

Bethlehem STAR

*“Called to Invite the Community to Know
and Grow in Christ.”*

May 2018



Members of Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Ministers
Rev. Steve Shackelford, Pastor
Janice Monroe, Minister of Music
Stacy Murphy, Administrative Assistant



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

Beyond 60 Years: Living Our Mission



During 2018 there will be four special services focusing on the theme of our 60th anniversary, “Beyond 60 Years: Living Our Mission.” Bethlehem Lutheran Church’s mission is “Called to Invite the Community to Know and Grow in Christ.” During these services we will explore what our mission statement means to us individually and collectively in our life’s journey as Stewards of God’s Love. The service held on April 22, examined the first part of the mission “Called to Invite the Community” and was referred to as “VIP (Vitaly Important Parishioner) Sunday.” All members and friends were encouraged to attend and bring a friend to stress that it is vitally important to be an inviting church and to bring all our loved ones and friends to experience God’s love and love of one another. This was our traditional “Good Shepherd Sunday” service with choir hymns, Praise Band songs, scripture readings, sermons, and a special video on being inviting, leading us to a message of love and grace given to all through Jesus Christ. The service was followed by a reception with refreshments and invitation to a book study “Honoring Our Neighbors’ Faith.” Representatives from the Seventh Day Adventist Church, who use our Sanctuary for worship on Saturday, shared information about their faith during the book study. It turned out to be special day of invitation and sharing!

There is much to look forward to during the rest of our anniversary year. Special Services will be held on:

- June 24th – Service on “Called to Know” followed by our annual Chicken BBQ.
- August 26th – Service on “Called to Grow.”
- October 28th – 60th Anniversary Celebration Service “Living in Christ into and Beyond 2019”, followed by an anniversary celebration luncheon at Crown Sterling. Special guests will include the Bishop and several former Pastors.

In May, our focused ministry will be the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation.

In His Grace

The 60th Anniversary and Stewardship Teams

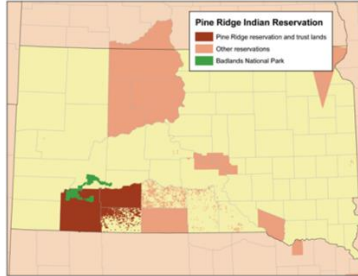
Community

This Month's Wicker basket is

Pine Ridge Reservation South Dakota

Established 1889

Total Area 3,468.86 sq. miles Population: 40,000+



The **Pine Ridge Indian Reservation** is an Oglala Lakota Native American reservation located in South Dakota. Originally included within the territory of the Great Sioux Reservation, Pine Ridge was established in 1889 in the southwest corner of South Dakota on the Nebraska border. Today it consists of 3,468.85 sq mi of land area and is the eighth-largest reservation in the United States, larger than Delaware and Rhode Island combined. Only 84,000 acres (340 km²) of land are suitable for agriculture. The reservation encompasses the entirety of Oglala Lakota County, the southern half of Jackson County and the northwest portion of Bennett County. Of the 3,142 counties in the United States, these are among the poorest. May 2018\Years ago when Bill and Patty Mock were members of Bethlehem, they hoped to continue a ministry from their former church which was helping to supply heating oil to some of the members of the Oglala Lakota tribe living on Pine Ridge. Bethlehem was able to assist for a short time. Patty often spoke of a friend, Geneva Lonehill, who was the contact for the ministry. For several years after the Mocks moved to Florida, unbeknownst to each other, Ann Johnson and Susan Baughman independently sent winter hats and gloves to Geneva. At a monthly Knitters & Prayers meeting the group decided to extend the opportunity to the congregation.

For the past several years, the members of Bethlehem have generously contributed winter warmth items. In the fall of 2016, Bethlehem sent 430 different items, including 73 scarves, 214 hats and head bands, and 74 pairs of gloves. The year before we shipped close to 500 pounds of winter supplies. This is definitely a group effort. One year a Helping Hands Closet volunteer made 30 hats out of surplus sweaters. Another year, Mary Kay Whitmore made about 12 flannel baby blankets. Last year, Mary Kay with the help of the Scrappers made fleece wraps which could be used in various ways to keep warm. Members have crocheted, knitted, or sewn hats. Cut fleece to make scarves. Donated baby clothes. Scouted consignment stores and sales for gloves. Found treasures in the back of cupboards. Nice and usable items that others can still use.

