

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

August 10, 2025



Bethany Lutheran Church
2515 Madison Ave., Burlington, IA
Phone: (319) 752-3621
www.bethanyburlington.org

Bethany's Mission Statement: Reaching out in Worship, Fellowship, Learning and Love - we are God's people.

We are so glad you chose to worship with us this morning. We hope everyone feels welcome as we strive to serve and strengthen each other in faith toward God and in love toward all. Now, as you wait for the service to begin, please relax, enjoy the music, and quiet your heart before God.

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

ELW indicates that hymns or liturgy are taken from Evangelical Lutheran Worship-red hymnal

PRELUDE

Welcome, Birthday/Anniversary Bank
(money given to Bethany's Human Concerns Fund)

We Gather to Acknowledge God's Presence

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.

(Silence is kept for reflection.)

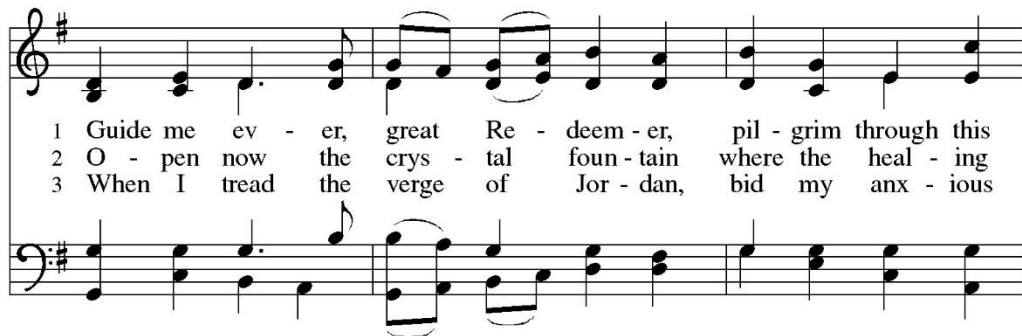
P: Merciful God,

C: you free us to love others, but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way. You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace, but we turn away from the abundant life you offer. You surround us with patience, kindness, and generosity, but we grow weary in doing what is right. In your mercy, forgive us. Do not give up on us. Heal us, break our bonds, and show us the path of life. Amen.

P: You belong to Christ Jesus and you are God's children through faith.

In the cross of + Christ, and through the power of the Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation.

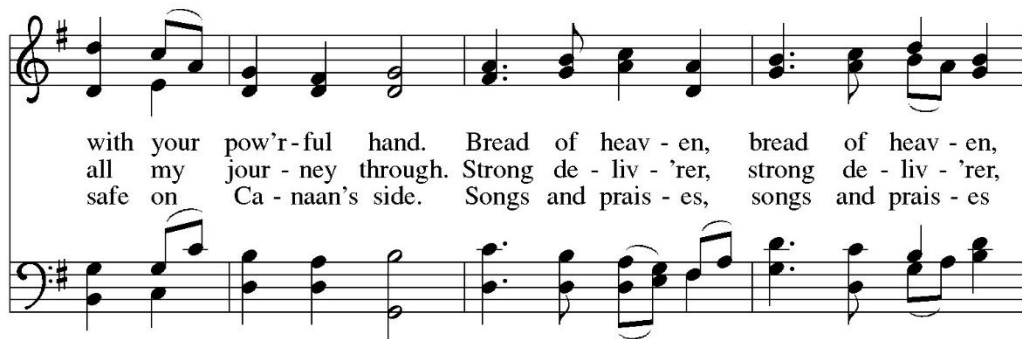
C: Amen.



