

What Do We Do?

- Weekly sacramental and liturgical worship
- Fellowship
- Adult formation
- Bible Study
- Advocacy
- Outreach

Got Questions?

We might not have the answers but we are happy to work with you to find your own... and we have coffee and tea!

What Can You Do?

Visit us on Sundays at 9:30 am for worship and fellowship!

Who are we?

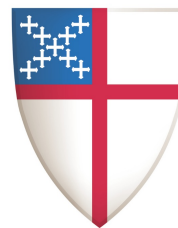
Bethlehem and Saint Stephen's are separate congregations that began collaborating in 2025. Bethlehem is a member of the Montana Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America (ELCA). Saint Stephen's is a parish in the Episcopal Diocese of Montana. Both congregations date back to the early 1950s.

Where are we?

Our churches share Bethlehem's historic space which is located in central Billings. We also have an online presence through websites, Facebook, and YouTube.



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BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN AND SAINT STEPHEN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCHES

Partners in Ministry,
Mission, and Worship

40 Tenth Street West

Bethlehem Lutheran

Bethlehem is a Reconciling in Christ (RIC) community. There are 1,185 in total. Bethlehem was the very first in Montana.

What does this mean?

Since 1974, ReconcilingWorks: Lutherans for Full Participation (RIC's parent organization) has advocated for the full welcome, inclusion, and equity of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, intersex, and asexual/aromantic (LGBTQIA+) Lutherans in all aspects of the life of their Church, congregations, and community.

The ELCA

The Evangelical Lutheran Church of America (ELCA) has ordained women as pastors since the 1970s and as bishops since 1992. In 2009, the ELCA formally welcomed LGBT clergy and same-sex weddings in 2015.

What do we do?

Outreach and Community Engagement

- Shower Ministry - twice a week we welcome in the unhoused for showers, lunch, and fellowship
- Support United Campus Ministry at MSUB
- Support and work with Family Promise
- Women in the ELCA (women's group)
- Support 406Pride
- Operate a church food bank
- Host a Little Free Library
- Support the work of Christikon Lutheran Camp in central Montana and Camp Marshall (Episcopal) located on Flathead Lake



Saint Stephen's Episcopal

Saint Stephen's began as a church-plant of Saint Luke's Episcopal in 1952. One of the major ministries in the 21st century was hosting the Brown Baggers group of AA for more than two decades. In 2024, the congregation sold the building to be able to focus resources on ministry. Saint Stephen's is also an open and affirming congregation.

The Episcopal Church

- July 29, 1974, eleven women became the first female ordained priests in The Episcopal Church and worldwide Anglican Communion
- 1976 the Church formally opened ordination to women.
- The first woman bishop in the Church was ordained in 1989.
- In June 2003, the Church elected the first openly gay bishop in the Anglican Communion.
- In 2009, the Church approved the creation of same-sex blessing liturgies which were adopted in 2012.
- In 2015, the Church recognized that the sacrament of marriage was open to same-sex individuals.