

Advent Wreath Prayer: Week 4

Light the first candle for **love**, the second candle for **peace**, the third candle for **joy**, and the fourth candle for **hope**.
Prayer: Dear God, we light our fourth candle to think of the hope that the birth of Jesus brings to our world.
In Jesus' name, amen.

Christmas at Bethel

"Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!" Luke 2:14



So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger.

"How Great My Joy!" Christmas Pageant

Sunday, December 20, 4:00 pm, in the Sanctuary

Join us for the nineteenth year of a joyous Christmas celebration presented by Bethel's Sunday School. The Christmas Pageant tells the story of the birth of Jesus Christ; God becoming human, to be with us and to bring the gift of peace and salvation to all people. The one-hour pageant features children as biblical characters, readers and singers. From the songs sung by our preschool and Hosanna Center children, our mass elementary chorus and soloists, our Latino Children's Choir to the sixth grade narration and kindergarten portrayal of the miracle birth, you will experience the joy of the shepherds that first Christmas.

Many thanks to Lori Poulson and the Bethel parents, staff, volunteers, and children who make this very special event possible for everyone in our Bethel family.

Christmas Week Worship Service Schedule

Fourth Sunday of Advent, Holy Communion

Saturday, December 19

5:00 pm - Piano-led Worship, Pentecost Room

Sunday, December 20 (Childcare 8:30 am - 2:00 pm)

7:55 am - Formal Worship, Sanctuary

9:15 am - Festival Worship, Sanctuary

10:45 am - Contemporary Worship, Sanctuary

12:30 pm - Worship Service en Español, Sanctuary

Christmas Eve

Thursday, December 24 (Childcare 2:30 pm - 10:30 pm)

3:00 pm - Family Worship, Sanctuary
Cherub Choir & Children's Choir

4:30 pm - Family Worship, Sanctuary
Junior Youth Choir

5:45 pm - Worship Service en Español, Sanctuary

7:15 pm - Candlelight Worship, Sanctuary
Bethel Choir

9:00 pm - Candlelight Communion Worship, Sanctuary
Bethel Choir

11:00 pm - Candlelight Communion Worship, Sanctuary
Creative Worship Singers, Women's Choir, Handbells

Christmas Morning

Friday, December 25 (Childcare not available)

10:00 am - Christmas Morning Worship, Sanctuary

Please Note: Worship is not cancelled due to weather. The Saturday, December 26 Worship Service will not be held, but will resume Saturday, January 2. See the Bethel Calendar on the back cover for a complete listing of activities.



Greetings from Hephatha Lutheran Church



A letter received from:
Hephatha Lutheran Church, Milwaukee, WI

Dear Bethel Lutheran Church,

We send you greetings and thanks in Christ's name.

Thank you for your wonderful offering of \$3,450.00, which we received this week. What good news this is to us: thank you for your ongoing support of our ministry and for your generous offerings.

Last week, someone put her pledge form under my office door. At the financial area, she wrote, "Pastor, I have not had any income for a long time. I will give what I can." You have people in the same situation. We see more and more people with no income at this time—the needs grow and we do what we can. You make it possible for us to continue in the work God calls us to do here. You provide a church home among us for those who are in need and our gratitude is immense.

Please accept our thanks and love. We carry on by

God's grace shown to us through our partners, and we are grateful.

God's peace to you,
Rev. Mary Martha Kannass, Pastor

P.S. The enclosed picture is of Earnest, age 16 years, being baptized here on All Saints' Day, November 1, 2009. He is new to our church home.



EDUCATION

Getting Ready For Sunday School

Story: Mary Visits Elizabeth

Biblical Text: Luke 1:39-58

Bible Point: God works through us to accomplish awesome things.

Key Bible Verse: *Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb.*

Luke 1:42b (NRSV)

Prayer:

Dear God, thank you for sending Jesus to live among us, to teach us, to heal us, to inspire us, to challenge us, to die for us, and to rise again for us. Help us to share the good news of Jesus with everyone and to know the true joy of this season.

In Jesus' name, amen.

Sunday School Christmas Schedule

Saturday, December 19

10:00 am rehearsal, followed by the Christmas Craft Brunch
(brunch is \$5/person)

Sunday, December 20

8:30 am Christmas Pageant Solo
9:15 am Sunday School and rehearsal
4:00 pm Christmas Pageant
5:00 pm Christmas Pageant Dinner
(\$7.50 for adults, children 12 and under are free)

Sundays, December 27 & January 3

Family Worship at 7:55 am, 9:15 am, 10:45 am, and
12:30pm Worship Service en Español, Sanctuary

Library Schedule

Bethel's Library will be closed December 27 - January 3.

