



# Bethlehem Star

Bethlehem Lutheran Church | Evangelical Lutheran Church of America | January, 2024

Wow!!! Newsletter time already again!!! I say that, allowing myself to be AMAZED as we head in the 3<sup>rd</sup> week of Advent at Brush United Methodist. As I ponder these days passed through Advent, I think of the CONNECTION made in these days journeyed! Quilts taken to connect to those far, far away and those of our members who are cared for at home or in homes; rejoicing and fellowship sharing with those right here at home shared at the Christmas Tea and Advent Discovery; reaching to a family with joy that blessings abound with amazement and excitement; inviting not only, the immediate neighborhoods north, south, east and west of us, but those who haven't been with us for a while to share and celebrate once again, the blessed event of Jesus Christ be born into this world for you and for me!!! Yes, friends... THIS IS how a weary world rejoices!!!! First we acknowledge, then we move and engage to rejoice! And as I sit writing this, our sanctuary waits for us in anticipation of the rejoicing and joy we will share together Christmas Eve night, "Glory to God in the highest and peace to His people on earth!"

Many think that after Christmas, what a let-down! But not here at Bethlehem in 2024!!! This year we have Faith Exploration classes starting Jan 21. Our friends at Rankin Presbyterian and Brush United Methodist are invited to share with us in these classes that will be available in-person or by zoom. We have registration either by email or registration slip available in this newsletter. At least three persons must register for the class to be held and classes will meet until mid-March, just prior to Holy Week. Registration ends January 15. Here's the offerings:

**Adult Sunday School: SUNDAY 5:00pm-6:30pm**

An adult version of old-fashioned Sunday School with singing, prayers, lesson/discussion.

**Lutheran? So What? MONDAY 5:00pm-6:30pm**

A deeper look at how being Lutheran affects how we view the world, how we respond in love and grace, and how we find peace in a troubled world. Books: The Small Catechism, The Large Catechism, Augsburg Confession, Movie; Martin Luther

**Pesky Prophets and their Prophecies**

**TUESDAY 9:30-11:00am** Discover who were these ancestors in the faith, why did they come, what message did they bring, and how were they received in a weary world. Books: Holy Bible, study materials provided.

**4 Gospels, Compare and Contrast 3<sup>rd</sup> SATURDAY, 9:00-11:00am** Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John...how do these gospel writers compare?, how are they different? What does that do for us as Christians? How do we interpret and let these writers inform our faith? The three-year lectionary and how it is used for our worship services and proclamation of the Word. Books: Holy Bible and study materials provided. **Get your registration in SOON and be looking forward to Faith Exploration in January! —>**

**Bethlehem Lutheran Church**

**603 Custer**

**Brush, CO 80723**

**Office Phone: 842-2246**

**Email: [lutheranchurchbrush@yahoo.com](mailto:lutheranchurchbrush@yahoo.com)**

**Website: [www.blcorlutherans.org](http://www.blcorlutherans.org)**

**Deacon Ro Fesser**

**Cell Phone: (970) 631-2715**

**Email: [lutheranchurchpastor@gmail.com](mailto:lutheranchurchpastor@gmail.com)**

**Office Hours: For days & times, see calendar**

**Administrative Assistant: Terresa Lauck**

**Office Hours: Tuesday & Thursday, 9-3**

**Sunday Worship**

**9:00am Worship Service**

*(continued from page 1)*

Also coming in January, our Annual Meeting January 21, 2024 immediately following worship. Share with each other the ministries that give us energy, joy, and hope reaching into the world. Consider our hopes and dreams for the new year and what new ministries we might be able to engage with God's help and guidance from the Holy Spirit, and the love of Jesus Christ.

And a project, beginning December 31, a review and sorting of our membership rolls into Active Members (communing and contributing during the past year) and Inactive Members (mailing lists, former members, and friends of the congregation). We will hold this work project for 30 minutes following "Come and Celebrate" each Sunday until we are finished. Any and all who would like to stay and help us with this project we welcome and appreciate. In 2024 we will be reporting to the ELCA our adjusted Active Membership which is according to Constitution for both the ELCA and Bethlehem for voting purposes. As I said, your participation is welcome and appreciated!!!

On Saturday, January 6, 9:00am your existing council and new council members will be in Council Retreat together to review, discuss, and propose adoption of the Constitution and Bylaws. I see your council members very committed to get the language and procedures of the constitution and bylaws current to the practices of Bethlehem Lutheran Church. This is an admirable and devoted task that you as a congregation can be quite pleased with the commitment of your council.

