

Bethlehem United Church of Christ



**himself being
the chief
corner stone ...**

Ephesians 2:20

Sunday, July 22, 2018

Worship Leader:

Randy Koppenhaver

Ministers: All the People

Organist: Kathy Bowe

*We hope that you find a warm welcome at
Bethlehem United Church of Christ and will
worship with us again soon.*

Mission Statement

*We are a caring community of Christians living our
faith through worship, study and service to others!*

Bethlehem United Church of Christ

11608 Lax Chapel Road - Kiel, WI 53042

Phone: 920-894-3332

www.bethlehemkiel.org

Sunday School - 8:00 a.m. (Sept. – May)

Worship time is 9:30 a.m.

Office hours Tuesdays 9a-12p, Wednesdays 9a-3p

Rev. Rebecca A. Johnston, Pastor

(920-918-3654 - revbecky1124@gmail.com)

Randy Koppenhaver, Licensed Lay Minister

(920-286-2531 - randynmel5@gmail.com)

2018 Consistory:

Elder /President: Bob Radder

Elder: Traci Rabe

Elder : Amy Wempner

Deacon : Ross Westphalen

Deacon/Secretary : Natasha Verhulst

Financial Secretary : Ruthie Rumpff

Treasurer : Rick Rabe

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

bethlehemucckiel@gmail.com

Welcome to Bethlehem United Church of Christ! We trust that you will know God's presence here in worship. If you are visiting for the first time, please sign our guest registry outside the sanctuary doors.

A special note to families with young children:

We have a long tradition at Bethlehem of including children in worship, but we know sometimes their attention spans are not as long as ours. Children under about 6 years old are welcome to borrow a "Bethlehem Bag" from the main doors of the sanctuary, along with books or soft toys from the library, to help occupy them. If necessary, please feel free to accompany your child to the library during the service – you will be able to hear and observe the service from there.

Ninth Sunday After Pentecost

*PLEASE STAND if you are able, where noted by an asterisk.

Please sign and pass the pew pads during worship. This will help us recognize those who might be visiting. There is one for each row. No need to pass across the aisles.

RINGING OF THE BELLS

CHORAL TO WORSHIP

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS #549 “As We Gather”

AS WE GATHER MAY YOUR SPIRIT WORK WITHIN US

AS WE GATHER MAY WE GLORIFY YOUR NAME

KNOWING WELL THAT AS OUR HEARTS BEGIN TO WORSHIP

WE’LL BE BLEST BECAUSE WE CAME, WE’LL BE BLEST BECAUSE WE CAME

PRELUDE

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Come away and rest for a while. Leave behind your busyness to be fully present to God.

All: **We have come for relief from life’s turmoil. God gathers us as a shepherd gathers her sheep.**

One: God’s steadfast love surrounds us here. We are reminded of God’s enduring faithfulness.

All: **This is God’s house, and we are God’s children. God invites us to feel at home in this place.**

One: We have a covenant with our Creator. This is a time for renewal of our promises.

All: **God calls for righteousness and justice. God offers us goodness and mercy all our days.**

*INVOCATION

Rock of our salvation, we have accepted the invitation of Jesus to gather as your beloved people. We have been far away from you in our thoughts and separated from you in much that we do. Now we are together, seeking reconciliation with you and one another. We call on your steadfast love for assurance and healing. We feel your compassion for us and all your children. We sense your longing for our wholeness and renewed faith and trust. You call us to be saints and apostles and prophets. We are overwhelmed, even as you draw us close. In Your name we pray, Amen.

*OPENING HYMN: #481

“Christ is Made the Sure Foundation”

A PRAYER FOR REFRESHMENT (CONFESSION)

One: O God, into the stress and tension of our daily lives,

All: breathe the gentle, calming influence of your Holy Spirit.

One: O God, into the fears and the doubts that disturb our faith,

All: breathe the Spirit-inspired search for truth, which casts out fear.

One: O God, into the conflicted priorities and hopes of this faith community,

All: breathe the quiet, mediating presence of your Holy Spirit.

One: O God, into the conflict ridden world where injustice is reality,

All: breathe the intent to share fairly and to resist the power hungry, through your Holy Spirit.

Time of reflection...