Bethel Lutheran Church

Pastoral Staff

William R. White, Senior Pastor
Curtis P. Everson, Visitation & Worship
Duane E. Hanson, Bethel Horizons
Laura M. Sutherland, Care Ministry
Pedro M. Suárez, Latino Ministries
John O. Swanson, Confirmation/Visitation

Program Staff

Mary C. Conlin, Director XYZ / Volunteers
Stacy A. Gahlman-Schroeder, Senior Pastor's Assistant
Anita M. Grue, AIM, Coordinator of Youth Ministries
Gary E. Lewis, Director of Music/Organist
Timothy T. Miller, Director of Communications
Alice T. Mowbray, Business Administrator and
Director of Development
Cindi J. Schwab & Ray A. Weihofen, Asst Bus Admin
Jacqui P. Shanda, Director of Parish Education

Contact Us

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What's Happening

2010 Puerto Rico Partnership Trip

Confirmed Dates: February 8 - 15, 2010

The fee for this year's trip to Puerto Rico is \$525, which covers airplane ticket, transportation from Madison to the airport and back (Laser's bus), a room at Camp Eduardo Roig Camp and transportation on the island. Food costs will be additional.

The completed trip application and deposit of \$290.00 is due **December 25, 2009** - send to Pastor Bill White, Bethel Lutheran Church, 312 Wisconsin Ave., Madison WI 53703 . An informational meeting is set for Wednesday January 27, 2010 at 7:00 pm.

For more information, see our website bethel-Madison.org or email Stacy at stacyg@bethel-madison.org.

What's Happening



Bethel Art & Faith Trip August 2010

Our group is now forming... and you're invited to consider being a part of our August 2010 Art and Faith Trip to East Central Europe. We'll begin in Warsaw and

end in Vienna with stops in Wroclaw, Krakow, Bielsko Biala, Prague, and Myjava in between. Our friends will host us along the way... Stephania in Wroclaw, Pastor Jan Byrt in Salmopol, and Pastor Samuel Misiak in Myjava. Highlights will include a walking tour of restored Old Warsaw, the Wieliczka Salt mine in Krakow, dinner at Devils Hoof in Poland, home stays in Slovakia, as well as three art fairs. Bethel member Jed Miller will join us as our potter and Bethel Youth Director Anita Grue will be along to be with high school and college young people. For more information pick up a four page brochure at Bethel or contact Pastor Hanson for more details at bhorizons@bethel-madison.org.

Hope House Celebrates its Eighth Christmas with "High Hopes" Musicale and Dinner

Tickets are still available for the special fundraising event featuring Lori and Amanda Poulson and friends on Friday, January 8. Come and support Hope House as you enjoy a gourmet dinner served by the Couples Club.

Tickets will continue to be sold between services on Sundays and during the week at the front desk. They are \$40 a piece with \$30 tax deductible.

The money will help support the mothers and children who are homeless and have found a safe place to live at Hope House. Young mothers are surrounded with Christian love and role modeling as well as help finding permanent housing, earning GED's, learning how to love and care for their children, and finding jobs. It costs about \$35,000 to support a dozen families each year.

Reminder: Mention "Hope House" if you buy anything at Kleins Greenhouse. Kleins will donate 10% of the purchase price to Hope House!

Bethel Horizon's 2010 Camperships

Goal 350
To Date 49
Needed 301



BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
 312 Wisconsin Ave., Madison, WI 53703-4106

Dated Material

**Requested in home
 by December 19th**

Address Service Requested

NONPROFIT ORG
 U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
 MADISON, WI
 PERMIT 602

