Bethany Lutheran Church

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





Important Dates

- 9-09 9:00 am Breakfast/Worship 10:00 am Service projects
- 9-12 Community tailgate at Bethany
- 9-19 Faith formation kick-off
- 9-30 Outdoor worship



May the favor of the Lord our God rest on us; establish the work of our hands.

Psalm 90:17 (NIV)

God's Work. Our hands.

The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America's (ELCA) annual day of service known as "God's Work. Our hands" is Sunday, September 9. We have many activities planned including a breakfast and worship service at 9:00 a.m. See page 5 for more details.

One activity will be packing Personal Care Kits for Lutheran World Relief that will bring comfort and aid to people following a natural disaster or other life-changing event. We hope to package 50 kits. The items needed for each kit are listed below and can be purchased for under \$10. We are hoping folks might purchase a kit or two.

- Light-weight bath-size towel (between 20" x 40" and 52" x 27"; dark color recommended; light or medium-weight preferred as they take up less storage and easier to hand wash and air dry)
- Two or three bath-size bars of soap equaling 8 to 9 oz., any brand, in original wrapping
- One adult-size toothbrush in it's original packaging (Toothbrush multi-packs may be used by sealing an individual toothbrush in a business-size envelope; no plastic bags or wrap.)
- One sturdy comb
- One metal nail clippers (attached file optional)

*Note: New items only, no religious symbols, patriotic or military symbols allowed on items. Boxes that are strong, clean, and in good shape will also be needed to package and transport the kits.

Please bring purchased supplies to the church prior to September 9 so they can be organized and ready to assemble on Sunday. Thanks!

We also will take cash donations and will purchase supplies for you. If making out a check, please note "Personal Care Kits" on the memo line. Please see Jill Taylor or Pastor Chad with any questions.



Birthdays

09-01 Dru Johnston, Jared Liebergen 09-03 Jaden Hierseman 09-04 Nick Fitzgerald 09-06 Cole Bailey 09-09 Emma Fryauf, John Fuhrmeister 09-14 Jeff Arp, Jaylen Votroubek 09-15 Anne Fetzer 09-16 Rebecca Black, Victoria Yeater 09-17 Ron Madsen, Kendra Webb 09-19 Wade Holmes 09-20 Andrew Samuelson 09-22 Pam Glandon 09-23 Cindy Knoop, Helen Petersen 09-24 Kyle Anderson 09-26 Brendt Fetzer

Contact Information

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

Pastor Chad Whaley pastor@wbbethany.org

Admin. Assistant: Paula Casper blcsecretary@lcom.net

Paula's 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



Bethany Books

by Frank Frostestad

Books for Adults

This month will feature biographies. Our first author is Eric Metaxas who is known for his book on *Bonhoeffer*. We also have his book *Amazing Grace* on William Wilberforce and the heroic campaign to end slavery. I will also feature *Seven Wom-en and the secret of their greatness* and *Seven men and the secret of their greatness*. Last year, on the 500th anniversary of

the reformation, he published *Martin Luther: The Man Who Rediscovered God And Changed The World*. On All Saints Eve in 1517, a young monk named Martin Luther posted a document he hoped would spark an academic debate. Instead, it set in motion the events that led to the reformation and changed the Church and the world. I will put it with the Luther/ Reformation books in October.

We all know the story of Paul, the apostle, who saw the light on the road to Damascus and changed dramatically from the zealous Pharisee persecutor to devoted follower of Jesus. He has been one of the most influential of the church's early teachers. N.T. Wright in his new biography *Paul* offers a new way of understanding one of the most famous Christian figures. Focusing on Paul's letters and theology, Wright argues, that we have overlooked the essence of the man's life and the extreme unlikelihood of what he achieved. He draws attention to Paul, the man, and his ability to invent new language and concepts for translating Jesus for the Gentile world. He states that we can not fully understand him without taking into account the pre-Christian Jewish beliefs and hopes that he believed had been fulfilled in Jesus. Recommended by *Christian Century Magazine*.

