

NOVEMBER 2017

BETHANY BEACON

BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH

MAKING CHRIST KNOWN.....

WELCOMING! GROWING! SERVING!



ALL SAINTS DAY
ALL SAINTS DAY

On November 4-5 at all services we will remember those baptized and those who passed away this year.

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Dear Sisters and Brothers,

On October 31, 1517, Martin Luther posted his 95 theses on the door of the castle church in Wittenberg Germany. By doing this Luther challenged, among other practices in the church, the selling of indulgences, in which one could buy their or someone else way into heaven. In his attempt to reform the church Luther challenged the teachings, practices and structures of the Roman Catholic Church. Luther held that the central message of Christianity is the good news that sinners are reconciled to God, saved, or justified by grace through faith because of the saving work of Jesus Christ. As we read in Romans 8:19-28.

Luther didn't intend to start a new denomination. He wanted to reform the existing church so the gospel message was communicated clearly and so the life of the church would reflect the gospel. A separate church only came after the Roman Catholic Church repeatedly rejected Luther's views and excommunicated him.

So, what makes us Lutheran? Is it a dish from a country of origin like lutefisk or bratwurst? Is it liturgically colored Jello? Is it where I sit during Worship? No, what makes us Lutheran is our theology. So, what is Lutheran theology?

1. Justification by grace through faith In Christ Jesus

This is the heart of the gospel. The fourth article of the Augsburg Confession, (which is our key confessional document) says that, Justification by grace through faith in Christ is so central that it is "the article by which the church stands or falls."

Relying on Paul's letters to the Romans, Ephesians, and Galatians, Luther insisted that faith isn't primarily intellectual (having the right knowledge about God) or emotional (how hard or how sincerely one believes). Instead, faith is relational: It is trust. We are justified through faith because faith alone trusts God's promise of forgiveness for Christ's sake.

You may trust that I won't hit you. But, if I suddenly hit you. Then you would no longer have trust in me and that I wouldn't hit you. Your trust, your faith, in me is based on what I do. Not on what you do. The same is true with God. Our trust, our faith, is based on what God does in Christ Jesus not on what we do. When we say that we need to do something to merit salvation, what we are actually saying is, "What Jesus did on the cross was not enough for me."

2. Theology of the cross

The theology of the cross refers to a cross-centered approach to theology that stands in opposition to a "theology of glory" focused on the power and majesty of God apart from God's action in history (especially the events of Good Friday).

A theology of glory looks up and says, "God is in heaven and all is well with the world." Where a theology of the cross keeps its feet firmly planted on our broken Earth and says, "God was in Christ reconciling the world to God." The incarnation witnesses to a God who puts aside divine characteristics to become human, to suffer and to die.

The God who chooses to come down from heaven chooses not to come down from the cross. The theology of the cross is a constant critique of human expectations. While the cross is a scandal to nonbelievers, Christians confess that God's saving power works through such weakness.

3. Law and gospel

As Lutherans, we have a distinctive way of reading the Scriptures, based on Luther's insight that God's word comes to us in two forms-law and gospel. The law, as command, tells people what they should do. The gospel, as promise, tells us what God in Christ has already done for us.

God's law functions in several ways: It structures human life by protecting and promoting good and limiting and punishing wrong. The law also functions theologically, as a mirror to show us our sinfulness and our need for God's grace in Christ.

Because we are sinners, God's law always accuses us; only the gospel frees us. As Luther puts it: "The law says, 'do this,' and it is never done. Grace says, 'believe in this,' and everything is already done."

4. Saint and sinner

Luther described Christians as “simultaneously saint and sinner.” Some faith traditions distinguish between “saints,” who obey God’s will, and “sinners,” who disobey. We have a both/and understanding of our identity in Christ redefining the word “saint” as a forgiven sinner.

Our dual identity as saints and sinners reminds us that our righteousness always depends on God’s grace, and never on our own behavior. At the same time we understand that sin, while forgiven, remains a powerful force in the world and in ourselves giving us a realistic ability to confront cruelty and evil, confident that God will have the last word. As Luther wrote to his friend Philip Melanchthon, “Be a sinner and sin boldly, but believe and rejoice in Christ even more boldly, for he is victorious over sin, death, and the world.”

