

Bethany Lutheran Church

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



For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. – John 3:16



Greetings all!

These words from John 3:16 have been a source of great comfort for Christians since the time our Lord and Savior first spoke them. There is no doubt this verse speaks of God's great redeeming love for all of creation but it also speaks of God's great redeeming love for us. We all know them and more than likely many of us can recite them by memory. Yet, can't that also get in the way at times? Can't something become so familiar and common that we take it for granted or just gloss over its application to our daily lives? I know that has happened to me at times in my journey of faith. I know the words. I read the words. I can recite the words but that is all I am doing. I fail to truly let the words sink in and let God's transformative power take action in me.

Perhaps, as you read this article you take just a little extra time and read John 3:16 several times. Read it aloud to yourself or read it slowly and pause for a time of meditation before reading it again or write it on a piece of paper and absorb what God is saying to you with each stroke of the pen in your hand or write the verse down and post it to the bathroom mirror where you see it each morning. This verse really says it all. It's all about God and God's love for the world and for each of us. It's about the promise that no matter what we do in life or how many times we turn away from God that God will still love us. It's about the love of God revealed in the life of God's Son Jesus Christ who on the cross and through His glorious resurrection redeemed us from the power of sin and death and opened to us the way of everlasting life. We have all sung the song "Jesus Loves Me" and it goes on to state we know this because the Bible tells me so. John 3:16 is just one verse that tells us how much we are loved by our God.

In peace,

Pastor Chad

IMPORTANT DATES

- 11-06 Women's circle**
- 11-10 EPIC Youth serving fellowship**
- 11-11 Council meeting**
- 11-17 Epic youth meeting**
- 11-18 Worship committee meeting**

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 am - Noon

Admin. Assistant: Paula Casper
blcsecretary@lcom.net

Office Hours
Tuesday & Thursday 7:30-11:30 AM
Office Phone: (319) 643-5998

*Pastor Chad is also available by
appointment.

FIND US ON FACEBOOK!

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



Fall Happenings

Cookie Walk

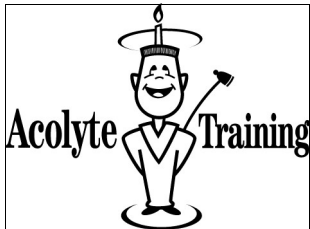
The Cookie Walk will be Saturday, December 7 from 9:00 am until cookies are gone. Once again the Dansk Cafe will serve coffee and Scandinavian goodies. Quilters will be on hand with warm gifts for sale and others are welcome to share other items.

Needed: help with advertising, decorating, setup and cleanup.

Absolutely must have:

COOKIES. Please everyone bring your favorite cookies to sell. Place them on a pretty platter and drop them off. All are welcome to help and have fun.

Questions? Call Candy at 643-5869



We will have a Minister of Christ's Light (aka Acolyte) Training Class on Sunday, November 10 following Sunday School. The training will last approximately 30 minutes.

In the past most kids have started around the 5th grade.

Please let Pastor Chad or Bonnie Conner know if your child plans to attend.

IMPORTANT MESSAGE

The worship team would like you to be aware that the sacrament of Holy Communion will be celebrated on the second and fourth Sunday's of December (rather than the first and third). This is due to the fact we will have our traditional Hanging of the Green service on December 1st and Pastor Chad will also be away on vacation. Additionally on December 15 we will have our annual youth Christmas program. Therefore, services of Holy Communion will be on December 8, December 22, Christmas Eve and also December 29th since there is a fifth Sunday in December Thank you for your understanding!



The youth of EPIC will be serving cinnamon rolls and other treats during fellowship hour following worship on November 10. They would appreciate monetary donations that will be used to make Chemo Bags to be delivered to the cancer center at Mercy hospital. Approximately 40 bags containing care products for patients undergoing chemo and radiation therapy were delivered this past summer and were very well received and appreciated. With your assistance and the hands of the EPIC youth we are doing God's work. The Chemo Bags will be assembled at the monthly EPIC gathering on Sunday, November 17 at 5:00 p.m.



