



The Bethania Blade

"As a called people of God and as members of Bethania,
we will grow in our faith and share it with others"

September October 2024

Dear People of Bethania,

A couple weeks ago I ventured to speak religion and politics in quite a new setting. I gave a three-minute speech to the Racine City Common Council in favor of funding the proposed new King Community Center and Health Center. Here is what I said:

I speak in favor of the proposed Health Center, from a perspective as a follower of Jesus of Nazareth. And I quickly add that I consider this *not* to be a religious perspective but very much a *political* one. In fact, I've come to believe that our gravest mistake in the church has been to see Jesus as coming to start a new religion. Rather, I believe he came chiefly to show us how to be better human beings. In light of great leaders like Martin Luther King, Jr., I see Jesus as a prophet who came to help us understand how to be human in ways that we can more successfully live together in community. In short, he came to invite us into more successful politics that stand the test of history. I cite one of his most well-known sayings, "I was hungry and you gave me to eat, thirsty and you gave me to drink." He goes on to identify with the stranger/immigrant, the imprisoned, and the underdressed. But most important for us tonight, he says, "I was sick and you took care of me. . . . Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me." Most often, we again make the grave mistake of reading this passage religiously — as some sort of prediction of how Jesus will judge us in the afterlife when we die. But if you read this passage carefully, *in context*, it's not about the afterlife at all. It specifically portrays this scene as a "judgment of the nations." In other words, Jesus is prophesying about what makes for being a successful nation *in history*. Those nations which take care of the least in the human family, which care for the most vulnerable, will be the most successful and prosperous of nations. And those nations which *fail* to take care of the most vulnerable will end up on the scrapheap of history, ending in the usual fiery fate of failed nations. So let's follow the road to being a successful and prosperous community, as I believe Jesus lays out for us, by providing health care for the most

stressed neighborhood in our community. I urge you to approve this proposal.

Matthew 25 is the ground zero of Jesus' politics. He prophesies that the New Human Being ("Son of Man") judges the nations – judges the success or failure of human communities – based on how they care for the most vulnerable. Is Bethania a successful community? I would humbly (with some pride) point to things like feeding people at the Community Meal and helping to clothe the underdressed through Thread by Thread. Is undergoing the Reconciling in Christ process a way of welcoming the stranger? It's important to continue to find ways of caring for the most vulnerable.

I have a passion, though too, for offering Jesus' politics about successful communities to our fellow citizens. In a democracy, the majority of us can choose together to do more to care for the most vulnerable among us. We can elect candidates that have plans to care for the least of the human family. Why? Because Jesus has told us that this is how to ultimately be a successful nation. As we journey through the last two months before such a consequential election, we will also be reading the Letter of James on Sundays, which in many ways corroborates Jesus' teachings against the neglect of the poor. Listen to what he says of the rich hoarding their wealth. Listen to what he says about faith needing to take action. What can you and I do these 60 days in order to live faithfully in the wisdom of Jesus, that we might become better citizens and human beings, seeking to live in a better, more prosperous nation?

Pastor Paul





Reconciled in Christ

This was taken from the Greater Milwaukee Synod website.

Empowered by the gospel, we work for the equality and full inclusion of people of all sexual/affectual orientations and gender identities in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

As a community of the people of God, we are called to minister to all people in our world, knowing that the world is often an unloving place. Our world can sometimes be a place of alienation, brokenness, and multiple forms of oppression. Christ calls us to reconciliation and wholeness. We are challenged by the Gospel to be agents of healing within our society.

We, the Greater Milwaukee Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, affirm with the **apostle Paul that in Christ “there is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female” (Galatians 3:28). Christ has made us one. We acknowledge that this reconciliation extends to people of all sexual/affectual orientations and gender identities.**

Because members of the LGBTQIA+ community and their families are often scorned and stigmatized by society and alienated from the Church, we wish to make our caring, concern, and compassion known to all people. It is for this purpose that we affirm the following:

- that all people of all sexual/affectual orientations and gender identities share the worth that comes from being unique individuals created by God;
- that all people of all sexual/affectual orientations and gender identities are welcome within the membership of the Greater Milwaukee Synod upon making a common, public affirmation of faith; and that as members of the Greater Milwaukee Synod, people of all sexual/affectual orientations and gender identities are expected and encouraged to share in the sacramental and general life of the Greater Milwaukee Synod.



L.A.C.E. SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Loving And Caring Endowment

On Sunday, August 18, 2024 the following students were awarded \$1,000 scholarships from the LACE fund during our Sunday worship service.

