

Bethany Lutheran Church

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



"But by the grace of God I am what I am..." - 1 Corinthians 15:10

Important Dates

- 11-09 Council meeting 6:30 pm
- 11-11 Women's Circle 9:00 am
- 11-25 No Confirmation
- 11-26 Happy Thanksgiving

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



Dear Faithful Followers of Christ Jesus our Lord,

Grace and peace to each of you! I have been spending a great deal of time in reflection as of late. I suppose the death of a close loved one (in my case, my brother) has a way of doing that. That is, I have found it to be true a death or an illness or some other struggle we experience has a way of forcing us to reflect about what we are currently experiencing, feeling, and possibly even where we are at presently in our life. This is all part of the grief process we go through. It is a perfectly natural human response to pain. Those moments of waiting, longing, and reflecting are indeed painful and full of heartache at times and may seem like they will never end; however, they also can be very fruitful and productive ultimately helping bring us out of the darkness and into the glorious Light that continues to shine through the darkness.

One of the things I have reflected upon is the fact I am who I am. In many ways since beginning my call to ordained ministry I have allowed myself to change. Don't get me wrong – change often is exactly what is needed and can indeed be a good and healthy thing leading to growth and transformation. However, at other times changes we make may actually work against us and exhaust us spiritually, mentally, and even physically. Therefore, with God's help I am going to try and simply be who I am – who God has called me to be – trusting that it is good enough. A much wiser colleague than I gave me this bit of advice and I am grateful for it.

Ultimately, all of us truly need to be who we are and trust that is good enough and God is able to use us just as God created us. We aren't perfect nor do we have to be. We are sinners but at the same time we are saints because we are clothed in our baptisms with the garment of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. When we fail to be true to ourselves then inherently we fail to be true to who God created us to be and fall prey to the trap of living up to everyone else's (and even our own) expectations rather than to God's. So be who you are! Be who God created you to be with the unique gifts, talents, and abilities God has equipped you with!

Blessings precious sons and daughters of the living God!

Pastor Chad



Birthdays

11-02 Addison Langley
 11-03 Betty Slach
 11-06 Tammy Urmie
 11-07 Paul Weismann
 11-08 Madelyn Anderson
 11-09 Eulyn Frostestad
 11-13 JoAnn Blaalid
 11-14 Josephine Hervey
 11-17 Cheyanne Crow
 11-18 Alex Poppen
 11-22 Scott Marsh
 11-23 John Hierseman
 11-26 Patty Yeater
 11-27 Steve Campbell

News and Notes

Christ the King Sunday celebrates the all-embracing authority of Christ as King and Lord of the cosmos. Officially called the Feast of Our Lord Jesus Christ the King, it is celebrated on the final Sunday of Ordinary Time, the Sunday before Advent. In 2015, the feast falls on November 22nd.

Also that day we will be decorating our yard for the Christmas season. Due to a family emergency, we were unable to decorate last year. We have come to rely on the assistance of the congregation and appreciate your help. Our address is 1489 Valley View Drive in Coralville. We start at Noon and will be done in under two hours. Good food provided. Please plan on attending.

Dave and Roxanne Bahnsen



Bethany Books

by Frank Frostestad

Books for Adults

Women are the subject of the books in this month's newsletter. All of these books have been donated. The first is *God's Girls: finding the freedom to become the women God created us to be!* by Susan Slone Dantzer. Many women are distracted with meeting the needs of others that they forget to take time to refresh and care for themselves. God gives the strength to weather the storms of life, the courage to make changes that will improve the quality of life, and the hope that a life of freedom in all areas will become a reality. This is a book for every woman who feels she is not worthy enough or good enough to be one of ... God's Girls.

Approval Addiction: overcoming your need to please everyone by Joyce Meyer tells how to break the addiction. She provides a path to release us from the overwhelming need for acceptance from the outside world. This is an acceptance that is unfulfilling and leads to disappointment. It is based on personal insecurities. The message is that God gives all the affirmation we need and through Him we can attain freedom.

