

BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH  
703 BROADWAY  
EMMETSBURG, IA 50536  
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# CONNECTIONS

SEPTEMBER 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



This month is my usual September mish mash of things. I want to begin by saying a sincere "thank you!"

Thank you to those who worked to plan and participate in VBS this summer, it was a great time. Thank you also to all of you in the congregations.

We have just successfully completed another internship year, and given Vicar Jessie a solid foundation on which to start his pastoral ministry. I am grateful for the many ways that you embraced his presence amongst us, and engaged in a time of mutual learning and walking together. There were many good things that happened during our year together, as we journeyed together, that we will carry forward into the future. There are also some things, like Setting 8, which we will probably put on the shelf for awhile, but in all things you approached the internship process with an open, and willing nature that I appreciate. Along the way you also engaged in constructive feedback that helped me to be a better supervisor, and helped Jessie to be a better Vicar. This is also deeply appreciated. To be a teaching parish can sometimes be a challenging thing, but you embraced it with a willingness to try new things, and the flexibility needed to make it a success.

Men's group will be studying the book of Romans beginning September 4th. We gather at noon every Wednesday in the overflow room.



*Pastor Peter*

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



# GET INVOLVED.

## Quilters:

**Morning Quilting**  
Mondays- 9 AM weekly

**Night Quilters**  
Monday, 6—8 PM weekly

**Lost Island Quilting**

## Women's Circles:

**\*Tabitha Circle:**  
**\*Sarah Circle:** Sept. 24 @ 7 pm  
At the Church

**\*Mary Martha Circle:**  
Sept. 18th at 9:30 am

## Men's Bible Study

*Resumes Sept. 4th  
At Noon*

## Adult Bible Study

*TBD*

**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

@bethanyemmetsburg

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:

Wilma Nielsen, Kylie Hill, Carol Walker, Omundson Family, Mike Hermansen, Shirley Knutson, Eric & Lana Kropf, Betty Edwards, Lon Twait, Jessie McCune, Paul Behrends, Jim & Carol Krause, Jon Sorenson, David Stephens, Terry Neary, Rick Rienhardt, Dave Smith, Bridget Johnson, Robert Mortenson, Jr., and those we name in our hearts.

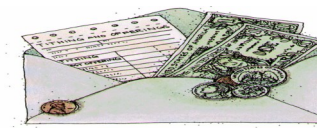
**\*Our Sympathy:** The family & friends of LeRoy Swalve whose funeral was last month.

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

**\*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.

JULY 2024 Bethany Lutheran Church Treasurer's Report  
Attendance average: 61  
MONTHLY BUDGET NEEDS FROM OFFERINGS: \$13,750.00

|   | MONTHLY BEGINNING BALANCE<br>(11,203.38) |
|---|--|
| <b>INCOME</b>                             |  |
| Offerings                                 | 9,054.27                                 |
| Transfers from other Funds<br>Lost Island | 0.00<br>10,425.00                        |
| <b>Total Income</b>                       | 19,479.27                                |
| <b>EXPENSES</b>                           |  |
| Personnel Expenses                        | 10,712.61                                |
| Program Expenses                          | 117.53                                   |
| Office Expenses                           | 336.02                                   |
| Property Expenses                         | 2,868.96                                 |
| Western IA Synod<br>Other Donations       | 389.04<br>0.00                           |
| Damascus Road                             | 50.00                                    |
| NO ELCA Donations                         | 0.00                                     |
| <b>TOTAL EXPENSE</b>                      | 14,474.16                                |
| Income Less Expenses                      | 5,005.11                                 |
| <b>GENERAL FUND BALANCE</b>               | (6,198.27)                               |



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](mailto: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

Once again, we are coming to the close of another Summer. The Church is gearing up for Sunday School, Catechism, Youth Groups, regular routines, etc. For many, it seems the Summer days go by way too fast and for a few others, these days simply signify another season just around the corner...volleyball, cross country and football season!