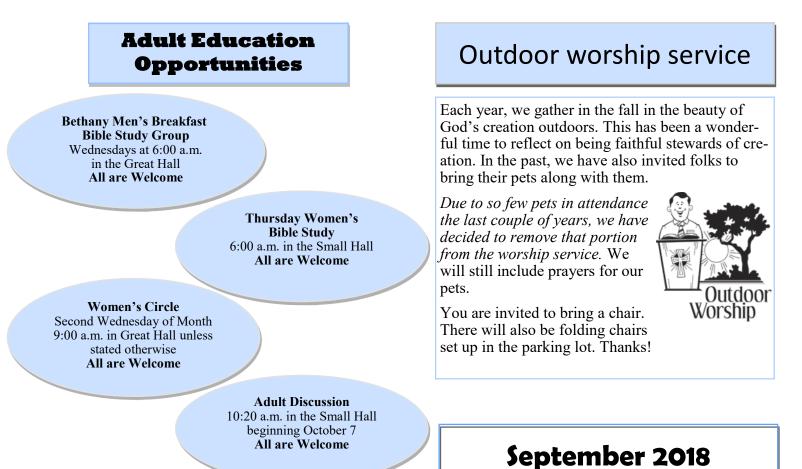
Fierce: Women Of The Bible And Their Stories Of Violence, Mercy, Bravery, Wisdom, Sex, And Salvation by Alice Connor is a way to see familiar stories with new eyes. The stories in the Bible are messy, challenging and beautiful. This book is meant to provoke you and open up new possibilities. I think that she pushes the envelope a bit hard at times and may offend. Of course, the prophets tended to do so as well. The book is meant for anyone ready to argue with scripture. You may come away with unique insights about these "fierce" women. This book was published by Fortress Press and was "highly recommended" in the *Living Lutheran*.

Book for Children

365 Read-Aloud Bedtime Bible Stories is specifically written for ages three to eight. It has a year's supply of the best known Bible stories. Adventure, history, and spiritual truths are skillfully presented. At the end of each story are questions to help stimulate discussion. (donated)

DVD

God's Not Dead takes up the question of proving the reality of God's existence. "When an atheist philosophy professor plans to forgo 'dusty arguments' in his class, he insists the new students declare that 'God is dead'. Unable to do this, a student is challenged to defend his faith and prove to the class that *God's Not Dead*. Against all odds, he stands up for his faith and takes on the challenge." (donated)



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26 9:00 AM Worship 5:00 PM West Branch Community Meal @ Bethany	27	28 1:00 PM Hope Chest Open 1:00 PM Quilters	29 6:00 AM Men's Breakfast and Bible Study	30 6:00 AM Women's Bible study	31	1
2 9:00 AM Worship	3	4 1:00 PM Hope Chest Open 1:00 PM Quilters	5 6:00 AM Men's Breakfast and Bible Study	6 6:00 AM Women's Bible study	7	8
9 "God's work, our hands" Sunday 9:00 AM Breakfast / Worship 10:00 AM Service Projects	10 6:30 PM Council Meeting	11 1:00 PM Hope Chest Open 1:00 PM Quilters	12 6:00 AM Men's Breakfast and Bible Study 7:00 PM Community Tailgate with WBUMC	13 6:00 AM Women's Bible study	14	15
16 Presentation of Bibles and Teacher Installation 9:00 AM Worship	17	18 1:00 PM Hope Chest Open 1:00 PM Quilters	19 6:00 AM Men's Breakfast and Bible Study 6:30 PM Children and Youth Education Kickoff	20 6:00 AM Women's Bible study	21	22
23 9:00 AM Worship 5:00 PM West Branch Community Meal @ Bethany	24	25 1:00 PM Hope Chest Open 1:00 PM Quilters	26 6:00 AM Men's Breakfast and Bible Study	27 6:00 AM Women's Bible study	28	29
30 9:00 AM Outdoor Worship 10:20 AM Sunday School Pre-K through 3rd grade	1	2 1:00 PM Hope Chest Open 1:00 PM Quilters	3 6:00 AM Men's Breakfast and Bible Study	4 6:00 AM Women's Bible study	5	6

First Communion Education

Is your child ready to start receiving the sacrament of Holy Communion? A tentative date for first communion instruction has been set for Monday, October 15th at 6:30 pm. All children going through the instruction will then receive their first communion during worship on Reformation Sunday, October 28th.

It is our belief a child does not need to be a certain age to

take communion; however, some education is required so the child will have a basic understanding of this sacrament. The decision of whether or not a child is ready is made between the parents/guardians and pastor.



Minister of Christ's Light (aka Acolyte) Training

All children in 4th grade, or higher if you have not been trained previously, are invited to attend a short class following worship on Sunday, October 7th. Please plan to attend and let Pastor Chad know if you have any questions.



Wednesday Night Faith Formation

Our Wednesday night faith formation will soon be in full swing. This has been a well attended evening of Christian education and we are looking at ways to make it even better. Please see below for more details.

Opening Night Kickoff September 19, 2018

All parents, children and youth (pre-K—8th grade) are invited to a dinner on the first evening. We will gather for food and fun. See Tonya Samuelson or Amber Marsh with any questions.

