

BETHANY BRANCHES WEEKLY

JULY 28, 2026

www.wbbethany.org

NEWSLETTER UPDATE / PASTOR OUT OF OFFICE

The next weekly edition of Bethany Branches will be August 11. Pastor Chad will be out of the office July 27-August 10. If you have an emergency that requires pastoral care, please contact Heidi Christensen, Administrative Assistant, or Dale Swenson, Council President. They can get in touch with Pastor Lynn Thiede of Our Redeemer Lutheran, West Liberty.



HOOVER HOMETOWN DAYS: SATURDAY, AUGUST 8

Bethany is having a float in the parade!! Choir members that would like to ride and sing on the float are invited to participate. Children and youth that would like to ride and throw out candy are also invited. Please be at Bethany at 9:00 AM. The parade starts at 10:00 AM.



WORSHIP RECORDINGS

Recordings of past worship services can be located on our YouTube [channel](#). There is also a link to the channel on the home page of our website (see the right side under "Worship with us".)

BIRTHDAYS

JULY 27 - AUGUST 9

07/30 Carol Roghair
07/31 Jessica Fonseca
07/31 Derek Fetzer
08/01 Aiden Shields
08/02 Mia Olson
08/04 Jennifer Olson

08/04 Chris Korsmo
08/04 Dylan Casady
08/06 Bob Leslie
08/06 Jenna Helms
08/08 Shawn Samuelson
08/08 Lincoln LaCarte



CONTACT US

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Pastor Chad Whaley
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Heidi Christensen
Administrative Assistant
blcsecretary@lcom.net
Office hours: Tuesday &
Thursday 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Find us on Facebook
Bethany Lutheran Church
(ELCA) West Branch

COUNCIL MINUTES

Council minutes can be viewed on our [website](#). In the black menu bar on the home page, click "[Council Minutes](#)".

Visit our online [calendar](#).

MINISTRY PARTNERS

Stay up to date with some of our partners in ministry below.

LUTHERAN CAMPUS MINISTRY



Check out the ministry at the University of Iowa on their [website](#).

LUTHERAN SERVICES IN IOWA (LSI)

Visit the [website](#) of LSI to learn more and stay up to date on this ministry partner.



SYNOD UPDATES



Southeastern Iowa
— SYNOD —
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

Stay informed about events and happenings within the Southeastern Iowa Synod by subscribing to their [weekly newsletter](#).



ELCA UPDATES

Stay up to date with happenings in the ELCA by visiting their website at www.elca.org

MONETARY GIFTS REPORT

Submitted by Nancy Bruns, Treasurer

The church council does not meet in July. Therefore, there is no financial report included. Please look for an updated financial report in the August 25 edition of Bethany Branches Weekly.

TUESDAY MORNING PRAYERS

Join us for a time of prayer every Tuesday at 10:00 AM. A small group gathers to give thanks, pray, and share joys and concerns with one another. All are welcome to attend. If you have a prayer request for the group, please email Pastor Chad.

AUGUST MINISTRY ASSISTANTS

Minister of Proclamation (Lector)

8/2 John Black
8/9 Jon Twing
8/16 Wayne Frauenholtz
8/23 Dave Bahnsen
8/30 Deb Anderson

Minister of Altar Care

Paula Casper

Minister of Hospitality (Greeter)

8/2 Dave & Kami Poppen
8/9 Patsy Ernst
8/16 Fetzer Family
8/23 Del & Sue Hughes
8/30 Al & Claudia Beyer

Minister of Technology

8/2 Dave Poppen
8/9 Kent Kaufman
8/16 Darla & Kevin Crosthwaite
8/23 Paula Casper
8/30 Jill Taylor

Minister of Food & Fellowship

8/2 Phil & Diane Hougen
8/9 Opportunity to assist!
8/16 Opportunity to assist!
8/23 Opportunity to assist!
8/30 Opportunity to assist!

We are always looking for additional ministry assistants. Contact Heidi to be added to the list.

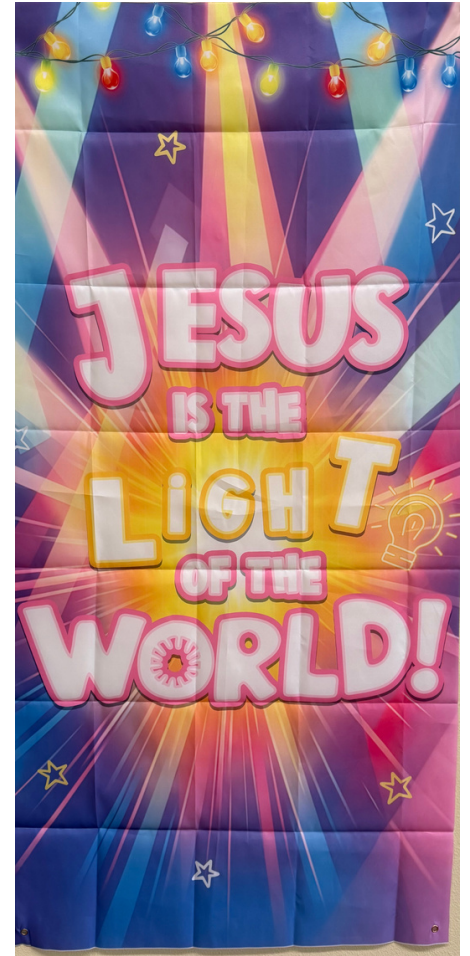
Thanks For
Your Help

*If you can help,
sign up in the Great Hall.*

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL



Another year of Vacation Bible School concluded last Thursday. Throughout the week there was approximately 40 children and youth gathered nightly. The photo above was taken the final night, which was family night. The theme was "Illumination Station" and centered on John 8:12. Many thanks to the planning team and the many volunteers who helped throughout the week, donated food items, or continue to provide financially to sustain our ministries and the space in which we gather.



All children and youth are invited to attend worship August 23, the Sunday prior the first day of school. They are invited bring their backpacks and we will bless them as another year of learning begins.



SAVE THE DATE! GOD'S WORK, OUR HANDS SUNDAY

The ELCA annual day of service, God's Work, Our Hands, is Sunday September 13. Mark your calendars! The sign up sheet is in fellowship hall. If you would like to order a tshirt please contact Darla Crosthwaite by Monday August 10th.

Beyond Sunday

Continue your walk with Christ throughout the week. These simple practices can help.



On the Way

A weekly God pause with Scripture, a conversation prompt, and prayer.



Open On the Way



Give God 10

Spend ten minutes preparing your heart for Sunday worship. Read. Pray. Reflect.



Open Give God 10

Explore more ways to grow in Christ this week under ***Beyond Sunday*** on our website.