

Bethany Beacon

JULY 2018



Family Promise[®]
of Linn County

Building Community, Strengthening Lives

Lunch and Learn
Sunday, July 15 at 12:15
Bethany Family Life Center

Our congregation has started to learn about the opportunity to be a host congregation for Family Promise of Linn County, an organization that provides shelter, meals, and support services to families that are homeless. Family Promise partners with local faith communities to make these services possible. Partnering with Family Promise would provide the chance for all Bethany members to be involved and to live and share God's love with people in our community.

To learn more about this program, everyone is invited to a "lunch and learn" on Sunday, July 15. After the 11:00 service, Family Promise director John Derryberry will be at Bethany to share an overview and answer our questions about the organization. Human Care will provide a sack lunch at this informational meeting. If you plan to attend, please sign up at the Welcome Center or email office.bethanycr@gmail.com.



Bethany
Lutheran Church

Living and Sharing God's Love

But someone will say, "You have faith and I have works." Show me your faith apart from your works, and I will show you my faith by my works. You believe that God is one; you do well. Even the demons believe – and shudder. . . For as the body apart from spirit is dead, so also faith apart from works is dead. – James 2:18-19, 26

Recently I have been asked why there appears to be so many people who identify themselves as Christians who are no longer actively participating in the life of the Church. Whether it be attending the services of Word and Sacrament in the Lord's house, or helping out with the many ministries in a congregation, it seems that many who claim to be disciples of Christ are just not active in living out their faith in a local congregation like Bethany. St. James' epistle, and more specifically the verses from that letter above, remind us that God's Word warns that good works must follow a true faith in Jesus Christ as our Savior.

It is true that there are plenty of opportunities to live out our faith by doing good works apart from our church home. In fact, all of us have been placed into various vocations outside of the congregation which provide occasions and expectations to do good works in Christ's name by keeping the Law of God. We do this, of course, not to earn salvation, but because we are already saved by the death and resurrection of our Savior. True faith in Jesus, leads to good works wherever we are. Having said that, it is difficult to explain why someone may have true faith in Jesus and not be active in a local body of Christ – the church. For there, we receive many blessings from God including: the forgiveness of our sins, the clear proclamation of the Gospel, the Sacraments, and fellowship with other believers.

So why is it that there are so many people today who have faith without works, at least in the church? The simple answer is that this happens because people, even those who are incredibly active in the church, are sinful! The inclination of our nature that has been corrupted by sin is to turn away from God. It is only through the working of

the Holy Spirit using the Word and Sacraments that sinners are brought into faith and strengthened to live out that faith. Yet, somehow, the Word is not being proclaimed and the Sacraments are not being administered in ways that are connecting with inactive Christians.

I believe that an effective remedy to this problem could be for the local congregation to increase both the number and the visibility of the good works that it does. It may sound strange, but I believe that it is true – to have people to do good works in the church, the church needs to do more good works! The reason for this is that people today instinctively know that what St. James writes above is true. Faith apart from works is dead. So if they see a congregation, whose proclamation of the Gospel may be perfectly true, yet there is a minimal number of instances where that faith is put into practice, they'll move on to something else – maybe another religion or organization where they see people doing good things that make a difference in our troubled world today.

For this reason, I'm excited that Bethany is exploring the chance to partner with a local organization in Cedar Rapids called Family Promise. This group works to provide homeless families in our area with shelter that will ultimately lead to permanent housing. (If you question the need for this type of ministry, I have been told that there are 400 children in the Cedar Rapids School District that are essentially homeless.) The reason we are exploring this partnership is because this is the type of thing that people who have been saved by the blood of Christ do and it can make a real difference in the life of a local family. However, St. James might also say that this good work could show our friends, our family, and our community what real faith in Jesus Christ as the Savior of the world looks like, and motivate them to good works as well.



In Christ's Service,
✠ Pastor Erickson

Sunday, July 1

9:45 am Summer Sunday School

Monday, July 2

10:00 am Women's Small Group - Marion
6:30 pm Stephen Ministry Cont. Ed.
6:45 pm Trustees Meeting

Tuesday, July 3

3:00 pm Bethany Prayer Group - Library
5:00 pm Praise Moves - Gathering Area
6:00 pm Evangelism - Ad Ed

Wednesday, July 4

Independence Day - Office Closed

Thursday, July 5

9:00 am Adult Bible Study - Ad Ed Rm

Saturday, July 7

9:00 am Holy Yoga - GA

Sunday, July 8

9:45 am Summer Sunday School
12:15 pm Board of Education Mtg.

