



The Bethel Newsletter

July 2019

Porter, Minnesota



Holy Communion:

Bethel—July 7, 14

Hemnes—July 3, 17, 24,

New Email Address!!

Bethel's new email address is

bethel@bethelofporter.com.

We have closed the frontier.com address.

Sundays in July

July 7th - *God is the source of nourishment.*



Vacation Bible School

July 15-18, 2019

6:00 pm – 8:30 pm

All children age 3 – 6th grade are welcome.

Click this link to sign up.

vbspro.events/p/bethelofporter



July 14th—*Love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, strength and mind.*

July 21st—*Listen and hear the word from above.*

July 28th - *Life of the baptized is to be rooted in prayer.*



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Bethel Lutheran Church is affiliated with the South-west 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:
 1st, 2nd & 4th Tues—9:30 a.m. -12:00 p.m.
 3rd Wed—9:30a.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	Mike Knutson	507-829-2767
Vice President	Randy Kamrath	507 530-4417
Treasurer	Deana Moeller	296-4634
Financial Sec.	Josh Sumption	296-4497
Secretary	Sue Alley	507-530-1628

Deacons

Anna Kamrath, Chair	507-530-5558
Martha Melrose	296-4515
Craig Petersen	296-4483
Terry Dybsetter	296-4401
Sara Wollum	223-5844

Trustees

Jerome Bruns, Chair	296-4645
Tom Gawerecki	224-2267
Roger Longhenry	296-4422
Bob Merritt Jr	296-4436
Curt Blumeyer	223-7339

Board of Education

Tracy Wentte, Chair	296-4623
Anna Noyes	296-4477
Nikki Petersen	507-829-0555
Rachel Wollum	223-5844
Megan Syltie	507-829-9931

Custodian

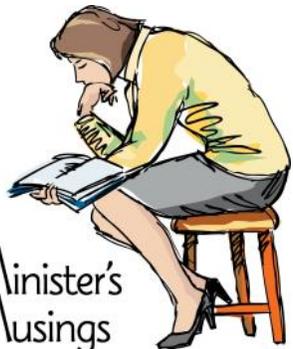
Lou Knutson	296-4489
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July Birthdays

2nd Dawn Gawerecki
 3rd Harvey Melrose
 4th Bill Ningen
 5th Paige Fliss
 6th Evan Meier
 9th Brenda Knutson
 10th Ben Syltie, Beatrice Heise
 11th Josh Sumption, Carter Schrunk
 12th Maya Frank
 16th Vicki Gawerecki, Nancy Longhenry
 17th Darlene Moeller
 18th Carmon Mamer
 19th Doug Anderson
 20th Paula Syltie
 21st Rachel Wollum
 25th Bonnie Merritt
 28th Hailie Moeller, Maya Wentte
 30th Michelle Evjen
 31st Andrea Weisbond, Jessica Moeller, Karen Evjen

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


 Minister's
Musings

Finally, *finally*, all the festivals are done and we are ready to dive deep into the Gospel according to St. Luke. You've all been waiting for this, right? ☺ I kid, but it does seem like it has taken forever to get to this point. And while festivals are fun, it is nice to be able to settle in and just read and experience Luke's gospel as written, rather than skipping around. And while we will be reading large sections, we won't actually get to every single verse. We simply don't have enough Sundays. But you can always read the entire gospel on your own!

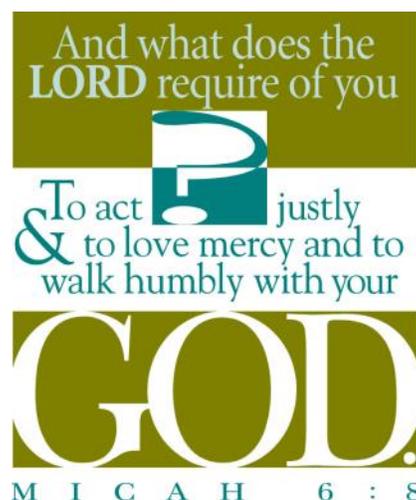
Luke's story of Jesus brings the disciples face-to-face with brokenness, hurt and economic inequality. Luke portrays Jesus at the edges of society seeing the people others overlook and hearing the people others try to keep silent. Luke tells stories of outsiders like the Samaritan who shows unexpected mercy and Mary and Martha, outsiders due to their gender, but to whom Jesus draws near. The disciples are sent with Jesus to see and listen, to encounter and understand, to pay attention to the stories of others. And in these encounters, their own understanding of God's love, healing, and mercy are challenged and broadened.

Luke is intensely interested in how Jesus, and therefore God, sees people who are pushed aside or marginalized by the world. And in doing so, highlights the difference between God's mercy and compassion and our own sinful nature. Luke expands the understanding of what is sinful behavior to include its social, economic, and structural aspects. The forms of sin Jesus and the disciples encounter in Luke are less individual than they are communal: sin against God is sin against neighbor.

