

# Bethany Lutheran Church

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



**DECEMBER**

## Important Dates

12-8 Annual Cookie Walk  
12-10 Council Meeting 6:30 pm.  
12-12 Women's Circle 9:00 am.  
12-16 Children's Christmas  
Program  
12-24 Candlelight Service 5:00 pm.  
12-24 Candlelight Service 8:00 pm.

## 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.  
Office Phone: (319) 643-5998

FIND US ON FACEBOOK!

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

ALSO FIND US ON TWITTER!

Search @blcwestbranch

"For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something  
to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me"

Matthew 25:35



Dear Faithful People of God,

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

By now, you may have heard about how the words Jesus spoke above played out before our very eyes this past week. In one of the worst snow storms since my arrival we encountered many who were hungry, who were strangers, and who needed a warm place to rest their heads. Late Sunday afternoon I was contacted by the West Branch Police Department advising travel on Interstate 80 had become nearly impossible and many motorists had pulled off at our exit in hopes of spending the night at the Days Inn. That hotel had long since filled up and people had nowhere to go. The decision was quickly made to bring them to Bethany.

Soon we had many folks filling our Great Hall. With a few calls I was able to secure blankets, inflatable mattresses, pillows, items of food, and people to come and help out. I thank all who assisted and know I could have called any of you and you would have responded in a similar manner.

We often find Jesus speaking of how he came to usher in the kingdom of God and he didn't always speak of it as something in the future. He also spoke of it in the present tense. The kingdom of God seems to happen here and now. Personally, I believe we caught a portrait of the kingdom of God Sunday evening and throughout the day on Monday.

What I witnessed was something beautiful. People who in some cases had been involved in an accident and had to leave behind their vehicles, or whose vehicles had slid off the road and were now abandoned in the ditch, or people who simply couldn't drive any further gathered in the warmth and safety of our building and became united together. A meal needed to quickly be made and folks stepped up. One woman began thawing ground beef left by the Lipe's family in the freezer. One gentleman lugged in a large portable cooler full of various food items and his wife began slicing bologna and frying it in a pan. Others added a bag of snacks, chips, or whatever they had. Soon there was a feast ready to feed many and a prayer of thanksgiving was offered. That sounds a bit like something out of the Bible doesn't it?

And it wasn't only that. We had people of different races and ethnicities. We had infants and the elderly. We had people from outside of the United States and we had people of different religions. We had some who spoke very little English. We even had a pet snake and a dog. Yet, what we didn't have was division. People were in need and came together to support, care for, and meet the needs of one another no matter how different they may have been. Indeed, it was a most precious sight and experience that I wish you all had the opportunity to be part of.

Things happen in life that so often are completely beyond our control. Many times we are left scratching our head or even banging it against a wall out of frustration, uncertainty, anger, fear, or despair. We may even ask the question, "is there a God?" Or, "if there is a God, where is God at in the midst of such troubling times?"

*Continued on page 2*

*Pastor Chad article from page 1 continued...*

I don't believe it was part of God's plan or will for so many motorists to be stranded alongside an interstate on a cold and snowy night. However, I do believe God can work through such incidents to reveal the goodness and glory of God and that is what I witnessed this past Sunday and Monday. I would never wish for these folks to find themselves in the predicament they did; however, looking back there is a part of me who is filled with joy and so thankful this occurred. Because, I caught this beautiful picture of the kingdom of God. I had the opportunity to meet some pretty amazing people and my life is the better for it. I was able to experience part of what it means to be the church on earth. And just as our Lord and Savior spoke in the 25th chapter of Matthew, I encountered him in all those people who came in our doors and were welcomed into our building. God was indeed present!

Time and time again I heard how grateful those we assisted were. Honestly, I didn't hear what I thought I might hear. I didn't hear people grumbling about having to sleep on a floor or angry I didn't have a pillow or that someone else got an air mattress and they didn't. I didn't hear bickering or negativity. I didn't hear sob stories about the situation these people found themselves in. No, rather, what I heard were words of joy, thankfulness, gratitude, encouragement, and love. Again, it was a portrait of the kingdom of God breaking in among us.

