

BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH
703 BROADWAY
EMMETSBURG, IA 50536
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CONNECTIONS

NOVEMBER 2023

A Monthly Newsletter Linking the Ministries of Bethany Lutheran and Lost Island Lutheran Churches



Pastor F. Peter Morlock
Secretary: Diane Clasing-Steger
Financial Secretary: Michael Jacobson
Youth Director: Kristin Rienhardt
Bethany Organist: Tim Nielsen, Temp
Lost Island Organist: Tim Nielsen



It is typical in November to talk about things that we are thankful for, and that's a good thing! We do have much to be thankful for even in these times that may be more uncertain than we would like. The rhythm of our worship moves us toward an attitude of thankfulness that can help set that mindset for us. We move from Confession and Forgiveness, through the Word and Prayer. We gather together to support one another; draw closer to God, and receive God's forgiveness in visible, tangible ways. We are moved from Isolation to Community; from Distance to Closeness as we hear God say "this is FOR YOU!" Then we are moved to give thanks in response to this powerful Word from God. The last piece of the Liturgy we sing before we depart for our daily living and mission is -

"Thankful hearts and voices raise! Tell everyone what God has done. Let all who seek the Lord, rejoice and bear Christ's Holy Name. Send us with your promises and lead your people forth in Joy! With Shouts of Thanksgiving - Alleluia!" ELW #204

God leads us to thankfulness and sends us out in Mission to share that thankfulness; to BE that thankfulness to someone else. This is not always easy, or perfect, I know, but God creates new and thankful hearts in all of us.

As we approach Thanksgiving (Bring on the stuffing!)-Ponder the many reasons to be thankful.

Pastor Peter

Bethany Lutheran Church: bethanylutheranemmetsburg.com
Fb: [Bethany/Lostislandparish](https://www.facebook.com/Bethany/Lostislandparish)
Lost Island Lutheran Church www.lostislandlutheranchurch.com
Office Email: offsecr@gmail.com Financial Email: bethanyfinance20@gmail.com
Office hours: Mon-Thurs 9 AM -2pm Office phone: 712-852-4450



GET INVOLVED.

Quilters:

Morning Quilting
Mondays- 9 AM weekly
Night Quilters
Monday, 6 PM weekly
Lost Island Quilting
Nov. 18th at 9 AM

Women's Circles:

***Tabitha Circle:**
Nov. 14th at 6:50 pm @ Alaire's
***Sarah Circle:**
Nov 14th -7 pm @ Judy Cole's
***Mary Martha Circle:**
Nov. 15th at 9:30 am

Men's Bible Study

Wednesdays @ Noon

Adult Bible Study

TBD

Help with worship

Join A Board

Help with Youth Programs



Worship Services SUNDAYS

Lost Island at 8:45am
Bethany at 10:30am

Stay Connected

Bethany/Lost Island Parish
Lost Island Lutheran Church

@bethanyemmetsburg

Bethany Worship
Lost Island Lutheran Church



Prayer is such an important piece in the life of a Christian. Not only do we pray to God individually, but as a body of Christ, we pray for our neighbors, the world, and we trust that God will do His will in those prayers. Need prayer? Want to intentionally pray for others? Let us know!

We remember those in special need of God's love and care including:

Charles Noble, Carol Krause, Junior Walker, Jon Sorenson, David Stephens, LeRoy Swalve, John Odor, Elaine Sidles, Terry Neary, Rick Rienhardt, Jan Myer, Denise White, Dave Smith, Lon Twait, Bridget Johnson, Don Crocoll, Robert Mortenson, Jr., Phyllis Schroeder, and those we name in our hearts.

***Our Sympathy:** Garwin Anderson's Family and Friends.

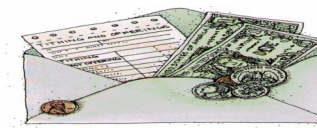
***Our Military Members:** Thomas Crocoll and Logan Murray

***Our missionary:** Courtney Davis, who lives in Papua New Guinea.

***Our companion synods:** The Southern Diocese of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania-Yakobi Parish companion with Lost Island and the Evangelical Lutheran Church Laz-Paz Parish in Chile, companion with Bethany.

