

Bethany Beacon

MAY 2019



Lutheran Church Charities *Comfort Dog Ministry*

Informational Meeting at Bethany
Saturday, May 11 | 10:30 a.m. - noon

Richard Martin, Director of K-9 Ministries, will share information on:

- History of the LCC K-9 Comfort Dog Ministry
- How we serve
- Where we serve
- Who we serve
- What the ministry looks like in our LCMS congregations
- How a congregation gets started

"Bringing the mercy, compassion, presence, and proclamation of Jesus Christ to those suffering and in need."



Bethany
Lutheran Church

Living and Sharing God's Love

Happy Easter – He is risen! Alleluia!

Usually when I write my *Beacon* article for the month, I pick one topic that I have been thinking about or what I believe the congregation would find interesting or needs to know as the main focus for the entire piece. This month however, there are several things that I would like to address, so below is somewhat of a *smorgasbord* of thoughts for the month of May:

- First, I would like to thank everyone at Bethany for a wonderful Lenten Season and Easter celebration. Of special note are all of our musicians who helped lead and adorn our services with their substantial musical gifts that we all enjoy. This of course includes Carolyn and Luke, but I would also like to thank Tom Mills and the Handbell Ensemble; Jim, Ellie, Richard, Gerard, and all of the singers in late service; Bethany's Vocal Choir and everyone else who played various instruments, sang special pieces, and set up or ran the sound and AV equipment. Also, I would like to thank everyone who helped prepare, set-up for, serve and clean-up after the meals many of us enjoyed on Wednesday evenings and Easter morning. (During Advent last year I actually lost weight. But this Lenten Season, when I was hoping to increase my spiritual discipline of fasting, I actually gained a few pounds – no doubt to all of the excellent meals at Bethany we enjoyed!)
- Second, while our Easter celebration at Bethany was wonderful, we must remember that this was not the case for all our brothers and sisters in Christ around the world. I of course am thinking of the terrible terrorist attacks in Sri Lanka on Easter Morning, but there are also many other Christians who have been and continue to be persecuted. While we are to be thankful that violent persecution is rare in our part of God's Kingdom, we need to be conscious that this is not always the case. Jesus even warns His disciples numerous times in the gospels and in His revelation to St. John that they will be hated, suffer violence, and be persecuted. In short, He teaches us what we call the *Theology of the Cross*,

as opposed to a theology of glory that seems to be so popular among Christians in affluent and safe societies today. Therefore, let us pray and offer support for the persecuted Church and acknowledge that we too, must always be ready to bear our crosses when the Lord asks.

- On a much more joyous note, I'll soon be traveling to Concordia University (Nebraska) to undergo a day's worth of training to be a Director of Christian Education Intern Supervisor. If you haven't heard by now, the Concordia University System has placed Amanda Segebart at Bethany to serve as a DCE Intern with us for a year. This will be a mutually beneficial relationship where Bethany will help Amanda continue her training to work in God's church and she will use her gifts to *Live and Share God's Love* among us and our community. As we prepare for Amanda's arrival, I would ask that everyone in the congregation keep Amanda in your prayers and welcome her into our Bethany family, much the same as you have done for me!
- On the same joyous note, I want to thank Bethany's Call Committee for the excellent work they have done over the last two years. When Randi Petrik left, most of us were certain that the Call Committee needed to help us call another DCE to Bethany. And while it was not always easy, in their wisdom they decided not just to seek another DCE, but to seek God's will! So, after hundreds of hours of faithfully serving the church, we should all be grateful to the excellent work they have done and where the Holy Spirit has guided us through their service.

There's always more to write about, but I'm only allotted one page and much of what else I would like everyone to know you can find in the following pages of this edition of the *Beacon*. Until next month then – Happy Easter!

