

# Bethany Beacon

JUNE 2020

## Service at Bethany

### STARTING JUNE 14

So that we may safely gather to receive God's blessings through His Word and Sacraments, we will be instituting the following procedures for our June 14 and June 21 services.

1. On each day there will be one service at 9:00 a.m. Holy Communion will be celebrated both Sundays. The service on June 14 will be an abbreviated form of our traditional service, and on June 21 we will have an abbreviated form of our contemporary service.
2. Attendance will be limited to 50 people (the estimated number of worshippers that may safely gather in the sanctuary) and seats will be assigned beforehand to ensure both proper social distancing and having the maximum number of people able to attend.
  - a. Therefore, those desiring to attend the service on June 14 will be required to sign up during the week of June 8-12. A link to SignUp Genius will be emailed, or you may call the church office at 364-6026 to sign up. Those desiring to attend the service on June 21 are asked to sign up the week of June 15-19 in the same manner. A "waiting list" will be started should we reach the maximum number of worshippers for either service.
3. Those who are over the age of 65, have medical conditions that increase their risk of infection or complications, are feeling ill, or have been recently exposed to someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 are asked to strongly consider waiting to worship with us another Sunday.
4. A mask that covers your nose and mouth must be worn in the church. If you do not have a mask, there will be a limited number of masks available for you at the church. Attendees are also asked to keep 6 feet away from people not in their family group and to make use of the available hand sanitizer.
5. Congregation members will not sing during the service. However, there will be limited responses in the liturgy including the Nicene Creed and the Lord's Prayer.

*Information continues on page 2...*



**Bethany**  
Lutheran Church

*Living and Sharing God's Love*

6. The Distribution during Holy Communion will take place in the following manner:
  - a. After I give the greeting, ("Welcome to the table of our Lord.") everyone will be seated.
  - b. An usher will invite the first family group to go to the altar. At this point, everyone else will remain seated.
  - c. Upon being invited by the usher, each family group will approach the altar by walking down the center aisle, meeting me at the altar rail on their side of the sanctuary. Communicants are asked to remain standing and to keep their masks on until they have received the sacrament.
  - d. After receiving the sacrament, communicants will return to their seats via the side aisle and dispose of their communion cups in the receptacles placed along the wall.
  - e. When it is safe to do so, the usher will invite the next family group to come forward. This process will repeat itself until everyone has received the sacrament.
7. Offering plates will not be passed during the service. Tithes and offerings may be placed in the offering plates located in the back of the sanctuary or worshippers may use one of Bethany's electronic giving options.
8. At the end of the service I will dismiss each family group, starting in the back and working our way forward.
9. There will be no coffee, doughnuts, or Sunday School after the service. While discouraged, if worshippers desire to "mingle" after service, they will be asked to do so outside of the building, while keeping a safe distance from each other.
10. I will lead an online Zoom Bible Study that Sunday at 10:30 a.m.
11. Those who have signed up to attend will receive an email or phone call on the Saturday before with their "seat assignments." Please note that each pew has a number (odd on the north [pulpit] side) and each pew has been divided into three color coded sections (see the sample chart on page 10). It is important that each family group not only sit in the correct pew, but also the correct section in that pew to maintain proper distance and maximize the number of people who may attend.
12. After the services on June 14 and June 21 have been evaluated by Bethany's leadership, guidelines for following services and our voters' meeting on June 28 will be released on our website, social media platforms, and Pastor's weekly update.
13. Parish Nurse Ronda Anderson, music leaders, the Board of Elders, and myself will continue to monitor the situation and receive input from other congregation members. If the need arises, last minute changes may be made including the postponing or cancelling of services.
14. As service attendance will be limited to 50 people or fewer, we will continue to provide service resources for people access from home. This way, everyone will still have the opportunity to worship and hear the message.

While this may seem like a lot of information about new practices, the congregation's leadership would like to thank everyone in advance for their understanding and willingness to adapt during these difficult times. While I believe we are all praying that Sundays at Bethany will not look like what we have outlined above for very long (no singing, no Bible Study, no doughnuts or coffee!), I do hope that we are all still able to recognize how God blesses us in whatever manner we gather as long as His Word and Sacraments are present.

