

Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 14, 2023



Truly, Truly,

I say to you,

Whatever you ask of the Father

in My Name,

He will give it to you.

John 16:23

BETHLEHEM EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
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"Let us go to Bethlehem..." Luke 2:15

Bethlehem is Hebrew for “House of Bread,” the city of David, King of Israel, and the birthplace of the Lord Jesus. This land was originally planned to be a town called Bethlehem, and eventually our congregation adopted it as its name. You are invited to believe that Jesus is present here, at Bethlehem today according to His Word and to confess the very Bread of Life Jesus feeds us with in the Sacrament.

 **Prayers** 

In our prayers we remember:

Those in need of healing & comfort: *Butch Bahrns, Linda Crain, Bernice Graumenz, Arlin & Lillian Grobengieser, Dennis Guffey, Zoe Hoehler, Marybeth Potts (Patti Wolff's mother), Luella Rubin, Debra Sloan-Shirley (aunt of Alysia Wills), Steve Voelker, and Gene Wharton.*

Those celebrating Birthdays this week (05/14-05/20): 05/15 – Jeffrey Alwardt, Sherena Koester; 05/19 – Brian Carlson

A Prayer for Mother's Day – Gracious Father, You promised through Eve salvation in Your Son, and the gift of motherhood to bear all people in Your image. You likened Your own compassion to the mothering wings of a hen which nestles her young. Make us grateful for all mothers and by grace give them holy faith in You, that they would tend and sooth Your children from the sorrowful life of this world to the joy of life eternal, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Prayers for our Graduates – Abigail Wills, Alyvia Wills, Adian Jahraus, Jerod Ruffner, and August Laatsch

 **Church News** 

Trustee's Report:

Offering collected for <u>Home Purpose General Fund</u> on 05/07/2023	\$11,002
Zion Dual Parish – April	\$ 2,021
<i>Weekly amount needed for unified budget:</i>	\$ 7,400
<i>Steeple & Roof Project Fund (goal of \$100,000) – \$41,872 collected</i>	

*Loose change in the offering plate has been designated for the LWML Mites.
Sunday School offering has been designated for our Radio Ministry.*

Attendance: Sunday, 05/07, 9:30am – 107

Today in Bible Class Judges 11 -- Jephthah

- How does knowing history help God to apply the Law to Israel?
- How does knowing history help Jephthah as a judge?
- What does God do for Israel that He doesn't do for others?
- What is Jephthah's rash vow and what can we learn from it?

Homemade Pie baked by Janice Heiden - One pie will be offered for silent bid auction every Sunday, during Bible Class – highest bidder will take home the pie – all proceeds will go towards the church steeple project.

Ascension Day Worship Service at Bethlehem – Thursday, May 18th, 7:00 p.m.

Matins - Wednesdays - 9:30am at Bethlehem - Whether you were unable to make it to church on Sunday, have the day off, or need to pray about something, join us on Wednesday mornings for our Matins worship service.

Date	Hymn	Psalm	Text
05/17 – 1 st Article	578	Ps. 104:19-35	Proverbs 8:22-36
05/24 – Christ’s Priestly Office	583	Ps. 110: 2-7 ant. 1	Hebrews 1
05/31 – Christ’s Priestly Office	624	Ps. 40	Hebrews 9

- ❖ A Special Voters’ Assembly Meeting was held on May 7th – Addam & Andy Dahnke have been offered and accepted the position as Church Custodians.
- ❖ *Thank you to Lorene Schultz for her many years of service to the church as custodian.*

Prayer Cards- CID office and Life Coordinator Mr. David Ward have produced Prayer Cards for Wednesday’s Child. These cards are intended for you to take and pray each Wednesday for God’s gift of life and protection of the helpless against danger. You may also take more to give to friends and neighbors. Prayer cards are in the narthex.

Steeple Project - A display in the church hall has been created to show the progress of funds toward the goal of \$100,000. The down payment for the project has been sent to INSPIRED HEIGHTS STEEPLE JACKS. It is hoped that the steeple reroofing will be completed this fall.

Donations for this project should be designated “**Steeple Project**”.

*May the Lord Bless this endeavor as our church continues to
“Lift High the Cross”.*



Save the Date:

Bethlehem's VBS - Zoomerang

Sunday-Thursday, June 11-15, 6-8pm.

Please mark your calendars and speak with Jennifer Berg if you'd like to help.



G'day, mates! *Grab your sunnies (that's your sunglasses)*

and get ready for a bonzer (great) time as we zoom off to the Land Down Under! Boomerangs, kangaroos, koalas, emus—what's not to love about Oz (Australia)? At VBS, we'll fill your breadbasket (tummy) with yummy lollies (sweets) and find out how you were created amazingly in the image of God! Vacation Bible School at Zoomerang will be a fair dinkum adventure filled with excitement, so get a wriggle on (hurry up) and contact us today!

✪✪✪✪ District & Synod News, Regional Items & Acknowledgments ✪✪✪✪

Thank you to Steven Industries for offering some showroom office furniture to the church, we are truly blessed to have many businesses and friends like this in the area. And, thank you to all who helped coordinate the pick-up and delivery of the parish hall office furniture.

Baby Bottle Project (Family Life Center Fundraiser) – Bottles will be distributed today following the worship service. Simply take a bottle provided to you at church and fill it with change from Mother’s Day to Father’s Day. The church will collect the filled bottles and forward the proceeds to the Family Life Center for the continuation of its pro-life ministry.

The Family Life Center, a Christian not-for-profit ministry, provides practical assistance, education and support to empower and equip women, men and families experiencing pregnancy, parenting and related issues, to live healthy, productive lives.

Family Life Center is supported solely by churches and individuals in our community.

Bells In Motion, an advanced, auditioned community handbell ensemble, based in Springfield, IL, Immanuel Lutheran Church in Altamont on Sunday, June 11th, at 4:00 pm, 203 E. Division Street, Altamont, in the upper Parish Hall. A free-will offering will be taken for Bells in Motion.



Donation box for non-perishable items is located in the narthex. Monetary donations and checks, payable to Altamont Ministerial Alliance Food Pantry, are also accepted, please place in the “Church Inbox”.

Since the kids will soon be out of school, the pantry could use some kid friendly foods that they can grab and eat with little preparation.

Items in need: Hamburger Helpers, Ramen Noodles, Spaghetti Sauce and Noodles, Cereal Bars or pop tarts, Hot Dogs

Tuesday, May 9th, the food pantry had a total of 39 participants.

This Week at Bethlehem:

Wednesday, May 17

- 9:30 a.m. – Matins
- 4:30 p.m. – Kinderchor Practice
- 7:00 p.m. – Choir Practice

Thursday, May 18 – Ascension of Our Lord

- 7:00 p.m. – Divine Service with Holy Communion @ BLC

Sunday, May 21 – Seventh Sunday of Easter

- 9:30 a.m. – Divine Service with Holy Communion
- 10:45-11:00 a.m. – Adult Bible Class & Youth Sunday School
- 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