During the month of September as many are settling back into their schools and jobs following vacation, we know this is a time for people to look to the church once again for inspiration and fellowship.

Let's get back into the routine of coming to Church, helping with reading the lessons, Altar Guild, Ushering, Coffee Connection, volunteering for committees, etc. Let's get back into the routine of giving to the church on a regular basis, either weekly, monthly or yearly. Every gift helps keep the Church running smoothly with the rising costs of maintenance, janitorial expenses, utilities, postage, etc.



Stewardship Committee

## SEPTEMBER VOLUNTEERS

### LOST ISLAND

**ORGANIST:** Tim Nielsen

### ALTAR GUILD

Lavonne Mason, Alaire Nielsen

### READERS

Sept. 1 Susan Rohan  
 Sept. 8 Charles Henningsen  
 Sept. 15 Kyle Norris  
 Sept. 22 Troy Leininger  
 Sept. 29 Lily Rohan

### ACOLYTES

Sept. 1 Zac Sorenson  
 Sept. 8 Lily Rohan  
 Sept. 15 Hannah Geiger  
 Sept. 22 Bethany Geiger  
 Sept. 29 Zac Sorenson

### COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

Sept. 1 Kyle Norris  
 Sept. 15 Susan Rohan

### BETHANY

#### MUSICIANS at BETHANY

Sept. 1 Tim Nielsen  
 Sept. 8 Laura Gustafson  
 Sept. 15 Tim Nielsen  
 Sept. 22 Holly Sidles  
 Sept. 29 Laura Gustafson

#### ALTAR GUILD:

Marla Noble

#### LECTOR

Sept. 1 Quentin Ort  
 Sept. 8 Ingrid Gustafson  
 Sept. 15 Marit Veltri  
 Sept. 22 Darca Saxton  
 Sept. 29 Brian Malm

#### USHERS

Sept. 1 Terry Rouse, Kyle Hagen  
 Sept. 8 Joe Neary, Joel Saxton  
 Sept. 15 Chuck Noble, Bob Steger  
 Sept. 22 Mark Saxton, Michael Jacobson  
 Sept. 29 Kyle Hagen, David Sidles

#### GREETERS

Sept. 1 Elaine Nauss, Teresa Saxton  
 Sept. 8 Ben & Laura Gustafson  
 Sept. 15 Reinders Family  
 Sept. 22 Darlene Naig, Lonnie Naig  
 Sept. 29 Jay Hember, Kaitlyn Hember

#### COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

Sept. 1 Pat Vician, Dianne Hough  
 Josey Saxton, Diane Steger  
 Sept. 15 Joe & Jen Boevers  
 Teresa Saxton, Kristin Rienhardt


**FYI.** I am beginning to put together the Bethany Volunteer Lists for 2025. If you would like to help with any of these voluntary duties, please let me know. If you feel that you are no longer able to help—please let me know this too. I do not want to just put a name down and hope that you will show up.

Please be aware when you are to help. With everyone's help, our church services should be able to run smoothly. Thank you to those that helped this past year.

Diane



# LOST ISLAND NEWS

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, hand-woven scarves, baskets from all natural materials and much, much, more. Shop online at [www.sharingthedream.org](http://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 contact Karyn Leininger.

## LET'S GO NUTS!!


It is again time for the "GO NUTS FOR MISSIONS" being offered by the Lost Island Church. Orders need to be submitted by October 1st. An order sheet is included in the Newsletter. Butter-toffee mixed nuts are back again!

