

BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH
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CONNECTIONS

JUNE 2024

A Monthly Newsletter Linking the Ministries of Bethany Lutheran and Lost Island Lutheran Churches



Pastor F. Peter Morlock
Secretary: Diane Clasing-Steger
Financial Secretary: Michael Jacobson
Youth Director: Kristin Rienhardt
Bethany Organist: Tim Nielsen, Temp
Lost Island Organist: Tim Nielsen



Jesus said "Go, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit....."

In mid-April, the Western Iowa Synod met in assembly in Council Bluffs. Our theme for the weekend was "Stir us to be, Brave - Authentic- Free-Disruptive Disciples." Over the course of our time together we engaged in conversations around the theme, concentrating on how the changing nature of the church, while uncertain at times, also presents us with an opportunity to be stirred and open to new directions of the Spirit. We heard many examples of different ways to "Be" church, and engaged in conversation with differing groups, and among ourselves around the question of "How is the Spirit stirring you, and your community?" What do we see?

These are good questions, that invite us to share stories of how the church impacts us and what drew us here, as well as what KEEPS us here. During the summer, I would like to invite you to join me in conversation about these things. I would like to hear your "impact stories" about the church at large, and Bethany and Lost Island in particular. Who are we being stirred to be?



Pastor Peter

Bethany Lutheran Church: bethanylutheranemmetsburg.com
Fb: [Bethany/Lostislandparish](https://www.facebook.com/Bethany/Lostislandparish)
Lost Island Lutheran Church www.lostislandlutheranchurch.com
Office Email: offsecr@gmail.com Financial Email: bethanyfinance20@gmail.com
Office hours: Wed & Thurs 9 AM -2pm Office phone: 712-852-4450

NEWS FROM JESSIE

Dust if you must, but wouldn't it be a lot more fun to splash in the lake or smell the flowers instead?

As we are wrapping up graduation season, I find myself reflecting quite a bit on some advice that was given to me when I graduated and passed on to our own graduating seniors. That advice was to never pass up on opportunities with friends when they come up. Those moments are not only fun, but they're sacred. It's in those spaces that God is present with us. It makes me think, "where two or three are gathered together, there I will be also".

What we often forget and what makes us miss those times is that we put such high priority on business tasks rather than on fellowship time with others. We are created to live in community with one another and when we remember that, we start to expand the kingdom more and more every day. So, dust if you must, but wouldn't you rather swing in the park or grab coffee at Kirby's?

God's peace,
Vicar Jessie




Coffee Connection.

June 9th
10:00am - 10:30am

Held every 2nd Sunday of the month.

We invite ALL to join us for fellowship in the Overflow Room.

A social time of fellowship to connect with others & enjoy some treats and beverages.

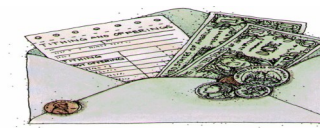
Coffee. Treats. Conversation.

APRIL 2024 Bethany Lutheran Church Treasurer's Report

Attendance average: 61

MONTHLY BUDGET NEEDS FROM OFFERINGS: \$13,750.00

	MONTHLY BEGINNING BALANCE (5,814.70)
INCOME	
Offerings	13,224.34
Transfers from other Funds Lost Island	0.00 10,425.00
Total Income	23,649.34
EXPENSES	
Personnel Expenses	13,788.03
Program Expenses	108.76
Office Expenses	643.86
Property Expenses	2,333.69
Western IA Synod Other Donations	585.08 0.00
Damascus Road	0.00
NO ELCA Donations	0.00
TOTAL EXPENSE	17,459.42
Income Less Expenses	6,189.92
GENERAL FUND BALANCE	375.22



Bethany would like to encourage online monetary offerings. The local Emmetsburg banks each provide a FREE online bill pay service which can arrange recurring weekly or monthly payments. If you need more information, contact your local Emmetsburg bank at your earliest convenience.

If you have any financial questions, please email Michael at bethanyfinance20@gmail.com and he can answer any questions.

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Do you have questions? Need assistance? Contact your council members and they will get you connected with the right people!

