



## Bethany Lutheran Church

### Mission Statement

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

# The Chimes

## FROM YOUR CALL COMMITTEE

The Call Committee, consisting of Tom Bonar, Todd Chelf, Mike Hopp, Pam Taylor, Rachel Lindeen, and Kim Engle, has begun work on the intensive process to welcome a new pastor. We are meeting weekly and are currently focused on the initial task of completing our Ministry Site Profile.

The MSP is an introduction to the life and work of Bethany. While not an exhaustive description of every aspect of our ministry, it should provide enough information to pique the interest of prospective candidates for call. It's a very important document that provides us an opportunity to examine who we are and what we're all about. It requires that we think prayerfully, creatively, and honestly to identify and express what we need from, and what we can offer to a new pastor. For example:

- What plans does God have for us to even more fully worship and glorify Him?
- What ministry activities bring out the best in us and seem to be valued by others?
- If Bethany didn't exist, what holes would be present in our community? What needs would go unmet?
- What gifts has God granted us to enable us to meet those needs?
- What can our congregation offer to a prospective pastor to enhance his or her own spiritual growth?

To do this right, we need the participation of the entire congregation—those who worship regularly each Sunday, those who attend the Hope Service, those who participate through our on-line service, and those members who may not be able to attend regularly, but are still a valued part of our Bethany family.

In the weeks ahead, you will be asked to participate in various ways—surveys, questionnaires, and other activities to help us identify our identity/purpose, gifts/resources, and context/needs. It is our intent to provide regular updates about our progress and to be as open as possible. Please keep in mind, however, that a large part of the call process must be confidential. We will not be able to share any kind of identifying information about individual candidates because we cannot violate the privacy of any candidate who, for example, is exploring a new call, but has not yet shared this information with his/her current congregation. So, while it's absolutely fine for you to ask questions of a member of the Call Committee about where we are in the process and how things are going, please be understanding if we are unable to answer some specific inquiries.

While being between pastors is a stressful time for any congregation, and it can feel like we're drifting without a rudder, trust that we are not. God is leading us to great things for His honor and glory. This can actually be a very exciting time full of great possibilities. Let us continue to work and worship as we go forward with service to those around us and to each other, as usual, in faith and peace and love.

### Our Staff

#### Bethany Evangelical Lutheran Church

2515 Madison Ave.

Burlington, Iowa

Phone: (319) 752-3621

[www.bethanyburlington.org](http://www.bethanyburlington.org)

Rev. Pete Hagglund, Interim Pastor

Cory Byrne, Choir Director/Organist

Kim Engle, Stephen Ministry Coordinator

Michelle Huppenbauer, Interim Office Mgr./Financial Sec'y

Pam Crable, Custodian

## **Lutheran Services in Iowa**

Here's what's happening in November...

### **National Adoption Month**

November is National Adoption Month, a time to honor families who have opened their hearts and homes to children and teens. For LSI, it is a time to celebrate the families we support through Foster Care and Adoption services, and to raise awareness for the hundreds of Iowa children in need of a safe, healthy home.

LSI Foster Care and Adoption recruits, licenses, and supports foster and adoptive families to ensure every Iowa child grows up in a safe, stable environment. But more work needs to be done. Thousands of children in the U.S. are waiting to be adopted from foster care into a "forever family".

To learn more about supporting Iowa children in foster care, visit [LSIowa.org/Foster](http://LSIowa.org/Foster), or contact Deb Whitford, LSI Director of Philanthropy and Church Relations, at [Deborah.Whitford@LSIowa.org](mailto:Deborah.Whitford@LSIowa.org) or 563.676.2065. LSI is also available to provide a customized virtual shared ministry opportunity for your congregation. If you would like to share the message of LSI with your community, please visit [LSIowa.org/church-relations](http://LSIowa.org/church-relations) or contact our Waverly office at 319.352.2630 to get started.

*Our Mission: Lutheran Services in Iowa responds to the love of Jesus Christ through compassionate service. LSI is an affiliated social ministry partner of the Iowa congregations of the ELCA (Evangelical Lutheran Church in America) and a member of LSA (Lutheran Services in America). We proudly serve people of all ages, abilities, religions, sexes, gender identities, national origins, ethnicities, races, and sexual orientations. Learn more at [www.LSIowa.org](http://www.LSIowa.org) and [www.facebook.com/LSI.iowa](https://www.facebook.com/LSI.iowa).*

### **A Picture of Foster Care and Adoption**

The goal of foster care is to reunite children with the parents when possible. The foster family can play an integral part in making that happen, often becoming mentors to the birth parents, helping them learn parenting skills they may not have had modeled to them.

