

E-Weekly

June 5, 2026

Volume 10 Number 19

PUBLICATION OF BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN CHURCH
GRAND MARAIS, MINNESOTA
PRODUCED BY DENISE MURRAY

Sunday we are celebrating the culmination of the 7-year journey of education, study and discernment by the Reconciling In Christ Committee. We would like to recognize those who have served over the years: Karina Roth, Mark Abrahamson, Christy Buetow, Martha Rosbacka, Lynnea Morse, Pastor Mark Ditmanson, Pastor Jack Busche, Deacon Ben Nikodym, Pastor Calvin Konop, Mike Chmelik, Sue Hennessy, Laurie Spry and our Trinity Lutheran Church friends, Mark Hollabaugh and Jon Moe.



Bethlehem Lutheran Church

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June 7, 2026 Livestream Link:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Uu0-vK_sRXo



**RECONCILING IN CHRIST
SUNDAY 2026**

**Celebrating Diversity
as God's Children**

Please join us for the celebration! Invite your friends!



Sunday June 7th

Following worship

**Bring a side, a salad,
or a dessert to share**

*Hot dogs & Hamburgers
will be provided*

BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN IS A RECONCILING IN CHRIST CONGREGATION

Celebration on June 7, 2026 at 10:00 am

Greetings from Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Grand Marais. We are now, officially, a Reconciling in Christ (RIC) congregation!

After a time of faithful discernment, respectful dialogue, intentional education and heartfelt discussions, our congregation, with an almost unanimous vote, has adopted a new Welcome Statement and become an RIC congregation. This means we are an open and affirming church to folks who are in the LGBTQIA2S+ community and have a commitment to racial justice and racial equity.

We encourage full participation in the life of our church for all of God's children. Our Mission Statement is: *Belonging to Christ, Sharing Christ on the North Shore and Beyond*. Please visit our website: sharingchrist.org

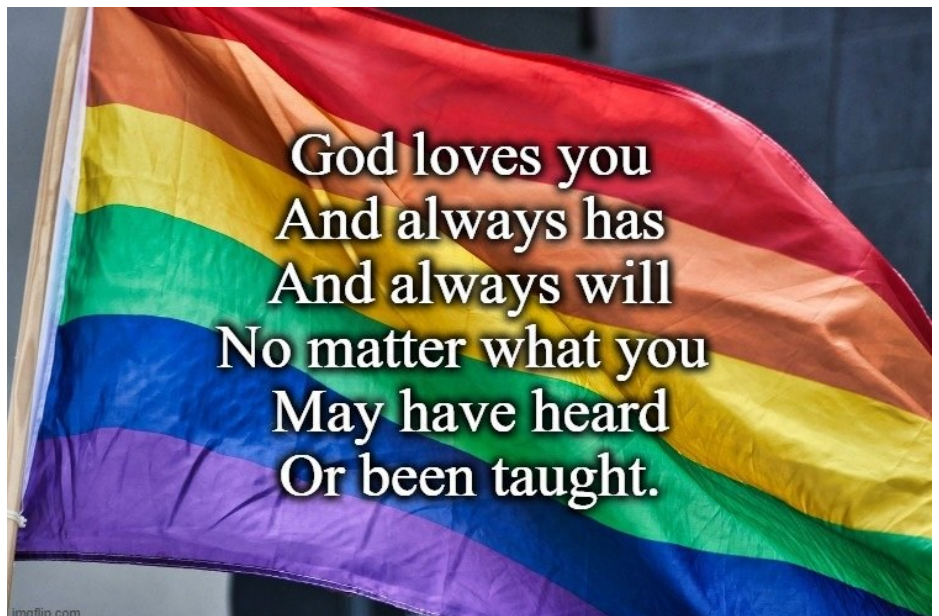
We are announcing this momentous event in our 126th year to all of our past and present parishioners, folks from all of Cook County and beyond. We invite you to come share your faith in Worship, Gospel, Communion and Fellowship on Sunday at 10:00 am and on Wednesdays (during the school year) at 6:00 pm.

We are celebrating becoming an RIC congregation on Sunday June 7th at our Worship Service at 10:00 am, followed by a picnic on the church lawn. We would love to have you celebrate with us!

Peace be with you all. Know that God loves you and made you to be exactly who you are!



Evangelical
Lutheran Church
in America



PRAYER list

Healing prayers are requested:

Linda Zenk, Stacey Johnson, Lynn Schulte, Clayton & Nancy Koss, Lois Johnson, Butch & Rhonda Schulte, Luke Gulstrand, Sarah Coe, Phyllis Olson, Paulina Backstrom, Shae Lindholm, Char Anderson, Stacey Schulte, Hank Ferland, Margaret Dahl, Katrina Crouse, Karen Shannon, Tom Christiansen

This week we lift up these members: Dave & Cathy Hawkinson; Luke, Carin, Ruby & Gus Gulstrand; Ben, Sarah, Andrew & Ella Hallberg; Jesse, Paulina, Jordan, Parker & Jorjah Backstrom; and Shari, Jaret & Wyatt Baker. May God walk with these faithful friends in their Resurrection journey.

