



# Bethlehem Star

Bethlehem Lutheran Church | May, 2026

There is a legend told about what happened after Jesus arrived in heaven right after he ascended into heaven. He arrives and all the angels gathered around to greet his return. They were confused though and asked him who was going to finish his work since the world was still in a lot of trouble. Jesus explained that he had handpicked and trained a team to carry on until his return. They replied in shock you mean those thick-skulled fishermen and tax collectors who kept missing the point of your parables? Peter, who denied you, and Thomas who doubted even after you rose from the dead? A bit doubtful about Jesus' strategy one of the angels said to Jesus, "If this plan doesn't work what is your plan B?" Jesus just smiled and shrugged and replied, "That's it. There is no plan B."

There is no plan B. These rag tag group of disciples are all there is. It is not through their power, but through the power of the Holy Spirit that truly can do amazing things. This rag tag group of disciples has the Holy Spirit come over them at Pentecost and they begin to witness. This rag tag group of disciples begin to witness. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages about God's deeds of power.

Pentecost is just the beginning of the story of these disciples and the amazing work of the Holy Spirit. These first disciples begin to witness to their experience of Jesus, and they share this Good News to the ends of the earth. Through their witness the word spreads and the church grows. There is no need for plan B, the

Good News is spread to all the world.

There is no plan B. The Holy Spirit didn't just come once on Pentecost and then was done. We are part of the plan as well. Pentecost happens over and over again. The Holy Spirit continues to work in the lives of disciples of every time and every place witnessing to the Good News in Jesus Christ to the ends of the earth their words and deeds.

God's power turning a rag tag group of disciples into witnesses in word and deed over and over again. It happens in our church communities, and it happens in each of our individual lives. Pay attention to the Spirit at work in your life – those times when you have felt the nudge and reached out to someone in need, when you have shared with the less fortunate, when you spoke up for those who did not have a voice, when you have shared the gifts God has given you with others. Look for the work in the Spirit in our church community as God calls us to share God's love in word and deed. As St. Francis of Assisi once said, "Preach the Gospel and if necessary, use words." Pentecost is happening not because we are powerful or qualified, but because God's power will show through us. God's Spirit is at work in our lives, in our church community, and in our world.

May God's Spirit guide you. There is no plan B.

Your Sister in Christ,  
Pastor Sonja

**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

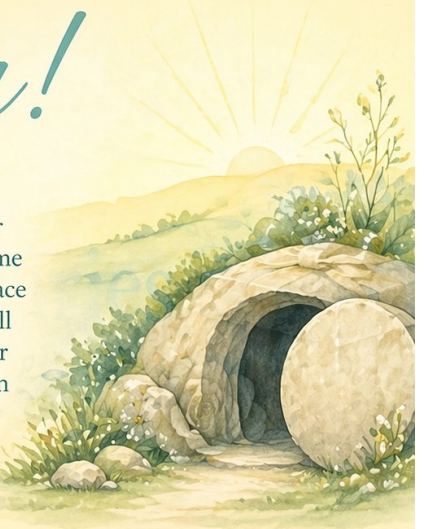


# Thank You!



A heartfelt thank you to everyone who helped make our Easter celebration so special. We are grateful to those who gave their time and creativity to beautifully decorate the sanctuary, creating a space that truly reflected the joy of the season. Thank you as well to all who contributed food and helped with the Easter brunch—your generosity and hospitality brought our church family together in a wonderful way.

*Your efforts are deeply appreciated!*



# BOTTLES FULL OF hope

Baby Bottle Campaign 2026

May 10-June 21



Pick up your bottles at BLC on Mother's Day and plan to bring them back on Father's Day.



