



A Publication of Bethlehem Lutheran Church - Aloha, OR

Ash  
Wednesday

February 18  
10:30a | 6:30p

#### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

SCHOOL NEWS - 3
LAND OF OZ - 4
YOUTH & CHILDREN - 4
OUTREACH - 6
BIBLE STUDIES- 7
CALENDAR - 8
SERVICE ROSTER - 9
CHILDREN'S ACTIVITY - 10
BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES - 11



Bethlehem  
Lutheran Church & Preschool

#### Bethlehem Mission Statement

*"Building the family of God through  
relationship with Jesus Christ."*



# The Creeds

I Believe - Ich Glaube - Credo - Πιστεύω

Sundays | 9:45a  
Led by Eli Plopper

Have you ever zoned out while saying the Nicene or Apostles' Creed? Me too. But we're missing out! If you'd like to give some thought to the words we say every week in church, or if you've ever wondered if it really is true that the creeds are "the story of our faith" as the famous Pastor Phil says, then this class is for you. We'll touch on the origins of the creeds and some reasons we say them. Most important, we'll spend some time thinking about how each part encourages us to know God who gives us the grace to follow him. "To state it quite briefly, the Creed teaches us to know Him fully. This is intended to help us do what we ought to do according the Ten Commandments." Luther - the Large Catechism

## Prayer Pause

Mondays @ 7:30pm

Take a moment and join your Bethlehem family as  
we pray for our church and the call process.

Check your email Mondays at noon.



# PRESCHOOL NEWS

WRITTEN BY LAIVA HOFFMAN, DIRECTOR

Registration for the 2026-2027 school year is now open! Our Preschool 3's program will be held on Tuesdays and Thursdays. To qualify for the Preschool 3's Program children must be 3 years-old by September 1<sup>st</sup>. Our families have a choice between two options for their PreK 4's. We will again offer our traditional program which is 3 days a week, and we are offering our 5 day a week program again. To qualify for the PreKindergarten 4's Program children must be 4 years-old by September 1<sup>st</sup>. If you know of any friends or neighbors who may be interested in our program please have them call Jane or Laiva for more information or schedule a tour.

Also, we are looking for a new aide to join our team for the rest of the school year starting near the end of March. If you, or someone you know would be interested in something like that please let Laiva know her cell is 503-515-6855.



**Bethlehem Lutheran  
Preschool**

971.394.4387

Blp-aloha.com

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18865 SW Johnson St  
Aloha, OR 97003

# FOREST HILLS NEWS



Visit the website  
[www.fhlcs.org](http://www.fhlcs.org)



**Forest Hills Lutheran  
Christian School**

503.359.4853

[www.fhlcs.org](http://www.fhlcs.org)

[info@fhlcs.org](mailto:info@fhlcs.org)

4221 SW Golf Course Rd  
Cornelius, OR 97113



WRITTEN BY ERIC OSWALD, DCE



Dear Bethlehem,

Last Sunday we called a pastor! Pastor David Gruenwald, in St Louis, has received some information and has already come up with a few ideas what next steps are and his family is praying about the call.

Please keep the call process in your prayers over the coming weeks. The call committee did a ton of work to get to this point so thanks to Heather for leading us and the rest of her team including- Ivan, Naomi, Eli, Wayne, John, and Toby. It took since August to get to this point and years of work before that. I'm sure there will be more news in the coming weeks. We are blessed that in February we should have Pastor Phil with us for most of the month. We will have District President Von Behren joining us on February 22nd to lead services. We may have a Lenten rotation on Wednesday for different Pastors in the area to rotate through, but that's still in the works. Pastor Phil will be here for Ash Wednesday and we will have potluck meals around the services after the 10:30am service and before the 6:30am service. Those start on Ash Wednesday February 18th. If you call or stop by the office- Mary has now switched her hours to work Tuesday through Friday. Joel is now Monday through Thursday and that's when you can find me bopping around as well. On February 8th- Eli Plopper will lead us in adult Bible study on Sunday mornings that will last over a month or so. Oregon Trail Trivia is coming March 6th- doors open at 6:30pm and 7pm we begin! Look for more details to come but we will have the surf house to auction off and Blazers box tickets to

raffle off as well. Come join the fun!

