

THE BANNER

March 2021

Friends in Christ,

We are now in the season of Lent. We began our Lenten journey on February 17 with the Ash Wednesday Liturgy. We confessed our sins, had an ashen cross applied to our foreheads, and received the gracious gift of Christ Body and Blood in Holy Communion. Our journey is continuing Sunday mornings as we gather for worship in person or online, to consider our lives of discipleship in a culture that does not support what we do as a church.

Wednesdays in Lent we are hearing from just a few of the characters who had encounters with Jesus and what that meant for them. We have already heard from Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews who came to Jesus by night. Then we heard Caiaphas' story and his motivations as The High Priest in handling Jesus of Nazareth. The rest of the Wednesday series we will be:

March 10, Pilate, the Roman Governor who had Jesus sentenced to death by crucifixion.

March 17, Malchus, the servant of the High Priest who had his ear severed from his body. March 24, The Roman Centurion, who over saw Jesus' crucifixion.

Then we enter Holy Week on March 28, Palm Sunday. This service will have the blessing and procession of palms branches, and Holy Communion. This service to me has always taken on a bittersweet tone. Sure enough it begins in festive and joyful mood, but by the middle the shouts of "Hosanna" from the crowds turn to, "Crucify Him."

Holy Week continues on April 1st with Maundy Thursday. Worship is at 7 PM. The theme here is from Jesus' commandment, "Love one another as I have loved you, by this all will know that you are my disciples if you have love for one another." In short, this love looks like humble service which is demonstrated by our Lord Himself by taking the slave's duty of washing the feet of the disciples. Holy Communion will celebrated, followed by the dramatic stripping of the altar. This service concludes without benediction as we leave in silence. This leads to Good Friday.

On Good Friday, April 2nd, we will Gather once again for worship at 7 PM and meditate on the power of the Holy Cross which hung the salvation of the world. This service is one of the most powerful services of the Church year. Again without benediction we leave in silence.

Easter this year is April 4th, and what a celebration it will be! Easter worship is at 9:30 AM. The cross of crucifixion, the burial tomb could not hold Jesus down. He is risen! ! That will be the proclamation for the day! Because Jesus is risen from the dead we have hope for eternal life. This service will end in benediction. As we receive our Lord's blessing, we go in peace assured that we do not need to fear death any longer. Jesus has done all, accomplished all for our salvation.

As long as we all have breath in this life, it is never too late to join us and be part of the journey.

See you church,

Pastor David.

Request to Provide Altar Flowers for 2021



If you wish to provide altar flowers for church during 2021, please complete this form. Please place it in the offering plate or mail it to: Shirley McKiernan, 313 2nd

St., Laurens, IA 50554 *Thank you.*

Name of person providing flowers: _____

Date desired: _____

Do you want to provide flowers on this same date from year to year? yes no

Information needed for Sunday bulletin:

Altar Flowers in Loving Memory of: _____

From: _____

Or Altar Flowers

From: _____

Please contact Shirley McKiernan, 841-2637, if you have any questions.

Bible Reading Plan for the Disciples of Bethany

...standing firm in one spirit, with one mind striving side by side for the faith of the gospel... Philippians 1:27b

Monday, March 1	Jeremiah 6:9-15
Tuesday, March 2	Jeremiah 2:1-13, 29-32
Wednesday, March 3	Jeremiah 3:6-18
Thursday, March 4	Jeremiah 4:9-10, 19-28
Friday, March 5	Jeremiah 5:1-9
Saturday, March 6	Jeremiah 5:20-31
Sunday, March 7	Jeremiah 6:9-15
Monday, March 8	Jeremiah 7:1-15
Tuesday, March 9	Jeremiah 7:21-34
Wednesday, March 10	Jeremiah 8:4-7, 18, 9:6
Thursday, March 11	Jeremiah 10:11-24
Friday, March 12	Jeremiah 11:1-8, 14-17
Saturday, March 13	Jeremiah 13:1-11
Sunday, March 14	Jeremiah 14:1-22
Monday, March 15	Jeremiah 16:1-21
Tuesday, March 16	Jeremiah 17:19-27
Wednesday, March 17	Jeremiah 18:1-11
Thursday, March 18	Jeremiah 22:13-23
Friday, March 19	2 Samuel 7:4, 8-16 Luke 2:41-52
Saturday, March 20	Jeremiah 23:1-15
Sunday, March 21	Jeremiah 23:16-32
Monday, March 22	Jeremiah 24:1-10
Tuesday, March 23	Jeremiah 25:8-17
Wednesday, March 24	Jeremiah 25:30-26:24

