

Place Stamps  
here



**September 2019**

# The Bethania Blade

“As a called people of God and as members of Bethania,  
we will grow in our faith and share it with others”

From the President:

It can be disheartening every time we watch the news, read the paper, or check our smart phone. Two mass shootings in the last month. A police gun battle in broad daylight in the streets of Philadelphia. Racially motivated protests in Portland turning violent. It is very sad that it only took a moment to list these events with little thought at all. Bad things are happening all the time in the world and have been forever. We now know about tragedies quicker, and with more detail than ever before. In some cases they unfold before us on live television. Overwhelming as today’s events can be, the question I want to try to answer is: “What do we do about all of the bad things that happen today.”

We can hide from today’s events. I recently bought a car made in 1968. Last week I went to the Department of Motor Vehicles to transfer the title and apply for my license plates. I thought I had all the paperwork I needed and was prepared to tackle the challenge that a visit to the DMV often presents. About halfway through completing the process, the clerk at the counter asked me, “Is the vehicle here?” I said, “Well, no. It’s not titled or licensed so I thought it was best to keep it at home in the garage.” Her question was asked because she needed a picture of the vehicle identification number plate on the inside of the windshield. She asked, “Well do you have a picture of the ID plate?” I thought for a minute and indicated I did. I got out my smart phone and by pulling up an email that had a link to a website that had a description of the car that had some pictures and ultimately I was able to scroll through a number of images until I rolled into the picture of the plate on the car.

At this point, I am very proud of myself. The fact that I left the house that morning without forgetting my phone was a small miracle in itself. But for me to navigate anywhere within my phone to find a picture I had not planned to find is a huge accomplishment for me. I showed the picture over the counter to the clerk hoping this would suffice. She then asked, “Can you email that picture

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	Sept 1	Sept. 8	Sept 15	Sept 22	Sept 29
Worship Assistant	Vicki Thiery	Brad Larsen	(OPEN)	Brad Larsen	(OPEN)
Comm. Assistant	Caitlin Webster	(OPEN)	(OPEN)	(OPEN)	Brad Larsen
Lector	Anita Nielsen	(OPEN)	Kelly Imhoff	(OPEN)	(OPEN)
Ushers	(OPEN)	Youngs	(OPEN)	(OPEN)	Anita Nielsen
Acolytes	(OPEN)	Natalie Shawhan	Olivia Imhoff	Dakota Kechter	(OPEN)
Coffee Hour	(OPEN)	(OPEN)	Church Picnic	Bettie Liston & Sharon Leger	Altar Guild
Communion Bread	Vicki Thiery	(wafer)	Elizabeth Brown	(wafer)	Anne Woodward

**God's Work, Our Hands** (aka GWOH) Sunday is coming soon on Sept. 8<sup>th</sup>. On this Sunday the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America encourages congregations to be visible in service to the community as a reminder to us and to our society that Christ calls us to be of service. We will be hosting the community meal that day (see separate article)



We will ALSO be doing some service in stewardship of what God has given us at Bethania and also of our neighborhood by doing some FALL CLEAN UP that day.

Our property will be hopping with Iglesia Vida Racine raising their voices in worship, confirmands learning about the life of faith and members doing some sprucing up. We have light yard work and some small projects indoors that need attention. Check the Narthex for a list, sign up, and more details!



### What Are First Wednesdays?

First Wednesday gatherings are a lot of things but perhaps the best way to describe them is the best of Sunday on a Wednesday Afternoon. There are coffee and cookies, fellowship, a bit of singing, a bit of prayer, a bit of scripture, and the chance to sit together around a table to do those things AND to talk about that scripture, what needs prayer, and the questions of faith and life.

Come as you are to the Hearth Room on the First Wednesday of the month and see for yourself!

#### How we plan to do our First Wednesday:

Gathering –grab your coffee/tea/water and treat and enjoy chatting with your fellow members as we gather around the table.

**Song:** When we've had a chance to share with one another, we'll sing all or part of a familiar hymn

Scripture: Pastor will read a selection of from the Bible

**Topic:** We'll chat about a topic, event related to the Scripture or do a bit of Bible Study

Prayer: Pastor gather our joys, concerns, and conversation into prayer; then **we will say the Lord's Prayer together.**

**Blessing:** Pastor will bless us to go on our way if we're ready... but we're Lutheran so anyone who wants to linger over the coffee and cookies is welcome.



From the Mailbox...