Monday, July 9

7:00 am Elders' Meeting
10:00 am Women's Small Group - Marion

Tuesday, July 10

9:00 am Quilt Sewing
3:00 pm Bethany Prayer Group - Library
5:00 pm Praise Moves - Gathering Area
7:00 pm Council Meeting

Thursday, July 12

9:00 am Adult Bible Study
6:00 pm LWML General Mtg. - FLC

Saturday, July 14

9:00 am Holy Yoga - GA

Sunday, July 15

9:45 am Summer Sunday School
12:15 pm Family Promise Lunch & Learn

Monday, July 16

10:00 am Women's Small Group - Marion
6:30 pm Stephen Min. Supervision

Tuesday, July 17

3:00 pm Bethany Prayer Group - Library
5:00 pm Praise Moves - Gathering Area

Wednesday, July 18

4:00 pm Cottage Grove Devotion

Thursday, July 19

9:00 am Adult Bible Study - Ad Ed Rm
11:00 am Senior Worship

Saturday, July 21

9:00 am Holy Yoga - GA

Sunday, July 22

9:30 am Blood Pressure Screening
9:45 am Summer Sunday School
5:00 pm Mystery Fellowship Dinner

Monday, July 23

10:00 am Women's Small Group - Marion

Tuesday, July 24

3:00 pm Bethany Prayer Group - Library
5:00 pm Praise Moves - Gathering Area
7:00 pm Visually Impaired Persons

Wednesday, July 25

1:00 pm Beacon Assembly

Thursday, July 26

9:00 am Adult Bible Study

Friday, July 27

7:00 pm Confirmation Lock-In

Saturday, July 28

9:00 am Holy Yoga - GA

Sunday, July 29

9:45 am Summer Sunday School

Monday, July 30

10:00 am Women's Small Group - Marion
6:30 pm Stephen Ministry Cont. Ed.

Tuesday, July 31

3:00 pm Bethany Prayer Group - Library
5:00 pm Praise Moves - Gathering Area

Key: **GA** - Gathering Area
 LL - Lower Level
 Lib - Library
 FLC - Family Life Center
 Ad Ed - Adult Education Room

Wellness Classes

Want to take better care of the body God has given you? Try out one of Bethany's faith-based wellness classes. Our Holy Yoga classes take place on Saturdays, 9:30-10:30 a.m. Wear clothes that you are comfortable moving in, and bring a yoga mat if you have one. Holy Yoga costs \$5 per session. Praise Moves is a video-led stretch and relaxation class, and meets on Tuesdays, 5:00-6:00 p.m. Praise Moves is offered at no charge.

Elders

July 1	Jim Heitland
July 8	Jim Novitch
July 15	Phil Hedtke
July 22	Norm Rutz
July 29	Matt Rinderknecht

Ushers

July 1	8:30 Crew #4	11:00 Crew #8
July 8	8:30 Crew #1	11:00 Crew #6
July 15	8:30 Crew #2	11:00 Crew #7
July 22	8:30 Crew #3	11:00 Crew #8
July 29	8:30 Crew #4	11:00 Crew #6

Greeters

July 1	8:30 Pete & Kris Larson Ed & Gloria Schumacher
	11:00 Jim & Lissa Novitch Mike & Annie Prohaska
July 8	8:30 Mark & Julie Elias Cherie Miller
	11:00 Karen Swanson Jeff & Melinda Crow
July 15	8:30 Dale & Bernice Stonewall Jason & Jodi Strait
	11:00 Mary Nanke Leonard & Rita Tiedt
July 22	8:30 Rick & Marvelene Foreman Mike & Dawn Thomas
	11:00 Ken & Elaine Cook Donna Birkicht
July 29	8:30 Rick & Sandra Thorington Ken Ambrecht
	11:00 Chris & Leisa Knudson Dick & Karen Hass

Lectors

July 1	8:30 Ethan Myers
	11:00 Dave Johnson
July 8	8:30 Mark Elias
	11:00 Debbie Mills
July 15	8:30 Pete Larson
	11:00 Maren Hopkins
July 22	8:30 Mark Bornemann
	11:00 Sheryl Knutson
July 29	8:30 Mark Elias
	11:00 Karen Swanson

Video

July 1	8:30 Mike Diers
	11:00 Doug Knutson
July 8	8:30 Greg Dunn
	11:00 Greg Dunn

Acolyte

July 1	8:30 Jake Sturtz
	11:00 Keenan Diers
July 8	8:30 Lucas McCarley
	11:00 David Jasper
July 15	8:30 Lucas McCarley
	11:00 Natalie Prohaska
July 22	8:30 David Jasper
	11:00 Lucas McCarley
July 29	8:30 Keenan Diers
	11:00 Jake Sturtz