Your Servant in Christ,  
+ Pastor Erickson

## Thanksgiving:

Healthcare workers

## Illness, injuries, health issues:

Those affected by COVID-19

Barb (friend of \*Pat Krekeler)- Health issues

Jill (daughter of \*Dick & \*Karen Hass)- Recovering after surgery

Zoe (granddaughter of \*Mary Nanke)- Recovering after cornea transplant

Mary Lou (mother of \*Becky Thur)- Recovering after surgery

Seth (son-in-law of \*Zenors)- Health issues

Carolyn (mother of Mary Vezina)- Recovering from shingles

Joyce (mother of \*A. Segebart)- Recovering after surgery

Gene (husband of \*K. Schmidt)- Recovering after surgery

Carol (mother of \*Angie Pfeil)- Recovering after fall

Andrew (relative of \*Brenda Heims)- Health issues

Jennifer (daughter of \*Pat Krekeler)- Life challenges

Jane (daughter of \*B. Bubke)- Recovering after surgery

Jeff Mellgren (former member)- Recovering after stroke

Steve (brother of \*L Patten)- Health issues

Hayden (relatives of \*Bonnie Bubke)- Brain disorder

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

Susan (niece of \*Bonnie Bubke)- Health issues

Pastor Renfro (Trinity)- Health issues

Mike (friend of \*J Knutson)- Recovering after hospitalization

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

## Local/National/World:

Local, state, and national leaders

Victims of floods, hurricanes, fires and disasters

## Homebound members of Bethany:

\*Rollis Deetz- at home

\*Wayne & Darlene Schilling- at home

Candi Engel- at home

\*Ann Meyer- Terrace Glen, Marion

\*Del & \*Dee Block- Summit Pointe, Marion

## Cancer:

Pat (niece of \*Bonnie Bubke)- cancer

Jerry (father of Missy Gingrich)- cancer treatment

Glen (brother of \*Rob Sieck)- cancer

Jim (friend of \*Sheryl Knutson)- cancer surgery

Oz (father of \*Dathan Hinrichs & \*Josie Hester)- cancer treatment

Carol (sister of \*Lori Dohrmann)- cancer treatment

Tony (friend of \*Mike Thomas)- 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

Judy (godmother of \*Jim Novitch)- cancer treatment

Chad (son of \*Vicki Huschka)- leukemia

Rita (friend of \*Shirley Kellogg)- cancer

## Grief, family and friends of:

Ashley (friend of \*Ronda Anderson)- Died 5/19

DeWayne (father of \*Steve Hanchera)- Died 5/17

MaryEllen (mother of \*Tina Freese)- Died 5/12

Bob (friend of \*Pat Krekeler)- Died 5/9

Dwight (father of Rebecca Ballstaedt)- Died 5/7

Jeanette (mother of Rob Willms)- Died 5/1

\*Shirley Hansen- Died 4/29

Harold (grandfather of \*Amanda Segebart)- Died 4/17

Nathan (nephew of \*Mark Bornemann)- Died 4/15

Tod (friend of \*Aaron Moffett)- Died 4/14

Ruth (aunt of \*Carol Edwards)- Died 4/2

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

## Bethany Prayers

Do you have prayer requests? Let us know if you would like your request added to the prayer list, the email prayer chain, or both. Call 364-6026 or email requests to nurse.bethanycr@gmail.com.

