

Bethel Beacon

April

Volume 59 Issue

Holy Week Events

- April 2 - Palm Sunday CANTATA
 "The Shadow of the Cross"
 9:00 am CANTATA
 Pancake breakfast served by youth
 11:00 am CANTATA
- April 6 - Maundy Thursday
 12 pm service/meal after
 6:45 pm service/no meal
 1st Communion for 5th graders
 Stripping of the Altar @ both services
- April 7 - Good Friday
 9:00 am Day Camp
 12 pm service/no meal
 6:45 pm service/no meal
- April 9 - Easter Sunday
 Communion Sunday
 7:00 am Sunrise Service
 9:00 am Easter Celebration
 11 am Easter Celebration



Beacon SPOTLIGHT

Women of Bethel Circles 1 & 5

All women of Bethel are invited to be part of a Circle. The BLCW (Bethel Lutheran Church Women) has 2 circles that meet once a month. They dive into scripture by doing bible studies and have fellowship time. Recently, the Wahpeton Walmart donated 10 backpacks to Bethel. The ladies from Circle 5 used the funds to purchase school supplies to fill the backpacks. The backpacks were then donated to the YWCA in Fargo. Both circles are busy planning the Treats, Treasures and Brunch on April 16 from 10:00 AM – 12:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall. Join them for fantastic food and purchase items to raise money for the BLCW to use for future community outreach projects.

Sunday Services

- 9 am Traditional Service
 10 am Coffee Hour
 10 am Sunday School (1st Sunday of the month)
 11 am Contemporary Service

Wednesday Service

- 4:45 pm Supper is Served
 5:30 pm Christian Education
 6:45 pm Worship Service - Youth Led

Office Hours

Monday - Thursday 9 am - 5 pm
 701-642-4472

Bethel - Your HOME FOR RENEWAL

Philippians 3:14 - ¹⁴I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

**New Member Sunday
 APRIL 23rd at 11:00am Service**

Congregation potluck to follow to welcome the new members!

If you are interested in membership, please contact the church office @ 701-642-4472 or talk to an usher.



New Members Are Joining

OUR Capital Campaign - "Forward in Faith and Service" - has BEGUN!

We are excited about the future of this congregation. Some positive upgrades and renovations have been made to our facility, our mission center. A commitment to outreach has been set forth. It is our intent to significantly pay down our remaining mortgage debt and build up an Outreach Fund, to be used to meet needs identified in our community and the area in a way that makes a difference and an impact. Come worship with us during the month of April. Hear the story. We have much to celebrate and our anticipation for the years ahead is heightened. When you receive mailings, please take the time to read them over carefully. There will be a lot of good information contained in them. Commitment Wednesday is April, 26th. Commitment Sunday is April 30th. Let us rise up and shine. Let us do this together, with all of us taking part.

From Blake Peterson – April 16th there will be a meeting about the Forward in Faith Campaign. It will be held @ 10:00 am in the Faith Center. We will be answering questions about the campaign and different ways that a person can contribute.



CAPITAL CAMPAIGN DATES:

APRIL 26th

Commitment Wednesday April
30th

Commitment Sunday

Message from Interim Pastor Tom.....

Just as with you, being a Christian, a follower of Jesus Christ has made a tremendous difference in my life and how I see life. From God we came; to God, one day we will return. This life is a gift and to live it with a sense of purpose and promise is a benefit we owe to the amazing love of God who came to us and for us on a rescue mission. That's the message of Christmas and it's fulfilled by Christ's work on Good Friday and the great news of the

resurrection on Easter. On Pentecost, we are blessed with the fact that God not only created us; then God came to us to save us in Jesus that we might spend eternity together; but that God's Spirit is with us today, empowering us, guiding us and comforting us for this life that opens new possibilities to us each morning. We are honored that Jesus calls us to be God's ambassadors here – to make a difference in a confused world – to the glory of God and the welfare of His people and all of creation. Have a blessed Easter!! It has been good to be with you this past year.

Calling a New Pastor - Call Committee UPDATE

The Call Committee has met with the Eastern North Dakota Synod Bishop, Reverend Tessa Moon Leiseth. The process for receiving pastoral candidate's paperwork and beginning with interviews has been talked through. It is our hope and expectation that interviews will begin later in April. A special word of thanks goes to the Transition Team for their work on the Ministry Site Profile and their engaging work with the congregation for input into spelling out in this document the ministry and mission priorities of this parish and what skill sets we are looking for in our new pastor. We want this call process to go smoothly and that in a reasonable amount of time, our new pastor arrives on site. Please remember the work of the Call Committee in your prayers. They will keep you informed. Jay Townsend is the Call Committee chairperson.