## 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 that helped when there was water in the Fellowship Hall and elsewhere. Minimal loss was noticed (paper towels and toilet paper). At this time we would like to thank those that responded so quickly to the water situation. They were: Michael Jacobson, David Sidles, Angie Hetrick & Kent Davidson. Angie and Marit Veltri helped get things squared away in the ladies quilting rooms and closets. Thank You! **\*\*\* In addition to these people, there was Mike Schipull, Brian Malm and Ben Saxton that also helped.** (Thank you Laure Miller for bringing this to my attention.)
- Thank you to those that voluntarily helped clean the church during the month of August.
- Thank you Vicar Jessie for becoming a part of our Church's family. You have opened many eyes with what you said and how you shared your thoughts and actions. Blessings to you as you make your way down the path that God has put in front of you. We will miss you!

## PARTNERING WITH US

### Ways to Give

By Mail  In Person  Online 

Questions on Online Giving? Ask Kristin

Make every gift count. Big or small.



There is an easier way to partner with us financially in this ministry.

1. Scan the QR code.
2. Download the mobile app



### Memorial Gifts Given

Memory of \_\_\_\_\_ given by \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_

### BETHANY FUNERAL SERVERS- GROUP B

Joe & Terry Neary, Elaine Nauss, John & Stephanie Larson-Chairpersons

- |                             |                        |                          |
|-----------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|
| Phil Andreasen              | Darlene Naig           | Greg & Ann Sween         |
| Laure Miller                | Dan & Michelle Jackson | Greg & Rachel Haack      |
| Bob & Sheryl Mortenson, Jr. | Randy & Deb Jones      | Cordell & Donna Poldberg |
| Beverly Norland             | Aaron & Jackie Leuer   | Kristin Rienhardt        |
| Jason & Nicole Sanders      | Ina Crocoll            | Cory & Stacie Fjetland   |
| Doug & Sherri Ort           | Tonya Peterson         | Dawn Daniels             |
| Tom & Karen Hagen           | Bob & Connie Schubert  | Joyce & John Froisland   |
| Jason & Laura Reinders      | Dale & LuAnn Opheim    | Ben & Laura Gustafson    |
| Paul & Teresa Saxton        | Shari Schurg           | Gina & Angie Cowden      |
| Tiffany Keller              | Lori Forry             |                          |

\*\*\*\*\*



# Coffee Connection.

**September 8th**  
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.**

## SUNDAY, SEPT 8TH

### Rally Day

AFTER CHURCH IN FELLOWSHIP HALL TO GO MEALS AVAILABLE

FREE WILL OFFERING-VBS & BIBLE FUND

SPONSORED BY FRANK VELTRI'S THRIVENT ACTION TEAM

**MAID RITES, CHICKEN NUGGETS, MAC N CHEESE, SALADS, AND DESSERTS**



## RALLY SUNDAY

sept 8th

**KICKOFF TO SUNDAY SCHOOL**  
9:30AM  
PRESCHOOL-12TH GRADE  
YOUTH REGISTRATION



MEAL SERVED AFTER CHURCH

**TEACHER INSTALLATION**



**Women of Bethany & Lost Island—We have been invited to this “Fun Day” by the Western Iowa Synodical Women. Please See Diane for the Registration Information if you are interested in attending. Deadline for Pre-Registration is Oct. 12th, 2024**



**Saturday, October 19, 2024**  
Bethany Lutheran Church  
15 W 14<sup>th</sup> St, Spencer  
Join us for a day of fun and fellowship  
10:00 AM - 2:00 PM  
Registration begins at 9:30 AM  
Lunch will be provided  
Bible Study - Lessons for Today's Disciples  
Fall craft

# YOUTH NEWS



Another summer in the books and another school year starting. I can't wait to see what God is going to do this school year.

I pray that God gives each and every one of you the courage to be bold, the wisdom to make decisions, and the peace and grace to make mistakes!

WELCOME BACK KIDS!