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

One: Peace is your gift, O God:

All: peace of heart and of mind and of spirit.

One: Peace is your gift to the world, to the church, and to each one of us:

All: the gift of quiet acceptance, the gift of strong confrontation, the gift of simply waiting, the gift of active peacemaking, the gift of humble forgiveness, the gift of making amends.

One: Peace of heart and of mind and of spirit:

All: peace is your gift, O God. Amen.

RESPONSE #558

“Gloria Patri”

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Ephesians 2:11-22

So then, remember that at one time you Gentiles by birth, called ‘the uncircumcision’ by those who are called ‘the circumcision’—a physical circumcision made in the flesh by human hands— remember that you were at that time without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. For he is our peace; in his flesh he has made both groups into one and has broken down the dividing wall, that is, the hostility between us. He has abolished the law with its commandments and ordinances, so that he might create in himself one new humanity in place of the two, thus making peace, and might reconcile both groups to God in one body through the cross, thus putting to death that hostility through it. So he came and proclaimed peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near; for through him both of us have access in one Spirit to the Father. So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God, built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone. In him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling-place for God.

SERMON

*HYMN #503

“I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord”

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

...LORD’S PRAYER

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.

RESPONSE

“Masithi”

**Amen, we praise your name O God. Amen, we praise your name, O God.
Amen, amen, amen, amen. Amen, we praise your name O God.**

OFFERTORY (Jingle Change goes to Bethlehem Ladies “Christmas in July)

++If using a pew envelope, please put your name on it so we can include it on your statement for tax purposes.

*OFFERTORY RESPONSE #282

“Give Thanks”

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*HYMN #408

“What a Friend we Have in Jesus”

COMMISSIONING

One: Keep us alert to your presence, O God.

All: **In the early morning, may we know your Spirit with us.**

In the heat of the day, in the midst of our activities, may we realize that you stay with us.

At the end of the day, as we come to rest, may we give thanks that you will never leave us. Amen

POSTLUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS: *(Info. for next Sunday’s bulletin is due to Randy/Melissa Koppenhaver by Tuesday night. randynmel5@gmail.com or 286-2531.)*

Bethlehem's Annual Garage Sale & Bake Sale

Volunteers needed:

Set Up: Wednesday, August 8th starting at 4 pm.

Sell: Fri. August 10th starting at 8 am through 4 pm

Sell: Sat. August 11th starting at 8 am through noon

Clean Up: Saturday, August 11th starting at noon.

This year's garage sale will be at the Brickbauer home as it has been in the past.

Donate - If you have household items, clothing, toys, seasonal decorations, etc which you can no longer use, consider donating these for the garage sale. Items can be dropped off at the Brickbauer's during the week. If you do not a place to store such items until August, please contact a member of the Merry Christians so that we can make arrangements.

Bake – Plan to bake some items for the bake sale table that weekend.

Sign up sheets for work times are available at the church. Times are flexible. Every half hour can make a difference in sharing the workload.

Community Announcements:

*(Please check the bulletin board for more details. **Community events are published in our bulletin as space and time permits.** For best results, email or call the bulletin secretary)*

This Week at Bethlehem:

Today, Sunday 7/22: 8:15 Adult Study; 9:30am Worship; 6:30pm Youth Volleyball @ Immanuel/Bethel; *Happy Birthday Lynette Steinhardt!*

Monday 7/23: *Happy Birthday Cailin Frink!*

Tuesday 7/24: *Happy Birthday Tom Rabe! Happy Anniversary Todd & Jennifer Brickbauer and Scott & Jane Umland!*

Wednesday 7/25: *Happy Birthday Bill Schlegel and Gerald Schnell!*

Thursday 7/26: *Happy Birthday Jeanette Wriedt and Dayton Horneck!_Happy Anniversary Bruce & Polly Jeanty!*

Friday 7/27: *Happy Birthday Tom Brickbauer, Bob Markelz, and Ruthie Rumpff!*

Saturday 7/28:

Sunday 7/29: 8:15 Adult Study; 9:30am Worship; 12:00pm Youth Volleyball Tournament @ BUCC; *Happy Birthday Allyson Jeanty, Mandy Voland, and Kendra Muehlbauer!*

Pantry item: School Supplies