

# Bethany Youth are MISSION BOUND

JULY 20-27



CAMDEN



CARTER



NATALIE



CHARLES



CONNER

**Bethany youth will embark on a mission trip to Denver, Colorado July 20-27!** Please keep these five youth, in addition to DCE Kierra Penney and Mark Holt in your prayers as they live and share God's love in Denver. On June 9, mission trip participants were paired with Bethany prayer partners. This trip is organized by YouthWorks Mission Trips.

**Want to support this mission trip financially?**

- Give online at [www.bethanycr.org/giving](http://www.bethanycr.org/giving) (select "Youth Trips")
- Participate in the silent auction and cornhole tournament (details inside)
- Donate items to Stuff, Etc. (consignor number 42223)



**Bethany**  
Lutheran Church

*Living and Sharing God's Love*



## Pastor's Page

On Wednesday evenings our Director of Christian Education (Kierra) and I have been leading a small study on the book *Principles of Biblical Interpretation for Everyone* by Dr. James Voelz. In a section of the book called "The Impact of the Divine Nature and Attributes of Sacred Scripture" Dr. Voelz writes the following:

*"The confession of the early church is that the second person of the Trinity, fully God, took on human flesh, but he did so in such a way that it preserved his true and full humanity. His two natures are united, in the words of the Council of Chalcedon, 'unconfusedly, unchangeably, indivisibly, inseparably' and that in such a way that the property of each nature is not destroyed but preserved. In just this way we confess that in the sacred Scriptures, the thoughts and the words of the Holy Spirit took on human thoughts and words in such a way that the one holy writing has two natures...It is important to note that in both cases (regarding both our Lord and the Scriptures), the divine incarnate unity 'looked' absolutely human."*

So, in addition to being a human being, Jesus was also true God in every sense. Yet seeing Him, (when He wasn't performing miracles), He looked like an average guy walking around. In the same way, Dr. Voelz writes, the Scriptures have a human and divine nature to them and yet often "look" just like any other human writing, despite being the Word of God.

I think this idea can be applied to many things in the Church (the communion of saints) today, including its mission. Of course, the Church has a human side to it; it is made up of people suffering from and enduring the consequences of sin. But through the Spirit working through the Word and Sacraments, we are forgiven our sin and made children of God. This is not to say that

Christians somehow take upon themselves a divine nature, as Christ took upon Himself our humanity. But when those who have been redeemed by Christ work in His name, there is a divine element to all of these humans are doing.

Therefore, when the world sees a van of teenagers and chaperones driving out to Denver (all looking perfectly human), Christians can actually see God Himself at work using these people to share His love with the people of Denver. On Monday mornings, many people may just see a few folks in Bethany's kitchen making sandwiches or on Tuesday mornings the world may only see a few people handing out those sandwiches to our friends and neighbors downtown. But in these actions, Christians see God at work, providing daily bread, prayers and fellowship to nourish both the body and soul. And when one takes into consideration that it is God who begins and enables all of this work in His Church, there truly seems to be an incarnational aspect to what happens here at Bethany and in the Church around the world.

This is great for Christians to see this divine/human nature of the work in the Church. It is a reminder that the work we do together is important and can also serve to strengthen our resolve when things seem to be a little too human. But even more importantly, I believe the unbelieving world needs to see the divine nature of what humans are doing in the church today. So often we hear people asking, "Where is God these days?" I hope and pray that they will be able to see God in that van going to Denver, in the lunch bags handed out downtown, and in the countless other activities and ministries that are taking place at Bethany and in God's Church throughout His creation.

✝ Pastor Erickson





## Prayer Page

### Thanksgiving

Reese (granddaughter of \*Bill & \*Tina Freese)- born 5/31  
Bethany Food Pantry 3rd anniversary