The Middle Place by Kelly Corrigan is about that time when parenthood and childhood overlap. It is a time when one is between their adult duties and their parent's care. Funny, honest, and heart-wrenching *The Middle Place* is about being a parent and a child at the same time. It is about the family you make and the family you come from. It is locating, navigating, and celebrating the place where they meet.

What Happened To My Life?: finding new passion, purpose, and joy by Danna Demetre is a 40 day plan for reclaiming your life. Whether you are dealing with a crisis or simply feeling that life is not what you had hoped for, the author gives suggestions to move from simply surviving to thriving.

What's It Like To Be Married To Me? and other dangerous questions by Linda Dillow is a book on marriage. The author shares the best and worst things she has done in her years of marriage. It is not so much a book about marriage but a book about how to live out your marriage, day by day, and year by year. It includes a ten or twelve week reflective bible study.

Book For Children

God Made You Special by Mike Berenstain begins by telling us the many ways we can tell that God loves us. There are many things that make a person special. We are all a little different from each other. Differences are discussed. We do not all grow up and develop in exactly the same way. We need to thank God for the gifts that he has given each of us.



Sermons Are Online

Pastor Chad's sermons can now be found on Bethany's website (www.wbbethany.org) by placing your cursor over the "Resource" tab found on the home page and then selecting "Sermons" when it pops up. Additionally, some people have requested an email with the sermon attached. If you prefer that method

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

Adult Discussion
10:20 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

Communication at Bethany

Communication is vital to any organization whether it be a church, business, or other entity. We do our best to keep everyone posted on happenings here at Bethany. Our main avenues of communication are via the monthly newsletter, our website (www.wbbethany.org), our Facebook and Twitter pages, emails, and through weekly worship bulletins. If you have not bookmarked our website please do so. There is a wealth of information on it including but not limited to: photos of events at Bethany, schedules and calendars, links to devotions, sermons, and other resources related to Bethany such as our Constitution and By-Laws. Communication is vital to our relationship with one another and we hope these various avenues help strengthen that connection and our ministry efforts here at Bethany and in the world.



Stay in Touch



It's time once again to order your Poinsettia, which will help enhance and bring the beauty of creation to our worship space this Christmas. Plants are \$10.00 each. Please put your order and the payment in Paula's mailbox by December 13th or send form and payment (checks payable to Bethany) to:

Bethany Lutheran
P.O. Box 236
West Branch, Iowa 52358

Your Name: _____

Circle one: In Honor of *or* In Memory of



Church Staff

Pastor - Chad Whaley
(319) 643-5998 or (319) 643-7257
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Admin. Assistant - Paula Casper
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Cookie Walk

December 5th 9:00 am til ?

Light those ovens and bake lots of yummy cookies. Bring them to the church on Friday, December 4th until 8:00 pm or by 8:30 am on the 5th. Please arrange them on plates, ready to place them on tables.

Schedule

Friday, December 4th

Set up and decorate at 1:00 pm. Need a couple of strong men to help with tables, etc!

The Dansk Cafe will be serving special samples and of course lots of coffee.

The quilters will again offer items for sale. Do your baking and shopping all in one trip.

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

Doors Open! Come join us for a fun filled community event.

A Look Back to the Third Annual Outdoor Worship and Pet Blessing

God blessed us yet again with a glorious day for our third annual Outdoor Worship and Pet Blessing Sunday, which was held October 11. Thanks to all who attended and brought some wonderful pets with you. Below are a few photos from this wonderful day that reflect our life together and how Christ is present among us.





BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH
COUNCIL MINUTES

September 14, 2015

Members Present: Pastor Chad, Candy, Carol, Jill, Courtney, Greg, and John

Members Absent: Kevin, Laura, Paula

Called to Order: 6:30 PM

Pastor's Report: Started off with the prayer. 8 pastoral visits. Confirmation started: 4 returning and 5 new. Attended anti-bullying forum with a 4 hour documentary in Ames. God's Work our Hands Planning. Lots of aid requests lately. WBARC meeting. Guide to Local Resources and Service Agency finished. Huge deal to help locals in need. Created a Baptismal Sponsor Guide brochure (very well done). Baptized Avery Fonseca and prepared for Jeanette Lipse'. Dave and Roxanne Bahnsen will attend the Conference Seven Assembly on 9/20.

