



Bethany Lutheran Church

Mission Statement

Reaching out in Worship, Fellowship, Learning, and
Love - We Are God's People.

The Chimes



2023 ANNUAL MEETING

The 2023 Annual Meeting will be held on

Sunday, January 28, 2024

Immediately following worship.

Annual Reports will be out on Sunday, January 15, so be sure to stop and pick one up. Take some time to review the document, and come prepared with any questions you may have.



2024 Offering envelopes will be ready to pick up on Sunday,
January 7th.

Bethany Evangelical Lutheran Church

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Pastor Pete: 319-470-9057
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Our Staff

Rev. Pete Hagglund, Interim Pastor
Cory Byrne, Choir Director/Organist
Kim Engle, Stephen Ministry Coordinator
Wendy Bell, Office Administrator
Michelle Huppenbauer, Temporary Financial Secretary
Pam Crable, Custodian

January 2024, LSI Bulletin/Newsletter Article and Story

Amplifying the Voices of Iowa Children and Families

Individuals struggle without access to critical healthcare and family support services. Human service providers are overworked and underpaid. Former refugees and immigrants strive to build new lives in the U.S.

These are all issues faced by Iowans from all different walks of life. Join Lutheran Services in Iowa (LSI) to advocate for our community members at Lutheran Day on the Hill (LDH) on Monday, February 19, 2024.

In partnership with the three Iowa synods of the ELCA, LDH is LSI's biggest day of advocacy. Over 150 participants gather at Capitol Hill Lutheran Church in Des Moines to learn about critical issues Iowa children, adults, and families are facing. You'll learn more about the legislative process, the issues impacting your neighbors, and your role as a citizen in helping to amplify their voices.

After learning how to advocate for our neighbors, the group heads to the Iowa State Capitol to talk directly with legislators.

For more information and to register for this year's Lutheran Day on the Hill, visit LSIowa.org/LDH.

Our Mission: Lutheran Services in Iowa responds to the love of Jesus Christ through compassionate service. LSI is an affiliated social ministry partner of the Iowa congregations of the ELCA (Evangelical Lutheran Church in America) and a member of LSA (Lutheran Services in America). We proudly serve people of all ages, abilities, religions, sexes, gender identities, national origins, ethnicities, races, and sexual orientations. Learn more at LSIowa.org and facebook.com/LSI.iowa





Dear Friends in Christ,

The season of Epiphany begins on January 6th, commemorating the visit of the Wise Men to Bethlehem, followed by 5 to 8 Sundays in which the Gospel readings tell us about the earlier days of Jesus' ministry. The season of Epiphany is somewhat like the season of "After Pentecost"--for one thing, the liturgical color for both is green; for another, there's no particular *emphasis*, as there is with Advent, Christmas, Lent, and Easter. What this has always meant for me as a preacher and teacher is that I'm free to pick out my own things to emphasize, which the appointed readings give me plenty of freedom to do.

In this year's season of Epiphany we have a series of readings from the middle chapters of 1 Corinthians, a letter the apostle Paul wrote in response to some issues that had developed in the Corinthian church after he had left the city of Corinth, *after* he had spent a year and a half helping to get that church up and running. At first glance, the issues (or *some* of them, anyway) don't sound *contemporary*; that is, they seem to be buried in ancient history. But by taking a much closer look (and that *is* a big part of a pastor's job, after all!), we come to see that those issues and problems *do* have their modern evolutionary relatives!

I've chosen to do a five-part sermon series on chapters 6-9 of 1st Corinthians. A time or two in the past I've mentioned to you that if 1st Corinthians were to be put into a book on how to run a church, it would be in a chapter called "Don't Let This Happen To You". The contents of this letter are at times comical; they leave you shaking your head and saying to yourself, "What were these people *thinking?*" In one chapter (ch. 7, which I'll take up with you on 1/21)), Paul's counsel is *dreadfully* bad, but once you learn why he said what he did, you at least understand why he said it. And you see that even though he was operating from a wrong premise, his advice to the Corinthians has considerable value for Christian living, nonetheless. As with the rest of Holy Scripture, 1st Corinthians is "*...inspired by God, and useful for teaching, for correction, reproof, and for training in righteousness...*" (2 Timothy 3:16)

So, with 1st Corinthians as our guide, we'll start the new calendar year in worship looking at how and how not to be "the church"--and I *do* hope that you enjoy hearing this upcoming series as much as I've enjoyed putting it together!

In Christ,
Pastor Pete

Meetings

The meetings for January, 2024 that have been scheduled as of the publishing of this newsletter are listed below. Watch your bulletins for any date and time changes, or additional meetings that may be scheduled.

Finance Committee
Saturday, January 11 @ 6:30 p.m.

Church Life Committee
Sunday, January 14 @ 10:15 a.m.

Property Committee
Monday, January 8 @ 6:30 p.m.