✝ Pastor Erickson



Wednesday, May 1

- 6:00 am Men's Bible Study - Ad Ed Rm
- 6:30 am Moms in Prayer - Library
- 6:00 pm Confirmation Class - LL

Thursday, May 2

National Day of Prayer

- 8:00 am Sanctuary Open for Prayer
- 9:00 am Adult Bible Study - Ad Ed
- 12:45 pm Stewardship Meeting
- 6:00 pm Human Care Meeting

Saturday, May 4

All-State Choir Contest using Bethany Facilities

Sunday, May 5

- 6:30 pm Young Adult Bible Study

Monday, May 6

- 10:00 am Women's Group - Marion
- 6:00 pm LWML Board Mtg. - GA
- 6:30 pm Stephen Min. Supervision
- 6:45 pm Trustees Meeting

Tuesday, May 7

- 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, May 8

- 6:00 am Men's Bible Study - Ad Ed Rm
- 6:30 am Moms in Prayer - Library
- 6:00 pm Confirmation Class - LL

Thursday, May 9

- 9:00 am Adult Bible Study - Ad Ed

Saturday, May 11

- 9:00 am Holy Yoga - OR
- 9:00 am Choir Practice - Balcony
- 10:30 am Comfort Dog Presentation

Sunday, May 12

- 12:15 pm Board of Ed Meeting
- 12:15 pm Elders' Meeting
- 6:30 pm Young Adult Bible Study

Monday, May 13

- 10:00 am Women's Group - Marion

Tuesday, May 14

- 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, May 15

- 6:00 am Men's Bible Study - Ad Ed Rm
- 6:30 am Moms in Prayer - Library
- 4:00 pm Cottage Grove Devotion
- 6:00 pm Confirmation Class - LL
- 7:00 pm Confirmation Public Exam.

Thursday, May 16

- 9:00 am Adult Bible Study - Ad Ed
- 11:00 am Senior Worship & Lunch

Saturday, May 18

- 9:00 am Holy Yoga - OR

Sunday, May 19

- 6:30 pm Young Adult Bible Study

Monday, May 20

- 10:00 am Women's Group - Marion
- 6:30 pm Stephen Min. Cont. Ed. - Ad Ed

Tuesday, May 21

- 9:00 am Quilt Sewing - FLC
- 3:00 pm Bethany Prayer Group - Library
- 5:00 pm Praise Moves - GA
- 6:30 pm Handbells Rehearsal - Balcony

Wednesday, May 22

- 6:00 am Men's Bible Study - Ad Ed Rm
- 6:30 am Moms in Prayer - Library
- 6:00 pm Confirmation Class - LL

Thursday, May 23

- 9:00 am Adult Bible Study - Ad Ed

Saturday, May 25

- 9:00 am Holy Yoga - OR

Sunday, May 26

- 8:30 am Confirmation
- 9:30 am Blood Pressure Screening

Monday, May 27

Memorial Day: Office Closed

Tuesday, April 30

- 3:00 pm Bethany Prayer Group - Library
- 5:00 pm Praise Moves - GA
- 6:30 pm Handbells Rehearsal - Balcony

Wednesday, May 29

- 6:00 am Men's Bible Study - Ad Ed Rm
- 6:30 am Moms in Prayer - Library
- 1:00 pm Beacon Assembly

Thursday, May 30

- 9:00 am Adult Bible Study - Ad Ed

Key:

- Ad Ed** - Adult Education Room
- FLC** - Family Life Center
- GA** - Gathering Area
- OR** - Opening Room
- LL** - Lower Level

Elders

May 5 Rick Foreman
May 12 Jim Novitch
May 19 Phil Hedtke
May 26 Karl Hoech

Ushers

May 5 8:30 Crew #1 11:00 Crew #8
May 12 8:30 Crew #2 11:00 Crew #6
May 19 8:30 Crew #3 11:00 Crew #7
May 26 8:30 Crew #4 11:00 Crew #8

Greeters

May 5 8:30 Jason & Jodi Strait
Carol Grimminger
11:00 Jim & Lissa Novitch
Ken & Elaine Cook
May 12 8:30 Mike & Dawn Thomas
Vern & Betty Happel
11:00 Brad & Erin Crawford
Duane & Karen Pfeffer
May 19 8:30 Rick & Sandra Thorington
Don & Betty Hein
11:00 Michael & Andrea Prohaska
Jeff & Melinda Crow
May 26 8:30 Ken Ambrecht
Pete & Kris Larson
11:00 Karen Schmidt
Dick & Karen Hass