### Illness, injuries, health issues:

Tim (friend of Pete Larson)- health issues  
Sandy (relative of \*Emily Kroemer)- skilled care required  
JB (friend of \*Cynthia Broadwater)- recovering after surgery  
Don (friend of \*Mary Vezina)- recovering after surgery  
David (father of \*Chris Frampton) - health issues  
Lisa (daughter of \*Cheri Miller)- health issues  
Joseph (relative of \*Angie Yuza)- recovering after surgery  
Kathy (sister of \*Mark Holt) - health issues  
Scott (relative of \*Schumachers)- injuries after fall  
Keith (relative of \*M Nanke)- recovering after hospitalization  
Charlie (relative of \*Barb Deetz)- recovering after surgery  
Loren (relative of \*Barb Deetz)- health issues  
Mary (mother of \*Ken Zenor)- hospitalization  
Derek (son of \*Hackbards)- recovering after hospitalization  
Diane (relative of \*Brenda Heims)- health issues  
Jacquiline (daughter of \*C Kroemer)- health issues  
Skip (brother of \*Faye Sieck) - grief issues  
Sarah (daughter of \*Henkelmanns) - health issues  
Chuck (friend of \*Linda Patten)- health issues  
Margaret (relative of \*Karl Hoech)- recovering after fall  
Gloria (granddaughter of \*Kim Neuhaus)- personal issues  
Lorena (sister of \*Brenda Heims) - recovering after surgery  
Marcia (relative of \*Brenda Heims) - health issues  
Sylvia (aunt of \*Patricia Hinrichs) - health issues  
Judy (relative of \*Brenda Heims) - health issues  
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

### Homebound members of Bethany:

\*Cindy Broadwater- at home  
Candi Engel - Heritage Care Center  
\*Carol Grimminger- Cottage Grove  
\*Nadine Wax - Hallmar  
\*Dorothy Freese - Keystone Place  
\*Verlyn & \*Paul LeFevere- at home

### Cancer/Hospice:

Charlotte (relative of \*Emily Kroemer)- hospice care  
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  
Julie (friend of \*Brenda Heims) - cancer  
Chad (son of \*Vicki Huschka) - leukemia

### Grief, family and friends of:

Merlin (grandfather of \*Dathan Heinrichs)- died 6/10  
\*Chuck Stoelting (husband of \*Luci)- died 6/8  
Marilyn (friend of \*Heinrichs)- died 6/6  
Alivia (friend of \*Pfeils)- died 6/5

### Safety:

Devon (friend of \*Hedtke & \*Chittick)- deployed to Korea  
Mallory (friend of \*Abi Clark)- IA National Guard  
Amber (daughter of \*A Balvanz)- U.S. Army, stationed in RI  
Jordan (g son 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  
Andrea (relative of \*Steggalls)- teaching in Bulgaria

## Bethany Prayer Ministry

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

**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](mailto:nurse.bethanycr@gmail.com).





# Calendar

**Monday, July 1**

6:00 pm Stewardship Meeting

**Tuesday, July 2**

8:00 am Prayer in the Square  
9:00 am Walking Exercise  
1:30 pm Prayer Group  
5:00 pm LWML Board Meeting  
6:00 pm Evangelism Meeting

**Thursday, July 4**

Office Closed

**Saturday, July 6**

9:00 am Holy Yoga - Opening Room

**Sunday, July 7**

1:00 pm Food Pantry Open

**Monday, July 8**

6:00 pm Stephen Ministry Supervision  
6:00 pm Trustees Meeting  
7:00 pm Elders Meeting

**Tuesday, July 9**

8:00 am Prayer in the Square  
9:00 am Quilting for World Relief  
9:00 am Walking Exercise  
1:30 pm Prayer Group  
7:00 pm Council Meeting

**Thursday, July 11**

9:00 am Adult Bible Study  
9:00 am Walking Exercise  
7:00 pm Christian Faith Class

**Saturday, July 13**

9:00 am Holy Yoga - Opening Room

**Sunday, July 14**

12:15 pm Board of Education Meeting  
1:00 pm Food Pantry Open

**Tuesday, July 16**

8:00 am Prayer in the Square  
9:00 am Walking Exercise  
1:30 pm Prayer Group

**Wednesday, July 17**

4:00 pm Cottage Grove Devotion

**Thursday, July 18**

9:00 am Adult Bible Study  
9:00 am Walking Exercise  
11:00 am Senior Worship  
7:00 pm Christian Faith Class

**Saturday, July 20**

9:00 am Holy Yoga - Opening Room

**Sunday, July 21**

1:00 pm Food Pantry Open

**Monday, July 22**

6:00 pm Stephen Ministry Continuing Ed.

**Tuesday, July 23**

8:00 am Prayer in the Square  
9:00 am Walking Exercise  
1:30 pm Prayer Group

**Thursday, July 25**

9:00 am Walking Exercise

**Saturday, July 27**

9:00 am Holy Yoga - Opening Room

**Sunday, July 28**

9:30 am Blood Pressure Checks  
1:00 pm Food Pantry Open

**Tuesday, July 30**

8:00 am Prayer in the Square  
9:00 am Walking Exercise  
1:30 pm Prayer Group

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

*Holy Communion is celebrated at both services on the first and third Sunday of each month.*



## Fundraiser for His Hands Free Clinic: THANK YOU!

As of June 24, His Hands has collected 19,055 pairs of shoes! You can still bring shoes to His Hands Free Clinic through July 5. These shoes will not count towards the World Record, but will still help the clinic receive funds and to support microenterprises around the world. Thank you so much to everyone who has donated, volunteered, shared the event, and contributed in any way!



