



Bethany Lutheran Church

Mission Statement

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

The
Chimes

Upcoming

EVENTS

On October 3 at 5:30 p.m. we will meet at the fire pit for our annual hot dog cookout. Bring a chair and a stick to cook your hot dog. The hot dogs and buns are being provided. There is a signup sheet at church. You can also call the office and let us know how many people are coming and if you can bring a salad or dessert.

On October 23, from 3:00-4:30 p.m., we will participate in the trunk and treat festival held at First Christian Church, 1221 Park Avenue. You can start arriving at 2:15 to get in line. It would be helpful if candy can be donated. Please bring the candy to the church.

October is hats and mittens month. Every year we bring hats and mittens to church to give to the local schools to distribute to children. We will collect them throughout the month of October. There will be containers outside the sanctuary to put them in or you can place them on the "tree."

In November we have our annual bike drive. We are invited to buy new bikes, assembled or unassembled, or give a donation to buy bikes. Traditionally bikes can be purchased at a discount because it is off-season. This is in conjunction with Toys for Tots.

Finally, we are hoping to resume our Bethany Thanksgiving dinner on Thanksgiving Day, November 25, at 2:00 p.m. The situation with Covid will give us the decision by mid-November. If it's a go, we will have a sign-up sheet to help plan this event.

Bethany Evangelical Lutheran Church

2515 Madison Ave.

Burlington, Iowa

Phone: (319) 752-3621

www.bethanyburlington.org

Pastor's Cell: (360) 623-2184

Our Staff

Rev. Paul Hermansen, Pastor Cory Byrne, Choir Director/Organist

Sue Hermansen, Admin. Asst. Michelle Huppenbauer, Financial Sec'y

Pam Crable, Custodian

BIRTHDAY BANK, WORLD HUNGER, AND MISSIONARY SUPPORT OFFERINGS

Now that we are inside again for worship, we would like to remind you of our special offerings. The little box is our birthday bank. The money you put in the birthday bank helps to fund our human concerns ministry. The offering plate next to it is for world hunger. Because of the pandemic, both of these sources of offerings have been depleted. There is also a sign-up sheet in the hallway to support our missionary Brian Palmer. There is a bulletin board by the Boy Scout table with his newsletters.

WYNTER RAY LAIRD

On September 19 we welcomed Wynter Ray Laird into membership by the Sacrament of Holy Baptism. Wynter is the great granddaughter of Donna Kerns. Please pray for Wynter and her family to be given a hunger for God and a desire to be with us in church to grow in Christ. Our children are very precious and developing a relationship with Christ is the most important thing we can do.

FINANCE

BETHANY'S CURRENT FINANCIAL SITUATION

All things being considered, Bethany has been doing well in most areas. One place where we are not trending well is in our offerings as compared to our expenses. We still have a positive balance in our general fund, but the totals have dropped between \$15,000 to \$20,000 in the last 17 months. Thank you to those who maintain their generous support. For those who feel moved to catch up on their giving or make a special gift, your generosity is greatly appreciated.

CONFIRMATION

We went nearly 18 months of not being able to have in-person confirmation classes. We still had confirmation, but without personal interaction. We are now returning to "normal" confirmation classes. This year we meet at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesdays. All our classes will be at Faith Lutheran Church. This program that Pastor Ryan started is one of the most life-giving confirmation experiences I have ever had. Our youth learn about God in an environment of fun, sharing, and fellowship. If you would like to hear more about this, please let me know.



NATIONAL YOUTH GATHERING, JULY 24-28, 2022

Every three years Lutheran youth from throughout the United States get together for a national youth religious experience. Bethany has attended several of these. They often join other area youth for transportation. There was an event scheduled for 2021 that was moved to 2022. The event will take place on July 24-28 in Minneapolis. In the days to come we will encourage our high school youth to reserve these dates on their calendars. We will also look at fund raising activities to help with costs. Today, more than ever, our young people are bombarded with various messages of uncontrolled content. It is vital that they continue to hear the Gospel message of Jesus Christ. These national youth events are tremendous faith builders. Please pray that this exciting opportunity will be a priority for our youth.

OCTOBER ACTIVITIES

The Retired Nurses will be meeting on Friday, October 1, at 9:30 a.m. in the fellowship hall.



FROM THE PASTOR

The point is this: he who sows sparingly will also
reap sparingly, and he who sows
bountifully will also reap bountifully.

2 Corinthians 9:6

BETHANY'S MISSION STATEMENT: REACHING OUT IN WORSHIP, FELLOWSHIP, LEARNING AND LOVE—WE ARE GOD'S PEOPLE

One of the hallmarks of a successful organization is having a mission statement that everyone is engaged in. Successful leaders emphasize a mission statement in everything they do. I really like the first two words of our mission statement: reaching out. God empowers us, with the Holy Spirit, to share ourselves with others. An example of reaching out happens at Uncle Ronnie's when I watch our own Ron Kastner inviting people to Bethany. Ron is a natural when it comes to reaching out. Some of you may feel a little hesitant to reach out because you do not know what to say. What I have found works best is to casually ask those you converse with where they go to church. If they do not have a church family, this is a gentle way to lead into telling them about Bethany. When you talk about Bethany share what you like most. People will pick up on our "likes." People are looking for meaningful relationships. Express how caring Bethany is and how you feel a sense of family in our congregation.

