

Holy Week Worship

Maunder Thursday, March 28
 6:00 p.m. (w/communion)

Good Friday, March 29
 6:00 p.m.

Easter Sunday, March 31
 (w/communion at all services)

7:30 a.m. traditional service
 8:30 - 10:00 a.m. Easter breakfast

9:00 & 10:30 a.m. worship w/Easter band

Living Above Grief: March 9

Grief often bogs us down and keeps us from moving forward in life.

Pastor Tim Heupel will lead a grief seminar on **Saturday, March 9**, that will help you to live above your grief and experience the best God has to offer as you experience your grief.

The seminar will held from 9:30 to 11 a.m. in the Bethlehem fellowship hall.

There is no charge, and light refreshments will be served. Reservations are not necessary.

Youth Serving Easter Breakfast

The Bethlehem youth would like to invite everyone to join us for Easter Breakfast from **8:30 to 10:00 a.m. Easter Sunday**.

We will serve ham, scrambled eggs, sausage links, homemade French toast, and fruit.

A free-will offering will be collected, with all the funds going toward the National Youth Gathering in 2025.

Worship & Study at Bethlehem

WORSHIP 8:30 & 10:45 am Sundays

Communion is celebrated on the 1st, 3rd & 5th Sundays of each month

CHRISTIAN ED 9:45 am Sundays

Sunday School (3 years-5th grade) and Youth Group (6th-12th grades) in downstairs classrooms

BIBLE STUDY 10:00 am Sundays in the Fellowship Hall

DEVOTIONS 9:00 am Tuesdays

Go to www.facebook.com/PastorTimStein

WEDNESDAY MEAL 5:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall

LENTEN WORSHIP 6:00 pm March 6, 13 & 20

CONFIRMATION 6:45 pm March 6, 13 & 20

WORSHIP ONLINE

Go to <https://bit.ly/BLC-live> to watch the worship service on YouTube.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
MARCH 2024						
						
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10 Worship 8:30 am Sun. School & Youth Group 9:45 am Bible Study 10:00 am Worship 10:45 am Christian Ed Mtg 12:00 pm	11	12 Devotions on FB 9 am Prayer Group 10:00 am Elders Mtg 6:00 pm	13 Meal 5:30 pm Worship 6:00 pm Confirmation 6:45 pm	14	15 Newsletter Deadline	16
17 Worship W/HC 8:30 am Sun. School & Youth Group 9:45 am Bible Study 10:00 am Worship W/HC 10:45 am	18	19 Devotions on FB 9 am Prayer Group 10:00 am	20 Meal 5:30 pm Worship 6:00 pm Confirmation 6:45 pm	21 ACC Food Pantry 4:30 - 6:30 pm at 701 7th St. West	22	23 Laura Garbisch Benefit 12:00 - 4:00 pm
24 PALM SUNDAY Worship 8:30 am Sun. School & Youth Group 9:45 am Bible Study 10:00 am Worship 10:45 am Lunch & Easter Egg Hunt 12:00 pm	25	26 Devotions on FB 9 am Prayer Group 10:00 am	27	28 MAUNDY THURSDAY Worship W/HC 6:00 pm	29 GOOD FRIDAY Worship 6:00 pm	30
31 EASTER TRADITIONAL WORSHIP 7:30 am Easter Breakfast 8:30 - 10:00 am WORSHIP W/ EASTER BAND 9:00 am WORSHIP W/EASTER BAND 10:30 am (Holy Communion at all services) NO Sun School, Youth or Bible Study	APRIL 1	APRIL 2 Prayer Group 10:00 am	APRIL 3 Meal 5:30 pm Confirmation 6:00 pm	APRIL 4	APRIL 5	APRIL 6



Benefit Planned March 23

Laura Garbisch, the adult daughter of Bob and Wanda Garbisch, was recently diagnosed with a non-cancerous tumor called a meningioma. She will be having surgery in Rochester on April 16 and will be out of work for a few months during her recovery.

A benefit to help her with medical and general expenses will be held from **noon to 4 p.m. Saturday, March 23**, at Bethlehem Church.



venmo

How can you help?

