

BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH -- May 2020 BEACON

I don't know about you... but I'm ready for some LIVE church!!

The one good thing I have to say about this quarantine is that it forced me to step up into an area in which I had been procrastinating. Some time ago I asked my son-in-law, who has worked for both YouTube and Facebook, to send me some information on creating an online video ministry. I had downloaded the video production software in early September! But since there was no tutorial included with the program, I couldn't seem to figure things out. So, I set it aside.

I must admit, I had been spoiled at my last parish in that we already had an online presence and livestream access every Sunday morning. I remember listening to Dan, my tech guy, explaining all the frustrations and challenges associated with getting us set up and keeping us operational. He had managed to cobble together a pretty impressive product with used equipment and sketchy internet service. I now understand exactly what he was telling me!!

You would think it would be simple...and it would have been in a normal world! But suddenly every church in America was attempting to livestream their services between 8:00 am and Noon every Sunday. Upload speeds slowed to a crawl if you had DSL internet service...Like we do at Bethel.

Suddenly, I have been plunged into the world of internet video! I have discovered an entire cottage industry of tutorial videos...on YouTube...to teach me how to use my production software and build a Video Ministry! I am learning to speak in the appropriate acronyms. I now understand the difference between KPS, MPS, and GPS. (Kilobytes per second, Megabytes per second and Gigabytes per second!)

While all this new knowledge is fascinating and exciting, it is NOT the reason I "signed up" to be a pastor. Creating a video of a worship experience while you are all alone in a room with your camera is completely different than recording a LIVE worship service. There is no give and take with other people...there is no spontaneous laughter or other reactions. But, most of all, there is no interpersonal conversation, fellowship, or exchange following the service.

The Epistle to the Hebrews 10:23 recognized this need long before technology took over our lives.

Let us hold fast to the Confession of our Hope without wavering.

**For He who promised is Faithful! Let us consider how to stimulate one another
To love and good deeds**

NOT FORSAKING OUR OWN ASSEMBLING TOGETHER, AS IS THE HABIT OF SOME.

But encouraging one another; and ALL THE MORE, as you see the day drawing near

There is no substitute for the gathering of the Faithful on Sunday mornings!!!!

There is no such thing as Lone Ranger Christianity!!! I hope this time of isolation will serve as a constant reminder to us. Let us never take this opportunity for granted again. SEE YOU IN CHURCH!

Pastor Kent

Addition from Pastor: We will resume live regular worship with Holy Communion this **Sunday May 3, 2020!**
THIS IS ONLY FOR THOSE WHO FEEL COMFORTABLE ATTENDING!

All folks with any risk factors or concerns are encouraged to continue at home.

I will continue to post Worship services on The Bethel Facebook page, my personal Facebook page, and my YouTube channel, Kent William Wallace... as we continue to readjust to our circumstances.

God Bless all and please call me anytime at 715-296-0797 with any ministry questions or needs!

April Church Council Minutes

On April 17th, 2020, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Bethel Lutheran council members were asked to consider the following action via text message.

Council President Allen Redman asked the council to record their vote to authorize him to apply and sign for a Paycheck Protection Program loan in the amount of \$17,590.00. This loan will assist the congregation in paying for employee wages during the pandemic.

The proposal for authorization to apply and accept the loan was approved by the council.

Recording Secretary,
Jeff Jacobson

May Anniversaries

4 – Matt & Nora Stahlhut (7)
13 – Randy & Janelle Gorter (42)
17 – Dan & Nancy Hemann (23)
22 – Vern & Marilyn Ingalls (50)
27 – Dennis & Julie Dudley (42)

May Birthdays

2 – Virgil Lindaman	27 – Bill Senne
5 – Angie Ellermann	28 – Clayton Palmer
8 – Kielinn Herter	29 – Rachael Redman
10 – Emlie Herter	30 – Matt Stahlhut
16 – Kelsie Knock	30 – Faye Tuitjer
19 – Karla Beckman	

Hey Bethel Lutheran Kids!