4th—6th Grade Faith Formation

Once again, students in 4th-6th grade will gather at 6:30 p.m. All are welcome as we study the Bible and have some fun too.

Pre-K (age 4)—3rd Grade Faith Formation

New this year faith formation for the above age group will move from Sunday morning to Wednesday evening beginning at 6:30 p.m.

Confirmation

We will also meet starting at 6:30 p.m. each Wednesday.

Ending times of class still being discussed and reviewed & will be announced September 19th.

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

Beth Kaufman (319) 643-5734 bkkaufman@lcom.net

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

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Tonya Samuelson (319) 643-5915 s3ams@aol.com

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Jamie Zimmerman (319) 325-4322 jazzim1@lcom.net

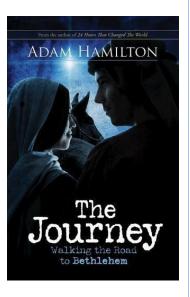
Financial Secretary Claudia Beyer (319) 643-2136 iabeyers@aol.com



Sunday Adult Discussion Returning

The adult discussion hour following worship and fellowship (10:20 a.m.) will resume on October 7. Neil Korsmo will be leading a study called *The Journey* written by United Methodist Pastor Adam Hamilton. This book and accompanying DVD takes us on a journey with Pastor Hamilton as he travels from Nazareth to Bethlehem in this fascinating look at the birth of Jesus Christ.

If you are interested, please let Neil Korsmo know so we can make sure everyone has a book. Thanks Neil for leading this study.



God's Work. Our hands.

Continued from page 1

Other activities for Sunday, September 9 are:

- West Branch Public Library various projects including painting and yard cleanup. Please see Dave Poppen with questions or to sign -up
- Yard Cleanup around church grounds see Linda Black with questions
- Quilting Quilters will be working on a quilt and invite anyone to assist

Breakfast and Worship

We will gather at 9:00 a.m. for a breakfast in the Great Hall followed by a shortened worship service. All are invited to attend. Please see Beth Kaufman to help assist or bring items for the meal.

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Lutheran Services in Iowa (LSI)

Direct Support Professionals Week

Do you know someone who is a caregiver to a loved one? It is a role that is both demanding and meaningful. During September's National Direct Support Professionals Week, we celebrate all the ways in which these professional caregivers help children and adults achieve their goals and build meaningful lives.

One way LSI empowers lowans is through our Services for People with Disabilities. From 24-hour support to occasional respite care, the LSI team lifts up lowans with disabilities as they find the confidence and independence they need to thrive in their communities.

We thank you for your faithful support of LSI – you create so many new life-changing possibilities for children, adults, and families! If you would like to learn more about how you can support crucial programming like LSI's Services for People with Disabilities, please contact Deb Whitford, LSI director of philanthropy and church relations, at 563-676-2065 or <u>Deborah.Whitford@LSIowa.org</u>.

Our Mission: Lutheran Services in Iowa responds to the Iove 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 <u>www.LSIowa.org</u> and <u>www.facebook.com/LSI.iowa</u>.

Finding His Independence

Logan and his mother, Michaela, didn't know where to turn. Since Logan was 5 years old, he had moved in and out of hospitals and residential treatment centers across lowa. For 13 years, Michaela tried to find the right approach to address his behavioral needs. But nothing was working.

That's when the family learned about LSI's Services for People with Disabilities. Now 18, Logan is living independently in an apartment supervised 24/7 by his compassionate LSI team.

Logan is now active in his community and developing healthy relationships with his friends. He graduated early from his high school and has become active at the gym and in a local bowling league – where his high score for a game is 210.

Every step of the way, Michaela knows Logan's LSI team will keep her informed about her son's care and growth. "At LSI, they treat him like an individual and they know each person needs different care," Michaela says. "It's good knowing that I have constant communication with his team, and I know somebody is saying, 'we hear you'."



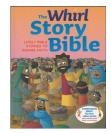
Discipleship Opportunity Teach or help with youth education

We are in need of volunteers to help teach or be a helper/extra body for each group. Please consider this invitation and if you are moved to help us out please send an email to me, Tonya Samuelson, at <u>s3ams@aol.com</u> or let Pastor know so we can begin to formulate our schedule. We are in hopes of getting enough so that it would be a once per month rotation.

We would love to have a few high school students assist with one of our adult teachers.

Presentation of Bibles

Each year during worship we present Bibles to our preschool (age 4) children and youth in 4th grade to be used in our Wednesday evening Christian education classes and also at home. If you have a child this age, please plan to attend worship September 16.