Church Staff

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

Admin. Assistant - Paula Casper
(319) 643-7141
blcsecretary@lcom.net



Church Council

President - Del Hughes
(319) 643-7398
hughesdelsue@yahoo.com

Secretary/Stewardship - Nancy Bruns
(319) 643-3201
Paul.NancyB@gmail.com

Treasurer - Claudia Beyer
319-643-2136
iabeyers@aol.com

Worship & Music - Bonnie Conner
319-643-2634
bonnieconner@lcom.net

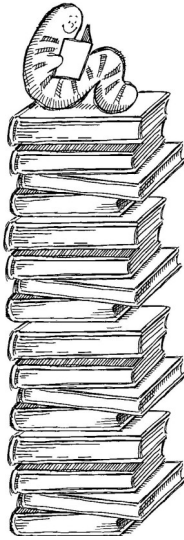
Evangelism & Missions - Laura Twing
319-331-6579
lltwing@aol.com

Buildings & Grounds/Vice President -
Kent Kaufman
(319) 643-5734
bkkaufman@lcom.net

Education - Toni Dodds
(319) 643-5521
Antoinette-dodds@uiowa.edu

Youth - Courtney Heid
319-400-7227
cheid88@gmail.com

Fellowship - Candy Madsen
319-643-5869
rcmadsen@lcom.net



Bethany Books

by Frank Frostestad

Books For Adults

The month will feature biographies.

What would cause an 18 year old senior class president and homecoming queen from Nashville, Tennessee to disobey and disappoint her parents by forgoing college, break her little brother's heart, lose all but a handful of her friends (because they think she has gone off the deep end), and break up with the love of her life, all so she could move to Uganda, where she knew only one person and did not even speak the language. *Kisses From Katie* invites readers on a journey of radical love down the red dirt road of Uganda.

Katie finds joy and beauty beneath the dust. Katie and her children delight in saying yes to the people God places in front of them. It is a lesson in changing the world one person at a time. Katie Davis is the founder and director of Amazima, a ministry that reaches hundreds of children in Uganda.

The Bible is the foundation of Christian belief, yet how Christians think and talk about God, the Bible, and faith has been shaped by influential thinkers from the first century right up to today. In *The 40 Most Influential Christians Who Shaped What We Believe Today* by Daryl Aaron, he tells the powerful stories of forty who have helped us better understand what we believe and why we believe it. The lives and most important teachings of these giants of church history are covered showing how their teaching has influenced the church for better or, occasionally, for worse. These are people who paved the way for us, often risking their lives for the sake of the very beliefs we hold today.

In the Wednesday morning men's Bible class we have mentioned the need for role models for our young people. Often sport's figures are looked up to and later are found to have feet of clay. The role of Tony Dungy was mentioned one morning as a role model. So here is a book to support that idea *Uncommon; Finding Your Path To Significance* by Tony Dungy. Known as a successful football coach (as coach of the Indianapolis Colts they won Super Bowl XLI) he has been looked at as the epitome of success. He knows, however, that his achievements had little to do with his ultimate significance as a man. He believes that there is a different path to significance, a path that is characterized by attitudes, ambitions, and allegiances that are all too rare but uncommonly rewarding. In *Uncommon*, he reveals secrets to achieving significance that he has learned from his parents, his athletic and coaching career, his mentors, and his walk with God.

Book For Children

In *The Berenstain Bears: Jobs Around Town*, Brother and Sister Bear speculate on all the things they could grow up to be, including a bus driver,



Adult Education Opportunities

Thursday Women's Bible Study
7:00 p.m. in the Small Hall

Bethany Men's Breakfast Bible Study
Wednesdays at 6:00 a.m. in the Great Hall

BIRTHDAYS

- 11-03 Betty Slach
- 11-07 Paul Weismann
- 11-08 Madelyn Anderson
- 11-09 Eulyn Frostestad
- 11-13 JoAnn Blaalid
- 11-17 Cheyanne Crow
- 11-18 Alex Poppen
- 11-20 Shari Friis
- 11-22 Scott Marsh
- 11-23 John Hierseman
- 11-26 Patty Yeater
- 11-27 Steve Campbell

Updates/Reminders

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 please contact Pastor Chad.

