

# BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

## September 2018 BEACON

Isn't it a great feeling when someone on your team, on your staff, in your family, or among your friends give you their support and backing? It is a great affirmation to you when someone says, "I'm all in!" That is a statement of commitment and it is the culmination of the life of a disciple. In the sixth chapter of John, Jesus was teaching some difficult things, hard to understand things about the kingdom. He was teaching them about faith being active, palatable. He was teaching them that nothing else would complete them, fill them, outside of a relationship with Jesus. People were offended and many disciples started to leave, Jesus asked the Twelve, "You do not want to leave too, do you?" Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and to know that you are the Holy One of God." John 6:67-69

Peter didn't actually say the words, "I'm all in!" But that is certainly what he meant. Peter had spent his whole life searching for the deeper meaning. He hadn't found what he was looking for until he met Jesus, and now that he had met him, there was no turning back. Obviously, there is more to the story of Peter following Jesus albeit imperfectly, but his story is perfect for us. He was one of the three, yet he had doubts, and fears. He sinned and succeeded, he was human and he loved Christ.

So, my question for you, dear friend, "Are you all in?"

In the class I just completed a guest speaker shared the vision for his company in four simple ideas: **Respect, Trust, Challenge, Commit**. As I reflect on these words I recognize that movement between each of these ideas is the same journey Jesus brings us on in faith. Pondering each idea helps us determine what, if anything, is holding us back from saying, "I'm all in."

The journey Jesus invites us into is this. Jesus **respects** our story, he knows us and still likes us. As we grow to know him we grow to **trust** him. Because we know he is trustworthy we accept the **challenges** he gives us. We know that he is always with us. We know that we go forward in his strength and facing these challenges builds spiritual muscle. Walking with Him brings us to **commit** ourselves to his kingdom purposes and to live for Him.

Where are you on this journey? How would you grow? These questions are ones that I address every Sunday in my mind as I prepare the message and lead the worship.

This fall, get involved in your church, worship regularly, serve in ways you are able, give financially, take part in a Bible study, strengthen your prayer life. Join the likes of Peter with me and others who resonate with his statement, "Lord there is no one else who has the words of eternal life." "I'm all in."

Have a great week, I'll see you in worship.

Pastor Jeff Teeples

### Fall Kickoff Brunch

Dear Fellow Members of Bethel Lutheran Church:

We will be having our fall kickoff brunch immediately following the worship service on Sunday, September 9, 2018. Remember, as brothers and sisters in Christ this is our opportunity to invite a friend or former member of Bethel who have not attended our service in a while. A time to share our faith, our friendship, and an opportunity to worship at Bethel so we can all experience all of God's many blessings. After the meal, as Council President, I will cover some of our accomplishments as well as some of our challenges here at Bethel. Also, an update on our call committee process.

Respectfully yours, Dan Frey, Council President

### Ministry Teams

Plan to gather in the sanctuary on **Wed., September 5th at 7:00 pm** for a short opening before splitting into individual teams with a Council Liaison.

## **August 8, 2018 Church Council Minutes**

(to be reviewed at the September Council meeting)

**Present:** Stacy Palmer, Darla Drewelow, Allen Redman, JoAnne Schwarz, Michelle Krohn, Carol Chapman, Marilyn Ingalls, Bruce Simon

**Approval of the Agenda:** Motion made by JoAnne Schwarz, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Carol Chapman

**Approval of the Minutes:** Motion made by Carol Chapman, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Marilyn Ingalls

**Approval of the Treasurer's Report:** Motion made by Marilyn Ingalls, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bruce Simon

### **Ministry Team Reports:**

- **Children & Youth Ministry Team** – no report
- **Outreach & Fellowship Ministry Team** – discussion centered around the kick-off; no meals needed at this time
- **Property Ministry Team** – further investigation surrounding water damage near the elevator is necessary; no update on lighting at this time
- **Worship & Music Ministry Team** – All hymns selected to September 9<sup>th</sup>
- **Social Concerns Ministry Team** – Relay for Life went well and was moved indoors due to weather; \$2,088.39 was raised by our Bethel team, with approximately 10 attendees from Bethel
- **Missions/Benevolence Ministry Team** – no meeting

