

The Spirit of Bethlehem



BETHLEHEM UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
11608 Lax Chapel Road, Kiel, WI 53042
(920)894-3332

Pastor Randy's Ramblings:

Blessings, People of Bethlehem!

We begin with a short-answer quiz:

- Who is Jesus to you?
- What kind of role does Jesus play in your daily life?
- In what ways is your relationship with Jesus calling you to think or to act?
- How are you responding to Jesus's demands of you?
- How can you deepen your relationship with Jesus?
- When told, "Jesus died for you," what do you think?
How do you respond?

Welcome to the liturgical season of Lent, everyone! The days of joyful carols and celebrating have come to a close, and we begin the forty days that lead to Christ's persecution and crucifixion. In place of celebration, Lent offers us the opportunity for introspection and reflection. It's a time for us, as we grapple with the suffering of Christ, that we assess ourselves as followers of Christ. Are we living up to Jesus's expectations, or are we falling short in some way?

Continued on page 2



MARCH 2023

Pastor Randy's Ramblings	1-2
Bethlehem Information	3-4
Lectionary	4
Annual Mtg. Minutes	5-7
Consistory Monthly Mtg.	7-10
Bethlehem Ladies	10
Sunday School	11
Pastoral Needs	11
Scrip	11
Loads of Love	11
Historian	12
Chili Supper	13
Save your Cans/Snow	13
Thoughts and Prayer	14
Lenten Stations	15
New Member Opportunities	15
Area Events/Outreach	15-16
Vinnie's Pantry Needs	17
Jingle Change	17
Bethlehem Events	17
Birthdays & Anniversaries	18

APRIL SPIRIT DEADLINE:

Sunday, March 19th

@ 5pm

Send to Traci at

trabefamily5@gmail.com



Pastor Randy's Ramblings (continued):

During Lent, an old tradition was to “give something up” as a way of honoring Christ’s sacrifice. It’s not about self-glory or about congratulating one’s self for your sacrifice, but rather it’s about using that sacrifice to transform our relationships with God and draw closer to Him. Of course another way to accomplish this would be to “take something on.” Add a NEW spiritual practice that can strengthen and deepen your understanding of who God is your life. I mentioned in last month’s article that I had begun being more intentional about spending time each day reading scripture and reflecting on it. This of course, is coupled with prayerful conversation with God regarding what it is he wants me to “hear.” Some days it’s relatively easy for me to discern God’s message, and other days it’s more challenging, but EVERY day it’s meaningful to engage in dialogue with God.

My hope is that you, too, can find a way to connect more deeply with God this Lenten season. There are numerous resources online for daily readings, devotions, and reflections if you seek them. If you need guidance towards a Lenten resource, please let me know. A free one that looks pretty good is at <https://gospelinlife.com/lent-devotional/>. There are many others.

One thing that I am going to offer this year is “prayer stations” on Wednesdays. There will be no Lenten WORSHIP on Wednesdays, but the church will be open for people to stop in and participate in a variety of self-guided prayer activities. As I write this, the details are still being worked out, but watch your bulletin or blurb for more information.

Although dark and solemn, Lent can be a perfect time for personal growth and the development and deepening of your faith. As your faith leader, if there’s anything that I do to assist you in this goal, please let me know. Peace be with you!

In Christ,

Pastor Randy



Bethlehem United Church of Christ

11608 Lax Chapel Road - Kiel, WI 53042

Phone: 920.894.3332

Follow Bethlehem UCC

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

or Bethlehem's website at www.bethlehemkiel.org

Our Spiritual Leader:

Pastor Randy Koppenhaver

Phone: 920.286.2531 or email: randynmel5@gmail.com



- Gather in the sanctuary for worship Sunday mornings. Our service begins at 9:30am.
- Tune your car radio to 101.3FM to listen to the service in the church parking lot at 9:30am.
- View Sunday's service from the comfort of your home through Facebook live stream at 9:30am <http://www.facebook.com/bucckiel/>
- OR watch the recorded worship service on Bethlehem's website at a time that is convenient for you and your family www.bethlehemkiel.org
- Sunday School begins at 8:00am. All children 4 years – 6th grade welcome!

