

BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH
703 BROADWAY
EMMETSBURG, IA 50536
Change Service Requested

NON PROFIT ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
EMMETSBURG, IOWA 50536
PERMIT #2

Pastor F. Peter Morlock
Parish Administrator: Susan Rohan
Youth Director: Kristin Rienhardt
Bethany organist: Janis Campbell
Lost Island organist: Tim Nielsen



April 2019

CONNECTIONS

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

Last month I wrote about a conference that Brian and I attended that discussed vital congregations. One of the marks of vitality in a congregation, or a disciple, is that they are clear about their purpose. As I continue to reflect on this it occurs to me that I may not have been clear on what my purpose is as your pastor; knowing that may help us become clear about our Mission and Purpose together. Certainly a large part of my purpose is to do the regular "Pastor, things." I preach, I teach, I lead worship, and I help people mark the way posts of life- Weddings, funerals, baptisms, anniversaries etc. This is all very important stuff, very necessary stuff. These are things that I like to do, and things that I am privileged to share with you. These things however as important as they are, are only the specifics relating to what I see as my primary purpose: That is, enabling discipleship, creating an atmosphere and a community in which each of us can engage in a vital relationship with God and with each other. In that context Our gifts blossom, and bear fruit. As we grow in our discipleship and mission, our community grows. As we enter into the Easter season, and winter deepens into spring I give thanks for the growth that I see in you, and continue to pray for more. I invite you to pray with me that these congregations may be a place where authentic discipleship and mission may flourish.



Pastor Peter

Bethany Lutheran Church: bethanylutheranemmetsburg.com Fb: Bethany/Lostislandparish
Lost Island Lutheran Church www.lostislandlutheranchurch.com
Office hours: Mon-Fri 9 AM - Noon Office phone: 712-852-4450

label

CONNECTIONS

Isaiah 58:7
"Is it not to share your food with the hungry and to provide the poor wanderer with shelter— when you see the naked, to clothe them, and not to turn away from your own flesh and blood?"



Luke 24:2-3
"They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus."



Ways to Get Involved

Ladies Circles Schedules for
Lost Island and Bethany
Lutheran Churches:

*Tabitha Circle: TBA

*Sarah Circle: 6:30 pm April 9th
(assemble kits)

*Mary Martha Circle: April 17th, 9:30 am

*Ruth Circle: April 18th, 2 PM

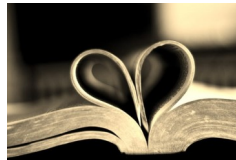
Men's Bible Study

Noon on Wednesdays

"Journey"

Adult Bible Study

1st/3rd/5th Wednesdays of the month.
5:30pm



All are welcome to join in the
fellowship and Bible study.

Quilting Groups Bethany

Monday Morning 9am

Night 6pm

*1st and 3rd Monday



Lost Island

Saturday, March 16
And March 30
At 9am

Volunteer:

Help with youth group, Sunday school, altar guild, WELCA, be a prayer warrior, be on a board, help out around the church in some way shape or form. Together as the body of Christ, we can reach the world with the light of Christ.

WORSHIP-
Bethany
Sundays at
10:30am

Sunday School at
9:30am



WORSHIP-
Lost Island
Sundays at
8:45am

Sunday School
at 10:15am

Prayer

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

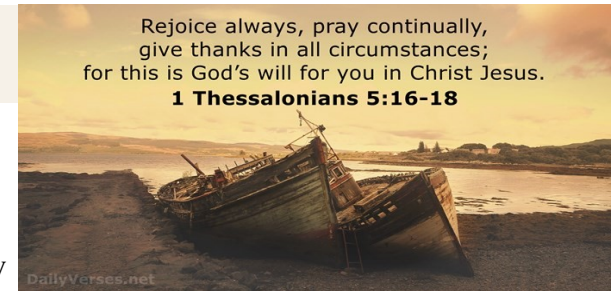
Bill Ortman, Kevin Schentzel, Pastor Trudy Peterson, Shirley Knutson, Teresa Jensen, Dorothy Moore, Becky Hanson, Phyllis Schroeder, Janis Campbell, Debra Zanfes, Jim Anderson, Richard & Irene Omundson, Fern Schmidt, Garwin Anderson, Lois Quam, Rod Snaveley, Bill Ziegler, Bob Mortenson, Lucille Anderson, Evelyn Warmbier, Susan Rohan (Parish Administrator) and those we name in our hearts.

