



Bethany Lutheran Church

Mission Statement

Reaching out in Worship, Fellowship, Learning, and
Love - We Are God's People.

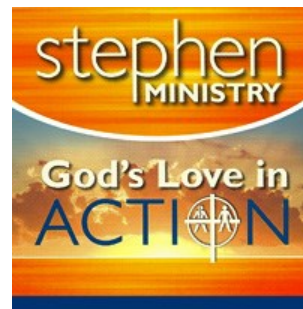
...the Son of man came not to be served but to serve,
and to give his life for many. Hebrews 10:25

STEPHEN MINISTRY COMMISSIONING—May 1

The Stephen Ministry training has been completed and the ministers will be commissioned on May 1. Their service will be a great blessing to Bethany and beyond. What these Sisters in Christ affirm is the importance of serving others.

Through the years it has become more and more apparent to me how vital it is to serve others. To be a Christian means helping others as Christ did. The role Stephen Ministers will fulfill is being a compassionate listener to anyone needing support. In the days ahead we will explain further all the aspects of this ministry. One of the key guidelines is that people have a minister of the same gender meeting with them. Men meet with men and women with women. Currently all of our ministers are women. Future training sessions may include men. This is because both men and women can be in need of a Stephen Minister.

Along with Stephen Ministry, there are many other opportunities to serve. I recently received a request from Hospice House for people to consider becoming a hospice volunteer. The training is straight forward. You bring great comfort to people in critical need. You also provide a bridge between what patients need and what professional staff can provide. We have members of Bethany currently serving at Hospice House. If you would like to learn more, please call Miranda at 319-768-3374.



The
Chimes

Bethany Evangelical Lutheran Church

2515 Madison Ave.

Burlington, Iowa

Phone: (319) 752-3621

www.bethanyburlington.org

Pastor's Cell: (360) 623-2184

Our Staff

Rev. Paul Hermansen, Pastor Cory Byrne, Choir Director/Organist

Sue Hermansen, Admin. Asst. Michelle Huppenbauer, Financial Sec'y

Pam Crable, Custodian

SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

At recent finance and council meetings it was determined that revisions are required for the 2022 budget. They are relatively minor but still require the approval of the congregation. When the date for the meeting is determined, the congregation will be notified immediately.

AARON MOREHEAD CONFIRMATION

One of my favorite experiences at Bethany is teaching confirmation. Every confirmand has been a total blessing. All of them are being raised in a Godly home by devout families. On May 8 Aaron Morehead will be confirmed during worship. When a person has been confirmed they become a voting member of the congregation. Aaron is a Christian of exceptional dedication to Christ. Continue to hold him in prayer for God's blessings.



CAMERON JOSEPH RUPP BAPTISM

On April 24, 2019, I performed a wedding for a couple who regularly visited Bethany. Recently God blessed them with a son, Cameron Joseph Rupp. We will receive Cameron into God's Kingdom on May 1. May we keep Cameron in our prayers for the Holy Spirit's work in his life.

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER SERVICE

This year West Hill Methodist Church, 540 S. Leebrick St., will be hosting our prayer fellowship evening. I truly believe in prayer and the blessing of God's people from all denominations getting together to pray. We will meet at 6:00 p.m. and pray for about an hour. Refreshments and fellowship will follow.

SUNDAY SCHOOL IS ALIVE AND WELL

On February 6 Amy Unglaub began a Sunday School ministry following worship. We are very thankful to God for calling her to this vital program. Amy has indicated that she is having a wonderful experience with great students.

In Memoriam

DONNA KERNS AND SANDY SANDY

In April we had services for two of our long-time members. Services for Donna Kerns were at Lunning on April 7. Donna broke both her ankles last fall and never really recovered. She did, however, get to see her great-great-granddaughter, Wynter, be baptized last September. Donna's final days were spent at Hospice House. Donna really hungered for God and found His peace in her farewell journey. She was 93.

A second member, Sandy Sandy, had her service on April 14. Sandy went into the hospital on April 6. She had surgery and was battling additional health issues. Sandy really loved the Lord, her friends and family, and Bethany. Sandy was 80.

May God grant peace to our memories of these two beloved saints.

MAY ACTIVITIES

The Retired Nurses will be meeting on May 6 at 9:30 a.m. in the fellowship hall. The Boy Scouts meet on Tuesday evenings.



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Vacation Bible School will be held June 13 through June 17 at Messiah Lutheran Church. Registration will start soon.

There is always an opportunity to volunteer.

A list of supplies needed will be published soon.

CHANGES TO COUNCIL MEETING DATES

This year Easter Sunday is celebrated on the same day as our regular Council meeting. The Council will now meet on May 1 and May 15 at 10:15 a.m.

FOOD DONATIONS ALWAYS WELCOME

From time to time we will have a special emphasis on donating food items to the local food bank. Recently our Scout troop collected over 40 bags of groceries which were given to the Zion food bank. People are always in need of food which means we encourage you to drop off bags of food whenever you can. Please put them under the table in the Scouts' section of the fellowship hall. Thank you.

GREETERS NEEDED

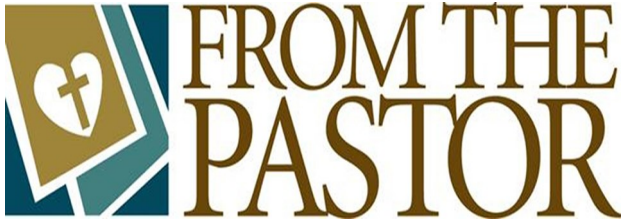


*Welcome
To our Church*

There is always a need for more greeters. It is a pleasant way to start your Sunday morning. Be a welcoming face to those coming in the doors.

