



BETHLEHEM STAR



NEWSLETTER OF BETHLEHEM EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
PEMBERVILLE, OHIO

Pastor's Message

By Pastor Tim Philabaum - August 2023

August, the end of summer, the last "hurrah," named after the step-son of Julius Caesar, Octavius Augustus. August is upon us.

In Pemberville, the center of August brings to us the Free Fair- showing of animals, flowers, and baked goods, rides and excitement, parades, and gatherings of families and friends.

This has been a blessed year. God's presence has been evident in the beauty and growth of creation, in the sounds of playing children and relaxing adults, in vacations and trips, in work at home, in new birth and in death. God's presence is even there in suffering, as the One Who died on the cross holds onto us in our suffering until that awesome day of resurrection. We are blessed in August.

The Pemberville Free Fair begins with Worship on the Fairgrounds on Sunday, August 13. At this 10:00a.m. worship, to which you are asked to bring your own chair, we gather with the other Pemberville congregations, giving thanks to God for what God continues to do in our midst. Pastor Leroy Sholey

and the United Methodist Church will be leading this time of worship.

Following the worship will be the Chicken dinner, then we of Bethlehem will sponsor an "Open Swim" at the Pool



for all the community. Held throughout the afternoon water will be splashed and joy will be abounding. My understanding is that watermelon will also make its appearance, and then be devoured.

The Free Fair will be an example of the spirit of this community, and of the leadership of many in

Bethlehem. In all aspects of the Village, from barns to shops, from grass to the middle of the street, from gatherings and games, from items created and animals cared for the abundance of God's grace and bounty is celebrated.

The end of the Fair brings an end to many summer activities.

During Worship on Sunday the 20th we will bless the backpacks of our children, who will begin school that next week. Not only will backpacks be blessed, but also our children, their families, and the teachers, gifted in God's grace.

Sisters and brothers in Christ, may this August be one for you that is full of God – full of God's love, full of thanksgiving, full of God's community, full of the hope for God's hands in the months to come, full of grace. Blessings!



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President

Lisa Kohlenberg

Vice-President

Luann Snyder

Treasurer

Renee Farmer

Secretary

Brenda Graham

220 Cedar Street
Pemberville, OH 43450
419-287-4182
bethlehempemberville.org

Office Hours:

Mon. - Thurs.
9:00am - 2:00pm
Friday-Closed

if you need to update your contact information including if you have a PO Box, please call the office or email office@bethlehempemberville.org

Important Dates

August 13th- Community Worship 10:00a.m. in the tent by the pool

August 13th- Community Swim Event 1-5p.m. @ Pemberville Pool

August 20th- Blessing of the backpacks 9a.m. Worship @ Bethlehem

September 3rd- Community Worship 10:30 a.m. @ Pemberville United Methodist

September 10th- Sunday School Resumes @ Bethlehem

Long Range Planning

The Long Range Planning Committee is charged with making spending recommendations for the earnings accrued from the Endowment Fund. There are five categories of potential projects or ministries available. They include spending for poverty, global missions, congregational support, leadership development, and disaster relief. If anyone is passionate about a particular need in the community, nation, or world, complete and submit the Endowment Request For Funding Form to the church office by August 24, 2023. Copies are available in the office.

Bethlehem Evangelical Lutheran Church

220 Cedar Street

P.O. Box 344

Pemberville, Ohio 43450

419-287-4182

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Endowment Request For Funding Form

Project Categories

Poverty

Global Mission

Congregational Support

Leadership

Disaster Relief

Other

Purpose: Briefly explain how the project will make disciples of Christ, Expand the reach of the Gospel

Amount Requested and expected budget categories. (Detailed accounting at project completion)

Submitted by:

Mission Honduras

By Darla Boyk and the Mission Honduras team

Mission Honduras: Mesias

A filter advocate is a local resident who helps organize filter distributions, filter checkups, and helps maintain the filters between our visits. These advocates are key to the success of our filters. Eugenio is our filter advocate in Valle Arriba and has seen firsthand the health benefits of the filters for those in his family and his community. During our recent brigade, he asked us to provide filters to a neighboring community, Mesias, where many are getting sick due to their highly contaminated water. He recently sent a list of households in the village and pictures of a few of the families waiting for a filter.



