

This Week at Bethlehem:

Sun Feb 8	8:40 AM	Choir Practice
	10:00AM	Worship Service & Sunday School
Mon Feb 9	11:30 PM	Daisy Troop
	3:30 PM	Girl Scouts
	5:00 PM	Girl Scout Leaders
	6:30 PM	Executive Committee meeting
Tues Feb 10	8:30 AM	Staff meeting
	5:30 PM	Girl Scouts
Wed Feb 11	12:30 PM	Text Study
	5:30 PM	Community Meal
	6:00 PM	Worship
	6:30 PM	Confirmation
Thurs Feb 12	8:00 AM	Bible Study
	9:00 AM	Quilting
	9:30 AM	Esther Circle
	6:30 PM	Table Tennis
Fri Feb 13	10:00 AM	Cookie Pack
Sat Feb 14	2:00 PM	Bingo at Care Center
Sun Feb 15	8:40 AM	Choir practice
	10:00 AM	Worship Service & Sunday School
	2:00 PM	Worship at Care Center



First & Second Thrift Store is once again requesting clothing for **displaced people in Ukraine**, both adults and children. They need **warm outdoor clothing**. Drop items off at First & Second any day-from 10 to

Readings and Psalm For Sunday February 8, 2026

Isaiah 58:1-12

The fast God chooses

Psalm 112:1-10

Light shines in the darkness
for the upright.

1 Corinthians 2:1-12

*God's wisdom revealed through
the Spirit*

Matthew 5:13-20

*The teaching of Christ:
salt and light*

February 18
is

ASH
WEDNESDAY

**Join us each Wednesday in Lent:
5:30pm Meal; 6:00 pm Worship**



Image: *Blessing of Salt, Blessing of Light*
© Jan Richardson

Blessing of Salt, Blessing of Light

By the time you come
to the end of this blessing,
these words will be barely
enough
to fit in the palm of your
hand.

But fold your fingers around
them
and take them
as an offering,
a sacrament,
a sign.

Touch the words
to your tongue
and taste how
they have traveled
through marrow and bone
to reach you,
how they have passed
through each chamber
of your heart,
how they have come
through the layers
that make up your soul—
the strata of stories
and questions,
longings and
dreams.

Savor the way the words
are not mere residue
or dross,
the bitter leavings
from the refining.

By their taste,
you will know instead
they are the essence,
they are the core,
they are what has come
through the burning,

holding still
the memory of fire
and the imprint of light,
holding the clarity that
comes
when all that is not needful
passes away.

So take these words
as a blessing;
touch them
to your mouth
(*may you taste*)
your eyes
(*may you see*)
your ears
(*may you hear*)

and then let them go;
let them fall to earth
where all salt finally returns.

See the path they make
for you,
the path that blazes
inside of you,
lighting the way
ahead of you
that only you
can go.

—Jan Richardson
from [The Cure for Sorrow: A
Book of Blessings for Times of
Grief](#)

Jesus' words this week are meant to wake us, to remind us of what we carry in our bones: the living presence of the God who bids us be salt in this world in all our savory particularity; to be light in the way that only we can blaze.

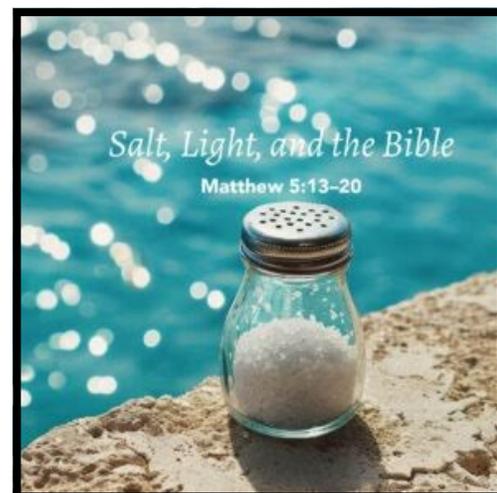
—Jan Richardson,

from [Epiphany 5: Blessing of Salt,
Blessing of Light](#)

The Painted Prayerbook,
January 2011

You are the salt of the earth. . . . You are the light of the world, Jesus tells us in the gospel passage for this week. So this is a blessing for you, for this time, with such gratitude for you who are salt and light in this world.

**This poem and artwork
are based on this week's
Gospel reading for
Epiphany 5, Year A:
Matthew 5.13–20**



PRAYER list...

Healing prayers are requested:

Mary Sanders; Kristin Lindholm;
Rolf Morck; Linda Zenk; Clayton
Koss; Kamryn Johnson; Lois
Johnson; Sarah Coe; Luke
Gulstrand; Lynn Schulte; Christy
Buetow; Annalisa Winje; Joan
Bieber; Char Anderson; Bruce &
Stacey Johnson; Gene & Barbara
Erickson; Rhonda & Butch Schulte;
Stacey Schulte; Paulina Backstrom;
Shae Lindholm; Hank Ferland;
Ramiro Acero; Margaret Dahl;
Katrina Crouse; Tom Christiansen;
Karen Shannon;

This week we lift up these
members: Lavona Czaolicki; Martha
Williams; Guy, Sheila & Patience
Sifferath; Parker, Katie & Sophia
Slanga; and Pat & Valerie Eliassen,
*May God walk with these faithful
friends in their journey of peace with
Christ.*

“For what shall we pray?”