An LSI provider told me about a picture she had recently received. Imagine, if you would, a photo of two women, one on each end of a bench, and four kids with them. All happy. All smiling. It looks like they were enjoying a beautiful day in the park.

On the left is the birth mother of those kids. She will be the first to admit, things haven't been easy – but she loves these kids.

The other woman is the foster mother. She loves these kids too. Two of the kids were adopted by the foster family, one lives with the birth mom, and the foster child on the mother's lap was soon to be reunited with the birth mom. They are celebrating Mother's Day together.

Foster families provide more than a safe place for children to land. This foster/adoptive parent is a wonderful mentor for this birth mom!



# FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Friends in Christ,

By now our two churches have begun a partnership which, purely by chance, happens to be starting around the time of a very, very important national mid-term election. In anticipation of this, I went back into church files to find the article I wrote to the churches in Fort Madison and Nauvoo for the October, 2016 newsletter. Let's just say that when I got it out and read what I wrote back then, I wasn't the least bit surprised to see that it speaks to the present moment in time every bit as well. So, in the interest of "full disclosure" of what you can expect from me with regard to things that might be considered "controversial", here's that article, verbatim:

**I was recently in the company of a group of my fellow clergy – most of them Lutheran, but there were representatives of the UCC and the Episcopalians as well. We were about the business of studying and discussing the biblical texts that were assigned for that week's upcoming Sunday. We all recognized the political overtones present in the readings (there usually *are* some), and one of our number made the statement that in today's poisonous political and social climate, he often feels that he "can't breathe" when it comes to preaching and teaching – that he can't say anything these days without someone being angered by what they hear as a "politically partisan" remark. Instantly there were nods and verbal assent by many others in the room. My short contribution to that discussion I know share with you: "Nonetheless, we can't let this atmosphere keep us (pastors) from doing our jobs."**

**Our Lord Jesus lived in times as politically charged as the ones we have been experiencing in recent years. There were those who wanted Him to join their cause, fomenting violent revolution in the process, and bring back the good old days when David reigned, when a united Israel was the "biggest, toughest kid on the block"; there were those who wanted Him to embrace their more separatist, more monastic form of religion (in other words, stick to the "spiritual", and have nothing to do with the outside world); and then there were those representing the religious institution of the day who wanted to have Him under *their* control. And somehow, Jesus managed to infuriate and/or disappoint the vast majority of them! He insisted on telling people about something that didn't fit into any of these groups' agendas – something He called "The Kingdom of God". I promise you that God and His Kingdom will always be the focus of my preaching and teaching. Will it sometimes have secular political overtones? Yes, it will; that's unavoidable. Will it sometimes rub against some of your own political views? Possibly. This world will one day become "The Kingdom of our Lord, and of His Christ" (Revelation 11:15), and the sooner the better!**

**But until then, the presence of God's Kingdom will rub shoulders with all of the world's power structures, and we will have to make individual decisions based on which of those structures most embody the ideals of God's Kingdom. It's a messy and stressful situation, to say the least. That said, we'll do ourselves – and our country – a big favor by committing ourselves to being, first and foremost, ambassadors and embassies of that coming Kingdom. I will continue to make it my top priority to help our churches be exactly that.**

In Christ,  
Pastor Pete



*Then the seventh angel blew his trumpet, and there were loud voices in heaven, saying,  
"The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord  
and of his Messiah,  
and he will reign forever and ever."*

## **November 2022 Lay Leaders**

**November Usher: Susan Swanson**

### **Communion Assistants**

6 – Julie Wischmeier; Bill Mundt  
13 – Susan Swanson; Jim Martindale  
20 – Amy Unglaub; Dan Harken  
27 – Sharon Martindale; Mike Hopp

### **Lector**

6 – Vicki Stoller  
13 – Mike Hopp  
20 – Rachel Lindeen  
27 – Mitchell Huston

### **Greeters**

6 – Bill Mundt  
13 – Carol Dodge  
20 – Ginny Mesecher  
27 – Dan & Julie Wischmeier

### **Altar Guild**

Laurie Chelf  
Ruth Harken  
Jessica King

### **Missionary Support**

All Sundays in November are available. Stop and sign up today.

