

MARCH 2019

# BETHANY BEACON

BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH

MAKING CHRIST KNOWN.....

WELCOMING! GROWING! SERVING!



## Lenten Activities

### MARCH 6 ASH WEDNESDAY

- 11:50 am Lenten Luncheon
- 6:00 pm Ash Wednesday Services
- 7:00 pm Book Introduction

### MARCH 13, 20, 27 & APRIL 3 & 10

- 11:45 am Lenten Luncheon
- 5:30 pm Lenten Soup Supper
- 6:00 pm Lenten Services
- 6:30 pm Book Study

### APRIL 14

- 9:00 am Palm Sunday Worship Service
- 4:00 pm Pork Loin Dinner

### APRIL 17

- 6:30 pm Book Study Make-up Day

### April 18

- 6:00 pm Maundy Thursday Worship service  
& 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade First Communion

### APRIL 19

- 8:00 pm Good Friday Worship Service

### APRIL 20

- 8:00 pm Easter Vigil

### APRIL 21 EASTER SUNDAY

- 6:30 am Sunrise Service
- 7:30 am Easter Breakfast
- 9:00 am Easter Worship Service

## MARCH 2019

### TABLE OF CONTENTS

CLICK ON EACH TITLE AND  
IT WILL TAKE YOU TO THE ARTICLE

PAGE #

1. LENTEN & EASTER SERVICES
2. PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE
3. LENTEN STUDY
4. COUNCIL MINUTES
4. REMEMBER IN PRAYER
5. BETHANY HAPPENINGS
6. CHRISTIAN EDUCATION & YOUTH
6. KINDNESS AND HEALTH
7. BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES
8. CALENDAR
9. DAILY BIBLE READING SCHEDULE
10. REMEMBER FAMILIES IN PRAYER
10. MISSION STATEMENT & CONTACT INFO

## **Freedom in Christ**

Dear Friends,

"If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples and you will know the truth and the truth will make you free." John 8:31b-32 (NRSV)

The truth will make you free. Jesus did not free us so that we can do whatever we want. Instead, we are made free by Christ so that we can be who we truly are, children of God. Our freedom comes from the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus. In this we are free from our sin through the forgiveness Jesus gives us. In this we have eternal life that we live right now as children of God. Sometimes we may feel that we are not good enough or important enough to matter, but each one of us is so important to God that Jesus gave his life so we can live as God's children. All people are important to God. All people are children of God whether they know it or not.

Our salvation, our life, our hope is in Christ alone. There are some who believe that they can save themselves. Many in print, on the radio, and TV tell us that if we try hard enough, we can achieve greatness. We can even make ourselves good and be god-like. But, history has shown time and again that when we rely on ourselves, and not on God, when we try to be god-like, we fail miserably. Instead of being free, we become enslaved to the self.

Let's go back to the beginning, to the story of Adam and Eve. In that story the serpent told Adam and Eve that if they ate of the fruit of the tree of knowledge, they would not die but they would be like God having knowledge of good and evil, so they ate the fruit, but they did not become like God; instead sin and death entered creation.

During the time of Exodus, after God had freed the people from slavery, Moses goes up the mountain to receive the law from God. As soon as Moses does this, what do the people do? They become impatient. They don't wait for Moses to return. Instead they turn their back on God. They worship a false god of their own making; one they can control. How soon they forget God's promise to them and their promise to God. Instead, they make a god for themselves, forgetting how God had saved, rescued, and freed them.

God has saved, rescued, and freed us. Like the Israelites, we did not do anything to merit our rescue, salvation, and freedom. God alone took the initiative. Whether we like it or not. Only God can save us. At the right time God sent Christ to die for us. While we were still sinners God sent Christ to die for you and me. We are made right, righteous, we are saved, we are freed to truly be ourselves by Jesus' life, death, and resurrection. Paul says in Romans 5 that when we rely on our own ability, we run into trouble, we fall short, we fail. But, God showed us true love, for while we were still sinners Christ came and died for us. Jesus is our lifeguard freeing us, saving us, and giving us life through his own life.

