

Bethany Beacon

JULY 2019



Evangelism Training

July 31 | August 7 | August 14

Join us for three sessions to learn about how to be an active witness.

See page 8 for more information.



Bethany
Lutheran Church

Living and Sharing God's Love

Here is an article I enjoyed from the Stewardship section of lcms.com – Pastor Erickson

Some disciples of John the Baptist were questioning him about the baptism and preaching of Jesus. Many disciples were going to Jesus instead of John the Baptist. John the Baptist answers: “A person cannot receive even one thing unless it is given him from heaven” (John 3:27). John the Baptist says this to show that Jesus, His teaching, and His baptism are from heaven. God provides everything we have in body and soul. We are taught this in the meaning of the Apostles’ Creed in the *Small Catechism*.

In the First Article of the Creed, we learn that God has made us and everything in the universe.

“He has given me my body and soul, eyes, ears, and all my members, my reason and all my senses, and still takes care of them. He also gives me clothing and shoes, food and drink, house and home, wife and children, land, animals, and all I have. He richly and daily provides me with all that I need to support this body and life. He defends me against all danger and guards and protects me from all evil. All this He does only out of fatherly, divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in me. For all this it is my duty to thank and praise, serve and obey Him.”

In the Second Article of the Creed, we learn that God sent His Son, Jesus, to humble Himself by taking the form of a servant. In so doing, He:

“has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil; not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death, that I may be His own and live under Him in His kingdom and serve Him in everlasting right-

eousness, innocence, and blessedness, just as He is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity.”

In the Third Article of the Creed, we learn that the fruits of what Jesus Christ, the Son of God, did are given to us through the work of the Holy Spirit in the Church.

“That I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to Him; but the Holy Spirit has called me by the Gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith. In the same way He calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian church on earth, and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith. In this Christian church He daily and richly forgives all my sins and the sins of all believers. On the Last Day He will raise me and all the dead, and give eternal life to me and all believers in Christ.”

Indeed, “a person cannot receive even one thing unless it is given him from heaven.” But how easy is this for us to forget? How easy is it for us to think that what we have in life is because we have earned it? How easy is it for us to forget that all our skills – the abilities of our hands and minds, the ethic to work diligently, and the desire to improve – is given to us from heaven, just as John the Baptist said? How easy is it for us to forget that it is Christ alone, and the work of the Holy Spirit, that reveals His salvation to us, delivers it to us, and that none of this is our doing?

Sure, we have responsibility for coming to church, for delving into God’s Holy Word, and for praying without ceasing. But even these responsibilities are given to us from heaven. These duties are not earned; they are given in response to what He has accomplished for us. Everything we have, and everything we are – in both body and soul – are gifts from God in heaven. Let us then respond in thanksgiving and give back to Him as He asks!