Below are a few of the comments I have received via email or from our Facebook page. I share these with you because these words of appreciation are not simply directly toward myself or those who were here. They are for all of us as the body of Christ here at Bethany. You see, I was able to welcome these strangers into this place because of your faithfulness and commitment to God and the stewarding of your financial gifts. I could provide them a warm place to rest their weary bodies, a comfortable chair to sit in, a stove to cook on, or a bathroom to freshen up in because of the gifts God has entrusted each of you with that you generously give back to God and God's mission in this place. I thank each of you and I want you to hear the words of thanksgiving and gratitude offered by the nearly 50 people who filled our space. We did this together! We did this as a community! We did this in response of what God has done for us and the unconditional love God revealed to us through Jesus Christ! We did this because Christ's death and resurrection freed us from the bondage of sin and death and freed us to love and serve our God and our neighbor.

In peace,



Thank you ... for sheltering me and my three children last night from that horrible storm. [I] never felt so welcomed in my life. I was scared and far from home but I felt like I was home.

My son was stranded today on the road headed back to IA State [Iowa State University]. I (his mom) am in Texas worried for him! I can't thank you enough for opening your church to all those with no place to stay. God was truly watching out for my kiddo tonight! Bless you and your neighbors too who apparently came immediately offering help and food. Thank you from my heart.

A big thanks to the pastor and church for giving stranded travelers a warm safe place to spend the night. Food we could prepare, breakfast as well. A heartfelt thank you to all.

Thank you for the warm and safe place to stay for the stranded travelers. God bless you and all that you do. It means so much.



## Birthdays

- 12-02 Bruce Jeffries
- 12-06 Wanda Anderson
- 12-07 Kellee McCrory
- 12-10 Barb Campbell
- 12-13 Marshall McElhinney
- 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

## Annual Meeting

Bethany's annual meeting will be held January 20, 2019, following worship.

Please plan to attend as your presence is vital and very much appreciated.

Also, this is a reminder of who is a voting member, according to our Constitution. All others are welcome to attend; however, they just cannot 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.



## Bethany Books by Frank Frostestad

### Books for Adults

We all suffer loss, and there are many good resources available to ease us through our time of grieving. Author and artist Roger Hutchison's book *My Favorite Color Is Blue. Sometimes...* (subtitled *A Journey Through Loss With Art And Color*) is unique in that, in addition to helping us along that painful journey with words, it creates and explores a beautiful experience with color. "Combined with sensitive reflections, our innermost thoughts and feelings are touched with compassion and understanding." This is a healing book for all ages. It was highly recommended in the September issue of the *Living Lutheran*.

In the book *Poverty: Responding Like Jesus*, a number of authors, including Pope Francis, offer a challenging look at poverty. What is our role as Christians in combating poverty? What does Scripture teach us? Different forms of poverty are considered by co-editors Kenneth R. Himes and Conor M. Kelley. They make readers think differently and engage with hope and compassion. Ultimately, the goal is to respond like Jesus. It was highly recommended in the September issue of the *Living Lutheran*.

We have a number of books in our church library on parenting and family but I thought that it would be good to add a new publication.

*Is That Poop On My Arm?* is by Justin Lind-Ayres. He is seminary pastor at Luther Seminary and campus ministry associate at Augsburg University. His book shares insights of what it is like to be engaged in parenting while Christian. Parenting can be messy business. This pastor and father of three chronicles his adventures (and misadventures) raising children and passing on his faith to them. This book is welcome encouragement for parents, grandparents, and anyone who cares deeply for the children in their life.

### Book for Children

This month's book is *Uri And The Busy Day: A Book About Feeling Overwhelmed* by Lucy Bell.

Uri has a fun day ahead and she does not want to miss a thing. But soon all the fun gets to be too much! Parents will recognize the signs of an overstimulated toddler as they follow Uri through her busy day and children will learn ways to calm down when the day gets too busy. I will also put out Christmas books on the table.

