



# THE BETHLEHEM STAR

T O K N O W C H R I S T . . . T O M A K E C H R I S T K N O W N



People of Bethlehem,  
 Summer is upon us! This is a time of the year when we thank God for the beauty of creation in the beauty of colorful flowers, beautiful sunsets over the ocean, and longer sunlight hours to enjoy it all. It's also a time of the year when we thank God for the invention of air-conditioning.

These warmer months of the year are often times when we're all busy spending more time with family and traveling. That's a wonderful thing. It's a blessing from God that we have those friends and family to spend time with. It's great to be able to have the resources to visit interesting sights in the Los Angeles area, throughout the US, or elsewhere in the world. For all of these things, we give thanks to God, who has blessed us with those opportunities. We also thank God for all that we have when we stay right here- there's a lot going on at church as well.

We've got our blended worship service and celebration of the Confirmation students on June 10<sup>th</sup> at 10 am. We've got a blended service and food in July. There's Vacation Bible School (VBS) this summer as well. Our Bible study group continues to meet weekly- so if you have time on Wednesday mornings this summer, join us!

If you're looking for ways to recharge and refresh yourself in the heat of the summer- make sure to come to church on Sunday mornings! The air-conditioning is running to cool you down, and the music, the prayers, the scripture readings, preaching, and fellowship don't slow down with the summer. Take some Sabbath time each week this summer- time to focus yourself on Jesus and to remember who you have to thank for all that you've been given, who you can lean on and trust in when life is difficult and challenging.

On the weeks when you're out of town and away from church, I'd also like to remind you to continue your financial contributions of your tithes and offerings. Even when you're not here, there are still people in need that the congregation helps. We continue to support our missionaries, to contribute to the synod and to other things through the ELCA, and we continue to have all of our programs here through the summer. Even if you're not supporting the mission of the church with your presence as much during the summer, please remember to support it financially.

Blessings, *Pastor Megan*

## SUNDAY WORSHIP:

9:00AM – CONTEMPORARY STYLE  
 10:10AM – SUNDAY SCHOOL  
 (SEPT-MAY)  
 11:00AM – TRADITIONAL STYLE

## STAFF:

### PASTOR:

REV. MEGAN HUNT FRYLING  
[pastor@bethlehemplutheran.net](mailto:pastor@bethlehemplutheran.net)

### DIRECTORS OF MUSIC MINISTRY:

VICENTE DITTO  
 MARISA RAWLINS-BRADFIELD  
[vicente.ditto@gmail.com](mailto:vicente.ditto@gmail.com)  
[rawmisa@gmail.com](mailto:rawmisa@gmail.com)

### BOOKKEEPER:

RICK DEMLOW  
[finance@bethlehemplutheran.net](mailto:finance@bethlehemplutheran.net)

### FRONT OFFICE ASSISTANT:

EVELYN CULAJAY  
[office@bethlehemplutheran.net](mailto:office@bethlehemplutheran.net)

### YOUTH DIRECTOR:

SAM MANUAL  
[youthdirector@bethlehemplutheran.net](mailto:youthdirector@bethlehemplutheran.net)

### PRESCHOOL DIRECTOR:

MARY ASHDJIAN-KANDILIAN  
[director@bethlehemplutheran.net](mailto:director@bethlehemplutheran.net)

### ASST. PRESCHOOL DIRECTOR:

SANDRA VALDIVIA  
[preschool@bethlehemplutheran.net](mailto:preschool@bethlehemplutheran.net)

### CONTACT BY PHONE:

CHURCH: 818-360-4777  
 PRESCHOOL: 818-368-6947  
 FAX: 818-360-5559

## SUMMARY OF BETHLEHEM COUNCIL MINUTES –

Present at the meeting were Scott Fisher, Pastor Megan Fryling, Brian Grefsrud, Beverly Compton, Sue Akin and Betsy Kalusa.

### NEW ITEMS

We worked on the "values chart" that is part of work being done by Bev Compton and the Twin Valley Strategic Visioning team.

We discussed the topic of background checks for volunteers at VBS or other activities with children.

Council members present all reiterated position that BLC should secure background checks for all volunteers that work with children. It was determined that there needs to be much clearer communication on this topic around why we are requesting background checks, what is specifically involved and process steps. Scott to coordinate with Pastor, Lisa Nakata and Melisa Nusbaum to have clear communication document provided.

We discussed logistics for upcoming Council retreat to be held on 6/23 from 9a-1pm at the home of Beverly Compton. Our primary focus of discussion will be on identifying key congregational goals and how we plan to ensure continuing effort and measurement. Next step is for Scott to collect feedback from Council members' goal recommendations.

