

# Bethany Beacon

SEPTEMBER 2019



See what we can accomplish at Bethany when we put Stewardship into practice!



**September 8:** See page 11 to learn about a new stewardship Bible study.

**September 15-22:** Stewardship packets will be available to pick up at Bethany.

**September 29:** Please plan to join us for Commitment Sunday, a day when we will commit our time and talents to the Lord.



**Bethany**  
Lutheran Church

*Living and Sharing God's Love*

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Last month I had the pleasure to lead over 20 members of our congregation in an evangelism program called *Everyone His Witness*. This was a wonderful opportunity for all of us to learn from and be encouraged by Rev. Mark Wood, Director of LCMS Witness & Outreach. Learning how to listen to people, share the Gospel with them, and how to encourage them was a perfect fit with Bethany's mission to *Live and Share God's Love*. Of course, now that the workshop is over, all members of Bethany must heed Christ's call and participate in the joyous privilege of sharing the Good News of Jesus. As a little encouragement to everyone and a reminder to the participants of E1HW, I'd therefore like to share the following thoughts from Rev. Wood:

*As Christ's witnesses, we are called to speak the truth in love, that is, to speak God's Word in love. One of our challenges in doing this comes when we consider that God's Word is made up of both Law and Gospel. Speaking the Gospel in love seems good and right to us. But speaking the Law in love seems like a contradiction. It certainly doesn't feel very loving to tell someone that he is sinning and that his sins will lead to God's judgment and condemnation. Contrary to those feelings, speaking the Law to someone who is quite comfortable in his sin is not only loving, it is the only loving option we have as faithful witnesses of Jesus.*

*Some very sincere people who want to be active and effective witnesses of Jesus are not at all convinced that we need to speak the Law to people who have embraced their sins. They argue that the Law has no place in our witnessing because it isn't good news for people. After all, they point out, the word evangelism even means "good news." They insist that the Law will only turn people away and will end any chance we have of sharing the message of God's love with them. To them, the bottom line is that we cannot speak the Law in love. In reality, if we can't share the Law in love then we're doing it wrong. If we cannot speak the Law in love then, in many cases, we are not speaking the truth in love.*

*How do we speak the Law in love? In the first place, we speak the Law in love when we share it with people who are not contrite – people who have no sorrow over their sins. Without listening to people and learning how they view the world, what values they hold, and what they know about right and wrong, we don't know if they are contrite or not. It takes time listening, asking, and building a relationship to understand how a person views his sins. When it is apparent that someone is secure in his sins, we can only speak the truth in love by speaking the Law in love. On the other hand, when someone is contrite – when he is already crushed by the Law – we cannot speak the Law in love. Learning which is the case for a person is an essential part of being a faithful and effective witness.*

*When it is clear that you must speak the Law to a person, your posture will drive whether or not you are speaking it in love. In other words, consider what pose you are in when you hold the mirror of the Law for people. Are you standing behind the mirror framing the other person's sins in the mirror and making him the sole focus of the Law? Or are you including yourself in the mirror's reflective gaze – holding the Law up as you would a cell phone for a "selfie" photo?*

*As broken and sinful people bringing the message of forgiveness and healing to other broken and sinful people, the "selfie" pose with the mirror of the Law should be natural and comfortable for us. When we assume this posture with the Law people will not see us as judgmental or "holier-than-thou." Instead, they will see that, just like them, we are exposed as sinners when we stand before the mirror of the Law. Then our discussion about the Law can be framed in love and it can prepare the way for sharing how the Gospel brings us healing and wholeness. And perhaps, by the working of the Holy Spirit, we will have the joy of posing with them for another "selfie" in the light of the Gospel.*

*Speaking the Law in love is a powerful way for us to engage people as we seek to witness of Jesus. What's your pose with the mirror of the Law?*

✝ Pastor Erickson

## Monday, September 2

Labor Day - Office Closed

## Tuesday, September 3

3:00 pm Bethany Prayer Group - Library

5:00 pm Praise Moves - GA

6:00 pm Evangelism - Ad Ed

## Wednesday, September 4

6:00 pm Confirmation Class - LL

## Thursday, September 5

9:00 am Adult Bible Study - Ad Ed

## Friday, September 6

2:00 pm LWML Retreat @ Io-Dis-E-Ca

## Saturday, September 7

8:00 am Serve the Lord Day

9:00 am Holy Yoga - OR

## Sunday, September 8

12:15 pm Board of Education Mtg.

## Monday, September 9

10:00 am Women's Small Group - Marion

6:30 pm Stephen Min. Supervision

6:45 pm Trustees Mtg.