Our congregation has accomplished great things in Honduras by providing over 8000 people with access to clean water. However, we have more work to do as we share God's love in the mountains of Honduras. During our January 2024 brigade, I would like to distribute filters to Mesias, as well as other rural Honduran communities. If you would like to provide a family with a household water filters, you can donate through Bethlehem's online donation portal or by writing a check payable to Mission Honduras-Bethlehem and write filters in the memo line. I would also like to invite you to join us for our January 20-30th medical/filter brigade. No medical experience is needed, and you have the option of returning on January 27th if you are unable to stay the full ten days. Lastly, thank you for all the filter "sweaters", flipflops, hand towels, and other supplies you have donated for those in Honduras. Ed note: each filter and equipment costs about \$50.00.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 419-575-0079 or missionhonduras.bethlehem@gmail.com.

Thank you- Darla

JUNE COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS



Call to order by Luann Snyder, meeting called to order at 7:02

Members present: Luann Snyder, Russ Eby, Pastor Tim Philabaum, Steve Rife, Brenda Graham, Josh Gerwin, Travis Ford, Jane Kohlenberg, Renee Farmer

Members Absent: Willie Fisher, Daniel Smith, Andrew Kreais, McKenzie Bradley, Duane Peters, Lisa Kohlenberg

Prayer, Pastor Tim Philabaum

Visitors present: Teri Hansen, a Proposal for Preschool Scholarships

Motion made to approve \$2,000 to preschool made by Travis Ford, second by Pastor Tim Philabaum Motion Carries

3 positive things in the church: Piano lessons and recital for Senior Center, More church attendance & Pastor Tim's daily devotions

Reports of Officers: Pastors Report reviewed July 2nd next community gathering and August 13th @ Fair Tent, Treasurers report reviewed, Trustee report & Cleaning alarms, organ not working correctly. Motion to approve reports by: Steve Rife with second by: Willie Fisher Motion Carries

Committee Reports: Transition Team report deferred, Long Range Planning Committee deferred & Constitution Committee Report update provided. Motion to accept reports Russ Eby Second by: Renee Farmer Motion Carries

Old Business:

- Stephen ministry: funding options discussed and discussed adding awareness to congregation.
- Pool rental activity: funding options for activity for August 13th, 2023 Motion to allocate \$1,000 for pool party for all congregations in with second by Josh Gerwin Motion Carries.

New Business

- Proposal for use of parsonage for Ukraine refugees with stipulation no rent for 6 months and no utilities for 3 months then 1/2 for next 3 months and if parsonage sells, find other housing for the refugees. motion to approve proposal with any repairs going to designated member made by Pastor Tim Philabaum second by Travis Ford Motion Carries.
- Scout Popcorn Sales: ask if Popcorn sale can be held after a Sunday Service. Motion to approve Pastor Tim Philabaum second by Willie Fisher Motion Carries
- Food Pantry needs more storage

Devotions: Steve Rife

Willie Fisher made motion to adjourn and 2nd by Renee Farmer Meeting adjourned at 8:55 pm

Next Council meeting will be Thursday July 20, 2023

JULY COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS



Positive things happening inside the church

1. Daily devotions have had positive feedback
2. Positive interest in Ukrainian ministry and 6 bicycles donated to the effort
3. Women's Prayer Breakfast went well
4. Met the quota for pies for the Pemberville Free Fair

Reports of Offices:

- Pastor's report reviewed. It was brought to the attention of the church that the Children's message was being viewed inappropriately. Bethlehem Lutheran Church has made necessary adjustments to the Children's Message to protect the children's privacy, only the Pastor will be seen during Children's message.
- Treasurer's report: reviewed
- Trustee Report:
Discussed duties of Church Custodian.
Discussed the smoke detectors and batteries being replaced in the sanctuary and further work required.