2023 Bethlehem UCC Consistory Members

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

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

Elder – Open Position – Prayerfully consider serving your Bethlehem family

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 rrumpff@tm.net

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

If you are not able to join us in person Sunday mornings, please mail your giving envelope/check to:

Bethlehem UCC

c/o Ruthie Rumpff

11608 Lax Chapel Road,

Kiel, WI 53042



You can also give electronically! Please contact Ruthie Rumpff for details.

Bethlehem UCC has added a Donate Button on the Church Website

www.bethlehemkiel.org



Click on the Donate button to make a secure online contribution today!

Donate

Your giving will go directly to offset our day-to-day costs of maintaining the church. This option was added in addition to giving at church, mailing your giving to church or giving electronically.

The On-line giving is secure by using your PayPal account, credit or debit card. (The church is charged a 2.89% plus 49 cents for each transaction. You have the option to add that to your donation.)

Thank you for all your support!

Lectionary Readings for MARCH:

Third Sunday in Lent March 3, 2024	Exodus 20:1-17	Psalms 19	1 Corinthians 1:18-25	John 2:13-22
Fourth Sunday in Lent March 10, 2024	Numbers 21:4-9	Psalms 107:1-3, 17-22	Ephesians 2:1-10	John 3:14-21
Fifth Sunday in Lent March 17, 2024	Jeremiah 31:31-34	Psalms 51:1-12 or Psalm 119:9-16	Hebrews 5:5-10	John 12:20-33
Liturgy of the Palms March 24, 2024 <i>Sixth Sunday in Lent</i>		Psalms 118:1-2, 19-29		Mark 11:1-11 or John 12:12-16
Liturgy of the Passion March 24, 2024 <i>Sixth Sunday in Lent</i>	Isaiah 50:4-9a	Psalms 31:9-16	Philippians 2:5-11	Mark 14:1-15:47 or Mark 15:1-39, (40-47)



Bethlehem United Church of Christ Annual Meeting Minutes:

January 29, 2023

Call to Order – President Steven Volland at 10:05

Members present – 32 plus 3 non-member

Opening prayer by Pastor Randy Koppenhaver

2022 Annual organizations' reports were approved by Scott Umland and 2nd by Bob Marklez.

2022 Annual Meeting Minutes were approved by Will Mathes and 2nd by Marie Mueller.

Building Maintenance Fund was reported by Jane Umland. (No approval needed)

Building and Grounds – Completed Projects

- Wasp nest on north side, Volleyball bleachers, Sanctuary single east door repair, Key list, Review future projects–reviewed future projects for consistory request, Sand and stain damaged windowsills in sanctuary, Cut down small trees near septic system, New AMP installed, repainted roadside sign, Canister light bulbs changed, Blacktop cracks sealed, Old garage-south service door, Siding old garage, Parsonage Facia, Parsonage basement door repaired, Parsonage gutters cleaned out, Cut down 2 trees in front of parsonage, Power-washed church, new garage, parsonage.
- Pending Projects - Down spout on west side of church, Broken new garage window – still watching

Projects for 2023

- Seal parking lot black top – not needed yet
- Seal parsonage deck – Power wash – not needed yet

2023 Budget was approved by Kaye Radder and 2nd by Tom Rabe.

Volunteer Positions – none of the open positions were filled.

