



**BETHLEHEM UNITED
CHURCH OF CHRIST**

11608 Lax Chapel Road - Kiel, WI 53042

Phone: 920.894.3332

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Sunday, January 29, 2023

Worship Leader: Pastor Randy Koppenhaver

Organist: Kathy Bowe

If listening from your car, please tune your car radio to 101.3 FM

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

RINGING OF THE BELLS

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP: #107 (first verse) "Joy to the World"

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

*CALL TO WORSHIP:

God calls us to seek justice:

Let Christ's love for the poor and hungry fill the earth.

God calls us to show kindness,

Let Christ's light shine in places of brokenness and despair.

God calls us to walk humbly in the Spirit,

Let us join the work of the kingdom in humility and hope.

Called, blessed and inspired, let us worship God together.

*OPENING PRAYER:

God of wisdom and blessing, On this cold day we come into the warmth of your presence. Here we find shelter in the strength of your promises; here we find welcome in your tender care. Grateful for the protection you provide, thankful for the comfort of your community, we offer our praise to you. For you give blessing when the world condemns; you bring freedom when the culture confines. Embrace us with your love in this

time of worship as we offer you our love in return. Through Christ our Lord we pray. Amen.

*OPENING HYMN #307 all

“We are Called”

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Micah 6:1-8

Hear what the LORD says:

Rise, plead your case before the mountains,
and let the hills hear your voice.

Hear, you mountains, the controversy of the LORD,
and you enduring foundations of the earth;
for the LORD has a controversy with his people,
and he will contend with Israel.

‘O my people, what have I done to you?

In what have I wearied you? Answer me!

For I brought you up from the land of Egypt,
and redeemed you from the house of slavery;
and I sent before you Moses,
Aaron, and Miriam.

O my people, remember now what King Balak of Moab devised,
what Balaam son of Beor answered him,
and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal,
that you may know the saving acts of the LORD.’

‘With what shall I come before the LORD,
and bow myself before God on high?

Shall I come before him with burnt-offerings,
with calves a year old?

Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams,
with tens of thousands of rivers of oil?

Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression,
the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?’

He has told you, O mortal, what is good;
and what does the LORD require of you
but to do justice, and to love kindness,
and to walk humbly with your God?

Matthew 5:1-12

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

‘Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

‘Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

‘Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

‘Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

‘Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

‘Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

'Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

'Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

'Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

MESSAGE

CALL TO THE OFFERING (Jingle change will go to the Mission Committee. Funds support our activities at Mission Fest, such as sandwich making. Donations are also made to food pantries and organizations like Feed My Starving Children.)

***OFFERTORY RESPONSE** "Doxology"
To God, all glorious heav'nly Light
To Christ revealed in earthly night,
To God the Spirit now we raise
Our joyful songs of thankful praise. Amen

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**
God of Life, from you all loving kindness, justice and mercy flow. Bless these gifts so that acts of kindness, justice and mercy flow from them, too. And bless our lives so the world may see in us signs of your kingdom at work in the church and community, in Christ's name. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE...THE 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.

SUNG RESPONSE #403 "Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying"

BENEDICTION

BUSINESS MEETING

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

February 1, 2023 – Bethlehem Chili Supper

This will be an all-church event with proceeds divided between the organizations allowing each to decide how to use for their projects. The supper will be: Drive thru/pick up only

Your help will be needed. Please confirm your availability by email to kayerad@hotmail.com or use the sign up sheet in the Fellowship Hall.

Sunday, January 29, 2023 - 10:30 – 12 noon Prep day: Set up work areas, cook meat etc.

Tuesday, January 31, 2023 - 8:00 – 12:00 cook noodles

Wednesday, February 1, 2023 - Bring Tortes 8:00 – 12 noon Cook Chili, serve noon lunches 3:00 – 6:30 pm Serve Chili, Dishes, Clean up

Merry Christian's Heifer Auction a Success!

The Bethlehem Merry Christians of Bethlehem U.C.C. in rural Kiel held their annual fund raising program for Heifer International during December. Forty couples and individuals from the church and the wider community gave generously to raise \$2500 to send live animals and other things to individuals in poor countries around the world.

These gifts are given to help individuals become self sufficient in poor countries everywhere. Those who receive the gift animals also give others like themselves the first born of their own gift to widen the donation.

That \$2500 gift to Heifer International provided the following gifts to individuals in countries like Nepal, Uganda, Zambia, and Mexico. Bethlehem's donation will be 1 heifer, 3 sheep, 3 goats, 2 Alpacas, 2 pigs, 3 hives of honey bees, 10 flocks of chickens, 1 clean water well and 5 complete sets of garden seeds.

Heifer International hears from people world-wide whose lives have been changed through these gifts.

The Endowment Fund Committee

The Bethlehem Endowment Fund Committee has met two times this year. While using only the interest, we have made donations this year to the following local communities and individuals.

- ❖ Kiel Food Pantry
- ❖ Salvation Army
- ❖ 2 families in need

When you are reviewing your financial plan, please consider giving toward The Bethlehem Endowment Fund. Anyone is welcome to join the committee. There is something wonderfully fulfilling about doing good

that lasts. Something that really makes a difference. Your gifts to the Endowment Fund are rewarding and adds to a fund that will benefit others for decades.

If you have any suggestions of an organization or a family in need, see any committee member for more details. Kerry Henning, Kathy Bowe or Marie Mueller.

2023 Bethlehem UCC Leadership Team

Elder/President - Steven Volland (920)286-0162 or svolland44@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 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:

Finn has been pronounced "cancer free"

Families who have lost loved ones:

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

Families of the two young men who lost their lives in a car accident in Fond du Lac County.

Those struggling with health issues:

Bob Radder	Daisy Sippel
Finn (a young boy with cancer)	Darlene Horneck
Doreen Schmidt	Helen Henning
Tom Lefeber	Hattie Lucille
Jessica Horneck	Sandra Tesch
Dana (friend of Melissa K)	Dawson Horneck
John Buchholz (Marie's brother)	Gary Steinhardt

Those unable to worship with us: Merlin and Doris Mae Ninmer

Other Concerns:

- Victims of gun violence in California and other places
- Victims of recent natural disasters
- Please affected by war and/or oppression (Ukraine)

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- There is a flyer on the bulletin board regarding a grief support group at Holy Family in Manitowoc.
- Upcoming In-Person Class
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.

This Week at Bethlehem:

Today Sunday 1/29: 8:00 Sunday School; 9:30am Worship Annual Mtg... Followed by Chili Supper prep

Monday 1/30

Tuesday 1/31: 8a-12pm cook noodles

Wednesday 2/1: 8a-12pm cook chili and serve noon lunches; 3p-6:30pm Chili Supper

Thursday 2/2: ~Happy Birthday Sarah Mueller and Jennifer Holz!

Friday 2/3:

Saturday 2/4:

Sunday 2/5: 8:00 Sunday School; 9:30am Worship w/ Communion

February Pantry Items:

Box of sandwich bags, foil, plastic wrap or garbage bags