### **Flowers**

6 – Bob & Deb Hoxie  
13 – Dee McAlister & Lynda Johnson  
20 – Bill Mundt  
27 – Vicki Stoller



2 – Amanda Shepherd  
3 – Mark Rosenberg  
6 – Warren Sanford  
7 – Ronald Mower  
11 – Deana Lawson; Mary Ann Schoof-Schleif  
13 – Rex Zaiser  
14 – Julie Chubb; Ginny Mesecher  
15 – Madison McClurg  
16 – Christian Morris  
17 – Mark Morris  
18 – Jan Creighton; Jordan Howell  
23 – Valerie Burgus; Brian Peterson  
25 – Carlean Hogaboom  
26 – Donna Miller  
27 – Nathan Taylor  
30 – Rosalind Peterson



7 – Jeffrey & Annette Peterson  
8 – Bob & Debbie Hoxie  
17 – Pat & Kelli Reichelt  
21 – Emmerich & Sharon Adam  
25 – Warren & Valerie Sanford  
26 – Ken & Ellen Shepherd

# Stewardship 2022

Dear New Friends in Christ,

Last Sunday I talked some about pledging--yup, it's that time of year again. And to briefly repeat some of what I had to say about 'giving' with regard to the spirit of Reformation, pledging our time, talent, and treasure to God and to God's family (aka "the church") is a matter of "the heart". I said that in all my years of doing what I do for a living, not once in that entire time has a church based its yearly budget on the amounts pledged by the parishioners. *So why do it at all?* The answer to that question is that *It's a spiritual exercise*; it's a declaration of intent between you and God, based upon how well the two of you know and love each other. Let this prayer be yours as you make your commitment for the coming year: **"Merciful Father, I offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given me--my self, my time, and my possessions, all signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for me--Jesus Christ, my Lord. AMEN."**

Your temporary shepherd,  
Pastor Pete

*Like good stewards of the manifold grace of  
God, serve one another with whatever gift  
each of you has received.*

~~ I Peter 4:10

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*(Cut/Tear off the bottom section, and return to the office or drop in the offering plate)*

With a grateful heart for God's boundless generosity and as an expression of my Christian stewardship, I make this commitment to Christ's church and the ministry of this congregation.

My/Our commitment is:

\$\_\_\_\_\_ per week, or  
\$\_\_\_\_\_ per month, or  
\$\_\_\_\_\_ semi-annually, or  
\$\_\_\_\_\_ per year

| Present Giving | Suggested Giving |
|----------------|------------------|
| \$20.00        | \$22.00          |
| \$30.00        | \$33.00          |
| \$40.00        | \$44.00          |
| \$50.00        | \$55.00          |
| \$75.00        | \$82.50          |
| \$100.00       | \$110.00         |
| \$150.00       | \$165.00         |
| \$200.00       | \$220.00         |
| \$250.00       | \$275.00         |
| \$300.00       | \$330.00         |
| \$350.00       | \$385.00         |
| \$400.00       | \$440.00         |
| \$450.00       | \$495.00         |
| \$500.00       | \$550.00         |

I understand that I may adjust this estimate of giving at any time by contacting the church office.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

# Nov. Meetings

The meetings for November 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.

Outreach Committee  
Tuesday, November 15, 5:30 p.m.

Finance Committee  
Thursday, November 17, 6:30 p.m.

Church Life Committee  
Sunday, November 13, 10:15 a.m.

Property Committee  
Monday, November 14, 6:30 p.m.

Executive Committee  
Tuesday, November 15, 6:30 p.m.

Church Council  
Sunday, November 20, 10:15 a.m.

Men's Breakfast  
Saturday, November 19, 8:00 a.m.

Stephen Ministry  
Tuesday, November 22, 5:30 p.m.

WELCA  
Sunday, November 13, 10:15 a.m.

