

BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

July 2021 BEACON

LIVESTREAM WORSHIP is available on the Bethel Facebook page.

From Pastor Kent's Desk

High Summer!!

It is typically a time of low church attendance due to vacations, weekend trips and, outdoor activities due to the beautiful weather! However, in my first church job as the Youth Director at Redeemer Lutheran in Fridley, Minnesota it was my busy season!! We had 5 weeks of Bible Camp to produce. From the first full week of June to the first full week of August I was out of town every other week. We ran our own camp and 50% of our campers were from outside our congregation. There were groceries to be bought, Buses to maintain, and Counselors to be trained during the off weeks back in town.

But as busy as I was with the kids, I noticed that our regular worship attendance dropped by 40-50% on Summer Sunday mornings. Fridley is a Northern Suburb of Minneapolis and I soon learned that the major reason people chose to live there was that was closer to their lake cabins! Every Friday from May through September you could watch the Exodus on Highway 65!

I soon discovered that every month of the year had its built-in excuses for why people were not in church. May was the opening of fishing season and Memorial Day was "Open up the Cabin" weekend, September was beautiful Fall Cabin weather ...and then Hunting seasons began. Deer, Bear, Grouse, Pheasant...all the way through Thanksgiving. In Wisconsin, the 2 November Sundays of Deer season are a complete washout!

January was either too cold...or people were slipping away to Florida, Arizona, and Texas for warmer weather. Spring was unpredictable...but a Spring training trip to see the Twins in Florida was a family tradition!

Since those early days of ministry, I have served a dozen more churches in 6 more states. One reality is consistent...there is ALWAYS a good excuse to skip church...but only one reason attend! **Remembering the Sabbath day to keep it holy...** is about the Fellowship of the Holy Spirit and the Love of the brothers and sisters! When even one member of the Body is absent, we are less for it!

Coming Back from Covid is proving to be a slow and laborious process! Many Churches across the country are teetering on the edge of solvency. As I write this, I am aware of 7 congregations who may have to close their doors by the end of this year. We are in an unprecedented season for the church of Jesus Christ. We must take seriously the very real possibility that our lifelong assumption that the church will always be there whenever we get around to going, may be coming to an end.

Yes, its Summer... Yes, the weather is beautiful...Yes, there are a thousand other things to do... but only one thing is important!

See you in Church!

June 13, 2021 Church Council Minutes

(to be reviewed at the July Council meeting)

Present: Greg Carolus, Dale Krohn, Kyle Rice, Lane Luhring, Lee Rients, Sherry Brouwer
And Pastor Wallace.

Call to Order: by President Kyle Rice, "In the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen."

Devotions: Lee Rients shared devotion, "God's Gift of the Sabbath".

Approval of the Agenda: Motion to approve with no additions, seconded and approved.

Approval of the May Minutes: Motion to approve the May minutes, seconded and approved.

Approval of the Treasurer's Report: Motion to approve, seconded and approved.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Wallace gave a report on his activities for the month of May.

Ministry Team Reports: Liaison Council Member:

1. Children and Youth: - Jeremy Paulson - No meeting. The last day of Sunday School went well. Rebecca will be a part of the Community Bible School.
2. Outreach and Fellowship Ministry Team: - Dale Krohn, Kyle Rice - A meeting was held on June 1st. Plans were finalized for the 2nd Annual BB-Q Bash to be held on June 19th from 6-8 pm at the Krohn Ranch. We will not proceed with any plans for RAGBRAII. Greeters and fellowship after church will resume this fall.
3. Property Committee: - Greg Carolus, Jeff Johnson - They are checking on cement work in front of the parsonage, gutters for parsonage and church air conditioner.
4. Worship and Music Ministry Team: - Lee Rients - Met with Kelly Eilderts to upgrade our video system. He will get estimates and decide if this is a project we can do ourselves.
5. Social Concerns Ministry Team: - Sherry Brouwer, Lane Luhring - A meeting was held and discussed plans for Relay for Life and future plans for this year.
6. Missions and Benevolence Team: - Jeff Jacobson - No meeting.

