

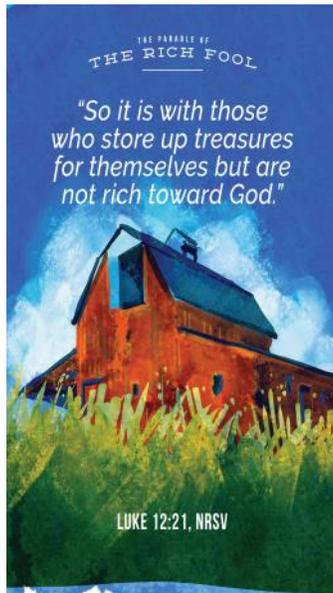


The Bethel Newsletter

August 2022

Porter, Minnesota

August



August 7



August 14



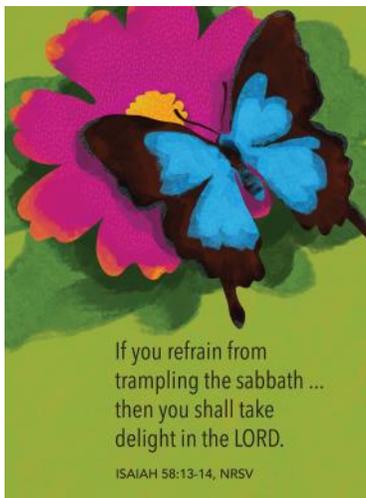
Bethel's Ice Cream Social

August 21, 4-6 pm

Bethel Lutheran Social Hall

Serving: BBQ meal, pie and ice cream specialties

Donations of pies, supplies and workers are also needed. Please sign-up at the church.



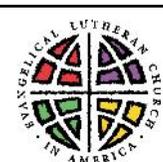
August 21



August 28

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Bethel Lutheran Church is affiliated with the Southwest Synod of Minnesota of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

God's Work. Our Hands.

Bethel Lutheran Church
P. O. Box 126
2429 County Hwy 16
Porter, MN 56280

Telephone: (507) 296-4658

Office Hours at the Church:
Wednesday —9:30 a.m. -12:00 p.m.

E-mail address: bethel@bethelofporter.com

Website: bethelofporter.com

Pastor Rev. Ellen Munter 296-4558 (home)
507-828-1000 (cell)
Email: pastormunter@gmail.com

Your Church Officers

President	Randy Kamrath	507 530-4417
Vice President	Mike Knutson	507-829-2767
Treasurer	Deana Moeller	507 530-5816
Financial Sec.	Josh Sumption	296-4497
Secretary	Sue Alley	507-530-1628

Deacons

Linda Bruns	296-4645
Tracy Wenthe	296-4623
Dawn Gawerecki	507 828-6087
Terry Dybsetter	296-4401
Sara Wollum	507 829-8513

Trustees

Jerome Bruns, Chair	296-4645
Brian Mamer	507 829-8708
Roger Longhenry	296-4422
Bob Merritt Jr	296-4436
Lance Moeller	507 530-5814

Board of Education

Paula Syltie	507 828-3587
Shelly Schrunk	507 530-3714
Anna Kamrath	507 530-5558
Amber Moeller	
Charlotte Wilke	507 829-4790
Katie Munter-youth	
Lillie Wollum-youth	

Custodian

Tom Gawerecki	507-828-6099
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August Birthdays

2nd Ellen Munter, Lana Syltie
3rd Lillie Wollum
4th Morgan Crowser, Wyatt Hurt
5th Carter Wenthe
9th Addison Petersen
13th Tanya Larson
15th Michael Baer, Jody McLain
16th Anthony Wollum
19th Kaitlyn DeVos, LuWayne Olson
20th Jean Hanzlik
21st Mikayla Anderson
22nd Barb Pronk, Grant Anderson,
Jacob Knutson
24th William Longhenry, Shelby Kontz
26th Michael Evjen, Marlo Sumption,
Lexie Schrunk

If you have any corrections or additions,
please contact the church office at 296-4658, or
email: bethel@bethelofporter.com If your name
does not appear in the month of your birthday, it
means we don't have your birth date. Thanks!