### **Old Business:**

1. September 9<sup>th</sup> Fall Kick-off – Motion to approve invitations with RSVP's to be mailed to all households by the 17<sup>th</sup> by Allen Redman, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bruce Simon. Motion to put an ad in the paper inviting others to attend and RSVP by Carol Chapman, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Marilyn Ingalls
2. Need of Sunday School Teachers – A sign-up sheet will be passed in church looking for volunteers for the next couple of Sundays, and will then be posted on the bulletin board
3. Confirmation Feedback – Pastor Jeff and the student are working together on a faith statement with a likely future confirmation date in the Fall
4. Parkersburg Fun Days – Terry Drewelow will drive his Model A and pass out candy (donated by Allen Redman) representing Bethel

### **New Business:**

1. Approval for Abigail Knock and Colton Hamilton rehearsal October 26<sup>th</sup>, wedding October 27<sup>th</sup> – Motion to approve by JoAnne Schwarz, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Stacy Palmer
2. Water leak in basement in front of elevator – further investigation by a professional is necessary to better determine where leak is originating; Tobin Draining may need to dig holes to look for blockages, but discussion surrounding this will be had within Property Ministry team before proceeding
3. August 12<sup>th</sup> pastor is Stephen Anenson
4. Pastor's Computer – Pastor Jeff is using his personal computer mostly, but the anti-virus software needs to be updated on the pastoral computer at church; Stacy will investigate further options available
5. Pastor's Report – Pastor Jeff provided a full report of visits completed, communion served for Council

**Closing Prayer/The Lord's Prayer:** Motion to adjourn the meeting by Carol Chapman, 2<sup>nd</sup> by JoAnne Schwarz

**September Communion Assistants:** Dan Frey, JoAnne Schwarz

**October Communion Assistants:** Michelle Krohn, Stacy Palmer

Submitted by Stacy Palmer, Council Recording Secretary

## **Adult Education Begins September 16**

The most significant way that I have grown to trust Jesus is to get to know the story of God's people and how God's story keeps intersecting with our story. Getting to know the story is what Adult Education hour is going to be this year.

I invite all of you to join me every Sunday after church for "The Story." Max Lucado and Randy Frazee put together a great study resource a few years ago that presents the Bible as one continuing story of God and His people.

Each class stands alone, so if you miss a week no problem. To get the most out of this class get a copy of "The Story" (Sign up to order one for \$9). Read ahead the chapter for the week and answer the discussion questions. On Sunday we will gather, watch the 10-minute video and have a great time for discussion.

We will start at the beginning and work our way through the Bible. If you are one of those who have been reading through the entire Bible in a year, this study is a great way to fulfill that goal.

September Schedule:

Sept. 16 Creation: The Beginning of Life as We Know It

Sept. 23 God Builds a Nation

Sept. 30 Joseph: From Slave to Deputy Pharaoh

Oct. 7 Deliverance

## **Family Devotions for September**

### **"Taking the X's and O's to Heart"**

Bible Verse: "Faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word of Christ."  
Romans 10:17

Good coaches of all sports make sure their players know the "X's and O's" of the game – the fundamentals, the plays, the role of each team member. But even good coaches can't always motivate their players to play with heart. In somewhat the same way, Christian parents make sure their children know the "X's and O's" of the Christian faith – the message of the Gospel, the Ten Commandments, the Lord's Prayer, the Creed. ... But how do these fundamentals of faith become rooted in our hearts and those of our children?

As Christians, we know the answer to this question: through the Holy Spirit, who is at work in us through the Word. At Baptism, we promised to place the Word of God in the hands of our children. We do this anytime we read or hear God's Word – when we worship together; attend Sunday school and confirmation classes; have family devotions; spend time in the Word . . . Parents, do you need a pep talk? Read Psalm 78:1-7 for encouragement to keep teaching the fundamentals. And then you might use Acts 2 as a good background for your September family devotions!

Pray: Dear Heavenly Father, please help us put your Word first in our lives, so the Holy Spirit can always be at work in our hearts, amen.

