

# THE SPIRIT OF BETHLEHEM



BETHLEHEM UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
11608 LAX CHAPEL RD. KIEL, WI 53042  
(920) 894-3332

Dear Members and Friends of Bethlehem UCC:

It has been brought to my attention that a number of our newer members don't quite understand our process when it comes to calling and installing a pastor. We in the United Church of Christ are in covenant with our Association, Conference and Wider Church (the General Synod). Local churches call their own pastors, but the pastor's standing is held in the Association. We belong to the Northeast Association of the Wisconsin Conference of the United Church of Christ. Below I have copied what is written in our Manual on Ministry about the installation of a pastor:

"Installation is the liturgical celebration of the covenantal relationship among an ordained minister; the local church or calling body where the person is engaged in ministry; the local church where the person is a member, if different from the one being served; and the Association. Installation is an act of the Association. It is the responsibility of the Association to ensure that all partners to the covenant are satisfied that there is a basis for covenant among them. Upon request from the ordained minister and the local church, the Association takes leadership in planning the installation service in cooperation with the other partners to the covenantal relationship. It is recommended that an installation service be held when an ordained minister begins any ministry recognized by the Association. When the ministry is in a local church, the installation service will normally be held in that church. When the ministry is in other than a local church, the installation service will normally be held in the local church where the ordained minister is a member. In those cases when a person is ordained in the local church where he or she will serve, the installation service may be held at the same time as the ordination. Normally, an installation service will include a charge to the ordained minister; to the congregation or calling body; to the local church where the ordained minister is a member, if other than where he or she is serving; and to the Association."

Our installation service will be held on March 4 at 3:30pm. A member of the Northeast Church and Ministry Committee will be here to officiate at the service. During the service Randy and I will covenant to serve as your pastors, you will covenant to participate in ministry with us and the members of the Association will also covenant with us. Along with this Randy and I have put together a covenant of what we will do as your pastors and we have asked the Consistory to fill out a similar covenant as to what the

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Articles for the March 2018 edition of the Spirit are due on Wed, Feb 14th. Articles can be emailed directly to me at [bryanjeanty@gmail.com](mailto:bryanjeanty@gmail.com) or leave articles in the mailbox in the church office.  
Thank You  
~Bryan

*Pastor's page continued on Page 4....*

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## LET'S SAVE PAPER!

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In order to help the church reduce the amount of paper we go through – please sign up to receive the Spirit electronically. You can do it by signing up in the fellowship hall or emailing Bryan Jeanty at [bryanjeanty@gmail.com](mailto:bryanjeanty@gmail.com). This is **purely voluntary** – if you don't sign up you will still keep getting the printed copy of Spirit. Do you have someone in college or the military or away from home who would like to hear about the events of Bethlehem – sign them up so they can receive the spirit electronically.

If you are not able to worship with us on Sunday, you can send your giving envelope/check to the following address:

**Bethlehem UCC  
c/o Ginny Schultz  
11608 Lax Chapel Rd.  
Kiel, WI 53042**

### **2017 Consistory:**

Elder /President: Gene Radder

Elder : Bob Radder

Elder: Traci Rabe

Deacon: Ross Westphalen

Deacon/Secretary: Natasha Verhulst

Financial Secretary: Ginny Schultz

Treasurer : Rick Rabe

### **Mission Statement**

*As Disciples of Christ, we are a loving, caring community of faith, called to witness to God's grace and glory.*

*Empowered by the Holy Spirit, we commit to love, nurture, respect, encourage and challenge each other. Rooted in the tradition of our Christian ancestors, we live our faith through worship, fellowship, teaching and service to others.*

Bethlehem UCC's Website is LIVE!!!  
The website is [www.bethlehemkiel.org](http://www.bethlehemkiel.org).

Check it out!!!!

Please use the email address below to submit  
information, photos, etc. for the church website:

bethlehemucckiel @gmail.com

**Bethlehem United Church of Christ**  
11608 Lax Chapel Rd – Kiel WI 53042  
Phone: 920-894-3332

Worship Times:  
Sunday School begins at 8:00 a.m.  
Worship time is 9:30 a.m.

