



The Bethlehem Star

Volume 24, Issue 5

May 2026



Save The Date

Lost Nation VBS will be
Monday - Friday July 13-17
from 9:00 – Noon
at UPC

Anyone wishing to lend a helping
hand that week,
talk with Pr. Roberta.

Affirmation of Baptism Worship Service

The celebration will take
place on May 24. Those
being confirmed are Elsa
Sullivan and Addison
Willimack. This will also be
a Joint Worship with St.
Mark to share in the joy of
new members of our church
family.



Pastors Office Hours to Change

Pastor Roberta will be in her office on Thursdays
from 11:00 a.m.- 2:00 p.m.

Council News

Bethlehem Congregation Council met in March.
In business they:

- ❖ Discussed electrical inspection and repairs voted to go forward.
- ❖ Lawn care will be done at the same rate as last year.
- ❖ Discussion on parsonage roof repair options.

Treasurers Report

Balance 2/28/26	\$ 3,208.14
March Income	32,650.92
March Expenses	<u>21,810.20</u>
Balance 3/31/26	\$ 14,048.86

SPRING CLEAN CHURCH

Join us as we make the
church SHINE

Sunday May 3

Come to worship dressed to clean.

Stay after for a Pizza Party
hosted by Endowment

Newsletter Items Due Earlier for June

Deanne will be out of the office May 21- June 1.
Newsletter Items will be due to the office May 11 to
get the newsletter published before she leaves.
Thank You!!

*For it is written, "As I live, says the Lord, every
knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall
give praise to God." Romans 14:11*

*Happy Mother's Day
to all moms, both
here on Earth and
up in Heaven.*



Shepherding Thoughts

Jesus said, "Let the children come to me, and do not stop them, for it is such as these that the kingdom of heaven belong." (Matthew 19:14)

As you probably know by now, my favorite part of worship is the children's message. I love interacting with the children and listening to them tell me what is on their minds. We are seeing more children coming to worship and it fills me with joy, but what is always in the back of my mind is who are we missing?

I would like to find ways to reach out to the children and youth we may not be seeing and try to find ways to minister to them. My biggest barrier is I don't know who I am missing. Can you help me? Who are you not seeing on Sunday morning? Maybe you would be willing to contact them. If that is too uncomfortable for you, tell me and I will contact them.

I would like to see some form of Sunday school begin in the fall. I have had one member express an interest in helping get it started. Vacation Bible School will be held in July at the Presbyterian Church, which is another way to reach out to the children.

For the older youth the ELCA National Youth Gathering will be happening in the summer of 2027. More information about the gathering will be coming out soon. If you know of youth who will be in 8th – 12th grade in the fall of 2026 they are eligible to attend.

Maybe you have other ideas about how to reach out to the children and youth. I would love to hear from you. As Jesus said, "It is such as these that the kingdom of heaven belong."

See you in worship!
Pastor Roberta

Worship Assistants

Ushers: Tom Gerdes

Lectors:

- 3- Tim Thiede
- 10- Connie Kleppe
- 17- Johan Ihns
- 24- Henry Ihns
- 31- Brent Ihns

Acolytes:

- 3- Henry Ihns
- 10- *volunteer*
- 17- Johann Ihns
- 24- *volunteer*
- 31- Elsa Sullivan



Coffee Makers:

- 3- Cleaning Day Pizza Party
- 10- Kathy Becker
- 17- Rochelle Busch
- 24- Marlene Hicks
- 31- Diana ihns

Birthdays

- 1 Ike Willimack
- 2 Barb Labath
- 6 Scott Doll
- 7 Jason Sullivan
- 13 Joan Von Sprecken
- 14 Judd Sullivan
- 19 Marlene Hicks
- 21 Kayla Schroeder
- 24 Connie Kleppe
- 24 Tucker Moore
- 24 Gale Kleppe
- 28 Mayson Zeller

Communion Assistant:

Jone Paarmann

Bread Maker:

Barb Labath

Altar Care:

Diana Ihns, Deb Christiansen



Teller: Brent Ihns

Anniversaries

- 15 Noah and Madison Zeller
- 30 Kayla and AJ Schroeder
- 30 Allan and Mary Smith

MAY

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 Holy Communion 9 AM Spring Cleaning Day NO Fellowship Pizza Party	4	5 BWELCA Bd. 6 PM	6	7 Pastors Office Hrs. 11 AM- 2 PM	8	9 Joint Circle 9 AM H/L: Marlene Hicks
10 Worship 9 AM Fellowship 9:45 AM	11 Newsletter Items Due	12	13	14 Pastors Office Hrs. 11 AM- 2 PM	15	16
17 Council 8 AM Holy Communion 9 AM Fellowship 9:45 AM	18	19	20	21 Pastors Office Hrs. 11 AM- 2 PM	22	23
24 Confirmation Holy Communion 9 AM Fellowship 9:45 AM	25	26	27	28 Pastors Office Hrs. 11 AM- 2 PM	29	30
31 Holy Communion 9 AM Fellowship 9:45 AM						

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Bethlehem Lutheran Church
403 Pleasant Street
Lost Nation, Iowa 52254

May 2026

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Cell 406-478-9518
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Office Secretary Deanne Bennett
Church Phone 678-2301
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Website www.bethlehemln.com

Sunday Schedule

Worship 9:00 a.m.

Fellowship 9:45 a.m.

Office Hours:

Pastor Roberta

Thursdays 11:00 a.m.- 2:00 p.m.

*She can also 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.