



# Bethlehem Star

Bethlehem Lutheran Church | February, 2026

*This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him! – Matthew 17:5b*

At Jesus baptism, a voice from the heavens said, “This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.” (Matthew 3:17b). Then when Jesus was transfigured on the mountain with Peter, James, and John, the voice comes from heaven again and says, “This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!” (Matthew 17:5b). I rejoice each year as the season of Lent comes around because it is a time to remind me again to take that intentional time to listen to God’s voice speaking to me.

On Ash Wednesday, February 18, 2026, we begin the 40 days of Lent. This is a season for us to again take intentional time to listen to God’s voice. There are so many distractions in our world that are calling us to listen to them. During this season of Lent, we again commit to listening to God’s voice and God’s message of love and grace. There are a variety of ways for you to do this. I share with you some of these ways to listen to God and invite you choose one and make a commitment to listen to God in this way during this Lenten season.

There are the traditional Lenten disciples – fasting, almsgiving, prayer, penance.

**Fasting** – giving something up for Lent and in its place adding something to help you to connect to God. Fasting - Some people fast from food and then give the money they would have used for the poor and the time that they would have used for meals for prayer. Others fast from media – TV, radio, Facebook, or other things that send messages that distract us from God.

**Almsgiving** – giving money to those in need – Jesus says when you do this to the least of these you do it to me. When we give away our treasure to those most in need we give to Jesus.

**Prayer** – taking time each day for prayer. Throughout Jesus life, he takes intentional time away in prayer to connect to God the Father and to be in conversation with God.

**Penance** – repentance – taking time to think about those things that pull you away from God and turning away from them – confessing them and seeking to follow in God’s ways.

There are lots of other ways to connect to God during this Lenten season.

**Worship** – Time to hear God’s word and give praise to God.

*(continue on page 2)*

**Bethlehem Lutheran Church**  
603 Custer ~ Brush, Colorado  
**SUNDAY WORSHIP**  
**9:00 a.m.**

*Gathered together,  
we serve in Christ.*

**Administrative Assistant:**  
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**Office Hours:**  
Tues 12-1 & Thurs 9-12

*(continued from page 1)*

**Serve others** – Giving our time to help those in need and seeing Jesus in each person we care for.

**Daily Bible Reading** – Setting aside time each day to read your Bible.

**Silence** – Setting aside intentional time each day to just be quiet and listen to God.

**Daily Devotional Reading** – Read a devotional reading each day – variety of devotionals at church from which to choose.

**Music** – Take time each day to listen to music that connects you to God – hymns, religious music, instrumental, contemporary Christian – sometimes people will choose to only listen to Christian radio during the Lenten season.

**Appreciating God in Creation** – Many times we encounter God in the beauty of creation. Take time each day to look around and see the beauty of all that God has made. Make a daily or weekly commitment to get out into nature and be quiet with God.

**Sabbath Rest** – Honoring one day a week as Sabbath and doing no work on that day but instead spend the day building relationship with God and loved ones.

**Journaling** – Write each day about your thoughts and feelings, share them with God, and listen to what God has to say to you as you journal.

These are just a few of the ways to listen to God. There are many more. This is not something that you must do. Instead, Lent is a time to be intentional and listen to the voice that brings freedom and life. I invite you as you prepare for the Lenten season to reflect on what ways you feel called to listen to God this Lenten season – Fasting, Almsgiving, Prayer, Penance, Worship, Service, Scripture Reading, Silence, Devotional Reading, Music, Creation, Sabbath Rest, Journaling, or something else. We are surrounded by so many voices and distractions and in the midst of these, we are invited to listen to God's voice speaking to each one of us.

Pastor Sonja Pancoast



**Ash Wednesday**

Bethlehem Lutheran will be hosting  
an Ash Wednesday service

**February 18th**

**5:30pm**

We will also be participating in the ecumenical Lenten lunches with other Brush churches. Details and a schedule of where the lunches will be held as well as a date that we will be hosting will be shared in bulletins in the weeks to follow.