There was discussion of bids for phone system for school and church received to date. Council needs more information on the specifics before a decision can be made.

We re-confirmed that 6/10 will be one service as we will have student Confirmations

Our 6/20 Council meeting will primarily focus on first draft of 2018-2019 budget

### OTHER TOPICS

#### St. Stephen's update

No new updates

Next meetings are scheduled for 6/18 and 7/24 from 6:30-8pm

### REPORTS

#### Pastor Report Key Notes:

Upcoming Dates

6/26-7/2 – Youth gathering in Houston (Pastor will be chaperoning)

7/7-7/14 – Pastor in Michigan for Family Reunion

7/16-7/20 – Pastor at Continuing Education (Executive Skills for Pastors at CLU)

#### Treasurer's Report

April offerings were \$22,726, which was \$6,060 above budget for the month.

For the fiscal year to date, offerings are \$3,020 below budget.

The school's income is running above budget for the month, \$13,335. For the fiscal year to date, the school's income is \$49,587 above budget.

Total Cash is up \$54,948, month over previous month.

Total net income (combined School and Church) is \$68,921 for the fiscal year to date

#### Other Reports Provided were:

Preschool Report

Worship and Music Report

Fellowship Report

## MUSIC NOTES

**VICENTE DITTO**

**MARISA RAWLINS BRADFIELD**

Directors of Music Ministry



Youth Choir will have their final performance of the season at the combined service on June 10th. They will be the Special Music and sing "Open the Eyes of My Heart" and "Father I Adore You." The group will go on break until August following their June 10th appearance. Adult Choir will continue to meet during the summer at their usual time: Thursdays from 6:00 - 7:15ish. Now is a great time to give adult choir a try! Summer is a little lighter on choir appearances on Sundays and it is still light out after rehearsals are done in the evening. No pressure; just come and have fun. -*Vicente & Marisa*

## YOUTH NEWS

**SAM MANUAL**

Director of Youth Ministry

[youthdirector@bethlehemlutheran.net](mailto:youthdirector@bethlehemlutheran.net)

Hello Bethlehem Fam!

So the summer is finally upon us and it is off to a fast start. With some many end of year to-do's going on we have been trying to find space to squeeze in some face time with the youth to start the season off right. My goal is to have our next hang to be a time where I communicate a little more the vision of what the next several months are going to look like. Right now I am contacting folks about hosting youth in their homes. The idea is that a family can take a month (2 youth groups on Sunday nights from 2-4pm) and we can meet at their place. Also, in order to keep the responsibilities spread out if you are not able to host at your place but would be open to providing snacks that would be awesome! If you are interested in chatting about either of these opportunities don't hesitate to contact me.

Email: [youthdirector@bethlehemlutheran.net](mailto:youthdirector@bethlehemlutheran.net) or Cell: 626-731-5151.

Be on the look outs for updates in the weekly contacts! Thanks again for all the love and support!

*Sam*

## PRESCHOOL NEWS

**MARY ASHDJIAN-KANDILIAN**

Preschool Director

[director@bethlehemlutheran.net](mailto:director@bethlehemlutheran.net)



Summer is upon us families! We have an amazing summer curriculum planned for our new and returning students and are so eager to share all of it with you! Please be sure to follow Bethlehem Lutheran School on Facebook for the day to day updates as well! June 8th is our Pre-Kindergarten graduation day at 4pm and the 15th of June at 10am comes in our Father's Day festivities with a fun filled day with dads, uncles, grandfathers - put on some comfortable clothes and shoes for our rock climbing wall!

Involvement and collaboration of church and school is crucial for us, and were always looking for new ways to merge the two! We welcome you to let us know if you would like to read, sing, dance, or do something with our students or families!

Let's make this summer and school year a fabulous one together!

*Mary Kandilian*

## PASTOR AT YOUTH GATHERING

Pastor Megan will be in Houston June 26-July 2 chaperoning the youth for the 2018 Youth Gathering. For pastoral care emergencies please contact Pastor Ioan Ittu (626-419-6331) or Pastor Stephanie Jaeger (310-968-7038). Thank you.

## ST. STEPHEN'S & BETHLEHEM CONVERSTATIONS

There will be further updates about the merger conversations between Bethlehem and St. Stephen's. We will be having a Bingo event at St. Stephen's on Sunday, June 24 at 6pm. It's an appetizer and dessert potluck.

