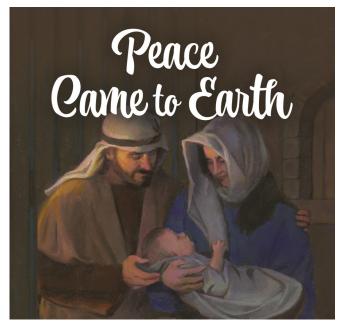
# Bethany Beacon





# Advent 2023: Peace Came to Earth

Seeking peace by our own efforts is an endless pursuit, but God instructs us with a peace that surpasses understanding. He gives us peace in five ways that meet our needs, perhaps before we even know them. This peace comes through the birth of Jesus. Join us for Advent services this year to learn the ways Jesus brings us peace from God as the Prince of Peace.

**Advent Midweek Services** 

Fellowship Meals at 6:00 p.m. | Services at 7:00 p.m. December 6 | December 13 | December 20

Please pick up a copy of the Advent devotional "Peace Came to Earth" from the Welcome Center.



Bethany Living and Sharing God's Love

PASTOR'S PAGE 2

Several years ago, I travelled to northern Michigan for a solo backpacking trip in Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore. If you have ever been there, you know that Pictured Rocks is known for its amazing views of the Lake Superior shoreline, mosquitos, and black bears. And one night, while I was sleeping alone in my tent, I had an encounter with one of these things that I always think of as the church prepares for the season of Advent.

That night I had finished eating my dinner and turned in for my last night out on the trail. Knowing that I was in "bear country" I had taken all of the necessary precautions that one should when bears are around: I cooked dinner 100 yards downwind from my campsite; I changed out of the clothes I ate in and stashed them and all of my equipment 100 yards from my cook site; and I stored all the food I had with me up in a tree away from where I was cooking – eight feet away from the trunk. All of this meant however, that when I crawled into my tent that night all I had with me was my sleeping bag, a wristwatch, and my pocketknife.

As I remember it, I slept well that night — until I was awakened by a grunt. Opening my eyes, I was quickly wide awake but laid as still as possible as I continued to hear grunting and footsteps just outside of my tent. Slowly lifting my hand to my face, I pushed the light button on my watch to see that it was around 3 a.m. At first, I wasn't too worried because I knew I had been "bear aware" and therefore there was nothing that should have been all that interesting to this bear in my campsite. But for some reason, this bear did not go away! Minutes turned to hours as I laid there perfectly still in the darkness of the night, listening to this bear walk around and around my tent.

And then, finally, I heard something else. As the darkness turned to the dark gray of early morning, I heard a bird chirping. At first it was just one, but soon it was joined by another and another, until it seemed the whole forest was filled with birds. And then shortly after the birds began to sing, the dark gray of early morning gave way to the sun rising and through the tiniest of slits in the

zipper of the tent door, I could see the blue sky of morning. And seeing that blue sky, I finally had hope that I was going to make it out of there without being eaten by a bear.

This December 3rd marks the beginning of Advent this year. And along with many traditions for this season of the church year, is that of having blue as the liturgical color. While many churches previously used purple as the color for Advent, blue was quickly adopted for two reasons. First, it distinguishes Advent from the season of Lent. Secondly, the color of blue is the color of hope. Just as seeing the blue sky arrive in northern Michigan with the rising of the sun brought me hope that I would survive my bear encounter, blue reminds all Christians that they will survive the troubles of this world. We have this hope, not because we are particularly gifted or skilled, but rather because of the arrival of the Son - God's own Son – Jesus Christ, as our Lord and Savior.

This Advent season, both at the church itself and in this edition of the Beacon you'll see how we are preparing to both celebrate and proclaim the hope that we have in our Lord and Savior's coming to us. Advent wreaths have been hung both in sanctuary and outside the church, bringing the light of hope, peace, joy, and love into the darkness of winter. You can also read of our Midweek Services coming up Wednesdays all throughout Advent. This year's theme will be "Peace Came to Earth" and devotional books are available based on this same theme. All of these things, and many more, all help us prepare for the Advent season and our celebration of Christ's birth in Bethlehem. And so, I hope that as you read this month's Beacon, and as you celebrate the season of Advent in many ways, and whenever you see the color blue during Advent, you'll always remember the hope that we have with the coming of Jesus Christ.