I was informed by my parents, Carl & Mickey Monefeldt, that I was being mentioned in the weekly prayers at the church. Thank you for adding me to the list and keeping me in your prayers. As I prepare to come home I find that the prayers are more appreciated than I would have expected and realized earlier in the deployment or on my previous deployments. Again, thank you for the prayers. They are appreciated.

Respectfully,

Peter C. Monefeldt  
SSG, US ARMY

P.S. It was suggested to me that I send a postcard, but I found that I am not exactly in a place that has post cards....not very touristy...so a letter it is.

### Rally Day:

Rally Day is a chance to celebrate our life of faith together and **kick off another school year. Once again the "Hims of Harmony"** will join us to offer uplifting music during worship.

After worship we will join in a good, old fashioned potluck with the congregation providing sandwiches. Members are asked to bring sides and desserts. There will be games and activities for **kids and youth... including the traditional "Dip Tie-dye".** Anyone wanting to try Tie Dying the way we did it back in college, bring something with at least 50% cotton and give it a try!



## COOPERATIVE CONFIRMATION NEWS

Confirmation begins on Sunday, Sept. 8 and is undergoing some exciting changes! We are teaming up with Living Faith (formerly Atonement/Our Saviors) and Journey In Faith (formerly Gethsemane/Emmanuel) to have a class which will be lead by myself, Pastor Chad, and Pastor Allison. We have designed an active and innovative curriculum that teaches the "basics" of confirmation in light of how faith works and makes a difference in our lives.

Another very big change is the time and day of class. Instead of an hour and half every Wednesday, class will be once a month for three hours on a Sunday afternoon. This **won't always work with everyone's schedule, but after much brainstorming, we think Sunday afternoon is the most likely to work for most students and families.**

Class will begin at Noon and Pizza and drinks will be provided. The first class will be on **SEPTEMBER 8** at BETHANIA from noon until 3:00. We will start in the fellowship hall and pizza and drinks will be available around 11:30.

Were You There?  
Did you Share?

Date	Attendance	Giving
July 7, 2019	28	\$4,610.00
July 14, 2019	33	\$1,379.00
July 21, 2019	32	\$1,738.00
July 28, 2019	41	\$1,868.00

Date	Attendance	Giving
August 4, 2019	32	\$2,084.00
August 11, 2019	32	\$1,462.00
August 18, 2019	34	\$1,234.00
August 25, 2019	28	\$ 646.00

**Sunday School**



...To the Family & Friends of Agnes "Aggie" Bergstrom. Agnes passed away on Friday July 19th. Per Agnes wishes, a private celebration of her life was held.

...To Tom, Dodi, Jessica, Samantha, Noah & Logan Schoff and family on the loss of Tom's father James Schoff. James died on Sunday July 21, 2019. His funeral was held on Thursday July 25th at St. Joseph's Catholic Church.

...To Melanie Brabbit and family on the loss of Melanie's grandfather Clarence Treder. Clarence died unexpectedly on Monday August 5, 2019. His funeral was held on Wednesday August 14th at St. Heart Parish in Horicon.

...To Anita and Tom Nielsen, Kim Drasen and family on the loss of Anita's cousin Borghild. Borghild died on Thursday, August 22 2019. The funeral was held in Denmark.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!!!



Rally Sunday is just around the corner!

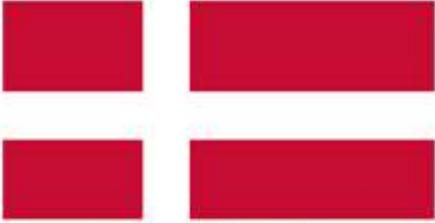
Sunday September 15, 2019

9:00 a.m. Worship Service with the

“Hims of Harmony”

10:30 a.m. Indoor Picnic—Bring a dish

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!!



We are excited to let you know that Preservation Racine has chosen Bethania as their site for their program **“Why the Danish Settled in Racine”** which will be held on Monday November 4, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary. Watch for more information as the day approaches.)




