

Bethlehem Lutheran
CHURCH & SCHOOL

1121 Georgia Ave. Sheboygan, WI 53081

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CONNECT WITH US

Bethlehem Lutheran

1121 Georgia Avenue
Sheboygan, WI 53081

www.ourbethlehem.com

Church: (920) 452-4331
infochurch@ourbethlehem.com

School: (920) 452-5071
infoschool@ourbethlehem.com



[www.facebook.com/
ourbethlehem](http://www.facebook.com/ourbethlehem)



[https://twitter.com/
ourbethlehem](https://twitter.com/ourbethlehem)

Rev. J. Patrick Niles
Administrative Pastor

Rev. Jeremy Hanson
Associate Pastor

Mr. Joshua Klug
Principal

WORSHIP & BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

Worship Times

Saturday - 5:30pm

Sunday - 8:00am & 10:30am

Wednesday - 6:00pm

Bible Studies

Saturday evening ~ 4:15 to 5:15pm

Sunday morning ~ 9:15 to 10:15am

Sunday School ~ 9:15 to 10:15am

June 2026

MEMBERSHIP



Lutheran Church
Missouri Synod



Sheboygan Lutheran
High School
Association



Sheboygan Area
Lutheran Schools
Association

June 2026

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

	1	2	3	4	5	6
	<p>1</p> <p>BCDS meeting 6:00pm</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Bids for Bethlehem Dinner Auction meeting 6:30pm</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Worship w/HC 6:00pm</p> <p>Stewardship meeting 6:45pm</p>			<p>6</p> <p>Bible class 4:15pm</p> <p>Worship w/HC 5:30pm</p>
<p>7</p> <p>Worship w/HC 8:00am & 10:30am</p> <p>Bible class 9:15am</p>		<p>9</p> <p>Quilters 9:00am</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Worship w/HC 6:00pm</p> <p>Parish Planning Council meeting 7:00pm</p>			<p>13</p> <p>Bible class 4:15pm</p> <p>Worship w/HC 5:30pm</p>
<p>14</p> <p>Worship w/HC 8:00am & 10:30am</p> <p>8th grade & high school graduate recognition 8:00am</p> <p>Bible class 9:15am</p>			<p>17</p> <p>Worship w/HC 6:00pm</p>	<p>18</p> <p>July Visitor deadline (noon)</p>		<p>20</p> <p>Bible class 4:15pm</p> <p>Worship w/HC 5:30pm</p>
<p>21</p> <p>Worship w/HC 8:00am & 10:30am</p> <p>Bible class 9:15am</p>		<p>23</p> <p>Quilters 9:00am</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Worship w/HC 6:00pm</p> <p>Voters' meeting 7:00pm</p>		<p>26</p> <p>LHS Golf Outing 10:00am Quit Qui Oc</p>	<p>27</p> <p>Bible class 4:15pm</p> <p>Worship w/HC 5:30pm</p>
<p>28</p> <p>Worship w/HC 8:00am & 10:30am</p> <p>Bible class 9:15am</p>						

From the desk of Pastor Niles

Faithfulness in Worship: Gathering Around God's Gifts

And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near (Hebrews 10:24-25).

There are some things people simply do not skip. We do not forget vacation flights. We do not accidentally miss playoff games. Somehow, even the busiest families can make it to dance recitals, fishing trips, and 7:00 a.m. hockey practices in subzero weather. If there is free food involved, attendance rates rise even higher.

And yet Sunday morning can become strangely negotiable. A little rain? Maybe we stay home. A late Saturday night? Perhaps next week. Company in town? Soccer tournament? Cabin weekend? Suddenly the thing Christians have called "Divine Service" for centuries starts sounding more optional than oil changes and Costco runs.

Of course, none of this means Christians are lazy or uncaring. Life is busy. Families are stretched thin. Schedules can feel overwhelming. But our priorities often reveal what we truly believe matters most. We tend to make time for the things we think we cannot live without. That is worth considering because worship is not simply another activity competing for space on the calendar. Worship is where Christ Himself serves His people with His gifts.



