

The Bethlehem Star

Empowered by Jesus to be His hands and feet, Bethlehem is a caring Community called to be His compassionate presence in this world and to build community by reaching out with the life-giving Word to those in our neighborhoods who are wearied and burdened by life's demands and changing Circumstances.

BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN CHURCH
201 E. Watauga Avenue
Johnson City, TN 37601
Rev. Steven Harmon, Pastor
Church: 423-926-5261

June 2021, Volume XXI, No. 6

Reach Up, Reach In, Reach Out



We will meet for our monthly game night on June 19th, 6 - ?? Always look for this event on the 3rd Saturday of every month. Cornhole if it's not raining, maybe ping pong if you are interested, and all kinds of board and card games. Bring a snack or drink to share!

Serving This Month

	8:00 a.m.	10:45 a.m.
	ELDER OF THE MONTH: Ted Wilson USHERS	ELDER OF THE MONTH: Scott Pruitt USHERS
6/6	Roy Knispel Robert Woody Tom Watson	Lee Talbert Robb Whaley Silas Whaley
6/13	Larry Larson Ann Larson Roy Knispel	John Port Nicholas Leone Ben Wohlford
6/20	Larry Larson Ann Larson Tom Watson	Cary Allen Tim Treece Dylan Treece
6/27	Robert Woody Tom Watson Roy Knispel	John Port Nicholas Leone Andy Tester

Altar Guild for June: Ann Larson & Marie Wilson

UPDATE from the SHANEYFELTS

Busy with Bible Translation

In many places Corona Virus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) restrictions have begun to ease. The Field Systems Team's "new normal" is to meet using Zoom video conferences. Jon continues using a laptop computer as he mostly works from home, but is able to access the JAARS Center to help provide critical services. Currently, Jon is consulting with missionaries in two areas – the Africa Area and the Asia-Pacific area. Many of the missionaries that help support Bible translation perform a variety of important tasks. Some of the missionaries on the field are involved in literacy, for example. Many New Testament translations are for people groups who do not yet have a written language for their mother tongue. This not only means that the Bible translators and translation consultants need to devise an alphabet, but the people group that will be receiving the Scripture will need to become literate in their own mother tongue. Continued.....



Notes from the Pastor's Desk

We are Jesus' hands and feet.

We have been raised to life. We have been given a hope that will not fade or ever disappoint. We have been brought into God's Kingdom of Light and He is at work to conform us to the image of His Son, Jesus Christ.

That is the hope we live in and are called to share. That is the "new normal" that now rules our life in this world. That is the "new normal" that we are to talk about with others who have lost hope.

So let those in authority talk about their "new normal" and encourage us to comply. We are no longer of this world. We live a new life that can't be taken from us by the trials and troubles of this life. We have been joined together with Christ in the "new normal" that is life without end. That is our hope and the empty tomb is the guarantee.

I began with these words from last month's notes because they provide a good transition from the celebration of the Easter Season to the time of the Church Year when our focus turns to growing up in this new life that we've received.

By God's work through His Word joined to the waters of Baptism, we have received His new normal. We have been set apart as resurrected children of God. We are no longer children of this world.

And that will bring trials. We will be looked upon as the strangers and aliens that we are. But that won't be a good thing. Maybe you've already had an experience where someone has looked at you as though you are indeed an alien – a stranger from fantasy land that is a figment of your imagination.

You may have had people wonder why you believe what you do or why you act like you do. That's just the way life is as one who has been set apart – as one who no longer lives as one of this world, but as one who is a member of the Kingdom of God still living in this world.

And that's by design. We are now a peculiar people because we are being remade in the image of Christ. And while that will continue to bring negative reactions, it will also bring other responses.

We will have people ask why we choose to live like we do not because they are making fun, but because they really want to know. They will want to know how we can live with hope when they see no reason for hope. They will want to know what keeps us going.

