



# **BETHLEHEM UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

11608 Lax Chapel Road - Kiel, WI 53042  
Phone: 920.894.3332

Email: [BethUCCKiel@outlook.com](mailto:BethUCCKiel@outlook.com)

Follow Bethlehem UCC on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/bucckiel/>

or Bethlehem's website at [www.bethlehemkiel.org](http://www.bethlehemkiel.org)

CCLI Copyright and Streaming Lic # 11640740 and CSPL193734

**Sunday, January 25, 2026**

**Third Sunday after Epiphany**

**Worship Leader: Rev. Randy Koppenhaver**

**Musician: Polly Jeanty**

The white peace candle on the altar is lit in solidarity with all peoples of the world affected by armed conflict, civil war, oppression, tyranny, exploitation and discrimination. God, bring them peace.

**\*= Please rise in body or spirit**

**CENTERING BREATH PRAYER:** as you inhale, say the first part of the prayer to yourself, and say the second part as you exhale. Repeat 5x

***The Lord is my stronghold :: of whom should I be afraid?***

**RINGING OF THE BELLS**

**CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP**

**O star of wonder, star of night, Star with royal beauty bright  
Westward leading, still proceeding, Guide us to thy perfect light**

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PRELUDE**

**CALL TO WORSHIP:**

The Lord is our light and salvation.

**We will not be afraid.**

Behold the beauty of the Lord!

**God will shelter us on any day of trouble and set us high upon a rock.**

Let God's people shout for joy!

**For Christ calls us and claims us as his own.**

Come and worship in unity and love; let us rejoice together!

\*OPENING PRAYER:

**Gracious God,**

**you are our light and our salvation,**

**you are peace and you are grace,**

**you are healing and you are love.**

**You send comfort and courage to relieve our tears and fears**

**in the shadows of fear and doubt.**

**And you call us to lives of meaning and to follow you**

**in your ways of justice, truth and goodness.**

**We offer our praise in love and loyalty**

**for you are always with us. Amen.**

\*OPENING HYMN #550

"All are Welcome"

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

**1 Corinthians 1:10-18**

10 Now I encourage you, brothers and sisters, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ: Agree with each other and don't be divided into rival groups. Instead, be restored with the same mind and the same purpose. 11 My brothers and sisters, Chloe's people gave me some information about you, that you're fighting with each other. 12 What I mean is this: that each one of you says, "I belong to Paul," "I belong to Apollos," "I belong to Cephas," "I belong to Christ."

13 Has Christ been divided? Was Paul crucified for you, or were you baptized in Paul's name? 14 Thank God that I didn't baptize any of you, except Crispus and Gaius, 15 so that nobody can say that you were baptized in my name! 16 Oh, I baptized the house of Stephanas too. Otherwise, I don't know if I baptized anyone else. 17 Christ didn't send me to baptize but to preach the good news. And Christ didn't send me to preach the good news with clever words so that Christ's cross won't be emptied of its meaning.

18 The message of the cross is foolishness to those who are being destroyed. But it is the power of God for those of us who are being saved.

## Matthew 4:12-23

<sup>12</sup> Now when Jesus heard that John was arrested, he went to Galilee. <sup>13</sup> He left Nazareth and settled in Capernaum, which lies alongside the sea in the area of Zebulun and Naphtali. <sup>14</sup> This fulfilled what Isaiah the prophet said:

<sup>15</sup> *Land of Zebulun and land of Naphtali,*

*alongside the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles,*

<sup>16</sup> *the people who lived in the dark have seen a great light,*

*and a light has come upon those who lived in the region and in shadow of death.*<sup>[a]</sup>

<sup>17</sup> From that time Jesus began to announce, “Change your hearts and lives! Here comes the kingdom of heaven!”

<sup>18</sup> As Jesus walked alongside the Galilee Sea, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew, throwing fishing nets into the sea, because they were fishermen. <sup>19</sup> “Come, follow me,” he said, “and I’ll show you how to fish for people.” <sup>20</sup> Right away, they left their nets and followed him. <sup>21</sup> Continuing on, he saw another set of brothers, James the son of Zebedee and his brother John. They were in a boat with Zebedee their father repairing their nets. Jesus called them and <sup>22</sup> immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

<sup>23</sup> Jesus traveled throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues. He announced the good news of the kingdom and healed every disease and sickness among the people.

