

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— Last Sunday of the 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 July 17 and July 31 at 5:30 PM.

The Herald



"On Behalf" of Others (submitted by Randi Olson)

"Jesus said, 'I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours.'" (John 17:9)

Many cities and suburbs were dangerous forty years ago. Gangs and drug dealers ruled the streets. Parks were free-fire zones. Parents kept close watch on children. Then it got better. Crime rates dropped, attitudes changed, fears subsided. But children raised in that fear are now forming families and are raising their children in an environment of fear and constant monitoring.

These children, in turn, are emerging unprepared for a daunting world. Having not been allowed freedom, many don't know how to be free. Having been the center of attention, they aren't prepared for give-and-take. Having received constant praise for even the

smallest action, they don't comprehend an actual world of learning from failure. Having not been held accountable, they aren't prepared for a world where actions have consequences.

I don't want to overstate a problem being described as "helicopter parents and their narcissistic children." No age cohort can be painted with a single brush. But the problem is widespread enough that educators around the US are worried about students who resent being challenged, and employers are fed up with new hires who lack basic skills and yet bristle with entitlement.

This is as big a spiritual crisis as we face. It isn't as easy to package as social justice issues. It requires some serious self-assessment. But it is

clearly a "Gospel moment"

When Jesus entrusted people to the care of God, he was entrusting them both to God's providence and to the faith community's care. He was giving us to each other: I in you and you in me, and all of us in God.

Each generation cares for the next, and for the one preceding it. Haves and have-nots minister to each other. In-crowds welcome outsiders, and outsiders reform in-crowds. We give away what we have, and we receive back what we need. In giving and in receiving, we learn not to be afraid.

It is time for established Christians to stop protecting what we have and taking what we want. It is time to turn our attention to children,

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

Kathye 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



teenagers and young adults. Not showering the young with debilitating attention, but daring to show a younger cohort what a transformed life lived in community can be and engaging them in making a difference through self-sacrifice.

This can't be an institutional survival strategy—welcoming youth to our

pews so they can pay our bills. We need to do what Jesus said: act “on behalf” of someone else. Let go of what we have, serve others because they belong to God, knowing that if they are in spiritual crisis, so are we all.

*Serve others
because they
belong to
God!*

[A Wedding at the Worship Service](#)

Merle Ethridge and I, Paul Krueger, will be married during the 11:00 AM service on July 10th. You, the church family are the context of our lives and the context of our loving. We met here. We are not sending individual invitations, all are invited. God invites everyone and Merle and I are merging into that general invitation.

Our marriage ceremony, simply the exchange of vows, rings and prayers, will take place following the sermon and before communion. Alt-

though, for us, the entire service will be a part of our marriage, just as all the rest of our days of worship will empower us right up to our final translation.

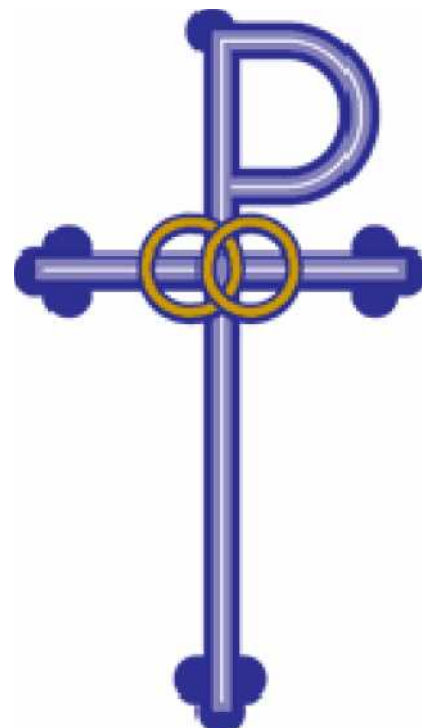
Most of our family will be able to attend and will be seated in the front on both sides. Merle's eldest daughter, and my youngest grandson, Paul, will be our attendants.

