

THE BANNER

April 2021

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The Cross and Easter

As sit down to write this monthly letter we have just celebrated Palm Sunday. We still have Maundy Thursday and Good Friday observances before we will gather to celebrate Easter, The Resurrection of our Lord. To get to Easter, we must go through the cross. It is on the Holy Cross of Christ where Jesus accomplished the victory over our bondage to sin, won for us our freedom from the power of the devil, and accomplished our release from the fear of death. All this was accomplished on Good Friday. It is our salvation and hope. Easter is a celebration of the fruit of the victory which is the resurrection. Each one of us who have been baptized and trust in God's promises have received the new life in Christ. Having received this new life of faith we are called to be our Lord's disciples and to follow our risen Lord and learn from Him. That is the Christian life.

Pastor's Study to Explore Discipleship

On Monday, April 12, at 6:30 PM, I will begin a series of class that examine discipleship. Each session will go no later than 8:00 PM. We will cover such topics as:

1. "What does it mean to be a disciple of Christ?" Another session will help us examine "What is in it for us?"
2. Then we will explore "How God works to make us His own."
3. We will also look at what it means to "Die to self and be raised in Christ."
4. Another session will help discern the age-old question, "What is God's purpose for my life?"
5. And finally, we will look at the pattern of our lives as we follow Jesus and learn from Him.

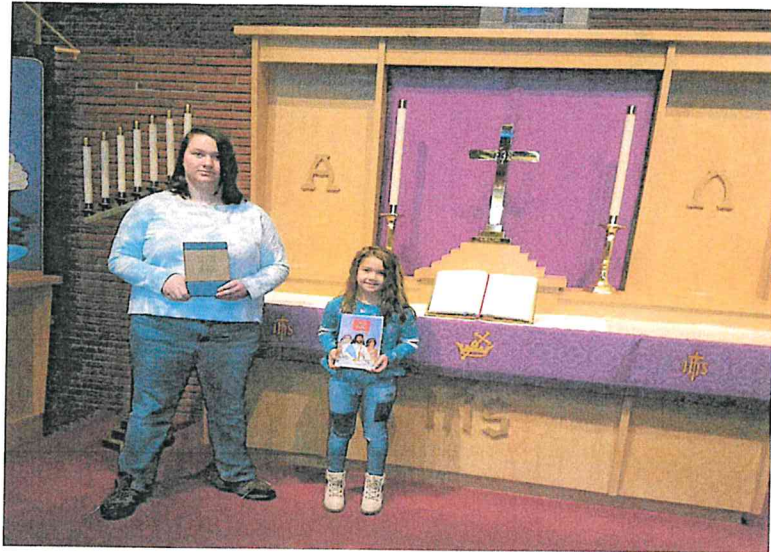
Our resources will be the Holy Scriptures, Luther's Small Catechism, and of course your own insights and discoveries.

After we finish this series there is more to come. The second part will deal the question, "What do we do?" This second series is where the rubber meets the road. It deals with actual living out our lives as a Christian day to day in our encounters with people in our circle of relationships

and the people in our community. I will have more to share when we get to that place in our study.

I am excited about offering this time for study and learning. It is my goal that all who attend these sessions will gain new insights on what it means to be a disciple. In the end it is my hope that each one of us will discover that we are meant for more. It is my vision that we will become a congregation of Disciples that will deepen their relationship with Jesus who won for you your salvation, to also deepen our relationship with one another as a community of Christ who are on the same journey of faith.

Pastor David



Bible Presentations: Bethany Lutheran Church presented Bibles to our confirmation student, Michelle Gordon and to our 3rd Grade student, Raelyn Johnsen. We pray that these Bibles will be a blessing in their future studies.

