

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
Secretary: Diane Clasing-Steger
Financial Secretary: Michael Jacobson
Youth Director: Kristin Rienhardt
Bethany organist: Janis Campbell
Lost Island organist: Tim Nielsen

AUGUST 2020



CONNECTIONS

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

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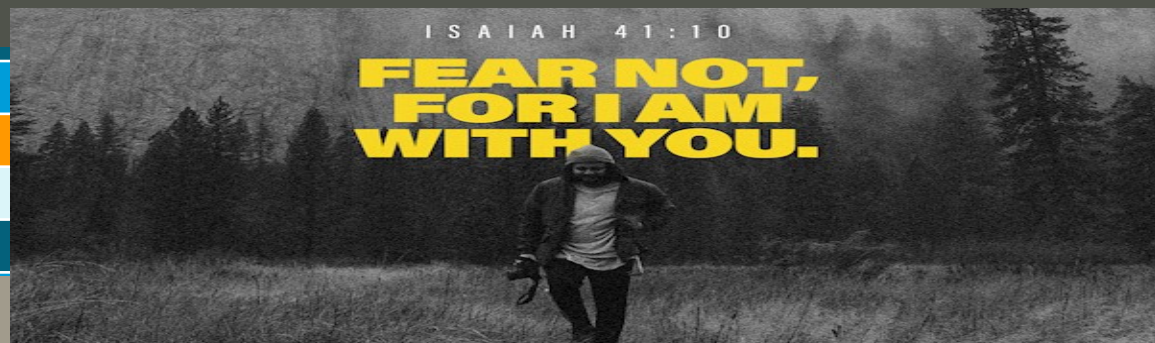
"A sower went to sow some seek..." These were the opening lines of the Gospel lesson for July 12th. That morning we held worship outside at Lost Island underneath the tents that were set up for the Ice Cream Social that didn't happen, but the communication of the cancellation didn't make it to the Emmetsburg Kiwanis. So we had worship outside and as I was reading the Gospel that day, I was looking out over corn and bean fields growing strong in the morning sun. It was an interesting visual accompaniment to the lessons for the day. So often when we plant a field, or a garden we're pretty sure that the seeds we plant will come up, and we are hopeful for a good yield, but we never really know. We work hard to give the seeds that we plant everything they need to grow but we don't know for sure until they actually come up. It seems to me this is apt for the church as well, for so much of our work as disciples is long term sowing of seeds that we may not see bear fruit. Over 125 years ago both of our congregations were founded and seeds were planted by those who planted these gardens. They planted and sowed because that is what they were meant to do, and they trusted God to bring about the harvest and bring the future fruits. Though both congregations are now gathering again for in person worship there is still much that is uncertain and we don't know how things will be in the future. Yet even in these times the seeds are sown and the harvest is ripening. Like the founders of these congregations we rest not on our own work primarily, but on the work of the Master Gardener who calls us to be planters and tenders, and to trust in Him to bring the growth. Keep planting seeds my friends!

Isaiah 55:6-12

CONNECTIONS

ISAIAH 41:10

**FEAR NOT,
FOR I AM
WITH YOU.**



Bethany Lutheran Church: bethanylutheranemmetsburg.com Fb: 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 - Noon (adjusted during this time) Office phone: 712-852-4450



GET INVOLVED.

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.

Circle Schedules

***Tabitha Circle:** TBA

***Sarah Circle:** Mo Meetings during Summer months

***Mary Martha Circle:** TBA

***Ruth Circle:** TBA

Morning Quilting

Mondays- 9 AM weekly
(Morning Quilters will resume in fall)
1st and 3rd Monday's at 6 PM

Adult Bible Study

1st, 3rd, and 5th Wednesdays
6:00pm
*Check Calendar for changes

Men's Bible Study

Wednesdays @ Noon
(Will Resume in Fall)

Praying for all of those we know and have yet to know

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

Roger Will, Wilma Nielsen, Stacie Fjetland, Robert Mortenson Jr., Cindy Pedersen, Duane Schipull, Catharine Dillon, Linda Gjerde, Dean Newlon, Larry Chuning, Kyle Anderson, Susan Wheeler (Sharon Omundson's sister), Linda Umbrell, Phyllis Schroeder, Janis Campbell, Debra Zanfes, Teresa Jensen, Garwin Anderson, Lucille Anderson, and all those we name in our hearts.



