



Bethany Lutheran Church

November 2018 Newsletter

1315 6th St NE, Red Lake Falls, MN 56750 (218) 253-2589
www.bethanylutheranrlf.com bethanylutheranrlf@gmail.com

Pastor:
Rev. Gary Graff

Church Secretary:
Destiny Kuznia

Office Hours
Thursdays
1:00pm – 5:00pm

Worship Times
Sundays 10:00am
Wednesdays 6:30pm

Sunday School
9:00am Sept-May

Church Web Site Director
Dr. Owen Nelson
onelson@mncable.net

Contact Us
(218) 253-2589
Additional contact info at the top of this newsletter



Martin Luther once said,

If in his gifts and benefits [God] were more sparing and close-handed, we should learn to be thankful.... The greater God's gifts and works, the less they are regarded.—Martin Luther, in Table Talk

Isn't that the truth! The more people have, the less they notice it. But what if we were to take stock of our blessings? Count them one by one. We might be surprised at how rich we are. How blessed we are!

Our guests at our recent Gala meal, talked of ministering to the poorest of the poor. Keith and Linda Axvig work with people who frequently walk many miles to worship. They do this not for the exercise but because they have no cars. Their version of a wonderful home, is our version of a modest garage. Their version of a nice church is our version of a shed for a tractor.

Yet who feels more blessed? Often it's those who have less, who feel they have more.

What can help us to feel more thankful? Try giving more.

Giving shifts the focus from “me”, to the joy of helping others. Instead of looking at what we lack, we look at how much we have to offer. And when we have less, (because we've been generous with our time, talent, and treasure) we appreciate what we do have all the more! We notice God's blessings!

Want to feel more thankful? Try living generously! Focus not on what you lack, but on how much you have to share!

Happy Thanksgiving!
Pastor Gary

An Evening in Paris Gala

Thank you to DeeAnn, Mary Ann, Sandy, Brook, Destiny, Lynn, Terry, Linda G., Linda J., Patty and to all our ticket sellers. Thanks to all our hard working youth who served as waiters and waitresses. To everyone who helped decorate and who donated decorations. To Kate Malvey of Plum Tree Tiles for the tiles and door prizes. To Dano and the “Driftwood Grill” for the awesome meal. To Thrivent for funds that made this event possible. And to each of you for your donations which made this evening such a success. A huge thanks to the Axvigs for attending and for all the volunteer work they do. Nearly 100 were served and \$2926 was raised for the Sonshine Ministries.



Thanksgiving with the Presbyterians

A joint pre-thanksgiving worship service will be held at First Presbyterian on November 20th at 7:30 pm. Pie and coffee will be served after the service. Although First Presbyterian will be hosting the event, they usually need a few extra pies to cover the larger crowd from Bethany, so feel free to bring one!

No Confirmation, Midweek Worship, or Women's Bible Study on Nov. 21st
No Men's Bible Study on Nov. 22nd
No Sunday School on Nov. 25th



“Let us come before him with thanksgiving and extol him with music and song. For the Lord is the great God, the great King above all gods.”
Psalm 95:2-3



Movie of the Month

“The Shack” a movie about the mysterious way in which God makes himself known to us. Time: 7:00 pm. Popcorn provided!

A grateful mind is a great mind. — Rev. William Secker

The person who has stopped being thankful has fallen asleep in life. — Robert Louis Stevenson



Operation Christmas Child

Please pick up shoe boxes in the parish hall and return them to the church by November 14th. Since shipping costs have become quite high, please include \$9 for shipping and handling per box. Please make checks out to “Samaritan's Purse”. Boxes are for needy children throughout the world and include a toy, toiletry items, and school supplies. Visit Bethany's website under the “Operation Christmas Child” tab for more info on what to pack in each shoe box.

Left Over Dishes

Dishes from Smorgasbord can be found on the cart in the North hallway entrance. Please pick them up.

Smörgåsbord

Thanks to all who worked so hard on Smörgåsbord, especially our two chief organizers, Vicki Duden and Maureen Hams. We served 286 and took in \$5155.

Gideon Sunday

\$453 was contributed to the Gideons on Gideon Sunday October 14th.



Thank you to Darold Johnston and David Miller for converting one of our lights in the Gathering room to LED. To Carolyn Roff for all the wonderful prayer shawls. To Lacie Hovland and the sunday school kids for singing in church on October 28th.



Prayers and Sympathy

For Vicki Peterson whose father passed away. For Jerry and Chris Van Emmerik whose grandchild passed away. For friends and family of Kert Wright. For friends and family of Mary Barnes.



The WELCA meeting in November will be November 28th. The board meeting is at 6:30 pm and the general meeting is at 7:00 pm.

Dust off your Nativity figures! We will be having a "Walk Through Bethlehem" open house fundraiser Sunday, December 9th, at Bethany! Our "Walk Through Bethlehem" will be from 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm. Nativities to view! Dessert! Music? More information will be coming soon!

Our women of Bethany Christmas party will be December 16th at Alison and Mike Lacina's house! Our gathering will start a 2:00 pm. So mark your calendars and join us!