Rev. Rebecca A. Johnston, Pastor  
(920-918-3654 - [revbecky1124@gmail.com](mailto:revbecky1124@gmail.com))

Randy Koppenhaver, Licensed Lay Minister  
(920-286-2531 - [randynmel5@gmail.com](mailto:randynmel5@gmail.com))



**Current church contacts:**

Primary Contact: Gene Radder [920-901-1677](tel:920-901-1677)

Secondary Contact: Bob Radder [920-894-7229](tel:920-894-7229)



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

Spread  
Joy

*Pastor's page continued....*

members of the church will do to participate in this ministry. A copy of our part of the covenant is included in this month's newsletter. If you have thoughts about what you would like to see as part of the church's covenant, please share them with members of the consistory.

We are hoping that you all join us for this service as we formally start our ministry together. And we look forward to our shared ministry together.

Grace and Peace,

Pastor Randy & Rev. Becky

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Covenant Agreement between Bethlehem United Church of Christ and

The Leadership team of Rev. Rebecca A. Johnston and Pastor Randy Koppenhaver

**WORSHIP**

The Leadership team covenants to provide meaningful worship services throughout the year. This includes, but is not limited to Sunday mornings, Special seasonal services (Advent, Lent, etc), and life journey moments (weddings, funerals, etc).

The Members of Bethlehem United Church of Christ covenant to

**FAITH FORMATION**

The Leadership team covenants to provide a variety of Faith Formation experiences throughout the year, including, but not limited to, Adult education Bible Studies and Book Studies, Confirmation and children's opportunities.

The Members of Bethlehem United Church of Christ covenant to

**MISSION/SERVICE**

The Leadership team covenants to research and offer a variety of mission opportunities for the members of Bethlehem United Church of Christ. They will encourage regular support of OCWM as well as other missions. In cooperation with members of the congregation they will assist in planning mission trips for all ages and experiences that will encourage outreach and personal growth.

The Members of Bethlehem United Church of Christ covenant to

**LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT**

The Leadership team covenants to participate regularly in personal growth and development that will hone their skills so that they can best serve Bethlehem United Church of Christ.

The Members of Bethlehem United Church of Christ covenant to

## PERSONAL GROWTH/CARE

The Leadership team covenants to engage in Spiritual Care and study on a regular basis in order to strengthen their own faith. They also covenant to take appropriate time with their family and friends to nurture those relationships dear to them and foster their healthy growth.

The Members of Bethlehem United Church of Christ covenant to

## UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST CONNECTIONS

The Leadership team covenants to encourage Bethlehem United Church of Christ to have a healthy relationship with other local United Church of Christ congregations, the Association, Conference, General Synod and Global Partners. They will educate the congregation on issues pertinent to these bodies and make the congregation aware of opportunities to engage with each of these bodies.

The Members of Bethlehem United Church of Christ covenant to

## ECUMENICAL/INTER-FAITH

The Leadership team covenants to participate in ecumenical clergy gatherings and worship services and encourage the congregation to engage and worship with members of other Congregations and Faiths.

The Members of Bethlehem United Church of Christ covenant to

## FINANCES AND STEWARDSHIP

The Leadership team covenants to educate and encourage the congregation to practice good stewardship both with personal and church finances. The Leadership team covenants to use resources responsibly toward the goal of having the resources necessary to faithfully carry out their vocation.

The Members of Bethlehem United Church of Christ covenant to

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### “What Do I Have?”

What do I have, Lord, that you would need me as a servant?

Eyes, he said,  
to see the beauty in all that I’ve made —  
and my children as they travel life’s highway.

Hands, he said,  
to reach out and touch hurting souls,  
to give a hug or encouraging pat on the back.

Feet, he said,  
to lead my children through this world of strife  
and to help them run from sin and follow me.

—Thomas Butler

Mouth, he said,  
to lift up your voice and sing praises to me  
so others may hear the joy in your heart.

Ears, he said,  
to listen to my still, small voice of love  
and to hear my children when they cry for help.

Heart, he said,  
so you may know the full love of my Spirit  
and love my children as I have loved you.