Okay everyone! Time to gear up! School is around the corner. And even if you don't have children for whom this is important, it still marks a significant transition in most of our lives. Even if it's just in what we can find at the store. A whole box of crayons for 50¢! How amazing is that? ☺

The reminders that time is moving, that we are shifting gears, are all around us. Some, like the crayons and other school supplies, are easy to see. Others, not so much. Or rather, it's not that the signs are hidden as much as we forget about them. We either see them so often that we stop noticing, or we forget their significance. This can be especially true when we are talking about the signs and reminders not only that God is present and active in the world, but that each and every day is one day closer to Christ's return. We may know this, but I suspect that most of the time we live as if we have forgotten.

In our readings in the Gospel of Luke lately, there has been an urgency to what Jesus is doing and saying. "The harvest is plentiful but the laborers are few. Go cure the sick and proclaim the kingdom of God." "Care for your neighbor, even if they despise you." "As disciples, don't neglect listening to the Word even as you work for others." "Be persistent in prayer, never stop praying." "Don't hoard riches for yourself—they do you no good in heaven." We are going to hear a variation on that last one again. These may not seem very urgent, but they are. Because all of these teachings and doings, along with all the ones we will hear in the next few months, are happening while Jesus is on His way to Jerusalem to die.

Not to put too fine a point on it, but everything we are saying and doing is also happening while we are on the way to our deaths. Hopefully that road is a very long one, but it leads in only one direction. I don't mean to be morbid—really!—but there is no point in shying away from the truth. And, in fact, it can be dangerous to do so. We get complacent. We get comfortable and begin to think that there will always be time. Time to be a better disciple. Time to start attending worship. Time to read Scripture. Time to do all thing things we know we are called and expected to be doing...later.

But time is a tricky thing, and it passes by more quickly than we can really process. School starts in less than one month. Harvest will be upon us before we turn around and in a blink of an eye, it will be Christmas. We often joke about "where does the time go?" but it isn't really funny. We don't know when we will be meeting the Lord, whether it be after our death or when He returns, and so the time to be a disciple, to worship, to pray, to read Scripture, to give of ourselves, is now. Right now.

So when you see an opportunity to give a bit of yourself, don't wait. I know you are busy. We are all busy. But when you stand before the Lord, what do you want to say? That your accounts were in order and your house cleaned up, or that you cared for your family and neighbors, fed the hungry, visited the sick, clothed the naked, and worked your best for justice in your community?

The Good News here, is that Jesus *was* on His way to die, and He died for us. He died so that we can be forgiven when we forget to live as we know we ought. He died so that we can have eternal life. And He died so that we would know how fully and completely we are loved and cherished by God. So go out, children of God, beloved of God, you who are forgiven and promised life now and into eternity. Strengthened by God, go out and speak and do and *be* the disciples God has made you to be.

In Christ,

Pastor Munter

CHURCH COUNCIL



The Church Council and Board reports for July 2022

Trustees

Trustee action taken:

Motion was made and second to pay bills.

The trustees will contact Noyes Tree service to trim tree at the parsonage.

Approve \$100. to the Porter Harvest Fest to hang our banner.

Randy will check out the septic tank.

Will have Vick's plumbing to check out the floor drains in the church.

Brian, Bob, Lance, Roger and Jerome

Deacons

- Deacon for August: Dawn
- Coins for community: Porter Fire Department
- Communion Dates August 7 & 21
- Pastor will go on vacation on August 12-14th .
- Deacons will be responsible for the worship on Sunday August 14
- Discussion of volunteer drivers for Canby riders.

Terry, Sara, Tracy, Dawn and Linda

Board of Education

Paula Syltie reporting:

VBS starting July 24th is pretty well organized

Rally Sunday is September 11, 2022

Sunday School begins on September 18, 2022

Christmas Program is December 11, 2022 with practices: November 20, & 27, December 1 & 7



Bethel is looking for Sunday Drivers.

Right now, we have two members who are unable to drive and so cannot attend worship here at Bethel. We would like to get a group of six or seven people who would be willing to bring one or both of these members to worship on the first or second Sunday of each month. If we could get at least six drivers, each would only have to drive twice a year.

If you are interested, please contact the church office, Pastor Munter, or any of the Deacons.