5. Word & Sacrament

The Augsburg Confession describes word and sacrament as the “means of grace.” Or in other words, “This is how and where grace happens.” When the good news is preached, when someone is baptized, when we receive the Lord’s Supper, grace happens. This means that worship is very important for Lutherans. It forms our identity as Christians. The Augsburg Confession even defines the Christian church as the assembly of believers around gospel and sacrament.

6. Priesthood of All Believers

Before Luther the term vocation was used only to refer to those with a religious calling to be a priest, monk or nun. Luther expanded the idea to include all Christians. Luther affirmed that all Christians are priests. This “priesthood of all believers” means that we all have a responsibility to teach and to pray for others. Luther also affirmed that all human work is a calling from God if done in faith and for the service of neighbor. God doesn’t need our good works, but people do. Christian faith express itself in how we live in our professions, in our family relationships and as citizens, since these are all arenas for the service of neighbor. As Luther wrote, “The Christian shoemaker does his duty not by putting little crosses on the shoes, but by making good shoes.”

As Lutherans came to North America, they faced several significant challenges. One was the transition away from the European model of a state-supported church. While more recent denominations like Baptists and United Methodists grew through evangelism, Lutheran church growth was largely the result of immigration from Germany and Scandinavia.

Another challenge was that Lutherans in North America. organized according to shared language and culture which shaped the self-understanding of individual communities but also affected their relationships with other Lutherans. Recently this has led many to raise the question “What does it mean to be a Lutheran?” Leading many American Lutherans to go beyond most of the cultural, structural, and practical issues that have separated us in the past. It’s not the beer and brats or the lefse and lutefisk that unites us or divides us, it’s the good news of God’s grace for us in the word, in water, and in bread and wine.

We can learn much from Lutherans in other cultures. What are the Lutheran churches in Tanzania and Ethiopia and elsewhere doing right? Their astonishing growth suggests they’re proclaiming the gospel message persuasively rather than perpetuating the northern European subcultures we’ve too often equated with the name “Lutheran.”

As Lutherans let us welcome the opportunity to be multilingual and multicultural, to reach out actively and clearly to proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ in ways that invite other people to hear, trust, and respond to the promise that we have in Christ Jesus. I think that as a church of the reformation we are called to move away from the false cultural and social identity we have for Lutheranism and instead refocus on the ideas that were the foundation of Luther’s reformation. We have this great gift from God, let us let the light of the gospel shine bright in our lives.

Under God’s Grace,
Pastor Tim.

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
N 	O	V.	1 7:30 Devotions 8:15 Exercise 5:15 7 & 8 Youth 6:00 Dinner 6:20 Confirmation/Youth Dinner. 6:45 HS Youth 7:00 Ruth Circle	2 7:30 Devotions 9:30 Rebekah Circle 1:00 Quilting 3:30 JAM 6:00 Ashbrook Worship 6:30 Scouts	3 8:15 Exercise 9:30 World Community Day @ UCC Church	4 7:30 Men's Breakfast 5:30 Worship
5 Daylight Savings Time Ends 8:30 Worship 9:45 Sun School 11:00 Worship 6:30 Bible Study	6 7:30 Devotions 8:15 Exercise 5:15 BLCW Meeting 6:30 Bible Study	7 7:30 Devotions 9:30 Women's Bible Study 11:30 IF Ministerial	8 7:30 Devotions 8:15 Exercise 6:00-8:00 Bowling for Confirmation & HS Students 7:00 Choir	9 7:30 Devotions 1:00 Quilting 3:30 JAM 6:00 Ashbrook Worship 6:30 Scouts	10 8:15 Exercise	11 7:30 Men's Breakfast 10-12:00 X mas Program Rehearsal 5:30 Worship
12 8:30 Worship 9:45 Sun School 11:00 Worship 12:00 Church Council 6:30 Bible Study	13 7:30 Devotions 8:15 Exercise 6:30 Bible Study	14 7:30 Devotions 9:30 Women's Bible Study	15 7:30 Devotions FREE MEALS @ Methodist Church 8:15 Exercise 5:15 7 & 8 Youth 6:00 Dinner 6:20 Confirm./HS Dinner 6:45 HS Youth 7:00 Choir	16 7:30 Devotions 1:00 Quilting 3:30 JAM 6:00 Ashbrook Worship 6:30 Scouts	17 8:15 Exercise	18 7:30 Men's Breakfast 10-12:00 X mas Program Rehearsal 5:30 Worship Caring Callers
19 Caring Callers 8:30 Worship 9:45 Sun School 11:00 Worship 3:00 Heritage Worship 5:00 Elderberries 6:30 Bible Study	20 7:30 Devotions 8:15 Exercise 6:30 Bible Study	21 7:30 Devotions 9:30 Women's Bible Study	22 7:30 Devotions 8:15 Exercise	23 THANKS GIVING DINNER	24 8:15 Exercise	25 7:30 Men's Breakfast 5:30 Worship
26 9:00 Worship 6:30 Bible Study	27 7:30 Devotions 8:15 Exercise 6:30 Bible Study	28 7:30 Devotions 9:30 Women's Bible Study	29 7:30 Devotions 8:15 Exercise 5:15 7 & 8 Youth 6:00 Dinner 6:20 Confirm/HS Dinner 6:45 HS Youth 7:00 Choir	30 7:30 Devotions 1:00 Quilting 3:30 JAM 6:00 Ashbrook Worship 6:30 Scouts		