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# Consistory

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Consistory Minutes

January 9, 2018

6:30pm

Bethlehem United Church Of Christ

Rebecca Johnston (via speakerphone)	Randy Koppenhaver
Gene Radder	Bob Radder
Ross Westphalen	Natasha Verhulst
Traci Rabe	Rick Rabe
Ginny Schultz	Jason Brockway (for security discussion)

Call to order

Opening Prayer - Randy,

Safety Discussion - Jason Brockway

Monthly Reports

- Financial Secretary- Ginny
  - Bob moves that report is approved as given
  - Ross 2nd
  - Approved as given
- Treasurer- Rick
  - Ginny moves that report is approved as given
  - Ross 2nd
  - Approved as given
- Secretary Report- Natasha
  - Bob moves that report is approved as given
  - Rick 2nd
  - Approved as given
- Building and Grounds - Rick
  - Bruce Jeanty is getting an estimate for sealing the black top
- Randy Koppenhaver and Rebecca Johnston
  - Be The Church Banner
    - The money was donated by a family to purchase
    - Consistory approved for the hanging of banner
  - Pew pads
    - For guests to fill out when they attend
    - Would need to be encouraged by members
      - Bob moves that we try it
      - Ross 2nd
      - Motion carries
  - Confirmation meeting
    - Parent meeting was held
    - Continue to recruit for mission trip
  - Covenant Agreement
    - On the agenda for next meeting

## Old Business

- Annual meeting agenda is finalized
- New member meeting
  - A place for new members to put their roots
  - February 11th is New Member Sunday
    - Coffee hour and Consistory makes desserts

## New Business

- Binders cleaned for pass down
- Keyholder lists
  - Gene will be getting a list together
- Lock bags
  - Getting for night depository
  - Discussion to continue
- Lenten Service Schedule
  - February 14th - Ash Wednesday - Pot Luck Meal
  - Dinners during lent on Wednesday nights 5:45 pm
  - Services during lent on Wednesday nights at 6:30 pm
  - Maundy Thursday service at Bethlehem UCC 6:30 pm
  - Good Friday is at Holy Rosary
- Missionfest
  - Discussion of community volunteer work
- Installation
  - March 4th at 3:30
  - Choir singing
  - Special Music
  - Snacks, coffee, and lemonade

The Lord's Prayer  
Meeting adjourned

Respectfully Submitted,  
Natasha Verhulst  
Deacon/Secretary



### INSTALLATION SUNDAY!

Please save the date, Sunday March 4, 2018. At 3:30 in the afternoon there will be a service of installation For Rev. Becky Johnston. This will be the formal service for Becky and Randy to be named the settled faith leaders at Bethlehem. New beginnings are exciting and challenging, please worship with us on the 4th of March.

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## Sunday School

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February is Leprosy month for the Sunday School. What does that mean? We collect money in February to donate to help cure leprosy. This is a long held tradition in which the Bethlehem Sunday School collects a separate offering to give to this cause. We ask that at some time in February, each child gives a separate offering that amounts to **25 cents per year/age** of the child. Thank you in advance for contributing to the worthy mission that has been our Sunday School's long held tradition.

Please mark your calendars for the 3rd – 8th grade classes to perform during the worship service at 9:30 am on February 4, 2018.

The next Sunday School teachers meeting is scheduled for February 20, 2018 at 6:30 pm.

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## Choir

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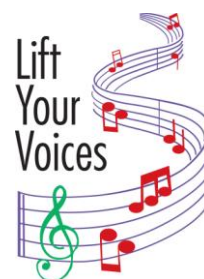


Choir Notes:

February is again upon us and with that is the annual Chili Supper. Thank you Kaye Radder for chairing this event for the youth and choir. Again we will be needing help so please sign-up, it is a great event for the fellowship of the congregation.

In January we sang on the second Sunday, it went well and was great to be part of worship again. We are going to continue to sing the second Sunday of the month. Rehearsals will be at 9 am the morning we are singing and everyone is welcome to join in. We will also be singing for the installation service, along with some lent services. Watch the bulletin for these dates.

Smile while singing,  
Ross Westphalen  
Choir President



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## Youth Fellowship

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The next youth event is Sunday, February 4th. We will be frying meat and setting up for the chili supper after worship. We need ALL youth to join us on the 4th as well as at the Chili supper on the 7th - 3:30pm-8pm

Youth will be selling the fair trade products at church each Sunday. Please stop by and help support this mission of the group.

Youth Fellowship will meet the second Sunday of every month.