Throughout Scripture, God gathers His people. In the Old Testament, Israel assembled around the tabernacle and temple to hear the Word of the Lord and receive His promises. In the New Testament, the early Christians "devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers" (Acts 2:42). Worship has always been central to the Christian life because Christians need what God gives there.

This is an important reminder: worship is first about what God does for us, not what we do for Him. In the Divine Service, the Lord speaks through His Word, forgives sins through absolution, strengthens faith through preaching, and feeds His people with the true body and blood of Christ in the Lord's Supper. These are not empty rituals or mere traditions. They are God's gifts for sinners who need forgiveness, mercy, and hope.

Faithfulness in worship shapes us over time. The world spends all week trying to form our hearts and minds through entertainment, politics, advertising, and endless distractions. In worship, however, we are reminded of eternal things. We confess our sins, hear God's forgiveness, sing His praises, and fix our eyes again on Christ crucified and risen for us.

Faithful worship does not mean perfect attendance or guilt-driven Christianity. Illness, travel, emergencies, and other responsibilities are part of life in a fallen world. Yet Christians rightly recognize that regular worship is not optional nourishment. Just as our bodies need food, our souls need the gifts God gives through Word and Sacrament. In a culture that increasingly treats worship as unnecessary or secondary, the Church joyfully confesses something different: here, in the Divine Service, Christ is present for His people. Here He forgives sins. Here He strengthens faith. Here He prepares us for eternal life. After all, there are some things we simply should not skip.

In Christ,
Pastor Niles

June News

LEADING WITH MISSIONS

The Bethlehem Lutheran Women in Mission have chosen a national grant for the **Lutheran Counseling and Family Services of Wisconsin** as the June Mission of the Month. This grant is to increase the number of therapists at the out-patient child therapy clinic, since the number of children served has increased beyond capacity. Lutheran Counseling and Family Services of Wisconsin (LCFS) has a main office in Wauwatosa and ten satellite locations throughout the state. The staff of psychologists, counselors, and social workers is specially trained in substance abuse, trauma recovery, family & relationship counseling, and pediatric psychology. As children get better and stronger, the lives of parents, siblings, and other family members often improve. This grant will increase the number of therapists in the Wauwatosa clinic from 5 to 7. The grant will also be used to purchase therapeutic toys to aid in therapy services to children. Please pray for and support this very worthy mission.

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN MITES AND MISSION OF THE MONTH

By adopting the new name of Lutheran Women in Mission, in place of Lutheran Women's Missionary League, our Bethlehem group wants to emphasize that we are "leading with missions".

To that end, we are conducting two separate mission-based collections.

- 1). Mite boxes are a long-time way of collecting funds for wide-spread mission needs, which are selected by vote at an LWIM convention. We hope that donors will put spare change into their mite box and say a prayer for missions and missionaries. These funds are sent to the district office for distribution.
- 2). Mission of the Month is a Bethlehem Church-only collection. The missions are chosen by our own LWIM, are closer to home, and are vetted by Pastor Niles. These funds are sent directly to the mission recipient by our treasurer. Neither collection benefits our local treasury.

We hope that our congregation will continue to support both of these Christian outreach efforts as we join together to "lead with missions".

EVER HEAR "IF THESE WALLS COULD TALK"?

Well, the walls in the Century Room can't talk, but they certainly can dispense information. Next time you're in the Century Room, look around at the colorful posters on display. Have you taken a recent look at the cluster of flyers next to the stairs? They'll tell you what current events are happening at church. A bulletin board near the Tile Wall will help you recognize our newest members. Look around! You might be surprised at what you'll see.

PASTOR NILES CONTINUES "PARENTING & FAMILY SERIES"

Here are the topics for June:

- ◆ "Marriage, vocation, and the shape of Christian love".
- ◆ "Grandparents, extended family, and multi-generational faith".
- ◆ "Suffering, brokenness, and forgiveness in family life".

PASTOR HANSON WRAPS UP "CHRIST IN THE OLD TESTAMENT"

June topics in this series are:

- ◆ "Jonah and the sign of resurrection".
- ◆ "David, the King, and messianic Psalms".
- ◆ The temple of God dwelling with His people".
 - ◆ From promise to fulfillment in Christ".

