

Connections

February
2022

A monthly publication of Bethany Evangelical Lutheran Church - Axtell



903 25 Road - Axtell, NE 68924
308-743-2597

bethanyaxtell@gmail.com
www.bethanyaxtell.org

Pastor Marcia Dorn
c) 308-380-4256

Bethany 
Lutheran Church
Love God. Love People. Axtell

Sunday Schedule

10:00 am
Sunday School
Coffee Fellowship

10:45 am
Worship with Holy Communion

Community Bible Study

Monday, February 14
4:00 pm - Fellowship Hall

We will be studying Lesson 3.
Please read Ruth 3:1-18

Contact Jeanie Poole for more information.



FEBRUARY Altar Flowers
are provided by
Kathy & Jon Abrahamson

In the alley behind the Village Office
and the Presbyterian Church in Axtell.



Axtell Community Blood Drive at the Axtell Community Building

Thursday, February 3rd ~ 10a-4p

Contact Stephanie Anderson at 308-830-2391
to make an appointment.

Walk-in donors are also welcome!



Connections - February 2022



We invite you to
Coffee Fellowship
at 10:00 am on
Sunday mornings.

Please join us!

Interested in hosting Coffee Fellowship?

Sign-up in the narthex for
the Sunday of your choice!



Bethany Circle

Wednesday, February 2nd
6:30pm ~ Bethany Fellowship Hall

We would love to have you
join us in February.
If you have questions,
please reach out to
Amy Nelson (402) 224-0065

Bethany is blessed to host...

BYG, a youth group for high school kids.
About 12 kids attend each week and the
group starts between 6:15/6:30 pm.

Would you be interested in feeding hungry
and grateful youth? If so, contact Brandon or
Shannon Howell to let them know you
are ready to help them share God's love
with Axtell's young people.

Brandon: 402-641-0011
Shannon: 308-830-2314)





IN NEED OF PRAYER

LaVon Abrahamson
Joyce Almquist
Marilyn Anderbery
Nellie Anderson

Rod Behrhorst
Ron Bergstrom
Beverly Carlson
John Exstrom

Bob Freeland
Calvin Gleason
Lanette Gleason
Randy Lemmon

Diana Moore
Marshall Poole
Isaiah Sinachack
Gale Stratman

Residents & Staff at Mosaic ~ Axtell and Bethany Home

We also pray for:

Your continued presence to all those with health challenges or loss of loved ones from coronavirus throughout the world. Bring them healing and peace.

Peace and comfort for workers who continue to feel anxious about their jobs or workplaces.

All people, that they feel calm and hopeful amid financial uncertainties.

Faith to go into the world with good courage, not knowing where we go,
but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us.

Love God.  Love People.

Bethany Prayer Team

Wednesday mornings at 8:00 am

Prayer Team uses a Zoom meeting online.

Let Pastor Marcia know of your
interest to join the Prayer Team.

Prayer Requests

Please contact Pastor Marcia to have
your prayer request added to the list.

*Prayer requests can be added to the
public prayer list or shared only
with the Bethany Prayer Team.*

Let all
that you do
be done with
LOVE.

-1 Corinthians 16:14



Confirmation

Confirmation students meet each week in
preparation of their Affirmation of Baptism
in fulfilling the promises made for
them in each of their baptisms.

Please keep these students in your prayers:

Wyatt Abrahamson

Ashlynn Nelson

Stephanie Cederburg

Leah Stritt

Connor Strolberg

Connections - February 2022





2022 Bethany Positions Filled at Annual Meeting

Congregational Council

Heidi Drew & Josh Jelden

Synod Assembly Delegates

Kendra Brown & Jackie Gregory

Bethany Home Delegates

Wayne Anderbery & Marge Nelson

Synod Assembly Alternate

Josh Jelden

Endowment Committee

Tom Brown & Steve Nelson

The Confirmation class invites you to be a part
of the bulletin board in the Narthex!

As a class we have discussed what it means to
LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE

Please add a star with your name of it and prayerfully
discern ways you are able to **LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE**
by sharing God's love with others!



One way the Confirmation students are "Letting their light shine" is by helping a classmate and friend. Isaiah was diagnosed with Leukemia just before Christmas and is in Omaha receiving treatment.

A Breakfast brunch will be hosted by the Confirmation class on Sunday, February 27th before worship. Please, plan to attend and donate for Isaiah and his family for expenses they have incurred during this difficult time.

If you are unable to attend and want to donate you may give to any of the Confirmation students or the church office. Thanks for helping these young people help their friend in need.

