

# Bethany Lutheran Church

"To grow so deep in Christ through worship, education,  
and fellowship that we celebrate by reaching out to others."



December  
2016

## Important Dates

12-01 Prayer group 7:00 pm  
12-08 Small Group 6:30 pm  
12-11 Children's program during  
worship 9:00 am  
12-18 Christmas Caroling at  
Crestview 4:00 pm  
12-24 Candlelight service 5:00 pm  
and 8:00 pm  
12-25 No worship -Merry  
Christmas!

## Contact Information

Bethany Lutheran Church  
235 South Second Street  
West Branch, Iowa 52358

Pastor Chad Whaley  
pastor@wbbethany.org

Office Hours  
Monday & Thursday  
9:00 a.m. - Noon

\*Pastor Chad is also available by  
appointment.

Admin. Assistant: Paula Casper  
blcsecretary@lcom.net

Office Hours  
Tuesday & Thursday 8:00-11:30 a.m.

FIND US ON FACEBOOK!

Office Phone: (319) 643-5998

Simply search "Bethany Lutheran  
Church (ELCA) West Branch, Iowa" on  
facebook and "like" our page!

ALSO FIND US ON TWITTER!

Search @blcwestbranch

"Whoever welcomes one of these little children in my name welcomes me; and  
whoever welcomes me does not welcome me but the one who sent me." -  
Mark 9:37 (NIV)



Greetings Precious Saints of God,

It is so hard to believe Advent is upon us. With the beautiful  
weather we have been having it is almost hard to believe we  
are so close to Christmas as we once again welcome the birth  
of the Christ child. This is an event that changed everything.

It changed how humans viewed God. It changed how humanity thought about  
God. It changed how humanity comes before God with our brokenness. It  
changed everything because in this babe born in a manger God entered the world  
in a totally new way - in real live flesh and blood. God with us! God among us!  
God encountering humanity in the midst of its brokenness and then ultimately  
rescuing and redeeming us from that same brokenness.

So in this season we prepare to welcome the Christ child. Not that Jesus needs  
our welcome but rather that we prepare the way for His coming and prepare our  
hearts and minds to welcome His arrival. Advent is a season of welcome in  
many ways as we prepare our homes for the arrival of family and friends. We  
are all ministers of hospitality each and every time we gather as church. We are  
each vessels of God's divine welcome. This Advent let's make this a season of  
welcoming.

May God help us welcome visitors among us! May God use us to welcome back  
those we may have not seen in a while! May God gives us the strength and  
wisdom to reach out and welcome back those who have been missing! May all  
know they are welcomed here! May God's grace abound in this place! May  
God's love and compassion always reign supreme! May those who might feel  
they can't come back know they can! May this be a place where all are welcome  
because God first welcomed us!

May the love of God, which surpasses all understanding, guard your hearts and  
minds in Christ Jesus! Amen.

Pastor Chad

everyone is  
welcome



## Birthdays

- 12-02 Bruce Jeffries
- 12-05 Jim Yanecek, Samantha Yeater
- 12-06 Wanda Anderson
- 12-07 Kellee McCrory
- 12-10 Barb Campbell
- 12-14 Beth Kaufman, Elizabeth McCrory
- 12-15 Kami Poppen
- 12-17 Traci Fryauf
- 12-18 Marilyn Crow
- 12-19 Jim Friis
- 12-20 Auron Marsh
- 12-21 Lindsey Zimmerman
- 12-22 Mark Colvin
- 12-23 Amber Marsh
- 12-24 Monica Hinkhouse
- 12-26 Nancy Bruns
- 12-29 Jim Peak
- 12-31 Jon Twing

## CHRISTMAS CAROLING

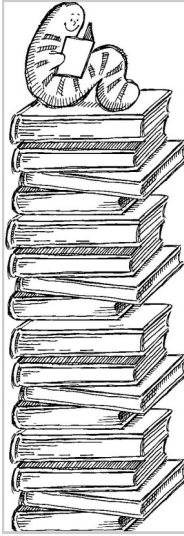
**When:** Sunday December 18

**Time:** 3:45 pm

**Location:** Crestview Nursing Home

**Who:** Anyone and everyone!

**Why:** Fun, Fellowship and to share the joy of Christmas with our neighbors!



## Bethany Books

by Frank Frostestad

### Books For Adults

The theme for this month is Christmas. Last year, I added the book *The Lopsided Christmas Cake* by Wanda Brunstetter. This year's addition by the same author is *The Christmas Secret*. Will an 1880 Christmas Eve wedding be cancelled by revelations in an old diary? I will also put a number of books with a Christmas theme from our collection out on the table.