Lectors

May 5 8:30 Debbie Mills
11:00 Sheryl Knutson
May 12 8:30 Pete Larson
11:00 Leonard Tiedt
May 19 8:30 Maren Hopkins
11:00 Joel Conrad
May 26 8:30 Mark Bornemann
11:00 Dave Christian

Communion Sunday Prayers

May 5 8:30 Pete Larson
11:00 Jim Novitch
May 19 8:30 Ronda Anderson
11:00 Sheryl Knutson

Video

May 5 8:30 Greg Dunn
11:00 Doug Knutson
May 12 8:30 Julie Holt
11:00 Greg Dunn
May 19 8:30 Renee Riffey
11:00 Michelle Hedtke
May 26 8:30 Greg Dunn
11:00 Doug Knutson

Acolyte

May 5 8:30 Talan Robinson
11:00 Caleb Strait
May 12 8:30 Trae Robinson
11:00 Abby Bogner
May 19 8:30 Noah Pelletier
11:00 Mya Chamberlin
May 26 8:30 Ashlyn Godbey
11:00 Jaden Harris

Nursery (11:00 Service)

May 5 Brooke Oja, Katia Knutson
May 12 Kris Dunn, Debbie Mills
May 19 Melissa Loney, Debbie Mills
May 26 Liz & Ryan Corey

Coffee

May 5 Knutson
May 12
May 19 Crow
May 26

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)

Thanksgiving:

Amanda, DCE intern

New members

Daphne (daughter of *Josh & Haley Dohrmann)- Born 4/9

Vera (mother of *Julie Elias)- Recovering after hospitalization

Lyla (mother of *Sheryl Knutson)- Recovering

Illness, injuries, health issues:

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

Bill (father of Kim Carter)- Cancer

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

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

Steve (brother of *Barb Miller)- Health issues

Susan (niece of *Bonnie Bubke)- Health issues

Pastor Renfro (Trinity)- Health issues

Gus (friend of *Myers & *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

Taylor (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

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

Bonnie (friend of *Mary Nanke)- cancer

Todd (friend of Katia Knutson)- cancer treatment

Rita (friend of *Shirley Kellogg)- cancer

Grief, family and friends of:

Ruth (sister of *Bonnie Bubke)- Died 4/19

Lee (aunt of *Lori Dohrmann)- Died 4/7

Claudine (friend of *Faye Sieck)- Died 4/6

Gary (relative of *Lori Dohrmann)- Died 4/5

Steve Godecke (former member)- Died 4/4

Daryl (nephew of *Bonnie Bubke)- Died 4/3

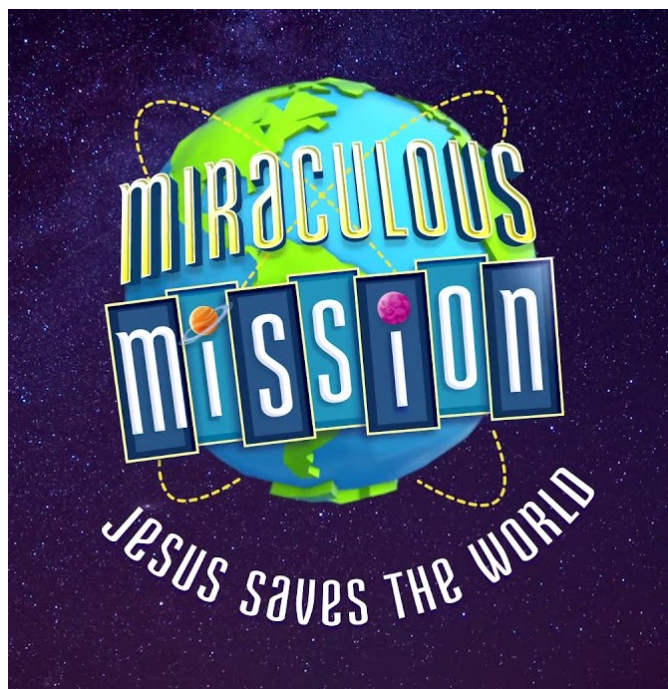
Paul (brother-in-law of *Janelle Dunbar)- Died 4/1

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



Vacation Bible School

June 17-20 | 6:00-8:00 p.m.