BETHANY HAPPENINGS

WORLD COMMUNITY DAY

Will be held at the UCC Church in Iowa Falls on Friday, November 3rd.

CHURCH COUNCIL

Church Council will be held Sunday, November 12th @ 12:00 pm.

ELDERBERRIES

Elderberries is a group for anyone 50 or older. Our November 19th potluck is at 5:00 p.m. The program will be Travels with Nancy Stiner to Eisleben, Wittenberg, & Eisennach, Germany.

CARING CALLERS

Jane Granzow is now the new coordinator for Caring Callers. Caring Callers will be November 18-19.

BETHANY 100 ITEMS ARE NOW FOR SALE

IF YOU ORDERED SHIRTS, you can pay for them and pick them up at the office. The Shirts cost \$15. We also have Coffee Mugs and pens for \$5, Christmas Ornaments for \$6, Tumblers for \$8, and Trivets for \$10. These items are here and can be purchased in the Fellowship Hall. All the proceeds will be used to cover the cost of the Bethany 100 Fair and our formal celebration on October 21-22.

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Please remember we have volunteer sign-up sheets on the desk in the Narthex that will take us through the end of the year and the special services for Christmas. Please let us know where you can help as soon as possible. Robin Sampson has agreed to be the 11:00 volunteer coordinator! This will be a tremendous help as she is there each Sunday helping with the Sound System and can be available if you have any questions. Thank you, Robin! Thank you so much to everyone who has helped with our services this past year and for your quick replies when asked, you are so appreciated!

THE FOOD PANTRY

Bethany is in charge of food and paper donations for the food pantry for the months of November and April. Please put any donations in the wood box in the Friendship Room.

HEALTH KITS

Our next Lutheran World Relief project will be Health Kits. Each zip lock bag will need 1- wide tooth comb, 1- metal nail clippers with a file, and 2-(4-5 Oz.) bars of soap. Please return them to the wooden box in the Friendship Room.

BAZAAR- THANK YOU

The Bethany Lutheran Church Women would like to thank all the helpers at the Bazaar. This includes the noodle and candy making groups, those who prepared the beef burgers and chicken and noodle casserole, potato salad, coleslaw, pies, the crafts, cookies for the cookie walk and baked goods. This also includes the servers, cashiers, dishwashers and clean-up crew. All your help made this year's Bazaar a success.

BETHANY 100-THANK YOU

The Bethany 100 Celebration was a great success because of the wonderful people we have here at Bethany who pulled together and made it a successful event. Thank you to the Bethany 100 Committee (Doris Harman, Gary Huffine, Sara Kobe, Robin Sampson, and Pat Thorell), the choir and the praise band, for all those involved in setting up and arranging catering for the meal, as well as serving and cleaning up afterwards, for all the help of the former pastors and those who helped get them here, and all of you who came to the Bethany 100 Fair and the two celebration services we had.

Thank you to you all!
On to the next 100 years!

