

Bethany Beacon

JANUARY 2019

Annual Voters' Meeting

January 27 at 12:30 p.m.

Family Life Center

The meeting will be held immediately after the late service.

Annual Reports will be available on this day.

Childcare will be provided during the meeting.

All members are encouraged to attend!



Bethany
Lutheran Church

Living and Sharing God's Love

Greetings in the Name of our Newborn King!

With the great celebrations of Advent and Christmas behind us, many feel that the beginning of January may be a good time to sit back, settle down for the winter weeks ahead of us, and take it easy for awhile. But in the Church, and at Bethany in particular, this time of year should be one that is filled with the potential and renewal to *Live and Share God's Love*.

St. Matthew writes:

When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold and of incense and of myrrh.

— Matthew 2:10-11

This account of the Magi coming to the Christ child reminds us of Epiphany, or the revealing of Christ to the nations of the world. The Church celebrates this event on January 6, however we need to remember its significance all year long. For we cannot think that everyone who does not know Christ as their Savior will have a star guide them to Him. Rather, God has given that responsibility to those who already know and believe in Jesus as their Savior to share their faith in Him with the whole world.

As many of you will see when we have our Annual Voters' Meeting this month and present the Annual Report, Bethany has been busy doing just that as we were fulfilling our mission through exciting and meaningful ministries in 2018. Some of these are quite familiar to the congregation, yet must never be taken for granted, like the Women's Guild and its circles continuing to meet to support one another, raise money for missions, care for the chancel area, and provide much needed Christian

fellowship through their tireless work in the kitchen and Family Life Center. There is the Board of Christian Education and our dedicated Sunday School staff continuing to ensure that the children of Bethany will hear God's Word and apply it to their lives. There are also our Care Warriors, Stephen Ministers and Leaders, our talented musicians and technical people caring for others and helping with worship as they *Live and Share God's Love*.

But while we have done well in the past, we must, and with God's help can, do better in the future. There are simply too many people, not just in "the nations" but in our neighborhoods, places of work, schools, and even our families who are lost in their sin. Therefore, in addition to doing what we have always done well, we will continue to let the Holy Spirit guide us into new ministries in 2019 that will help us care for the one another and proclaim God's saving message of the Gospel.

As we begin another new year together, I look forward to serving and working with the staff, lay leaders, and everyone here at Bethany. We will no doubt face challenges in 2019, as we do every year, but Christ has already overcome them and given us the victory. May we continue to be His faithful servants so that all the nations, our friends and families, and we ourselves may know Christ and have the joy of that He brings into our lives!

