Bethlehem Star

Bethlehem Lutheran Church | July, 2026

Whenever the Fourth of July celebration comes around I am reminded of what an amazing miracle this country is in the history of nations. If you look at our history and founding principles, they follow a path of thinking and theology that is far different from that of the other nations that make up western civilization. In most other nations, the idea that we derive our rights from, as the Declaration of Independence states, "the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God," was and still is foreign to religious and political thinking prevalent in Europe, Asia, Africa, the Middle East, and the Far East. In no other nation of the world in history do the founding documents state that rights come from God, not from a government or institution. They believed that their citizens derive rights by and through the governing authorities, and these authorities determine what rights their people should and should not have.

The Founding Fathers' approach to government was a new thing, a different way of thinking, based on a common thread of Christian values. Those who contend that ours is not a Christian nation have not looked very hard at the Founding Fathers who first wrote down these thoughts. Of the 56 signers of the Declaration Independence, 29 were graduates of Christian seminaries. Many were also active pastors and preachers. In every one of the constitutions of the 13 original colonies there was a clause stating that any holder of public office must be at least a nominal Christian.

Why did they put this into their governmental writings? It is because they recognized two things that philosophers from other nations were not willing to recognize—that God created men and women and "endowed them with inalienable rights" and that in order to be worthy of these rights and the God who endowed them, men and women needed to be equally faithful to God. Otherwise the whole system would break down. John Adams wrote, "Our Constitution was made for a moral and righteous people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other" (kind of people).

They understood that this great experiment in government only works if we, as a nation, understand our dependence on God. They had a clear understanding of how damaged human nature is because of sin and what kind of controls needed to be put on people who serve in public office because of that human sin. The system of checks and balances between the three branches of government, the need for an electoral system that addressed both tyranny of the few and the tyranny of a mob, and the controls put on government in the Bill of Rights, all were aimed at limiting how far a few selfish or sinful people could go to disenfranchise the downcast and downtrodden.

When I meditate on this, I am filled with wonder at how God and our Lord Christ filled their hearts and minds with the kind of wisdom and discernment needed for building such a new, different, and miraculous form of government. I am also filled with wonder that the wisdom and discernment they drew from are still available to you and to me today as we seek God's will in how we move forward in building this church community. God honors the faithful workers in His Church, in the community where we live and work. His power, His wisdom, His love, His grace, and His Holy Spirit are still working in us and

(continued on page 2)

Bethlehem Lutheran Church
603 Custer ~ Brush, Colorado

SUNDAY WORSHIP
9:00 a.m.

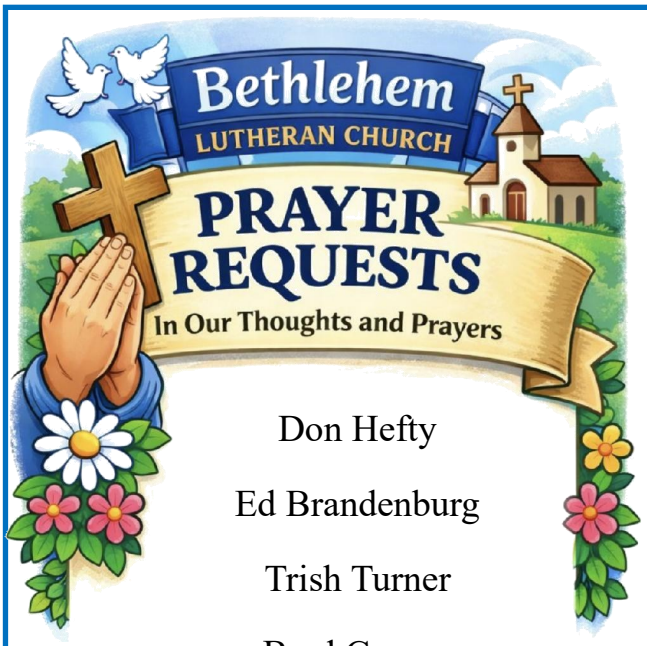
Gathered together,
we serve in Christ.

