



# 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"

July/August 2020

## From the President:

On a recent Sunday, my family took my wife out for a brunch to celebrate her birthday. We have not left Racine much since March so I spent much of the drive looking around, catching up on all the changes that have occurred. The drive took us up to Milwaukee, since all the confusion about reopening Racine had made it unclear where eating indoors as a family would be allowed. Driving out toward the interstate through Franksville, I noted some signs of churches holding services. Something was going on at the large church north of Highway 38 on Green Bay Road. A little further down the road I saw about 15 cars in the parking lot of what used to be the satellite church for Holy Communion. A large non-denominational church near the South Shore movie theatres was also holding services with a fair amount of cars in the lot. The biggest impression made on me during the entire drive was which building was attracting the most parked cars or as I equated to the most visitors. The two fireworks stores beside the interstate had their parking lots full with cars spilling over onto the shoulders of the surrounding roads for yards and yards around. It was clear from this outing that worshipping Christ was a taking a distant second to purchasing pyrotechnics.

It is clear to understand why. The confusing and often conflicting requirements by local, state, federal, and other authorities have paralyzed businesses, organizations, and churches to the point of not knowing what the best way to reopen is and when the right time to act will come. At the time I write this, we are on our third iteration of the Racine Forward plan. By the time you read this, we may be entering our fourth iteration for all I know. It is all confusing. On the morning of the 4<sup>th</sup> of July, I was painting my porch with red paint for trim, covering up white primer, next to blue walls. Fitting colors for the day. My neighbor walking his dog complemented me for the red white and blue job early in the morning. I replied, "I saved the red for painting on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July." The neighbor responded, "Yes, you need to hurry before they change the colors of the flag." I chuckled at the joke but five minutes later I seriously wondered if I had missed something in the news where the colors of the flag had fallen under criticism like so many other monuments. We are all struggling to identify what the new norm will be and for right now, the new norm is that there is no new norm yet nor will there be for the near future.

# Letter From the President

On July 7, the Bethania council will meet to try to formulate what the new norm for services at Bethania will be and when they can begin. I cannot imagine right now (literally two days before the meeting) what will be decided. I myself struggle with understanding all the directives and requirements that must be considered. This is an effort that will require the input of the entire council and others and will likely require follow up to make plans and put them into place. Please be patient as we do our best to plan for what is best for Bethania and all who ever want to attend worship with our congregation.

I have met many members of Bethania while taking care of things around the city. I have had delightful reconnections with members at the grocery store, at the pharmacy, or at other businesses in town. I have struggled to recognize people through masks and apologize if I failed to greet someone as I passed. The whole thing now feels like our church family has reverted to a graduated high school class where you only catch up with someone by accident after having been with that person regularly for a number of years. Each Bethania member I have visited with has been a sheer joy to chat with. There is a noticeable pep in my step after having such a visit. But it makes it clear to me that I miss being with my church family. I look forward to being able to reunite at Bethania as I am sure all of you do as well.

One other matter has been gnawing at me. Since the pandemic, Bethania has lost several beloved members of the congregation. There is an emptiness in my gut that comes from not being able to remember those who have gone in a way that I would have done if things were the old normal. Once services are reopened and we all can meet in a safe and healthy manner, I look forward to remembering and praying for those who have gone before. All Saints Day will have special meaning for me this year and I suspect for many of you as well.

I very much look forward to seeing all of you at services at Bethania again. Please watch for updates as they come out and understand that Bethania may not move as fast as some other churches as we plan to be careful and mindful of the health and safety of our congregation. Please pray for Pastor Heather and all the other members of the church council to make the wisest choices ahead clear and obvious to us removing all the clouds and smoke that make these times confusing. And most of all, let us look forward to enjoying the company of our Church Family once again.

Your Obedient Servant in Christ:

Jeff Alderson

# Cares & Concerns



## 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.

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

**Betty Hedstrom**  
8455 Gittings Road  
Mt. Pleasant, WI 53406

**Hansine Jorgensen**  
c/o James Jorgensen  
856 Cortbridge Road  
Inverness, IL 60067-4286

**Carolyne Luetgen**  
5321 Douglas Avenue  
Apt. 1335  
Racine, WI 53402

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

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

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

**Heather Joshi**  
c/o Bonnie Jensen  
1513 Russet Street  
Racine, WI 53405



If you have anyone you would like to have added to the prayer chain please contact Mary Lou Miller at 634-2557 or by email: [lmiller351@wi.rr.com](mailto:lmiller351@wi.rr.com)

## *Prayer List*



Heather Joshi, Jim Mueller, Dan Cruz, Grete & Jorn Loschenkohl, Leo & Mary Lou Miller, Candy Small, Joan Vallin, Betty Hedstrom,

**August 2nd is Holy Communion Sunday... that's right**

– Holy Communion.