+ Pastor Erickson



PRAYER PAGE

#### Thanksgiving:

Courtney (Monday am coffee friend) - cancer tx completed Illness, injuries, health issues:

Jan (friend of Joni Schmith)- complications from chemo Jacquiline (daughter of \*C Kroemer)- health issues Don (friend of \*Mary Vezina)- recovering after surgery Jenn (relative of \*Mary Nanke)- recovering after surgery Skip (brother of \*Faye Sieck) - grief issues Mariam (granddaughter of \*Siecks) - upcoming surgery David (father of \*E. Heller & \*M. Rinderknecht) - recovering after surgery

Sarah (daughter of \*Henkelmanns) - health issues Ezra (infant son of Ben Venteicher) - health issues Chuck (friend of \*Linda Patten)- health issues Margaret (relative of \*Karl Hoech)- recovering after fall Merlin (grandfather of \*Dathan Hinrichs)- health issues Gloria (granddaughter of \*Kim Neuhaus)- personal issues Kathy (sister of \*Mark Holt) - recovering after transplant Jill (cousin of \*Karen Pfeffer) - recovering after transplant Ann (relative of \*Elaine Behrens) - recovering after surgery Lorena (sister of \*Brenda Heims) - recovering after surgery Marcia (relative of \*Brenda Heims) - health issues Sylvia (aunt of \*Patricia Hinrichs) - health issues Teri (relative of \*Schoens) - health issues Judy (relative of \*Brenda Heims) - health issues Tom Mark (former member) - recovering after accident Andrew (relative of \*B Heims) - recovering after surgery Hayden (relative of \*Bonnie Bubke) - brain disorder Gwendolyn- (friend of \*Karen Swanson) - terminal illness John (nephew of \*Bonnie Bubke) - health issues Ruth (friend of \*Velma Ziesemer) - health issues Rod (nephew of \*Bonnie Bubke) - Parkinson's Disease Safety:

Andrea (relative of \*Steggalls)- teaching in Bulgaria
Jordan (grandson of \*K Neuhaus)- IA Army National Guard
Devin- (friend of \*Kroemers)- IA Army National Guard
Ben (son of \*Kroemers)- IA National Guard
Mitchell & Benjamin (relatives of \*Schoens & \*Smith)- U.S. Navy
Harrison (son of \*Siecks) - U.S. Army, stationed in TX

#### Homebound members of Bethany:

Cindy Broadwater – Harmony Cedar Rapids Candi Engel - Heritage Care Center

- \*Nadine Wax at home
- \*Del Block The Gardens
- \*Shirley Kellogg Terrace Glen Village, Marion
- \*Dorothy Freese Keystone Place
- \*Verlyn & \*Paul LeFevere- at home
- \*Chuck Stoelting- Garnet Place

#### Cancer/Hospice:

Ellie (relative of \*Lynn Madsen)- cancer treatment
Jim (friend of \*Dave Johnson)- cancer treatment
David (friend of \*Angela Yuza)- cancer
Rachel (Bethany neighbor)- cancer
Tom (friend of \*Dave Johnson)- cancer
Natalia (friend of \*Karstens)- cancer
Angie (friend of \*Deb Heitland)- cancer
Alice (friend of \*Brenda Heims) - cancer
John (friend of \*Dunns) - chemo treatment
Tony (friend of \*Mike Thomas) - cancer
David (relative of \*Hasses) - cancer immunotherapy
Julie (friend of \*Brenda Heims) - cancer
Chad (son of \*Vicki Huschka) - leukemia

#### Grief, family and friends of:

Lee Roesti (former music director)- died 11/18 Darrel (father of \*Dawn Thomas)- died 11/11 Aaron (friend of \*Linda Patten)- died 11/7



# **Prayer Chain**

Are you a prayer warrior? If you would like to receive periodic prayer requests from the congregation via email, contact the church office at: **office.bethanycr@gmail.com** to be added to the prayer chain email list.

