

BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

October 2018 BEACON

Wait

My Dad was an engineer on the railroad and being on time was very important to him. I remember Sunday mornings as a young person and the rush to get out the door to get to church 20 minutes early. Hurry up and wait. I admit, I wasn't very good at waiting and would have rather come 30 seconds before the service began to get there when it started.

I've been reflecting a lot on waiting recently. I'm in a waiting place, Bethel Lutheran is in a waiting place. There are more than a few in the church who are waiting—waiting for healing, waiting for an answer, waiting for hope to come, waiting for relief, waiting for an event. If you find yourself in a waiting room, you are in good company. There are plenty of folks throughout the Bible who are waiting for God to act. One of the most famous is David.

David wrote Psalm 86 when he was attacked by enemies. It is the prayer of a man who is waiting and calling out to God. *"Hear me, Lord, and answer me, for I am poor and needy. Guard my life, for I am faithful to you; save your servant who trusts in you. You are my God; have mercy on me, Lord, for I call to you all day long. Bring joy to your servant, Lord, for I put my trust in you. You, Lord, are forgiving and good, abounding in love to all who call to you. Hear my prayer, Lord; listen to my cry for mercy. When I am in distress, I call to you, because you answer me."* The things that go through a person's mind when they are in a waiting place are many. "Does God care for me? Have I done something to deserve this?" But perhaps, the best question to ask is, "What, Lord, are you wanting me to learn in this time of waiting?" If you find yourself in a time of waiting right now, read the next Psalm phrase by phrase, insert your own trial or situation (depths) and your own name in the place of Israel.

Psalm 130 says, *Out of the depths (your situation) I cry to you, Lord; Lord, hear my voice. Let your ears be attentive to my cry for mercy. If you, Lord, kept a record of sins, Lord, who could stand? But with you there is forgiveness, so that we can, with reverence, serve you. I wait for the Lord, my whole being waits, and in his word I put my hope. I wait for the Lord more than watchmen wait for the morning, more than watchmen wait for the morning. (Your Name), put your hope in the Lord, for with the Lord is unfailing love and with him is full redemption. He himself will redeem Israel from all their sins.*

There are three possible answers for our prayers; yes, no and wait. If you are in the waiting place you are in good company. Just because God isn't answering now doesn't mean He is not working "all things for the good of those who love him and who have been called according to his purpose." (Romans 8:28) Psalm 40:1 David prays, "I waited patiently for the Lord; he turned to me and heard my cry." Carry on in faith! Have a great month, even as you wait.

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Jeff Teeples

Call Committee Update

We are happy to announce that we will have a Pastor candidate preaching for us on October 21st. We look forward to his and his wife's visit and hope to see everyone there. The congregation's feedback is greatly appreciated as we continue our search for our next Pastor. Please continue to pray for our congregation and the candidates as we move forward with this process.

September 12, 2018 Church Council Minutes

(to be reviewed at the October Council meeting)

Present: Pastor Jeff Teeples, Dan Frey, JoAnne Schwarz, Allen Redman, Darla Drewelow, Bruce Simon, Michelle Krohn, Carol Chapman, Marilyn Ingalls

Call to order by President Dan Frey.

Devotions presented by Pastor Jeff.

Approval of the Agenda: Motion by Michelle, 2nd by JoAnne.

Approval of the August Minutes: Motion by Bruce, 2nd by Marilyn.

Approval of the Treasurer's Report: Motion to accept report by Darla, 2nd by Marilyn.

Pastor's report: Pastor Jeff provided update of his home/office visits and meetings.

Correspondence: Dan presented bills and correspondence reading a thank you from Devin Bernard. JoAnne made a motion, 2nd by Michelle to approve bills and payment of Pastor Jeff's expenses.