### Books For Children

We have a number of new books from the Sparkhouse Family (published by Augsburg). Several of these have a Christmas theme.

*The Story Of Christmas: A Spark Bible Story* is the first one, suitable for children 3-8. It engages young children with the story of the birth of Jesus. See below for the DVD version.

*The First Christmas* is an early reader activity book for children ages 5-8. It invites children to explore the themes of the nativity story through puzzles, mazes, matching games, and more.

*The Birth Of Jesus* is a pop-up book that captures the Christmas story with artwork. For ages 3-8.

*Rufus And The Very Special Baby* is for children 3-5. A baby has arrived and the Frolic friends are gathering their gifts to welcome him. Rufus wonders what he could possibly offer such a special child.

I will also add children's Christmas books from our collection.

### DVD For Children

*The Story Of Christmas* is the first animated video from the Spark Bible series. The story of Jesus' birth in a stable comes alive for children. For ages 5-8.





## Adult Education Opportunities



### Sermons Are Online

Pastor Chad's sermons can now be found on Bethany's website ([www.wbbethany.org](http://www.wbbethany.org)) by placing your cursor over the "Resource" tab found on the home page and then selecting

**Bethany Men's Breakfast Bible Study Group**  
Wednesdays at 6:00 a.m.

**Thursday Women's Bible Study**  
6:00 a.m. in the Small Hall  
All are Welcome

**Women's Circle**  
Second Wednesday of Month  
9:00 a.m. in Great Hall unless stated otherwise

**Monthly Prayer Group**  
First Thursday of Month  
7:00 p.m. in Small Hall  
All are Welcome

**Video Discussion**  
December 8 - 6:30 p.m.  
Focus Question: How do I know God's will for my life?  
All are Welcome

## ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

On Sunday, November 6 we gave thanks to God for the grace revealed through the birth, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. This reconciling work opened to the baptized the promise of eternal life. It also means we stand before God clothed in the garment of Christ and His innocence. We stand before God as a saint. You are precious saints people of God!

On this day we remembered those saints who have died since last All Saints Day: Pat O'Connell. We also gave thanks for those new saints baptized into the church in the past year: Lauryn Larson, Julian Kilburg, and Graham Heath.

New this year, we recognized, gave thanks, and prayed for our "senior" saints (those 80 and over among us). They are: Millie Anderson, Elsa Boedeker, Hermann Boedeker, Jerry Dodds, Janet Friis, Paul Friis, Dorothy Holmes, Richard Madsen, Delores Paulsen, Jim Peak, Liz Pedersen, Helen Petersen, and Betty Slach. Below is a photo of those in attendance. Those who were unable to be with us were missed greatly!



## ST. OLAF'S CHRISTMAS CONCERT

St. Olaf College has received a special donation to offer the live video stream of their concert for free to all ELCA congregations on Dec. 4 at 3 p.m. This generous gift has been given to the ELCA in an effort to share the joy of the Christmas season together.

We will gather at 3 p.m. at the church (location TBD) to view this event. Feel free to bring some snacks and refreshments.

**Church Staff**

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 (319) 643-5998 or (319) 643-7257  
 pastor@wbbethany.org

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## MONTHLY PRAYER GROUP

A small group of people gather the first Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m. in the Small Hall and we invite others to attend as well. This is very informal and you are not asked to pray aloud. You can simply come and be present. We would love that. We often spend a bit of time in meditative prayer as we sit quietly and reflect on a Bible passage. This is a time to center ourselves and allow a bit of space, silence, and stillness into our often busy lives. Then we may share briefly about prayer in our lives, read a short article, watch a video, etc. and then close as we pray for each member of Bethany by name. Please consider attending and if you have any questions please visit with Pastor Chad.