If you and/or your family wish to receive Holy Communion on August 2nd. You are asked to be prepared in advance with a small amount of bread (acceptable substitutes include saltines or oyster crackers but NOT sweets or flavored crackers) and either wine or grape juice (acceptable substitutes include any grape blend or non-citrus juice). You will receive instructions during the service about what to do during the words of institution and how

After much discussion at the council meeting it was decided that we will not have in person worship in August and possibly not in September. The council will be meeting again on August 5th to discuss more in depth what changes we need to make and how worship will look in the future. Please watch for more details.

Until then please continue to join us at:

9:00 a.m. - Facebook live service on our Facebook page.

11:00 a.m. -YouTube on our channel BethaniaRacine

**There are no set office hours due to Safer at Home but we do stop in to check on things, as well as check email and voicemail regularly.**



**Father's Day Worship**

**Dad's Jokes Corny Cup!**

The 2020 Corny Cup Winner is Cathi Webster.

Her winning Dad joke was:

Q: What do you call a group of rabbits walking backwards?

A: A receding hairline.



# 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: None during pandemic

*(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  
Cassandra Steffens, Custodian  
Mike Imhoff, Maintenance

### COUNCIL

Jeff Alderson, President

Kelly Imhoff, Vice President

Cathi Webster, Secretary

Ed Young, Treasurer

Shelly Alderson

Caitlin Webster

Brad Larsen, Property

John Barnes

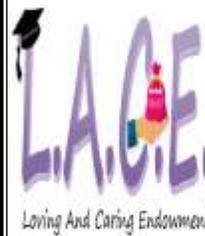
Church Business



## Were You There?

## Did you Share?

Date	Attendance	Giving
June 7, 2020	ONLINE	\$690.00
June 14, 2020	ONLINE	\$ 2305.00
June 21, 2020	ONLINE	0
June 28, 2020	ONLINE	0



SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS  
Are now available online.

Deadline is:  
August 2nd, 2020 at Noon.



## What You Have To Offer...

If you are still able to make your regular offerings to Bethania, they are certainly needed at this time. You may mail them (4120 Wright Ave, 53405). Thank you for doing this. If you are unable to contribute at this time, we certainly understand.

# Birthdays & Anniversaries



- 7/1—Rachel Rybarik
- 7/2—Glen Meldgaard
- 7/4 –Mary Lou Miller
- 7/6—Taylor Gardner
- 7/6 –Jeffrey Munch
- 7/7—Agnes Bergstrom
- 7/9 –Karl Ernst
- 7/9—Kira Imes
- 7/10—Lisa Rybarik
- 7/11—Mark Sheckles
- 7/12—Peter Monefeldt
- 7/13—Joyce Thomsen
- 7/14 –Ed Young
- 7/17 –Kelly Imhoff
- 7/20—Jackson Barnes
- 7/21—Jeff Alderson
- 7/22 –Carl Monefeldt
- 7/23 - Kelsey Poulson
- 7/27 –Erik Petersen
- 7/31—George Rosen



- 8/3—Betty Hedstrom
- 8/17—Thomas Schoff
- 8/19—John Barnes
- 8/19—Cameron Kechter
- 8/23—Brooke McIntosh
- 8/25 –Spencer Hultman
- 8/29 –Mary Ernst
- 8/30—Liz Krause
- 8/31 –Jana Brown



On July 1st, **Art & Joyce Thomsen** will celebrate their **74th wedding anniversary!**

On July 22nd, **Jeff & Dennise Munch** will celebrate their **25th wedding anniversary!**

On July 27th, **Karl & Mary Ernst** will celebrate their **46th wedding anniversary!**

On July 29th, **Jeff & Debra Jensen** will celebrate their **35th wedding anniversary!**

***Congratulations!***



*(Please let us know if there are any changes or missed birthdays or anniversaries. Thank You!)*

On August 4th, **Dan & Kim Drasen** will celebrate their **34th wedding anniversary!**

On August 6th, **James & Angela Hrouda** will celebrate their **15th wedding anniversary!**

On August 10th, **Erik & Grete Hansen** will celebrate their **52nd wedding anniversary!**

On August 16th, **Michael & Dorothy Myren** will celebrate their **17th wedding anniversary!**

On August 30th, **Joseph & Diane Yust** will celebrate their **63rd wedding anniversary!**

**Congratulations!**



**Thread by Thread**  
**Reopening! August 5th, 2020!**

Our customers' health and well being is important to us. In order for us to open Threads safely for everyone, we are putting these guidelines forward to be followed by all.