CONFIRMATION & YOUTH PAGE

WEDNESDAY NIGHT SCHEDULE

5:15	7 th & 8 th grade youth group
6:00	7 th & 8 th grade dinner
6:20	7 th & 8 th Confirmation
6:20	High School Dinner
6:30	High School Youth Group

BOWLING NOVEMBER 8TH

Confirmation and High School Students are going bowling at the Pla-Mor-Bowl bowling alley Wednesday, November 8th from 6-8:00p.m. Please drop off and pick up your student at the bowling alley. Cost is 10:00 and we will serve pizza for dinner. **Friends are invited, please let Robin or Pastor Tim know how many.** No other confirmation or youth activities this evening.

ELCA NATIONAL YOUTH GATHERING

Every three years the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) has a National Youth Gathering. At this gathering 30,000 students and their chaperones gather to serve, worship, learn, and have fun. This will be my sixth gathering and each one has been a time of fun and great joy. The Youth Gathering is taking place this coming summer on June 27-July 1, 2018 in Houston, Texas and I would love to have you join me this summer in Houston for a great time with God and our sisters and brothers in Christ.

REHEARSAL FOR THE CHRISTMAS PROGRAM & BETHANY FAMILY POTLUCK

We will have rehearsal for the Christmas Program on Saturdays, November 11, 18 and December 2 & 9, from 10-12:00 with lunch provided. The program will be December 16th at the 5:30 service with a Bethany Family Potluck to follow.

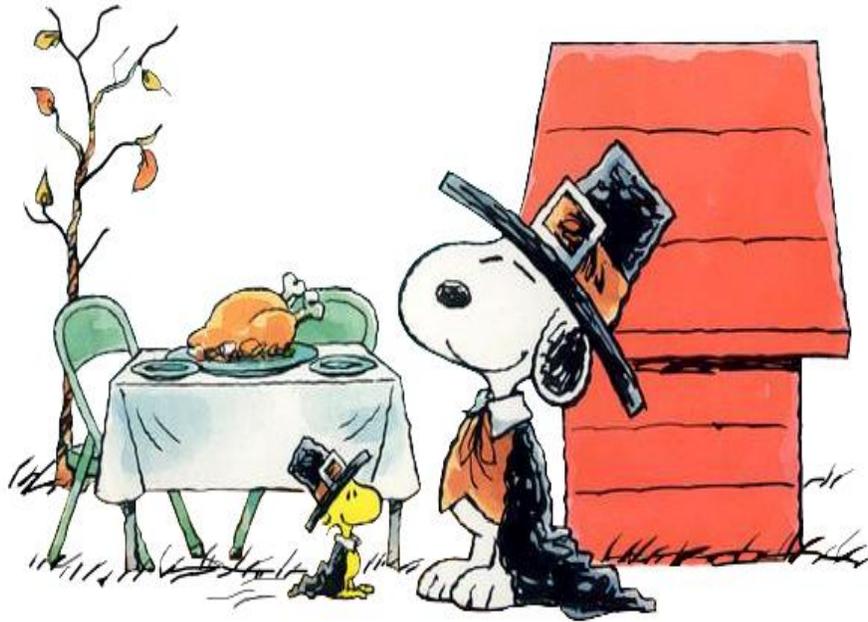
WE WILL NOT HAVE SUNDAY SCHOOL THANKSGIVING WEEKEND NOVEMBER 26

COUNCIL COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

Council members chose the following committees to act as liason between council and committee:

- Christian Education: Codi Buscher
- Fellowship: Joel Weeks
- Property: Dave Jones
- Youth: Grace Jones, Jackson Kobe, Sara Kobe
- Evangelism & Social Concerns/Missions: Karlton Krause
- Stewardship: Mark Noll
- Worship & Music: Lisa Robison
- Nominating: Joel Weeks
- Scholarship: Sara Kobe
- Marketing, Technology & Communications: Pastor Tim

Join Bethany Lutheran Church for a Community Thanksgiving Meal, November 23th at noon with turkey and all the fixings along with great fellowship. Carry out and delivery available. To reserve a meal, call the church office at 641-648-3555.