1 Guide me ev - er, great Re - deem - er, pil - grim through this
 2 O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain where the heal - ing
 3 When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, bid my anx - ious



bar - ren land. I am weak, but you are might - y; hold me
 wa - ters flow; let the fire and cloud - y pil - lar lead me
 fears sub - side; death of death and hell's de - struc - tion, land me



with your pow'r - ful hand. Bread of heav - en, bread of heav - en,
 all my jour - ney through. Strong de - liv - 'rer, strong de - liv - 'rer,
 safe on Ca - naan's side. Songs and prais - es, songs and prais - es



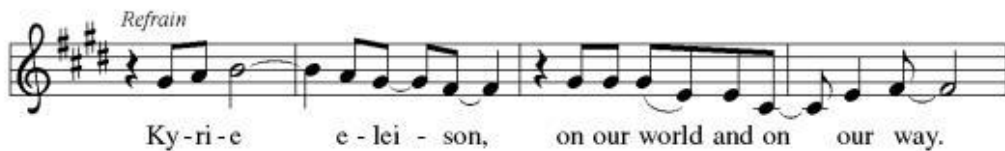
feed me now and ev - er-more, ev - er-more, feed me now and ev - er - more.
 shield me with your might-y arm, might-y arm, shield me with your might-y arm.
 I will raise for - ev - er-more, ev - er-more, I will raise for - ev - er - more.

GREETING

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

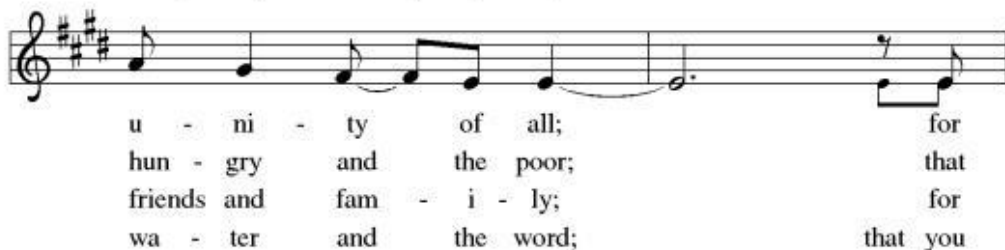
KYRIE



2 That we may live out your im-passioned re-sponse to the

3 For peace in our hearts, . . . for peace in our homes, . . . for

4 For your Spir-it to guide; that you cen-ter our lives in the



let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.



HYMN OF PRAISE

Refrain



Glo - ry to God in the high - est, the high - est, and



peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



1 Lord God, heav-en - ly King, al - might-y God and Fa - ther,



we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you

Refrain



for your glo - ry. Glo - ry to God in the high-



est, the high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



2 Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God,



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat-ed at the



right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.

Refrain

Glo - ry to God in the high - est, the high - est, and
 peace to God's peo - ple on earth. 3 For you a -
 lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,
 you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the
 Ho - ly Spir - it, in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther.
 A - men. A - men. A - men.

Final refrain

Glo - ry to God in the high - est, the high - est, and peace to God's
 peo - ple on earth. Glo - ry to God in the high -
 est, the high - est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray,

C: **Almighty God, you sent your Holy Spirit to be the life and light of your church. Open our hearts to the riches of your grace, that we may be ready to receive you wherever you appear, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

Amen.

We Listen to God's Word

FIRST READING

Genesis 15:1-6

¹After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." ²But Abram said, "O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" ³And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." ⁴But the word of the LORD came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir." ⁵He brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be." ⁶And he believed the LORD, and the LORD reckoned it to him as righteousness.

L: Word of God, word of life.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

- L: Happy is the nation whose God is the LORD!
Happy the people chosen to be God's heritage!
- C: **The LORD looks down from heaven,
and sees all humankind.**
- L: God sits firmly enthroned and watches
all who dwell on the earth.
- C: **God fashions all their hearts
and observes all their deeds.**
- L: A king is not saved by the size of the army,
nor are warriors rescued by their great strength.
- C: **The horse gives vain hope for victory;
despite its great strength it cannot save.**
- L: Truly, your eye is upon those who fear you, O LORD,
upon those who wait for your steadfast love,
to deliver their lives from death,
and to keep them alive in time of famine.
- C: **Our innermost being waits for you, O LORD,
our helper and our shield.**
- L: Surely, our heart rejoices in you,
for in your holy name we put our trust.
- C: **Let your lovingkindness, O LORD, be upon us,
even as we place our hope in you.**

SECOND READING

Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16

¹ Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. ² Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. ³ By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible.

⁸ By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance, and he set out, not knowing where he was going. ⁹ By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. ¹⁰ For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. ¹¹ By faith, with Sarah's involvement, he received power of procreation, even though he was too old, because he considered him faithful who had promised. ¹² Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, "as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore."