First, mark your calendar and plan to join us as we raise money to help Laura. We will have pulled pork meals from Karl's Bar-B-Q for sale (\$15 a plate), along with a bake sale, gift card raffle, silent auction, and other activities.

You can see some of the gift baskets and read more about Laura's story at

www.facebook.com/laura.garbisch.

If you are interested in donating a gift basket to be sold at the silent auction or making baked goods, please contact Wanda through the church office email or by phone.

You can also make a direct donation to Team Laura by scanning the Venmo QR code above or by going online to fundrazr.com/LauraGarbisch.

Finally, please keep Laura and her family in your prayers.

Contact Us

Pastor: Rev. Tim Stein
715-832-9953, ext. 3 (office)
715-829-1247 (cell in emergency)
PastorTim@blcaltoona.org

Little Star Daycare: Krystina Schumacher, director
715-832-1513
krystina.littlestar@gmail.com
www.AltoonaLittleStar.com

Church office: Charleen Graff, secretary
715-832-9953, ext. 2
blcsecretary@gmail.com

Congregation Chairman: Mark Jordan

Confidential Prayer Chain: Sharon Stelter

Palms, Egg Hunt & Baby Bunnies

Sunday School students will join in the procession of palms and sing at the 10:45 a.m. service on **Palm Sunday, March 24**.

After worship, there will be a light lunch for all, along with an Easter egg hunt and activities for the children, along with a special appearance by some baby bunnies.

We hope you and your family can join us!

HELP THE CARE CLOSET

The Altoona School District has a Care Closet that provides "no cost" shopping for families in the district. They are currently in need of hygiene products.

If you would like to donate, please purchase some of the items below and bring them to church. We will have a donation box in the fellowship hall. Thank you for continuing to support our students in Altoona!

- Deodorant
- Feminine hygiene products
- Kid/teen-friendly shampoos and conditioners (guys like the all-in-one products)
- Kid/teen-friendly body wash
- Dental floss picks (ie. Plackers or Dentek)

Thank You for Your Gifts!

Your generous donations are an investment in the mission and ministry of Bethlehem. In the hands of our God, your offerings multiply blessings for this congregation, the Altoona community and His Kingdom. Thank you!

2024 Weekly Offering Goal: \$5,481

For the week ending Feb. 4:	\$ 5,509
For the week ending Feb. 11:	\$ 6,054
For the week ending Feb. 18:	\$ 7,132
For the week ending Feb. 25:	\$ 4,391
Year-to-date total	\$ 40,658

If you are interested in a secure, convenient way to regularly send your offerings to Bethlehem, consider giving online. Go to www.blcaltoona.org and click on "Donate" to make a one-time donation or to set up a recurring gift.



Free-will offerings collected during fellowship in March will go to **The Community Table**.

Is there a ministry organization you would like to see Bethlehem support in the future? If you would like to make a suggestion, please email Kristina Risler via the church office email address.

Looking for a Way to Help the Youth?

Scrip cards are a regular gift card in which a percentage comes back to the church.

Whether you're buying them as a gift or for your own personal use, these cards are available to order in the Fellowship Hall most Sundays. Orders are typically available for pickup the following week.

These funds support youth attending the National Youth Gathering in New Orleans in July 2025.



SUBMISSION DEADLINES ~ YOUR COOPERATION IS APPRECIATED!
Sunday Bulletin: 8 AM THURSDAY / Newsletter: MARCH 15TH



PACK THE PANTRY

Suggested items for food pantry supplies for March include: **fruit cups, granola bars, cereals, pastas** (mac & cheese, spaghetti, ramen) and **paper/personal products**.

Please bring these items to Bethlehem this **Sunday, March 3**, and put them in the grocery cart in the narthex.

If your family has a need, please help yourself to anything on the cart near the daycare stairs and library.

The Altoona Food Pantry

will be open **Thursday, March 21**, from **4:30-6 pm** at 701 7th St. West, Altoona.

Sponsored by The Altoona Compassion Coalition. Open to the public; only requirement is that you live in the Altoona School District. Call 715-255-0783.



