

Sharing Christ's Love

We Are on the Web

www.bethlehemplutheranauburn.org

Worship Services

Saturday Evening 5:00 PM

Sunday Morning 8:30 AM & 11:00 AM

Evening Service of Meditation, Prayer and Peace— Two Sundays a month at 5:30 PM



Meditation, Prayer & Peace

The Evening Services of Meditation, Prayer and Peace will continue two times a month over the summer months. Please join us for this peaceful, contemplative service on August 14 and August 28 at 5:30 PM.

The Herald



Pastor's Page ~ Central Things

Earlier this summer, while going to school in Chicago, I had opportunity to visit various places of worship. Britt and I visited a congregation in Hyde Park. In addition, each day of classes included a Chapel service.

I missed the Bethlehem community, especially being with you in worship. Though, in a very real sense, I remained connected to you when I worshiped in these other places. I suspect that's because of the things that Christians share in common. While each faith community may be unique, in Christ there is a tie that binds us as one. We may find our-

selves hundreds of miles away from home, but when we visit other congregations we discover home away from home.

For example, the Chapel at the Lutheran School of Theology in Chicago has a large baptismal pool with flowing water. Each day, as I entered that space for worship I splashed my hands in the water and made the sign of the Cross. That simple gesture connected to a powerful sign was a reminder that I was baptized into a community of faith that spanned miles and generations, making me

one not only with the community gathered in that space, but the communion of saints in all places. Similarly, a church we visited one Sunday had a very large baptismal bowl filled with water at the entrance to the worship space, just like the baptismal shell at Bethlehem. How wonderful to find that common sign of belonging in a community gathered for worship around the signs of Baptism, be it a large bowl or the running waters of a pool. It felt like home.

It is an understatement to say that I heard the

CHURCH STAFF

PASTOR

Bryon Hansen

DIRECTOR OF YOUTH MINISTRY

Bryan Whiteside

OFFICE MANAGER

Joy Johnson

WORSHIP COORDINATOR

Denise Nelson

FAITH COMMUNITY NURSE

Randi Olson

DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Kathy Hamm

CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS

President

James Anderberg

Vice President

Sid Frame

Secretary/Treasurer

Diane Allison

Members at Large:

Debbie Clark

Jaron Latona

Bob Thiessen

Shawn Wakefield

preaching while I was away. Each place I visited gave the place of the word centrality with a pulpit or lectern. I heard sermons not just in worship but in class as well. The program in which I am studying is focused on preaching. One day we heard 22 sermons in class! I can assure that the word of God is raining down and watering the earth. Yes, Christ speaks even when we are away from our home church.

It was a comfort, too, to gather with saints, just as we do each week at Bethlehem, to pray for the needs of the world, share the Peace, lift our hearts in thanksgiving at the Table and share Christ's body and blood. The tables in various chapels and congregations and the people who gather around them may look and feel different than the congregation to which we belong, but in a very real

way the table and the meal are the same. In the Eucharist God connects us not only to Christ but to all the saints.

I trust that if you are traveling this summer you will take the time to worship wherever you may be and discover the miracle of experiencing home away from home. It is a great joy and consolation to know that when we worship with others followers of Jesus, even if we find ourselves miles and miles away from our home congregation, we find these common marks of identity: the bath of Baptism, the Word of God in scripture and proclamation, and the Table of abundant mercy in the Supper of the Lord. Through these gifts Christ is truly present as he promised, to bless, heal, strengthen and energize us for ser-

vice ... and to make us one with all the saints.

It is a great joy to be part of Bethlehem, a congregation filled with a spirit of joy and love and a passion for ministry. There is much happening in and through our community of faith, but at the center of our common life are the central things. These things are the very heartbeat of our shared life and ministry for the church in this and every place. These things are central: Bath, Word, and Meal. They are our true home.

Pastor B

"Whoever drinks the water I give him will never thirst."



Office Manager to take a Sabbatical



I will be taking a month long sabbatical August 12 through September 12th. I will begin this time spending the weekend with my sister in Seattle. After that I will take the bus over the pass into Plain Washington to spend time at "The Grunvald Guild" which is a Christian Art Guild. Here, I will be taking a morning art class entitled, "Art, Pray, Write" and in the afternoon a "Beading Class". There are also times for worship and hiking and relaxing there. After a full week there I will spend the remainder of my time at Holden Village where Brian will meet up with me for the last 10 days. AS a service to church staff, Holden Village gives a free week to church staff and their spouse for sabbatical time. Please keep me in your prayers for safe travels and for what God has in store for me during this time.

I will be leaving you all in very capable hands while I am away. The entire church staff will be back from vacation and I have trained Tia Desplancke to be at my desk to carry on tasks while I am away.

Joy Johnson, church Office Manager

Take Time to Laugh.....