Secretary: Will change report to read "Potentially 9 first year students." Moved as corrected, Jill. Courtney, second. Passed.

Treasurer: Discussion on what we could give some of the accumulated savings' funds to. Now: 9% to Benevolence, of which 55% goes to missions. Another 2% goes to local mission at end of year. Maybe weighted blankets. About \$7300 in the bus tour/cookie walk fund. Maybe it is time to move this money to Mission. We will all come up with ideas. Linda will talk to the school, John to the county.

Education: Courtney said Sunday School will start 10/4. Amber Marsh is a big helper. Two classes: 4 year-olds-third grade and fourth grade-sixth grade, who uses Connect. Seventh and eighth grade are in confirmation. Bible dedication, teacher installation, and Rally Sunday are 9/27. Building and Grounds: Del and John installed the base trim in the parsonage, which finished the project.

Stewardship: Fall campaign is "Live Free". Materials are ordered. Time and Talent Sheets are coming. On 9/27 the newsletter will be emailed. 9/28 is the next meeting.

Worship and Music: Aura gone 9/20. Jill Barnhart subs. On 9/17 discussed choir plans with Deanna stepping down. Several people are investigating options.

Old Business: Nothing.

New Business: Fourth Sunday dinner, Candy: pulled pork, slaw and fruit. Pet blessing discussion. Youth had started it. Tom Norton with insurance had given us tips on limiting liability. Mike Sondergard will present a history of our church. He has family here from Denmark. Some of their relatives are charter members of the church.

Adjournment: 7:55 PM Greg moved, Carol seconded.

Next meeting October 12, 2015



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*.

Sun November 1	Deuteronomy 6:1-9 Hebrews 9:11-14 Mark 12:28-34	Tue November 17	Daniel 8:15-27 Hebrews 10:32-39 Psalm 13
Mon November 2	Deuteronomy 6:10-25 Romans 12:17-21 Psalm 51	Wed November 18	Zechariah 12:1 - 13:1 Mark 13:9-23 Psalm 13
Tue November 3	Deuteronomy 28:58 - 29:1 Acts 7:17-29 Psalm 51	Thu November 19	Ezekiel 28:1-10 Acts 7:54 - 8:1a Psalm 93
Wed November 4	Micah 6:1-8 John 13:31-35 Psalm 51	Fri November 20	Ezekiel 28:20-26 1 Corinthians 15:20-28 Psalm 93
Thu November 5	Numbers 36:1-13 Romans 5:6-11 Psalm 146	Sat November 21	Daniel 7:1-8, 15-18 John 3:31-36 Psalm 93
Fri November 6	Deuteronomy 15:1-11 Hebrews 9:15-24 Psalm 146	Sun November 22	Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14 Revelation 1:4b-8 John 18:33-37
Sat November 7	Deuteronomy 24:17-22 Mark 11:12-14, 20-24 Psalm 146	Mon November 23	Daniel 7:19-27 Revelation 11:1-14 Psalm 76
Sun November 8	1 Kings 17:8-16 Hebrews 9:24-28 Mark 12:38-44	Tue November 24	Ezekiel 29:1-12 Revelation 11:15-19 Psalm 76
Mon November 9	Ruth 1:1-22 1 Timothy 5:1-8 Psalm 94	Wed November 25	Ezekiel 30:20-26 John 16:25-33 Psalm 76
Tue November 10	Ruth 3:14 - 4:6 1 Timothy 5:9-16 Psalm 94	Thu November 26	Joel 2:21-27 Psalm 126 1 Timothy 2:1-7
Wed November 11	Ruth 4:7-22 Luke 4:16-30 Psalm 94	Fri November 27	Nehemiah 9:6-15 Psalm 25:1-10 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11
Thu November 12	Daniel 4:4-18 1 Timothy 6:11-21 Psalm 16	Sat November 28	Nehemiah 9:16-25 Psalm 25:1-10 1 Thessalonians 5:12-22
Fri November 13	Daniel 4:19-27 Colossians 2:6-15 Psalm 16	Sun November 29	Jeremiah 33:14-16 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13 Luke 21:25-36
Sat November 14	Daniel 4:28-37 Mark 12:1-12 Psalm 16	Mon November 30	Numbers 17:1-11 Psalm 90 Peter 3:1-18
Sun November 15	Daniel 12:1-3 Hebrews 10:11-25 Mark 13:1-8		
Mon November 16	Daniel 8:1-14 Hebrews 10:26-31 Psalm 13		





