



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



STAR WORD CHECK-IN

People of Bethlehem,
Back at the start of this calendar year, everyone in the congregation had a chance to receive a randomly selected Star Word. I thought that 5 months into the year would be a good time to check in and see how this word has made a difference to you so far this year.

What insight did you get from looking up the definition of your word? Where did you find your word in the Bible? If you've forgotten to look at your word since January or February, there's no need to worry! There's plenty of time left in the year for you to dive deeper into the meaning of the word, into the scriptures, and into ways that God can work in your life through this word.

The word that I received for the year is change. There are over 100 times that the word change appears in the scriptures, so I haven't read through them all yet. One of those passages, however, is from Matthew 18:3 where Jesus says "Truly I tell you, unless you change and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven." That short verse right there has given me a lot to think about when I focus on my word. What does it mean to change and become like a child? How do I change? How does the Holy Spirit bring about change in me and in my life? Are there ways I can change for the better and how much of that is learning to trust God to guide me and how much of it is proactively working to make those changes myself? That's just a little example of how your word can lead you to look at a passage of scripture in a new and different light. Your word might lead you to some very different ideas.

No matter what your word is, there are many points to consider, there are many directions in which the Spirit will lead you as you discover more about your word and about yourself. Perhaps in searching out your word you'll come across a passage of scripture that will become your new favorite source of strength and comfort. What scripture passages have you found? Has anything been surprising to you? Has anything about your word taken on a greater meaning to you so far this year?

In Christ,
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

DIRECTORS OF MUSIC MINISTRY:

VICENTE DITTO
MARISA RAWLINS-BRADFIELD
vicente.ditto@gmail.com
rawmisa@gmail.com

BOOKKEEPER:

RICK DEMLOW
finance@bethlehemplutheran.net

FRONT OFFICE ASSISTANT:

EVELYN CULAJAY
office@bethlehemplutheran.net

YOUTH DIRECTOR:

SAM MANUAL
youthdirector@bethlehemplutheran.net

PRESCHOOL DIRECTOR:

MARY ASHDJIAN-KANDILIAN
director@bethlehemplutheran.net

ASST. PRESCHOOL DIRECTOR:

SANDRA VALDIVIA
preschool@bethlehemplutheran.net

CONTACT BY PHONE:

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

SUMMARY OF BETHLEHEM COUNCIL MINUTES –

Council minutes are forthcoming.

YOUTH NEWS

SAM MANUAL

Director of Youth Ministry

youthdirector@bethlehemlutheran.net

Youth Updates/Events!

Hey Y'all!

It has been a great first season so far here at Bethlehem! We have had some great events to kick off the end of the school year/ beginning of summer. The Annual Youth Yard sale was a total win! We had about 10 folks that were posted up in the parking lot throughout the day, and probably saw north of 30 people stop thru, peruse and purchase goods! I think we raised in the ballpark of about \$1000 (with all proceeds going to aid the Youth program!)

I'm also happy to announce that we had our 1st Youth Group of the year at the Nakata's and it was great success! The students and I enjoyed some fellowship and refreshments provided by our gracious hosts and launched into a great bible study on prayer. This is a great group and the future looks bright.

And finally the Houston Fundraiser Murder Mystery party was a huge success with over 30 folks in attendance and over two hundred dollars raised. A great time and we are getting closer to hitting our funding goals!

Here are some events upcoming to mark on your calendar:

Bethlehem Youth:

MAY 12TH : Youth Group/study 6pm-9pm @ the Nakata's

MAY 25TH : Mini-Golf @ Sherman Oaks Castle Park; 4989 Sepulveda Blvd. Sherman Oaks, CA 91403

Houston:

MAY 19TH : Rachel Kurtz concert to benefit the students of Another Level ministry in Downtown L.A. @ St Marks Lutheran

3651 S. Vermont Ave, Los Angeles, CA 90007

MAY 20TH : Walking Taco Fundraiser @ American Lutheran Burbank

MAY 26TH : Car Wash @ Bethel Encino

MUSIC NOTES

VICENTE DITTO

MARISA RAWLINS BRADFIELD

Directors of Music Ministry



The Youth Choir is scheduled to sing on Mother's Day, May 13th, at the 9 am service. Thank you to everyone that attended our youth and music meeting. We are looking forward to creating new youth music ensembles that will ideally start rehearsing in August after VBS.

-Vicente & Marisa

FELLOWSHIP

Our Easter Brunch was FANTASTIC!!!