¹³ All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, ¹⁴ for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. ¹⁵ If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. ¹⁶ But as it is, they desire a better homeland, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

L: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

(Please stand)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al-le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the



words of e - ter - nal life. Al-le - lu - ia.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

P: The Holy Gospel according to Luke the 12th chapter.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord**

GOSPEL

Luke 12:32-40

[Jesus said:] ³² “Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom. ³³ Sell your possessions and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. ³⁴ For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

³⁵ “Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; ³⁶ be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. ³⁷ Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. ³⁸ If he comes during the middle of the night or near dawn and finds them so, blessed are those slaves.

³⁹ “But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁰ You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.”

P: The Gospel of our Lord

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

(Please be seated)

SERMON

Pastor Misha McFarland-Pollock

(Please stand)

HYMN OF THE DAY

"Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me"

ELW Hymn 623

1 Rock of A - ges, cleft for me, let me hide my - self in thee;
2 Not the la - bors of my hands can ful - fill thy law's de - mands;
3 Noth - ing in my hand I bring; sim - ply to thy cross I cling.
4 While I draw this fleet - ing breath, when mine eye - lids close in death,

let the wa - ter and the blood, from thy riv - en side which flowed,
could my zeal no res - pite know, could my tears for - ev - er flow,
Na - ked, come to thee for dress; help - less, look to thee for grace;
when I soar to worlds un - known, see thee on thy judg - ment throne,

be of sin the dou - ble cure; cleanse me from its guilt and pow'r.
all for sin could not a - tone; thou must save, and thou a - lone.
foul, I to the foun - tain fly; wash me, Sav - ior, or I die.
Rock of A - ges, cleft for me, let me hide my - self in thee.

We Respond to God's Word

THE APOSTLES' CREED *(unison)*

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.*
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

(Please Stand)

SHARING OF THE PEACE

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

(Please be seated)

THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Each petition concludes:

P: God of grace,

C: Hear our prayer.

We Share in the Holy Meal

(Please Stand)

DIALOGUE

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: **We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...

...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

The musical score is written on five staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry, full of your glo-ry. Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

(please stand)

THE LORD'S PRAYER *(unison)*

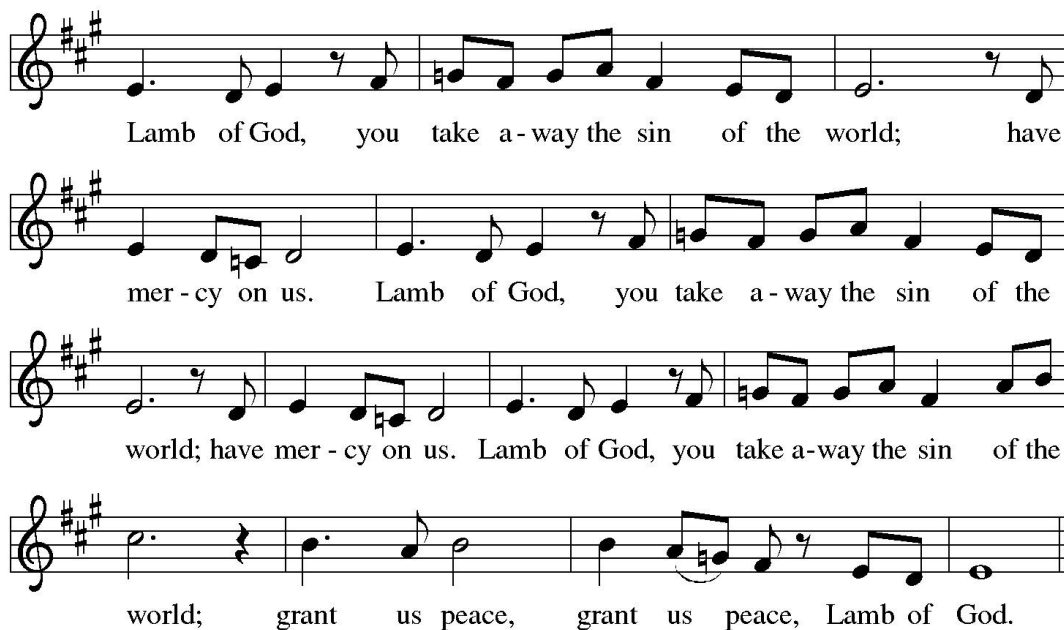
Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: The kingdom of God is set before you. Eat and rejoice.