Healing becomes Luke's way of showing the impact of the ministry of Jesus and the disciples for the life of the world. Jesus' provides healing of body, mind, and spirit of course. But this healing also has structural, political, social and economic dimensions as well. Compassion and concern surrounding the homeless and hungry, for example, includes not only caring for those individuals, but speaking out against the social, political and economic structures that create homelessness and food scarcity in the first place.

Compassion and concern can't come unless we pay attention. And paying attention happens when, but the gift of the Holy Spirit, room is made for disciples (us!) to reflect on the world around them. Summer is both the best and worst time for such sustained reflection. On the one hand, schedules often lighten up a little. On the other hand, there are more and more distractions. But I invite you to make the time this summer. It feels like the world is becoming a scarier and more difficult place for those without substantial resources to live and thrive. Including in our own country. If that is going to change, we need to start really paying attention to what is happening and spend time in serious reflection about what our response will be. As the children of God we are called to see those people others overlook and to speak up for those whom society wishes to silence. We may not always agree on what, exactly, should change. But as disciples of Jesus Christ we should all agree that no matter who they are, no matter what they have done, God loves them and that Jesus died for them, too.

In Christ,
Pastor Munter





The Church Council and Board reports for June 2019

Trustees:

Members present: Jerome, Curt, Roger and Bob,

Discussion topics were:

Motion was made and second to pay bills.

Discussed the quilt raffle on August 18 (ice cream social and the possibility of including a silent auction . Tickets will soon be ordered.

Submitted by Jerome

Deacons

- Deacon of the Month: Terry Dybsetter
- Food Shelf: Canby
- Communion Dates for Bethel will be July 7,& 14, Hemnes Communion July 24 & 31
- Deacons discussed:
- Prayer needs within our Bethel community and wider community.
- Pastor Ellen will be gone on Sunday June 23rd. Discussed Deacon leadership of worship using the sermon from Bishop Anderson.

Members Present: Craig, Anna, Sara, & Terry

Board of Education:

VBS is scheduled for July 15-18. The theme is ROAR from Group Publishing. Reviewed this last year and focused on VBS. They will need help and donations for this event. A sign up sheet will be available at the church.

“The Latest News”

Bethel’s Harvest Fest Raffle

Tickets are here!

This year we will feature a fund raising raffle concluding at the ice cream social in August.

We currently have a beautiful quilt, quilt rack and jewelry rack, meat certificates and many other donated prizes. We would like to feature additional items for the raffle or a possible silent auction to be held during the ice cream social

&

Raffle Tickets are now available. Ask any Council member for your pack or single ticket now. Each ticket is \$5.00.

Pick up some to sell to family and friends!



Get Your Tickets!

If you are interested in adding an item or cash gift for a prize or the silent auction, please contact Jerome Bruns by August 18th.

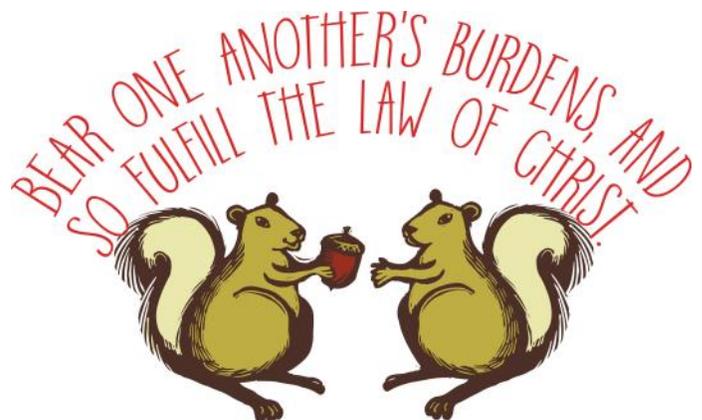
Thank you
Bethel Council



Thanks for everyone who helped “stuff the shelves” of the Ivanhoe food shelf.

Many bags and boxes of supplies were delivered to Ivanhoe by Curt Blumeyer to assist the needs of those in Lincoln County.

If you have ideas for things you would like to see Bethel involved with, please contact one of the Deacons: Terry Dybsetter, Martha Melrose, Sara Wollum, Craig Petersen, or Anna Kamrath with your idea. We are always looking for ways we can better serve our communities.



GALATIANS 6:2. ESV

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.

Year to Date Actual Revenue and Budgeted Expenses Comparison

This report is based on budgeted expenses only, divided evenly for each month of the calendar year. The actual expenses each month may be more or less than was budgeted. This analysis is to be used as a guideline only and not a full representation of the full financial health of Bethel Lutheran Church.

This report does not include revenues or expenses regarding the Hemnes Lutheran Church portion of the joint parish budget.

	Year to Date Revenue	Year to Date Budgeted Expense	Year to Date Difference: shortfalls shown as negative numbers	Cash Reserves Expended	Cash Reserves Repaid
January	\$6,378.00	\$8,633.13	-\$2,255.13		
February	\$10,292.00	\$17,266.25	-\$6,974.25		
March	\$19,700.75	\$25,899.38	-\$6,198.63		
April	\$30,195.25	\$34,532.50	-\$4,337.25		
May	\$38,529.88	\$43,165.63	-\$4,635.75		

The June financials were unavailable at the printing of this newsletter.

