

BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH
703 BROADWAY
EMMETSBURG, IA 50536
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CONNECTIONS

SEPT 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



As I write this, we stand at the edge of September and are looking forward to ramping up all our activities that typically begin in the fall. Although the summer break was nice, I'm looking forward to getting going again because of all the energy that suddenly pops up when we get going again. I look forward to the energy of Wednesdays with it's Bible study and Youth activities; I look forward to having Vicar Jessie with us and seeing what that will bring.

One of the other things I would like to do this fall is begin a study on worship and why we do what we do, leading to training of some worship assistants. The word we often use in church circles for our order of worship is "Liturgy" which is a ten dollar church word that simply means "work of the people." Thus, when we gather for worship at whatever time, no one is a passive receiver, we are ALL participants in what happens, through the responses, our prayers and our singing together, and I can tell you from the standpoint of the one who stands behind the altar, those responses and that Liturgy that we create together is quite dynamic and often moving to be a part of. In this study, we will explore the different pieces of the liturgy and look at where they come from and what they mean. The ultimate aim of this is two-fold; 1) deepen our understanding of this work of the people that we do together, and 2) develop a cadre of folks who are able to assist in the various parts of worship, to better express that this is a work that we do together. Classes will begin sometime this fall and are open to confirmed youth and adults who are interested. Watch for more news in the coming weeks.

Pastor Peter

label



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

Help with worship

Women's Circles:

*Tabitha Circle:

Sept 21st 6:50 pm at
Alaire's

*Sarah Circle:

Sept 20 7 pm at Elaine's

*Mary Martha Circle:

Sept. 20th at 9:30 am

Join A Board

Men's Bible:

**Wednesdays @ Noon in
Overflow room resuming
September 13th**

Adult Bible Study

TBD

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:

David Stephens (husband of Betsy—Terry & Pam Rouse's daughter), LeRoy Swalve, John Odor, Elaine Sidles, Dan Walker, Teresa Jensen, Terry Neary, Rick Rienhardt, Jan Myer, Denise White, Dave Smith, Lon Twait, Bridget Johnson, Don Crocoll, Robert Mortenson, Jr., Phyllis Schroeder, Garwin Anderson, and those we name in our hearts.

***Our Sympathy:** to Wayne "Ole" Johnson's Family & 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.

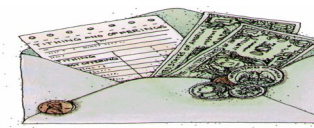
JULY 2023 Bethany Lutheran Church Treasurer's Report

Attendance average: 61

MONTHLY BUDGET NEEDS FROM OFFERINGS: \$13,750.00

	MONTHLY BEGINNING BALANCE
	2,651.67
INCOME	
Offerings	12,340.13
Transfers from other Funds Lost Island	0.00 10,125.00
Total Income	22,465.13
EXPENSES	
Personnel Expenses	11,500.23
Program Expenses	100.00
Office Expenses	235.36
Property Expenses	2,490.19
Western IA Synod Other Donations	466.92 0.00
Damascus Road	50.00
NO ELCA Donations	0.00
TOTAL EXPENSE	14,842.70
Income Less Expenses	7,622.43
GENERAL FUND BALANCE	10,274.10

If you have any questions concerning the finances of the church please feel



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

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

We are currently looking for men or women that could help with the ushering duties during a funeral. Duties would be:

Lighting the Altar & Life candles before the service starts and snuffing them out after the service;

helping the funeral director and/or the assistants with ushering—either seating the people or ushering them out after the service.

Please contact Diane at the church office (852-4450).

LOST ISLAND NEWS



CARD SHOWER FOR JESSIE

Thank you to all who have made a donation to help furnish the office to be used by our intern, Jessie. Jessie joined us August 31st, and we would like to give him a warm welcome. In order to help acclimate Jessie and make him feel at home, we're asking you to please consider donating gift cards to local restaurants/businesses so he may get an opportunity to venture into our communities and learn more about the area.

Gift cards not your thing? Paper products and nonperishable pantry items are also welcome to help Jessie feel more at home.

*Please have all donations submitted by **Sept. 10th** to Lost Island or Bethany Lutheran Churches or to any Internship board member:*

Susan Geiger - Mike Hermansen - Laura Reinders

Thank you for your ongoing support!