Reminder:

If you or a loved one is in the hospital and desire a pastoral visit, please have someone contact the church at 643-5998.

Bethany Books

(Continued)

farmer, scientist, singer, and computer programmer. Searching for the perfect job, the Bear siblings learn to celebrate the many talents of others and begin to imagine where their own God given talents will take them as they grow.

DVD

After police officer Mac McDonald loses his son in an accident, years of bitterness and pain erode his love for his family and leave him angry with God ...and everyone else. Can Mac and his new patrol partner somehow join forces to help one another when it's impossible to look past their differences? Everyday we have the opportunity to rebuild relationships and heal wounds by extending and receiving God's grace. *The Grace Card* shows us that we should never underestimate the power of God's love.

Women's Bible Study change!

The Thursday morning women's study is no longer meeting in the morning but is now meeting at 7:00 pm Thursday nights. They won't meet Thanksgiving but every other Thursday in November. They are doing a study called "True Beauty" by Lisa Chan that includes a short video followed by a time of discussion. All women are invited to attend and any questions can be directed to Eulyn Frostestad or Lisa Zimmerman.



Time to order your Poinsettia to decorate the alter for Christmas.

Plants will be \$10.00 each.

Order forms will be coming in your Bulletin soon!

Or contact Bonnie Conner or Paula.

Members present: Pastor Chad, Claudia Beyer, Nancy Bruns, Toni Dodds, Courtney Heid, Del Hughes, Kent Kaufman, Candy Madsen, Laura Twing

Members Absent: Bonnie Conner

Meeting Called to Order: 6:30 p.m. by President Del Hughes

Opening Prayer/Devotions: Pastor Chad opened with devotion and prayer.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Chad reported on his activities for the month which included 12 visits, baptismal education, various meetings, EPIC swim night, and working with a family in need. He also noted that we have 13 confirmation students this fall and will be receiving new members.

Secretary's Report: Minutes from the August regular meeting to be approved: Kent Kaufman moved to accept the minutes. Claudia Beyer seconded. Approved.

Treasurer's Report: Claudia presented the August financials. Laura Twing moved to accept the Treasurer's Report. Courtney Heid seconded. Approved.

Committee Reports:

Building & Grounds: Kent reported that he has obtained a firm permit from the City so that the fire ring may be used. Approval needs to be obtained from the fire chief in advance of each event. Also, a faucet has been replaced in the parsonage and the roof has been replaced on the small shed.

Education: Toni reported that VBS has been scheduled for July 28 – August 2, 2014 with the EWALU counselors again. The net cost for the 2013 program was approximately \$1,200. Sunday School starts on September 15.

Youth: EPIC, Energetic Peeps in Christ, will be going to Adventureland this month and has regular gatherings scheduled for this fall.

Evangelism & Missions: Laura indicated that she will try to get an update from our companion congregation in Mbakweni to see how the milling machine is working out for them.

Music and Worship: no report

Fellowship: Candy commented on the God's work our hands event.

Stewardship: Nancy reminded the group of the outdoor/pet blessing service that will be held on September 29. The fall campaign, "Found Faithful, in Little, with Much, with All", will be held in October.

OLD BUSINESS:

- * Gods Work Our Hands Sunday – This event went well. 16 people worked at the cemetery putting mulch around about 150 trees. A few people went to a private property and hauled brush away. 12 – 13 people stayed at the church to trim shrubs, attend to the plants around the church, wash windows and clean/organize the kitchen. It was noted that this was a great intergenerational event that incorporated mission and fellowship and would be a good event to have annually.
- * Kent gave a demo of his presentation for the congregational meeting regarding the parking lot expansion project. If passed, a fundraising committee would be formed to do a quick capital campaign.
- * Hospitality task force – Del reported that the group is entertaining the idea of asking an outsider to come to our church and fill out a questionnaire to give us feedback on how welcoming our congregation is and how we might improve. Several initiatives have already been implemented – welcome banner, visitor parking sign, greeter at door. Del also indicated he thought it would be helpful to add arrows to our sign that point the way to the main entrance and to the handicap entrance.
- * Pastor Chad reported that the sound system in the great hall is in need of repair and has obtained one estimate for the work that could be done. Candy Madsen moved to table the discussion on this topic until a later meeting. Laura Twing seconded. Approved.
- * Book Study follow-up – Discussed next steps in follow-up to the study of "Unbinding the Gospel" by Martha Grace Reece. Some in the group would like to read one of the next books, "Unbinding Your Heart" before making any further decisions. Council members are encouraged to pray about what our next steps should be.