SEPTEMBER 2023 Bethany Lutheran Church Treasurer's Report
Attendance average: 61
MONTHLY BUDGET NEEDS FROM OFFERINGS: \$13,750.00

	MONTHLY BEGINNING BALANCE
	7,120.70
INCOME	
Offerings	11,710.59
Transfers from other Funds Lost Island	0.00 0.00
Total Income	11,710.59
EXPENSES	
Personnel Expenses	12,804.17
Program Expenses	273.47
Office Expenses	320.40
Property Expenses	2,422.27
Western IA Synod Other Donations	416.95 0.00
Damascus Road	0.00
NO ELCA Donations	0.00
TOTAL EXPENSE	16,237.26
Income Less Expenses	(4,526.67)
GENERAL FUND BALANCE	2,594.03



Bethany would like to encourage online monetary offerings. The local Emmetsburg banks each provide a FREE online bill pay service which can arrange recurring weekly or monthly payments. If you need more information, contact your local Emmetsburg bank at your earliest convenience.

If you have any financial questions, please email Michael at bethanyfinance20@gmail.com and he can answer any questions.

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Do you have questions? Need assistance? Contact your council members and they will get you connected with the right people!

BETHANY

Joe Neary (P)	712-260-8871
Mark Evans (VP)	712-260-5651
Angie Hetrick (T)	712-298-0331
Diane Clasing-Steger, (S)	712-298-1003
Dianne Hough	712-852-2169
Chuck Duhn	712-298-1027
Barb Haack	712-260-3408
Elaine Sidles	712-298-2559

LOST ISLAND

Troy Leininger – President
Tim Nielsen - Treasurer
Kyle Norris – Secretary
Craig Thu & Steve Pitt – Trustees
Alan Oppedal & Charles Henningsen – Deacons



Thanksgiving Month is here! It's a nice holiday and has special significance to Christians because of the importance of thankfulness in our daily lives. It also has significant meaning in the context of stewardship.

The main idea behind stewardship is that everything we have has been given to us by God. Our very lives are a gift from Him and we have an obligation to God (and to others) to use all that God has given us – our time, our talents, and our treasure – for our own joy, the good of others, and the glory of God.

It's a very simple concept, but it can be difficult in practice. We tend to credit ourselves; to think that it's all about our hard work, our sacrifices, and our wise decisions. We tend to overlook the simple fact that God is the ultimate source of everything.

Since God is the ultimate source, the only natural response toward Him is thankfulness and gratitude. In fact, Thanksgiving should really be all about gratitude. The outward giving of thanks is simply an expression of an inner gratitude toward God. There are actually many verses in the Bible that encourage us to have a thankful heart toward God (and also to others). "Give thanks", as it turns out, are pretty common words in the Bible (in fact, they occur almost 80 times.)

If we think about what we are thankful for this Thanksgiving, perhaps our focus should be on this simple truth: All that we have, we have received. Our very life source is God himself, and everything else that we have – material and spiritual – has also come from God. Even our trials and temptations are ordained by God and are given for our own good, and ultimately, His glory.

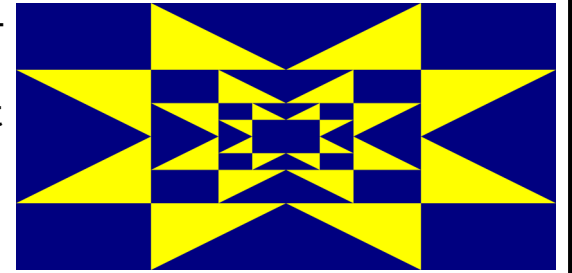
While it's true that human effort and ability are involved (we work and earn in order to provide for ourselves), it is God who gives us the skills and ability to work. What do we have that we could have possibly earned or acquired on our own apart from God? The answer is, of course, nothing. This is so simple yet staggering—all that we have, all that we are, and all that we could ever hope to be, is given to us by the gracious hand of God. For that, our hearts should be overflowing with gratitude and thanksgiving. So let us give thanks to our God who has given us all things in and through Jesus Christ, his Son.

Stewardship Committee

LOST ISLAND NEWS



Just a reminder that all are welcome on November 18 to do some quilting. We will begin at 9 am and go until we are done.