Oktoberfest Coming Mark your Calendar



OCTOBER

Mark your calendars. Oktoberfest 2011 is set for October 8 at the fairgrounds. Also, we are beginning to rally volunteers for

- Gathering Auction Items
- Cooking
- Bartending
- Publicity
- Ticket Sales
- Set-up (morning of)
- Clean-up (evening of)
- Silent Auction

Please see Bryan Whiteside if you would like to help.

STILL LOOKING FOR A NICE BENCH

We want to place a nice cement bench outside in the sitting area of the courtyard. If you would like to donate a nice sitting, cement bench please see Tom Larson.



Please set aside August 21st, after the second service, to have a salad lunch and listen to Preston Marx' presentation on Trusts, Wills, and Estate planning when considering your health and well being. Bring questions and a smile!

Wholistic Health For the Soul ~

"The hills are still alive and well, with the sound of music."

"I love you Lord, and I raise my voice, to worship you, oh my soul rejoice! Take joy my King, in what you hear. Let it be a sweet, sweet sound in your ear!"

This is a favorite little song that is sung often by children, but has begun to be one of my daily shower songs. I have lost part of my singing voice due to some medication I was taking, so I am trying to re-train my vocal chords to sing again.

In reading this month's, 'Forget Me Not' Alzheimer's Aid Society's newsletter, I was struck by an article about the use of music in dementia therapy. Fortunately my voice problem is not due to the memory part of my brain (yet), the hippocampus, but many mood chemicals are influenced highly by music. Dr. Oliver Sacks, professor

of Clinical Neurology and Psychiatry at Columbia University has written the book, Musicophilia, and in it he explains how familiar music is the key to eliciting emotions and unlocking words that have been silenced. Listening to music that is enjoyable raises our cognitive ability to remember new verbal information. That is obvious when thinking about the nursery school songs, such as "ABCD-EFG" etc. A child can recite the alphabet within a couple days after hearing that song. It has long been known that listening to relaxing music when going to bed enhances sleep, and reduces depression and aggression in those whose brains function poorly in setting limits or not being able to see the positive in place of negatives. So it is with elderly, when familiar music from the 1930-1950 eras is played, agitation lessens and focus is seen which allows one to sing along, tap a foot or clap in joy.

If you know someone who could use a little happiness, it might be well to consider music in the envi-

ronment. Singing or humming as you work around the house, swaying or dancing to music playing on the radio, listening to ballads or lullabies at bedtime or playing music in another language familiar to the family are some ways to introduce joy. Favorite hymns and Sunday School songs are the longest remembered words in many elderly minds. Avoiding music that is loud or inharmonious, videos of ocean waves and roar of surf or song books showing musical notes can be disorienting, confusing, or disturbing.

We are fortunate to have a congregation that sings! It truly is another way to worship our Lord in the most delightful way. Our faithful musicians, choir members and directors, instrumentalists, and soloists do a wonderful job. We thank you.

The hills are still alive and well, with the sound of music.

Randi, FCN

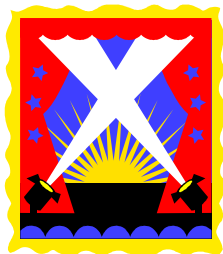


Children's Ministry

Spotlight on You!



Mrs Kathy Hamm wants to feature Bethlehem's Kids in the Newsletter! See her for a form to fill out with a few simple questions: What do you want to be when you grow up? If you could be an animal, what would it be? What is your favorite book? What do you like about Bethlehem? She will choose 1 or 2 forms each month and feature those kids in the newsletter. We will continue until everyone has had a turn! Pick up a form today!



Blessing of the Backpacks

We are excited to continue the new tradition of Blessing of the Backpacks! On Sunday, August 14 at the 8:30 and 10:30 am service, all students and teachers (anyone getting ready to back to school) are invited to bring their backpacks, briefcases, satchels, book bags to worship for a special blessing as they get ready to start the new school year. Everyone will receive a special token to put on their backpack to remind them of God's blessings all year long

SAVE THE DATE!

Sunday, September 11

9:45 – 10:45 am

FALL KICK-OFF FAIR

Learn about the new classes for 2011-2012, play games, eat snacks, chat with friends! Watch for more information...



was also suggested that PPOFT would benefit from having a dialogue with the Superintendent of Auburn Union Elementary School District. PPOFT left the meeting with further actions to consider as it pursued a homework policy that addressed the sanctity of childhood.

At the end of July, PPOFT reconvened and concluded that it would be appropriate to respond to the Assistant

Superintendent's proposals. It will schedule a meeting with the elementary school district's Superintendent. It will also develop and administer a survey, initially within the church community and beyond as is merited. PPOFT has not lost the vision of that October evening; the seed has sprouted and branched.

