



**Bethlehem Lutheran Church and School**  
“We seek to honor and glorify the Triune God by sharing our faith in Jesus Christ as man’s only Savior.”

## The Bethlehem STAR—August 2017

from **8 Things We Can Learn from Augustine**

November 16, 2015 by Crossway

This is from a post by Gerald Bray, author of *Augustine on the Christian Life: Transformed by the Power of God*.

St. Augustine (13November354-28August430) taught the church that God is a Trinity of love. He certainly did not invent the idea that God is love; that is clearly stated in the New Testament (1John 4:15). Nor did he construct the doctrine of the Trinity, which he inherited from both his Greek and his Latin forebears.

What Augustine did—in a way that nobody before him had managed—was to bring the two things together. Love cannot exist on its own because it is not a thing or an attribute possessed by a thing. In other words, God cannot be love unless there is something for him to love. But if that something were not part of himself, he would not be perfect. The Bible does not teach us that God needed the creation in order to have something to love, because if that were true, he could not be fully himself without it. So Augustine reasoned that God must be love inside himself. To his mind, the Father is the one who loves, the Son is the one who is loved (the “beloved Son” revealed in the baptism of Jesus), and the Holy Spirit is the love that flows between them and binds them together. It is in the Spirit, moreover, who binds believers to God and makes us partakers by adoption of that love which is intrinsic to the Trinity’s being.

By understanding God in this way, Augustine not only explained the Trinity but made it a necessary part of the divine being. Without the Triune framework, God would not be the love that the New Testament said he was. Moreover, said Augustine, the inner necessity of a Triune divinity can be seen in the composition of human beings, who are created in his image and likeness. The fact that our minds possess memory, intellect, and will—all of which can be distinguished but not separated, and which are all equally important if we are to love God, our neighbors, and ourselves as we are called to do—is additional evidence of the coherence of the Creator and his creation.

*By His Grace,*

*David Tuttle*

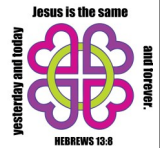
*Elder*

# School News

## It's All About Jesus

*"Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and tomorrow and forever."*

Hebrews 13:8 is the theme verse for the 2017-2018 school year. Jesus Christ and his presence in our classrooms makes us unique. In our ever-changing world, Jesus is our constant. Jesus is our focus and our joy. We look forward to celebrating Jesus in all we say and do this year.



## Bethlehem Lutheran School Teachers and Staff for 2017-2018

The following people will be dedicated to be the hands and feet of Jesus to the children and their parents for this school year on Sunday, August 20. You are encouraged to pray early and often for these people who represent Bethlehem Lutheran Church to the little children each day. May God bless these servants in their school ministry as they represent us.

Principal	Mrs. Beth Landon
Office Manager/Spanish teacher	Mrs. Michelle Zulfer
Art and Music (K-3) teacher	Mrs. Emily Illich
Band Director	Mr. Tommy Beeker
Preschool	Mrs. Bonnie Fugate
Preschool Aide	Miss Rebekah Hitzeman
Kindergarten	Mrs. Kim Thatcher
First Grade	Mrs. Paula Versen
Second Grade	Miss Mariah Bledsoe
Third Grade	Miss Kimberly Brown
Fourth Grade	Mrs. Susan Blackman
Grades 5-7	Mrs. Katelyn (Versen) Lloyd & Aaron Trincado
Extended Care	Ms. Donna Oda

## Middle School Continues to Grow

The School Board and the parents are delighted that we will enlarge the presence of our middle school to the scope of Bethlehem in 2017-2018. After a two year absence, we added grade 7 back into the mix of grades.



**Middle School**  
Notes

The School Board has hired Mr. Aaron Trincado to work with Mrs. Katelyn (Versen) Lloyd to teach these upper grade students.

Praise be to God for His faithfulness to the ministry of His school here in Fairborn through Bethlehem Lutheran Church! All glory be to God!

## Close but Not Quite

Mr. Crosby and his crew of merry workers are hard at work getting the classrooms readied for students. Repairs are being finished. Walls are getting new paint. Furniture is moving in and out of classrooms. Floors are being scrubbed and waxed.



The School Board has also had a busy summer. Jobs have been posted. Resumes read, interviews conducted and contracts extended. With all full-time positions filled, there are just a few part-time positions where interviews are still being held.

As you can see, all things are progressing along and with lots of continued hard work, we will be ready for the first day of school on August 23.

## Call for Band Instruments

All students in grades 4-7 will be a part of the band this year. Students will either be in the Beginning Band or Advanced Band. Mr. Beeker will be using the joy of making music to teach students about music, music theory and being a part of a music team.