# **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 319-364-6026 or email to nurse.bethanycr@gmail.com.

CALENDAR 4

# SUNDAYS | 8:30 AM Traditional Service | 9:45 AM Education Hour | 11:00 AM Contemporary Service

Saturday, December 2		Wednesday, Dece	Wednesday, December 13 (continued)			
8:00 am	Pancakes and Proverbs	6:30 pm	Vocal Choir Rehearsal			
9:00 am	Holy Yoga - Opening Room	7:00 pm	Advent Service			
Sunday, Decembe		Thursday, Decem	Thursday, December 14			
12:15 pm	Board of Education Meeting	9:00 am	Angel Tree Gift Pickup			
1:00 pm	Food Pantry Open	9:00 am	Adult Bible Study			
4:00 pm	Pickleball	9:00 am	Walking Exercise			
Monday, Decemb	er 4	7:00 pm	Christian Faith Class			
6:30 am	Coffee & Cocoa Outreach	Saturday, Decemi	ber 16			
1:30 pm	LWML Board Meeting	9:00 am	Holy Yoga - Opening Room			
6:00 pm	Trustees Meeting	10:00 am	Children's Program Practice			
6:00 pm	Stewardship Meeting	Sunday, Decembe	er 17			
Tuesday, Decemb	er 5	12:15 pm	Chili and Caroling Fellowship			
8:00 am	Greene Square Outreach Ministry	1:00 pm	Food Pantry Open			
9:00 am	Walking Exercise	4:30 pm	Children's Christmas Program			
6:00 pm	Evangelism Meeting	Monday, Decemb	er 18			
6:30 pm	Handbells Rehearsal	6:30 am	Coffee & Cocoa Outreach			
Wednesday, Dece	mber 6	Tuesday, Decemb	Tuesday, December 19			
6:00 am	Men's Bible Study		Greene Square Outreach Ministry			
6:00 pm	Human Care Meeting		Walking Exercise			
	Advent Meal		Handbells Rehearsal			
6:00 pm	High School Youth (@ meal)	Wednesday, Dece	ember 20			
6:15 pm	Confirmation Class	6:00 am	Men's Bible Study			
6:30 pm	Vocal Choir Rehearsal		Cottage Grove Devotion			
7:00 pm	Advent Service		Advent Meal			
Thursday, December 7		6:00 pm	High School Youth (@ meal)			
•	Adult Bible Study	•	Confirmation Class			
9:00 am	Walking Exercise	6:30 pm	Vocal Choir Rehearsal			
	Pantry Volunteer Appreciation	7:00 pm	Advent Service			
	Christian Faith Class	Thursday, December 21				
Saturday, December 9		9:00 am	Adult Bible Study			
	Holy Yoga - Opening Room	9:00 am	Walking Exercise			
10:00 am	Children's Program Practice	7:00 pm	Christian Faith Class			
Sunday, December 10		Saturday, Decemi	Saturday, December 23			
1:00 pm	Food Pantry Open	9:00 am	Holy Yoga - Opening Room			
2:00 pm	LWML General Meeting	Sunday, Decembe				
Monday, Decemb	er 11	(NO 8:30 or 11:00	a.m. services on Christmas Eve)			
6:30 am	Coffee & Cocoa Outreach	10:00 am	Sunday Divine Service			
6:00 pm	Stephen Ministry Supervision	1:00 pm	Food Pantry Open			
7:00 pm	Elders Meeting	4:30 pm	Service of Lessons and Carols			
Tuesday, Decemb	er 12	11:00 pm	Christmas Eve Service			
8:00 am	Greene Square Outreach Ministry	Monday, Decemb	er 25			
9:00 am	Walking Exercise	10:00 am	Christmas Day Service			
6:30 pm	Handbells Rehearsal	Tuesday, Decemb	er 26			
7:00 pm	Council Meeting	8:00 am	Greene Square Outreach Ministry			
Wednesday, Dece	mber 13	Saturday, Decemi	Saturday, December 30			
6:00 am	Men's Bible Study	9:00 am	Holy Yoga - Opening Room			
6:00 pm	Advent Meal	Sunday, Decembe	er 31			
6:00 pm	High School Youth (@ meal)	1:00 pm	Food Pantry Open			

6:15 pm Confirmation Class

# **DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS**

12/1	Gloria Schumacher Gordon Dohrmann	12/7 12/10	Nadine Wax Mike Thomas	12/16 12/17	Patty Hinrichs Kaylee Hedtke	12/26	Diane Holub Maren Elm
12/2	Cindy Goerdt	42/44	Mary Vezina		Anna Hass Garcia	12/27	Shirley Kellogg
	Brian Holt Keziah Elm	12/11	Eric Smith Tracy Bond	12/18	Stacy Brusius Addy Stackhouse	12/28 12/29	Ella Smith Jaden Harris
12/3	Marvelene Foreman	12/13	Karen Hass	•	Oliver Knutson	•	Sue Kroemer
	Tracy Donels		Dave Johnson		Bailey Stevens	12/30	Shari Mehlhoff
	Paula Bulicek	12/14	Bridget Rinderknecht	12/19	Bree Robinson		Malcolm Scott
12/4	Ronda Anderson		Kiaya Fortner	12/21	Hogan Myers	12/31	Colby Schmitt
	Jim Novitch		Alan Echtenkamp		Angela Yuza		
	Donna Stranathan	12/15	Diane Zenor	12/24	Jeff Stranathan	Weddi	ng Anniversary
	Ava Henderson		Henry Smith	12/25	Becky McCarley	12/28	Caleb & Mandy Pfeil