The branches need to be peopled, however. As the birds of the air come and

make nests in the branches of the rooted mustard seed, it is hoped that those who are vested in the health and well-being of children will come to fill the virtual branches of our organization. PPOFT needs the weight of your presence, your combined gravitas.. Weigh down our branches with the force of your conviction and belief. Spread the seeds of justice.



GOOD NEWS GIRLS

We are having a great summer meeting on usual date (the 4th Thursday of each month) for a "no leader" Bible study. The group meets at the church at 10:30 am. After this August meeting on August 25th we will be going out to lunch at the Sierra Grill on Hwy 49. All are welcome.

WOMEN'S MINISTRY

ELKS CLUB LUNCH

The August dates for lunch at the Elks Club are August 10 & 24. Gather there at noon or 12:15 and Kathryn Stoltenburg will sign you in at the door. Call Kathryn at 885-3149 if you have any questions. Cost of lunch is \$6 or \$7.

QUILTING PLUS

Quilting Plus will be going back to their regular dates meeting on the 1st & 3rd Tuesdays beginning September 6 to make quilts for various charities. Time is 9 to Noon with a coffee break. Don't worry if you don't know how to sew. There are ladies who do the sewing of these simple quilts and then they are tied. This is a great way to get to know people and have a wonderful feeling of doing something for someone in need for the comfort of a quilt.

Placer People of Faith Together



A year ago October, a member of Bethlehem Lutheran Church delivered a report at a Placer People of Faith Together (PPOFT) meeting. It was one of several, but something he said was compelling and, over the course of the next several weeks, would extinguish any other content of that meeting. The key word was homework. Homework, he discovered, was the trigger for nightly misery in the household he reported on. The word “homework” became the seed for PPOFT’s future activity.

As PPOFT members dialogued with Bethlehem’s congregants, it became evident that many of the church’s families

were negatively impacted by the demands of homework. Children were not getting to bed on time, family time was being imposed upon, and parents were unable to help their sobbing children with concepts that had been taught during the day. The experience of Bethlehem’s families was amplified by the documentary, *Race to Nowhere*, which described children who were experiencing somatic complaints, mental health diagnoses, the need to cheat, addiction to stimulants, and a disconnect from the educational system. The love of learning, as described in the film, was being eroded in a process that appeared to be making robots of students. The message to PPOFT became clear: it needed to take action on behalf of students.

The seed that had been dropped among the members of PPOFT found good soil. As a multi-faith-based organization, it seeks to strengthen families and improve communities. It organizes community members and assists civic leaders in the development and implementation of solutions to a community’s needs. Strengthened by faith, PPOFT seeks justice. It has the potential to

transform communities, lifting them to their highest aspirations.

PPOFT came to the determination that it wanted to be an agent for positive change. It desired to reclaim a healthy childhood for Auburn’s youth.. Toward that end, it held an Action on May 3, inviting representatives from education and mental health to sit in as panelists. They and other members of the community heard testimony offered by a teacher, students, a parent, and a counselor. By the conclusion of the Action, the panelists gave a commitment to join PPOFT in “addressing the causes of stress on teens, children, and families in the academic system.” They committed specifically to addressing excessive homework.

Toward that end, a majority of the panelists and an Assistant Superintendent of the high school district met with members of PPOFT in June. The meeting’s agenda included a review of the homework policy adopted by Davis Joint Unified School District. It was proposed by the Assistant Superintendent that the policy and accompanying study were not relevant to Auburn schools. It

Career and Job Networking Drop-In Service

If you are on the hunt for a new job, or exploring a career change, or want to expand your business, consider dropping by BLC (back door of Fellowship Hall) on Monday mornings, between 7:30am and 9:00am over the next two months (August and September).

I’ll facilitate the time and share such basic resources as:

- **Spiritual Support**
- **Resumé review**
- **Job Search (online, networking, marketing yourself)**
- **Application Process**
- **Interview skills, practice**
- **Career and Skills Assessment**

Get your week started on a high note, have a cup of coffee and some conversation with fellow job-seekers – we can help each other keep going and perhaps discover new opportunities. For more information, please contact me:

Joe Irvin irvinjj@gmail.com 916/417-9537

From the Worship Coordinator



As we continue with summer, I hope that all of you have been or will be able to travel, get things done around your home, and relax. When I make the schedules during the summer months, I real-

ize that you may be going away and will not be able to serve on the day that I scheduled for you. Thank you to all of you who have let me know that you cannot serve on the day sched-

uled. Also, thank you to all of you who have served during July. May God bless you whatever your summer plans are.
Peace, Denise Nelson
Worship Coordinator



Stephen Ministry Update



Stephen Ministry Chugging Along at BLC

In addition to caring for and blessing others, our caregiving team of Stephen Ministers is being blessed through this Christian service! We are blessed with each other's support and concern; blessed to serve others; and blessed in the new insight and learning experiences that come from participation in this ministry.