Olivia Imhoff - University of Wisconsin—Parkside

Austin Kechter - Gateway Technical College

Cameron Porcaro - Carthage College

Raynae Hensel - Carthage College

Alyssa Gruber - University of Minnesota

Natalie Shawhan - University of Wisconsin—Madison

Madison Grace Schmitz - University of Wisconsin—Parkside

Margaret Fischer - Marquette University



*From the
Mailbox*

Thanks!



The LACE Committee -

Thank you so much for selecting me as one of your scholarship winners!

The financial help is greatly appreciated, and will be put to good use.

Raynae Hensel



How well do you know
the father of the Reformation?

Martin Luther

Test your knowledge by taking
this Reformation Day Quiz.

1. Martin Luther was born on November 10, 1483 in what country?
a. Germany b. Austria c. France d. England
2. As an adult, Martin Luther wrote dozens of hymns. His love for music dated back to his early school days, when music was his favorite subject. Although he was particularly fond of playing this instrument, he gave it away before entering the monastery at 21.
a. the violin b. the harpsicord c. the lute d. the French horn
3. Which of the following events did NOT occur during Martin Luther's lifetime?
a. Columbus discovered America c. Michelangelo painted the Sistine Chapel
b. Shakespeare wrote Romeo and Juliet d. Copernicus taught heliocentric universe
4. Martin Luther said he never saw a Bible until he was 20 years old. He later translated the Bible into this language so that common people (not only priests and monks) would be able to read it:
a. Latin b. English c. French d. German
5. Martin Luther originally intended to become a lawyer and completed both his bachelor's and master's degrees toward that end. What happened that convinced him to become a monk instead?
a. he made a vow to St. Anna c. he saw a light from heaven like the Apostle Paul
b. he was frightened by a violent storm d. all of the above
6. Martin Luther objected to the fact that a Dominican friar by the name of Johann Tetzel was selling "indulgences." What were parishiners promised in exchange for buying these pieces of paper?
a. a raffle ticket b. forgiveness of sin c. a new Bible d. all the above
7. On October 31, 1517, Martin Luther posted a list of theses, or topics he wished to debate, on the door of the Wittenburg Castle Church. How many items were on the list?
a. 31 b. 90 c. 95 d. 99
8. Whom did Martin Luther marry?
a. his childhood sweetheart c. a nurse who cared for him in his old age
b. a former nun d. none of the above – as a monk, he stayed single
9. "Next to the Word of God," what did Martin Luther say "deserves the highest praise"?
a. the Pope b. the Virgin Mary c. music d. marriage
10. At the Diet of Worms, Luther was condemned as "a demon in the appearance of a man." Why?
a. because he had defaced church property c. because he wouldn't eat the worms he was served
b. because he had red hair and flushed skin d. because he refused to recant his heretical views

ADMITTED TO THE HOSPITAL??

Please notify the church or have a family member notify the church at 262-632-7267 or Pastor Paul at 269-290-4533. If no one answers please leave a voicemail. Since 2019 the hospitals no longer notify the churches of hospital stays. Since Covid visitors are limited to close family and pastors/deacons of the church. We can bring communion to the hospital and approve it with the hospital staff, if it is desired.



What You Have To Offer...

Contributions have been down this year. If you have a little extra please consider giving it to the church.

There is a giving/expense graph on the bulletin board outside the office if you want to see how we are doing financially.

Care & Concern Team

The care and concern team is looking for more team members to help send out cards.

See Brad or Bonnie if you can help out.



CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:

The church office is listed as closed on the calendar due to health reasons. Please watch the Sunday bulletins for any changes. At this point in time there is slight healing of my lungs and the doctors say it will get better but it takes about 9 months. (August was 5 months) I do check the voice mail and I come in on Saturdays to run the bulletins and do a few other things I can't do from home. Thank you for being patient and understanding.

~ Cathi

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Our Sympathy to Jane Spencer and family on the loss of her husband Jack on Thursday, August 8, 2024. A celebration of Jack's life will be held on Friday, September 6, 2024, 5:00pm, at Draeger-Langendorf Funeral Home and Crematory, 4600 County Line Road, Mount Pleasant, with his brother-in-law, Rev. Michael Morris, officiating and his sister-in-law, Jolene Morris, as the soloist. Visitation will be from 2:00pm until the time of the service.





Care and Concern List:

Please consider sending a note of encouragement to someone on this list. These are people who are dealing with challenges of health, mobility, or other things in their lives.

