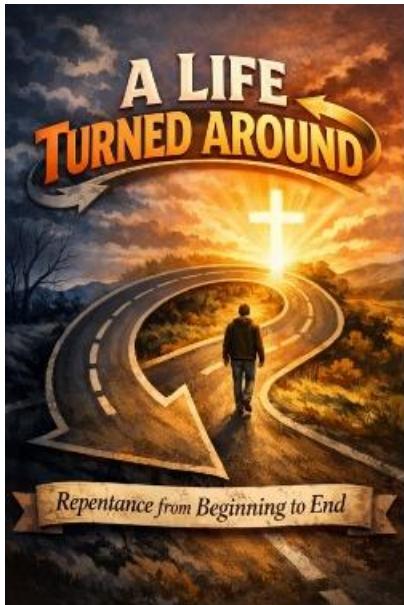


BLC Newsletter – February 2026



7-Part Sermon Series

- 1 – A Life Turned Around (2/14 & 15)
- 2 – Repentance That Saves (2/18)
- 3 – From Death to Life (2/25)
- 4 – When People Refuse to Repent (3/4)
- 5 – Repentance Is a Way of Life (3/11)
- 6 – When God's People Repent (3/18)
- 7 – Bearing Fruit in Repentance (3/25)

What does it really mean to repent—and why does it matter so much? For many people, repentance sounds heavy, negative, or even frightening. But Jesus' first words of public preaching tell a very different story: **"Repent and believe the gospel."** Repentance is not meant to crush us; it is God's gracious way of bringing sinners to forgiveness and life in Christ.

In this upcoming sermon series, **"A Life Turned Around: Repentance from Beginning to End,"** we will explore repentance as the Bible presents it—from God bringing us to faith, to the danger of refusing His call, to the daily rhythm of repentance that shapes the Christian life. We will look at clear biblical examples, hear Christ's warnings and promises, and see how repentance is not something we grow out of, but something God uses daily to restore, strengthen, and renew His people.

This series is for those who struggle with guilt, for those who wonder if repentance still matters, and for those who want to understand how confession, forgiveness, and new life fit together. **Above all, it is a series about Christ – who calls sinners to repentance because He has already borne their sin and delights to forgive!**

- **Series Intro** – Sat 2/14 & Sun 2/15
- **Parts 2-7 – The Wednesdays of Lent:**
 - Services at 11 & 7
 - Free Meals at 12 & 6 – BUT NOT ON Ash Wednesday, 2/18

February Schedule

- **Saturdays:** class **3:00**; service **4:00**
- **Sundays:** service **9:00**; classes **10:30**
- **Ash Wed:** **2/18** – services at **11** & **7**
- **Wed:** **2/25** – services **11** & **7**, meals **12** & **6**

Gratitude in Action: Reflecting God's Generosity

By: Don Crites, Treasurer

As we look around our Church community this month, it is impossible not to see the fingerprints of God's provision. The Congregation approved our 2026 Budget, and we now have a plan for how we are going to financially support our ministry here at Bethlehem in the coming year.

Thank you for all the feedback and the questions asked about our financial plan. Your Leadership Team will work diligently to execute the plan that was approved. **We do need your help.**

Scripture reminds us in **James 1:17** that "Every good and perfect gift is from above." When we



recognize that *everything we have*—our time, our talents, and our treasures—is a gift from Him, our perspective begins to shift. Tithing is not simply a line item in a budget; it is a *rhythmic act of worship* and a tangible way to say "thank you" for His faithfulness. Tithing also comes with a promise from God. See **Proverbs 3:9-10**.

Here are **two reasons** why your participation matters:

- **It Prioritizes God:** Returning the first ten percent of our income acknowledges that God is the source of our security, not our bank accounts.
- **It Fuels Our Mission:** Your contributions allow us to keep our ministry supporting the Great Commission (**Matt:28:19-20**). Please pay close attention to the formidable promise Jesus gives us in the last sentence of **verse 20**.

"Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." — 2 Corinthians 9:7

Grieving the Death of a Loved One?

Then our Grief Share Program is for You!

Local – Caring – Christian

Professional Video – Time to Listen / Talk

Grief Share is an Established Nationwide Program

Tuesdays at 6:30 – beginning on March 3, 2026

7500 State Road, Parma

Register: 216-406-4871

Register: <https://www.griefshare.org/ministries/206088>

Special Classes You Are Invited

Living the Lutheran Lectionary – Thursdays: 10 – Every Week!