Fliers available on the shelf in the entrance of the church





*Friday, May 1*  
Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16  
Exodus 3:1-12  
Acts 7:1-16

*Saturday, May 2*  
Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16  
Jeremiah 26:20-24  
John 8:48-59

*Sunday, May 3*  
Acts 7:55-60  
Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16  
1 Peter 2:2-10  
John 14:1-14

*Monday, May 4*  
Psalm 102:1-17  
Exodus 13:17-22  
Acts 7:17-40

*Tuesday, May 5*  
Psalm 102:1-17  
Proverbs 3:5-12  
Acts 7:44-56

*Wednesday, May 6*  
Psalm 102:1-17  
Proverbs 3:13-18  
John 8:31-38

*Thursday, May 7*  
Psalm 66:8-20  
Genesis 6:5-22  
Acts 27:1-12

*Friday, May 8*  
Psalm 66:8-20  
Genesis 7:1-24  
Acts 27:13-38

*Saturday, May 9*  
Psalm 66:8-20  
Genesis 8:13-19  
John 14:27-29

*Sunday, May 10*  
Acts 17:22-31  
Psalm 66:8-20  
1 Peter 3:13-22  
John 14:15-21

*Monday, May 11*  
Psalm 93  
Genesis 9:8-17  
Acts 27:39-44

*Tuesday, May 12*  
Psalm 93  
Deuteronomy 5:22-33  
1 Peter 3:8-12

*Wednesday, May 13*  
Psalm 93  
Deuteronomy 31:1-13  
John 16:16-24

*Thursday, May 14*  
Acts 1:1-11  
Psalm 47 or Psalm 93  
Ephesians 1:15-23  
Luke 24:44-53

*Friday, May 15*  
Psalm 93  
2 Kings 2:1-12  
Ephesians 2:1-7

*Saturday, May 16*  
Psalm 93  
2 Kings 2:13-15  
John 8:21-30

*Sunday, May 17*  
Acts 1:6-14  
Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35  
1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11  
John 17:1-11

*Monday, May 18*  
Psalm 99  
Leviticus 9:1-11, 22-24  
1 Peter 4:1-6

*Tuesday, May 19*  
Psalm 99  
Numbers 16:41-50  
1 Peter 4:7-11

*Wednesday, May 20*  
Psalm 99  
1 Kings 8:54-65  
John 3:31-36

*Thursday, May 21*  
Psalm 33:12-22  
Exodus 19:1-9a  
Acts 2:1-11

*Friday, May 22*  
Psalm 33:12-22  
Exodus 19:16-25  
Romans 8:14-17

*Saturday, May 23*  
Psalm 33:12-22  
Exodus 20:1-21  
Matthew 5:1-12

*Sunday, May 24*  
Acts 2:1-21  
Psalm 104:24-34, 35b  
1 Corinthians 12:3b-13  
John 20:19-23

*Monday, May 25*  
Psalm 104:24-34, 35b  
Joel 2:18-29  
Romans 8:18-24

*Tuesday, May 26*  
Psalm 104:24-34, 35b  
Ezekiel 39:7-8, 21-29  
Romans 8:26-27

*Wednesday, May 27*  
Psalm 104:24-34, 35b  
Numbers 11:24-30  
John 7:37-39

*Thursday, May 28*  
Psalm 8  
Job 38:1-11  
2 Timothy 1:8-12a

*Friday, May 29*  
Psalm 8  
Job 38:12-21  
2 Timothy 1:12b-14

*Saturday, May 30*  
Psalm 8  
Job 38:22-38  
John 14:15-17

*Sunday, May 31*  
Genesis 1:1—2:4a  
Psalm 8  
2 Corinthians 13:11-13  
Matthew 28:16-20

We are so grateful for Ted Pearson's generous gift in providing lawn care for our church. His kindness is a beautiful reflection of Christ's love in action, and it blesses our entire congregation more than words can express. Our church grounds remain a welcoming and cared-for space for all who gather here.

Thank you Ted for serving the Lord in such a thoughtful and meaningful way. We pray that God richly blesses you for your generosity and faithfulness.



**Bethlehem**  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

**PRAYER REQUESTS**  
In Our Thoughts and Prayers

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



**May Birthdays & Anniversaries**

**May Birthdays**

Betty Kelly	6th
Ted Pearson	16th
Corinne Bostrom	26th
Steve Rohde	26th
Janet Krohn	28th
Gilbert Perry	31st

**May Anniversary**

Dave & Andrea Strand	3rd
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*Please call the church office if there is an error or omission.*



On **Sunday, May 3**, the second vote regarding disaffiliation from the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America (ELCA) will be held. This step is required as part of the process.

Please make plans to attend this important meeting if you are able. There will be a zoom option for those who are not able to attend in person. This is a significant decision that will impact our congregation for years to come, and every voice matters.