How then do we respond to God's gift of salvation? Do we hide this gift of forgiveness and life, locked away in a vault, so no one can get at it, only taking it out for display on Sunday mornings, then hiding it away until the next Sunday gathering? Are we freed on Sunday only to let ourselves be enslaved again on Monday? Or do we respond to God's saving grace by living as a freed disciple of Christ every day of the week?

Each of us is called on to respond to God's loving grace. Only you can answer your calling from Jesus to be an example of faith through word and action. Others can guide and help us in our response to God, but in the end, each of us are called on to respond. As an individual and as a community we are called on to respond to the love of God in Christ Jesus.

Today many are drowning in a sea of confusion that is our world. In times of crisis, all they can respond with is hopelessness, despair, anger, and fear, often using some hyped-up form

of patriotism that forces God to be on our side. All this only causes more hopelessness, pain, and suffering.

But, God calls on us to be beacons of light, love, and peace in a world of darkness, pain, and war. We are called on to show the one true way of freedom and life, the way of Christ Jesus. God has called us to be lights in a dark world, to be living examples of the Gospel in action. God calls on you and me to take a stand, a stand for the good news of Jesus, to proclaim to the world God's saving and freeing grace.

Martin Luther writes in his explanation of the second article of the Apostles' Creed. "I believe that Jesus Christ.... Has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person. He has purchased and freed me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil...with his holy, precious blood...He has done all this in order that I may belong to him, live under him in his kingdom, and serve him in eternal righteousness." Today in Christ we can take a stand, by responding to salvation, responding to God's forgiveness, responding to the true freedom we have in Jesus.

Today, we have the opportunity to share with others the gifts that God has given to each of us. To use our God-given gifts for the benefit of all. Working together as the body of Christ, we can lift one another up, we can proclaim to our community, and to the world that in Jesus Christ there is hope, there is freedom, there is life. That through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ all are offered God's free gift of forgiveness and eternal life. We have been rescued by God and are free indeed. How then will you respond? As we enter this time of Lent let us reflect on the gifts of the cross and then may we respond with love for God and love for others. Lord Jesus, guide us in being your disciples. Help us to live under the freedom you have given us and to proclaim your love to all the world. Amen.

In Christ's Love,

Pastor Tim

## **Lenten Book Study**

### **Joshua: A Parable for Today**

This year for our Lenten book study we will be reading the book "Joshua: A Parable for Today" by Joseph Girzone. When Joshua moves to a small cabin on the edge of town, the local people are mystified by his presence. A quiet and simple man, Joshua appears to seek nothing for himself. He supports himself by working as a carpenter. He charges very little for his services, yet his craftsmanship is exquisite. The statue of Moses that he carves for the local synagogue prompts amazement as well as consternation.

What are the townsfolk to make of this enigmatic stranger? Some people report having seen him carry a huge cherry log on his shoulders effortlessly. Still others talk about the child in a poor part of town who was dreadfully ill but, after Joshua's visit, recovered completely. Despite his benevolence and selfless work in the community, some remain suspicious. Finally, in an effort to address the community's doubts, the local religious leaders confront Joshua.

I read this book for the first time in the early 90's and it is one of my favorite works of fiction and I hope you will love it also. **The books are in and they are \$10 each and are on the table in the Narthex. We need leaders! If you would like to lead a small group on Wednesday night or another day, please let me know. Sign up for a group today! Sign-up sheets are on the table in the Narthex.** I am looking forward to going on this wonderful journey with you.

In Christ's love, Pastor Tim

## Approved Council Meeting Minutes

**January 13, 2019**

Members Present – Lisa Robinson, Dave Jones, Jackson Kobe, Grace Jones, Kari Janes, Mindy Gehrke, Karlton Krause, Lisa Doering, Kim Hartford, Robin Sampson

Members Absent – Pastor Tim Maybee

Others in attendance – Connie Moehlman, Robin Sampson

**Devotions** – Dave Jones

Meeting called to order by Lisa Robinson

December minutes were reviewed. Motion to approve the minutes was made by Lisa Doering, seconded by Jackson Kobe. Motion passed

### **Reports**

Financial Report: Looking good after Christmas.

New Line Item for the Sound system fund.

Thrivent choice funds are down - note to have the committee remind the congregation to designate funds.