BETHANY

Joe Neary	712-260-8871
Mark Evans, Vice President	712-260-5651
Diane Clasing-Steger, Sec.	712-298-1003
Dianne Hough	712-852-2169
Barb Haack	712-260-3408
Laure Miller, President	712-363-2005
Ed Meyer, Treasurer	712-298-1029
Michael Jacobson	712-790-1452

LOST ISLAND

Troy Leininger – President
Tim Nielsen - Treasurer
Kyle Norris – Secretary
Craig Thu & Steve Pitt – Trustees
Alan Oppedal & Charles Henningsen – Deacons

STEWARDSHIP

Stewardship is a much bigger responsibility than most Christians realize. It can't be about money alone because stewardship was instituted long before money was even invented.

The Bible teaches that stewardship involves wise management of our treasures, time, and talents. As stewards, we are entrusted with caring for things that are important to our Master.

Here are some relevant Bible verses on stewardship:

- 1 Peter 4:10 (ESV): "As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace."
- 2 Corinthians 9:6-7 (ESV): "The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."
- Proverbs 16:3 (ESV): "Commit your work to the Lord, and your plans will be established."

On May 5, Rogation Sunday, we prayed for the Soil, Seed, Water, and Human Industry.

Genesis 2:15 (ESV): "The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it."

On May 12, we prayed for the graduates to go out into the world and be stewards of God.

Jeremiah 29:11 "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope."

The biblical concept of stewardship is about **managing everything God brings into the believer's life in a manner that honors God and impacts eternity**. It is defined as "Utilizing and managing all resources God provides for the glory of God and the betterment of His Creation". Stewardship is a fundamental concept in the Bible that teaches us to be responsible caretakers of God's resources. It means managing what we have been given in a way that honors God and benefits others.



**** Pastor Peter has added another article about Stewardship which you can find on the Insert of this Newsletter.**

GET INVOLVED.

Quilters:

Morning Quilting
Mondays- 9 AM weekly

Night Quilters
Monday, 6 PM weekly

Lost Island Quilting
June 11th at 9:00am

Women's Circles:

***Tabitha Circle:**

***Sarah Circle:**
We meet again in the Fall

***Mary Martha Circle:**
June 19th at 9:30 am

Men's Bible

We resume in the Fall

Adult Bible Study

Help with worship

Join A Board

Help with Youth Programs



Worship Services SUNDAYS

Lost Island at 8:45am
Bethany at 10:30am

Stay Connected

Bethany/Lost Island Parish
Lost Island Lutheran Church

@bethanyemmettsburg

Bethany Worship
Lost Island Lutheran Church



Prayer is such an important piece in the life of a Christian. Not only do we pray to God individually, but as a body of Christ, we pray for our neighbors, the world, and we trust that God will do His will in those prayers. Need prayer? Want to intentionally pray for others? Let us know!

We remember those in special need of God's love and care including:

Elaine Hermansen, Omundson Family, Mike Hermansen, Shirley Knutson, Eric & Lana Kropf, Betty Edwards, Lon Twait, Jessie McCune, Paul Behrends, Jim & Carol Krause, Jon Sorenson, David Stephens, LeRoy Swalve, Terry Neary, Rick Rienhardt, Jan Myer, Dave Smith, Bridget Johnson, Don Crocoll, Robert Mortenson, Jr., and those we name in our hearts.

*Our Sympathy:

***Our Military Members:** Thomas Crocoll and Logan Murray

***Our missionary:** Courtney Davis, who lives in Papua New Guinea.

***Our companion synods:** The Southern Diocese of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania-Yakobi Parish companion with Lost Island and the Evangelical Lutheran Church Laz-Paz Parish in Chile, companion with Bethany.

YOUTH NEWS

Summer is here! Another school year done. Another summer of camping ministry begins! Youth getting older and transitioning into college, high school, jr high, and elementary.

I want to take the time to thank all the parents, helpers, Board of Youth and Education, and the countless congregation members that support the youth in many ways. Thank you for investing your time, energy, and resources in helping the youth grow in their understanding of who God is.

UPDATE ON SUNDAY SCHOOL OFFERING FOR 2023-2024 school year:

\$349.40 is going to **HELPS International** to help people with healthcare.

Upcoming Events/Schedule:

PARENTS: SIGN YOUR KID UP FOR VBS/DAY CAMP! ALSO THERE IS A SIGN UP FOR VOLUNTEERS! THIS IS PERFECT FOR 7TH GRADE AND UP!