Designate Your Thrivent Choice Dollars by March 31

In 2023 Bethlehem received \$1,157 in Thrivent Choice dollars. If you are an eligible Thrivent member, you can choose where Thrivent sends some of its charitable funding each year.

Choice dollars earned in 2023 can be directed to Bethlehem Church (or another nonprofit of your choice) through **March 31, 2024**. You can do this by speaking with your advisor, calling 800-847-4836, or going to www.thrivent.com — log in, go to "Account Overview," and click on "Direct Choice Dollars."

If you have any other questions about the program, call Jennie Childs at 715-829-7024.

Walk for Hunger on May 11

Mark your calendar for our annual Walk for Hunger Nyre You, to be held on **Saturday, May 11!** This fund-raiser raises enough dollars to fill the school food pantry open to grades 6-12, as well as providing weekend food bags for students in the Altoona school district, from 4K through high school. Each week these bags are packed by students in student council, National Honor Society and special-needs classrooms. The food is then delivered to the schools for distribution on Fridays, and children can take home food for the weekend.

Our goal this year is to raise \$10,000. This is done through registration fees, a silent auction, bake sale, food sales, and sponsorships from businesses. We are now collecting items for the **silent auction**, which can be dropped off in the Bethlehem church office. Some ideas: gift cards to local businesses, themed baskets (baby, Christmas, fall, reading, car wash/detailing, crafts for kids, summer potted flowers or hanging basket, wine baskets, etc.). Or you could consider donating a service (painting a room, providing a dinner for 4, a few hours of yard work, a loaf a bread a month for 6 months, etc.).

Most of all, we would love to see you on May 11 to join in the celebration and participate in a half-mile or 2-mile walk. If you have any questions, contact Jennie Childs at jennie.childs@thrivent.com.

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Next Ladies Gathering on March 8

All ladies are invited to join a monthly social gathering to deepen the friendships we have at church and cultivate new ones. The next BOBS (Babes of Bethlehem Social) Gathering will start at **10:00 a.m. on Friday, March 8**, at **Maple Manor**, 2507 S. Hastings Way. Please sign up by the coffee station in the Fellowship Hall so we know how many to expect. For more details, contact Pat Steinberg via the church office email.

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Personal phone numbers & email addresses have been removed from the bulletins and newsletters that are shared online to protect our members from scams and fraud. Contact the church or daycare for more details.





March Birthdays

3 Abby Crotteau	18 Lori Olson
6 Jeff Gilles	19 Lorraine Kosakowski
7 Allisyn Bresina	20 Jayden Leis
8 Alyssa Roth	23 Heather Carlson
Rosalie Schreiber	26 Jean Simpson
9 Becca Roth	27 Keegan Naser
12 Kathi Hohman	30 Ron Zank
15 Tevin Simpson	31 Julie Hemenway
Mark Olson	Jasmeen Moore
	Beverly Varley

March Wedding Anniversaries

13 Dennis & Joan Voigt	
14 Gilbert & Donna Ganther	

If we have missed your birthday or anniversary please call or email the church office.

REMEMBER BETHLEHEM'S HOMEBOUND & SHUT-IN MEMBERS

Barbara Duszynski
Oak Gardens Place Assisted Living #216
342 Twin Oaks Dr., Altoona WI 54720

Eunice "Patty" Glover
Our House Memory Care #2
733 W. Hamilton Ave., Eau Claire WI 54701

Margaret Johnson
American Lutheran Communities #15
915 Elm St. E., Menomonie WI 54751

Ellen Killen
2111 Garfield Ave., Altoona WI 54720

Lois (Mrs. Lowell) Olson
East Ridge Estates #204
3504 Hoover Ave., Altoona WI 54720

Ron Olson
2435 Bartlett Ave., Altoona WI 54720

Phyllis Pecor
Heritage Court Memory Care #16
3515 E. Hamilton Ave., Eau Claire WI 54701

Rosalie Schreiber
408 Otter Creek Trail, Altoona WI 54720

Steve & Karla Streich
1015 Blazing Star Blvd. #1, Altoona WI 54720



Little Star Daycare

March is always a fun month, because the Leprechaun comes to visit! The Leprechaun makes quite a mess, and the kids are always so amazed by it. Each classroom also plans other fun activities to

celebrate St. Patrick's Day. Since we haven't gotten much of a snow hill to play on, we hope the nice weather will stay so we can spend more time on our new playground.