Bethania Lutheran Church  
4120 Wright Avenue  
Racine, WI 53405  
(262) 632-7267

Email: [Bethania@wi.twcbc.com](mailto:Bethania@wi.twcbc.com)  
 Pastor’s Email: [pastorheather@wi.twcbc.com](mailto:pastorheather@wi.twcbc.com)  
 Website: [www.bethanialutheran.org](http://www.bethanialutheran.org)  
 Office Hours: Monday thru Friday – 4:00 to 6:00p.m  
*(Pastor is in Monday and Wednesday)*

*(Please note: There may not be a car in the parking lot but the office is open.)*

Reverend Heather Bumstead, Pastor  
 Cathi Webster, Administrative Assistant  
 Willy Mueller, Church musician  
 Mike Imhoff, Maintenance  
 Cassi Steffens, Janitor

Jeff Alderson, President  
 Kelly Imhoff, Vice President  
 Cathi Webster, Secretary  
 Ed Young, Treasurer  
 Shelly Alderson, Council Member  
 John Barnes, Council Member  
 Brad Larsen, Council Member  
 Caitlin Webster, Council Member



Please be aware that the hospital no longer notifies the churches when congregation members are hospitalized. Please call or have a family member call and let us know that you are there. Also if you are ill or desire a call/visit from

Pastor Heather please let the church office know by calling us at (262) 632-7267.



Heather Joshi, Jim Mueller, Dan Cruz, Grete & Jorn Loschenkohl, Leslie Heggeland, Helene Wasik, Leo & Mary Lou Miller, Mary Nelson, Candy Small, Joan Vallin, , Mom & Pop Imhoff, Sharon, Pop Pop, Sam Micklesen, Betty Hedstrom, Bettie Liston, Karen Fernandez, Grete Hansen

*HELP SUPPORT HOLY COMMUNION'S FOOD PANTRY BY BRINGING*

September 1—Instant Potatoes or Rice

September 8—Pasta / Noodles / Mac & Cheese



September 15 - Tooth Paste /Tooth Brush

September 22-Baby Diapers

September 29 - Kotex/ Tampons/ Shaving Cream

*( the continuation of our pastors page from page 12)*

Seeing firsthand that Bethania made a difference when someone hungry receives food or voices a heartfelt “Thank you” as they leave is remarkable. It not only makes you feel appreciated but it gives you hope. Hope that what we now do will make Racine a better place.

I look forward to seeing all of Bethania on September 8 doing God’s Work in some way. With a sense of accomplishment, we can proceed to Rally Sunday on September 15 at Bethania. We will celebrate with wonderful music, a meal to follow, and good fellowship at every point in the day. Let us do our best in following His teachings.

Your Obedient Servant in Christ:

Jeff Alderson

PLAY & PRAY AREA

When Pastor Heather first saw an article about a “Pray Ground” play area in congregational sanctuaries she was skeptical. After she read the article in “Living Lutheran” (formerly “The Lutheran”) she had a different perspective: <https://www.livinglutheran.org/2018/05/let-the-little-children-come/>

After discussing the idea, Council has approved a similar idea. In order to help families with small children feel more welcome and enjoy worship, we will be **making our own “Pray Ground.”** One or more pews near the back of the piano side of the Sanctuary will be removed (and put elsewhere) and replaced with an area rug and soft toys and activities. This way, families can sit near their children but also allow them to play or pay attention as it suits them.

This is a departure for the traditional way children and worship have been handled in Lutheran and other “Mainline” Churches. In this changing world, some of our fellow congregations have had great success with similar programs (they actually just put a play area right up front, but that would be tricky for us with communion!) Parents have responded positively in churches that have tried it and **children have, too.** At times, some kids have been reported to “play church” along with their pastor. To that end, anyone who could make us some soft toy worship items like a paten (bread plate), Chalice, and perhaps a soft loaf of bread would be doing us a tremendous favor!

## We Are a Sanctuary Denomination?

“Sanctuary, Sanctuary!” I can hear Quasimodo yelling in the classic black and white film “The Hunchback of Notre Dame.” That character was calling for the one of the most ancient legal protections in the western world... one that seems old fashioned and is certainly misunderstood today.

With the ELCA voting to be a “Sanctuary Denomination” at the recent Churchwide Assembly held in Milwaukee, the concept is worth a look.

“Sanctuary” is an ancient legal concept in the Christian world. It arose in fraught and dangerous times when people often feared they would be unjustly imprisoned or even killed in a kingdom or land with very different legal systems than those we enjoy here in the US today.

If someone could make it into a church they could declare “sanctuary” and those seeking to harm them could not enter and do so. They could also not be removed from the Church – as long as they were *granted* sanctuary by the clergy of the church (it was never a “get out of jail free” card for criminals.) So long as they remained inside the church what passed for law enforcement a thousand or more years ago in, say, Europe, couldn’t touch them. In fact, one the reasons church doors have been traditionally painted red is so they could be spotted by those fleeing from unfair law enforcement.