Bethel Calendar † December 20-26, 2009

Dec 20 Fourth Sunday of Advent

- 6:45a Coffee Fellowship - *Fireside Gallery*
- 7:55a **Worship Service** - *Sanctuary*
- 8:30a Childcare available until 2:00 pm - *Nursery*
- Genesis Café - *Borgwardt Hall*
- Christmas Pageant Soloist Rehearsal - *Pentecost Room*
- Library open until 11:45 am
- 9:15a **Worship Service** - *Sanctuary*
- Sunday School - *see posted room assignments*
- 9:45a Band rehearsal for 10:45 Worship Service - *Choir Room*
- 10:15a Children's Choir - *Room 216A*
- Cherub Choir - *Room 202*
- Junior Youth Choir - *Pentecost Room*
- 10:45a **Worship Service** - *Sanctuary*
- Junior Youth Handbells - *Room 219B*
- 11:00a Sunday School until noon - *Rooms 204, 210, and 212*
- 11:45a Latino Children's Choir - *Room 202*
- 12:30p **LA SANTA MISA / Worship Service** - *Sanctuary*
- 1:30p Refrigerio - *Borgwardt Hall*
- 2:00p Instrumental Ensemble Practice - *Room 213*
- 3:00p Christmas Pageant Prep - *see posted room assignments*
- 4:00p Christmas Pageant - *Sanctuary*
- 5:00p Christmas Pageant Dinner - *Borgwardt Hall*

Dec 21 Monday

- 8:30a Friendship Pad Volunteers - *Room 104*
- 9:00a XYZ Board Meeting - *Library*
- 11:00a High Hopes Rehearsal - *Borgwardt Hall*
- Noon Read & Feed - *Library*
- 6:30p Las Posadas - *Borgwardt Hall*
- Latino Senior High Youth - *Youth Room*
- 7:00p Bethel Series Intensive NT - *Good Shepherd Chapel*
- Bethel Book Women - *Library Media Room*
- Camera Club - *Fireside Gallery*

Dec 22 Tuesday

- 9:00a Library open until noon
- 10:30a Homeless Spiritual Support Group - *Good Shepherd Chapel*
- 12:30p Homeless Support Group Christmas Lunch - *Borgwardt Hall*
- Homeless Book Group - *Good Shepherd Chapel*
- 3:00p Poinsettia Christmas Garden Prep - *Sanctuary*
- 3:30p Southdale After School - *Pentecost Room & Fireside Gallery*
- 5:00p Grupo Latino Practica de Musica - *Pentecost Room*
- 5:15p Bethel Women's Choir - *Choir Room*
- 6:30p Las Posadas - *Borgwardt Hall*
- Creative Worship Singers - *Choir Room*
- 6:45p Separated & Divorce Group - *Good Shepherd Chapel, Libr, 101*
- 7:00p Conversational Norwegian Class - *Library Media Room*
- 7:30p Bethel Outreach Board Meeting - *Room 105*
- 7:45p Band rehearsal for 10:45 Worship Service - *Sanctuary*

Dec 23 Wednesday

- 9:00a Poinsettia Christmas Garden Set-up - *Sanctuary*
- 9:30a **Midweek Chapel** - *Good Shepherd Chapel*
- 5:30p Bethel Ringers - *Room 202*
- 6:30p Las Posadas - *Borgwardt Hall*
- Hot Topics - *Youth Room*
- 8:00p Senior Youth Ensemble - *Choir Room*

Dec 24 Thursday, Christmas Eve

- 2:30p Childcare available until 10:30 pm - *Nursery*
- 3:00p **Family Worship Service** - *Sanctuary*
- 4:30p **Family Worship Service** - *Sanctuary*
- 5:45p **LA SANTA MISA / Worship Service** - *Sanctuary*
- 7:15p **Candlelight Worship**, *Sanctuary*
- 9:00p **Candlelight Communion Worship** - *Sanctuary*
- 11:00p **Candlelight Communion Worship** - *Sanctuary*

Dec 25 Friday, Christmas Day

- 10:00a **Christmas Morning Worship** - *Sanctuary (no childcare)*

Dec 26 Saturday

- Building Closed

Today's Madison telecast is given in honor of the 55th wedding anniversary of Bob & Mary Jane Nicholson. Worship at Bethel Telecast Information

Madison	WKOW-TV 27	Green Bay*
Eau Claire*	8:30 am WACY-TV 32	
9:00 am WQOW-TV 18	Milwaukee-Cable 15*	
La Crosse*	9:30 am WPXE-PAX 55	
9:00 am WXOW-TV 19	Mausau*	
	9:00 am WFXS-TV 55	

*Telecast delayed one week.
 Telecast also available at <http://betheliv.bethel-madison.org>

Micah 5:2-5a Luke 1:46b-55 / Psalm 80:1-7
Hebrews 10:5-10 Luke 1:39-45

Worship Schedule
 Fourth Sunday of Advent
 December 20, 2009

Saturday 5:00 † Pastor John Swanson
 Sunday 7:55, 9:15 † Pastor John Swanson
 Sunday 10:45 † Pastor John Swanson
 Sunday 12:30 pm † Spanish
 Padre Pedro Suarez