

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2023

Consecration Sunday & Potluck

I am the LORD your God; consecrate yourselves and be holy, because I am holy...I am the LORD, who brought you up out of Egypt to be your God; therefore, be holy, because I am holy. Leviticus 11:44-45

In my June 2023 Hawk Talk: New Heart & Spirit article (see website: blackhawkbethlehem.org/newsletter) I brought you up to date on the completion of the final requirements of disaffiliation from the United Methodist Church. In June, the 2023 WI UMC Annual Conference approved our Disaffiliation. Submission of all final requirements were completed, and the UMC signed off any claims to our property. Beginning July 1, 2023 the church became Blackhawk Bethlehem Church, Inc.! Praise be to GOD!

I ask you to join me in pausing to give thanks for God's grace, and for leading His church throughout the decades (160 years in 2024), especially these past couple years of wilderness wandering resulting in our liberation to follow, worship, and faithfully serve Him. As we begin this new chapter in the story of the people of Blackhawk Bethlehem Church, may we remember the goodness of God in ages past while pressing in to take hold of everything He intends for us now, and into our future. The wisest place to begin any journey is at the throne of God's grace; **on SUNDAY SEPT. 10, 2023, beginning at 9:00 AM worship**, we will hold a Service of Consecration.

CONSECRATION is defined as the transfer of a person or a thing to the sacred sphere for a special purpose or service. The word consecration literally means "association with the sacred". Persons, places, or things can all be consecrated to the purposes of God. The origin of the word comes from the Latin stem *consecrat*, which means dedicated, devoted, and sacred. **SANCTIFY** is a synonym for consecration, and is likewise, about God transforming a person, place, or thing and setting them aside for His holy purpose.

Join us on **SEPTEMBER 10th** as we participate in God's "setting apart" of Blackhawk Bethlehem Church. **In recognition of this sacred occasion in our 159th church's history, we will break bread together after the service with a POTLUCK MEAL. We invite members and friends to bring a dish to share and enjoy the fellowship and food.**

We praise God for calling us to take our place in His transformative, life changing, kingdom building business. May each of us enter this new adventure with excitement, anticipation, and awe of what God desires to accomplish in and through us. May we embrace Him as He sets us aside for His sacred and glorious work.

Consecrate yourselves and be holy, because I am the LORD your God. Keep my decrees and follow them. I am the LORD, who makes you holy. Leviticus 20:7-8

God's blessings to you as together we are set apart for the glorious purposes of God!

Onward and Upward in Christ! PK



The bicyclists came through our community on June 16th, stopping at Blackhawk Bethlehem to rest, refresh and grab a bite from the food stand. We appreciate Jane Pagel & Family for taking the lead when the call came asking us to host this yearly event and we are equally thankful for those who gave time and food donations.

It was a perfectly beautiful day to host the Blackhawk 4th of July Celebration 2023! What you may NOT know, is at 12:00 midnight, a wind-storm blew in with such force that it pulled up the tents we had set up the day before, tossing them into the cemetery and front church yard like they were tinker-toys. And yes, they were all weighted down with buckets of sand...just in case. As I watched this unfold from the house, the big tent, acting like a giant sail, slammed with such force into the front light-pole that it snapped off the lantern with a flash! Man! Needless to say, we knew we would have to deal with it in the morning. As the day dawned, we assessed the damage, hauled out broken and bent bits, called Jo to regroup some guys to reassemble what we could, and made the best of it. In those early morning hours, they were able to cobble enough pieces together to re-construct tent coverage for the pie and dining tents. The ticket tent was mangled beyond use, so someone brought another from home. Everyone worked together to get the job done. Other than THAT...the day was terrific! Good crowds. Plenty of parking. A great Parade. Scrumptious Chicken Dinner. Yummy Brats and Treats. Wonderful dinner music from the very talented Krause Family Band. Fun Games and Dancing. Visiting with old and new friends. So good! There are just too many people to remember names who made this event happen...their dedication to offer a Family-Friendly event each year (for decades) is a labor of love. To ALL who had a part in it...THANK YOU SO MUCH!