## Sunday, May 31 (Pentecost)

10:00 am Bible Study - Zoom

## Monday, June 1

4:00 pm Elders Meeting - Zoom

## Sunday, June 7 (Trinity Sunday)

10:00 am Bible Study - Zoom

## Monday, June 8

10:00 am Women's Group - Zoom

## Tuesday, June 9

7:00 pm Council Meeting - Zoom

## Wednesday, June 10

6:00 am Men's Group - Zoom

## Sunday, June 14

9:00 am Trad. Service at Bethany

10:30 am Bible Study - Zoom

## Monday, June 15

10:00 am Women's Group - Zoom

## Wednesday, June 17

6:00 am Men's Group - Zoom

## Sunday, June 21

9:00 am Cont. Service at Bethany

10:30 am Bible Study - Zoom

## Monday, June 22

10:00 am Women's Group - Zoom

## Wednesday, June 24

6:00 am Men's Group - Zoom

## Sunday, June 28

10:00 am Call Meeting at Bethany  
Service(s) TBD

## Monday, June 29

10:00 am Women's Group - Zoom

## Sunday, July 5

Service(s) TBD

## Saturday, July 11

10:00 am Fellowship Bike Ride

## JUNE BIRTHDAYS

**6/2** Carter Oja

**6/4** Cooper Crow

**6/5** Barb Deetz

Karissa Scott

**6/6** Emily Loney

**6/9** Lora Raymon

**6/11** Velma Ziesemer

**6/12** Steve Wilson

**6/15** Jurnee Carr

Carter Keldgord

**6/16** Kate Madsen

Taylor Donels

**6/18** Miranda Schweer

**6/19** Debbie Mills

Camden Brusius

**6/20** Dawn Mims

**6/23** Ashlyn Godbey

**6/26** Whitney Hinz

**6/27** Dorothy Freese

Kiley Vande Weerd

Marissa Keldgord

Ben McClellan

**6/28** Jeff Crow

## JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

**6/1** Rick & Marvelene Foreman

E.J. & Trisha Brink

**6/2** Mark & Julie Elias

**6/5** Matt & Bridget Rinderknecht

**6/9** Clark & Maggie Anderson

**6/10** Dale & Bernice Stonewall

**6/13** Jeff & Paula Bulicek

**6/14** Troy & Tracy Donels

**6/15** Jim & Lissa Novitch

**6/26** Dathan & Patricia Hinrichs

**6/27** Del & Dee Block

**6/28** Jeff & Donna Stranathan

### Pastor's Thoughts on the Lectionary

Now about halfway through the Church Year, in June we complete our first run through the Psalms and begin the second. Specific psalms to give special attention to this month are Psalm 1 (about the two “ways” or paths), Psalm 2 (quoted frequently by the New Testament and applied to Christ), Psalm 22 (from which Jesus Himself quotes while on the cross), and Psalm 23 (to be related to Jesus’ self-identification as the Good Shepherd in John 10).

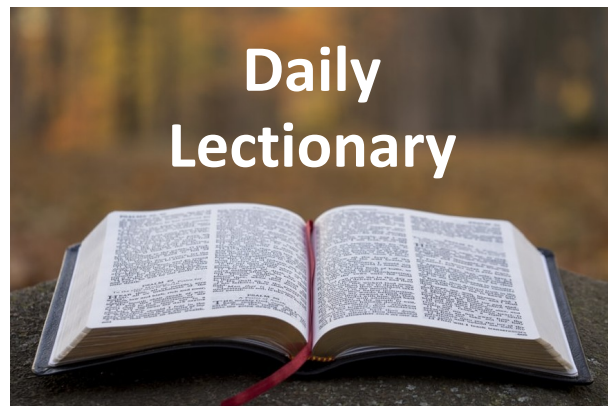
In the beginning of June, we also finish the book of Acts. We pick up the story of the spread of the Church after Jesus’ ascension with the account of the Jerusalem conference, which took place after St. Paul’s first missionary journey (chapter 15), and we follow his second and third journeys and the unexpected way he got to Rome. (See Romans itself for St. Paul’s expressing his desire to get there.)

On the 8th of June, we return to the Old Testament. Picking up where Moses left off in Deuteronomy, the book of Joshua details the conquest and fulfillment of God working through the people of Israel in the Promised Land. Joshua himself is a living prophecy of the God-man with the same Hebrew name, whom we know as Jesus. Interestingly, it may have been a pre-incarnate Jesus who makes a brief appearance in this book, and the book also tells of one of Jesus’ ancestors, and it may surprise you who it is!

From June 14-June 20 we read Judges. The book of Judges, which word also means “leaders,” tells of the days after Joshua died and again shows God’s gracious provision of spiritual and political deliverers. Take special note of the cycle of disobedience and apostasy, foreign oppression, cries of distress, and deliverance. The people were faithless, but God was faithful. The events can be strikingly similar to our time in that *“everyone did what was right in his own eyes”* (Judges 17:6).