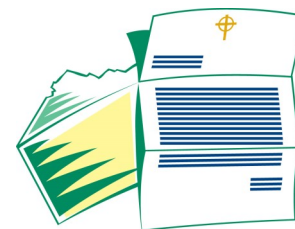
This verse was shared by Isaiah's mother:

*For God has not given us a spirit of fear,
but of power and of love and of a sound mind.
2 Timothy 1:7*



2021 Giving Statements Mailed

Bethany recently mailed giving statements to all households. We are only able to send statements to those who have giving on record. "On record giving" means gifts which have been made by check, online or using offering envelopes. If you have questions about your giving statement, please contact Amy Behrhorst at bethanyaxtell@gmail.com or 402-660-0774. Amy can assist you with your questions or concerns. During 2022, households with recorded giving will receive giving statements periodically. Should you note any errors or discrepancies, please contact Amy Behrhorst at your earliest convenience.



Thank YOU!

We are grateful for the time and dedication of our outgoing Congregational Council Members. All of these gentlemen have served Bethany in many ways over the years.

May your servant hearts be renewed during this time away from elected church leadership.

Blaine Jelden

Larry Landstrom

Matt Strolberg

BYG: BETHANY YOUTH GROUP

A group for high school students which meets at Bethany every Wednesday, starting between 6:15/6:30pm.



Sunday Schedule

10:00 am

Sunday School & Coffee Fellowship

10:45 am

Worship with Holy Communion

All Kids Sunday School

All children age 3 years and up are encouraged to attend Sunday School at 10:00am.

We will gather in the Church Basement to learn, play and study God's message for us!



**JOIN US FOR
SUNDAY SCHOOL**



Wednesday Evening Faith Journey for Adults

"The Chosen" is a series of videos and discussion time centering on the life of Jesus.

On Wednesdays at 6:30pm, we will gather at Bethany to share this Bible Study.

Please, join if you are able.

Each week will be a different story, so if one week does not work for you there is nothing you have missed that will affect the series.

Growing through our time in studying God's word is important and precious in each of our lives as we continue to form our faith!

For more information or should you have questions, please contact Pastor Marcia.



Connections... share your good news with Bethany!

Items for the March 2022 newsletter are due to the church office by Friday, February 18, 2022.

Please email an announcement to bethanyaxtell@gmail.com or provide a hard copy of your announcement to the church office. Submissions may be edited due to space available.

*Did we miss your exciting news?
If so, please allow us to publish your account
in the March issue of Connections.*

*We are only able to publish items
of which we have been made aware.*

Bethany Contact Information



Pastor Marcia Dorn
308-380-4256

Church Coordinator
Amy Behrhorst
402-660-0774

Church Office
308-743-2597

Bethany Email
BethanyAxtell@gmail.com

February

The Father's Love

- Day 1: 1 John 3:1
- Day 2: John 16:27
- Day 3: John 15:9
- Day 4: 1 John 4:9
- Day 5: 1 John 2:15
- Day 6: 2 Cor 6:18
- Day 7: Matthew 7:11
- Day 8: John 8:42
- Day 9: 2 John 1:3
- Day 10: John 10:17
- Day 11: John 17:23
- Day 12: 1 John 4:8
- Day 13: 1 John 4:19
- Day 14: John 3:35
- Day 15: Proverbs 3:12
- Day 16: John 17:26
- Day 17: John 3:16
- Day 18: 1 John 5:1
- Day 19: 1 John 4:7
- Day 20: 1 John 4:16
- Day 21: John 4:23
- Day 22: Romans 8:37-39
- Day 23: Isaiah 54:10
- Day 24: Romans 5:8
- Day 25: Galatians 2:20
- Day 26: Psalm 136:26
- Day 27: Ephesians 2:4-5
- Day 28: Psalm 86:15



TEAM Meetings!

February 6 ~ Following Worship

All are invited!

On February 6th following worship pizza will be provided for all members followed by a gathering time of learning more about the Bethany Teams for 2022!



Listed below are the opportunities available for all members to join in our mission to:

Love God. Love People.

Never served on a committee or team?

Come share some pizza and fellowship and learn how each team contributes to the overall mission of Bethany and see where your gifts best fit.

*In the same way, let your light shine before others,
so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.*
Matthew 5:6

Faith Formation Team

Faith formation is the very way we form our faith. This team oversees the ways Bethany invites us to grow our faith. Sunday School, Vacation Bible School, Bible Studies, Confirmation and youth activities are all opportunities to help in this process of experiencing God's love.

OutReach Team

Outreach is "reaching out" to members and others outside the Bethany building in ways that share God's love and encourage others to know the Good News of Jesus Christ. The ideas for reaching out are endless and exciting. The challenge of this team is to *Go Beyond Bethany* and reach others in meaningful and loving ways.

