

Thanks for Volunteering for December 2020
(helping Pastor Emily with online worship)

Lector: Kristin Kosloski

Altar Guild

Marge Olson & Laura Schmidt

Weekly Worship Tech Helper

Jenelle Lindquist

Money Counters

Val Lindquist & Jenelle Lindquist



Did you know you can get your newsletter in
your inbox rather than your mail box?

If you would rather receive the electronic
version, please just let the
office know – and we
will email our
newsletter to you!



Also – if you no longer wish to receive our
newsletter – please contact the church office
at 715-349-5280 or email
bethanyluth@sirentel.net

Thanks!



Our very busy quilter's
continue to donate
quilts to those in need.
Recently ~ 6 quilts
were given to Faith House ~ Salvation
Army for local families in need. Thanks!



**OPERATION CHRISTMAS
CHILD SHOEBOX MINISTRY**



Thanks for your participation
again this year – We made someone's
Christmas brighter!
We have 25 boxes to be sent to those in need.
Thanks for your donations!!

Please keep the following persons in your prayers:



Our condolences to Bob Lee and family on the death of Marge Lee on Nov. 17th

Our condolences to the family of Frances England whom passed away in November

On-going prayers for Bethany Members:

John Carlson Jr.	Lona Nordgren	Myrna Leef
Aiden Foehser	Brianna Dahlberg	Bob Lee
Gwen Lundquist	Carol Juve – (Marge Peterson's Mom)	

Individuals needing prayers- requested by our members:

Ellen Ellis

Chuck O'Fallon - son in law of Diane Richison -waiting for a kidney transplant

Charleen O'Connor - (Mary Waschek's daughter)

Charles Slater (son of Annie Slater)

Jim Formanek (brother of Dennis Formanek)

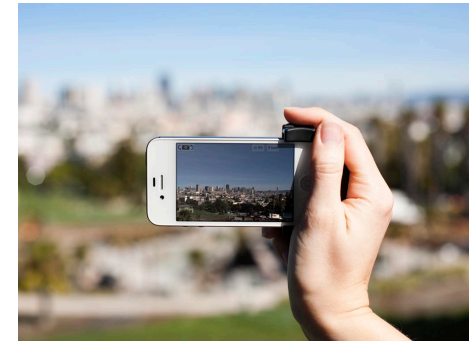
Brenda Olson (daughter of Lona Nordgren)



Community Pictures

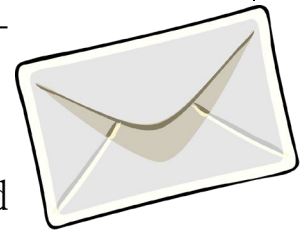
Don't forget - - We really appreciate getting pictures of Bethany folks - participating in church and community events!!

It is nice to have pictures for our newsletter - - please email pictures to



Bethanyluth@sirentel.net

2021 offering envelopes will be available by later December. Envelopes for those who used envelopes in 2020 - - will be available outside the church office. If you would like to pick them up - call ahead and we will gladly put them in the outside bin for you!!



If you don't find a box, or you would like to change to envelopes - contact the church office.



**for your generous donation to our
Thanksgiving “Bethany Blessings”
bags for Ruby’s Pantry**

Bethany donated 50 food bags and \$ 280.00 in cash to Ruby’s Pantry. Included in the bags were holiday table runners – donated by the quilter’s and “Table Turkey’s” from the Sunday School kids. A special “Thanks” to Bethany Sunday School – that donated 5 food bags! Ruby’s was able to offer a special food distribution for the Thanksgiving holiday.



Our dedicated ‘Blessing Bag’ Crew!
~continued~

Table runners & Turkey’s for the Blessing Bags!



Thanks to everyone for
your on-going donations
& support of Bethany.
As we near the end of
the year, we find our
monthly giving to be slightly
down, but overall finances
remain positive.

We appreciate your commitment
to your Bethany family.



“The Giving Tree”

This year we will again support a family in need with holiday gifts.

Instead of selecting ornaments from a tree at church – we have a master list of items and people may call the church office to select a gift – the list is on our website also!

Gifts are due to the church by December 13th



Adult Female (Age 27)

Clothes: sweaters, pants, shoes, other items (size M/L and 8 1/2 -9W shoes)

1. Taken
- 2.

Household Items: gift cards towards purchase of phone or TV, other items

- 1.
- 2.

