



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 2022

F
R
O
M

T
H
E

P
A
S
T
O
R

This Spring, I was able to participate in the Festival of Homiletics, a conference centered on preaching and sharing God's Word. I was fortunate enough to hear a beautiful sermon one day by minister and theologian Rev. Jacqui Lewis on Revelation 22:1-5. This passage in Revelation talks about a city with the throne of God in the center.

From the throne flows the river of life, and on either side are trees for the healing of the nations. God's name will be on people's foreheads, and there will be no more night, "for the Lord God will be their light"

(Rev. 22:5).

In this passage from Revelation, Rev. Jacqui painted a picture of the "hope-filled promise of a healed creation." She talked about how not only will all people be healed in this vision, but all of creation. This passage echoes our creation stories in Genesis, offering a sense of complete renewal of life, environment and creature alike. It is the promised light of God that will bring healing, wholeness, and new life to the world we know marred by sin. Scripture ends with the book of Revelation, and these are some of the very last words we read before closing our Bible. These words feel especially relevant as we are in the thick of summer, where the grass is finally green, flowers and plants are blooming around us. I pray that the sweet smells, sounds, and sights of summer fill you with God's promise of healing and renewal for the world. I pray that you sense God at work among us when you notice life sprouting around you, for God is not done with us yet.

Pastor Allison Johnson

CONGREGATION MEETING MINUTES

JUNE 19, 2022 @ 9am

Meeting called to Order. Quorum met with 29 voting members .

Jeff, Council President opened with a prayer at 9:08 am.

LACE Scholarship - LACE presented the following 3 scholarship applicants which were approved by Council:

Calaway Alderson -Milwaukee School Of Engineering - Mechanical Engineering

“Core” Molly Miller - UW Whitewater—Bachelor of Fine Arts—Performance

Olivia Radebaugh –UW Stevenspoint - Major in Marketing /Minor in Data Analytics

A motion was made to approve the 3 scholarships as presented by Julie Hansen. The motion was seconded by Caitlin Webster. It was put to a voice vote and there was a 27 yeses and 2 abstains.

2022 Budget Review - Simply put the giving isn't covering our expenses. In the past years a member gave a yearly substantial amount of money but that is done. We don't have a lot of options - the memorial team is working on covering some of the building repair needs. Council went to LACE and asked for 10K to cover this years budget shortfall. The LACE committee approved but to do this we need to change the LACE by-laws section A—Plan Of Operation (last paragraph).

Presentation of the ByLaw amendment change - **Special distributions deemed necessary for the continued operation of Bethania Lutheran Church and therefore the continued benevolence of the Bethania LACE Fund are allowed and require the recommendation of the Bethania LACE Fund Committee, the recommendation of the Congregation Council, and a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the voting membership present at a Congregational Meeting.**

Discussion was had.

A motion was made by Kelly Imhoff to amend the bylaws of the LACE Fund as presented. The motion was seconded by Caitlin Webster. It was put to a voice vote and there was a unanimous yes.

Presentation of the 10K outlay to cover the 2022 budget shortfall.

Discussion was had.

A motion was made to approve the 10K outlay as presented by Julie Hansen. The motion was seconded by Robin Barnes . It was put to a raised hand vote and there was a unanimous yes.

Well Being of Our Church -

Pastoral Options - we do not have a lot of options for a Pastor. Option #1: Continue as we are with Pastor Allison or Option #2: All supply Pastor. Council recommends continuing with Pastor Allison.

Discussion was had.

Also noted was that we could look at hiring a vicar for 20 hours and getting them ordained. Pastor Allison had mentioned Vicar Debbie Hartfield as a possibility. We would need to do more research on this and meet with the Vicar.

A motion was made by Kelly Imhoff to continue with Pastor Allison for 1 year. The motion was seconded by Neils (Chris) Stauersbol. It was put to a voice vote and there was a 27 yeses, 1 No and 2 abstained.

Other Discussion from the Wellbeing coffee hours: Streaming of the service—clearer instructions must be given. We need to look at close captioning for the hard of hearing. We also need to ask Pastor Allison to remove her mask when she is up in the chancel area as it is hard to understand and hear her with the mask on. She can wear it for distributing communion and processing/recessing.

Julie also mentioned we should do a potluck or brunch with Pastor Allison to help us to get to know each other.