*Our missionary: Courtney Davis 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.

Rejoice always, pray continually,
give thanks in all circumstances;
for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18



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."

Courtney's blog at: cdchronicles.wordpress.com

E-mail address: courtney_davis@sil.org

Courtney has returned to Papua New Guinea in January 2018 as a career staff member. She teaches music in the school as well as conducting Bible Studies, etc.



Thank You

- Thank you for all those that drove the 30 youth to No Apologies!!!!
- Thank you to all those that provided different worship opportunities for us these last few months.
- Thank you to all who have begun donating to the Advent Wreath fund!
- Special Thanks to everyone who helped serve and provide food for the ... funeral on March 23.
- Special thank you from UDMO and the WIC program. They truly appreciate the use of Bethany Lutheran Church for the mission work they do in our own backyard.

Church News

Lent continues with midweek services at 5 PM and 7 PM with a light lunch served following the 5 o'clock service.

Servers are as follows:

April 3—Confirmation Youth

April 10—Mary Martha Circle and Ruth Circle



Updating Email Addresses - Have you updated your information at the back of the church? If you have, Good for you! Give yourself a pat on your back! If not, the forms are still in the back of the church to update your email address. Take a moment after the service to write in your current email address on the line beside your name. Also feel free to email the church office at offsecr@gmail.com with your name and we can make sure it is updated for you. Thank you!

A Difficult Topic: As you all know, the snow has been falling and we have had to make the decision to close the church on two occasions in February and already once in March. Attendance has been down in January and February as well, with an average of 40-50 people in church each week. Because of this our budget has suffered to a certain degree. We can pay the bills for now, but we are \$7,800 behind at the moment. What does that mean??? Currently the church has enough to pay the staff salaries and some of the bills. The snow removal fees totaled almost \$1,000 for February and \$500 for January. The utility bill has jumped \$65 per month. The list definitely goes on as to what is happening financially for the church. There is an urgent need to recoup from these hefty bills, but because of the weather it both increased the spending, and decreased the giving.

We ask that you prayerfully consider adding to your donation for the next few weeks and months so that the church can recuperate the losses and grow. Your staff would be happy to go without salaries, if not for their own pesky bills. And that really isn't the answer. The big round numbers of it are as follows: Currently we have donations totaling \$36,610 YTD and we need to be closer to \$45,717. We have missed two Sundays worth of income... We need to keep up on the bills. Prayerfully consider helping meet budgetary needs for Bethany. If you have questions/concerns for this need, please do not hesitate to talk with Susan, Parish Administrator on how you can help or to answer your financial questions.

Susan is working on ways to process EFT (Electronic) payments. Bear with her as she learns the Church Windows Program and works toward meeting this goal for Bethany. Hopefully soon she will be able to process EFT payments so that your donation can be made each week even without holding church services.

Bethany Spring Boutique: Spring Cleaning??? It is that time of year again! The Women of Bethany would like to announce the Spring Boutique! We need your help! Needs: Baked items for the bake sale, home items you no longer need, and "white elephant" items to sell to help offset the costs of hosting the Western Iowa Synod Women's Convention in June. Have fun looking around your home for things that you once loved, but no longer bring you joy! These can and might bring another some joy. Bring baked items and "white elephant" items to the church on Friday, April 5th. Thank you for supporting WELCA! The Spring Boutique will be held on Saturday, April 6th from 8:30am – 11:00am Coffee and Rolls will be available for a free will offering that morning! Come on in, enjoy some fellowship, friends, and take home something new to you!

Youth News



Hello Brothers and Sisters,

Lent is a time where we can reflect. A time to change. A time to renew. A time where we look at our lives and see how we can strive more after God. A time to push ourselves toward a stronger relationship with Him. It has been neat to watch the youth witness the congregation do the challenges that have helped them grow in their walk with Jesus.

