

HURC

Inside This Issue Worship Schedule 2 Consecration 2 Confirmation 2 3 Library 3 Bingo Thank You 3 Soup and Sandwich 4 5 Church Records Parish Planning Minutes 6-7 Footsteps of Paul Tour 8 9 Drevlow Baby Shower 9 Blessing of the Animals

Youth News

October Calendar

Office Hours

10

11

9:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m. Monday-Thursday

9:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m. Friday

Tidings Newsletter Held in Grace ... Belong, Believe, Befriend

Volume LXIV, Issue 9

October 2025

Take a few minutes with Pastor Lexy

Then Jesus declared, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty." John 6:35

Greetings Beloveds!

This month, we celebrate Consecration, the time in our church year where we look back on what God has entrusted to us this last year and how we have used it, and look forward to what we have been invited to share for the year to come, declaring it for the holy work of God's love in this world together. I hope that you are able to join us for these services and meals together, and that you are able to take time in these next few weeks to reflect on your own role in the impactful ministry that you support here at Bethlehem.

Jesus' declaration that He is the bread of life can hit God's people in many different ways. These words come across differently to those starving in Gaza than they will to a Fargo family of 4 driving through McDonalds between practices. And yet, these words are for everyone. When I was a teacher, I remember learning about Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs, which laid out in a pyramid shape the needs that people have from most basic to most spiritual. The understanding is that someone whose basic needs are not met is not going to be focusing on their higher needs, or in the classroom: a kid who hasn't had supper last night or breakfast this morning is not going to care much about my music lesson today. Basic needs must also be met if we want to also feed spiritual needs.

Jesus knew this as well. His miracle of feeding the 5000 is the only story in all 4 gospels. He is constantly breaking bread with the sinners, outsiders, and the poor. He gives them the bread of life for today, as well as the bread of life for eternity. This is our ministry as well. We have the privilege of feeding bellies, spirits, and souls in our "House of Bread", and we join Jesus in this mission each and every day.

Peace be with you!

Pastor Lexy

Worship Schedule

Wednesday, October 1

5:30 pm Meal

6:00 pm Worship with Holy Communion

6:15 pm PrK-1 Ed

6:45 pm PrK-7 Music

7:00 pm Adult Bible Study

7:00 pm Confirmation

7:15 pm 2-7 Ed

Sunday, October 5

9:30 am Worship with Holy Communion

11:00 am Bible Study

4:00 pm Blessing of the Animals

Wednesday, October 8

5:30 pm Consecration Meal

6:00 pm Consecration Worship

6:15 pm PrK-1 Ed

6:45 pm PrK-7 Music

7:00 pm Adult Bible Study

7:00 pm Confirmation

7:15 pm 2-7 Ed

Sunday, October 12

9:30 am Consecration Worship 10:30 am Consecration Brunch

11:00 am Bible Study

Wednesday, October 15

5:30 pm Meal

6:00 pm Worship

6:15 pm PrK-1 Ed

6:45 pm PrK-7 Music

7:00 pm Adult Bible Study

7:00 pm Confirmation

7:15 pm 2-7 Ed

Sunday, October 19

9:30 am Worship

11:00 am Bible Study

Wednesday, October 22

5:30 pm Meal

6:00 pm Worship with 3rd Grade Bibles

6:15 pm PrK-1 Ed

6:45 pm PrK-7 Music

7:00 pm Adult Bible Study

7:00 pm Confirmation

7:15 pm 2-7 Ed

Sunday, October 26

9:30 am Reformation Worship with

Confirmation

Wednesday, October 29

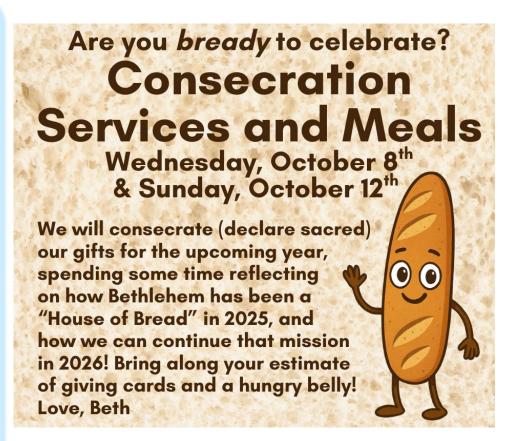
5:30 pm Meal

6:00 pm Worship

6:45 pm Halloween Party

7:00 pm Adult Bible Study

Communion will be celebrated as part of worship the first Sunday of each month and available in the Sanctuary following the worship service the second Sunday and on.