Old Business: Jeff & Caitlin talked about the happens at Synod Assembly.

Quorum question: We need to vote at 2 ANNUAL congregational meeting to change our quorum amount and add the voting options. We will still need 25 voting members in January to make the change.

New Business: None

Move to Adjourn:

A motion was made by Brad Larsen to adjourn the Semi Annual Congregational Meeting. The motion was seconded by many of the members present. It was put to a voice vote and there there was a unanimous yes.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:19 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Cathi Webster

Council Secretary / Bethania's Administrative Assistant

GUN VIOLENCE THROUGH MY EYES

THROUGH MY EYES

School shootings, drive by shootings, cemetery shootings, night club shootings and the list goes on. So much violence, so much hate, and so much fear.

The season of fireworks is here; along with all the shooting. People are living in fear and are scared. Many do not know the difference between fireworks and gunshots. It's so hard to tell. Is that a blessing or a curse? It's curse for the police department because they can't seem to cover all the calls, it's a blessing because people haven't been exposed to guns, gun violence, or war before.

I have been exposed to gun violence in October 2009, Keith and I had just got out of the car at Walmart when we heard "pop, pop, pop". I man 2 car aisles over had been shot by another man. Due to his career field (Firefighter/EMT) Keith told me to run take cover in Walmart while he ran to the shooting victim and helped him inside. I still can't tell you what I bought that day but it was a couple years before I was able to go to Walmart and I still get nervous when I go there. Such a normal activity and yet it was shattered.

*²The LORD protects them and keeps them alive;
they are called happy in the land.
You do not give them up to the will of their enemies. ~Psalm 41:2*

February 26, 2020 is another day I will never forget. I was in the church office talking with Pastor Heather and I got a text from my daughter. "Mom, there is an active shooter here at work" – then nothing. We turned on the news, and there was a lot of scattered information. Pasto Heather called Froedert to alert them of possible incoming patients. My cousin also worked at Miller so I texted his wife. She had heard the same from him, but nothing more. Finally after an hour or so went by we got texts that said they were fine but to help us out we asked them to find each other so we knew visually they were actually fine. I got a picture of an area where they were secured at – a lunch room with as many employees put in there as they could get. It was the safe zone. As they (the police) found employees they took them to the safe zone. The relief I felt that day when she called me on her drive home was not as much as it should have been because my child was emotionally and mentally scarred that day. The child who had served 4 years in the US Navy. She knew everyone involved in the shooting – the victims and the shooter. The victims were her mentors and her friends. I went to the funerals and the active shooter counseling sessions with

THROUGH MY EYES

her. To this date she makes sure that there is an active shooter emergency plan and a good one where she works. She has even revised a few because it wasn't a good plan. She has changed jobs a few times since she left Miller as it wasn't easy to go back for her . The long term affects on the employees and their families will be with them for a lifetime.

³But the Lord is faithful; he will strengthen you and guard you from the evil one. – 2 Thessalonians 3:3

In speaking with my grandchildren and some of the families with kids here at Bethania, I learned that the school plan for an "active shooter" is not what I feel is a good one. The children are taught to throw things at the shooter. To me that's making themselves a target. It would be like waving your hand and saying here I am. But what is the right plan? Armed teachers? Metal detectors? Bullet proof vests? There has to be a better plan...but I hear the schools don't want to pay the money.

*⁵Trust in the LORD with all your heart,
and do not rely on your own insight.
⁶In all your ways acknowledge him,
and he will make straight your paths. ! Proverbs 3:5-6*

The world has become such a hostile place. Guns are available everywhere including online. All we can do is pray and faith in God.





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.

