

Bethany Beacon

JULY 2023

Area LCMS

PICKLEBALL TOURNAMENT

for church members & friends of all skill levels!

BEGINNER | INTERMEDIATE | ADVANCED

• **SATURDAY, JULY 15** •

• **NOELRIDGE PARK** •

4900 COUNCIL STREET NE | CEDAR RAPIDS

REGISTER BY JULY 9

@ **BETHANYCR.ORG/PICKLEBALL**

TOURNAMENT HOSTED BY
BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH

For more details, contact:
319-364-6026
office.bethanycr@gmail.com



bethanycr.org/pickleball

LUTHERAN FELLOWSHIP!

FREE EVENT!

Pickleball Tournament

Grab your paddle and join us for some fun Lutheran fellowship at an LCMS area-wide Pickleball Tournament!

Meet us on Saturday, July 15 at Noelridge Park in Cedar Rapids (4900 Council Street NE).

This tournament is for all ages and skill levels. We'll have three divisions: beginner, intermediate, and advanced.

Each player is grouped with three others to make a foursome within their division. Those four people play three games, switching to a new partner (within the foursome) each game. At the end of the third game, each individual will have partnered with the other three.

**Sign up
(and invite a friend)!**

If you plan to participate,
please register online by
Sunday, July 9 at:

bethanycr.org/pickleball



Bethany
Lutheran Church

Living and Sharing God's Love

If one member suffers, all suffer together; if one member is honored, all rejoice together. Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. – I Corinthians 12:26-27

This evening, as I sat down to write my monthly article for the Beacon, my wife and I just finished a discussion about letting our son go fishing tomorrow. Now normally, this wouldn't be a topic for us to talk about. Our entire family enjoys being outside, especially around the water. And our son has been fishing for years so we know it's something he enjoys. Also, he was planning on going with friends that we know and trust, and he is a strong swimmer (the best in our family), so safety wasn't really a concern of ours. So, you might ask, what was the discussion about? Well, as we were discussing this, there was a gray haze in the air and the smell of smoke outside. Apparently, wildfires in Canada were burning so badly that the smoke from them was blanketing the entire Midwest of the United States. Earlier this month, I had seen this happening in New York and in other places out east. But now it was happening right here in Iowa! Something that was happening hundreds of miles away, was directly affecting my family and our plans!

This made me think of the many ways we are all, for better or worse, connected to one another. For instance, while there is debate as to whether any of these fires have been started intentionally, there seems little doubt that many of them have been started by carelessness. Therefore the air quality in Iowa has suffered from someone shooting off fireworks or neglecting to fully extinguish their campfire in Ontario. Of course, our interconnectedness can also be a good thing, as nations around the world have sent firefighters to help fight the wildfires all across Canada.

In his first letter to the church in Corinth, St. Paul writes that our connections to one another Church are mutually beneficial and uplifting. Paul likens the Christ's Church to a body, where the ear belongs to the body just as much as the eye. Nor, Paul writes, can the head say to the feet, "I have no need for you." All the members of the body care

for one another and when one member suffers, all the members suffer. And when one part is honored, the entire body shares in that glory.

As Paul tells the Corinthians this is the case in the Universal Church throughout the world and time, we are reminded this is also the case with our little part of that Church called Bethany. Here in our congregation, no matter where you find yourself between the cradle and the grave, you have gifts to use and are needed just as much as any other member of the congregation. Of course, it is true that not all of us have the gifts to sew or quilt, make meals, teach Sunday School, run the video equipment or the soundboard. Just as everyone cannot serve on the Church Council or in the Food Pantry. Paul understands this as he explains that not everyone in the Church can be a prophet or an apostle or speak in tongues. But he continues to say that we all can seek after gift that is higher than these noble positions. In short, we can all love.

Whoever we are, we can love one another. This doesn't take special training or skill, but the desire to put the needs and concerns of others before yourself. This is a clear mark of the Christian Church and of Jesus' individual disciples, as true love always originates from God Himself. He has shown us His love when He sent Jesus to die on the cross. And now the members of the Church reflect that love to one another and to all the people the Lord brings into our lives. As our world becomes more connected, this love is needed more than ever. So remember God's love for you and that you are an important part of the body of Christ - you are a member of the Church that can love!

