

BETHANY LUTHERAN

Newsletter

July 2023

A Note from the Pastor: This is the middle of summer. It is vacation season here in Wisconsin and I hope that people are finding ways to enjoy the seasonable weather. I know that this season also causes people to travel. Should your travels take you away from Mauston, I encourage you to worship while you are away.

Finding a place to worship can be challenging. Many of us do not spend a lot of time thinking about the different types of congregations. Different congregations and denominations have different rules and policies about people who are guests to worship. Here at Bethany, guests are welcome to fully participate in worship with us. This includes participation in our celebrations of Holy Communion. This is a fairly standard practice for all congregations that are a part of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America.

Most of you are aware that there are various different Lutheran denominations and that some of the other Lutheran denominations do not allow guests to participate in certain parts of their worship. One quick way to know that you are near a Lutheran congregation that is ELCA is to look for our logo. It looks like a globe that is divided into four segments by a cross.

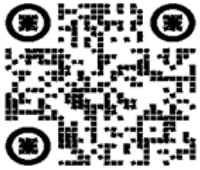


Another quick way to distinguish an ELCA congregation from another Lutheran congregation is to ask the question, "Is a woman eligible to serve as the pastor in this place?" If the answer is yes, chances are that is an ELCA congregation.

The ELCA has also made full communion agreements with the Presbyterian Church (USA), Reformed Church in America, United Church of Christ, The Episcopal Church, The Moravian Church, and the United Methodist Church. According to the ELCA, "Full communion is when two denominations develop a relationship based on a common confessing of the Christian faith and a mutual recognition of Baptism and sharing of the Lord's Supper." This means things for clergy and inviting people to preside at communion. What this means, for us as possible guests at one of these partners, is that we can expect to be invited to participate in communion as a Sunday visitor. These denominations have logos you can look for too, see below.

In any case, if you find yourself traveling, I encourage you to find a place to worship. Whether that is at an ELCA congregation, communion partner, or another congregation. Some things will be the same as we do them at Bethany and some things will be different. If you experience something you really like while you are away, I would like to hear about it! Thank you and God Bless, Pastor Joan.





Vacation Bible School

Children are welcome to attend Vacation Bible School at Bethany this summer. This year we will learn about how Jesus is always with us and we'll also do some fun, Christmasy things! VBS will be in the evenings July 10th-13th, from 4:00p.m.-6:30p.m. for children going into Pre-K to 5th grade. Please see the QR code to sign up online or pick up a form from the church office. Transportation to the church is available from Mauston's Hatch Library and Grayside Elementary. There will be a child friendly dinner each night, along with fun, games, crafts, music, and more.



The last evening of VBS will feature a potluck from 5:00-5:30p.m. followed by a short program. Everyone is encouraged to attend this program, even if you do not have direct involvement. Please come support the children!

Bethany Garage Sale

Bethany will be sponsoring a garage sale fundraiser August 4th and 5th, which coincides with the Mauston city-wide garage sales.

If you are interested in donating items you may bring them for storage in the church basement. There is a **designated room with a sign "Garage Sale" on the door.**

We respectfully request that if you do bring articles for the sale, that you DO NOT leave them in the entry or Narthex. Please be responsible for taking your items downstairs to the room. We look forward to another successful Bethany garage sale!



Finance and Property Committee

The F & P Committee met on June 6. Elley Dahlke, Gary Gray, Tim Benson, Ed Rogers, Dave Kidd, Mike Borreson, and Jon Williams were present. The Committee approved mission support of \$500 to the La-Crosse Synod/ELCA, \$85 to Lutheran Social Services and \$85 to the Mauston Food Pantry.

- The landscaping project should be started by the end of the month.
- Gray Electric is scheduled to complete the installation of the dimmer switch for the sanctuary lights. They will also be asked to install an outlet on the storage shed.
- Spring work day went well with work done in the courtyard, some weeding, cleaning windows, painting, and trimming completed. Thank you to all of those that helped out.
- A vendor met with the Pastor and representative of the committee to evaluate the sound system and the needs of the congregation. The vendor will provide several estimates ranging from speaker replacement to potentially redoing the entire system.
- Several other ideas were brought to the attention of the committee and discussed.

The next F & P Meeting will be on Tuesday, July 11th at 5:30p.m.

June 2023 Council Highlights

- Bethany's property insurance is going up \$44/month, so now it is \$589.38.
- Pastor will be on vacation August 5th-12th.
- The next Lunch and Learn with Pastor is July 24th, 11:30a.m.-12:30p.m., with "Baptism" as the topic.
- The Hospitality Committee is very busy and is always looking for helpers.
- There will not be a worship service at Plymouth Cemetery this year.
- Thank you to Mark Dahlke for repainting the trim on our Bethany sign.

HAVE YOU WATCHED BETHANY WORSHIP ON FACEBOOK OR YOUTUBE?