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

| | |
|---------------------|----------------------------------|
| Thursday, April 1 | 1 Corinthians 10:14-17, 11:37-32 |
| Friday, April 2 | Genesis 22:1-14 |
| Saturday, April 3 | Job 19:21-27a |
| Sunday, April 4 | Luke 24:13-35 |
| Monday, April 5 | John 14:1-14 |
| Tuesday, April 6 | John 14:15-31 |
| Wednesday, April 7 | John 15:1-11 |
| Thursday, April 8 | John 15:12-27 |
| Friday, April 9 | John 16:1-15 |
| Saturday, April 10 | John 16:16-33 |
| Sunday, April 11 | 1 Peter 2:2-10 |
| Monday, April 12 | Daniel 1:1-21 |
| Tuesday, April 13 | Daniel 2:1-16 |
| Wednesday, April 14 | Daniel 2:17-30 |
| Thursday, April 15 | Daniel 2:31-49 |
| Friday, April 16 | Daniel 3:1-18 |
| Saturday, April 17 | Daniel 3:19-30 |
| Sunday, April 18 | Daniel 4:1-18 |

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|---------------------|-------------------------|
| Monday, April 19 | Daniel 4:19-27 |
| Tuesday, April 20 | Daniel 4:28-37 |
| Wednesday, April 21 | Daniel 5:1-12 |
| Thursday, April 22 | Daniel 5:13-30 |
| Friday, April 23 | Daniel 6:1-15 |
| Saturday, April 24 | Daniel 6:16-28 |
| Sunday, April 25 | Genesis 18:22-33 |
| Monday, April 26 | Isaiah 52:7-10 |
| Tuesday, April 27 | Jeremiah 30:1-17 |
| Wednesday, April 28 | Jeremiah 30:18-22 |
| Thursday, April 29 | Jeremiah 31:1-14 |
| Friday, April 30 | Jeremiah 31:15-25 |
| Saturday, May 1 | 2 Corinthians 4:1-6 |
| Sunday, May 2 | 2 Thessalonians 2:13-17 |
| Monday, May 3 | Jeremiah 32:1-15 |
| Tuesday, May 4 | Jeremiah 32:16-25 |

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 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.



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>

April Birthdays and Anniversaries


| Name | Marriage | April | |
|-------------------------|----------|-------|--|
| Galbraith, Linda | | 4-01 | |
| Runneberg, Elizabeth | | 4-01 | |
| Johnsen, Julian | | 4-02 | |
| Pedersen, Shirley | | 4-03 | |
| Roling, Katy & Jeremy | 4-08 | | |
| George, Sandy | | 4-09 | |
| Zurek, Taylor | | 4-10 | |
| Bouhey, Pat | | 4-12 | |
| Hodgell, Dylan | | 4-13 | |
| Reese, Myra | | 4-18 | |
| Reese, Kenny & Sandy | 4-19 | | |
| Arends, Dalton | | 4-22 | |
| Sindergard, Ken & Donna | 4-24 | | |
| Hawley, Diane | | 4-26 | |
| Raasch, Mark | | 4-29 | |
| Sandvig, Tyler | | 4-29 | |
| Hersom, Lars & Liz | 4-30 | | |

Ushers

April 4 Tom Anderson
 April 18 Jim Hodgell
 May 2 Myles Pedersen
 May 16 Dean Armstrong

Altar Guild for April Myles & Shirley Pedersen

April 2021

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|---|---|-----------|---|---|-----------|
| |  | Bethany Lutheran Church Adult SS- 9:15 Youth SS- 9:30 Worship-1030 | | 1 7:00-Maundy Thursday Service | 2 7:00-Good Friday Service | 3 |
| 4 7:00 Easter Sunrise Service @ FCC 9:30 Worship w/ Holy Communion @BLC | 5 4:00 W/M Mtg | | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| 11 10:30 Worship | 12 6:30-Discipleship Class | 13 8:30AM Prayer Group 9:30AM Coffee @ BLC | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| 18 10:30 Worship w/ Holy Communion | 19 6:30-Discipleship Class | 20 8:30AM Prayer Group 9:30AM Coffee @ BLC | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| 25 10:30-Worship | 26 6:30-Discipleship Class | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | |

Council Meeting
Bethany Lutheran Church
February 10, 2021
7:00 PM

Present:

Julie Dawson
Dean Armstrong
Rich Ehlers
Jim Hodgell
Pastor Klappenbach
John Runneberg
Myles Pedersen
Linda Galbraith
Jean Swanson

Absent:

Mark Raasch

Others in attendance: Marilyn Ehlers, Shirley Pedersen

Rich Ehlers noted that we had a quorum and called the meeting to order.

Pastor Klappenbach provided a devotion.

Jim Hodgell moved to accept the minutes of the previous meeting and the Special Meeting for the election of officers. Dean Armstrong made a second. Motion Carried.

Financial report:

Shirley Pedersen reported that we are short \$6280.87 for the budget. The potluck balance is \$1387.59.

Marilyn Ehlers reported the balance at the end of January 31, 2021 was(-1836.31) and as of 2-10-2021 the balance was +\$4521.94.

Jim Hodgell moved to accept the financial reports. Myles Pedersen made a second to the motion. Motion Carried.

Pastors Report:

Pastor Klappenbach reported that he led 4 services, attended 4 meetings and led 4 classes. Lent begins on February 17th. Ash Wednesday service will be at 7:00PM on the February 17th. Lenten services will be entitled "Encounters with Jesus". Sermon notes are being posted on our web page. Catechism classes for Michele G. continues with a Confirmation date of Pentecost Sunday 2021.

Pastor Klappenbach is continuing to flesh out a Five Year Road Map for Bethany.

Jim Hodgell moved to accept the Pastors Report and Linda Galbraith made a second to the motion. Motion carried.

Old Business:

1. The hole in the parsonage wall has been repaired. The NE garage door will be ordered and replace depending on the weather.

New Business:

1. Dean Armstrong moved that the Pastor receive a \$4,000.00 furnishing allowance in 2021. Jim Hodgell made a second to the motion. Motion Carried.

2. Committee Assignments:

Christian Education: Jean Swanson, Linda Galbraith

Growth and Sharing: Linda Galbraith, Julie Dawson, Myles Pedersen and Shirley Pedersen.

Tech: Dean Armstrong, Sheldon Bieri and Julie Dawson.

Stewardship: Rich Ehlers

Property and Farm: Jim Hodgell, John Runneberg and Mark Raasch

Worship and Music: Marilyn Ehlers

Memorial: Rich Ehlers, Myles Pedersen.

3. Council meetings will be immediately following Lent Service on March 10, 2021.
4. CPR/Defibrillator training will be scheduled for whatever date works for Garthlene Dean will call and schedule.

Committee reports:

1.Christian Education: No Sunday School because of temperatures.

2.Growth and Sharing: Because of Covid there will be no community Lenten Soup Luncheons.

3.Tech: We have been posting on the Website Sermon Notes and embedding the Sunday Worship Service. Still posting Sunday Worship on Facebook.

4 Stewardship: No Report

5.Property and Farm: See Old Business

6. Worship and Music: Marilyn reported W/M are meeting month to month and no soup suppers before the Lenten Service until further notice. Our first Lenten is Ash Wednesday on February 17th. Sunday morning readings will be Voices of Lent starting on the First Sunday in Lent. Maundy Thursday service will be observed, and Good Friday Service will also be observed. Ecumenical Services will not be observed but other churches may attend if they desire.

7. Memorial: Rich reported that the fund received an additional \$70.00 from the family of Bertha Olson.

Pastor Klappenbach closed with a prayer.

Jim Hodgell moved to adjourn with the Lord's Prayer. Second by Myles Pedersen. Motion Carried.

Next Meeting: March 10, 2021 immediately following the Lenten Worship Service.

Respectfully Submitted:

Dean Armstrong
Recording Secretary