Ministry Team Reports:

- **Children & Youth Ministry Team:** Pastor Jeff announced Sunday School materials had arrived.
- **Outreach & Fellowship Ministry Team:** The Fall Kickoff Brunch was held last Sunday with approximately 90 attendees. All agreed it was a successful event.
- **Property Ministry Team:** They continue to work with Toben Drainage in determining if the current drainage system is working properly. They have determined the sump pump is working. Cost estimates to replace the basement exterior door, due to leakage, is being pursued.
- **Worship & Music Ministry Team:** All hymns have been selected through mid-October.
- **Social Concerns Ministry Team:** Their next meeting will be in October.
- **Missions/Benevolence Ministry Team:** Allen presented the recommendations for distribution of \$3,300 in available funds. It was agreed to give \$1,000 each to AP Food Bank, New Hope Mission Society, Marshalltown Tornado Relief and remaining \$300 to Polk County Jail Ministries. Motion by Bruce, 2nd by JoAnne.

Old Business:

1. Sunday School Teachers: Sunday School begins 9/16 with teachers/co-teachers & fill in place.
2. Pastor's Computer: Tabled until next meeting.
3. Water Leak in Basement. (See above in Property Ministry Team).
4. Confirmation Update: Devin Bernard will be confirmed 10/7. Confirmation Banquet will be held 10/6.
5. Lighting Update: Sanctuary lighting will be completed in October.

New Business:

1. Snow removal – Last year's provider, Jonathan Koop, will be contacted to seek pricing and acceptance of job.
2. Christmas – Carol suggested, if we want to order Christmas Eve sack items, similar to what we had last year, we should order soon before stock availability is limited. Michelle made a motion to give Carol authority to pick out items and place an order for up to \$150. Bruce 2nd.
3. Discretionary Fund - Pastor Jeff asked if we had a discretionary fund available for individuals who call or stop by the Church seeking assistance for food, gas, etc. It was decided we would contribute to the already set up "Parkersburg Ministerial Association" and distribution of funds would be handled through this location. The yearly \$400 cost will be taken from our Benevolence Fund. All ongoing requests should be referred to this service.
4. LCMC Annual Gathering & Convention – This Convention will be in Des Moines 10/7-10. The close proximity creates a great opportunity for our congregation to attend. The Church will pay Registration Fees for up to 3 individuals to accompany Pastor Jeff. Darla will speak to the Congregation 9/16 encouraging attendance.

(cont.)

September Church Council Minutes (cont.)

5. Printer for Treasurer: The check-writing printer/software isn't working. Dan will discuss with Julie Dudley.

Motion to adjourn by JoAnne, 2nd by Darla.

Closing Prayer/The Lord's Prayer

Communion Assistants: October: Michelle Krohn, Stacy Palmer

Submitted by Carol Chapman

"The Story" Schedule

(Anyone can join at any time, books are available for purchase for \$9)

- | | |
|----------|--------------------------------------|
| Sept. 30 | Joseph: From Slave to Deputy Pharaoh |
| Oct. 7 | Deliverance |
| Oct. 14 | New Commands and a New Covenant |
| Oct. 21 | No Class (Meet Pastor candidate) |
| Oct. 28 | Wandering |
| Nov. 7 | The Battle Begins |

Ministry Teams

Plan to gather in the sanctuary on **Wed., October 3rd at 7:30 pm** for a short opening before splitting into individual teams with a Council Liaison.

Family Devotions for October

Sharing Our Faith

Bible Verse: "I long to see you so that I may impart to you some spiritual gift to make you strong – that is, that you and I may be mutually encouraged by each other's faith." Romans 1:11,12

On Sunday, October 7 - Confirmation Sunday at Bethel Lutheran - Devin Bernard will stand before the congregation and profess his faith in Jesus Christ. To prepare for his Confirmation, he was asked to write his "faith statement," expressing in his own words what it means to believe in Jesus Christ as his Lord and Savior. In fact, it's never too soon (or late) to start talking with our own children and grandchildren about their "faith statements." Some ideas to help get us started:

- Ask them if they remember when they first heard about Jesus' birth, His death, His resurrection. What does that mean to them?
- Share our own "faith statement." Tell them when we first learned about Jesus. If we knew about Him as a child, talk about how we've matured in faith through the years and what our relationship with Christ means to us.
- Sit down with someone we know who has a strong relationship with Jesus and ask them to share their faith. At Ladies Bible study recently, we had the opportunity to hear Leona Wallbaum talk about the importance of growing up in the church, and how learning Bible verses and Bible stories helped strengthen her faith in Jesus throughout her 102 years! So meaningful!
- Learn how people in the Bible came to know God and His Son. Many stories are pretty dramatic! Here's a few: Abraham (Genesis 12); Moses (Exodus); Ruth (Book of Ruth); Saul/Paul (Acts 9)

Prayer: Dear Heavenly Father, Help us be open to sharing our Christian faith with others so they might be encouraged in their own walk with you. Continue to strengthen Devin after his Confirmation Day, so he will follow you forever. We pray in Jesus' name, amen.