In April we'll have our spring fund-raiser, which will be the same company that made the butter braids, but this time will have cake rolls! Stay tuned!

— Felicia Verdegan, Assistant Director,
www.facebook.com/AltoonaLittleStar

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CHRISTIAN ED

Regular Sunday school classes for 3-year-olds through 5th grade are from 9:45 to 10:30 am. The Youth Group (6th through 12th grades) meets at 9:45 am in the confirmation room.


There is no Sunday School or Youth Group on March 3rd and 31st. On Palm Sunday, **March 24**, our students will participate in a procession of palms and singing during worship. (See page 2 for details.) If you have any questions, contact Zach and Gina Becker at bethlehemchristed@gmail.com.

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Confirmation: Classes will be held after Lenten worship this month, with supper at 5:30 pm on Wednesdays, followed by worship at 6:00 and class from 6:45-7:30. **There is no class on March 27.** The students will wrap up the Apostles' Creed this month and start studying the Lord's Prayer.

If you have any questions, contact Pastor Tim at **715-832-9953** or PastorTim@bicaltoona.org.



March Ministry Meetings

- **Christian Ed** - Sunday, March 10th at 12:00 pm
- **Elders** - Tuesday, March 12th at 6:00 pm
- **Daycare Board** - Thursday, March 14th at 4:00 pm
- **Church Council** - Monday, March 18th at 6:30 pm

PRAYER CORNER

This month, please remember these individuals and groups in your prayers:

Our shut-in and homebound members: Barb Duszynski, Patty Glover, Margaret Johnson, Ellen Killen, Lois (Mrs. Lowell) Olson, Ron Olson, Phyllis Pecor, Rosalie Schreiber, Steve & Karla Streich.

Those with ongoing health concerns: Ken Anderson, Barb DesForge, Kendra Drake, Barb Hermann, Dave Johnston, Michael Mastrobuoni, Bev Noggle, Becca Roth, Janet Viellieux.

Friends of Bethlehem: Jenie Davis (*Shelly Rossano's niece*), Gene LaPine (*Linda LaPine's father*), Dan Posda (*Cheri Borseth's brother*), Kym Thompson, John Wicklein (*Abby Rowe's uncle*), and Katie (*Lois Olson's granddaughter*).

Ministries: Scenic Hills Youth Ranch, Feed a Child Nyre You, The Community Table, Altoona Care Closet, Bethlehem food pantry, Pastor Tim and all pastors who will be sharing the good news of Good Friday and Easter Sunday.



PRAYER REQUESTS: The Prayer Group meets at the church on Tuesday mornings at 10:00 am. Feel free to send requests to Sharon Stelter or Pastor Tim at PastorTim@bicaltoona.org, or the church office at 715-832-9953.



Each month we will profile one of the council members at Bethlehem.

Name: Kim Stein

Ministry role: Leader of Discipleship ministry team

Family: married to Pastor Tim since 1992; mom of four amazing adult kids and one (soon to be two) daughter-in-law, along with a menagerie of pets, including popular puppy Isla.

Occupation: Mental health counselor

How long have you been at Bethlehem? Four years

Favorite Bible verse?

Romans 12:12, "Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer."

What do you like to do in your free time? Spend time with our children, read, crochet, bake.



What have you been reading or watching lately? Reruns of "Monk" TV series on Netflix.

Any other ministries you've served with? At Peace Church: worship design, children's ministry, outreach, fellowship (coffee), confirmation group leader, and a mission trip to Biloxi, Mississippi.

Do you have a favorite Bethlehem memory? The entire congregation dressing in orange T-shirts to prank Pastor Tim after "orange shirt guy" gave him COVID at the National Youth Gathering.

What's the best part of being at Bethlehem? The people of Bethlehem are so wonderful and welcoming!

