

## The Mustard Seed

November 2017

Volume 11, issue 10

<i>November Helpers</i>	2
<i>Council Info</i>	3
<i>Music Schedule</i>	4
<i>Prayer Shawl</i>	
<i>Circle</i>	
<i>Quilting</i>	
<i>Misc. News</i>	
<i>Birthdays/ Anniversaries</i>	
<i>Music Happenings</i>	5
<i>November Calendar</i>	6

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

We have been offering the Sacrament of Holy Communion on a weekly basis which helps us recapture the early (1st Century) Church's understanding of the meal (Holy Communion).

The followers of Jesus at the time of his death, the first Christians, were Jewish and regularly gathered on their Sabaoth, Saturday, for worship in the synagogue. They gathered for prayer, sang hymns, read scripture and listened to interpretation of scripture. A service very similar to what we do at Bethany on the Sundays we do not celebrate Holy Communion. In addition, every Sunday morning the followers of Jesus would gather for "the meal". They would share in the Body and Blood of their Savior, Jesus Christ. This sharing of the meal is what set them apart as Christians, as followers of Jesus. This practice continued until the Jewish authorities banned the followers of Jesus from the synagogue. When that happened, the Christians incorporated the Saturday service of word and prayer with their Sunday morning sharing of the meal. Over a couple thousand years this has evolved into our current practice of worship with Holy Communion.

Now, that we have experienced the "meal" and sharing in the Body and Blood of our Savior on a more regular basis, as the first century Christians did, how does it feel? How about we have some conversation about Communion practices.

May our journey through this time of Thanksgiving and on to the Christmas season bring us closer to Jesus and one another.

Your Brother in Christ,

Pastor John

### **MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!**

**SUNDAY, Dec. 3rd** - A special Sunday of music and celebrating this Christmas season with **Rejoice & Praise!**



## HELPERS FOR NOVEMBER 2017

### COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

November 19  
 (Servers) Council  
 (Set-up/ Clean-up) Ed & Shirley Stukey  
November 26  
 (Servers) Council  
 (Set-up/ Clean-up) Judy Lundberg  
December 3  
 (Servers) Council  
 (Set-up/ Clean-up) Velma Jones

### USHERS/ GREETERS

November 5  
 Ray & Sandy Kephart & Judy Waytashek  
November 12  
 Gordy & Maverine Anderson & Chuck Anderson  
November 19  
 Arden & Patti Virnig & Marian Veaaasen  
November 26  
 Ed & Shirley Stukey & Norma Thompson  
December 3  
 Andy & Norma Holen & Judy Waytashek

### OFFERING COUNTERS

November 5  
 Ed Stukey & Sandy Kephart  
November 12  
 Dixie Peterson & Marian Veaaasen  
November 19  
 Bruce Peterson & Charleen Dahlgren  
November 26  
 Judy Hagman & Eileen Hastings  
December 3  
 Sandy Kephart & Marian Veaaasen

### LECTORS

November 5  
 Colleen Kightlinger  
November 12  
 Arden Virnig  
November 19  
 Joan Ellingson  
November 26  
 Judy Lundberg  
December 3  
 Patti Hook

### PIANISTS

November 5 Barb Bendson  
November 12 Barb Bendson  
November 19 Barb Bendson  
November 26 Brienna Kightlinger  
December 3 Brienna Kightlinger

### FELLOWSHIP HOSTS

November 5  
November 12  
November 19 Hillman group  
November 26  
December 3

If you can help out in providing treats for fellowship after worship, please call the church office to be put on the list. **THANK YOU!**

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES	
<b><u>NOVEMBER</u></b>	
<b>November 1st</b>	Derek Kightlinger's Birthday
<b>November 4th</b>	Dwight Hagman's Birthday
<b>November 5th</b>	Elaine Asmus' Birthday
<b>November 13th</b>	Pastor John's Birthday
<b>November 17th</b>	Ed Stukey's Birthday
<b>November 19th</b>	Quentin Kottsick's Birthday
<b>November 27th</b>	Kevin Anderson's Birthday
<b>November 27th</b>	Ray Kephart's Birthday
<b>November 30th</b>	Victor Lease's Birthday
<b>November 30th</b>	Norma Holen's Birthday



**HOMEBOUND OR RELOCATED?**

If a family member or friend has become homebound or has been moved into Assisted Living or the Nursing Home, please share that information with the church office. **THANK YOU!!**

Pastor John is in the office on Tuesdays.  
 Please stop in or call for an appointment.  
 Pastor John's phone: 320.676.3130

**CHURCH OFFICE HOURS**  
**Monday through Friday 9am-3pm**

**DEADLINE** for the December 2017 Mustard Seed will be **NO LATER THAN** Sunday, November 26th.  
 Please have all items in to Darcy by this date. Thank You!

<b>Minutes for October 17, 2017 Council Meeting</b>
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These minutes will not be approved until the Nov. 14, 2017 meeting at which time they will be approved as is or with any additions or corrections.