BETHLEHEM WELCOMES REV. MARK OSWALD ON JUNE 6 & 7

While both pastors are away, Bethlehem will be well-served by Rev. Mark Oswald. He will lead weekend Bible classes and will preach at all weekend worship services. You won't want to miss what he has to say!

New Mobile Smartboard Available for Congregational Use!

Bethlehem Lutheran Church is excited to announce the availability of our new mobile Smartboard! This large interactive display is now available for use by any church board, ministry group, Bible study, committee, youth group, or organization within the congregation.

The Smartboard was purchased to help support teaching, collaboration, communication, and fellowship throughout our ministry life together. Whether you are leading a Bible study, giving a presentation, hosting a meeting, or connecting with someone through a video conference call, this Smartboard offers many helpful tools and features.

What Can the Smartboard Do?

- **Presentations & Slideshows**
Connect your laptop to display PowerPoints, videos, PDFs, spreadsheets, or other media on the large screen. Users may need to bring their own adapter if their device does not have a standard HDMI or USB-C connection (*these cables are provided already*).
- **Interactive Whiteboard Function**
Write directly on the screen using the touch display for Bible study notes, brainstorming, lesson illustrations, planning sessions, or classroom activities.
- **Internet Access**
The Smartboard can connect to Wi-Fi for online videos, websites, Bible resources, livestreams, and web-based applications.
- **Video Conferencing**
Perfect for Zoom meetings, remote guest speakers, online training sessions, or connecting with members who are unable to attend in person.
- **Multimedia Playback**
Easily display photos, videos, worship resources, music, and educational content for meetings or events.
- **Mobility**
Because the unit is mounted on a mobile stand, it can be moved and used in various rooms throughout the church building as needed.

To help everyone feel comfortable using the Smartboard, a simple **cheat-sheet checklist** has been created with step-by-step instructions for:

- Turning the Smartboard on
- Connecting your device
- Using the whiteboard feature
- Accessing basic functions
- Properly shutting the Smartboard down

Even if you are not especially “tech-savvy,” the Smartboard is designed to be very user-friendly, and the guide should make setup quick and easy. If your board, group, or Bible study would like to use the Smartboard, please contact the church office or Pastor Hanson to coordinate availability and room setup. We encourage everyone to take advantage of this new resource as we continue growing together in learning, teaching, fellowship, and ministry.



**LCMS
SHEBOYGAN COUNTY
HISPANIC OUTREACH**

May 12, 2026

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

We give thanks to God for His continued blessings through the Hispanic Outreach and for the many opportunities to share the love of Christ within our community. Through worship, fellowship, service, and outreach, we continue to see God at work among us, strengthening faith and bringing people together in Christian love.

We would also like to extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone who supported our successful fundraiser held on April 25. Through the food sale and quilt sale, a total of \$3,589 was raised to support the ministry. We are truly grateful to all who donated their time, prepared food, organized, served, attended, and shared in fellowship during the event. Your generosity, prayers, and support helped make this fundraiser a wonderful success.

A special thank you also goes to the churches and congregations that helped advertise and promote the fundraiser. Your partnership and willingness to spread the word were greatly appreciated and contributed greatly to the success of the event.

We are also joyful to share that we will have two confirmands this year. One student will affirm the faith received in Holy Baptism through the Rite of Confirmation on Sunday, May 17, and another on Sunday, May 24. Please keep these students in your prayers as they continue to grow in God's Word and in their Christian faith.

In addition, we are now collecting school supplies and backpacks for Operation Backpack, which will take place on Saturday, August 8, at Good Shepherd. Donations of school supplies and backpacks may be brought to Good Shepherd. Monetary donations may also be given by check payable to St. Paul Lutheran Church in Sheboygan Falls with the memo: "Operation Backpack." Thank you for being the hands and feet of Jesus by helping care for children and families in our community as they prepare for the upcoming school year. Your generosity is a wonderful witness of Christ's love in action.

