

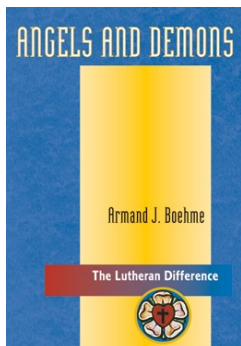
# Bethany Beacon

SEPTEMBER 2021

## Sunday Bible Study

### Join Us!

During the same time children are in Sunday School, Pastor Erickson teaches Bible Study for adults. All adults are welcome to attend this class on Sundays at 9:45 a.m. in the Family Life Center. Here are some of the upcoming topics that will be discussed in Bible Study:



### September 5 - 19: Angels and Demons

Pastor Erickson is currently leading a study on Angels and Demons. In the last few sessions, we will look at the number and ranks of angels, as well as what good and evil angels actually do. This is a study from Concordia Publishing House written by Armand Boehme.



### Starting September 26: Care of Creation

After finishing the study on Angels and Demons, Pastor Erickson will lead a study on the care of creation. Please read more information about this study on page 6.



**Bethany**  
Lutheran Church

*Living and Sharing God's Love*

One day this summer, I found myself walking through a cemetery here in Cedar Rapids. A bit warm, it was nevertheless still a beautiful summer day with the sun shining and the birds singing. As I was walking along, I wasn't paying too much attention to my surroundings as I was trying to be careful not to step on top of any graves. It seems that every time I'm in a cemetery I can still hear my father telling me as a young boy that stepping on a grave is disrespectful. (This can be quite hard to avoid when leading a funeral processional to the grave for a committal, but I do my best and hopefully have not offended too many people by the paths I've taken over the years).

Nevertheless, as I did my best to respectfully walk between the graves that day, I did notice a flower vase that belonged to one of the graves had been knocked over. Lying on its side, the colorful plastic flowers that it had contained were also on the ground next to it. Thinking that whoever had taken the time to bring these flowers out to this grave did not bring them out to be laying on the ground, I stopped to put them back in the vase and then set the vase back on the grave marker. It was at that time, as I stood up, that I did notice my surroundings. And as I did, I noticed that the cemetery I had been walking through had hundreds, if not thousands, of similar flower vases and flowers adorning graves almost as far as I could see. Somewhat embarrassed that I hadn't noticed such a sight before, I soon began to admire such a vast and expansive display of floral beauty. But as I continued to walk along I soon became aware of the stark contrast between the beauty that was above the ground and the ugliness that lay beneath.

I've been in cemeteries countless times before and have always been well aware of the purposes they serve. And like all of you, I hear of death often. Most of the time it's something we only read or hear about – maybe half a world away. And as long as it is kept at a distance, death doesn't seem all that bad or matter much. I'll read about 13 service members killed by a bomb in Kabul, 22 people drowned in Tennessee by flooding, 98 people crushed when their condo collapsed in Florida

– all while eating my breakfast before I begin my day. But when death comes a little closer to home; when it is someone we know or love who dies; or when you realize that for every flower you see there are the remains of a beloved son or a daughter, perhaps a mother or a father, or a brother or a sister that had been laid to rest below, we can't just go about our days as normal but are forced to encounter the pain and ugliness of death that is brought about by the sin of this world.

But if the beautiful flowers above ground cannot completely mask the ugliness and pain of death that lies beneath the earth, then we as Christians must remember that Christ has defeated death. What Good News it is that Christ has risen from the dead and that all who have been baptized into a death like His will enjoy a resurrection like His when He comes again (Romans 6). That scene of flowers in the cemetery on that beautiful summer day will be nothing compared to the resurrection of believers to eternal life. In fact, nothing can give us the joy or the peace of knowing that Jesus Christ, our Savior, has forgiven our sin, defeated death, and offers eternal life to all people through faith in Him.

There are many beautiful things in this world to enjoy. And as you read this month's *Beacon* I pray that you'll rejoice in the things the Spirit has done through the disciples at Bethany and be encouraged to help out with some of them if you haven't already. But I also hope that all of these things will proclaim and remind us, wherever we are, of the true beauty of Jesus' resurrection and the life He gives.

