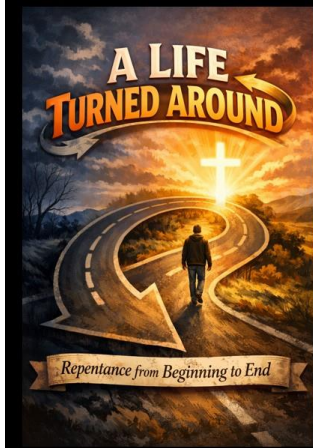


# BLC Newsletter – March 2026

**Saturdays 4, Sundays 9**

**Wednesdays 11 & 7**



1. What Is Repentance?
2. Can Anyone Be Saved Without Repentance?
3. Who Turns the Heart - Us or God?
4. How Does God Break a Hard Heart?
5. How Does God Heal a Broken Heart?
6. When Did God Begin Repentance in Us?
7. Is Repentance an Event or a Life?
8. Why Is Daily Repentance Extremely Important?
9. How Is a Sin Infection Like a Physical Infection?
10. Will Repentance Radically Change Our Thinking and Living?
11. What Causes Us to Die and Rise Each Day?
12. What Are the Great Blessings of Confession and Absolution?

**Dear Members and Friends of Bethlehem:** *I hope you have already grasped the importance of the current repentance topic!*

1. **What Is Repentance?** It includes both **contrition** and **faith**. Contrition is sorrow for sin and turning from sin; faith is trust in Jesus for the forgiveness of sin. Since repentance includes change, *no change = no repentance!*
2. **Can Anyone Be Saved Without Repentance?** No! Jesus made that clear; see [Luke 13:1-5](#).
3. **Who Turns the Heart?** Most think they can do it, but, according to the Bible, *only God can do it*.
4. **How Does God Break a Hard Heart?** God must break it before He can save it. He works

through His word of Law to break it. Are you fully open to God's transforming word?

**For the whole preaching schedule:**

- Get a copy in the Narthex.
- Online: [click here](#)

**Watch the Sermon Videos:** [click here](#)

## LENT – HOLY WEEK – EASTER SCHEDULE

**Weekends:**

- Saturdays: class 3:00; worship 4:00
- Sundays: worship 9:00; Bible Class & Sunday School 10:30

**Wednesdays:** worship 11 & 7; free meals 12 & 6

**Holy Week and Easter:**

- Palm Sunday: worship Sat 4:00; worship Sun 9:00
- Holy Thursday: worship 11 & 7

- Good Friday: worship 11 & 7
- Holy Saturday: (NO CLASS); worship 4:00
- Easter: worship 9:00; Breakfast 10:30

## Special Classes

### Living the Lutheran Lectionary –

#### Thursdays: 10 – **Every Week!**

- “Timothy Room” or via Zoom
- Studying the upcoming lectionary Scripture readings
- Questions? Ask Harold: 440-454-2139

### Sisters of Light – Every Other

#### Wednesday: 1:00

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

### Men’s Group – First Saturday of

#### Most Months:

- Join us on **March 7**
- “Timothy Room”
- Breakfast 9:00; Study 9:15
- Questions? Ask Dr. G: 216-374-5973

## From the Treasurer

By: Don Crites, Treasurer

We have completed our first month under our 2026 budget and are working through our second month. The timing of our Newsletter releases will have the published financial results – *reported below* – a bit behind. No worries.

Usually, we need around five business days to complete our month-end book closing process. Each month, the Leadership Team

examines the published reports during our meeting. So, if you are curious as to our up-to-date performance at month end, before the Newsletter comes out, you can ask me 5 business days after the month ends.

As with any reporting, especially regarding financials, there is always a mix of good and not so good news. We finished January with an overall deficit of **\$8.6K** (see Surplus / **Deficit** bullet point). On the surface this would be “not so good news.” While we did come up short on our **revenue**, we managed our **spending** to be **net positive: \$1.6K**. This is a significant **improvement** (good news) year over year. As stated in our January Voters meeting, our largest opportunity dictated from 2025 results is to keep our spending in line with our budget. **Mission accomplished in January.**

### Financial Performance – January 2026:

- **Revenue:** \$19,010.93 **Actual**; \$29,333.33 **Bud**; **(\$10,322.40) Net**
- **Expense:** \$25,490.31 **Actual**; \$27,171.58 **Bud**; \$1,681.27 **Net**
- **Surplus / (Deficit) = (\$8,641.13)**

Our giving isn't just about keeping the lights on; **it's an act of worship that says we trust God more than our bank accounts.** *Thank you for being a people of such great heart.* Let's see what we can accomplish together as we excel in this grace! Please take a few minutes to carefully read over **2 Corinthians 8.**

## Grief Share Begins March 3 at 6:30

- Professional, caring, run by BLC members.
- Tuesdays: Arrive between 6:00 and 6:30.
- Opening and 30-minute video, refreshments.
- Group time to listen and/or talk.
- Register – Norma: 216-406-4871

## Service Cancellation Policy



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

Remember: If you see any Bethlehem service cancellations, it is most likely not our congregation.

## 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](http://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 ([weselohduh@gmail.com](mailto: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.

## FYI – Stay Informed

Through text messages and/or calls:

- To subscribe: Call the church office: **440-845-2230**
- Text messages will come from this number: **440-298-2791**
- Calls will come from this number: **440-845-2230**

## Prayer Multiplier

Be a prayer warrior! Prayers are sent by text:

- Would you like to pray?
- Do you have a prayer request?
- Text or call Kathy G. **440-785-3802**

## 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](http://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.



## March Physical Birthdays

- 3/4 Charles Blaha
- 3/5 Joe Taress
- 3/9 Mel Bucholtz
- 3/9 Madelyn Musil
- 3/18 Jim Jenni
- 3/19 David Rohman
- 3/20 Briar Miller
- 3/25 Patti Cepis
- 3/26 Michael Miller
- 3/28 Alan Carlson
- 3/28 Hilda Kaderle



## March Spiritual Birthdays

- 3/8 Serafina Blaha
- 3/19 Kathy Strauss
- 3/24 Sandy Crites



## March Wedding Anniversaries

- 3/23 Nick & Gerry Ventura (47<sup>th</sup>)



## 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

## 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

## Upcoming Newsletter Deadlines

- ⇒ **March 25** at noon – for the April NL
- ⇒ **April 22** at Noon – for the May NL

**Bethlehem Parma:**

[www.BLC7500.com](http://www.BLC7500.com)