- 1 – Terri Hams
- 2 – Gavin Waldal
- 3 – Andrew Lallier
- 4 – Allen Bertilud
- 6 – Aadin Gagner
- 7 – Natalie Aakhus
- 8 – Kandace Johnson
- 11 – Brad Duden, Nichole Engelstad
- 12 – Deb Rewertz, Angie Tydlacka, Matt Waldal
- 14 – Stephanie Doyle
- 15 – Cole Seeger, Jackson Stephens
- 16 – Jeremy Knutson
- 17 – Emma Duden, Shane Ellefson, Heidi Rewertz
- 18 – Calin Lacina
- 19 – Jaron Bernier, Ethan Hams, Vicki Peterson
- 21 – Caroline Carriere, Knox Houghtaling
- 22 – Jozi Halvorson, Maggie Murphy, Dana Seeger
- 23 – Marlee Stephens
- 24 – Chad Larson
- 25 – Alex Knutson
- 26 – Gerald Van Emmerik
- 28 – Roger Dupont, Owen Nelson, Brad Seeger
- 29 – Allison Aakhus, Jason Aakhus, Cheryl Seeger, Quinn Sundberg
- 30 – Bruce Piersol



- 2 – Jim & Carolyn Roff
- 3 – Kevin & Sheila Reich
- 14 – Tim & Terri Hams
- 16 – Marne & Shirley Thompson
- 21 – Steve & Laurie Seng
- 24 – Kevin & Sarah Brevik
- 25 – Allen & Sandy Bertilrud
- 28 – Eric & Kandace Johnson Randy & Josie Myhre
- 30 – Brad & D'Anne Johnson

Thanksgiving Day Meal

St. Joseph Church will serve a Thanksgiving day meal on Thursday, November 22nd from 11:30 am to 1:00 pm. It is free and open to everyone but is especially intended for those who spend Thanksgiving alone, would like to share a meal with someone else, are homebound and would like a full meal. Delivery is available. Call the Catholic church by November 18th at 253-2188 to let them know you plan to attend or if you need a meal delivered.

Benevolence 2018

- January - \$500 to Fosston Christian Radio, \$500 to "Sat 7" a Middle East radio station
- February - \$1000 to Care and Share Shelter
- March - \$1000 to Bethany Youth Group, National ELCA Gathering Trip
- April - \$1000 to Lutheran Disaster Relief, aid for Syria
- May - \$1000 to Northwest Minnesota Synod
- June - \$500 to Seminary Scholarship; \$500 to National ELCA Youth Gathering Special Offering
- Further benevolence commitments are on hold until we catch up on our budget.



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.

Pastor Gary – 253-2589 or 253-4195
(bethanylutheranrlf@gmail.com)
Marion Bjorgan – 253-2710
(gbjorgan@gvtel.com)
Linda Hoffman – 253-2256
(lhoffman@gvtel.com)

Electronic Newsletter

Want this newsletter sent to you via email? Zap us an email stating so at bethanylutheranrlf@gmail.com. Also, please include the above address in your email address book or your spam filter (especially the Garden Valley one) will automatically "bump" our mailings into your garbage folder.



Council (Unofficial) Minutes

Bethany Lutheran Council Minutes October 10, 2018

Attended: Pastor Graff, Allen, Gerald, Darold, Sue, Ed, Keith, Mike, Lorri Ann

Call to order – President Allen B. called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm and Pastor Graff opened the meeting with Devotions.

Minutes – The minutes September 12, 2018 were reviewed. Motion by Sue to approve the minutes, Darold seconded and the motion carried.

Treasurer's report – Motion by Keith to approve check numbers 11251-11259, Gerald seconded the motion and it carried. The financial report was reviewed.

Parsonage – The egress window is in. Bob Klipping did the work and an invoice will be coming.

Pastors Report – Pastor Graff noted Bob Klipping is just about done with egress window in the parsonage basement. The sound board is repaired and should be back in service by a week from Sunday. He did the funeral for Marion Keifenheim on Sept 28 and wedding for Seth Schmitz Sept 29. Youth will be going bowling on Sunday. Gideon Sunday will be Oct 14. Thanksgiving service will be held at the Presbyterian Church this year. We have

11 youth in confirmation and he is having one class. He noted a huge thank you to all the helped and attended the Laurie Duden benefit.

Old Business

Benevolence – It was decided to delay the \$1000.00 donation another month due to low funds. Discussion took place on how our church is giving benevolence in many ways such as sponsoring events and donations to good causes.

New Business

Natural gas – Keith will be watching the tank and will take care of the changeover to natural gas.

Pastor Graff suggested we give our two main lawn mower guys (Jim G. & Harvey B.) a gift of appreciation. It was decided that Pastor will purchase thank you cards and \$50 gift cards to Eagle Square for each of them. Thank you also to all those that help with the lawn.

Transportation for shoe boxes has become quite expensive as the cost is approx. \$9.00 per box. We will make sure that those that take a box are reminded of this cost. Last year Bethany packed approximately 100 boxes.

Offering Counters:

October 21 –
Gerald Bjorgan, Darold Johnston
October 28 –
Sue Knutson, Allen Bertilrud
November 4 –
Lorri Ann Hartel, Ed Dahle
November 11 –
Keith Leines, Mike Seeger

The meeting was closed at 8:15 pm with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Lorri Ann Hartel, Secretary