Committee Reports:

Transition team- report reviewed
Long Range Planning Committee- a Synod representative has asked to attend the next Council meeting in September

Old Business:

- Ukraine/ Parsonage update: Informational Meeting with Veronica Spicer will be on Thursday, July, 27th @ 9:00am
- Parsonage: Purchase agreement signed with possible closing on the Parsonage August 31, 2023 pending contingencies of inspection, financing etc. Verified the Constitution requires the President of the congregation to sign all legal documents.
- Constitution Review: Discussion held regarding plan to legitimize database for Membership; Discussed names of committees that were realigned in the constitution. Discussed next steps which is to take the Constitution to the congregation and then to the Synod.
- Pool Event: Community swim sponsored by Bethlehem will be on Sunday August 13th from 1-5pm. Entrance to the Pool will be free. Anyone entering the Pool will get a Flier from Bethlehem with Church information on it. Stephen's Ministries: Will hold on this ministry at this time.
- Choir Director update: Joe Stribrny applied for the position of Bethlehem Choir Director. Discussed salary arrangements. Luann Snyder made a motion to award Joe the position with second by Pastor Tim Philabaum- Motion Carries

New Business:

- Council Nominating Committee: Will consist of the 4 newest Deacons
- Positions open: Vice President, Secretary, 4 Deacons and 2-3 Trustees
- Calendar for the rest of the year discussed: There will be 2 services on Christmas Eve with no communion with Sunday morning service and all choral service on Christmas Eve; There will be no service on Christmas Day (Monday). Church Office will be closed Monday, December 25, 2023 through January 1, 2024
- No Church Council Meeting for August, 2023
- Fair Activities: Discussed past practice of providing food to Fair workers prior to the fair beginning, discussed that the Outdoor church service during the fair will be hosted by the Methodist Church and Sonfire for service and food.
- Letter from the Preschool- Discussion of parameters of Church Custodian, discussed, use of choir room and repair needs to the preschool rooms
- Local Restaurant in downtown Pemberville looking to get consent for a Liquor License.

Motion to adjourn meeting made at 9:34 by Duane Peters with second by Luann Snyder
Meeting ended with the Lord's Prayer.

Next Council Meeting will be Thursday, September 21, 2023



FROM BISHOP DANIEL BEAUDOIN



May 16, 2023 *Bishop's Writings*
Tanzania

Dear Friends in Christ, **“Then people will come from east and west, from north and south, and take their places at the banquet in the kingdom of God”** (Luke 13:29).

We are a part of a global church, drawn together by the Holy Spirit from east and west, from north and south, to be the whole people of God for the sake of the world. Global Companions of the Northwestern Ohio Synod include: The Slovak Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Augsburg Confession in Serbia-Montenegro, the Mexican Lutheran Church, and The Dodoma Diocese of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania.

On Sunday morning, May 7, I was blessed to participate in the Consecration of newly elected Bishop Christian Ndossa of the Dodoma Diocese of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania on the grounds of the Lutheran Cathedral in the heart of Dodoma. Church leaders knew that the Cathedral, which seats 1500 people, would be too small for the event, so thousands of chairs were set up under numerous tents.

The Service of Consecration began at 8:00 a.m. and continued into the early afternoon. The estimated attendance was just over 3000 people, while countless others watched the service that was broadcast on national television across Tanzania. The preaching was powerful. The liturgy was moving. The music led by several diverse choirs was inspiring. The Northwestern Ohio Synod presented Bishop Ndossa with a Pectoral Cross and a Bishop’s Ring. My role in the service was to bless the new Bishop’s Mitre and place



it on his head with the Swahili words, “Kwa jina la Baba, na la Mwana, na la Roho Mtakatifu” (In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.)

At the end of the service, we were addressed by newly consecrated Bishop Christian Ndossa of the Dodoma Diocese, Presiding Bishop Fredrick Shoo of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania, and the Vice-President of Tanzania, Philip Mpango. A time of food and fellowship on the grounds of the Lutheran Cathedral followed the Service of Consecration. This was a sacred moment that I will remember for the rest of my days.