✠ Pastor Erickson



## Thanksgiving:

Oliver (son of \*Joel & Katia Knutson)- baptism 8/29  
 A great week of Vacation Bible School  
 A great week of Adult Vacation Bible School  
 Mary Jane (mother of \*Phil Hedtke)- recovering after hospitalization

## Illness, injuries, health issues:

Dave (father of Jennet Volden)- health issues  
 Crysten (wife of Daniel Sanchez, Camp IODISECA) - recovering after accident  
 Deputy Halverson- recovering after injury in the line of duty  
 Dale (brother of \*Marge Grovert)- Parkinson's disease  
 Anne (relative of Patty Fitzgerald)- bike accident injuries  
 Jill (sister of \*Bridget Rinderknecht)- health issues  
 Kenny (friend of \*Bonnie Bubke)- recovering after surgery  
 Jane (daughter of \*Bonnie Bubke)- recovering after surgery  
 Wilson (infant son of Luke Viertel)- health issues  
 Alyse (granddaughter of \*Janelle Dunbar)- brain tumor  
 Andrew (relative of \*B Heims)- recovering after surgery  
 Jeff Mellgren (former member)- recovering after stroke  
 Hayden (relative of \*Bonnie Bubke)- brain disorder  
 Gwendolyn- (friend of \*Karen Swanson)- terminal illness  
 Steve (friend of \*Pete Larson)- recovering after stroke  
 John (nephew of \*Bonnie Bubke)- health issues  
 Ruth (friend of \*Velma Ziesemer)- health issues  
 Rod (nephew of \*Bonnie Bubke)- Parkinson's Disease

## Safety:

Mitchell & Benjamin (relatives of \*Schoens & Amy Smith)- serving in the Navy  
 Tailor & Charlie (grandsons of \*Kim Neuhaus)- Deployed  
 Harrison (son of \*Siecks)- serving in the military

## Local/National/World:

Local, state, and national leaders  
 Victims of floods, hurricanes, fires and disasters

## Homebound members of Bethany:

\*Wayne Schilling- Linn Manor Care Center, Marion  
 Candi Engel- Garnett Place  
 \*Nadine Wax- at home  
 \*Del Block- The Gardens  
 \*Larry & \*Sharon Easler- Summit Pointe  
 \*Darlene Eckert- at home

## Cancer/Hospice:

Erma (mother of Rita Tiedt)- hospice care  
 Sandy (neighbor of \*Bonnie Bubke)- cancer treatment  
 Shirley (sister of \*Donice McDonald)- cancer  
 John (brother of \*Donice McDonald)- cancer  
 Roland (brother of \*Bonnie Breiholz)- hospice care  
 Ron (uncle of \*Dawn Thomas)- cancer diagnoses  
 Rose (friend of \*Kay Karsten)- cancer treatments  
 Tammy (relative of \*Bonnie Bubke)- cancer treatment  
 Karen (mother of Bethany friend)- cancer treatment  
 Karen (relative of \*Carol Grimminger)- hospice care  
 Marcia (relative of \*Brenda Heims)- cancer  
 Oz (father of \*Dathan Hinrichs & \*Josie Hester)- cancer treatment  
 Glen (brother of \*Rob Sieck)- cancer  
 Tony (friend of \*Mike Thomas)- cancer  
 David (relative of \*Hasses)- cancer immunotherapy  
 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:

Larry (brother of \*Ben Mims)- died 8/17  
 Mavis (aunt of \*Duane Pfeffer) - died 8/3  
 Barb (sister of \*Linda Patten)- died 7/16  
 Tamara (aunt of \*Erin Heller & \*Matt Rinderknecht)- died 7/9  
 Darrel (father of \*Janet Hoech)- died 7/6  
 Dorothy (mother of \*Mark Elias)- died 7/6  
 Don (relative of \*Bonnie Bubke)- died at age 99