What on earth does all that mean? Well we are still a very active church and ministry is still happening. Hopefully we can get into a groove! If not I'm very impressed by how this round of the call process went. We had great candidates and great response from Bethlehem on them. Lord willing we will have a pastor who takes our call- but even if not I'm sure ministry will happen and we will figure out the next step. Surely God is with us- He is Emmanuel! The past 4 months have been some of the most abnormal of my ministry, and I dare say even as a country it's been a very abnormal time. We have had a voter's meeting, random pastors for months, and even added two 99 inch screens to the sanctuary-without complaint. The only concern I've heard on the screens is that we should use them more! I'm glad you've been able to be okay with the needed changes and inconsistencies. God is continuing to work to make things come together smoothly. Thank you for helping to make things go smoothly as well. I hope you can see all the work God is doing here too.

Keep praying for Bethlehem, where Jesus meets His Family, and that includes you! I pray we all meet Jesus here often and encourage others to do the same!

God bless,  
Eric OswaldDCE

## YOUTH & CHILDREN NEWS

### Youth:

Youth nights for those in 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade will be Sundays from 5:30-7:30pm. Also we're heading to Lutherhaven in July 5<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup>- talk to Eric for more details on both of those things!



# SERVICE TEAM NOTES

## Service Team Notes for February 2026 Star

Thanks to all who participated in our January blood drive. This was our 30<sup>th</sup> blood drive in this century. We collected sixteen units during a severe blood shortage making our grand total 813 Units. An official thankyou from the American Red Cross is posted in the bulletin board. The Red Cross has proposed our next drive for September.

For those wondering about our Operation Christmas Child boxes, all forty-one boxes sent from Bethlehem were shipped to our neighbors in Mexico. Thanks for supporting the Operations Christmas Child Ministry. For 2025, Operation Christmas Child delivered 12,205,900 shoebox gifts worldwide. We are looking forward to continuing our shoebox ministry in 2026. Building boxes throughout the year by collecting items when you can get them cheap or for free is the best way to maximize your gift. A flier showing when is the best times to get various shoebox items is posted in the fellowship hall. You can pack them one at a time when you have marshalled sufficient supplies. Boxes are available to fill all year—just ask.

As always, bring your questions or suggestions to Barb Bernard, Mary Loseke, Heather Cammack, or Greg Geist. Input from Bethlehem members is always welcome. Thanks once again to all who donated or volunteered in Jesus' name for 2025

and wishing all a blessed and Happy New year!

Peace be with you,

Your Service Team



## LWML

Ladies gathered for a luncheon/meeting

Business:

- 1) Oregon District Convention will be held in Roseburg on June 26-28. Scholarships are available and there is a deadline of 1/31/26 to submit them.
- 2) Update on our sponsored student at Concordia Seminary. Part of the monetary donation has been paid. We also heard they welcomed a new baby. We plan to send a baby quilt to them.

Our next meeting will be Feb 19, 2026 at 11:30. Bring a salad or dessert and join us.

**NEXT MEETING: Feb 19 @ 11:30a**

Bring a salad or a dessert and join us!



**Lutheran  
Women  
in Mission**

## LOVE INC NEWS

Our **free** Restoring Hope classes offer learning opportunities for practical skills and life-giving concepts around an array of topics, from goal setting to budgeting. (Includes free dinner and childcare available.)

The classes are available to anyone residing within the Hillsboro School District boundaries or attending a Love INC partner church and allow Love INC families to engage with a facilitator and other class members in order to grow mentally and spiritually.

This spring, we will be offering Faith & Finances beginning March 5.

Learn more about the class or sign up for the class on our [website](#).



**Greater  
Hillsboro**





## Young Adult Bible Study

2nd & 4th Mondays

6:30p | Youth Room

For those in the 18-29 age range.