## Birthdays and Anniversaries

7/1	Ben Mims Wade Ramsey	7/9	Landon Oja Phil Hedtke	7/15	Jake Sturtz Mindy Thies	7/22	Carson Theriault Jodi Strait
7/3	Elaine Cook Rick Foreman	7/10	Carol McGinnis Tristan Bond	7/16	Bryce Wilson Jim Heitland	7/23	Renee Riffey Lainie Olson
7/5	Corey Stackhouse Arlen Breiholz	7/12	Owen Carr Jeff Bulicek	7/17	Mark Holt Nicole Deetz	7/24	Meghan Prohaska Ken Cook
7/6	Rachel Henderson Barry Smith	7/13	Bill Freese Chris Knudson	7/19	Christine Erickson Joanna Godbey	7/27	Addy Childs
7/7		7/14		7/20			
7/1	Nathan & Stacy Brusius	7/12	Richard & Angie Pfeil	7/21			
7/5	Josh & Haley Dohrmann	7/16	Steve & Kathy Hanchera	7/26	Brad & Erin Crawford		
7/8	Lee & Brenda Heims	7/20	Mark & Julie Gutman	7/27	Vern & Betty Happel		
7/9	Harold & Susan Schoen	7/23	Duane & Karen Pfeffer	7/28	Dave & Carolyn Johnson		
7/11	Andy & Sarah Gates	7/24	Dave & Kay Karsten	7/29	Ryan & Ginny Urban		




*Bethany friends enjoyed fellowship and baseball at the Cedar Rapids Kernels game on Sunday, June 23.*

## POOL PARTY

Help us make a splash at the end of VBS week! All are invited (not just VBS families) to join us for a fun night of fellowship and swimming.

Saturday, June 29  5:30-7:30 PM

Bever Pool  2700 Bever Ave SE





## Announcements



### LWML Convention

Ladies attended the LWML Iowa District East convention June 21-22. The theme for the event was Isaiah 12:5: "Shout it out! Praise the Lord!"

The event included worship, praise, fellowship, voting, and learning about mission work being done and supported by LWML.

Pictured here are Bethany members Cindy Goerdts, Tracy Moffett, Carolyn Zimmerman, and Susan Schoen.

### Joy's Journal

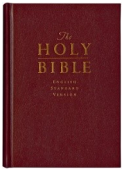
Hello FURiends! I thought this month I would tell you a little bit more about the time I spend at St. Luke's. My people and I go every Friday afternoon and visit patients and staff for two hours. St. Luke's asks us to keep track of "how many lives I've touched" during a volunteer shift. My people define "lives I've touched" by people who touch me. During my shift I almost always touch 80-90 lives. A couple times it's even been a few over 100. I get lots of pets and love on Friday afternoons! Some of the nurses' stations even have dog treats for me -- I can remember which ones they are and I'm extra cute when I visit those nurses! I also hand out mini Joys to patients and nurses, which include my business card that has my bible verse and Bethany's contact information. To God be the glory! We can't take pictures of patients, but I have plenty of pictures with staff.

Blessings!





# Announcements



## Bible and Hymnal Dedication

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the purchase of new Bibles and hymnals for our sanctuary. We will have a special dedication of the Bibles and hymnals during services on Sunday, July 28.