The Intern Board



Ways to Give

By Mail



In Person



Online



Questions on Online Giving? Ask Kristin

Make every gift count. Big or small.

WELCOME JESSIE

Greetings!

For those of you who don't know me yet, my name is Jessie. For the next year, I will be serving as the intern for Bethany and Lost Island churches. I wanted to take a moment to introduce myself!

I'm originally from a small town in Southwest Wisconsin and am the middle child of 5. In high school I was the band, choir, and theater kid. I know very little about sports but will always defend the Packers over the Vikings. After high school, I went to Luther College for a year then transferred and changed my major a few times before eventually transferring to Montreat College in Western North Carolina where I completed my degree in Outdoor education. I planned to stay in North Carolina after graduation and put my degree to use; however, there was a little pandemic going on and finding work was proving difficult. That's when God called me to seminary and I found myself moving to Minnesota, a place I never dreamed of ever living (winter is not exactly my favorite time of year).

While I was in college, I spent three summers working at Lutheran Lakeside Camp and became somewhat familiar with the area. I look forward to living in that part of the state again and reconnecting with rural life away from the Twin Cities. In my free time, I love to be outside during the warmer months working in the gardens and tending to my plants. I'm an avid houseplant collector. I currently have close to 40. I also find a lot of joy in quilting and other crafty things. When the weather turns cold you can likely find me at my sewing machine or in the kitchen baking.

I look forward to getting to know all of you over the next year!

God's peace,

Vicar Jessie



VOLUNTEERS

LOST ISLAND

ORGANIST: Tim Nielsen

ALTAR GUILD—SEPTEMBER
LaVonne Mason, Alaire Nielsen

READERS
Sept 3 Kyle Norris
Sept 10 Troy Leininger
Sept 17 Lily Rohan
Sept 24 Jeff Geiger

ACOLYTES
Sept 3 Zac Sorenson
Sept 10 Lily Rohan
Sept 17 Hannah Geiger
Sept 24 Bethany Geiger

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS
Sept 3 Alaire Nielsen
Sept 17 Kyle Norris

BETHANY

MUSICIANS at BETHANY

Sept 3 Tim Nielsen Sept 17 Tim Nielsen
Sept 10 Laura Gustafson Sept 24 Holly Sidles

ALTAR GUILD FOR SEPT Kathy Mehan

USHERS
Sept 3 Mark Evans, Bob Steger
Sept 10 David Sidles
Sept 17 Michael Jacobson, Lonnie Naig
Sept 24 Kyle Hagen

LECTORS
Sept 3 Matt Malm
Sept 10 Kristin Rienhardt
Sept 17 Diane Clasing-Steger
Sept 24 Laure Miller

GREETERS
Sept 3 Elaine Nauss, Teresa Saxton
Sept 10 Barb Haack, Sherri Ort
Sept 17 Joyce Froisland, Shirleen Helgeson
Sept 24 Lonnie Naig, Darlene Naig

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS
Sept 3 Diane Clasing Steger, Angie Hetrick
Pat Vician, Dianne Hough
Sept 17 Kristin Rienhardt, Teresa Saxton
Joe and Jennifer Boevers

BETHANY FUNERAL SERVERS- GROUP C

Dave & Elaine Sidles and Angie Hetrick - Chairpersons

Jane Heykes	Eric & Shelly Hanson	Aletha King
Ryan & Molly Veldboom	Mark & Darca Saxton	Pat & Amy Martini
Kent & Belinda Davidson	Michael Jacobson	Annette Rouse
Brian & Danielle McCubbins	Dan & Mindy Dooley	Wilma Nielsen
Mark & Connie Schroeder	Josh & Holly Sidles	Joel & Somer Saxton
Brent & Stephanie Mehan	Don Nauss	Frank & Marit Veltri
Jim Anderson	Pat Vician	Mike Schipull
Sandi Chapman	Terry & Pam Rouse	Ben & Leslie Hofstad
Pat & Kathy Mehan	Steve & Becky Finer	

NEW! Coffee Connection.

September 10th
10:00am-10:30am

Held every 2nd Sunday of the month.

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

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



Coffee.
Treats.
Conversation.

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 Don Nauss and Mark Saxton's family for keeping the grass mowed around the church.
- Thank You Ret. Pastor Erma Wolf for covering for Pastor Peter on Aug 6th.
- Thank You Pastor Jeff Geiger for covering for Pastor Peter on August 13th.
- Thank You to Funeral Group B who helped with Ole Johnson's Funeral.