## FINANCIAL UPDATE

### OCTOBER ATTENDANCE

|            |    |
|------------|----|
| October 2  | 42 |
| October 9  | 12 |
| October 16 | 55 |
| October 23 | 55 |
| October 30 | 52 |

### OCTOBER GIVING

|            |                   |
|------------|-------------------|
| October 2  | \$2,787.70        |
| October 9  | \$4,015.82        |
| October 16 | \$3,223.10        |
| October 23 | \$1,684.71        |
| October 30 | <u>\$1,678.70</u> |
| Total      | \$13,390.03       |

October VANCO total \$1,390.00

*Thank you for your  
generosity and faithful trust  
in God to provide your  
needs! God believes in you  
and has a great future  
planned for Bethany.*

### 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.

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





2022  
*Poinsettia  
Order  
Form*

Poinsettia plants with 4-7 blooms will cost \$18.50 each this year.

If you would like to help us decorate the Sanctuary for Christmas with one or more of these Poinsettia plants -- fill out the information below and return it to the church office (or drop it in the offering plate) by November 27th. Please print clearly.

Given by: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Number of Poinsettia plants @  
\$18.50 each

Amount enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

Plants purchased in memory (honor) of:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Remembering Our  
Beloved Saints

All Saints Sunday will be November 6.  
If you have a loved one you'd like  
remembered, please let the church  
office know by Friday, Nov. 4

**CALL COMMITTEE**

The Call Committee wants to hear from you! The committee is currently hosting listening sessions after church in the library. Each session will have a focused discussion topic. The input gatherer is crucial with providing detailed information back to the committee.

October 16 & 23 - Who is Bethany?  
Why are you here?

October 30 & November 6 - What are  
Bethany's assets and weaknesses?

November 13 & 20 - What do you  
think are Bethany's top three  
missions/goals/priorities?

Thank you!

**Community Meetings**

Retired Nurses - Friday, Nov. 4


Retired Teachers - Monday, Nov. 7

King's Daughters Circle - Friday, Nov.  
11

Boy Scouts - Every Tuesday evening

# November

2022

| Sunday   | Monday  | Tuesday  | Wednesday  | Thursday  | Friday                                   | Saturday  |
|--|---|--|--|---|--|---|
| <b><u>Parameters</u></b><br>6, 20 – White<br>13 – Green<br>27 – Blue   |   | 1<br>6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts  | 2<br>7:00 p.m. Confirmation @ Faith                          | 3<br>6:30 p.m. Call Committee                                 | 4<br>9:30 a.m. Retired Nurses            | 5   |
| <b>6 All Saints Sunday</b><br>9:00 a.m. Worship<br>10:15 CC Listening Session<br>10:55 a.m. Hope Service   | 7<br>9:00 a.m. Retired Teachers                         | 8<br><b>ELECTION DAY</b><br>6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts   | 9<br>9:30 a.m. Bible Study<br>7:00 p.m. Confirmation @ Faith | 10<br>6:30 p.m. Call Committee                                | 11<br>11:00 a.m. King's Daughters Circle | 12  |
| <i>Pastor Pete at Bethany Tuesday, Wednesday &amp; Thursday</i>  |   |  |  |   |  |   |
| <b>13 23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost</b><br>9:00 a.m. Worship<br>10:15 WELCA<br>10:15 Church Life<br>10:15 CC Listening Session<br>10:55 a.m. Hope Service | 14<br>6:30 p.m. Property Committee                      | 15<br>5:30 p.m. Church Outreach<br>6:00 p.m. Executive Committee<br>6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts | 16<br>7:00 p.m. Confirmation @ Faith                         | 17<br>6:30 p.m. Call Committee<br>6:30 p.m. Finance Committee | 18                                       | 19<br>8:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast   |
| <b>20 Christ the King Sunday</b><br>9:00 a.m. Worship<br>10:15 CC Listening Session<br>10:15 a.m. Church Council<br>10:55 a.m. Hope Service                        | 21<br><b>Articles for December Chimes due in office</b> | 22<br>5:30 p.m. Stephen Ministry<br>6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts                                 | 23<br>9:30 a.m. Bible Study                                  | 24<br><b>Happy Thanksgiving</b>                               | 25                                       | 26  |
| <i>Pastor Pete at Bethany Tuesday and Wednesday</i>  |   |  |  |   |  |   |
| <b>27 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Advent</b><br>9:00 a.m. Worship<br>10:55 a.m. Hope Service  | 28  | 29<br>6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts   | 30<br>7:00 p.m. Confirmation @ Faith                         |   |  |  |