Volunteers still needed for Nominating Committee, Christmas Decorating, Missions, Youth, Rural Church Fellowship, Hospitality, Sound Room, Northeast Association Annual Mtg, Wisconsin Conference Annual Mtg

Consistory Positions – there are 4 open consistory positions – no volunteers – existing consistory will continue for now. Open positions are 2 Elders, Deacon and Secretary

Future Plans and Goals

To prepare for this meeting, much like our monthly consistory meetings, I looked back at previous notes and minutes to refresh my memory about what has happened. In our monthly meetings, it's only a few weeks of events to recap, however, today, I looked back on a full year of events and even further back. Wow, to say that we as a congregation have gone on a bit of a ride over the past few years hardly summarizes it. Two years ago, you were in cars while we watched from different rooms in church. Last year you were in here but sitting as far away from each other as possible while I spoke my part from my truck parked under the carport as I was in quarantine for covid yet. Today, I'd like to say we're back to normal but our world changes so fast that it's hard to determine what normal is anymore. What I can say is that we have learned a lot over the past few years and we have proven to adapt to and overcome anything that comes our way. Resilient is what comes to mind when I think of our congregation. One of our goals from last year was to focus

on our Pastoral Leadership. At the time of our meeting, we weren't sure what our timeline was going to be to find a settled Pastor. We wanted Roy to reach his retirement and we wanted to give Randy the time to adapt to his new world as well. Thrilled is a soft way to describe my opinion of where we are now compared to last year or the past few for that matter. To say that Randy is an addition to our team can't be true because he and his family have been a part of our Bethlehem family for many years. Instead, his settled Pastor position is a solidification of our team. He's been a key input since he has stepped up as a lay minister and has only grown since then. During our discussions about what his proposed position would look like, Randy was always very fair and modest in his requests. Even when it came to discussion about the financial compensation, it was very easy to reach an agreement. The Wisconsin Conference has guidelines for compensation based on education, experience, congregation size, and workload. When we went through the worksheets and Randy proposed his request, we knew that everything would come together. We made a few minor changes and came up with the proposal that we voted on in December. The salary proposal fit our recent year budget numbers and looks promising for the near future.

At our recent consistory meetings, the bulk of our preparation for this Annual Meeting revolved around budget numbers and future financial stability. Historically, our budget generally fell to the negative side and we were using up savings accounts and CD's to make ends meet. The PPP loan that we received during covid, gave us a safety net again. Last year, on paper we collected over our budget expectation and kept our yearly expenses under budget. We actually spent a few hundred dollars over our collection, so it appears that we fell short of the requirement, but the difference comes in when we paid ahead on the propane contract for the winter. There was a great cost savings factored in that we wanted to take advantage of. To say that our yearly expenses, budget, and income came within a few hundred dollars of each other, is pretty impressive. These numbers don't include many of the various collections that we do throughout the year that don't affect our budget. Some of the reports show the vast amount of items and donations that you contribute to our community and beyond. We are confident going forth that we will be able to maintain this. We have been asked though about what an appropriate amount to give is. If we turn to our breakdown of giving units, we see an explanation of different amounts that would be necessary if the Budget was broken down equally. We all have various incomes and expenses so the amount each person can contribute will vary. The example simply shows what it would look like if we could break it down equally. Another way we can look at it is if we look at our individual budgets and compare what we give as an offering to any one of the luxuries we indulge in: cell phone, cable TV, internet, hobbies, online subscriptions, the list goes on and on. Old testament practice recommends to tithe, or give 10% of our income. Christ tells us, "Give back to Caesar what is Caesars and give to God what is God's. Each person should give what they feel compelled to give. We simply have been asked what an appropriate amount is and it isn't necessarily an easy answer for us. Because we are at a stable place financially, we want to be proactive with our plan. We don't want to get back to "asking for money" on Sunday services. It adds extra stress to each member and our congregation as a whole. We also recognize that we lost a several members last year and that will affect our budget in the upcoming years. If we can stay ahead of our budget, we can keep a stable foundation and positive mentality. We would like each member to look at what they give and compare it to some of the ideas we mentioned. Before the covid shutdown, we planned to do quarterly financial updates and we are willing to pick that up again if it will be believed to be helpful. If we happen to get "too far ahead" of our budget, we can pass the surplus to any of the various missions that we already support so greatly. Financial stability also promotes growth because it doesn't add instant stress or obligation to any new visitors. We truly are rebuilding a great foundation here at Bethlehem.