## Tuesday, September 10

3:00 pm Bethany Prayer Group - Library

5:00 pm Praise Moves - GA

7:00 pm Council Meeting - Ad Ed

## Wednesday, September 11

6:00 am Men's Bible Study

6:00 pm Confirmation Class - LL

6:00 pm Human Care Mtg. - GA

## Thursday, September 12

9:00 am Adult Bible Study

6:30 pm Leah Circle - Ad Ed

## Saturday, September 14

9:00 am Holy Yoga - OR

## Monday, September 16

10:00 am Women's Small Group - Marion

## Tuesday, September 17

3:00 pm Bethany Prayer Group - Library

5:00 pm Praise Moves - GA

## Wednesday, September 18

6:00 am Men's Bible Study

4:00 pm Cottage Grove Devotion

6:00 pm Confirmation Class - LL

## Thursday, September 19

9:00 am Adult Bible Study - Ad Ed

11:00 am Senior Worship & Lunch

## Saturday, September 21

9:00 am Holy Yoga - OR

5:00 pm Fellowship Movie Night - FLC

## Sunday, September 22

9:30 am Blood Pressure Screening

9:45 am Sunday School Rally Day

## Monday, September 23

10:00 am Women's Small Group - Marion

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

## Tuesday, September 24

3:00 pm Bethany Prayer Group - Library

5:00 pm Praise Moves - GA

6:00 pm Visually Impaired Min. - Ad Ed

## Wednesday, September 25

6:00 am Men's Bible Study

12:00 pm Beacon Assembly

6:00 pm Confirmation Class - LL

## Thursday, September 26

9:00 am Adult Bible Study - Ad Ed

## Saturday, September 28

9:00 am Holy Yoga - OR

## Sunday, September 29

Commitment Sunday

6:30 pm Youth Event @ Concordia CR

## Monday, September 30

10:00 am Women's Small Group - Marion

**Key:** Ad Ed - Adult Education Room

FLC - Family Life Center

GA - Gathering Area

OR - Opening Room

LL - Lower Level

## Washington HS Outreach

Starting September 9, we will offer free coffee and hot chocolate on Monday mornings in front of our parking lot. The evangelism board is looking for a few volunteers each Monday to help brew and serve. If you are interested in serving with this ministry to get to know the high school students and our neighbors, contact the church office at 364-6026.

## Elders

<b>Sep 1</b>	Karl Hoech
<b>Sep 8</b>	Mark Holt
<b>Sep 15</b>	Dave Dohrmann
<b>Sep 22</b>	Jim Heitland
<b>Sep 29</b>	Rick Foreman

## Ushers

<b>Sep 1</b>	<b>8:30</b>	Crew #2	<b>11:00</b>	Crew #7
<b>Sep 8</b>	<b>8:30</b>	Crew #3	<b>11:00</b>	Crew #8
<b>Sep 15</b>	<b>8:30</b>	Crew #4	<b>11:00</b>	Crew #6
<b>Sep 22</b>	<b>8:30</b>	Crew #1	<b>11:00</b>	Crew #7
<b>Sep 29</b>	<b>8:30</b>	Crew #2	<b>11:00</b>	Crew #8

## Greeters

<b>Sep 1</b>	<b>8:30</b>	Mike & Dawn Thomas Vern & Betty Happel
	<b>11:00</b>	Donna Birkicht, Mary Nanke Shari Mehlhoff
<b>Sep 8</b>	<b>8:30</b>	Rick & Sandra Thorington Don & Betty Hein
	<b>11:00</b>	Ken & Elaine Cook Jim & Lissa Novitch
<b>Sep 15</b>	<b>8:30</b>	Ken Ambrecht Pete & Kris Larson
	<b>11:00</b>	Duane & Karen Pfeffer Brad & Erin Crawford
<b>Sep 22</b>	<b>8:30</b>	Arlen & Bonnie Breiholz Cherie Miller, Doris Baker
	<b>11:00</b>	Jeff & Melinda Crow Mike & Annie Prohaska
<b>Sep 29</b>	<b>8:30</b>	Mark & Julie Elias Nancy Owens
	<b>11:00</b>	Dick & Karen Hass Karen Schmidt, Donice McDonald

## Lectors

<b>Sep 1</b>	<b>8:30</b>	Mark Bornemann
	<b>11:00</b>	Dave Johnson
<b>Sep 8</b>	<b>8:30</b>	Mark Elias
	<b>11:00</b>	Maren Hopkins
<b>Sep 15</b>	<b>8:30</b>	Rick Thorington
	<b>11:00</b>	Maren Hopkins
<b>Sep 22</b>	<b>8:30</b>	Rick Foreman
	<b>11:00</b>	Sheryl Knutson
<b>Sep 29</b>	<b>8:30</b>	Harrison Sieck
	<b>11:00</b>	Dave Christian

