
BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN NEWSLETTER

Pastor Sue Sinclair

JUNE 2026

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FROM THE PASTOR...

THE BEST-SELLING BOOK OF ALL TIMES!

With 5-7 billion copies sold worldwide, nothing has surpassed the Bible. Though it is generally found bound in one volume, the Bible is not 'a book'--its name literally means "the books." These books include history, poetry, wisdom narratives, visions and letters. People of faith have gathered these holy writings over centuries.

The most recent parts of the Bible are the books of the New Testament. They were all likely written within 100 years of Christ's death. People of faith not only gathered them but also copied and shared them for generations. The earliest existing fragment of one of these copies is from the 2nd century.

Bible study helps us engage God's relationship with God's people throughout history as well as here and now in our own lives. It connects us with the experience that people of faith have had with God throughout the generations.

This summer we will have multiple opportunities to study scripture together.

I will be leading Bible Studies both at Fellowship Village on Tuesdays at 2:00 in the afternoon and at Bethlehem on Wednesday evenings at 7:00.

We will be studying some of the shortest books in the New Testament. This will give folks the opportunity to fit shorter studies into their busy summer schedules. Each book we study should fit into 1 class, making it easier to attend individual classes or the whole series.

We will begin with the 2nd & 3rd Letters of John [June 16th at FV and 17th at

Bethlehem] and follow with the 1st Letter of John in our second session [June 23rd at FV, and 24th at Bethlehem.]

Study sessions will continue after a break, picking up again beginning on July 21st/22nd.

We will be using a technique called 'Dwelling in the Word', where we will each read the assigned lesson before we gather, taking time to consider what we have read and asking ourselves these questions:

1. What in this lesson do I find powerful or important?
2. What in this lesson do I struggle with?
3. What is difficult to understand?

You'll be asked to write your thoughts down and bring them to class to share and explore together.

I hope to see you at one or more of the studies throughout the summer!

~Pastor Sue



JUNE'S SUMMER BIBLE STUDY SCHEDULE

At Fellowship Village Tuesdays at 2 or
at Bethlehem Wednesdays at 7 pm.

June 16/17 – 2nd & 3rd John

June 23/24 – 1st John

You are welcome to join whichever study time best suits your schedule!



June 28 AT 6:00 pm

Join the Inwood community for worship in the park



In Holy Baptism our gracious heavenly Father liberated us from sin and death by joining us to the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. We celebrate the June baptismal anniversaries of the following members of Bethlehem Lutheran:

WORSHIP HELPERS THIS MONTH

Usher Team: Gordon Eiesland
Reader: Kay Twedt
Altar Guild: Betty Kock, Pam Hanson

CIRCLES

Fellowship Circle Thurs., June 11, 2:00 pm

Bruce Underberg-3	Bonnie Winter-3
Scott Kock-4	Dylan Snyders-4
Easton Cartmill-5	Bev Jackson-9
Lazetta Van Den Top-9	Jim Jensen-10
Jeremy Kruse-10	Larry Van Roekel-13
Nicole Van Beek-14	Janelle Rentschler-15
Cherie Groth-15	Joy Yunker-15
Cynthia Haugland-16	William Niemeyer-18
Noah Kerkvliet-19	Landon Pottebaum-19
Tim Kroger-19	Luke Vander Sanden-20
Randy Kock-22	Kelsey McKenney-28
Dianne Eiesland-29	Ken Thiessen-29
Sue Sinclair-29	Connie Rentschler-30

SPECIAL DATES IN JUNE

May 31- 3 – Vacation Bible School
June 14 – Flag Day
June 19 - Juneteenth
June 21 – First Day of Summer
June 21 – Father's Day



4	Hope Bosler
6	Brad Standley
7	Jean Mundt
15	Randy Kippley
16	Allison Munger
17	Carter Jensen
19	Ryker Rentschler
21	Alicia Ahrendt, Megan Blankespoor
22	Stacy Bomgaars, Haley Folkens
23	Pastor Sue Sinclair
25	Ashley Kuhns
27	Benjamin Roemen, Vern Serck
29	DJ Cartmill



"I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and to the republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

Anniversary Blessings

The following couples will celebrate the gift of marriage this month by observing their wedding anniversaries:

June 1	Bob & Lori Tracy – 1985
	Carmen & Vern Van Dyke – 1981
June 2	Sam & Deb Kroger – 1985
June 3	Dan & Liza Brueggeman – 2006
June 11	Noah & Teresa Kerkvliet – 2011
June 12	Jonathan & Brenda Folkens-2004
June 15	Tom & Janelle Rentschler – 1996
June 17	Gordon & Dianne Eiesland –1967
June 22	Fred & Juanita Dreessen –1958
	Jim & Rhonda Jensen –1985
	Jessica & Reid Peterson- 2019
	Nicole & Jordan Van Beek- 2019
June 23	David & Sandy Lantz – 1984
June 28	Norm & Connie Rentschler –1969
June 29	Seth & Christy Bahnson – 2002
June 30	Randy & Michelle Kippley- 2018

GREETERS SCHEDULE

for June

June 7	Debbie Vogelzang & Virginia Beynon
June 14	Marilyn Thiessen
June 21	Dean Hage & Greg Hanson
June 28	Darrel & Pat Bonnema



7 – Edison

14 – Brielle

21 – Macy

28 – Easton



Virginia Beynon, Tamra & Anthony, Holly Rozeboom, Nathan Huyser, Bev Jackson, Matt, Kendra Michael, Austin, Erin Van Der Brink and Hazel Mae, McKenna Bouwman, Holly Horstman, Arnie Van Voorst, Arlyn Schreurs, Don Eiesland, Wayne Kollis, Michelle Johnson, Tashina, Jim, Anna, Mark, Lori and all our Nursing Home residents (Joy, Marion, Bev B, Jean M. Connie, June)



Summer Coffee Sign-up

There is a sign-up sheet in the fellowship hall, for summer coffee hour (strictly volunteer). If you sign up and it's for a special occasion, please notify the office so it can be put in the bulletin. If no one signs up for a Sunday but you want to start the coffee pot, let Pastor know so she can announce there will be coffee after the service.



Western Iowa Synod Prayers for June

A prayer for purpose

Gracious God, it is easy to get busy and forget why we are here. Remind us that our lives are not just for ourselves. Give us eyes to see the needs around us and hearts willing to act. Help us find our purpose not in what we achieve, but in how we love. May everything we do this day serve someone else's good. Amen.

A prayer for children and teens

Loving God, our children and teenagers carry more than we sometimes know. The world can feel big and hard and confusing. Draw close to every young person in our synod today. Calm the anxious hearts. Heal the wounded ones. Give them trusted people to turn to, and remind them that they are never too much and never too little for your love. Amen.

A prayer for safe travels

God of every road and river, summer sets us in motion. We go to see family, to rest, to explore, to serve. Watch over all who travel the highways and backroads of this season. Keep them alert and safe. Bring them home — or wherever they are headed — in good time and good health. And may every journey remind us that we are always in your care. Amen.

A prayer for peace

Prince of Peace, we need you close. Our homes are not always peaceful.

Our communities hold more hurt than we like to admit. Our state, our nation, and our world are full of noise and conflict and fear. So we ask you to do what only you can do — enter the hard places and bring your peace. Start in our own hearts. Work outward from there. Use us as your instruments. Amen.

Thank You For Your Generosity

To the people and congregations of the Western Iowa Synod. Thank you so much for your generous offerings for this year's Synod Assembly. Together you raised around \$17,054.33. We will accept additional offerings through the end of May. Please indicate that they are for the Assembly Offering. This year's offering is being divided between ongoing support of our popular Pig Project as well as supporting the development of future rostered leaders. We're particularly excited to report that your Pig Project dollars are already hard at work, with 2 batches of pigs already processed and distributed since Assembly. Thank you all.



May 2026

No minutes were turned in.



BLC MISSION STATEMENT:

“To welcome all people to seek and serve God as members of the Body of Christ.”

BLC VISION STATEMENT:

We will be:

A welcoming Church:

Opening our doors and hearts to all who enter.

A Church that seeks after the heart of God:

Maturing in faith.

Trusting His word.

Living God's love.

A Church that is committed to one another:

Through fellowship.

Through love and service.

Through grace and forgiveness.

A Church that ministers to the world around us.

A Church that brings its gifts back to God:

Through good stewardship of time, talent, and treasures.

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