The ELCA, however, is not asking us to shelter Quasimodo. It is asking us to be a resource for those who cannot find protection or justice. The ELCA states “In its simplest form, becoming a sanctuary denomination means that the ELCA is publicly declaring that walking alongside immigrants and refugees is a matter of faith.” At [elca.org](http://elca.org) they go on to explain:

“In baptism, we are brought into a covenantal relationship with Jesus Christ that commits us to strive for justice and peace in all the earth. Following the example of Martin Luther, we believe that advocacy is a crucial expression of baptismal identity. As a church, we have advocated for stopping the detention of children and families for decades. We have spoken out against family separation, sought a pathway to citizenship for community members who have lived in the U.S. for many years, and have taken steps to address the root causes of migration in a way that honors the humanity in people who must flee.

...Being a sanctuary denomination means that we, as church together, want to be public and vocal about this work. It will look different for everyone, but welcoming people is not a political issue for us – it is a matter of faith.”

Visit <https://www.elca.org/SanctuaryChurch> for more information including “Talking Points which answer many common questions.



## Care and Concern List:

Please consider sending a note of encouragement to someone on this list. These are people who are dealing with challenges of health, mobility, or other things in their lives.

**Helene Wasik**  
c/o Timber Oaks  
1390 -8th Street  
Union Grove, WI 53126

**Art & Joyce Thomsen**  
2935 Old Mill Drive  
Racine, WI 53405

**Florence Dupuis**  
5321 Douglas Avenue  
Apt. 1334  
Racine, WI 53402

**Carolyn Luetzgen**  
5321 Douglas Avenue  
Apt. 1335  
Racine, WI 53402

**Joan Vallin**  
1400 Russet Street  
Racine WI 53405

**Tom Nielsen**  
2000 Washington Avenue  
Apt. 202  
Racine, WI 53405

On September 16th, Rob & Deb Borgardt will celebrate their 30th wedding anniversary!

On September 21st, Jerry & Sandy Losel will celebrate their 45th wedding anniversary!

On September 23rd, Robert & Deanna Jensen will celebrate their 58th wedding anniversary!

On September 30th, Jim & Sharon Leger will celebrate their 13th wedding anniversary!

Congratulations!



Or Directory Corrections.....

Robin Barnes email: [barnesrobin87@gmail.com](mailto:barnesrobin87@gmail.com)

Betty Hedstrom's Phone #: (262) 634-5405

Marilyn Peterson's Phone #: (262) 898-3239

Chris Stauersbol's phone #: (262) 347-8119

Mark & Edith Thornton have moved their new address is:

1913 Dwight Street, Racine, WI 53403

*If you have any other changes or corrections please let the office know.  
Thank YOU!*

9/1 -Elizabeth Brown

9/2 -William Krause

9/2 – Leo Miller

9/4—Cassie Vassar

9/4 -Kurtis Webster

9/6 - Logan Schoff

9/8-Calaway Alderson

9/8 –Brittney McIntosh

9/8 –Camren McIntosh

9/12 –Hannah Youngquist

9/13 –Eric Kaminski

9/14 -Sara Luther Hagerman

9/14 –Dakota Kechter



9/17 –Molly Imhoff

9/17 –Anne Woodward

9/19—Cathi Webster

9/24 –Cleo Burrow

9/30 –Michael Myren



Someone from “Racine Rocks” left us one on the wall of our Wildflower Bee Habitat!

“Racine Rocks” is a movement that encourages locals to paint and “hide” rocks around our community to brighten people’s day. When you find one, you can post a pic on their Facebook page. You are encouraged to “re-hide” rocks you find but are also allowed to keep any that “speak” to you.

( the continuation of our pastors page from page 1)

to me?” Now I am crushed. I said, “No, I’m afraid that I can’t. You are asking for something way over my head.” Her reply was, “It’s easy.” She motioned to take my phone to do it and I gladly handed the phone to her. A few drags of her finger on the screen and a little typing and in less than one minute, the picture I found was printing on the printer behind her. She handed the phone back to me. I announced, “I am impressed. There is no way I could have done that.” She replied, “Aren’t you keeping up with technology?” My answer was, “I just bought a fifty year old car. I’m hiding from technology.”

