

# BETHANY LUTHERAN

## Connections

## September 2021

### Breakfast at the Oasis

Starting in September, the second Thursday of each month, the Bethany Ladies will again meet at the Mauston Park Oasis for breakfast at 9:00 a.m. All are welcome!!

Announcing a new session of the **Mauston Area Grief Support Group**. This is available

*Grief Support Group*

to anyone that has experienced the death of a loved one within the past year. The goal is to come alongside each other as we grieve the death of our loved ones, so that together we can assist each other in this part of our life's journey. The program will be weekly for 6 weeks. Call Pastor Wendell at 608-547-5964 to pre-register, this is required in order to maximize benefits for the group. Location: Mauston United Methodist Church Dates: Sunday evenings, Oct 24-Nov 28 from 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

### Food Pantry

Bethany is working to strengthen our partnership with the Community Sharing Food Pantry. You can support the Community Sharing Food Pantry by dropping off food items at the church or calling the church office to request a volunteer to pick up items from your home.



### Vacation Bible School

A huge "Thank You" to Becky Colwell for hosting Vacation Bible School this year! Judging from the pictures, it looks like a lot of fun was had by all!



# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Sugar Creek Bible Camp's Annual Quilt and Antique Auction

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Saturday, September 11th, Sugar Creek Bible Camp will have their annual Quilt and Antique Auction, craft fair, and 5K trail run-fun walk. They will have beautiful quilts, antiques, sports memorabilia, crafts, furniture, paintings, gift baskets, and so much more! There will be a BBQ lunch and the country store will be open with a wide variety of rummage items. The Craft Fair featuring local artisans runs throughout the day. Location: 13141 Sugar Creek Bible Camp Rd, Ferryville, WI 54628. More information can be found at [www.sugarcreekbiblecamp.org](http://www.sugarcreekbiblecamp.org).



Dear Bethany Congregation, Thank you for the wonderful memorial service for our dad. It was so nice to see so many Bethany members there, it meant a lot to us. Thank you again, Erika & Jared Lenth & Elsie; Tim & Becky Kielstrup & Mitchell

Bethany, Thank you for sponsoring me while I attended Sugar Creek Bible Camp. I enjoyed every minute of it! Thank you, Sophia Brummand



**CONFIRMATION** There will be a Parent-Student meeting in the Fellowship Hall on Wednesday, September 22<sup>nd</sup>, at 6:30 p.m. for all students in 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade who will attend Confirmation classes this year. We get basic information and give a very quick introduction to this year's subjects. Masks are required. We will talk about classes and agree on other specifics. We request at least one parent and the student attend.

**“Young people leave the church to find the church”** (Monty Williams, Youth Minister)

“Young adults talking about organized religion and the church, are saying, “Well, they’re sort of out to lunch on all these issues that are important to me. And to the extent they are engaged, I don’t really see how religion makes them any different and, in some cases, worse. I can be a good person, I can love my neighbor, I can be welcoming and accepting of other people without religion. The big question is: How do we engage those issues that are important to them in a way that’s distinctive yet not alienating? What does the church offer that emerging adults can’t get anywhere else? And how can they take what the church has to offer without dividing them from the world that they want to be engaged in?” – Dr. Christian Smith, Professor of Sociology at the University of Notre Dame. Dr. Smith and his team have spent over 20 years doing in-depth interviews with teens and young adults about their faith.

One lesson for us: We are not offering our teens, young adults, and adults a compelling enough vision of what it means to be involved in bringing God’s kingdom to life in our world.



## Trunk or Treat 2021

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Summer has flown by and before we know it fall will be here. We are excitedly planning our second Trunk or Treat for October 31 from 3:00-5:00 p.m. Our first Trunk or Treat was a huge success with 13 vehicles and over 400 trick or treaters along with their families. It was such a blessing to see the community gathered in our parking lot enjoying the trunks, the treats, and making plans for the rest of their trick or treating. It is a wonderful opportunity for Bethany to reach out to the community. We would like to make this year even bigger and better with more participation and some added fun events. There are many ways you too can be part of this fun day-we need people to bring their trunks and treats, if that's not your style we could use donations of candy, cases of bottled water or monetary donations to help with our costs. You can drop off donations at the church or call Sheri Benson at 608-562-5112 for more information.