If you have any people or concerns you would like the group to pray for please write them in our Community Prayer Book found near the mail-boxes as you enter the worship space or give them personally to Pastor Chad on a piece of paper or via email.



## WHERE DOES MY OFFERING GO?

We have focused on this in past newsletters and recently the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) just put out a short and informative video that explains how we at Bethany Lutheran are part of something much bigger and do God's work together. Here is the link to the video which is located on YouTube:

<http://tinyurl.com/zg9rgpc>



BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH  
COUNCIL MINUTES September 2016

**Members present:** Pastor Chad, John Black, Greg Lipes, Jill Taylor, Beth Kaufman, Paula Casper, Jamie Zimmerman, Tonya Samuelson, Jon Twing

**Members absent:** Kevin Olson

**Called to order:** 6:34 PM by President Black.

**Opening devotional and prayer:** Pastor Chad led a devotional using the protocols of the most recent Prayer Book discussion aligning with our theme of the power of prayer. The council listened to a 10-minute recording entitled “A Beginner’s Mind” and the devotion ended at 6:45 p.m.

**Pastor’s report** (printed report provided):

See printed report for details

Confirmation starts September 12.

Gods Work, Our Hands was a big success. \$555.26 raised by the Car Wash—with fun had by all. Also, a gift was recently received of \$4500 for the Pantry Programs at the Middle and High schools. This gift will go directly to the West Branch School District.

Rally Sunday is September 18

Outdoor worship and pet blessing is September 25.

**President’s Report:** None submitted

**Secretary’s report:** As submitted and reported by Jamie Zimmerman. Minutes were reviewed and approved as corrected. Zimmerman moved for approval, second by Twing. All approved.

**Treasurer’s report:** As submitted. Reviewed by Jill Taylor. Twing asked the Council’s intentions regarding the “Ceiling Tile Fund”. It was agreed that a congregational vote was needed to change the dispensation of these funds. The Property Team would evaluate the need and desire to continue and will report back. Twing motioned for approval, Zimmerman second, all approved.

**Building and Grounds:**

Bat issue has been resolved. No new issues in the last 4-5 weeks. Agreed to hold the invoice for two more weeks until all traps and such are removed.

**Education:** Tonya reported that rally Sunday is coming up next Sunday. Amber is helping her with the potluck and the organizing of the event. A reminder

email about the potluck will be distributed. Following same agenda as last year regarding the potluck with funding coming from the Education committee. Tonya reported that they have good teachers and plan on a Wednesday night shift as schedules allow.

**Evangelism:** Greg reported about the “members in the news” section of the Bulletin board across from the kitchen as a place to showcase evangelism.

**Fellowship:** Discussed newsletter fellowship opportunities. The fourth Sunday meal in October will be hosted by the confirmation students. Lots of new families attending the suppers—Bingo was a big hit. Jeni has agreed to do the Angle Tree again this year.

**Stewardship:** Twing commented that he was holding the Stewardship Committee and that they were discussing eliminating the fall campaign. Some discussion took place with agreement that the fall campaign was not very successful but it did no harm so why eliminate it. Stewardship Committee will discuss.

**Youth:** No report.

**Worship & Music:** More than 10 people sang at the God’s Work, Our Hands Sunday and it was well received. 30 people attended at the Senior Center.

**Old Business: None.**

**New Business:**

Twing reported that he met with Jodi Clemons from Thrivent who agreed to provide Financial Literacy Training. Discussed dates and packages. It was agreed that we would go with the shorter (four week course from Thrivent: “More than Money”). Twing to contact Jodi regarding start dates.

Next Council meeting is tentatively scheduled for October 17th

Pastor requested an additional day off per year. Currently Pastor has four Sunday’s off and two continuing education days. Discussion ensued without resolution.

**Meeting adjourned:**

Meeting adjourned by the President at 7:37 p.m. and closed with the Lord’s Prayer. Moved by Zimmerman, second by Kaufman.

BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH  
COUNCIL MINUTES October 2016

**Members Present:** John Black, Greg Lipes, Jill Taylor, Paula Casper, Pastor Chad, Jamie Zimmerman

**Members Absent:** Jon Twing, Beth Kaufman, Kevin Olson, Tonya Samuelson

-Meeting called to order at 6:28 PM by President Black

**Opening Prayer and Devotional:**

-Pastor opened with a prayer which we then talked about as well as how different parts of the prayer may have resonated with us individually.

**Pastor's Report:**

-Pastor touched on the many activities and group's he met with this last month as well as the upcoming events for this next month. Pastor did specifically mention that Wednesday Education with the 4<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> Graders is going well with good attendance and some new attendees and we also have a good group of Confirmation students this year. There are 6 attendees and they were very active this last month.

**Secretary's Report:** (Jon Twing)

-We were unable to view a hard copy of the report as Jon was traveling for work. Jon did get it sent to everyone the next day.

**Treasurer's Report:** (Jill Taylor)

-Greg moved to accept the report as presented, Paula seconded, and motion passed.

**Committee Reports:**

**-Building and Grounds:** (Jamie Zimmerman) We held a work session with the Confirmation students and pulled weeds and cleaned up the landscaping on the south side of the Church and Great Hall and pulled the stumps and raked the area along the north street

**-Education:** (Tonya Samuelson) No Report

**-Evangelism:** (Greg Lipes) No Report

**-Fellowship:** (Paula Casper) Jeni Schiele has volunteered to be in charge of the Angel Tree again this year. The Women's Group has decided to scale back the Cookie Walk a little bit this year and it will be held on December 3.

**-Stewardship:** (Jon Twing) No Report

**-Youth:** (Kevin Olson) No Report

**-Worship and Music:** (Beth Kaufman) No Report

**Old Business:**

-None

**New Business:**

-Jerry Dodds was approved by Council as the new Church Custodian

-Jamie Zimmerman moved, and Paula Casper seconded that we accept Deb Lund as a member. Motion Passed.

-The following committees were appointed by the Church Council:

**AUDIT COMMITTEE**

**2017 BUDGET COMMITTEE**

Paul and/or Nancy Bruns, Nancy Bruns  
John Hierseman, John Black, Kevin Olson, Greg Lipes  
Jill Taylor and Claudia Beyer

Meeting adjourned at 7:28 with the Lord's Prayer.

**Next Council Meeting is Monday, November 14, 2016 at 6:30 PM**





## **LSI Bulletin/Newsletter Article and Story**

### **Merry Christmas from LSI**

*“The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.” – John 1:5*

As Christmas approaches, we give thanks for you! Every day, as a ministry partner of LSI, you help bring the light of Christ to others.

At LSI, we know many people experiencing deep darkness. We know adults with disabilities who have no caring family presence in their lives. We know families in Des Moines who spent 20 years living in refugee camps and are finally regaining some hope for the future. We know teens who are aging out of the foster care system and fear they will never belong to anyone or have a family to love them.

LSI’s work is Christmas work, shining love, compassion and light in places of darkness, despair, abuse, neglect, addiction and crisis. We could not do this important work without you, and we are so grateful.

Wishing you a blessed and merry Christmas from LSI!

*Our Mission: Lutheran Services in Iowa responds to the love of Jesus Christ through compassionate service. LSI is an affiliated social ministry partner of the Iowa congregations of the ELCA (Evangelical Lutheran Church in America) and a member of LSA (Lutheran Services in America). We proudly serve people of all ages, abilities, religions, sexes, gender identities, national origins, ethnicities, races, and sexual orientations. Learn more at [www.LSIowa.org](http://www.LSIowa.org) and [www.facebook.com/LSI.iowa](http://www.facebook.com/LSI.iowa).*

### **A New Kind of Family**

For Kristie, respite caregiving through LSI’s Services for People with Disabilities is more than just a job. It’s a time for her to be with family.

Kristie has helped to take care of Trevor since she began working with LSI. Trevor stays one night with her family most weekends and during many weeknights, he spends time and eats dinner with Kristie’s family.