Nursery (11:00 Service)

July 1	Annie Prohaska & Daughter
July 8	Brittany Hannah, Bella Novitch
July 15	Katia Knutson, Melissa Loney
July 22	Karen Schmidt, Maren Hopkins
July 29	Kris Dunn, Tracy Moffett

Communion Sunday Prayers

July 1	8:30 Karen Hass
	11:00 Lori Dohrmann
June 17	8:30 Ronda Anderson
	11:00 Debbie Heitland

If you would like to serve in one of these areas, please contact:

Ushers:	Steve Hanchera (857-4716)
Greeters:	Marvelene Foreman (365-9767)
Lectors:	Rick Thorington (360-2641)
Pray-er:	Nurse Ronda (364-6026)
Video:	Greg Dunn (389-4271)
Nursery:	Nurse Ronda (364-6026)
Coffee:	Tina Freese (329-3882)

Thanksgiving:

Del & Dee Block- 70th Wedding Anniversary on 6/27
 Zoe (granddaughter of *Mary Nanke) & Ben- Married 6/23
 Charlotte (granddaughter of *Dave & *Lori Dohrmann)- born 6/21
 Vacation Bible School children & staff
 *Clark Anderson & Maggie O'Connell- married 6/9
 Logan (grandson of *Pfeffers)- Born 5/21
 Kevin (relative of Kim Carter)- Improved health
 Bill Schmidt (father of Kim Carter)- cancer in remission

Illness, injuries, health issues:

Alichia (frequent visitor)- Recovering after surgery
 Deb (CrossRoads staff)- Recovering after stroke
 Steve (brother of *Linda Patten)- Recovering after hospital
 Vera (mother of *Julie Elias)- Recovering at rehab facility
 Becky (daughter of *Pat Krekeler)- Healing for broken wrist
 Jane (daughter of *Bonnie Bubke)- Recovering after surgery
 Susan (niece of *Bonnie Bubke)- Health issues
 Margaret (sister of *Barb Miller)- Health issues
 Leota (mother of *Lori Dohrmann)- Recovering after hospitali-
 zation
 Pastor Renfro (Trinity)- Health issues
 Gus (friend of *Myerses & *Conrads)-Recovering after trans-
 plant
 Mike (friend of *Joel Knutson)- Recovering after hospitalization
 Deb (daughter of *Bonnie Bubke) Health Issues
 Sonja (aunt of *Dave Dohrmann)- Health issues
 Jeff Schmidt (brother of Kim Carter)- Health issues
 Sandy (aunt of *Brenda Heims)- Health issues
 Steve (friend of *Pete Larson)- Recovering after stroke
 Beverly (aunt of *Brenda Heims)- Recovering after fall
 Cecilia (sister of *Brenda Heim)- Recovering after surgery
 John (nephew of *Bonnie Bubke)- Health issues
 Ruth (friend of *Velma Ziesemer)- Health issues
 Bella (granddaughter of *June Loney)- Health issues
 Steve (brother of *Linda Patten)- Health issues
 David (great grandson of *J Loney)- Health issues
 Helen (sister-in-law of *Bonnie Bubke)- Health issues
 Jennifer (daughter of *Pat Krekeler)- Health issues
 Rod (nephew of *Bonnie Bubke) Parkinson's Disease

Submit a prayer: Email: prayer.bethanycr@gmail.com or call
 the church office at 319-364-6026

Homebound members of Bethany:

*Larry Easler- Living Center West
 *Rollis Deetz- at home
 *Harold Bern- The Villages, Marion
 *Pauline Marohn- Living Center West
 *Shirley Hansen- at home
 *Wayne & Darlene Schilling- at home
 Candi Engel- ManorCare Rehab
 *Patty King- Crestview Acres, Marion
 *Ann Meyer- Keystone Cedars

Safety:

James (grandson of *Carol Grimminger)- Deployed
 Tailor (grandson of *Kim Neuhaus)- Marines
 Alex- Serving in the Middle East

Cancer:

