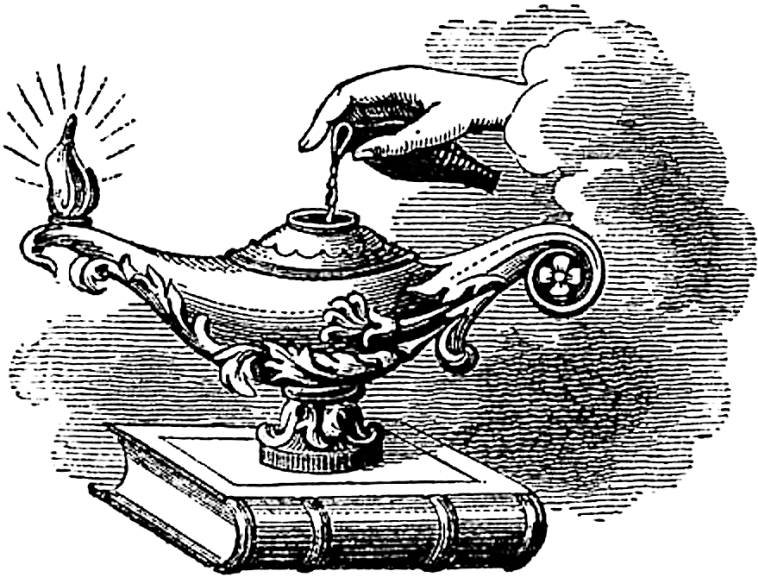


The Last Sunday of the Church Year

November 23, 2025

THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN WILL BE LIKE
TEN VIRGINS WHO TOOK THEIR LAMPS AND
WENT TO MEET THE BRIDEGROOM.



THE WISE TOOK FLASKS OF OIL
WITH THEIR LAMPS.

BETHLEHEM EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
6409 N. 200TH St. Altamont, IL 62411

Rev. Marcus Manley, Pastor

Pastor Manley's Phone: 712-880-2452

Pastor's email: bzaltamontpastor@gmail.com

Church Office Phone: 618-483-6756

Church e-mail: bethlehemaltamont@gmail.com

Church website: www.bethlehemaltamont.org



“Let us go to Bethlehem...” Luke 2:15

Welcome to Bethlehem. The Lord calls us by the Gospel to His house to worship Him. It is only by the Holy Spirit that any of us can believe in Jesus Christ and receive His gift of salvation. The LC-MS confesses that the one holy Christian church includes all believers of Christ in all denominations, while also confessing Jesus' teaching of Closed Communion (Jn. 13:26-27). If you are not in altar fellowship with the LC-MS please refrain from the Lord's Supper at Bethlehem until you have spoken with Pastor Manley.

Prayers

In our prayers we remember:

Those in need of healing & comfort:

Annette Altman	Bernice Graumenz	Steve Voelker
Lucille Beccue- LCC	Lillian Grobengieser	Catherine Zumwalt – cancer
Karly Brummer - luekemia	Janice Heiden	
Heather Davis - cancer	Judy Stuemke – LCC	

Birthdays (11/23-11/29): 11/24 – Karen Siddens; 11/27 – Lillian Buchanan;
11/28 – Ada Voelker

Church News

Trustee's Report:

Weekly amount needed for unified budget (General Fund)\$ 7400
Offering collected for Home Purpose General Fund on 11/09.....\$ 11630

As of 11/09, the Unified Budget deficit for the year (beginning Jan. 1, 2025) stands at approx. **\$35,700**

Loose change in the offering plate is designated for LWML Mites for Missions



Attendance: Sunday, 11/16, 9:30am - 125

Bible Study Today: Matthew 5:31-32 - On Divorce and Remarriage



1. What are the different views Christians have held on divorce?
2. What is the Lutheran view according to the bible?
3. How does this differ from the Roman Catholic view?
4. What is the general rule and exceptions for it when it comes to divorce?

Children's Christmas Eve Program Practice starts today, Sunday, November 23rd, (11:20am – 12pm), and will continue every Sunday through December 21st.

The **altar guild and flower committee** are conducting a **survey** for all the ladies of the congregation. Please let us know whether or not you are interested in serving in either way. Forms are located in the narthex and are TODAY.

Decorate the Church with Poinsettias – Blossom Paradise is once again offering poinsettias at a discount. Contact Roberta Phillips if you would like to purchase poinsettias to decorate the church. Please order TODAY.