When the Mocks still lived in Lynchburg, Judy Friel acquired hundreds, if not thousands, of jackets and coats. After the church was able to distribute as many as we could locally, Bill arranged free shipping through his employer, Fed Ex, for close to 30 boxes to Pine Ridge. That was a onetime good deal for which we were all very thankful.

Several people have received Thrivent Action Grant monies that were used to buy gloves, buy fleece for wraps, and help defray shipping costs. The capabilities and compassion of our congregation contribute to an abundance of items to send to those who are less fortunate. Your contributions to the Wicker Basket help to defray the cost of shipping your blessings.

**BLC Capital Improvements Wicker Basket
the 3rd Sunday of the Month**

April Monthly #'s

Worship Average Attendance 50

2018 Spending Plan Per Week:	\$1,924.56	YTD Budgeted:	\$29,819.00
Total Offering Received:	\$7,815.00	YTD Received:	\$20,449.00
Total Pastor Fund Received:	\$ 145.00	Pastor Fund YTD	\$48,695.82

*WORK WITHIN OUR WALLS*_____

Faith and Fellowship at BLC

Worship & Servant Schedule

**Please join us every Sunday at 10:00 am for our Worship Service.
Pastor Shackelford will lead all the services unless otherwise noted.**

Servant Schedule for the Month

May	5/6/18	5/13/18	5/20/18	5/27/18
Worship	Traditional	New Song	Traditional	New Song
Usher	Phyllis Moody	Mary Kay Whitmore	Frank Robinson	Goodrich
Front Door Greeter	Will Engelke	Susan Baughman	Carol Birce	David Boven
Back Door Greeter	~~	Tom Birce	~~	Mike Suwala
Reader	Claudette Engelke	Maurice Bell	Carolyn Robinson	Janice Monroe
Communion Assistant	~~	Ed Whitmore	~~	Janelle Bell
Chalice Bearer	Carol Cox	~~~	David Boven	~~~~
Assistant Minister	John Nicholson	~~~	Rob Viohl	~~~
Acolyte	??	~~~	??	~~~
Power Point	Claire Meissner	John Nicholson	Waller	Ed Whitmore
Counters	Ann Johnson	Ed Whitmore	Gretchen Waller	Mary Kay Whitmore
Altar Care	??	Praise Band	??	Praise Band
Altar Color	White	White	Red	White
Cafe	??	??	Goodrich	??



Virginia Synod, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

The ELCA Conference of Bishops, in solidarity with our children and youth, has approved the following statement supporting the March for our Lives on March 24. Bishop Humphrey, along with 60 other Bishops of the ELCA, has signed in support of the statement below.

STATEMENT IN SOLIDARITY WITH OUR CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Our children and youth are like a young Jeremiah prophesying to the people: For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. (Jer. 29:11)

Recently, the students, faculty and staff at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida experienced tragedy. Seventeen people - students and teachers - were killed by a 19-year-old shooter. In response, students have invited their teachers, families and allies around the nation to join with them for a March for Our Lives on March 24, 2018 in Washington, DC; calling our country into a deeper conversation about school safety and second amendment rights and responsibilities.

We recognize this incident is the latest in a long list of tragic shootings in our country and young people have been calling for protest and change for many years. Some of those young voices have been ignored or silenced because of racial and economic injustice. We cannot let that reality keep us from acting now.

Adopted in 1994, the ELCA social message on Community Violence remains sadly relevant today. The message speaks about the causes of violence as complex and pervasive, and of how violence

breeds violence. In proclaiming the forgiveness and love of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the church addresses the root of violence while being committed to social actions that respond directly to violence and the people it affects.