Any other fun facts to share? I like to make blankets for little ones.

Bethlehem's Board of Elders

Jeff Gilles *Contact an Elder, Officer or Ministry Team Leader by email through the church website or by calling the church office 715-832-9953.*

Gary Hansen

Joe Rosengarten

Randy Schamberger

Mike Smith

2024 OFFICERS and MINISTRY TEAM LEADERS

President: Mark Jordan

Vice President: Brad Bucki

Treasurer: Kegan Fassler

Recording Secretary: Diane Bierbrauer

Financial Secretary: Heidi Ender

Buildings & Property: Jeff Leis

Christian Ed (SS & Confirmation): Gina Becker
Zach Becker

Daycare: Drew Carlson

Discipleship: Kim Stein

Fellowship: LeAnne Hohman

Human Care & Outreach: Anna Fassler

Missions: Kristina Risler

Stewardship: Jim Casetta
Sandy Casetta

Worship: Elizabeth Demaree

Youth (Youth Group & VBS): Kristine Lenberg
Jason Lenberg

 "Like" & "Follow" Bethlehem Lutheran Church on Facebook (search for **blcaltoona**). This is one more way you can stay in touch. You can also "like" the **Feed a Child Nyre You** and **Altoona Little Star** pages.

March 2024 Worship Assistants						
Date / Time	Elder	Usher	Greeter	Acolyte	Reader	Tech Booth
Sun. 3 w/HC 8:30 am	Randy Schamberger	Brad Bucki	Gib & Kathy Clausen	Matthew Bucki	(TBD)	Noah & Adam Jordan
	10:45 am	Randy Schamberger	Jason Lenberg	Gib & Donna Ganther	Victoria Lenberg	(TBD) Noah & Adam Jordan
Wed. 6 6:00 pm		Gary Hansen	Elizabeth Demaree	Kenzie Benson	Elizabeth Demaree	Grant Grunewald
Sun. 10 8:30 am		(TBD)	Bill & Sandy Nyre	Grant Grunewald	Elizabeth Demaree	Noah & Adam Jordan
	10:45 am		(TBD)	Tom & Carol Sippel	Evan Risler	Elizabeth Demaree Noah & Adam Jordan
Wed. 13 6:00 pm		Gary Hansen	(TBD)	Kenzie Benson	Mike Smith	Luke Hansen
Sun. 17 w/HC 8:30 am	Gary Hansen	Jason Lenberg	Cheri Meyer	Victoria Lenberg	(TBD)	Luke Hansen
	10:45 am	Gary Hansen	Jeff Leis	Marlene Bredesen	Brianna Leis	Jayden Leis Luke Hansen
Wed. 20 6:00 pm		(TBD)	(TBD)	Kenzie Benson	(TBD)	Grant Grunewald
Sun. 24 8:30 am		(TBD)	LeAnne Hohman	Jazzy Moore	Mike Smith	Noah & Adam Jordan
	10:45 am		Randy Schamberger	Mike & Amber Mastrobuoni	Tevin Simpson	Mike Smith Noah & Adam Jordan
Holy Thurs. 28 w/HC 6:00 pm	(TBD)	(TBD)	(TBD)	Matthew Bucki	Linda Anderson	Sully Vargo
Good Fri. 29 6:00 pm		(TBD)	(TBD)	Grant Grunewald	(TBD)	Grant Grunewald
Easter Sun. 31 w/HC 7:30 am	(TBD)	(TBD)	(TBD)	Kenzie Benson	(TBD)	(TBD)
	w/HC 9:00 am	(TBD)	(TBD)	Elizabeth Demaree	Victoria Lenberg	Elizabeth Demaree Don Demaree
w/HC 10:30 am	Randy Schamberger	(TBD)	(TBD)	(TBD)	(TBD)	Don Demaree
Altar Guild Servers: Lana Partlow & Doreen Schwab Financial Counters: Marlene Bredesen & Jean Simpson						

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 <h1 style="margin: 0;">MARCH 2024</h1>					1	2
					Confirmation Winter Blast at Camp Luther	
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