

BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

September 2017 BEACON

Labor Day

Labor Day is a very special day at our house. I met my beloved bride on Labor Day and it has become a special family day as a result. While our children were growing up, they asked us what Labor Day meant, and I told them it was a special day to labor and get special projects done. They didn't know until they went to college that I was kidding, but we did get a whole lot of special projects done. So, for family celebration and family projects, Labor Day is special at our house.

Labor Day is, of course, a day to honor our workers and give them a day of rest. But, that leads into a problem that our world has today that is unique to our time. It is the problem of idle time. Whether it is retirement, underemployment, or the increased availability of free time from regular labor, we simply find too much time to be idle. If we are old enough to have heard ancient adages we know that the devil loves idle hands and idle minds. Certainly, we can be thankful that we are not compelled to work twelve-hour days six days a week like our ancestors, but that blessing has brought with it a curse of idleness.

Paul tells us to be doing something. *"And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus."* Doing nothing is really doing something, but in a very negative way. Imagine someone saying, "I am doing nothing for God." Paul says that in doing something, anything, we are to be mindful of God and do it for His glory. We can play with our grandchildren for the glory of God. We can recreate with God in mind by asking ourselves if He would enjoy the content of our recreation. We can visit with our neighbors with God in mind. We can use whatever time God has given us, work time, idle time, family time, to glorify God. Just let it not be said of us, "I am doing nothing for God."

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David Craig

davidccraig.net

Abundant Grace Daily Devotion

Fall Kickoff Brunch - Letter from Council President Dan Frey

Dear Fellow Members of Bethel Lutheran Church:

As a follow-up to the announcements I have made the last few weeks at church, please note we will be having a brunch immediately following the worship service on Sunday, September 10, 2017. As church council president, I will be sharing our accomplishments we have achieved at Bethel this year and I will be presenting the challenges we will be facing in the near future. Below are a few of the challenges:

- 1) A challenge for the call committee, which will be re-starting this fall, is finding a pastor. Do we need to consider sharing a pastor or do we proceed in filling the position with a full-time pastor?
- 2) We continue to struggle with Sunday worship attendance, and discussion regarding how we can grow our congregation is a necessity.
- 3) How can we fulfill our needs at Bethel in respect to volunteers, i.e., youth group leaders, ushers, additional assistance/person in the office.
- 4) Discussion revolving around Sunday School and ways to grow our Sunday School attendance, as well as volunteers for teaching Sunday School, is also needed at this time.

These are not new challenges; thus, it is my hope each and every member is praying about the direction of Bethel Lutheran Church and marks their calendar to attend the congregational brunch on Sunday, the 10th. I look forward to sharing and discussing our future in more detail at that time.

Respectfully yours,
Dan Frey, Council President

Riverside Bible Camp Fall Recharge Weekend Camps

Riverside Bible Camp will be hosting Fall Recharge weekend camps available to our youth at Bethel. A Recharge is a fun weekend event during the Fall that is like a whole week of Camp rolled into 40 hours. Recharge starts between 8:00-9:00 on Friday night and ends at Noon on Sunday. Dates for the camps are:

October 20-22 Juniors (Grades 3-6)

October 27-29 Junior High (Grades 6-9)

November 10-12 Junior High (Grades 6-9)

November 17-19 Senior High (Grades 9-12)

If any of the Bethel youth are interested, reach out to a member of the council. Bethel will cover admission to Recharge Fall and youth are encouraged to bring their Bible, pen or pencil, paper or notebook, sleeping bag or bedding, flashlight and warm clothes for fun outdoor activities.

Thank you to all who remembered me with cards, flowers, food and also the visits following my surgery and at the re-hab @ Grand J Vante'. Also, Thank you to Pastor and Jacque. Thanks again for caring.

Irene Senne

Financial Update as of August 15, 2017

Bank Account Balance		\$20,875.62
Commitments yet to be paid:		
- Benevolence	\$4,652.48	
- Sanctuary/Interior Bell Tower Repairs/Painting-estimate (congregational vote May 28, 2017)	4,500.00	
- Exterior Gutter finish work-estimate	500.00	
- Loan Balance	<u>910.16</u>	
Subtotal - Commitments above		<u>10,562.64</u>
Balance		\$10,312.98

Family Devotions for September

Hallowed Be Thy Name!

Bible Verse: "O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!"

As I write this, one of the main stories in the media is that of the full solar eclipse. It's quite an event, a phenomenon that seldom happens. We've heard explanations of how and why this occurs, the safest way to view the eclipse, and the best places to get the full effect. What we haven't heard is much, if anything, about who is responsible for it; in other words, our God, the Creator of the universe, isn't mentioned. Let's make sure that doesn't happen in our own homes! Let's talk about God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit so our children and grandchildren know who is Lord in our lives.