*Our Sympathy goes to the family and friends of Brian Campbell & Evelyn Mandsager

*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, Bethany, and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Chile.

THANK YOU

Thank you to all who have been involved in worship on Sundays and Wednesdays to bring us the Good News!

Thank you to all that have continued to give your monetary donations!

Thank you to all that have supported the families whom have lost loved ones recently.

Thank you to the Group II Funeral Servers who served at Brian Campbell's funeral luncheon.

JULY 2020 Bethany Lutheran Church Treasurer's Report

Attendance average:

MONTHLY BUDGET NEEDS:

	MONTHLY BEGINNING BALANCE 2,014.97
INCOME	
Offerings	11,120.00
Lost Island Miscellaneous Income Sunday School	
Total Income	11,120.00
EXPENSES	
Personnel Expenses	8,201.80
Program Expenses	135.00
Office Expenses	642.79
Property Expenses	3,420.10
Western IA Synod	573.08
Damascus Road	50.00
NO ELCA Donations	
TOTAL EXPENSE	13,022.77
Income Less Expenses	(1,902.77)
GENERAL FUND BALANCE	112.20

If you have any questions concerning the finances of the church please feel free to call me.
Thanks! Michael (These figures are current up to July 26)



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

Bethany

Angie Hetrick, President 712-298-0331
Joe Neary, Vice President 712-852-2642
Aletha King-Treasurer 424-3611; 298-0684
Diane Clasing-Steger, Secretary 712-298-1003
Pam Hermansen 254-717-0787
Chuck Duhn 712-298-1027
Dianne Hough 712-852-2169
Mark Evans 712-260-5651

Lost Island

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

CARPET FUND UPDATE

FUNDS ARE STILL NEEDED TO FINISH THE CARPET PROJECT. The carpet fund has received many nice donations in the past few months. There has been about \$15,000 designated to the project. We also have \$10,000 that we are planning to use from the deferred maintenance fund. The total bid is just short of \$27,000. As you can see we need about \$6,000 to get this project covered, if this is something you can help with please mail or drop off a check to the church with the designation of the carpet fund. Thanks and God bless.

At this time we would like to share our condolences to the families and friends of Justin Snavelly, Marian Evans, Brian Campbell and Evelyn Mandsager. Their memorial /funeral services were held during the month of July.

MEMORIALS

In Memory of Fern Schmidt, given by David & Elaine Sidles for Radio Fund
In Memory of Marian Evans, given by Paul & Teresa Saxton for Bethany Youth
In Memory of Fern Schmidt for Radio Fund
In Memory of Keith Anderson for Radio Fund
In Memory of Brian Campbell for Organ Fund

Janis Campbell’s Coffee Group would like to make a donation to the Green Space in Brian Campbell’s name. All donations can be sent to the Church.



As we enter into this time of doing things differently, the stewardship board would like to let you know that the financial position of both churches is strong over all, but we need to remind you that though we are not able to meet face to face as a community of worship, we still have staff to pay, bills to pay and buildings to maintain. In order to remain financially sound we will need you to keep up your offering during this time.

Offering for Bethany can be dropped off at the church, or mailed to the office.

Offering for Lost Island should be mailed to Tim Nielsen.

If you need to adjust your offering because your work has changed, do not feel bad about doing so. If you need assistance during this time. Call Pastor Peter and he will get you connected with appropriate services. Thank you for all that you do to support this parish.

CHURCH NEWS

Lost Island
Sundays at
8:45am



Bethany
Sundays at
10:30am

IN-Person Worship Resumed at Bethany with safety precautions in place. Please read the letter on page 10-11 for more details.