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Our worship services are live on the “Bethany Mauston” Facebook page every Sunday at 9:30a.m. and are saved to the Facebook page right after the service. Note: Each worship video is automatically deleted by Facebook after 30 days, but all of them are on YouTube. The new video is uploaded to YouTube on Sunday afternoon. What problems do you have viewing our worship services? Would you like to be able to see a worship area TV screen so you can read the liturgy and readings? How can we improve your viewing experience?

Feel free to talk to me about what we need to improve. See me at church, leave a comment on Facebook, call me/text me at 608 548 5982, or call the church office at 608-847-6690.

Thank you! – Dick Pirwitz

*****Unless otherwise noted, all worship services will be in-person at 9:30a.m. and streamed on Facebook with the recording available later.*****

Worship Reminders

July 2 Worship Service

Lector & Communion Assistant: John Benson

Usher Captain: Roger Dutzle

July 9 Worship Service

Lector: Barbara Handrich

Communion Assistant: Karen Fritz

Usher Captain: David Kidd

July 16 Worship Service

Lector & Communion Assistant: Darryl Teske

Usher Captain: Bill Potter

July 23 Worship Service

Lector & Communion Assistant: Molly Shultis

Usher Captains: Jeri Shultis and Harold Seebecker

July 30 Worship Service

Lector: Karen Fritz

Communion Assistant: Mark Dahlke

Usher Captain: William Potter

July Altar Guild: Teresa and Aubrey Ellerman

In Our Prayers

~~~ Sharen Wittrock, Cindy Preuss, Alan Peterson, Shawn Nemitz, RJ Rogers, Steven Potter, the Dillin family, David Dellamuth, Duane Weisenhaus, Elwood Syverson, Lois Olson, Randy Mullenberg, Ken Plants, Donna Christensen, Dennis Stark, and those who suffer with war and disaster.

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.

Bethany's Prayer Chain Coordinator is Audrey Gierhart (608-847-4106).

If you have an urgent prayer request, call her to share the request.

## Thank You

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Dear Bethany Lutheran Church, I am incredibly grateful to have received the Bethany Lutheran Endowment Scholarship. As a member of the church since my youth, it is an honor. With the ever-increasing cost of college, this scholarship is a blessing. As I continue my academic career at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, I will keep the church and our Lord in my heart and soul. Forever grateful, Brody Allen McCluskey

### Happy July birthday to....

|                     |       |
|---------------------|-------|
| Summer Seebecker    | 07/01 |
| Allison Colwell     | 07/01 |
| Juanita Rutherford  | 07/02 |
| Regina Langer       | 07/04 |
| Teresa Voltz        | 07/05 |
| Ryan Williams       | 07/05 |
| Kevin Kustief       | 07/07 |
| Donna Voltz         | 07/07 |
| Garron Brandt       | 07/08 |
| Dawn Seebecker      | 07/10 |
| Dione Davidson      | 07/11 |
| Ian Flint           | 07/11 |
| Aubrey Ellerman     | 07/13 |
| Maynard Miller      | 07/13 |
| Katrina Bollig      | 07/13 |
| Janice Seebecker    | 07/14 |
| Ken Lalk            | 07/14 |
| Bonnie Bonner       | 07/15 |
| Bev Collins         | 07/15 |
| Renee Miller        | 07/15 |
| Brelee Nelson       | 07/15 |
| LaVonne Voltz       | 07/17 |
| Deb Zaidel          | 07/17 |
| Robert Pfaff        | 07/17 |
| Elley Dahlke        | 07/19 |
| Kou Her             | 07/20 |
| Tim Seebecker       | 07/21 |
| Tammy Brown         | 07/21 |
| Gary Gray           | 07/22 |
| James Wollmer       | 07/22 |
| Barbara Knudsen     | 07/23 |
| Justin Jones        | 07/23 |
| Raina Nava          | 07/24 |
| Michael Tucker      | 07/24 |
| Phyllis Edgerton    | 07/25 |
| Alan Abrahamson Sr. | 07/26 |

|                 |       |
|-----------------|-------|
| Ericka Chavez   | 07/26 |
| Trevor Lalk     | 07/27 |
| Nevaeh Thompson | 07/27 |
| Tina Tucker     | 07/27 |
| Camron Brandt   | 07/28 |
| Elaine O'Keefe  | 07/28 |
| Tristin Thomas  | 07/28 |
| Kraig Zoller    | 07/28 |
| Jon Williams    | 07/29 |
| Rylie Honnold   | 07/29 |
| Molly Wiese     | 07/30 |
| Skylar Daniels  | 07/31 |
| Kendra Grzenia  | 07/31 |