Thank you to all who brought food. It was all delicious.

Also, a big thank you to all those that helped with set-up and clean-up.

This annual event cannot happen without a whole lot of terrific volunteers.

A special thanks to Paul and Pat St Michel, Kevin Rubinstein, and Sue Akin.

Please know that you are all appreciated.

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-Single Service and BBQ

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

Betsy K.

PASTOR ON VACATION

Pastor Megan will be on vacation May 7-May 19. For pastoral care emergencies please contact Pastor Ioan Ittu (626-419-6331) or Pastor Stephanie Jaeger (310-968-7038). Thank you.

PRESCHOOL NEWS

MARY ASHDJIAN-KANDILIAN

Preschool Director

director@bethlehemlutheran.net



Welcome May!

It's amazing how quickly the year is passing by! We're already ready to go for our jam packed awesome summer program and a lot of excitement lies ahead as we were underway for Fall planning. This month we have planned our famous Mother's Day Tea Party and our Bi-Annual Underwood Family Farms visit where we will be picking strawberries, learning about the summer harvest, and exploring with the Underwood Animals! School will be closed on May 28th for Memorial Day. Ahead on the horizon is also our Pre-Kindergarten graduation which will be taking place on stage in the courtyard, slated for the evening of June 8th!

I also wanted to personally thank everyone who has been so supportive with my pregnancy, offering gifts and words of wisdom which is so very much appreciated! There is much to learn and I'm blessed to be surrounded with such wonderful people! Hope to celebrate with everyone on the 20th at the Baby Shower in Chandler Hall!

Respectfully,

Mary Kandilian

WORSHIP & MUSIC

Now that I have been officially installed as the Council representative for Worship and Music, I'd like to schedule a couple meetings. In order to keep them brief and convenient, I'm scheduling two separate meetings each focusing on a worship service. Both on May 6, we will meet in the sanctuary after each service focusing on the 9:00 service at 10:00 and the 11:00 service at noon. Please join me and bring your comments and questions so we can continue to improve the worship experience at Bethlehem.

Thank you,

Sue Akin

PAINT NIGHT

Friday, May 4 from 6-8pm.

Come enjoy an evening of dinner and painting, while supporting the youth attending El Camino Pines this summer! Our painting will be spring-themed, just in time for the perfect handmade Mother's Day gift, or to brighten up your own walls. Tickets are \$30 each (includes: dinner, refreshments, instruction and all the supplies to paint your own masterpiece). This event is for ages 10 & up and has limited seating. Reservations must be paid in advance in order to hold your place. Raffle tickets are available for \$1. The winner will get a personal paint party for 15 people! (need not attend to purchase raffle tickets). Call for questions by contacting Kelli Yribe 818-388-9449.

JR. PAINT NIGHT

Sunday, June 3

Come enjoy an afternoon of fun, food, and paint! Lunch is at 12:30pm, painting starts at 1pm. All ages 3 and up are welcome (all children under 8 must have an adult present during function) \$20 per painter (includes a child-friendly lunch & refreshments, instruction, and all supplies necessary to make a beautiful canvas painting). Space is limited. All proceeds will be used to help BLC youth attend El Camino Pines summer camp. Thank you.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

Dorothy Anderson's Memorial Service will be Saturday, May 5 at 1:30pm at Bethlehem.

SOCIAL MINISTRY

Bethlehem has partnered with *Children's Hunger Fund* and participating in a *Food Pak* drive. Boxes need to be returned filled with a specific food list on **Sunday, May 6th**. We are hoping to fill 200 boxes!

CONGRATS!

Congratulations to Max Stark who became an Eagle Scout in troop 911 back in February. It was a long journey and he worked very hard to achieve his goal.

DREAM DINNERS - YOUTH CAMP FUNDRAISER

Please invite your friends to join us at Dream Dinners in Granada Hills on Tuesday, May 8th. We have reserved 3 times slots to help accommodate busy schedules 12:00 pm, 6:00 pm and 7:30. If you have never come to Dream Dinners before, this is a great way to experience an easy method of getting home cooked meals on your table. Please keep a look-out for flyers on Sunday with more information. Please RSVP by Tuesday, May 1st to reserve your spot and make your meal selections. What a great way to get some yummy food, while helping to earn money to send kids to camp. If you have any questions, please contact Melisa Nusbaum at (818) 424-7618 or email her Sundayschool@bethlehemplutheran.net

NEWS FROM OUR SPONSORED MISSIONARIES

Happy Easter! Christ is Risen!
It was our honor to participate in the WCC Conference on World Mission and Evangelism, held 20 minutes away from our campus at Ngurdoto Mountain Lodge, one of the few Tanzania venues large enough to host the 1300 delegates and guests of the Conference. This was the largest ecumenical gathering of Christians in the world this year.