Our church building and grounds are beautiful...it is not uncommon to see cars pull up, get out their phones and click a few photos. On many such occasions, I've popped over for a chat and then invite them to have a look-see inside the church. They comment on the colorful stained glass, the wonderful "gym", and the peaceful beauty of the sanctuary. We talk a little about the church's beginnings, the people before us and the folks who now make this their church home. They are amazed at this grand building that sits in the middle of the boonies and are always grateful for a peek inside. Of course, this makes me glad that we have a church family that takes such good care of its "home". Thank you to those who mow the grass, pull the weeds and trim the bushes; the front yard makes the first impression and it is a good one. Thank you to all those who vacuum, sweep, scrub and scour to keep the house of the LORD looking nice. Thank you to those who put in the extra sweat and energy to tackle a long list of maintenance projects. You are ALL appreciated!

This crew of guys spent a day laying a new tile floor in the Littles' Sunday School Classroom. Thank you, PK, Lloyd, Gene & Jackson for tackling this job. Looks nice!

Every Sunday morning, the steeple bell is rung to let the people know that worship is about to begin. Thank you to all the kids/families who took on this responsibility throughout the year...the NEW SIGN-UP SHEET is in the narthex if you want to be a part of this ministry.



Thank you to these folks who spent a Saturday morning at the Sauk Prairie Food Pantry helping the patrons with their groceries: Kay & Russ Hankins, Jo Ballweg & Heather Rodenschmit.

Foundations of Faith 2023-2024

Sunday, September 10th

Families/kids gather for worship at 9:00 AM.
There is no formal class-time, but at 9:45, kids will head downstairs to meet their teachers.

At 10:00 kids meet in the sanctuary for Music and then head to FH for the Blackhawk Bethlehem Church Potluck!

PreK-5th SS CLASSES BEGIN SEPT. 17th

Release from worship 9:30/Music in sanctuary 10:00

MS/HS STUDENTS: Your **discipleship training** will take place in the worship service. A sermon outline with fill-in-the-blank and a place for questions will be your weekly assignment; bring your personal Bible, so you can write/underline passages. Each month, YOUTH will gather at church/parsonage or Mallon's on a Saturday evening to connect through food, games, music, topic discussion and prayer.

For Youth who...

- Regularly attend worship
- Complete weekly Sunday sermon worksheet
- Attend Saturday Youth Gatherings
- Attend Confirmation Inquiry class (TBD)

...you will be given the opportunity to confirm and publicly profess your faith in Jesus Christ during a May 2024 Worship Service.

ACOLYTE TRAINING SEPT. 17th
2nd Graders meet Shalome in the Sanctuary
AT 10:00 AM to practice lighting the altar candles. Check the schedule for your turn.

Training Leaders

We put Bibles in the hands of our kids. Our SS Teachers open the Scriptures during class-time. They hear God's WORD during worship. In an effort to train up our next "leaders", **2nd Gr.-HS** students will be assigned a Sunday to share the morning's Scripture with the congregation. As the Body of Christ, we stress the importance of each member being an integral part of the whole. As adults, we set a good and Godly example; let us give our kids/youth the opportunity to do the same. Please look over the **WORSHIP SERVANT LISTS** and mark your calendars for assignment and date.

WOMEN'S WORKOUTS

MONDAYS 5:30-6:15 PM

Join Karen at church for a 45-minute workout: cardio, strength, stretching exercises to inspirational music. Teens are welcome! Bring a mat, water bottle and light weights.

SPOUSES WITHOUT SPOUSES

Ladies, meet for lunch at La Mexicana in Sauk City on **THURS. SEPT. 21st at 11:30.**

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

WEDNESDAYS, SEPT. 27th & OCT. 25th

Meet at church 6:30-8:30 PM

Read. Discuss. Pray.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

2nd & 4th WEDNESDAYS, 9:00-10:30 AM

Call Karen for location: 608-544-3991

MS/HS YOUTH NIGHT
SATURDAY, SEPT. 30th
At the Church/Parsonage
5:30-7:30 PM
Food, Games, Music
Topic Discussion, Prayer

NOISY OFFERING SUNDAY

Bring your clanky coins and silent bills to church on **SUNDAY, OCT. 22nd.**
The cash will be given to the Food Pack Event.