Thursday, March 25

Isaiah 7:10-14

Luke 1:26-38

Jeremiah 29:1-14

Jeremiah 31:27-34

Jeremiah 9:9-12

The Sunday of the Passion

Jeremiah 11:18-20, 12:1-17

Jeremiah 15:10-21

Jeremiah 17:5-10, 14-18

Friday, March 26

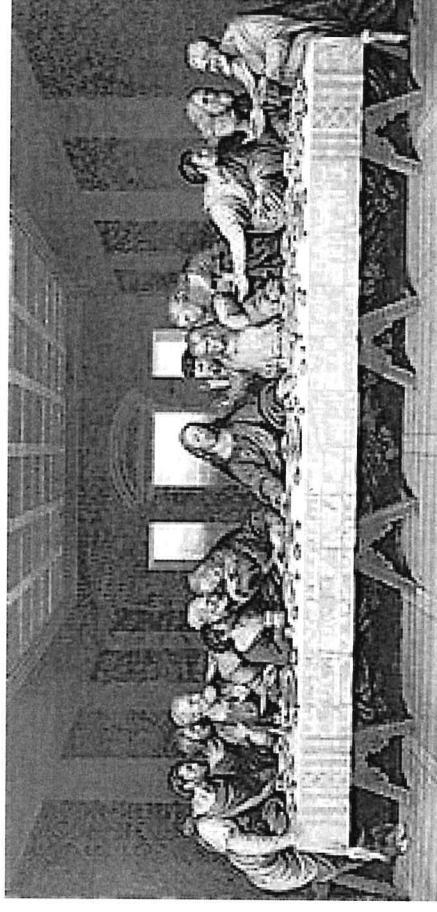
Saturday, March 27

Sunday, March 28

Monday, March 29

Tuesday, March 30

Wednesday, March 31





In case of emergency contact
 Pastor David Klappenbach
 712-841-2181 (Office)
 712-841-2532 Home)
 419-603-8350 (Cell)

Services are currently being live streamed on Facebook

Visit us @ <https://www.bethanylutheran-laurens.org>

March Birthdays & Anniversaries

Name	Marriage	March	
Baker, Doug		3-02	
Hudson, Deena		3-04	
Runneberg, Jerry		3-06	
Van Sickle, Kelly		3-06	
Sindergard, Shane		3-08	
Smith, Dorothy		3-11	
Armstrong, Dean		3-22	
Alexander, Keton		3-23	
Hersom, Ron		3-23	
Langan, Jason		3-24	
Anderson Tom & Elaine	3-31		


Ushers

March 7 Dean Armstrong

March 21 Rich Ehlers

Altar Guild for March Sheldon & Linda Bieri & Dorothy Smith

March 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 4:00PM W/M Meeting	2 8:30AM Prayer Group 9:30AM Coffee @ BLC	3 7:00PM Lenten Worship Service	4	5	6
7 10:30 Worship w/ Holy Communion	8	9 8:30AM Prayer Group 9:30AM Coffee @ BLC	10 7:00PM Council Mtg	11	12	13
14 10:30 Worship	15	16 8:30AM Prayer Group 9:30AM Coffee @ BLC	17 7:00PM Lenten Worship Service	18	19	20
21 10:30 Worship w/ Holy Communion	22	23 8:30AM Prayer Group 9:30AM Coffee @ BLC	24 7:00PM Lenten Worship Service	25	26	27
28 10:30-Worship	29	30	31	<div style="border: 2px solid black; padding: 10px;"> <p>Bethany Lutheran Church Adult SS- 9:15 Youth SS- 9:30 Worship-1030</p> </div>		
						

Bethany Lutheran Church Council Meeting

January 13, 2021 7:00 PM

Present:	Tom Anderson	Absent:	Dean
	Rich Ehlers		Armstrong
	Jean Swanson		John Runneberg
	Myles Pedersen		Mark Raasch
	Jim Hodgell		Linda Galbraith
	Pastor David Klappenbach		

Others: Shirley Pedersen, Financial Secretary
Marilyn Ehlers, Treasurer

The meeting was called to order by President Tom Anderson after determining a quorum was present.

Pastor Klappenbach led the group in devotions.