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. It's not just for Bethany kids—be sure to invite friends, too!

We will need adult volunteers at VBS. Please find sign-up sheets outside the sanctuary to help at stations, lead kids from station to station, or help in the kitchen for the 5:30 meals.

Register your kids at bethanycr.org/vbs

DCE Intern Update

Amanda Segebart is currently finishing her fourth year of DCE studies at Concordia University (Nebraska). This summer she will join us to serve in our congregation as a DCE intern. Be sure to keep Amanda in your prayers as she prepares for her year-long internship at Bethany.

Happy Easter!



Bethany kids heard the Easter story from Pastor Erickson before going on an Easter Egg Hunt.



Confirmation on May 26

Jaden Harris, David Jasper, and Trae Robinson will be confirmed at 8:30 a.m. on May 26. Public examination will be on Wednesday, May 15 at 7:00 p.m.



SUNDAY SCHOOL

9:45-10:45 a.m.

Lower Level



Why Sunday School?

With all the commitments families have, some may hesitate to have their children involved in yet another “activity” such as Sunday School. For those who understand the importance of our children hearing God’s Word, even they may ask why coming to church services or doing family devotions is not enough? While understandable, such attitudes downplay the influences of modern-day culture and the what God accomplishes through His Word.

God gives and strengthens saving faith in Jesus through His Word. Therefore, Christian families take every opportunity to learn God’s saving Word, especially when there are so many other “words” our kids are hearing that are opposed to the Gospel. In addition, being active in Sunday School teaches our children how to live a Christian life by nurturing habits that will last into adulthood. Sunday School therefore is not simply another “activity” or “obligation” for families or even a “bonus” to our Christian lives. It is an essential opportunity for God to give our children His gifts in a way that is meaningful to them and to develop into mature Christians assured of their salvation.

REAL.PRESENT.GOD.

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. Help us celebrate Jakob Bulicek, Jurnee Carr, Julie Holt, Sophie Knudson, Ethan Myers and Meghan Prohaska and keep them in your prayers as they prepare for their upcoming journeys in life after graduation!





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.

Family Promise

Bethany will host for Family Promise April 28 - May 5. If you signed up to volunteer or provide meals for this week, please meet at 9:45 a.m. on Sunday, April 28 in the Adult Education Room for an informational meeting.



In 2019, Bethany will also host families the weeks of August 4-11 and November 3-10. Please consider volunteering to provide a meal or stay overnight during these times.

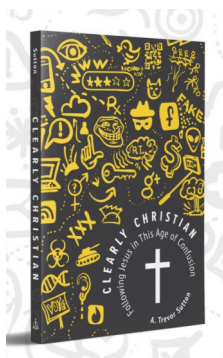
Sewing Quilts for Lutheran World Relief



On Tuesday, May 21, 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.

National Bike Challenge

Love to bike? Join Bethany for the National Bike Challenge and log your miles this summer! Join our group at <https://bit.ly/2UzNK9B>. Contact Jeff Crow if you would like more information.

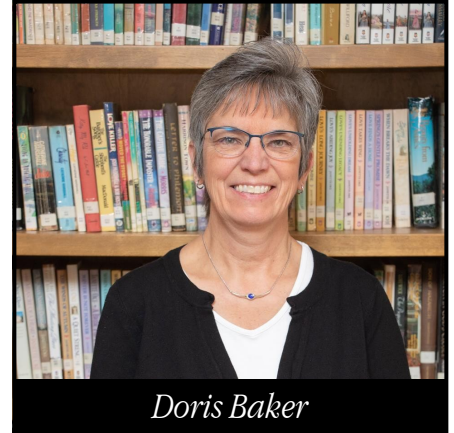


Young Adult Bible Study

Young adults started a study of *Clearly Christian: Following Jesus in this Age of Confusion*. All young adults (post-high school and beyond) are welcome! We've started the book, but it's certainly not too late to join. Contact the church office if you are interested in joining and would like a book. The final three sessions will be on May 5 & 19, and June 2. Join us these Sundays at 6:30 p.m. in the young adults room at Bethany.