Worship & Music Team

Oversee aspects of worship at Bethany. Enhancing the basic liturgy and rites of our worship services with selection of music, special services and other expressions that show our reverence and adoration of God.

Property Team

Oversee the upkeep and needs of our physical space that God has gifted us with so generously. This includes the church building, parsonage and property of Bethany.

Stewardship Team

Supervising and taking care of what God has first given us. Helping others see ways and reasons they are called to share their time, talents and tithes generously and joyfully. Exploring and providing oversight of financial areas of Bethany.



JANUARY 2022 IN REVIEW

Sunday - January 16th

Potluck Lunch & Annual Meeting

Thank you to everyone who brought food to share for the potluck lunch! We are also thankful for the faithful who set out the food, readied the tables and drinks, and cleaned up from our feast.

The Annual Meeting was attended by over 40 voting members. We are truly living in an exciting time at Bethany; having so many active and interested members is a blessing!



January						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					



Tuesday - January 18th

Church Council Meeting

As always, an overview of the meeting is located inside the back cover of the newsletter. Everyone is welcome to attend Church Council meetings and hear church business. To request an item be added to the agenda, please contact a council member.



2022 Council - Executive Board

President: Josh Jelden

Vice President: Kendra Brown

Secretary: Kathy Abrahamson

January 2022

Community Bible Study

Bethany Circle - Meal Prep

Coffee Fellowship

Prayer Team

Confirmation

BYG

The Chosen

Kids' Sunday School

Sunday - January 23rd

Pastor Appreciation Sunday

The Apostle Paul writes in his letter to the Corinthians' *"I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus..."*

I give thanks to God for each and every one of you. Humbled and honored on Pastor Appreciation Sunday, I give a heartfelt thank you to Bethany's council for hosting the reception before worship as well as the

flowers and the generous gift to the Solid Rock. Thanks to everyone that remembered me with a card, gift and all of the warm thoughts of appreciation. I am truly blessed to be a part of the Bethany family of faith!



Pastor Appreciation



Connections - February 2022

Sunday - January 30th

Jeanie Poole Recognition Sunday

"Well done, good and faithful servant"

Matthew 25:23

Jeanie Poole was honored for serving over 40 years as Bethany's Sunday School Superintendent. A time of fellowship showing appreciation was held before worship with a special reception in her honor. During worship Jeanie was thanked with a small token of appreciation for her faithful service to Bethany through the difference she made in the lives of so many young people through the years.



From the desk of Pastor Marcia ...

As we begin the new month of February the word “love” seems to come along with it. Valentine’s Day reminds us of love. In some ways this unofficial holiday has become a strategic Hallmark and floral shop entity. But I hope it is more than that for most people. An opportunity to show our love for others through this day of celebrating love is a prime chance to exercise love that is always present. One of my favorite children’s songs is *“Love, Love, Love.... That’s What It’s All About”*

The song begins,

*“Love, love, love
That’s what it’s all about.
‘Cause God loves us we love each other
Mother, Father, Sister, Brother
Everybody sing and shout!
‘Cause that’s what it’s all about.
It’s about love, love, love.”*

*“Let love be genuine; hate what is evil,
hold fast to what is good; love one another
with mutual affection; outdo one another
in showing honor. Do not lag in zeal,
be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord.”*

Romans 12:9-11 NRSV

That is what it is all about. It’s about love! From the moment you are born until the moment you die; with every second, every minute, every hour, every day, every month, every year, every decade, and in every moment in between, we would be nowhere, virtually nothing without love. Like Herb Brokering, a Nebraska born pastor writes in this simple children’s song,

‘Cause God loves us we love each other’

It begins with God’s love for us and spreads from there to those we know and those we have yet to know, and those we will never know. The question soon becomes, yes, I know, I understand this, but what does it mean for me? For each of us?

It is easy to state that we love others and things in our lives. But it is another to share our love, the love of God. In my report included in the annual meeting materials I suggested we use the Nebraska Synod’s theme of *“Let Your light Shine”* as a directional theme for Bethany for our year of 2022.

Sharing God’s love is the same as letting our light shine. There are many opportunities at Bethany to do this. Through our teams and the opportunity to serve as servant leaders in worship and in other ways there is something, some way for each and every person to shine the light of Christ.

I heard once of a church that “required” every member to participate in at least one ministry opportunity that was available through their church. This is indeed an interesting concept and not one I would endorse but, but... What if?

What if every member did indeed participate in the ministry of a church outside of worship? Not only would it increase the mission, the love shared with others, it would also increase the faith, the relationship with God and with others of each and every one.