SAVE THE DATE: Hunter Pinke

“Overcoming Adversity” & “Faith Through Trials”

On May 21st for BOTH Services. The whole Community has been invited to the 11:00 am SERVICE. It is Senior Recognition Sunday at 9:00 am.

Draw from ND’s own Hunter Pinke and his experience going from a Division I football player to a chest down paraplegic at age 22.



DAYTIME BOOK CLUB

*“A room without books is like a body without a soul.”
-Cicero-*

Property Matters – Just an update that we have had a representative from Trane in to look into the leak in the Centennial Room and the heating/cold draft issues in the sanctuary during worship times. Some adjustments have been made and as spring comes, we can get on the roof and make some repairs. Jeff Kugel, our custodian is working closely with this representative and with the Board of Property as we continue to try to get a handle on this issue.

Also, a task force, consisting of some of our IT trained members, is being put together to look into some technology issues that continue to arise, as well as integrating/updating our system. We will have a couple of consulting groups look at our system and offer up solutions.

The Property Board and our custodian are doing a fine job identifying needs and getting the right people in here to diagnose solutions to our needs. This facility is in good hands. We are moving forward positively. Please direct questions/concerns to Paul Oehlke, chairman of the Property Board or Jeff Kugel, custodian or any member of the Property Board.

A small group met on March 13 to discuss the book, “The Mystery of Mrs. Christie” by Marie Benedict. This is a book of intrigue but a slow starter to propel you into continual reading. The ending brings everything together, so don’t stop reading!!

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| April 10 | Your choice of an Agatha Christie book | |
| May 8 | 7 Husbands of Evelyn Hugo | Taylor Jenkins Reid |
| June 12 | Whispering Pines | Kim Diede |
| July 10 | The Personal Librarian | Marie Benedict |
| August 14 | My Travels with Mrs. Kennedy | Clint Hill |

Next month the year will be completed with our monthly assigned books. We look forward to welcoming anyone who would like to join our Daytime Book Club.

**** We are still looking** to fill a position/s on the Library Committee. We do have one that has accepted the position but we could use one more. It could take an afternoon of your time per month. If interested, please contact Jean Hoerer 238-8377 or Clare Byron 899-2055 for more information.

Finding Hope, Humor and Heart in Caregiving - Caregiver's Workshop

Friday, April 21st and Friday, April 28th from 10:00 am – 12:00 pm

Topics covered on April 21st:

- Managing the Three F's of Flipping Out – Fear, Frustration and Fatigue
- Giving Caregiver Guild the Boot

Topics covered on April 28th:

- Ducks in a Row
- Seven Strategies for Self-Care

This workshop is for anyone who is a caregiver or may be a caregiver in the future. Come for education and support as Elaine Sanchez share her real-life stories and practical self-care strategies that will help you manage the emotional stress of caregiving.



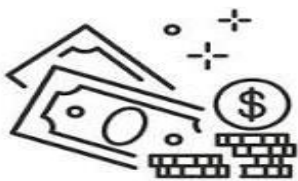
Out our new website!!

Feedback is always appreciated!



Our Mission

Bethel Lutheran Church in Wahpeton, ND is a community of believers called by God to...



Financial Report

Operating Fund Balance

12-31-2021	-\$53,259
12-31-2022	\$622
1-31-2023	-\$1,645
2-28-2023	\$14,155

Mortgage Balance

12-31-2022	\$878,683
1-31-2023	\$876,572
2-28-2023	\$874,443

Capital Improvement Fund

Balance 2-28-2023	\$42,852
Monthly Mortgage Payment	\$5,113

April Noisy Offering will go to **“Holiday Magic with Marcus”** This charity is Hunter Pinke’s charity. We asked him to choose his favorite charity & he will receive a check while here at Bethel. This charity is a UND Football Team charity. They take holiday gifts to children who are facing cancer or are ill in the Grand Forks area. Please go to <http://holidaymagicfrommarkus.com/> to learn more about this charity.