June 16th-21st: Bethany Youth are heading to St Louis for a mission trip! Keep them in your prayers!

Mission Trip 2024

JUNE 16-21, 2024

Participants

Please keep them in your prayers

- KRISTIN RIENHARDT (TRIP LEADER)
- JENNIFER BOEVERS (ADDITIONAL ADULT)
- JAMESON BOEVERS
- JOSEY SAXTON
- EMMY DOOLEY
- LILY ROHAN
- HANNAH GEIGER



NOISY OFFERING



Upper Des Moines- Food Pantry

HELP US WITH OUR GOAL

1. Give at a fundraiser
2. Give money towards mission trip by putting "Youth Mission Trip" in memo
3. Give online under Youth Missions with a memo line "Youth Mission Trip"

QUESTIONS ABOUT MISSION TRIP. ASK KRISTIN

Sunday School Bible Project.
GOAL- \$600
Helps INTERNATIONAL

With only one doctor for every thousand residents and severely limited medical care in rural areas, persistent health crises threaten Guatemala's social and economic progress. Maternal and infant mortality, malnutrition, communicable diseases, parasites and diabetes are high, especially in indigenous communities.

WILLING TO HELP?

SUPPORT, DRIVE, DONATE, TEACH?

CONTACT KRISTIN



Kristin Rienhardt

Kristin.rienhardt@blc.edu

712-790-6470

VOLUNTEERS FOR JUNE

LOST ISLAND

ORGANIST: Tim Nielsen

ALTAR GUILD

Karyn Leininger, Courtney Cook & Kari Sorenson

READERS

- June 2 Tim Nielsen
- June 9 Karyn Leininger
- June 16 Susan Rohan
- June 23 Charles Henningsen
- June 30 Kyle Norris

ACOLYTES

- June 2 Bethany Geiger
- June 9 Zac Sorenson
- June 16 Lily Rohan
- June 23 Hannah Geiger
- June 30 Bethany Geiger

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

- June 5 Susan Rohan
- June 16 Steve Pitt

Beginning **June 3rd** the Church Secretary will begin her Summer Hours which will be:
9 am—2 pm
Wednesdays & Thursdays unless something comes up

BETHANY

ALTAR GUILD: Pat Vician

MUSICIANS at BETHANY

- June 2 Tim Nielsen
- June 9 Laura Gustafson
- June 16 Tim Nielsen
- June 23 Holly Davidson
- June 30 Laura Gustafson

LECTORS

- June 2 Laure Miller
- June 9 Diane Clasing-Steger
- June 16 Darca Saxton
- June 23 Dianne Hough
- June 30 LuAnn Opheim

USHERS

- June 2 Joe Neary, Michael Jacobson
- June 9 Chuck Noble, Bob Steger
- June 16 Joel Saxton, Mark Saxton
- June 23 Kyle Hagen, David Sidles
- June 30 Joel Saxton, Kent Davidson

GREETERS

- June 2 Jane Heykes, Pat Vician
- June 9 David & Judy Cole
- June 16 Dale & LuAnn Opheim
- June 23 Dale Evans, Mark Evans
- June 30 Elaine Nauss, Kayla Hagen & Family

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

- June 2 Quentin & Sherri Ort, Joel & Somer Saxton
- June 16 Ed & Jen Meyer, Diane Clasing-Steger

Memorial Gifts Given

Memory of *Lois Lammers* given by *Angie Hetrick* for *Quilters fund*.

If you are able to and have the time on your hands—we would like to ask if there are people from Bethany that can help the Funeral Directors in the duties of preparing the church for a funeral—Both before and after. Duties are lighting the altar candles, turning on the lights, etc. Usually Diane is here and can answer any questions that may come up. This can be a Male or Female. Thanks!

