Bethany Beacon



Mid-Week Lenten Services

April 3 & 10 Meal at 5:00 p.m. Service at 6:00 p.m.

Palm Sunday: April 14 Services at 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.



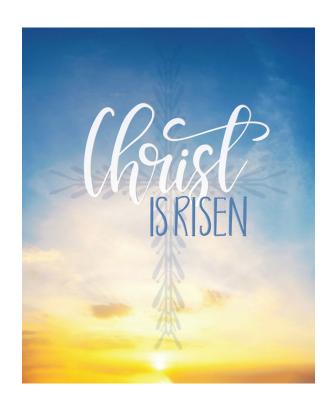
Maundy Thursday

April 18 Service w/ Communion at 7:00 p.m.



Good Friday

April 19 Service at 7:00 p.m.



Easter Sunday

April 21

Services with Communion at 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.

Breakfast served 9:30 - 10:45 am

Easter Egg Hunt between services



Bethany Living and Sharing God's Love

For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. — Romans 6:5

Recently my son, Aiden, asked if he could practice basketball in the Family Life Center (FLC) while I finished up some evening work around the church. Normally this wouldn't have been a problem, but this evening we had a family from Family Promise staying at Bethany. Most of you know that Family Promise is an organization that assists homeless families by asking local churches to host them in their facilities for a week at a time. During the day, Family Promise works with the parents to find permanent solutions to the families' problems, while the children are usually in school. Then in the evening, local churches provide meals, a safe place to sleep, and show the families good Christian hospitality. So I told Aiden he could play basketball in the FLC as long as it didn't interfere with what was going on with Family Promise.

After about an hour I had finished what I needed to do and was ready to go home. So I walked into the FLC to get Aiden, drained a couple of threes from way downtown, and told him it was time to go. At the same time one of the children from *Family Promise* whom we were hosting that night was in the kitchen having a snack before bedtime. When he saw us leaving, he said goodbye and, "I love Family Promise. There's always food to eat!"

Getting into the car, Aiden asked me what this child meant. I was somewhat surprised by this question, as he is old enough to know that there are people who are homeless and who don't have enough food to eat. But I think that to put a face on, or meet, a real person who is struggling with overwhelming and abstract problems like homelessness or hunger, was an eye-opener for him. And truth be told, in many ways it was for me as well.

The other day I challenged some of the staff at Bethany, asking them why the resurrection of Jesus is important. We then discussed how it proved that Jesus' teachings of forgiveness are true and that He is the Son of God. Someone also said that having been united with Christ in Baptism, we too shall enjoy the resurrection when Christ returns. These are all good biblical answers and certainly true. But in addition to them, I also believe that there is a link between Jesus' resurrection and that child having a snack in Bethany's kitchen.

You see, I am convinced that God did not put our congregation in Cedar Rapids during this day and age to feed the hungry and provide shelter for the homeless. The Church, as it always has, exists to proclaim the Word of God and administer the sacraments. So why then do we help *Family Promise?* Why do we make sure that at least one kid has a place to sleep and a bedtime snack, if only for a week? We do these things and many, many others around Bethany because of the resurrection!

Because Jesus has risen from the grave, we know our sins are forgiven and we will enjoy eternal life with Christ. This now frees us to live as His people who have been saved from our sin. There is no need to worry about what will happen to us in the future or when we die, for Christ has already been into the grave and has come out victoriously. Through our faith and trust in Him, He now gives us this same victory and this changes everything in the lives of believers. It enables us to live outside of ourselves and help others who are in need.

Scripture does not tell us that Christ rose from the grave so that a child could have snack before he goes to bed. But I'm fairly certain that if the tomb wasn't empty, someone would have been going to bed hungry the other night. That young child reminded me, and I hope all of you, that when I look at what Bethany does with *Family Promise* and the many other wonderful things we do as a congregation, as well as individual or small groups of Christians, what we are seeing is God's redeemed people living out their Easter hope. We are seeing people who know that Christ is risen, and that we will rise too! By God's grace, may this always be so here at Bethany and in your own life with Jesus!