In the photo below I am taking part of the consecration of Bishop Christian Ndossa through prayer and the laying on of hands.



Women of NWO Banquet

The Women of NWO invite you to our "Here I Am Lord" Gathering on October 27, 28th at the Findlay Inn, in Findlay, Ohio. Dr. Lisa Chavers will be speaking on Friday, "Hearing God's Rhythm and Answering the Call" On Saturday, Pastor Melanie Haack from ST. Paul's, New Rochester and St. James Bradner will present, "I Am She", she will also lead closing worship. Chris Budke will lead Bible Study on Saturday, "Answering the Call". Friday Night Banquet. "I LOVE TO TELL THE STORY".

Registration form in church office, "SONLIGHT". Questions? Contact Sharon Moenter, 419-704-2193



Meal for Fair workers and Volunteers

August 15th we are looking for food donation to help feed the fair workers! If you can stay and help serve we are looking for about 5 to help. You can drop food off by 5:30pm. The link is below if you are able to help. Any water can be dropped off ahead of time then we can get it chilled in time. You are welcome to stay and eat with the workers and volunteers.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0945A4A723A7F85-fair>

In Loving Memory

IN MEMORY OF ARDELLE ROLF

M/M Ron Andrews
M/M Bob Bruning
Luther Henline
Marlene Hoodlebrink
M/M Carl Dierksheide
Evelyn Gerwin
M/M Robert Obrock
Linda Dierksheide



Renee Farmer
M/M Wayne Buchman
M/M Victor Schuerman
M/M Keith Avers
M/M Dennis Andrews
M/M Jim Witker
Karol Heckman
M/M Dale Fahle
M/M Eric Schuerman
Melvin Karns



M/M Ray Kohlenberg
Millie Dierker
Carolyn Borchering
Donna Schuerman
Rick Rahe
Susan Rahe
Janet Witker
M/M Jack Recker
William Welling
M/M Paul Rolf

BY THE NUMBERS

From Jane Kohlenberg, Financial Secretary

June, 2023	Beg. Balance	Deposits	Expenses	End Balance
Operating	\$198,657.81	\$17,992.89	\$21,950.61	\$194,700.09
Recon Adjustment	\$2,583.19			\$2,583.19
Memorial	\$-7,598.35	\$885.00		\$-6,713.35
Benevolence	\$7,977.12	\$1,785.00		\$9,762.12
Outreach	\$13,886.64	\$2,347.00	\$6,764.59	\$9,469.05
Pass Through	\$190,590.95			\$190,590.95
Totals	\$406,097.36	\$23,009.89	\$28,715.20	\$400,392.05



*Join us
for a*

**FREE
SWIM!**

AUG 13TH : 1-5PM

Pemberville Pool

**BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN IS HOSTING A
FREE SWIM FOR THE COMMUNITY!
COME ANYTIME BETWEEN 1 AND 5PM TO
HAVE FREE ENTRANCE TO THE POOL.**

HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!

THANK YOU



2021 N. McCord Road
Toledo, Ohio 43615
419.861.4965

June 9, 2023

Bethlehem Lutheran Church
PO Box 344
Pemberville, OH 43450-0344

Dear Bethlehem Lutheran Church:

Thanks to your generous gift of \$150.00, you have made a difference with your support for Genacross Lutheran Services - Wolf Creek Campus Chapel Fund.

Your gift is deeply appreciated and allows the Genacross Lutheran Services Foundation the ability to support unparalleled Christian care to so many in need.

Our caring, front-line essential employees provide excellent services and care to over 3,500 residents and care recipients, as you can see in the enclosed information sheet, and can do so because you gave to the Genacross Lutheran Services Foundation. After reading this, we hope you are inspired to continue supporting Genacross.

You and your loved ones will be in our prayers, that you might remain connected to us by our mission statement: "Inspired by the Christian faith, we embrace individuals and families with compassionate care and services throughout life's journey."