Come join us April 17th at 7pm to watch the Mime Drama that the youth have been working on.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

APRIL 3-CONFIRMATION YOUTH SERVING LENTEN MEAL, 5:30PM

APRIL 7-OUTEACH, 5-8PM

APRIL 14-NOISY OFFERING TO CHERISH HOUSE

APRIL 17-"LIGHT IN THE DARKNESS" MIME DRAMA, 7PM

APRIL 20-CRACKING EGGS AND SETUP AT 9AM

APRIL 21-EASTER BREAKFAST AFTER 6:30AM SERVICE

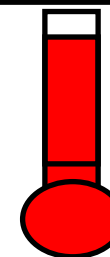
APRIL 28- OUTREACH, 5-8PM

RECHARGES-SIGN UP, TALK TO KRISTIN

MAY 5TH-KIWANIS BREAKFAST, YOUTH SERVE AT VFW

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

- **Sunday school at 9:30am on Sundays**
- **April verse is 1 Peter 2:9**
- **KEEP BRINGING YOUR OFFERING TO SUNDAY SCHOOL!!!**
- **No Sunday School on Easter Sunday**
- **May 5th-Kiwanis Breakfast=No Sunday School (Serving Meal at VFW)**



VBS DATES-MARK YOUR CALENDARS

**AUGUST 5TH-8TH
(IN THE EVENING)**



**NOISY
OFFERING**

CHERISH HOUSE

We offer a selection of services aimed at transforming lives and strengthening families.

OUTREACH

5-8PM

6TH-12TH GRADERS

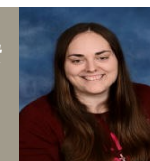
\$3 PER PERSON

OKOBOJI CAMP

APRIL 7 "DODGEBALL"

APRIL 28 "SECRET AGENTS"

Kristin Rienhardt



Kristin.rienhardt@blc.edu

712-790-6470

VOLUNTEERS- LOST ISLAND	ORGANIST		Tim Nielsen
	ALTAR GUILD		April Karen Thu, Kari Sorenson, Karyn Leininger
	READERS	April 7	Tim Nielsen
		April 14	Troy Leininger
		April 21	Karyn Leininger
		April 28	Charles Henningsen
	COMMUNION ASSISTANT	April 7	Karyn Leininger
		April 14	Steve Pitt
		April 18	Kadin Norris and Troy Leininger
		April 21	Charles Henningsen
	ACOLYTE		April 7 Owen Lux
		April 14	Corrine Cooke
		April 21	Zac Sorenson
		April 28	Ian Lux

A SEASON OF HOPE

This Lent, we're joining Lutheran World Relief in **A SEASON OF HOPE** to announce to the world the HOPE of Christ. Each week, we'll collect a different item that we'll use to assemble Personal Care Kits that give people around the world tools to stay healthy in life's most challenging situations.

Our goal is to assemble 25 LWR Personal Care Kits during Lent.

MARCH 10
Bars of Soap (4 to 5 oz., any brand, in original wrapping)



MARCH 17
Bath Towels (light-weight, maximum 52" x 27", dark color recommended)



MARCH 24
Toothbrushes (adult size, in original packaging)



MARCH 31
Combs



APRIL 7
Nail Clippers (metal, attached file optional)



APRIL 14 (PALM SUNDAY)
Bars of Soap



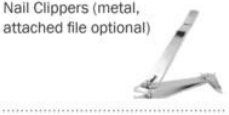
For more information contact Karyn
We will assemble our Personal Care Kits on 4 / 28 / 19
at Lost Island Lutheran Church

Bethany Circle is collecting items throughout Lent for Personal Care Kits and School Kits.

These are the items needed:



Pencil Sharpeners



Nail Clippers (metal, attached file optional)



White onesies



Receiving Blankets

Bars of Soap (4 to 5 oz., any brand, in original wrapping)



Bath Towels (light-weight, maximum 52" x 27", dark color recommended)



Hand towels (dark color recommended)

Monetary Gifts to purchase Cloth Diapers
(Can be made out to Elaine Nauss).

We are collecting items through **April 21st**.
Any Questions please contact Elaine Nauss.

MARCH 2019 Bethany Lutheran Church Treasurer's Report				
Attendance average: 40				
MONTHLY BUDGET NEEDS: <u>\$15,239.17</u>				
	MONTHLY BEGINNING BALANCE (7,849)	MONTH- LY BUDGET	YEAR TO DATE BAL- ANCE	YEAR TO DATE BUDGET
INCOME				
Offerings	9,348	15,239	70,737	45,718
Lost Island	0	2,600	0	7,800
Miscellaneous Income	0			
Sunday School				
Total Income	9,348	17,840	70,737	53,518
EXPENSES				
Personnel Expenses	7,731	11,340	29,216	34,038
Program Expenses	1,170	1,100	5,716	3,300
Office Expenses	223	546	1,275	1,449
Property Expenses	2,249	2,265	30,480	6,799
Western IA Synod	245	375	1,320	1,125
Damascus Road	0	50	250	150
NO ELCA Donations	0	100	404	300
TOTAL EXPENSE	11,619	15,776	68,661	47,340
Income Less Expenses	(2,271)	2,064	2,077	6,178
GENERAL FUND BALANCE	(7,849)			
If you have any questions concerning the finances of the church please feel free to call me. Thanks! Susan (March 29 payroll is not included in these figures)				


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.