“He gets to come over and go to sporting events, or go camping, or go to family functions with us,” Kristie says. “He likes to interact with my own children, who are about the same age.” The whole family has developed a relationship with Trevor, and even extended family members consider him as “one of the kids.”

“Respite care has been a great outlet for me and my kids, and it’s a growing opportunity for all of us. I’ve developed a relationship with Trevor’s family. It gives them a break, and my kids can learn and grow,” Kristie says. “This gives me an opportunity to work with kids and still be able to do things with my own family. It doesn’t interfere with my life. It adds to it.”

## ANNUAL MEETING

Bethany's annual meeting will be held January 15, 2017. Please plan to attend as your presence is vital and very much appreciated. This past summer the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America gathered for its National Conference held every three years. As a result of that meeting several changes were made to the Model Constitution used by most congregations. These are mandatory changes and a copy of these changes will be made available at least 30 days prior to our annual meeting.

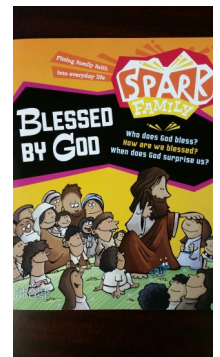
Also, this is a reminder of who is a voting member, according to our Constitution. Visitors, inactive and lapsed members are always welcome to attend; however, they can't vote.

**C8.02.c Voting** members are confirmed members. Such confirmed members, during the current or preceding calendar year, shall have communed in this congregation and shall have made a contribution of record to this congregation. Members of this congregation who have satisfied these basic standards shall have the privilege of voice and vote at every regular and special meeting of the congregation.

## FAMILY RESOURCE

**Spark Family** is a resource designed to help families fit faith into everyday life! This is a quarterly magazine full of engaging activities for the entire family. A annual subscription is just \$9.49 and can be ordered online from Augsburg Fortress.

The latest edition is available for review and is located on the library table in the hallway to the Great Hall.



We will celebrate Christ's birth  
together during our  
Christmas Eve candlelight services.

December 24th  
5:00 PM  
and  
8:00 PM



There will be no worship service on Christmas Day.



## MINISTRY MINUTE—FOOD PANTRY



Bethany has long been a strong supporter of the West Branch Food Pantry. Thank you everyone for your faithfulness to this. Thank you to all who have donated. Thank you to all who deliver the food to the Pantry each month. Thank you Neil and Chris Korsmo for updating the list of most needed items each month and keeping us apprised of that. In case you didn't know, the list is found in two places. First, it is found just inside the north doors from the parking lot near the stairs (see photo to right - photo to left shows the bins where donated items are placed just inside the doors to the Small Hall). Secondly, it is found on our church website ([www.wbbethany.org](http://www.wbbethany.org)). If you go to the "Ministries" tab on the home page, hold your cursor over that tab and then select "Food Pantry" you will find it listed on this page. Pastor Chad also posts a link to this page on our church Facebook and Twitter pages. Through October, we have taken 150 bags of food, 10 boxes of tissue, 6 packages of toilet paper, and a one case each of vegetables and soup. That's awesome! Together, we are doing God's work!



## MINISTRY OPPORTUNITY

Recently, the pastors and leaders who gather monthly as part of the West Branch Area Religious Council (WBARC) have had conversations about a new shared ministry effort. This is an exciting opportunity and is just in the very initial stages. It pertains to joining forces on a possible community youth group that would meet monthly. At this time we are probably focused on the senior high level. What is the next step? We would like to form a team with representatives from the faith communities in town to talk about this and move this forward. This ministry will require help from people within our congregations to lead this ministry. If you feel called to this opportunity please let Pastor Chad know. Thank you!



## FAITH AT HOME

For some time now we have had short Bible passages and reflections pertaining to that text on the tables in the Great Hall. We have decided to also place those in the Newsletter. The passages and questions will match up with those found on the tables. Therefore if you want to continue the discussion at home you can. This is one more way we are trying to spur conversation about faith and also absorb ourselves in the word of God.