And then that's when we tell them about the hope that we have in Jesus Christ and the resurrection that He has shared with us. We can tell them about the power of the Word of God that strengthens us in that hope – that keeps us focused on a future made certain and sure through Jesus' resurrection.

That's why we remain in this world. That's why we continue to listen to God's Word and follow in His will and ways. We do that so that those who still walk in the dark might see the light of Christ shining through us and the Word that we share. God has raised us up to be beacons of hope drawing those who still walk in the dark to Christ and the light of His salvation.

God comes and invites us to join Him in His house and at His table on a regular basis. As we answer His invitation, here is the schedule of worship times this month. See you there!

June 6 . . . 2nd Sunday after Pentecost

8:00 am

SERMON TEXT: TBA

SERMON THEME: "TBA"

LITURGY: LITURGY: **Divine Service 4 w/ Communion**

10:45 am

SERMON TEXT: TBA

SERMON THEME: "TBA"

LITURGY: LITURGY: **Divine Service 4 w/ Communion**

June 13 . . . 3rd Sunday after Pentecost

8:00 am

SERMON TEXT: 2 Corinthians 5:1-17

SERMON THEME: "Temporal and Eternal"

LITURGY: LITURGY: **Divine Service 1 w/ Communion**

10:45 am

SERMON TEXT: 2 Corinthians 5:1-17

SERMON THEME: "Temporal and Eternal"

LITURGY: LITURGY: **Divine Service 1 w/ Communion**

June 20 . . . 4th Sunday after Pentecost

8:00 am

SERMON TEXT: 2 Corinthians 6:1-13

SERMON THEME: "As Servants of God"

LITURGY: LITURGY: **Divine Service 3 w/ Communion**

10:45 am

SERMON TEXT: 2 Corinthians 6:1-13

SERMON THEME: "As Servants of God"

LITURGY: **Divine Service 3 w/ Communion**

June 27 . . . 5th Sunday after Pentecost

8:00 am

SERMON TEXT: 2 Corinthians 8:1-9, 13-15

SERMON THEME: "The Grace of Giving"

LITURGY: LITURGY: **Divine Service 4 w/ Communion**

10:45 am

SERMON TEXT: 2 Corinthians 8:1-9, 13-15

SERMON THEME: "The Grace of Giving"

LITURGY: LITURGY: **Divine Service 4 w/ Communion**



Sew Crazy

Sew Crazy celebrates the start of summer with a fun, members project meeting. The group will be making the popular Catch All Pod for personal use. It will be a sit-n-sew event with a brown bag lunch. For our members who started the backpacks for the St. Jude's Tri-Cities affiliate, it is turn in day. For more information on Sew Crazy - <http://www.sew.crazy.org> We are also active on Facebook.

Statistical Report for May

<u>Attendance</u>	<u>8:00 a.m.</u>	<u>10:45 a.m.</u>	<u>Offerings</u>	
May 2	43	52	General Fund	\$ 7,485.00
			Federwitz Mission	\$ 50.00
			Youth Ministry	\$ 25.00
May 9	42	57	General Fund	\$ 6,485.00
			Federwitz Mission	\$ 50.00
			Family Promise	\$ 660.00
			Good Samaritan Min.	\$ 50.00
May 16	40	56	General Fund	\$ 4,846.00
			Federwitz Mission	\$ 50.00
			Flower Fund	\$ 30.00
			Melting Pot	\$ 100.00
			Good Samaritan Min.	\$ 100.00
May 23	46	44	General Fund	\$ 4,075.00
			Federwitz Mission	\$ 50.00
			Social Ministry	\$ 600.00
			Good Samaritan Min.	\$ 315.00
			Melting Pot	\$ 50.00
May 30	46	55	General Fund	\$ 7,175.00
			Federwitz Mission	\$ 50.00
			Lutheran Services	\$ 600.00
			Good Samaritan Min.	\$ 1,640.00
On-line Giving in May				\$ 2,612.00
Spending Guidelines for 2021			\$287,740.89	
Offerings needed each week in 2021			\$ 5,533.48	



The Church office is open

Monday - Friday
9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Saturday:
9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Susan is off on Thursdays
Pastor is off on Fridays
Voice mail and e-mails
are checked regularly.