The Festival of Lessons and Carols will be held in Spencer on Sunday, December 3rd at 3 p.m. at Grace United Methodist Church. The community is invited to this annual program of music and the Christmas story. All singers in the community are invited to join the

choir with rehearsals being held on Sunday nights. Rehearsals are on November 5, 12 and 19 at 7:00 p.m at Grace United Methodist church.

For more information visit "Spencer Messiah" on Facebook.

Here are the dates for you rehearsals:

- Nov 5 @ 7 pm—Choir rehearsal at Grace United Methodist Church
- Nov 12 @ 7 pm—Choir rehearsal at Grace United Methodist Church
- Nov 19 @ 7 pm—Choir rehearsal at Grace United Methodist Church

Lefse Making

At Bethany

All ages welcome to assist

Flour Lefse- November 12th at 1pm
 Potato Lefse- November 2nd & 3rd at 1pm
 Questions? Contact Elaine Nauss.



NEWS FROM JESSIE

Greetings!

Greetings all! How is it November already?! I feel like I was just writing my October newsletter last week. It has been a busy time here at the church and a lot of fun. I have already learned so much about what rural ministry looks like and it has been nice getting back into a small town setting similar to the one I grew up in in Wisconsin.

Having the youth groups and confirmation classes going has brought a lot of joyful noise to the church on Wednesday afternoons and I have been having a lot of fun getting to know everyone and participate in various games and activities with them. With the weather getting colder, we are already beginning to look toward Advent and Christmas (yikes! They're sneaking up fast!). From now until the start of the Advent season, I will be spending extra time at Bethany before church begins to get to know more of the folks there. I can't wait to get to know you better and hear your stories over a hot cup of coffee!

God's peace, Vicar Jessie




NEW! Coffee Connection.

November 12th
10:00am – 10:30am

Held every 2nd Sunday of the month.

We invite ALL to join us for fellowship in the Overflow Room.

Coffee. Treats. Conversation.

A social time of fellowship to connect with others & enjoy some treats and beverages.

Hi! The Council is asking if there is a group or a couple congregants that would like to sign up and be responsible for setting up, serving and cleaning up after our ongoing Coffee Connection? There will be a sign-up sheet on the back table should you like to help with this. Any questions, you can contact anyone from the Council. Thank You!

VOLUNTEERS

LOST ISLAND

ORGANIST: Tim Nielsen

ALTAR GUILD—NOVEMBER
Pat Henningsen, Susan Rohan

READERS
Nov. 5 Susan Rohan
Nov. 12 Charles Henningsen
Nov. 19 Kyle Norris
Nov. 26 Lily Rohan

ACOLYTES
Nov. 5 Lily Rohan
Nov. 12 Hannah Geiger
Nov. 19 Bethany Geiger
Nov. 26 Zac Sorenson

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS
Nov. 5 Steve Pitt
Nov. 9 Jeff Geiger

FYI. I am beginning to put together the Bethany Volunteer Lists for 2024. If you would like to help with any of these voluntary duties, please let me know. If you feel that you are no longer able to help—please let me know this too. I do not want to just put a name down and hope that you will show up. Please be aware when you are to help. With everyone's help, our church services should be able to run smoothly. Thank you to those that helped this past year.

Diane

BETHANY

MUSICIANS at BETHANY

Nov. 5 Tim Nielsen Nov. 19 Tim Nielsen
Nov. 12 Laura Gustafson Nov. 26 Holly Sidles

ALTAR GUILD—NOVEMBER
Dianne Hough

USHERS
Nov. 5 Kyle Hagen & Bob Steger
Nov. 12 Chuck Duhn
Nov. 19 Bob Steger & Terry Rouse
Nov. 26 Lonnie Naig

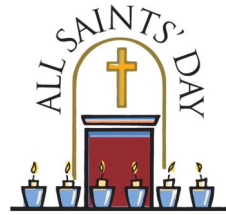
LECTORS
Nov. 5 Josey Saxton
Nov. 12 Matt Malm
Nov. 19 Darca Saxton
Nov. 26 Hanging of the Greens

