

 WORSHIP

 GROW

 LIVE

 CARE

 SERVE

Weekly STAR for June 19, 2022

2nd Sunday after Pentecost



BETHLEHEM
LUTHERAN CHURCH

WEEKLY

star

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

Sharing God's Love - 100th Anniversary Reflection by Sherry Cook

Sharing means giving a portion of what we have to someone else. It is an action word requiring both relationship and engagement. Bethlehem has lived into this in many ways through the years. As we researched in preparation for our anniversary, we documented how BLC has impacted our community and beyond over the years. Thirty years ago, Dan Juers and Lisa Rosenbauer were the driving force in establishing Advent House. The power of the Spirit is evident today when we reflect on the numbers: more than 530 terminally ill people have called Advent House home, 150 hands-on volunteers have provided over 13,000 hours of loving, compassionate care to the residents, and volunteers in all areas have willingly donated over 500,000 hours of assistance. We have also supported Grace House, Resolve, Perinton Ecumenical Ministries and other organizations in Fairport and greater Rochester community.

We have shared God's love in the wider world as well. A partial list includes: 217 Baskets of Promise assembled and donated to Lutheran World Relief; 913 hand-knitted winter hats sent to The Seafarers International House; 1200 quilts donated to The Linus Project; over 250 Prayer Shawls given to those in need of a reminder that they are held in prayer by their BLC family; 120 meals each month prepared at BLC and distributed to those in need; 38 e-readers sent to pastors in Zambia; 118 dresses given to Dress-a-Girl Around the World. Nine BLC members offered 250 hours of labor in Puerto Rico supported by \$3515 in donations from their BLC family to help with disaster relief. In addition, we sponsored a refugee family from Laos, and financially supported a medical student from Cameroon, who went on to work for Doctors Without Borders. These numbers are truly a testament to the power of the Holy Spirit working within and among us!

Pastor Julie Bergdahl reminded us that the Spirit ignites us to serve and share God's love in the world. She introduced us to Ms. Pew Potato who uses each part of her body to share God's love – arms to help, eyes to see, ears to listen, legs to go to those places where there is need. The Spirit calls us to put arms and legs to our faith, to freely share God's abundant love in our daily life through words and actions. May we continue to heed that call into our next 100 years!

This column will occasionally feature reflections or devotions from members of the congregation (as it does this week!) as one way that we practice discipleship and share ministry together. If you would like to contribute in the future, please contact one of the pastors.

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

100th Anniversary – Closing Service and Celebration: Join us at Perinton Center Stage at Center Park on Sunday, June 19, 2022. Full worship service with Holy Communion at 10:00 am with picnic and fun following! Share in the fun with BLC friends. *Please note the special start time and that there will be no in-person worship at Bethlehem, nor worship livestream on this day.* If the weather is questionable, a decision will be made by 7 am. You can call the church office at 223-0634 for a phone message regarding changes or check our Share in Worship page at <https://blcfairport.org/share-in-worship/>.

ARE YOU READY FOR WORSHIP?

Sunday, June 19 at 10 am at Center Park for the 100th Anniversary Closing Service and Celebration

Sunday, June 26 at 8:55 am Worship with Communion

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

Worship the Living God

Lessons for Sunday, 6/19
Galatians 3:23-29; Luke 8:26-39

Lessons for Sunday, 6/26
Galatians 5:1, 13-25; Luke 9:51-62

Worship: On Sunday, June 26th and continuing each week, our worship time 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.



Take *The Word from Bethlehem Lutheran Church* with you! Listen to Sunday's gospel and sermon wherever you are during the week. Watch for *Living the Word* throughout the summer, when we'll interview members and friends of Bethlehem about what *living the Word* looks like in their life. (If there's someone you'd like to hear from, please let us know!)

The Word from Bethlehem Lutheran Church is a great way to reflect on a sermon a second time (we hear people like to do that sometimes!), to ground yourself if you were away on Sunday morning, or this summer, to learn about others connected to the Bethlehem community! Visit <https://blcfairport.org/the-word/> to listen, or subscribe on Spotify, Google Podcasts, Amazon or Apple Podcasts. If you need help subscribing, please reach out to one of the pastors.

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!*

100th Anniversary News

100 YEARS

Last Sunday, it was our pleasure to welcome Rev. Julie Bergdahl, our first female Associate Pastor (1991-1994), back to the pulpit. Bethlehem was her first call. Pastor Bergdahl, or "PB" as she is affectionately called, thanked us for the many gifts and opportunities to learn that she experienced first-hand at Bethlehem. She reminded us that the Holy Spirit activates the good in all of us and will continue to guide us forward as it has in the past 100 years.