## **FOOD PANTRY DRIVE**

**Here we go—1st quarter  
2026 food drive.**

**We will be collecting food  
pantry items now through  
Sunday, February 15th.**

**All will go to the local food  
cupboard. Thanks in  
advance for your caring &  
kindness shown to those in  
need.**



*Sunday, February 1*  
Micah 6:1-8  
Psalm 15  
1 Corinthians 1:18-31  
Matthew 5:1-12

*Monday, February 2*  
Psalm 37:1-17  
Ruth 1:1-18  
Philemon 1-25

*Tuesday, February 3*  
Psalm 37:1-17  
Ruth 2:1-16  
James 5:1-6

*Wednesday, February 4*  
Psalm 37:1-17  
Ruth 3:1-13; 4:13-22  
Luke 6:17-26

*Thursday, February 5*  
Psalm 112:1-9 [10]  
Deuteronomy 4:1-14  
1 John 5:1-5

*Friday, February 6*  
Psalm 112:1-9 [10]  
Isaiah 29:1-12  
James 3:13-18

*Saturday, February 7*  
Psalm 112:1-9 [10]  
Isaiah 29:13-16  
Mark 7:1-8

*Sunday, February 8*  
Isaiah 58:1-9a [9b-12]  
Psalm 112:1-9 [10]  
1 Corinthians 2:1-12 [13-16]  
Matthew 5:13-20

*Monday, February 9*  
Psalm 119:105-112  
2 Kings 22:3-20  
Romans 11:2-10

*Tuesday, February 10*  
Psalm 119:105-112  
2 Kings 23:1-8, 21-25  
2 Corinthians 4:1-12

*Wednesday, February 11*  
Psalm 119:105-112  
Proverbs 6:6-23  
John 8:12-30

*Thursday, February 12*  
Psalm 2  
Exodus 6:2-9  
Hebrews 8:1-7



*Friday, February 13*  
Psalm 2  
Exodus 19:9b-25  
Hebrews 11:23-28

*Saturday, February 14*  
Psalm 2  
1 Kings 21:20-29  
Mark 9:9-133

*Sunday, February 15*  
Exodus 24:12-18  
Psalm 2 or Psalm 99  
2 Peter 1:16-21  
Matthew 17:1-9

*Monday, February 16*  
Psalm 78:17-20, 52-55  
Exodus 33:7-23  
Acts 7:30-34

*Tuesday, February 17*  
Psalm 78:17-20, 52-55  
1 Kings 19:9-18  
Romans 11:1-6

*Ash Wednesday, February 18*  
Joel 2:1-2, 12-17  
Psalm 51:1-17  
2 Corinthians 5:20b—6:10  
Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

*Thursday, February 19*  
Psalm 51  
Jonah 3:1-10  
Romans 1:1-7

*Friday, February 20*  
Psalm 51  
Jonah 4:1-11  
Romans 1:8-17

*Saturday, February 21*  
Psalm 51  
Isaiah 58:1-12  
Matthew 18:1-7

*Sunday, February 22*  
Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7  
Psalm 32  
Romans 5:12-19  
Matthew 4:1-11

*Monday, February 23*  
Psalm 32  
1 Kings 19:1-8  
Hebrews 2:10-18

*Tuesday, February 24*  
Psalm 32  
Genesis 4:1-16  
Hebrews 4:14—5:10

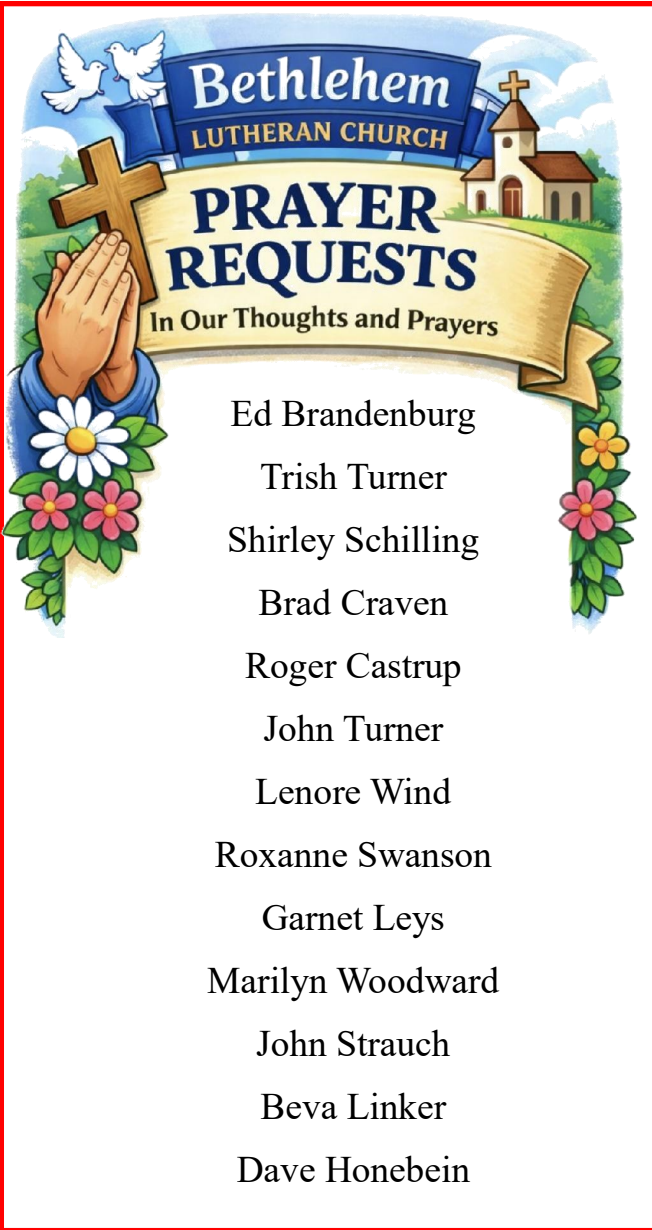
*Wednesday, February 25*  
Psalm 32  
Exodus 34:1-9, 27-28  
Matthew 18:10-14