Carolyn Luetgen
5321 Douglas Ave.
Racine, WI 53402

Marilyn Petersen
Pleasant Point Senior
Living
8500 Corporate
Drive
Racine, WI 53406

Tom Nielsen
Prospect Heights
2015 Prospect Street
Racine, WI 53404

Joyce Thomsen
2935 Old Mill Drive
Racine, WI 53405

Grete Loschenkohl
819 Indiana Street
Racine, WI 53405
Phone - 262-633-
6095



If you have anyone you would like to have added to the prayer chain please contact Kelly Imhoff at 262-554-1558 or by email: bethaniaprayerchain@wi.twcbc.com



Jeff & Sue O.,
Bonnie, Anita, Grete,
Bettie, Sherry, Jean D.,
Brad L. , Tom N.,
Carolyn L.,
Sean D. ,
The family and friends
of Jack Spencer,
The family and friends
of Heidi,

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WORSHIP WITH US SUNDAYS!
9:30 a.m. - In Person or on FACEBOOK LIVE.
(OR ANYTIME) on our Facebook page.

Bulletins are available by email or on our website:
<http://www.bethanialutheran.org/bulletins>

WHAT JESUS WOULD WANT IS TO DO:

WAYS YOU CAN HELP OUR COMMUNITY:
BRING NON PERISHABLE FOOD (Food Pantry)
BRING EMPTY ALUMINUM CANS (Cans for K-9s)
BRING GENTLY USED CLOTHES OR PAPER BAGS (TxT)

WAYS YOU CAN HELP BETHANIA:
SERVE AS A WORSHIP LEADER
MOW THE LAWN
JOIN THE CARE & CONCERN TEAM (Send cards to our Members)
REMEMBER YOUR OFFERING (Pays the Bills)
INVITE OTHERS TO WORSHIP



PLEASE JOIN US!



**TO HOPE AND ACT
WITH CREATION**
SEASON OF CREATION 2024


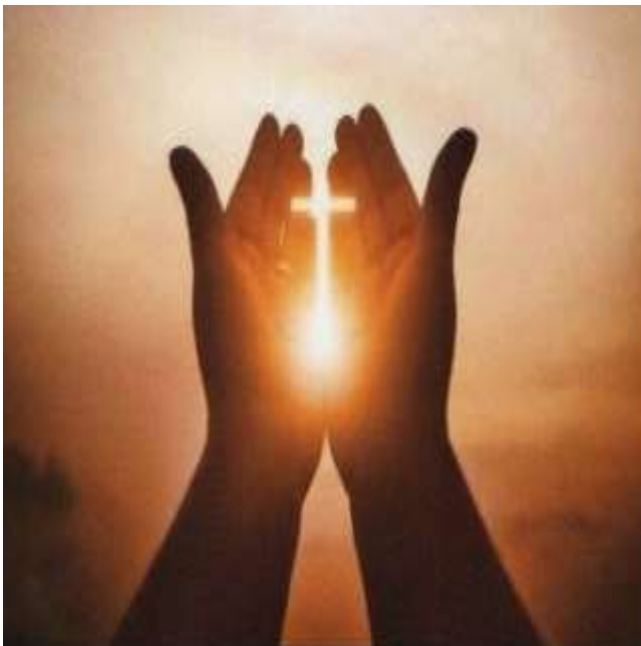
Season of Creation
Ecumenical
Prayer Service

Saturday, September 21st
9:00 a.m.
at Siena Center
5635 Erie Street, Racine

The service will begin outdoors (weather permitting) overlooking Lake Michigan, then will move indoors to the chapel. Those with mobility challenges are invited to gather directly in the chapel at 9:00 a.m.



Co-sponsored by the Racine Dominican
Laudato Si' Action Team and the RJC
Environmental Justice Task Force

Join us
 Sunday September 8, 2024
 9:30 a.m. at
 Bethania Lutheran Church
 4120 Wright Avenue
 Racine WI 53405
 for a Healing Worship Service

Pastor Paul Nuechterlein, presiding

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Worship Date	Offering	In person	Facebook.
July 07, 2024	\$1,160.00	19	104
July 14, 2024	\$ 795.00	25	No Stream
July 21, 2024	\$ 810.00	21	No Stream
July 28, 2024	\$ 523.40	21	No Stream
August 4, 2024	\$1,985.00	20	122
August 11, 2024	\$1,209.00	21	71
August 18, 2024	\$ 874.00	42	64
LACE SUNDAY			
August 25, 2024	\$ 835.00	13	21



October 13—Canned vegetables

October 20 –Canned gravy


October 27—canned fruit

November 3 –Mac & Cheese

November 10 –Peanut butter & jelly

November 17—instant potatoes or 5# bag of potatoes

Monetary donations will be accepted for grocery cards to attach to the baskets.