CALENDAR 3

Monday, April 1	Monday, April 15
10:00 am Women's Group - Marion	10:00 am Women's Group - Marion
6:00 pm LWML Board Mtg GA	Tuesday, April 16
6:45 pm Trustees Meeting	3:00 pm Bethany Prayer Group - Library
Tuesday, April 2	5:00 pm Praise Moves - GA
3:00 pm Bethany Prayer Group - Library	
5:00 pm Praise Moves - GA	Wednesday, April 17
6:00 pm Evangelism - Ad Ed	6:00 am Men's Bible Study - Ad Ed Rm
6:30 pm Handbells Rehearsal - Balcony	6:30 am Moms in Prayer - Library
Wednesday, April 3	4:00 pm Cottage Grove Devotion
6:00 am Men's Bible Study - Ad Ed Rm	6:00 pm Confirmation Class - LL
6:30 am Moms in Prayer - Library	Thursday, April 18
5:00 pm Human Care Meeting	7:00 pm Maundy Thursday Service
5:00 pm Lenten Meal	Friday, April 19
6:00 pm Lenten Service	7:00 pm Good Friday Service
7:00 pm Confirmation Class - LL	Saturday, April 20
Thursday, April 4	9:00 am Holy Yoga - OR
9:00 am Adult Bible Study - Ad Ed	9:00 am Choir Practice - Balcony
12:45 pm Stewardship Meeting	Sunday, April 21
7:00 pm New Member Class	9:30 am Easter Breakfast - FLC
Saturday, April 6	Monday, April 22
8:30 am LWML Rally - Trinity Lutheran	6:30 pm Stephen Min. Cont. Ed Ad Ed
9:00 am Holy Yoga - OR	Tuesday, April 23
Sunday, April 7	3:00 pm Bethany Prayer Group - Library
9:45 am Baby Milestones Class - LL	5:00 pm Praise Moves - GA
12:15 pm Board of Ed Meeting	6:30 pm Handbells Rehearsal - Balcony
6:30 pm Young Adult Bible Study	Wednesday, April 24
Monday, April 8	6:00 am Men's Bible Study - Ad Ed Rm
10:00 am Women's Group - Marion	6:30 am Moms in Prayer - Library
6:30 pm Stephen Min. Area Wide - FLC	1:00 pm Beacon Assembly
Tuesday, April 9	6:00 pm Confirmation Class - LL
3:00 pm Bethany Prayer Group - Library	
5:00 pm Praise Moves - GA	9:00 am Adult Bible Study - Ad Ed
6:30 pm Handbells Rehearsal - Balcony	Saturday, April 27
7:00 pm Council Meeting - Ad Ed	8:00 am Serve the Lord Day
Wednesday, April 10	9:00 am Holy Yoga - OR
6:00 am Men's Bible Study - Ad Ed Rm	Sunday, April 28
6:30 am Moms in Prayer - Library	9:30 am Family Promise Mtg Ad Ed
5:00 pm Lenten Meal - FLC	9:30 am Blood Pressure Screening
6:00 pm Lenten Service	12:30 pm Care Warriors Training
7:00 pm Confirmation Class - LL	Monday, April 29
Thursday, April 11	10:00 am Women's Group - Marion
9:00 am Adult Bible Study - Ad Ed	6:00 pm VBS Leaders Meeting - Ad Ed
6:30 pm Leah Circle - Ad Ed	Tuesday, April 30
7:00 pm New Member Class	3:00 pm Bethany Prayer Group - Library
Saturday, April 13	5:00 pm Praise Moves - GA
9:00 am Holy Yoga - OR	6:30 pm Handbells Rehearsal - Balcony
9:00 am Choir Practice - Balcony	
Sunday, April 14	

