

Bethlehem Star

Clergy Appreciation Month

October 2007

The Season of The Spirit!

Bethlehem Ev. Lutheran Church
1903- 2007

Missouri Synod
www.bethlehemminbaltimore.org

Pastor Jim Kleinfelter

Michael Ellsworth, Pastoral Assistant

E. Lee Jones, Jr., Assistant to Pastor

Rev. Donald E. Bendewald, Pastor Emeritus

Bethlehem Ev. Lutheran Church

4815 Hamilton Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21206-3899
410.488.4445 Fax: 410.488.2599
email: church@bethlehemminbaltimore.org

Come and Worship With Us

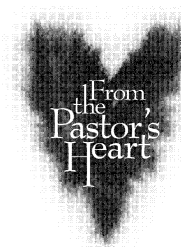
Sunday Worship 8AM & 11AM

Sunday School 9:30 AM

Bible Study 9:30 AM Sunday

Bethlehem Christian Day School

Mrs. Alice J. Moore, Principal
Pre-School thru Grade 8 with Child Care
410-488-8963 Fax: 419.488.2689
email: BethLEMSch@aol.com



Two recent strange news stories have been on my mind. One concerns Bunky Bartlett, who on August 31 became one of 4 ticket holders to win a \$330 million dollar lottery jackpot. He claims it was his

Wiccan gods that brought about his win. He made a deal with them that if he won the lottery, he would quit his job and teach.

The other news story concerns a Boeing 757 operated by Nepal Airlines. They were having trouble fixing the aircraft (which makes up half of their Boeing fleet), and so, at the airport and in front of the plane, they sacrificed two goats to appease Akash Bhairab, the Hindu sky god. The aircraft was later returned to service in good working order.

How are we to take occurrences like these as Christians? Should we turn Wiccan? Should we turn Hindu? Is there something to these? Should we cling to Jesus and also utilize other religions to get what we want in life? Is the Bible maybe wrong?

Such events that we thought would never happen will happen sometimes. It will appear sometimes that false religions are valid and powerful. Revelation 13:13 speaks of a second beast the dragon Satan conjures up from the sea, "It performs great signs, even making fire come down from heaven..." (ESV).

Thought for the Month

*When God measures a person He puts the
tape measure around their heart
not their head.*

Seemingly supernatural events will occur, but that does not mean they are of God or that the performer of them is good. Is your confidence fixed in the miracle, or Who is behind it?

Secondly, keep in mind that God is still God and tolerates no rivals. In Exodus 20:2-5 He says, "**I am the Lord your God...You shall have no other gods before Me...I the Lord your God am a jealous God...**" (ESV); and Isaiah 45:5 "**I am the Lord, and there is no other; apart from me there is no God.**" Seemingly supernatural occurrences seem to say otherwise and test our faith: but we take God at His word that He alone is God, stand firm in that, and don't give into the apparent validity of other ways.

Thirdly, God will provide you with what you need. Just because someone of another religion gets his way doesn't mean that your Heavenly Father has forsaken you or that you have some second rate religion. God will provide for all of your needs and you should be relieved of any fear.

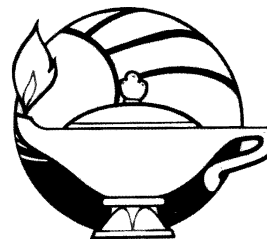
Take a look at Matthew 6:25-34. You may not get all you want, but you will get what you need. The stuff of this life isn't what you really need anyways: what you really need is forgiveness of sins that would have sent you to hell so that after this life you can spend forever with God in heaven. This Jesus has bought for you already with His blood. But God will provide and sustain you in this life so that you can do things for Him and others.

Finally, love adherents and practitioners of false religion. It is tempting to hate them or mock them or view them as having some kind of evil intent against us. Some indeed are devious, but many are well-meaning, ordinary people who are simply deluded by falsehood.

They also are people who are so special to God that He would go to the cross for them. We should show them the same respect we would show anyone else; we should pray for them that God the Holy Spirit would reveal Jesus to them as Savior that they might repent, believe and be saved. We may even have opportunity to witness to them and so be part of the answer to our prayers.

We live in a world in which sin and Satan run wild, sometimes more wild than we expect: but God is still God, and Jesus remains the answer to the world's problems!

Pastor Jim



REFORMATION

the process or act of making something better!

This year Reformation Sunday will be observed on October 28, at 8a and 11 am worships.

The familiar hymn, *A Mighty Fortress is our God* will be sung, and we will feel the swelling of our hearts as the familiar words, written by Martin Luther, will echo through the sanctuary.