- When faced with temptation, teach them to say, "Help me, Jesus!"
- Or when afraid, to pray, "Lord, help me feel you near me."
- Or when thankful, "Father, thank you for your blessings!"

Pray: Help us to glorify Your Name in our homes each and every day!

September Bible Reading Schedule

Sept 1, Fri: John 4:27-42, Joshua 10:28-43, Proverbs 6
Saturday: John 4:43-54, Joshua 11, Proverbs 7
Sunday: Genesis 35

Sept 4, Mon: John 5:1-15, Joshua 12, Proverbs 8
Tuesday: John 5:16-30, Joshua 13, Proverbs 9
Wednesday: John 5:31-47, Joshua 14, Proverbs 10
Thursday: John 6:1-21, Joshua 15, Proverbs 11
Friday: John 6:22-40, Joshua 16, Proverbs 12
Saturday: John 6:41-59, Joshua 17, Proverbs 13
Sunday: Genesis 36

Sept 11, Mon: John 6:60-71, Joshua 18, Proverbs 14
Tuesday: John 7:1-15, Joshua 19, Proverbs 15
Wednesday: John 7:16-31, Joshua 20, Proverbs 16
Thursday: John 7:32-53, Joshua 21, Proverbs 17
Friday: John 8:1-12, Joshua 22, Proverbs 18
Saturday: John 8:13-30, Joshua 23, Proverbs 19
Sunday: Genesis 37

Sept 18, Mon: John 8:31-47, Joshua 24, Proverbs 20
Tuesday: John 8:48-59, Judges 1:1-15, Proverbs 21
Wednesday: John 9:1-21, Judges 1:16-36, Proverbs 22
Thursday: John 9:22-41, Judges 2, Proverbs 23
Friday: John 10:1-21, Judges 3:1-11, Proverbs 24
Saturday: John 10:22-42, Judges 3:12-31, Proverbs 25
Sunday: Genesis 38

Sept, 25, Mon: John 11:1-16, Judges 4, Proverbs 26
Tuesday: John 11:17-44, Judges 5, Proverbs 27
Wednesday: John 11:45-57, Judges 6:1-24, Proverbs 28
Thursday: John 12:1-19, Judges 6:25-40, Proverbs 29
Friday: John 12:20-36, Judges 7, Proverbs 30
Saturday: John 12:37-50, Judges 8:1-21, Proverbs 31

September Anniversaries

9 – Perry & Adrian Bernard (17)
13 – Rex & Hope Tomkins (21)
18 – Henry & Janice Gerloff (53)
20 – Tom & Sara Mann (20)
25 – Lee & Pat Van Hauen (47)
26 – Jeff & Pam Jacobson (41)
26 – Jeff & Stacy Palmer (19)
27 – Aaron & Angie Ellermann (20)
29 – Dale & Candy Krohn (38)
29 – Matt & April Kressley (10)

September Birthdays

1 – Jay Herter
4 – Jaxon Kressley
5 – Greg Carolus
6 – Cameron Luhning
8 – Ken Van Lengen
9 – Nate Hemann
9 – Jeff Palmer
11 – Blake Tomkins
13 – Corryn Mann
14 – Sharon Knudson
18 – Darla Drewelow
19 – Lista Patterson
23 – Joan Schuck
25 – Randy Gorter
26 – Leona Wallbaum
27 – Butch Geertsema
28 – Ami Cordes

Organized Prayer for Bethel Families

WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 3 - Josh Brouwer, MacKenzie & Jessie, Steve & Sherry Brouwer, Dan & Nancy Hemann & Nate, Jay & Angi Herter, Emilee & Kielinn, Roger & Doralene Renken, Mike & Penney Neisen

WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 10 - Molly O'Brien Brouwer, MacKenzie, Jessie & Jaycee, Jeremy & Jennifer Buss, Benne & Savannah, Joyce Hoffman, Dave & Sharleen Hubbard, Kyle & Mary Rice, Kassi & Kolbi, Bob & Connie Rule

WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 17 - Brad & Lindey Buss Hedrick & Tatum, Joel & Diane Buss, John & Erin Hubbard, Vern & Marilyn Ingalls, Pat Rule, Merle & Merna Schrage

WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 24 - Mark & Marilyn Buss, Greg Carolus & Blake, Andy & Kayla Jacobson, Claire & Bo, Ryan & April Schrage, Rylie & Reygan, Joan Schuck

August 16, 2017 Church Council Minutes

Present: Diane Buss, Carol Chapman, Darla Drewelow, Dan Frey, Jenny Hansmann, Jay Herter, Michelle Krohn

Vice President Jay Herter called the meeting to order "In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit."

Approval of the Agenda: Motion made by Carol Chapman, 2nd by Diane Buss

Approval of the Minutes: Correction of the minutes from July. Bruce Simon was in attendance and Carol Chapman was not. Motion made by Carol Chapman to approve, 2nd by Diane Buss.

