



Bethlehem Lutheran Church



Bethlehem News



Grace Peace and Mercy from God our Father and Christ Jesus our Lord and Savior. By the time you read this letter the month of June will have arrived. As with many months there are many significant historical facts surrounding it. June originates from the month of *Iunius* (also called *mensis Iunius*) in the original Roman calendar used during the Roman Republic.

In ancient Rome, the period from mid-May through mid-June may have been considered inauspicious for marriages. The Roman poet Ovid claimed to have consulted the *flaminica Dialis*, the high priestess of the god Jupiter, about setting a date for his daughter's wedding, but was advised to wait until after 15 June. The Greek philosopher and writer Plutarch, however, implied that the entire month of June was more favorable for weddings than May. Even today June is considered prime time for weddings.

For us in Southwest Florida June is often the beginning of the rainy season. Unfortunately, we also know what that brings us, at times destruction and at times suffering.

For us as disciples of Christ we know at times we do suffer and Jesus said we would, but we also have hope.

Romans 5:2-4 "through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we boast in the hope of the glory of God. **3** Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; **4** perseverance, character; and character, hope."

Philippians 3:13-15

13 Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, **14** I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus. **15** All of us, then, who are mature should take such a view of things. And if on some point you think differently that too God will make clear to you.

In our confession that we confess in Church every Sunday comes from 1 John Chapter 1 "If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

Your sins are forgiven and now Christ is purifying or cleansing us from all unrighteousness. In other words, our sanctification is not complete. Christ will complete this once we are with Christ. So, forget what is behind you, we are called heavenward. We have a hope that can't be taken away. We have a hope that is everlasting, the hope in Christ our Savior.

KTF and Press Onward towards the Prize,

Pastor Karl



News and Updates



The 2025 church directory was emailed to all members last week. In addition, there are paper copies available in the Narthex.



Preparations for VBS have begun to ramp up. This year, the program is July 28- Aug 1, 9AM- Noon. A great big thank you in advance to all who are involved in getting ready for and helping with all that goes into this very worthwhile endeavor. The save the dates are on the way to families that have participated in the past and we have several signs that will be posted to help spread the word. If anyone would like to help in any way, whether it be in spreading the word, helping to set up or helping with the classes, please let me know. Thanks.

Mickie Naumann



We will be using artificial flowers for our sanctuary. This change is being made to provide a long-lasting, more convenient, and cost-effective way to express beauty and grace within our worship space. Thank you for your understanding and support as we make this transition.

Elders' Monthly Devotion

THE BUCKINGHAM LIVING GIVING TREE.

In the name of our Children at the Buckingham Exceptional Student Center, my heartfelt thanks to you for your donations. We have received \$520 Dollars for 38 Gift cards, and wonderful handmade afghans. Y'all have spread a lot of smiles and happiness.

"A new command I give you:

Love one another. As I have loved you,
so, you must love one another.

By this everyone will know that you are my disciples,
if you love one another."

John 13:34-35 NIV

"In everything I did,

I showed you that by this kind of hard work
we must help the weak,

remembering the words the Lord Jesus himself said:

'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'

Acts 20:35 NIV

God will meet all our needs so we can provide
for those who are weak.

Lord, would you bless and keep us,

**Lord, please make your face
shine upon us.**

Amen

Klaus Naumann



So far this year, through the Thrivent Choice program, Bethlehem Lutheran Church has received \$1,634. Great job, keep up the good work donating quarterly.

Betty Willis






JUNE 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 10:30 Worship 11:30 Bible Study; Sunday School & Confirmation	2	3	4 10:30 Bible Study	5	6	7
8 Pentecost 10:30 Worship 11:30 Bible Study; Sunday School & Confirmation	9	10	11 10:30 Bible Study	12	13	14 
15 Fathers' Day 10:30 Worship 11:30 Bible Study; Sunday School &	16	17	18	19	20	21
22 10:30 Worship 11:30 Bible Study; Sunday School & Confirmation	23	24	25 10:30 Bible Study	26	27	28
29 10:30 Worship 11:30 Bible Study; Sunday School & Confirmation	30					

	JUNE ANNIVERSARIES
8	Sue & Dennis Hartman
12	Joann & Darrell Erdman
18	Pat & Rollin Duckwitz
29	Tammy and Michael Sheridan

May God Bless Each One of You As
We Celebrate Your Special Day!

	JUNE BIRTHDAYS
3	Cheryl Nelson
4	Karen Johnson
17	Terri Gerlach
22	Gwen Nicholson
27	Emmy Larson
29	Matthew Glander



IN MEMORIAM

MYRTLE EDGES

BOB JURS

Pentecost

SUNDAY



June 8th





Bethlehem Lutheran Church

Phone: 239-694-3878

Website: www.bethlehemplutheranfortmyers.org

Email: bethlehemlc@gmail.com

Prayer Chain Needs

Do you know that Bethlehem has a prayer chain that prays for the sick, dying and hurting needs of our church family?

Call or email Linda at (239) 693-5026 or jlkirsch3@comcast.net

Your needs will be taken to the Lord!

Sunday Worship

10:30 AM Worship Service

Rev. Karl Glander

pastorkarlglander@gmail.com

239-293-1489

Organist: Holly Bell

Church Secretary: Linda Kirsch



Students at Buckingham Exceptional School with their Afghans crocheted by Yvonne Murray.

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH – MISSOURI SYNOD

What We Believe

(LCMS) accepts the Bible-based teachings of Martin Luther that launched the Lutheran Reformation of the Christian church in the 16th century. We believe that the Lutheran Confessions are the correct interpretation and presentation of biblical doctrine. The Bible-based teachings of Martin Luther can be summed up in three phrases:

- ♦ Grace alone.
- ♦ Word alone.
- ♦ Faith alone.

Founded in the United States

The LCMS was established in April 1847 by Saxon and other German immigrants seeking the freedom to practice their faith and follow confessional Lutheranism. Charter congregations were located in Missouri, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Wisconsin and New York

Emphasis for the Church

“Witness, Mercy, Life Together” describes how the church lives and works together to proclaim the Gospel and to care for people in need in our congregations, communities and throughout the world. For more information, visit lcms.org/emphasis.

By the Numbers

Current President:

Rev. Dr. Matthew C. Harrison

Members:

1,968,641 baptized members in North America
55,923 baptized members in Florida

Congregations: 6,047

Clergy: 9,656

Educators: 16,292

Missionaries:

126 full-time missionaries

230 short-term missionaries