Minutes:

The minutes of the last regular council meeting in December were reviewed. Rich Ehlers moved and Jim Hodgell seconded to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

Financial Reports:

The financial reports were then given. Shirley Pedersen gave the Financial Secretary's report and Marilyn Ehlers gave the Treasurer's report. Shirley reported that our Faith Promise at the end of December was SHORT in the amount of \$1476.48 and the balance of the Potluck Account was \$1400.56. Marilyn reported the balance as of the end of December was \$2998.35 and the balance today (1-13-2021) is \$4688.73. Marilyn also went through the end of the year Treasurer's report that will be in the Annual Congregational Report. After review Jim Hodgell moved and Myles Pedersen seconded to approve the reports. Motion carried.

Pastor's Report:

Pastor Klappenbach then presented a written report of his activities for December (led 4 services, 1 funeral, 1 hospital visit, 2 meetings, 6 Catechism classes). Visits were mostly through telephone contacts & out in the community. Pastor continues to livestream/post services & text of his sermon on the facebook platform. Pastor fulfilled the Chaplin duties for the Central Plains Chapter, STS on November 30 & December 1 in Schuyler, NE. Pastor is beginning to make plans

for the Lent Season which begins on February 17 with Ash Wednesday. Rich Ehlers made a motion, seconded by Jim Hodgell, to accept Pastor's mileage for December at 78 miles.

Motion carried. Pastor Klappenbach expressed his thanks to Tom Anderson and Sheldon Bieri for covering the two Sundays in December & January while he & his family were on vacation. He also expressed his thanks for the generous Christmas gift given to him and his family.

Old Business:

Jim Hodgell made the motion, seconded by Rich Ehlers, to contact Nick Wilder to repair the parsonage wall, but will check with John Runneberg first to see if he still plans to make this repair. Motion carried.

Auditing committee will be Donna Sindergard, Sheldon Bieri, & Julian Johnsen.

Rich Ehlers made the motion, seconded by Jim Hodgell, to replace the TV that was stolen with Memorial Funds. Motion carried.

New Business:

Rich presented an adjusted benevolence for the Council to review and present to the congregation at the Annual Congregational Meeting. The suggestions are: moving the Lutheran Disaster Response under Church Body Support which will be given through the NALC and the Laurens Ministerial Association will be eliminated with that portion being added to the Laurens Food Pantry. Jim Hodgell made the motion, seconded by Rich, to present the adjusted benevolence to the congregation. Motion carried.

Rich Ehlers made the motion, seconded by Jim Hodgell, to designate the \$400 given by the Bethany Women of the NALC to the general budget. Motion carried.

Reviewed the Agenda for the Annual Congregational Meeting.

Installation of the Council will be the Sunday following the Annual Congregational Meeting, January 31, 2021.

Committee Reports:

Christian Education: Present: Jean, Linda G., Pastor and Linda B.

We have begun 2021 with Sunday school with hesitation due to the virus. We plan to have a Bible Sunday in Lent for Raelyn for her Third grade Bible studies, and for Michelle for her Confirmation study. High school graduation will be in May for our seniors. Youth group board will meet January 17th at 4 p.m. at Bethany. We will contact the community church leaders to discuss Kid's Club and Vacation Bible School 2021.

Growth and Sharing: We have been collecting mittens, socks, stocking caps, etc. for the month of December & to the 15th of January 2021. Soon, the tree will be removed & the items given to the LM School children. The UDMO Adopt-a-Family Christmas gifts were delivered in December. Our yearly annual report has been completed.

Tech: No report.

Stewardship: No report.

Property and Farm: The committee is planning on purchasing LED bulbs for the parking lights.

Worship and Music: Marilyn reported that we plan to continue having communion on the 1st & 3rd Sundays using the Communion Guidelines & continue to take each Sunday/month as it comes. We began to plan our Lenten Season with a Lenten Reading & Lenten evening services. Looking ahead, we are requesting to the Council for a worship time change on Easter Sunday. Rich Ehlers made the motion, seconded by Jim Hodgell, to have our Easter Celebration Worship Service at 9:30 AM. Motion carried. Picked hymns...next meeting is Monday, February 1 at 4:00PM.

Memorial: Rich reported that \$1760 has been received in Memory of Bertha Olson from her family.

The council adjourned with Tom leading us in the Lord's Prayer. Next council meeting is March 10th, 2021.

Respectfully submitted by Marilyn Ehlers, Secretary Pro-tem.