Upcoming Community Events:

Porter Harvest Fest:

August 19-21

Join the many community activities
in Porter from Friday through Sunday

Sanford Canby

Ambulance Fundraiser

Burger/Hotdog Feed

Thursday, August 11

11am– 1pm

Central Park, Canby, Minnesota

Lund-Hoel House Annual Ice Cream Social

Saturday, August 6th , 2022: 4-7 pm, at the Lund-Hoel House lawn

Additional information on the church bulletin board

Spare Coins for Community



In August we are contributing our spare coins to the Porter Fire Department for their equipment fund.

WELCA Summer Retreat

Thursday, August 11, 2022

Bethany Lutheran in Arco

8:30 am—1:00 pm

Live, Love & Laugh

Potluck Salad Luncheon

No registration fee.

Monthly Financial Update

Miscellaneous Revenues

The Revenues taken into account are all weekly and holiday offerings as well as special offerings designated to the general account such as Fuel, Missions, and Food Shelf Offerings. This comparison is only for Revenues and Expenses associated with Bethel's responsibility for our parish budget, meaning checks from Hemnes Lutheran Church are not included in the Year to Date Revenue and their 25% share of our

parish budget is not included in the Year to Date Budgeted Expenses. This comparison also does not take into account Refunds and Reimbursements or Savings Reimbursements. These sources of revenue are normally received to pay expenses that are not a part of Bethel's operating budget, so are not used to make comparison to our budgeted expenses.

The Year to Date difference will show on a monthly basis if we are receiving sufficient offerings to cover our budget, or if we are behind. The running total for each month will be in a Year to Date total, not a monthly total.

If it is necessary to borrow money from Savings Reserves to fund the operations of Bethel, the amount will be denoted in the Cash Reserves Expended column. If funds are repaid to the Savings Reserves during a surplus, the repayment will be denoted in the Cash Reserves Repaid column. Reserves Expended and Reserves Repaid are not represented in the Revenues and Expenses columns of this report.



Don't forget that you can donate to Bethel just by shopping at Amazon. Click on this link: smile.amazon.com or type it into your browser, and choose "Bethel" as your charity. There are many, so keep going and you will find a "Bethel" in Porter, MN. That's us! You can change your bookmark for Amazon to be smile.amazon.com so it comes up automatically. Then when you shop just look for the "eligible for AmazonSmile" in the product details page and you're good to go!

Transfers: in June of \$2,000.00 from Funding Reserves to General Fund to cover regular operating expenses of the congregation.

:

	Year:	2022	
Total Budgeted Expenses:	\$	126,671.81	*Includes all Bethel and Parish related expenses
Monthly revenue required to meet budget:	\$	10,555.98	

Year to Date Actual Revenue and Budgeted Expenses Comparison-

This report is based on budgeted expenses divided evenly for each month of the calendar year. Actual expenses per month vary greatly. This analysis is to be used as a guideline, and not a full representation of the full financial health of Bethel Lutheran Church.

This report now includes revenues received from Hemne Lutheran Church as they are applied to all expenses related to the Bethel-Hemnes Joint Parish.

	Total Revenue for Month	Year to Date Revenue	Year to Date Budgeted Expense	Year to Date Difference: shortfalls shown as negative numbers	Cash Reserves Expended	Cash Reserves Repaid	Reserves Repaid Notes
January	\$8,039.85	\$8,039.85	\$10,555.98	-\$2,516.13			
February	\$9,784.73	\$17,824.58	\$21,111.97	-\$3,287.39			
March	\$8,770.48	\$24,674.56	\$31,667.95	-\$6,993.39			
April	\$10,459.73	\$35,009.29	\$42,223.94	-\$7,214.65			
May	\$8,622.45	\$43,631.74	\$52,779.92	-\$9,148.18	-\$5,000.00		
June	\$6,040.58	\$49,672.32	\$63,335.91	-\$13,663.59	-\$2,000.00		
July	\$10,236.24	\$58,805.81	\$73,891.89	-\$15,086.08			

Bethel Workgroup Schedule

Altar Workers for Sundays in September

Dawn Gawerecki
Sara Wollum

Altar Workers for Sundays in August

Sandy Appelen
Carol and Ken Jeremiason

Group #4

Terry and Dan Dybsetter	296-4401
Anna Noyes	507 828-7366
Phyllis and Harvey Melrose	223-5512
Dawn and Tom Gawerecki	507-828-6087 or 507-828-6099
Deanna and Lance Moeller	507 530-5814 or 507 530-5816
Gail and Marlo Sumption	507 828-2860
Ralph Dovre	223-7771
Joy and Randy Schmidt	224-2286
Hattie and Jim VanDerostyne	296-4563
David Dybsetter	296-4648, 507 828-1397
Chad Moeller	507-828-3536
Danny VanDerostyne	507-829-0070
Kayla and Brady Watson	507-829-6745
Barb Pronk	507 401-3263, or 507 828-1404