Hi Kids!!!

I recently read from the Book of Philippians, chapter 1. It's in the New Testament of The Bible. Because of this "quarantine," these words really made me think about how I was missing all of you. The Apostle Paul wrote this when he was in prison for spreading the Good News of Jesus. His letter was meant to bring JOY to this group of people called the Philippians. And to make them realize that no matter what's going on in our lives, we always have The JOY of Jesus!

Philippians 1:3-11 ICB

Paul's Prayer:

3 I thank God every time I remember you. 4 And I always pray for all of you with joy. 5 I thank God for the help you gave me while I preached the Good News. You helped from the first day you believed until now. 6 God began doing a good work in you. And he will continue it until it is finished when Jesus Christ comes again. I am sure of that.

7 And I know that I am right to think like this about all of you. I am sure because I have you in my heart. All of you share in God's grace with me. You share in God's grace with me while I am in prison, while I am defending the Good News, and while I am proving the truth of the Good News. 8 God knows that I want to see you very much. I love all of you with the love of Christ Jesus.

9 This is my prayer for you: that your love will grow more and more; that you will have knowledge and understanding with your love; 10 that you will see the difference between good and bad and choose the good; that you will be pure and without wrong for the coming of Christ; 11 that you will be filled with the good things produced in your life by Christ to bring glory and praise to God...

AMEN!

I cannot wait until I see you again, and we can share, together, the JOY that we have when we follow Jesus Christ!

Rebecca (BIG hug!)

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

	May 3, 2020	May 10, 2020	May 17, 2020	May 24, 2020	May 31, 2020
USHERS					
ORGANISTS/PIANISTS	Dennis & Bonnie Gerloff				
ALTAR GUILD	Janet Mennen/Sharleen Hubbard				
ACOLYTES	Shirley Cassidy/Carol Warneka				
COMMUNION ASSISTANTS	Gavin Bernard Greg Carolus Jeff Johnson	Ava Mann	Eliza Buss Greg Carolus Jeff Johnson	Corryn Mann	Evan Palmer

April Summary of Attendance and Financial Contributions

	Attendance	Bene./Mission	Current	Building Maint.
Sunday, April 5	0	\$75.50	\$1,474.50	\$0.00
Sunday, April 12	0	\$160.50	\$1,684.50	\$0.00
Sunday, April 19	0	\$152.50	\$1,437.50	\$0.00
Sunday, April 26	0	\$88.00	\$997.00	\$0.00
January 1-April 27, 2020		\$2,225.40	\$28,123.90	\$250.00

Organized Prayer for Bethel Families

Week of May 3 – Mary Fink, Ben Frieling, Dennis & Bonnie Gerloff, Guy Gerloff, Henry & Janice Gerloff, Randy & Janelle Gorter & family

Week of May 10 – Bryce & Ruth Zacharias, Ken & Ranae Knock, Clint Knock & Morgan, Ken & Karla Beckman, Shirley Bergman

Week of May 17 – Jeremy & Brooke Paulson, Rylan & Bexlee, Bob & Lista Patterson, Mitchell Olson, Harvey Peters

Week of May 24 – Dale & Jenny Hansmann, Brad & Lindey Hedrick & family, Dan & Nancy Hemann & Nate, Lee & Michelle Rients, Lee & Kathy Aalfs, Gary Bergman & family

Week of May 31 – Allen & Rachael Redman & family, Roger & Doralene Renken, Bill & Jackie Hager, Colton & Abigail Hamilton

FINANCIAL REMINDER

On behalf of the Church Council, I'd like to remind all members that church expenses are ongoing even though we are practicing social distancing. Thank you to those members who have sent in offering during March and April.