### Sunday School Information

Hi Families!! We cannot believe the end of summer is upon us all. With that in mind, the Sunday School Committee would like to announce that the FIRST DAY of Sunday School will be on September 12th at 8:15 a.m.! It will be an exciting year! The children will be diving into a new curriculum this year called "An Illustrated Earth: Celebrating God's Earth". With this curriculum, we will be able to spend time reflecting on Bible Stories about different aspects of God's Creation!! How EXCITING!! Your child is welcome to bring a friend as well! In order to have a more successful year, we are looking for a few parents and volunteers to teach and/or assist with the children. It will not be a full-time commitment, there will be a rotating schedule. Please contact Cheryl Fenner (fennerc@mediacombb.net or 608-547-2883), Teresa Ellerman (teresaelleman18@gmail.com or 815-520-4976), or Tina Miles (miles\_t@afasd.net or 608-548-4263). Have your child bring their backpack on the first day to church service at 9:30. It will be "Blessing of the Backpacks" Day.

### In our Prayers

Cam Goetz, Louie Voltz, Jimmy Hoilien, the Sanford family, and Pastor Libby Howe as she decides her future plans.



Please call the church office, 608-847-6690, if you know of someone who needs to be added to our prayer list or with any Pastoral Care needs/requests. This list is different than our prayer chain, see below.

Bethany's Prayer Chain Coordinator is Audrey Gierhart (847-4106).  
If you have an urgent prayer request, call her to share the request.

## August Council Highlights

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**Treasurer's Report:** The properties/finance team met on 8/12/21. All financial reports were approved. Our line of credit is down to \$52,458.16. The following was approved to be paid in August: Line of Credit, \$400 building, \$200 parking lot, \$500 professional services; Missions, \$75 food pantry, \$200 LaCrosse Area Synod and Lutheran Social Services \$100.

**Finance and Property Committee:** The Finance and Property committee recommended Ed Rogers be appointed to the committee by the Church Council.

The code for the Fellowship hall door was changed on 8/13. The new codes will be provided to the office and to those that need codes to access the Church.

Church Mutual sent the equipment for sensing water and temperature problems. They were installed 8/13 in the basement where water is the primary concern.

The Council President reported the following items:

- several fire extinguishers are past their expiration date and need to be recertified. Properties will take care of this.

- the inheritance Bethany will be receiving from the Estate of Janet Fiala will need to run through the ELCA Foundation. There are financial and legal issues that require this.

- Joe McDonough (Marie's husband) is helping with the sound system, he was an audio engineer for the Air Force Band for over 20 years. The issues seem to be with the sound board. It was decided it will be sent in to see if it can be repaired or if we should consider purchasing a new one that is less complicated.

Gary Grey informed the committee that no deficiencies were found in the 2020 Financial Audit. One item recommended was that the fees paid by the church for Tithely on-line transactions need to be documented, and this has now been addressed.

**Stewardship Committee:** The Community Drive Thru Cookout was August 29th.

**Worship Committee:** The Worship Team will be meeting the second Wednesday of each month at 6:00 p.m.

**Hospitality Committee:** They hosted an outdoor coffee hour following service on August 8th to thank Pastor Libby Howe for her 12 years of service to the synod.

**Faith Development Committee:** They will be meeting weekly to get schedules and teachers lined up.

**New Business:** Ed Rogers was appointed to the Finance & Property Committee.

The church had a request from the Girl Scouts to meet at the church. It was decided that during this pandemic period, no outside groups will allowed to meet at Bethany.

The Pulpit supply is in need of help for the Altar Guild. We also have need of Pastor's for September.