If you are interested, please call the office.





Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have; for he has said, "I will never fail you nor forsake you."

Hebrews 13:5

I WILL NEVER FAIL YOU NOR FORSAKE YOU

Recently I read a story about a two-year-old girl from Kentucky who became lost for 36 hours. A desperate search was launched. Then a neighbor saw the missing girl come walking out of the woods into his backyard. She was covered in dirt but unharmed. She also was not alone. Following her was her pet pit bull who had stayed with her to protect her.

This heart-warming story reminds us of Jesus' promise to never forsake us. If you have ever experienced being abandoned, you can appreciate how much Jesus' commitment means to us. There are certainly moments when we can feel all alone. The death of a spouse, children moving out of the house, relocating to a different area, starting a new job. These and others can be situations that are more than just unfamiliar. They can create a sense of abandonment.

On April 8 around 4:00 p.m. I was walking down a sidewalk on Sweeny Avenue when I stepped into a deep hole and went flying. I felt a sharp pain in my right shoulder from the hard fall and was not sure I could get up. I felt all alone. Vehicles drove by which I hoped would stop and help me, but they all kept going. Needless to say, I was on my own. I also felt a throbbing in my right shoulder that would not go away. Added to my bad right knee I was not feeling overly confident about my future well-being. And then I started feeling not so all alone when I shared my experience with others. I was amazed to learn that I was in good company when several people told me about their shoulder injuries.

One of the most caring things we can do for each other is to be there with and for one another, especially during tough times. Here at Bethany we have just finished training people for Stephen Ministry. A Stephen Minister is someone who is able to be a caring listener for others when they are dealing with troubling experiences. When we are hurting it helps to know that we have people we can turn to who care about us.

Before Jesus was taken to be crucified He promised His disciples that He would come back for them. He said, "Lo, I am with you always." There are moments when we will sense Jesus' presence directly. There are also moments when we will feel Jesus' presence through the caring of others. Either way it is so comforting to know God's compassion and care. Sometimes it is hard to ask for help, but God never intended for us to go through life all alone. I hope you will call me about having a Stephen Minister to talk to. It will bless you beyond words.

In Christ,

Pastor Paul



May 2022 Lay Leaders

Head Usher:

Missionary Support

1—

8—

15—

22—

29—

May Lead

Usher:

Ushers

3—

10—

17—

24—

Communion Assistants

1—Susan Swanson; Rachel Lindeen

8—Bill Mundt; Julie Wischmeier

15—Teresa Morehead; Todd Chelf

22—Dan Harken; Amy Unglaub

29—Jessica King; Mike Hopp

Flowers

1—Arnhild Zaiser

8—Pam Taylor

15—Lynda Johnson

22—Vanette Wooldridge;

Marlys McClurg

29—Holly Williamson

Altar Guild

Kim Engle; Julie Wischmeier;
Lynda Johnson; Debbie Hoxie

Lector

1—Vicki Stoller

8—Todd Chelf

15—Mike Hopp

22—Michelle Huppenbauer

29—Carlene Woodside

Greeters

1—Dan & Julie Wischmeier

8—Lynda Johnson

15—Ginny Mesecher; Sue Hermansen

22—Dan & Ruth Harken

29—Marlys McClurg; Vanette Wooldridge



1—David King; Samuel Quam; Zoey Rogers

5—Brianna Hopp

7—Beth McCarthy

8—Susan Rogers

9—William Ward

10—Todd Sladky

11—Howard Burgus; Brett Kuster

13—Dalton McClurg

14—Emily Bloomer

16—Colten Boyer; Donna Edgington; Janice Peterson

18—Drew McCarthy

20—Bonnie Darrah

22—Jacob Smith

26—Elisabeth Chelf; Jordan Roy; Michelle Schoof

28—Mathew Hogaboom; Jacob Roy; Joshua Roy

30—Sharon Martindale



1—Jackie and Cleo Marion

10—Mel and Judy Craven

18—Scott and Jan Creighton

21—Connie and Bill Boyer

23—Savanna and Michael Jackson

29—Mark and Sarah Loots; David and Jessica Tharp

Meetings

The meetings for May that have been scheduled as of the publishing of this newsletter are listed below. Watch the bulletins for any date and time changes or additional meetings scheduled.

Church Life Committee
Sunday, May 8, 10:15 a.m.

Property Committee
Monday, May 9, 6:30 p.m.

Outreach Committee
Tuesday, May 10, 5:30 p.m.

Executive Committee
Tuesday, May 10, 6:30 p.m.

Finance Committee
Saturday, May 12, at 9:00 a.m.

Church Council
Sunday, May 1, 10:15 a.m.
Sunday, May 15, 10:15 a.m.

Men's Breakfast
Saturday, May 21, 8:00 a.m.

PLEASE NOTE

The deadline to submit information for the monthly Chimes is the 25th of the month. You're welcome to email your submissions, leave a note on the desk in the office, or call the church office.

ALSO!

Because of Federal Privacy laws, if you or a member of your family are hospitalized and would like the Pastor to visit, you must contact the church and let us know.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

APRIL ATTENDANCE

April 3	61	88 FB**
April 10	65	80 FB
April 17	88	59 FB
April 24	48	70 FB

APRIL GIVING

April 3	\$ 1,944.10
April 10	2,599.70
April 17	3,431.94
April 24	2,167.95
VANCO Offerings	<u>1,395.00</u>
Total	\$ 11,538.69

**Service watched on Facebook

Your generosity and faithful trust in God

assures us that He provides our needs!

God believes in you and has a great fu-

ture planned for Bethany.

If you change your mailing address, please let the office know ASAP. For every piece of mail returned for an incorrect address, we are charged 75 cents.