These conferences have been very important in the history of world Christianity. The ecumenical movement was born out of these conferences, around 100 years ago. The scandal of divided Christianity was first raised up in these conferences, because the foolishness of divided Christianity became so painfully obvious in the light of the world mission movement.

Following the huge disaster of the two World Wars, it became painfully obvious that the churches had to work together more than ever since the beginning of the Church. The World Council of Churches was founded after WWII out of this missionary movement.

The conference gathered together Christians from all over the world. In addition to plenary addresses and workshops, there were very creative worship services and concerts. There were several choirs from northern Tanzania, along with the drum and dance team from the Cultural Arts Center here at Tumaini University, a drama team, and a couple Maasai Christian choirs.

There were painful times at the conference too. 19th century missions were sometimes done destructively and oppressively. Native communities were destroyed, and missions were sometimes part of that destruction. These Christians were also part of this conference, ready to tell their stories while also celebrating the power of God to bring life out of death, despite the efforts of some other parts of the church.

There is much work left for the global church to do. The existential threat of global warming is continuing and accelerating, and the churches have not yet fully addressed this civilizational crisis. We also have to overcome the deadly struggle against extremist religion that has arisen in the last generation.

More than those, we still don't commune together as Christians. We still cannot come together around the sacrament that Jesus gives us for our unity. It's as if his



sacrifice and resurrection aren't enough for us. This scandal for the whole community of believers calls us to prayer and action.

THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT

Thanks so much to Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Granada Hills, CA and Pastor Megan Hunt Fryling for their covenant of support! We are always grateful for congregations and individuals ready to join us on this journey – be in touch if you want to explore opportunities. We thank you all for your prayers as we remember you all in prayer. We continue grateful to be on this journey of mission and service to Christ together.

Eastertide blessings, Mark and Cynthia

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

MARY'S BABY SHOWER

Please join us as we gather to celebrate the upcoming birth of Mary Kandilian's baby girl. It's a coed party so all at Bethlehem are invited! Please bring an appetizer to share.

Sunday, May 20th 12:30pm-2:30pm at Bethlehem.
Please RSVP to office@bethlehemlutheran.net or call 818-360-4777, so we know how many will be attending. Mary is registered at Amazon and Buy Buy Baby.



BETHLEHEM BOOK CLUB

Book Club is meeting up again! We will meet on May 23 at 6:00pm. Childcare is provided. Contact Pastor for more information.



SOJOURNERS

Sojourners will meet on May 9 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 deodorant. If you are able to bring one or more of this item, it will be appreciated. See you on the 9th!

CONFIRMATION CLASS

Confirmation Class will meet on May 20 from 2-5pm at St. Lukes.

ST. STEPHEN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

The committee will be meeting May 2 at 6:30pm at Bethlehem. Any BLC members who would like to attend the next discussion with St. Stephens are encouraged to join us.

MAY BIRTHDAYS

- 4 Bryan Fougner
- 4 Melisa Nusbaum
- 5 Patrick Shea
- 6 Kathy Taylor
- 7 Pat St. Michel
- 8 Steve Maseda
- 9 Cookie Cline
- 10 Dixie McNinch
- 12 Bonnie Tharp
- 12 Vicente Ditto
- 12 James Hein
- 13 Scott Fisher
- 25 Mary Fisher
- 29 John Cooper
- 29 Susan Van Deest



MAY ANNIVERSARIES

- 18 Scott & Mary Fisher (1992)
- 23 Steve & Lisa Nakata (1998)
- 28 Ron & Sarah Karzel (1983)



APRIL STATISTICS

Offering:


April offering: \$16,813.00 ; Budget: \$16,666.66
March offering: \$16,813.00; Budget: \$16,666.66
Fiscal YTD: \$130, 313.25 Budget: \$133, 333.36

Attendance:

April average at 9am: 58.8
April average at 11am: 60.4
March average at 9am: 34.5
March average at 11am: 48.75

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 May 2!