October Bible Reading Schedule

Oct 1, Mon: Ezekiel 37:15-28, II Corinthians 3
Tuesday: Ezekiel 38:1-13, II Corinthians 4
Wednesday: Ezekiel 38:14-23, II Corinthians 5
Thursday: Ezekiel 39:1-16, II Corinthians 6
Friday: Ezekiel 39:17-29, II Corinthians 7
Saturday: Ezekiel 40:1-16, II Corinthians 8:1-15
Sunday: Exodus 40

Oct. 8, Mon: Ezekiel 40:17-31, II Corinthians 8:16-24
Tuesday: Ezekiel 40:32-49, II Corinthians 9
Wednesday: Ezekiel 41:1-12, II Corinthians 10
Thursday: Ezekiel 41:13-26, II Corinthians 11:1-15
Friday: Ezekiel 42, II Corinthians 11:16-31
Saturday: Ezekiel 43:1-17, II Corinthians 12

Oct 15, Mon: Ezekiel 43:18-27, II Corinthians 13
Tuesday: Ezekiel 44:1-14, Philippians 1
Wednesday: Ezekiel 44:15-31, Philippians 2
Thursday: Ezekiel 45:1-13, Philippians 3
Friday: Ezekiel 45:14-25, Philippians 4
Saturday: Ezekiel 46:1-11

Oct. 22, Mon: Ezekiel 46:12-24
Tuesday: Ezekiel 47:1-12
Wednesday: Ezekiel 47:13-23
Thursday: Ezekiel 48:1-14
Friday: Ezekiel 48:15-35

If you have been reading these daily scriptures for the last 22 months, you have not read through the entire Bible.

Opportunities to Serve

Altar Guild Volunteers: There are several months without anyone to do Communion, etc. If you are able to help out, please contact JoAnne Schwarz or Bonnie Gerloff.

Coffee Fellowship Following Worship: Please see the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board to volunteer to make coffee and bring treats for fellowship following worship for a Sunday in October.

Home Cooked Meal: If you know of someone who might benefit from a home-cooked meal(s) provided by members of our congregation – or – if you are able to help prepare a meal, please contact Janet (319-269-9674), Jenny (319-269-2578), or Sharleen (319-414-7409).

Quilters: The quilters will start quilting again on October 20th from 9:00-12:00 noon. No prior experience in quilting or sewing necessary; will train. Come join the fun on Thursday mornings.

Website Coordinator: The Church Council is looking for a WEBSITE Coordinator. Any computer with internet access can be used for this volunteer task. Training is available. If interested, please contact Dan Frey.

Organized Prayer for Bethel Families

Week of October 7 – Randy & Janelle Gorter, Josh & Ted, B.J. Gorter & family, Rob & Maggie Gorter, Aiden & Wyatt

Week of October 14 – Jeff & Stacy Palmer, Clayton & Evan, Jeremy & Brooke Paulson, Rylan & Bexlee, Allen & Rachael Redman, Nate, Chad & Sarah

Week of October 21 – Bill & Jackie Hager, Bob & Lista Patterson, Shirley Bergman, Barb Brouwer

Week of October 28 – Henry & Janice Gerloff, Harvey Peters, Lee & Kathy Aalfs, Sharon Knudson

BLCW NEWS - Bakeless Bake Sale

October is our annual **Bakeless Bake Sale** to replenish the account so we can continue to keep the kitchen stocked with coffee and paper products. We also pay the quarterly fees for the Portals of Prayer and Christ in Our Home devotional booklets available for your daily devotions at home and buy flowers for the Graduates. The Bakeless Bake Sale envelopes will be in the October Beacon or in your mail box at church. We will also have some envelopes next to the guest book in the Narthex. Please place your donation in the provided envelope and place it in the offering plate or leave it in the church office during the month of October. Thank you so much for your help and have a blessed fall season.

