



The STAR of Bethlehem



**Bethlehem Lutheran Church
An LCMS Congregation**

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<https://sites.google.com/view/blcaikensc/home>

https://www.facebook.com/BLCAikenSC/?ref=pf_target

Redacted Website Edition

March 2026

PASTOR'S MESSAGE:

The Triduum

Holy Week completes the season of Lent. During that week, three days, the *Triduum*, come together as one very intense service; beginning with Maundy Thursday, the observation of the night when Jesus Christ instituted The Lord's Supper; and when Judas betrayed Him into the hands of those who would crucify Him. Good Friday marks the middle of this three-day service, in which we join the other disciples at the foot of Jesus' cross. The crucifixion fixes our eyes on the horror of our sins, and the love of Christ, who suffers all, even divine abandonment, for our salvation. Finally, Easter Sunday brings great rejoicing as the empty tomb reveals to us that, truly, it is finished; Jesus Christ is alive; we are forgiven; Satan is defeated; and we have eternal life and peace with God the Father. From darkness to light; from weeping to joy; the Triduum brings us the gospel in a three-day journey that assures us, once again, that God loves us, and he arranges all things to work together for our good, even as we await the full enjoyment of that eternal life which, even now, we possess.

Blessings,

-Pastor



LENTEN SCHEDULE

Wednesdays during Lent:

March 4, 11, 18, & 25

11am service followed by lunch

7pm service preceded by 6pm dinner

Potluck sign-up sheets will be posted.

Palm Sunday – March 29

10:30 Divine Service

Maundy Thursday – April 2

7pm Service

Good Friday – April 3

7pm Service



EASTER – APRIL 5

9:00am Breakfast

Sign-up sheet will be posted.

10:30am Divine Service

Outside, weather permitting

All items for the newsletter are to be submitted to Debbie C., editor, no later than the 23rd of the month and, upon approval, may be edited for space or clarity.

Early submissions are appreciated.

The STAR of Bethlehem newsletter is published monthly. The website and large print versions have been modified. The LCMS triple-cross logo is used with permission. All rights reserved.

Lutheran Resources

LCMS- Free to be Faithful
www.lcms.org/socialissues/freetobe-faithful

Lutheran Center for Religious Liberty
www.LCRLFreedom.org

Lutheran Hour Ministries
<https://www.lhm.org/>

The Lutheran Witness
<https://witness.lcms.org/>

Southeastern District, LCMS
<https://se.lcms.org/>

Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod
www.lcms.org/

Concordia Publishing House
www.cph.org/

International Lutheran Council
www.ILCouncil.org

[FROM THE EDITOR:]

How blessed we are to have the ability and freedom to virtually attend our BLC Divine Services and funerals through live-streaming when we are physically unable to attend. I took advantage of this myself twice this weekend (Jan 31/Feb 1). Remember, you, too, can “dial in” to attend virtually. Links are found on the front-page banner of this newsletter. Thank you to those who make this opportunity possible!

On another note, the April *Star* may be sent out a few days later than normal.

Did you see Pastor’s email about this? An online version of the Book of Concord is now available to reference at bookofconcord.cph.org. This resource is FREE!!



CHURCH COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

Debbie C., Recording Secretary

Our January meeting was postponed to Feb. 8.

There was a \$3568 offering surplus in 2025. We took a look at what the Voters’ Assembly determined in 2024 and decided to distribute the money thusly:

30% to LCMS – South Eastern District

30% to Concordia Theological Seminary, Ft. Wayne

10% to ACTS

10% to Cumbee Center

10% each to missionaries:

Deaconess Sandra Rhein & Rev. Jonathan Anderson who visited BLC in 2025.



The Spring Clean-up Work Day is on Saturday, March 28. Please help.

Our next meeting is scheduled for March 15, after the service.

BLC CELEBRATES!