Hiding might be an option when it comes to smaller things in life like foods we don’t like, messages we don’t want to listen to, and yes even technology that is uncomfortable to learn. We shouldn’t however hide from the terrible events I listed earlier. Hiding or not acting on such tragedies impacting people would make us part of the problem in my eyes. No, we need to forge ahead and do our best to make things better. That does not mean we should leave our homes and jobs to go directly to impacted areas and actively be part of repairing horrific damages seen on the news. If we could realistically do that, great, but such acts are typically well out of our means to consider.

No, I propose we forge ahead with those tools we have been given as Christians. The words; *“But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind.”* Luke 14:13; and *“For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in.”* Matthew 25:35 are examples of the beliefs we have been armed with to fight for a better world. We at Bethania all know these words and many more that we live by in our daily lives. By living out these words we can make our neighborhood, our city, and our community a better place to live. We may not make the difference in preventing the next tragedy, but acts of Christian love we carry out will only make a difference for the better. On September 8, we have a special Sunday inviting us to act out Christ’s teachings. God’s Work Our Hands Sunday is not new, but it is a reminder that we can make a difference. In particular that day, Bethania is hosting the meal site at Living Faith Church. Watch for the sign up sheet near the hearth room. You can help by cooking a dish, providing milk or desserts, or contributing a little money. If your schedule allows, come and help serve.

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 8th, 2019 beginning  
with Worship at 9:00 a.m.

*“GOD’S WORK OUR HANDS SUNDAY”*



We’d like to borrow a little of your elbow grease and do a little cleaning and light work around the church.



**community**  
*meal*

Bethania will be hosting the community meal on  
Sunday, September 8, 2018 from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m.  
We need volunteers for Entrees, salads, side dishes,  
dessert , milk and serving. Please see the sign up  
sheet located on the bulletin board outside the

# September 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>1</b> 9:00 a.m. Worship 10:00 a.m. Coffee Hr. 11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. VR Worship Service & SS	<b>2</b> CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED	<b>3</b> 7-8 p.m. crew 242 & Scout Troop2242, fh	<b>4</b> 11:00-1:30 Txt OPEN 3:00 p.m. First Wednesday gathering 6:00-7:30 Txt OPEN 7:00 p.m. VR Band Practice, sanctuary	<b>5</b> 10—Noon ADRC Alz- heimer Support, hearth rm 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Girl Scout troop 5822	<b>6</b> 7:00 p.m. VR Worship, sanctuary	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> 9:00 a.m. Worship 10:00 a.m. Coffee Hr 12 - 3:00 p.m. Cooperative Confirmation 11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. VR Worship Service & SS Host Community Meal	<b>9</b> 6:30 Thread by Thread sort 6:30 p.m. Scout Troop 242, fh	<b>10</b> 6:00 to 7:30 GS troop 31524, fh 7-8 p.m. crew 242 & Scout Troop2242, Dorcas rm 7:00 p.m. Council Meeting	<b>11</b> 7:00 p.m. VR Band Practice, sanctuary	<b>12</b> 6:00 –7:30 p.m. ADRC Alzheimer Support Group	<b>13</b> 7:00 p.m. VR Worship, sanctuary	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b> 9:00 a.m. Worship 10:00 a.m. Coffee Hr 11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. VR Worship Service & SS	<b>16</b> 6:30 Thread by Thread sort 6:30 p.m. Scout Troop 242, fh	<b>17</b> 7-8 p.m. crew 242 & Scout Troop2242, fh	<b>18</b> 11:00-1:30 Txt OPEN 3:00 p.m.—Tea Party 6:00-7:30 Txt OPEN 7:00 p.m. VR Band Practice, sanctuary	<b>19</b> 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Girl Scout troop 5822	<b>20</b> 7:00 p.m. VR Worship, sanctuary	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> 9:00 a.m. Worship 10:00 a.m. Coffee Hr 11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. VR Worship Service & SS	<b>23</b> 6:30 Thread by Thread sort 6:30 p.m. Scout Troop 242, fh	<b>24</b> 6:00 to 7:30 GS troop 31524, fh 7-8 p.m. crew 242 & Scout Troop2242, Dorcas rm	<b>25</b> 7:00 p.m. VR Band Practice, sanctuary	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> 7:00 p.m. VR Worship, sanctuary	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> 9:00 a.m. Worship 10:00 a.m. Coffee Hr 11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. VR Worship Service & SS	<b>30</b> 6:30 Thread by Thread sort 6:30 p.m. Scout Troop 242, fh					