Confirmation Service

Sunday, October 26th at 9:30am

Join us for worship as Elise, Amelia, Soren, William, Rhett, and Mya affirm their baptisms and become adults in the church! We'll celebrate after the service with treats upstairs!



"Land of Dreams"

by Lauraine Snelling

On a ship from Norway to America, cholera breaks out onboard, which claims many lives. A young lady who loses her mother takes on the role o nursing others who are sick. A dying mother has the captain of the ship draw up papers naming the young lady guardian of her five year old daughter and to oversee the daughter's inheritance, which is a farm and boarding house in Iowa. When they get to the farm, they find nothing was taken care of by the cousin, who was living there. The young lady and the five year old decide to return the farm and boarding house to their former purposes. Kindness of strangers and hard work make it possible. As things are improving, a trail of orphans begin to show up that need to be taken care of and fed. This is when the cousin of the former owner decides to try to take over everything and the five year old girl. A young lawyer helps the young lady by defending her in court. They win the case.

Faith, love, and determination will change their lives and their future!

Noreen Halvorson, Librarian

OWLs BINGO

The OWLs' first get-together of the Fall season will be Bingo on Tuesday, October 7th at 2:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Attendees with the last name beginning A-M should bring a dessert or snack to share; last names beginning N-Z should bring a prize. Please sign up on the bulletin board in advance for planning purposes.

Thank You from the Quilters

The Bethlehem quilting group would like to express our gratefulness to the members of the congregation and extended community for the donations of fabric, flat sheets, sewing machine and other items that help our mission continue.

If you would like to join this group or just come and see what we do, we meet Wednesday mornings starting at 9:00 a.m. in the church Fellowship Hall. We welcome all visitors and/or new members!

Thank you.

The Bethlehem Quilters

Our Circle Bible Studies meet September through May on the 3rd Tuesday of each month as follows:

Elizabeth Circle:

October 21st, 2:00 p.m. Fellowship Hall Chairwoman: Joyce Schepp

701-412-3244

Miriam Circle:

October 21st, 6:30 p.m. Fireside Room

Quilting

The quilters meet Wednesdays from 9:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m. They will meet October 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29.

Please join them for another year of fun, fellowship, coffee, and treats. Even if you don't sew, there is something to do. New members are always welcome!

Trust Foundation Board

It's wonderful to see the Endowment Fund's growth due to your envelope offering and memorial gifts. A Donation Request Form has been created and is now available in the church office.

Please consider including Bethlehem Lutheran Church Endowment Fund in your wills, estates and retirement accounts. Thank you.

Communing the Baptized

All who are baptized are welcome to participate in Holy Communion. Does your child show interest in receiving Communion?

Even if he/she is younger than 10 years of age, they are welcome to participate at the Lord's Table. We offer early Communion preparation for baptized persons younger than 10 years of age and their families. If you and your child are interested in such a conversation, please contact one of the pastors. They would be happy to schedule a time to speak with you!

Taxi Service

If you are in need of a ride to worship, Bethlehem has opened an account with Doyle Cab to provide the needed ride. You will need our account number and pin to schedule a ride. Contact the church office for that information.



Bethlehem Lutheran Church Soup, Sandwich & Bake Sale

Saturday, November 1, 2025

Soup & Sandwich served from 11:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m. Cost: \$10; Ages 12 & under: \$5

From 10:30 a.m. — 1:00 p.m. you may enjoy:

Bake Sale in the Narthex

Library Fundraiser in the Narthex

Quilt Sale in the Sanctuary

Craft Sale/Vendor Booths in the Narthex &

Sanctuary

Donations of baked items are appreciated. Ethnic baked goods (lefse, rosettes, krumkake, kuchen, etc.) make the bake sale special. Cash or check donations also accepted. Baked items may be delivered to the church on Friday, October 31, from 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., or on Saturday morning beginning at 9:00 a.m.