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

Beau B
Anne H
Judy K
Liz S
Shirley F
Doug K
Dana A
Shirley F
Sharon B
Betty A
Ashley S



MARCH ANNIVERSARY

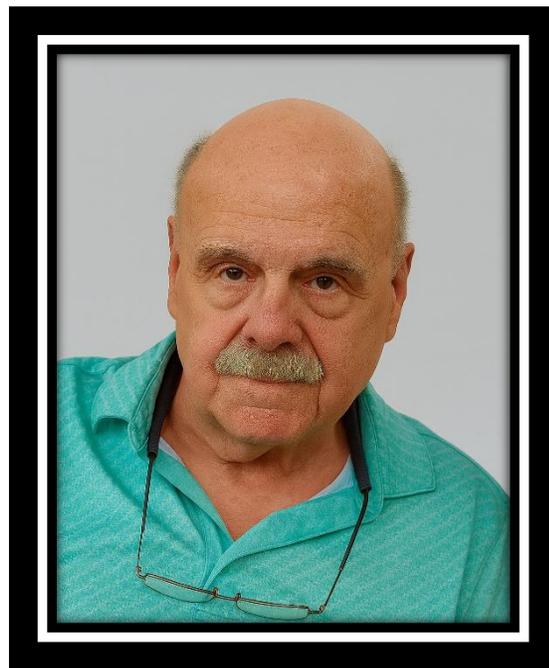
Ryan and Mary Beth B.

Contact Debbie C. to add your special occasions or to make corrections.



Jan. 11 – Installation of Council Members
Pictured with Pastor Left to Right:
Dana A. - re-elected as Treasurer, 2026-2027,
Kathy Sa. – appointed to complete 2025-2026 term,
Jonathan H. - re-elected as Property Manager, 2026-2027

CALLED HOME TO CHRIST



DENNIS S.