From the Social Message: In the face of violence, God's resolve for peace in human communities is unshakable. Deliberate acts to harm or kill innocent people violate God's intention for human community. God's commandment is "You shall not murder" (Ex. 20:13). In proclaiming God's law, we declare that all people are accountable before God and the community to honor and respect the life God has given. Christians, as salt of the earth (Mt. 5:13) and light of the world (Mt. 5:14), are called to respond to violent crime in the restorative ways taught by Jesus (Mt. 5:38-39) and shown by his actions (Jn. 8:3-11). We are empowered to take up the challenge to prevent violence and to attack the complex causes that make violence so pervasive.

According to Lutheran theology, society is to be ruled by the civil use of the Law. Government is responsible under God for the protection of its citizens and the maintenance of justice and public order. As citizens in a democracy, we have the responsibility to join with others to hold government accountable for protecting society and ensuring justice for all, and to seek changes in policies and practices toward these ends.

*That social message was amplified by a social statement, *For Peace in God's World* (1995) which, as part of its adoption, offered concrete implementation actions, including: To call upon the members and leaders of this church to support our youth in their struggle to define their identity and vocation as present and future peacemakers...*

The Conference of Bishops of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, in solidarity with our children and youth, and in response to our common baptismal vocation: living among God's faithful people, hearing the word of God and sharing in the Lord's Supper, proclaiming the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, serving all people following the example of Jesus, and

striving for justice and peace in all the earth; offer our support, partnership and prayers for the March for Our Lives, its satellite city events, and our children and youth who are leading us forward as peacemakers.

VIRGINIA SYNOD, ELCA
Roots & Wings



Volume 10, Issue 5-May 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>6 Read John 15:9-17</p>	<p>7 Jesus' love fills us with joy in your family devotion tonight. Talk about ways that you experience the joy of the love of Jesus everyday.</p>	<p>8 Using coloring supplies, make your mother a card to thank her for teaching you what you need to know to help you grow strong and healthy.</p> <p>National Teacher's Day</p>	<p>9 Using coloring supplies, make your mother a card to thank her for everything that she does for you and your family. Remember to give a hug on Mother's Day!</p> <p>Brothers and Sisters Day</p>	<p>10 Your parents love that the holiday should be celebrated everyday! So make sure you clean your room and a good body!</p> <p>Clean Up Your Room Day</p>	<p>11 With your parents permission, call into the teacher, pay out on just food, or enjoy a meal at your favorite restaurant!</p> <p>Spice Day</p>	<p>12 Have brought a FAMILY FUN NIGHT? Plan a special dinner, play games, and/or watch a movie. Share your blessings of being a family.</p> <p>Cheer Up Mayo</p>
<p>13 Read John 17:8-19</p>	<p>14 The "Chicken Dance" is fun to learn. Get the family together and have a good time dancing like a chicken.</p>	<p>15 What can you put doctors take chips on? Try to create, make, always learn from the things that you reach.</p> <p>National Chocolate Chip Day</p>	<p>16 Jesus prays for God to make us holy as we learn from His Word. Discuss with your parents how God's Word helps us to be holy.</p>	<p>17 Make brought a FAMILY FUN NIGHT? Plan a special dinner, play games, and/or watch a movie. Share your blessings of being a family.</p>	<p>18 Don't spend time at the hardware store today. Use paper plates, cups, and plastic cutlery. Eat food that you or your kids to use any pots or pans to cook.</p> <p>Yo! Yo!</p>	<p>19 Today honor all of the men and women who serve in the military. Talk with someone about your service in the military.</p> <p>Armed Forces Day</p>
<p>20 Mother's Day</p>	<p>21 Celebrate today by acknowledging your sister's hard work. By giving them a gift to show you care and appreciate her when you get a chance for your.</p> <p>National Nanny and Nannies Day</p>	<p>22 First discuss if you're an instrument. Talk with your parents about your instrument. Maybe they will consider and invest in a instrument and accessories for you!</p> <p>Buy a Musical Instrument Day</p>	<p>23 Jesus sends us in the Holy Spirit to remind us of what he said and did in your family devotions tonight. Share what you remember about the Word of Jesus!</p>	<p>24 Jesus wants us to produce fruit. To show others that we love him, what sort of fruit can you and your family produce for Jesus?</p>	<p>25 Today is not about staying away from food foods, but enjoying out of the joy that comes from wearing sunglasses, sunscreen and a hat.</p> <p>No Dry Clean Day</p>	<p>26 Make brought a FAMILY FUN NIGHT? Plan a special dinner, play games, and/or watch a movie. Share your blessings of being a family.</p>
<p>27 Read John 21:1-17</p>	<p>28 Today we remember military service members who have died in the line of duty for our country. Share your prayers for the families left behind for the families.</p> <p>Memorial Day</p>	<p>29 One of the most exciting military service members who have died in the line of duty for our country. Share your prayers for the families left behind for the families.</p>	<p>30 Memorize new verses about what Jesus was born for. Share with your family.</p>	<p>31 Make brought a FAMILY FUN NIGHT? Plan a special dinner, play games, and/or watch a movie. Share your blessings of being a family.</p>	<p>Resources: Unique Headings used from Holiday Insights</p>	