Bethania Lutheran
Church

4120 Wright Avenue
Racine, WI 53405
262-632-7267

Church Email: Bethania@wi.twcbc.com

Pastor's Email: paulnue56@sbcglobal.net

Website: www.bethanialutheran.org

Office Hours:

Emergencies: Call Cathi (262) 909-5369

Or Pastor Paul (269) 290-4533

Reverend Paul Nuechterlein, Pastor
Cathi Webster, Administrative Assistant
Willy Mueller, Church Musician
Mike Imhoff, Maintenance

COUNCIL

Jeff Alderson, President

Kelly Imhoff, Vice President

Cathi Webster, Secretary

Ed Young, Treasurer

Shelly Alderson

John Barnes

Brad Larsen, Property

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Happy Birthday



SEPTEMBER

- 2—Bill Krause
- 4—Cassie Vassar
- 4—Kurtis Webster
- 8—Calaway Alderson
- 8—Camren McIntosh
- 8—Brittany McIntosh
- 14—Sara Hagerman
- 14—Dakota Kechter
- 17—Anne Woodward
- 19—Cathi Webster

OCTOBER

- 5—Ripley McGaughey
- 9—Jean Dragan
- 12—Eli Imhoff
- 13—Marilyn Peterson
- 18—Andrew Drasen

Happy Anniversary



September 19 - Jeff & Shelly Alderson

September 30 - Jim & Sharon Leger

October 4—Dan & Sara Hagerman

October 12—Tom & Vicki Thiery

CONGRATULATIONS!!!



(Please let us know if there are any changes or missed birthdays or anniversaries. Thank You!)

Date	Worship Leader	Communion Assistant	Reader	Acolyte & Presenter	Offering	Building Host	Coffee Hour	Altar Flowers
September 1	Pastor Paul Nuechterlein	John Barnes Robin Barnes	Ann Woodward	John Barnes		John Barnes		Anita Neilsen
September 8	Pastor Paul Nuechterlein	Julie Hansen Vicki Thiery	Vicki Thiery	Ed Young		Ed Young	Altar Guild	
September 15	Pastor Paul Nuechterlein	Kelly I mhoff Jerod Alderson	Kelly I mhoff	Kelly I mhoff		Kelly I mhoff		
September 22	Pastor Paul Nuechterlein	Brad Larsen	Anita Nielsen	Brad Larsen		Brad Larsen		
September 29	Pastor Paul Nuechterlein	Jeff Alderson Calaway Alderson	Calaway Alderson	Jeff Alderson		Jeff Alderson	Church Picnic	
October 6	Pastor Paul Nuechterlein	John Barnes Robin Barnes	John Barnes	John Barnes		John Barnes		Bethania
October 13	Pastor Paul Nuechterlein	Julie Hansen Vicki Thiery	Julie Hansen	Ed Young		Ed Young	Altar Guild	
October 20	Pastor Paul Nuechterlein	Kelly I mhoff Jerod Alderson	Jerod Alderson	Kelly I mhoff		Kelly I mhoff		
October 27 Reformation	Pastor Paul Nuechterlein	Brad Larsen	Brad Larsen	Brad Larsen		Brad Larsen		Cathi Webster

BACK TO SCHOOL



SCHOOLS HAVE OR ARE STARTING....FALL IS ALMOST HERE

Lutheran schools started August 19

Prairie School started August 20

Catholic Schools started August 21

Christian Schools started August 28

Racine Unified starts September 3



Thread by Thread Fall Change Over

Join us for the Fall changeover on Sunday
September 22nd following worship.