<b>Bibles/Hymnals Given by</b>	<b>In Honor/Memory of</b>	<b>Bibles/Hymnals Given by</b>	<b>In Honor/Memory of</b>
Ronda Anderson	Todd Anderson	Lynn Kellogg	Shirley Kellogg
David & Elaine Behrens	Mr. & Mrs. Harry J. Behrens, Sarajane Kinnaman, Allan Mahler	Pete & Kris Larson	Their Parents
Donna Birkicht	Jim & Laura Astor, Jeff Astor	Melissa Loney	Dana & Cathy Loney, Darrell & June Loney
Barb Deetz	Tom Deetz, Rollis & Shirley Deetz	Debbie & Tom Mills	To the Glory of God
Kim Duffy	Tom Deetz, Rollis & Shirley Deetz	Kristi Montague	Jean Holstrom
Carol Edwards	John Edwards	Nancy Owens	Her Parents
Pastor & Christine Erickson	Earl Erickson, Mel & Ruth Mau, Rev. & Mrs. Hedtke, Church Staff	Joseph & Anne Railsback	Timothy Bottorff, Judy Railsback
Lorna Fischer	Michael Hoppe	Wade & Sharon Ramsey	To the Glory of God
Rick & Marvelene Foreman	To the Glory of God	Mike & Lora Raymon	To the Glory of God
Ann Gray	Shirley Kellogg	Karen Schmidt	Gene Schmidt
Betty Happel	Rodney & Glennys Smith	Colby & Janine Schmitt	To the Glory of God
Dick & Karen Hass	To the Glory of God	Susan & Harold Schoen	Their Parents, To the Glory of God
Don Hein	Betty Hein	Ed & Gloria Schumacher	Their Parents
Jim & Deb Heitland	Their Parents	Nancylee Siebenmann	John F. Siebenmann
Hoech Family	Shari Hoech, Peter Hoech, Darrel Peterson	Jeff & Donna Stranathan	To the Glory of God
Joy the Comfort Dog	To the Glory of God	Joann Strang	Terry Strang
Dave & Kay Karsten	Eric Karsten	Mike & Dawn Thomas	Darrel Gommels
		Robert & Sheila Willms	Their Parents
		Shirley Witte	Harlan Witte
		Diane Zenor	Donald Andrews
		Zenor Family	To the Glory of God



## Thank You for Sharing God's Love

*The Bethany family lives and shares God's love with fellow members by praying, sending cards, making meals, visiting and providing comfort and friendship. Here are notes of thanks from Bethany members who have recently felt the love of their church family...*

Thank you to everyone for the beautiful birthday cards and kind birthday wishes. You made my 90th birthday very special. God's blessings to you all. -Velma Ziesemer





## Youth and Family Ministry



### Children's Sunday School

Sunday School at Bethany is held for our students in preschool through 12th grade on Sundays at 9:45-10:45. The last day of Sunday School for the academic was June 2. The children had a celebration, and sang the Doxology during services on June 2.

Summer Sunday School is now in session! Students in preschool and elementary school are in one group (meet in the Opening Room) and students in middle school and high school are in one group (meet in the high school room).

### Sewing Quilts for World Relief

On Tuesday, July 9 the LWML 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 details.



*Pictured: Bethany quilters at the June quilting session!*

### Silent Auction

Bethany youth are hosting a silent auction to benefit their mission trip to Denver this July. Bidding will close on June 29 at 11:30 a.m. Winners will be announced at the cornhole tournament on June 29. Check out the auction items at [bethanycr.org/cornhole](http://bethanycr.org/cornhole) and place your bids at Bethany!

Auction items that are up for bid have all been donated by Bethany members:

- Charcuterie board
- Cutting board
- Cornhole boards
- Framed artwork
- Metal wall décor
- Jigsaw puzzle
- Axe throwing
- Quilts
- Gourmet dining experience

# SILENT AUCTION

## June 23 - June 29





### Cornhole Tournament

Bethany youth will host a cornhole tournament on Saturday, June 29. All ages are welcome! Registration is \$10 per person, and all proceeds will benefit the youth mission trip to Denver this July. Registration will be the day of the event starting at 9:00, and the tournament starts at 10:00 a.m.

# CORNHOLE TOURNAMENT

**Saturday, June 29**

**Registration at 9:00 AM  
Tournament at 10:00 AM**

**Bethany Lutheran Church  
Family Life Center**

**Registration \$10/person  
Tournament is for all ages!**

Proceeds will benefit a youth mission  
trip to Denver, CO in July 2024.

Visit [bethanycr.org/cornhole](https://bethanycr.org/cornhole) for details





## Announcements



### Join us for Senior Worship

Thursday, July 18  
Service at 11:00 AM | Luncheon to follow

### Bethany Lutheran Food Pantry Updates

#### How many neighbors use Bethany Lutheran Food Pantry?

Bethany Lutheran Food Pantry is serving our neighbors! An average of 84 households visited the pantry in February, March, April and May (and within those households, an average of 324 people received food each week). On Sunday, June 23, we had a record 101 neighbors that came to the pantry and they took food home to 395 people in their households!