From the Church Records



Memorials Received

Thank you to everyone who gave memorials to Bethlehem.

Bathrooms

In memory of *Marge Johnson*, given by Hank & Noreen Halvorson.

In memory of Allan Oak, given by Roger & Sue Peterson; Hank & Noreen Halvorson; Peg Winters; Dave & Carole Johnston; Lyle & Marsha Songstad; Dallas Christiansen: Darren & Janet Baumgartner; Joanne Peterson; Roger & Joyce Dissmore; Gary & Masayo Sollid; Marian Narum; Loretta Wieland; Betty Ferguson; Don & Sharon Zeman; Don Gilbertson; Carol Carlisle; Orville & Shirley Slusher; Maryanne Suhr; David & Diane Wanner; Lucy Radke; Jeannie Orke; Kristian Aasmundstad; Bruce & Sharon Bohnsack; Marianne Gagelin; Erwin & Marilyn Wahlgren; Ronald & Delayne Thorson; David & Dianne Judd; Terry, El, & Drew Evavold; Ben Robertson; JoAnn Manlove; Don & Diane Johnson; Sherry Hallquist; Lowell Oak; Sharon & Jim Puppe; Rick & Faye Majerus; Vern & Lois Smerud; Steve & Peg Lattimore; Ken & Margie Eckre; Dave & Ronda Bietz & Family; Leonard & Adele Momerak; Jack & Dixie Smith; Joe & JoAnn Felland; Roger & Sue Wick; Don Pfaff & Family; Pat Hanggi; Dan & Karen Nielsen; Alden & JoAnn Narum; Carol Leibhan: Vonnie Sandland: Gail & Joe Lorenzen; Marge Meidinger; John Melting; Vivian Sanders; Charlie & Marlene Jorgensen; Gary & Randy Fraederick; Jerry & Connie Maczkowicz & Family; and Dee Thompson.

Debt Reduction

In memory of *Allan Oak*, given by Erwin & Jean Beilke; and Judy Coughlin.

In memory of *AnnaLea Locken*, given by Erwin & Jean Beilke.

Emergency Fund

In memory of *Allan Oak*, given by Linda Dettmann; and Clark & Lana Roscoe.

Endowment

In honor of the *BLC Pastoral Staff—Pr. Lexy, Pr. Ann, and Brigham*, given by Gary & Joyce Schepp.

In memory of *Allan Oak*, given by Barb Johnson; and Gary & Joyce Schepp.

Library

In memory of *Doris Towle*, given by Jennifer Konen.

Organ

In memory of *Allan Oak*, given by Jim Andersen; and Richard & Bunny Workin.

Roof

In memory of *Allan Oak*, given by Carol Huhner; and Elaine Baumgartner.

Youth

In memory of *Allan Oak*, given by Cal & Eloise Haglund.

Bethlehem Lutheran Church is grateful for your consideration of a memorial gift for your loved one. The list of memorial needs has been established to guide families in their options and interests. It is also based on priority needs of the congregation. If you would like to provide a memorial, please bring it to the office and list what fund you would like to contribute to as well as who is being honored. Thank you for this opportunity to honor your loved one.

Memorial Possibilities

- 1. Bathrooms
- 2. Bells
- 3. Debt Reduction (Sweep Loan)
- 4. Elevator
- 5. Emergency Fund
- 6. Endowment Fund
- 7. Landscaping
- 8. Library
- 9. Organ Fund
- 10. Parking Lot Fund
- 11. Roof Fund
- 12. Youth

Wish List

In addition to monetary memorials, there are also opportunities to fund specific one-time items. If you are interested in donating an item, reach out to the office for more information.

Our current wish list includes:

Gas Fireplace Insert and Install in Fireside Room, \$6,180.00 Organ Cleaning and Repair, \$5,500.00

Official Acts:

Baptisms

9/5/25—Marcella Katherine Sanchez, daughter of Lucas DeBoer & Kiana Sanchez. Sponsors: Katie & Chris Kieffer.

9/13/25—Lucas Paul Kjono, son of Gavin Kjono & Faith Hodge. Sponsors: Amanda & Bryan Thronson, Marc & Stephanie Hodge, Aaron Prestegard, Davien Dimas.