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.

God is Our Healer

Psalm 147:3

"He heals the brokenhearted
and binds up their wounds."

Helps
INTERNATIONAL

T-shirt design contest winner



YOUTH NEWS

Let the Fall begin!
I cant believe it is already a new School Year and we are kicking off another Rally Day together. It has been a fast but good summer and I am looking forward to the ways God is going to work in this upcoming season. Regardless of everything going on, from schedules to work to normal life responsibilities, there is one thing that hold true through all of it. God is faithful. He is faithful in every season. Let us enter into this season with God making the moves and we following His direction.

Upcoming events/schedule:

September 10th- Rally Day

- First day of Sunday school (9:30am)
- Sunday school Teacher Installation
- 2nd grade bibles to be given out
- Really Day meal after worship

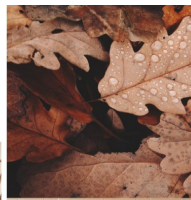
September 13th- First day of Youth Group

- SACK (2nd-5th grade)- After school (3:30-5pm)
- Connect (6th-8th grade)- 6:15-7:30pm (month of September, then switches to Confirmation/Youth Group)
- LIFE (9th-12th grade)- 7:30-9:00pm

October 1st- Center Creek Orchard Day (All youth and families welcome)

Sign up soon to come in email

WEDNESDAYS
STARTING SEPT 13TH



SACK
2ND-5TH GRADERS
1:30-3PM OR 3:30-5PM

CONNECT
6TH-8TH GRADERS
6:30-7:30PM

LIFE
9TH-12TH GRADERS
7:30-9PM



NOISY OFFERING



Sept- Sunday school offering

HELPS international (God is Our Healer)

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



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 are interested in 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



Courtney's Chronicles: August 2023

Big Changes Coming

I have made the very difficult decision to leave Papua New Guinea in June 2024. After my six-month home assignment (June-December 2023), I'll return to PNG for six months to finish the 2023/2024 school year and then return to the US permanently. I've been struggling with burnout for several years and feel that this is the change that I need. While I feel a lot of peace about the decision, it will be very hard to leave such a wonderful music department, my friends, and the place that has been my home for most of my adult life.

I arrived in PNG nine years ago to begin serving as a missionary! I don't know what's next for me, but I hope to be a band director in Iowa or Minnesota so I can be closer to family. I would appreciate your prayers as I enter this season of transition. Please reach out to me if you have questions or words of encouragement.

Finances

I will still need monthly financial partnerships in order to meet the monthly ministry budget that Wycliffe has set for me through next summer. Please prayerfully consider continuing to give for one more year.

Upcoming Retreat

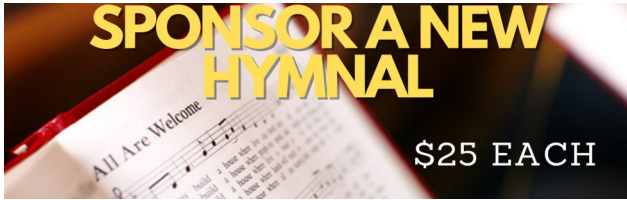
I am going on a retreat from August 20-26. I plan to "unplug" during this retreat so that I can spend intentional time seeking God and resting. Will you pray for me throughout my retreat? Here are a few specific prayer requests:

- Quality time to connect with God
- Deeper healing from burnout
- Rest and renewal for my body, mind, and soul
- God's direction for my future

Master's Degree Update

Praise God for the successful completion of my Master's degree! The past three years of working on this degree, while teaching overseas, have been incredibly intense, but God has been faithful and the hard work was worth it. I was named one of the top two students in the program and won a scholarship to the Conn-Selmer Institute next summer! I also earned "model project" status for both of my final projects, which means they will be used as examples for students next year! I was honored to earn model project status on my projects all three years. Thank you for your prayers throughout my time working on this degree.

Sponsored Hymnals:



The Worship Board for both Churches have decided to order the "Cranberry" colored Hymnal— "Evangelical Lutheran Worship Hymnal" \$25 per hymnal.