✝ Pastor Erickson



Thanksgiving:

New Bethany members

Patrick (friend of *M Vezina) - cancer treatment completed

Illness, injuries, health issues:

Marlen (friend of *Ken Zenor)- health issues

Nancy (sister of *Julie Elias)- hospitalization after fall

Mark (brother of *Anne Railsback)- tumor

Chuck (friend of *Linda Patten)- health issues

Margaret (relative of *Karl Hoech)- recovering after fall

Merlin (grandfather of *Dathan Hinrichs)- health issues

Oliver (friend of *Rick Heller)- recovering after accident

Gloria (granddaughter of *Kim Neuhaus)- personal issues

Mickie (visitor) - recovering after broken ankle

Ezra (infant son of Ben Venteicher) - recovering

Mary Jean (mother of *Greg Dunn)- recovering after surgery

Kathy (sister of *Mark Holt) - recovering after transplant

Jill (cousin of *Karen Pfeffer) - recovering after transplant

Jim (brother of *Ed Schumacher) - recovering after surgery

Don (friend of *Mary Vezina) - recovering after surgery

Ann (relative of *Elaine Behrens) - recovering after surgery

Lorena (sister of *Brenda Heims) - recovering after surgery

Marcia (relative of *Brenda Heims) - health issues

Jean (mother of *Kristi Montague) - recovering after stroke

Trevor (son of *Thomases) - recovering after hospitalization

Sylvia (aunt of *Patricia Hinrichs) - health issues

Rhonda (friend of *Larsons) - 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:

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

Grief, family and friends of:

*Larry Easler- died 6/24

*Karen Schaub- died 6/22

Ken Koch (former member)- died 6/19

Homebound members of Bethany:

Candi Engel - Heritage Care Center

*Nadine Wax - at home

*Del Block - The Gardens

*Tom Stock - at home

*Shirley Kellogg - Terrace Glen Village, Marion

*Dorothy Freese - Keystone Place

*Verlyn & *Paul LeFevere- at home

*Chuck Stoelting- Garnet Place

Cancer/Hospice:

Joe (brother of Mary Vezina)-cancer

Joanne- cancer

Angie (friend of *Deb Heitland)- cancer

Alice (friend of *Brenda Heims) - cancer

Chuck (father of *Jim Novitch) - cancer

Courtney (Monday am coffee friend) - cancer treatment

Francis (friend of *Larsons) - hospice care

John (friend of *Dunns) - chemo treatment

Ron (brother of *Ray McGraw) - cancer treatment

Shauna (niece of *Schmiths) - cancer

Tony (friend of *Mike Thomas) - cancer

David (relative of *Hasses) - cancer immunotherapy

Julie (friend of *Brenda Heims) - cancer

Chad (son of *Vicki Huschka) - leukemia



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.

Saturday, July 1

- 8:00 am Pancakes and Proverbs
- 9:00 am Holy Yoga - Opening Room

Sunday, July 2

- 12:15 pm Evangelism Meeting
- 1:00 pm Food Pantry Open
- 5:00 pm Emerging Adults

Monday, July 3

Office Closed Monday

- 6:00 pm Trustees Meeting
- 6:00 pm Stewardship Meeting

Tuesday, July 4

Office Closed Tuesday

Wednesday, July 5

- 6:00 pm High School Youth

Thursday, July 6

- 9:00 am Walking Exercise

Saturday, July 8

- 9:00 am Holy Yoga - Opening Room

Sunday, July 9

- 1:00 pm Food Pantry Open
- 5:00 pm Emerging Adults

Monday, July 10

- 6:00 pm Stephen Ministry Supervision
- 7:00 pm Elders Meeting
- 7:00 pm Bible Study on Vocation