Church Council
Wednesday, January 17 @ 6:30 p.m.

Men's Breakfast
Saturday, January 20 @ 8:00 a.m.

Church Outreach
Outreach is not meeting in January

Executive Committee
Wednesday, January 9 @ 6:30 p.m.

**Annual Congregational Meeting
January 28 @ 10:15 a.m.**

FINANCIAL UPDATE

December ATTENDANCE

December 3	65
December 10	57
December 17	61
December 24	54
Candlelight	99
December 31	<i>At Faith/Trinity</i>

December GIVING

December 3	\$2,194.00
December 10	\$2,272.00
December 17	\$1,691.00
December 24	\$4,030.00
December 31	<u>\$At Faith/Trinity</u>
Total	\$

November VANCO total: \$1,625.00



PLEASE NOTE

Please be sure to update your address and/or phone number with the office. A new church directory will be published soon, and we'd like to have current information.

ALSO!

Because of Federal Privacy laws, if you or a member of your family are hospitalized and would like the Pastor to visit, you must contact the church and let us know.

LIVING LUTHERAN

You may have read in the March issue of Living Lutheran, the magazine will cease its print publication with the November/December 2023 issue. You can still read the magazine at the online platform LivingLutheran.org, where you'll experience enhanced content through videos and audio stories. Check it out!

LAY LEADERS

January 2024

January Usher: Susan Swanson

Communion Assistants

7 - Steve & Sue Rogers
14 - Scott & Jan Creighton
21 - Jessica King; Dan Harken
28 - Jim & Sharon Martindale

Lector

7 - Judy Craven
14 - Dan Harken
21 - Vicki Stoller
28 - Mike Hopp



Greeters

7 - Vicki Stoller
14 - Mark & Bonnie Rosenberg
21 - Bill Mundt
28 - Carol Dodge

Flowers

The new flower chart is out now. Stop on Sunday or a weekday during office hours and choose your special date!

7 - open
14 - open
21 - Bill Mundt
28 - open

Missionary Support

The new sign up is out now. Stop on Sunday or a weekday during office hours and choose your special date!

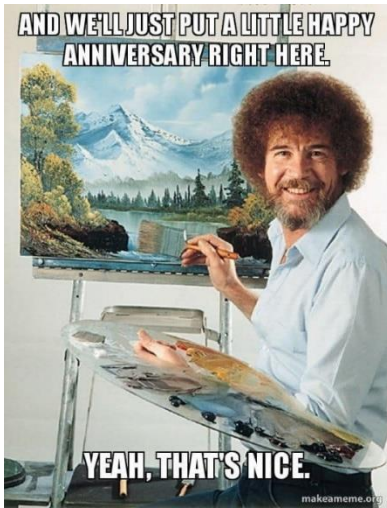
Altar Guild

Nancy House
Sarah Loots
Debbie Hoxie



January Anniversaries

16 - Ron & Carlene Woodside



My little boy, Corbin, turned 6 years old on December 20th, so here is an adorable photo of him at Danville's Christmas Walk earlier in December!

Wendy



January BIRTHDAYS






- 1 - Andrew Shepherd
- 4 - Michelle Cox; J.T. McCarthy; Brian Rosenberg
- 6 - Pam Luder
- 9 - Aunika Johnson; Tyler Shofe
- 11 - Melissa Milton
- 12 - Kaye Sladky
- 14 - Taylor House
- 15 - Mary Honsey
- 21 - Bradley Johnson
- 23 - Conni Boyer; Joyce Timberlake
- 27 - Pam Taylor





January 2024



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Happy New Year! 	2	3 9:30 am Bible Study	4	5	6
			<i>Pastor Pete returns to the area</i>			
7 Baptism of Our Lord 9:00a.m. Worship 10:55 a.m. Hope Service Unhanging of the Greens	8 6:30 pm Property Committee	9 6:30 pm Executive Committee	10	11 6:30 pm Finance	12	13 National Rubber Ducky Day 
14 2nd Sunday after Epiphany 9:00 a.m. Worship 10:15 a.m. Church Life 10:55 a.m. Hope Service	15 MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. Day 	16	17 9:30 am Bible Study 6:30 pm Council	18	19 Deadline for Chimes submissions	20 8:00am Men's Breakfast
			<i>Pastor Pete returns to the area</i>			
21 3rd Sunday after Epiphany 9:00 a.m. Worship 10:55 a.m. Hope Service Annual Reports Available	22	23 	24	25	26	27
28 4th Sunday after Epiphany 9:00 a.m. Worship 10:15 a.m. Annual Congregational Meeting 10:55 a.m. Hope Service	29	30	31 9:30 am Bible Study National Hot Chocolate Day 		Paraments: White: 7 Green: 14, 21, 28	
		<i>Pastor Pete returns to the area</i>				