Then a brand new experience with worship January 14...Camp Sunday! Pr. Bekah Boatwright, Program Director for Sky Ranch will be here to lead worship, to share with all of you a bit of camping experience, and to tell you about camp in 2024. A special offering may be given by any and all for the support of Sky Ranch. Please designate on your check or envelope, Sky Ranch Camp! Enjoy this experience, a little summer in the midst of winter!!!

A new year dawns!!! No better time to share in the love of Jesus and the love of our neighbors!!! "Love the Lord God with all your heart and love your neighbor the same as you love yourself." Matthew 22:37-39 Blessings of hope, peace, joy, and love in 2024! Ro

Hurray Bethlehem! 121 pounds of food collected in just two Sundays for our local community people plus \$996 to World Hunger! You are God's Hands and the heart of Jesus feeding all who are hungry!! Your fields and resources are bountiful!!! Well done, good and trustworthy servants.



## Prairie Parish

is now a quarterly event.

*Come join the  
conversation in 2024!*

**Saturday, January 13th**

**9:00am**

**Peace Lutheran, Akron**

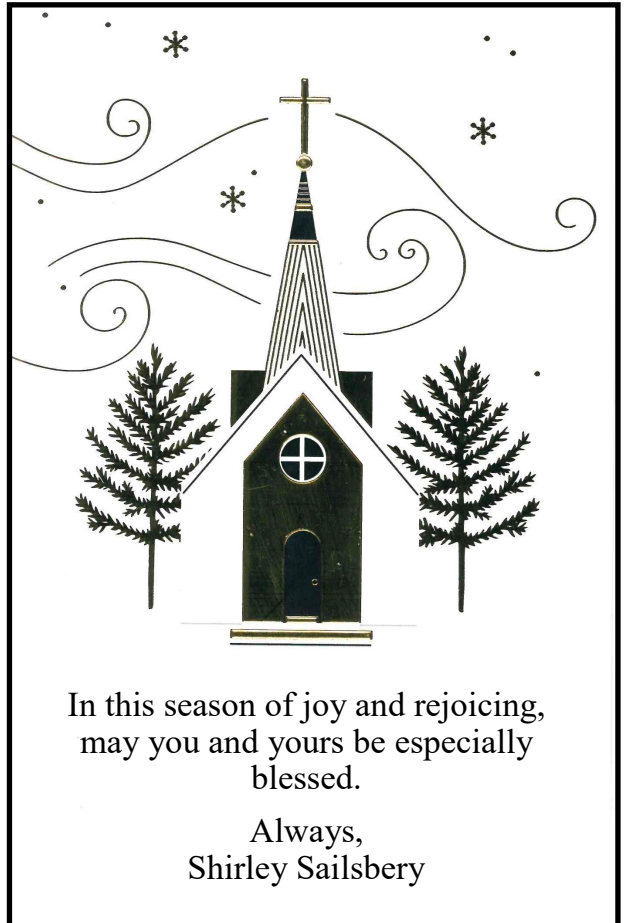
*Breakfast provided.*



Bethlehem's  
**ANNUAL  
MEETING**

Sunday, January 21, 2024  
10:00 a.m.

*This is an important event  
for the church; your  
efforts in being present  
for this meeting are  
greatly  
appreciated!*



May the blessings of the season fill our heart with  
peace and joy throughout the year.

Blessings of the Christmas season!

Lynn & Jeanne Larsen





On Sunday **January 14** we will be having Camp Sunday. Pr. Bekah Boatwright, Program Director for Sky Ranch, will be here to lead worship and preside over communion.

Bethlehem will have a special offering that day designated for Sky Ranch.

Come join and be part of this special Sunday at Bethlehem!

Bethlehem Family & Friends,

What a great surprise when answering the door and the young gal had such a beautiful bouquet of flowers for our 50th wedding anniversary! We got to enjoy them for over two weeks! God truly has blessed us with a very loving and caring church family! Thanx so much for remembering us on our special day!

God's Blessings!

Stan & Carla



## REGISTRATION for JANUARY – MARCH, 2024

## FAITH EXPLORATION CLASSES

Name

Phone #

email address

Please enroll me in:

\_\_\_\_\_ Adult Sunday School

Sunday, 5:00-6:30pm

\_\_\_\_\_ Lutheran, So What?

Monday, 5:00-6:30pm

\_\_\_\_\_ Pesky Prophets and Their Prophecies

Tuesday, 9:30-11:00am

\_\_\_\_\_ 4 Gospels, Compare and Contrast

3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday, 9:00-11:00am

All available in-person/zoom.

Please fill out this form and leave on Ro's desk or go to the church website:

[www.blcorlutherans.org](http://www.blcorlutherans.org)

and sign up electronically.