In her taped message, Dr. Kathy Elwood (Director of Chancel Choir and Bell Choirs 1992-2003) shared that it was good to be back with us in spirit. Under her leadership, Bethlehem's music ministry grew by leaps and bounds, both within and outside our walls. Thanks be to God for our singers and musicians who continue to lead us in praise and worship.

This coming Sunday, June 19 at **10 am (note the change in time)**, family and friends are invited to our annual BLC Outdoor Worship & Picnic at Perinton's Center Park. After worship, plan to stay for lunch and some fun activities. From 11 am to 1 pm, the Anniversary committee has upped the entertainment for all ages with the addition of a children's bounce house, a magician, and a balloon artist. Look for more details in this week's Star. **There will be no in-person or live streamed worship.**

On June 26, our final anniversary event will be an inter-generational BLC Scavenger Hunt held following worship. Teams of 5-8 members will form in the narthex, each receiving a team assignment. Accuracy is more important than speed! Once completed and after all the questions have been answered in order, your team will return to the narthex station. This will be a good opportunity to get to know your church a little better, have some inter-generational fun, and even win a prize!

Remember to order your free Anniversary DVD keepsake by the end of June. This DVD of anniversary memories will not be available until September, but you need to place your order now as we will only make up the number requested. To access the order form, click on the link <https://blcfairport.org/100th-anniversary-dvd>. You can also order on the BLC website at blcfairport.org. Click on 100th Anniversary in the top right corner of the page, then select the button labeled ORDER DVD. If you have any questions, contact Donna Berner at 585-314-5732.

Grow in Faith and Discipleship

★ **Midweek Bible Study:** Midweek Bible Study will be reading through the Book of Proverbs this summer. Looking for kernels of wisdom? – you'll find many in the book of Proverbs. Looking for humor? – you'll find it here too. Yes, there are more than 500 proverbs – some you will recognize, some will be new. Join us as we look at each one. We meet both virtually and in person on Wednesdays at 9:30. Come any Wednesday that fits into your schedule this summer (in the Fellowship Hall or virtually on Zoom using the 'join now' button in the [Calendar of Events](#)). Contact Kathy Moragne at kathymoragne@gmail.com for more information.

Care for One Another

★ **Thank you to our garden and landscape crew!** Thank you Sue Towsley, the property team, and to all those who came and shared their time and talents at planting day on Saturday, June 11. We are grateful for your faithful service!

★ **Heartfelt Thanks:** As BLC's 100th Anniversary celebration nears an end, I would like to offer my heartfelt thanks to the Anniversary Committee! Your hard work, time and commitment to this BLC milestone is appreciated and applauded. The research, histories, timelines, recordings, visitors, pictures and tidbits have created a wonderful walk down memory lane for this long time member. What a joy to be together in celebration of our past! May God continue to bless BLC as we move into the next 100 years! ~ Sincerely, Sandy Schrader Goehle

Thank you! Dear Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Many thanks and blessings for allowing me to share in worship and celebration for the Anniversary Year. I completely enjoyed my time back in Fairport & BLC. May God continue to find your ministry as a place for all! ~ Wayne Shipman

Serve Our Neighbor

The M&SC Committee explores social and justice issues and has conversations within the committee to understand our individual and world view. Our collective goal is a congregation actively engaged in our local and world communities by being allies, advocates and activists (AAA) with our mission partners. ***New members or visitors to the M&SC committee, ideas about new ministries, and different views and paradigms for engaging in mission are welcome and encouraged.*** We will meet in a hybrid format on Wednesday, **July 20** at 6:30 pm. You can join through on BLC's [calendar of events](#). Please reach out to Julie Owen at jowen@heritagechristianservices.org with interests or questions.

★ **Perinton Food Shelf needs:** As the summer months are coming up, their supplies usually get low at this time. They currently need: Peanut butter (12-16 oz.), cookies, granola bars, cake mixes, frosting, pancake mix, cooking oil, applesauce (jars or cans), beef stew, coffee, juice boxes, juice, jello, pudding, boxed potatoes-plain and mixed, deodorant, shampoo, and facial tissues.

Get your veggies on! Moll Farms and BLC will again team up to provide fresh fruit and veggies for residents of the Pines on Wednesday evenings beginning late June. How can you be part of this exciting ministry?

- Plant some extra vegetable in your garden and share the wealth as they grow and produce
- Stop by to help unload the van at the Pines on Wednesday evenings and chat with residents who come to pick up produce (**beginning June 22** usually around 5:30pm)
- Purchase a Bounty Basket for yourself and share with a neighbor or bring some of it to the Pines on a Wed evening! Moll Farms delivers every other week to Fairport [Bounty Basket Subscription Sign Up: 2022 Summer/Fall Season – Mollfarms](#)



Council News

★ **Re-Opening Team Update:** After thoughtful consideration, the re-opening team recommends that we move to a mask optional status at BLC, including during worship, effective June 26th. We are learning to live alongside the COVID-19 virus. As a church community, our continued obligation is to care for one another; particularly the most vulnerable among us. While we recognize there is no single action that will eliminate transmission, we continue to prioritize reducing risk (and therefore caring for our neighbor) in the following ways:

- self-monitoring and staying home if we are experiencing symptoms
- continuing livestream worship and virtual options for church events
- making KN95 or surgical masks available to all who enter our worship space
- utilizing our upgraded air exchange in the sanctuary
- continuing with our current practices for communion
- practicing social distancing as much as possible
- consistently washing and sanitizing our hands

We will adjust our practices if or when needed, including requiring masks again if the situation warrants.