## 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.

## Wednesday, September 1

6:00 pm Middle & High School Youth Group @ Speedeez

## Thursday, September 2

6:00 pm Human Care

## Sunday, September 5

1:00 pm Food Pantry Open

## Monday, September 6 - Labor Day (Office closed)

6:00 pm Trustees Meeting

## Tuesday, September 7

6:00 pm Evangelism Meeting

## Wednesday, September 8

6:00 am Men's Bible Study

6:00 pm Confirmation

## Thursday, September 9

9:00 am Adult Bible Study

## Sunday, September 12

12:15 pm Board of Education Meeting

1:00 pm Food Pantry Open

2:00 pm Bethany Bike Ride

## Monday, September 13

10:00 am Women's Group - Mr. Beans

7:00 pm Elders Meeting

## Tuesday, September 14

9:00 am Quilting for World Relief

7:00 pm Council Meeting

## Wednesday, September 15

6:00 am Men's Bible Study

4:00 pm Cottage Grove Devotion

## Wednesday, September 15

6:00 pm Confirmation

6:00 pm High School Youth Group

## Thursday, September 16

9:00 am Adult Bible Study

11:00 am Senior Worship

## Sunday, September 19

12:30 pm Youth Gathering Meeting

1:00 pm Food Pantry Open

## Monday, September 20

10:00 am Women's Group - Mr. Beans

6:00 pm Stephen Ministry Cont. Ed. - FLC

## Wednesday, September 22

6:00 am Men's Bible Study

6:00 pm Confirmation

6:00 pm High School Youth Group

## Thursday, September 23

9:00 am Adult Bible Study

## Saturday, September 25

8:00 am CPR Training

9:00 am Holy Yoga

## Sunday, September 26

9:30 am Blood Pressure Checks - Office

1:00 pm Food Pantry Open

## Monday, September 27

10:00 am Women's Group - Mr. Beans

## Wednesday, September 29

6:00 am Men's Bible Study

6:00 pm Confirmation

6:00 pm High School Youth Group



## Bike Ride Fellowship

Join Bethany friends for a bike ride on the Cedar River Trail on Sunday September 12, followed by ice cream at Almost Famous in NewBo! Meet at 2:00 p.m. at the parking lot at 2nd St and 11th Ave SE. We will bike south along the trail then return to NewBo and go to Almost Famous for treats (bring some money for your favs!). If you would like to skip the bike ride, feel free to join us at Almost Famous around 3:30. Friends welcome!



## SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

<b>9/1</b> Greg Dunn Carolyn Johnson Becky Thur Sydney Wilson	<b>9/9</b> Jeffrey Madsen Fran Struck 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 Kenneth Smith
<b>9/3</b> Jeannine Robinson	<b>9/13</b> Kevin Hansen	<b>9/24</b> Linda Patten Natalie Prohaska
<b>9/4</b> Sean Duggan	<b>9/14</b> Keenan Diers	<b>9/28</b> Harold Schoen
<b>9/7</b> Colton Keldgord Shirley McElroy Bernice Stonewall	<b>9/15</b> Eli Henderson Sasha Knutson	<b>9/29</b> Kathy Hanchera Drew Zimmerman
<b>9/8</b> Adam Freese Adam Henderson Traejan Robinson	<b>9/17</b> Cherie Miller Maleta Montague	<b>9/30</b> Joel Knutson
	<b>9/18</b> Jackson Rinderknecht Joni Schmith	
	<b>9/19</b> Donice McDonald	
	<b>8/20</b> Janet Gebert	



**9/6** Brooke & Brad Oja  
**9/12** Joel & Kristan Conrad  
**9/17** Jerald & Karissa Scott  
**9/18** JJ & Ryan Theriault  
**9/20** Rick & Sandy Thorington

**9/21** Mark & Laura Holt  
**9/23** Darren & Cynthia Bogner  
**9/26** Darrell & Naomi Chiavetta  
 Karen & Eugene Schmidt

Join us for *Senior Worship* at Bethany!

Senior Worship is held at Bethany on the third Thursday of each month.

**Thursday, September 16, 2021**

Senior Worship Service at 11:00 a.m.

Fellowship Luncheon to follow

If you plan to attend, please call the church at 319-364-6026  
to help us plan accordingly for lunch.



## Sunday Bible Study Starting September 26

The Center for Care of Creation at Concordia Seminary was created to promote a deep appreciation for creation among Christian congregations by bringing the biblical theology to bear on cultural issues related to our life in care for creation so that congregations can better engage their communities for the sake of the Gospel and for the new creation.

As we all know, environmental issues polarize society when viewed primarily in terms of politics and public policies. One side is seen as caring for the earth at the expense of humans; the other as pursuing human interests at the expense of the earth. However, one basic question lies behind every environmental issue: how do we view creation and our place within it?