This is from a weekly post inviting individuals, groups, and congregations to lift up our world in prayer. This resource is prepared by a variety of leaders in the ELCA.

Prayer prompts:

- For an end to war, conflict, and uncertainty, especially in Gaza, South Sudan, Ukraine, Iran, and Venezuela...
- For victims of violence and abuse and for those who tend to their physical, emotional, and psychological wounds...
- For protection, compassion, and dignity for immigrants, refugees, and asylum seekers...
- For those who were killed and injured in a bus accident during the pilgrimage of Our Lady of Candeias in northeastern Brazil...
- For the safety of athletes, reporters, and others who travel to and participate in the Winter Olympics in Milan and Cortina d’Ampezzo, Italy...
- For pastors, deacons, church administrators, and musicians preparing for Lent...
- For congregations and their leaders in the midst of annual meeting season...

Events and observances:

February Observances: Black History Month, American Heart Month, National Cancer Prevention Month

The Martyrs of Japan, died 1597 (Feb 5)
Cyril, monk, died 869; Methodius, bishop, died 885;
missionaries to the Slavs (Feb 14)
Valentine’s Day (Feb 14)
Ash Wednesday (Feb 18)

Prayers from ELCA resources:

A prayer for congregational ministries (ELW p.76)
Almighty God, your Holy Spirit equips the church with a rich variety of gifts. Grant that we may use them to bear witness to Christ in lives that are built on faith and love. Make us ready to live the gospel and eager to do your will, so that we may share with all your church in the joys of eternal life; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

A prayer for those who suffer abuse and violence (ACS p.53)
Mighty Jesus, living Word, soothe the bodies, souls, and minds of the victims of sexual abuse, sexual violence, domestic violence, or gender-based violence. Bring them peace, hope, comfort, and strength. Bring abusers to justice and prevent them from causing further harm. Stir up the heart of your church gathered here and around the world, that we value justice and healing over silence and shame. Show us the way to your righteousness, led by the voices of those who suffer. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.

NEED
PRAYER?

Contact:

Pastor Calvin 763-226-5425
or Laura Popkes, Prayer Chain
Leader 218-370-0721



The BLCW has set February 13th as our **Annual Valentine Cookie Packaging Day**. The cookie packs will be delivered the afternoon of the 13th to people in the community, at the Care Center and at North Shore Health.



If you know someone you would like to have a Valentine treat delivered, please let us know! Drop off their name and delivery address at church. (phone numbers help too!)

If you would like to donate cookies, help put cookie packs together or deliver cookies we would appreciate your help. All varieties of cookies are welcome

Drop off cookie donations any time on Thursday, Feb 12th or Feb 13th by 9:30 am.

Cookies will be packaged Friday, Feb. 13th at 10 am. If you would like to help put cookie packs together meet at Bethlehem at 9:30.

Delivery of Valentine cookie packs will take place immediately after packaging! If you are able to deliver a few, let us know, we would appreciate your help.

Thank you for helping put Valentines smiles on faces in our community!



Bingo Party



February 14, 2026 - 2:00 pm

North Shore Living Care Center
515 Fifth Avenue West
Grand Marais, MN

The Church in Society Team
invites you to Party
with our friends at the
Care Center

Saturday, February 14th
Valentine's Day @ 2:00 pm

Play BINGO with the
Residents,
Eat Snacks,
& Win Prizes

More information available from
Joni Kristenson 218-370-9554

Bingo Party
will take place
in the "Waves"
side dining
room.

Help us set up starting at
1:00 pm.

Feel free to bring prizes for
the residents.

Suggested prizes or gifts:

- Personal care items
(lotions, nail care, etc.)
- Room "brightener,"
"happy" items—
something to put in
their windowsill or on
their door.
- Puzzles (500 pieces or
less)
- Snacks
- Lap robes
- Plant—easy care
- Note cards

Any extra prizes will go to their
"General Store" used by residents with
their "winnings" from the weekly Bingo
and Pokeno game nights.

Owl Night Lock In

It's going to be a hoot!

**February 21st @ 8pm -
February 22nd @ 11am**

For 6th - 12th students.
All are welcome!

**We need chaperones!
Sign up in the Narthex.**

 Register Now! 

Contact Jess with any questions,
comments or concerns!
blcyouth@boreal.org
507-530-2763



Join us for Bethlehem Builders Club!

An afterschool program for 3rd - 5th graders
where we are building a strong foundation
of faith!