On June 21, we read Ruth. The book of Ruth is in sharp contrast to the accounts of the book of Judges, though set at the same time. This book tells more about the ancestry of David and thus also Jesus, but more importantly it shows us salvation is by faith and that deliverance comes from our Redeemer. Ruth 1:16-17 is frequently used as a wedding text, but note how its context is not that of a wedding, though there are weddings in the book of Ruth.

Finally, on June 22, we continue in canonical and chronological order with 1 Samuel. Samuel, too, is a living prophecy of Jesus in that he was prophet, priest, and “king,” even before there was a king. Samuel on God’s behalf anointed Israel’s first two kings and was instrumental in establishing the kingship as God’s service. In June we read only as far as chapter 27; the ending of Saul’s and the beginning of David’s kingship will have to wait until July!



June 2020

- 1\_\_ Isaiah 12:1-6 & Acts 15-16
- 2\_\_ Psalm 150 & Acts 17-18
- 3\_\_ Psalm 1 & Acts 19-20
- 4\_\_ Psalm 2 & Acts 21-22
- 5\_\_ Psalm 3 & Acts 23-24
- 6\_\_ Psalm 4 & Acts 25-26
- 7\_\_ Psalm 5 & Acts 27-28
- 8\_\_ Psalm 6 & Joshua 1-5
- 9\_\_ Psalm 7 & Joshua 6-8
- 10\_\_ Psalm 8 & Joshua 9-11
- 11\_\_ Psalm 9 & Joshua 12-16
- 12\_\_ Psalm 10 & Joshua 17-21
- 13\_\_ Psalm 11 & Joshua 22-24
- 14\_\_ Psalm 12 & Judges 1-3
- 15\_\_ Psalm 13 & Judges 4-6
- 16\_\_ Psalm 14 & Judges 7-9
- 17\_\_ Psalm 15 & Judges 10-12
- 18\_\_ Psalm 16 & Judges 13-15
- 19\_\_ Psalm 17 & Judges 16-18
- 20\_\_ Psalm 18 & Judges 19-21
- 21\_\_ Psalm 19 & Ruth
- 22\_\_ Psalm 20 & 1 Samuel 1-3
- 23\_\_ Psalm 21 & 1 Samuel 4-6
- 24\_\_ Psalm 22 & 1 Samuel 7-9
- 25\_\_ Psalm 23 & 1 Samuel 10-12
- 26\_\_ Psalm 24 & 1 Samuel 13-15
- 27\_\_ Psalm 25 & 1 Samuel 16-18
- 28\_\_ Psalm 26 & 1 Samuel 19-21
- 29\_\_ Psalm 27 & 1 Samuel 22-24
- 30\_\_ Isaiah 12:1-6 & 1 Samuel 25-27



## Vacation Bible School

Rainforest Explorers VBS will **not** be held in June, as we had originally scheduled. Please stay tuned for future alternative plans.



*Thank you, Amanda!*



Dear Bethany members,

It is with a heavy heart, that I am sad to say good-bye, especially in the midst of Covid-19. I was hoping to get to hug everyone and thank you individually for the memories, the laughter, the conversations, and the opportunities for growth in this past year. But despite the circumstances of this good-bye, and the many unknowns ahead, I know that God is faithful and moving in some miraculous ways!

From the bottom of my heart, I would like to say a huge “thank-you” to all the members of Bethany for a great and wonderful year of internship! From my first day that I arrived here in Cedar Rapids and my first Sunday here at Bethany till now, everyone has been so welcoming, gracious and such a huge blessing to me in this past year and it has been my joy and privilege to serve with and alongside each and every one of you! I am so grateful for my time here at Bethany and in Cedar Rapids and I will definitely cherish all the memories that were made during this year and Bethany will always have a piece of my heart!

Thinking and looking back at this past year, I can confidently say that I had nothing short of an awesome and wonderful experience and am beyond thankful for all the different ministry opportunities that I got to be a part of. Some of the highlights of my time here have been going to the National Youth Gathering with the High School, witnessing God growing His family through Baptisms, giving children’s messages during worship services, leading the Sunday School opening, teaching Confirmation with the 7<sup>th</sup> graders, serving and handing out free hot chocolate and coffee on Monday mornings, and working with the passionate volunteers who pour into Bethany’s kids and families. Bethany is poised for continued growth, and I pray God’s richest blessings on your upcoming endeavors.