Administrative Assistant:
Terresa Lauck
Office Phone: (970) 842-2246
Email:
lutheranchurchbrush@yahoo.com
Office Hours:
Tues 12-1 & Thurs 9-12

(continued from page 1)

around us. It is still true that we "can do all things through Christ who strengthens us" (Philippians 4:13). He honors your faithfulness as He honored the Founding Fathers. As we celebrate this Fourth of July, let's also celebrate the God who gave us a nation whose Founding Fathers understood the necessity of creating a place where we can freely honor and worship Him.

Pastor Craig Lanning



Don Hefty

Ed Brandenburg

Trish Turner

Brad Craven

John Turner

Lenore Wind

Roxanne Swanson

Garnet Leys

Marilyn Woodward

John Strauch

Beva Linker

Dave Honebein

GREAT NEWS!
WE COLLECTED
$386
FOR SUMMER SWIM PASSES!
Thank You
TO ALL THOSE WHO CONTRIBUTED!

In Loving Memory
Beloved members
Shirley Schilling
and
Jim Christensen
entered life eternal.
Keep their families in your prayers.

BLC Church Council Meeting

June 14, 2026

The meeting was called to order at 5:07pm by President Pat C. Members present were Pat C, Todd M, Maren B, and Jeanette D. Members absent were Kevin G, Beth H and Terry L. Guest was Kim R who gave the opening prayer.

Todd moved and Maren seconded to approve the May Council Minutes. Motion passed.

Correspondence from Faye B's request to use the church building was denied. Thank You's were received from Rosa A for Ezra Rose's baptism and special cake, Sandy C for building use for a baby shower, and Donna M for all the cards and calls since her surgery.

OLD BUSINESS

There was a long discussion about our clavinovist and attempts to have her arrive at least 15 minutes early to play before service begins. Options are being investigated.

A request was made to use the pastor's office for a short time. Todd moved and Maren seconded a motion. It was agreed to at $25 a day.

Applications were filled out to join both NALC and LCMC. Terresa will complete them when she returns and send them in to the official offices.

Deacon for July has not been determined.

Usher for July through September is Jeanette D.

Next council meeting is July 12 at 5pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:24pm by saying the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeanette Dehning

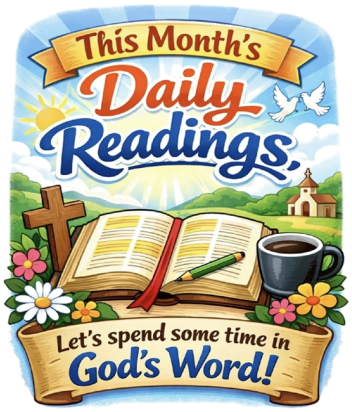
July Birthdays

June Hansen	3rd
Stan Krueger	11th
David Strand	15th
Roxanne Swanson	23rd

July Anniversary

Charles & Rosa Guzman-Alexander	2nd

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



Wednesday, July 1
Psalm 52
Job 28:12-28
Matthew 7:13-20

Thursday, July 2
Psalm 50:7-15
Lamentations 1:7-11
2 Peter 2:17-22

Friday, July 3
Psalm 50:7-15
Lamentations 3:40-58
Acts 28:1-10

Saturday, July 4
Psalm 50:7-15
Exodus 34:1-9
Matthew 9:27-34

Sunday, July 5
Hosea 5:15—6:6
Psalm 50:7-15
Romans 4:13-25
Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26