Saturday, June 1

9:00 am Holy Yoga - OR

Sunday, June 2

6:30 pm Young Adult Bible Study

Monday, July 1

10:00 am Women's Group - Marion

6:30 pm Stephen Min. Supervision

Tuesday, July 2

3:00 pm Bethany Prayer Group - Library

5:00 pm Praise Moves - GA

6:00 pm Evangelism - Ad Ed

Thursday, July 4

Office Closed

Saturday, July 6

9:00 am Holy Yoga - OR

Sunday, July 7

12:30 pm NYG Bible Study

Tuesday, July 9

3:00 pm Bethany Prayer Group - Library

5:00 pm Praise Moves - GA

7:00 pm Council Meeting - Ad Ed

Thursday, July 11

National Youth Gathering

Saturday, July 13

9:00 am Holy Yoga - OR

Sunday, July 14

12:15 pm Board of Ed Meeting

Monday, July 15

10:00 am Women's Group - Marion

Tuesday, July 16

3:00 pm Bethany Prayer Group - Library

5:00 pm Praise Moves - GA

Wednesday, July 17

4:00 pm Cottage Grove Devotion

6:30 pm Safety Presentation - FLC

Thursday, July 18

9:00 am Adult Bible Study - Ad Ed

11:00 am Senior Worship & Lunch

Saturday, July 20

9:00 am Holy Yoga - OR

Monday, July 22

10:00 am Women's Group - Marion

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

Tuesday, July 23

3:00 pm Bethany Prayer Group - Library

5:00 pm Praise Moves - GA

Wednesday, July 24

12:00 pm Beacon Assembly

Saturday, July 27

9:00 am Holy Yoga - OR

Sunday, July 28

9:30 am Blood Pressure Screening

Monday, July 29

10:00 am Women's Group - Marion

Tuesday, July 30

3:00 pm Bethany Prayer Group - Library

5:00 pm Praise Moves - GA

Wednesday, July 31

6:00 pm Evangelism Training

Key:

Ad Ed - Adult Education Room

FLC - Family Life Center

GA - Gathering Area

OR - Opening Room

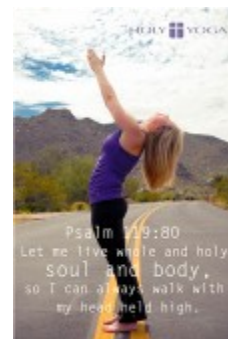
LL - Lower Level

Wellness Classes

Want to take care of the body God has given you? Try out one of our 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.



Elders

July 7	Phil Hedtke
July 14	Karl Hoech
July 21	Mark Holt
July 28	Dave Dohrmann

Ushers

July 7	8:30	Crew #2	11:00	Crew #8
July 14	8:30	Crew #3	11:00	Crew #6
July 21	8:30	Crew #4	11:00	Crew #7
July 28	8:30	Crew #1	11:00	Crew #8

Greeters

July 7	8:30	Vern & Betty Happel Carol Grimminger
	11:00	Dick & Karen Hass Karen Schmidt
July 14	8:30	Don & Betty Hein Rick & Sandra Thorington
	11:00	Chris & Leisa Knudson Karen Swanson & Noah
July 21	8:30	Pete & Kris Larson Ken Ambrecht
	11:00	Shari Mehlhoff Donna Birkicht & Mary Nanke
July 28	8:30	Cherie Miller & Doris Baker Arlen & Bonnie Breiholz
	11:00	Jim & Lissa Novitch Ken & Elaine Cook

Lectors

July 7	8:30	Pete Larson
	11:00	Debbie Mills
July 14	8:30	Mark Bornemann
	11:00	Sheryl Knutson
July 21	8:30	Mark Elias
	11:00	Dave Christian
July 28	8:30	Rick Thorington
	11:00	Lissa Novitch

Communion Sunday Prayers

July 7	8:30	Pete Larson
	11:00	Jim Novitch
July 21	8:30	Karen Hass
	11:00	Debbie Heitland

Nursery (11:00 Service)

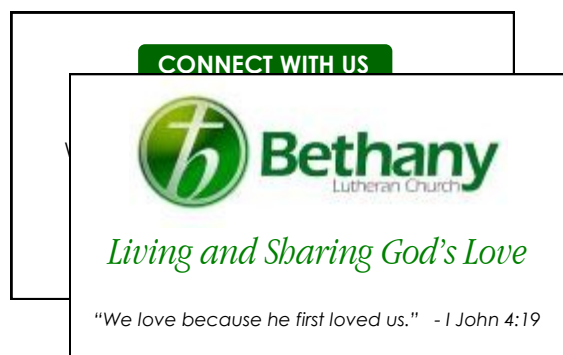
July 7	Liz & Ryan Corey
July 14	Annie & Natalie Prohaska
July 21	Katia Knutson & Tracy Moffett
July 28	Brooke Oja & Karen Schmidt

Coffee

July 7	Duane & Karen Pfeffer
July 14	
July 21	
July 28	

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)

**Connect Cards**

Ever wish you could hand someone a note with information about Bethany? The Board of Evangelism 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!