Bethany, thank you again for this opportunity to serve and grow with you. I wish you and Bethany’s staff all the best, and I look forward to staying in touch with you.

God’s Blessings,

DCE Intern Amanda Segebart



We thank Amanda Segebart for serving at Bethany this year. She has completed her Director of Christian Education internship and is now an official graduate of Concordia University Nebraska.

God’s blessings to you, Amanda, on your next adventure! You have been a blessing to our congregation.



## Call Meeting

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The voters' meeting to call a DCE has been rescheduled for June 28. The meeting will be held at Bethany at 10:00 a.m.

Information about the candidates will be posted at Bethany by June 14.



## Fellowship Bike Ride

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Save the date for Saturday, July 11. We will meet at 10:00 a.m. for a fellowship bike ride in the NewBo neighborhood. Look for more details in next month's Beacon.

## Study Opportunities for Women & Men

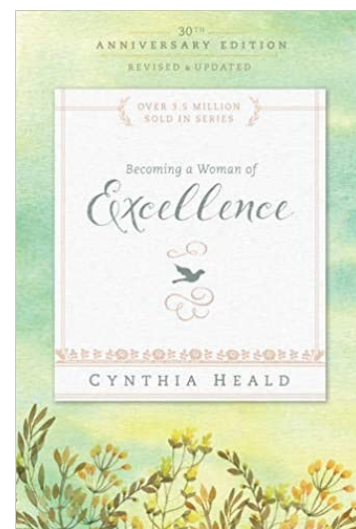
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### Women

Women's small group will continue to meet on Mondays via Zoom during the month of June. Beginning Monday, June 8 at 10:00 a.m. we will start a new book, "Becoming a Woman of Excellence" by Cynthia Heald. Group participants are asked to order their book online. For details, please contact Nurse Ronda at [nurse.bethanycr@gmail.com](mailto:nurse.bethanycr@gmail.com).

### Men

Men's Bible study is currently meeting on Wednesday mornings via Zoom. Please contact the church office if you would like to participate.



## Installation in Iowa District East

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The Installation Service for Pastor Tommy Van Hemert will be on Sunday, June 14 at 4:00 pm at St. John Lutheran Church, Center Point, Iowa. The service will be Vespers.

Installer: Rev. Max Mons

Preacher: Rev. Danny Mackey, Tommy's vicarage supervisor.





## Small Group Ministry

Bethany members are encouraged to stay connected by joining a small group. Now is an important time to engage in intentional community with friends, as many of us are still isolated at home. At this time groups are currently meeting online on Zoom, and may continue meeting in person in the future.

Groups are using engaging material from the Bible Project—Church at Home: Small Group Study. Each group sets their own schedule, so you may meet at your convenience. If you would like to be connected with a group, please contact Nurse Ronda at [nurse.bethanycr@gmail.com](mailto:nurse.bethanycr@gmail.com) or 319-721-3779 and she will help you find a small group of 3-6 people.

## We're All in This Together.

Thank you to everyone who participated in the collection and distribution of household items and basic needs. Items are available to Bethany members and friends, no questions asked. If you could use assistance at this time, please do not hesitate to contact the church at 364-6026.



## Sunday Bible Study

**June 7** (10:00 a.m. on Zoom): How to Read the Psalms and Like It

**June 14** (10:30 a.m. on Zoom): Relating to the Psalms

**June 21** (10:30 a.m. on Zoom): Psalms—God's Word or My Word?

The Nave

Pew # 1

Pew # 3

Pew # 5

Pew # 7

Pew # 9

Pew # 11

Pew # 13

Pew # 15

Pew # 17

Pew # 19

Pew # 21

Pew # 23 Sound Board

Pew # 25

Worship Band

Pew # 6

Pew # 8

Pew # 10

Pew # 12

Pew # 14

Pew # 16

Pew # 18

Pew # 20

Pew # 22

Pew # 24

Pew # 26

Our tithes and offerings over the last several months have been different than previous years due to the unusual times we have been going through. We are thankful for those who have sent their offerings to the church and those who have chosen to sign up for the electronic giving. Electronic givers increased from 17 households in March to 33 households in April, providing much needed stability to our weekly Sunday offerings. Monthly offerings overall have been maintaining compared to previous years, however are slightly below our budget for the year.