Make sure to read your email and bulletin announcements. Contact Pastor Megan or Scott Fisher with any questions.

## CONFIRMATION SUNDAY

This year Confirmation Sunday will be on June 10 at our 10am blended service.

Our confirmands this year are Kevin Rubinstein, Katie Nakata, Kiera Nusbaum, Dylan Yribe, Rocco Rainey, and Kameron Santiago. Congratulations to you!

## CONGRATS TO OUR GRADS

We would like to congratulate our 2018 high school and college graduates. May God bless you and guide you.



## STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

June marks the start of the last quarter of our church fiscal year, which runs from September 1<sup>st</sup> to August 31<sup>st</sup>. We are now entering the part of the year where traditionally offerings have fallen off—people are on vacation, traveling for family functions, and enjoying other summertime adventures. Please take a moment before you leave this summer and remember the church by keeping your offering up to date. Unfortunately, the expenses of running the church don't take a vacation.

So, enjoy the summer and keep Bethlehem in mind during your travels!

*Ron Kraus, Stewardship Chair*

## THANK YOU!

Thank you to everyone who attended Mary Kandilian's baby shower in May to surround her and her baby girl with blessings and love. A big thank you to Betsy Kalusa, Sandra Valdivia, and Beverly Compton for organizing the event. Thank you to all of the people who volunteered their time and energy to putting it all together.

## HELLO FROM BETH SANDERSON!

Dear friends,  
Please know I have found an incredible new home located in the middle of California's largest state park, the 630,000 -acre Anza Borrego Desert State Park! Eastern San Diego County is filled with adventure, stunning lands and crystal clear night skies with the milky way every night!

My new address: P.O. Box 794

Borrego Springs, CA 92004

Actual location:

4664 Mesquite Lane

Borrego Springs, CA 92004

Phone number: Not available!

Email: lazys2797@gmail.com

## CONFIRMATION CLASSES WILL CONTINUE THIS FALL!

The Confirmation program is a two-year process where students dive deeper into scripture and learn how to ask questions and gain more from God's word. They also learn about Christianity, some of the specifics of the Lutheran tradition (including learning about Luther's Small Catechism), and how they can live out their faith in the world today. The class is combined with other churches in the Twin Valley Conference so it's also an opportunity to make new friends and learn from other pastors and youth directors.

One year of the class is study of the scriptures and one year is a study of their faith and life. At the end of their two-years, students are able to publicly profess their faith during worship and become official voting members of the congregation. Students can start this program as early as 5th grade, but Pastor Megan encourages it for students in middle school. The ideal time for kids to start is 6th grade.

## TWIN VALLEY CONFERENCE STRATEGIC VISIONING TEAM

In an effort to strengthen collaboration in regard to investment of time, treasure and talents in our regional ministry. The Twin Valley Team has been tasked with developing and overseeing an effective strategic visioning process utilizing consultants and local expertise, focus groups, workshops and other gatherings and tools. Pastor Marsha Harris and Beverly Compton are Co-Chairs of the Team. On May 17 the team met at Bethlehem Lutheran Church. Introductions, summary of the process and a review of available churches Core Value charts was accomplished. Our next meeting is on June 6. Bethlehem completed their Core Value chart and submitted it this week. As meetings progress, I will keep you updated monthly in the newsletter. If you would like further information about the Twin Valley Team goals, please contact Beverly Compton or Pastor Megan.

## BLENDED SERVICE DATES

We will have blended worship at 10am on July 8 and August 5. On July 8, we are going to have a BBQ following worship and on August 5 we will be celebrating VBS Sunday. Join us!

## YOU'RE INVITED!

Desmond wanted to invite all his church friends, adults and children, to his birthday party at the Fryling house on June 16 from 11am-1pm. Please RSVP so we know how much pizza to order. (No presents are needed.)



## NEWS FROM OUR SPONSORED MISSIONARIES



It's the rainy season in Tanzania. We live in the northern part of the country where Mount Meru forces rain much of the year (and at about 20' shy of 15,000', the amount of rain forced is significant). We have some rain in most months of the year, so we didn't know what to expect when the "real" longer rainy season (March-May) began.

Now, as we have learned, there's a reason they call this the "rainy" season. At this point, the rain has been coming steadily for hours every day (and often, every night) for months. At our house, this means that our clothes, which dry on a line on the back porch, are generally damp when we put them on. There is always some mud on the floor, no matter how much cleaning happens. Mold might be found on cloths left too long on tables. And salt, no matter what tricks we play to keep it flowing, has to be dispensed with spoons or fingers. It simply will not come through the tiny holes. The air has been much too wet for much too long.