RANDY’S TOWN HALL

\*HYMN #495

“We are One in the Spirit”

INVITATION TO GENEROSITY

OFFERTORY At Bethlehem United Church of Christ, we collect TWO offerings each Sunday. Our regular operational offering is collected in the wooden plate. In the metal cans, we collect loose change and small bills for a monthly designated benevolent collection. January’s Jingle Change supports Bethlehem’s Mission Fund.

\*OFFERTORY RESPONSE: Tune: Doxology

**Oh God, may we who bear your name, By gentle love your grace proclaim.  
Christ's gift of peace on earth declare, And your anointing Spirit share.  
Amen**

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**Gracious God, we offer you our gifts with humble hearts. Each gift seems small on its own, so bless each one and those of your people throughout the Church. Through the work of your Holy Spirit, surprise us with all that our gifts can accomplish, in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

PRAYER CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER...THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

SUNG PRAYER RESPONSE #403 "Lord, Listen to your Children Praying"

**Lord, listen to your children praying, Lord, send your Spirit in this place;  
Lord, listen to your children praying, Send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.**

BENEDICTION/COMMISSIONING

POSTLUDE

BUSINESS MEETING

**Bethlehem Announcements:**

- Chili Supper Tickets Available – packets of 10 tickets for the February 4, 2026 Chili Supper are available in the Fellowship Hall. Please sign out any packets you take. If you'd like less than 10 please see Kaye Radder. Payment is due by Feb 4.
- The mission trip will take place March 22-28. We will travel to eastern Kentucky to serve God's people who were subject to flooding last year. The cost is \$90 for lodging + travel expenses. Members of several area UCC churches will be going and we'd love YOU to

join us! Our final participant list needs to be submitted by March 1. Please commit asap. Contact Pastor Randy with questions.

- The annual meeting for the WI conference of the UCC, will be held April 10 & 11 at the Green Lake Conference Center in Green Lake. Bethlehem is allotted two delegates from the membership. It's a time of worship, business meetings, seminars and more. There are funds allocated in the budget to cover your costs. Please contact Pastor Randy if you're interested in attending - even if just for ONE of the days!
- **Up Coming Events!!**
  - Sunday, Feb 8 – New member Sunday! - Fellowship and food to follow. See Pastor Randy if you're not a member but would like to be!
  - Wednesday, Feb. 18 – 6:30pm Ash Wednesday Worship w/ Communion
  - Sunday, Feb 15 – 1pm RCF Sheepshead event at BUCC
  - Sat, Feb 21 – 2p-4p Youth Olympic watch party – location TBD
  - Sunday, Feb 22 – 11am BUCC Ice fishing on Wilke Lake
  - Sunday March 1 – Potluck and “Game Day” to follow worship

### **Community Announcements:**

- Wed. Jan 28 – Drive Thru Chili Supper – Immanuel UCC (Corner of M & FF near Lakeland) 4pm-6pm – see flyer for details
- Friday, Feb 20 – Holy Trinity Parish Perch Fry- (11928 Marken Rd. – School Hill) Dine-in from 3:30-7pm. Carry-outs available 11a-1p and 3:30-7:00pm by calling 920-773-2380. Grilled cheese also available. (See flyer for more details.)



### **Those struggling with health issues:**

Louie Bowe	Dawson Horneck
Heidi Konen	Darlene Horneck
Jessica Horneck	Jackie Volland
Sofia	Willow
Hubert	Larry
Chase Goekes	Tyler Smith
Molly	Eileen Koppenhaver
Margaret	

### **Those unable to worship with us:**

Merlin Ninmer	Helen Henning
---------------	---------------

## **This Week at Bethlehem:**

**Today, Sunday 1/25:** 8am Sunday School; 9:30am Sunday Worship followed by Annual Meeting; 6pm BUCC @ Sheboygan Warming Center

**Monday 1/26:**

**Tuesday 1/27:**

**Wednesday 1/28:** *Happy Birthday Lora Mathes and Gary Rabe!*

**Thursday 1/29:**

**Friday 1/30:**

**Saturday 1/31:**

**Sunday 2/1:** 8am Sunday School; 9:30am Sunday Worship followed by Chili Supper prep; *Happy Birthday Tammy Aschenbach!*

**Jan/Feb Panty Item: Can of Soup**