Books: Romance Novels

1. Taken
2. Taken

Child Girl #1 (Age 7)

Clothes: shirts, pants, dress up clothes, hats (size 7/8 and shoe size 1)

- 1.
- 2.

Toys: Unicorn toys, Barbie dream house, make up, blanket, Jo-Jo Stuff

1. Taken
2. Taken

Books: Princess books – anything girly

1. Taken
2. Taken

Child Boy #1 (Age 6)

Clothes: hats, gloves, sweaters, other clothes (size 8 boys and shoe size 1)

1. Taken (shirts)
- 2.

Toys: Monster truck, transformer stuff, Batman stuff, posters

1. Taken -Puzzles
- 2.

Books: (none listed) Some books will be given

Child Boy #2 (Age 4)

Clothes: sweaters, other clothes, (size 5/6 and shoe size 13)

- 1.
- 2.

Toys: Power rangers, cars, Batman, dress up stuff, spiderman stuff

1. Taken – Batman stuff
- 2.

Books: anything boyish

1. Taken
2. Taken

Child Boy #3 (Age 3)

Clothes: sweaters, other clothes, (size 3t-4t and shoes size 9/10)

1. Taken – jogging outfit
- 2.

Toys: Legos, spiderman stuff, Joner/Batman

1. Taken – Batman stuff
- 2.

Books:

1. Taken
- 2.

Child Boy #4 (Age 2)

Clothes: Sweaters, any other clothes (size 3t-4t and shoe size 9/10)

1. Taken
- 2.

Toys: Paw Patrol stuff, Baby Shark, cars, Batman stuff

1. Taken – Batman stuff
- 2.

Books: Baby shark picture books

1. Taken
2. Taken

*****Please be sure your gifts are wrapped and have a tag on them indicating the family member to receive the gift (example: 2-year-old boy)
Thanks for your generous giving!***

December Birthdays

Staci Kopecky	12/2
Casey Goranson	12/3
Laura Schmidt	12/4
Andy Moritz	12/4
Cindy Johnson	12/5
Emily Muus	12/5
Austin Schmidt	12/5
Jeff Alden Jr	12/6
Don Taylor	12/6
Breck Mangan	12/6
Florence Brewster	12/8
McCoy Maslow	12/9
Walter Brewster	12/9
Jim Brewster	12/10
Marilyn Harle	12/11
Kari Fox	12/11
Shelia Bristol	12/15
Charlie Albrecht	12/16
Ben Johnson	12/16
Ralph Severson	12/18
Mark Foote	12/19
Phillip Stiemann	12/19
Nona Severson	12/19
Laura Formanek	12/21
Annie Slater	12/26
Margaret Taylor	12/26
Ron Friel	12/27
Renae Peterson	12/27
Robert Lee	12/27
Jon Ruud	12/28
Max Lindquist	12/29
Braedon Thiex	12/29



ARE YOU STARTING YOUR CHRISTMAS GIFT BUYING??

Our talented
quilting crew have
many quilts for
sale!

For beds of all
sizes ~ lap quilts,
and table runners.



They would be a
personal gift for
someone special
and donate to a
wonderful group
of hard-working
ladies!