**Covid-19 Reopening Regulations**  
**Hours: 10AM-2PM...Only!**

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>* <u>We will not be open at night, but we are still open on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month.</u></li><li>* Masks are required. (you provide...)</li><li>* No children allowed inside.</li><li>* No bathrooms available.</li><li>* Numbers will be given out to enter.</li><li>* 10 people allowed at one time.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>* 20 minutes allowed to shop.</li><li>* Hand Sanitizer is available and expected to be used.</li><li>* Respectful order and behavior will be expected at each visit by all.</li><li>* Social distancing of 6ft is also required inside and outside.</li><li>* Welcome back! We've missed you!</li></ul>
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Please understand that we are opening again for you. We want to be able to provide what you need in a safe manner. If this is not possible, whether it is due to the rise in COVID-19 cases, government regulations, or unsafe behaviors, we will close again.



Jean and Dennis Dragan say Hi! They are surviving the pandemic and are enjoying the worship service online.



Virginia Jones

1533 S. Green Bay Road Apt. 106

Mt. Pleasant WI 53406-4445

# Memorials

## In Loving Memory

The following memorials totaling \$630.00 were given to Bethania Lutheran Church Memorial Fund in memory of:

**Rita Christensen** by: Barbara and Jerome McNamara...Anne E. Haubrich...James and Julie Arnes...Arthur and Trudith Rozzoni...Daniel and Sonja Clausen...Anita Nielsen...Harold and Audrey Pedersen...Dennis and Jean Dragan... Erik and Grete Hansen...Richard and Carol Lechusz... Andy and Karen Rozzoni...Richard and Sharon Koenings...Bonnie Jensen...Nancy Clausen...

**Helen Wasik** by: Dennis and Jean Dragan



# Class of 2020



## GRADUATION CELEBRATION:

Bethania Lutheran Church

is pleased to announce a

Commencement Celebration

Graduation

Covid 19 has put the proverbial monkey wrench into commencement exercises all over. Seniors will have to wait for later Graduation ceremonies, or give them up entirely, depending. Bethania still wants to celebrate graduates and is in the process of planning a BIG graduation celebration. Depending on the number and type of graduates we may even include procession and presentations!

If you are graduating this year and would like to be included please email the church with your details at [bethania@wi.twcbc.com](mailto:bethania@wi.twcbc.com). If you are a High School or College Grad with friends who would also like to be included, let us know! Everyone should have a chance to process to “Pomp and Circumstance” and mark these special achievements.

Did you miss important graduation in your life? Did you achieve a GED and not even get a chance at a ceremony? If you would like to be included, please also send us your details! We’d love to include you, too!





# July 2020

## Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 TxT CLOSED	2	3	4
5 9:00 a. Worship ONLINE	6	7 7 pm Council meeting, hearth room  MASKS REQUIRED!	8	9	10	11
12 9:00 a. Worship ONLINE	13	14	15 TxT CLOSED	16	17	18
19 9:00 a. Worship ONLINE	20	21	22	23	24	25
	8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.—Troop 242 Summer camp in church yard and kitchen					
26 9:00 a. Worship ONLINE	27	28	29	30	31	

# August 2020



Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 9:00 a. Worship ONLINE NOON LACE Deadline	3	4	5 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m. - TxT OPEN 7p.m.Council Mtg	6	7	8
9 9:00 a. Worship ONLINE	10	11	12	13	14	15
16 9:00 a. Worship ONLINE	17	18	19 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m. - TxT OPEN	20	21	22
23 9:00 a. Worship ONLINE	24	25	26	27	28	29
30 9:00 a. Worship ONLINE	31					

**Bethania Lutheran Church**  
**4120 Wright Avenue**  
**Racine, WI 53405**



*Place Stamps*

*here*

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