GREETERS
Nov. 5 Frank & Marit Veltri
Nov. 12 Aletha King, Danny Umbrell
Nov. 19 Kathy Mehan, Diane Steger
Nov. 26 Sherri Ort, Barb Haack

ACOLYTES
Nov. 5 Ingrid Gustafson
Nov. 12 Liza Saxton
Nov. 19 Harlee Will
Nov. 26 Jacob Hall

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS
Nov. 5 Vicar Jessie, Laure Miller
Amy Malm, Diane Clasing-Steger
Nov. 19 Vicar Jessie, Jess Thoren
Emmy Dooley, Liz Thoren

All Saints Sunday



We will be remembering those that have passed away since November 1, 2022 on November 5th. They are:

Lucille Anderson	11/07/2022
John Miller	01/09/2023
Bill Ortman	12/23/2022
John Miller	01/09/2023
Jean Paulsen	01/22/2023
Deb McEwan	01/25/2023
Connie Helgeson	01/29/2023
Allen Hockett	03/22/2023
Robert Rienhardt	05/29/2023
Betty Kunz	05/26/2023
Wayne "Ole" Johnson	08/05/2023
Teresa Jensen	09/04/2023

BETHANY FUNERAL SERVERS- GROUP B

Joe & Terry Neary, Elaine Nauss, John & Stephanie Larson-Chairpersons		
Bob & Sheryl Mortenson, Jr.	Darlene Naig	Greg & Ann Sween
Dan & Michelle Jackson	Greg & Rachel Haack	Laure Miller
Bob & Sheryl Mortenson, Jr.	Randy & Deb Jones	Betty Edwards
Cordell & Donna Poldberg	Beverly Norland	Aaron & Jackie Leuer
Dale & LuAnn Opheim	Jason & Nicole Sanders	Ina Crocoll
Cory & Stacie Fjetland	Doug & Sherri Ort	Tonya Peterson
Tom & Karen Hagen	Bob & Connie Schubert	Dawn Daniels
Joyce & John Froisland	Jason & Laura Reinders	Kristin Rienhardt
Ben & Laura Gustafson	Paul & Teresa Saxton	Shari Schurg
Gina & Angie Cowden	Tiffany Keller	Phil Andreasen

SCANDINAVIAN BAKE SALE AND CHRISTMAS GOODIES

The Bake Sale will be November 29, 2023 in the Overflow Room at Bethany Lutheran Church. The Sale will be from 1 PM to 3:30 PM. Please use the main entrance or the Elevator on the West Side of the Church to enter. Exiting will be through the South Door of the Overflow Room.

Items needed are: Kringla, Krumkake, Rosettes, or any Scandinavian items you make will be great!

Ideas for Christmas Goodies: different kinds of Christmas Cookies, Spritz, Thumbprints, Cut-Out Cookies, etc. Candy that you make for Christmas such as: Fudge, Caramels, Divinity, peanut brittle, covered pretzels.

Please package your Goodies in half dozen or 1 dozen size. Please do the wrapping for us. Items need to be at the Church by 10 AM on November 29th.

Don't take the easy way out—make something so we can have a Successful Bake Sale.

Any monetary gift will be appreciated if you feel you cannot bake.

Proceeds go to "Feed Our Kids", Horizon's, Bible Camps, Lakeside Auxiliary, the Discretionary Fund at Bethany.

Scandinavian Bake Sale Committee

Elaine Nauss, Angie Hetrick, Marit Veltri, Barb Haack, and Sherri Ort



YOUTH NEWS

As I walk along the sidewalks filled with leaves, I am reminded of the harsh reality that Winter is coming. Even in the midst of that reality I see so much beauty surrounding the colorful, now dead leaves that lay at my feet. The beauty of memories of a season. The beauty that it shows as the seasons change. The beauty of pruning off what needs to be pruned and allowing preparation for the next season to take place.

I think a lot about a life walking with Jesus. The beauty of the trees budding in the spring with fresh leaves that fill them up. The season of life where a Christian experiences God in a new way or for the first time. The beauty of the leaves falling and covering the ground leaving the tree bare. The Christian who walks through a season of abiding and pruning. The bare tree in the winter. The Christian finding it hard to find God in the midst of their situation.