Council Members:

Bethany
Angie Hetrick, President
Joe Boeyers, Vice President
Aletha King-Treasurer
Stacie Fjetland, Secretary
Pam Hermansen
Chuck Duhn
Dianne Hough
Tim Moriarity

712-298-0331
852-4192; 298-2142
424-3611; 298-0684
712-298-0887
254-717-0787
712-298-1027
712-852-2169
507-525-6915


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



MEMORIALS


None to report for March 2019

New Bulletin/Calendar



March was an interesting month for certain with weather and flooding. We began using a new bulletin format and ordered the reading inserts. This was a decision that was made to better the experience on Sunday morning and to decrease the amount of paper being used. The cost for this is \$2.25 per pack of 50 plus ship-ping. We are currently ordering 150 weekly, and may change this in the future depending on need. This adds a cost of about \$68 each quarter for the bulletins. We are hoping that this both enhances the worship experience and balances the cost of printing in the long run. Susan is diligently working to make sure that costs stay down and the worship experience is enhanced. She would love your feedback on the new bulletin format as well. Please feel free to email her at offsecr@gmail.com to provide feedback.

There is a new Master Calendar in the secretary office. When you need to add or change your plans to use the church, feel free to stop on by and make the changes in the master calendar. This will hopefully cut down on confusion and make the use of the facilities more streamlined. Certainly call the church office or email the secretary when you need to add things to the calen-dar. As we use the calendar we will tweak it to make it even more user friendly. Thank you all for understanding that, as we make the changes, problems may occur. Please direct any feed-back to Pastor or Susan in the secretary’s office. We will be happy to help meet your need.



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. The partner-ship includes projects in communities in which we have artisans.

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GREETERS:	April 7	Dennis and Sherri Mandsager *Donald and Sandra Schnell
	April 14	Randy and Dianne Hough *Lucille Anderson and Garwin Anderson
	April 21 (Early)	Dave and Eliane Sidles *Kent and Belinda Davidson
	April 21 (Late)	Elaine Nauss *Beverly Norland
	April 28	Burdell and Barb Naugle *Paul and Teresa Saxton
* Back door greeters please move to front door if no one comes to greet here		
LECTORS:	April 7	Kristin Rienhardt
	April 14	Hannah Malm
	April 21	Jacki Ellingrod (Early); Kathy Mehan (Late)
	April 28	Kristin Rienhardt
COMM. ASST.	April 7	Kristin Rienhardt, Sophia Fjetland, Jonah Hackbart-Morlock
	April 14	John and Stephanie Larson, and Joe Neary
	April 21 (Early)	Frank and Marit Veltri, and Brian Campbell
	April 21 (Late)	Joe Neary, Kathy Mehan, and Teresa Saxton
ALTAR GUILD:	April	Pam and Mike Hermansen
USHERS:	April 7	David Sidles *Joe Neary Logan and Tianna Murray
	April 14	Phil Andreasen *Mike Hermansen Hannah and Olivia Sanders
	April 21 (Early)	Ryan Veldboom (Late) Joel Saxton
	April 28	Mark Evans *Greg Haack Kennedy and Reagan Schurg
ACOLYTES:	April 7	Mason Foxhoven and Parker Schmeling
	April 14	Tate Carter, and Jameson Boevers
	April 21(Early)	Josey Saxton and Benjamin Saxton
	April 21 (Late)	Braxton Cooke, Henrik Gustafson
	April 28	Hannah and Olivia Sanders