We intend that our marriage ceremony be a simple one, I have bought a new pair of black shoes for the occasion and Merle is getting each of us a flower. For

us, our love is the main celebration.

Please join us in the Fellowship Hall for wedding cake and stay to visit with us.

We love you All,
Paul Krueger.



[Thanks Giving Update](#)



Congratulations Bethlehem on our strong giving record for January thru May of 2011. During that time period we gave 87% of our Estimate of Giving commitment. You'll recall that our budget calls for a 100% giving commitment for this calendar year, so we are a little short, but within striking distance of our goal.

SUMMERTIME ALERT- Historically the summer months are when we fall well short of our giving commitments. Let's all make a special effort to make sure our giving is current during this time. If you are gone for a period of time, make a special effort to submit your offering either before you depart or immediately upon your return. The Lord's work and our ministry efforts continue year round. Our financial support is a must to make sure that is possible.

A reminder that we have electronic giving available, which enables you to make donations on a scheduled, automatic basis. To set up electronic giving, complete the appropriate form which is available on the welcome table in the Narthex, or give Joy a call in the church office. This is an easy and convenient way to keep our commitments current. Have a wonderful summer, and let's do everything possible to keep our financial support strong.

THRIVENT FINANCIAL FOR LUTHERANS PRESENTS....



Identity theft

What you need to know

During the workshop you'll learn:

- How identity theft can occur.
- Tips to help protect yourself.
- Steps you can take if identity theft does happen to you.

Cost: Free

Offered by: Kenneth E. Gleason, FIC, CA

July 20, 2011 at 6:00 PM

at Bethlehem Lutheran Church

To Register contact Ken Gleason at (916) 233-9622 by July 10

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.

The heat is here and many of you are on vacation. I hope that you all have a safe travels and may the peace of the Lord be with you. I will be out of town from July 4 through July 14. I will return to the office on July 19. If you have any questions during that time, please call the office and Joy will try to help you. If you cannot serve on the day scheduled, please help me by asking another member to take your place. Remember to check the schedule that is included in this newsletter to see if you are scheduled this month. Thank you to all of you who served during June.

Peace, Denise Nelson BLC Worship Coordinator.



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.

Wholistic Health For the Soul ~ Is Intercessory Prayer a Valid Nursing Intervention?

James 5:13-14 "Is any among you suffering? Let him pray. Is any cheerful? Let him sing praise. Is any among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord."

When I was first approached about taking training to become a Faith Community Nurse at Bethlehem Lutheran, I was a bit hesitant. I was reminded of one of the first exposures I had of the charismatic healing movement in a Lutheran church in the city in which I lived before moving to Auburn. It was a bad experience, leaving a meeting after seeing a woman crying because her child's palsied leg did not miraculously grow back after many people prayed and laid hands on her. She broke down when being led to believe her faith was not strong enough. To this woman, prayer was a last resort. She had tried everything else...she was the failure in her child's healing process.

In the Maasai tribe of the Rift Valley of Kenya, missionary RN, Cecily Strong tells of hearing mother's pleading "ematoomon" (pray) over their children hot with fever. She says it is the first response of care, before cool packs, medi-

cine or sips of electrolytes, that she has found to be most helpful, comforting, meaningful, and powerful. The Maasai tribe is steeped in the oral tradition, with one word or proverb summarizing an entire concept. These people believe God (Enkai) is accessible through individual and corporate community prayers. They do not question if they have strong enough belief. It is their culture.

In Western culture, a nurse is asked to act as mediator between patient care and physician orders, but in Kenya, one would be asked to act as a mediator between the Maasai mother, her child, and the great Physician. Why does intercessory prayer seem to have stronger validation in third world countries? It doesn't. The good news is that the definition of Intercessory prayer goes beyond the general definition of prayer to a more specific type of prayer. It is voiced, on behalf of another person, imploring a higher power to act on a specific request, expressing to God what the patient would pray if able.