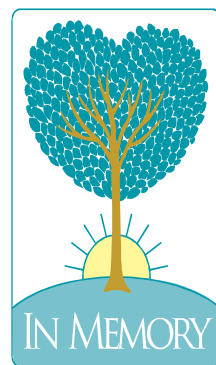
We have 17 Stephen Ministers, with 11 actively involved in a caregiving situation. We continue to meeting twice-monthly for peer supervision support and supplemental education on relevant topics. And we gathered in July for a team-building BBQ that allowed for

sharing with and thanking spouses, as well as each other, for committing to this outreach effort.

if you desire more information about S-M, whether as someone who would like a caregiver or as someone interested in the next training opportunity, please speak with Pastor Bryon or any Stephen Minister - we are ready to help.

Daily Lectionary for August

M Psalm 78:1-8, 17-29 Deuteronomy 8:1-10 Romans 1:8-15	Tu Psalm 18:1-19 Genesis 19:1-29 Romans 9:14-29	W Psalm 87 Isaiah 66:18-23 Matthew 8:1-13	Jeremiah 14:13-18 Ephesians 5:1-6
Tu Psalm 78:1-8, 17-29 Deuteronomy 26:1-15 Acts 2:37-47	W Psalm 18:1-19 Job 36:24-33; 37:14-24 Matthew 8:23-27	Th Psalm 138 Ezekiel 28:11-19 1 Corinthians 6:1-11	F Psalm 26:1-8 Jeremiah 15:1-9 2 Thessalonians 2:7-12
W Psalm 78:1-8, 17-29 Exodus 16:2-15, 31-35 Matthew 15:32-39	Th Psalm 67 Isaiah 45:20-25 Revelation 15:1-4	F Psalm 138 Ezekiel 31:15-18 2 Corinthians 10:12-18	Sa Psalm 26:1-8 Jeremiah 15:10-14 Matthew 8:14-17
Th Psalm 85:8-13 1 Kings 18:1-16 Acts 17:10-15	F Psalm 67 Isaiah 63:15-19 Acts 14:19-28	Sunday August 21 Isaiah 51:1-6 Psalm 138	Sunday August 22 Jeremiah 15:15-21 Psalm 26:1-8
F Psalm 85:8-13 1 Kings 18:17-19, 30-40 Acts 18:24-28	Sa Psalm 67 Isaiah 56:1-5 Matthew 14:34-36	Sunday August 21 Romans 12:1-8 Matthew 16:5-12	Sa Psalm 138 Ezekiel 36:33-38 Matthew 16:5-12
Sa Psalm 85:8-13 1 Kings 18:41-46 Matthew 16:1-4	Sunday August 14 Isaiah 56:1, 6-8 Psalm 67	Sunday August 21 Romans 12:1-8 Matthew 16:13-20	Sa Psalm 138 Ezekiel 36:33-38 Matthew 16:5-12
Sunday August 7 1 Kings 19:9-18 Psalm 85:8-13 Romans 10:5-15 Matthew 14:22-33	Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32 Matthew 15:[10-20] 21-28	Sunday August 21 Isaiah 51:1-6 Psalm 138	Sa Psalm 138 Ezekiel 36:33-38 Matthew 16:5-12
M Psalm 18:1-19 Genesis 7:11—8:5 2 Peter 2:4-10	Tu Psalm 87 2 Kings 5:1-14 Acts 15:1-21	Sunday August 21 Isaiah 51:1-6 Psalm 138	Sa Psalm 138 Ezekiel 36:33-38 Matthew 16:5-12
	Tu Psalm 87 Isaiah 43:8-13 Romans 11:13-29	Sunday August 21 Isaiah 51:1-6 Psalm 138	Sa Psalm 138 Ezekiel 36:33-38 Matthew 16:5-12



Commended to God's everlasting care.....

Bee Toomey. Services were held for Bee July 2 at Bethlehem Lutheran Church.

DON'T FORGET THE REPAIR BUILDING FUND

Repair and replacement projects for our facilities - some long neglected - are waiting on funding. The work can only be accomplished with your contributions to the Building Fund in addition to your regular offering. Thanks for your support. Tom Larson, Facilities Ministry Team



August Birthday's



Peggy Schultze
Kim Ulrich
Ruth Drapela
Lucille Hickok

Betty Sandland
Randi Olson
Ron Classon
Phyllis Classon
Bettyclaire Jeske
Mary Reckow
Charles Nelson
Joe Ciola
Sally Klug
Samantha Heisleman

Mary Robbins
Dorothy Pfothauer
Devin McFarland
Ann Davis
Thomas Classon
Joan Knierim
Arlene Shickle
John Brooks
Erin Lee

Andrea Lindstrom
Karen Holt
Kathye Hamm
Owen Myers
Morgan Clark,
Erin Clark
Allison Clark