Serving Group 8

- Suzanne Anderson
- Jan Bellmore
- Jana Berndt
- Jeff & Steph Beyer
- Greg & Teri Bontjes
- Pam Braun
- Clare Byron
- Craig & Allie Cory
- Joyce Devries
- Glen & Reann Enderson
- Todd & Adonica Good
- Larry & Marie Hjelmstad
- Bob Hoffert
- Dee Jensen
- Mark & Brenda Korinek
- Bobbi & Colton Luck
- Carol Manock
- Donna Marohl
- Judy McDaniel
- Jon & Mary Jo Miller
- Tyler & Ashley Mitchell
- Ione & Chuck Muralt
- Jeff & Kathy Olson
- Marcia Pederson
- Jody Rezac
- Dar Schuler
- Jason Sirek
- Joe & Renee Speidel
- Larry & Sandy Thiele
- Will & Barb Uhlich
- Tyler & Kristy Wangler
- Karen Kearns Lutz

We have many volunteer opportunities available during the Holy Week Services. Please call 701-640-3599 or stop by the office to sign up to help with Easter services.



Sign up in the Chancel Area for Eternal Candles and Altar Flowers



Bethel Youth and Family Information and upcoming events!!

9th Grade Confirmation:

April 19th: 9th graders confirmation class

April 20th – 28th:
Confirmation interviews

April 30th: Confirmation rehearsal at 5:00 and meal at 6:15. Confirmation students, parents and mentors are invited to attend.

May 7th: Confirmation Sunday at 11:00 worship service.

6th, 7th and 8th Confirmation:

April 12th – Large group

April 19th – Small group

April 26th – Pentecost fair

May 3rd – Fun night

Lisa's Office Hours

Monday 8:30-5:00

Tuesday 8:30-5:00

Wednesday 8:30-7:00

Thursday 8:30-3:00



Vacation Bible School: This year VBS will be out of this world!

Ready, Set, Launch with us June 5-9 each evening from 4:45-8:00. Join us for crafts, Bible lesson, game and fun.

Supper will be provided each night.

Children preschool to 5th grade are invited to join us.

Registrations will be available on our website soon!



Planning for the **2024 National Youth Gathering** has started. If you are or have a 7th-11th grader, please contact Lisa ASAP. It is not too late to get signed up to go.

The **Youth Advisory Committee** is made up of students in grades 3rd-12th. We meet, every other month and they help plan and execute events and activities. Let Lisa know if you would like to be part of the fun.

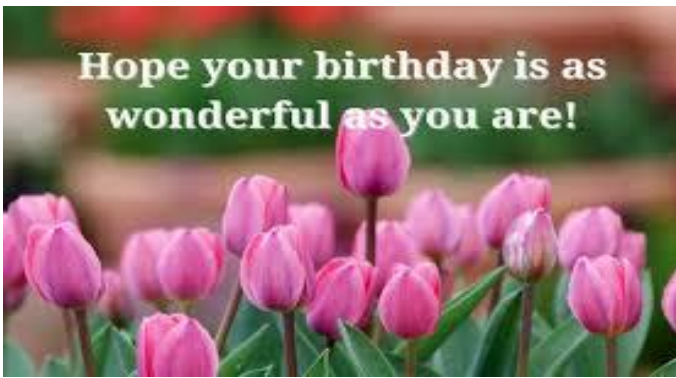
Sunday school: we've wrapped up our Sunday school classes for the year. We will start up again in September by offering two Sundays a month of Sunday school.

Wednesday school: April 5th no class, April 12th and 19th regular class, April 26th Pentecost fair, and May 3rd Wednesday school wrap up party!

Senior Sunday: Class of 2023 you are invited to worship on May 21st for a special service in your honor. You will be receiving quilts and enjoy a brunch provided by the Board of Education. Watch for your invitation in the mail.

Senior Spotlight: Be watching our Facebook and Instagram pages as we highlight our class of 2023.

First communion classes! Will be held April 2nd & 5th at 6:30 here at Bethel. Pre-registration is required! Contact Lisa or the church office to register! First communion will be received during Maundy Thursday service April 6th or during any of the Easter Sunday services April 9th.



April Birthdays

4/1 - Norma Bontjes
Bradley Buck
Brianna Meyer
Ed Uhlich
Tyler Wangler

4/2 - Ginny Buck
Gina Cornelius
Samantha Olson

4/3 - Grace Kasowski
Dan Leraas

4/4 - Shae Jelinek
Meghan Koenig
Kari Krause
Jenna Lovgren
Andy Rau

4/5 - Christy Bernstein
Joyce DeVries
Eileen Hage
Brooke Johanson
Miranda Nettum

4/6 - Emily Berndt Steele
Cindy Thompson
Barb Uhlich
Jacob Voss

4/7 - Jerry Oren

4/8 - Odin Carlson
Sharon Kotnour
Steve Mann

4/9 - Allie Cory
Ashley Davis
Ralph Graalum
Dawn Grefsrud
Wayne Mastel
Alissa Schumacher
Hunter Weight