Recently many of our church family have reported to me incidences of medical personnel asking if they would like prayer included in their care, from a nurse in the emer-

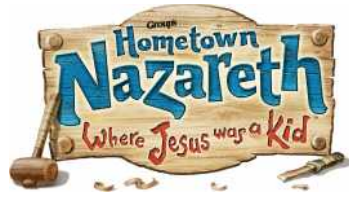
gency room to a surgeon's pre-op visit. I am encouraged to hear that prayer is a part of care that is not ignored or forgotten, and in my position, I find I cannot leave a bedside without saying a prayer with our Bethlehem family member. I don't ask for God to change plans of healing...prayer does not require investigation or scientific measurable numbers to work. That type of reasoning reflects a very narrow view of God's miracles.

Healing through prayer is not easily quantifiable. It is definitely a realm of care beyond science. Healing includes a feeling of hope, acceptance, and patience. It is welcoming God's gift of ability and wisdom to those making decisions. Healing is knowing that God's love and Spirit are with us through the journey of illness. He comes to us before we ever think to go to Him...isn't that wonderful? God Bless all of you.

Randi, FCN

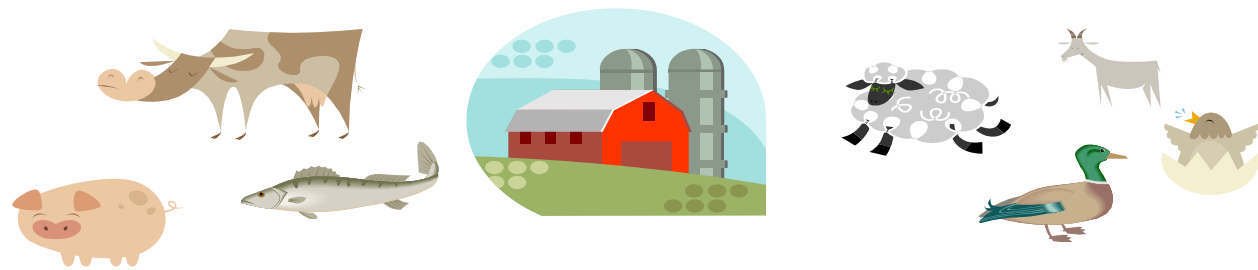


Children's Ministry



Family Fun Week: Hometown Nazareth
August 1 – 5, 2011
5:30 – 8:30 pm
 It's time to sign up!

Are you ready to come together for 5 nights of meals, fun, fellowship, learning and more? See Mrs Kathy Hamm for a registration form! Dinner starts at 5:30 and we are suggesting a donation of \$2 per person each night. The fun begins at 6:00 and ends at 8:30. You may register online at- <https://www.groupvbspro.com/vbs/hl/bethlehemauburn>



God's Global Barnyard

We have raised \$700!!! The votes are in – we are “buying” 1 fish farm, 1 sheep, 4 goats, 2 pigs, 2 ducks, and 20 chicks. Thank you so much for your generous donations, allowing us to help our brothers and sisters in need.



Kids Night Out!
Saturday, July 23
6:30 – 8:30 pm

Who: All kids preschool – 5th grade

BRING A FRIEND!

Where: Bethlehem Lutheran Church

What: Pizza, movies & games with MrsKathyHamm

How Much: \$5 to cover the cost of dinner

R.S.V.P. by Sunday, July 17

Questions or want to sign up? Talk to or e-mail MrsKathyHamm at kids@bethlehemplutheranauburn.org or call the church at 530-885-4515



QUILTING PLUS

We are through for the summer months. We will resume, Tuesday, September 6th, at 9:00 AM in the Fellowship Hall. All women are welcome, consider joining us for a morning of Fellowship and “Good Works!”