# **Prayer in the Square**

Since June, members of our congregation have been providing food and drink, as well as conversation and prayer to those in need. We allow God to guide us in providing for the immediate needs (sandwich, snack, Gatorade, coffee, hot cocoa, fellowship) and the long-lasting needs (by sharing the Gospel through prayer). Each Tuesday morning, we bring friendship, love, and a passion for Jesus to new friends:

- While accepting a Gatorade, one man told us about his upcoming job interview. Together, we prayed with him that he would find employment.
- One man stood ten feet away, hesitant to approach us. Not wanting him to feel like an outcast, we beckoned him closer and chatted with him. When he walked away with his hot cocoa, he said "God bless you."
- A mother and daughter described the harsh conditions of street life. We prayed together with them to be reunited with their family and to find housing.
- In the bitter cold, one young man talked about his home state while showing its outline with ungloved hands. One of our volunteers gave him their gloves to help ease the chill.
- The people we meet are respectful and thankful. Several have commented on how blessed they feel. Some are uncomfortable with prayer, but allow us to pray for them.

Our Greene Square neighbors are in great need this time of year. Each of you reading this have something to offer. It might be handing out the food, praying with a neighbor, engaging new friends in conversation, providing a friendly greeting, or just pulling the food wagon! We need more volunteers to power this ministry. Please prayerfully consider joining us. Contact Naomi at nrchiave@gmail.com.

#### **Thankful Hearts**

On November 19 Bethany hosted Thankful Hearts, a worship concert to benefit Bethany Lutheran Food Pantry. Luke and the praise band led us in an evening music, praise, and gratitude to God, thanking Him for the blessings He freely gives to us! A freewill offering of \$1,249 was collected to support the pantry.



# **December Pantry Donation Item**

The December donation item of the month is soap! Please bring in bar soap and/or liquid hand soap this month to bless our food pantry neighbors. Donations may be placed on the table outside the sanctuary.







# **Food Pantry Volunteer Appreciation**

A pantry appreciation will be hosted at Bethany on Thursday, December 7 at 10:15 a.m. Breakfast pizza will be served, and Mallory from HACAP will be joining us! Mallory will share information about TEFAP with our pantry volunteers.

# **Angel Tree**

Thank you to everyone who picked up an angel! Please purchase a gift (valued at approximately \$25) for the child on your angel, wrap it, attach the sticker, and return it to Bethany by Sunday, December 10.



Angel Tree gives incarcerated parents a way to provide a Christmas gift and a personal message for their children, delivered by caring, local volunteers, as a tangible representation of their love.

# **Sunday School Collection for Angel Tree**

Let's fill the cart with personal items to support Angel Tree families! Last year, the families appreciated the personal items in addition to a gift for their children. Sunday School students are asked to bring in personal items (soap, shampoo, toothbrushes/toothpaste, toilet paper, etc.) by Sunday, December 10. Let's share God's love with these families, reminding them they are valued and loved.

# **Children's Christmas Program**

Sunday School children have been practicing hand chimes and singing in preparation for the children's Christmas program.

Please join us on Sunday, December 17 at 4:30 p.m. for the children's Christmas program as our Sunday School students share about the birth of Christ. The program will be followed by a birthday party for Jesus! Join us in the Family Life Center after the program for Zio Johno's dinner and cupcakes.





# **Youth Mission Trip**

Bethany youth will embark on a mission trip to Denver, Colorado the week of July 21, 2024. To start supporting this mission trip today, you may give online (select "Youth Trips" at www.bethanycr.org/giving) or donate items to Stuff Etc. When you drop off items at Stuff Etc., provide Bethany's consignor number 42223 to support youth trips.







# **Family Faith Night**

Family Faith Night is a ministry for students in preschool through 12th grade and their parents. Family Faith Night will not be held in December, so plan to join us next time on January 10! Dinner is served at 5:30 and the program takes place 6:00-7:30.