While students may choose any instrument they like for band, the school will be assisting students who choose to play flute, clarinet, trumpet or trombone.

We are looking for flutes, clarinets, trumpets and trombones in good working order for students. We don't want any child to miss this wonderful opportunity due to the lack of an instrument. If you have one of these instruments that is ready for a new user, contact the school office and we will work out a pick-up plan. Thank you for supporting this brain research proven benefit to students.

## Parking Lot Transformed into Play Area

If you come to church/school on school days, you will notice that our parking lot is blocked off and used as a play area during the school day from 11:00 am - 12:30 pm (school recess) and again from 3:30-5:00 pm (Extended Care).

Students use the playground and asphalt for physical activity. If you come to church/school during these time frames, please park in the spaces as you enter the parking lot from Maple Avenue.



## Public School Bus in our Parking Lot



Bethlehem has students who are riding the Fairborn City School bus either to or from school. The morning bus drops off students by the school entrance in the back of the building. If you are here in the morning, please try to avoid parking in the handicap spot on the turn in the drive. The bus has a difficult turn to make if a vehicle is sitting there.

In the afternoon the bus arrives about 3:07 and stops in the drive on the south side of the school. If you are leaving at this time, you may be forced to wait for a few moments while students are loaded. While it can be inconvenient, this free bus service makes it possible for some students to attend Bethlehem.

## 5 Books Every Parent (Lutheran) Should Read

PASTOR JOE WILLMANN, CONCORDIA PUBLISHING HOUSE, JUNE 19, 2017

I can hear it now . . . “You’re a funny guy, Joe.”

“5 books I should read?” you’ll say. “You realize I have children, right?”

I get it. We are all busy. Some words and phrases to describe it might be: tired, overwhelmed, busy, messy, up to my eyeballs, just trying to keep my head above water, etc.

I get it—I’m there too. You read from the Bible and the Small Catechism and sing hymns with your family. By the time you get the little ones to bed, the last thing you want to do is pick up a book that engages your brain in thought. Most of us (me included) would rather just drift away into something mindless.

While I would be lying if I told you these books didn’t engage your brain (they do quite the opposite), I can tell you that these books are a joy to read and they will help you sharpen not only your apologetic understanding of the faith, but they will also help sharpen your teaching ability at home.

### *Spirituality of the Cross* by Gene Edward Veith

This revised edition of the book is not only a quick and easy read, it is an important read. For those of us who are looking for a picture of what the Christian life is, *Spirituality of the Cross* will help you understand your role in the world as one redeemed by Christ the crucified.

### *Pastoral Theology* by C. F. W. Walther

Yes, I put a book on the list titled *Pastoral Theology*. Yes, I understand most of you are not pastors (well, fathers are the pastor of their household, but that is an entirely different discussion). No, this is not a mistake.

*Pastoral Theology* is one of the great treasures that Walther left the church. As a handbook for men in the Office of the Holy Ministry, it is a very practical resource. For parents and all Lutherans, it does a masterful job of teaching about what we believe, where those beliefs are defended in Scripture, and how that informs the practice of the church. With this knowledge, you will be prepared to teach these important concepts to your family, as well as encourage your pastor in his vocation!

### *Will the Real Jesus Please Stand Up?: 12 False Christs*

by Rev. Dr. Matthew Richard

This book is masterful in its storytelling and in its teaching. In our world today, we are constantly bombarded with false teachings about who Christ is. Rev. Richard does a wonderful job explaining these false teachings and giving you example scenarios that you might encounter in your life. This book will provide you with the knowledge to discern false teaching and protect your family from it!

*Why I Am a Lutheran* by Rev. Daniel Preus

The title says it all. This book will help you start to wrap your brain around why we believe what we believe. It is a short book and a quick read. This book will help you teach your children about what we believe as they start asking you important questions about our faith.

*Man Up!: The Quest for Masculinity* by Rev. Jeffrey Hemmer and  
*LadyLike: Living Biblically* by Rebekah Curtis and Rose Adle

Ok, I cheated. There are six books on the list. These two, however, are good for really diving in and understanding our vocations as men and women in this world. *Man Up!* has such an earthy delivery that every guy will love it, while *LadyLike* does not shy away from being counter-cultural and embracing the Biblical vocation of womanhood.

To be honest, this list could go on for days. Maybe that means that I'll have to write another post in the future called *5 MORE Books Every Parent Should Read*. This list isn't meant to be complete or definitive. No, the point of this list is to be a starting block and an encouragement for you to rejoice in what we preach, teach, and confess as you teach your children.

God's blessings as you teach the faith once for all, delivered to the saints (Jude 1:3).