Happy June Birthdays to

Adelynn Davidson & Marvin Otto (3),
Noah Lyons (5), Darcy Groen (6),
Patsy Gibson (12), Gary Allen (16),
Cari McPherson & Leif Whaley (17),
John Oxendine (19), Phyllis Miller
& Christian Nutter (22),
Marissa Allen (23), John Port (24),
Lauren Carey (27), Hope Harmon (28),
Lisa Hazlett Crum & Ashley Maupin (30)



The third lesson in our Lutheran Hour Ministries series on Death is on Saturday, June 12th at 9 AM in the Fellowship Hall. During this session, we'll learn how to minister to one who is facing death. We hope to see you there; everyone is welcome.

UPDATE from the SHANEYFELTS ...continued

Family Matters

Carol has been volunteering one day a week since the JAARS Center library has opened last fall. For a long while, during the worst of the Covid 19 season, no operations were possible. When it was finally safe enough, the library opened for staff and their families, and missionaries on furlough. Masks are worn, and keeping surfaces as clean as possible are the new norm. Carol generally returns each card in the corresponding books and puts them in a temporary place for a couple of days before being put back on the shelf. Carol enjoys spending time at the library to give families an opportunity to enjoy the books, games and videos that are available to check out. April was also a busy time because Stephanie was married on May 1st . The attendance was limited, but fortunately North Carolina's COVID-19 outdoor group size restrictions, which applied to this outdoor wedding, was increased the day before the wedding.

Prayer: Many missionaries involved in Bible translation around the world were evacuated to their countries of origin because of the coronavirus pandemic. Please continue to pray that these missionaries are able to qualify for travel as testing is often required for whole families and that they find flights to return to their field assignments when they are ready.

Praise: Many of the missionaries involved in Bible translation around the world have returned to remote areas in the countries where they serve in Bible translation. We are feeling a surge in requests for consultation in power and communications. The Power Systems team continues helping Bible translators remotely around the world as the coronavirus pandemic eases and Bible translators return to their field locations.

Faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God. Romans 10:17
Your partners in Christ, The Shaneyfelts

For partnership through Wycliffe Bible Translators P.O. Box 628200 Orlando, FL 32862 1-800-992-5433 1-800-WYCLIFFE www.wycliffe.org (Checks should be made payable to Wycliffe Bible Translators with a separate note stating: "Preference for the Wycliffe ministry of Jon & Carol Shaneyfelt")

For partnership through Lutheran Bible Translators P.O. Box 789 Concordia, MO 64020 1-800-532-4253 1-800-53-BIBLE www.lbt.org/give (Checks should be made payable to Lutheran Bible Translators with a separate note stating: "Preference for the Lutheran Bible Translators ministry of Jon & Carol Shaneyfelt")



HUGE CONGRATULATIONS to Camron Scruggs and Ruth Wudtke for graduating from high school. Camron graduated from Science Hill High School on May 28th. He will be going to Northeast State to study computer technology. Ruth graduated from Tennessee Online Public School on May 22. She will be going to Savannah College of Art and Design this fall to study fashion merchandising and accessory design. We hope and pray that your current and future endeavors continue to glorify God. Our youth group needs you!!! We would love to hear from you throughout 2021. We have been doing a new way of conducting our youth meetings on Saturday nights. We are asking that you would prayerfully consider sharing your testimony with us. We want to get to know you in a deeper way by hearing about your faith in Christ. We are also thankful for Susan Burkey, Patty Harmon, Megan DeNobriga, Larry Larson, and Tim Heiden for coming to share what God has done in your lives'. Please be praying about coming to share your story/testimony with us. June will be another busy month for us. We will have a youth meetings on the following Saturdays: June 19th and 26th. Congregation Game Night will also be held on Saturday, May 19th. We're in the early stages of planning a trip to The Bible Museum in Washington DC. We would like to open this trip with the youth to the entire congregation. If you would be interested in traveling with us to visit the museum, please speak with David Nutter. Furthermore, we will be attending Teen Servant Event Week at Camp Linn Haven in Linville, NC from June 27th-July 3rd. We look forward to sharing our experience from the week. Lastly, we want to give a HUGE shout-out to Any Tester for the all the work he's done for the youth webpage. If you haven't seen it...please go to our church's website and click the link that says "Youth." It looks AMAZING!!! Please keep us in your prayers as our plans formulate this month. The following is what we have on the calendar for our youth group for this upcoming month.