Women's Circle

Women young and old are invited to attend a monthly gathering that enjoys fellowship, food, and a study located within *Gather* magazine, which is produced and published by the ELCA. This magazine for women is delivered ten times per year at an annual subscription rate of \$19.95. To get more information or subscribe please visit: www.gathermagazine.org

We convene in the Great Hall at 9:00 a.m. on the following dates through the end of 2018: September 12, October 10, November 7, and December 12. Our time of food, fellowship, and study usually last approximately 90 minutes.

Simply Giving

The Simply Giving Program is a convenient, consistent, and safe way to steward your financial gifts to Bethany Lutheran. By contributing electronically you will no longer need to write out checks and prepare envelopes every week.

Get started today! Ask for an authorization form from our Financial Secretary, Claudia Beyer, or visit the "Resource" tab on our church website for a flier and registration form. Please see Claudia with any questions.



BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES - June 2018

The meeting was called to order by President Kaufman.

Members present: Beth Kaufman, Wayne Frauenholtz, Jamie Zimmerman, Nancy Bruns, Cheryl Fisher, Tonya Samuelson, Alan Beyer, Jon Twing, and Pastor Chad Whaley.

Members absent: Linda Black.

The meeting opened with Pastor Chad recalling experiences from the Leadership School he attended last week and then led us in prayer.

Pastor's Report: Many things have happened in the past month that we are thankful for.

19 pastoral visits were made.

Cole Bailey was confirmed.

Bethany hosted a pastor's conference.

Leadership Conference held at a retreat center at Hiawatha was quite intense but rewarding.

Plans are made to meet with high school youth. He will be attending a service at the Anamosa State Prison on the 30^{th} . Vacation will be the last two weeks in July.

Secretary's Report: was approved with corrections.

Treasurer's Report: May revenues were good and expenses under budget. Jamie moved and Jon seconded to approve the treasurer's report. Motion passed. Discussion was held regarding renewing the Sagert Fund, a memorial fund for candles. The fund has more money than is needed for its purpose so it was decided to ask Deanna what her wishes are regarding this money. Beth will talk to her and report at our next meeting. Wayne moved and Jamie seconded to reinvest the fund for another six months. Motion passed.

Building and Grounds: Jamie said the soundproofing panels for the Great Hall have arrived. He reviewed our insurance policy with their agent and everything seemed satisfactory. The policy has been renewed.

Education: Tonya, along with Darla and Amber, have Bible School under way. Thirty kids were enrolled for the first day. Three counsellors from EWALU are leading programming. All volunteer and food needs have been met.

Evangelism: No report.

Fellowship: After discussing with several people, it was decided not to invite Ugandan Thunder for this year. Making it an every other year event might work better. An idea is being developed to involve families with young children. Nine families with 14 children have been identified and will be contacted for an informal get-together.

Stewardship: No report.

Youth: A June 24th meeting with high school youth has been planned. They will be deciding how best to use some money from the youth fund.

Worship and Music: Linda has asked the quilters to make four banners for the Great Hall. The council has approved reimbursing them for materials.

Old Business:

* A \$10,000 gift has been given to the church to be used primarily for the sound mitigation project in the Great Hall. A discussion was held on whether, upon receipt of a large contribution, we, as a church, should tithe from this gift as faithful stewards of God's gifts. A decision on this idea was tabled until our next meeting.

New Business:

* Church Credit Card. Alan moved and Jamie seconded to give Pastor Chad, another person approved by the council, and Paula use of a credit card with the limits of \$1000, \$1000, and \$500. Motion carried. Jamie nominated and Wayne seconded to approve Del Hughes as the designee for the congregation. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

Next meeting will be July 9th.



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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.

Jonah 24:14-15

"Now therefore revere the Lord, and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the Lord. Now if you are unwilling to serve the Lord, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; buta s for me and my household, we will serve the Lord."

- Today, things that have become other gods for people are...
- The things that get in my way of choosing to serve the Lord are...
- In my household, faith is...



1 Corinthians 12:4-6

Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone.

- I am good at...
- I have to lean on others, because I lack the ability...
- Living faith as a community or body of people is...

Exodus 20:16

You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

- Lies are harmful...
- •When someone lies about me...
- •When people gossip or share rumors...

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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*.