Memorial Gifts Given

- In Memory of **Dick Thiel** given by **Angie Hetrick**.
- In Memory of **Bill Ortman** given by **Angie Hetrick** for **Technology Fund**.
- In Memory of **Bill Ortman** given by **Leroy Walker**.
- In Memory of **Bill Ortman** given by the **Ortman Family**.
- In Memory of **Bill Ortman** given by **Wilma Nielsen** for **Technology Fund**.
- In Memory of **Steve Gunderson** given by **Barb Haack**.
- In Memory of **Bill Ortman** given by **Diane Clasing-Steger** for the **Green Space**
- In Memory of **Ole Johnson** given by **Diane Clasing-Steger** for the **Green Space**
- In Memory of **Shari Lavrenz** given by **Diane Clasing-Steger** for the **Green Space**
- In Memory of **Roger Lavrenz** given by **Diane Clasing-Steger** for the **Green Space**
- In Memory of **Mary Gappa** given by **Bob & Diane Clasing-Steger** for the **Green Space**.

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 to donate a monetary gift

Rally Day

SUNDAY, SEPT 10TH
MAID RITE MEAL

AFTER CHURCH IN FELLOWSHIP HALL
TO GO MEALS AVAILABLE

FREE WILL OFFERING-GENERAL BETHANY
FUNCTIONS

SPONSORED BY MARIT VELTRI'S THRIVENT
ACTION TEAM



KICKOFF TO
SUNDAY SCHOOL

9:30 AM
PRESCHOOL-
12TH GRADE

YOUTH REGISTRATION



RALLY SUNDAY

sept 10th

MEET & GREET
VICAR JESSIE

TEACHER
INSTALLATION

MEAL SERVED
AFTER CHURCH

BIBLES

GIVING 2ND AND 3RD GRADERS
BIBLES DURING CHURCH

Sunday School Teachers Being Installed:

Jackie Leuer
Holly Sidles
Laura Reinders
Kayla Hagen
Jessica Thoren
Haily Hoyman

Amy Martini
Sommer Saxton
Molly Rodemeyer
Kristin Rienhardt
Kathy Mehan
Tim Rodemeyer

2nd Graders Receiving Bibles:

Langston Priest
Payton Evans

Cerenady Hoch
Addie Hagen

September 2023

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3 Communion Sunday 8:45 am Lost Island Worship 10:15 am LI Sunday School 10:30 am Bethany Worship	4 Office Closed LABOR DAY 	5	6	7	8	9
10 Coffee Connection And Rally Sunday 8:45 am Lost Island Worship 9:30 am Bethany SS 10:15 am LI Sunday School 10:30 am Bethany Worship Gift Card Shower for Jessie Rally Day Meal after worship (B)	11 9 AM Morning Quilting 6 PM Night Quilting	12 Diane will be Gone 6:30 PM Cub Scouts	13 Diane will be Gone Noon—Men's Bible Study 3:30-5pm SACK (2nd-5th) 5:30pm Youth Board Meeting 6:15-7:30pm CONNECT(6th-8th) 7:30-9pm LIFE (9th-12th)	14 Diane Returns at 1:30 pm	15	16
17 Communion Sunday 8:45 am Lost Island Worship 9:30 am Bethany SS 10:15 am LI Sunday School 10:30 am Bethany Worship	18 9 AM Morning Quilting 6 PM Night Quilting	19 7 pm Bethany Council	20 9:30 am Mary Martha Circle Noon Men's Bible Study 3:30-5 PM SACK (2nd-5th) 6:15-7:30pm CONNECT(6th-8th) 7:30-9:00 PM LIFE (9th-12th) 7 pm Sarah Circle meets at Elaine's house—Kit packing	21 6:50 pm Tabitha Circle Meets at Alaire's home	22 October Newsletter Articles Are Due!	23
24 8:45 am Lost Island Worship 9:30 am Bethany SS 10:15 am LI Sunday School 10:30 am Bethany Worship Board of Ed Meeting after worship	25 9 AM Morning Quilting 6 PM Night Quilting	26 WIC CLINIC 9-3:30 PM PUT THE OCTOBER NEWSLETTER TOGETHER At 10 am 6:30 PM Cub Scouts	27 Noon Men's Bible Study 3:30-5 PM SACK (2nd-5th) 6:15-7:30pm CONNECT(6th-8th) 7:30-9:00 PM LIFE (9th-12th)	28	29	30