Thanksgiving:

Vacation Bible School week

Amanda Segebart– Installed as DCE intern 6/9

*Stephanie Macke– Baptized 6/9

Henry (grandson of *Ronda Anderson)- Born 6/24

Tripp (grandson of *Ronda Anderson)- Born 6/7

Gus (friend of *Myerses & *Conrads)- Recovering after transplant

Ray (father of *Deb Mills)- Health issues

Olivia (daughter of *Kristi Montague)- Recovering after surgery

Lars (brother of *Pete Larson)- Recovering

Bella (relative of *Melissa Loney)- Recovering

Barbara (mother of *Jim Heitland)- Recovering after fall

Illness, injuries, health issues:

Mike (relative of *Bonnie Bubke)- Recovering after surgery

John (brother of *Pat Krekeler)- Recovering after surgery

Craig (friend of *Jeff Madsen)- Recovering after surgery

Cheryl (friend of *Deb Mills)- Recovering after surgery

Gloria (relative of *Kim Neuhaus)- Hospitalization

Nadine (mother of Kim Carter)- Medical tests

Jeff (brother of Kim Carter)-Medical tests

Connie (friend of *Sheryl Knutson)- Rehab center

Jennifer (daughter of *Pat Krekeler)- Life challenges

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)- Health issues

Ryan & Hayden (relatives of *Bonnie Bubke)- Brain disorder

Gwendolyn- (friend of *Karen Swanson)- Terminal illness

Steve (brother of *Barb Miller)- Health issues

Susan (niece of *Bonnie Bubke)- Health issues

Pastor Renfro (Trinity)– Health issues

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

David (relative of *Melissa Loney)- Health issues

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

Homebound members of Bethany:

*Rollis Deetz– at home

*Shirley Hansen– at home

*Wayne & Darlene Schilling– at home

Candi Engel– Garnet Place

*Patty King– Crestview Acres, Marion

*Ann Meyer– Keystone Cedars

Safety:

Ben Venteicher (former DCE)- National Guard, Deployed

Tailor (grandson of *Kim Neuhaus)- Marines

Cancer:

Bill (father of Kim Carter)- cancer

David (relative of *Hasses)- cancer

Alan (relative of *Bonnie Bubke)- cancer

Gene (husband of *N Owens)- cancer treatment

Julie (friend of *Brenda Heims)- cancer

Janet (friend of *Brenda Heims)-cancer

Mary Lou (friend of *Velma Ziesemer)- 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

Bonnie (friend of *Mary Nanke)- cancer

Todd (friend of Katia Knutson)- cancer treatment

Rita (friend of *Shirley Kellogg)- cancer

Grief, family and friends of:

Evan (relative of Luke Viertel)- Died 6/13

*Pauline Marohn– Died 6/6

Kay (friend of *Lee Rathje)- Died 5/25

Marvel (mother of *Mark Holt)- Died 5/19

Bill (father of *Kim Neuhaus)- Died 5/16

*Doris Pexa (mother of *Deb Heitland)- Died 4/30

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

Miraculous Mission Vacation Bible School

At VBS, kids learned that God made them, God keeps His Word, Jesus came for them and Jesus saves them. Thank you to everyone who participated and to all the volunteers who lived and shared God's love by helping serve meals, leading crafts, games, and Bible Challenge, and for walking alongside the children as they had fun learning about God's love for them.



Join us for



SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sundays at 9:45 a.m.

June 30 - July 28

Kids in preschool through 5th grade will meet in the opening room in the lower level.

Youth in 6th-8th grade will meet in the middle school room with DCE Intern Amanda.



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

This month Bethany will send eight of our high school members to the 2019 National Youth Gathering in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Over a five day period (July 11 – 15) the youth from Bethany will join together with thousands of other youth from around the world that share our Lutheran identity to grow in their faith and relationship with Jesus Christ. This is done through a variety of Bible studies, expert speakers addressing relevant topics, service opportunities, Christian concerts, and having fun with their brothers and sisters in Christ!

For those who are unable to attend the National Youth Gathering, there are still many ways to follow along and participate. The Gathering website, lcmsgathering.com, will host live streams of all the mass events and worship services, as well as blog posts, photos, and videos from day to day. You may also visit the website to check out the Gathering Bible Studies. In addition, the Gathering social media will share exclusive content featuring highlights from the Gathering on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and Snapchat (all @lcmsnyg to get connected and use the hashtag #NYG2019 to join the conversation).