We're grateful for the rain, despite the inconveniences. This heavy rainy season—which locals call "normal" – is the first "normal" rainy season the area has experienced in a decade. This is because the climate is changing – indeed, it has already changed and the changes keep coming.

To read more please visit their website: <https://mcintz.wordpress.com/>

### Your support makes a world of difference!

Here's how to give: By Check: make payable to "ELCA Global Church Sponsorship" with "Cynthia Holder Rich/Mark Rich GCS2047" in the memo line.

Give through your synod office or mail your check to: Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, Gift Processing Center, P.O. Box 1809, Merrifield, VA 22116-8009.

By credit or debit: see <https://community.elca.org/Tanzania> or call 800-638-3522 and specify "Cynthia Holder Rich/Mark Rich GCS2047"

## BETHLEHEM BOOK CLUB

Book Club is meeting up again! We will meet on June 13 from 6:30-7:30pm. Childcare is provided. Contact Pastor for more information.

## LSS HAPPENINGS

We are in need of food for the homeless, which would include any type of cans with a pop-top, pudding/ applesauce cups, peanut butter crackers, small snacks, trail mix, dried fruit, etc.

Thank you.

*Jan Maseda*

(818)288-7054; janicemaseda@gmail.com

## SOJOURNERS

Sojourners will meet on June 13 for their monthly potluck lunch at 12:30pm. If you're 55 years or older please join us for a time of fellowship! Bring a friend and a dish to share.

The LSS item this month is socks. If you are able to bring one or more of this item, it will be appreciated. See you on the 13th!

## CONFIRMATION CLASS

Confirmation Class will be on break for the summer. We will resume in the Fall.

## MEN'S MONTHLY BREAKFAST

We invite men of all ages to join us for fellowship the first Wednesday of every month at 7:30am at Coco's Restaurant in Mission Hills. See you June 6!

## WORSHIP SCHEDULE

If you see an empty spot on the leader schedule and you're able to fill in, please call the church office. You can serve one time or be put on a monthly rotation. Thank you for your willingness to serve.

## JUNE BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Natalie Nakata
- 3 Ben Cross
- 6 Ed Kossart
- 6 Sue Schmidt
- 7 Ruth Irwin
- 8 Desmond Fryling
- 14 Taylor Boyd
- 17 Edelgard Pedersen
- 19 Violet Andrews
- 20 Jill Goddard
- 21 Bob Poladian
- 23 Barry Sears
- 26 Katie Nakata
- 26 Melissa Hofmann
- 26 Pamela Shea
- 26 Brian Grefsrud



## JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

- 4 Paul & Pat St. Michel (2005)
- 6 Jack & Linda Boyd (1987)
- 11 Richard & Melissa Hofmann (1988)
- 20 Phil & Dee Natwick (1954)
- 23 Bryan & Lori Fougner (1991)
- 27 Brett & Cierra Irwin (2015)
- 30 Ron Kraus & Jill Goddard (1974)

## MAY STATISTICS

### Offering:

May offering: \$14,403.00; Budget: \$16,666.66  
 April offering: \$22,726.25; Budget: \$16,666.66  
 Fiscal YTD: \$144,716.00 Budget: \$150,000.00

### Attendance:

May average at 9am: 41.25  
 May average at 11am: 43.75  
 April average at 9am: 58.8  
 April average at 11am: 60.4

# JUNE 2018 CALENDAR

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>27</b> <u>9:00AM</u> Worship <u>11:00AM</u> Worship	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> <u>10:00AM</u> Adult Study	<b>31</b> <u>5:15PM</u> Youth Choir <u>6:00PM</u> Faith Choir	<b>1</b>  <u>Synod Assembly</u>	<b>2</b> <u>2:00PM</u> Mike Brooks' Memorial Service
<b>3</b> <u>9AM</u> Worship <u>11AM</u> Worship	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> <u>7:30AM</u> Men's Breakfast @ Coco's <u>10AM</u> Adult Study	<b>7</b> <u>5:15PM</u> Youth Choir <u>6:00PM</u> Faith Choir	<b>8</b> <u>4PM</u> Pre-K Graduation	<b>9</b>
 <b>10</b> <u>10AM</u> One Blended Worship Service	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> <u>10AM</u> Adult Study <u>12:30PM</u> Sojourners Potluck Lunch <u>6:30PM</u> Book Club	<b>14</b> <u>6:00PM</u> Faith Choir	<b>15</b> Father's Day Play Date	<b>16</b>
Happy Father's Day!  <b>17</b> <u>9:00AM</u> Worship <u>11:00AM</u> Worship	<b>18</b> <u>6:30-8PM</u> St. Stephen's Mtg	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> <u>10:00AM</u> Adult Study <u>6:00PM</u> Book Club <u>7PM</u> Council Meeting	<b>21</b> <u>6:00PM</u> Faith Choir	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b> <u>9:00AM</u> Worship <u>11:00AM</u> Worship <u>6PM</u> Bingo @ St. Stephen's	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>  <u>Youth in</u>	<b>27</b> <u>10:00AM</u> Adult Study  <u>Houston for Youth</u>	<b>28</b> <u>6:00PM</u> Faith Choir	<b>29</b>  <u>Gathering</u>	<b>30</b>