NEW BUSINESS:

- * Pastor Chad reported that the Olson family would like to become members at Bethany. Claudia Beyer moved that we accept the Olson's application for membership. Candy Madsen seconded. Approved.

Meeting Adjourned: 8:30 pm by President Del Hughes

Next Meeting: Monday, October 14, 2013 @ 6:30 p.m.



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*

Nov. 1 Friday	Job 22:21-23:17 2 Peter 1:1-11 Psalm 32:1-7	Nov. 16 Saturday	Ezekiel 10:1-19 Luke 17:20-37 Psalm 98
Nov. 2 Saturday	Isaiah 1:1-9 John 8:39-47 Psalm 32:1-7	Nov. 17 Sunday	Malachi 4:1-2a 2 Thess. 3:6-13 Luke 21:5-19
Nov. 3 Sunday	Daniel 7:1-3, 15-18 Ephesians 1:11-23 Luke 6:20-31	Nov. 18 Monday	Ezekiel 11:14-25 Ephesians 4:25-5:2 Psalm 141
Nov. 4 Monday	Neh. 13:1-3, 23-31 1 Corinth. 5:9-13 Psalm 50	Nov. 19 Tuesday	Ezekiel 39:21-40:4 1 Cor. 10:23-11:1 Psalm 141
Nov. 5 Tuesday	Zechariah 7:1-14 Jude 5-21 Psalm 50	Nov. 20 Wednesday	Ezekiel 43:1-12 Matt. 23:37-24:14 Psalm 141
Nov. 6 Wednesday	Amos 5:12-24 Luke 19:11-27 Psalm 50	Nov. 21 Thursday	2 Chron. 18:12-22 Hebrews 9:23-28 Psalm 46
Nov. 7 Thursday	Deut. 25:5-10 Acts 22:22-23:11 Psalm 17:1-9	Nov. 22 Friday	Zechariah 11:1-17 1 Peter 1:3-9 Psalm 46
Nov. 8 Friday	Deut. 30:15-20 Philemon 1:1-21 Psalm 17:1-9	Nov. 23 Saturday	Jer. 22:18-30 Luke 18:15-17 Psalm 46
Nov. 9 Saturday	2 Kings 17:24-41 1 Timothy 3:14-4:5 Psalm 17:1-9	Nov. 24 Sunday	Psalm 46 Colossians 1:11-20 Luke 23:33-43
Nov. 10 Sunday	Job 19:23-27a 2 Thes. 2:1-5, 13-17 Luke 20:27-38	Nov. 25 Monday	Jeremiah 46:18-28 Revelation 21:5-27 Psalm 24
Nov. 11 Monday	Job 20:1-11 2 Peter 1:16-21 Psalm 123	Nov. 26 Tuesday	Isaiah 33:17-22 Revelation 22:8-21 Psalm 24
Nov. 12 Tuesday	Job 21:1, 17-34 2 John 1-13 Psalm 123	Nov. 27 Wednesday	Isaiah 60:8-16 Luke 1:1-4 Psalm 24
Nov. 13 Wednesday	Job 25:1-26:14 John 5:19-29 Psalm 123	Nov. 28 Thursday	Daniel 9:15-19 James 4:1-10 Psalm 122
Nov. 14 Thursday	1 Samuel 28:3-19 Romans 1:18-25 Psalm 98	Nov. 29 F	Genesis 6:1-10 Hebrews 11:1-7 Psalm 122
Nov. 15 Friday	2 Samuel 21:1-14 2 Thess. 1:3-12 Psalm 98	Nov. 30 Sa	Genesis 6:11-22 Matthew 24:1-22 Psalm 122