We will be meeting every Wednesday in
March from 3:30-5:30

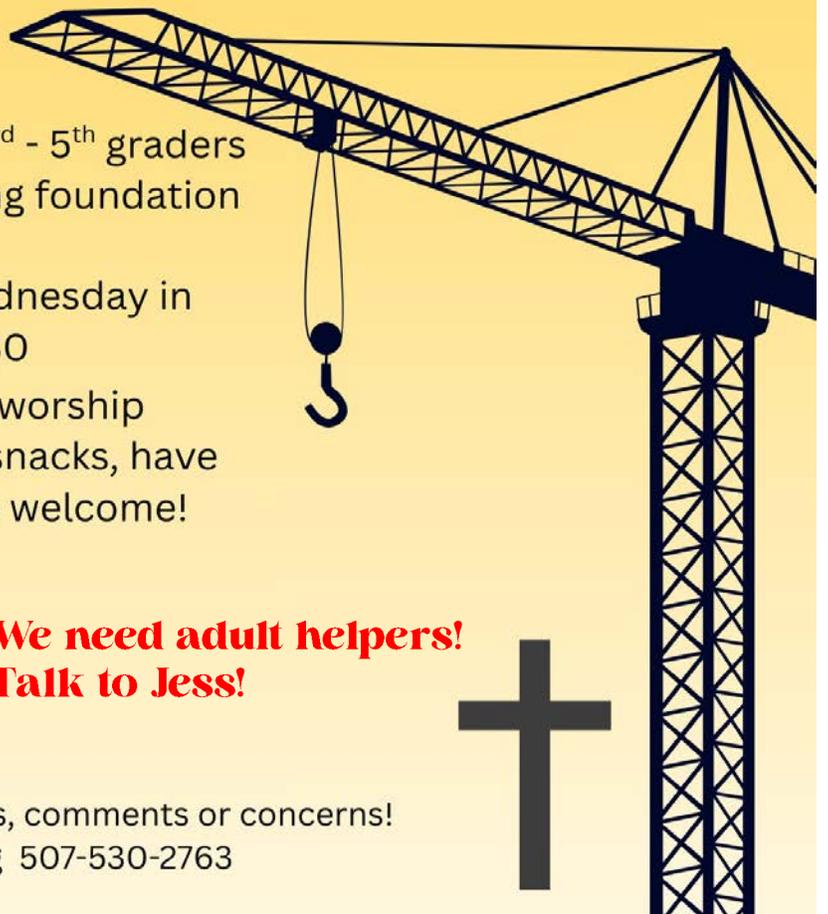
During this time we will worship
together, play games, have snacks, have
Bible study & more. All are welcome!



**We need adult helpers!
Talk to Jess!**



Contact Jess with any questions, comments or concerns!
blcyouth@boreal.org 507-530-2763



Communion Class at Bethlehem

Come and learn about Communion! For 3rd - 5th graders **and anyone who missed this class.**

March 15th, 22nd & 29th @11am after Worship.



Register online now or contact Jess!

Contact Jess with any questions, comments or concerns!
blcyouth@boreal.org 507-530-2763

Looking to go to camp this summer?

Camps are a great way to meet new people, grow closer to God and spend time outdoors.

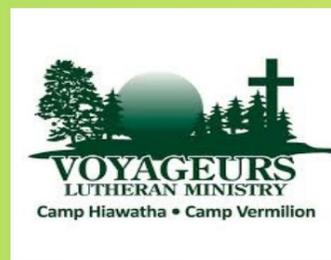
Here at Bethlehem, we want every student to be able to experience camp! Bethlehem offers a \$250 scholarship to any Christian camp, they would like to go to!

Please contact Jess with any questions, comments or concerns!
507-530-2763 - blcyouth@boreal.org

Here are some camps that we love, if you are looking for an amazing camp experience!



**Wilderness
Canoe Base**



Application forms may be found at: <https://www.sharingchrist.org/forms>

CONFIDENT. CARING. CERTIFIED.



FREE BABYSITTING TRAINING

Head of the Lakes United Way is proud to offer free babysitter training to youth 11 years of age and older.



Training will be provided by FirstAidMN and will follow the American Red Cross curriculum.

TRAINING CLASSES:

HERE IN GRAND MARAIS

April 25, 2026

8:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Grand Marais Community Center



WHAT YOU WILL LEARN:

- How to care for infants and children.
- What to do in an emergency and how to stay safe.
- Choosing activities that are age appropriate.
- Recognizing, understanding and handling certain behaviors.
- Starting your babysitting business.
- Receive certification of babysitting training and Pediatric CPR after completion of class.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

- This is a one-day training; class starts at 8 AM and concludes at 4 PM.
- Space is limited to 24 participants
- Lunch and snacks will be provided.
- Parent/caregiver must provide transportation and accompany child to building for drop-off and pick-up. Parent/caregiver does not need to stay during the training.

Register here:



hlunitedway.org/babysitting
or scan qr code

For more information contact:

Jaci Christiansen
jchristiansen@hlunitedway.org
218-726-4889

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