TWO Goals that we plan to focus on this year is membership and mission. Over the past one to two years, we've done a few more Fellowship hours following service and it's pleasing to see the attendance that we get. As a consistory when we discuss following events, we feel like there's a growing positive energy with each event. We sure hope that you feel the same way. The fall game day is another similar idea we plan to recreate in the future. Bonding with each other builds stronger relationships here which is important when we all gather together to worship. We have done exceptionally well at mission projects throughout the year. I've heard community members refer to Bethlehem as, "the little church that could." From our monetary and tangible collections, to our volunteer time, to all the other mission projects we do, we make an influence in our community and across the world. Mission has been a strong part in our past and we feel that continuing will promote our congregation and hopefully invite others to get involved here. It's easy to see all congregations are shrinking so it won't be an easy task. Each and every one of us will need to take a step up to promote what we do and more importantly, why we do it. If we can show others the light of Christ that shines within us, hopefully we will be able to share that light with them.

The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Meeting adjourned by Tom Rabe and 2nd by Rick Rabe

The 2024 Annual Meeting will be held on January 28, 2024.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kathy Bowe-Secretary



Bethlehem Consistory Monthly Meeting: 2-19-2023



Present: Randy Koppenhaver, Steven Volland, Traci Rabe, Kathy Bowe, Jane Umland, Ross Westphalen

Call to order: 10:23 PM

Opening Prayer by Randy – Prayer from William Barkley

Monthly Reports

- **Financial Secretary – Ruthie**

- Month income \$6,220.00 (\$1,526.00 below YTD collection) \$6,220.00 (1,526.00 below YTD requirement)

The report is approved as presented (motion by Traci and 2nd by Kathy)

- **Treasurer – Jane**

- Giving's received in January to date are \$6,266.44 bringing the checkbook balance to \$50,647.09

The report is approved as presented (motion by Ross and 2nd by Traci)

- **Building & Grounds checking and Savings – \$17,300.12.**
- **Secretary – Kathy**

- Approved by Ross and 2nd by Jane
- **Building & Grounds Updates**
- We have not received a bill from Signature for any of the snow plowing 2022 and 2023
- 2 Outlets have been repaired-thank you Steve Diegnan
- Church mailbox was hit – thank you to neighbor Dave Pike for repairs
- Rick Rabe will be looking into canister light in front of church
- Looking into outside lighting issues
- **Pastoral Reports –**
 - Pastor Randy

Worship -

-Worship at Field of Dreams 1/12

-1/15, 1/29, 2\5, and 2/19

-Ash Wednesday will be scriptures and responses w/ communion and imposition of ashes

-Field of Dreams worship will be every-other month, next on March 9 at 10:30am

-Bethel may have people wanting to participate in Maundy Thursday. They are joining us.

-Good Friday will be ecumenical, location TBD.

** I will be out of state March 9-14. (March 12 will be my off Sunday) Rev. Nicole Herda (St. Peters UCC) will cover for me in the event of any emergencies.

Confirmation

- Class on 1/18 held at Bethel UCC from 6-8pm. Immanuel and Our Shepherds attended as well. Pizza was served for dinner. We did a brief lesson on gratitude, followed by corn hole games and Pictionary. 5\6 students from BUCC attended.
- There are ongoing discussions about continued collaboration between area churches regarding youth activities and confirmation
- 4 students helped on 1/29 with chili supper prep - all 6 participated at the chili supper
- Class was held on Feb. 8.
- Students asked to attend Ash Wednesday worship in place of "class."
- All students on track with points.
- Confirmation Sunday is April 30.