Please continue in prayer, thoughtful conversation, and reflection as the church moves through this important transition.

## **BLC Church Council Meeting April 12, 2026**

The meeting was called to order by President Pat at 10:20 am. Those present were Pat, Beth, Todd, Kevin, Maren, and Kim Guest.

The minutes of the past meeting were approved as printed by Beth and Todd.

Treasurer's report was approved with one correction by Beth.

Pastors Report was approved by Beth and Maren.

There was no correspondence.

### **New Business:**

Council asked Pastor Sonja to visit with Jim Christensen at Aladdin Assisted Living.

Beth has information from the Memorial Committee that there were several memorials that have been received, earmarked for specific items. Quilts: \$1,795.00 and \$1,465.00 for General Fund.

Beth and Maren moved and seconded to reimburse Kim Redden \$60.00 for the cake she baked for the Baptism this morning.

Beth and Kevin moved and seconded to buy a vacuum that would be kept in the choir loft to clean up the debris from the vents after the wind storms.

Kevin made a motion to have an Executive Session for the council on Sunday, April 19, 2026. Todd seconded it.

### **Old Business:**

Next Sunday, April 19, 2026 , there will be a vote from the Congregation to determine with which Lutheran affiliation (NALC or LCMC) we are going.

Sunday, May 3, 2026, will be the second vote to leave the ELCA.

Rosa Guzman Alexander will be the May Deacon and Beth H. will be the Usher.

Meeting was adjourned by President Pat, after the Lord's Prayer at 10:58 am.

Respectfully submitted by Kim Redden, acting Secretary

## **Come & Celebrate!**

We are looking for a volunteer to help set up and clean up for this special time following worship throughout the month of May. If you would be willing to step up and take this on, please contact the church office. Thanks in advance for your consideration!

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

May, 2026	3	10	17	24	31
<b>Deacon</b>	Rosa Guzman-Alexander				
<b>Reader</b>	Maren Bostrom	Kevin Gardner	Kim Redden	Sharon George	Maren Bostrom
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Marisa Castrup				
<b>Usher</b>	Beth Hocheder				
<b>Bell Ringer</b>	Beth Hocheder				
<b>Clavinovist</b>	Garnet Leys				
<b>Sunshine Committee</b>	Marsha Mills				
<b>Media Team</b>	Deb Johnson, Todd Morgan, Kevin Gardner, & Sharon George				
<b>Set Up/Clean Up Come &amp; Celebrate</b>					

	3/29	4/05	4/12	4/19
<b>Attendance</b>	36	42	40	34

**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.*

Watch Sunday services on YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/>

@BethlehemLutheranBrush



Like Bethlehem Lutheran Church On Facebook!






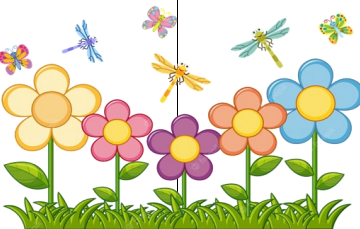


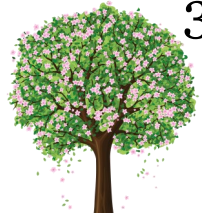
[www.facebook.com/bethlehemplutheranbrush](http://www.facebook.com/bethlehemplutheranbrush)

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



# May 2026

# Bethlehem Lutheran Church

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>31</p> <p>Holy Trinity 9:00am Worship</p>					<p>1</p> <p>9:00am Quilting</p>	<p>2</p> <p>10am-2pm Baby Shower</p>
<p>VOTE 3</p> <p>5th Sunday in Easter 9:00am Worship Phil Reimers</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p> 	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p> <p>9:00am Quilting</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>9</p>
<p>Mother's Day 10</p> <p>6th Sunday in Easter 9:00am Worship Phil Reimers 10:15am Council Meet-</p>	<p>11</p> 	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p>  <p>9:00am Quilting</p>	<p>15</p>	<p>16</p> 
<p>17</p> <p>Ascension of Our Lord 9:00am Worship Craig Lanning</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p> 	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p> <p>9:00am Quilting</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p>
<p>24</p> <p>Pentecost 9:00am Worship</p>	<p>MEMORIAL DAY 25</p> 	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p> 	<p>28</p> <p>9:00am Quilting</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</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.