Carolyn Luetzgen
5321 Douglas Avenue
Apt. 1164
Racine, WI 53402

Tom Nielsen
2000 Washington Ave
Apt. 214
Racine, WI 53405

Joyce Thomsen
2935 Old Mill Drive
Racine, WI 53405

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

Grete Loschenkohl
819 Indiana Street
Racine, WI 53405
Phone - 262-633-6095



If you have anyone you would like to have added to the prayer chain please contact Kelly Imhoff at 262-554-1558 or by email:
bethaniaprayerchain@wi.twcbc.com

Prayer List



Heather Joshi,
Dan Cruz, Rita Jensen,
Luigi, Ann Marie,
Bettie Liston,
Pat & Pete Nelson,
Doug & Marianne,
Dan H, Adam, Jeff O.,
Sue, Mary Lou,
Bonnie Jensen,
Joan Vallin,
Joyce Thompson ,
Pastor Heather,
Kristi Muller,
Peg Mickelsen, Brad,

W O R S H I P

Date	Worship Leader	Communion Assistant	Reader	Greeter / usher	Coffee Hour	Altar Flowers	Building Host
7/3	Hymn Sing	(Open)	Anne Woodward	(Open)	(Open)	(Open)	Aldersons
7/10	TBD	(Open)	(Open)	(Open)	(Open)	(Open)	John Barnes
7/17	Pastor Allison	(Open)	(Open)	(Open)	Altar Guild	(Open)	Ed Young
7/24	Pastor Carolyn	(Open)	(Open)	(Open)	(Open)	(Open)	Kelly Imhof
7/31	Pastor Allison	(Open)	(Open)	(Open)	(Open)	(Open)	Cathi & Brad
8/7	TBD	(Open)	Anne Woodward	(Open)	(Open)	(Open)	Aldersons
8/14	TBD	(Open)	(Open)	(Open)	Altar Guild	(Open)	John Barnes
8/21	TBD	(Open)	(Open)	(Open)	(Open)	(Open)	Ed Young
8/28	TBD	(Open)	(Open)	(Open)	(Open)	(Open)	Kelly Imhoff



Bethania Lutheran Church

4120 Wright Avenue
Racine, WI 53405
262-632-7267

Church Email: Bethania@wi.twcbc.com

Pastor's Email: pastorallison91@gmail.com

Website: www.bethanialutheran.org

Office Hours: Monday & Friday 7:30 to 9:30 a.m.

Tuesday through Thursday 4:30 to 6:30 p.m.

Emergencies: Call (262) 909-5369

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

Reverend Allison Johnson, Pastor
Cathi Webster, Administrative Assistant
Willy Mueller, Church Musician
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

THIS & THAT



...to Ed & Jacci Young on the loss of their uncle, Richard Evenson in May.

THE POEM Vicki Read on May 29, 2022.

Twask' 24 days into the month of May,
When 19 beautiful children stormed
through Heaven's gate.
Their smiles were contagious, their
laughter filled the air.
They could hardly believe all the
beauty they saw there.
They were filled with such joy; they didn't
know what to say.
They remembered nothing of what
had happened earlier that day.
"Where are we," asked a little girl, as
quiet as a mouse.
"This is heaven," declared a small boy.
"We're spending the rest of eternity at
God's house."
When what to their wondering eyes
did appear,
But Jesus, their Savior. The children
gathered near.
He looked at them and smiled, and
they smiled just the same.
Then He opened His arms and He
called them one at a time by name.
And in that moment was joy, that only
Heaven can bring.
Those children all flew into the arms of
their King of Kings.
And as they lingered in the warmth of
His great BIG embrace,
One small girl turned and looked at
Jesus face to face.
And as if He could read all the
questions she had,

He gently whispered to her, "I'll take
care of Mom and Dad."
Then He looked down on Earth, at the
world far below.
He saw all of the hurt, the sorrow and
woe.
Then He closed His eyes and He
outstretched His hand,
"I now send peace to all the hurting
mothers and fathers,
Who instantly and senselessly lost their
sons and daughters,
Let My power and presence re-enter
this land!
May this country be delivered from the
hands of fools.
I'm taking back my nation. I'm taking
back my schools!"
Then He and the children stood up
without a sound.
"Come now my children let me show
you around."
Excitement filled the space, some
skipped and
some ran;
All displaying en-
thusiasm that only
a small child can.
And I heard Him
proclaim as He
walked out of
sight,
"In the midst of
this darkness, I AM
STILL THE LIGHT!! "

CHURCH CLEANING

You may have noticed on June 26th that the church sprakled alittle more than usual.

The council has decided to hire a cleaning company to do the janitorial work since we have been unable to find anyone willing to clean the church.

The cleaning lady will come in once a month. If you come in during the last week of the month you may see the cleaning lady—her name is Dora.