## **LCMC 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Gathering and Convention, October 7-10, 2018, HyVee Hall, 730 3rd Street, Des Moines**

The theme this year is "Growing Up," building on Ephesians 4:11-16. Each congregation gets at least two delegates, but everyone is invited. Bethel Lutheran would like to send at least two congregational representatives this year. This is a great opportunity for any member of our church, especially church council or call committee members to connect with brothers and sisters across the association and around the world. See Dan Frey as soon as possible if you are interested in representing our congregation. **[www.LCMC.net](http://www.LCMC.net)**

## September Bible Reading Schedule

Sept. 1, Sat: II Chron. 28:16-27, I Cor. 3, Ezek. 23:22-35  
Sunday: Exodus 35

Sept. 3, Mon: II Chron. 29:1-19, I Cor. 4, Ezek. 23:36-49  
Tuesday: II Chron. 29:20-36, I Cor. 5, Ezek. 24:1-14  
Wednesday: II Chron. 30:1-12, I Cor. 6, Ezek. 24:15-27  
Thursday: II Chron. 30:13-27, I Cor. 7:1-24, Ezek. 25  
Friday: II Chron. 31, I Cor. 7:25-40, Ezek. 26  
Saturday: II Chron. 32:1-19, I Cor. 8, Ezek. 27:1-24  
Sunday: Exodus 36

Sept. 10, Mon: II Chron. 32:20-33, I Cor. 9:1-18, Ezek. 27:25-36  
Tuesday: II Chron. 33:1-13, I Cor. 9:19-27, Ezek. 28:1-10  
Wednesday: II Chron. 33:14-25, I Cor. 10:1-13, Ezek. 28:11-26  
Thursday: II Chron. 34:1-13, I Cor. 10:14-33, Ezek. 29  
Friday: II Chron. 34:14-33, I Cor. 11:1-16, Ezek. 30:1-12  
Saturday: II Chron. 35:1-15, I Cor. 11:17-34, Ezek. 30:13-26  
Sunday: Exodus 37

Sept. 17, Mon: II Chron. 35:16-27, I Cor. 12:1-19, Ezek. 31  
Tuesday: II Chron. 36, I Cor. 12:20-31, Ezek. 32:1-16  
Wednesday: II Timothy 1, I Cor. 13, Ezek. 32:17-32  
Thursday: II Tim. 2, I Cor. 14:1-19, Ezek. 33:1-16  
Friday: II Tim. 3, I Cor. 14:20-40, Ezek. 33:17-33  
Saturday: II Tim. 4, I Cor. 15:1-19  
Sunday: Exodus 38

Monday: Ezekiel 34:1-16, I Corinthians 15:20-34  
Tuesday: Ezek. 34:17-31, I Cor. 15:35-58  
Wednesday: Ezek. 35, I Cor. 16  
Thursday: Ezek. 36:1-21, II Corinthians 1:1-11  
Friday: Ezek. 36:22-38, II Cor. 1:12-24  
Saturday: Ezek. 37:1-14, II Cor. 2  
Sunday: Exodus 39

## 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 September.

**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 September 20th from 9:00-12:00 am. No prior experience in quilting or sewing necessary; will train. Come join the fun on Thursday mornings.

**Ushers:** Please see the sign-up on the bulletin board to volunteer to usher any upcoming week or month.

**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 September 2** – Alex & Monica Bixby, Derek & Jill Etjen, Trevor & Ellie, Tom & Sara Mann, Nora, Ava, & Corryn, Lance & Kim Marlette, Kaitlin & Erica, Leona Wallbaum, Kory & Deb Walters

**Week of September 9** – Bob & Brenda Everts, Terry & Janet Mennen, George Miller, Lee Walters, Eric & Becky (Walters) Simmons

**Week of September 16** – Dan & Kay Frey, Courtney & Tiffany, Ben Frieling, Justin & Tess (Gerloff) Matherly & Noah, Darwin & Peggy Miller, Carol Warneka, Jann Wiegmann

**Week of September 23** – Don Geertsema, Dennis & Bonnie Gerloff, Dennis Muller, Amber & Ian, Samantha (Muller) Wiegmann, Tripp & Hayden, Meri Jo Wiese, Tyler & Nicole

**Week of September 30** – Arlo Williams & Sandra Briggs, Guy Gerloff, Kirk & Suzanne (Gerloff) Neuroth, Connor, Melea, & Nick, Bryce & Ruth Zacharias, Pastor Jeff & Kris Teeples, David & Britta Teeples, Eric Teeples, Philip & Carly Teeples