## JUNE WORSHIP LEADER SCHEDULE

<b>WORSHIP LEADERS - 9:00 SERVICE</b>	<i>10AM One Service/ Confirmation Sunday</i>		<i>Father's Day</i>		
Date	<b>6-3-18</b>	<b>6-10-18</b>	<b>6-17-18</b>	<b>6-24-18</b>	<b>7-1-18</b>
Assisting Minister	Ryan Nakata	X	Mary Fisher	Lisa Chow	Scott Fisher
Reader	Emily Carlson	Pam Shea	Vicente Ditto	Beverly Compton	Laureen Gleason
Acolyte	Hannah Carlson	Rocco Rainey	Katie Nakata	Kameron Santiago	Natalie Nakata
Ushers	Scott Fisher	Katie Nakata	Laureen Gleason	Kathy Santiago	Mary Fisher
		X	Shea Clancy	Brooke Coffin	Nicole Hernandez-Liva
Refresh + Juice	Kyle Fryling	<i>Confirmation</i>	Barbara Yeager	Bernadette Andrews	Christine Foster
Altar Guild	Betsy Kalusa	Susan Van Deest	Cookie Cline		

<b>WORSHIP LEADERS - 11:00 SERVICE</b>					
Date	<b>6-3-18</b>	<b>6-10-18</b>	<b>6-17-18</b>	<b>6-24-17</b>	<b>7-1-18</b>
Assisting Minister	John Cooper	Jill Goddard	Ron Kraus	Sarah Karzel	Sandy Lazaros
Reader	Linette Brammer	X	Gene Denney	Ruth Anne Sitko	Meredith Taylor
Communion Asst.	Kevin Rubinstein	Hannah Carlson	Kiera Nusbaum	Sarah Karzel	Ryan Yribe
Ushers	Jerry Sitko	Richard Brammer	Pete Pedersen	Janet Puchlik	Jan Maseda
	Fred Ophus	X	Kevin Rubinstein	Ron Kraus	
Greeter	Rick Brammer	Jan Maseda	Susan Van Deest	Meredith Taylor	Janet Puchlik
Refreshments	Ruth Anne Sitko	<i>Confirmation</i>	Jan Maseda	Sarah Karzel	Melisa Nusbaum
	Shirley Cooper	X	Donna Ophus	Linette Brammer	
Offering Counters	Fred Ophus	Bonnie Tharp	Dwayne Schmidt	Mary Fisher	Brian Grefsrud
		Susan Van Deest	Gene Denney	Janet Puchlik	Barbara Bond

## CONGRATULATIONS!

We congratulate all our pre-k students who will graduate on June 8th and will be leaving Bethlehem. We wish them well as they move on to elementary. It's been a pleasure having you with us.

## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Save the Date!!! July 29-August 2.

All kids ages 3 through kids entering 6th grade are invited to our free event. If you're interested in volunteering for VBS please contact Lisa Nakata.

## FELLOWSHIP

We have had a number of Memorial Services in the last few months.

A big thank you to all those that helped with set-up, serve, and clean-up with a special thanks to Pat and Paul St. Michel, Todd and Sue Akin, Peggy Kossart, and Ruth Anne Sitko. Please know that you are all appreciated.

All of us try to make this an easier time for the grieving families.

Mark your calendars so you don't miss the fun:

June 10th @ 10am- Single Service and celebration of our new Confirmands

July 8th @ 10am-Single Service and BBQ

August 5th @ 10am-VBS Sunday, Single Service and BBQ

September 9th-Enjoy some ice cream for "Bring a Friend to Church Sunday/Sundae"

*Betsy K.*



**Bethlehem**  
LUTHERAN  
CHURCH & SCHOOL

12227 Balboa Blvd., Granada Hills, CA 91344