*Thursday, February 26*  
Psalm 121  
Isaiah 51:1-3  
2 Timothy 1:3-7

*Friday, February 27*  
Psalm 121  
Micah 7:18-20  
Romans 3:21-31

*Saturday, February 28*  
Psalm 121  
Isaiah 51:4-8  
Luke 7:1-10





**Bethlehem**  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

**PRAYER REQUESTS**  
In Our Thoughts and Prayers

Ed Brandenburg  
Trish Turner  
Shirley Schilling  
Brad Craven  
Roger Castrup  
John Turner  
Lenore Wind  
Roxanne Swanson  
Garnet Leys  
Marilyn Woodward  
John Strauch  
Beva Linker  
Dave Honebein



**February Birthdays and Anniversaries**

**February Birthdays**

Lily Alexander	21st
Trish Turner	29th

**February Anniversaries**

John & Trish Turner	28th
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*Please call the church office if there is an error or omission.*

# ELCA AFFILIATION/DISAFFILIATION

At a recent congregational meeting held Sunday, January 25th, Bethlehem conducted the first vote on a resolution to leave the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). The motion passed with a majority vote in favor.

This vote represents an important step in an ongoing discernment process. Church Council will be communicating the next steps and additional details in the near future. We ask the congregation to keep our church, its leaders, and one another in prayer as we move forward together.

## **BLC Church Council Meeting January 11, 2026**

The meeting was brought to order by President Pat C. at 11:54am. She gave the opening prayer. Present were council members Maren B, Pat C, Beth H, Kevin G, Terry L, Todd M, and Jeanette D by Zoom. Guest was Kim R.

Todd moved and Terry seconded to accept the December minutes. Motion passed. Terry moved and Beth seconded to accept the treasurer's report. Motion passed. Beth moved and Maren seconded to accept Pastor Sonja's report. Motion passed. Pastor Sonja has offered to continue visitations plus an article for the newsletter. Beth moved and Jeanette seconded to accept her kind offer to do both.

For correspondence, a thank you was received from Donna Morgan for her Christmas bonus which was greatly appreciated.

### ***NEW BUSINESS***

The first order of new business was **security cameras**. A need for security cameras was addressed for both the front and rear doors. Women working in the church have no idea who is coming in and out of the church. As an example, Terresa heard the doorbell for the front door, went to check, and found no one. With a camera you she could look to see who entered. Beth moved and Maren seconded a motion for Todd to look into security cameras that would tie into our current system. Motion passed.

**YouTube camera** was the next topic of discussion. Todd moved and Maren seconded to have Kevin find a camera that can be moved to show many different angles and not just one like the current device, which is about worn out, does. Motion passed.

### ***OLD BUSINESS***

February 15 Pastor Phil from the LCMC will be **leading service**. Pastor Craig Lanning of the NALC will be contacted to lead service at another date. LCMC and NALC are basically the same, with LCMC having a bit more structure. Terry is still working on having someone from LCMC come to discuss their organization with us. This will probably happen in March.

It must be **90 days after the first vote** to leave ELCA before a second vote may be taken. Kevin will write the necessary **resolution** for us to use for the vote.