Burials

9/5/25—Allan Oak 9/25/25—Corrine Lamb

Change of Address

Ardis Skogen 5250 32nd Ave S Apt 4010 Fargo, ND 58104

BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN LOAN BALANCES

(As of 8/31/25)

Sweep (Operating Loan) Balance

\$75,899.62

Parish Planning Council Minutes September 11, 2025

Present: Jim Sandsmark, Pastor Lexy, Brigham Drevlow, Kelly Nielsen, Shannon Brager, Dave Buen, Erik Larson, Mathew

Potter, Tim Devle, Cathy Hanson, Aimee Livdahl.

Absent: Sue Gomke, Judy Coughlin.

Executive Director Jim Sandsmark called the meeting to order. Pastor Lexy led the group in opening prayer.

A motion to accept and approve the minutes of the May 8th and August 19th meetings with no revisions was made by Erik Larson and seconded by Dave Buen. The motion carried.

Board Reports

Trust Foundation – Cathy Hanson. The last meeting of the board was in June and there was little business to be handled at that time. Over the summer, however, the board received 4 requests which will be looked at on Tuesday, Sept 16th.

Worship –Tim Deyle. The Worship Board will meet on September 18th instead of their regular meeting time due to absences. A planned topic of discussion is adding a paid position for a Worship Band director. Pastor Lexy added that attendance for the Wednesday night services have been steadily around 50-70 people. If a new director was hired, the position would likely be paid similarly to the Bell Choir and Youth Choir directors.

Property – Dave Buen. We are down to 1 party having interest in buying the lot across the street. It is unclear whether we need a contractor for the bathroom remodel. The city's answer has differed from contractors' opinions. If there are structural changes, a permit is needed. Gateway will plug/seal any gaps in the roof and tighten bolts that have loosened, but they are booked until spring, so no large updates can be done until then. It would be nice to have a designated "general contractor" to be available to answer any calls or questions about our projects. The bathroom CD at Bell Bank is up for renewal. A motion to renew the CD and add available funds raised for the bathroom remodel was made by Kelly Nielsen and seconded by Dave Buen. The motion carried.

Evangelism/Fellowship – Mathew Potter. Due to monthly outdoor gatherings this summer, BLC will not host a block party this Fall. Instead, we will have a freezer meal event on Saturday, November 15 and a food drive November 10-16. The freezer meal event will cost approximately \$25 per person and everyone will take home at least 5 meals. Neighbors will be invited to participate as well so it is a low cost opportunity for them.

Stewardship – Kelly Nielsen. October 12 is Consecration Sunday. The Stewardship Board will provide the pizza meal Wednesday October 8th and a breakfast catered by VIP Catering on Sunday October 12th as a thank you to the congregation. The Temple Talk given at these services will be presented by Beth. Letters about Consecration will be sent out in the next couple weeks along with new estimate of giving cards. The board's next meeting is September 22. Dave Buen will be joining the meeting to discuss the Property Board's side of the projects that we are working on together.

Youth – Shannon Brager. It was a busy summer for the youth and Brigham Drevlow. 7 students and 2 chaperones attended Christikon Bible Camp. 9 students attended Red Willow Bible Camp. Summer youth events included Bike to DQ, Messy Games at The Neighborhood Church, and Water Games at the Neighborhood Church. Over the next couple months we will have Castaway on September 26-28, the Halloween Party on October 29 after worship, and wreath sales from October 15-November 12 (pick up November 23). Brigham will have paternity leave starting in October, which will last 30-31 days. He will receive his regular monthly salary during that time.

Parish Education – In Sue Gomke's absence, Brigham Drevlow updated the council on the Education Board's September 8th meeting. There are 23 students registered for Christian Ed. 10 PreK-1st graders are being led by Morgan Larson and Lexi Newton. 3 2nd-4th graders are led by Tom Thoreson. 10 5th-7th graders are in Brigham Drevlow's group. During Brigham's paternity leave, Sue Gomke and Erin Dahl will cover his Ed classes, and Judy Coughlin and Addison McCroskey will lead Christian Ed music. In October, 2 students will receive 3rd grade Bibles and 6 students will be confirmed. Over the summer, the storage closet was cleaned, and supplies were updated, including many gift bags from Birthday Bash Project.