### October 17, 2017 Bethany Church Council Meeting

Members present: N. Holen, P. Hook, V. Jones, R. Kephart, P. Olson, D. Peterson and Pastor John.  
Members absent: none

Devotions were given by Pastor John.

Consent Agenda was approved.

Old Business: A. Furnace Project Update- Ray reported that the furnace has been installed. The council also discussed having a basement clean up day. B. Basement flooring- The council discussed basement flooring options and decided to use the same tile and contractor, John's Flooring, to finish the hallway, bathroom, and other rooms. A date hasn't been set yet for installation.

New Business: A. Lenten Services- The council discussed how can we improve attendance for the Lenten services. The council will invite Susan Bracken to the next meeting to be part of this discussion and planning process. B. Communication about Funerals- The council discussed how can we better inform Bethany members and the community about funerals that are scheduled. It was decided to post funeral information at the Post Office, Cedarwood, and the community bulletin board on Main Street in town. We decided to visit this item again in 6 months to see how this plan is working.

Project Updates: A. Thanksgiving Meal- Norma reported that we have received a \$500 donation from the Lions. Patti will be asking the academy students to help with serving and clean-up from 11:00-1:00. B. Alliance Youth- The Alliance Jr. High students will be using Bethany's basement on Wednesday evenings from 6:00-7:30. The meetings will start on Wed. Oct. 25. Bethany will be providing some kind of treat and juice for our guests. The council will take care of the treats for the first several classes and then a sign up sheet will be available for people who would like to help provide snack. C. Urban Immersion- The council decided to use funds from the Bethany youth account to pay for anyone that would like to attend the Urban Immersion weekend in the Twin Cities in November.

Other: The next council meeting has been moved to Tuesday, November 14 at 7:00. There will be a Pastor review time allotted at the end of the regular meeting. The executive committee will meet with Pastor John to discuss information from the review and discuss his contract on Tuesday, November 28 at 7:00.

Next meeting: Tuesday, November 14 at 7:00.

Meeting was adjourned.

Dixie Peterson



<p><b>Set your clocks back one hour before bedtime on Sat., Nov. 4th.</b></p>
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<p>Next Council meeting is scheduled for <b>NOVEMBER 14th at 7 pm.</b></p>
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## GROUPS, MEETINGS, ETC.

**Prayer Shawl** - November 7th at 4pm

**Quilting** - Quilting on TUES., Nov. 21st from 9-3pm

**SENIOR COMPANIONS** Meet at Bethany on the second Tuesday of each month from 9-11:30am.

## MISCELLANEOUS NEWS AND INFORMATION

### HARVEST CELEBRATION

OCT 15th was a very special Sunday for Bethany. We met at Camp Onomia for Harvest Celebration. The celebration was filled with inspiring music from the Rejoice and Praise Team. The 50 members of Bethany heard an inspiring message from Pastor John. To top off the day the camp staff and Kathy Faust served a delicious meal. **THANK YOU TO ALL WHO DECORATED, HELPED IN PLANNING AND CLEAN UP.** If you have not turned in your financial pledge card and your Time and Talent sheets please do so. This helps the Council decide the budget for the coming year and also helps Darcy plan for helpers during the services.

*The Mutual Ministry Team and the Church Council*

### "SECOND SUNDAY SOUP SUPPERS"

You are invited to "Second Sunday Soup Suppers" on Sundays Nov. 12, Dec. 10, and Jan. 7 from 5-7 p.m. at Susan and Tom Bracken's home (306 Birch St., N., Onamia). "SSSS" will be hosted by Dale and Colleen Kightlinger, Tim and Darcy DeBoer, and Tom and Susan Bracken. We hope that these events will be a chance for fellowship, fun, and a light but hearty supper together. Feel free to invite friends--ALL are welcome! If you need a ride, talk to Darcy. For more information talk to any of the hosts.

### ECUMENICAL THANKSGIVING WORSHIP

The Ecumenical Thanksgiving Worship will be held at Bethany on **Tuesday, Nov. 21st at 7pm.**

### COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING DINNER!

The Community Thanksgiving Dinner will be held at BETHANY from **11-1pm.**

Please contact Norma Holen at 532-3566 if you can help in any way.

**We have replaced both boilers at Bethany and the remainder of the basement floor will be tiled in December. The cost of both projects total \$16,000, and the funds have to be replaced to the Memorial Fund. There is a fundraising chart in the Narthex as well as a thermometer to track the donations. THANK you for your generous donations!** Church Council

### Funerals

Recently we have had funerals that some members were not aware of until afterwards. At the October 2017 Council Meeting we discussed how we could better communicate with our members concerning funerals. We decided we would ask the Funeral Director to post notices at the Post Office (which is already being done) and also at the Kiosk next to Family Pathways and at Cedarwood Restaurant. We are also asking the Prayer chain to be notified to ask prayers for the family involved. They and any other members who are aware of an upcoming funeral should share the news with others they happen to meet. If you have any other suggestions, please contact a council member.