GOOD NEWS GIRLS

We are on a summer schedule, meeting in the Fellowship Hall on Thursday July 28th at 10:30 AM. We are taking our study from *Lutheran Women Today*. This month is, “RESPOND”, from Luke 1:46-48. This will be an open discussion, with no specific leader. If you would like to get your feet wet in bible Study please join us. If you would like to get this delightful little magazine for women, talk to Donna Larson or Kathryn Stoltenburg. All women are welcome. This month the Bible Study will be followed by a pot luck Taco Salad. Next month

we will meet again on the 4th Thursday of August at the same time and following our study we will go out to lunch.

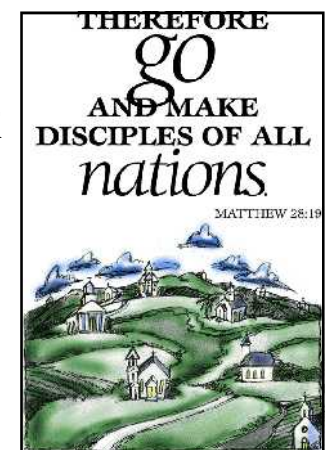
On Wednesday July 6th and 20th we will meet at noon at the Elks Lodge in Auburn, this is just a fun get together. Kathryn Stoltenburg is our hostess. All women are welcome, talk to Kathryn if you are interested in joining us.

We will be collecting items for school kits for Lutheran World Relief in September. There will be more information in August.

Rwanda Sister-Congregation News

Gerard Muvuny, Development Coordinator for the Lutheran Church in Rwanda, will be visiting Bethlehem Lutheran on Sunday morning, July 31, 2011. Please save the date on your calendar. Gerard is the son of Pastor Gerard Mahirane, of our sister-congregation in Kibungo. All communications with Kibungo, Rwanda are through Gerard. He has been a fabulous conduit between the Lutheran Church in Rwanda and the Sierra Pacific Synod.

Gerard will be one of the adult leaders bringing a delegation of Rwandan youth to Northern California in July. This endeavor is a partnership between The Lutheran Church in Rwanda, Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary (PLTS), Faith Active in Love Program, the Sierra Pacific Synod Youth Committee, and the Sierra Pacific Synod. The Rwandan delegation is comprised of 10 youths (ages 18-35). They will be in Northern California attending a youth leadership development program at PLTS and while in Northern California will be visiting sister-congregations throughout Northern California. This will be a great opportunity to meet Gerard and to learn more about our sister-congregation in Kibungo. If you have questions or need more information contact Don Schultze (dps313@sbcglobal.net) and to volunteer for the potluck, celebrating the Rwandan visit, contact Tia Desplancke (tiajaned@earthlink.net).



CHURCH POTLUCK JULY 31, 2011

Join us for a potluck on Sunday, **July 31, 2011** after the second service for a special visit by Gerard, Pastor Mahirane's son from the Lutheran Church in Rwanda! We want to make this a special feast for our honored guest.

Bring your **"special"** dish and drop it off in the BLC kitchen before or after either service. Here's the plan...

Bring your special dish, and meet Gerard. We will break bread with Gerard right after the second service in BLC's Fellowship Hall. Each dish should serve approximately twelve people.

A — F Appetizers
G - L Salads
M — R Main Entree
S—Z Desserts

Gerard is visiting California and we are lucky to have him visit us while on his journey. This is the perfect opportunity to hear how our sister congregation in Rwanda is dealing with their new property, their new school and all the news from our =sisters and brothers in Rwanda.

We are indeed blessed and privileged to have Gerard visit with us. Please plan on welcoming him into our midst!

RSVP no later than July 29th to confirm attendance and the dish you'll be bringing. Call Tia Desplancke at 530.268.1068 or email Tia at tiajaned@earthlink.com

VOLUNTEERS ARE WELCOME AND NEEDED. CALL TIA FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO VOLUNTEER.



Service of 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 July 17 and July 31 at 5:30 PM.

From Bryan Whiteside, Director of Youth Ministry

"I pray that we can participate and see the resurrection all around us."