**DEADLINE: January 15th**



Bethlehem Lutheran Church,  
Wishing you Happy Holidays  
and Happy New Year  
Makyle & Natalie  
Brush Chamber of Commerce



From all of us here at Sky Ranch, we wish you all the blessings  
and joys of Christmas and a bright and peaceful year ahead.

Dear Partners in Ministry,  
If there were a single word I  
would use to describe Oaks  
Indian Mission in 2023, it would  
be relentless. I have the privilege  
of watching our staff operate  
daily as they care for nearly 50  
children and families. I can tell  
you that they serve relentlessly  
by seeking the best care,  
services, and environments  
possible. We have been entrusted  
to care for people, and with  
God's help, we strive to do so  
with excellence. At any moment,  
there may be an opportunity to  
positively change the lives of the children and families we serve.

Dear Ro and Lutheran  
Church,  
Thank you for opening the  
doors of your beautiful  
church and letting the Eben  
Ezer Auxliary host their  
board and Auxiliary meetings  
and burrito making. You and  
your facility have been a  
blessing to  
our group!  
Sincerely,  
Eben Ezer  
Auxiliary



Wishing you a safe and joyous  
Holiday Season  
from SARA House Board of  
Directors and Staff

Friends, we do not take the idea of Peace and Purpose lightly. As our children and families find a true sense of safety and security, they also realize their talents and gifts can be used to serve themselves and others. These types of awakenings happen often and are celebrated. Oaks Indian Mission is a place of joy, not absent the hardships of what has been. Working through this hardship, we realize the blessings that can come when a person is loved and surrounded by family, therapy, education, grace, and mercy.

We have navigated uncharted waters in the past six months. We have been challenged, but we are stronger for it. You never left our side through it all, and your constant presence has made all the difference. You have allowed the Oaks Indian Mission to be build on rock, not sand. A foundation created to last! **We wish you a Merry Christmas from our family to yours!**



## Undecorating

*Time to untrim the tree!*

Come by at 9am on Saturday,  
January 13th for a fun  
morning of undecorating!



Terresa will be back to working more regular office hours in 2024!

She will be in the office Tuesdays & Thursdays from 9am to 3pm. Exceptions will be noted on the monthly calendar shared in the newsletter.

## Another beautiful event hosted by the beautiful ladies of Bethlehem!

Tuesday, December 12, 2023 marked the 58th Christmas Tea / Coffee celebration hosted by Bethlehem. While the location and details have varied over the years, this has become a beloved and much-enjoyed event, enjoyed not only by the women here at Bethlehem, but by men women and children from the community as well. Anyone who has ever attended a BLC event knows, these ladies know how to entertain! It is always beautiful, welcoming, and no detail is left unattended to. Thanks to each of you who played a part in hosting this blessed event ~ what a wonderful way to share the Spirit of Christmas with each other and our neighbors!



**USHERS  
NEEDED**  
*Serve the Church*

Bethlehem is needing ushers to serve during the worship services on Sundays during the months of **March and September of 2024.**

If you would be willing to commit to one of these months, please let Terresa in the office know.

Thanks in advance for your prayerful consideration in serving your church in this capacity.



# PRAYER Requests

Please pray for the following  
who have been submitted to our  
prayer list:

The family of Wanda Rains

The family of Pete Krohn

Don Hefty

Albert Hocheder

Don Hempke

John Strauch

Bev Strand

Larry Andersen

Lane Morrow

Beva Linker

Kenny Bostrom

Dave Honebein

Tom & Lane Morrow

Zach Griffith

Dave Madsen

Lori Bostron

Colene Travers



# HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

## January Birthdays

Marsha Mills	2nd
Robbie Morgan	8th
Betty McCoy	9th
Isaac Linker	22nd
Don Hefty	24th
Joann Hanson	26th
Jena Radke	28th
Jeanette Dehning	29th

# HAPPY Anniversary

## January Anniversaries

Warren & Carol Walker	8th
Lawrence & June Hansen	24th

*Please call the church office if there is an  
error or omission.*



Please note Bev Strand's new address:

**Bev Strand**  
**1910 Edison #732**  
**Brush, CO 80723**

## **Bethlehem Lutheran Congregational Council Meeting**

**December 14, 2023**

Present: Ro Fesser, Charlene Holzworth, Beth Hocheder, Kim Redden, Isaac Linker, Terry Linker, Kevin DeKorte, Deb Johnson, Marsha Mills, Maren Bostrom, Marisa Ford-Castrup.

Meeting called to order by Marsha Mills.