*The Installation of  
Rev. Keith F. Witte  
August 27, 2017 3pm*

Please join the Ohio District of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod as it installs Rev. Keith F. Witte as the undershepherd of Bethlehem Lutheran Church. The installation service will be in the sanctuary at 3 pm on Sunday, August 27, 2017.

Also, please join us for a reception for Pastor Witte and his family in the Fellowship Hall immediately following the installation service.



## BLESSINGS ON YOUR BIRTHDAY

### August Birthdays

Derek Smith .....	1
Veronica Smith	
Elayna Humphreys .....	4
Dennis Whitt .....	5
Sandy Hensley .....	7
Nancy Meech	
Sherry Matsel .....	10
Helga Clark .....	13
David Benoy .....	14
George Caraway	
Kris Haggerty	
Henry Olcott	
Emilie Humphreys .....	20
Tom Tressler	
Dale Green .....	21
Rebekah Hitzeman	
Leslie Lindsey	
Joe Clark .....	23
Kenzi Marlette	
Otha Lowe .....	24
Sarah Tangeman	
Erika Hoganson .....	25
Louise Durrenberg .....	31



Theresa Thompson .....	1
John Nowicki .....	4
Nancy Beaty .....	15
Dawn Robinson .....	22
Andrea Tuttle	
David Hemphill .....	25
Jim Hensley .....	27

George Caraway

Carl Durrenberg

Roger Guernsey

Bruce Hellickson

Dave & Loretta Johanson



Melita Murphy

Jean & Dawn Robinson

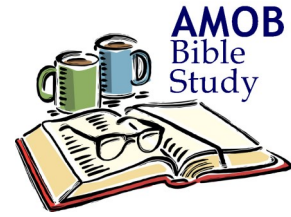
Marilyn Scheu

Lynn Wolaver



### August Anniversaries

Jeff & Joyce Stapleton .....	3
Tom & Carol Bruesewitz .....	13
David & Brenda Hemphill .....	15
Steve & Bonnie Fugate .....	17
Tom & Stella Holcombe .....	20
Louis & Melita Murphy .....	22
Jamie & Paulette Hensley .....	27
John & Pat Nowicki	
James & Beth Bier .....	31



### **All Men of Bethlehem**

**(AMOB):** The monthly breakfast and Bible Study is Saturday, August 12<sup>th</sup> at 8 am in the Fellowship Hall. Please join your brothers in Christ for physical and spiritual nourishment.



**The Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML)** will meet at 9 am on Saturday, August 12<sup>th</sup> in the Fellowship Hall. This is our annual workshop of cleaning the kitchen and nursery. We will also be organizing the VBS/Sunday School store room. Please bring your favorite cleaning supplies and spend some time with your sisters in Christ, fellowshiping and polishing the premises.

# The Bethlehem STAR

August 2017

Bethlehem Lutheran Church & School  
1240 S. Maple Avenue, Fairborn, OH 45324  
*The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod*

2017-18 School  
Year Begins:

BETHLEHEM  
Lutheran  
School



Orientation:

Grade School —August 21, 6 pm  
Preschool—August 25, either  
9 am or 5 pm

Address Correction Requested

## Church Office

Phone: (937) 878-0651  
FAX: (937) 878-8794  
Email: bethlehem7@aol.com  
Web Page—www.Bethlehem7.org

## School Office

Phone: (937) 878-7050  
Email: bethlehemschool@aol.com  
Web Page—www.mybethlehemschool.com  
Mrs. Beth Landon, Principal

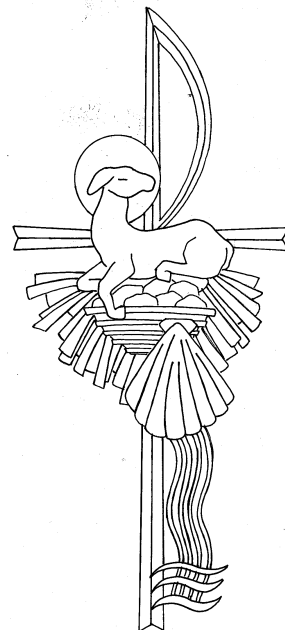
## Sunday

**Worship Services at 8:00 & 10:45 a.m.**  
**Sunday School & Bible Classes at 9:30 a.m.**

## Wednesday

Bible Study at 9:30 a.m.  
Chapel Matins Service at 8:45 a.m. (when school is in session)  
Lenten Service at 7 pm

**September 2017 issue deadline: Sunday, August 20<sup>th</sup>.**



"We seek to honor and glorify the Triune God by sharing our faith in Jesus Christ as man's only Savior."