A few weeks ago I filled in for a friend preaching at his communities Sunday evening worship service. This particular church was doing a series on 1980's pop songs and how they related to the Gospel and our Christian life together. Since I was recently home from Mexico, and it was fresh in mind, I decided to preach the parable of the Rich Man and Lazarus and how it related to U2's song "Where the Streets Have No Name." I was amazed

how the parable, my recent experience in Mexico, and the song all came together proclaiming the same message that the "haves" and the "have-nots" desperately need one another.

At this particular church, after the sermon is over, the congregation gets an opportunity to ask questions of the preacher. Although, I knew that this was a part of their liturgy, I was taken aback by one of the questions before me. "How do we overcome fear and embrace the other?", this one gentleman asked. After taking a moment I responded, "We believe in the resurrection!" If we truly believe in the resurrection, than we truly believe that life comes out of death, and therefore, we should not be afraid of anything. Having realized that it was an oversimplified statement, I told a story.

I had recently seen one of my favorite theologians (Peter Rollins) on a podcast speaking at a University. After delivering his lecture, he was also confronted by a Q&A and was asked, "Dr. Rollins, you speak a lot about the death of Jesus, but I rarely hear you speak on the resurrection. Do you affirm the resurrection?" After a moment, Rollins said this, "OK. It is time to fess up. Of course I do not affirm the resurrection. Anyone who knows me knows that I do not affirm the resurrection. Every time that I do not serve my neighbor, every time I walk away from people who are poor, and every time that I participate in an unjust system. AND I affirm the resurrection every now and again when I stand up for those who are on their knees, when I cry

out for those who have had their tongues torn out, and when I weep for those who have no more tears to shed."

My prayer is that Bethlehem Lutheran Church is a place that affirms the resurrection, not as an abstract esoteric reality, or simply a historical past-tense event, but as a reality that has flesh and blood on it. I pray that I am the resurrection and that you are the resurrection and that we can participate and see the resurrection all around us.



A Note from Our Council President

“God Meets Us Where We Are”

As we live out the wonder and amazement of the just past Easter season, I have been thinking about the veil inside the holy temple that was torn in two when Jesus died. In reading about Jesus' life, the temple was the absolute center of worship, where the Law of Moses was taught and followed. The curtain, or veil separated the holy of holies signifying that Man is separated from God by sin. I read somewhere that this veil was almost 60 feet in height! I have wondered about the significance of the torn veil for us today as we examine that which separates us from God.

When Christ died on the cross for us- the tearing of the cloth at the moment of Jesus' death symbolized Christ's shedding of His blood for all humanity and that it was a sufficient sacrifice for our sins. Hebrews 10:19 says that the faithful enter into His sanctuary by the blood of Jesus-- a new and living way which he opened for us through the veil. Through our savior we no longer need to offer ongoing sacrifices as in the Old Testament. Jesus Christ through His

death has taken away those obstacles between God and man and it is with confidence and boldness we can come to our savior.

I have known many people who felt that in order to know God they had to be "cleaned up"-many avoid church because they think they have too many sins or that they are not good enough for God. The opposite is true--God meets us where ever we are and does not play favorites. He forgives anyone who confesses. What a wonderful gift that the veil is torn and we can come to God and by grace we are saved. We all want to let our community know that they are loved and accepted by God.

Update

An upgrade to our technology is near completion and new computers are in and installed. The parish hall, sanctuary, and office now have Internet and WIFI. We have had a few thefts in our church, which seems to be a bit endemic of the economic times for churches. Recently a laptop and a monitor have been taken as well as personal belongings. We ask that everyone work on locking doors after using the facilities and be aware of your personal belongings.

The office staff, Pastor and Council Executive committee are working on staff job descriptions and are in the process of updating them. Once the process is complete, the Executive committee will work with the Human Resources committee to add them to the staff handbook and further formalize the employee process.

Council has begun reading a new book about church growth. This book is opening up dialogue regarding BLC as we continue to grow and widen the scope of our ministries. If you would like to read along the book is titled “The In Between Church: Navigating Size Transitions in Congregations”, by Alice Mann.