## Men's Bible Study

1st & 3rd Mondays

6:30p | The Inn

# The Creeds

I Believe - Ich Glaube - Credo - Πιστεύω

Sundays | 9:45a

Led by Eli Plopper



## February 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b> Youth Retreat 8:30am Traditional Worship Service w/Communion 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am Morning Song Worship Service 4:30pm Serene & Clean NA Group (Sonrise)	<b>2</b> 9:30am Quilting 3:00pm TOPS Meeting (Inn) 5:00pm AA Group (Sonrise) 6:30pm Men's Bible Study (Inn)	<b>3</b> 7:00pm Elder's Mtg (Inn) 7:00pm Guide Dogs (CC) 7:00pm Men's AA (Sonrise)	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> 6:30pm Adult Choir (Inn)	<b>6</b> 7:00pm AA Meeting (Sonrise)	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> "Mite Box" Sunday 8:30am Traditional Worship Service 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am Morning Song Worship Service w/ Communion 4:30pm Serene & Clean NA Group (Sonrise) 5:30pm Youth Night!	<b>9</b> 9:30am Quilting 3:00pm TOPS Meeting (Inn) 5:00pm AA Group (Sonrise) 6:30pm Young Adult Bible Study (Yth Rm) 7:00pm Women's Bible Study (CC)	<b>10</b> 7:00pm Admin Council (Inn) 7:00pm Guide Dogs (CC) 7:00pm Men's AA (Sonrise)	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> 10:00am Aloha Garden Club (CC) 6:30pm Adult Choir (Inn)	<b>13</b> 7:00pm AA Meeting (Sonrise)	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b> 8:30am Traditional Worship Service w/Communion 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am Morning Song Worship Service 4:30pm Serene & Clean NA Group (Sonrise) 5:30pm Youth Night!	<b>16</b> 9:30am Quilting 3:00pm TOPS Meeting (Inn) 5:00pm AA Group (Sonrise) 6:30pm Men's Bible Study (Inn)	<b>17</b> 7:00pm Guide Dogs (CC) 7:00pm Men's AA (Sonrise) 7:00pm Trustees Meeting (Inn)	<b>18</b> ASH WEDNESDAY 10:30am Ash Wednesday Morning Service 6:30pm Ash Wednesday Evening Service	<b>19</b> 11:30am LWML Meeting (Sonrise) 6:30pm Adult Choir (Inn)	<b>20</b> 7:00pm AA Meeting (Sonrise) 7:00pm WM Tea Party Set Up	<b>21</b> 1:30pm Women's Ministry Tea Party (FH)
<b>22</b> 8:30am Traditional Worship Service 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am Morning Song Worship Service w/ Communion 4:30pm Serene & Clean NA Group (Sonrise) 5:30pm Youth Night!	<b>23</b> 9:30am Quilting 3:00pm TOPS Meeting (Inn) 5:00pm AA Group (Sonrise) 6:30pm Young Adult Bible Study (Yth Rm) 7:00pm Women's Bible Study (CC)	<b>24</b> 7:00pm Guide Dogs (CC) 7:00pm Men's AA (Sonrise)	<b>25</b> 10:30am Morning Lenten Service 6:30pm Evening Lenten Service	<b>26</b> 12:30pm Book Club (Inn) 6:30pm Adult Choir (Inn)	<b>27</b> 10:00am Comforts of Home 6:30pm Folk Dancing (CC) 7:00pm AA Meeting (Sonrise)	<b>28</b>