### Happy July anniversary to...

|                             |       |
|-----------------------------|-------|
| George & Dorothy Pierce     | 07/02 |
| Michael & Tammy Voltz       | 07/05 |
| Marie & Joe McDonough       | 07/07 |
| Jerry & Cindy Busch         | 07/14 |
| Gene & Dawn Ramer           | 07/16 |
| Donavan & Penny Cannegieter | 07/17 |
| Dale & Cindy Preuss         | 07/20 |
| Adam & Summer Seebecker     | 07/20 |
| Dick & Mary Pirwitz         | 07/22 |
| Larry & Christine Arens     | 07/24 |
| Bob & Sandra Treland        | 07/27 |
| Paul & Diane Huebner        | 07/28 |

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



| <b>*** Giving</b>                          | <b>Cash/Check</b> |
|--------------------------------------------|-------------------|
| <b>May 7, 2023</b>                         | \$5,594.00        |
| <b>May 14, 2023</b>                        | \$3,832.00        |
| <b>May 21, 2023</b>                        | \$2,645.00        |
| <b>May 28, 2023</b>                        | \$1,031.00        |
|                                            |                   |
| <b>** Online Giving Total for May 2023</b> | \$2,577.01        |

\*\*\* The chart above reflects the financial counts each week from the offering and money that's been sent in and online donations to include: designated funds (Building, Memorial, flowers, etc) and special projects (Ukraine, Mercy Ships, Farm, Toys for Joy, etc).

\*\* Online donations will be reported once a month due to posting issues. Near the end/beginning of the month the weekly amounts were not always accurate.

\* The below receipts reflect money available for operating budget AFTER deducting designated giving.

| <b>Gen Fund</b>      | <b>May 2023 Actual</b> | <b>May 2023 Budget</b> | <b>May YTD Actual</b> | <b>May YTD Budget</b> |
|----------------------|------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>* Receipts</b>    | \$14,437.48            | \$13,083.00            | \$74,980.24           | \$65,415.00           |
| <b>Disbursements</b> | \$12,041.62            | \$15,298.00            | \$67,991.26           | \$78,287.00           |

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.

**Church Office Hours**

The church office is open **Monday – Thursday from 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.** Messages left on the church voicemail are only checked during office hours. For urgent messages and emergencies, contact Pastor Joan at 920-226-0453 or Dick Pirwitz, council president, at 608-548-5982. If not immediately available, they will answer as soon as possible.

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

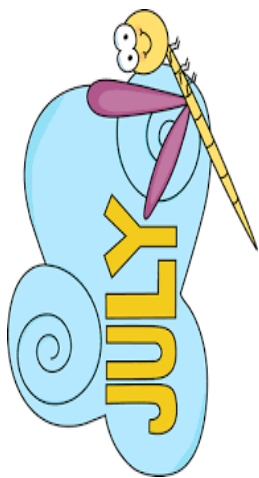
# Bethany Lutheran Church

701 Grove Street Mauston, WI 53948

Phone: (608) 847-6690

Office Email: bethanymaustonelca@gmail.com

Web address: www.bethanymauston.com



## Office Hours:

9:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.

Mon.—Thurs.

or by appointment

**Sun**

**Mon**

**Tue**

**Wed**

**Thu**

**Fri**

**Sat**

We will be live-streaming our worship services on our Facebook page:  
<http://www.facebook.com/Bethany.Lutheran.Mauston/> at 9:30 a.m. Sunday  
 mornings. A video of the service will be remain available after the live event.

\*\*\*Unless otherwise noted,  
 all worship services will be  
 in-person and streamed.\*\*\*

2  
 Worship 9:30 a.m.

3  
 Bible Study  
 & Coffee  
 8:30 a.m.

4  
  
 Office Closed

5

6  
 Faith Development  
 10:00a.m.

7

Office Closed

8

9  
 Worship 9:30 a.m.

10 Bible Study  
 & Coffee  
 8:30 a.m.  
 VBS 4-6:30p.m.

11  
 Property &  
 Finance 5:30 p.m.  
 VBS 4-6:30p.m.

12  
 Worship Team  
 6:00 p.m.  
 VBS 4-6:30p.m.

13 Women's Breakfast  
 at the Oasis 9:00a.m.  
 Council Mtg 6:30 p.m.  
 VBS 4-6:30p.m. with  
 Program 5:30-6:30p.m.

14

Office Closed

15

16  
 Worship 9:30 a.m.

17  
 Bible Study  
 & Coffee  
 8:30 a.m.

18

19

20

21

Office Closed

22

23  
 Worship 9:30 a.m.

24 Lunch & Learn  
 with Pastor  
 11:30a.m.-12:30p.m.  
 Bible Study  
 & Coffee 8:30 a.m.

25

26

27

28

Office Closed

29

30  
 Worship 9:30 a.m.

31  
 Bible Study  
 & Coffee  
 8:30 a.m.

31

31

31

31

31

Office Closed

31