Sunday Worship (Traditional) at 10:30am

Wednesdays (Worship and Message) at 7:30pm

**Note Communion will not be during services but will continue to be on an individual basis. Wednesdays at Bethany and Thursdays at Lost Island. Please continue to take extra measures to keep your distance at church and follow the CDC guidelines.*

***Quilt Sunday** was on Sunday July 26th, they will be delivered to Spencer on Saturday August 1st. The quilt display was limited this year due to COVID-19. We want to thank all those involved in prepping and making the mission quilts for Lutheran World Relief.

Please return the form, by mail, email or by calling the church office, that was included in your Reopening Bethany Letter. This will help us stay up to date with you on worship and other events.

The week of August 17th, at this time the new carpet will be laid.

This process will take a little bit of time. Sunday, August 23rd will be broadcasted over the radio at 3pm and live streamed at 10:30am. There will be no in-person worship for August 23rd. Wednesday, August 19th and August 26th will be announced later as a location. These services will be live streamed for all to see regardless of the location.

Weekly Devotional

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God. (Colossians 3:16)

The hymns of the Christian church not only serve us well in our worship and in our teaching but, they can also offer striking spiritual insight, comfort and counsel.

Each week reflect on what words reminds you of God's truth, what words make you stumble, what words make you praise God?

DURING THIS TIME OF COVID-19 WE PRAY THAT YOU'RE DIGGING INTO GOD'S WORD & SEEING HIM WORK IN YOUR DAILY LIVES!

WEEK OF AUGUST 2 #235 LBW "BREAK NOW THE-BREAD OF LIFE"

Break now the bread of life, dear Lord, to me,
as once you broke the loaves beside the sea.
Beyond the sacred page I seek you, Lord; my spir-
it waits for you,,O living Word.

WEEK OF AUGUST 9 #467 LBW "ETERNAL FATHER STRONG TO SAVE"

Eternal Father, strong to save,
whose arm has bound the restless wave,
who bade the mighty ocean deep
its own appointed limits keep:
oh, hear us when we cry to thee
for those in peril on the sea

WEEK OF AUGUST 16 #359 LBW "IN CHRIST THERE IS NO EAST OR WEST"

In Christ there is no east or west, in him no
south or north, but one community of love
throughout the whole wide earth.

WEEK OF AUGUST 23 #294 LBW "MY HOPE IS BUILT ON NOTHING LESS"

My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus'
blood and righteousness; no merit of my own
I claim, but wholly lean on Jesus' name.

Refrain

On Christ, the solid rock, I stand;
all other ground is sinking sand.

WEEK OF AUGUST 30 #784 WOV "YOU HAVE COME DOWN TO THE LAKESHORE"

You have come down to the lakeshore seeking
neither the wise nor the wealthy, but only asking
for me to follow.

Refrain

Sweet Lord, you have looked into my eyes;
kindly smiling, you've called out my name.
On the sand I have abandoned my small boat;
now with you, I will seek other seas.

Share, Encourage, Evaluate, Pray, Express

GREETERS: August 2 Angie Hetrick, Bev Norland
*Jane Heykes
August 9 Dianne Hough
*Dave & Elaine Sidles
August 16 Paul & Teresa Saxton
*Frank & Marit Veltri
August 23 Willard & Glenyce Schmeling
*Angelia Moriarity, Beverly Norland
August 30 Danny & Linda Umbrell
*Jacki Ellingrod

* Back door greeters please move to front door if no one comes to greet here

LECTORS: August 2 Laure Miller
August 9 Amelia Ort
August 16 Stephanie Larson
August 23 Frank Veltri
August 30 Isaac Janssen

ALTAR GUILD: AUGUST Elaine Sidles

USHERS: August 2 Michael Jacobson, Don Nauss
August 9 Lonnie Naig, Brian Malm
August 16 Mark Evans, Allen Will
August 23 Ryan Veldboom, David Cole
August 30 Joel Saxton, Steve Finer

****Volunteers - please be flexible in your roles as we adapt to
COVID-19 Guidelines during worship.****

** Please contact Office at (712) 852-4450 if you need to switch, change dates, or if you won't
be here prior to the date you are scheduled. Thank You!