Worship Assistant Schedule for October--Worship Service 9:00 a.m.

	October 7	October 14	October 21	October 28
USHERS	Jim & Eileen Lupkes	Jim & Eileen Lupkes	Vern & Marilyn Ingalls	Dale & Jenny Hansmann
ORGANISTS/PIANISTS	Janet Mennen/Sharleen Hubbard			
ALTAR GUILD	Beth Van Lengen/Pam Jacobson			
GREETERS	Larry & Carol Chapman	Carol Warneka & Shirley Cassady	Dennis & Bonnie Gerloff	Dennis & Karol Ellermann
LECTORS	Carol Chapman	Beth Van Lengen	Darla Drewelow	Jeff/Pam Jacobson
LITURGISTS	Kris Teeples	Dale Krohn	Bonnie Gerloff	JoAnne Schwarz
ACOLYTES	Gavin Bernard	Corryn Mann	Ava Mann	Evan Palmer
COMMUNION ASSISTANTS	Michelle Krohn/ Stacy Palmer		Michelle Krohn/ Stacy Palmer	
COFFEE FELLOWSHIP	Karol Ellermann			
SOUND SYSTEM	Dan Frey/JoAnne Schwarz			

September Summary of Attendance and Financial Contributions

	Attendance	Bene./Mission	Current	Building Maintenance
Sunday, September 2	64	\$219.54	\$2,667.53	\$0.00
Sunday, September 9	84	\$250.00	\$3,010.10	\$0.00
Sunday, September 16	58	\$136.45	\$1,623.30	\$0.00
Sunday, September 23	86	\$150.11	\$2,316.20	\$0.00
January 1-September 23, 2018		\$6,006.07	\$78,496.39	\$0.00

October Anniversaries

6 – Dennis & Karol Ellermann (56)
 14 – Ken & Karla Beckman (40)
 17 – Dennis & Bonnie Gerloff (37)

October Birthdays

5 – Sherry Brouwer	26 – Gavin Bernard
6 – Vern Ingalls	26 – Darwin Miller
9 – Shirley Cassady	28 – Dale Hansmann
9 – Chad Redman	28 – Morgan Knock
9 – Kassi Rice	28 – Kaitlin Marlette
12 – Candy Krohn	28 – Ryan Schrage
15 – Adrian Bernard	28 – Jim Schwarz
23 – Jeremy Paulson	

Email: bethelparkersburg@gmail.com
 Website: www.bethelparkersburg.org
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October 2018 Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3 6:30 pm Senior Choir 7:30 pm All Ministry Teams	4 9:00 am-Noon Quilting	5	6 6:00 pm Confirmation Banquet
7 9:00 am Worship/Confirmation/Holy Communion/World Hunger Sunday 10:00 am Coffee 10:15 am Sunday School/"The Story" Adult Class	8	9	10 6:30 pm Senior Choir 7:30 pm Church Council	11 9:00 am-Noon Quilting 1:00 pm Ladies Bible Study @ Darla Drewelow's Home	12	13
14 9:00 am Sunday Worship 10:00 am Coffee 10:15 am Sunday School/"The Story" Adult Class	15	16	17 6:30 pm Senior Choir	18 9:00 am-Noon Quilting	19	20
21 9:00 am Worship/Holy Communion/ Noisy Nickels 10:00 am Coffee 10:15 am Sunday School-Children 11:30 am Call Committee Lunch w/Pastoral Candidate	22	23	24 6:30 pm Senior Choir	25 9:00 am-Noon Quilting	26 Wedding Rehearsal- Abigail Knock/ Colton Hamilton	27 5:00 pm Wedding- Abigail Knock/ Colton Hamilton
28 9:00 am Sunday Worship 10:00 am Coffee 10:15 am Sunday School/"The Story" Adult Class	29	30	31 6:30 pm Senior Choir			