We continue to need leaders who will take on ministry work within our church. We need help in moving some programs and ministries forward. We have many needs and we ask you to pray about possibly helping out. If you would like to hear more, please contact me or our Leadership Development Team leader, Brian Johnson.

May God keep you safe and joyful this summer!

Daily Lectionary for July

F Psalm 145:8-14	Sa Psalm 65:[1-8] 9-13
Zechariah 2:6-13	Isaiah 52:1-6
Romans 7:7-20	John 12:44-50
Sa Psalm 145:8-14	<u>Sunday</u> <u>July 10</u>
Zechariah 4:1-7	Isaiah 55:10-13
Luke 10:21-24	Psalm 65:[1-8] 9-13
<u>Sunday</u> <u>July 3</u>	Romans 8:1-11
Zechariah 9:9-12	Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23
Psalm 145:8-14	M Psalm 92
Romans 7:15-25a	Leviticus 26:3-20
Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30	1 Thessalonians 4:1-8
M Psalm 131	Tu Psalm 92
Song of Solomon 2:8-13	Deuteronomy 28:1-1
Romans 1:18-25	Ephesians 4:17—5:2
Tu Psalm 131	W Psalm 92
Song of Solomon 2:8-13	Proverbs 11:23-30
Romans 3:1-8	Matthew 13:10-17
W Psalm 131	Th Psalm 86:11-17
Song of Solomon 2:8-13	Isaiah 41:21-29
John 13:1-17	Hebrews 2:1-9
Th Psalm 65:[1-8] 9-13	F Psalm 86:11-17
Isaiah 48:1-5	Isaiah 44:9-17
Romans 2:12-16	Hebrews 6:13-20
F Psalm 65:[1-8] 9-13	Sa Psalm 86:11-17
Isaiah 48:6-11	Isaiah 44:18-20
Romans 15:14-21	Matthew 7:15-20

<u>Sunday</u> <u>July 17</u>	Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52
Isaiah 44:6-8	M Psalm 119:121-128
Psalm 86:11-17	1 Kings 3:16-28
Romans 8:12-25	James 3:13-18
Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43	Tu Psalm 119:121-128
M Psalm 75	1 Kings 4:29-34
Nahum 1:1-13	Ephesians 6:10-1
Revelation 14:12-20	W Psalm 119:121-128
Tu Psalm 75	Proverbs 1:1-7, 20-33
Zephaniah 3:1-13	Mark 4:30-34
Galatians 4:21—5:1	Th Psalm 145:8-9, 14-21
W Psalm 75	Proverbs 10:1-5
Daniel 12:1-13	Philippians 4:10-15
Matthew 12:15-21	F Psalm 145:8-9, 14-21
Th Psalm 119:129-136	Isaiah 51:17-23
1 Kings 1:28-37	Romans 9:6-13
1 Corinthians 4:14-20	Sa Psalm 145:8-9, 14-21
F Psalm 119:129-13	Isaiah 44:1-5
1 Kings 1:38-48	Matthew 7:7-11
Acts 7:44-53	<u>Sunday</u> <u>July 31</u>
Sa Psalm 119:129-136	Isaiah 55:1-5
1 Kings 2:1-4	Psalm 145:8-9, 14-21
Matthew 12:38-42	Romans 9:1-5
<u>Sunday</u> <u>July 24</u>	Matthew 14:13-21
1 Kings 3:5-12	
Psalm 119:129-136	
Romans 8:26-39	

July Birthday's



John Knierim
Delores Roberson
Mary Howell
Tim Riswold

Coreena Whiteside
Jonas Csontos
Flora Csontos
Bob Johnson
Grace Grover
Delores Amaro
Robbie Simon
Danielle Anderson
Virginia Sizemore
Angela Klug

William Classon
Vic Gonella
Stephen Bender
Jessica Ciola

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

Cleo Hummel - Laid to rest June 16th.

Memorial Service will be held August 5th.