*Christ  
Is Coming!*

## Adult Education Opportunities

**Bethany Men's Breakfast Bible Study Group**  
Wednesdays at 6:00 a.m.  
in the Great Hall  
All are Welcome

**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  
All Women are Welcome

**Adult Discussion**  
10:20 a.m. in the Small Hall  
Next study will begin  
following the New Year  
All are Welcome

Communing  
TOGETHER



### Holy Communion during December

Normally, the Sacrament of Holy Communion is celebrated the first, third and fifth Sunday, when applicable, during worship. Due to the Hanging of the Greens December 2<sup>nd</sup> and the Children's Program on December 16<sup>th</sup> we will celebrate Holy Communion on December 9<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup> (5:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m.), and 30<sup>th</sup>.



Hanging  
of the  
Greens

Join us in worship Sunday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> as we adorn our worship space with the decorations of Advent and Christmas in the Hanging of the Greens worship service.



Children's Christmas Program

Sunday, December 16<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m.

We hope you can make it. Come and worship, praise, and glorify our Lord and also support our wonderful children and youth!



# Cookie Walk 2018

December 8<sup>th</sup>

9:00 am—11:00 am

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

Please bring them to the church on Friday, December 7<sup>th</sup> (doors will be open until 8:00 pm) or by 8:45 am on the December 8<sup>th</sup>. Please arrange them on plates, ready to be placed on the 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. Thank you!

## **CHRISTMAS POINSETTIA ORDERS**

It's time to order your poinsettia  
to decorate the altar for Christmas.

Plants are \$10.00 each.

Please mail this order form and payment to:

Bethany Lutheran Church

P.O. Box 236

West Branch, IA 52358

or put in Linda Black's mailbox by December 9<sup>th</sup>. Plants will be set out for the Christmas Eve candlelight services. Please make checks payable to Bethany.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to order \_\_\_\_\_ Poinsettia(s).

In memory of:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



# LUTHERAN SERVICES IN IOWA (LSI) NEWS

## 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 to 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 parents who feel hopeless, with little to no resources to raise their young children. We know adults with disabilities who feel voiceless, with no support system or connection to their community. We know teens who are aging out of the foster care system, who fear they will never have a family to love them.

The holidays can be an especially difficult time for our most vulnerable neighbors. In the spirit of giving, the spirit of love, and the spirit of working together, let us stand with them and lift them up this Christmas season. If you would like to learn more about how you can support Iowa children and families, contact Deb Whitford, LSI director of philanthropy and church relations, at 563-676-2065 or [Deborah.Whitford@LSIowa.org](mailto:Deborah.Whitford@LSIowa.org).

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](https://www.facebook.com/LSI.iowa).*

### Giving Back to Her Community

Two years ago, Sarah felt helpless. She struggled with her mental health, there was tension between family members at home, and she couldn't find support or resources that worked with her family's busy schedule.

Sarah connected with LSI's Early Childhood Services, and through a local program she received flexible in-home parenting education to help her family thrive. Her LSI parent educator worked with her to learn about money management, healthy communication, and skills for parenting her two young children.

Now Sarah feels confident raising her family. She has found a support system and is ready to give back to her community and help other young mothers in need. Whenever she can, she tells other moms about LSI and helps refer them for services.

Because she felt empowered by LSI's Early Childhood Services, Sarah is creating a ripple effect across her community. She is passionate about lifting up and strengthening other families in need of the hope and healing she received.



# ANGEL TREE

Bethany Members:

We have been given 5 families this year from WBCSD for the Angel Tree project. We will be using an online signup again this year.

Please return wrapped and labeled gifts (letter and age) to Bethany by December 5, 2018.

You can write checks to WBCSD to be put toward lunch and milk accounts in need. Feel free to place those in my mailbox or take them to school directly.

You may also write checks to Bethany to be used for shopping for items that remain in the signup at the end. Please put Angel Tree in the memo and place them in the offering.