March 26, 1941 - January 25, 2026

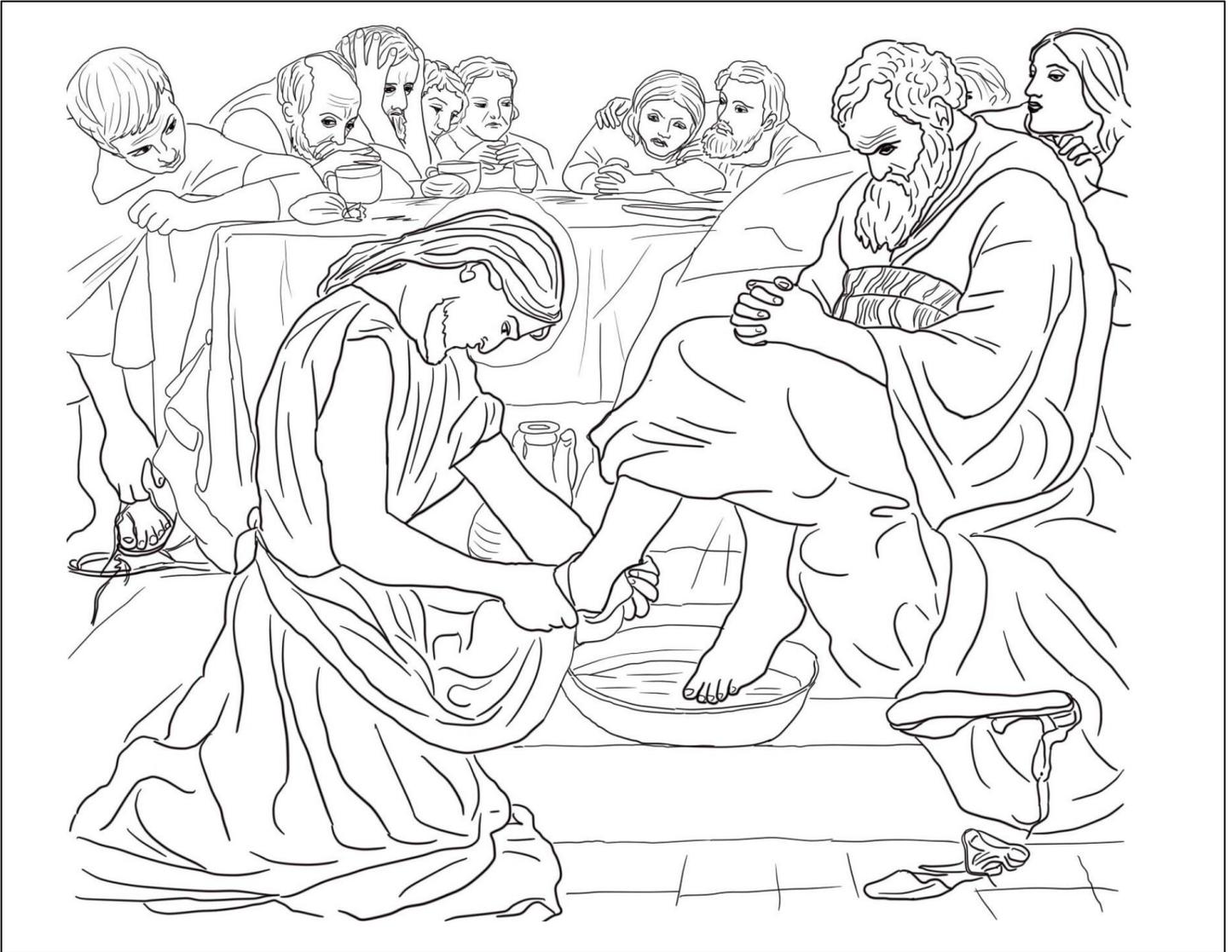
**POTLUCK
Feb. 1**



**DINING OUT
HABANERO'S, Feb. 10**



COLORING PAGE



John 11:25–26

[25] Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, [26] and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe his?” (ESV)

From March 22 Gospel Reading

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REMINDERS

PROPERTY

Contact Property Manager Jonathan H. with any questions.

The locations for two handicap spaces and the guest parking spaces have been changed for better utility. See photos.

The Spring Clean-up Work Day is on Saturday, March 28. Please help.

ACTS COLLECTION – canned fruit

FELLOWSHIP -see front page

BE IN THE WORD

- Sunday mornings at 9am
- Tuesday Women’s Bible study, 10am, resumes April 14.
- Wednesday Evening Bible study, 7pm, resumes April 15.



Easter Lily Order Form

If you desire to order an Easter lily this year, the cost will be \$15.00 each. Please complete this form and place it, along with your cash or check, in the collection plate by March 22nd. (You may also send via USP; allow time for mail delivery.)

From: _____

For: _____

Make your check payable to Bethlehem Lutheran Church and note that it is for Easter lilies.



BLC CLASSIFIEDS



To place a classified ad in the *Star*, please submit the information to me by the usual monthly deadline- noon on the 23rd day of the month. **Please use your BLC Directory for contact information.**

~DC

REFERRAL PLEASE

Which company do you recommend for automotive window tinting?

Thanks! Debbie C.

SERVICES OFFERED

Dana A. (in his "semi-retirement") now is providing residential painting services, available to members and non-members alike. He offers great work at an affordable price, with MANY references available. Services include trim, ceilings, and cabinets.

FOR SALE:

WANTED:

PERSONALS:

ETC.:

16 "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. 17 For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

From March 1 Gospel Reading

March 2026

BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN CHURCH AIKEN, SC

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 9am Bible Study 10:30 Service ACTS & TLC Meals	2	3	4 11am Service, lunch 6pm dinner 7pm Service	5 Pastor Shut-in Visits	6	7 Pastor's Day Off
8 9am Bible Study 10:30 Service	9	10	11 11am Service, lunch 6pm dinner 7pm Service	12 Pastor Shut-in Visits	13	14 Pastor's Day Off
15 9am Bible Study 10:30 Service TLC	16	17	18 11am Service, lunch 6pm dinner 7pm Service	19 Pastor Shut-in Visits	20	21 Pastor's Day Off
22 9am Bible Study 10:30 Service Potluck	23	24	25 11am Service, lunch 6pm dinner 7pm Service	26 Pastor Shut-in Visits	27	28 Church Clean Up Day Pastor's Day Off
29 9am Bible Study 10:30 Service	30	31	1	2	3	4
5	6	<i>Notes</i>				
		ACTS - canned fruit				