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Michael A. George".

Michael A. George, CFRE
Executive Director
Genacross Lutheran Services Foundation

Dear Members of Bethlehem Lutheran Church, June 26, 2023

Once again, I would like to thank you for allowing me to use your choir room to give piano lessons. I feel like music should be an important part of the lives of young people. This year we performed for the Senior Citizen lunch that is held everyday in the community room. Please accept this donation as part of my thank you.

Sincerely, Carol Slater

Thank you for all the prayers. My family and I really appreciate it.

Jim Witker



Happening This Month: August

August Mission Action Project

School Kits—Lutheran World Relief

- 4—70-sheet notebooks of wide- or college-ruled paper approximately 8" x 10.5" (No loose-leaf paper)
- One 30-centimeter ruler, or a ruler with centimeters on one side and inches on the other
- One pencil sharpener
- One blunt scissors (safety scissors with embedded steel blades work well)
- 5 unsharpened #2 pencils with erasers; secure with a rubber band
- One eraser approximately 2-1/2" long
- 5 ballpoint pens (no gel ink), secure together with a rubber band
- One box of 16 or 24 crayons
- One sturdy drawstring backpack-style cloth bag approximately 14" x 17" with shoulder straps, provided by the BLCW.

Do not add other items or leave out any of the items listed. All items should be new and in good condition. Remove any excess packaging, pack all items in the bag provided and close. Do not enclose the kit or any of its contents in plastic bags.

Praying...

FOR HEALING AND HOPE

Lisa Ruck, Jill Kingery, Judy Hass, Patricia Bowe, Donna Schuerman, Miriam Aufdenkamp, Norma Hall, Sharra Samson, Dennis Guyer, Aidan Frankfather, Luther Henline, Evelyn Hagemeyer

FOR OUR BISHOPS

Elizabeth Eaton and Daniel Beaudoin

FOR OUR MISSION PARTNERS

Sociedad Amigos de los Ninos Honduras, Missions International (Haiti), Redeemer Church, Operation Christmas Child

FOR LOCAL MISSIONS

Snack Pack Program, Good Samaritan Fund, Community Food Pantry, Habitat for Humanity, The Linen Closet, Grace's Place, Bethlehem Lutheran Preschool & Extended Care, WCOAA Senior Care, Cub Scut Pack 344, Scouts BSA Troops 344 and 9344

FOR ALL YOUTH

FOR OUR MILITARY MEN & WOMEN

Food Pantry Needs Your Help

Please help the Food Pantry stock these needed items in

August:

- Crackers
- Applesauce
- Dish soap
- Unscented wipes
- Paper towels

The Food Pantry always accepts non-perishable food items such as canned fruits and vegetables, boxed potatoes cereal and soups. They also accept facial tissues, toilet paper, paper towels, household cleaners, laundry detergent, fabric softener and basic personal items (soap, deodorant, toothbrushes, toothpaste, shampoo and conditioner).



Food for the pantry can be left in the Mission Action Room (111) any time. The bins are located right inside the door on a table.

Monetary donations are always welcomed so that the pantry can restock items as needed.

The Food Pantry is available every Tuesday from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., as well as the second and last Saturday of the month from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. (excluding holidays) for Eastwood community residents in need of food.

Serving this month in Worship and Beyond

Altar Flowers
Leslie Shiffler

Altar Guild
Ruth Phillips
Karen Schultz

Office Window
June-August VBS

Service Org (Funerals)
Joanne Busdeker
Joan Slebos

Help Members Celebrate Their 80+ Birthday!

Celebrate this joyous occasion with the members below by sending a card or give a greeting!

- ♦ 8/2 Jack Eisenhour
- ♦ 8/8 Bob Bosse
- ♦ 8/9 Tom Rahe
- ♦ 8/12 Karol Heckman
- ♦ 8/14 Linda Rolf
- ♦ 8/16 Karen Schultz
- ♦ 8/25 Ruth Peters
- ♦ 8/31 Jim Alexander

If your 80+ birthday is not included here, please contact the office at 419-287-4182 so we can update our records.