***Individually priced – stop in
and check out the display in our hallway!!***



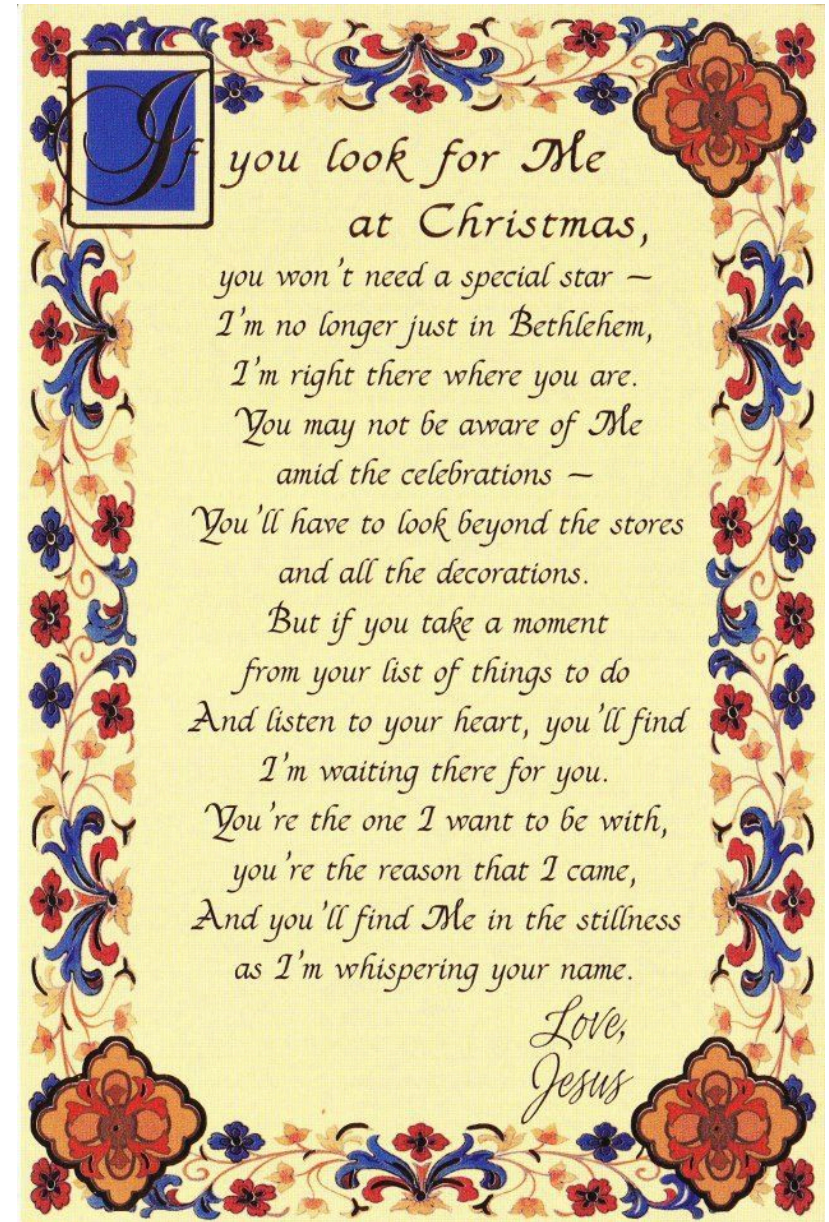
“Halloween Trunk & Treat from Bethany”

300 people participated in the local Halloween event! Bethany treat bags included candy and other fun gift items along with a Halloween message for everyone!



THANKS COLLEEN & CINDY!

MERRY CHRISTMAS TO YOUR FAMILY & FRIENDS!



Faith House Shelter Faith House Shelter
has seen many changes since March as
many of us have faced the pandemic.

COVID-19 has changed the way we
care for our most vulnerable, our
homeless. Inside the walls of Faith
House we have encouraged extra
cleaning in our units, provided masks to our residents and
encouraged them to do their best to stay well. We are so
thankful to everyone who has helped to provide Faith House
with cleaning supplies, homemade face masks and other
necessary supplies to help our homeless families and
individuals stay healthy. Faith House has two separate units to
help families.

We are thankful they have their own space, especially now
while we are trying to keep everyone healthy. What still does
happen at Faith House is our ongoing care for our residents.
Shelter Manager/Case Manager Sandy spends her days working
with the families who stay at Faith House to form a plan to find
permanent housing, secure jobs and get on a path toward
becoming more independent. Despite the pandemic, our efforts
to help as many people as we can, continue on.

This past year, although challenging in different ways, has
shown much success in finding permanent housing for families
and individuals. As this newsletter is being written, one more
family will be leaving to move into permanent housing, making
room for another person or family to come and stay. We are so
excited for each person or family who successfully moves from
Faith House into their own home with jobs and plans that make
sense to maintain their independence for a long time. We could
not do this without your generosity. ~continued~



DOING THE MOST GOOD™

Salvation Army continued~

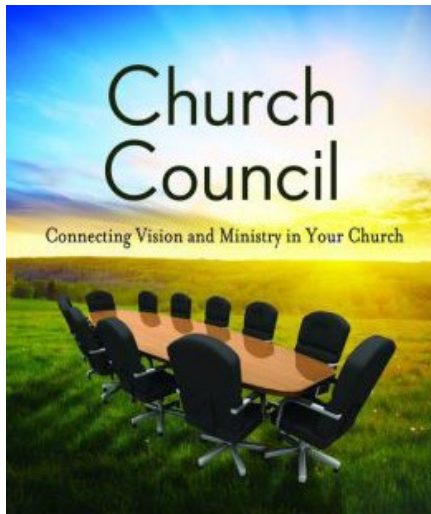
You help us help others. Every time you help by praying for us,
providing supplies for our residents or sending in a donation,
you become part of that family's or person's success story.