12:15 pm Elders' Meeting

6:30 pm Young Adult Bible Study

	<u>Elders</u>				
Apr 7 Apr 14 Apr 21 Apr 28	Dave Dohrmann Rick Foreman Karl Hoech & Jim Novitch Phil Hedtke				
	<u>Ushers</u>				
Apr 7 Apr 14 Apr 21 Apr 28	8:30 Crew #3 11:00 Crew #6 8:30 Crew #1 11:00 Crew #7 8:30 Crew #3 11:00 Crew #6 8:30 Crew #4 11:00 Crew #7				
<u>Greeters</u>					
Apr 7 Apr 14	8:30 Cherie Miller Arlen & Bonnie Breiholz11:00 Dick & Karen Hass Karen Schmidt8:30 Nancy Owens				
Apr 21	Mark & Julie Elias 11:00 Chris & Leisa Knudson Karen Swanson & Noah 8:30 Ed & Gloria Schumacher				
Apr 28	Lorna Fischer 11:00 Shari Mehlhoff Leonard & Rita Tiedt 8:30 Dave & Kay Karsten Rick & Marvelene Foreman 11:00 Mary Nanke				
	Donna Birkicht				
Nursery (11:00 Service)					
Apr 7 Apr 14 Apr 21 Apr 28	Kris Dunn, Melissa Loney Liz & Ryan Corey Annie & Natalie Prohaska Debbie Mills, Katia Knutson				

		<u>Leciois</u>	
Apr 7 Apr 14 Apr 21 Apr 28	8:30 11:00 8:30 11:00 8:30 11:00 8:30 11:00	Rick Thorington Debbie Mills Rick Foreman Leonard Tiedt Ethan Myers Lissa Novitch Arlen Breiholz Brad Crawford	
		<u>Acolyte</u>	
Apr 7	8:30 11:00	Talan Robinson Ashlyn Godbey	
Apr 14	8:30	Jaden Harris	
Apr 21	11:00 8:30	Trae Robinson David Jasper	
Apr 28	11:00 8:30 11:00	Jaden Harris Carmen Ranbarger Lexi Brink	
	Nurser	y (11:00 Service)	
Apr 7 Apr 14 Apr 21 Apr 28	Kris Dunn, Melissa Loney Liz & Ryan Corey Annie & Natalie Prohaska Debbie Mills, Katia Knutson		

Lectors

If you would like to serve in one of these areas, please contact:

Ushers: Steve Hanchera (857-4716)
Greeters: Kay Karsten (361-2017)
Lectors: Rick Thorington (360-2641)
Pray-er: Nurse Ronda (364-6026)
Video: Greg Dunn (389-4271)
Nursery: Nurse Ronda (364-6026)
Coffee: Tina Freese (329-3882)





Serve the Lord Day: April 27





Help care for the maintenance of our facilities on Saturday, April 27. There will be various projects to work on both indoors and outdoors. We will start working at 8:00 a.m. and lunch will be served at 11:30 for fellowship with those who are serving the Lord. Any amount of time you can serve will be appreciated!

PRAYER PAGE 5

Thanksgiving:

Hudson (infant son *Eric & *Lisa Freese)- Baptized 3/10

Illness, injuries, health issues:

Vera (mother of *Julie Elias)- Hospitalization Paul (brother-in-law of *Janelle Dunbar)- Cancer Bill (father of Kim Carter)- Cancer Nadine (mother of Kim Carter)- Medical tests Jeff (brother of Kim Carter)-Medical tests Olivia (daughter of *Kristi Montague)- Shoulder injury Connie (friend of *Sheryl Knutson)- Rehab center Jennifer (daughter of *Pat Krekeler)- Life challenges Barbara (mother of *Jim Heitland)- Recovering after fall Lars (brother of *Pete Larson)- Health issues Ron (brother of *Gloria Schumacher)- Recovering Jane (daughter of *Bonnie Bubke)- Recovering after surgery James (grandson of *Carol Grimminger) - Recovering Jeff Mellgren-Recovering after stroke Steve (brother of *Linda Patten)- Recovering Ryan & Hayden (relatives of *Bonnie Bubke)- brain disorder Gwendolyn- (friend of *Karen Swanson)- terminal illness Lyla (mother of *Sheryl Knutson)- Recovering Steve (brother of *Barb Miller)- Health issues Patti (aunt of *Ginny Urban)- Comfort and strength Susan (niece of *Bonnie Bubke)- Health issues Pastor Renfro (Trinity) – Health issues Gus (friend of *Myerses & *Conrads)-Recovering Mike (friend of *Joel Knutson)- Recovering after hospitalization Deb (daughter of *Bonnie Bubke) Health Issues Steve (friend of *Pete Larson)- Recovering after stroke John (nephew of *Bonnie Bubke)- Health issues Ruth (friend of *Velma Ziesemer)- Health issues Bella (relative of *Melissa Loney)- Health issues David (relative of *Melissa Loney)- Health issues Rod (nephew of *Bonnie Bubke) Parkinson's Disease

Homebound members of Bethany:

*Rollis Deetz- at home

*Pauline Marohn–Living Center West

*Shirley Hansen– at home

*Wayne & Darlene Schilling- at home

Candi Engel-ManorCare

*Patty King- Crestview Acres, Marion

*Ann Meyer– Keystone Cedars

Safety:

Ben Venteicher (former DCE)- National Guard, Deployed Tailor (grandson of *Kim Neuhaus)- Marines

Cancer:

Alan (relative of *Bonnie Bubke)- cancer Gene (husband of *N Owens)- cancer treatment Rosemary (friend of Madsens)- cancer treatment Julie (friend of *Brenda Heims)-cancer Janet (friend of *Brenda Heims)-cancer Mary Lou (friend of *Velma Ziesemer)- cancer treatment Daryl (nephew of *Bonnie Bubke)- cancer Elaine (friend of *Dave Johnson)- cancer treatment Judy (godmother of *Jim Novitch)- cancer treatment Joe (brother of *Barb Lauthen)- cancer Pat (aunt of *Ginny Urban)- cancer Chad (son of *Vicki Huschka)- leukemia David (relative of *Hasses)- cancer Steve Godecke (former member)- cancer Bonnie (friend of *Mary Nanke)- cancer Todd (friend of Katia Knutson)- cancer treatment Rita (friend of *Shirley Kellogg)-cancer

Grief, family and friends of:

Delores (sister of *Karen Schmidt)- Died 3/20 Thelma (friend of *Kim Neuhaus)- Died 3/14 Leota (mother of *Lori Dohrmann)- Died 3/12

Local/National/World:

Victims of Floods, Hurricanes, Fires & Disasters Local, State and National Leaders

Submit a prayer: Email: nurse.bethanycr@gmail.com or call the church office at 319-364-6026



SUNDAY SCHOOL

9:45-10:45 a.m. Lower Level



Grab your "Passport to Heaven" and join us on Sundays at 9:45! All students in preschool through high school are invited to join us in the lower level to learn about God's word!



Faith Milestones

Baby & High School Milestones

A blessing event for babies and their parents, and high school students and their parents, will take place during both services on Sunday, April 7.



On Sunday, March 3, parents of 1st and 2nd graders and parents of Jr. High Confirmation students gave their children a blessing during worship services as part of Bethany's Faith Milestones program.



Confirmation on May 26

Jaden Harris, David Jasper, and Trae Robinson will be confirmed at Bethany on May 26. Public examination will be on Wednesday, May 15 at 7:00 p.m.



Vacation Bible School June 17-20

Save the date for June 17-20, 2019. Join us for Miraculous Mission VBS: Jesus Saves the World! Kids will learn about God's love for them through music, storytelling, crafts, games, and other fun activities. VBS is free and is for kids aged three years through fifth grade.