Financial Report stands for Audit and we will go over the financials and how to read the reports in greater detail at the February Board meeting.

### **Committee**

#### **Property:**

Sound system is dying – there will be a special meeting February 24<sup>th</sup> if Mark Noll is available. We would like someone that runs the video to help present and show how this puts together the whole service.

Money from the pork loin dinner and some of the Thrivent Choice Money has been designated to help pay for the sound system.

There is a new lock on the back door.

Carpet – there is nothing else we can do with it to improve current state. Need to look at replacing soon and decide what we want to do.

Snow removal: We do not have a set system, need to figure so we know someone is covering.

#### **Worship:**

Joshua is the lent study and Lisa is looking into something interesting for kids lent study.

#### **Youth**

Teen Serve: Looking at trying to host and involve other churches. We would like to reach out to other individuals and get them to go to teen serve with our youth. Also reach out to other churches to see if 2022 would be a possibility.

**Adjourn** - Jackson made a motion to adjourn and Robin seconded.

#### **The Lord's Prayer**

#### **REMEMBER IN PRAYER:**

Linda Hensing; Shirley Hansen; Sandi Butt; Sharon Meineke; Andrew Heetland; Hannah Heetland; Patty Andriakos-Celene Andersen's sister; Sam Delly & Alec Kapustka - grandsons of Gordon Delly; Paul Winters -Gordon Delly's brother-in-law; Sue Dreyer--sister-in-law to Byrd Robbins & Darlene Neuman; Mike Ingebritson- Friend of Bethany

HOMEBASED: Gladys Erickson, Shirley Hansen, Lorraine Johnson, Roberta Meyer, & Kenneth Neeld

## **BETHANY HAPPENINGS**

**SOUND SYSTEM:** Due to weather we have postponed the special congregational meeting to March 24, 2019 immediately following the 9:00 a.m. worship service. The purpose of this meeting will be to vote on the purchase of a new sound system for the church. Please plan to attend this meeting so that we can explain what will be purchased and how it will benefit our ministry.

**ALTAR FLOWERS:** Please sign up to help with altar flowers. You can give them in honor or in memory of someone special or for a special occasion such as a birthday or an anniversary or just because you want to donate them. They are \$50.00 per weekend. If you want the flowers you donate, then come during office hours 8:30-1:30 by Wednesday and Carol will get them for you. Please do not take them by yourself as gloves need to be worn.

**LENTEN BOOK STUDY LEADER TRAINING:** We will have leader training for the Lenten book study on Wednesday February 27 at 6:30 or Sunday March 3 at 11:30. Leaders please let Pastor Tim know when you can attend.

**LENTEN SUPPER HOSTS:** Starting the week after Ash Wednesday we will have a Fellowship Lenten Supper from 5:30-5:50. The following is the schedule of which serving groups will host each supper:  
March 13 - Group 1, March 20 - Group 2, March 27 - Group 3,  
April 3 - Group 4, April 10 - Church Council

**IFMA LENTEN LUNCH HOSTS:** Starting the week of Ash Wednesday the Iowa Falls Ministerial Association will have a Fellowship Lenten Lunch from 11:50-12:50. The following is the schedule of which congregation will host each Lunch:

March 3 - St Mark's Catholic Church, March 13 - First United Methodist,  
**March 20 - Bethany Lutheran Church**, March 27 - Iowa Falls United Church of Christ,  
April 3 - Iowa Falls Evangelical Free Church, April 10 - Open

**ALTAR FLOWERS:** Please sign up to help with altar flowers. You can give them in honor or in memory of someone special or for a special occasion such as a birthday or an anniversary or just because you want to donate them. They are \$50.00 per weekend. If you want the flowers you donate, then come during office hours 8:30-1:30 by Wednesday and Carol will get them for you. Please do not take them by yourself as gloves need to be worn.

**CONFIRMATION & YOUTH:** This Wednesday we will have Confirmation at 5:30 with dinner at 6:30, and 7th - 12th grade youth at 6:45.

**HARDIN COUNTY EMERGENCY FOOD PANTRY:** The Hardin County Emergency Food Pantry provides food, toiletries, hygiene products, and other essentials to individuals and families in need in Hardin County. The food pantry is supported by community donations. They need our help. The donation box is in our Fellowship Hall. Thank you.