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## Bethlehem Ladies

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The Bethlehem Ladies met before worship on Sunday, January 21<sup>st</sup>. Seven members were present. We discussed the duties for the upcoming Chili Supper. Set up of the Pick-a-Heart and Bake Sale will be Sunday, Feb 4<sup>th</sup> following worship. Donations from congregation members would be appreciated. Pick-a-Heart items can be placed by the sound room anytime and baked goods can be brought to church Tuesday evening or day of Chili Supper. Crafts are also welcomed. Doris Mae reported on refunding. Thank you card was read from Pastor Randy. Our next meeting will be March 18<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 AM. Washing communion glasses on Feb 4<sup>th</sup> is Ginny, Doris Mae and Darlene. Washing Feb. 14<sup>th</sup> (Ash Wed) is Shirley and Barb. We closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Secretary,  
Polly Jeanty

One of the Bethlehem Ladies' Mission Projects is making note cards using the fronts of recycled greeting cards. So, please help us out by saving all your old greeting cards from throughout the year (not just Christmas). Just cut the fronts off and put them in one of the Ladies mailboxes at church. Thank you for your help!

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## Scrip

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Thank you to everyone who continues to use the Scrip program. We welcome anyone who would like to try the Scrip program, it is very easy to use. We have cards available every Sunday, you can purchase them immediately and use them for your purchases for the week. The program buys them at a discounted rate and the difference is our profit. The profit that we make goes to the Building Fund. In 2017, we contributed \$5,000.00 to the Building Fund. We also set aside 10% of our profit for the "families in need" program, which we donated \$525.00 to families in need in the year 2017.

Thank you to the faithful Scrip users, it really makes a difference!

Linda Rabe

### MONTHLY SCRIP STATS:

		Profit
12/24/17	\$1,590.00	\$ 62.25
12/31/17	\$ 790.00	\$ 25.51
1/07/18	\$3,345.00	\$128.90
1/14/18	\$ 600.00	\$ 18.26



BETHLEHEM CEMETERY ASSOCIATION

Just a note to let you know who we are.

The Bethlehem Cemetery Association was formed on May 26, 1947. It currently has 33 members. The Cemetery board consists of 3 members, a Director, Treasurer and Clerk. Each position serves a term of 3 years and can be re-elected.

The organization meets once a year. The group is responsible for the upkeep of the cemetery grounds. Bethlehem UCC has also contracted this group to mow the lawn surrounding the church. The cemetery and the church are separate entities.

As a member of the association, you pay dues each year in the amount of \$5.00 and you can purchase a plot in the cemetery at a reduced price. However, you do not have to be a member of the association to purchase a plot. Everyone is welcome! You also do not have to be a member of Bethlehem UCC, this cemetery is open to the public.

If you would like any more information concerning this group, please feel free to contact any board member.

Director – Bruce Jeanty  
Treasurer – Ron Schreiber  
Clerk – Louie Bowe

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The Bethlehem Cemetery Association would like to thank everyone who helped with replacing the old garage roof.

Tom, Traci, Trevor, and Trenton Rabe, Rick and Ryan Rabe, Mark Riesterer Jr, Bruce Jeanty and Louie and Kathy Bowe.

Thank you Louie and Kathy for supplying the lunch.

And especially those who donated the money to make it possible.

The old garage (cemetery side) has been cleaned. Please continue to place aluminum cans for the Sunday School in the garage.

Thank you

Cemetery Association

Donate your old shoes!

The Kiel Middle School is collecting used shoes to be cleaned and donated to people in impoverished countries around the world. Any style or size is acceptable, the shoes just need to be in "wearable" condition. There is a purple box in the Fellowship Hall for your donation.



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## Prayer Concerns

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Those in our thoughts and prayers (Please check weekly Bethlehem Blurb for updated prayer concerns)

### Those in our thoughts and prayers:

Marilyn Brickbauer is currently hospitalized. If you wish to be kept up to date on Marilyn's status, please sign up on her Caring Bridge page.

[www.caringbridge.org/visit/marilynbrickbauer](http://www.caringbridge.org/visit/marilynbrickbauer)

Bethlehem loves you, Marilyn! You and your family are in our thoughts and prayers during this difficult time.

### Prayer Concerns:

Marilyn Brickbauer (and family) - Surgery and recurrence of cancer

Henry Krueger and his family as he recuperates from surgery

Ken Behnke, treatment for leukemia

Evelyn Schnell - Shingles

Those with unknown health issues.