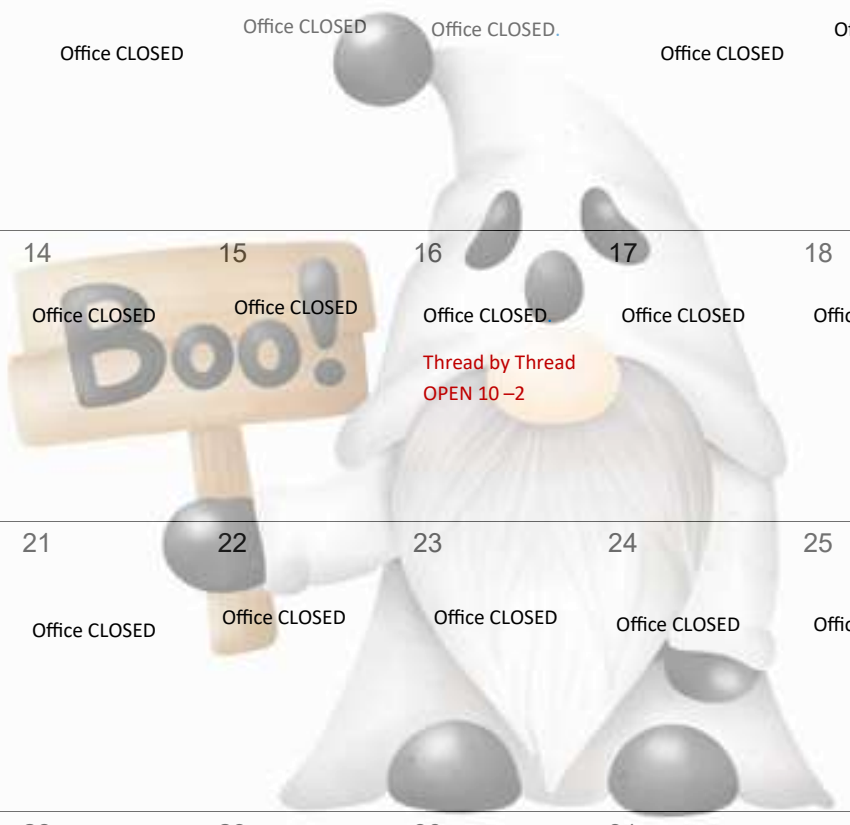
SEPTEMBER 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>1</p> <p>9:30 a. Worship In person & ONLINE</p> <p>10:30 a. coffee Hour ONLINE</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Office CLOSED</p> <p>Labor DAY</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Office CLOSED.</p> <p>7:00 p.m. Council Mtg. - tentative</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Office CLOSED</p> <p>Thread by Thread OPEN 10-2</p>	<p>5</p> <p>Office CLOSED.</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Office CLOSED.</p>	<p>7</p>
<p>8</p> <p>9:30 a. Worship In person & ONLINE</p> <p>10:30 a. coffee Hour ONLINE</p>	<p>9</p> <p>Office CLOSED.</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Office CLOSED.</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Office CLOSED.</p>	<p>12</p> <p>Office CLOSED.</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p> <p>Office CLOSED.</p>
<p>15</p> <p>9:30 a. Worship In person & ONLINE</p> <p>10:30 a. coffee Hour ONLINE</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Office CLOSED.</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Office CLOSED.</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Office CLOSED</p> <p>Thread by Thread OPEN 10-2</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Office CLOSED.</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Office CLOSED.</p>	<p>21</p>
<p>22</p> <p>9:30 a. Worship In person & ONLINE</p> <p>10:30 a. coffee Hour ONLINE / TXT Change Over</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Office CLOSED.</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Office CLOSED.</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Office CLOSED.</p>	<p>26</p> <p>Office CLOSED.</p>	<p>27</p> <p>Office CLOSED.</p>	<p>28</p>
<p>29</p> <p>9:30 a. Worship In person & ONLINE</p>	<p>30</p> <p>Office CLOSED.</p>					

OCTOBER 2024

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

		1	2	3	4	5
			Office CLOSED. Thread by Thread OPEN 10-2	Office OPEN – 7:30 to 9:30 a.m.	Office OPEN – 7:30 to 9:30 a.m.	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
9:30 a. Worship In person & ONLINE 10:30 a. coffee Hour	Office CLOSED	Office CLOSED	Office CLOSED.	Office CLOSED	Office CLOSED	Office CLOSED
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
9:30 a. Worship In person & ONLINE 10:30 a. coffee Hour	Office CLOSED	Office CLOSED	Office CLOSED. Thread by Thread OPEN 10-2	Office CLOSED	Office CLOSED	Office CLOSED
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
9:30 a. Worship In person & ONLINE 10:30 a. coffee Hour	Office CLOSED	Office CLOSED	Office CLOSED	Office CLOSED	Office CLOSED	Office CLOSED
27 Reformation Day	28	29	30	31 Halloween		
9:30 a. Worship In person & ONLINE 10:30 a. coffee	Office CLOSED	Office CLOSED	Office CLOSED	Office CLOSED		



Bethania Lutheran Church
4120 Wright Avenue
Racine, WI 53405



Place Stamps

here

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