Daryl (nephew of *Bonnie Bubke)- cancer
 Elaine (friend of *Dave Johnson)- cancer treatment
 Judy (godmother of *Jim Novitch)- cancer treatment
 Dennis Scheidt (former member)- cancer treatment
 Joe (brother of *Barb Lauthen)- cancer
 Ryan (relative of *Bonnie Bubke)- cancer
 Ann (relative of *Lori Dohrmann)- cancer
 Pat (aunt of *Ginny Urban)- cancer
 Kelley (sister of *Brad Crawford)- cancer treatment
 Chad (son of *Vicki Huschka)- leukemia
 David (relative of *Hasses)- cancer
 Steve Godecke (former member)- cancer
 Bonnie (friend of *Mary Nanke)- cancer
 Todd (friend of Katia Knutson)- cancer treatment
 Rita (friend of *Shirley Kellogg)- cancer

Grief, family and friends of:

Walt (father of *Ryan Corey)- Died 6/6
 Bob (father of *Sheryl Knutson)- Died 5/23
 Bernice (grandmother of *Mike Prohaska)- Died 5/13
 Cole (nephew of Alichia Velasquez)- Died 4/22
 Robert (friend of *Pete Larson)- Died 4/12

Local/National/World:

Victims of Hurricanes, Fires & Disasters
 Local, State and National Leaders
 Terrorist attacks around the world

Summer Sunday School

Lower Level
9:45 - 10:45 a.m.

Summer Sunday School will be held June 24 through July 29. Join us for fun with water related Bible stories!

We have completed another Sunday School year! Some highlights were:

- Celebrating the 500th anniversary of the Reformation.
- A Christmas program followed by a Birthday party for Jesus.
- Creating Easter surprises for the Sharps, our missionary family in Uruguay.
- We concluded the year on June 3rd with a celebration for exceeding our goal of \$350 in offerings for the Sharp family. We collected a total of \$533 (with a little help from the Adult Sunday School). Check with the kids to find out which adult "won" and got a pie in the face!

Congratulations to the following students for their achievement in memory work and attendance

Memory Work

Noah Pelletier and Cooper Crow completed their books!
Kiaya Fortner and Madison Rinderknecht got very close!

Attendance

Cooper Crow, Kiaya Fortner, and Jake Sturtz were all tied for best attendance.
Annest Hoech, Aiden Erickson, Noah Pelletier, Lucas McCarley, and Sasha Knutson came in second.

A big thanks to our staff:

Mark Holt & Jeff Crow: 6th -8th grade

Jim Novitch & Laura Holt: 3rd – 5th grade

Amy Smith & Ginny Urban: 1st – 2nd grade

Melissa Loney, Doreta Bogner, Melinda Crow, Brittany Hannah, & Janet Hoech: Preschool/Kindergarten

Darren Bogner, Matt Rinderknecht, & Lynn Madsen: Stations

Becky Thur, Kristi Montague: Office

Betty Happel, Nancy Owens, Gloria Schumacher, & Karen Schmidt: Memory "Farmers"



Thank You, VBS Volunteers!

Thank you to everyone who served at Vacation Bible School! The kitchen helpers, station leaders, group leaders, musicians, decorators, and everyone else involved made it possible for 36 kids to experience God's promises! It was a fun week filled with songs, games, crafts, and Bible time.





Vacation Bible School

At Splash Canyon VBS, children learned that God keeps His promises!



Sharing God's Love Through Music in Cedar Rapids

One weekend in June, Bethany members lived and shared God's love through their gifts of music. On Saturday, June 9, the vocal choir put on a concert for residents at Manor Care. On Sunday, June 10, the worship band played at Praise on the River at the McGrath Amphitheater. Thank you for representing Bethany and sharing your talents with the community!



Lifetouch Photo Directory: August 29 - September 1

Save the date for **August 29 to September 1**. Lifetouch will be at Bethany to take pictures for our next congregational directory (2:00-9:00 p.m. Wednesday-Friday and 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. on Saturday). You can sign up at Bethany on Sundays beginning July 22, or a link will be made available to sign up online. There is no cost to have your picture taken, and you will have the option to purchase prints.

Mystery Fellowship Dinner

Sunday, July 22



*For where two or three are gathered
in my name, there am I among them.*
- Matthew 18:20

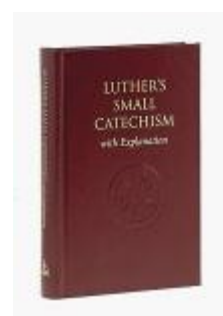
Plan to enjoy a dinner with fellow Bethany members on Sunday, July 22. The mystery? Who's coming to dinner! Everyone will meet at Bethany at 5:00 p.m. for appetizers. From there, guests will be given an address, and will go to different homes in small groups. Please sign up at the Welcome Center by July 15. You may sign up to be a host home (and provide an entrée), or a guest who will be asked to bring a side dish (such as salad or dessert). Everyone, including families with children, are encouraged to participate in this fun fellowship event.