**Please note: The first person or couple on the list are chair for the next funeral.*

God among the rubble

The nonprofit World Central Kitchen provides fresh meals for communities in need following natural disasters or during humanitarian crises. After Russia invaded Ukraine in February 2022, WCK fed millions of people in the country and refugees at border crossings.

When I feel discouraged by tragic news and ask where God is, I'm reminded that God shows up precisely in people such as the WCK teams. They are God's hands serving healthy food to people fleeing home. They are God's heart and arms welcoming those in need to be nourished.

Often in the Bible God shows up around meals: Sarah and Abraham host the Lord in the form of three visitors; God rains manna from heaven for the Israelites; an angel provides food for exhausted Elijah; Jesus eats with "tax collectors and sinners" and feeds crowds with a few loaves and fish. Supremely, Jesus gives to all the meal of Holy Communion, the bread and wine that are His very body and blood.

In our broken world, God is among the rubble, among the helpers, among us.



—Heidi Hyland Mann

Worship Schedule

Our worship will be live streamed on our Facebook page. Bulletins are e-mailed weekly or available for pickup in the narthex.

www.facebook.com/bethelofporter

Other resources are available on our website. www.bethelofporter.com

Coming Events

Worship with communion will be held on August 7, 21

Worship is Sunday at 9:30 am at Bethel and 8:00 am at Hemnes during the summer.

WELCA Summer Retreat
August 11, 8:30—1:00 , Bethany, Arco

Bethel's Ice Cream Social

August 21, 4-6 pm , Bethel Social Hall

Donations of pies, supplies and workers are also needed. Please sign-up at the church.



The attached QR code can be used to directly access the online giving form for Bethel



Readings for the month of August

August 7 Pentecost + 9	August 14 Pentecost + 10	August 21 Pentecost + 11	August 28 Pentecost + 12
Genesis 15:1-6	Jeremiah 23:23-29	Isaiah 58:9-14	Proverbs 25:6-7
Psalms 33:12-22	Psalms 82	Psalms 103:1-8	Psalms 112
Hebrews 11:1-16	Hebrews 11:29-12:2	Hebrews 12:18-29	Hebrews 13:1-16
Luke 12:32-40	Luke 12:49-56	Luke 13:10-17	Luke 14:1, 7-14

Kids Page



Create some invisible art and then reveal the seasonal design.

What you need:

- Leaves
- White paper
- White crayon (label removed)
- Watercolor paints
- Water
- Paintbrush



What you do:

1. Gather leaves of different shapes and sizes. On a table, arrange them flat without overlaps. Set the paper over them.
2. Hold the crayon sideways and use the long edge to color over the leaves. You'll make an invisible rubbing of them.
3. Then paint over the paper with watercolors. The areas with crayon will resist the paint and reveal the hidden leaf designs.



God's character is evident through what he made.

Directions: Hold up the puzzle to a mirror. Then write the backward words correctly to complete Romans 1:20, NIV.

FOR SINCE THE NOITAEBO OF THE WORLD

 ETERNAL SH — SITILAUQ INVISIBLE S'DOG

 POWER AND ENIVID NATURE — HAVE BEEN

 YJRAEJC SEEN, BEING DOOTSRDNU FROM

 WHAT HAS BEEN MADE, SO THAT ELPOR ARE

 WITHOUT EXCUSE. 2NAMOR 1:20, NIV

answer: creation, invisible, eternal, divine, clearly, understood, people, Romans



THE NEWSLETTER FOR THE MEMBERS AND FRIENDS OF

BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

P.O Box 126

2429 Co. Hwy. 16

Porter, MN 56280

Bethel Lutheran Newsletter

August 2022

Bethel Worship, Sunday 9:30 am

*Live streamed on the Facebook page
and later at bethel@bethelofporter.com*

www.facebook.com/bethelofporter

www.bethelofporter.com