Feed My Starving Children
2023 Pack Event
Dates: October 26-28, 2023
GRAND AVE. SCHOOL

To reach our goal, we will need to Fund Raise
\$81,200 & Pack 280,000 meals!!

BLACKHAWK BETHLEHEM CHURCH
will sign up to pack meals on
THURSDAY, OCT. 26th, 6:30 PM

SEPTEMBER Worship Leader

3rd Kay Hankins
10th Christine Elliott
17th Jane Pagel
24th Angie Sorg

Scripture Reader

3rd Kay Hankins
10th Carolyn Elliott
17th Anna Pagel
24th Logan Sorg

Acolyte

3rd Pastor Kendall
10th Sarah Elliott
17th Micah Bennett
24th Maxx Ederer

OCTOBER Worship Leader

1st Heidi Gerike
8th Sean Elliott
15th John Been
22nd Nick Hartley
29th Nola Weis

Scripture Reader

1st Anna Gerike
8th James Elliott
15th Katey Ullmann
22nd Wesley Hartley
29th Sarah Gerike

Acolyte

1st Sarah Gerike
8th Sarah Elliott
15th Maxx Ederer
22nd Abigail Hartley
29th Rebecaa Gerike

***Audio/Visual Technician**

1st Sunday Brian Ullmann
2nd Sunday Gene Unger
3rd Sunday Nick Hartley
4th Sunday Katey Ullmann
5th Sunday Rhett Jaquish

BETHLEHEM CHOIR RESUMES SEP 17TH

Practice: 3rd & 4th Sundays 10:15 AM

Sing: 1st Sunday of each month
8:30 AM rehearsal that morning

PRAISE CHOIR

Ladies & teen-girls (6th grade-HS)..., please join us for rehearsal at 10:15, Sunday, Sept. 3rd.
We will sing during worship on **Sept. 10th.**

If you would like to share music during worship with voice or instrument, please contact Karen to select a Sunday. 544-3991

WE NEED YOUR HELP

Volunteer for a MONTH of church cleaning duties (garbage collection, vacuum, dust, mop, replenish, straighten) approx. 1 hour/week x 4 and receive a \$25 PIG GROCERY CARD.
Sign-up sheet is in narthex.

CHAT & CHEW! 1st SUNDAY OF THE MONTH

FAMILY A.C.T.S.

**Applying Christ Through Service
3rd SUNDAY COFFEE CART**

Coffee & Treats @ 10:00 AM
Your purchases support various mission work & family activities

PRAYER & PRAISE GATHERING

1st Wednesday of each month

7:00-8:30 PM at church

We pray...

For the nations, our communities, the Church.
For our families, friends, neighbors.
For healing of body, mind and spirit.
For repentance, restoration, renewal.
To give Glory to the Father, Son & Holy Spirit.

SEPTEMBER 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 COMMUNION 9:00 AM Worship 10:00 Chat & Chew 10:15 Praise practice	4 LABOR DAY	5	6 7:00-8:30 PM Prayer & Praise	7	8	9
10 CELEBRATION 8:30 Praise rehearsal 9:00 AM Worship 9:45 Meet SS Teachers 10:00 Kids Music 10:15 Potluck	11 5:30-6:15 PM Women's Workout	12	13 9:00-10:30 AM Women's Bible Study @ parsonage	14	15	16
17 9:00 AM Worship 9:30 Christian Ed. 10:00 Kids Music 10:00 Acolyte Training 10:00 Coffee Cart 10:15 Choir practice	18 5:30-6:15 PM Women's Workout	19	20 6:30 PM Finance mtg.	21 10:00 Maplewood 3:00 Pine Villa 3:30 Pines	22	23
24 9:00 AM Worship 9:30 Christian Ed. 10:00 Kids Music 10:15 Choir practice	25 5:30-6:15 PM Women's Workout	26	27 9:00-10:30 AM Women's Bible Study @ Irene's in PdS 6:30-8:00 PM Men's Bible Study	28 10:00 Greenway	29	30 MS/HS YOUTH NIGHT 5:30-7:30 PM Church/Parsonage