## Bethlehem Lutheran Church

### SERVICE ROSTER FOR FEBRUARY 2026



	Feb 1	Feb 8	Feb 15	Feb 22
Eternal Candle	Sponsored this month by Richard & Karen Danielson, "In honor of February family birthdays."			
Altar Flowers	Marjie Johnson	Richard & Karen Danielson		
Elder on Duty 8:30 11:00	Joel Prusi Bob Baker	Terry Beale Dennis Fredrick	Joel Prusi Ivan Weichbrodt	John Loseke Dennis Fredrick
Acolytes 8:30 11:00	Axel Pfund Ezra Pfund  Erik Agard	Anna Van Altvorst Clara Plopper  Anna Hoffman	Henry Davis Jillian Davis  Erik Agard	Spike Van Altvorst Thomas Williams  Anna Hoffman
Lay Reader 8:30 11:00	Greg Geist Jeff Hoffman	Dave Cook Eric Oswald	Martha Browning Mark Leinhos	Heather Cammack Becky Oswald
Ushers 8:30 11:00	Darrell Hagen Greg Starts  Charles Finster Trevor Hoffman	Lee Kauth  Trevor Hoffman Lorna Zimbrick	Dave Dubberke Nan Dubberke  Charles Finster Ken Feldhaus	Darrell Hagen Lee Kauth  Gayna Flake Lil Harn
Communion Servers 8:30 11:00	John Loseke	Matt Boelter	Greg Starts  Mark Leinhos	Bob Baker
Altar Guild Set Up Clean Up	Heather Cammack Lisa Siewert	Kay Starts Sharon Werner	Nan Dubberke Lee Kauth	Kathryn Plopper Lorna Zimbrick
Organist @ 8:30	Phyllis Murken	Dwight Siewert	Phyllis Murken	Dwight Siewert
	4th Sunday After the Epiphany	5th Sunday After the Epiphany	The Transfiguration Of Our Lord	1st Sunday In Lent



LOVED  
Beyond  
ME A SURE



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# ANNIVERSARIES



Feb 1 Dennis and Sandy Fredrick (61)

Feb 16 Richard and Deanna Gohl (41)

# BIRTHDAYS

Feb 2 Michael Pickens

Feb 4 Bob McLaughlin

Feb 4 Ezra Pfund

Feb 5 Megan Allen

Feb 5 Becky Healy

Feb 6 Richard Danielson

Feb 7 Jared Beale

Feb 7 Jennifer Jenkins

Feb 7 Elliott Williams

Feb 8 Connie Leinhos

Feb 9 Josie Larson

Feb 10 Henry Davis

Feb 10 Amy Hoffman

Feb 10 Ivan Weichbrodt

Feb 11 Peter Heck

Feb 11 Ellie Plopper

Feb 12 Devon Stiteler

Feb 13 Donna McMeekan

Feb 14 Jeff Hoffman

Feb 14 Lorna Zimbrick

Feb 15 Amberly Gohl

Feb 15 Lauren Starts

Feb 16 Deanna Gohl

Feb 17 Kristin Agard

Feb 19 Edel Sigrist

Feb 20 Chris Meinicke

Feb 22 Naomi Beale

Feb 23 Karen Danielson

Feb 25 Esther Altig-Reynolds

Feb 25 Alfred Loseke

Feb 26 Tina Feldhaus

Feb 27 Chris Smeby

Feb 29 Sullivan Hoffman



February  
BIRTHDAYS

Bethlehem Lutheran  
Church & Preschool  
18865 SW Johnson St.  
Aloha, OR 97003-3164  
[www.blcfamily.org](http://www.blcfamily.org)



## We Worship

Live-Streamed & In-Person  
Sundays 8:30am & 11:00am  
[www.BLCfamily.org/bethlehem-online](http://www.BLCfamily.org/bethlehem-online)

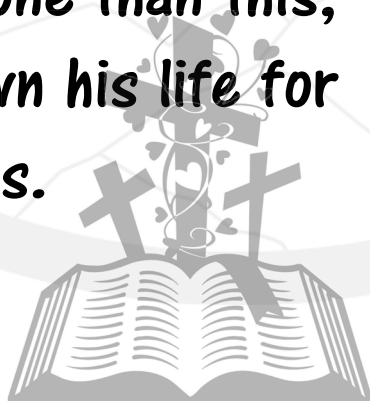
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Bethlehem Lutheran  
Church & Preschool

**Greater love has no one than this,  
that someone lay down his life for  
his friends.**

-John 15:13-  
ESV



Youth & Children  
Worship Coord.  
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