Monday, July 6
Psalm 40:1-8
Leviticus 15:25-31; 22:1-9
2 Corinthians 6:14—7:2

Tuesday, July 7
Psalm 40:1-8
Hosea 8:11-14; 10:1-2
Hebrews 13:1-16

Wednesday, July 8
Psalm 40:1-8
Hosea 14:1-9
Matthew 12:1-8

Thursday, July 9
Psalm 100
Exodus 4:18-23
Hebrews 3:1-6

Friday, July 10
Psalm 100
Exodus 4:27-31
Acts 7:35-43

Saturday, July 11
Psalm 100
Exodus 6:28—7:13
Mark 7:1-13

Sunday, July 12
Exodus 19:2-8a
Psalm 100
Romans 5:1-8
Matthew 9:35-10:23

Monday, July 13
Psalm 105:1-11, 37-45
Joshua 1:1-11
1 Thessalonians 3:1-5

Tuesday, July 14
Psalm 105:1-11, 37-45
1 Samuel 3:1-9
2 Thessalonians 2:13—3:5

Wednesday, July 15
Psalm 105:1-11, 37-45
Proverbs 4:10-27
Luke 6:12-19

Thursday, July 16
Psalm 69:7-10 [11-15] 16-18
Jeremiah 18:12-17
Hebrews 2:5-9

Friday, July 17
Psalm 69:7-10 [11-15] 16-18
Jeremiah 18:18-23
Acts 5:17-26

Saturday, July 18
Psalm 69:7-18
Jeremiah 20:1-6
Luke 11:53—12:3

Sunday, July 19
Jeremiah 20:7-13
Psalm 69:7-10 [11-15] 16-18
Romans 6:1b-11
Matthew 10:24-39

Monday, July 20
Psalm 6
Micah 7:1-7
Revelation 2:1-7

Tuesday, July 21
Psalm 6
Jeremiah 26:1-12
Revelation 2:8-11

Wednesday, July 22
Psalm 6
Jeremiah 38:1-13
Matthew 10:5-23

Thursday, July 23
Psalm 89:1-4, 15-18
Jeremiah 25:1-7
Galatians 5:2-6

Friday, July 24
Psalm 89:1-4, 15-18
Jeremiah 25:8-142
Galatians 5:7-12

Saturday, July 25
Psalm 89:1-4, 15-18
Jeremiah 28:1-4
Luke 17:1-4

Sunday, July 26
Jeremiah 28:5-9
Psalm 89:1-4, 15-18
Romans 6:12-23
Matthew 10:40-42

Monday, July 27
Psalm 119:161-168
1 Kings 21:1-16
1 Thessalonians 4:9-12

Tuesday, July 28
Psalm 119:161-168
1 Kings 21:17-291
1 John 4:1-6

Wednesday, July 29
Psalm 119:161-168
Jeremiah 18:1-11
Matthew 11:20-24

Thursday, July 30
Psalm 145:8-14
Zechariah 1:1-6
Romans 7:1-6

Friday, July 31
Psalm 145:8-14
Zechariah 2:6-13
Romans 7:7-20

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

July, 2026	5	12	19	26
Deacon	Deb Johnson			
Reader	Kevin Gardner	Kim Redden	Sharon George	Maren Bostrom
Altar Guild	Jeanette Dehning			
Usher	Jeanette Dehning			
Bell Ringer	Larry Johnson	Kim Redden		Maren Bostrom
Clavinovist	Diane Nicklas		Diane Nicklas	
Sunshine	Jeanette Dehning			
Media Team	Kevin Gardner, Sharon George, Deb Johnson, & Todd Morgan			
Pastor	Craig Lanning	Phil Reimers	Craig Lanning	Phil Reimers

	5/31	6/07	6/14	6/21
Attendance	32	27	25	25

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

Like Bethlehem Lutheran Church On Facebook!
www.facebook.com/bethlehemlutheranbrush

July 2026

Bethlehem Lutheran Church

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
July			1	2 9:00am Quilting	3	4
5 6th Sunday of Pentecost 9:00am Worship Craig Lanning	6	7	8	9 9:00am Quilting	10	11
12 7th Sunday of Pentecost 9:00am Worship Phil Reimers 5pm Council Meeting	13	14	15	16 9:00am Quilting	17	18
19 8th Sunday of Pentecost 9:00am Worship Craig Lanning	20	21 6:00pm PEO	22	23 9:00am Quilting	24	25 10:30am Shirley Schilling Memorial
26 9th Sunday of Pentecost 9:00am Worship Phil Reimers	27	28	29	30 9:00am Quilting	31	

Bethlehem Lutheran Church
603 Custer Street
Brush, CO 80723

Office: (970) 842-2246
E-mail: lutheranchurchbrush@yahoo.com

Address Service Requested

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