‘Cause that’s what it’s all about. It’s about love, love, love.”

With love and hope,
Pastor Marcia





He has said to me,
"My grace is sufficient for you,
for my power is made perfect in weakness."
Most gladly therefore I will rather glory
in my weaknesses,
that the power of Christ may rest on me.
Therefore I take pleasure in weaknesses,
in injuries, in necessities, in persecutions,
in distresses, for Christ's sake.
For when I am weak, then am I strong.
2 Corinthians 12:9-10

Would you like to see
Connections in **COLOR?**
Visit: bethanyaxtell.org

To arrange for notification of the online
Connections newsletter, Please contact the
office at BethanyAxtell@gmail.com
or Amy at 402-660-0774.



The S.A.F.E. Center's mission is to provide
free and confidential services for individuals
and families affected by domestic and sexual
violence while bringing awareness and
prevention efforts to communities
across South Central Nebraska.

safecenter.org

Crisis Line: 877-237-2513

Linea de Crisis: 877-215-0167

Love God.  Love People.



Connections - February 2022

Congregational Council Meeting

Tuesday, January 18, 2022 at 6:30pm

Attended by

Kathy Abrahamson Josh Jelden
Kendra Brown Scott Nelson
Heidi Drew Shawn Soderquist
Jackie Gregory Pastor Marcia Dorn

Absent Members

none

Others present

Amy Behrhorst

- Election of Officers: President - Josh Jelden; VP - Kendra Brown; Secretary - Kathy Abrahamson
- Team Leader Selection: Faith Formation - Jackie Gregory; Outreach - Shawn Soderquist & Josh Jelden; Stewardship - Kathy Abrahamson & Heidi Drew; Worship & Music - Kendra Brown; Property - Scott Nelson & Josh Jelden
- December 2021 Meeting Minutes were approved with amendment.
- Financial Reports for December 2021 were approved.
 - * General Fund & Multipurpose Funds
- Insurance/Hail Damage: Update provided on damage and claims status.
- Tree Removal: New council members informed on tree removal and future landscaping/sign project
- Church computers: Pastor Marcia has looked at computers, found acceptable computers, but has not purchased them yet.
- Pastor Appreciation Sunday will occur 01/23 with coffee fellowship and gift/flowers during worship
- Continue to pursue audit of 2021 financial records
- Discussion re: projection system being used during worship.
- Teams meeting to be held following worship on 02/16. Food served.

Team Reports

Faith Formation: Next Meeting: 03/16 after Lenten worship

Outreach: Coffee Fellowship sign-up is our

Worship & Music: Continue song leaders, expand special music?

Property: Has not met - no report

Stewardship: Has not met - no report

Congregational Council Members

Josh Jelden

President

(308) 830-3273

joshjelden@gmail.com

Kendra Brown

Vice President

(308) 830-3291

kbrown@kchs.org

Kathy Abrahamson

Secretary

(308) 999-8136

jonandkathy@gtmc.net

Jackie Gregory

(308) 631-1779

j.gregory6@hotmail.com

Scott Nelson

(308) 991-7101

sdnelson444@gmail.com

Shawn Soderquist

308-830-0080

soda6402@gmail.com

Heidi Drew

(402) 239-2700

hdaubendiek@gmail.com

Bethany Church Council will meet in the fellowship hall on Monday, February 21, 2022, at 6:30pm.

All are invited to attend and hear current church business.

The family of Scott Schneider would like to thank Bethany Lutheran members who have contributed to the Scott Schneider Memorial Cross Country Scholarship Fund established with the University of Nebraska at Kearney Foundation. This scholarship will be used for an incoming student athlete at UNK who needs financial aid to participate in the Cross Country program. This fund originated with memorial money, contributions from two of Scott's teammates: Scottie Haug and Heath Stuckenholtz, and Scott's family.



Inclement Weather Policy

Bethany Lutheran Church - Axtell will be closed and activities will be cancelled when Axtell Community Schools cancels classes, closes early or cancels events.

For Bethany weekend events, please check our website, BethanyAxtell.org our Facebook page or local media outlet listings for closing information.

If you are unsure about road and travel conditions, please remain at home. We would rather you err on the side of caution. Worship is recorded each week and posted to our website later in the day each Sunday.

INCLEMENT
WEATHER POLICY



*He has made everything
beautiful in its time.*

- ECCLESIASTES 3:11 -



Bethany 
Lutheran Church
Axtell
Love God. Love People.

903 25 Road
Axtell, NE 68924
308-743-2597

bethanyaxtell@gmail.com
www.bethanyaxtell.org

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit Number 1
Axtell, NE 68924

Address Service Requested