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 COMMUNION 8:30 Choir rehearsal 9:00 AM Worship Rev. Dennis Weis 9:30 Christian Ed. 10:00 Chat & Chew 10:15 Praise practice	2 5:30-6:15 PM Women's Workout	3	4 7:00 PM Prayer & Praise	5	6 LORD'S ACRE SET UP	7 LORD'S ACRE 10:00 Bake Sale 10:00 Farmers Market 10:00 Youth Brat stand 11:00 Pork Chop dinner 1:00 Auction
8 9:00 AM Worship Kyle Elliott 9:30 Christian Ed. 10:00 Kids Music 10:15 TRUSTEE mtg.	9 5:30-6:15 PM Women's Workout	10	11 9:00-10:30 AM Women's Bible Study 6:30 PM SPRC 7:30 Admin mtg.	12	13	14 BIKE-REST STOP
15 9:00 AM Worship Bill Stork DVM 9:30 Christian Ed. 10:00 Kids Music 10:00 Coffee Cart	16 5:30-6:15 PM Women's Workout	17	18	19 10:00 Maplewood 3:00 PM Pine Villa 3:30 PM Pines	20	21 5:30 PM YOUTH GATHERING @ Mallon's
22 NOISY OFFERING 9:00 AM Worship David Michael 9:30 Christian Ed. 10:00 Kids Music 10:15 Choir practice	23 5:30-6:15 PM Women's Workout	24	25 9:00-10:30 AM Women's Bible Study 6:30-8:30 PM Men's Bible Study	26 10:00 AM Greenway FOOD PACK EVENT Grand Ave. School 6:30 PM	27	28 
29 9:00 AM Worship Dianne Vielhuber 9:30 Christian Ed. 10:00 Kids Music 10:15 Choir practice	30 5:30-6:15 PM Women's Workout	31				



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2023: STELLAR

Vacation Bible School 2023 was STELLAR! 53 Kiddos, 24 Youth Crew Leaders/Helpers, 6 Adult Station Leaders, several ladies on site to pitch in where needed, plus a dynamic Friday kitchen crew...put it all together and you get a terrific week filled with Games, Bible Adventures, Snacks, Crafts, Cinema stories, and Music...all teaching us how to SHINE JESUS' LIGHT! Families and friends were invited to the Friday Finale/Taco Lunch and they filled the sanctuary and Fellowship Hall! What a wonderful blessing! Thank you, Church, for supporting this vital ministry!

Every person, shining their LIGHT for Jesus, made this VBS extraordinary! Thank you, Friends!

VBS Coordinator & Music: Karen Schlittler

Games: Pastor Kendall & Aiden Larsen

Cinema: Abby Bennett & (niece) Tessa Williamson

Crafts: Christine & Carolyn Elliott & Anna Gerike (Abby Bennett/craft designer)

Bible Adventure: Terri Anderson (plus Youth Actors)

Snacks: Shalome, Katey & Megan Ullmann

Crew Leaders: Jess Bare, Luz Rodriguez, Finn Abernathy, James Elliott, Logan Thering, Quinn Larsen, Mason Thering, Sean Elliott, Wesley Hartley, Gracia Bare, Madi Soboleski, Amelia Wolf, Amara Hubbard, Abby Ferguson, Taylor Larsen, Mia Reicks, Sage Johnson & Audrey Muro

Photographer/Video: Logan Sorg

Crossing Guards & Road Monitors: Laura Mallon, Lisa Ferguson, Barb Oelke, Marla Sprecher

Friday Finale Lunch Coordinators: Erin Jaquish, Monica Ederer, Suzie Thering & other moms

STARS Banner Work: Faith Michael, Sylvia Timm, Mia Reicks, Sage Johnson, Abby Ferguson, PK & K

Bat Catcher: (yep, every year) Pastor Kendall

A special Thank You to Elaine Wilhelm who helped me put 300 Bible Buddies in Baggies. Each of the kids received this little gift to remind them... *"Shine, shine Jesus' light for all the world to see".*

Blackhawk Bethlehem Church
S10174 County Rd C
Sauk City, WI 53583

Return Service Requested

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2023 HAWK TALK

Blackhawk Bethlehem Church
S10174 Cty Rd C Sauk City, WI 53583
Pastor Kendall Schlittler 608-544-3991