I visited a home recently and the owner had a painting of a tree with all four seasons they had made. The symbolism comes from Ecclesiastes. There is a time for....so what season are you in? Are you falling in love with Jesus in whatever season you find yourself in?

Upcoming events/schedule:

November 1st-

Deposit #1 due for Mission Trip Youth

November 5th-

Outreach Night at Okoboji (6th-12th graders)

November 19th-

Wear your Bethany Church Shirt Day

Harvest Soup Dinner, youth sign up to bring something

November 22nd-

No normal youth groups- stay tuned for more info

November 29th-

Shopping for Upper Des Moines

Junior High and High School Recharges coming up!



NOISY OFFERING



Oct-
UDM: Adopt A Family Program

SUNDAY SCHOOL OFFERING

How many people can we help with basic needs and medical care?

Goal- \$600

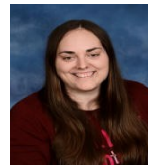
WILLING TO HELP?

SUPPORT, DRIVE, DONATE, TEACH?

CONTACT KRISTIN

CHECKOUT THE YOUTH PROGRAMS WISH LIST!

https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/3J3JDDKFF4QHU?ref_=wl_share



Kristin Rienhardt

Kristin.rienhardt@blc.edu

712-790-6470

MORE MISSION WORK



are interested in

Friends of Sharing the Dream in Guatemala is a volunteer-based fair trade organization that works to reduce poverty in Guatemala through collaborative partnerships with Guatemalans. We offer Guatemalan crafts including hand-made beaded jewelry, handwoven scarves, baskets from all natural materials and much, much, more. Shop online at www.sharingthedream.org, visit one of the stores in Vermillion, Sioux Falls or at Lost Island Lutheran Church. If you learning more contact Karyn Leininger.



Please remember and prayerfully consider including Courtney in your prayers and financial support. Checks should be made to "Bethany Lutheran Church" with a memo "For the ministry of Courtney Davis, Acct #305075."

Thank you for your prayers for my Wycliffe ministry in Papua New Guinea!

Courtney's blog at: cdchronicles.wordpress.com

Email address: co.davis@sil.org.pg



Sunday School Bible Project.
GOAL- \$600
Helps INTERNATIONAL

With only one doctor for every thousand residents and severely limited medical care in rural areas, persistent health crises threaten Guatemala's social and economic progress. Maternal and infant mortality, malnutrition, communicable diseases, parasites and diabetes are high, especially in indigenous communities.



Upper Des Moines Opportunity, Inc.
Adopt a Family

PROVIDING A WAY FOR A GREAT CHRISTMAS FOR LOCAL FAMILIES



Mission Trip 2024
JUNE 16-21, 2024

LOVE. SERVE. GROW!
IN ST. LOUIS

HELP US WITH OUR GOAL

1. Give at a fundraiser
2. Give money towards mission trip by putting "Youth Mission Trip" in memo
3. Give online under Youth Missions with a memo line "Youth Mission Trip"

QUESTIONS ABOUT MISSION TRIP. ASK KRISTIN

\$0 \$5,000

THANK YOU

- Thank you to all who have been involved in worship on Sundays to bring us the Good News of God!
- Thank you to all that have continued to give your monetary donations!
- Thank you to those that have helped with our newly established, "Coffee Connection" held on the 2nd Sunday of every month.
- Thank you to the Youth for cleaning up around the church on Oct 8th!
- Thank you to those that stayed for the Scholarship Meal and enjoyed Joe Boever's delicious pork sandwiches.
- Thank you to Funeral Group A for providing & serving at Garwin Anderson's funeral luncheon on Oct 24th.

Memorial Gifts Given

- In Memory of Wayne "Ole" Johnson given by Donna Johnson for his memorial.*
- In Memory of Ole Johnson given by Julie Nelson for his memorial.*
- In Memory of Ole Johnson given by Darrell & Beth Christianson for his memorial.*



Given by Barb Haack.

If you are able and have the time on your hands—we would like to ask if there are people from Bethany that can help the Funeral Directors in the duties of preparing the church for a funeral—Both before and after. Duties are lighting the altar candles, turning on the lights, etc. Usually Diane is here and can answer any questions that may come up. This can be a Male or Female. Thanks!