Don't forget that you can donate to Bethel just by shopping at Amazon. Go to smile.amazon.com and choose "Bethel" as your charity. There are many, so go to about the fourth page 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!



Bethel Workgroup Schedule

Altar Workers for Sundays in July

Pat Petersen

Barb Anderson

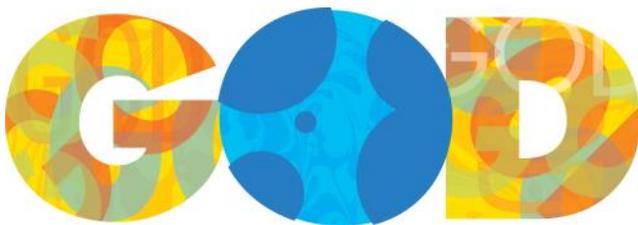
Altar Workers for Sundays in August

Sandy Appelen

Christy Hulzebos

Group #4

Gail and Marlo Sumption	296-4609
Barb Pronk	296-4549
Terry and Dan Dybsetter	296-4401
Deanna and Lance Moeller	296-4634
Dawn and Tom Gawerecki	224-2267
Or 507-828-6087 Or 507-828-6099	
Anna Noyes	296-4477
Norma and Ralph Dovre	223-7771
Phyllis and Harvey Melrose	223-5512
Joy and Randy Schmidt	224-2286
Hattie and Jim VanDerostyne	296-4563
David Dybsetter	296-4648
Chad Moeller	507-828-3536
Danny VanDerostyne	507-829-0070
Kayla and Brady Watson	507-829-6745



We are living in a world that is absolutely transparent, and God is shining through it all the time. This is not just a fable or a nice story. It is true. If we abandon ourselves to God and forget ourselves, we see it, maybe even frequently. God shows Himself everywhere, in everything — in people and in things and in nature and in events. It becomes very obvious that God is everywhere and in everything and we cannot be without Him. It's impossible. The only thing is that we don't see it. —Thomas Merton





Worship Schedule

Hemnes:

Wednesday—7:00 pm Worship

Bethel:

Sunday—9:00 am Text Bible Study

Sunday—10:00 am Worship

Sunday—11:00 am Coffee Fellowship

Communion Worship:

Bethel— July 4, 14

Hemnes – July 24, 31

Pastor’s Office Hours:

9:30 am—12:00 pm Wednesday

Coming Events

July 3	7:00 pm	Hemnes Worship
July 10	2:00 pm	Hemnes Worship
July 15-18	6– 8:30 pm	VBS
July 22	7:30 pm	Council/Boards
July 24	8:00 am	Coffee, Christ & Convers.
July 25	2:30 pm	Minneota Manor
July 29	10:15 am	Spiritual Reflections



July 7 Pentecost 4	July 14 Pentecost 5	July 21 Pentecost 7	July 28 Pentecost 8
Isaiah 66:10-14 Psalm 66:1-9 Galatians 6:1-16 Luke 10:1-20	Deuteronomy 30:9-14 Psalm 25:1-10 Colossians 1:1-14 Luke 10:25-37	Genesis 18:1-10 Psalm 15 Colossians 1:15-28 Luke 10:38-42	Genesis 18:20-32 Psalm 138 Colossians 2:6-19 Luke 11:1-13

PATRIOTIC PINWHEEL

Create this colorful July 4th craft.

What you need:

- Decorated card stock square (5" x 5")
- Scissors
- Hole punch
- 2 one-inch circles of card stock
- Glue
- Pipe cleaner (3 inches)
- Drinking straw



What you do:

1. Fold the square corner to corner to form an X. Unfold.
2. To make spokes, cut the four creases until an inch from the center.
3. Punch a hole in the middle of the square, near the tips of each spoke, and in the middle of each circle.
4. Fold each spoke toward the center, lining up the holes. Glue in place.
5. Wrap one end of the pipe cleaner around the top of the straw. Thread a circle, the pinwheel, and the remaining circle onto the pipe cleaner.
6. Roll the pipe cleaner end into a ball. Then spin!

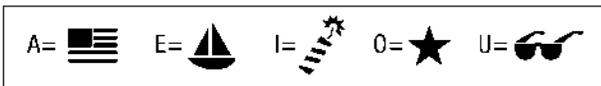
Kids Page



"IN DEPENDENCE" DAY!

Always live "in dependence" on God.

Directions: Use the vowel code to complete Psalm 16:8, NIV.



k _ _ p my _ y _ s
 I w _ y s _ n th _ L _ RD.
 W _ th h _ m _ t my
 r _ ght h _ nd,
 w _ ll n _ t b _ sh _ k _ n.
 Ps _ lm 16:8, N _ V

Answer: I keep my eyes always on the Lord. With him at my right hand, I will not be shaken. Psalm 16:8, NIV



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 July 2019

Bethel Summer Worship, Sunday 10:00 am
Hemnes Summer Worship, Wednesday 7:00 pm

