

BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH
THE THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY – JANUARY 27, 2019
8:30 & 11:00 A.M.

*Please take this bulletin home with you ... as a reference for this week's calendar of events,
a reminder of Bethany family and friends to keep in your prayers and other useful information.*

Prelude: *"Preludio"* - Domenico Zipoli

Gathering Hymn: *"All Are Welcome"* ELW 641

First Reading Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10

Psalm 19 Chanted responsively by verses

Second Reading 1 Corinthians 12:12-31a

Gospel Luke 4:14-21

Sermon Pastor Jen Henry

Hymn of the Day: *"Christ Be Our Light"* ELW 715

Offering: *"Corrente"* - Domenico Zipoli

Communion Hymn: *"One Bread, One Body"* ELW 496

Sending Hymn: *"We Are Marching in the Light"* ELW 866

Postlude: *"Giga"* - Domenico Zipoli

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Welcome to worship at Bethany Lutheran Church! It is our hope that you experience the love of Christ this morning and His presence during our worship service. If you are visiting today, please sign the guest book in the narthex. Everyone please sign the Fellowship Pad in your pew. These can help you get to know the others around you. Also, be sure to mark the pad if you partake in Holy Communion. Thank you for taking time to fill out this information!

Large print bulletins and assistive listening devices are available. If you would benefit from either of these, please ask an usher. If you have a prayer concern to share, please use a prayer request card located in the pew racks and place in the offering plate.

The liturgical color for the season of Epiphany is green. Green symbolizes the renewal of vegetation, living things and the promise of new life. It is used for the two seasons that focus most directly on continuing life in this world: Epiphany and Pentecost. Epiphany focuses on the life of Jesus as a human being, and Pentecost focuses on the life of the Church.

Many thanks to our worship volunteers helping with services today:

8:30am: Greeter: Ellen Sorenson; Reader: Mary Marske; Acolyte: Saddle Kahley; Communion servers: George & Carolyn Kruger, Susan Rohan; Ushers: George Kruger, Judy Sorenson, Kirby Schmidt; Recorder: Sandi Schmidt; Projector: Mary Ann Quail; 11:00am: Greet: Rhonda Salts; Reader: Liz Brown; Communion server: TBD; Projector: Mary Ann Quail;

PRAYER CONCERNS & REQUESTS

Health Concerns:

Jo Beving, Don Cowell, Maynard Dahl, Steve DePauw, Mary Rose Hemme, Pastor Jen Henry, Jamie Huber, Linda Kunzmann, Kim McCune, Sandy Manwarren, Sally Peterson, Bev Quail, Ida Syvertson; Miles Rohan (*Kevin Rohan's father*); Gene McCarty (*Sue Rieck's brother*);

Those who mourn:

The family of Barb Halverson (*Gary Halverson's mother*)
The family of Rick Dietrich (*Pam Bjorklund's brother and Mary Grover's son*)
The family of Cole Millard

Birth:

Grayson Michael, born to Sara & Justin Falline (& sister Aleyah) on January 1st

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BETWEEN SERVICES All are welcome for fellowship in the parlor after worship. Stop by for coffee, goodies and lively conversation. Sunday school classes are in session: preschoolers aged 3-4 gather in the nursery located on the main level in the east wing (*note change of location*), Kinder-kids thru grade 6 gather for fellowship and music in the Dining Room downstairs and grades 7-8 meet in their room downstairs.

BETHANY'S OLDEST MEMBER Bethany's current oldest member – Elsie Mae Jones – is turning 100 years old this Tuesday, January 29. We want to help make this an extra special day for Elsie! Look for a banner and some birthday cards on a table in the Narthex and take time to write her a birthday greeting. We will make a special delivery to her home on Tuesday. (*Elsie was our first featured member in the "Forever Young" series that began in our February 2018 issue.*)

LOVING SPENCER Our January project – Law Enforcement Appreciation continues. If you haven't already do so, take time this week to reach out and thank an officer for their service and offer a token of respect. How can I do this? Some suggested ways include: show support on social media through your profile picture or by sharing a positive story, wearing blue clothing, sending a card to the local police department or state agency, having children write letters of support, participation in Project Blue Light (display a blue light at your home). Let them know how much you value their service and protection of our communities. Show them the LOVE every day in the month of January, or, recognize their bravery, courage, honor and integrity throughout the year.

BETHANY LUTHERAN & CUB SCOUT PACK 123 Did you know that Bethany Lutheran Church is the charter organization for Spencer Cub Scouts Pack 123? As a chartered organization we are to partner with the leadership and scouts of Pack 123 to focus on helping these young people to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetimes through the instillation of the values and principles taught in the Scout Oath & Scout Law. Some of the specific objectives in our charter agreement include: youth character development, career skill development, community service patriotism and military/veteran recognition and faith-based youth ministry. Pastor Jen recently led a “God & Family” unit with the scouts. Next Sunday, February 3 be on the lookout for the Cub Scouts who will serve as greeters at our 8:30 worship service and receive an award for their participation in the God & Family program.