C e l e b r a t i o n s



7/1—Rachel Rybarik
 7/2—Glen Meldgaard
 7/6 –Jeffrey Munch
 7/9 –Karl Ernst
 7/10—Lisa Rybarik
 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



On July 22nd, **Jeff & Dennise Munch** will celebrate their **27th wedding anniversary!**

On July 27th, **Karl & Mary Ernst** will celebrate their **48th wedding anniversary!**

Congratulations!

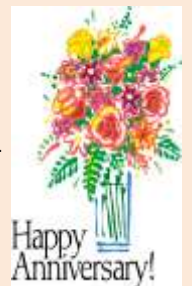
(Please let us know if there are any changes or missed birthdays or anniversaries. Thank You!)



8/17—Thomas Schoff
 8/19—John Barnes
 8/19—Cameron Kechter
 8/23—Brooke McIntosh
 8/29 –Mary Ernst
 8/30—Liz Krause

On August 4th, **Dan & Kim Drasen** will celebrate their **36th wedding anniversary!**

On August 10th, **Erik & Grete Hansen** will celebrate their **54th wedding anniversary!**



Congratulations!

2022 CHURCH DIRECTORY

It's time to update the church directory. Please let the church office know if you have had any changes to your contact information since the last church directory. It's been years since we have done a picture directory so please submit a picture you of yourself/ family would like included in the directory. If you don't have one see Cathi - she will be happy to take your picture. Deadline to submit information and picture is Sunday July 17, 2022.

INVITE SOMEONE TO CHURCH

When is a good time to invite someone to church? Everyday! But let's focus on one Sunday. Invite a friend, a member of the church you haven't seen in a long time, a former member, co-worker, or a stranger to church on Sunday, July 17th, 2022. Coffee hour: 9:30 am and Worship: 10:30 am.

Invitations are on the table by the bulletins if you would prefer to hand those out.

Calling All Graduates... we'll be honoring graduates on Sunday, July 17, 2022, so please let us know about your 2022 graduates by calling or emailing the church: Bethania@wi.twcbc.com.

Our current List:

Calaway Alderson, 2022 St Cat's

Core Molly Miller, 2022 Case HS

Olivia Radebaugh, 2022 Waukesha West HS

Oliver Krause, 2022 Grand Canyon University

ADMITTED TO THE HOSPITAL??

Please notify the church or have a family member notify the church at 262-632-7267. If no one answers please leave a voicemail, Cathi will be notified of the voicemail as soon as you leave it. Since 2019 the hospitals no longer notify the churches of hospital stays. Since Covid visitors are limited to close family and pastors/deacons of the church. We can bring communion to the hospital and approve it with the hospital staff, if it is desired. Questions?? Please call Cathi.

Date	In Person	Facebook	Giving
May 1	30	31	\$1,135.00
May 8	33	33	\$1,238.00
May 15	24	36	\$647.00
May 22	26	30	\$349.00
May 29	23	32	\$1,868.00
June 5	19	35	\$1,935.00
June 12	20	30	\$845.00
June 19	27	30	\$822.00
June 26	27	24	\$745.00



TROUBLE MAKING PHONE CALLS??

Just a reminder that to make phone calls now you need to use the 10 digits—(area code) and phone number. Also, when giving out your phone number you need to remember to include the area code as it is no part of your actual phone number. Example: the church's phone number is: 262-632-7267.

If you dial without the area code you will get a busy signal; it won't tell you that you dial the complete phone number.

If the call is out of your area code you will still need to dial 1 and then the 10 digit phone number.

WAYS TO HELP

COFFEE HOUR HOSTS NEEDED

Please consider hosting coffee hour. The coffee will be started by the building opener. Treats may be store bought or homemade.

Sign up sheet is in the hearth room on the coffee table.

WE NEED HELP WITH THE LAWN MOWING AND YARD WORK

There is a sign up sheet outside the hearth room if you would like to volunteer to help spend sometime outside in the yard mowing, weeding, edging, etc.

Any questions contact Brad, church property.

