

Bethlehem Star

Bethlehem Lutheran Church | Evangelical Lutheran Church of America | April, 2023

On Sunday, March 12, the Sunshine Committee, Decorating Committee, and I met after worship so I could learn how these committees support the life of our church. Since then, you may have heard, “Ro wanted to know about the flags in the sanctuary.” Yes, I did ask for the story about the flags in Bethlehem’s sanctuary. I heard how important they are for the veterans that attend our church and how the flags give thanks to God for our country, the United States. And I also heard the fear that does exist in this congregation, if the flags are removed, people will leave our church.

One thing I did not hear was the story as to why flags were initially placed in churches in the United States. Immigrants from Europe (Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Germany, and others), threatened with their safety, placed an American flag at the church to indicate that their allegiance was no longer Danish, Norwegian, Swedish, German. They were American. In the late 1930’s, Pastor Jens Madsen removed the American flag from All Saints Church at Eben Ezer to honor God’s holy place in thanksgiving to God. In my home congregation, St. Matthew Lutheran in Illinois, the flag was removed from the sanctuary in the late 1960’s to honor God’s holy place in thanksgiving to God, even after our Luther League purchased new flags. In 2023, veterans

and active duty members of the military honor God’s holy place during memorial and funeral services. All military rituals, escorts, and salutes are observed outside the sanctuary. If the flag is present in the sanctuary, it is folded and quietly laid next to the remains of the honored soldier, recognizing that this time is first devoted to the soldier and his faith in God.

My biggest concern from conversation with the committees, is that of fear. Fear grips us in a way that we cannot wonder in our faith, only worry; which limits our faith. On that night in the garden of Gethsemane, Jesus had his moment of fear, so fearful that he sweat blood (Luke 22:44). Deeply grieved, he

(continued on page 2)

Bethlehem Lutheran Church

603 Custer

Brush, CO 80723

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Email: lutheranchurchbrush@yahoo.com

Website: www.blcorlutherans.org

Deacon Ro Fesser

Office Hours: Tuesdays 8:45am-9:45am

Wednesdays 11:30am-12:30pm

Phone: (970) 631-2715

Email: lutheranchurchpastor@gmail.com

Administrative Assistant: Teresa Lauck

Office Hours:

Tuesdays & Thursdays 9am - 3pm

Sunday Worship

9:00 a.m. Worship Service

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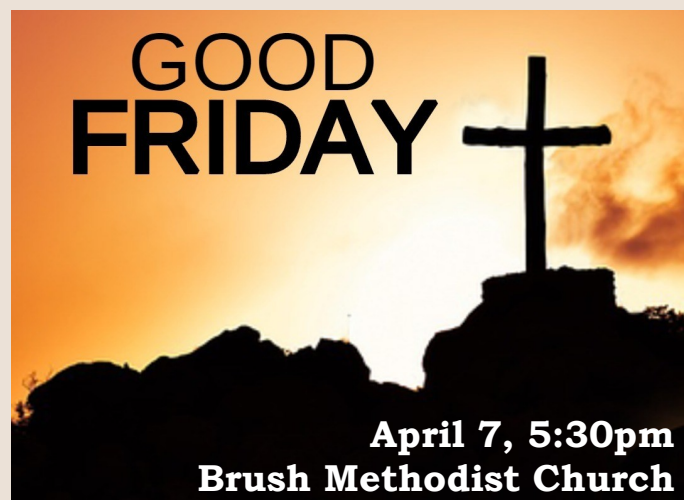
begged his disciples to remain and stay awake with him (Matthew 26:38). He prayed to His Father, "If you are willing; remove this cup from me, yet, not my will but yours be done" (Luke 22:42). Jesus' moment of fear and worry passed away in his trust and love of His Father, giving him the ability to live out God's will. Jesus was able to move from worry to wonder. Have you ever wondered how life would be different if Jesus had continued to worry; running from the guards, striking out in fear and being killed in the garden. If he had refused to get up on that cross or backed down in his faith in God, where would that leave us in our life decisions- living in fear or living out of faith? If Jesus had let fear be his guiding force, I think things like having a sanctuary to give God thanks and praise, sharing in the holy meal, having our sins forgiven, and living with the hope of eternal life would not be a part of our daily and weekly existence.