ARCHIVE ROOM & COMMITTEE Bethany’s Archive Committee continues to sift and sort through pictures, papers, records and other items that have accumulated at Bethany over the years. More committee members are needed and interested parties are encouraged to become involved. Does this sound intriguing? Come and check it out – this week on Wednesday, January 30 at 2pm! The Archive Room is located on the lower level of Bethany across from the elevator.

ALTAR FLOWERS Many thanks to everyone who provided flowers to beautify the altar in 2018. The flower chart for 2019 is posted on the bulletin board in the narthex. If you are interested in providing altar flowers for a service in this new year, please fill out a yellow card and leave it at the church office or in the offering plate.

KEEP IN THE LOOP WITH THE BETHANY HERALD! Keep current with news and events at Bethany via our newsletter, “*The Bethany Herald*”. Delivery options include U.S. mail or email. If you are not receiving the newsletter and would like to, call the church office (262-2327) or leave a note with your contact information in the offering plate. If you are receiving the Herald in the mail and want to switch to email, send a request to the church office: bethany@bethluthspencer.com. Hurry – the February 2019 issue will be coming out soon!!

LUTHERAN DAY ON THE HILL Lutheran Services in Iowa's Lutheran Day on the Hill is a day of advocacy for Iowa's most vulnerable populations. This year's event is on Tuesday, February 19. Join LSI in Des Moines at Capitol Hill Lutheran Church and learn about the social issues affecting Iowa and talk to your legislators about keeping the social safety net secure for all Iowans. For details or to register visit www.LSIowa.org/LDH. (Register by February 12).

PARISH ED MINISTRY TEAM is seeking new members for the committee. No experience is necessary and you do not have to commit to teaching Sunday School. If interested, come to their next meeting, Monday, Feb. at 6:30 p.m. in the church parlor. Thank you for your consideration!

A NOTE OF THANKS

To our Bethany Family,

Thank you so much for your thoughts and prayers. It means so much to us.

The family of Rick Dietrich

AN APPEAL TO CONGREGATIONS OF THE WESTERN IOWA SYNOD...

Dear Church Members and Pastors of Western Iowa Synod ELCA,

We are at a crossroads and crisis in the Western Iowa Synod. Bishop Prois has informed us that in order to meet our missional and ministry obligations for the fiscal year ending January 31, 2019 income to the synod in January needs to be \$199,000. We are at a crossroads because there is a real chance, we will renege on commitments we have made to God, to the church, and to the world. If we do that, ministry will fall short, the world will be less as a result of the absence of that ministry, and the Gospel will not be proclaimed as boldly and as brightly as possible. At first glance \$199,000 seems an impossible mountain to climb. Yet, our reputation and God's faithfulness hang in the balance. There is a way we together can meet this challenge: If in January 2019 every congregation in our synod matches or exceeds their January 2017 giving (\$136,000 total) that leaves a \$63,000 shortfall. If every congregation (135 total) each gives an additional \$500 we will meet and exceed our budget and fulfill our commitments (135 x 500 = \$67,500). In that, God will be glorified! Some congregations may do more, other less, but if we all do our part, and if we trust God, we can do it. Whether you are a lay leader, a congregational council member, or a pastor, please get this information and challenge on the agenda of your January council meeting or your annual meeting and respond with courage and faithfulness. God is faithful, and despite the challenges we face, we can be too.

CALENDAR

Sunday, January 27

- 8:30 am Worship
- 9:45 am Fellowship, Sunday School
- 11:00 am Worship
- 3:00 pm Cole Millard Visitation at Bethany Lutheran Church (thru 7pm)

Monday, January 28

- 10:30 am Cole Millard Funeral Service
- 1:30 pm Stonecroft Bible Study
- 7:00 pm Ruth Circle

Tuesday, January 29

- 12:00 pm Pastors Text Study
- 2:00 pm Staff Meeting
- 4:30 pm Weeknight Music

Wednesday, January 30

- 10:00 am Bible Study & Prayer Group
- 2:00 pm Archive Committee Meeting
- 6:00 pm Choir
- 7:00 pm Confirmation
- 7:45 pm **Bethany Youth Group (BYG)**
- 8:00 pm Uke Club at Toad's Coffee

Saturday, February 2

- 7:30 am Men of Bethany Bible Study

Sunday, February 3

- 8:30 am Worship – God & Family Scout Sunday
- 9:45 am Fellowship, Sunday School
- 11:00 am Worship