

Bethany Lutheran Church Red Lake Falls MN

Phone: 218-253-2589

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Our Pastor's RETIREMENT



July 2021

Message from Council President-

I hope this finds you well and enjoying our "new normal". Gradually we are getting back to our normal activities as a church family - in person worship, coffee hour, etc. We as a council are committed to institute changes with the safety and well-being of our members in mind.

In addition, we have been overseeing the daily/weekly needs of the church; be it repairs, new purchases, additions of staff, etc.

We also have been working on major events; the most timely, Pastor Graff's retirement in July. His last church service will be July 11th. Honoring and thanking Pastor and his family for their years of service and all they have done for all of us as a church family and individually is a tall task but not insurmountable.

We have made some preliminary plans but we want input/suggestions regarding the celebration from all of you; hence the attached survey. We see it as a two day event; one for our church family after the final church service on July 11th with a potluck meal - no program, just fellowship. The major event will be the afternoon of August 8th billed as a Recognition/Celebration - an event open to the community and other communities as well as Pastor's family and friends & of course, our church family. There will be a program, presentations, and of course, refreshments.

In order to plan these events in an organized, purposeful manner, we need your help to fill out the survey or return a paper version by August 1st. If you are on a committee, please indicate on the survey; more

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AUTOMATIC OFFERING

July Birthdays

2 - Ella Sletten4 - Kelsey
Stephens
5 - Steve Klipping
6 - Joanne Dahle
7 - Brady Gums

people working on this will guarantee this will be a meaningful Recognition/Celebration of Pastor Gary. Thank you in advance for your input.

Any questions feel free to contact me via email (cmatzke@rlfedu.org) or phone (home) 253-2090 or (cell) 689-2093.

Cheryl Matzke, President

Pastor Gary's Retirement Celebration

Celebration on August 8, 2021 from 2-6 p.m.

Worship 10:00 am on Pastor's Last Sunday!

- Pastor Graff's last church service will be July 11th.
- After the final church service on July 11th we will share a potluck meal - no program, just fellowship.

Open House at Bethany

- An open house at Bethany will be held for Pastor and family on August 8th from 2-6 with a
- program at 2:30 pm.
- Pastor's family from Florida will be able to be with us on August 8th.

Care and Share

- In support of Care and Share we collected:

shower gel, shampoo, conditioner, shavers, shave cream, deodorant, feminine hygiene products, diapers sizes 5 & 6, men's and women's socks, underwear, boxers or briefs.

- Thanks to Thrivent for seed money which was used to purchase additional items.
- Donations were collected until June 27th.

Thank you for your support. *Linda Graff.*

8 – Eric Johnson
 9 – Nicholas Piersol, Hailey Slover
 10 – Blake Audette
 11 – Lori Vigstol
 12 – Alek Lacina, Kevin Reich
 14 – Brook Rufsvold, Spencer Sundberg
 15 – John Columbus, D'Anne Johnson, Lane Kleven
 16 – Steve Hams, Brad Swenson
 17 – John Klein
 18 – Branden Narlock
 19 – Sam Brule
 20 – Dale Knutson, Ann Piersol
 21 – Carson Gagner
 23 – Paul Klein, Carly Williams
 24 – Chris Van Emmerik
 25 – Jaclyn Fering
 26 – Dean Hartel, Mason Johnson
 27 – Todd Doyle
 28 – Heidi Matzke, Erika Roff
 29 – Erwin Wetenkamp
 30 – Tom Hovland, Cheryl Matzke, Andy Olson
 31 – Jesse Ellefson

July

Anniversaries

1 – Jim & Bev Gilbertson
 8 – Dean & Lorri Ann Hartel
 16 – John & Sandy Klein
 19 – Fred & Tandra Landman
 24 – Tim & Peggy Nord
 30 – Jerod & Wanda Olson

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in America

Our conference is looking for a male lay delegate to represent us at our national assembly held August 8-12th 2022 in Columbus Ohio. If you are interested please contact Pastor Gary

Pastor Graff's retirement



**Pastor Graff's
last church service
will be
10:00 am on Sunday July 11th.**

After the final church service on July 11th we will share a potluck meal
- no program,
just fellowship.

Pastor's Thank You

Thanks to all the Bethany members and friends in RLF for making the last 31 years so wonderful and memorable!

Pastor Gary

Additional Information

Bethany Prayer Chain

If you wish to request prayers for yourself or a loved one, contact Pastor Gary, Marion Bjorgan, or Linda Hoffman. We'll send your request on to a team of 26 individuals who have committed themselves to praying for your need.

Prayer Shawls

Anyone needing a prayer shawl either for themselves or for a friend in the hospital can pick one up from the prayer room located just south of the north entryway.

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thany Lutheran Church! The quickest way to get to us is by clicking on the link on the homepage of

our website. Like our Page for updates and events happening at our church!

Amazon Smile

You can now donate to Bethany Lutheran Church using Amazon Smile. Be sure you are on the Amazon Smile website (smile.amazon.com) and make your regular purchases. A portion of the sale will be donated directly to Bethany.

Local Food Shelf

We now have a box for donations to our local Red Lake Falls Food Shelf. Items they are looking for include: paper towels, toilet paper, kleenex, tooth paste, toothbrushes, deodorant, laundry soap, dish soap, hand soap, shampoo and conditioner.

RSVP Groceries to Go Program

The RSVP Groceries to Go Program is recruiting volunteers to assist with grocery shopping for qualified seniors. If you like to shop and are willing to provide a little companionship to a homebound senior, this may be the volunteer position for you. All volunteers will receive training prior to being matched with a client. If you are interested in being a RSVP Groceries to Go volunteer, or you need assistance with grocery shopping or know of someone who needs assistance, call RSVP at 281-8288, or tsykes@umn.edu.

RSVP Handyman Program

The RSVP Handyman Program helps homeowners, age 60+ by providing men or women volunteers to perform minor home maintenance work. RSVP handymen are skilled and trained. Background checks are performed on all volunteers. Volunteers may install grab bars, replace light bulbs, fix leaky faucets, install smoke alarms, etc. Clients do not pay for the labor, only for the needed materials. If you are in need of a Handyman, or would like to volunteer as one, please call RSVP at 281-8288, or tsykes@umn.edu.

Electronic Newsletter

Want this newsletter sent to you via email? Zap us an email stating so at

bethanylutheranrlf@gmail.com.

Please include the above address in your email address book or your spam filter will automatically “bump” our mailings into your garbage folder.