Bethany Funeral Servers For Group II

Brian & Janis Campbell, Kim Campbell, Danny & Linda Umbrell Co-Chairs

Garwin Anderson

Lucille Anderson

Staci Berkland

Joe & Jennifer Boevers

Bob & Diane Steger

Bill & Sharolyn Dickey

Chuck & Teresa Duhn

Marvin & Ruth Duhn

Barb Haack

Bev Hayden

Dianne & Randy Hough

Jason & Diane Jacobson

Bernie & Linda Janssen

Teresa Jensen

Troy & Sarah Krug

Brian & Amy Malm

Mike & Betty Naig

Burdell & Barb Naugle

Bill & Eleanor Ortman

Tim & Molly Rodemeyer

Willard & Glenyce

Schmeling

Dan & Michelle

Theesfeld

Becky Walker

Leroy & Marlene Walker

Roger & Carol Walker

Allen & Beth Will

Donald & Sandra Schnell

VOLUNTEERS - BETHANY

BETHANY FUNERAL SERVERS

April 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<i>1</i> 9 AM <i>Quilters</i> 6 PM <i>Quilters</i> 6:30 pm <i>Holly Sidles' Piano Recital</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i> 12:00 Noon Men's Bible Group 1:30 pm SACK (2nd-5th) 5&7 pm Lenten Services 5:30 pm Adult Bible Study 5:30 Meal by Confirmation Youth 8:00 Mime Drama Practice	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>6</i> 8:30 to 11 AM <i>Spring Boutique</i> 11 AM to 2 PM <i>Morgan Schaller Bridal Shower</i>
<i>7</i> <i>Communion Sunday</i> 8:45 am Lost Island Worship 9:30 am Bethany Sunday School 10:15 am LI Sunday School 10:30 am Bethany Worship 5-8pm Outreach at Okoboji	<i>8</i> 9 AM <i>Quilters</i>	<i>9</i> 6:30 PM <i>Sarah Circle Assemble Kits</i>	<i>10</i> 12:00 Noon Men's Bible Group 1:30 pm SACK (2nd-5th) 5&7 pm Lenten Services 5:30 pm Youth Board Meeting During Meal 5:30 Meal by Mary Martha/Ruth Circles 8:00pm Mime Drama Practice	<i>11</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>13</i> 8:30 AM <i>Ruth Cluster meeting at First Lutheran in Algona—All Women are Invited!!</i>
<i>14</i> <i>Palm Sunday w/ Communion</i> 8:45 am Lost Island Worship 9:30 am Bethany Sunday School 10:15 am LI Sunday School 10:30 am Bethany Worship Noisy Offering-Cherish House	<i>15</i> 9 AM <i>Quilters</i> 6 PM <i>Quilters</i>	<i>16</i> 6:30 <i>Scouts</i> 7 pm <i>Sarah Circle @Judy Cole's home</i>	<i>17</i> 9:30 AM <i>Mary Martha Circle</i> 12:00 Noon Men's Bible Group 1:30 pm SACK (2nd-5th) 7pm-Connect (watch drama) Adult Bible Study go to Drama 7pm Mime Drama	<i>18</i> <i>Ruth Circle 2 PM Maundy Thursday Service at Lost Island, 7pm</i>	<i>19</i> <i>Good Friday Service at Bethany, 7pm Community Good Friday Service @ Noon</i>	<i>20</i> 9 AM <i>Quilting - Lost Island</i> 9AM <i>Egg Cracking and Set up-Youth</i>
		H O L	Y W E E	K		
<i>21</i> <i>Easter Sunday w/Communion</i> 6:30am Sunrise service, Bethany Easter Breakfast served after 8:45 am Lost Island Worship 10:30 am Bethany Worship Nursing Home Worship *No Sunday School for Easter Sunday	<i>22</i> 9 AM <i>Quilters</i>	<i>23</i> <i>Articles Due for Newsletter</i> 7 PM <i>Council Meets</i>	<i>24</i> 12:00 Noon Men's Bible Group 3:30 pm SACK (2nd-5th) 5:30pm Adult Bible Study 7-8pm Connect (6th-8th) 8-9:30pm LIFE (9-12th)	<i>25</i> <i>WIC Clinic</i> <i>Horizons Unlimited 's Theme Tablescape Dinner Gala</i>	<i>26</i> <i>10 AM Assemble Newsletter</i>	<i>27</i>
<i>28</i> 8:45 am Lost Island Worship 9:30 am Bethany Sunday School 10:15 am LI Sunday School 10:30 am Bethany Worship 5-8pm Outreach at Okoboji LWR QUILT SUNDAY	<i>29</i> 9 AM <i>Quilters</i>	<i>30</i>				