Mission

- Loads of Love on 2/6 - 1 client -\$17.50 in expenditures.
- Ongoing work on the WISE initiative (Committee: Traci Rabe, Sarah Mueller, Scott Umland, Jane Umland, Nancy Zimmermann, Melissa Koppenhaver, myself)
 - Phone call with Sue Kaiser of Ebenezer, Sheboygan
 - First meeting- decided on a group book study: Blessed are the Crazy, by Sarah Lund - Randy ordered used copies for all. Books will be available to the congregation after we complete our study.
 - Next mtg. 2/26 @ 8:30am

Pastoral care

- Phone calls and left messages 8x
- Other electronic communication 3x
- Visits 3x (2 declined a Jan. visit)
- Hospital visit 1x

Wider Church/MID process

- COP (communities of practice) meeting on 1/26
- attending New Testament course @ Lakeland with Dr. Kuhn
- working on gathering documentation for my MID portfolio. Will be meeting with my advisor (Pastor Colie of Grace UCC) soon. Date TBD.

Communication and Other

- Meeting with Ecumenical clergy on 1/12
- Attended Sheepshead tournament.

Other:

- New member class? Yes, will be reviewed
- General email address for church? Yes
- Phone in pastor's office needs replacement – will look into getting a new phone
- Cases of paper seem to be cheapest at Walmart. (\$49.97) Checked Costco and Office Max
- Prayer Stations during Lent? Yes – more details to follow

Member Outreach – 2 sympathy, 1 get well, and 4 thinking of you

OLD BUSINESS

- **Rural Church Fellowship Mtg – Fundraiser**
 - Bethlehem to host a sheepshead Tourney/Games (2/5/23)
 - Event went very well – 41 people attended
 - Raised \$257.00 for area food pantries
 - Collected 9 bags of canned goods
- **MC Aging and Disabilities Resource Center Meetings**
 - Meeting begin April 13th – May 25th 1:00-3:00 PM
 - Public welcome to meetings with speakers
 - More details to follow
- **Annual Meeting**
 - All went well
 - Marie Mueller will join the Ministry Support Team
- **Sound System and Carillon**
 - Meeting set for 2/24 with Brian & Dave

NEW BUSINESS

- Ash Wednesday/Lent/Maundy Thursday
 - Ash Wednesday service 2/22 7:00PM
 - No lent services – prayer stations will be available
 - Maundy Thursday play with Bethel is being planned
- Pulpit Supply
 - Next supply pastor will be on 3/12
 - Motion was made (Traci) and 2nd (Ross) to give a \$25 gas card to any supply pastor outside of Manitowoc county
- Request to change evening services to 6:30 PM
 - This would need to be a vote from the congregation
 - Note survey to be passed out before Sunday services

- Invite members to April meeting to see the works of the consistory
- Kiel Fire Department – Motion made (Ross) and 2nd (Traci) to make a \$40.00 donation for learning materials
- Jane will be checking into an official email for Bethlehem

Motion to adjourn 12:10 PM by Traci and 2nd by Ross

Next meeting – Mar 21, 2023 6:30 PM

Closed with Lord's Prayer

Submitted by Consistory Secretary, Kathy Bowe

Bethlehem Ladies:

The Bethlehem Ladies met on Sunday, February, 19th at 8:30 am. Five members were in attendance. Dues for the year were collected.

President Heidi Konen read the Bethlehem Ladies Guidelines. There were a few minor changes made.

Thank you cards from the following were read: Pastor Randy, Rev. Roy Rogers, St. Vincent De Paul and Ruthie Rumpff.

Jeanette showed the Ladies the new baptismal handkerchiefs that will be given to the families on the day of baptism.

Our annual \$100.00 scholarship will be going to Randy Koppenhaver.

On to wash communion glasses on Sunday, March 5th are Polly and Barb.

Our next meeting will be Sunday, March 19th at 8:30 AM.

Polly Jeanty
Secretary



One of the Bethlehem Ladies' mission projects is recycling greeting cards. You can help them out by saving all your old greeting cards throughout the year and placing them in one of the Ladies mailboxes at church or giving them to a Consistory member Sunday morning. The cards are given to Project Angel Hugs (children with cancer) and to four assisted living homes in Kiel and New Holstein.