Correspondence/Bill Approval: None.

Old Business:

1. Secretary Position: The position is still open.

New Business: None.

Motion to adjourn, seconded and approved.

Closing Prayers/Lord's Prayer

Submitted by Sherry Brouwer

SWIM ON OVER TO THE BEST VBS!

Parkersburg Community VBS

July 13th, 14th, 15th, 2021

6:00 pm -8:00 pm

Host Church: Parkersburg United Methodist Church

Collaborating Churches: Hope Reformed, United Methodist, Calvary Baptist and Bethel Lutheran

Register Online Here:

<https://vbspro.events/p/events/anchored-parkersburgvbsReg>



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VBS: Donations of 'Goldfish' crackers are appreciated. Volunteers are needed.

Call or text Rebecca at 715-296-0796

Help Wanted

Bethel Lutheran Church is looking to hire an Office Secretary 10-15 hours per week with days and hours negotiable. A job description is available upon request. Contact Kyle Rice (319-939-1733) or Dale Krohn (319-529-0545) for more information.

Together Again

“Patriotic” service Sunday July 4th at 6:00 PM in the Parkersburg Christian Reformed Church at 807 Grant St. Local people will share their talents in performing patriotic songs & readings. Ice cream social will follow the service.

RELAY FOR LIFE

It’s Relay for Life time again! Help the Soles from Bethel raise money to find a cure for cancer. Join us at the Butler County Fairgrounds in Allison on Friday, July 9th from 5:00 pm to 11:00 pm. Let’s find a cure!

Worship Assistant Schedule for July --- Worship Service 9:00 am

	<u>July 4, 2021</u>	<u>July 11, 2021</u>	<u>July 18, 2021</u>	<u>July 25, 2021</u>
Ushers	Jeremy Paulson	Dennis Gerloff	Dennis Gerloff	Jeff Johnson
Communion Assistants	Jeff Johnson Dale Krohn		Jeff Johnson Dale Krohn	

July Birthdays

- 4 - Beth Van Lengen
- 5 - Pat Rule
- 6 - Leah Ingalls
- 8 - Connie Luhring
- 13 - Shirley Bergman
- 13 - Steve Brouwer
- 13 - Evan Palmer
- 16 - Benne Buss
- 24 - Jean Scully
- 26 - Michelle Stearns
- 29 - Stacy Palmer
- 31 - Bella Benard
- 31 - Lorna Benard
- 31 - Randy Luhring

July Anniversaries

- 1 – Eric & Rebecca Simmons (4)
- 8 – Terry & Darla Drewelow (44)
- 10 – Jeff & Diane Johnson (45)
- 13 – Justin & Tessa Matherly (8)

Email: bethelparkersburg@gmail.com
Website: www.bethelparkersburg.org
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July 2021 Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4 9:00 am Worship/Holy Communion/ World Hunger 10:15 am Adult Bible Class	5	6 7:00 pm Outreach & Fellowship Team mtg in the Fellowship Hall	7 7:00 pm Adult Bible Class	8	9 Relay for Life at Butler Co. Fair Grounds in Allison	10
11 9:00 am Worship 10:45 am Church Council	12	13 Vacation Bible School at the Methodist Church 6:00-8:00 pm	14 Vacation Bible School at the Methodist Church 6:00-8:00 pm 7:00 pm Adult Bible Class	15 Vacation Bible School at the Methodist Church 6:00-8:00 pm	16	17
18 9:00 am Worship/Holy Communion/ Noisy Nickels 10:15 am Adult Bible Class	19	20	21 7:00 pm Adult Bible Class	22	23	24
25 9:00 am Worship 10:15 am Adult Bible Class	26	27	28 7:00 pm Adult Bible Class	29	30	31

Organized Prayer for Bethel Families

Week of July 4 – Kory & Deb Walters; Kyle & Mary Rice, Cassi & Kolbi
Week of July 11 – Mark & Marilyn Buss; Larry & Carol Chapman
Week of July 18 – Terry & Janet Mennen; Lane & Eisha Lühring & Leighton
Week of July 25 – Kent & Rebecca Wallace

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