Tuesday, July 11

- 9:00 am Quilting
- 9:00 am Walking Exercise
- 7:00 pm Council Meeting

Wednesday, July 12

- 6:00 pm High School Youth

Thursday, July 13

- 9:00 am Adult Bible Study
- 9:00 am Walking Exercise

Saturday, July 15

- 9:00 am Pickleball Tournament
- 9:00 am Holy Yoga - Opening Room

Sunday, July 16

- 1:00 pm Food Pantry Open
- 5:00 pm Emerging Adults

Monday, July 17

- 7:00 pm Bible Study on Vocation

Tuesday, July 18

- 9:00 am Walking Exercise

Wednesday, July 19

- 4:00 pm Cottage Grove Devotion
- 6:00 pm High School Youth (Bonfire)

Thursday, July 20

- 9:00 am Adult Bible Study
- 9:00 am Walking Exercise
- 11:00 am Senior Worship

Saturday, July 22

- 9:00 am Holy Yoga - Opening Room
- 10:30 am Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca Quilt Auction

Sunday, July 23

- 9:30 am Blood Pressure Checks - Office
- 1:00 pm Food Pantry Open
- 5:00 pm Emerging Adults

Monday, July 24

- 6:00 pm Stephen Ministry Continuing Ed.
- 7:00 pm Bible Study on Vocation

Tuesday, July 25

- 9:00 am Walking Exercise

Wednesday, July 26

- 6:00 pm High School Youth

Thursday, July 27

- 9:00 am Adult Bible Study
- 9:00 am Walking Exercise

Saturday, July 29

- 9:00 am Holy Yoga - Opening Room
- 5:30 pm Pool Party - Bever Pool

Sunday, July 30

- 12:15 pm Board of Education Meeting
- 1:00 pm Food Pantry Open
- 5:00 pm Emerging Adults



Emerging Adults

On June 11 we started a new ministry for emerging adults: those aged 18-26 years old. All emerging adults are encouraged to join us for Bible study on Sundays at 5:00 p.m. Our study will focus on different topics and issues we face at this age, and look at them with a Christian lens. Do you know any 18-26 year olds? Please invite them; we would love to have them! For details, contact Kierra at intern.bethanycr@gmail.com.

JULY BIRTHDAYS

7/1	Ben Mims	7/10	Phil Hedtke	7/19	Mark Holt
	Wade Ramsey	7/12	Carol McGinnis		Nicole Deetz
7/3	Rick Foreman	7/13	Tristan Bond	7/20	Christine Erickson
7/4	Greyson Young		Owen Carr	7/21	Jo Godbey
7/5	Elaine Cook	7/14	Jeff Bulicek	7/22	Carson Theriault
	Corey Stackhouse	7/15	Bill Freese	7/23	Jodi Strait
7/6	Arlen Breiholz		Chris Knudson	7/24	Renee Riffey
	Rachel Henderson		Jake Sturtz		Lainie Olson
7/7	Barry Smith	7/16	Mindy Thies	7/27	Meghan Prohaska
7/9	Landon Oja		Bryce Wilson	7/28	Ken Cook
		7/17	Jim Heitland		

JULY ANNIVERSARIES

7/1	Nathan & Stacy Brusius	7/20	Mark & Julie Gutman
7/2	Joe & Anna Milbach	7/23	Duane & Karen Pfeffer
7/5	Josh & Haley Dohrmann	7/24	Dave & Kay Karsten
7/8	Lee & Brenda Heims	7/26	Brad & Erin Crawford
7/9	Harold & Susan Schoen	7/27	Vern & Betty Happel
7/11	Andrew & Sarah Gates	7/28	Dave & Carolyn Johnson
7/12	Richard & Angie Pfeil	7/29	Ryan & Ginny Urban
7/16	Steve & Kathy Hanchera		



Family Faith Night

Family Faith Night is a ministry for students in preschool through 12th grade and their parents. We wrapped up our first year of Family Faith Night on June 14.

Let's celebrate a great first year! Join us for a family pool party on Saturday, July 29. Meet at Bever Pool at 5:30-7:30 p.m. We'll make a "splash" into next year's theme of God's Living Water!

Family Faith Night will resume on Wednesday, September 13 for the 2023-24 school year. All families are welcome! Please save the date and look for more information to come.