BETHANY FUNERAL SERVERS- GROUP A

Willard & Glenyce Schmeling, Barb Haack, Diane Clasing Steger — Chairpersons

Dale Evans	Kyle & Kayla Hagen	Tim & Molly Rodemeyer
Dave & Judy Cole	Joe & Jennifer Boevers	Dan & Michelle Theesfeld
Leroy Walker	Troy & Sarah Krug	Chuck & Therese Duhn
Sharon Omundson	Mitch & Kim Hohensee	Allen & Beth Will
Mike & Betty Naig	Shawn & Jen Connelly	Dianne & Randy Hough
Mark & Nicole Evans	Jason & Diane Jacobson	Bernie & Linda Janssen
Becky Walker	Bill & Sharolyn Dickey	Roger & Carol Walker
Brian & Amy Malm	Ed & Jen Meyer	

LOST ISLAND NEWS



BRUNCH FOR THE BRIDE AND GROOM TO BE!

Join us at Lost Island for brunch on Sunday, June 9 at 10am when we honor



Madison Norris and Kolton Roth
who will be married August 3rd.

Bring advice for the couple with one of your favorite recipes.

Men, this includes you too!

Just a reminder that the Lost Island Ice Cream Social will be taking place on: July 7th, 2024 from 4 -7 pm at the Lost Island Lutheran Church.

Maidrites, Pie and Ice Cream will be served!

Free Will Donation.

Glenn Henriksen will be providing an Organ Recital in the Sanctuary from 5 -7 pm.

Hope to see you there!



Friends of Sharing the Dream in Guatemala is a volunteer-based fair trade organization that works to reduce poverty in Guatemala through collaborative partnerships with Guatemalans. We offer Guatemalan crafts including handmade beaded jewelry, handwoven scarves, baskets from all natural materials and much, much, more. Shop online at www.sharingthedream.org visit one of the stores in Vermillion, Sioux Falls or at Lost Island Lutheran Church. If you are interested in learning more please contact Karyn Leinger.

THANK YOU.....

- Thank you to all who have been involved in worship on Sundays to bring us the Good News of God!
- Thank you to all that have continued to give your monetary donations!
- Thank you to those of you that helped load the boxes of kits/quilts for their trip to Minneapolis for LWR.
- Thanks to Steve & Becky Finer for letting us use their trailer and for David & Elaine Sidles for driving their truck along with the trailer to Spencer.
- Big Thank You goes out to everyone who helped with the Final Youth Event on the 15th of May! Excellent food and games!

INGHAM OKOBOJI LUTHERAN BIBLE CAMPS



CELEBRATING 100 YEARS OF GOD'S FAITHFULNESS

JOIN US IN
CELEBRATING
100 YEARS BY:

- ATTENDING A SUMMER CAMP OR RETRAT
- ATTENDING OUR 100TH EVENT JUNE 28-30
- SUPPORTING THE CAMP WITH A GIFT

SIGN UP OR RSVP AT
WWW.OKOBOJI.ORG/100 OR 1-800-OKOBOJI

June 2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		Beginning June 3rd the Church Secretary will begin her Summer Hours which will be: 9 am—2 pm Wednesdays & Thursdays unless something comes up				1
2 Communion Sunday 8:45 am Lost Island Worship 10:30 am Bethany Worship 4-6pm Ingham Ice Cream Social & Pie Auction	3 9 AM Morning Quilting 6 PM Night Quilting	4	5	6	7	8
Pastor Peter is out of town from June 1st to June 8th —Jessie will cover for him						
9:45 am Lost Island Worship 10:30 am Bethany Worship (Baptism)	10 9 AM Morning Quilting 6 PM Night Quilting 6 PM Board of Worship	11	12	13	14	15
16 Communion Sunday 8:45 am Lost Island Worship 10:30 am Bethany Worship	17 9 AM Morning Quilting 6 PM Night Quilting <i>All Articles for the July News- letter should be into the office by today</i>	18 7 PM Council Meeting	19 9:30 am Mary Martha Circle	20 10 am Put July <i>Newsletter Together</i> (Diane will be gone next week)	21	22
06/16/2024 Bethany Youth leave for St. Louis MO for their service project—Return on the 21st						Pastor begins his Vacation
23 8:45 am Lost Island Worship 10:30 am Bethany Worship	24 9 AM Morning Quilting 6 PM Night Quilting	25	26	27	28	29 Ingham Okoboji's 100th Year Celebration Weekend!
Pastor Peter is on vacation from the 22nd to the 28th. Jessie will be in the office during this time.						
30 Healing Sunday 8:45 am Lost Island Worship 10:30 am Bethany Worship						