Please pray for the youth and our adult leaders during the week, that they might be kept safe, enjoy their time together, and be strengthened in their faith through worship and God's Word. Bethany youth attending the gathering this year are Ryne Chamberlin, Nicole Deetz, Jaden Harris, David Jasper, Lucas McCarley, Patrick McCarley, Natalie Prohaska, and Jake Sturtz.



Evangelism Training

Every One His Witness is a program that seeks to motivate believers to be active witnesses of the Gospel in their communities. This evangelism program, through real-world context and practical application, equips Lutherans to share the Good News with those they meet who are of differing religions and world-views. The core module of the program provides participants with a strong foundation of witnessing, delivered through a combination of video instruction, individual exercises, group discussion, and partnered activities.

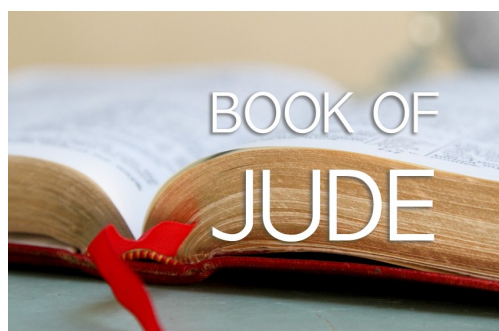
Pastor Erickson will lead us in three two-hour sessions. All adults are encouraged to join us at Bethany 6:00-8:00 p.m. on Wednesdays July 31, August 7, and August 14. If you would like to participate, please sign up at the Welcome Center or call the church office by July 23 so we can order you a book.

Safety Presentation

The congregation is welcome to attend this presentation on Wednesday, July 17 at 6:30 p.m. in the Family Life Center. Lt. Charlie Fields, special operations commander of the CR Police Department will educate us on how to prepare for an active threat event.

Sunday Morning Bible Study

On Sundays, Pastor Erickson is teaching a Bible Study on the book of Jude. Only 25 verses long, this short book of the Bible warns of those in the Church who would threaten the Gospel and how faithful Christians should respond. In an age when the Church is fractured into so many divisions and many Christians find themselves "church shopping" the book of Jude is particularly relevant for today. Join us on Sundays from 9:45 to 10:45 a.m.



Thursday Morning Bible Study

The Thursday Morning Bible Study group is doing a video study called *The Odyssey of St. Paul* by Dr. Paul Maier. Aside from Jesus Himself, no one has had a greater influence on the founding of Christianity than St. Paul through his missionary trips, letters, and bringing the Gentiles into the early church, thus "universalizing" the faith. Join us on Thursdays from 9:00 to 10:00 as we see the Lord at work through His apostle, Paul.



Especially For You

The Especially For You Race Against Breast Cancer will be held on Sunday, October 6. There will be a 5K run at 8:00 a.m. and a 5K walk at 8:05. Join Bethany's team! We will meet at Bethany before the race, then return to church for 11:00 service after the race.

Online registration for this event is now open at <https://runsignup.com/RaceGroups/34374>. Click the Join button next to "Bethany Lutheran Church" to join our team. Please sign up by September 9.

Giving Statements

A mid-year budget letter and giving statements for January 1-June 30 will be available to pick up on Sunday, July 14. Please find your envelope just outside the sanctuary.

Adult Vacation Bible School

All adults are invited to join us August 12-15 for this year's Adult VBS: *An Inexpressible Treasure – The Theology and Practice of Holy Baptism*. Meeting from 9:00 to 11:30 a.m. each morning, we will use our synod's *Commission on Theology and Church Relations* latest report as our guide. This report, and therefore our study, will look at baptism in four areas:

ADULT VBS: AUGUST 12-15



An Inexpressible Treasure
THE THEOLOGY AND PRACTICE OF HOLY BAPTISM

"Baptism and the Story of Jesus" shows how Baptism fits within the story and mission of Jesus and how its importance for our lives flows out of the life of Christ.