- “Timothy Room”
- Study the upcoming readings
- Attend online via Zoom – get on Harold’s list: weselohduh@hotmail.com
- Questions? Ask Harold: 440-454-2139

Sisters of Light – Every Other Wednesday: 1:00

- **February 4 & 18**
- “Acts Room”
- Questions? Ask Rhonda: 330-260-5194

Men’s Group – First Saturday of Most Months:

- Join us on **March 7**
- Free Breakfast at 9:00
- Study Begins at 9:15
- Questions? Ask Dr. G: 216-374-5973

Service Cancellation Policy



We will basically NEVER cancel a divine service! If we are ever closed, *you will receive a call / text message!*

Remember: If you see any Bethlehem service cancellations on your TV, it is not us; *those are other churches with the same name!*

Stay Close to Jesus!

- ➔ Pray for those in need. If you have a prayer request, text, or call Kathy G: 440-785-3802
- ➔ Reach those who are lost – by giving them one of our many resources, praying for them, and inviting them.

- ➔ **Grow through our website:** www.BLC7500.com – many sermons, studies, and brochures are available.
- ➔ **Listen to The Lutheran Hour:** Sundays at 6:30 AM on WTAM 1100; Sundays at 8:00 AM on WHKW 1220
- ➔ **Watch Worship Anew – A Lutheran Service for shut-ins:** Sundays at 11:30 AM: Cox: 12; Direct TV: 67, 377; Dish: 47; Spectrum: 47

Sing In Our Choir – It’s Simple

Get on Harold’s email list (send a request here: weselohduh@gmail.com); then:

- ✓ Receive the hymn and melody for the first Sunday of each month via email.
- ✓ Practice on your own.
- ✓ Meet at the organ on the first Sunday of each month at 8:45.
- ✓ Sing during that service. Call/text Harold for more info: 440-454-2139

Parking Lot Church



Not feeling well? LISTEN FROM YOUR CAR!

Pick up everything need – just inside our main entrance, then tune your radio to **FM 89.9**.

For all the details, read the special insert in each parking lot church service folder.

Stephen Ministry

- Stephen Ministers are congregation members trained to provide one-to-one care to those experiencing a difficult time in life, such as grief, divorce, job loss, chronic illness, or terminal illness.
- Could you benefit from a Stephen Minister? Contact Norma: 216-406-4871

Keeping You Informed

Doing so through calls or text messages.

▪ Calls will show: **440-845-2230**

▪ Texts will show: **440-298-2791**

Please don't unsubscribe!

Give-Back Program



Christianbook.com
1-800-CHRISTIAN
Everything Christian for less!

Bethlehem has been enrolled in the Christian Book Distributor's (CBD) Giveback Program! Through this program, we earn **4% cash back** on all eligible purchases. Link your CBD account by texting **GIVEBACK** to **95498**, and registering with our Organization ID **PHKLDC**. Need help? Contact Harold: 440-454-2139

Giving – To BLC

- **Online:** You can donate online through our Bethlehem PayPal account. Just scan the QR code to get started **OR** go to www.BLC7500.com and click on the "Donate" button. **Thanks!**
- **Personal Banking:** Most banks have a free bill payer service.
- **IRA:** If you own an individual retirement account (IRA) and are at least 70½ years old,



you can support the Lord's work by directing a **tax-free distribution** to Bethlehem.

February Physical Birthdays

2/6 Helga Bartel
2/7 Megan Samarin
2/9 Klaus Kitzler
2/9 Klara Seefeld
2/10 Cedrick Hilliker
2/11 Cindy Taress
2/15 Kevin Mild
2/24 Kathryn Strauss
2/25 Mariah McMillan
2/27 Serafina Blaha
2/27 Susanna Tischler
2/28 Sandy Crites



February Spiritual Birthdays

2/1 Mike Coufalik
2/1 Carolyn Potantus
2/4 Carol Dickau
2/7 Regina Mild
2/7 Megan Samarin
2/8 Dennis Montick
2/8 Marci Sherepita
2/13 Klaus Kitzler
2/16 Wendy Meikle
2/17 Paul Moyer Sr.
2/28 Michelle Gilbert
2/28 Norma Sweeny



February Wedding Anniversaries

2/6 Edmund & Christl Kissinger (66th)
2/14 Brad & Kelly Scotten (39th)
2/20 Harold & Doreen Weseloh (4th)

Upcoming Newsletter Deadlines

- ⇒ **February 19** at noon – for the March NL
- ⇒ **March 25** at Noon – for the April NL

Bethlehem Parma: www.BLC7500.com