✠ Pastor Erickson



Tuesday, January 1

Office Closed

Wednesday, January 2

6:30 am Moms in Prayer - Library

6:00 pm Confirmation Class - LL

Thursday, January 3

9:00 am Adult Bible Study - Ad Ed

6:00 pm Human Care—GA

Saturday, January 5

9:00 am Holy Yoga - GA

9:00 am Handbells Rehearsal - Balcony

Sunday, January 6

8:30 & 11 am Installation of Officers

Monday, January 7

6:00 pm LWML Board Mtg. - GA

6:30 pm Stephen Min. Supervision

6:45 pm Trustees Meeting

Tuesday, January 8

3:00 pm Bethany Prayer Group - Library

5:00 pm Praise Moves - GA

6:00 pm Evangelism - Ad Ed

6:30 pm Handbells Rehearsal - Balcony

Wednesday, January 9

6:00 am Men's Bible Study - Ad Ed Rm

6:30 am Moms in Prayer - Library

6:00 pm Confirmation Class - LL

Thursday, January 10

9:00 am Adult Bible Study - Ad Ed

6:30 pm Leah Circle - Ad Ed

Saturday, January 12

9:00 am Holy Yoga - GA

9:00 am Choir Practice - Balcony

Sunday, January 13

12:15 pm Board of Ed Meeting

Monday, January 14

7:00 am Elders' Meeting - Ad Ed

Tuesday, January 15

9:00 am Quilting for World Relief - FLC

3:00 pm Bethany Prayer Group - Library

5:00 pm Praise Moves - GA

6:30 pm Handbells Rehearsal - Balcony

7:00 pm Council Meeting - Ad Ed

Wednesday, January 16

6:00 am Men's Bible Study - Ad Ed Rm

6:30 am Moms in Prayer - Library

4:00 pm Cottage Grove Devo

6:00 pm Confirmation Class - LL

Thursday, January 17

9:00 am Adult Bible Study - Ad Ed

11:00 am Senior Worship

Saturday, January 19

9:00 am Holy Yoga - GA

Monday, January 21

6:30 pm Stephen Min. Cont. Ed. - Ad Ed

Tuesday, January 22

3:00 pm Bethany Prayer Group - Library

5:00 pm Praise Moves - GA

6:30 pm Handbells Rehearsal - Balcony

Wednesday, January 23

6:00 am Men's Bible Study - Ad Ed Rm

6:30 am Moms in Prayer - Library

6:00 pm Confirmation Class - LL

Thursday, January 24

9:00 am Adult Bible Study - Ad Ed

Saturday, January 26

9:00 am Holy Yoga - GA

Sunday, January 27

9:30 am Blood Pressure Screening

12:30 pm Annual Voters' Meeting

Tuesday, January 29

1:00 pm Beacon Assembly

3:00 pm Bethany Prayer Group - Library

5:00 pm Praise Moves - GA

6:30 pm Handbells Rehearsal - Balcony

Wednesday, January 30

6:00 am Men's Bible Study - Ad Ed Rm

6:30 am Moms in Prayer - Library

6:00 pm Confirmation Class - LL

Thursday, January 31

9:00 am Adult Bible Study - Ad Ed

Key:

GA - Gathering Area

LL - Lower Level

Lib - Library

FLC - Family Life Center

Ad Ed - Adult Education Room

Elders

Jan 6	Jim Heitland
Jan 13	Jim Novitch & Mark Holt
Jan 20	Phil Hedtke
Jan 27	Norm Rutz & Karl Hoech

Lectors

Jan 6	8:30	Rick Foreman
	11:00	Leonard Tiedt
Jan 13	8:30	Ethan Myers
	11:00	Joel Conrad
Jan 20	8:30	Arlen Breiholz
	11:00	Dave Christian
Jan 27	8:30	Pete Larson
	11:00	Lissa Novitch

Ushers

Jan 6	8:30	Crew #2	11:00	Crew #7
Jan 13	8:30	Crew #3	11:00	Crew #8
Jan 20	8:30	Crew #1	11:00	Crew #8
Jan 27	8:30	Crew #2	11:00	Crew #6

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

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



2018 Baptisms

Thirteen children were baptized at Bethany in 2018:

January 14 - Macy Oja
 January 21 - Henry Smith
 February 25 - Noah Russman
 March 25 - Archer Milbach
 April 8 - Elliott O'Donnell
 April 22 - Zollie Duve
 July 22 - Clara Hinz
 August 12 - Greyson Young
 August 12 - Marcus Smith
 September 23 - Bradley Caldwell
 September 30 - Colton Keldgord
 October 14 - Anderson Weber
 November 25 - Eli Henderson

CONNECT WITH US



Bethany
Lutheran Church

Living and Sharing God's Love

"We love because he first loved us." - 1 John 4:19

Connect Cards

Ever wish you could hand someone a note with information about Bethany? The Evangelism Board created Connect Cards, small cards that you can share with people you meet to invite them to Bethany and connect them to Jesus. You can find them at the Welcome Center—take as many as you would like! God will surely bless our efforts to witness to living and sharing God's love.

Thanksgiving:

Ava (infant daughter of *Mercedes Henderson)- Born 12/4

Illness, injuries, health issues:

Gene (husband of *N Owens)- Recovering after surgery

Nick (son of *Pete & *Kris Larson)- Recovering

Ron (brother of *Gloria Schumacher)- Recovering

Jane (daughter of *Bonnie Bubke)- Recovering after surgery

Junior (son of *Taletha Phillips)- Health issues

James (grandson of *Carol Grimminger)- Recovering

Pat (mother of *Karen Swanson)- Recovering after surgery

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

Kelly (sister of *Kim Neuhaus)- recovering after surgery

Jessica (granddaughter of *K Neuhaus)- recovering

Steve (brother of *Barb Miller)- Health issues

Patti (aunt of *Ginny Urban)- Comfort and strength

Susan (niece of *Bonnie Bubke)- Health issues

Leota (mother of *Lori Dohrmann)- Recovering

Pastor Renfro (Trinity)- Health issues

Gus (friend of *Myrises & *Conrads)-Recovering

Mike (friend of *Joel Knutson)- Recovering after hospitalization

Deb (daughter of *Bonnie Bubke) Health Issues

Jeff (brother of Kim Carter)- 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

Jennifer (daughter of *Pat Krekeler)- Life challenges

Rod (nephew of *Bonnie Bubke) Parkinson's Disease

Local/National/World:

Victims of Hurricanes, Fires & Disasters

Local, State and National Leaders

Terrorist attacks around the world

Homebound members of Bethany:

*Rollis Deetz- at home

*Pat Kraft- at home

*Pauline Marohn- Living Center West

*Shirley Hansen- at home

*Wayne & Darlene Schilling- at home

Candi Engel- at home

*Patty King- Crestview Acres, Marion

*Ann Meyer- Keystone Cedars

Safety:

Taylor (grandson of *Kim Neuhaus)- Marines

Cancer:

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

Kelley (sister of *Brad Crawford)- cancer treatment

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:

Kenny (father of *Dave Dohrmann)- Died 12/18

Anne (daughter of *Jim & *Joan Mosel)- Died 11/22

Marsha (friend of *Linda Patten)- Died 11/14

Jim (brother in law of *Nancy Owens)- Died 11/14

Dave Thomas (former member)- Died 10/19

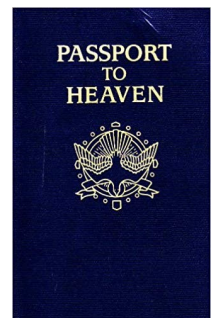
Submit a prayer: Email: nurse.bethanycr@gmail.com or call the church office at 319-364-6026



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!



Sunday School children shared the story of Jesus' birth at the Christmas Program on December 16.



Baby Bottle Boomerang

Bethany will collect bottles on January 13, 20 and 27. Please pick up a bottle and fill it with change or a check made payable to Bridgehaven Pregnancy Support Center. All proceeds from this fundraiser benefit Bridgehaven, a ministry in Cedar Rapids that provides essential pregnancy services including ultrasounds, classes, and material assistance. The mission of Bridgehaven is to empower choices for life through Christ-centered education and support.



Bethany college age students gathered for a fun afternoon at Speedeezz while home for Christmas break!

Lower Level Renovations

The new floor has been installed! Thank you to the volunteers who have helped paint, unload the materials, and install the flooring during this part of the renovation. Work is still continuing with installation of the baseboard, improving lighting on the stage area, and replacing ceiling tile. Stop down and take a look at the renovations!



Family Promise

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



Our next week to host will be December 30-January 6. If you would like to volunteer, sign up online at bit.ly/2QLV0hN or use the paper sign up at the Welcome Center.

During the December 12 Advent meal, Bethany raised \$370 for Family Promise. Thrivent funds provided meal supplies, therefore all funds went directly to Family Promise. Thank you to everyone who came to the dinner and contributed toward the cause!

Sewing Quilts for Lutheran World Relief



On Tuesday, January 15, the LWML Special Projects Committee will tie quilts for Lutheran World Relief in the Family Life Center. We will start at 9:00 a.m. and end around noon. Stop in for an hour or stay the whole time—we appreciate any time that you can give. If you plan to stay through the noon hour, please feel free to bring a sack lunch. For more information, contact Betty Happel at 319-393-9497 or Donna Bogner at 319-777-9053.

Installation of Officers and Board Members—January 6

We are blessed to have wonderful volunteers who are willing to serve in leadership roles in the church. Installation for the following leadership positions will be on Sunday, January 6 during both services.

Vice Chair - Jeff Crow

Auditors - Becky Johnson and Kristi Montague

Treasurer - Bill Freese

Elders - Dave Dohrmann, Mark Holt and Karl Hoech

Stewardship - Mike Raymon

Trustees - Mitch Myers, Kenton Zenor, Dick Hass

Human Care - Gloria Schumacher

and Bev Linman;

Thank you to those who have served the church in the following positions:

Council Chair - Mark Elias

Endowment Committee - Mike Thomas

Elders - Matt Rinderknecht, Norm Rutz

Trustees - Mark & Angela Sturtz, Ryan Corey

Stewardship Committee - Richard & Angie Pfiel

LWML President - Nancy Owens

Wellness Classes

Want to take care of the body God has given you? Try out one of Bethany's faith-based wellness classes.



Holy Yoga classes take place on Saturdays, 9:00-10:00 a.m. Wear clothes that you are comfortable moving in, and bring a yoga mat if you have one. Holy Yoga costs \$5 per session. **Praise Moves** is a video-led stretch and relaxation class, and meets on Tuesdays, 5:00-6:00 p.m. Praise Moves is offered at no charge.

Winter Blessing Bags

These "Blessing Bags" are located on a table in the foyer. Please take a bag or two to share with someone in need. Maybe you will see someone standing on a street corner, or notice someone at a care center, or know of a college student who you could share God's love with this season. Please see Christine Erickson or Karen Hass for more information.



Angel Tree Thank You

Bethany members provided gifts to 32 children through the Angel Tree program this year. Angel Tree is a ministry that provides Christmas gifts to children who have a parent in prison. Thank you to Dawn Thomas who was our Angel Tree coordinator.