We invite you to continue supporting this wonderful ministry as we share the hope and love of Christ within our community. To those who already give through prayers, service, encouragement, and financial support, we thank God for your faithful partnership and ask that you continue walking alongside us in this work. To those who have not yet had the opportunity to participate, we warmly invite you to join us as together we plant the seeds of the Gospel and share the saving Gospel of Jesus Christ. Through God's Word and the work of His people, lives are being touched, faith is being strengthened, and hearts are being drawn to our Savior.

Financial donations may be made through St. Paul Lutheran Church in Sheboygan Falls. Please make checks payable to "Hispanic Outreach." You may also give directly through our website at hispanicmission.org. May God continue to bless this ministry and all who support it.

In Christ's service,

Pastor David Blas

A MESSAGE FROM LIVASU

(“LIVING AS USUAL”)

This is a new village in Sheboygan County, opening July 2026, reimagining life with dementia.

Dear Bethlehem family ~

The Board of Directors has provided a wish list (see below). They are also looking for individuals willing to assist with cleaning and set-up at the village. Additionally, they are looking for individuals who are handy builders (see below for more info).

WISH LIST ITEMS

- ◆ Indoor games, board games (must have all pieces and be in good condition).
 - ◆ Outdoor games.
 - ◆ Puzzles (300 pieces, must have all pieces and be in good condition).
 - ◆ Puzzle board.
 - ◆ Nail polish.
 - ◆ Chess game, or similar type game.
 - ◆ Magazines (dated recently, Wisconsin and/or hobby related).
 - ◆ Cleaning supplies (rags and multi-purpose cleaner).
 - ◆ Silverware (multiple sets)
- ◆ Gardening supplies (hand shovels, regular shovels, gloves, watering cans).
 - ◆ Push lawn mower.
 - ◆ Gift cards to Kohls, Walmart, and Target.

HANDYMAN IDEAS

- ◆ Planters.
- ◆ Outdoor bench areas.
- ◆ Outdoor musical area.

(Livasu has examples of what they would like these items/areas to look like.)

If you'd like to donate items from the wish list or if you have any questions regarding Livasu, **please contact Yolanda Graf: (920) 254-7634 or jimyograf@charter.net**

Livasu is also hosting a special Open House on Thursday, June 11 from 9:00-11:00am at the Town of Wilson Hall, 5933 S. Business Drive in Sheboygan.



IMPORTANT REMINDERS

PERSONAL INFORMATION CHANGES

If you have changed your name, address, phone number or email address, please notify the church office with your information. You can call the church office at 920-452-4331 or email amy.weir@ourbethlehem.com with your new/current information. Thank you for your help.

VISIT US ONLINE

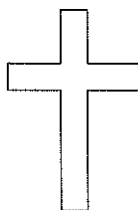
Bethlehem Lutheran Church and School is on Facebook. Please also visit us at our website, www.ourbethlehem.com. Check out the main page where you will find information about upcoming events and activities. See the calendar of important items. Find helpful information by clicking on the various tabs under *Church* and *School*.

JULY VISITOR DEADLINE

If you would like to submit information for the July Visitor, please have your information to the church office no later than noon on **Thursday, June 18, 2026**. Please feel free to email amy.weir@ourbethlehem.com or drop it off in the church office with a note that it is for the Visitor.

JOIN OUR UPCOMING EMAIL & COMMUNICATION LIST!

Stay informed with weather-related cancellations, receive The Visitor newsletter by email, and obtain special event announcements. Simply scan the QR code. We kindly ask that each adult in your household completes their own sign-up. We look forward to keeping you informed on all the happenings at Bethlehem Lutheran Church! This is on the calendar as a summer project. Stay tuned - we appreciate your patience!



VISITOR SPONSORSHIP

To help us defray expenses for producing and mailing our monthly newsletter, we have established a sponsorship program which includes a congregational contributor for the cost of \$50 per year; and a commercial contributor for the cost of \$120 per year. If interested, please drop off your payment or call the church office at 920-452-4331.

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Sandra Fischer
Leonard Johnson
George & Karen Haecker
Linda Hulbert-Ertel

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