### Upcoming events/schedule:

- September 8th- Rally Sunday**  
9:30am- Sunday School  
10:30am- Worship  
Meal to follow worship
- Sept 11th- Kickoff to Youth Groups**  
SACK (2nd-5th grade)- 3:30pm-5pm  
Connect (6th-8th grade)- 6:30pm-7:45pm  
LIFE (9th-12th grade)- 7:30pm-9:00pm
- Sept 22nd- Confirmation Retreat**  
after Bethany Worship
- Sept 29th- ORCHARD DAY**  
Meet at Center Creek Orchard, Fairmont, MN at 1:30pm  
Families and Youth invited

**NOISY OFFERING**



*Sunday school Penny War with Congregation*

**SUNDAY SCHOOL OFFERING**

**Clay County Flood Assistance**

**Sept-Dec (Penny War)**

**WILLING TO HELP?**  
SUPPORT, DRIVE, DONATE, TEACH?

CONTACT KRISTIN

### youth programs

| SUNDAYS    | Sunday School 9:30am  |
|------------|---|
| WEDNESDAYS | SACK (2nd-5th grade) 3:30pm-5pm<br>Connect (6th-8th grade) 6:30-7:45pm<br>LIFE (9th-12th grade) 7:30-9:00pm |




Register your youth for 2024-2025 today!

Preschool to 12th graders! Join us for some fun, faith, and fellowship





[www.bethanylutheranemetsburg.com/register](http://www.bethanylutheranemetsburg.com/register)



Kristin Rienhardt  
Kristin.rienhardt@blc.edu  
712-790-6470

# September 2024

| SUN   | MON  | TUE   | WED  | THU   | FRI | SAT                          |
|---|--|---|--|---|-----|------------------------------|
| <b>1 Communion Sunday</b><br>8:45 am Lost Island Worship<br>10:30 am Bethany Worship  | 2<br> | 3   | 4<br>Noon—Men's Bible Study  | 5   | 6   | 7                            |
| <b>8 Rally Sunday</b><br>8:45 am Lost Island Worship<br>9:30 am Bethany SS<br>10 am Coffee Connection<br>10:30 am Bethany Worship<br><i>Meal following church</i>             | 9<br>9 AM Morning Quilting<br><br>6 PM Night Quilting                                  | 10<br>6:30 pm Cub Scouts  | 11<br>8:30 am—3:30 pm Twin Lakes Retreat<br>Noon—Men's Bible Study<br>3:30– 5 pm SACK<br>5:30 pm Youth Board<br>6:30-7:45 pm CONNECT<br>7:30-9 pm LIFE | 12  | 13  | 14<br>10am-New Members Class |
| 15<br><b>Communion Sunday</b><br>8:45 am Lost Island Worship<br>9:30 am Bethany SS<br>10:30 am Bethany Worship  | 16<br>9 AM Morning Quilting<br><br>6 PM Night Quilting                                 | 17<br>7 pm Council meets  | 18<br>Noon—Men's Bible Study<br>3:30– 5 pm SACK<br>6:30-7:45 pm CONNECT<br>7:30-9 pm LIFE  | 19  | 20  | 21                           |
| 22<br>8:45 am Lost Island Worship<br>9:30 am Bethany SS<br>10:30 am Bethany Worship<br><br>Confirmation Retreat after Worship   | 23<br>9 AM Morning Quilting<br><br>6 PM Night Quilting                                 | 24<br>6:30 pm Cub Scouts  | 25<br>Noon—Men's Bible Study<br>3:30– 5 pm SACK<br>6:30-7:45 pm CONNECT<br>7:30-9 pm LIFE  | 26<br>WIC is here 9-3 pm<br><br>Put October Newsletter together<br>At 9:30 am | 27  | 28                           |
| 29 <b>Healing Sunday</b><br>8:45 am Lost Island Worship<br>9:30 am Bethany SS<br>10:30 am Bethany Worship<br><br>Youth and Families!<br>Center Creek Orchard,<br>Fairmont, MN | 30<br>9 AM Morning Quilting<br><br>6 PM Night Quilting                                 | Beginning Sept. 1st the Church Office will be open on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 9-3 pm |  |   |     |                              |