WAYS YOU CAN HELP OUR COMMUNITY:

BRING NON PERISHABLE FOOD (Food Pantry)

BRING EMPTY ALUMINUM CANS (Cans for K-9s)

BRING GENTLY USED CLOTHES OR PAPER BAGS (TxT)

WAYS YOU CAN HELP BETHANIA:

SERVE AS A WORSHIP LEADER

SERVE AS AN USHER

MOW THE LAWN

JOIN THE CARE & CONCERN TEAM (Visit our Members)

REMEMBER YOUR OFFERING (Pays the Bills)

July 2022

C A L E N D A R

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4 <i>Independence Day</i>	5 Office OPEN – 7:30 to 9:30 a.m.	6 Office OPEN 7:30 - 9:30 a.m. <i>Thread y Thread</i> OPEN 10-2	7 Office OPEN – 7:30 to 9:30 a.m.	8 Office OPEN – 7:30 to 9:30 a.m.	9
10 9:30 coffee Hour 10:30 a.	11 Office OPEN 7:30 - 9:30 a.m. 6:30 –8 p.m. Troop 242 Fell Hall	12 Office OPEN – 7:30 to 9:30 a.m.	13 Office OPEN – 7:30 to 9:30 a.m.	14 Office OPEN – 7:30 to 9:30 a.m.	15 Office OPEN – 7:30 to 9:30 a.m.	16
17 9:30 coffee Hour 10:30 a.	18 Office OPEN 7:30 - 9:30 a.m. 6:30 –8 p.m. Troop 242 Fell Hall	19 Office OPEN – 7:30 to 9:30 a.m.	20 Office OPEN 7:30 - 9:30 a.m. <i>Thread by Thread</i> OPEN 10-2	21 Office OPEN – 7:30 to 9:30 a.m.	22 Office OPEN – 7:30 to 9:30 a.m.	23
24 9:30 coffee Hour 10:30 a. Worship In person	25 Office OPEN 7:30	26 Office OPEN – 7:30 to 9:30 a.m.	27 Office OPEN –	28 Office OPEN – 7:30 to 9:30 a.m.	29 Office OPEN – 7:30 to 9:30 a.m.	30
31 9:30 coffee Hour 10:30 a. Worship In person & ONLINE	Office OPEN 7:30 - 9:30 a.m. 6:30 –8 p.m. Troop 242 Fell Hall					

August 2022

C A L E N D A R

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3 Office OPEN – 7:30 to 9:30 a.m. Thread by Thread OPEN 10 –2	4 Office OPEN – 7:30 to 9:30 a.m.	5	6
7 9:30 coffee Hour 10:30 a. Worship In person & ONLINE	8 Office OPEN 7:30 - 9:30 a.m. 6:30 –8 p.m. Troop 242 Fell Hall	9 Office OPEN – 7:30 to 9:30 a.m.	10 Office OPEN – 7:30 to 9:30 a.m.	11 Office OPEN – 7:30 to 9:30 a.m.	12	13
14 9:30 coffee Hour 10:30 a. Worship In person & ONLINE	15 Office OPEN 7:30 - 9:30 a.m. 6:30 –8 p.m. Troop 242 Fell Hall	16 Office OPEN – 7:30 to 9:30 a.m.	17 Office OPEN – 7:30 to 9:30 a.m. Thread by Thread OPEN 10 –2	18 Office OPEN – 7:30 to 9:30 a.m.	19	20
21 9:30 coffee Hour 10:30 a. Worship In person & ONLINE	22 Office OPEN 7:30 - 9:30 a.m. 6:30 –8 p.m. Troop 242 Fell Hall	23 Office OPEN – 7:30 to 9:30 a.m.	24 Office OPEN – 7:30 to 9:30 a.m.	25 Office OPEN – 7:30 to 9:30 a.m.	26	27
28 9:30 coffee Hour 10:30 a.	29 Office OPEN 7:30 - 9:30 a.m.	30 Office OPEN – 7:30 to 9:30 a.m.	31 Office OPEN – 7:30 to 9:30 a.m.	Office OPEN –		

Bethania Lutheran Church
4120 Wright Avenue
Racine, WI 53405



Place Stamps

here

Inside:

Pastors Page -pages 1

Congregational meeting Minutes —pages 2 & 3

Short Story: Through my Eyes -pages 4 & 5

Cares & Concerns- page 6

Worship -page 7

Church Business— page 8

This & That -page 9

Celebrations—page 10

Our Members -page 11

Financial /Phone Calls—Page 12

Ways to Help—Page 13

July Calendar—Page 14

August Calendar—page 15

Cover - page 16