Register your kids, or sign up to volunteer at bethanyer.org/vbs

DCE Intern Update

Bethany has submitted its application to Concordia University (Nebraska) to have a Director of Christian Education intern serve in our congregation, with the option of calling the intern when their year of study is over. On March 16 and 17, Traci Kohls, the DCE Site Coordinator, came to Bethany to learn about our congregation and to ensure that the DCE intern placed here will be a good fit. By mid-April, we should know whether or not we will have an intern placed with us. In the meantime please keep our congregation, the call committee, and Concordia University in your prayers.



LCMS YOUTH GATHERING | Minneapolis · July 11-15, 2019

High school youth will attend the National Youth Gathering this July. The National Youth Gathering is a positive, life-changing experience for those who participate. Be sure to keep these nine students in your prayers as they prepare for this experience: Ryne Chamberlin, Nicole Deetz, Jaden Harris, David Jasper, Justin McCarley, Lucas McCarley, Patrick McCarley, Natalie Prohaska, and Jake Sturtz.

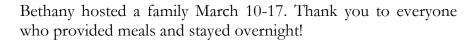
Congrats, Graduates!

High school seniors will be recognized on May 19 during both services.



Family Promise

The mission of Family Promise is to help homeless and lowincome families achieve sustainable independence through compassionate care, hospitality, and professional support.





In 2019, Bethany will also host families the weeks of April 28-May 4, August 4-10, and November 3-9. Please consider volunteering to provide a meal or stay overnight the week of April 28-May 4. Look for information coming soon about signing up.

Joyful Noises, a fundraiser for Family Promise, will be held on Saturday, April 6 at St. Paul's United Methodist Church. A silent auction will start at 6:00 p.m., followed by a concert at 7:00 p.m.



Young Adult Bible Study

Young adults will start a new study on April 7. The group will read *Clearly Christian:* Following Jesus in this Age of Confusion. All young adults (post-high school and beyond) are welcome! Contact the church office if you are interested in joining and would like a book. The group will discuss this book in five sessions on April 7 & 14, May 5 & 19, and June 2. Join us these Sundays at 6:30 p.m. in the young adults room at Bethany.

LWML Zone Spring Rally

Ladies, plan to attend the women's guild zone spring rally at Trinity Lutheran Church on Saturday, April 6. Registration will be at 8:30 a.m. and brunch at 9:00. Don't miss "Living Beyond the Bars," a presentation by Sue Hutchins and Leon Kroemer, who provide



hope and support for the loved ones of the incarcerated. The ingathering will be monetary donations to Trinity Lutheran School for technology upgrades. Sign up at the Welcome Center if you plan to attend.



Easter Flowers

Sign up to purchase flowers to help decorate our sanctuary on Easter Sunday. Plants are \$12 each—please sign up at the Welcome Center by April 14.

Marshalltown Tornado Recovery





On Saturday, March 2, Bethany members Mike Goerdt, Greg Dunn, Mark Elias, Jeff Madsen, Tracy and Aaron Moffett traveled to Marshalltown to assist the community with tornado recovery. Thank you for living and sharing God's love by helping restore a community devastated by natural disaster!



In Case of Severe Weather

As storm season approaches, please familiarize yourself with Bethany's safety plan for evacuating the sanctuary during severe weather. For those sitting on the right side of the sanctuary when facing the altar, please move forward to the door on the right side of the chancel and exit to the basement to an interior room or hallway away from windows. For those seated on the left side of the sanctuary, please exit to the rear and access the basement from the steps and seek shelter in an interior room or hallway.

If you have mobility issues, please notify an usher or elder, and they will shelter you in place in the first floor restrooms. If you are in the nursery with children, gather the children and proceed down the stairs to meet up with parent(s) near the drinking fountain outside the boys restroom in the lower level.