NALC will help us with **visiting pastors** once we leave ELCA until we decide which organization we will join.

### ***OTHER BUSINESS***

It was decided not to have a **handrail installed** in the middle of the steps leading to the sanctuary.

**Election of officers** led to having the same officers as we currently have, meaning Pat as President, Terry as Vice President, Jeanette as secretary, Kim as Treasurer, and Beth as financial secretary.

Allen W and Pat C have copies of the **Title** for our church building. No one is sure where the original is now. Our **title and abstract** need to be brought up to date. Todd will oversee this as stated in the motion moved by Todd and seconded by Terry. Motion passed.

It was decided there is a need to **scan all original documents**, plus have them backed up on computer.

**Galaxy Plumbing** will be contacted by Pat to address the leak(s) in the kitchen. The **BLC Annual meeting** is January 18, right after the service.

February Deacon: to be decided

February Usher: Larry Johnson

Next Council meeting: February 8 after service at 10:15am

The meeting was adjourned at 1:15 with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jeanette Dehning

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

February, 2026	1	8	15	22
<b>Deacon</b>	Deb Johnson			
<b>Reader</b>	Sharon George	Maren Bostrom	Kevin Gardner	Kim Redden
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Donna Morgan			
<b>Usher</b>	Larry Johnson			
<b>Bell Ringer</b>	Larry Johnson	Maren Bostrom	Larry Johnson	Kim Redden
<b>Clavinovist</b>	Garnet Leys			
<b>Sunshine Committee</b>	Janet Rohde			
<b>Media Team</b>	Kevin Gardner, Todd Morgan, Sharon George, & Deb Johnson			

	1/04	1/11	1/18	11/25
<b>Attendance</b>	35	27	27	29

**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.*

- Pat Chase, President
- Terry Linker, Vice-President
- Jeanette Dehning, Secretary
- Kim Redden, Treasurer
- Maren Bostrom
- Kevin Gardner
- Beth Hocheder
- Todd Morgan

Watch Sunday services on YouTube  
<https://www.youtube.com/@BethlehemLutheranBrush>


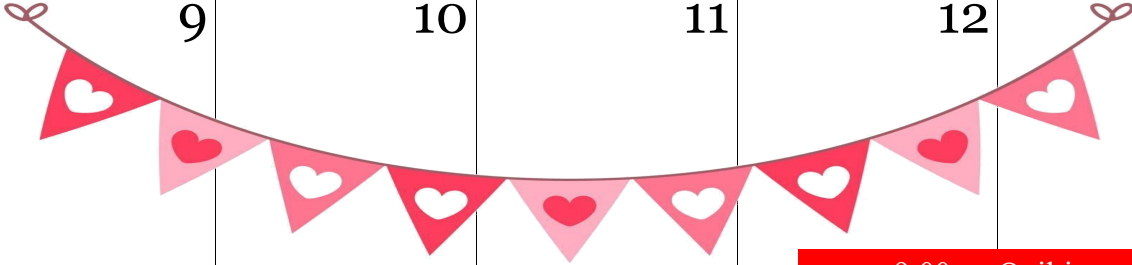





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# February 2026

# Bethlehem Lutheran Church

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>1</p> <p>4th Sunday after Epiphany 9:00am Worship Dan Bollman</p>	<p>2</p>  <p>HAPPY GROUNDHOG DAY</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Terresa gone 6:00pm PEO</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p> <p>9:00am Quilting</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p>
<p>8</p> <p>5th Sunday after Epiphany 9:00am Worship Sonja Pancoast 10:15am Council Meeting</p>					<p>13</p> <p>9:00am Quilting</p>	<p>14</p>  <p>HAPPY Valentine's DAY</p>
<p>15</p> <p>Transfiguration of Our Lord 9:00am Worship Phil Reimers</p>	<p>16</p>  <p>PRESIDENT'S DAY</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p>  <p>Ash Wednesday 5:30pm at BLC</p>	<p>19</p> <p>9:00am Quilting</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p>
<p>22</p> <p>1st Sunday in Lent 9:00am Worship Sonja Pancoast</p>	<p>~ ~ ~ ~ ~ Terresa gone ~ ~ ~ ~ ~</p>				<p>27</p> <p>9:00am Quilting</p>	<p>28</p>

**Bethlehem Lutheran Church**

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Address Service Requested

A growing community of Christ's followers; cultivating disciples  
through compassion, love, and integrity.