As Holy Week approaches, as you sit with the Lord in church on Maundy Thursday and Good Friday, may you live in wonder rather than worry. May you wonder what will happen when you more fully follow the example of Jesus, living out your faith and trusting in our Father. May you wonder what good, right, and true can happen as you honor, love, and serve your Lord!!!

Let us wonder and look forward to what is coming! Christ is Risen!!! Christ is risen, INDEED!!
Ro



At the March meeting, the Church Council agreed to join Rankin Presbyterian and Brush United Methodist Church during Holy Week for Maundy Thursday and Good Friday worship. Maundy Thursday worship service will be held at Rankin Presbyterian at 5:30pm. Good Friday worship service will be held at Brush United Methodist Church at 5:30pm. Take time out of your busy Easter preparations to make these services part of the preparation of your spirit for the Easter Resurrection celebration. Ro will be helping lead Prairie Parish worship at Akron Methodist Church at 7:00pm following the soup supper at 6:15pm on Maundy Thursday. She will join all of you on Good Friday at Brush United Methodist. *The meaning of "maundy": Latin for "mandatum" which means "command" referring to the instructions Jesus gave his disciples at The Last Supper.*





JOIN US

EASTER SUNDAY

BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN CHURCH
603 CUSTER STREET, BRUSH

BREAKFAST 8:00AM

WORSHIP SERVICE 9:00AM

SUN 9th
APRIL

*Altar
Guild*



Altar Guild will be deep cleaning
the sanctuary on Saturday, April
1st starting at 9:00 a.m.

Many hands make light work—
hope many of you can make it!

April 1
9:00am

Bethlehem Lutheran Church,

Thank you for your contributions amounting to
\$549.38 for the year of 2022 for the work of the
Kuwaa Mission. We appreciate your support.

The Kuwaa Mission is run solely by volunteers and
donors such as you. Because of your assistance, men,
women, and children throughout the Kuwaa
Chiefdom are experiencing life and the love of God in
a new way. Your thoughtfulness is making a big
difference in the lives of the Kuwaa people.

To see all that the Mission has accomplished with
your help, please look at the Prayer Letters on our
website, www.kuwaamission.org. You can also see
what projects are happening on our Facebook page
www.facebook.com/KuwaaMission.

Thank you for your partnership.

Blessings, Carol Norquist
Kuwaa Mission



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

**Lawrence Hansen, Wanda Rains,
Allyn & Lenore Wind, Zach Griffith,
Dave Madsen, Kari Linker, Lori
Bostron, and Collene Travers.**



*Never are we more aware of how much
our friends and family mean to us than at
this time of loss. Your kindness and
sympathy will always be remembered.*

Thank you so much for your friendship
with Avis. Also, for everything you did for
the service and luncheon.

The family of Avis Schreiner



Thank you
so much to
all of you
for the help
you gave
after my

shoulder surgery. Communion from
Chaplain Ro, the cards, calls, prayers,
visits and food were all greatly
appreciated! Thank you for all your care
and concern. It means so much to me!
Jeanette Dehning



April Birthdays

Jody DeKorte	4th
Tammy Garcia	8th
Terry West	13th
Dave Honebein	19th
Linda Bostron	20th
Esther Wyatt	20th
Deb Johnson	25th
Rebecca Walker	25th



April Anniversaries

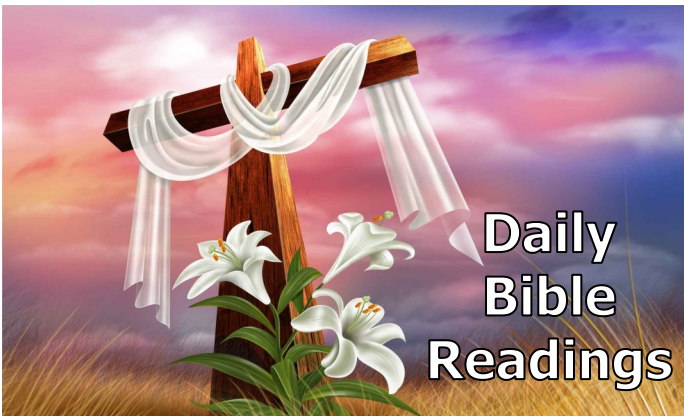
Larry & Deb Johnson	3rd
Kenny & Corinne Bostrom	13th



Dear Bethlehem Church,
Thanks so much for the beautiful quilt.
I am so sad to leave and will miss you all so
much. Hope to see you all again.