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

4/1	Madison Rinderknecht	4/13	Katheryn Holtz	4/21	Kim Neuhaus
4/2	Margaret Speers	4/15	Carol Edwards	4/24	Ray McGraw
4/6	Karen Schmidt	4/16	Lynn Madsen	4/25	Abby Bogner
4/8	Gabriel Fountain		Evan Ranbarger		Bonnie Bubke
	Lorna Fischer	4/17	Kim McGinnis	4/26	Joe Milbach
4/9	Al Bachman	4/18	Steve Hanchera	4/27	Marlys Jaspersen
	Larry Easler	4/20	Carol Grimminger		Karen Swalley
	JJ Theriault		Jamie Larson	4/28	Michelle Hedtke
4/11	Andrea Dunn		Colin Vande Weerd	4/30	Darren Bogner
	Janet Hoech	4/21	Cynthia Broadwater		Sandy Thorington

APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

4/4	Phil & Shirley Hoppe	4/13	John & Nancylee Siebenmann
4/8	Craig & Renee Riffey	4/24	Phil & Michelle Hedtke
4/9	Chris & Tracy Bond		



Living and Sharing God's Love

Nurse Ronda Anderson recently had the opportunity to live and share God's love in our community. She had one of Bethany's blessing bags in her car, and was able to give it to someone who she saw was in need when she was driving around Cedar Rapids. To hear Ronda share her story, find her video on Bethany's Facebook page.



Watch at www.facebook.com/bethanycria

WHEN HAVE YOU LIVED AND SHARED GOD'S LOVE?

Living and sharing God's love is the mission of Bethany Lutheran Church. In your own life, when have you found opportunities to live and share God's love? Have you experienced being on the receiving end? Share your story! Contact the church office at 319-364-6026 or office.bethanycr@gmail.com to share your living and sharing God's love story.

Care Warriors Training and Appreciation

CARE WARRIORS loving + serving our neighbors

Care Warriors: join us on Sunday, April 28 for an appreciation and training lunch. Pastor Erickson will lead the group in training, and we will celebrate our service accomplishments.

Bethany's Care Warriors are volunteers who serve by providing meals, transportation, visits, and labor for fellow Bethany members as well as for others in our community as they have need. If you have not been involved with Care Warriors but would like to learn more about this ministry, now is a great time to start! Anyone who is interested in participating is welcome to join this lunch at 12:15 on April 28.

Comfort Dog Informational Meeting

Bethany, along with other LCMS congregations in the Cedar Rapids area, is looking into getting a comfort dog through the Lutheran Church Charities Comfort Dog Ministry. A basic informational meeting was held at Zion Lutheran Church in August. Since then, steps have been taken to move forward in the process. Another informational meeting will be held in May to learn more about next steps in this ministry (date TBD).



Please look for information to come about this meeting. All are welcome to attend. Within this ministry, we would need willing volunteers to be handlers. If you love dogs and love providing comfort and care for people in need, this would be an opportunity for you to use your gifts to live and share God's love.



National Day of Prayer

The National Day of Prayer is on May 2, 2019. Bethany's sanctuary will be open 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. and prayer guides will be available.

Senior Worship and Lunch

Next service:

Thursday, May 16

Bethany Prayers

Do you have prayer requests? Let us know if you would like your request added to the Sunday prayer list, the email prayer chain, or both. Requests can be emailed to prayer.bethanycr@gmail.com, or call 364-6026.

BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH 2202 FOREST DR SE CEDAR RAPIDS IA 52403-1654

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

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Living and Sharing God's Love

WORSHIP WITH US

Sunday Mornings

8:30 am | Traditional Service 9:45 am | Education Hour

11:00 am | Contemporary Service

CONNECT WITH US

Website www.bethanycr.org

Email office.bethanycr@gmail.com

Phone | 319-364-6026

facebook | facebook.com/bethanycria