### RUBY'S PANTRY

Food Distribution Program. Everyone who gets hungry qualifies! You receive an abundance of grocery items for a \$20 donation. Bring your own baskets or boxes for food. Located at the Lions Community Center, Onamia beginning at **10:30 am the FIRST Monday of the month. Registration begins at 10am.**

**Next TWO dates will be Nov. 6th, Dec. 4th**

**THANK YOU... to those who are giving through Thrivent Dollars!! Much appreciation!**

## NOVEMBER/ DECEMBER 2017 MUSIC HAPPENINGS

### CELEBRATING the Christmas Season!!

**December 3rd** will be a special Sunday of music and celebrating the Christmas Season

with **REJOICE & PRAISE**

Invite your friends! Spread the Word!!  
Rehearsal Sunday, Dec. 3rd at 8:15 a.m.



### **ADVENT BEGINS SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3rd**

Please bring in star-shaped ornaments to decorate our tree.  
Stars may be brought any Sunday in Advent.

## REJOICE & PRAISE



### **REJOICE AND PRAISE SCHEDULE**

**SUNDAY, Dec. 3rd - Meet at 8:15am to lead worship at 9:30am**

## COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS CHOIR

Community Christmas Choir rehearsals are every Wednesday at **Bethany Lutheran beginning at 7pm.**  
(Thanksgiving week rehearsal will be **Tues., Nov. 21st beginning at 7:45pm**)

### **CONCERTS**

**Saturday, Dec. 2nd at Faith Lutheran in Isle beginning at 7:30 p.m.**

**Sunday, Dec. 3rd at Holy Cross in Onamia beginning at 3:00 p.m.**

Free will offerings will be given to local area food shelves.

## YOUTH HAPPENINGS



### **SUNDAY SCHOOL**

Children will be dismissed after the gospel reading. AGES 4 and up WELCOME!!!

# NOVEMBER 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>5 9:30am Word &amp; Prayer</p> <p>Sunday School following the gospel</p>	6 10:30am - Ruby's Pantry	7	8 7pm - Christmas Choir rehearsal	9	10	11 8:30am - Men's Breakfast at UMC
<p>12 9:30am Word &amp; Prayer</p> <p>Sunday School following the gospel</p>	13	14 9-11:30am - Senior Companions	15 7pm - Christmas Choir rehearsal	16	17	18
<p>5-7pm - S.S.S.S. at The Brackens</p>		7pm - Council Meeting	7pm - Christmas Choir rehearsal			
19 9:30am Holy Communion	20	21 9-3pm - Quilting	22	23 HAPPY THANKSGIVING	24	25
<p>Sunday School following the gospel</p>		7pm - Ecumenical Thanksgiving Worship		11-1pm Thanksgiving Dinner at Bethany Lutheran		
<p>Sunday School following the gospel</p>		7:45pm - Christmas Choir rehearsal				
26 9:30am Holy Communion	27	28	29 7pm - Christmas Choir rehearsal	30	Dec. 1	2 7:30pm - Christmas Choir Concert at Faith Lutheran, Isle
NO Sunday School						
3 9:30am - Holy Communion w/ Rejoice & Praise	4	5	6	7	8	9
Sunday School following the gospel						
3pm - Christmas Choir Concert at Holy Cross						

**BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
500 LINDQUIST ST.  
ONAMIA, MN 56359

320-532-3366

NON-PROFIT ORG  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
ONAMIA, MN  
PERMIT NO. 13

**Council Members:**

**President** - Pam Olson  
**Vice President** - Velma Jones  
**Secretary** - Dixie Peterson  
**Treasurer** - Ray Kephart  
Norma Holen - Patti Hook

Music Coordinator - Susan Bracken  
Administrative Assistant - Darcy DeBoer

RETURN SERVICE  
REQUESTED

Address:

**WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 5**

9:30am - Word & Prayer  
(Sunday School following the Gospel Reading)

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 12**

9:30am - Word & Prayer  
(Sunday School following the Gospel Reading)

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 19**

9:30am - Holy Communion  
(Sunday School following the Gospel Reading)

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 21**

7pm - Ecumenical Thanksgiving Worship

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 26**

9:30am - Holy Communion  
(NO Sunday School - Thanksgiving Weekend)

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3**

9:30am - Holy Communion w/ Rejoice & Praise  
(Sunday School following the Gospel Reading)



**COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS CHOIR CONCERTS**

**Saturday, Dec. 2nd at Faith Lutheran in Isle**  
beginning at 7:30 p.m.

**Sunday, Dec. 3rd at Holy Cross in Onamia**  
beginning at 3:00 p.m.

Free will offerings will be given to local area food shelves.

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!**

**SUNDAY, Dec. 3rd**

A special Sunday of music and  
celebrating this Christmas season!

**Rejoice & Praise!**