#### How can I serve in the pantry?

Each Sunday we need seven volunteers to serve at the pantry from 12:30-3:00 p.m. There are a variety of tasks such as checking neighbors in, and helping neighbors shop. If you are interested in assisting in the pantry, contact Nurse Ronda at [nurse.bethanycr@gmail.com](mailto:nurse.bethanycr@gmail.com) and visit [bethanycr.org/food-pantry](http://bethanycr.org/food-pantry) to sign up. Each week Pete Larson oversees the volunteers that pick up food at HACAP in Hiawatha and stock our shelves. Contact Nurse Ronda if you would like to join the Friday pickup and stocking team!

#### How are we seeing God at work in the lives of our pantry neighbors? How can I pray?

We are taking prayer requests from our pantry neighbors. A pantry neighbor recently shared that they had had cancer, but is now cancer free! Another neighbor shared that she is still living in her car and is in great need of a place to live.



#### What's happening in the garden?

The food grown in the garden near the back entrance will be shared with the pantry neighbors. The zucchinis are about ready! We will also be getting vegetables from other Feed Iowa First local gardens to share in the pantry. Sweet peppers, squash, zucchini, peas and basil plants are all growing! Thank you to Sheryl Knutson, Lynn Madsen and others for tending the Bethany garden!

#### What can I donate in July?

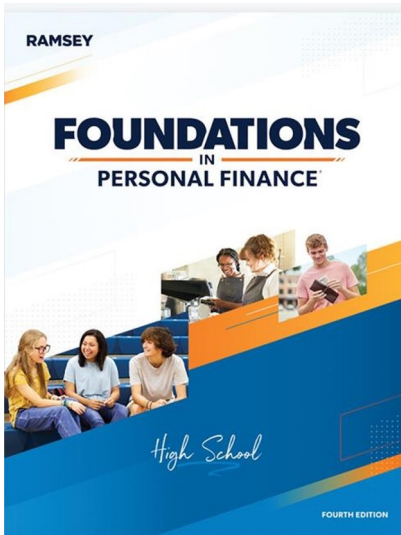
The pantry is in great need of toilet paper. The Board of Evangelism challenges the congregation to donate 400 rolls of toilet paper in the month of July! Since we have close to 100 neighbors coming through the pantry each week, 400 rolls would be enough for each neighbor to take one roll per week during the month of July. Add toilet paper to your shopping list and help us stock the pantry shelves!







## Announcements



### Foundations in Personal Finance

A personal finance class for young adults (high school and college age) will be offered at Bethany this fall. “Foundations in Personal Finance” is designed to teach young adults money skills to use now and the rest of their lives. This course is part of Dave Ramsey’s very successful program.

Classes are to be held at Bethany on Wednesdays at 6:00-7:30 p.m. This is during typical youth group time and will be held in place of high school youth group for the duration of the class. The 6-week session will begin in September. If your student is interested in this class, please contact the church office to help us plan on the number of students to expect. Look for more details coming soon, or speak with a member of the stewardship board to learn more information about Foundations in Personal Finance.

### Adult Vacation Bible School

Mark your calendar! Adult Vacation Bible School will be held at Bethany August 12-15 at 9:00-11:00 a.m. Adult VBS is a Bethany tradition for adults to gather for a week of Bible study, fellowship, hymn singing, Bible trivia, and more! All adults are welcome.



### Especially For You Race Against Breast Cancer

A Bethany team has been created for the Especially For You Race Against Breast Cancer! The 2024 event will be held on Sunday, October 6 at 8:00 a.m. The cost for adults is \$32, and youth is \$22 until September 1, (then the price increases to \$37).

#### CHURCH STATISTICS May 2024

Average Sunday Attendance	195 Souls
May Income	\$52,835
May Expenses	\$45,666



## Submit an Announcement



### Submit Announcements for Publication

Announcements for the August Beacon are due Thursday, July 18. To submit, please fill out an announcement request form at [www.bethanycr.org/announcement-request](http://www.bethanycr.org/announcement-request). Contact Communications Coordinator Maren Elm at [comm.bethanycr@gmail.com](mailto:comm.bethanycr@gmail.com) for information.

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

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION  
U. S. POSTAGE PAID  
Permit #118  
CEDAR RAPIDS IA, 52403

*ELECTRONIC SERVICE REQUESTED*



## Celebrate the Savior VBS!

Jesus gives us JOY!

Children are enjoying a week of Vacation Bible School at Bethany, June 24-27!

VBS students will sing the song "Celebrate the Savior" at 11:00 a.m. service on Sunday, June 30.