4/10 - Bevan Bredeson
Tryg Bredeson
April Finnie
Ryan Smith
Laura Stone
Jamison Zaun

4/11 - Steven Hoaby
Lara Lekang
Carson Vaneps

4/12 - Marcy Bouressa
Taylor Johnson-Giwoyna
Rory Kriel
Shila Lampl
Tucker Stone

4/13 - Carson Bertelsen
Mary Kroshus
Jean Lindsey
Thor Mitskog
Tessa Mohs

4/14 - Kim Mann
Cindy Ward
Colby Youngquist

4/15 - Tori Hockert
Carmelia Keaveny
James Tillmann

4/16 - Jack Beyer
Nicolas Facey
Linda Johnson
Miranda Mitchell
Brianna Prochnow
Tanner Thiel

4/17 - Ryan Kasowski
Eileen Wiest

4/18 - Anthony Thompson

4/19 - Anthony Badgley
Larry Bethel
Adam Boll
Tyler Boll
Clara Braun
Mikayla Braun
Hudson Cory
Ellistin Hendrickson
Larry Thiele
Troy Thimjon

4/20 - Shea Gilbertson
Jacqueline Hammer
Steve Hockert
Dee Jensen
Margo Rowland
Andrea Thimjon

4/21 - Noah Brejcha
Issac Finnie
Alyssa Mund

4/22 - Adrian Skramstad
Dustin Thompson
Dylan Vierstraete

4/23 - Phillip Dimmer
Brian Finnie
Brigid Langseth
Ella Sherven
Allison Voss

4/24 - Chuch Muralt
Braeden Neiber
Marilyn Sirek
Tyler Toklefsen
Paige Wateland

4/25 - Myah Anderson
Tiffany Bassingthwaite
Heidi Loll
Cayden Wangler

4/26 - Marcie Wald

4/27 - Tim Friskop
Carley Lemoine
Isaac Lossemore

4/28 - Janine Berg
Lauren Berndt
Misha Gratton
Sephen Keaveny

4/29 - Kelby Bredeson
Lola Hills
Kate McBeth
Dillon Schulz

4/30 - Jack Gilbertson



March Memorials

Quilting

- *In memory of Jean Ivesdal (Jody Friskop's mom)/ Given by Geri Coyne
- *In memory of Jean Ivesdal & Heidi Nantt (Mother & Sister of Jody Friskop/ Given by Gary & Jean Carlson, Jon & Mary Jo Miller, Perry & Denise Miller, Jim & Kelly Miller, Judy McDaniel

General Memorial

- *In memory of Charlie Bellmore/ Given by Jan Bellmore & Family

Praise Band

- *In memory of LaVonne Johnson (Marc Johnson's mom)/ Given by Rick & Pam Hendrickson

Outreach

- *In memory of LaVonne Johnson/ Given by Bob & Ginny Buck

Faith Tool Boxes

- *In memory of LaVonne Johnson/ Given by Sonja Christensen
- *In memory of John Cina (Kathy Dimmer's brother)/ Given by Sonja Christensen
- *In memory of LaVonne Johnson/ Given by Clare Byron
- *In memory of Charlie Bellmore/ Given by Sonja Christensen
- *In memory of Inez Eckre/ Given by Sue Keenaghan
- *In memory of Inez Eckre/ Given by Darwin & Lori Cyce
- *In memory of Inez Eckre/ Given by Mike & Alison Breyfogle

Capital Campaign

- *In memory of John Cina (Kathy Dimmer's brother)/ Given by Doug & Judy Peterson
- *In memory of LaVonne Johnson/ Given by Doug & Judy Peterson
- *In memory of LaVonne Johnson/ Given by Linda Miller & Larry Bethel
- *In memory of LaVonne Johnson/ Given by Paul & Char Oehlke
- *In memory of John Cina/ Given by Marcia Pederson
- *In memory of John Cina/ Given by Paul & Kathy Dimmer

Noisy Offering

- *In memory of Heidi Nantt/ Given by Hal & Diane Fisher
- *In memory of Jean Ivesdal/ Given by Hal & Diane Fisher
- *In memory of Emily Bruvold/ Given by Hal & Diane Fisher
- *In memory of LaVonne Johnson/ Given by Hal & Diane Fisher
- *In Honor of Bethel Family/ Given by Hal & Diane Fisher

Bethel Choir

- *In memory of John Cina/ Given by Linda Miller & Larry Bethel