Approval of the Treasurer's Report: Julia Dudley presented the Treasurer's report. Motion made to approve the Treasurer's Report by Jenny Hansmann, 2nd by Carol Chapman.

Ministry Team Reports:

- Children & Youth Ministry Team – Riverside Bible Camp is offering four "Fall Recharges" in mid-October through mid-November. Funds are available to help with fee. Please see September Beacon article for details.
- Outreach and Fellowship Ministry Team – both teams are working on our "Celebrate Fall Kickoff Brunch."
- Property Ministry Team – 1) painting will proceed on Monday, August 21st after the plaster cures; 2) still looking into lights to brighten the sanctuary, possible fans with lights; 3) the Work Day to finish the rock is September 16th at 8:30 a.m. with rain date of September 23rd.
- Worship & Music Ministry Team – no meeting
- Social Concerns Ministry Team – 1) Grand total for Relay for Life is \$2,097.82 which includes \$500 from the church; 2) Samaritan Purse Christmas Child boxes have been ordered.
- Missions/Benevolence Ministry Team – nothing to report

Old Business:

1. Update on McGee Construction: discussed under Property Team above.
2. Youth Leaders: no one has stepped forward at this time. Please prayerfully consider this.
3. Additional Loan payments: motion by Darla Drewelow, 2nd by Jay Herter to pay off the loan at Lincoln Savings Bank in the amount of \$910.16.
4. Cable Provider: still being worked on.

New Business:

1. Church Brunch: Fall Kickoff Brunch on Sunday, September 10th. We will also be having pie and ice cream. This will take place immediately following the church service and there will be no charge for the meal. We will be asking everyone to RSVP so we have an idea of how much food to prepare. Invitations will be in the Beacon and also at church. We are looking forward to food, fun and fellowship.
2. Sunday School teachers: nothing new yet. We are looking for volunteers.
3. Vilmar Church: discussing leaving the ELCA. A contact name will be given to Dan.

Motion to adjourn the meeting by Jay Herter, 2nd by Carol Chapman

Closed with The Lord's Prayer

September Communion Assistants: Jenny Hansmann, Stacy Palmer

October Communion Assistants: Diane Buss, Jay Herter

--Submitted by Darla Drewelow for Stacy Palmer

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

	September 3	September 10	September 17	September 24
USHERS				
ORGANISTS/PIANISTS	Janet Mennen/Sharleen Hubbard			
ALTAR GUILD	Darla Drewelow & Candy Krohn			
GREETERS	Bill & Irene Senne	Jeff & Pam Jacobson	Dave & Sharleen Hubbard	Jim & JoAnne Schwarz
LECTORS	Darla Drewelow	Candy Krohn	Dave Hubbard	Jim Schwarz
LITURGISTS	Terry Mennen	Dale Krohn	Sharleen Hubbard	JoAnne Schwarz
ACOLYTES	Kielinn Herter Erica Marlette	Devin Bernard	Ava Mann Corryn Mann	Evan Palmer
COMMUNION ASSISTANTS	Jenny Hansmann Stacy Palmer		Jenny Hansmann Stacy Palmer	
COFFEE FELLOWSHIP	Church Council			
SOUND SYSTEM	Church Council			

August Summary of Attendance and Financial Contributions

	Attendance	Bene./Mission	Current	Building Maintenance
Sunday, August 6	73	\$126.82	\$2,070.82	\$0.00
Sunday, August 13	45	\$167.50	\$2,192.50	\$0.00
Sunday, August 20	59	\$100.50	\$1,609.50	\$0.00
Sunday, August 27	73	\$189.40	\$2,344.60	\$0.00
Total Receipts January 1-August 27, 2017		\$4,934.62	\$69,072.80	\$100.00

Email: bethelparkersburg@gmail.com
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September 2017 Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 9:00 Worship/Holy Communion/World Hunger Sunday 10:00 Coffee	4 Labor Day	5	6	7 1:00 pm Ladies Bible Study at Darla Drewelow's Home	8	9
10 9:00 Sunday Worship 10:00 Coffee 10:15 Fall Kickoff Brunch	11	12	13 7:00 pm Church Council	14 9:00 am-Noon Quilting starts. Come join the fun!	15	16 8:30 am Church Work Day
17 9:00 Worship/Holy Communion/Noisy Nickels 10:00 Coffee 10:15 SUNDAY SCHOOL-Adult & Children/Confirmation	18	19	20	21 9:00 am-Noon Quilting	22	23 8:30 am Rain Date for September 16 th Church Work Day
24 9:00 Sunday Worship 10:00 Coffee 10:15 SUNDAY SCHOOL-Adult & Children/Confirmation	25	26	27	28 9:00 am-Noon Quilting	29	30