We simply could not do this without you. Thank you for
helping! To stay up to date on all of our happenings at Faith
House, follow us on Facebook at "Burnett County Salvation
Army." Advisory Board Chair Kathy recently dropped off a
donation of supplies collected by members of Siren Covenant
Backpack Program As the 2020-21 school year has begun in
Burnett County,

The Salvation Army remains committed to ensuring that
hungry kids can have access to a backpack full of food on the
weekends when a free breakfast or a free lunch are not available
at school. This vital resource is important to many families in
our community. We are thankful for the ongoing support of our
community in the effort to help feed hungry kids in Burnett
County. We are also so very thankful to our numerous
volunteers who help get the bags packed each and every week.

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, this service has
continued. The need is still great and we are here to help. **To
learn more about the Backpack Program visit us on the web
at www.safaithhouse.org.**





From the Bethany Council (November 17, 2020)

The Bethany Council made a difficult decision last night to stop all current in person worship services- continuing through this holiday season.

This decision ended our efforts to have small services available Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.

This was a disappointing and difficult decision, but we faced the reality of out of control virus spread in Wisconsin as well today's new cases numbers at 48 with 2 additional deaths in Burnett County (11-17-20). We also reviewed recommendations by the Synod and State and County Government.

With our schools and government center closed - it was the only responsible move we could make. We will work to develop additional options for our congregation to share the wonders of the season in this very difficult time.

For more information on local Covid -

<https://www.burnettcounty.com/alertcenter.aspx?aid=13>

<https://www.burnettcounty.com/DocumentCenter/View/8513>

If you have general questions from "where to get food" to financial resources to health care assistance - - call 2-1-1.

Please pray for an end of this virus, our congregation, Pastor Emily, and our council. Be safe and well.

Ways to keep the "Christ" in Christmas:

- Read a "chapter a day" from the Book of Luke during December. (There are 24 chapters!)

- Be sure to join Pastor Emily's ***Weekly Advent Devotional*** (via Zoom) **Sunday's & Wednesday's at 6pm.** Everyone is welcome to join in or just listen – we will talk about the Advent Wreath – and our holiday traditions. Your whole family is welcome to join in – kids too!



- Have an Advent Calendar – open a window a day!
- Call your friends and neighbors –
- Share "random acts of kindness" that you encounter!
- Worship with your Bethany Family Sunday's online
- Pray at Noon & 6pm daily
- Join our Bible study (Tuesday's 10am via zoom)



~continued~

~Christmas continued~

We are planning for some Christmas activities
to happen during the week of Christmas - -

There will be things you can do safely and
will allow you to stop by and enjoy the
festive holiday decorations.

Be sure to *check our weekly church email and
the website to keep up to date on
things to come!*



****REMEMBER****

CHRISTMAS

CAN NEVER BE CANCELLED!



**What is your family's favorite recipe
for the holidays??**

Let's share our recipes with each other!

*Maybe we will put them together
in a holiday cookbook?!*

*Send them to bethanyluth@sirentel.net or
drop them off /mail them to the office!*





The First Christmas After You Lose Someone Is Hard

You won't feel like celebrating,
but you'll go along with it
for the kids, for the family.
It will hurt.

The presents not bought. The chair
not sat in. The memories of past
Christmases that threaten to suck
the joy out of the whole day.

But you will get through it, you may
even raise a smile between the tears.

If you can, thank God for the
Christmases you had with them.
Light a candle. Cry. Start a tradition
in their memory. And remember the
love you shared through the holidays.