Opening prayer from Ro Fesser

Welcome to new council members Charlene Holzworth and Maren Bostrom

Last months council minutes: Jeannete moved to approve all reports with a consensus. Deb seconded, all approved except for Beth.

Treasurer/ Secretary Financial Report: Beth moved, and Jeannete seconded to move all our world mission money into the quilting account. Most of the quilts were made to go to world mission. Lenore has asked Kim to close out her world mission account and put it into BLC funds. All approved.

Deacon Report: Ros report is attached. Ro has received a letter of transfer on behalf of Joyce Mitchell. Kim moved and Deb seconded to do that, all approved. Ro suggested neighbor Christmas sacks be made and delivered to the neighbors of BLC by 12/24/23. Marsha, Charlene and Maren will help with that project. Ro suggested we start working on membership roles in the new year.

Correspondence: BLC received a thank you note and a check for \$125.00 from Eben Ezer Auxiliary for letting them use our kitchen and building throughout the year. BLC also received a Christmas card from Brush Chamber.

Old Business: 1) Insurance update- We are not roofing the church until the spring. Jeanette moved to place that money in savings account until needed to pay contractors. Isaac seconded, all approved.

2) Switch it up- no new lights or time scheduled to replace them. Will continue to wait. 3) Terresa is still working remote.

New Business: 1) Vote on Church constitution revisions- Council will have a retreat on Jan 6<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am to discuss. 2) Council will continue with 9 members. 3) Jeannete moved and Beth seconded to give Donna a \$50.00 per month raise. All approved.

Jan Deacon: Kim, Usher: Beth

Next Council Meeting: Jan 11<sup>th</sup>, 2024 6:30 PM

Annual Meeting of the Congregation: Jan 21<sup>st</sup>, 2024 following worship.

Meeting adjourned with The Lord's Prayer.



### **You are Invited! To our Bee Strong 2024 Annual Banquet**

Friday January 26—Trinity Lutheran Church Sterling

Saturday, January 27—Phillips County Event Center

Sunday, January 28—Yuma Nazarene Church

Monday, January 29—Morgan County Event Center

5:30pm Doors Open—6pm Dinner—7pm Program

*Brochures in the welcome center rack if you are interested.*





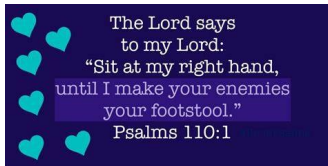
*Monday, January 1*  
Numbers 6:22-27  
Psalm 8  
Galatians 4:4-7  
Luke 2:15-21

*Tuesday, January 2*  
Psalm 148  
Proverbs 1:1-7  
James 3:13-18

*Wednesday, January 3*  
Psalm 110  
Proverbs 1:20-33  
James 4:1-10

*Thursday, January 4*  
Psalm 110  
Proverbs 3:1-12  
James 4:11-17

*Friday, January 5*  
Psalm 110  
Proverbs 22:1-9  
Luke 6:27-31



*Saturday, January 6*  
Isaiah 60:1-6  
Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14  
Ephesians 3:1-12  
Matthew 2:1-12

*Sunday, January 7*  
Genesis 1:1-5  
Psalm 29  
Acts 19:1-7  
Mark 1:4-11

*Monday, January 8*  
Psalm 69:1-5, 30-36  
Genesis 17:1-13  
Romans 4:1-12



*Tuesday, January 9*  
Psalm 69:1-5, 30-36  
Exodus 30:22-38  
Acts 22:2-16

*Wednesday, January 10*  
Psalm 69:1-5, 30-36  
Isaiah 41:14-20  
John 1:29-34

*Thursday, January 11*  
Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18  
Judges 2:6-15  
2 Corinthians 10:1-11

*Friday, January 12*  
Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18  
Judges 2:16-23  
Acts 13:16-25

*Saturday, January 13*  
Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18  
1 Samuel 2:21-25  
Matthew 25:1-13

*Sunday, January 14*  
1 Samuel 3:1-10 [11-20]  
Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18  
1 Corinthians 6:12-20  
John 1:43-51

*Monday, January 15*  
Psalm 86  
1 Samuel 9:27—10:8  
2 Corinthians 6:14—7:1

*Tuesday, January 16*  
Psalm 86  
1 Samuel 15:10-31  
Acts 5:1-11

*Wednesday, January 17*  
Psalm 86  
Genesis 16:1-14  
Luke 18:15-17

*Thursday, January 18*  
Psalm 62:5-12  
Jeremiah 19:1-15  
Revelation 18:11-20

*Friday, January 19*  
Psalm 62:5-12  
Jeremiah 20:7-13  
2 Peter 3:1-7

*Saturday, January 20*  
Psalm 62:5-12  
Jeremiah 20:14-18  
Luke 10:13-16

*Sunday, January 21*  
Jonah 3:1-5, 10  
Psalm 62:5-12  
1 Corinthians 7:29-31  
Mark 1:14-20