## Video

<b>Sep 1</b>	<b>8:30</b>	Jeff Gebert
	<b>11:00</b>	Doug Knutson
<b>Sep 8</b>	<b>8:30</b>	Jeff Gebert
	<b>11:00</b>	Mike Diers
<b>Sep 15</b>	<b>8:30</b>	Greg Dunn
	<b>11:00</b>	Michelle Hedtke
<b>Sep 22</b>	<b>8:30</b>	Greg Dunn
	<b>11:00</b>	Greg Dunn
<b>Sep 29</b>	<b>8:30</b>	Jeff Gebert
	<b>11:00</b>	Doug Knutson

## Nursery (11:00 Service)

<b>Sep 1</b>	Karen Schmidt
<b>Sep 8</b>	Kris Dunn, Tracy Moffett
<b>Sep 15</b>	Melissa Loney, Debbie Mills
<b>Sep 22</b>	Liz & Ryan Corey
<b>Sep 29</b>	Annie & Natalie Prohaska

## Communion Sunday Prayers

<b>Sep 1</b>	<b>8:30</b>	John Hamm
	<b>11:00</b>	Jim Novitch
<b>Sep 15</b>	<b>8:30</b>	Pete Larson
	<b>11:00</b>	Lori Dohrmann

## Coffee

<b>Sep 1</b>	Crow
<b>Sep 8</b>	
<b>Sep 15</b>	Karsten
<b>Sep 22</b>	Knutson
<b>Sep 29</b>	

**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:

\*Daphne (daughter of \*Josh & Haley Dohrmann) Baptized 8/25  
 Isabel (granddaughter of \*Ken & Ellie Smith)- Born 8/23  
 Adult Vacation Bible School  
 Ben Venteicher (former DCE)- Home from deployment  
 Greg (relative of \*Pat Krekeler)- Recovering after heart attack  
 John (brother of \*Pat Krekeler)- Recovering after surgery  
 Pat (mother of \*Karen Swanson)- Recovering after surgery  
 Cheryl (friend of \*Deb Mills)- Recovering after surgery  
 Connie (friend of \*Sheryl Knutson)- Improved status

## Illness, injuries, health issues:

Josh (grandson of \*Kim Neuhaus)- Health issues  
 Mike (relative of \*Bonnie Bubke)- Recovering after surgery  
 Craig (friend of \*Jeff Madsen)- Recovering after surgery  
 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  
 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

## Safety:

Tailor (grandson of \*Kim Neuhaus)- Marines, Deployed  
 Charlie (grandson of \*Kim Neuhaus)- Army, Deployed

## Homebound members of Bethany:

\*Rollis Deetz- at home  
 \*Shirley Hansen- at home  
 \*Wayne & Darlene Schilling- at home  
 Candi Engel- at home  
 \*Patty King- Hospice Care at Crestview Acres, Marion  
 \*Ann Meyer- Keystone Cedars  
 \*Margaret Speers- Cottage Grove Health Center

## Cancer:

Jeannine (aunt of \*Angie Pfeil)- cancer treatments  
 Bill (father of Kim Carter)- cancer  
 David (relative of \*Hasses)- 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  
 Pat (aunt of \*Ginny Urban)- cancer  
 Chad (son of \*Vicki Huschka)- leukemia  
 Todd (friend of Katia Knutson)- cancer treatment  
 Rita (friend of \*Shirley Kellogg)- cancer

## Grief, family and friends of:

\*Patty King- Died 8/19  
 Joe (brother of \*Barb Lauthen)- Died 8/12  
 Blaine (uncle of \*Kent Zenor)- Died 7/29  
 Wilma (mother in law of Mark Bornemann)- Died 7/28  
 Alan (relative of \*Bonnie Bubke)- Died 7/27  
 Sandy (aunt of \*Brenda Heims)- Died 7/22  
 Keith (brother of \*Bev Linman)- Died 7/20  
 Robert (friend of \*Linda Patten)- Died 7/6  
 Ryan (relative of \*Bonnie Bubke)- Died 7/4

## 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

## YOUTH FELLOWSHIP GET-TOGETHER

**Middle school** and **high school** youth are welcomed to join the youth of Concordia and Zion Lutheran for a night of fun and fellowship. There will be games, a bonfire, and a devotion.