**MEALS ON WHEELS:** Bethany has Meals on Wheels delivery for March. The sign-up sheet is out. Please sign up for a day or two if you are able. Questions please call Rita 648-9080 or Rhonda 648-2218. Thank you.

**COFFEE HOSTS:** We need coffee hosts for after church. The directions are all written out on the kitchen refrigerators. If you can help, please let us know or sign-up on the worship assistants' sheets.

**WORSHIP ASSISTANTS:** We are in need of Worship assistants for the month of March. Please sign up at the Narthex Desk to usher, greet, or lector (read). If you have not experienced one of these volunteer opportunities, please see Pastor Tim and he will show you the procedure.

# **CHRISTIAN EDUCATION CALENDAR FOR MARCH 2019 – MAY 2019**

## **IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER**

March 6<sup>th</sup> – ASH WEDNESDAY

March 17<sup>th</sup> – Wear green to Sunday School for St. Patrick's Day

April 14<sup>th</sup> – Pork Loin Dinner at Church

April 18<sup>th</sup> – Maundy Thursday worship & 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade First Communion at 6:00 pm

April 21<sup>st</sup> – Easter Sunday

April 28<sup>th</sup> – Sunday School sings during church

May 12<sup>th</sup> – Last day of Sunday School /Sunday School sings during church. Mother's Day

May 19<sup>th</sup> – Celebration of Bethany Graduates

Also note Wednesday activity dates (not held during Lent)

### **Club 3456**

5:30- 6:30

April 3<sup>rd</sup>/May 1<sup>st</sup>

### **Family Night**

5:30- 6:30

May 15

### **Middle and High School Youth Group**

6:30-7:30

April 24 / May 8 / May 22

**Offering project for spring:** Monetary offering to be given to provide garden seeds and supplies to help people grow their own food to feed their families.

## **Kindness and Health**

Being kind has a profound impact in the lives of others, but you may not know how much of a positive health benefit it delivers to you as well. People who perform acts of kindness would agree that being kind to someone else makes them "feel good." Scientific research shows that it not only can make you feel good but being kind has a significant health benefit, both physically and mentally.

1. Helping can enhance our feelings of joyfulness, emotional resilience, and vigor, and can reduce the unhealthy sense of isolation.
2. A decrease in both the intensity and the awareness of physical pain can occur.
3. The incidence of attitudes, such as chronic hostility, that negatively arouse and damage the body is reduced.
4. The health benefits and sense of well-being return for hours or even days whenever the helping act is remembered.
5. An increased sense of self-worth, greater happiness, and optimism, as well as a decrease in feelings of helplessness and depression, is achieved.
6. Once we establish an "affiliative connection" with someone - a relationship of friendship, love, or some sort of positive bonding - we feel emotions that can strengthen the immune system.
7. The practice of caring for strangers translates to immense immune and healing benefits.
8. Regular club attendance, volunteering, entertaining, or faith group attendance is the happiness equivalent of getting a college degree or more than doubling your income.



3/1	Carol	Alt	3/15	Angelia	Sharar
3/1	Ronald	Kuhfus	3/16	Jon	Jordahl
3/1	Jonette	Rollene	3/16	Nicholas	Tibbs
3/3	Jennifer	Bicknese	3/17	Katheryn	Hesse
3/3	Caden	Kuker	3/18	Tyson	Kuker
3/3	Tia	Muilenburg	3/1	Linda	Lehtola
3/3	Alexander	Tiernan	3/19	Kim	Aldinger
3/5	Quinn	Hoversten	3/19	Zoey	Carter
3/5	Margaret	Sheahan	3/20	Cody	Buscher
3/7	Byrd	Robbins	3/20	Kenneth	Butt
3/7	Anthony	Thies	3/20	Jennifer	Jeffries
3/8	Dinah	Jones	3/20	Marikate	Lancaster
3/8	Christopher	Klaffke	3/20	Steven	Weidemann
3/8	Megan	Sanders	3/22	Megan	Qualley
3/9	Pacey	Mulford	3/23	Randall	Hansen
3/10	Joshua	Ullestad	3/23	Mark	Noll
3/10	Lisa	Wiese	3/25	Landyn	Hansen
3/11	Joanna	Heiar	3/26	Kay	Bahr
3/11	Eunice	Helmke	3/27	Brittany	Munguia
3/11	Barton	Mulford	3/29	Michael	Hansen
3/12	Marileigh	Behrends	3/29	Cole	Spree
3/15	Melinda	Gehrke			