The day's worship will also give us a chance to take a closer look at the lives of St. Simon and St. Jude.

We hope to see you at worship as we thank God for the effect of these three men on our lives, as Lutheran Christians.

Prayer Requests



Lord, we lift the following names before Your heavenly throne as we pray for their comfort, healing and peace. . .

Pastor Don Bendewald	Cass Bonner
"Casey"	Corey Cooper
"Daniel"	Rebecca Denning
"Eric"	Paul Hester
Brandon Huber	Rae Hummel
"Janelle"	"John"
Lee Jones	Mary Kozlowski
"Lingbay"	Kevin Lomax
Lamont Lomax	Ann Maack
"Mara"	Priscilla Montgomery
Pat Neale	Gen Offerman
Cornelia Peterkin	Bob Rehrig
Berry Roddefer	Paul Scelsi
Eddie Schwarz	"Sita"
Charles & Thelma Schwindel	
Sherby Thomas	Jimmy Walton

. . .the victims of hurricanes, earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, tsunami, floods, and cave-ins; and those rendering aid in the devastation.

. . . the families and friends who have lost loved ones in the war in Iraq.

. . . the men and women of our Armed Forces stationed at home and abroad.

. . . our homebound family members

The Behles	Erma Cunningham
Emmie Fouse	Alice Frick
Ted Hunter	Grace Kruelle
Ruth Kruelle	Elma Morse
Erma Pfaff	Mary Jane Turner

in Jesus' name we pray. Amen

Celebrations



October Birthdays

October 1	George Goetz Lacy Sheckells Chesa Zielezinski
October 2	Corey Cooper Wayne Edwards Katie Webster
October 3	Ashlynn Jones Dorothea Slawski Caroline Stith
October 5	Bettie Bendewald
October 7	Liz Almond Gina Roncace
October 8	Elsie Bollin Caritta Stanley David Logan
October 9	Wendy Wittman James Walker
October 11	Angelique Dudley
October 12	Mark Spliedt David Sheffer Kendall Smith
October 13	De'Sire Barnes Thomas McLemore Claire Miller
October 14	Logan Williams Rose Gause
October 15	Jerrod Alexander
October 16	Mary Lou Parron Octavia Figueroa Aaron Rowell
October 17	Arielle Brown Emmie Fouse Marcus Banks
October 18	Toni Chiarella Errol Hurtt
October 20	John Scherer
October 23	Azha Clark Melissa Rosenberger
October 24	Amy Decker
October 25	Mike Lindemann

October 26	Kris McFadden Sue Ward
October 27	Ron Harding Amaya Jenkins
October 28	Tony George
October 29	Paige Beverly Scott Edwards
October 30	Christina Carter Louis Romeo
October 31	Linda Harding

October Anniversaries



October 7	Skip & Barb Kordula
October 9	George & Marge Meekins
October 16	Roy & Karen Bowlin
October 29	John & Shirley Samaniego

Lord, thank you for another year of blessings for these members of our Bethlehem Family! Amen



On Saturday, September 1, 2007, Scott T. Miller and Leah M. Stroup were married at St. John's Lutheran Church on Harford Road in

Parkville. The young couple now reside at 47 Hyacinth Road in Parkville, May our Lord bless these two young people as they begin their life together in Him.

NEW ADDRESS

Pull out your directory and make this change

Scott & Lynee Edwards (Grace & Henry)
2811 Northwind Road
Parkville, MD 21234-1132
410-882-2314

Busy Bethlehem

Do You Like to Have Fun???
Do You Like to be Scared???

Then join us for **Christian Fright Night** on **Friday, October 26 and Saturday, October 27 at 7 pm.**

We will *shroud you in darkness*, and *plague you with fear* as we portray some of the **scariest Bible stories** recorded.

This is NOT intended for little ones!

We ask that no one younger than a 4th grade student be allowed to witness these scenes!

Admission is \$2 per person, and you will leave Bethlehem with a new view of God's awesome power, and a sweet treat.

Youth Group

Be sure to attend the meetings on Sunday evenings in October! We'll decide when we go to the Corn Maze and Bonfire! We'll meet in the Youth Room at 6pm.

This is one trip you do not want to miss!

College Students

Keep your Tuesday evenings open for some "hang out time" with the group at Bethlehem.

We'll get some food for our souls, and something good to tickle out taste buds too!

Mark Tuesdays at 8pm on your day planner now!