As always, Christians give their tithes and offerings with gratitude for what God has given to them, especially through Christ our Lord. As this happens, thank you for continuing to support the ministry at Bethany Lutheran Church.

## Bethany's Electronic Giving Choices

### Online Giving:

Visit **Bethanycr.org**

Look for the **GIVING** tab to manage or set up recurring and one-time offering using your bank account or debit/credit card.



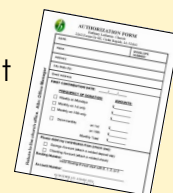
### Mobile App Giving:

Search your app store for "GivePlus Church" and download the GivePlus app to make a one-time or recurring offering. Set up an account you so can make changes at any time.



### Paper Form:

Authorization forms for direct deposit can be mailed to you. Mail the completed form along with a voided check or deposit slip to the church office.



## Questions & Answers about electronic giving

### Do I have to set up an account?

Setting up an account is encouraged! You don't have to set up an account; however, the advantage is that you can always go back to the account and see your electronic offering history, confirm a contribution, or make another contribution without having to re-enter all of your information. Each time you enter contributions as a guest the system will create a new customer number for you. Look for the Instructions on the website just click on (instructions here).

### Is the website electronic giving secure?

Yes, our electronic giving system is secure. The giving page on our website is a link to our vendor's secure website where the transaction takes place.

### When I made a contribution on the Bethany website why I didn't get a confirmation email?

The email is sent when your payment is processed. The electronic payments from a checking or savings account take two days to process, so you will not get an email right away. You can print the confirmation page from your computer screen if you want. Debit and Credit card contributions are immediate, therefore an email is generated right away. You must enter an email address to get a receipt sent to you.

**Offering Envelopes:** You can mail your giving envelopes to the church office. They are deposited weekly.



Bethany Lutheran Church  
2202 Forest Dr SE  
Cedar Rapids, IA 52403

### Questions?

Contact Office Manager  
Missy Gingrich at 319-364-6026 or  
officemanager.bethanycr@gmail.com

# JOIN US ONLINE FOR SERVICE AND STUDY



## SERVICE

Use the "Resources" tab at [www.bethanycr.org](http://www.bethanycr.org) then click on "Worship" to access service materials.



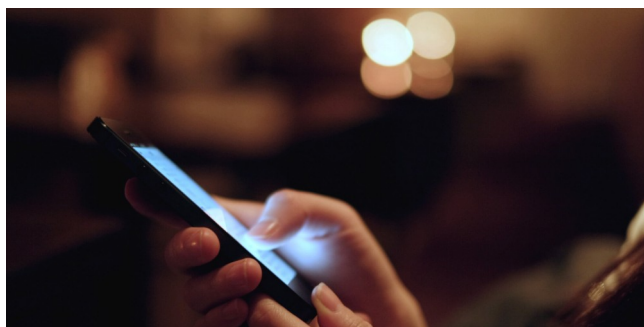
## BIBLE STUDY

**May 31 and June 7:** Zoom Bible Study at 10:00 a.m.

**June 14 and June 21:** Zoom Bible Study at 10:30 a.m.

To access the Zoom, enter the meeting ID: 870 7027 0821 or find the link at [bethanycr.org/bible-study](http://bethanycr.org/bible-study)

**Please stay connected!** Even in social distancing, we can send cards and make phone calls to friends and loved ones. Another great way to stay connected is to call someone to read through Sunday services with them! This works well as the service guides are formatted in a way to be read responsively. Contact 319-364-6026 or [office.bethanycr@gmail.com](mailto:office.bethanycr@gmail.com) if you would like to be connected with someone to call and read services with.



## New Bethany Website

Our website ([www.bethanycr.org](http://www.bethanycr.org)) has been updated. Contact [office.bethanycr@gmail.com](mailto:office.bethanycr@gmail.com) if you would like assistance navigating the updated website.



*Living and Sharing God's Love*

## 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>