MEMORIALS

Here is the listing of the different Memorials that we have at Bethany:

- Hymnal Fund *Scholarship Fund *Altar Guild/Flower Fund
- Baker/Wohl Camp Fund *Quilters Fund *Youth Fund
- Technology Fund *Courtney Davis Fund *Damascus Road Fund
- Furnace/AC Fund *Green Space Fund *Bible Fund
- Internship Fund *Endowment Mission Fund *Emergency Fund
- Discretionary Fund *Undesignated Fund *Mission Project Fund

- *Deferred Maintenance Fund*

Please keep these items in mind should you want

PHOTO DIRECTORY



Got Questions regarding the directory?

Furnish digital photos to: offsecr@gmail.com

Angie Hetrick @ 712-298-0331
Church Office @ 712-852-4450

DEADLINE TO SUBMIT PHOTOS IS DECEMBER 1ST



Wear your Bethany Shirt Day

- Nov 19th
- Dec 3rd
- Jan 14th
- Feb 11th
- March 10th
- Apr 14th
- May 12th

November 19th

HARVEST SOUP DINNER




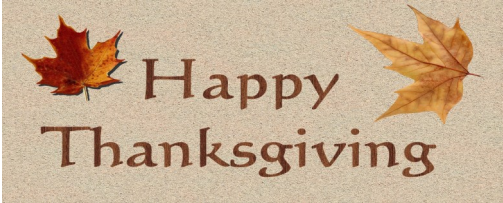
Vegetable Beef, Chicken Noodle, and Chili with assorted breads & bars

Free Will Offering-Youth missions, which include, Adopt A Family and St. Louis Youth Mission Trip



Sponsored by Frank Veltri's Thrivent Action Team

November 2023

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1 Noon Men's Bible Study 1:30-3 PM SACK 6:00-7:30pm Conf/Connect 7:30-9:00 PM LIFE	2 1 pm Prepare Potato Lefse (Boil and Rice Them)	3 1 pm Prepare Potato Lefse	4 
5 Communion Sunday All Saints Sunday 8:45 am Lost Island Worship 9:30 am Bethany SS 10:15 am LI Sunday School 10:30 am Bethany Worship 5-8 pm Outreach at Okoboji	6 9 AM Quilting 6 PM Quilting	7	8 Noon Men's Bible Study 1:30-3 PM SACK 5:30 PM Youth Board mtg 6:00-7:30pm Conf/Connect 7:30-9:00 PM LIFE	9	10	11 New Member Class
12 8:45 am Lost Island Worship 9:30 am Bethany SS 10:00 am Coffee Connection 10:15 am LI Sunday School 10:30 am Bethany Worship New Member Sunday 1-4pm Lefsa Making Day	13 9 AM Quilting 6 PM Quilting	14 6:30 pm Cub Scouts 6:50 pm Tabitha Circle Meets at Alaire's	15 Noon Men's Bible Study 1:30-3 PM SACK 6:00-7:30pm Conf/Connect 7:30-9:00 PM LIFE	16	17	18 9 am Quilting at Lost Island All Are Welcome!
19 Communion Sunday 8:45 am Lost Island Worship 9:30 am Bethany SS 10:15 am LI Sunday School 10:30 am Bethany Worship 11:30 am Harvest Dinner Thanksgiving Church Service	20 9 AM Quilting 6 PM Quilting	21 7 pm Joint Council Meets at Lost Island	22 All Articles to the Office for the December Newsletter	23 Office Closed	24 Office Closed	25 
26 8:45 am Lost Island Worship 9:30 am Bethany SS 10:15 am LI Sunday School 10:30 am Bethany Worship	27 9 AM Quilting 6 PM Quilting	28 10: am Put December Newsletter together 9- 3:30 pm WIC in Church Basement 6:30 pm Cub Scouts	29 Scandinavian Bake Sale Noon Men's Bible Study ? 3:30-5 PM SACK 6:00-7:30pm Conf/Connect 7:30-9:00 PM LIFE	30	Lighted Parade? Deadline to Submit Directory Photos	<i>Hanging of the Greens = Dec 3rd</i>