I have included all size and like info that I received in the signup. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me.

Here is the link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E4EABAF2EA6FB6-angell>

Thanks for all you do in this ministry.

Sincerely,  
Jeni Schiele  
319-631-2661



We will celebrate  
Christ's birth together  
during our Christmas Eve  
candlelight services at  
5:00 pm and 8:00 pm.

## Altar Care Opportunity

Thank you so much to those who helped with Altar Care this year! I am organizing for 2019 now so if you would like to help out again, or if you have never done it before and would like to give it a try, please contact me as soon as possible at 643-5622.

The one month commitment entails: changing the altar cloths when needed, filling the oil candles, setting up for Communion, and providing flowers (or using the peace lilies we have).

It is a nice activity for families so everyone can learn what the church year is all about. I will train you if you have never done it before.

Thank you for considering this volunteer opportunity.

Linda Black, Worship and Music

## ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

### Church Staff

**Pastor** - Chad Whaley  
(319) 643-5998 or (319) 643-7257  
pastor@wbbethany.org

**Admin. Assistant** - Paula Casper  
(319) 331-9456  
blcsecretary@lcom.net

**Custodian** – Jerry Dodds

**Organist** – Jill Barnhart

### Church Council

Jon Twing  
(319) 331-6547  
jon.s.twing@pearson.com

Alan Beyer  
(319)643-2136  
iabeyers@aol.com

Nancy Bruns  
(319)643-3201  
Nancy-bruns@uiowa.edu

Linda Black  
(319)430-0604  
lblack@lcom.net

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(319) 643-5734  
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1982cmf@lcom.net

### Financial Secretary

Claudia Beyer  
(319) 643-2136  
iabeyers@aol.com

Thank You to  
Our Staff

On Sunday, November 4th 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: Kathy Roth. We also gave thanks for those new saints baptized into the church in the past year: Sadie McElhinney and Theodore Wiele.

Finally, we recognized, gave thanks, and prayed for our “senior” saints (those 80 and over among us). They are: Millie Anderson, Hermann Boedeker, Jerry Dodds, Janet Friis, Paul Friis, Dorothy Holmes, June Madsen, Richard Madsen, Delores Paulsen, Jim Peak, Helen Petersen, Betty Slach, Paul Weismann, Kay Davisson, Herb Friis, Ronald Madsen and Marvin Brick. Below is a photo of those in attendance. Those who were unable to be with us were missed greatly!



## Inclement Weather policy



In the event we need to cancel worship at Bethany due to inclement weather notification will be done in the following formats. There will be a post on the church website ([www.wbbethany.org/westbranch/](http://www.wbbethany.org/westbranch/)) and Bethany's Facebook page. There will also be an email sent out to all Bethany members who have provided an email address and the phone answering machine will be updated to advise of a cancellation. Notification will also be provided to KGAN and KCRG television stations. These will be the primary means of notification. If none of the above means work for you please contact Paula so we can make other arrangements. Thank you!



BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH  
COUNCIL MINUTES October 2018

**The meeting was called to order** at 6:30 by President Kaufman.

**Members present** were Beth Kaufman, Linda Black, Nancy Brun, Wayne Frauenholtz, Tonya Samuelson, Jamie Zimmerman, Jon Twing, Al Beyer, and Pastor Chad. Absent was Cheryl Fisher.

**Pastor Chad opened the meeting** with a brief worship service, including prayer and time for reflection. He mentioned recent continuing education offerings which emphasized worship at the center of our lives and in what we do, including times together such as our council meeting.

**Pastor's report:** Over the last month, I had the opportunity to go to 2 different continuing education opportunities. The first was the annual Fall theological conference organized by the Southeastern Iowa Synod. This year, St. Paul Lutheran in Davenport was the host location. It was a great 3 days in which we gathered for meals, worship, and education. The theme of the conference pertained to leadership in today's church. Just a few days later I attended the Craft of Preaching conference at Luther Seminary in St. Paul, MN. This was the second year I have attended this event for continuing education and once again found it beneficial. Three well-known preachers were on hand to deliver their sermons during a worship service and following that service they spend time discussing how they arrived at their sermon. What works for them? In addition to this, there are many workshops to choose from as well. I went to ones on preaching the Old Testament, preaching the Gospel of Luke for upcoming Year C, preaching and faith formation, and preaching and poetry, which I already tried out this past Sunday in my sermon.