SHARED FROM DONNA TJADER

Council Meeting 11/17/2020

Called to order at 6:00

Present - Wayne Wiberg, Colleen Skold, Marge Olson, Annie Slater, Kristin Kosloski, Polly Imme, Donna Tjader, and Pastor Emily (Terri Moritz on Zoom) AB: Jerry Stypula

Guests - Jenelle Lindquist

Opening prayer by Pastor

m/s/c to approve the minutes of last month's meeting

Pastor's Report:

- Plans to have Parish wide zoom meetings 2X a week for Advent
- Led brainstorming on what Christmas worship will look like, much discussion
- There were two weddings last month (on a very small scale)
- Parish communion was held Oct. 25 and Nov. 1
- She attended a first call theological conference for 3 days on Zoom
- Enjoyed a week long vacation
- Expressed thanks to Diane House for being on call
- Confirmation is meeting on Zoom
- Advent wreaths have arrived
- The two weekly prayer services are discontinued
- The tech committee met (Pastor, Jenelle, and Dave Ritchie). They welcome new members

Treasurer's report - received

Parish Board report - Wayne will check parish expenditures to make sure that both congregations have been invoiced for shared 2020 costs, Colleen will send the revised Parish Articles to the Synod, Parish Board approved the one year compensation level salary and the Portico Gold+ insurance package for Pastor Emily and will take the information to the councils for approval and inclusion in 2021 budgets, both churches are asked to solicit people to serve on a joint advisory technology committee

Old Business:

- Technology discussion and options- continue with livestream or go to prerecorded which would hopefully be uploaded by Sun at 10:30. We agreed to do the prerecorded option with a link on Facebook to the website and also available on youtube.
- m/s/c to have no live services before the council meeting in January due to the recommendations of the Synod and the dangerous state of Covid. This was a VERY DIFFICULT DECISION.
- 100 year anniversary committee met on Nov. 13th. We welcome new members!

New Business:

- There is a person who needs to do 16 hours of community service. Pastor can use this!!
- We'll post a link to the Salvation Army site so people can participate in the bell ringing, if desired
- We will not have a display in the park this year
- Siren Golf requested that we sponsor an ad on their score card, we said no
- Offering envelopes will be ordered

Committee reports:

Discipleship - Sun. School will be working on a virtual Christmas pageant "Do Not be Afraid". Communion may possibly take place somehow for Christmas - to be determined.

Stewardship - kitchen stairs are done! The roof heat cables are working well. We need a new shut off valve in the men's bathroom.

Servanthood - 21 boxes were collected for Operation Christmas Child, 50 blessing bags were given to Ruby's for Thanksgiving, along with \$280 in cash, Burnett Co, Police Dept. is requesting donations for a drone at a cost of \$20,000 which includes training. We'll get more information and put this on Facebook so individuals can donate if they wish. Over 300 candy bags were given out at the Halloween Trunk and Treat. Giving Tree collections are due Dec. 13th

Thank you notes - Jerry Stypula for the step project, Karen Nichols for the photo sessions, and Dave Ritchie for his help with our technology issues. He is a blessing!

*Adjourned at 8:00 p.m. with the Lord's Prayer

*The next council meeting is on Dec. 8th at 6 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Donna Tjader



*To help everyone share in the “light of the season”
we are offering “**Advent Wreaths**”
to purchase for your home!*

The first candle symbolizes hope. Three of the Advent candles are blue symbolizing royalty, hope, and Mother Mary (often portrayed wearing blue). Hope is the main theme of Advent, the beginning of the Church year. We wait in expectation for the coming Messiah!

The second candle represents peace as a homage to the angels' song. It is called the Bethlehem Candle as a reminder of Mary and Joseph's arduous journey to an insignificant town—but their actions will bring peace to ALL the earth!

The third candle is pink for Gaudete Sunday, the Sunday of Joy. Because Advent is a penitential season, it has a lot of similarities with Laetare Sunday (4th Sunday in Lent, also pink). It is as if the Church cannot contain its excitement and needs to have one day of celebration during the somber and austere season.

The fourth candle is again blue, bringing us back to our meditative states where we ponder, along with Mother Mary, all the things in our heart. That is, of course, why the theme for the final Advent Sunday is love. John 3:16 sums it up well.

The tallest candle in the middle is white and it represents Jesus Christ, the light of the world! We light this candle the night of Christmas Eve as we keep vigil for the birth of Christ! When all the candles are burning, we see an impenetrable force: the hope, peace, joy, and love of God! The light which no darkness can overcome! Alleluia!

Purchase Option 1:

Advent candles, holder & devotional: \$14.00

Option 2:

***Instructions on how to make your own
advent wreath & devotional:
FREE***

***Supplies for Wreaths are
available from the church
office ~ stop in!***



Add Bishop's letter & Pastor's Message



Parish Tech Team

Are you or someone you know good with technology? How about soundboards, lighting, filming? We are looking for interested people to

join the parish tech committee to advise and implement technological advancements in our parish. *Contact Pastor Emily.*