

## EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

July 30, 2023

"Beware of false prophets,  
who come to you in  
sheep's clothing  
but inwardly are  
ravenous wolves."



**BETHLEHEM EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
6409 N. 200<sup>TH</sup> St. Altamont, IL 62411



**Rev. Marcus Manley, Pastor**

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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, Heather Davis, Bernice Graumenz, Arlin & Lillian Grobengieser, Zoe Hoehler, Kendyl Schultz, Marybeth Potts, Steve Voelker, Gene Wharton, Lonnie Wilson, & Mildred Wolf.*

Those celebrating Birthdays this week (07/30-08/05): *07/30 – Hiram Shoaf, Patti Wolff; 07/31 – Harlan McConkey; 08/01-Ella Benning, Kayla Benning; 08/02 – Evie Owen; 08/04 – Mike Buzzard*

Wedding Anniversary: *07/31 – Dean & Karen Manuel (47)*



*Flowers on the altar are given to the Glory of God in recognition of the 47<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary of Dean & Karen Manuel.*

**Church News**

**Trustee’s Report:**

Offering collected for <u>Home Purpose General Fund</u> on 07/23/2023.....	\$ 5,173
<u>Weekly amount needed for unified budget:</u> .....	\$ 7,400
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Donation/Reimbursement to bldg. fund for canopy project.....	\$ 647
Steeple fund Donations.....	\$ 130
Donations in memory of Mike Mercier.....	\$ 20
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<i>Steeple &amp; Roof Project Fund (goal of \$100,000) – collected \$43,572</i>	

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

Attendance: Sunday, 07/23, 9:30am – 98

**No Bible Class today.** Class resumes next Sunday, August 6<sup>th</sup>.



**Wednesday Matins worship service resumes this Wednesday, August 2 at 9:30am.** See you Wednesday morning!

*Aug. 2 Matins - 3rd Art. Sanctification, Hymn 693, Reading: 2 Thess. 2:7-16*

**ALIS Families-** All members are welcome to attend an ALIS Families meeting on Aug. 20th, 7pm in Bethlehem Parish Hall to discuss the blessing of supporting our congregation’s children at ALIS and encouraging them to regularly attend church.

**Cemetery Bylaws-** Please take a copy of a draft of the Cemetery Bylaws (copies are in the narthex). These bylaws were approved at the July 16<sup>th</sup> Voter's meeting.

**Cemetery News:** Due to strong winds from the recent storm, there were several flower arrangements that were blown off from their original locations. If your flowers are missing, they can be found in the Cemetery storage building.

– Thank you, Wayne Yagow

**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. Checks may be made payable to “*Bethlehem Lutheran Church Building Fund*” with “*Steeple Project*” on the memo line. Special designated envelopes are also available in the narthex.

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



*Thank you to the Putnam Family for providing the church with copier paper over the past two years, it was much appreciated.*

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



**ExploreLHS.net**

**We continue to explore the possibility of starting a Lutheran High School in the Effingham County Area.**

Last fall, we distributed an interest survey in starting a Lutheran High School in the area. We thank you for your responses. Because of the positive reaction we received, we have continued down this journey to explore further. While we are still at the infancy and exploration phase, we have partnered with the Genesis Project, which helps LCMS congregations start Lutheran schools. Our first step with the Genesis Project is participating in a Lutheran School Feasibility Study. During this phase, we will further assess the interest of families and the community. We have a new survey, which we ask you to take 5 minutes to complete.

**Are you interested in a Lutheran High School in your area? Please let us know by completing this short congregation survey:**

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SLRKRJS>



If you prefer to complete a physical survey, you can find hard copies in the church narthex.

If you have any questions, please email [info@ExploreLHS.net](mailto:info@ExploreLHS.net)

**First Annual School Supply Drive** - Altamont Christian Church is accepting monetary or actual supplies now through August 11<sup>th</sup>. Supplies will be distributed to school age children on August 14<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 9:00am. Additional information and list of supplies located on the flyer in the narthex.



**LIVE LCMS CONVENTION BROADCAST...** You can listen to a live broadcast from the 68th Regular Convention of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod in Milwaukee from 7-9 p.m. Central on Sunday, July 30. You can listen at [issuesetc.org](http://issuesetc.org) and the Lutheran Public Radio mobile app.



Altamont Ministerial Alliance **Food Pantry** provides local families in need with grocery items and various living expense vouchers (for utilities, fuel, temp. housing, etc.) – Bethlehem Church will be collecting non-perishable items for the Food Pantry. Donation box for non-perishable items is located in the narthex. Monetary donations, checks payable to Altamont Ministerial Alliance Food Pantry, are also accepted and may be placed in the “Church Inbox”.

*We have had a busy summer at the food pantry and our shelves are getting empty. For August we are in need of:*

*Hamburger helpers  
Instant potatoes  
Canned chicken  
Chunky soups*

**Your continued support and donations are greatly appreciated.**

*On Tuesday, July 25th, the food pantry had a total of 47 participants.*

### **This Week at Bethlehem:**

#### **Wednesday, August 2**

– 9:30 a.m. – Matins service

#### **Friday, August 4**

– 6:00-8:00 a.m. – Private Confession

#### **Sunday, August 6 – Trinity 9**

– 9:30 a.m. – Divine Service with Holy Communion

– 10:45-11:30 a.m. – Adult Bible Class

– 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**