Service at His Hands Free Clinic

Bethany members served at His Hands Free Clinic with cleaning projects on June 24. His Hands is a ministry that provides medical and dental services to those who are uninsured or under-insured.

There is always a need for volunteers at His Hands, including volunteers to pray with patients! If you are interested learning more about serving, contact the Bethany office or call His Hands Free Clinic at 319-862-2636.



Senior Worship

Join us for Senior Worship on Thursday, July 20
Service at 11:00 AM | Luncheon to follow

Mission Trip Opportunities

The Evangelism Board is currently researching mission trip opportunities for adult Bethany members for 2023 and 2024. We would like to do a domestic mission trip this year and an international trip in 2024. The Evangelism Board is working with Mission Central to help identify mission trip opportunities.

We would like to ask the congregation if they know of any upcoming domestic or international mission trips that we could join. If you know of opportunities, speak with Kierra Penney or Naomi Chiavetta, or contact the church office at office.bethanycr@gmail.com. Your help and ideas are appreciated!

July Evangelism Challenge: Invite a Friend!

There are ways we can all live and share God's love with those around us. Thank you to everyone who participated in our June evangelism challenge by participating in the chalk the walk event!

This month, your evangelism challenge is to invite someone to a fellowship event or to church! Friends are welcome to participate in the July 15 pickleball tournament. Register you and your friends by July 9!

Welcome, New Members!

On June 4, we celebrated members who recently joined our congregation, as well as those who have transferred into Bethany within the last year. We are blessed to have these members with us! If you have not had a chance to meet them yet, be sure to introduce yourself on a Sunday morning.



James Ball



Ann Balvanz



Alan & Kathy Echtenkamp



Fred & Raylene Henkelmann



Joseph & Anne Railsback



Shirley Witte



Beth Wright



John & *Karen Schaub

**Karen Schaub was called to her heavenly home on June 22.*

We thank God for the time we had with Karen at Bethany.



Care Warriors

Care Warriors is a ministry to help meet needs of Bethany members and offer opportunities to serve. Care Warriors serve in four main ways:

- **Meals** (*birth of a baby, hospitalization, surgery, death in the family*)
- **Wheels** (*transportation to appointments, grocery shopping, ride to church*)
- **Labor** (*yardwork, cleaning, helping with a move, painting*)
- **Time** (*visiting members who are homebound, hospitalized, or in nursing facilities; emergency childcare*)

Would you like to be a Care Warrior? If so, please email Nurse Ronda at nurse.bethanycr@gmail.com or contact Care Warrior coordinator Becky Johnson. You can select any or all of the four ways to serve, and you will be added to an email list for that area. For example, if you sign up to help with labor and meals, you will be emailed each time labor and meal opportunities arise.

Do you need a Care Warrior? If you could benefit from any of these four areas, please do not hesitate to reach out to your Bethany family! Please email Nurse Ronda at nurse.bethanycr@gmail.com or call the church office at 319-364-6026. Care Warriors will be happy to serve you!

Stephen Ministry



stephen
MINISTRY

Stephen Ministers are the “**After People.**” They are there...

...after the phone call you hoped you'd never get.

...after the funeral, when everyone has left and the emotions you've held at bay come crashing in on you.

...after the relationship falls apart and the bottom falls out of your life.

...after the doctor says, “I'm sorry, but there's nothing more we can do.”

...after the nursing home director shakes your hand and says, “Welcome to your new home.”

...after the last child honks the horn, waves, and drives away—and the house suddenly seems empty.

...after the gavel comes down, the handcuffs go on, and your loved one is led away.

...after the baby arrives, demanding more of you than you ever dreamed possible.

...after you find a pink slip with your final paycheck.

...after your family and friends have heard your story one too many times, but you still need to talk it out.

Stephen Ministers are ready to come alongside you—or your friends, neighbors, coworkers, or relatives—and provide comfort and support for as long as “after” is needed. If you would like to learn more about Stephen Ministry at Bethany, please contact Ronda at nurse.bethanycr@gmail.com.