Bethany Lutheran Church
2712 Washington Ave.
Iowa Falls, Iowa 50126

COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING DINNER

Bethany will again host the Community Thanksgiving Dinner on November 23 at Noon. If you can bring a pie or more than one, we need 60 pies. Please do not cut them. We need many hands to help with this event. Last year we served about 600 people. We need help the night before, the day of and after the meal for clean-up. Please sign up to help where and with whatever you can. Remember to get your reservations in for your meal by calling the church at 641-648-3555.

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.

NOV 1-8 Wallace, Robert & Becky

Weber, Todd

Weeks, Joel, Madeleine & Lily

Weidemann, Steve & Juli

NOV 9-17 White, Jenenne

Wiese, Daryl & Lisa

Wood, Tom & Mary Ann

York, Lester & Linda

NOV 18-25 Zeigler, Eunice

Zeisman, Laura & Grace Calhoun

Ziesman, Leroy, Diane, Christa, Zachariah, Anna

NOV 26-30 Ahrens, Scott, Jackie, Ava & Owen

Albrecht, Gary & Carla

Aldinger, Justin, Kim, Lindsay, Logan

Allen, Ryan, Nikki, Carson, Leah & Nolan

Allen

Happy Birthday
Ryan

11/13 Jensen

David





Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

11/06					
11/26	Bell	Sara	11/30	Johnson	Avis
11/30	Bicknese	Ashley	11/16	Jones	Faith
11/13	Bushore	Peg	11/30	Jones	Susan
11/22	Conover	Cathy	11/17	Juhl	Steve
11/06	Delly	Dolores	11/07	Knight	Dale
11/10	Delly	Gordon	11/17	Kobe	Sara
11/24	Dewey	Lisa	11/07	Lewey	Bryan
11/28	Dunphy	Timothy	11/30	Mark	Michael
11/04	Elman	Amy	11/10	Marquis	Boyd
11/29	Erickson	Gladys	11/28	Metz	Joseph
11/19	Ford	Peggy	11/30	Meyer	Joshua
11/06	Gehrke	Brandon	11/12	Meyer	Kayla
11/08	Granzow	Jane	11/19	Moehlman	Stephen
11/28	Harken	Abigail	11/20	Noll	Connie
11/09	Harman	Randall	11/08	Picht	Rhonda
11/24	Heinzeroth	Jeffrey	11/06	Robison	Lisa
11/19	Heitland	Jon	11/12	Saltzman	Dennis
11/16	Hoversten	Finley	11/22	Sampson	Gary
11/20	Hoversten	Griffin	11/19	Sanders	John
11/03	Hoversten	Kaitlyn	11/30	Steding	Roxie
11/16	Hoversten	Kellen	11/27	Thies	Mari
11/18	Huffine	Marilyn	11/27	Wallace	Becky
11/20	Jeffries	Brody	11/02	Ziesman	Diane
11/21	Jeffries	Josie			

Happy Anniversary

2-Nov	Johnson, George & Alice
7-Nov	Lease, Tom & Jo
14-Nov	Klaffke, Chris & Ashley
19-Nov	Elman, Derrick & Amy
20-Nov	Heitland, Chad & Maria
24-Nov	Ziesman, Leroy & Diane



MISSION STATEMENT

Through God's love as revealed to us in Jesus Christ, it is the purpose of Bethany Lutheran Church to proclaim the gospel of that love throughout the world by creating and building a community of worship in the Lutheran tradition of Word and Sacrament, providing fellowship, encouraging growth through learning and reaching out in witness and service.

WE ARE CALLED TO LIVE THE MARKS OF DISCIPLESHIP

As disciples of Jesus we will strive to:

Pray Daily

O

Worship Weekly

E

Read the Bible daily

Serve at and beyond Bethany Lutheran Church

Unite with and be in

Relationship with others

Give of our time, talents, and resources

E

BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS

Joel Weeks - President

Codi Buscher – Secretary

Jackson Kobe – Youth Representative

Karlton Krause

Pastor Tim Maybee

Sara Kobe - Vice-President

Grace Jones – Youth Representative

Dave Jones

Mark Noll

Church Phone: 641-648-3555 **email:** bethanyiwafalls@gmail.com
Pastor Tim's Cell Phone: 515-745-3683 **email:** bethanytim@gmail.com
Volunteer Coordinator: 641-373-0367 **email:** bethanymem@gmail.com
Web Site: www.bethanyiwafalls.net **Office Hours 9-2:00**