

E-Weekly

January 14, 2026
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PUBLICATION OF BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN CHURCH | GRAND MARAIS, MINNESOTA

Sunday January 18,
2026
The Second Sunday
after Epiphany

Livestream link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IKEWwn-ANYU>



Bethlehem Lutheran Church
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Website update:

I (Denise) am having trouble with the website and am unable to update it with the Sunday Service information.

Please use the livestream link listed just above.

I will be out of the office Thursday through Monday. Back in the office Tuesday, Jan. 20

This Week at Bethlehem:

Sun Jan 18	8:40 AM	Choir Practice
	10:00AM	Worship Service & Sunday School
	11:15 AM	Lutheranism 101
	2:00 PM	Care Center Worship Service
Mon Jan 19	MLK	Holiday—office is closed
	1:00 PM	Daisy Troop
	6:30 PM	Church Council
Tues Jan 20	8:30 AM	Staff meeting
	5:30 PM	Girl Scouts
	6:30 PM	Worship planning
Wed Jan 21	12:30 PM	Text Study
	5:30 PM	Community Meal
	6:00 PM	Worship
	6:30 PM	Confirmation
Thurs Jan 22	8:00 AM	Bible Study
	9:00 AM	Quilting
	6:30 PM	Table Tennis
Fri Jan 23	- - - -	Clarity Hearing
Sun Jan 25	8:40 AM	Choir practice
	10:00 AM	Worship Service & Sunday School
	11:15 AM	Annual Meeting



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 4.



Nursing Home Worship Service



Please join us on Sunday January 18th at 2:00pm for Worship at North Shore Living. Come, visit, and commune with our friends at the Care Center. Snacks will be served. (Pastor could use some back-up singers!)

Sunday January 18, 2026 Scripture Readings

Isaiah 49:1-7

The servant brings light to the nations

Psalm 40:1-11

I love to do your will,
O my God

1 Corinthians 1:1-9

Paul's greeting to the church at Corinth

John 1:29-42

Revelation of Christ as the Lamb of God

Livestream link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lKEWwn-ANYU>

PRAYER list

Healing prayers are requested:

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

This week we lift up these
members: Harry & Peggy
Peterson; Lyle & Laurie Spry; Jane
Ranum; Bruce & Pat Strand; and
Shelley Norman. May God walk with
these faithful friends in their
journeys of peace.

Need
PRAYER?

Contact:

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

“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 gun violence, especially in Minneapolis, MN; Greensboro, NC; Chicago, IL; Boynton Beach, FL; Salt Lake City, UT; and Philadelphia, PA...
- For migrants, travelers, and all who live away from their nations of origin...
- For law enforcement officers, government officials, and all civic workers who bear the privilege and sworn responsibility of seeking the common good and maintaining the welfare of all people...
- For travel disruptions due to ice and freezing rain in eastern and central Europe...
- For areas of the nation and world experiencing severe weather...
- For the newly baptized, for families of all shapes and sizes, and for care and safety for all children and young people...
- For the safety of advocates, peacemakers, and protestors who are Spirit-led to speak out for justice...
- For honesty, humility, confession, and collaboration in the work of racial healing...

Events and observances:

January Observances: National Blood Donor Month, National Human Trafficking Prevention Month, Poverty in America Awareness Month, Mental Awareness Month

Orthodox New Year (Jan 14)

Pongal, (Hindu festival, Jan 14)

Martin Luther King Jr., renewer of society, martyr, died 1968 (Jan 15)

Antony of Egypt, renewer of the church, died around 356 (Jan 17)

Pachomius, renewer of the church, died 346 (Jan 17)

Confession of Peter (Jan 18)

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity (Jan 18-25)

Henry, Bishop of Uppsala, martyr, died 1156 (Jan 19)

Martin Luther King Jr., Day (Jan 19)

Prayers from ELCA resources:

Rise up and come to our help, merciful God, for we are in need. Our spirits are weighed down with fear; our bodies feel as fragile as the dust from which we came. All that we have trusted seems hidden from sight. Although this moment has come upon our nation, you have not forgotten us. We do not trust in our own power or strength, but in your steadfast love in every generation. Show us your face in this time of trial, remind us of your faithfulness, and save us for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

God, our healer and our refuge, we pray for all who suffer from gun violence. With your mercy, bind up their wounds, restore their bodies, and heal their hearts. Comfort the mourners and embrace the lonely. With your might, empower us to change this broken world. Make us advocates for a stable society, alive with hope in you. We ask this through the one once wounded for our transgressions and now standing with us in our sorrows, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.



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!



Bishop Curry Issues Statement on ICE Shooting in Minneapolis

Learn to do good; seek justice; rescue the oppressed; defend the orphan; plead for the widow. (Isaiah 1:17).



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Alongside our siblings in Christ in Minneapolis and throughout Minnesota and all who have been impacted by aggressive immigration enforcement and violence by federal law enforcement agents, I mourn the shocking shooting death of Renee Nicole Good by an Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agent on Jan. 7, 2026. I join calls for a thorough investigation into this case, accountability for the shooting and a de-escalation of ICE enforcement across the United States. Alongside the Lutherans who have held vigils in Minneapolis and around the country, our church prays for God's peace in this community and justice in this case.

The ELCA is committed to upholding and guaranteeing basic human rights for the safety of migrants and their families. Our church works toward just and humane policies affecting migrants in and outside the United States. We decry language that dehumanizes immigrants who are beloved children of God and escalates tensions between federal agents and communities. Surges of immigration enforcement and violent encounters like we are seeing in Minneapolis — as well as in Chicago; Atlanta; Los Angeles; Portland, Ore.; and Washington, D.C.— have indiscriminately targeted our neighbors, creating fear and uncertainty. This has created conditions where immigrants, those accompanying them and federal agents are all at risk.

ELCA social teaching provides guidance in complex situations: "Public safety depends upon trust in law enforcement to respect and protect the rights of all" (["Gun-related Violence and Trauma"](#)). As a church, we are concerned by the trend of law enforcement and federal agents involved in immigration enforcement relying on the use of force in our communities without sufficient accountability or oversight.

God calls us to be witnesses to God's presence, healing and hope. I invite ongoing prayers, vigils and advocacy for peace and justice, and I affirm the ELCA's "pledge to continue our church's historic leadership in caring for refugees and immigrants" ([For Peace in God's World](#)).

In Christ,

The Rev. Yehiel Curry
Presiding Bishop
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Resources are available from the ELCA's migration strategy [AMMPARO](#) (Accompanying Migrants with Protection, Advocacy, Representation, and Opportunities).

[Bishop Curry Issues Statement on ICE Shooting in Minneapolis](#)

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:

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218-726-4889

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