Thank you for your help!

Bethlehem Sunday School:

Thank you for everyone's donations to the leprosy project in February.

In March, we'll learn about the season of Lent in our Sunday School classes.

Sunday School continues to be held at 8:00- 9:15 AM every Sunday. We look forward to continuing to grow with her children and they are always welcome to bring a friend along.

Pastoral Care:

PLEASE let Pastor Randy know of any pastoral/spiritual care needs. I don't always hear about illnesses, surgeries, hospitalizations, etc., until well after the fact. I am willing to support you and be present. I have tried to contact all the members whom Pastor Roy was seeing. I've left voicemails, sent cards, emails, etc, sometimes with no response. If you or a loved one are someone I should be seeing, please help make sure we can get in touch.

Bethlehem Scrip:

Thank you to everyone who continues to use the Scrip program at Bethlehem. Spring is right around the corner, so please keep scrip in mind when planning your spring needs.

Please note: Kwik trip is currently at 9%, so every \$100, we make \$9.00.

Scrip is sold the 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month, starting at 9:00 am.

Your support is greatly appreciated.

Linda Rabe

Scrip Stats:

2/05/23 \$ 5,225.00 \$ 197.75

2/12/23 \$ 2,430.00 \$ 91.65



PLEASE ALSO NOTE: I will still be collecting caps (example: milk chug caps, water and soda bottles, etc.) Please look under mailboxes for container to place them in!

Loads of Love:

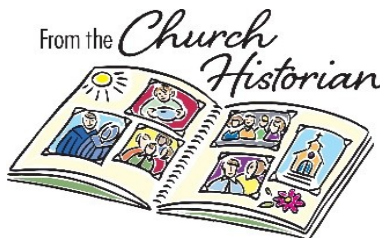


Once a month, recipients meet Bethlehem's Loads of Love team at the laundry mat and are supplied detergent and dryer sheets to wash and dry their clothing, towels, and bedding. Loads of Love also generously provides the quarters for the washers and dryers.

With your help Bethlehem will continue to do God's work through this important mission. Your donations can be placed in the "Laundry Detergent" container located near the entrance to the sanctuary.

Thank you for sharing God's love through your generosity!

From Our Church Historian:



Here is a brief summary of the events from 2022

Consistory Members: Steven Volland, Traci Rabe, Ross Westphalen, Kathy Bowe, Ruthie Rumpff & Jane Umland.

January - Annual Meeting was held in the Sanctuary.

February – the annual Chili Supper was held for the second year as a Drive Thru only event. Chili ran out. Profits were shared with Choir, Youth Group, Mission Committee, Sunday School, Bethlehem Ladies and Merry Christians.

April – After a two year hiatus, the Merry Christians hosted the annual Pizza and Ice Cream Sundae event.

April 24th – Confirmation Sunday celebrated the confirmation of 2 students.

May - Merry Christians hosted a brat fry at the Piggly Wiggly in Kiel.

May – Collected underwear and socks for the Undy 500 for the Guest House in Milwaukee.

June 12th – Hometown Harmony Traditions provided special music at our worship service.

July – The old garage siding project is completed.

July/August – The roadside sign is beautifully spruced up with a re-painting.

August – Held rummage sale at the church garage; two weekends.

September – Bethlehem Ladies host Guest Night. Nancy Zimmermann gave a presentation on the history of Kiel.

October – Mission Fest Sunday includes the following activities: Hi-way clean-up, Sandwich making for Guest House, Visit Field of Dreams, and Church outside clean-up

October – Outdoor Worship service/picnic held indoors due to weather.

November – Thanksgiving Eve ecumenical service raised \$222 for Kiel Area Good Samaritan Fund

December – Sunday School giving tree collects gifts for a local family in need.