"Baptism: A New Beginning" explores the various ways in which the Bible expresses the benefits of Baptism.

"The Gifts and Benefits of Baptism" considers the privileges and responsibilities that become ours as members of God's kingdom through Baptism.

"The Baptismal Commission" addresses both theological and practical questions about Baptism that have been raised throughout the Church's history.

In addition to our study, we'll also enjoy a variety of delicious treats, beloved hymns, and everyone's favorite part of Adult VBS – Bible Trivia! Please look for a sign-up sheet at the Welcome Center in the upcoming weeks. For more information, speak to Pastor Erickson.

JULY BIRTHDAYS

7/3 Elaine Cook	7/13 Tristan Bond	7/21 Jo Godbey
Rick Foreman	7/14 Jeff Bulicek	7/22 Carson Theriault
John Siebenmann	7/15 Bill Freese	7/23 Bev Linman
7/5 Corey Stackhouse	Chris Knudson	Jodi Strait
7/6 Arlen Breiholz	Jake Sturtz	7/24 Isaac Corey
Rachel Henderson	7/16 Mindy Thies	Lainie Olson
7/7 Barry Smith	Bryce Wilson	Renee Riffey
7/9 Landon Oja	7/17 Jim Heitland	7/26 Mark Schweer
7/10 Phil Hedtke	7/19 Nicole Deetz	7/27 Meghan Prohaska
7/12 Carol McGinnis	Mark Holt	7/28 Ken Cook
7/13 Clayton Barrett	7/20 Caroline Carr	
Myriah Blazicek	Christine Erickson	

JULY ANNIVERSARIES

7/2 Joe & Anna Milbach	7/23 Rod & Joyce Church
7/5 Rollis & Shirley Deetz	Duane & Karen Pfeffer
Josh & Haley Dohrmann	7/24 Dave & Kay Karsten
Chris & Laura James	7/26 Brad & Erin Crawford
7/7 Jeff & Melinda Crow	7/27 Vern & Betty Happel
7/11 Andy & Sarah Gates	Bob & Penni Teare
Elizabeth & Ryan Kreher	7/28 Edward & Holly Barrett
7/12 Richard & Angie Pfeil	David & Carolyn Johnson
7/16 Steve & Kathy Hanchera	7/29 Ryan & Ginny Urban
7/20 Mark & Julie Gutman	

Senior Worship and Lunch

Next service:

Thursday, July 18

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.

Family Promise



The mission of Family Promise is to help homeless and low-income families achieve sustainable independence through a community-based response. Poverty is a complex problem, and it won't yield to a simple solution. Family Promise is a collaborative effort to bring our community together to help homeless families regain their housing, independence, and dignity.

Volunteers are the heart of Family Promise, as they help provide shelter, meals, and other assistance to homeless families. Because of the involvement and dedication of volunteers, more than 80 percent of families assisted have found permanent homes.

Bethany's next two times to host families will be during the weeks of **August 4-11** and **November 3-10**. Please consider volunteering by providing a meal or staying overnight during these times.

To volunteer the week of August 4-11, sign up online at <https://bit.ly/2IZgsNy> or find the sign-up sheet at the Welcome Center.

Stephen Ministry

Stephen Ministers are the *After People*. They are there... after the funeral, when everyone has left and your emotions crashing in on you... after you find a pink slip with your final paycheck... after family and friends have heard your story one too many times, but you still need to talk it out. Stephen Ministers are ready to come alongside you—or your friends, neighbors, coworkers, or relatives—and provide comfort and support for as long after as needed.

If you would like to be connected with a Stephen Minister, contact Nurse Ronda at nurse.bethanycr@gmail.com, or you may call the church office at 319-364-6026.

Comfort Dog Ministry

Bethany is looking into getting a comfort dog. Within this ministry, we would need several volunteers to be dog handlers. If you love dogs and providing care for people, this would be a great opportunity for you to live and share God's love!

If you are interested in being involved with this ministry in any way, call the church office at 319-364-6026, or contact Mike Raymon at pinballmike81@gmail.com.



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

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CEDAR RAPIDS IA, 52403



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/bethanycria