Sat, September 1	Psalm 15	Tues, September 18	Psalm 119:169-176
	Exodus 34:8-28		1 Kings 13:11-25
	John 18:28-32		Colossians 3:1-11
Sun, September 2	Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9	Wed, September 19	Psalm 119:169-176
	James 1:17-27		Isaiah 10:12-20
	Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23		John 7:25-36
Mon, September 3	Psalm 106:1-6, 13-23, 47-48	Thurs, September 20	Psalm 54
	Deuteronomy 4:9-14		Judges 6:1-10
	1 Timothy 4:6-16		1 Corinthians 2:1-5
Tues, September 4	Psalm 106:1-6, 13-23, 47-48	Fri, September 21	Psalm 54
	Deuteronomy 4:15-20		1 Kings 22:24-40
	1 Peter 2:19-25		Romans 11:25-32
Wed, September 5	Psalm 106:1-6, 13-23, 47-48	Sat, September 22	Psalm 54
	Deuteronomy 4:21-40		2 Kings 17:5-18
	Mark 7:9-23		Matthew 23:29-39
Thurs, September 6	Psalm 146	Sun, September 23	Jeremiah 11:18-20
	Isaiah 30:27-33		James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a
	Romans 2:1-11		Mark 9:30-37
Fri, September 7	Psalm 146	Mon, September 24	Psalm 139:1-18
	Isaiah 32:1-8		2 Kings 5:1-14
	Romans 2:12-16		James 4:8-17
Sat, September 8	Psalm 146	Tues, September 25	Psalm 139:1-18
	Isaiah 33:1-9		2 Kings 11:21-12:16
	Matthew 15:21-31		James 5:1-6
Sun, September 9	Isaiah 35:4-7a	Wed, September 26	Psalm 139:1-18
	James 2:1-10 [11-13] 14-17		Jeremiah 1:4-19
Man Santamban 10	Mark 7:24-37	Thurse Sentember 27	John 8:21-38
Mon, September 10	Isaiah 38:10-20 Joshua 6:1-21	Thurs, September 27	Psalm 19:7-14
	Hebrews 11:29-12:2		Exodus 18:13-27 Acts 4:13-31
Tuos Sontombor 11	Isaiah 38:10-20	Eri Sontombor 29	Psalm 19:7-14
Tues, September 11	Joshua 8:1-23	Fri, September 28	Deuteronomy 1:1-18
	Hebrews 12:3-13		Acts 12:20-25
Wed, September 12	Isaiah 38:10-20	Sat, September 29	Psalm 19:7-14
weu, September 12	Judges 15:9-20	Sat, September 27	Deuteronomy 27:1-10
	Matthew 17:14-21		Matthew 5:13-20
Thurs, September 13	Psalm 116:1-9	Sun, September 30	Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29
Thurs, september 15	Joshua 2:1-14	Sun, September 50	James 5:13-20
	Hebrews 11:17-22		Mark 9:38-50
Fri, September 14	Psalm 116:1-9		101unk 9.50 20
in, september i	Joshua 2:15-24		
	James 2:17-26		
Sat, September 15	Psalm 116:1-9		
sui, september 10	Joshua 6:22-27		
	Matthew 21:23-32		
Sun, September 16	Isaiah 50:4-9a		
	James 3:1-12		
	Mark 8:27-38		
Mon, September 17	Psalm 119:169-176		
, 1	1 Kings 13:1-10		
	Romans 3:0 20		

Romans 3:9-20

	June 2018		YTD		
Total	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	
Receipts June	10,700	13,000	74,821	78,000	
Total	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	
Expenses	12,629	13,411	76,784	80,510	

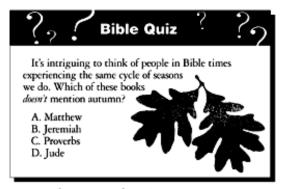
Monetary Gifts Report

Saints in Worship July 2018

07-01 52 07-08 58 07-15 31 07-22 49 07-29 34 Total 224 **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.

Monetary Gifts Report

	July 2018		YTD		
Total	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	
Receipts July	11,800	13,000	86,621	91,000	
Total	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	
Expenses	11,390	13,409	88,174	93,919	





Answer: A (See Proverbs 20:4, ESV; Jeremiah 5:24; Jude 1:12.)



Bethany Lutheran Church

Ministry Assistants

Ministers of Proclamation (Lectors)

9-02 Deanna Weismann
9-09 Alan Beyer
9-16 TBD
9-23 Toni Dodds
9-30 Wayne Frauenholtz

Ministers of Hospitality (Greeters)

- 9-02 Wavne Frauenholtz
- 9-09 Jerry & Toni Dodds
- 9-16 Al & Claudia Beyer
- 9-23 Jamie & Lisa Zimmerman
- 9-30 Nancy & Paul Bruns

Ministers of Christ's Light (Acolytes)

- 9-02 Hannah & Dylan Schiele
- 9-09 Aiden & Miley Shields
- 9-16 Hunter Niles & Cole Crosthwaite
- 9-23 Aizlyn & Auron Marsh
- 9-30 Andrew & Layla Samuelson



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