December 18, 2023 – The congregation voted for and called Randy Koppenhaver to be our settled pastor at three quarter time. He will proceed with the necessary training to become ordained.

December – Sunday School students and confirmation class present the Christmas program.

December – the Merry Christians and other members of Bethlehem raised and sent \$2500 to Heifer International

Kaye Radder, Historian

Chili Supper

Congratulations to all who helped make Bethlehem Chili Supper 2023 a great success.

There are so many tasks big and small, some seen and some unseen, but all are important to the outcome. The past success of this annual event has been due to the great cooperative spirit as we welcome the community into our building for some hot soup, delicious tortes and a time of fellowship. Again this year the “supper” was Drive Thru/Pick Up, with no in-person dining. The Chili was “Ready to Heat” and fellowship was limited to greeting guests at their car(s).

The greatest success of the day was seeing and hearing old friends reuniting with smiling faces and stories. Some new acquaintances were made. The people of Bethlehem truly know how to work together towards a common goal. The measurement of this success cannot be calculated.

We cooked up and distributed about 1120 servings of Bethlehem chili. During the day, noon lunches were delivered to 172 people. The rest of the servings were done via our drive thru/pick up operation, 64 gallons and 436 individual meal deals. The good news: **we didn't sell out.**

One of the successes of the day which we can measure is monetary profit. For 2023 each of our church organizations will receive almost \$800 to use for their various projects and missions.

We welcome any comments or suggestions on improvements to Bethlehem's annual chili event.

+++++

Mark your Calendar, Save the Date:

February 7, 2024 – Bethlehem Chili Supper



Planning is already under way. We will need

.Ice Cream Pails with covers

.Small cardboard boxes (Girl Scout Cookie cases are perfect)

If you know someone who works in food service such as a deli or restaurant, consider asking if they get product in covered plastic containers that might be thrown away. Ask if they could be donated to the church.

Please bring any of these to the church kitchen anytime throughout the year.

Save your Aluminum Cans:



Sunday School continues to collect aluminum cans.
Place your bags in the old garage next to the cemetery.

Snow Shoveling Volunteers Needed:

Volunteers are needed to shovel the sidewalk and entryway at church. Your Commitment is only a few weeks to a month. Please sign up on the sheet located in the fellowship hall.



Those in our thoughts and prayers:

Families who have lost loved ones:

Dale Spindler (Father of Dawn Wirtz; Brother of Darlean Rumpff)



Those struggling with health issues:

Tom Rabe

Bob Radder

John Buchholz (Marie's brother)

Gary Steinhardt

Doreen Schmidt

Daisy Sippel

Finn

Darlene Horneck

Helen Henning

Tom Lefeber

Hattie Lucille

Jessica Horneck

Sandra Tesch

Dana (friend of Melissa K)

Dawson Horneck



Those unable to worship with us:

Merlin and Doris Mae Ninmer

Other concerns:

Those affected by gun violence- Michigan

Those affected by the war in Ukraine

Those affected by violence and oppression in other places of the world

Those affected by wildfires or other natural disasters: Especially the earthquake in Turkey and Syria



During the season of Lent, Prayer Stations will be offered on Wednesday's from 9a-7pm. The stations are self-guided and will be set up in the middle Sunday School room. Please come and engage in spiritual practice and quiet contemplation.

Been attending awhile, but not a member? Bethlehem will be holding a "New-Member Sunday sometime this Spring. Watch the bulletin and Blurb for details!



Community Outreach and Events:

Do you have a fear of falling or losing your balance? The Aging & Disability Resource Center of the Lakeshore, along with Bethlehem UCC Church is offering Stepping On, a 7 week workshop, beginning Thursdays, April 13th-May 25th from 1:00-3:00pm. Trained leaders and community professionals guide you in recognizing your risk of falling by identifying fall hazards in the home and community, help you build the balance, strength and practical skills you need to avoid a fall, how to safely get up from a fall, identify vision, footwear and medication management risks, and how to manage safely in inclement weather. The cost is a suggested \$10 donation. Please contact the Aging & Disability Resource Center of the Lakeshore at 1-877-416-7083 for more information or to register.