Month of June at a Glance:

Sunday, June 6th..... Sunday School Class from 9:15-10:30
Sunday, June 13th..... Sunday School Class from 9:15-10:30
Saturday, June 19th.....Cngregation Game Night at 6
Sunday, June 20th..... Sunday School Class from 9:15-10:30
Saturday, June 26th.....Youth Group Meeting from 6:30-8:30
Sunday, June 27th..... Sunday School Class from 9:15-10:30

Congrats to our amazing youth— Awards and recognitions from this crazy year.

Carter & Brandt Groen
– “Memory Masters” –
they can recall the
entire curriculum they
learned.

Ansley Nutter –
A Honor Roll;
Principal's Award

Kylen Scruggs—
Honor Roll

Christian Nutter –
Social Studies
Award

Maggie Howland –
All A's ;
Top 10% of Class

Emrie Scruggs—
Honor Roll

Elizabeth Treece—
Dean's List

Ava Nutter –
A/B Honor Roll;
Math Award

Camron Scruggs—
Honor Roll


Dylan Treece —
Honor Roll

Sarah Treece—
Superintendent's
List

JUNE



Live Streaming of the 10:45
Sunday service will continue each
week as well as the Wednesday
Night Bible Study Class.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
<p>6Worship, 8:00 a.m. Bible Study & Sunday School 9:15 a.m. Choir Practice, 10:20 a.m. Worship, 10:45 a.m.</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>1 Board of Directors, 6:00 p.m.</p>	<p>2Hand Bell Rehearsal, 5:30 p.m. Bible Study Class, "Luke", 7:30 p.m.</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p>	
<p>13Worship, 8:00 a.m. Bible Study & Sunday School, 9:15 a.m. Choir Practice, 10:20 a.m. Worship, 10:45 a.m. Ensemble Rehearsal, 4:30</p>	<p>14Hands Up Board, 4:00 p.m. Esther-Mary Circle, 7:00 p.m.</p>  <p><i>Flag Day</i></p>	<p>8 Ladies Bible Study, 10:00 a.m.</p>	<p>9Hand Bell Practice, 5:30 p.m. Board of Directors, 7:00 p.m. Bible Study Class, "Luke", 7:30 p.m.</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12 LHM Class, "Death, What Next", 9:00 a.m.</p>	
<p>20Worship, 8:00 a.m. Bible Study, Sunday School & Confirmation, 9:15 a.m. Choir Practice, 10:20 a.m. Worship, 10:45 a.m.</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22 Ladies Bible Study, 10:00 a.m.</p>	<p>23Hand Bell Rehearsal, 5:30 p.m. Bible Study Class, "Luke", 7:30 p.m.</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25 Prepare Lunch Bags for the Melting Pot, 9:00 a.m.</p>	<p>26 Men's Bible Study, 9:00 a.m.</p>	
<p>27Worship, 8:00 a.m. Bible Study & Sunday School, 9:15 a.m. Choir Rehearsal, 10:20 a.m. Worship, 10:45 a.m.</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30Hand Bell Rehearsal, 5:30 p.m. Bible Study Class, "Luke", 7:30 p.m.</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;">LWML National Convention, Lexington, KY</div>			