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

	<b>September 2</b>	<b>September 9</b>	<b>September 16</b>	<b>September 23</b>	<b>September 30</b>
USHERS	Terry Mennen	Dennis & Bonnie Gerloff	Perry & Devin Bernard	Dennis & Bonnie Gerloff	Dennis & Bonnie Gerloff
ORGANISTS/PIANISTS	Janet Mennen/Sharleen Hubbard				
ALTAR GUILD	Darla Drewelow/Candy Krohn				
GREETERS	Dan & Kay Frey	Roger & Doralene Renken	Jeff & Diane Johnson	Dale & Jenny Hansmann	Perry & Adrian Bernard & family
LECTORS	Stacy Palmer	Carol Chapman	Darla Drewelow	Steve Brouwer	Jim Schwarz
LITURGISTS	Dale Krohn	JoAnne Schwarz	Bonnie Gerloff	Terry Mennen	Hymn Sing
ACOLYTES	Evan Palmer	Corryn Mann	Gavin Bernard	Ava Mann	Evan Palmer
COMMUNION ASSISTANTS	Dan Frey JoAnne Schwarz		Dan Frey JoAnne Schwarz		
COFFEE FELLOWSHIP		Fall Kickoff Brunch			
SOUND SYSTEM	Marilyn Ingalls/Bruce Simon				

### August Summary of Attendance and Financial Contributions

	<b>Attendance</b>	<b>Bene./Mission</b>	<b>Current</b>	<b>Building Maintenance</b>
<b>Sunday, August 5</b>	68	\$216.00	\$2,637.05	\$0.00
<b>Sunday, August 12</b>	54	\$101.00	\$1,444.25	\$0.00
<b>Sunday, August 19</b>	63	\$162.00	\$2,273.05	\$0.00
<b>Sunday, August 26</b>	53	\$146.50	\$1,653.60	\$0.00
<b>January 1-August 26, 2018</b>		\$5,249.97	\$68,879.26	\$0.00

### September Anniversaries

9 – Perry & Adrian Bernard (18)	26 – Jeff & Pam Jacobson (42)
13 – Rex & Hope Tomkins (22)	26 – Jeff & Stacy Palmer (20)
18 – Henry & Janice Gerloff (54)	27 – Aaron & Angie Ellermann (21)
20 – Tom & Sara Mann (21)	29 – Matt & April Kressley (11)
25 – Lee & Pat Van Hauen (48)	29 – Dale & Candy Krohn (39)

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 Website: [www.bethelparkersburg.org](http://www.bethelparkersburg.org)  
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### September Birthdays

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

## September 2018 Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 9:00 am Worship/Holy Communion/ World Hunger Sunday 10:00 am Coffee	3	4	5 7:00 pm All Ministry Teams	6	7	8
9 9:00 am Sunday Worship 10:00 am Coffee 10:15 am Fall Kickoff Brunch	10	11	12 6:30 pm Senior Choir 7:30 pm Church Council	13	14	15
16 9:00 am Worship/Holy Communion/ Noisy Nickels 10:00 am Coffee 10:15 am Sunday School/"The Story" Adult Class	17	18	19 6:30 pm Senior Choir	20 9:00 am-Noon Quilters 1:00 pm Ladies Bible Study @ Darla Drewelow's Home	21	22
23 9:00 am Sunday Worship 10:00 am Coffee 10:15 am Sunday School/"The Story" Adult Class	24	25	26 6:30 pm Senior Choir	27 9:00 am-Noon Quilters	28	29
30 9:00 am Sunday Worship/Hymn Sing 10:00 am Coffee 10:15 am Sunday School/"The Story" Adult Class						

### Call Committee Update

After receiving feedback from the congregation about the Pastor candidate that visited and preached for us recently, the decision was made to not extend him a call. The input we received was that we didn't feel that the Holy Spirit was pulling us towards him as our next Pastor. Have faith in God for he does know who that next Pastor will be. He will lead us to them in due time. In the meantime, keep our congregation in your prayers and use this time to continue to grow closer as a congregation as well as invite others to join us.

The Call committee's plan moving forward is to repost the job opening on the LCMC webpage as well as reach out to other contacts for any leads. If anyone knows/hears of a possible candidate and would like to share that information, please let me or one of the other call committee members know. We are also going to have an open forum during our Fall Kickoff Brunch to answer any questions that any of you may have about the current call committee process.

Thanks, Jeremy Paulson