#### Memory Verse

Be sure to arrive with this memory verse memorized on January 10: "And now, O Lord God, You are God, and Your words are true." 2 Samuel 7:28

#### **Pancakes and Proverbs**

Fathers, father-figures, and their children are invited to join us for Pancakes and Proverbs, a ministry at Bethany on the first Saturday of the month. We have breakfast, a devotion, and an activity for fathers and their children to participate in together. Plan to attend the next session on Saturday, December 2 at 8:00 a.m. at Bethany.



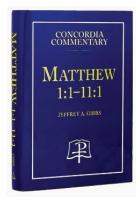
#### **Council Connection**

Welcome to the Council Connection! The purpose of this section is to keep you updated on status, decisions, and other happenings from the Church Council. Look for the latest in each month's Beacon. Our most recent Council meeting was on November 14. Here are the highlights:

- Thank you for your generosity! As we close in on the end of the calendar year, our financial position is strong. We have been able to continue successful ministries and initiate new ones. We would not be able to do so without your generous contributions to the church. Thank you!
- The Ministry Fair showcased our offerings. The congregation hosted a ministry fair to bring awareness to church activities and solicit additional volunteers. Numerous people attended. If you are interested in getting more involved in a ministry or activity, contact one of the Council members below or the church office.
- Mark your calendar. Our next Voters' Assembly will take place on January 21 at 12:30. Among other things, we will highlight some of the ministry the congregation has accomplished in 2023 and a look-ahead to 2024. See you there!
- Youth heading to Denver for a mission trip. In July 2024, our youth will travel to Denver for a mission trip in collaboration with YouthWorks. There, they will perform service projects and spread God's Word. If you or your youth are interested in this trip, please contact Kierra Penney.
- Adult mission trip planned for 2024. Are you mission-minded and want to spread God's Word in an international or domestic location in need? Consider taking part in Bethany's mission trip in 2024. Timing, location, and type of trip is currently in discussion. If you are interested, please contact Naomi Chiavetta (nrchiave@gmail.com).
- Coffee and cocoa taste better when it's cold outside. Volunteers have been serving 80-100 Washington high school students, faculty, and members of the community hot drinks every Monday morning from our sidewalk. It starts their day off right and cares for our neighbors. It also allows Dave J to wave to over 100 cars and get enthusiastic replies (waving, honking, revving of engines!). Come join us! Volunteer by visiting our website at www.bethanycr.org and click on "Serve".
- The food pantry continues to grow. Neighbors visiting the food pantry each Sunday keep pushing toward 100! The importance of this ministry in each neighbor's life continues to grow. Come experience Jesus at work in the food pantry! Volunteer by visiting www.bethanycr.org and click on "Serve". If you are a first-timer, please contact Nurse Ronda (nurse.bethanycr@gmail.com).
- Serving meals, drinks, and prayers in Greene Square. Each Tuesday morning, congregation members go to downtown Cedar Rapids to spend time with our neighbors who have fallen on hard times. We provide friendly faces and listening ears, ask our neighbors about their lives and interests, and share the Gospel by praying with them. We also provide sandwiches, snacks, Gatorade, and hot drinks. As it gets colder, times are even tougher for them. Come join us in this ministry every two months, every month, or as often as you feel called. For details, please contact Naomi Chiavetta.
- Time and Talents. Have you filled out our Time and Talents survey? Practicing Christian stewardship includes using your God-given gifts and talents to serve. The T&T survey allows church leadership to best match opportunities with congregational talents. Please take a few minutes to fill it out on our website at www.bethanycr.org and click on "Serve."

#### Please pray for your Church Council:

Ronda Anderson (Parish Nurse), Darrell Chiavetta (Council Chair), Julie Elias (Council Treasurer), Pastor Erickson, Kelly Frampton (Recording Secretary), Steve Hanchera (Elders Chair), Laura Holt (Financial Secretary), Dave Johnson (Endowment Chair), Debbie Mills (Education Chair), Mary Nanke (Stewardship Chair), Lissa Novitch (Evangelism Chair), and Rita Tiedt (Human Care Chair)



# **Sunday Adult Bible Study**

All adults are welcome to attend Bible study on Sundays at 9:45-10:45 a.m. in the Family Life Center. This month Pastor Erickson will lead a study on Matthew 1 & 2, based on Dr. Jeffrey Gibbs' Concordia Commentary: Matthew 1:1-11:1.