Red, Pink, White, or Marble Poinsettias:

3 - 5 blooms - \$18.00

6-10 blooms - \$38.00



Donations for the **Seminary Food Pantry** are being accepted now through November 30th. Thank you for supporting the Concordia Seminary Students.

Voters' Assembly – Elections, Missions, & Budget Meeting – Dec. 7th, 1:30 p.m.

- Anyone interest in serving the congregation in an elected church office, please contact Elder Dennis Guffey.

2025 Church Annual Report - As stated in our Church Constitution, *"The Chairman of the Congregation shall prepare an annual written report of the church's affairs for the regularly scheduled January Voters' Assembly."* The **2025 Church Annual Report** will be presented at the **Voters' Assembly on January 18, 2026**. All reports are due by January 6 and should be submitted to **Church Chairman, Dean Manual**. Thank you for your cooperation and timely submissions.

Adult Instruction Class will begin Monday, January 18th. All Are welcome. Talk with Pastor if you or anyone you know is interested.

Accepting Bids/Donations – A/C Units and Antenna Tower

The Trustees are accepting bids for three A/C units that are no longer needed in the Parish Hall:

- (2) 220-volt units, 18,000 BTU each
- (1) 110-volt unit, 12,000 BTU

A 30-foot antenna tower is also available.

For more information or to submit a bid, please contact the Trustees.

For sale from the parish hall kitchen (Contact Sherri Strullmyer):

- GE Electric Stove - \$125
- 6 – 4ft Fluorescent Lights(2 bulbs) – Free

 District & Synod News, Community Items & Acknowledgments



On Saturday, October 25, 140 quilts were taken to Our Savior Lutheran Church in Springfield. The quilts were made by ***Sewing Seeds of Kindness***, a group that meets every Thursday afternoon in the lower level of Immanuel Lutheran Church Parish Hall, Altamont.

Women from area Lutheran churches work together on this project, with quilts distributed worldwide through Orphan Grain Train. Those interested in helping may contact Janice Heiden. All help is appreciated.



Holy Trinity Lutheran High School Presentation - On Sunday, Nov. 30th, during Bible Class, a presentation will be given by committee members of Holy Trinity Lutheran High School. All members of the congregation are encouraged to attend to learn more and ask questions. The presentation with Q&A will be from 11:10-12pm.



LBW began in 1943 by Mrs. Helene Koehler transcribing the Bible into German Braille one dot at a time. Since then LBW has brought God's word to over 338 million blind or visually impaired in 40 languages to 164 countries for free. Bethlehem and

Zion have volunteered to help copy, sort, bind, edit, and send materials for LBW for many years at St. John's, Effingham. If you are interested in helping contact Mary Schmidt (618) 292-4033. You can learn more about Lutheran Braille workers at lbwloveworks.org.



Donation box for non-perishable items for the Altamont Food Pantry

is located in the narthex. *The Food Pantry had 64 participants this week.*

Jesus said, "I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me." (Mt. 25:35). The Altamont Ministerial Alliance does this by caring for the poor in our community. The Altamont Food pantry is open at First United Methodist Church every Tuesday, 1-3pm for citizens with an Altamont address. When available, other funds are given to the poor with an Altamont address to help with their needs. The Altamont Ministerial Alliance has checks and balances to properly steward all donations to those who are living in our community and follow Jesus' words to care for the poor.

This Week at Bethlehem:

Wednesday, November 26

11:30 a.m. – Kinderchor (Pizza & Practice)

7:00 p.m. – Thanksgiving Vespers Service @ Zion

7:00 p.m. – Choir

Thursday, November 27

9:30 a.m. – Thanksgiving Day Matins Service @ Bethlehem

Saturday, November 29 – Parish Hall reserved – Wolff Reunion

Sunday, November 23 – The First Sunday in Advent

9:30 a.m. – DSIII with Holy Communion

10:45 a.m. – Adult Bible Class & Youth Sunday School

11:20–12:00 – Children's Christmas Eve Program Practice

– 8:00 a.m. – Pastor Manley's Radio program on KJ Country/102.3FM

– 5:00 p.m. – Sunday morning worship service TV broadcast Ch.81

(Recording of today's worship service is also available on our YouTube channel - link via our church website)

TO THE GLORY OF GOD

&

THE SALVATION OF MAN