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29 9:00AM Worship 10:10 AM Sunday School 11:00AM Worship 2:00PM Confirmation Class @ St. Lukes	30	1	2 7:30AM Men's Breakfast @ Coco's 10:00AM Adult Study 6:30PM meeting w/St. Stephen's committee	3 5:15PM Youth Choir 6:00PM Faith Choir	4 6PM Paint Party	5 1:30PM Dorothy Anderson's Memorial Service
6 9AM Worship 10:10 AM Sunday School 11AM Worship	7 4:30PM School Board mtg Pastor on vacation	8	9 10AM Adult Study 12:30PM Sojourners Potluck Lunch	10 5:15PM Youth Choir 6:00PM Faith Choir	11 10AM Mother's Day Tea	12 6-9PM Youth Group @ Nakata's
13 <i>Mothers</i> 9AM Worship <i>DAY</i> 10:10 AM Sunday School 11AM Worship	14	15	16 10AM Adult Study	17 5:15PM Youth Choir 6:00PM Faith Choir	18	19
20 9:00AM Worship 10:10 AM Sunday School 11:00AM Worship 12:30PM Mary's Baby Shower 2PM Confirmation Class	21	22	23 10:00AM Adult Study 6:00PM Book Club 7PM Council Meeting	24 5:15PM Youth Choir 6:00PM Faith Choir	25 Youth Mini-golf@Sherman Oaks Castle Park	26 3PM Berwin Schindel's Memorial Service
27 9:00AM Worship 11:00AM Worship	28 Church Office Closed 	29	30 10:00AM Adult Study	31 5:15PM Youth Choir 6:00PM Faith Choir	June 1 Synod	2 Assembly

MAY WORSHIP LEADER SCHEDULE

WORSHIP LEADERS - 9:00 SERVICE	<i>Mother's Day</i>		<i>Day of Pentecost</i>		
Date	5-6-18	5-13-18	5-20-18	5-27-18	6-3-18
Assisting Minister	Scott Fisher	Mary Fisher	Nicole Hernandez Liva	Laureen Gleason	Max Stark
Reader	Kevin Rubinstein	Laureen Gleason	Sue Akin	Kevin Rubinstein	Emily Carlson
Acolyte	Alison Rubinstein	Katie Nakata	Ryan Nakata	Alison Rubinstein	Hannah Carlson
Ushers	Brooke Coffin Katie Nakata	Kathy Santiago Laureen Gleason	Lisa Chow Shea Clancy	Nicole Hernandez-Liva Mary Fisher	Scott Fisher
Refresh + Juice	Ruth Irwin/Brooke Coffin	Nakata family	Lisa Chow	Kathy Fisher	Shaza Nassar
Altar Guild	Sue Schmidt		Betsy Kalusa	Janet Puchlik	Betsy Kalusa

WORSHIP LEADERS - 11:00 SERVICE					
Date	5-6-18	5-13-18	5-20-18	5-27-18	6-3-18
Assisting Minister	Jill Goddard	Ron Kraus	Sarah Karzel	Sandy Lazaros	John Cooper
Reader	Sarah Karzel	Melisa Nusbaum	Ron Kraus	Betsy Kalusa	Linette Brammer
Communion Asst.	Kiera Nusbaum	Dylan Yribe	Sarah Karzel	Kiera Nusbaum	Kevin Rubinstein
Ushers	Ron Kraus Richard Brammer	Jan Maseda Ryan Yribe	Richard Brammer Kevin Rubinstein	Pete Pedersen	Jerry Sitko Fred Ophus
Greeter	Jan Maseda	Susan Van Deest	Meredith Taylor		Rick Brammer
Refreshments	Sarah Karzel	Kelli Yribe	Konstanze Sessing	Linette Brammer	Ruth Anne Sitko
		X	Laura Rubinstein	Melisa Nusbaum	Shirley Cooper
Offering Counters	Fred Ophus	Bonnie Tharp	Dwayne Schmidt	Mary Fisher	Fred Ophus
	Dwayne Schmidt	Susan Van Deest	Gene Denney	Barbara Bond	Bonnie Tharp

LSS HAPPENINGS

The LSS 34th Annual Golf Classic will be on Monday, May 14th at the Moorpark Country Club. Breakfast, lunch, dinner, a banquet and silent auction are all part of the wonderful, fun day. If you would like to play - and perhaps do not have a 4some, please see, call or email Jan Maseda and she will make sure you have a spot. We are trying to get a 4some together from Bethlehem, so if you know of people that would like to play, let Jan know.

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.

Jan Maseda

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



Bethlehem
LUTHERAN
CHURCH & SCHOOL

12227 Balboa Blvd., Granada Hills, CA 91344