Our offering envelopes may be mailed directly to the church, or if you prefer to set up an automatic transfer from your bank to the church's bank account, an ACH Bank Transfer form with instructions is attached to this Beacon. If you would like to set up an automatic transfer to Bethel Lutheran, please complete the top part, date and sign, and attach a voided check to the ACH form. Mail the completed form directly to Iowa State Bank, PO Box 250, Parkersburg, IA 50665. Please direct any questions on this process to our Financial Secretary, Jenny Hansmann. Thank you.

Allen Redman
Church Council President

May 2020 Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 9:00 am Worship/Holy Communion/ World Hunger Sunday 10:00 am Coffee 10:15 am Sunday School & Adult Bible Class	4	5 9:30 am Ladies Bible Study	6 6:30 pm Choir 7:30 pm Adult Bible Class	7	8	9
10 9:00 am Worship 10:00 am Coffee 10:15 am Children's Sunday School (No Adult Bible Class this Sunday) 10:45 am Church Council	11	12 9:30 am Ladies Bible Study	13 6:30 pm Choir 7:30 pm Adult Bible Class	14	15	16
17 9:00 am Worship/Holy Communion/ Noisy Nickels 10:00 am Coffee 10:15 am Sunday School & Adult Bible Class	18	19 9:30 am Ladies Bible Study	20 6:30 pm Choir 7:30 pm Adult Bible Class	21	22	23
24 9:00 am Worship 10:00 am Coffee 10:15 am Sunday School & Adult Bible Class	25 Memorial Day	26 9:30 am Ladies Bible Study	27 6:30 pm Choir 7:30 pm Adult Bible Class	28	29	30
31 9:00 am Worship/Hymn Sing 10:00 am Coffee 10:15 am Sunday School & Adult Bible Class						

Email: bethelparkersburg@gmail.com
 Website: www.bethelparkersburg.org
 'Like' & 'Follow' us on Facebook

ACH Bank Transfers: The FAST & EASY way to tithe.

An automatic transfer option (ACH) is a quick and easy way to give.
No more check writing; the money will be automatically withdrawn from your account.

•	Transfer dates will be set for Mondays; you may choose every Monday or every other Monday. You may also choose monthly.
•	If your selected transfer date falls on a bank holiday, the actual transfer will occur on the next bank business day.
•	If funds are not available on the scheduled date for withdrawal, your bank's overdraft charges may apply.
•	All fees will be waived during the annual enrollment period of December 1 through December 15. A fee of \$5 will be charged for any modifications during the year.*
•	Cancellation requests will require one week's notice. A reinstatement fee will be \$10.

AUTHORIZATION AGREEMENT FOR PREAUTHORIZED PAYMENTS

.....(select one).....

I (we) hereby authorize Iowa State Bank, hereinafter called COMPANY, to initiate debit entries to my (our) { } Checking { } Savings as indicated below and my (our) bank, hereinafter called DEPOSITORY, named below to debit such account.

ACCOUNT HOLDER NAME(S): _____

YOUR BANK NAME
(Depository) _____ BANK BRANCH _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

Please make your selections:

- General Fund (To be split 90% to current & 10% to Benevolence Funds) \$ _____
- _____ Every Monday
- _____ Every other Monday
- _____ Monthly (day: _____)

This authority is to remain in full force and effect until COMPANY and DEPOSITORY have received written notification from me (or either of us) of its termination in such time and in such manner as to afford COMPANY and DEPOSITORY a reasonable opportunity to act on it.

DATE _____ SIGNED _____

~Please attach a voided check or deposit ticket. *Modifications may take up to 10 days to process.

Return this form to: Iowa State Bank, P.O. Box 250, Parkersburg, IA 50665

*****FOR BANK USE ONLY*****

COMPANY NAME: Bethel Lutheran Church _____ COMPANY ID NUMBER 073913959 _____

Depository Transit/ABA No. _____ Depository Account No. _____

Account# _____

Amount \$ _____

Frequency _____

Day/Date _____