Fellowship Planning Team

Do you enjoy planning social events for friends and family? Bethany is looking to form a group of people who would like to coordinate various fellowship events for the congregation. The team would be asked to initiate and develop fun social events, several times throughout the year. Such events could include game nights, dinners, bike rides, outings to concerts or movies—anything that would help create and build relationships in our Christian community in a welcoming atmosphere. If you are interested in being part of this fun team, please contact the church office at 364-6026 or office.bethanycr@gmail.com.

Christian Faith Class

Want to know more about the basics of Christian faith and Lutheran theology? Pastor Erickson will lead a class starting September 6. The class will be held on Thursdays at 7:00 p.m. and will go through the end of October. Everyone is welcome to attend this class. At the end of the course, those who are not yet members at Bethany will be invited to join our congregation as members.



Sunday Adult Bible Class

Pastor Erickson continues to teach on the Ten Commandments on Sundays at 9:45 in the Family Life Center. All are welcome to join this study between services.

JULY BIRTHDAYS

7/3	Elaine Cook Rick Foreman John Siebenmann	7/13	Tristan Bond	7/23	Bev Linman Jodi Strait
7/6	Arlen Breiholz Rachel Henderson	7/14	Jeff Bulicek	7/24	Isaac Corey Lainie Olson Renee Riffey
7/9	Landon Oja	7/15	Bill Freese Chris Knudson Jake Sturtz	7/27	Meghan Prohaska
7/10	Phil Hedtke	7/17	Jim Heitland	7/28	Ken Cook
7/12	Carol McGinnis	7/19	Mark Holt	7/29	Dore O'Kelly
7/13	Clayton Barrett Myriah Blazicek	7/20	Christine Erickson Caroline Mehlhoff		
		7/22	Carson Theriault		

JULY ANNIVERSARIES

7/2	Joe & Anna Milbach	7/16	Steve & Kathy Hanchera
7/5	Rollis & Shirley Deetz Josh & Haley Dohrmann Chris & Laura James	7/20	Mark & Julie Gutman
7/7	Jeff & Melinda Crow	7/23	Rod & Joyce Church Duane & Karen Pfeffer
7/11	Andy & Sarah Gates Elizabeth & Ryan Kreher	7/24	Dave & Kay Karsten
7/12	Richard & Angie Pfeil	7/27	Vern & Betty Happel
		7/28	Edward & Holly Barrett Dave & Carolyn Johnson

Adult Vacation Bible School: August 13-16

Our Adult VBS will take place the week of Monday, August 13 - Thursday, August 16, 9:00-11:30 a.m. Please join us this week to study God's word and spend time with friends. Pastor Erickson will lead the classes and refreshments will be served.



Sewing Quilts for Lutheran World Relief



On Tuesday, July 10, the LWML Special Projects Committee will tie quilts for Lutheran World Relief in the Family Life Center. We will start at 9:00 a.m. and end around noon. Stop in for an hour or stay the whole time—we appreciate any time that you can give! If you plan to stay through the noon hour, please feel free to bring a sack lunch. For more information, contact Betty Happel at 319-393-9497 or Donna Bogner at 319-777-9053.

Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service

As Christians, we are called to live out our faith by responding and acting in times of crisis. In an era when millions of people worldwide are seeking refuge, consider supporting an organization that provides services to those in need. One such organization is Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service (LIRS). LIRS shares God's love by bringing hope to people experiencing seemingly hopeless situations.

“LIRS works with refugees, children, and migrants to ensure they are protected and welcomed into local communities throughout the United States. Our faith and our nation's values compel us to respond compassionately to the worst refugee crisis in history, with over 22.5 million refugees worldwide. Through our services, unaccompanied children, refugees, and migrants obtain access to protection, integration, justice and stability.” (From www.lirs.org)

For more information and to make a donation toward their efforts, visit www.lirs.org.



**Lutheran Immigration
and Refugee Service**

District Convention

The Iowa District East convention will be held June 29-30 at Hotel at Kirkwood. This year, Bethany is the host congregation. Thank you to everyone who will volunteer their time at this convention!

Senior Worship

Next service:
Thursday, July 19
11:00 a.m.

Bethany Prayers

Do you have prayer requests? Let us know if you would like your request added to the Sunday prayer list, the email prayer chain, or both. Requests can be emailed to prayer.bethanycr@gmail.com, or call 364-6026.

BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH
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CEDAR RAPIDS IA 52403-1654

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CEDAR RAPIDS IA, 52403

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.	facebook.com/bethanycr