



BETHLEHEM UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

11608 Lax Chapel Road - Kiel, WI 53042

Phone: 920.894.3332

Email: BethUCCKiel@outlook.com

Follow Bethlehem UCC on Facebook

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

or Bethlehem's website at www.bethlehemkiel.org

CCLI Copyright and Streaming Lic # 11640740 and CSPL193734

**Sunday, August 4, 2024
Eleventh Sunday After Pentecost**

Worship Leader: Randy Koppenhaver

Organist: Kathy Bowe

If listening from your car, please tune to 101.3 FM

***= Please rise in body or spirit**

CENTERING BREATH PRAYER: as you inhale, say the first part of the prayer to yourself, and say the second part as you exhale. Repeat 5x

God is my shield :: He saves the upright in heart

RINGING OF THE BELLS

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP #549

"As We Gather"

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Bless the Lord with heart and soul, for God is great.

We will bless God in this time of worship!

God sends forth the Spirit to renew the face of the ground.

God, renew us in this time of worship!

Let us sing praise to God as long as we live.

We will sing to our God while we have breath, and so we come to worship.

*OPENING PRAYER:

**God of majesty and mystery,
You are the source of all that is.
Your breadth and depth are beyond our imagining.
Your grace defies our explanations.
You touch us with comfort or challenge when we least expect it.
Receive our prayer and praise this day,
as we seek the Bread of Life in this hour of worship.
We come to you in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord,
while your Holy Spirit prays within us and lifts our hearts to you.**

*OPENING HYMN: #250

“Break Thou the Bread of Life”

PRAYER FOR TRANSFORMATION AND NEW LIFE:

**God of mystery and mercy,
you know the details of our lives.
You see the sin and the sorrow we bear.
You see how we take advantage of each other,
and how we overlook one another.
We confess we do not always see what you see, O God,
so open our eyes to the truth of our lives,
and cleanse our hearts with your grace.**
(time of silent reflection...)

WORDS OF GRACE

Hear the good news! Who is in a position to condemn? Only Christ – and Christ died for us; Christ rose for us, Christ reigns in power for us, Christ prays for us.
We believe the good news of the gospel. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and set free by God’s generous grace. Praise Him! Amen!

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE Tune: Doxology

**Be thou, O God, exalted high, and as thy glory fills the sky
So let it be on Earth displayed, Till thou art here, as there, obeyed. Amen**

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Ephesians 4:1-16

I therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.

But each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ's gift. Therefore it is said,

'When he ascended on high he made captivity itself a captive;

he gave gifts to his people.'

(When it says, 'He ascended', what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower parts of the earth? He who descended is the same one who ascended far above all the heavens, so that he might fill all things.) The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ. We must no longer be children, tossed to and fro and blown about by every wind of doctrine, by people's trickery, by their craftiness in deceitful scheming. But speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and knitted together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body's growth in building itself up in love.

John 6:24-35

So when the crowd saw that neither Jesus nor his disciples were there, they themselves got into the boats and went to Capernaum looking for Jesus.

When they found him on the other side of the lake, they said to him, 'Rabbi, when did you come here?' Jesus answered them, 'Very truly, I tell you, you are looking for me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves. Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For it is on him that God the Father has set his seal.' Then they said to him, 'What must we do to perform the works of God?' Jesus answered them, 'This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent.' So they said to him, 'What sign are you going to give us then, so that we may see it and believe you? What work are you performing? Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, "He gave them bread from heaven to eat." ' Then Jesus said to them, 'Very truly, I tell you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.' They said to him, 'Sir, give us this bread always.'

Jesus said to them, 'I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.'

SERMON

*HYMN #532

“Come Share the Lord”

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE...THE LORD'S PRAYER

Petitions end with: “God of grace and goodness, **Renew our trust in you.**”

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY (Jingle Change for the month of August goes to Bethlehem's Mission and Service Sunday Project – Clean-up buckets for disaster relief.)

*OFFERTORY RESPONSE #447 v.1 “All Things are Yours”

**All things are Yours: we make that true, when we return our gifts to you,
And so we give, and so we share, In Christ's strong name expressing care.**

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Good and generous God, bless the gifts we offer you this day, as well as our efforts to serve others in Jesus' name. Use what we have and what we do to support the work of the Church here and around the world. Amen.

THE LORD'S SUPPER

(God's table is open to ALL, regardless of affiliation or membership. Please hold the elements until all have been served and we will partake together. All bread is gluten free. The inner circles are grape juice, the outer rings are wine.)

INVITATION

PRAYER

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

DISTRIBUTION

*COMMUNION RESPONSE #525 Refrain only

“One Bread, One Body”

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

**We give thanks, loving God, that you have refreshed us at your table.
Strengthen our faith; increase our love for one another.
As we have been fed by the seed that became grain, and then became bread,
may we go out into the world to plant seeds of justice, transformation, and
hope. Amen.**

*CLOSING SONG “Go Now in Peace”

***Go now in peace. Never be afraid.
God will go with you each hour of ev'ry day.
Go now in faith. Steadfast strong and true.
Know he will guide you, in all you do.
Go now in love, and show you believe.
Reach out to others so all the world can see.
God will be there, watching from above.
Go now in peace, in faith, and in love. A-men, A-men, A-men.***

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

**This morning's liturgies were used with permission from <https://presbyterian.ca/worship/>

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

August Rummage Sale: The Annual Bethlehem Church Rummage Sale is on.
Your Help is Needed - Volunteer Opportunities:

- Wednesday, August 7: 8:00 am to noon pricing and set up
- Thursday, August 8: 3:00pm to 7 pm Sales Staff
- Friday, August 9: 8:00am to 5:00 pm Sales Staff
- Saturday, August 10, 8:00am to noon Sales Staff
- Saturday, August 10: 12:00 to 1:00pm Clean Up Crew

Please see the signup sheets in the fellowship hall or email to kayerad@hotmail.com or call (920) 894-7229 if you can spare even an hour to help.