Ministry – Erik Larson. The board set up their meeting for October, and discussed the budget and upcoming staff evaluations. The pastors gave their monthly reports.

Treasurer's Report – We are transitioning our accounting to ICON, which has meant many hours of work put in by Judy Coughlin. This change has meant an increase in budgeted cost for the payroll software, but it was much more manageable than expected. We will also receive free support.

(Parish Planning Council Minutes Continued)

Pastor's Report – Pr. Lexy Steinle gave her pastoral report. She and Brigham Drevlow attended Churchwide Assembly this summer. Kaleidoscope will be at the end of the month in New Orleans, where she will present on Narrative Budgets.

Old Business

The church's constitution needs to be updated. Pastor Amy Kippen will be our Synod constitutional helper. She will guide us through the process. She has recommended we start with the new model constitution and modify as needed.

New Business

The board budgets are due in October to present to Parish Planning. Boards that budget for a salary must get the salary increase determination from Stewardship Board. Discuss line items, and look at what has been spent on the quarterly reports from Judy. This can also be compared to the past few years of budgets, which Pr. Lexy has on file. Budgets must be finalized by Nov.

Open Discussion

Brigham Drevlow has talked with the website designer, who had delays due to a family loss. It is nearly finished, but we're giving the launch a 3 month window, so final details aren't rushed.

A motion to dismiss the meeting was made by Dave Buen and seconded by Mathew Potter. The motion carried. The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer. The next meeting of Parish Planning Council will be October 9th at 7:30 p.m.

Minutes recorded by Aimee Livdahl



Join Comstock-Hoff Parish and Bethlehem Lutheran Church for the trip of a lifetime with Pastor Jill and Pastor Lexy, as we walk the footsteps of the Apostle Paul!

The Footsteps of Paul: Turkey and Greece



10 Day Tour, June 9th-19th 2026

We'll be traveling by land and sea to the inspiring sites of the Early Church, and exploring Greek culture, food, and scenery along the way!

Find the itinerary, sign-up, and place your deposit by following the QR code!







Celebrating Baby Drevlow! October 5th at 11:00am in the Fellowship Hall

Baby is due soon, so let's help the new parents celebrate! We'll be showering Brigham and Cassie with diapers (in a variety of sizes!) and wipes, so bring along your favorites to share!

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4TH 4:00PM IN THE PARKING LOT



BRING YOUR
FLUFFY FAMILY
MEMBERS TO
RECIEVE A
SPECIAL
BLESSING
AND TREAT!



OCTOBER YOUTH NEWS



Schedule

Oct 1: Christian Ed

Youth Choir Sings in Wed. Church

Oct 5: God Squad @ Atomic Coffee 12-1pm

Youth Choir Sings in Sun. Church

Oct 8: Christian Ed Oct 15: Christian Ed Oct 22: Christian Ed

Oct 27: Youth Choir sings in Church

Oct 29: Family Event - Halloween Party



Wreath Fundraiser from 10/15-11/12

Our BLC Youth will be hosting the annual Christmas Wreath Fundraiser. Wreath Sales will begin on October 15. We will have a table in the narthex available every Wed/Sun until Nov. 12.

Wreaths are \$30 each
Cash or check payable to BLC Youth

Won't be in church? Order a wreath online here!

Scan with a smartphone



Halloween Party on 10/29

Throw on your Halloween costume, and come join us on Oct 29 for a SPOOKTACULAR evening of games, candy, and fun! This year we will be holding our party outside with weather permitting.

This event is open to all- bring friends and family who would like to join!

The Halloween Party will take place during our regular Christian Ed. time -6:45-7:45pm

Please bring 1 bag of trick-or-treat candy per family as admission.

Stay in Touch

Email: youth@blcfargo.org Facebook: Bethlehem Lutheran Youth Remind101: Text 81010 - type "@blc-ed"

Thank You!

We extend our deepest thanks and gratitude to your kind support of our youth programming - thanks to your generosity opportunities like Christikon Bible Camp, Red Willow Bible Camp, and the ELCA Synod Youth Retreat exist for our youngest believers.!