SENT Radio

Listeners can now access a variety of programs produced by the Lutheran Hour Ministries through SENT Radio online at <https://www.lhm.org/sentradio/>. Every hour, SENT Radio features sermons from speakers for the Lutheran Hour through the years, as well as Scripture readings, hymns, and instrumentals. Morning prayer and evening vespers can be heard each day at 9:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m. (central) respectively. On Sundays, the current sermon from The Lutheran Hour airs at 7:00 and 9:30 a.m., noon, and at 2:30 p.m.



JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

1/1 Julie Gutman	1/15 Kathryn Deetz	1/23 Liz Corey
1/4 Janelle Dunbar	1/16 Shirley Hoppe	Tyler Gates
1/5 Cam DeBlois	Duane Pfeffer	Stephanie Hedtke
Nate Smith	Bernie Rehnstrom	Doris Pexa
1/9 Phil Hoppe	1/17 Kelly Johnson	1/26 Candi Engel
Archer Milbach	Diana Long	Tina Freese
1/10 Sebastian Foreman	1/18 Tami Vande Weerd	1/27 Amy Smith
Jeff Jasper	1/19 Pastor Erickson	1/28 Elianna Novitch
Lissa Novitch	Caleb Strait	1/29 Laurie Jasper
1/11 Patty King	1/20 Jake Vande Weerd	1/30 Clark Anderson
Kellen Volden	1/21 Sarah Kaufman	Laura Holt
1/13 Mary Nanke	1/22 Tyler Hedtke	Lynn Kellogg
Thomas Stock	Kris Larson	

JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

1/3 Pete & Kris Larson	1/5 Mark and Kim Neuhaus
1/4 Ken & Elaine Cook (50th)	

2019 Chancel Flowers

The 2019 calendar is now up on the bulletin board. Chancel flowers are delivered each week by Oakland Road Hy-Vee, so if you sign up, you do not need to make any arrangements with a florist. They cost \$30 per Sunday, and checks may be made payable to Bethany Lutheran Church. Please pick up an envelope from the bulletin board, and use it to return your payment to the church office. If you would like a certain type of plant, please call Hy-Vee floral at 366-7756.



A big "THANK YOU!" to all our church family, Ronda, and Pastor Erickson for your loving support, prayers, cards, and care before, during, and after my kidney transplant surgery and for our son, Nick, who was the donor. Things went well for both of us and we are doing well in our recoveries. We look forward to seeing all of you again soon. - Kris Larson



Rebuild Marshalltown Volunteer Opportunities

VALOR is the first phase of the Emergency Response program through Central Iowa RSVP and Habitat for Humanity. Volunteers will be replacing windows, putting up blue board, removing and replacing dry-wall, remediating mold, etc. Habitat for Humanity will train and lead volunteers, so you do not need to have any particular skills to participate. Projects will be indoors and outdoors so you will want to dress for the weather. They are requesting volunteers over the age of 18. This work will prepare for the next phase which will start after March 11 and involve coming back to homes to install siding and other work that can not be done during cold weather.

Nurse Ronda will coordinate a day or two for Bethany volunteers to travel together to Marshalltown. If you are interested in participating, please contact Ronda Anderson at 316-364-6026 or by email at nurse.bethanycr@gmail.com.

Consider Joining the Bethany Prayer Group

A small group gathers weekly for prayer on Tuesdays at 3:00 p.m. in the Bethany library. The prayer group would welcome a few more people to join them in the weekly prayer hour. The group uses the "Seek God for the City" format to pray for the Cedar Rapids community, and they pray for those both near and far away. For more information, contact Ronda Anderson at 319-364-6026.



Giving Envelopes

The 2019 giving envelopes are available to pick up. Please pick up your family's envelopes. If you do not find a box for your family, please contact the church office at 364-6026. Giving Statements will be sent out at the end of January.



Senior Worship and Lunch

Next service:

Thursday, January 17

11:00 a.m.

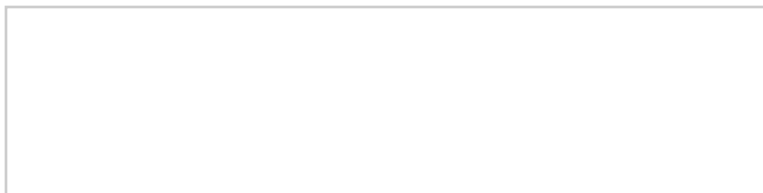
Bethany Prayers

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

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
U. S. POSTAGE PAID
Permit #118
CEDAR RAPIDS IA, 52403

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED



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.com/bethanycr