Bethany Funeral Servers For Group III Joe & Terry Neary, Lon & Linda Twait, Mike & Pam Hermansen Chairpersons

Phil Andreasen
Alice Christensen
Bob & Sheryl Mortenson,
Jr
Betty Edwards
Shirley Ezarski
Corey & Stacie Fjetland
Dawn Freeman
Joyce & John Froisland

Ben & Laura Gustafson
Roger Will
Ted & Linda Strohman
Bev Norland
Kristin Reinhardt
Doug & Sherri Ort
Dawn Daniels
Jason & Laura Reinders
Paul & Teresa Saxton

Greg & Ann Sween
Greg & Rachel Haack
Cordell & Donna Poldberg
Bill Zeigler
Jason & Nicole Sanders
Tonya Peterson
Angelia Moriarity
Laure Miller

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.

The partnership includes projects in communities in which we have artisans.

*An opportunity to help those in need for Guatemala can be sent to:
www.sharingthedream.org



Or you can send a check to:
Sharing The Dream
10 W. Main
Vermillion, SD 57069

As they too have been affected by the COVID-19

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



VOLUNTEERS- LOST ISLAND

ORGANIST	Tim Nielsen
ALTAR GUILD	August Amee Norris, Karyn Leininger
READERS	Aug 2 Alaire Nielsen Aug 9 Troy Leininger Aug 16 Kyle Norris Aug 23 Tom Mason Aug 30 Karyn Leininger
COMMUNION ASSISTANT	Aug 2 Steve Pitt Aug 16 Alaire Nielsen
ACOLYTE	Aug 2 Zac Sorsenson Aug 9 Colleen Cook Aug 16 Miriam Hackbart-Morlock Aug 23 Avery Hersom Aug 30 Olivia Sorenson

YOUTH NEWS



Hello Brothers and Sisters,

This has been a weird summer for sure. It has been a roller coaster of emotions and throwing everyone off. But, out of all this, one thing remains the same and constant. God. God is never changing, never failing, and our constant. God’s love never fails and it never gives up on us. God is constant. Even in the roller coaster of this time and in this life, God is constant!

“MISSION BLASTS” THE LAST ONE WILL BE AUGUST 5TH. ANYONE WANTING TO HELP THE YOUTH WITH THE MISSION BLAST, PLEASE LET ME KNOW.

IF ANYONE OF ANY AGE WOULD BE INTERESTED IN PLAYING INSTRUMENTS AND/OR HELPING LEAD THE WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE STREAMED SERVICE, PLEASE LET ME KNOW.

THANKS

Thank you to all that have helped support the Sunday school offering for Habitat for Humanity. \$442.75 was sent to Habitat for Humanity in Mason City.

SUNDAY
SCHOOL
OFFERING



NOISY
OFFERING

Upper Des Moines

August 9th

WILLING TO
HELP?
SUPPORT, DRIVE,
DONATE, TEACH?

CONTACT
KRISTIN

Kristin Rienhardt



Kristin.rienhardt@blc.edu

712-790-6470



Mission Blasts

SERVING THE WORLD ONE WEEK AT A TIME

Wednesdays
Starting July 8th



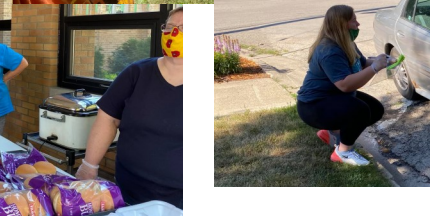
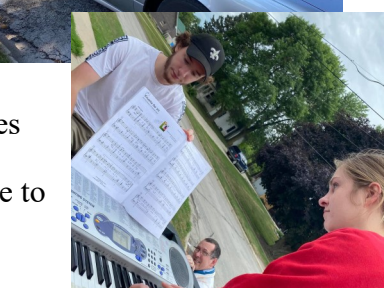
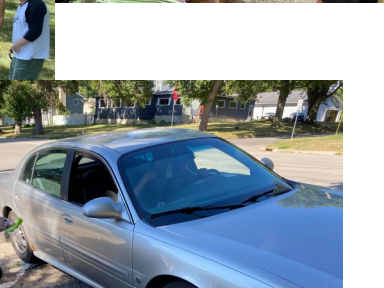
Afternoons
Time will vary



Questions?
712-790-6470

Mission Blast Information

Mission Blast will be 1-4pm in the afternoon. These are for all aged youth. Parents can help as well. Physical distancing measures will be taken and masks are required during projects. If your child is in need of a mask, please let Kristin know. We have masks for all that are participating.



