



The Bethlehem Star

Volume 24, Issue 4

April 2026



Maundy Thursday

with communion

April 2

at Bethlehem
6:30 p.m.

Good Friday

April 3

at Bethlehem
6:30 p.m.

Easter Brunch

There is an Easter Brunch Food sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the entrance. Please feel free to sign up to bring goodies for our morning brunch. The Brunch is schedule for before Easter Worship at 8:00 a.m. Sunday, April 5.

BWELCA HiLites

Thank you to all who helped at the Bazaar whether it was providing food or working, especially our youth, Enos for ticket sales and Joan for delivering some meals! We had a very successful day!

World Day of Prayer noisy offering collected \$117.30 which included BWELCA'S budget amount of \$25. Thanks to all for supporting WDP.

Joint circle is Saturday, April 11 H/L: Diana Ihns
LWR Pickup is April 18.

Senior/Senior Coffee is April 26 with Eve Circle to host. Our graduating seniors are: McKenna Doll and Wyatt Christiansen

Eve Circle is next in line to serve.

The Resurrection of Our Lord

Easter April 5

Holy Communion
St. Mark In OJ 7 AM
Breakfast following worship

Easter Brunch 8 AM
Holy Communion
Bethlehem 9:00 a.m.



Senior/Senior Coffee

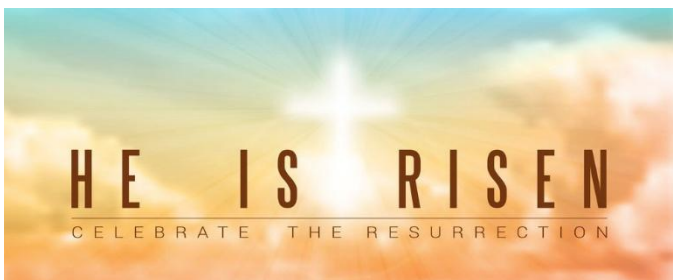
Plans are being made to celebrate the Seniors (80+) Sunday, April 26 with Eve Circle to Host. Come celebrate this milestone with all of our 80+ family.

Council Highlights

Bethlehem Congregation Council met for its regular meeting in March.

Heard the following Treasurer's report:

Balance 02/01/2026	\$ 6,623.41
Income	\$ 5,640.22
Expenses	<u>\$ 9,055.49</u>
Balance 12/31/24	\$ 3,208.14



Shepherding Thoughts

Beware of practicing your righteousness before others to be seen by them... (Matthew 6:1)

I was watching TV one day when I heard this said on a commercial, "Life is meaningless without affirmation." This was said as someone was debating whether to take a video on their phone of what was happening. That statement made me think about the youth of today and how they seem to want to record every minute of their lives and then send their pictures or videos out for others to see and comment on. Sometimes the comments can be affirming, but most of the time they are hurtful. Being able to comment without being with the person you are commenting on seems to give people the freedom to be mean and hurtful with little consequences.

The statement, "Life is meaningless without affirmation" is in direct conflict with what Jesus said in the Gospel of Matthew. Jesus is telling us that it is not important how many people know what we are doing. What is important is that we follow what we know would be pleasing to God because God sees all we do even if we don't record it on our cell phone. This is something I wish our youth would consider the next time they pick up their cell phone to record themselves. The only affirmation you need is the affirmation that you are a child of God and you are loved. God made you and God doesn't make mistakes.

If you are hurting and need a safe place to talk, I am here from you.

Pastor Roberta

Worship Assistants

Ushers: Diana Ihns

Lectors:

- 5- Brent Ihns
- 12- Henry Ihns
- 19- Elsa Sullivan
- 26- Jone Paarmann

Acolytes:

- 5- Henry Ihns
- 12- *volunteer*
- 19- Johann Ihns
- 26- Elsa Sullivan



Coffee Makers:

- 5- Easter
- 12- Connie Kleppe
- 19- Jone Paarmann
- 26- Senior Senior Coffee H: Eve Circle

April Anniversaries

- 24 Becky and Jacob Petersen
- 26 Diana and Warren Ihns
- 28 Jessica and Brent Ihns

April Birthdays

- 4 Meagan Fields
- 8 Shelley Beeck
- 9 Debra Christiansen
- 15 Rex Duffey
- 22 Joyce Feuss
- 23 Enos Ihns
- 24 Jody Holtz
- 26 Rochelle Busch, Ellen Tomasi
- 27 Brent Ihns



Communion Assistant/

Bread Maker:

Connie Kleppe

Altar Care:

Connie Kleppe, Jessica Willimack

Teller: Tim Thiede

April Circle Meeting

Session two—Gate and shepherd: Guiding and protecting us (John 10)

Session two builds on the theme of God's abiding love as we explore another dimension of I AM, God's holy name and promise: God's guidance and protection. Guidance and protection are the major themes of the famous "Good Shepherd" discourse in John 10, in which Jesus declares that he is both the good shepherd *and* the gate for the sheep.

Saturday, April 11 at 9:00 AM Hostess/Leader: Diana Ihns

ALL are Welcome

April

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2 Maundy Thursday Worship at Bethlehem 6:30 PM	3 Good Friday Worship at Bethlehem 6:30 PM	4
5 Easter Brunch 8 AM Holy Communion 9 AM Fellowship	6	7	8 Pastors Office Hrs 4-6 PM Confirmation 6 PM	9	10	11 Bethlehem 9 AM H/L: Diana Ihns
12 Worship 9 AM Fellowship 9:45 AM	13 Newsletter Items Due	14	15 Pastors Office Hrs 4-6 PM Confirmation 6 PM	Pastor on vacation April 9-14		18 LWR Kit Pick-Up
19 Council 8 AM Holy Communion 9 AM Fellowship 9:45 AM	20	21	22 Pastors Office Hrs 4-6 PM Confirmation 6 PM	23	24	25
26 Worship 9 AM Fellowship 9:45 AM Senior-Senior Coffee H: Eve	27	28	29 Pastors Office Hrs 4-6 PM Confirmation 6 PM	30		

Bethlehem Lutheran Church
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April 2026

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Website www.bethlehemln.com

Sunday Schedule

Worship 9:00 a.m.

Fellowship 9:45 a.m.

Office Hours:

Pastor Roberta

Wednesdays 4:00 – 6:00 p.m.

*She can be reached by a call or
text to her cell phone.*

Secretary Hours:

Thursday: 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

If you need to enter the church and do not
have a key, always call ahead to be certain
someone is there.