Donations Accepted:

If you have items to donate, these can be dropped off in the new garage. If you would like us to pick up your items, do not hesitate to contact members of the Merry Christians. We will be happy to make arrangements. Please no TVs or other electronics.

COMMUNITY WORSHIP!! - On Sunday, August 11, Bethlehem will be collaborating with St. Peter's UCC for worship in Kiel City Park at **9:00am.** There will be no service at Bethlehem!!

- The WISE Committee has created an anonymous survey seeking your input. *What do YOU feel are the most pressing needs regarding mental health in our church community, and the wider community?* Please take the time to complete the survey and return to the box in the fellowship hall or the black mailbox outside the front doors of the church. EVERYONE is encouraged to complete their OWN survey!! Including youth!
- LOOKING FOR VBS Volunteers! Held August 13-15 from 9a-12p at St. Marks Church. Pastor Schultz has everything planned. Just looking for additional grown-up bodies to assist with the kids. Also looking for people to decorate-with a garden theme! It's a great opportunity for HS or College students. Anyone need volunteer hours? Let Pastor Randy know.
- On Mission and Service Sunday in September, we will be putting together disaster clean up kits for Church World Service. An example kit has been created. If you wish to contribute, please buy the EXACT item. They are somewhat fussy about the items. You can also donate money and the "team" will purchase the necessary supplies.
- Ready to talk about Christmas??? We are once again organizing the "United Church Choir" to perform on Dec. 8. See Randy if interested!

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS -See flyers in fellowship hall for more details

- August 16-17 – Gospel Music Fest – Hilbert Civic Park – Flyer posted and copies available in the Fellowship Hall
- Come join other Manitowoc Residents to the Stepping On Workshop. Stepping On is an Evidence Based Falls Prevention Program hosted by the ADRC of the Lakeshore that will take place in September, starting September 12th thru October 29th at the Kiel Community Center. A weekly workshop that changes how to prepare "Not to Fall" as you age. Learn from experts and gather knowledge directly related to falls prevention. Sign up today for the workshop, seating is limited. All the ADRC of the Lakeshore at 1-877-416-7083 to RSVP.

2024 Bethlehem UCC Leadership Team

Elder/President - Steven Voland (920)286-0162 or svoland44@gmail.com

Elder - Traci Rabe (920)894-7903 or trabefamily5@gmail.com

Elder - Lee Watson (920)562-0588 or lwatson@kiel.k12.wi.us

Deacon - Ross Westphalen (920)629-0193 rossw@forhealthycows.com

Deacon/Secretary - Kathy Bowe (920)894-7243 LandKBowe@outlook.com

Financial Secretary - Ruthie Rumpff (920)946-5849 srumpff@tm.net

Treasurer - Jane Umland (920)286-2175 jm59umland@gmail.com

Pastor - Randy Koppenhaver (920)286-2531 randynmel5@gmail.com



Those in our thoughts and prayers:

Joys:

*Our new members!

Those Grieving:

Those struggling with health issues:

Doris Mae Ninmer	Jeanette Wriedt
Ross Westphalen	Wanda Matzdorf
Brad Westphalen	Chad Jeanty
Art Matzdorf	Jessica Horneck
Nancy Zimmermann	Jim Markelz
Gary Steinhardt	Marie Rietbrock
Mason Kannell	Shari
Heidi Konen	Mary Beth Molitor
Dawson Horneck	Emily (Melissa's cousin)
Darlene Horneck	Tom Lefeber
Rhonda Schroeder	Nancy

Doris Mae is at Willowdale in room 110. She would welcome any cards or visitors!

Those unable to worship with us:

Merlin and Doris Mae Ninmer
Helen Henning

This Week at Bethlehem:

Today Sunday 8/4: 9:30am Worship w/ Communion; ~Happy Birthday Lillie Brockway!

Monday 8/5: 4pm Loads of Love; ~Happy Birthday Donna Truttman-Retlich!

Tuesday 8/6:

Wednesday 8/7: 8a-12p Rummage sale set up; ~Happy Birthday Tony Bowe!!

Thursday 8/8: 3p-7p Rummage Sale; ~Happy Birthday David Meyer!

Friday 8/9: 8a-5p Rummage Sale; ~Happy Birthday David Radder

Saturday 8/10: 8a-12p Rummage Sale – Clean up 12-1p; ~Happy Anniversary Ryan & Molly Rabe!

Sunday 8/11: 9:00am Worship w/ St. Peter's UCC at City Park – Kiel. **NO Service at Bethlehem!**

**August Pantry Items:
Jar of Peanut Butter or Jelly**