- Sat. March 4 – Brat Fry and Cornhole Tournament – 11a-4pm – Laack's Hall, Johnsonville – sponsored by Saron UCC
- Saturday, March 4 – 4p-10p. InCourage (domestic abuse shelter) Domestic Chef Charity Event – Held at The Venue at Union Square, Manitowoc. Compete or just partake – See bulletin board for more details!
- Pancake Breakfast – Sunday 3/12 – 9a-noon - Holy Trinity Parish, School Hill
- Saturday, 3/17 – Woman's Day program 9am – Zion Lutheran Church, New Holstein.
- Rural Church Fellowship is planning a youth game night for students 7th-12th grade. It will be held at Our Shepherd's UCC in Howards Grove on Sunday, March 19 from 5p-7p. Pizza will be served. FREE!! Let Randy know if you will be attending and if you need a ride on the sign up sheet in the fellowship hall. Bring a friend!

UPCOMING EVENTS AT LAKELAND UNIVERSITY - see flyers on bulletin board for more info.

****RESCHEDULED!!** 2/28 - Founder's Day Lecture - Marty Thau sharing his father's story as a Holocaust Survivor - 6:30-8pm - Younger Campus Center

2/25 - "Essence of Heritage" - a student-led event paying homage to Black History - 7pm - Bradley Fine Arts Bldg.

3/26 - Bus trip to Illinois Holocaust Museum and Education Center- Leaving Lakeland at 8am

Disaster relief:

You can make a donation to the International Emergency fund designated for "Turkey and Syria Earthquake Response". Your generous financial support will be used by our partners in the areas of greatest need, for relief and long-term recovery. You can mail a check made payable to the **United Church of Christ, PO BOX 71957 Cleveland, OH 44194**. Please be sure to note "Turkey and Syria" on your check in the memo section. You may also text UCCDISASTER to 41444.





MARCH VINNIE'S PANTRY ITEMS - A box of Pasta, Noodles, Rice or Crackers

MARCH JINGLE CHANGE – Our Church's Wider Mission (OCWM)



MARCH 2023 – BETHLEHEM EVENTS

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 9am-7pm Lenten Prayer Station 6pm Confirmation	2	3	4
5 8am S. School 8:30am WISE mtg 9:30am Communion Service w/Pastor Randy	6	7	8 9am-7pm Lenten Prayer Station	9	10	11
12 8am S. School 9:30am Worship	13	14	15 9am-7pm Lenten Prayer Station 6pm Confirmation	16	17	18
19 8am S. School 8:30am Bethlehem Ladies mtg. 8:30am WISE mtg 9:30am Worship w/Pastor Randy	20	21 6:30pm Consistory mtg.	22 9am-7pm Lenten Prayer Station	23	24	25
26 8am S. School 9:30am Worship w/Pastor Randy	27	28	29 9am-7pm Lenten Prayer Station 6pm Confirmation	30	31	



Pastor Randy and his family will be out of the state from March 9-14. Should you need any emergency pastoral care during this time, please contact Rev. Nicole Herda of St. Peters UCC, Kiel. Her phone # is (920)242-8308.

MARCH

Birthdays & Anniversaries

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 Peyton Koppenhaver Grayson Hoban	2	3	4 Gary & Lynnette Steinhardt
5	6 Mason Wempner	7 Dylan Jeanty	8	9	10	11 Steven Voland Scott Umland
12	13 Ben Molitor	14 Jennifer Deignan	15	16	17	18 Tina Salm
19 Hallie Brockway	20 Ross Westphalen	21 Kathy Bowe Tom Mueller	22 Riley Radder	23 Randy Koppenhaver	24	25
26 Doreen Schmidt	27	28	29	30 Joe & Doreen Schmidt	31	