(Please be seated)

LAMB OF GOD



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

DISTRIBUTION BY INDIVIDUAL GLASSES

(Gluten-free wafers are available upon request.)

All who believe in the real presence of Christ in the sacrament are invited to commune. Children who do not commune are welcome to come for a blessing. You will be given a wafer. The glasses of dark liquid are wine; the middle ring is juice. There is a bowl of water if you would like to remember your baptism.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

"Abide with Me"

ELW Hymn 629

1 A - bide with me, fast falls the e - ven - tide.
 2 Swift to its close ebbs out life's lit - tle day;
 3 I need thy pres - ence ev - 'ry pass - ing hour;
 4 I fear no foe, with thee at hand to bless;
 5 Hold thou thy cross be - fore my clos - ing eyes,

The dark - ness deep - ens; Lord, with me a - bide.
 earth's joys grow dim, its glo - ries pass a - way;
 what but thy grace can foil the tempt - er's pow'r?
 ills have no weight, and tears no bit - ter - ness.
 shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies;

When oth - er help - ers fail and com - forts flee,
 change and de - cay in all a - round I see;
 Who like thy - self my guide and stay can be?
 Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy vic - to - ry?
 heav'n's morn - ing breaks, and earth's vain shad - ows flee;

help of the help - less, oh, a - bide with me.
 O thou who chang - est not, a - bide with me.
 Through cloud and sun - shine, oh, a - bide with me.
 I tri - umph still, if thou a - bide with me!
 in life, in death, O Lord, a - bide with me.



1 Sav - ior like a shep-herd lead us; much we need your ten - der care.
 2 We are yours; in love be - friend us, be the guard-ian of our way;
 3 You have prom-ised to re - ceive us, poor and sin - ful though we be;
 4 Ear - ly let us seek your fa - vor, ear - ly let us do your will;



In your pleas-ant pas-tures feed us, for our use your fold pre-pare.
 keep your flock, from sin de - fend us, seek us when we go a - stray.
 you have mer - cy to re - lieve us, grace to cleanse, and pow'r to free.
 bless - ed Lord and on - ly Sav - ior, with your love our spir - its fill.



Bless-ed Je-sus, bless-ed Je-sus, you have bought us; we are yours.
 Bless-ed Je-sus, bless-ed Je-sus, hear us chil - dren when we pray.
 Bless-ed Je-sus, bless-ed Je-sus, ear - ly let us turn to you.
 Bless-ed Je-sus, bless-ed Je-sus, you have loved us, love us still.



Bless-ed Je-sus, bless-ed Je-sus, you have bought us; we are yours.
 Bless-ed Je-sus, bless-ed Je-sus, hear us chil - dren when we pray.
 Bless-ed Je-sus, bless-ed Je-sus, ear - ly let us turn to you.
 Bless-ed Je-sus, bless-ed Je-sus, you have loved us, love us still.



(Please stand)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: Mothering God,
you gathered us to your table
and we drank deeply of your grace.
Send us out by your Spirit
to love our neighbors as ourselves
and proclaim your love in Jesus' name.

C: **Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

P: The God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony
with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus.

C: **Amen.**

P: The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may
abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

P: The God of all grace ☩ bless you now and forever.

C: **Amen.**



1 Lord of all hope - ful - ness, Lord of all joy,
 2 Lord of all ea - ger - ness, Lord of all faith,
 3 Lord of all kind - li - ness, Lord of all grace,
 4 Lord of all gen - tle - ness, Lord of all calm,



whose trust, ev - er child - like, no cares could de - stroy:
 whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe:
 your hands swift to wel - come, your arms to em - brace:
 whose voice is con - tent - ment, whose pres - ence is balm:



be there at our wak - ing, and give us, we pray,
 be there at our la - bors, and give us, we pray,
 be there at our hom - ing, and give us, we pray,
 be there at our sleep - ing, and give us, we pray,



your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.
 your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.
 your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.
 your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.

