update. "With your support, we were able to impact 2,614 families around Puerto Rico, making a difference in a time of great necessity. It was not only through rebuilding homes, but the love and commitment shown to each of the survivors...the volunteers were angels that not only made a difference in many people's lives..."

For a copy of the full letter, please [click here](#).

From our companion Synod in Zimbabwe: The Rev. Philip Knutson's September newsletter is a story of connection between the ELCA – ELCZ and development work. We enthusiastically share it to raise awareness of the good work we do together with our companions in Zimbabwe. View it here: [Newsletter September 2021](#)

Weekly fresh fruit and vegetable giveaway continues at Pines of Perinton. Please consider sharing items from your own garden or just join us for an hour on Wednesdays from 5:30-6:30 to see how the generosity of BLC is making a difference. We are working on details for our Thanksgiving appeal which will continue the relationships we've developed with Moll Farms and our neighbors at Pines of Perinton. Stay tuned for details on how you might contribute toward a "bounty basket" for those in need.

Open Invitation: Each one of us can make a difference. Together, we make a change! Please consider joining the M&SC committee – for more information, contact Julie Owen (jowen@heritagechristianservices.org)



Council News

★ **Please share in our BLC Annual Meeting Forum on Sunday, October 24!** Join us at 11:15 am (after Faith Formation for All). This is a chance to ask questions about the ways Bethlehem is living our vision of equipping all people of God to follow Jesus. We will also learn about the proposed spending plan for the coming year and discuss the new Investment in Ministries Fund. All BLC members and friends are encouraged to attend. You can [view this year's annual report here](#), and hard copies will be available at the Forum on the 24th and the annual Meeting on the 31st. We will be offering two ways to participate in the meeting:

1. In person at BLC, return to the sanctuary after Faith Formation for All
2. Zoom conference call: Use the Join Now Button on the [BLC Calendar of Events](#), or use Meeting ID 819 4278 7801

National Estate Planning Awareness Week: The week of **October 18-24** is recognized as National Estate Planning Awareness Week. If you have not yet organized your estate plans, put a reminder on your calendar to spend some time thinking about it later this month. A good estate plan saves grieving families and friends from having to make hard decisions at an already stressful time. It can also make certain your assets go to family, friends, or beloved organizations rather than the state and/or federal government. If you need help getting started or are interested in including Bethlehem Lutheran in your estate plans, the ELCA Foundation has many resources to assist. For more information, BLC Council member Andy Gates can point you in the right direction. Contact him at acgates@frontiernet.net.

BLC's Covid Protocols: Out of an abundance of caution for the most vulnerable in our community, we continue with these existing protocols:

- On Sunday mornings, we wear masks indoors at all times and we limit food and drink to outdoors
- At other times, we wear masks when entering and moving through the building. Small groups may determine if they will continue to wear masks after conversation
- Protocols limiting food indoors will remain in place indefinitely. We will revisit them when Monroe County's Transmission Rate falls below the "high" range.

Members of the Re-Opening Team include: Matt Beutel, Brian Edwards, Margie Gaul, Kristina Henry, Julie Owen, Bob Stolze, Rick Walker, Pastor Amy

BLC Annual Congregational Meeting on Sunday, October 31

Join us following Worship (at 10:15 am) for our Annual Congregational Meeting. The purpose of the annual meeting is to:

- Celebrate the previous year of ministry at BLC
- Ratify updates to the BLC constitution
- Elections for BLC Council and Synod Assembly
- Review and adopt spending plan for fiscal year 2021-2022
- Approve the resolution to establish the Investment in Ministries Fund

We will also offer a hybrid format for this meeting; in person at BLC in the sanctuary and via a Zoom conference call (check back here or watch for the event listing on the [BLC Calendar of Events](#) for the meeting link!)

Community News

Willow Walk Last year, there were 8,000 calls to Willow's 24/7 Hotline – an 18% increase over the previous year. **On October 24, take steps to end domestic violence.** 100% of funds raised go directly to support Willow's lifesaving programs and services. This year's Walk With Willow will be held downtown! This 1.3-mile fun walk is geared for the whole family – pets welcome, too! The walk starts and ends, at the *Stories of Strength* mural, located on the side of the Times Square Building at 45 Exchange St. On-street and lot parking is available for FREE on Sundays. Register as an individual, start or join a team. You'll be set up with your own fundraising page where you can accept donations right away online, by mobile device, or by connecting to Facebook! Customize and share it to spread the word. Visit <https://willowcenterny.org/events-news/walk-with-willow-the-virtual-movement/> to learn more or register.

Announcing the LOM Run4Camp 5K: Calling All Runners! And by "runners" we mean anyone who jogs, walks, hikes, pushes a stroller, wheelchairs, or even rollerblades.

- What: A remote fundraiser for LCLC and other participating Lutheran camps across the Lutheran Outdoor Ministries (LOM) network. LCLC is a member of LOM.
- Who Can Participate: Anyone old enough and capable enough to run, walk, hike, etc. a distance of 5K (3.1 miles).
- When: October 24, 2021 (or whatever day and time between 10/17 and 10/24 works best for you). You can participate synchronously or asynchronously.
- Where: In your own neighborhood, on your own treadmill, in a mall, or in your favorite park.

How to Register: Runners register via the LOM website. Click the following link that will take you to the registration form: <https://forms.gle/mnqiKmsNf22DEfQD9>. LOM will not share your information with any organization other than LCLC. After registering, make your \$25 or more donation to LCLC and start recruiting your sponsors. For More Information: Call LCLC at 716-386-4125 or email: lee@lclcenter.org.

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

We lift up prayers of thanksgiving for:

- The wedding of Alex and Rachel Bornemann who were married on 10/16/21
- Taylor & Laura Kulik, who were married 10/9. (They are living in Raleigh, NC while Taylor finishes his Pediatric Residency at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill)
- Kailee Kulik is living in Jacksonville, NC and is an Occupational Therapist for the Onslow County School District

We pray for those in need of healing, especially:

- Karen Bigenwald as she recovers in VA after being hit by a car while visiting family
- Jerry Thompson who has been diagnosed with acute Leukemia and has begun in-patient treatment at RGH
- Sue Cardinal who is recovering from an emergency appendectomy
- 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 October 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

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

Calendar for October 24 – October 31

(Last updated on 10/20/21 at 12 noon, visit <https://blcfairport.org/event-directory/> for updates)

Sunday, 10/24

8:55 am Worship with
Communion (in-person
and livestream)
10:00 am Fellowship
10:15 am Faith
Formation for All
11:15 am Annual Meeting
Forum (in-person or
[Join](#) via Zoom – ID 819
4278 7801)

Monday, 10/25

Tuesday, 10/26

10:00 am Liturgy
Planning Meeting
2:00 pm Support Group
for Caregivers
6:30 pm BSA Troop 2019
Meeting

Wednesday, 10/27

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 Bells
6:15 pm Folk Group
7:30 pm Chancel Choir

Thursday, 10/28

6:30 pm Girl Scout
Troop Meeting

Friday, 10/29

Pastor's Sabbath
2:30 pm Dulcimer Group
Rehearsal

Saturday, 10/230

Sunday, 10/31

Reformation Sunday
(wear red!)

8:55 am Worship with
Communion (in-person
and livestream)
10:00 am Fellowship
10:15 Annual
Congregational Meeting
(in-person or [Join](#) via Zoom –
ID 831 9366 3824)

100th Anniversary Photo Sessions: 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.