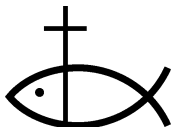
Friendship Circle

On Sunday, October 28, we'll gather for a lite lunch in the Fellowship Hall following our 11am worship.

Then we'll have a short business meeting to determine the charities we would like to support this coming Holiday Season, and to begin planning for our Christmas Pot Luck Dinner.

EVERYONE who worships at Bethlehem is most welcomed to come, enjoy the lunch, and offer their opinion at the Friendship Circle meeting. We hope to see you there!

Confirmation Class



Our young people are joining the young people of Living Water as we explore God's Word and our Lutheran Faith. The first half of this year's study will be held at Living Water, 8912 Philadelphia Road in Rossville. We meet on the first and third Thursday of each month.

If your son or daughter, 7th grade student or older, is ready to take another step in their Christian walk, to grow closer to the Lord, we ask you to speak to Pastor Jim about joining the group.



Market Day Sales

By purchasing great quality foods, you can help our Christian Day School earn money for our Computer Technology Unit.

Buying Broccoli Florets - *there are no stems in these bags* - Tender Sweet Corn, Boneless-Skinless Chicken Breast steaks and Fish Filets are not only good for your health, they are good for our school.

Order Sheets come out once a month, and it is easy to fill out how many of any product - there are roasts, seafood, poultry, vegetables, breakfast foods, desserts, snacks and more - you want for your family. Then return the form to our School, or place your order on-line.

Then come to Bethlehem on the Sale Day at 5pm to pick up your order.

Thanks for your support of this beneficial fund raising effort by our P T L. If you have any questions, *or would like to volunteer on sale day*, please call our Market Day Chairlady, Carolyn Galusha, 410-485-6969.

“Pillsbury”
“Kimberly Clark”
“General Mills”

“Zip-Lock” items
“Betty Crocker”
“Huggies”

“Kleenex”

Look in your pantry, in your refrigerator, and around your home. How many of these familiar products will you find?

Did you know you can help our school by clipping the “Box Top for Education” and bringing it to our School, or our Church?

This little coupon is only worth 10¢! BUT if you bring in 6, and so do 20 other families, we will soon have over \$12.00 for our school!

Box Tops can be sent in as often as you would like, just be sure to follow the dotted red line when you clip them from the container. The words “Official Coupon” and the expiration date must be legible.

Bethlehem Christian Day School Parent Teacher League Present *Early Holiday Shopping*

Board the bus to Lancaster's Tanger & Rockvale Outlets at 9am on Saturday, November 3, for only \$30. For all the information see the enclosed flyer!

L W M L Mite Offerings

On September 12 we sent a check to our Chesapeake District of LWML for \$102.95.

This reflected Bethlehem's generous donations for June, July, August & September - usually our lowest collection months.

While some of the funds will be used right in the Baltimore area - Living Water at the State Fair - and throughout Maryland, we are also supporting several missions in Alaska, Delaware, Virginia, and Pennsylvania. The Mission Grants for 2006 - 2008 are posted on our bulletin board for your review.

ThanksLiving

from. . .

Greater Baltimore Center for Pregnancy Concerns

Thank you for your contribution of \$1,960.96 toward our Baby Bottle Campaign. We are so grateful for your support and the work you put forth in distributing and gathering the bottles.

Your donation through this campaign plays a significant role in helping us continue to live out our God-given mission *to protect the physical, emotional and spiritual lives of women and their unborn children.*

Carol Clews
Exec. Director

from. . .

Augsburg Lutheran Home & Village

Our residents are cheered by the love and caring of many, the staff, their families and friends, the volunteers, and the members of Bethlehem Lutheran Church.

Thank you for remembering them with your gift of \$868.95 which might be used for a summer treat, or some needed expensive medicine. It may be used for a favorite meal, or a birthday celebration. It may be used for any number of things our residents need. One thing is sure, your gift will make someone smile this summer, and they will thank you from the bottom of their heart.

Glenn Scherer
Executive Director

from. . .

Lutheran Mission Society

Thank you for your gift of \$868.95 that will make it possible for the Mission Society to reach out to those who are struggling in our communities, both spiritually and in tangible ways.

God bless you for your compassion for those in need, from a mother and her child with no home, to an elderly couple trying to maintain their

independence together amid spiraling costs, and your commitment to “feeding Jesus’ lambs. You are very much a part of this ministry, and a blessing to those who are served.

Rev. David R. Maack
Executive Director

THANK YOU!!

from Lee Jones

Thank you for all of the cards, and notes of encouragement that so many of you sent me. I especially want to thank you for the prayers that ascended to the Throne of Grace on my behalf.