## March Anniversaries



- 3/6 Debra & Scott Hoover
- 3/15 Peg & Mike Bushore
- 3/21 Ann & Mike Barr
- 3/26 Kerry & Steven Mulford
- 3/28 Lisa & Brian Doering

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1 7:30 Devotions	2 7:30 Men's Breakfast 9:00 Smith Anniversary 5:30 Worship
3 9:00 Worship 10:15 Sunday School 10:15 Social Concerns 4:00 Scout Parents Meeting	4 Pastor Off	5 7:30 Devotions 9:30 Women's Bible Study 6:00 Adoption Support Group	6 <b>Ash Wednesday</b> 7:30 Devotions 11:50 IFMA Lent Lunch 6:00 Worship 7:00 Lent Book & Movie Study	7 7:30 Devotions 9:30 Rebekah Circle 1:00 Quilting 3:30 JAM Club 7:00 Scouts	8 7:30 Devotions	9 7:30 Men's Breakfast 5:30 Worship
10 9:00 Worship 10:15 Sun School 11:15 Church Council	11 Pastor Off	12 7:30 Devotions 9:30 Women's Bible Study 6:00 Adoption Support Group	13 7:30 Devotions 11:50 IFMA Lent Lunch 5:30 Lent Supper 6:00 Worship 6:20 Lent Book & Movie Study	14 7:30 Devotions 1:00 Quilting 3:30 JAM Club	15 7:30 Devotions	16 7:30 Men's Breakfast 5:30 Worship Caring Callers
17 <b>St. Patrick's Day</b> 8:00 Choir Practice 9:00 Worship Caring Callers 10:15 Sun School	18 Pastor Off	19 7:30 Devotions 9:30 Women's Bible Study	7:30 Devotions 11:50 IFMA Lent Lunch 5:30 Lent Supper 6:00 Worship 6:20 Lent Book & Movie Study	21 7:30 Devotions 1:00 Quilting 3:30 JAM Club 6:30 Scouts	22 7:30 Devotions Work Thrift Shop	23 7:30 Men's Breakfast Work Thrift Shop 5:30 Worship
24 8:00 Choir Practice 9:00 Worship 10:15 Sunday School	25 Pastor Off	26 7:30 Devotions 9:30 Women's Bible Study	7:30 Devotions 11:50 IFMA Lent Lunch 5:30 Lent Supper 6:00 Worship 6:20 Lent Book & Movie Study	28 7:30 Devotions 1:00 Quilting 3:30 JAM Club	29 7:30 Devotions	30 7:30 Men's Breakfast 5:30 Worship
31 8:00 Choir Practice 9:00 Worship 10:15 Sunday School	March 2019					