Shirley Schilling

**New address: 2119 Abeyta Court
Loveland, CO 8038**



Saturday, April 1
Psalm 31:9-16
Lamentations 3:55-66
Mark 10:32-34

Sunday, April 2
Matthew 21:1-11
Isaiah 50:4-9a
Psalm 31:9-16
Philippians 2:5-11
Matthew 26:14—27:66

Monday, April 3
Isaiah 42:1-9
Psalm 36:5-11
Hebrews 9:11-15
John 12:1-11

Tuesday, April 4
Isaiah 49:1-7
Psalm 71:1-14
1 Corinthians 1:18-31
John 12:20-36

Wednesday, April 5
Isaiah 50:4-9a
Psalm 70
Hebrews 12:1-3
John 13:21-32

Maundy Thursday, April 6
Exodus 12:1-4 [5-10] 11-14
Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19
1 Corinthians 11:23-26
John 13:1-17, 31b-35

Good Friday, April 7
Isaiah 52:13—53:12
Psalm 22
Hebrews 10:16-25
John 18:1—19:42

Saturday, April 8
Romans 6:3-11
John 20:1-18

Easter Sunday, April 9
Acts 10:34-43
Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24
Colossians 3:1-4
Matthew 28:1-10



Easter Evening
Isaiah 25:6-9
Psalm 114
1 Corinthians 5:6b-8
Luke 24:13-49

Monday, April 10
Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24
Exodus 14:10-31; 15:20-21
Colossians 3:5-11

Tuesday, April 11
Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24
Exodus 15:1-18
Colossians 3:12-17

Wednesday, April 12
Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24
Joshua 3:1-7
Matthew 28:1-10

Thursday, April 13
Psalm 16
Song of Solomon 2:8-15
Colossians 4:2-5

Friday, April 14
Psalm 16
Song of Solomon 5:9—6:3
1 Corinthians 15:1-11

Saturday, April 15
Psalm 16
Song of Solomon 8:6-7
John 20:11-20

Sunday, April 16
Acts 2:14a, 22-32
Psalm 16
1 Peter 1:3-9
John 20:19-31

Monday, April 17
Psalm 114
Judges 6:36-40
1 Corinthians 15:12-20

Tuesday, April 18
Psalm 114
Jonah 1:1-17
1 Corinthians 15:19-28

Wednesday, April 19
Psalm 114
Jonah 2:1-10
Matthew 12:38-42

Thursday, April 20
Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19
Isaiah 25:1-5
1 Peter 1:8b-12

Friday, April 21
Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19
Isaiah 26:1-4
1 Peter 1:13-16

Saturday, April 22
Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19
Isaiah 25:6-9
Luke 14:12-14

Sunday, April 23
Acts 2:14a, 36-41
Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19
1 Peter 1:17-23
Luke 24:13-35

Monday, April 24
Psalm 134
Genesis 18:1-14
1 Peter 1:23-25

Tuesday, April 25
Psalm 134
Proverbs 8:32—9:6
1 Peter 2:1-3

Wednesday, April 26
Psalm 134
Exodus 24:1-11
John 21:1-14

Thursday, April 27
Psalm 23
Exodus 2:15b-25
1 Peter 2:9-12

Friday, April 28
Psalm 23
Exodus 3:16-22; 4:18-20
1 Peter 2:13-17



Saturday, April 29
Psalm 23
Ezekiel 34:1-16
Luke 15:1-7

Sunday, April 30
Acts 2:42-47
Psalm 23
1 Peter 2:19-25
John 10:1-10

**Bethlehem Lutheran Congregational Council Meeting
March 9, 2023**

Members Present: Kim Redden, Beth Hocheder, Isaac Linker, Terry Linker, Debbie Johnson, Marisa Castrup, Marsha Mills, Kevin Dekorte and Chaplain Ro Fesser

Marsha called the meeting to order.