### Matthew 27:38-46

Then two bandits were crucified with him, one on his right and one on his left. Those who passed by derided him, shaking their heads and saying, "You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself! If you are the Son of God, come down from the cross." In the same way the chief priests also, along with the scribes and elders, were mocking him, saying, "He saved others; he cannot save himself. He is the King of Israel; let him come down from the cross now, and we will believe in him. He trusts in God; let God deliver him now, if he wants to; for he said, 'I am God's Son.'" The bandits who were crucified with him also taunted him in the same way. From noon on, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. And about three o'clock Jesus cried with a loud voice, "Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?" that is, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"

- My God, my God why...
- If you are the Son of God...
- For me, Jesus' death...



### Isaiah 2:4

He shall judge between the nations, and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.

- If nations disarmed, beating swords into plow share, and spears into pruning hooks...
- War is...
- A world of peace...

### Matthew 28:19-20

"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

- To be a disciple...
- Baptism...
- When Jesus says, "I am with you always," I...

The tree will be up soon with the ornaments for donation for this year. It's always amazing how much we help our communities families in need at Christmas. To participate in this mission, follow these instructions.



1. Choose an ornament from the tree.
2. Purchase that item or something similar.
3. Wrap the gift and attach the ornament to it like a gift tag.
4. Return wrapped gift to the tree by December 11th, 2016.
5. Remaining ornaments will be removed December 11th.

If you want to donate money to school for lunch or milk accounts in need, write a check to WBCSD and place in my church mailbox.

If you want to donate money for shopping , write a check to Bethany and put it in my church mailbox.

If you would like to help in this ministry please call me.

Thank you!

Jeni Schiele

## Cookie Walk 2016

December 3rd

9:00 am 10:30 am

Remember to light those ovens and bake lots of yummy cookies.

Please bring them to the church on Friday, December 2nd doors will be open until 8:00 pm or by 8:30 am on the 3<sup>rd</sup>. Please arrange them on plates, ready to place them on tables.

Come join us for a fun filled community event.

Call Paula 331-9456 or Candy 643-5869 with any questions and to **VOLUNTEER** to help.

Please come help us set up for this event Friday Dec 2nd at 1:00 PM



## Daily Bible Readings

The foundational premise of this set of daily readings is their relationship to the Sunday lectionary. The readings are chosen so that the days leading up to Sunday (Thursday through Saturday) prepare for the Sunday readings. The days flowing out from Sunday (Monday through Wednesday) reflect upon the Sunday readings. The complete Daily Lectionary is also found on pages 1121-1153 of our hymnal, *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*.

Thu Dec 1	Isaiah 4:2-6 Acts 1:12-17, 21-26 Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19	Sun Dec 18	Isaiah 7:10-16 Romans 1:1-7 Matthew 1:18-25
Fri Dec 2	Isaiah 30:19-26 Acts 13:16-25 Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19	Mon Dec 19	Genesis 17:15-22 Galatians 4:8-20 1 Samuel 2:1-10
Sat Dec 3	Isaiah 40:1-11 John 1:19-28 Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19	Tue Dec 20	Genesis 21:1-21 Galatians 4:21-5:1 1 Samuel 2:1-10
Sun Dec 4	Isaiah 11:1-10 Romans 15:4-13 Matthew 3:1-12	Wed Dec 21	Genesis 37:2-11 Matthew 1:1-17 1 Samuel 2:1-10
Mon Dec 5	Isaiah 24:1-16a 1 Thessalonians 4:1-12 Psalm 21	Thu Dec 22	Isaiah 33:17-22 Revelation 22:6-7, 18-20 Luke 1:46b-55
Tue Dec 6	Isaiah 41:14-20 Romans 15:14-21 Psalm 21	Fri Dec 23	2 Samuel 7:18, 23-29 Galatians 3:6-14 Luke 1:46b-55
Wed Dec 7	Genesis 15:1-18 Matthew 12:33-37 Psalm 21	Sat Dec 24	Isaiah 9:2-7 Psalm 96 Titus 2:11-14
Thu Dec 8	Ruth 1:6-18 2 Peter 3:1-10 Psalm 146:5-10	Sun Dec 25	Luke 2:1-14 (15-20) Isaiah 62:6-12 Titus 3:4-7
Fri Dec 9	Ruth 4:13-17 2 Peter 3:11-18 Psalm 146:5-10	Sun Dec 25	Luke 2:(1-7) 8-20 Isaiah 52:7-10 Hebrews 1:1-12
Sat Dec 10	1 Samuel 2:1-8 Luke 3:1-18 Psalm 146:5-10	Mon Dec 26	John 1:1-14 Wisdom 4:7-15 Acts 7:59--8:8
Sun Dec 11	Isaiah 35:1-10 James 5:7-10 Matthew 11:2-11	Tue Dec 27	Psalm 148 Proverbs 8:22-31 1 John 5:1-12
Mon Dec 12	Isaiah 29:17-24 Acts 5:12-16 Psalm 42	Wed Dec 28	Psalm 148 Isaiah 49:13-23 Matthew 18:1-14
Tue Dec 13	Ezekiel 47:1-12 Jude 17-25 Psalm 42	Thu Dec 29	Psalm 148 Jeremiah 31:15-22 Luke 19:41-44
Wed Dec 14	Zechariah 8:1-17 Matthew 8:14-17, 28-34 Psalm 42	Fri Dec 30	Psalm 20 Isaiah 26:1-9 2 Corinthians 4:16-18
Thu Dec 15	2 Samuel 7:1-17 Galatians 3:23-29 Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19	Sat Dec 31	Psalm 20 1 Kings 3:5-14 John 8:12-19
Fri Dec 16	2 Samuel 7:18-22 Galatians 4:1-7 Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19		Psalm 20
Sat Dec 17	2 Samuel 7:23-29 John 3:31-36 Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19		