Aug 5th-Plan to wear work clothes

*These are all subject to change due to weather and guidelines.



*Everyone **must use** Hand Sanitizer provided unless you have your own before entering the sanctuary.

*Your hands **must be sanitized** after touching anything on the table and/or touching money

Ushers will seat you.

*Once you enter the building at either the East or West doors and get closer to the sanctuary, you will notice marks on the floor. Please follow the marks in order to stand in the proper place for distancing.

*There will be someone there to also take attendance of those coming to worship. Please be prepared to say your name to this designated person if they ask.

*Ushers will then seat you in the sanctuary. Balcony is off limits to all except for the person running the sound booth.

Seating in the Sanctuary

*The pews are marked off. Please follow the usher's directions.

Families with young children

*There will still be a children's message but children must stay in their pews. For this reason, we ask that you sit in the front in order that your children can see what is going on.

*There will be no busy bags for kids. If you have something you would want to bring in order to help your kids during worship, we ask that you bring your own things.

In the pews you are sitting in.

*No hymnals, attendance pads, pencils, paper

During worship

*No bulletins or hymnals

*Singing will not occur until the end of the service for the closing hymn

*Pastor will sing the liturgy and hymns leading up to that point.

*You can reflect on the hymns and hum but we ask you not to sing.

*No communion (Individual Communion still available on Wednesdays)

Exiting Worship

*Pastor will not make his way to the back and greet people

This will allow distancing guidelines and procedures to happen as well as prevent mingling after worship.

*Ushers will usher you out from back of sanctuary to front of sanctuary.

This again allows distancing guidelines to stay in place.

*We ask that you not converse and congregate with others in the church building to allow traffic to flow and distancing guidelines to stay in place. If you choose to converse please do so outside of the church building so that you can safely maintain social distancing.

*The doors will again be propped open by designated person and this person will again be sanitizing the area throughout the time people are exiting the building.

*There will be a video explaining this procedure as well.

*Funerals & Weddings will be expected to follow the same guidelines.

In conclusion, as of **June 17, 2020**, we are tentatively beginning in-person worship on Sunday, June 28th and Wednesday, July 1st.

Note: This can change based on data and guidelines in Palo Alto County and direction from the Iowa Public Health Department. Also, we will be assessing the risk of opening in a two week basis, if cases arise rapidly we will shut back down. Please fill out the attached sheet or contact the church for updating information so we can inform you in the best way possible.

We know that this seems like it will never end but this too is a season and it will pass. Remember, we are the church because the church is not a building it is the people.

In Christ, Bethany Reopening Task Force

Reopening Bethany for in-person worship services.

The decision to reopen is one that must be taken with caution, safety, and change. As we begin to open the church back up for in-person worship, the adjustments and recommendations listed below must be carried out, which are recommended by local health officials, the bishop, and the Center of Disease Control (CDC), to maintain safety amongst all that join us for worship.

As we return to in-person worship we want you to know that we care about your safety.

The things you can expect from us at Bethany, in light of the COVID-19 pandemic, will be:

- Taking extra measures to clean and sanitize all of church, especially the areas of high traffic.

- Cleaning high touch surfaces as much as possible and in between services and allowing extra time for the cleaning/disinfecting/sanitizing products to work at their best.

- The staff and volunteers are doing their best to maintain these procedures to minimize any spread of COVID-19.

The things we expect you to do for us as you come to worship, in light of COVID-19 pandemic, will be:

- Stay home if you are sick.

- Symptoms of COVID-19 are fever, cough, loss of taste/smell, shortness of breath or difficult breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, diarrhea.

- CDC recommends that if you are 65 and older or have an underlying health condition that you stay home as much as possible.