May 2023 Stats

Average Sunday Attendance	185 Souls
Contribution Revenue	\$43,569.14
Total Expenses	\$38,027.85

Sunday School

Kids celebrated the end of the Sunday school year on June 4. They had fun with activities including a seed relay race, pin Zacchaeus to the tree, guessing the number of seeds in jar, a flower craft, and a visit from Joy. Thank you to the teachers and helpers who helped the children grow in their faith!

Summer Sunday School is now in session. Join us on Sundays in the lower level at 9:45-10:45 a.m. Kids in preschool-8th grade meet in the Opening Room, and high schoolers meet in the high school room.

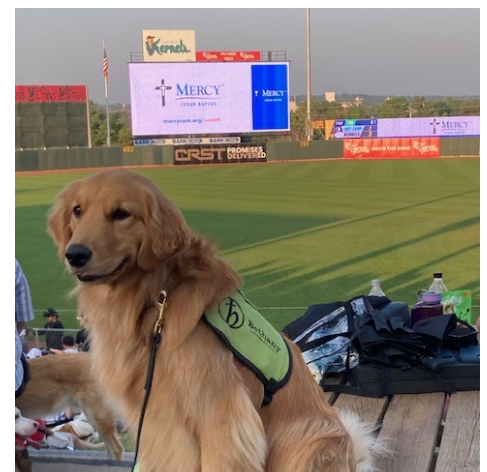


Joy's Journal

Hello Bethany FURiends! I hope you are enjoying your summer. I really enjoy the longer days.

This past month I've been exposed to some new experiences – doing some of my training downtown, going to a farmer's market in Marion, and attending a Kernels game during their Bark in the Park event. All these things provide opportunities to learn new things like doing a “down” on different surfaces, smelling all the new scents at a farmer's market, remaining calm around lots of people and dogs, and many opportunities to greet people calmly. Sometimes they ask me about my vest and I can tell them about Bethany and how much God loves them. What a blessing!

 Joy



LWML Salad Supper

The Bethany women's guild hosted a salad supper for ladies on June 8.



Sewing Quilts for World Relief

On Tuesday, July 11, the Special Projects Committee will tie quilts for Lutheran World Relief in the Family Life Center at 9:00 a.m. to noon. Stop in for an hour or stay the whole time; we appreciate any time you can give! Bring a sack lunch for fellowship after quilting. Contact Betty Happel or Donna Bogner for more details.



Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca Fundraiser Auction

Show your support for Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca's mission of providing Christ-centered outdoor recreation and education by attending the "I Believe In Camp" Fundraiser Auction on Saturday, July 22! The auction is slated to begin at 1:00 p.m. in the Alpha Lodge at camp. Bethany member Donna Bogner donates quilts for the auction!

Fellowship Event: Baseball Game

Congregants enjoyed fellowship at a Kernels game on June 25. Thank you to all who came out to spend time with church friends!



Bethany Graduates

On June 25 we recognized graduating high school seniors Abi Clark, Jaden Harris, and Trae Robinson. God's blessings to you all as you enter next steps!



Food Pantry

Human Care made 80 sack lunches that were distributed to our neighbors that came to the food pantry on June 4. Thank you Becky, John, and Rita! Luke provided some great tunes for the food pantry neighbors on June 4.



Alzheimer's Association Event

Skoog Dementia Support and Bethany hosted a workshop offering practical tools to support individuals and friends experiencing Alzheimer's on June 17.



Chalk the Walk

Bethany artists chalked the walk in the playground/garden area on June 10 for our food pantry neighbors to enjoy on June 11. Here are some of the beautiful creations they worked on!



Announcements

Information for the August Beacon is due Thursday, July 20. To submit an announcement, 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




Living and Sharing God's Love

WORSHIP WITH US

Sunday Mornings

8:30 am	Traditional Service
9:45 am	Education Hour
11:00 am	Contemporary Service

CONNECT WITH US

Website	www.bethanycr.org
Email	office.bethanycr@gmail.com
Phone	319-364-6026
	facebook.com/bethanycria