# DECEMBER 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				<b>1</b> 6:00 AM Women's Bible study 7:00 PM Prayer Group Meeting	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>4</b> 9:00 AM Worship followed by fellowship 10:20 AM Sunday School Pre-K through 3rd grade 3:00 PM Viewing of St. Olaf Christmas Concert	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> 1:00 PM Quilters 1:30 PM Hope Chest Open	<b>7</b> 6:00 AM Men's Breakfast and Bible Study 6:30 PM 4-6 grade Education 6:30 PM Confirmation	<b>8</b> 6:00 AM Women's Bible study 6:30 PM Small Group Opportunity - How do I know God's will for my life?	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>11</b> 9:00 AM Worship followed by fellowship 10:20 AM Sunday School Pre-K through 3rd grade	<b>12</b> 6:30 PM Council Meeting	<b>13</b> 1:00 PM Quilters 1:30 PM Hope Chest Open	<b>14</b> 6:00 AM Men's Breakfast and Bible Study 9:00 AM Women's Circle 6:30 PM 4-6 grade Education 6:30 PM Confirmation	<b>15</b> 6:00 AM Women's Bible study	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>18</b> 9:00 AM Worship followed by fellowship 10:20 AM Sunday School Pre-K through 3rd grade 3:45 PM Caroling @ Crestview	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> 1:00 PM Quilters 1:30 PM Hope Chest Open	<b>21</b> 6:00 AM Men's Breakfast and Bible Study 6:30 PM 4-6 grade Education 6:30 PM Confirmation	<b>22</b> 6:00 AM Women's Bible study	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> 5:00 PM Christmas Eve Worship 8:00 PM Christmas Eve Worship
<b>25</b> No Sunday Worship	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> 1:00 PM Quilters 1:30 PM Hope Chest Open	<b>28</b> 6:00 AM Men's Breakfast and Bible Study	<b>29</b> 6:00 AM Women's Bible study	<b>30</b>	

## Monetary Gifts Report

Submitted by Jill Taylor

Saints in Worship:	
10-02	55
10-09	46
10-16	62
10-23	81
10-30	63
<b>Total</b>	<b>307</b>

	October 2016		YTD	
Total Receipts	Actual 13,159	Budget 13,083	Actual 128,062	Budget 130,834
Total Expenses	Actual 11,262	Budget 13,633	Actual 138,419	Budget 136,533

*Thank you* all for faithfully stewarding the gifts God has entrusted us with in fulfilling the ministry and mission of God here at Bethany Lutheran Church! In so many ways, not just monetarily, God is abundantly providing for our needs.