It would not be appropriate to thank all of you without a special thank you to my daughter Alice who worked so hard arranging and accompanying me to doctor appointments and then in caring for my needs at home, and continuing to do so.

At this time the prognosis is a good one and seven weeks of radiation followed by seven once a week trips for chemotherapy is planned.

Once again, God has been good to me in arranging for the cancer to be detected at an early and operable stage.

PRAISE THE LORD!!

Stewardship

*“Don’t give till it hurts.
Give till it feels good!”*

AUTHOR UNKNOWN

*“We make a living through what we get
We make a life through what we give.”*

WINSTON CHURCHILL

*“There are three conversions necessary
the conversion of the heart
the conversion of the mind
the conversion of the purse.”*

MARTIN LUTHER

For Your Information. . .

Seminary Offers a FREE Visit

Are you interested in learning how to become a pastor, chaplain, missionary or deaconess in the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod?

St Louis Seminary is offering a FREE campus tour, a welcome reception, dinner with the faculty, a chapel service, classroom visitation, campus information, panel discussions and more on October 11 - 13. You will be provided with lodging, meals and transportation from and to the airport!

For more information contact the Admissions Office, 1-800-822-9545 or admissions@csle.edu.

**Faith Lutheran Church
and WRBS Radio
presents**

**WORLDVIEW CONFERENCE
October 13, 2007**

Come to Liberty High School, 5855 Bartholow Road in Eldersburg, MD, to hear Dr. David Menton's and Rev. Jim Bloker's* comments on:

- Implications of Evolutionism**
- Evolution of Evolutionism**
- Fearfully and Wonderfully Made**
- Inherently Wind**

The conference begins at 9 am and continues till 4pm with breaks and lunch.

Cost is \$10 per person, or \$20 per family.

Pre-registration is strongly recommended.

Please call 1-410-795-8082 or visit www.flc-eldersburg.com

(Were you a member of Bethlehem when we "adopted" Jim & Maybelle Bloker when they were missionaries?)

**South Carolina Lutherhostel
presents
A week of Edification & Inspiration
October 21-26, 2007
for
Lutheran Older Adults**

The Association of Lutheran Older Adults invite you to come to Isle of Palms, Charlestown, SC, for a retreat! Guest Speakers, Dining, the Atlantic Ocean, and Historic Charlestown are on the agenda.

Rates include all meals and programs;
Single accommodations \$680 each
Double accommodations \$570 each

To find out more, call 1-800-930-ALOA or email aloa4u@sbcglobal.net.

**Lutheran Church Extension Fund
Offers**

**2 Year Term Note at 6.136% APY rate
\$500 Minimum Investment
Offer Ends November 30, 2007**

For more information, please call 1-800-843-5233 or visit the website at www.lcef.org.

**October is
National Clergy Appreciation
Month**

In 1992 the Second Sunday of October, this year it is October 14, was set aside as a day for Christians to uplift and encourage their pastors, missionaries, and religious workers.

According to Barna Research, 47 % of American adults attend worship on a typical weekend (2005), and 84% of Americans describe themselves as Christian. (2006).

There should be no shortage of good wishes, prayers, acts of appreciation for our shepherds!

For our Children in school

“Dear Jesus,

Our children are growing up in a violent and sex-crazed society. There are drugs and booze everywhere. Our youngsters are being terrorized by gangs, crime, and drive-by shootings. Teenage pregnancies and suicides are skyrocketing.

This is the society we have given them because of our apathy. Forgive us, O Lord. Help us to redouble our efforts to help our children.

Some say we should put more police officers in the schools, build more prisons, what our children need is You, dear Jesus. Help us to introduce our youth to You. Without You, our young people will not be able to keep their faith in our nearly pagan world.

O Jesus, as our children go to school, protect them, guide them, guard them, bless them, be with them. Be with us all.”

AUTHOR UNKNOWN

For our computer users!

Spell Chequer

Eye halve a spelling chequer
It came with my Pea Sea
It plainly marques four my revue
Miss steaks eye kin knot sea.

Eye strike a key and type a word
And weight four it two say
Weather eye am rong oar rite
It shows me strait a weigh.

As soon as a mist ache is maid
it nose bee fore two long
And eye can put the error rite
Its rare lea ever rong.

Eye have run this poem threw it
I am shore your pleased two no
Its letter perfect awl the weigh
My chequer tolled me so!

Thanks to Judy Chrysam