November 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9:00 AM Worship followed by fellowship 10:20 AM Sunday school & Adult Discussion	2	3 1:00 PM Quilters 1:30 PM Hope Chest Open	4 6:00 AM Men's Breakfast and Bible Study	5 6:00 AM Women's Bible study	6	7
8 9:00 AM Worship followed by fellowship 10:20 AM Sunday school & Adult Discussion	9 6:30 PM Council Meeting	10 1:00 PM Quilters 1:30 PM Hope Chest Open	11 6:00 AM Men's Breakfast and Bible Study 9:00 AM Women's Circle 6:30 PM Confirmation dinner and study	12 6:00 AM Women's Bible study	13	14
15 9:00 AM Worship followed by fellowship 10:20 AM Sunday school & Adult Discussion	16	17 1:00 PM Quilters 1:30 PM Hope Chest Open	18 6:00 AM Men's Breakfast and Bible Study 6:30 PM Confirmation dinner and study	19 6:00 AM Women's Bible study	20	21
22 9:00 AM Worship followed by fellowship 10:20 AM Sunday school & Adult Discussion 5:00 PM West Branch Community Meal @ Bethany	23	24 1:00 PM Quilters 1:30 PM Hope Chest Open	25 6:00 AM Men's Breakfast and Bible Study	26	27	28
29 9:00 AM Worship followed by fellowship 10:20 AM Sunday school & Adult Discussion	30	1 1:00 PM Quilters 1:30 PM Hope Chest Open	2 6:00 AM Men's Breakfast and Bible Study 6:30 PM Confirmation dinner and study	3 6:00 AM Women's Bible study	4	

Monetary Gifts Report

Submitted by Jill Taylor

Saints in Worship September 2015

09-06 52
09-13 52
09-20 52
09-27 80

Total: 236

	September 2015		YTD	
	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget
	Monetary Gifts Received	12,531	12,333	120,492
Gifts invested in Ministry	9,133	12,985	118,786	117,122

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.

Bethany



Bethany Lutheran Church
 235 South Second Street
 PO BOX 236
 West Branch, Iowa 52358
 www.wbbethany.org



Ministry Assistants

Ministers of Proclamation (Lectors)

- 11-01 Deanna Weismann
- 11-08 Frank Frostestad
- 11-15 Mike Fryauf
- 11-22 Tonya Samuelson
- 11-29 Carol Roghair

Ministers of Hospitality (Greeters)

- 11-01 Anne & Jamie Fetzer
- 11-08 Cindy Knoop
- 11-15 Beth & Kent Kaufman
- 11-22 Carol Roghair
- 11-29 June & Richard Madsen

Ministers of Christ's Light (Acolytes)

- 11-01 Auron Marsh & Ellie Holstad
- 11-08 Kaitlyn & Collin Lovetinsky
- 11-15 Ellie Holstad
Jaylen Votroubek
- 11-22 Matt Whaley & Matt Paulsen
- 11-29 Mia Olson & Gavin Hierseman



Find us on
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To find Bethany's main page,
 search "**Bethany Lutheran
 Church (ELCA)**
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