Bethel Lutheran Church, ELCA

77 Lincoln Ave. N. / P.O. Box 207 / 320.395.2125

Pastor Aaron Holmgren

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Vibrantly open to the Spirit, Bethel Lutheran Church serves God and its neighbors by joyfully living and sharing the Good News!

BETHEL NEWS for the week of November 19, 2017



This week @ Bethel Today! 10:15a coffee & fellowship; Sun. school hour; Adult Forum 7p Joint Thanksgiving Worship 10a-5p office open Monday Wednesday 10a-5p office open 6:30p choir 6:30p caregiver support group Thursday Thanksgiving Day Saturday 6-9p WMM 9:00a worship-Christ the King Sunday 10:15a coffee & fellowship; Sun. school hour; Adult Forum: Welcome Baskets & Prayer Shawls ... Events are subject to change. For up-to-date calendar

events, see our online calendar: http://www.lpbethel.org

Save the date!

The **Secret Pal Reveal** is scheduled for Saturday morning, **December 2.** All those who have Participated in the Secret Pal program this past year are invited to bring a small gift (not to exceed \$15 value) for her Secret Pal. We will end the morning by doing something fun together, with details still to be determined.

Thrivent Educational Event

Please join us for **Keeping the Farm in the Family.** Learn how to create a smooth transition plan to protect your assets now and in the future while maintaining family harmony at this event. **Wed., Dec. 13, 2017 at 8:30am.** McLeod County Historical Society & Museum, 380 School Road NW, Hutchinson, MN

November is Stewardship Month!

<u>11/19-Local Sunday</u>: We will be collecting food for the McLeod Emergency Shelf at the Thanksgiving Worship service we are sharing with our UCC neighbors, in Lester Prairie. The service begins at 7:00 pm here at Bethel.

11/26-Personal Sunday: We will be creating **Welcome baskets** to help us all become personal evangelists as we welcome new people into our community. We will also be launching a **Prayer Shawl Ministry** as a way we can personally focus on God while supplying physical comfort for another person in need.

November Food Drive

We will be collecting donations of food for the McLeod Emergency Food Shelf **Sunday, November 5 through the evening Thanksgiving Celebration service, Sunday November 19. Shopping bags, with a list of most needed items, will be stapled to each bag.** Again, this year the challenge is to match or surpass the \$250.00 received from a Thrivent Action Grant.

Christmas Shoeboxes

Our W/ELCA Unit is spearheading an effort to collect donations of Christmas Shoeboxes for the Marie Sandvik Center in Minneapolis. **Christmas Shoebox Gift Lists**, that tell what should be included in each Shoebox for different age groups, are located near the Sunday announcement sheet. **Each family is encouraged to collect items for at least one Shoebox. Please, return the Shoebox to church no later than Sunday, November 26.** Questions can be directed to Judy Angvall or Jill Duncan.

McLeod County Giving Tree

We will be participating in the McLeod County Giving Tree project in November. We will receive gift requests from families that need help providing Christmas gifts for their children. Watch for the *Giving Tree* with gift tags in the narthex. **Please bring your unwrapped gifts to church by December 10.** We have a Thrivent Action Grant for this project.

Endowment Fund

Endowment funds are available for a wide variety of grant requests. Application forms are located on the narthex table for anyone interested in applying for a grant. An Adult Forum in December will give members an opportunity to ask questions and learn more about this new process at Bethel. The Endowment Committee members are: Dick Kiekhaefer, Nancy Krull, Sally Krull, Tim Smith, and LuAnn Weisenburger.

Welcome to Bethel!

Worshiping together as the Children of God.

Christ has claimed all of us as children of God, we encourage children of ALL ages to participate in worship, each to their ability.

To our youngest worshipers: we believe children are not the future of the church: they are the church present! We welcome your wiggles, giggles, cries and curious bodies and voices. Parents: encourage your child to sing, clap, wiggle, drop coins in the offering, and receive communion. A [non-staffed] toy room is available just outside the sanctuary.

To our "young at heart": we welcome your enthusiasm and voices, too! If hearing assistance in needed, see an usher for a device.

For all: we strive for worship that is intergenerational and welcoming to the whole body of Christ. <u>Communion</u> is served every Sunday. We invite all persons who seek God's grace through the bread and wine to share this meal, regardless of age or denominational affiliation. <u>You are welcome at Christ's table!</u> Grape juice and gluten-free options are available, too.

<u>Bathrooms</u> are located just outside the sanctuary. <u>Fellowship Hour</u> happens immediately after worship. Join us for coffee, treats and conversation! During the school year, children are invited into the basement for <u>Sunday School</u>. <u>Communication cards</u> are located on the back of the pews, we'd love to hear from you or leave your name and email in our <u>guestbook</u>!

Serving in November **Committee Chairpersons** Altar Guild: Tamie Foust, Jenna Pariseau, Heather Heuer Altar Guild: Judy Angvall Lector: Ron Foust & Jenna Pariseau jlangvall@yahoo.com; 320-395-2198 Thank Nou **Usher:** Brian & Jill Duncan Lector: Cathy Houg **Greeter:** Mary Lou Teubert cathy.houg@gmail.com; 320-395-2759 **Usher: Tim Smith** Easy online volunteer sign-up: benson lester@yahoo.com; 320-395-2755 Go to www.lpbethel.org, click on Worship, and then **Greeter: Ron Foust** Worship Volunteer Sign Up. rfoust@lesterbuildings.com; 612-201-2351

Directory Update

Jean Christenson cell: 952-412-2611, email:jean.christenson23@gmail.com Jerry Christenson cell: 320-224-0587 Steve Klobe email: <u>slklobe@outlook.com</u>

Sunday school helpers

The Sunday school helper sign-up is located near the mailboxes. Please, sign your name by the Sundays you are available to help. Thank you to everyone who has signed up!

announcements due by Wednesdays @ noon ~ newsletter items due by the 25th of the month www.lpbethel.org ~ www.facebook.com/lpbethel ~ bethellutheranlp@gmail.com