The CCC has developed resources to help churches reflect on their relationship with creation, to embrace life within creation, and to empower them to become involved in caring for God's creation. As a result, congregations will see the story of the gospel more richly, become a light in the wider community of human and nonhuman creatures, and identify various ways to live a flourishing life with God and creation.

Therefore, on September 26, Pastor Erickson will begin leading a Bible Study from the CCC that focuses on such topics as: Recognizing the Biblical Narrative, Recognizing our Dependence on Creation, Recognizing our Responsibility to Creation, and Caring for Creation as Individuals and as a Community of Believers. Class will meet for 8 weeks on Sundays at 9:45 a.m. in the Family Life Center. Everyone is invited and encouraged to attend!

## Men's Bible Study

Men's Wednesday Morning Bible Study will resume on September 8 at Bethany. All men are welcome to attend this group on Wednesdays at 6:00 a.m. The current study will be on the gospel of Matthew.



Christ's Care  
FOR CHILDREN:  
**KENYA**

## Project 24

Project 24 is a ministry of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Kenya. Project 24 currently has 7 boarding schools for students in 3rd-8th grade. Students at Project 24 schools grow in their faith by studying the Bible and Catechism. In addition to receiving a Christian education, the students live on site and receive basic needs such as food and medical care.

As a congregation, we are sponsoring two students through Christ's Care for Children in Kenya. Our two students are Yvonne and Lorine, who attend school at the Tumaini site.

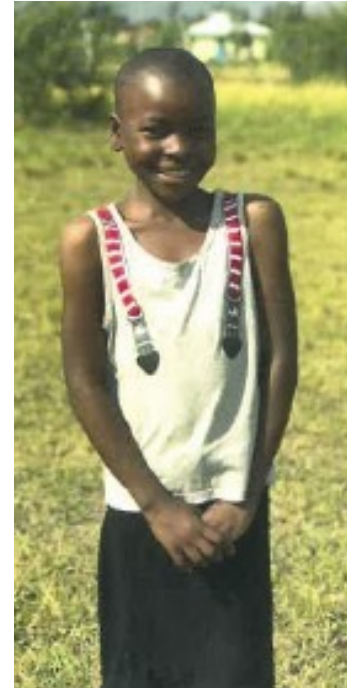
Updates and pictures can also be found at the missions display board outside the sanctuary.

## Meet our Sponsor Students!



**Yvonne**

Yvonne enjoys singing and playing football. Her favorite subject in school is math.



**Lorine**

Lorine enjoys singing and doing drama. Her favorite subject in school is English.

## Project 24: Financial Support

Bethany's Evangelism Committee is committed to support this mission with a contribution of \$10,000 over one year. A portion of that amount goes to our two students through Christ's Care for Children in Kenya. The remaining amount will be given to the Project 24 general account to fund any on-site needs. **So far we have raised \$5,334.67 as a congregation.**

If you feel called to make a financial contribution to this mission project, you may:

- Use the "Missions" giving envelopes (located at the display table outside the sanctuary) to give cash or checks made to Bethany Lutheran Church, and place in the offering plate.
- Go to [www.bethanycr.org/giving](http://www.bethanycr.org/giving) to give online. Under "Give Now" click "Select Fund" then select "Kenya: Project 24."

Please keep this mission in your prayers!



Bethany children and friends experienced “God’s Wonder Lab” **Vacation Bible School** August 2-6. VBS was held at Bever Park this year. Children had a fun week of storytelling, games, music, crafts, and Bible challenges! The week was celebrated with a family pizza party on Friday night.



## Youth Gathering

The LCMS Youth Gathering will be July 9-13, 2022 in Houston, TX. An informational meeting will be on Sunday, September 19 at 12:30 p.m. at Bethany. Students in 8th-12th grade and parents should plan to attend this meeting. Contact Darin Elm at [youth.bethanycr@gmail.com](mailto:youth.bethanycr@gmail.com) for information.



## Blood Pressure Checks

Your blood pressure is the force of your blood pushing against the walls of your arteries. If it's too high, your heart must work harder. Over time, blood pressure can cause the heart to enlarge or weaken. This can lead to heart failure. High blood pressure can also narrow your arteries, which disrupts proper blood flow to your heart or brain and can trigger a heart attack or stroke. Blood pressure screening will be done on the fourth Sunday of each month at 9:30 a.m. in the Parish Nurse office.