Welcome to our New Members

New members were received into Bethany on Sunday, April 14. Welcome to Doris Baker, Jennifer Shoemaker, Harrison and Hannah Sieck, and Rob and Faye Sieck.



Living and Sharing God's Love

Patty King lives and shares God's love by encouraging others, sharing her faith, and reminding people that God loves them. One Sunday, she encouraged Maren Hopkins by reminding her of the hope we have for a bright future, because of what Jesus has done for us. To hear Patty and Maren share their story, find their video on Bethany's Facebook page.

Watch at www.facebook.com/bethanycr



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.

MAY BIRTHDAYS

5/1 Ashley Freese Ally Olson	5/10 Richard Pfeil	5/24 Serena Knudson
5/2 Scott Deetz Julie Holt	5/11 Brad Crawford Chris Frampton Lucas McCarley	5/25 Julie Elias Lindsey Rutz
5/3 Patrick McCarley Justin McCarley Annie Prohaska	5/12 Mike Diers	5/27 Anna Milbach
5/4 Jakob Bulicek Clara Hinz	5/13 Brianna Prohaska	5/28 Tom Larson
5/5 Shirley Deetz	5/19 Lily McClellan	5/29 Jase Bond Beth Bricker Erin Wilson
5/9 Kaleb Diers	5/20 Amy Diers Alexander Theriault	5/31 Lauren Bricker Lexi Brink Josh Dohrmann Save Duve
5/10 Kerry McGraw	5/21 Leonard Tiedt	
	5/23 Lori Dohrmann Karen Swanson	

MAY ANNIVERSARIES

5/2 Dave & Wendy Christian	5/19 Doug & Diana Long
5/4 Ray & Kerry McGraw	5/21 Jeff & Lynn Madsen
5/11 Scott & Kathryn Deetz	5/22 Larry & Sharon Easler
5/13 Michael & Annie Prohaska	5/23 Jake & Tami Vande Weerd
5/14 Gary & Pam Kaufman	5/29 Mark & Anna Ranbarger
5/16 Mike & Lora Raymon	



Food Pantry

Did you know? Bethany keeps a small food pantry on hand for anyone who comes in who has need. When shopping for groceries, keep the pantry in mind and consider picking up a couple extra non-perishable food or personal hygiene items.

For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me. - Matthew 25:35

Care Warriors Training and Appreciation



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 Presentation: Saturday, May 11

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 meeting will be held at Bethany on May 11 at 10:30 a.m. to learn about next steps in this ministry.



Within this ministry, we would need willing volunteers to be handlers. If you love dogs and love providing comfort and care for people, this would be a great opportunity for you to live and share God's love!

Opportunity to Serve

We could always use more help preparing coffee on Sunday mornings. If you enjoy having coffee to drink on Sundays, consider helping prepare it. Don't worry if you don't know how—you would be trained! Sign up at the coffee counter, or contact Tina Freese at 329-3882 to learn about how to get involved.



Senior Worship and Lunch

Next service:

Thursday, May 16
11:00 a.m.

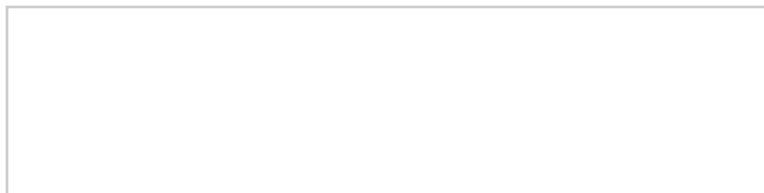
Bethany Prayers

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

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U. S. POSTAGE PAID
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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