Some other highlights since last month include the kick-off of Wednesday night activities. We tried something *new* this year. Rather than rally Sunday, which no longer seemed to be drawing the kids and families involved in children and youth faith formation, we began the year on September 19<sup>th</sup> with a family meal. We had approximately 30 people attend. During the meal we played Bible trivia, followed by a short time of worship, and then an introductory meeting for parents and students in Confirmation. Many thanks to Tonya and Amber for their efforts in making this night go smoothly. Wednesday night classes officially began this past Wednesday. Another *new* thing this year is having the younger children join us for class on Wednesday evenings due to dwindling attendance on Sunday morning. I unfortunately was unable to attend the opening night as a result

of being in St. Paul and thank Al Beyer who led the class in my absence.

The West Branch Area Religious Council resumed our meetings and met September 13<sup>th</sup> at the West Branch Friends Conservative Meeting. A representative of the Shelter house in Iowa City was on hand to explain their ministry and mission. This is the homeless shelter and much information was provided that was beneficial. In fact, police Chief Horihan and myself had worked on a case involving someone in need of housing earlier in the week so this was a timely presentation. Here are a few facts of the Shelter House. In 2017 they provided emergency housing for 874 men, women, and children. 42% of the adults whom they worked with suffered from disabling health and mental health conditions. 58% of the adults were employed upon their departure from the shelter and 68% moved into permanent housing. Also, at this meeting I moved to host another Community Service of Unity, Peace, and Healing. This will be the third one and will be on Sunday, October 28 at 6:00 p.m. at Village Green, which was confirmed after filing the necessary application with the U.S. Park Service. Our next meeting is October 11 at Bethany.

Other regular happenings include: Crestview worship, Men's Bible study, Women's circle, day-to-day administrative tasks including worship and bulletin preparation and review, sermon preparation, confirmation preparation and planning, newsletter preparation pastoral care and visits (11) and so many other things that pop up. Also of note, individuals seeking assistance for various reasons have increased, which I have had to devote more time to cover the past month. I thank Judy Cottingham of the West Branch Friends Conservative Meeting for helping me out.

**Secretary's Report:** Jamie moved to accept the minutes of the September meeting with correction for a grammatical error. Linda seconded. Motion passed.

**Treasurer's Report:** Total revenues: \$13,444. Total expenses: \$13,399.17. Expenses are under budget for the year. Wayne moved and Jon seconded to accept the treasurer's report. Motion passed.

Jamie moved to transfer \$500 from internal ministries fund to the quilter's fund. Linda seconded. Motion passed.

A budget committee will soon be formed. Nancy requested that all committee chairs submit their budget requests for next year. She handed out year-to-date budget reports for each committee.

**Building and Grounds:** Jamie said a hole has developed

BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH  
COUNCIL MINUTES October 2018

by the sidewalk in front of the parsonage. They are still trying to determine the cause. With recent heavy rains, some of the asphalt has washed out in the parking lot. He is hoping that a simple patch will fix the problem. Education: Last Wednesday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>, was the first Wednesday Education meeting and they had a good turnout. The Wednesday night kickoff was held on September 19<sup>th</sup> with a cookout. Bible trivia was played and an informational meeting was held. A short worship service followed. Response was good and they are planning to make this an annual affair.

**Evangelism:** Wayne attended a regional Workforce Development Board meeting on September 27<sup>th</sup>. They have a new workforce barrier training with very rigorous compliance for things like transportation, language, culture, addictions, background checks and job training. Workforce also has a workshop covering expunging certain criminal records. These are relatively new resources. HACAP will be coming November 3<sup>rd</sup>.