Birthdays and Anniversaries



2 Laura Murrell

7 David Boven

11 Jim & Gina Hyres

13 Mark Murphy

14 Danielle Whitman

15 Jennifer Hughes

16 Dana Mays

17 Wanda Shackelford

18 Maggie Bradshaw

19 Carter Bradshaw

Cooper Bradshaw

20 Gretchen Waller

Evelyn Kercher

National Day of Prayer is May 3

21 Ian Baughman

Mother's Day May 13

John Goodrich

Mike Suwala

23 Darlene Marsh

Daily Devotional



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Isa.32:9-20 James 3:17-18 Ps. 80	2 Isa. 65:17-25 John 14:18-31 Ps. 80	3 Isa. 49:5-6 Acts 10:1-34 Ps. 98	4 Isa. 42:5-9 Acts 10:34-43 Ps. 98	5 Deut. 32:44-47 Mark 10:42-45 Ps. 98
6 Acts 10:44-48 Ps. 98 (4) 1 John 5:1-6	7 Deut.7:1-11 1Tim. 6:11-12 Ps. 93	8 Deut.11:1-17 1 Tim. 6:13-16 Ps. 93	9 Deut. 11:18-21 Mark 16:19-20 Ps. 93	10 Acts 1:1-11 Luke 24:44-53 Ps. 47	11 Ex.24:15-18 Rev. 1:9-18 Ps. 47	12 Deut. 34:1-7 John 16:4-11 Ps. 47
13 Acts 1:15-17, 21-26 Ps. 1 (6) John 17:6-1	14 Ex. 8:29-38 Phil. 1:3-11 Ps. 115	15 Isa. 66:1-2 Acts 1:15-26 Ps. 56	16 Ezra 9:5-15 John 16:16-24 Ps.115	17 Gen.2:4b-7 1Cor.15:42b-49 Ps. 3:12-22	18 Job 37:1-13 1Cor.15:50-57 Ps. 3:12-22	19 Ex.15:6-11 John 7:37-39 Ps. 3:12-22
20 Acts 2:1-22 Ps.104:24-34, 35b Romans 8:22-27	21 Joel 2:18-29 1Cor.12:4-11 Ps. 104:24-34, 35b	22 Gen. 11:1-9 1Cor.12:12-27 Ps. 104:24-34, 35b	23 Ezek. 37:1-14 John 20:19-23 Ps.104: 24-34, 35b	24 Isa.1:1-4, 16-20 Romans 8:1-8 Ps. 29	25 Isa. 2:1-5 Romans 8:9-11 Ps. 29	26 Isa. 5:15-24 John 15:18-20, 26-27 Ps. 29
27 Isa. 6:1-8 Ps. 29 John 3:1-17	28 Num.9:15-23 Rev.4:1-8 Ps. 20	29 Ex. 25:1-22 1 Cor. 2:1-10 Ps. 20	30 Num. 6:22-27 Mark 4:21-25 Ps. 20	31 Ex.31:12-18 Acts 25:1-12 Ps. 81:1-10		

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