In terms of worship, be sure to tell people about Cory's skills on the organ and piano. If you like our worship and sermons, do not hesitate to talk about them. Explain that we have communion every Sunday and all are welcome.

The pandemic has definitely cut into one of Bethany's strengths—fellowship. We also continue to exercise caution in our sharing of the peace. We are to be Christ-centered in our friendliness. People have a sense of being in a family here. When things open up more, our fellowship focus will become strong again. Most of all, Biblical fellowship is reaching out beyond ourselves into our communities, schools, and workplaces. People are hungering to connect with others. Reaching out is the Christ-like way we do that.

In our reaching out in learning, we have an excellent opportunity to do that in our upcoming Stephen Ministry training. Now that we have the materials, Kim Engle will let us know when it starts. Once trained, a Stephen Minister shares godly compassion for any who are hurting. Other learning opportunities are Sunday School, confirmation, and Bible study. We also have daily devotionals and our monthly *Living Lutheran* magazine to enhance our reading of the Bible.

Reaching out in love has been the essence of our life in Christ ever since Jesus walked the earth. In the early years of the church people were amazed at how much Christians cared for each other. At Bethany we give money to world hunger, missionaries, local food banks, the homeless shelter, community action, and others. At Christmas we do our hat and mitten drive, bike drive, and angel tree. Members also do individual acts of love like donating blood.

We reach out to one another within our church family as well as extend the caring heart of God to those beyond ourselves. It is the way of Jesus to care for one another.

In Christ,
Pastor Paul



October 2021 Lay Leaders

Head Usher:

Acolytes

3—
10—
17—
24—
31—

October Lead Usher:

Ushers

3—
10—
17—
24—
31—

Communion Assistants

3—Susan Swanson; Teresa Morehead
10—Amy Unglaub; Jessica King
17—Mark Rosenberg; Mike Hopp
24—Jim & Sharon Martindale
31—Sue Hermansen; Susan Swanson

Children's Sermons

3—
10—
17—
24—
31—

THIS SCHEDULE OF LAY LEADERS IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE DUE TO THE VIRUS. PLEASE CHECK BETHANY'S FACEBOOK PAGE FOR UPDATES OR CALL THE OFFICE.

Lector

3—Sue Hermansen
10—Mitchell Huston
17—Judy Craven
24—Todd Chelf
31—Jessica King

Greeters

3—Sharon Martindale
10—Dan & Ruth Harken
17—Marlys McClurg; Vanette Wooldridge
24—Bill Taylor
31—Mark & Bonnie Rosenberg

Missionary Support

3—
10—
17—
24—
31—

Flowers

3—Richard and Holly Williamson
10—Carol Dodge
17—Ginny Mesecher
24—Vanteet Wooldridge; Marlys McClurg
31—Michelle & Tiffany Huppenbauer

Altar Guild

Sharon Martindale; Pat & Kelli Reichelt; Pam Taylor; Julie Wischmeier; Mitchell Huston

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

1—Joe Gerdes
2—Sidney Boyer; Kim Engle
5—Graham Oetken
7—Bradley Howell; Shelley Wallace
8—Teresa Morehead
9—Annette Miller
11—Sharyn Miller
12—Joshua Bloomer; Ellen Shepherd
14—Todd Chelf; Beverly Sherbondy
15—Mitchell Huston; Jeffrey Woodside
17—Jamie Adam
18—Marlys McClurg
19—Patricia Humiston
21—Eleonore Benninghoven; Teresa Staub
22—Kelli Reichelt
26—Evyne Bonar; Gerald Janssen
27—Mel Craven; Rosemary Foster
29—Pat Reichelt
30—Shannon Oetken



3—Jeff and Kim Engle
6—Dylon and Brett Kuster
7—Michael Kastner and Hilary Ann Mayhew
8—Michelle and Tom Cox
12—Lynda and Greg Johnson
14—Randy and Marlys Tharp

Meetings

The meetings for October that have been scheduled as of the publishing of this newsletter are listed below. Watch the bulletins for any date and time changes or additional meetings scheduled.

WELCA
TBA

Outreach Committee
Tuesday, October 19, 5:30 p.m.

Finance Committee
Thursday, October 21, at 6:30 p.m.

Church Life Committee
Monday, October 4, 6:30 p.m.

Property Committee
Monday, October 18, 6:30 p.m.

Executive Committee
Tuesday, October 19, 6:30 p.m.

Church Council
Sunday, October 24, 10:00 a.m.

Men's Breakfast
Saturday, October 23, 8:00 a.m.

PLEASE NOTE

The deadline to submit information for the monthly Chimes is the 25th of the month. You're welcome to email your submissions, leave a note on the desk in the office, or call the church office.

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.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

SEPTEMBER ATTENDANCE

September 5	40	54 FB**
September 12	55	84 FB
September 19	57	81 FB
September 26	54	52 FB

SEPTEMBER GIVING

September 5	\$ 2,238.00
September 12	1,892.00
September 19	1,659.00
September 26	3,498.00
VANCO Offerings	<u>1,600.00</u>
Total	\$ 10,887.00

**Service watched on Facebook

Thank you for your generosity and
faithful trust in God to provide your
needs! God believes in you and has a
great future planned for Bethany.

If you change your mailing
address, please let the office know
ASAP. For every piece of mail returned
for an incorrect address, we are
charged 75 cents.