NOVEMBER 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27	28	29	30	31	1	2
3 9:00 AM Worship followed by fellowship 10:15 AM Adult Study 10:15 AM Sunday School all ages	4	5 1:00 PM Quilters 1:30 PM Hope Chest Open 5:30 PM Yoga class	6 6:00 AM Men's Breakfast and Bible Study 9:00 AM Women's Circle 6:15 PM Senior Choir	7 7:00 PM Women's Bible study	8	9
10 9:00 AM Worship followed by fellowship 10:15 AM Adult Study 10:15 AM Sunday School all ages	11 6:30 PM Council Meeting	12 1:00 PM Quilters 1:30 PM Hope Chest Open 5:30 PM Yoga class	13 6:00 AM Men's Breakfast and Bible Study 6:15 PM Senior Choir 6:30 PM Confirmation dinner and study	14 7:00 PM Women's Bible study	15	16
17 9:00 AM Worship followed by fellowship 10:15 AM Adult Study 10:15 AM Sunday School all ages 5:00 PM EPIC (Middle School Youth) Night	18 6:00 PM Worship Team Meeting	19 1:00 PM Quilters 1:30 PM Hope Chest Open 5:30 PM Yoga class	20 6:00 AM Men's Breakfast and Bible Study 6:15 PM Senior Choir 6:30 PM Confirmation dinner and study	21 7:00 PM Women's Bible study	22	23
24 9:00 AM Worship followed by fellowship 10:15 AM Adult Study 10:15 AM Sunday School all ages	25	26 1:00 PM Quilters 1:30 PM Hope Chest Open 5:30 PM Yoga class	27 6:00 AM Men's Breakfast and Bible Study	28	29	30

Stewardship Spotlight

Found faithful, in little, with much, with all

We have just spent four weeks exploring being faithful in little things, faithful with much, and faithful with all God has given us.

We have contemplated the following:

We are called to be faithful stewards of all God has placed in our care. In what ways have we been a faithful steward over the years, individually or as a congregation? God can take little things in our lives, things that seem relatively insignificant, and multiply their impact beyond what we could have imagined. What gifts have we thought were insignificant but now realize can be multiplied through faith in God. In what ways can God multiply those gifts even further? Our responses to these questions are on display in the great hall. You are invited to take a few minutes and read through those responses.

We are richly blessed and God calls us to be faithful with all of our generous blessings. Your increasing faithfulness and generosity allows Bethany to continue and hopefully grow the many exciting ministries that we have going on here. When we trust the Lord with all we have, miracles are possible.

Thank you for all of the financial pledge cards that have been received so far.

If you have not yet returned your pledge, please do so in the following week. It may be mailed to the church, turned in to the office, or placed in the offering plate. Additional cards are available at the church.

Time and talent sheets were passed out on the 27th. Please take some time to review and prayerfully consider volunteering for some of the ministries at Bethany. These may be mailed in to the church or turned in to the church office in the next couple of weeks. Additional copies are also available at the church.



Bethany Lutheran Church
235 South Second Street
PO BOX 2358
West Branch, Iowa 52358

Ministry Assistants



Lectors

- 11/3 Del Hughes
- 11/10 Bonnie Conner
- 11/17 Lisa Zimmerman
- 11/24 Tonya Samuelson

Greeters

- 11/3 Jeanette & Paula
- 11/10 Brian & Paige Roth
- 11/17 June & Richard Madsen
- 11/24 Paul & Nancy Bruns

Acolytes

- 11/3 Abby & Emma Fryauf
- 11/10 Maggie Paulsen & Karly Blaalid
- 11/17 Abby & Emma Fryauf
- 11/24 Olivia Poppen & Brett Schiele

Fellowship

- 11/3 Niles Family
- 11/10 EPIC
- 11/17
- 11/24



Find us on Facebook

Facebook is just another way to stay in touch and communicate with one another along with other congregations in the community, synod and ELCA!

To find Bethany's main page, search "Bethany Lutheran Church (ELCA) West Branch, Iowa"

To find the Youth Ministry page, search "Bethany Youth Ministry"

DON'T FORGET TO LIKE US!