KIDS ACTIVITIES

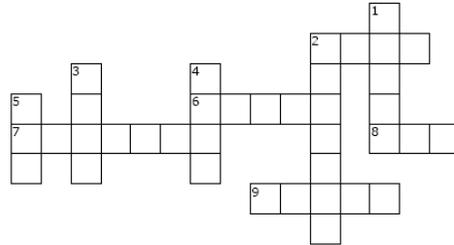


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Abraham Is Tested

Abraham answered, "God himself will provide the lamb for the burnt offering, my son." Genesis 22:8a (NIV)

Based on Genesis 22:1-14 (NIV)



ACROSS

- A hard substance which forms the branches and trunks of trees
- A type of table used in making a sacrifice to God
- The father of Isaac
- A person's male child
- A tool with a metal blade and a handle used for cutting

DOWN

- The hard, pointed part that grows from the top of the head of some animals
- Praising God through prayer, singing, and giving an offering
- Burning that produces flames, heat, and smoke
- A young sheep
- An adult male sheep

ALTAR	LAMB	WORSHIP	FIRE	SON
ABRAHAM	WOOD	RAM	HORNS	KNIFE

Abraham Is Tested

Abraham answered, "God himself will provide the lamb for the burnt offering, my son." Genesis 22:8a (NIV)

Based on Genesis 22:1-14 (NIV)



B R V I H I T G E O I A U E C
 Y X F N U E P O T D P U C T P
 N H O Q K I Z N F H I I S M M
 Z S Z C H T R N W F F T L A T
 K O I S Z U M K G I E W R Z O
 G H R A B J Y A R J B R R H Y
 T O L V K Y W C B J L W I D N
 W F I O B N A O K R X O S N N
 T E O S V S I S W G A T O L G
 Z A D L A E Q F N D N H A N D
 A R B O H A D Q E A S W A L B
 Y P C G N O C G V L N O G M K
 V Q H R F K R R M T Z B A Z L
 K A P P K Y E N E A S L S M R
 J F I R E S P Y S R W O O D L

RAM	THICKET	SERVANTS	ALTAR	BURNT
ISAAC	OFFERING	KNIFE	LOVE	SON
HORNS	HAND	WOOD	FEAR	LAMB
SACRIFICE	ABRAHAM	WORSHIP	FIRE	DONKEY



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AUGUST

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4 Office Closed	5
6 9:00 am Worship In-person and on Facebook/YouTube 10:15am Adult Bible Study 11:30 am Worship broadcast on 99.1 FM	7 7:00 pm Yoga	8 11:00 am - 2:00 pm Food Pantry open	9	10	11 Office Closed	12 8:00 - 11:00 am Food Pantry open
13 10a.m. Community Worship In the tent by the pool 1-5p.m. Community Swim	14 7:00 pm Yoga	15 11:00 am - 2:00 pm Food Pantry open	16	17 7:00 pm Council Meeting	18 Office Closed	19
20 Blessing of the backpacks 9:00 am Worship In-person and on Facebook/YouTube 10:15 am Adult Bible Study 11:30 am Worship broadcast on 99.1 FM	21 7:00 pm Yoga	22 9-12pm Knotting 11:00 am - 2:00 pm Food Pantry open	23	24	25 Office Closed	26 8:00 - 11:00 am Food Pantry open
27 9:00 am Worship In-person and on Facebook/YouTube 10:15 am Adult Bible Study 11:30 am Worship broadcast on 99.1 FM	28 7:00 pm Yoga	29 11:00 am - 2:00 pm Food Pantry open 7:00 p.m..BLCW Meeting	30	31		

Bethlehem Lutheran Church
PO Box 344
Pemberville, OH 43450

*Return service requested
Dated material. Do not delay*



Worship

9:00 AM

**In person in the sanctuary and
streaming on Facebook and YouTube**

11:30

Broadcast on 99.1 FM