The re-opening team will continue to meet regularly to evaluate our practices and adjust expectations as needed. We are grateful for a congregation that continually cares for one another, particularly those that are most vulnerable. If you have questions or concerns about this decision, please speak with a Pastor or any member of the Re-Opening Team: Bob Stolze, Julie Owen, Rick Walker, Matt Beutel, Brian Edwards, Kristina Henry, Margie Gaul & Pastor Amy.

Godspeed and Farewell to Beth Schoenfeld, who has served as our Office Manager and Ministry Support Coordinator since 2014. We are so grateful for her service! While we are sad to see her move on from this role, we wish her all the best on her new adventure in a full-time position at RIT. Her last day in the office is June 17. Stop by or drop a note to wish her well and mark your calendar to join us in **thanking Beth during worship on June 26!**

Community News

★ **Stand for the Victims of Gun Violence** - Silent Prayer Vigil - organized by St. Luke's Episcopal Church. Details: Saturday, June 18 from 10 - 11 am, gathering near the Gazebo for the Fairport Library at 9:45 am. Bring a lawn chair if standing for an hour will be a challenge. You are also invited to bring signs that oppose gun violence. This will be a silent vigil. Silent vigils will also be held on Tuesday, June 21 at 5 pm and Thursday, June 30 at 5 pm.

7 pm, Monday June 27 in Assumption's Living Room: Rochester - A Tale of Two Cities and Biblical Social Teaching with Deacon David Palma Pope Francis tells us that it is important to listen to the voices of those on the margins. On June 27 we will listen to some of those voices in a couple of short documentary films made here in Rochester to help us better understand the issues faced by people who struggle in the "other" City of Rochester, especially the homeless. After the films we will discuss the issues raised. We ask ourselves - how are the most vulnerable people doing in our locale? In a society marred by deepening divisions, it is helpful to look at our social teaching to gain perspective as we deal with the complex problems we face. Our facilitator will be Deacon David Palma who serves in the Southeast Rochester Catholic Community (Blessed Sacrament, St. Boniface, and St. Mary's.) These communities have a rich history of direct service to those on the margins. Over the years David has worked with the homeless on the streets as well as with migrant farm workers. He is a founding board member of *Person-Centered Housing Options*, a non-profit agency in Rochester that is dedicated to moving people from homelessness to sustainability.

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:

- Olive (mother of Jackie) who died on 6/7

We pray especially for those serving in the military, especially:

- Luke, who leaves with his National Guard platoon on 6/16 for three months of training before heading a 9 month tour

We pray for those in need of healing, especially:

- Those who are caregivers for loved ones
- Those who are ill from Coronavirus and all who care for them

*Click here to view and print the [June long-term prayer listing](#) – or pick up a hard copy in the Narthex.
You may also 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!)



48 Perrin Street, Fairport, NY ~ (585) 223-0634 ~ www.blcfairport.org
 <https://www.facebook.com/BLCFairport/>

Calendar for June 19 – June 26

(Last updated on 6/15/22 at 12 noon, visit <https://blcfairport.org/event-directory/> for updates)

Sunday, 6/19

Note change of time & location for worship!

*In-person only,
no livestream this week*

10:00 am Outdoor

Worship at

Center Park

11:00 am Picnic and
entertainment to
follow Worship

Monday, 6/20

Tuesday, 6/21

2:00 pm Support Group for
Caregivers

Wednesday, 6/22

9:30 am Bible Study –

(in-person or

[Join](#) via Zoom –
ID 943 3691 2942)

9:45 am Worship Planning

Thursday, 6/23

Friday, 6/24

Pastor's Sabbath

Saturday, 6/25

Sunday, 6/26

8:55 am Worship with

Communion with

Farewell to Beth

Schoenfeld

(in-person and

livestream)

10:15 am 100th Anniversary
Scavenger Hunt

10:15 am Fellowship Hour
resumes!

Church Office Hours: We continue to hold remote office hours M - 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: Submit details at <https://blcfairport.org/blc-facility-request/> for each planned meeting, event and activity at BLC. This allows us to check for availability, reserve the space, and plan accordingly. Please contact the church office to confirm or with any questions following your submission.