Join us on Sunday, September 29, 6:30-8:45 p.m. at Concordia Lutheran (4210 Johnson Ave. NW). If you plan on attending, talk with Amanda Segebart or email her at [dceintern.bethanycr@gmail.com](mailto:dceintern.bethanycr@gmail.com).



## Join us for SUNDAY SCHOOL Sundays at 9:45 a.m.

Come walk with Jesus in Sunday School as we journey through the Bible together.



Kids in preschool - 5th grade meet in the Opening Room in the lower level.

Youth in 6th-8th grade meet in the middle school room in the lower level.

Youth in 9th-12th grade meet in the high school room in the lower level.



## Confirmation

Students at Bethany take their first year of confirmation class in 7th grade, and second year of confirmation class in 8th grade. Confirmation classes are held on Wednesday evenings, 6:00-7:30 p.m.

## Faith Milestones



### Toddler Bible Milestone (Age 2-3)

Classes for parents will be on September 22, 29, and October 6 at 9:45 in the Adult Education Room. A blessing event will take place during both services on October 13. Karen Swanson is the facilitator for the toddler Milestone.

### 3rd Grade Bible Milestone

Classes for parents will be on September 15, 22, and October 6 at 9:45 in the Milestones room (lower level). A blessing event will take place during both services on October 13. Karen Swalley is the facilitator for the third grade Milestone.

## Adult Vacation Bible School

Adults gathered August 12-15 for Adult VBS: *An Inexpressible Treasure – The Theology and Practice of Holy Baptism*. The group used our synod's *Commission on Theology and Church Relations* latest report as a guide on their study of baptism. In addition to the study, attendees enjoyed treats, beloved hymns, and Bible trivia. The week ended with worship and lunch on Thursday.



*Here are some moments from Adult Vacation Bible School week captured by Arlen Breibolz.*

## Voters' Meeting: Comfort Dog Ministry

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On Sunday, August 18 the congregation voted to purchase a comfort dog through Lutheran Church Charities. If you are interested in being part of the comfort dog team or would like more information about this ministry, please contact Mike Raymon at [pinballmike81@gmail.com](mailto:pinballmike81@gmail.com).



## CPR Training

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On August 24, Bethany had 13 people complete CPR/First Aid/AED training. Thank you to all those who took the time for this training.

## Blood Drive

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A blood drive will be held at Bethany on Friday, November 15. The drive will take place 1:00-6:00 p.m. in the Family Life Center. Please mark your calendar and plan to donate blood this day if you are able.



## Especially For You

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The Especially For You Race Against Breast Cancer will be held on Sunday, October 6. There will be a 5K run or walk at 8:00 a.m. Online registration for the Especially For You Race is open at <https://runsignup.com/RaceGroups/34374>. Click the Join button next to "Bethany Lutheran Church" and please sign up by September 9.



## Thank you

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Donna Bogner wishes to thank the Bethany Care Warriors who helped her move. Thank you for living and sharing God's love in this way!



## Fellowship Event on September 21

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Join your friends at Bethany (and Lutherans across the country) for (root) beer, brats, and The Princess Bride movie on Saturday, September 21 at 5:00! This national annual fun event combines the German tradition of beer and brats with the watching of The Princess Bride.

So, save the date to join us for some brats and root beer in the Family Life Center while watching The Princess Bride. Plan to gather at 5:00, and we'll start the movie at 5:30. Sign up at the Welcome Center if you plan to attend and if you would be willing to bring food. Have fun storming the castle! For more information, contact Becky McCarley at [rebecca@octaspark.com](mailto:rebecca@octaspark.com).



## Synodical Convention Overview

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On July 20, the Missouri Synod met in Tampa, Florida for the Synodical Convention, held every three years. Over the course of six days, both lay and pastoral delegates met to discuss and vote on a variety of issues concerning the theology and practice of our beloved church body under the theme Joy:fully Lutheran. Among the items of note were:

- Receiving 52% of the vote on the first ballot, Rev. Dr. Matthew Harrison was elected to another three-year term as our Synodical President.
- The convention affirmed the LCMS' commitment to the sanctity of life, a biblical understanding of marriage and gender, and the protection of children.
- Delegates voted to condemn the sin of racism.
- Resolutions were passed to enter into altar and pulpit fellowship with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Belgium, the Evangelical Lutheran Free Church in Denmark, the Portuguese Evangelical Lutheran Church, and the Confessional Lutheran Church of South Africa. This means that LCMS recognizes that these church bodies share our beliefs and teachings.
- No action was taken on Resolution 5-13, submitted by Iowa District East, asking Synod to study the role of lay readers in church services.

Overall, it seemed a positive experience for those in attendance and wonderful sign that God continues to bless our synod and grow His Church!

## SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

<b>9/1</b> Greg Dunn Carolyn Johnson Becky Thur Sydney Wilson	<b>9/9</b> Jeff Madsen Kent Zenor	<b>9/21</b> Zollie Duve Doug Francik Macy Oja
<b>9/2</b> John Hamm Larry Thronson	<b>9/11</b> Whitney Fountain	<b>9/23</b> Ethan Myers Ken Smith
<b>9/3</b> Jeannine Robinson	<b>9/13</b> Kevin Hansen	<b>9/24</b> Linda Patten Natalie Prohaska
<b>9/7</b> Colton Keldgord Shirley McElroy Bernice Stonewall	<b>9/14</b> Keenan Diers	<b>9/29</b> Kathy Hanchera Darlene Schilling
<b>9/8</b> Adam Henderson Traejan Robinson	<b>9/15</b> Eli Henderson Sasha Knutson	<b>9/30</b> Joel Knutson
	<b>9/17</b> Cherie Miller Maleta Montague	
	<b>9/18</b> Jackson Rinderknecht	
	<b>9/19</b> Donice McDonald	
	<b>9/20</b> Janet Gebert	

## SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

<b>9/6</b> Brad & Brooke Oja	<b>9/18</b> Ryan & JJ Theriault
<b>9/12</b> Bob & Sherry Benton	Tom & Debbie Mills
Joel & Kristan Conrad	<b>9/20</b> Rick & Sandy Thorington
	<b>9/21</b> Mark & Laura Holt



Patty King

Patty King entered her Heavenly home on August 19. Bethany member and Patty's dear friend Fran Struck would especially like to thank the congregation for their prayers, concern and all they have done for Patty over the years. Thank you for living and sharing God's love through your friendships with Patty!

### *Senior Worship and Lunch*

Next service:

**Thursday, September 19**  
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 [nurse.bethanycr@gmail.com](mailto:nurse.bethanycr@gmail.com), or call 364-6026.

## Stewardship Moments

2 videos · Updated on Monday



**Stewardship Moment: Karen**

82 views · August 19



**Stewardship Moment: Mike Raymon**

51 views · August 22

## Stewardship Moments

Check out our stewardship moment videos on Facebook ([facebook.com/bethanycria](https://facebook.com/bethanycria)). A new video is featured each week!

## New Bible Study starting September 8

Few biblical teachings are more misunderstood than stewardship, and although stewardship education is not easy, it is vitally important for the ministry of God's church. Therefore, everyone is invited to participate in a new Bible study that Pastor Erickson will lead during the Sunday education hour beginning September 8. This five-week study will assist followers of Jesus to expand their understanding of both individual and group stewardship with the desire that participants will grow in the awareness of the joyous privilege of being God's managers of His gifts!

## Serve the Lord Day: September 7

Help our Trustees care for the maintenance of our church building and grounds on Saturday, September 7. There will be various projects to work on both indoors and outdoors. We will work 8:00 a.m. to noon, and any amount of time you are able to serve will be appreciated!



## Music Ministry



If you have been debating about joining music ministry at Bethany, make the decision to do it this year! Below is the schedule for vocal choir. Rehearsals are only one hour on Saturdays at 9:00 a.m., so you are only investing 12 hours of your time for the entire year. These are an important 12 hours that will pay wonderful dividends in your gift of time and talent to your church. Talk to any current members of the vocal choir if you are curious. If you are interested in joining, contact Carolyn Sternowski at [carolynsternowski@gmail.com](mailto:carolynsternowski@gmail.com).

**Fall 2019 Vocal Choir Rehearsals**

9/7, 10/19, 11/9, 11/23, 12/7, 12/21

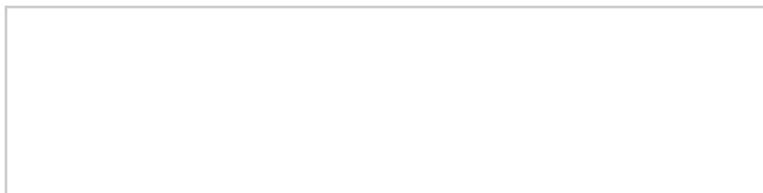
**Spring 2020 Vocal Choir Rehearsals**

1/11, 2/8, 2/22, 3/7, 4/4, 5/9

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	<a href="http://www.bethanycr.org">www.bethanycr.org</a>
Email	<a href="mailto:office.bethanycr@gmail.com">office.bethanycr@gmail.com</a>
Phone	319-364-6026
	<a href="https://facebook.com/bethanycr">facebook.com/bethanycr</a>