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## Lectionary

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Feb. 4 Isaiah 40:21–31 Psalm 147:1–11, 20c 1 Corinthians 9:16–23 Mark 1:29–39

Feb. 11 2 Kings 2:1–12 Psalm 50:1–6 2 Corinthians 4:3–6 Mark 9:2

Feb. 18 Genesis 9:8–17 Psalm 25:1–10 1 Peter 3:18–22 Mark 1:9–15

Feb. 25 Genesis 17:1–7, 15–16 Psalm 22:23–31 Romans 4:13–25 Mark 8:31–38



### LENTEN DINNERS

Lent is quickly approaching, and that means Lenten meals before Wednesday evening worship. Meals will start at 5:45 pm, with worship at 6:30 pm. Ash Wednesday, Feb. 14th will be a potluck. Please bring a dish to pass. The other Wednesday eve dinners will be served by church organizations or families who volunteer. There is a sign-up sheet in the Fellowship Hall.

- **New Member Sunday on February 11th. (This is a change!)** Reception to follow.
- The Consistory has set Sunday, March 4 at 3:30 PM as the date for our installation service. Please mark your calendars and plan to join us on that day. Thank you.
- Rev. Becky's office hours will be Tuesdays 9am –Noon and Wednesdays 9 am -3 pm. If you need to contact her outside of those hours feel free to use her cell phone 920-918-3654. Randy is going to continue with us at his current status preaching once per month and co-leading in some of the programming.
- Aluminum Cans – please place **ONLY aluminum cans** into your bags – keep aluminum pans and other items separate. Please continue to save your aluminum cans and place them in the old garage next to the parsonage. If you remove the can tabs and place in a separate bag - these can go help support The Ronald McDonald House.
- **Building Fund** Bethlehem has been blessed with this new building – we are in our 13<sup>th</sup> year in building and our debt is continuing to go down. We ask that you prayerfully consider monthly donations to the building fund to help us retire this debt. The building fund loan balance is **\$775.00** and would like to retire the fund as soon as possible. Mark on the outside on your envelope Building Fund. Thanks for your continued support to the building fund.
- Take time to introduce yourself to someone you don't know – help them to get to know you and other people in the church.
- Please wear your name tags at church to help one another get to know you better.

### ♥ Valentine's Day Word Puzzle ♥



H	E	A	R	T	S	W	E	E	T	U
K	T	K	A	F	L	O	W	E	R	S
K	I	S	S	Z	C	D	G	X	L	I
C	H	H	L	Z	U	L	I	E	O	K
W	A	M	A	R	P	O	V	G	V	L
R	P	N	J	W	I	N	E	E	E	R
E	P	K	D	M	D	R	O	S	E	S
D	Y	T	Y	Y	H	U	G	Y	D	C

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CANDY	FLOWERS	HEART	RED
CUPID	GIVE	HUG	ROSES
KISS	HAPPY	LOVE	SWEET

# February Calendars

**PANTRY ITEM: Box of Sandwich Bags, Foil, Saran Wrap or Garbage Bags**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4 8:00 Sunday School 9:30 Worship w/ Communion Fry meat and Chili Supper Set Up	5	6 8am Cook noodles	7 CHILI SUPPER	8	9	10
11 8:00 Sunday School 9:00 Choir Practice 9:30 Worship New Member Sunday Youth Fellowship	12	13 6:30 Consistory	14 **Spirit News Due** 5:45 Potluck 6:30 Ash Wed Service Confirmation following	15	16	17
18 8:00 Sunday School 9:30 Worship	19	20 6:30 Sunday School Teachers Meeting	21 5:45 Dinner 6:30 Lent Service Confirmation following	22	23	24
25 8:00 Sunday School 9:30 Worship	26	27	28 5:45 Dinner 6:30 Lent Service Confirmation following			

# February Birthdays & Anniversaries

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Rhonda Otto	2 Sarah Mueller Jennifer Holz	3
4	5	6 Brandon Hoban	7 Ethan Frink Betty Vogel Mike & Judy Brockway (1978)	8	9 Jennifer Nimmer	10
11 Aaron Suttner	12 Jeff & Girlie Westphalen (1999)	13 Paige Nenahlo Henry Krueger	14 Jerry & Carol Wehrmann (2014)	15 Marilyn Brickbauer	16 Diane Fidlin Ryan Holz	17
18 Ashley Berger	19 Emilee Wirtz Jody Riesterer Tony & Pam Bowe (1994)	20 Dawn Muehlbauer Jesse Rumpff	21	22 Trenton Rabe	23	24 Amelia Horneck Ken Zorn
25 Julia Gabrielse	26	27 Jeff Westphalen Dario Talerico	28 Alexis Horneck Karen Schlegel			