**Fellowship:** 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday Supper was well attended last month. The confirmation class will be serving the next supper. Cheese, hot dogs, and buns that had been left in the refrigerator were taken to Table to Table in Iowa City. The Synod Candidacy Retreat will be hosted by Bethany on October 26-27.

**Stewardship:** Jon is updating the time and talent sheets. These will be available both in hard copy and online.

**Youth:** No report.

**Worship and Music:** There was nothing new for this month.

**Old Business:**

For insurance purposed, it is recommended to have windows in two of the classroom doors. Jamie will contact Del regarding this.

**New Business:** There will be a meeting next Tuesday evening for an online webinar introduction to “Turning Point”, an intensive 18 month program for congregations to foster greater congregational vitality. The course begins next January and there is a financial commitment, so a decision to apply will be made after we learn more from the webinar.

#inthis Together meetings for elected leader, pastors and ministerial staff are scheduled at various times and places with Bishop Burk. These are held to enhance our shared mission with congregation and the synod.

The meeting adjourned and a short sending service with communion followed.



# Faith at Home

These short Bible passages and reflection starters are one more way we are trying to spur conversation about faith at home and also absorb ourselves in the word of God. We hope you find them beneficial.

## 1 Peter 2:9-10

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

- Chosen as one of God's own people I...
- Moving out of darkness into God's light...
- I proclaim God...



## Genesis 22:1-2

After these things God tested Abraham. He said to him, "Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." He said, "Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains that I shall show you."

- Something I have sacrificed or given for another is...
- Trusting God fully...
- God is asking me for...

## 1 John 1:8-9

If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

- My sin...
- My experience of confession...
- My experience of forgiveness...



## 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*.

<b>Saturday, Dec 1</b>	Psalm 25:1-10 Nehemiah 9:26-31 Luke 21:20-24	<b>Tuesday, Dec 18</b>	Isaiah 11:1-9 Numbers 16:20-35 Acts 28:23-31
<b>Sunday, Dec 2</b>	Jeremiah 33:14-16 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13 Luke 21:25-36	<b>Wednesday, Dec 19</b>	Isaiah 11:1-9 Micah 4:8-13 Luke 7:31-35
<b>Monday, Dec 3</b>	Psalm 90 Numbers 17:1-11 2 Peter 3:1-18	<b>Thursday, Dec 20</b>	Psalm 80:1-7 Jeremiah 31:31-34 Hebrews 10:10-18
<b>Tuesday, Dec 4</b>	Psalm 90 2 Samuel 7:18-29 Revelation 22:12-16	<b>Friday, Dec 21</b>	Psalm 80:1-7 Isaiah 42:10-18 Hebrews 10:32-39
<b>Wednesday, Dec 5</b>	Psalm 90 Isaiah 1:24-31 Luke 11:29-32	<b>Saturday, Dec 22</b>	Psalm 80:1-7 Isaiah 66:7-11 Luke 13:31-35
<b>Thursday, Dec 6</b>	Luke 1:68-79 Malachi 3:5-12 Philippians 1:12-18a	<b>Sunday, Dec 23</b>	Micah 5:2-5a Luke 1:46b-55 or Psalm 80:1-7 Hebrews 10:5-10 Luke 1:39-45[46-55]
<b>Friday, Dec 7</b>	Luke 1:68-79 Malachi 3:13-18 Philippians 1:18b-26	<b>Monday, Dec 24</b>	Isaiah 9:2-7 Psalm 96 Titus 2:11-14 Luke 2:1-14[15-20]
<b>Saturday, Dec 8</b>	Luke 1:68-79 Malachi 4:1-6 Luke 9:1-6	<b>Tuesday, Dec 25</b>	Isaiah 62:6-12 Psalm 97 Titus 3:4-7 Luke 2:[1-7]8-20
<b>Sunday, Dec 9,</b>	Malachi 3:1-4 or Baruch 5:1-9 Luke 1:68-79 Philippians 1:3-11 Luke 3:1-6	<b>Wednesday, Dec 26</b>	Psalm 148 2 Chronicles 24:17-24 Acts 6:1-7; 7:51-60 Psalm 148
<b>Monday, Dec 10</b>	Psalm 126 Isaiah 40:1-11 Romans 8:22-25	<b>Thursday, Dec 27</b>	Proverbs 8:22-36 John 21:19b-24 Psalm 148
<b>Tuesday, Dec 11</b>	Psalm 126 Isaiah 19:18-25 2 Peter 1:2-15	<b>Friday, Dec 28</b>	Isaiah 54:1-13 Revelation 21:1-7 Psalm 147:12-20
<b>Wednesday, Dec 12</b>	Psalm 126 Isaiah 35:3-7 Luke 7:18-20	<b>Saturday, Dec 29</b>	1 Chronicles 28:1-10 1 Corinthians 3:10-17 1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26 Psalm 148
<b>Thursday, Dec 13</b>	Isaiah 12:2-6 Amos 6:1-8 2 Corinthians 8:1-15	<b>Sunday, Dec 30</b>	Colossians 3:12-17 Luke 2:41-52 Psalm 147:12-20
<b>Friday, Dec 14</b>	Isaiah 12:2-6 Amos 8:4-12 2 Corinthians 9:1-15	<b>Monday, Dec 31</b>	1 Kings 3:5-14 John 8:12-19
<b>Saturday, Dec 15</b>	Isaiah 12:2-6 Amos 9:8-15 Luke 1:57-66		
<b>Sunday, Dec 16</b>	Zephaniah 3:14-20 Isaiah 12:2-6 Philippians 4:4-7 Luke 3:7-18		
<b>Monday, Dec 17</b>	Isaiah 11:1-9 Numbers 16:1-19 Hebrews 13:7-17		