## CPR & First Aid

### First Aid/CPR/AED Training

The location of Out of Hospital Cardiac Arrests (OHCA) most often occurs in homes/residences (70%) followed by public settings (18.8%) and nursing homes (11.2%). If performed immediately, CPR can double or triple the chance of survival from an out of hospital cardiac arrest.

American Heart Association First Aid/CPR/AED training will be held at Bethany on Saturday, September 25, 8:00-2:00. The cost for training is \$10. Please contact Nurse Ronda by September 16 if you would like to take this class.

## Especially For You

The *Especially For You* Race Against Breast Cancer will be on Sunday, October 3 at 8:00 a.m. Since 1991, as a result of the annual *Especially For You* Race Against Breast Cancer, free mammograms and other breast-care and gynecological services have been provided to area individuals in need.



Sign up for the Bethany Lutheran Church team at [especiallyforyourace.org](http://especiallyforyourace.org), and click "Register" then "Join a Team." Scroll down to find the Bethany Lutheran Church team.

AMERICAN RED CROSS



**BLOOD  
DRIVE**

## Blood Drive


Every two seconds, someone in the United States needs blood and/or platelets. Approximately 36,000 units of red blood cells are needed every day. An American Red Cross blood drive will be held at Bethany on Monday, October 25, 1:00-5:00 p.m. Contact Michelle Hedtke for more information.

## Joy's Journal

Wow, it's hard to believe that summer is almost over . . . at least according to the calendar, maybe not the weather! My tongue is always hanging out of my mouth. But I've had so much fun and have gotten to make even more FURends.

My summer started off on the right paw by passing all my puppy classes with my trainer Laura! Now I'm starting adult dog classes and continue training every day with my PAWrents. I am one paw closer to becoming a certified comfort dog! Besides training, I still went to more school - Vacation Bible School that is! I showed up at Bever Park one night before VBS and got to greet some of the children (and adults)! I think some of those children have as much energy as I do! I also attended Pastor's adult Vacation Bible School in August and greeted even more people.

I need your help! What Bible verse do you think should be "my verse" when I meet people? Maybe something with the word "Joy" in it?

FURwell for now -  Joy



## Quilts for World Relief

On Tuesday, September 14, 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. Any amount of time you can give is appreciated. If you plan to stay through the noon hour, bring a sack lunch. For more information, please contact Betty Happel (393-9497) or Donna Bogner (777-9053).



## Pastoral Care

If you desire pastoral care when you are hospitalized, please notify the church. Hospitals do not contact churches if you are hospitalized.

## Women's Small Group

Women's Small Group will resume on Monday, September 13. The group meets on Mondays at 10:00 a.m. at Mr. Beans in Marion. We will read and discuss the book "Family Trees and Olive Branches: Creating a Culture of Grace in Your Family" by Christina Hergenrader. Please contact Nurse Ronda at nurse.bethanycr@gmail.com for more information.



**Bethany  
Lutheran  
FOOD PANTRY**

Psalm 145:16

The pantry is open every Sunday, 1:00-3:00 p.m. To volunteer, sign up at [bethany.org/food-pantry](http://bethany.org/food-pantry) or call the church office at 319-364-6026.

Current needs for donations are:

facial tissues	hand soap
dish soap	lotion
laundry detergent	shampoo
body wash	conditioner

The drop-off table for donations is located on the main level outside of the sanctuary.

## Summer Giving Made Easy



With a busy summer it may be easier to set up electronic giving. Make a one-time gift or set up recurring gifts through our website's giving page or download the app on your phone.

### ONLINE/WEBSITE

1. Visit our website at [www.bethanycr.org](http://www.bethanycr.org)
2. Click the GIVING tab.
3. Give an offering.

### MOBILE DEVICE

1. Download the free Vanco Mobile App.
2. Find our church by searching for Bethany Lutheran.
3. Give an offering.

*It only takes a minute to set up an account or give as a guest. Questions? Call the church office 319-364-6026.*



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

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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/bethanycria">facebook.com/bethanycria</a>