October 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			9:00 am Quilting 5:30 pm Meal 6:00 pm Worship w/ Holy Communion 6:15 pm PrK-1 Ed 6:45 pm PrK-7 Music 7:00 pm Adult Bible Study 7:00 pm Confirmation 7:00 pm Senior Choir 7:15 pm 2-7 Ed	2 1:00 pm Sing From Your Heart Chorus 7:00 pm AA	Restor Lexy's Day Off 7:30 am M.E.A.T.T.	4
9:30 am Worship w/ Holy Communion 11:00 am Drevlow Baby Shower 4:00 pm Blessing of the Animals in the Parking Lot	6:00 pm SA 6:00 pm Stewardship Board 7:00 pm Education Board	9:00 am Staff Meeting 2:00 pm OWLs Bingo 6:15 pm Ministry Board 6:00 pm Worship Band 7:00 pm Bell Choir	9:00 am Quilting 5:30 pm Consecration Meal 6:00 pm Worship 6:15 pm PrK-1 Ed 6:45 pm PrK-7 Music 7:00 pm Adult Bible Study 7:00 pm Confirmation 7:00 pm Senior Choir 7:15 pm 2-7 Ed	9 1:00 pm Sing From Your Heart Chorus 6:00 pm Youth Board 6:30 pm Evangelism/ Fellowship, Worship, Property Boards 7:00 pm AA 7:30 pm Parish Planning Council—Budgets Due	10 Pastor Lexy's Day Off	11 12:30 pm Co-Creators
9:30 am Worship 10:30 am Consecration Brunch 11:00 am Bible Study Consecration Sunday	13 10:30 am One Oak Gathering 6:00 pm SA	9:00 am Staff Meeting 6:00 pm Worship Band 7:00 pm Bell Choir	9:00 am Quilting 5:30 pm Meal 6:00 pm Worship 6:15 pm PrK-1 Ed 6:45 pm PrK-7 Music 7:00 pm Adult Bible Study 7:00 pm Confirmation 7:00 pm Senior Choir 7:15 pm 2-7 Ed	1:00 pm Sing From Your Heart Chorus 2:00 pm Coffee w/ Pastor Lexy @ Luna 7:00 pm AA	Pr. Lexy gone for Mammoth March	Pr. Lexy gone for Mammoth March
9:30 am Worship 11:00 am Bible Study Pr. Lexy gone for Mammoth March	20 6:00 pm SA	9:00 am Staff Meeting 2:00 pm Elizabeth Circle 6:00 pm Worship Band 6:30 pm Miriam Circle 7:00 pm Bell Choir	9:00 am Quilting 5:30 pm Meal 6:00 pm Worship 6:15 pm PrK-1 Ed 6:45 pm PrK-7 Music 7:00 pm Adult Bible Study 7:00 pm Confirmation 7:00 pm Senior Choir 7:15 pm 2-7 Ed	23 1:00 pm Sing From Your Heart Chorus 7:00 pm AA	24 Pastor Lexy's Day Off	25 10:00 am Confirmation Rehearsal
9:30 am Worship w/ Confirmation	27 6:00 pm SA	9:00 am Staff Meeting 6:00 pm Worship Band 7:00 pm Bell Choir	9:00 am Quilting 5:30 pm Meal 6:00 pm Worship w/ Holy Communion 6:45 pm Halloween Party 7:00 pm Adult Bible Study 7:00 pm Senior Choir	30 1:00 pm Sing From Your Heart Chorus 7:00 pm AA	31 Pastor Lexy's Day Off	

Bethlehem Lutheran Staff





CHURCH STAFF

Pastor
Visitation Pastor
Administrative Assistant
Custodian
Treasurer
Librarian
Youth, Education, and
Evangelism Minister

Youth, Education, and Evangelism Minister Service Accompanists

Music Coordinator Senior Choir Director Senior Choir Accompanist Youth Choir Director Bell Choir Director Media Coordinator Video Technician Lexy Steinle Ann Johnston Aimee Livdahl Josh & Jess Smith Judy Coughlin Noreen Halvorson

Brigham Drevlow Judy Coughlin Alvina Deyle Aimee Livdahl Dale A. Lammi Alvina Deyle Brigham Drevlow

Josh Vangsness Josh Vangsness

EXTENDED STAFF

Missionaries: Willie and Anne Langdji

Madagascar, West and Central Africa

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

ВЕТНГЕНЕМL U T H E R A N

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