Chaplain Ro opened the meeting with a prayer.

Terry Linker moved to accept the minutes from Feb. 9 meeting, as is. Kim Redden second it, all approved.

Deb Johnson moved to accept Treasure/ Financial Secretary report as is, Terry Linker second it, all approved.

Deb Johnson moved to accept Chaplain Ro report as is, Beth Hocheder second it, all approved.

Correspondence: Our Church received information from our Insurance company for us to expect our price of coverage to increase. Several council members will look into options on this.

Old Business: Still have not heard back from electrician for the work to be done to install cameras at the church. Will continue to try to reach out to the electrician about this.

There was a vote on lowering the price of the parsonage, 8 voted against it. Council voted to not renew the contract with Colorado Land Co when it runs out at the end of March.

Deb Johnson moved to use the Great Copier Lease with the refurbished unit. Kevin Dekorte second it, all approved.

New Business:

For the trials of Jesus week, so far, it has been very successful, averaging 25 participants.

Holy Week worship: Maundy Thursday, and Good Friday will all be a combined service with United Methodist Church and Rankin Presbyterian Church. Bethlehem Lutheran will have it's own Palm Sunday and Easter Service. Deb Johnson moved to join the other Church's service, Isaac second it, all approved.

Potluck Easter breakfast at 8:00 before the service starts at 9:00.

Isaac Linker has volunteered to remove the snow from the Church and Parsonage for the remainder of this year. He will turn in his hours whenever he does the removal.

One of our Council members, Shirley Schilling, is leaving. Jeannette Dehning agreed to finish that term to the end of this year. Terry Linker moved to accept that, Kim Redden second it, all approved.

Other Business: Going through the Roles: We will get a committee together to update active member list. This is ongoing.

April Deacon: Marsha Mills. The roles of Deacon and Usher will be updated.

Next council Meeting will be April 13, 2023 at 6:30pm.

Meeting was adjourned with The Lord's Prayer.

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

April 2023	2	9	16	23	30
Deacon	Marsha Mills				
Reader	Jeanne Wuest	Kim Redden	Sharon George	Jeanne Wuest	Deb Johnson
Altar Guild	Kim Redden				
Usher	Marsha Mills				
Sunshine Committee	Barb Brandenburg				
Clavinovist	Garnet Leys				
Pastor	Dan Bollman	Dan Bollman	Dan Bollman	Dan Bollman	Sonja Pancoast

	2/26	3/05	3/12	3/19
Attendance	25	26	25	30

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 Castrup, Secretary 303-502-7459
 Kim Redden, Treasurer 970-380-9727
 Jeanette Dehning 970-380-3822
 Kevin DeKorte 970-867-2238
 Beth Hocheder 970-768-3888
 Isaac Linker 970-520-1989
 Terry Linker 970-768-1099



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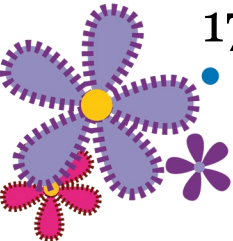


www.facebook.com/bethlehemlutheranbrush



Bethlehem Lutheran Church

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April, 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
30 4th Sunday of Easter 9:00am Worship Sonja Pancoast	A P R I L					1 9:00am Altar Guild Cleaning
2 <i>Palm Sunday</i> Palm Sunday 9:00am Worship Dan Bollman	3 	4 1:30pm Bible Study	5	5:30pm Rankin Presbyterian  MAUNDY THURSDAY	6 5:30pm United Methodist 9:00am Quilting	7  9:00am Quilting
8 <i>Palm Sunday</i> Palm Sunday 9:00am Worship Dan Bollman	9 <i>Easter SUNDAY</i> Easter Sunday 8:00am Breakfast 9:00am Worship Dan Bollman	10	11 	12 6:30pm Council Meeting 9:00am Quilting	13	14
15	16	17 	18 1:30pm Bible Study 6:00pm PEO	19	20 9:00am Quilting	21 
22 2nd Sunday of Easter 9:00am Worship Dan Bollman	23	24	25	26 <i>SPRING</i>	27 9:00am Quilting	28 
29 3rd Sunday of Easter 9:00am Worship Dan Bollman						