This Week at Bethlehem:

Sat June 6	11:00 AM	Joan Bieber Memorial service
Sun Jun 7	8:40 AM	Choir practice
	10:00 AM	Worship Service
	11:00 AM	Church Picnic
	2:00 PM	Grad party for Martina - Jacobsen's
Mon Jun 8	6:30 PM	Executive Committee
Tues Jun 9	8:30 AM	Staff Meeting
Wed Jun 10	12:30 PM	Text Study
Thur Jun 11	8:00 AM	Men's Bible Study
	9:00 AM	Quilting
	9:30 AM	Esther Circle/BLCW
Sat Jun 13	10:00 AM	Schliep Baby Shower
	6:00 PM	Youth Bonfire & Games
Sun Jun 14	10:00 AM	Worship



Joan Bieber's
Memorial
Service will be
on Saturday
June 6th at
11:00 am.
Visitation at
10am. Light
meal to follow

Mark your calendars for
upcoming Memorial Services:

- Susan Gulstrand's will be Fri.
July 31 [time TBD]

IN LOVING
Memory

Thanks to Joy
Oberg's Hospitality
Team for hosting this
event!



Mission of the Month

Reconciling Works

Bethlehem Lutheran is officially a "Reconciling in Christ Partner" congregation. As such, we are committed to:

1. Welcome people of all sexual orientations, gender identities, and gender expressions, as well as naming our commitment to racial equity and anti-racism.
2. Be open to calling LGBTQIA2S+ and BIPOC rostered leadership.
3. Allow our church space to be used for LGBTQIA2S+ weddings and blessings.
4. Make a meaningful annual contribution to support the national RIC program.

Our June Mission of the Month is supporting the Reconciling Works organization, which is working to welcome, include, celebrate, and advocate for all of God's beloved people. Please come to celebrate and welcome all on June 7th at a special worship service.

Member Challenge:

During the month of June, Pride Month, please take some time to learn how to be an ally to the "LGBTQIA2S+" community.

Do you know what "LGBTQIA2S+" means? The letters represent different facets of the community. Each one stands for a gender or sexual identity, with the "+" at the end standing in for the many gender identities that aren't included in this version of the acronym. Understanding the differences between these communities, like recognizing pride flags, might feel confusing at first.

L: Lesbian G: Gay B: Bisexual

T: Transgender Q: Queer/Questioning

I: Intersex A: Asexual/Aromantic

2S: Two-Spirit

+: Non-binary, Pansexual, Demisexual, Genderfluid, Agender

"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 peace and reconciliation among the nations, especially in Iran, Lebanon, Gaza, Mali, South Sudan, Ukraine, and Venezuela...

For the wounded and all who grieve those killed in major Russian assaults in Ukraine...

For the Israel-Lebanon ceasefire...

For all immigrants, refugees, asylum seekers, and travelers...

For peaceful engagement and resolution to protests in Albania and Mexico...

For elections and political transitions, domestic and global...

For all affected by tropical storm Jangmi in southern Japan...

For the work of climate scientists, ecology researchers, and meteorologists...

For children and their families struggling with food scarcity, especially in the absence of school lunches...

For all God's beloveds in the LGBTQIA+ community during this Pride month...

For all impacted by the Ebola outbreak in central Africa...

For synods of the ELCA as they gather in their assemblies and for bishops and bishops-elect...

Events and observances:

June observances: Pride Month

Justin, martyr at Rome, died c.135 (June 1)
The Martyrs of Uganda, died 1886 (June 3)
John XXIII, Bishop of Rome, died 1963 (June 3)
Boniface, martyr, died 754 (June 5)
Barnabas, apostle (June 11)
Martyrdom of Emmanuel Nine (June 17)
Juneteenth (June 19)
World Refugee Day (June 20)
Fathers Day (June 21)

Prayers from ELCA resources:

Grant, O God, that your holy and life-giving Spirit may move every human heart; that the barriers dividing us may crumble, suspicions disappear, and hatreds cease; and that, with our divisions healed, we might live in justice and peace; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Look with mercy, gracious God, upon people everywhere who live with injustice, terror, disease, and death as their constant companions. Rouse us from our complacency and help us to eliminate cruelty wherever it is found. Strengthen those who seek equality for all. Grant that everyone may enjoy a fair portion of the abundance of the earth; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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!

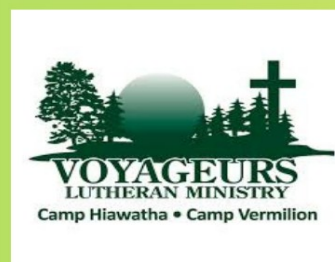
Please contact Jess with any questions, comments or concerns!

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>



Bethlehem Lutheran Church Camper Scholarship Application



Camper Name: _____

Grade entering _____

Church Camp attending: _____ Dates: _____

It is Bethlehem's intent to make Church Camp affordable so every child gets to go to camp.

How much money are you requesting? _____

How would you like to receive your campership?

☐ Please reimburse me. (Please attach payment receipt)

☐ Please mail the scholarship directly to camp



Camp Mailing Address: _____

Parent/Guardian: _____ Phone: _____