December 3 - The Naming of Jesus

December 10 - The Magi Come to Pay Homage to the True King

December 17 - Jesus Fulfills Prophecy as God's Son

# **Bible Reading Plan**

Start off the new year in God's word! In January 2024 we will start a Bible reading plan to read through together as a congregation. Please look for information to come about this scripture reading plan.

# Serve the Lord Day

Bethany's Trustees hosted a "Serve the Lord Day" on October 28. Thank you to our Trustees, and everyone else who came to help care for the maintenance of our facilities!









# Hope for the Destitute

The Archbishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Kenya (ELCK) Rev. Dr. Omolo visited Bethany in November 2022 to share a presentation about Hope for the Destitute in Kenya. They are excited to share that progress is being made in the construction of the school building! Thank you for your support of God's church in Kenya and thanks to God for His blessings in bringing the school here!







# **Evangelism Challenge**

The December evangelism challenge is to write Christmas cards to send to nursing home residents. Cards will be available at Bethany in December. Please be sure to stop by the table to fill out a card to bless and live and share God's love with a local nursing home resident.

#### **Christmas Collection**

The Women's Guild will collect money for Hy-Vee gift cards for Bethany members in need. Please consider contributing to your fellow members at Christmas by placing your donation in the offering plate by December 10. Please put donations in an envelope marked "Christmas Giving" and place it in the offering plate or turn in to the church office.





# **Caroling and Chili Fellowship**

Join us for chili, cookies, and caroling after late service on Sunday December 17. We'll meet in the Family Life Center for chili and cookies, then walk to Cottage Grove for caroling. Interested in chili, but not caroling? Plan to attend! Interested in caroling, but not chili? Plan to attend! Please sign up at the Welcome Center so we can plan accordingly. Contact Becky McCarley for details.

#### **Christmas Bake Sale**

Let the Women's Guild handle your Christmas baking this year! Baked goods will be for sale before and after both services on December 17. Stock up on a variety of goodies for your family and friends (and yourself!). Proceeds from the bake sale will be used for mission donations in the upcoming year.





#### **Poinsettias**

Help beautify the sanctuary for Christmas with poinsettias! Please place your order by signing up at the Welcome Center by Sunday, December 17. Plants cost \$10 each and may be given in memory of loved ones.

# **Financial Housekeeping**

As 2023 comes to a close, please turn in requests for reimbursements as soon as possible, and remember to cash all checks before the end of the year. If you have any questions, please contact Financial Manager Anne Railsback at officemanager.bethanycr@gmail.com.



# Joy's Journal

I love this time of year! I hear my name so often! Whenever I hear my name, I'm reminded of the JOY we have because God provides so much for all of us – and the greatest gift of all is that He sent His Son Jesus to redeem us from our sins and have everlasting life with Him. What a JOY that truly is!!

I pray that as you prepare your hearts and minds this month to celebrate the birth of Jesus that you are filled with the JOY of the season!

Merry Christmas!



# **Helping Those In Need**

As Christians we are called to live and share God's love, and one way we do that is by providing material assistance for the poor among us. Those in need will often come to churches seeking help; sometimes during the week, or sometimes on Sunday mornings in the church parking lot.

Bethany members who are approached by people asking for assistance are encouraged to bring that person to Pastor Erickson, Nurse Ronda, or a church staff member. If you feel moved to give the person cash, please wait until the person has spoken with Pastor or Ronda first so that the church can coordinate how assistance is provided. Thank you for your willingness to live and share God's love in this way!

# **Internet Safety Reminder**

As we live in a world filled with technology, it has become increasingly easy for people to be deceptive online. Scammers have been known to pretend to be pastors and send calls or text messages to church members, asking for money, gift cards, or personal information.

Please be aware that Pastor Erickson (or any other church staff) will never ask for money or information in this way. If a message sounds suspicious, please do not reply and do not give them anything, as it is most likely a scam. If you are concerned, you can always call the church office directly at 319-364-6026.

CHURCH STATISTICS
October 2023

Average Sunday Attendance	168 Souls
Total Revenue	\$38,602.91
Total Expenses	\$48,483.75



# **Submit Announcements for Publication**

Announcements for the January Beacon are due Tuesday, December 26. To submit, please give details to Communications Coordinator Maren Elm. You may email her at comm.bethanycr@gmail.com, or complete a form at bethanycr.org/announcement-request.

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

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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