- Maintain social distancing (6 ft)

- There will be no mingling before/after worship, if you would like to converse with one another please exit the church building so that the flow of traffic and a 6 ft distance is more easily maintainable.

- Face coverings are recommended, such as a cloth mask. If you do not have a face covering and would like one there will be a place at the end of this letter that you can mark and send back to the church. We will get you one so that you feel comfortable joining us for worship.

- Help stop the spread of germs by carrying out good hygiene:

- Wash your hands regularly. If not available use hand sanitizer.

- Cough and/or sneeze into a tissue or your elbow.

- Avoid touching your face.

In-person worship will look differently:

- Worship services

- Sunday, 10:30am (Traditional) & Wednesday, 7:30pm (Worship & Message)

- Services will be live streamed. The radio will be broadcasted at 3pm on Sundays.

- An additional worship service allows for flexibility in order to minimize the number of people in the worship space at one time.

The process before a worship service:

- Entering the church

- *There will be a person assigned at the door to open the door for you. This allows a no contact entrance. This person will be required to wear a mask and will be sanitizing the area they are in, during the entering and exiting of all people.

- *Maintain a 6ft distance between others that you don't live with.

- There is tape on the floor marking social distancing guidelines starting at the top of the stairs/exiting the elevator on both entrances.

- Tables near the entrance to sanctuary

- Drop off your offering in the plate and if it is noisy offering week (2nd Sunday of the month) drop it in the can

- *There will be no bulletin handed out. The screen will be on and ready.

Thank you to all that supported the youth's t-shirt fundraiser. This fundraiser was for global mission work. By selling t-shirts, we raised \$420 and some additional donations brought the total to \$490. The \$490 will be split in half. The funds will be sent to Neighborly, which will help kids have a uniform so that they can go to school as well as to SWAT (Safe Water at Tanzania) to help provide clean water to others.



We had 12 VBS in a Bags from Lost Island and 20 from Bethany. This year, kids took VBS home with them. There were songs, activities, theme verses, crafts, skits, and more. They got to Dive Into God's Love, God's Grace, God's Presence, and the Life that God offers us.

Thank you to all that donated supplies for VBS!

FALL INFORMATION COMING SOON!

The Board of Education and the Board of Youth are working diligently and coming up with procedures and plans for the upcoming school year regarding youth programs at Bethany. These plans will first and foremost put safety first. Parents, look for a letter in the mail and an email regarding this information in the near future.

August 2020

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<i>All meeting groups are subject to change!</i>					IOLBC Quilt Auction Weekend	1 IOLBC Quilt Auction Weekend
2 8:45 am Lost Island Worship 10:15 am LI Sunday School 10:30 am Bethany Worship *Live Streamed	3 Pastor Gone—Vacation	4 Pastor Gone—Vacation	5 Mission Blast #5 (1-4 pm) 7:30PM Worship & Message *Live Streamed Pastor Gone—Vacation	6 Pastor Gone—Vacation Secretary Gone	7 Pastor Gone—Vacation Secretary Gone	8
9 8:45 am Lost Island Worship 10:15 am LI Sunday School 10:30 am Bethany Worship *Live Streamed Noisy Offering=UDMO	10 Pastor Gone—Vacation	11	12 6:00 PM Youth Board Mtg 7:30PM Worship & Message *Live Streamed	13	14	15
16 8:45 am Lost Island Worship 10:15 am LI Sunday School 10:30 am Bethany Worship *Live Streamed	17	18 <i>Council Meeting 7PM</i>	19 7:30PM Worship & Message *Live Streamed	20 <i>Newsletter Articles Due</i>	21	22
CARPET PROJECT						
23 8:45 am Lost Island Worship 10:15 am LI Sunday School 10:30 am Bethany Worship *Live Streamed	24	25	26 <i>Assemble Newsletter 10AM</i> 7:30PM Worship & Message *Live Streamed	27 <i>WIC 9AM</i>	28	29
CARPET PROJECT						
30 8:45 am Lost Island Worship 10:15 am LI Sunday School 10:30 am Bethany Worship *Live Streamed	31					