**December 2018**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
25	26	27	28	29	30	1
<b>2</b> 9:00 AM Worship with Hanging of the Greens 10:15 AM Budget Committee Meeting	<b>3</b> 7:00 PM Men's Retreat Planning Team Meeting	<b>4</b> 1:00 PM Hope Chest Open 1:00 PM Quilters	<b>5</b> 6:00 AM Men's Breakfast and Bible Study 6:15 PM Choir Practice 6:30 PM Confirmation 6:30 PM Pre K-6th grade Faith Formation	<b>6</b> 6:00 AM Women's Bible study	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> 9:00 AM Cookie Walk
<b>9</b> 9:00 AM Worship	<b>10</b> 6:30 PM Council Meeting	<b>11</b> 1:00 PM Hope Chest Open 1:00 PM Quilters	<b>12</b> 6:00 AM Men's Breakfast and Bible Study 9:00 AM Women's Circle Bible Study 6:15 PM Choir Practice 6:30 PM Confirmation 6:30 PM Pre K-6th grade Faith Formation	<b>13</b> 6:00 AM Women's Bible study	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>16</b> 9:00 AM Worship (Children's' Program)	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> 1:00 PM Hope Chest Open 1:00 PM Quilters	<b>19</b> 6:00 AM Men's Breakfast and Bible Study 6:15 PM Choir Practice 6:30 PM Confirmation 6:30 PM Pre K-6th grade Faith Formation	<b>20</b> 6:00 AM Women's Bible study	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>23</b> 9:00 AM Worship	<b>24</b> 5:00 PM Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship 8:00 PM Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> 6:00 AM Men's Breakfast and Bible Study 6:15 PM Choir Practice	<b>27</b> 6:00 AM Women's Bible study	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>

**Monetary Gifts Report**  
Submitted by Nancy Bruns

Saints in Worship:  
 10/07 61  
 10/14 50  
 10/21 57  
 10/28 52  
 Total 220

	October 2018		YTD	
Total Receipts	Actual 11,090	Budget 13,000	Actual 123,515	Budget 130,000
Total Expenses	Actual 12,346	Budget 13,394	Actual 125,429	Budget 134,117

**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.