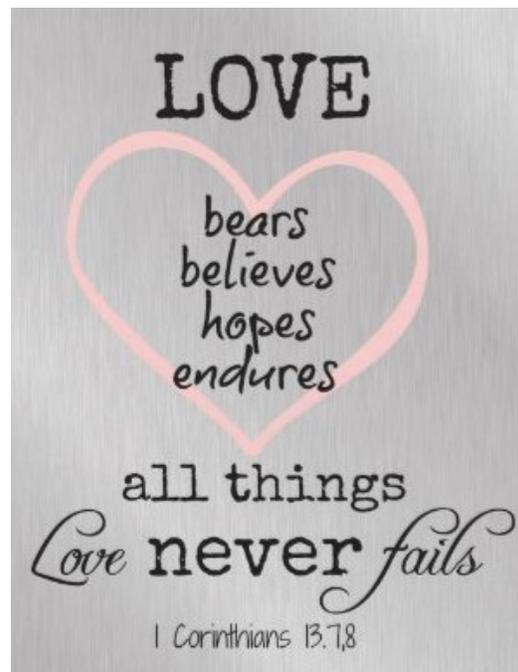


## Happy September birthday to...

## Happy September anniversary to...

Alyssa Holzberger	09/01
Russell Emery Jr.	09/02
Brenon Deitz	09/03
Ashley Tabbert	09/03
Jessica Kastner-Cox	09/04
Atley Pufahl	09/05
Taylor Bollig	09/06
Gary Jensen	09/06
Bowdyn Pokorney	09/06
Danielle Knutson	09/07
Sadie Tabbert	09/08
Erna Clickner	09/10
Reece Gray	09/10
Amber Deitz	09/10
Anne Miles	09/11
Shane Schiller	09/12
Lindsy Hagen	09/14
Michael Voltz	09/14
Pamela Bagnowski	09/14
Tanya Kennedy	09/15
Mary Pirwitz	09/15
Jim Muchenberger	09/15
Nancy Williams	09/18
Madeline Kennedy	09/20
Ed Rogers Jr.	09/20
Sally Luehman	09/20
Avery Chavez	09/20
Ally Fenner	09/21
Maddie Brandau	09/2
Barbara Handrich	09/22
Joshua Bell	09/22
Ronald Engevoid	09/23
Marge Hoffmann	09/23
Ruth Pfaff	09/24
Carol Purvis	09/25
Aubrey McCluskey	09/26
Linda Bohnert	09/27
Paul Huebner	09/28
Malena Anderson	09/29
Robert Allen	09/30
Joseph Bagnowski	09/30
Susan Midthun	09/30

Jerry & Lis Schroeder	09/01
Karen & Larry Fritz	09/03
Christopher & Mindy Flint	09/07
David & Terry Broske	09/08
Jon & Nancy Williams	09/12
Tim & Dawn Seebecker	09/14
Mike & Barb Klein	09/14
Nichole & Zach Preuss	09/14
Paul & Deb Zaidel	09/20
Brian & Rebecca Colwell	09/28



*Please know that the office does not have every member's information. Please contact the office with corrections and updates.*

**Thank you for your understanding, patience, and help in keeping our records up to date!**  
608-847-6690

## Financial Updates

BLC Line of Credit Balance as of 7/31/2021

Parking Lot: \$20,972.16  
 Professional Services \$24,163.00  
 Repairs & Updates \$ 7,323.00  
 Total: \$52,458.16



**Thank you for your  
continued financial  
support!**

Giving	Cash/Check	Online	Total
July 4, 2021	\$2,314.00	\$0	\$2,314.00
July 11, 2021	\$1,920.00	\$301.71	\$2,221.71
July 18, 2021	\$3,474.00	\$652.76	\$4,126.76
July 25, 2021	\$ 670.00	\$379.57	\$1,049.57
		<b>July Total</b>	<b>\$9,712.04</b>

Gen Fund	July 2021 Actual	July YTD Actual	July 2021 Budget	July YTD Budget
Receipts	\$9,218.96	\$73,820.28	\$12,500.00	\$87,500.00
Disbursements	\$6,629.22	\$71,846.32	\$16,925.75	\$119,280.25
* PPP Funds	\$0			

### Church Office Hours

The church office is open **Monday – Thursday from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.** Messages left on the church voicemail are only checked during office hours. For urgent messages and emergencies, contact Kathy Marose, council president at 608-343-4381. If not immediately available, she will answer as soon as possible.

We at Bethany Lutheran Church, Mauston, seek to build unity by instilling hope through:

**ENGAGING**

all generations in the practices and teaching of Jesus,

**WELCOMING**

each other,

**REACHING OUT**

to our greater community.

**Has your contact information changed? Be sure to let us know!**  
**(608) 847-6690**  
**bethanymaustonelca@gmail.com**