<b>MARCH</b>	<b>OLD TESTAMENT</b>	<b>NEW TESTAMENT</b>	<b>PSALMS</b>	<b>PROVERBS</b>
1	Ex 6:1-7:25	Matt 18:21-19:12	23:1-6	5:22-23
2	Ex 8:1-9:35	Matt 19:13-30	24:1-10	6:1-5
3	Ex 10:1-12:13	Matt 20:1-28	25:1-11	6:6-11
4	Ex 12:14-13:22	Matt 20:29-21:22	25:12-22	6:12-15
5	Ex 14:1-15:19	Matt 21:23-46	26:1-12	6:16-19
6	Ex 15:20-17:7	Matt 22:1-33	27:1-7	6:20-26
7	Ex 17:8-19:25	Matt 22:34-23:12	27:8-14	6:27-35
8	Ex 20:1-21:27	Matt 23:13-39	28:1-9	7:1-5
9	Ex 21:28-23:13	Matt 24:1-28	29:1-28	7:6-23
10	Ex 23:14-25:40	Matt 24:29-51	30:1-12	7:24-27
11	Ex 26:1-27:21	Matt 25:1-30	31:1-8	8:1-11
12	Ex 28:1-43	Matt 25:31-26:13	31:9-18	8:12-13
13	Ex 29:1-30:10	Matt 26:14-46	31:19-24	8:14-26
14	Ex 30:11-31:18	Matt 26:47-68	32:1-11	8:27-32
15	Ex 32:1-33:23	Matt 26:69-27:14	33:1-11	8:33-36
16	Ex 34:1-35:9	Matt 27:15-31	33:12-22	9:1-6
17	Ex 35:10-36:38	Matt 27:32-66	34:1-10	9:7-8
18	Ex 37:1-38:31	Matt 28:1-20	34:11-22	9:9-10
19	Ex 39:1-40:38	Mark 1:1-28	35:1-16	9:11-12
20	Lev 1:1-3:17	Mark 1:29-2:12	35:17-28	9:13-18
21	Lev 4:1-5:19	Mark 2:13-3:6	36:1-12	10:1-2
22	Lev 6:1-7:27	Mark 3:7-30	37:1-11	10:3-4
23	Lev 7:28-8:36	Mark 3:31-4:25	37:12-28	10:05
24	Lev 9:1-10:20	Mark 4:26-5:20	37:29-40	10:6-7
25	Lev 11:1-12:8	Mark 5:21-43	38:1-2	10:8-9
26	Lev 13:1-59	Mark 6:1-29	39:1-13	10:10
27	Lev 14:1-57	Mark 6:30-56	40:1-10	10:11-12
28	Lev 15:1-16:34	Mark 7:1-23	41:1-13	10:13-14
29	Lev 17:1-18:30	Mark 7:24-8:10	42:1-11	10:15-16
30	Lev 9:1-20:27	Mark 9:1-29	43:1-5	10:17
31	Lev 21:1-22:17	Mark 9:1-29	43:1-7	10:18

## **REMEMBER THE BETHANY FAMILIES WITH PRAYER**

This month, ask God to protect, direct, and show favor to these members.

Give thanks for their presence in this community.

March 3-9	Ben & Joyce Bicknese  James Braga	Todd & Jennifer Bicknese, Ashley, Addalee & Andrew
March 10-16	Natasha Brown  Mike & Peg Bushore	Cody & Codi Buscher
March 17 -23	Ken & Sandi Butt  Dennis & Holly Carlberg	Kevin & Honoria Butt, Victoria & Olivia
March 24-31	Dana Carter  John & Danielle Cerna, Zyrianna Cerna-Koehrsen & Ariza Cerna-Koehrsen	Stan & Gail Cavner



**Evangelical Lutheran  
Church in America**  
God's work. Our hands.

Lutheran is to Know Christ and to make Christ known by Welcoming! Growing! Serving! (Acts 2:1-47)

### **GUIDING PRINCIPLES**

1. Jesus is Lord and Savior. (Romans 10:8-15)
2. We are saved by grace through faith in Christ Jesus. (Ephesians 2:4-10)
3. All are welcome. (Galatians 3:23-29)
4. Our foundation is in scripture. (Colossians 3:12-17)
5. As a family of faith, we serve others and one another in Christ's love. (Acts 2:42-47)
6. Through prayer we go where the Holy Spirit leads to proclaim Christ. (Acts 8:26-40 & 16:6-15)

### **BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS**

President- Lisa Robison  
Vice President -Mark Noll  
Secretary- Mindy Gehrke  
Grace Jones, Jackson Kobe – Youth Representatives  
Connie Moehlman -Treasurer  
Karlton Krause, Kari Janes, Kim Hardford, Pastor Tim Maybee, Lisa Doering

**Church Phone: 641-648-3555**  
**Pastor Tim's Cell Phone 515-745-3683**  
**Web Site: [www.bethanyiwafalls.net](http://www.bethanyiwafalls.net)**

**email: [bethanyiwafalls@gmail.com](mailto:bethanyiwafalls@gmail.com)**  
**email: [bethanytim@gmail.com](mailto:bethanytim@gmail.com)**  
**Office Hours 9-2:00**