*Monday, January 22*  
Psalm 46  
Genesis 12:1-9  
1 Corinthians 7:17-24



*Tuesday, January 23*  
Psalm 46  
Genesis 45:25—46:7  
Acts 5:33-42

*Wednesday, January 24*  
Psalm 46  
Proverbs 8:1-21  
Mark 3:13-19a

*Thursday, January 25*  
Psalm 111  
Deuteronomy 3:23-29  
Romans 9:6-18

*Friday, January 26*  
Psalm 111  
Deuteronomy 12:28-32  
Revelation 2:12-17

*Saturday, January 27*  
Psalm 111  
Deuteronomy 13:1-5  
Matthew 8:28—9:1

*Sunday, January 28*  
Deuteronomy 18:15-20  
Psalm 111  
1 Corinthians 8:1-13  
Mark 1:21-28

*Monday, January 29*  
Psalm 35:1-10  
Numbers 22:1-21  
Acts 21:17-26

*Tuesday, January 30*  
Psalm 35:1-10  
Numbers 22:22-28  
1 Corinthians 7:32-40

*Wednesday, January 31*  
Psalm 35:1-10  
Jeremiah 29:1-14  
Mark 5:1-20

**We thank those who offer their gifts in leading worship this month!**

January, 2024	7	14	21	28
<b>Deacon</b>	Kim Redden			
<b>Reader</b>	Sharon George	Jeanne Wuest	Kim Redden	Deb Johnson
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Trish Turner & Marisa Castrup			
<b>Usher</b>	Beth Hocheder			
<b>Sunshine Committee</b>	Deb Johnson & Lenore Wind			
<b>Clavinovist</b>	Garnet Leys			

	11/26	12/10	12/24
<b>Attendance</b>	26	66	107

### BLC Congregation Council Members & Officers

*Congregation Council is the core leadership body of the congregation, charged with overseeing and directing the life and mission of our church. We encourage you to talk with them! Please pray for their ministry as they provide leadership to BLC.*

Marsha Mills, President 970-768-1562

Deb Johnson, Vice-President 970-842-5633

Marisa Ford-Castrup, Secretary 303-502-7459

Kim Redden, Treasurer 970-380-9727

Maren Bostron 970-471-6062

Jeanette Dehning 970-380-3822

Kevin DeKorte 970-867-2238

Beth Hocheder 970-768-3888

Charlene Holzworth 970-380-6598

Isaac Linker 970-520-1989

Terry Linker 970-768-1099



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[www.facebook.com/bethlehemlutheranbrush](http://www.facebook.com/bethlehemlutheranbrush)



Bethlehem Lutheran Church

# Bethlehem Lutheran Church

## January 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>Terresa will be in the office on Tuesdays &amp; Thursdays from 9-3 unless otherwise noted.</p>	<p>1</p> 	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p> 	<p>4</p> <p>1:00pm Pete Krohn Memorial</p> <p>9:00am Quilting</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p>  <p>9:00am Council Retreat</p>
<p>7</p>  <p>Baptism of Our Lord</p> <p>9:00am Worship 10:00am Roll Review 8am-1pm Ro at BLC</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p> <p>4pm-6:30pm Ro at BLC</p> <p>6:30pm Council Meeting</p> <p>9:00am Quilting</p>	<p>12</p> <p>9am-2pm Ro at BLC</p>	<p>13</p> <p>9:00am Prairie Parish Peace, Akron</p> <p>9am Undecorating at BLC</p>
<p>14</p> <p>2nd Sunday in Epiphany</p> <p>9:00am Worship Camp Sunday Pastor Bekah Boatwright</p>	<p>15</p>  <p>Deadline to register for Faith Exploration Classes</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p> 	<p>18</p> <p>9:00am Quilting</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p> 
<p>21</p> <p>3rd Sunday in Epiphany</p> <p>9:00am Worship 10:00am Annual Meeting</p> <p>8am-1pm Ro at BLC 4pm-6:30pm Ro at BLC</p>	<p>22</p> <p>8:30am-noon 4:30pm-7pm Ro at BLC</p>	<p>23</p> <p>9am-noon Ro at BLC</p>	<p>24</p> 	<p>25</p> <p>9:00am Quilting</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>
<p>28</p> <p>4th Sunday in Epiphany</p> <p>9:00am Worship 8am-noon Ro at BLC 4pm-6:30pm Ro at BLC</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p> 	<p>31</p>			