THE DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Live by the Spirit.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Lector: Judy Craven
Usher: Susan Swanson
Communion: Jim & Sharon Martindale
Greeters: Lynda Johnson
Missionary Support: Bill Mundt
Altar Flowers: Bill Mundt – In Loving Memory of Bill, Sr.
Remember in prayer: Kerri Hermann; Eleonore Benninghoven; Bev Felland

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A Cry Room for infants is available up the stairs and to the right.
There are Kids Celebrate children's bulletins available for youngsters
who'd like to have their own reference to the lessons for this week.
Ask our usher for help.

Please join us for coffee and donuts in the fellowship
hall following the worship service. We would like to
get to know you and offer our friendship.

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ACTIVITIES FOR THE WEEK

Today:	Ninth Sunday after Pentecost
	9:00 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion
	10:15 a.m. Church Life/Ice Cream Social Set Up
	10:55 a.m. Lutheran Church of Hope Service
Mon-Fri:	Office Closed – Wendy out of office on Vacation
Monday:	6:30 p.m. Property Mtg.
Tuesday:	6:00 p.m. Joint Council Mtg @ Bethany
	7:00 p.m. Pastor's Book Club
Wednesday:	11:30 a.m. Lunch Bunch @ Gator's
	5:00pm-7:00pm Ice Cream Social
Thursday:	9:30 a.m. Bible Study @ Messiah
	6:00 p.m. Exec. Committee Mtg.
	7:00 p.m. Finance Mtg.
Saturday:	7:00 p.m. Piano Night w/ Cory Byrne
Next Sunday:	Tenth Sunday after Pentecost
	9:00 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion
	10:55 a.m. Lutheran Church of Hope Service

ICE CREAM SOCIAL

Ice Cream Social is this Wednesday, August 13 5pm-7pm! We still are needing some helpers with set up on Sunday after Worship and clean up on Wednesday. Tickets are now on sale; \$10 Adults; \$5 Children 10 and under.

WENDY OUT OF OFFICE

Reminder that Wendy will be out of the office on vacation this week, August 11-15!
Normal office hours will resume on Monday, August 18.

FAITH FORWARD KITS

Faith Forward parent and grandparent kits or magnets are available! Please see Pastor Misha if you would like to have one!

LUNCH BUNCH

Lunch Bunch will be meeting for lunch on Wednesday, August 13th at 11:30am at Gator's Restaurant! To sign up or if you have any questions or need transportation arrangement, please call Dave Nuebel at (319) 237-6933!

PASTOR MISHA AWAY 8/18 - 8/26

Pastor Misha will be away at The Chapel in the Hills in South Dakota from Monday, August 18 through Tuesday, August 26! On Sunday, August 24, Stan Lehman will be preaching with Father Randy Webster presiding! Emergency Pastoral coverage will be announced closer to the date of her departure.

AUGUST OUTREACH DONATIONS

Outreach Food Pantry Donations for August will be Non-perishable Back to School items, (i.e.: Peanut Butter, Jelly or jam, Fruit Cups, etc...)

PIANO NIGHT WITH CORY BYRNE

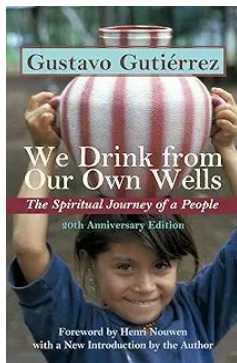
Cory Byrne, Organist at Bethany Lutheran Church and local music teacher, will give a free piano concert on Saturday, August 16 at 7:00 p.m. with a cookies & coffee reception to follow at 7:45 p.m. here at Bethany Lutheran Church!

OUTDOOR MOVIE NIGHT @ MESSIAH

Messiah is hosting an outdoor movie night on Thursday, August 22 @ 7:30pm! Everyone is welcome! Bring your lawn chairs, blankets, drinks and snacks and get ready to watch Finding Nemo!

PASTOR'S BOOK CLUB!

Pastor's Book Club will meet next month on Tuesday, August 12 @ 7pm @ Bethany. August book will be "We Drink From Our Own Wells" By Gustavo Gutierrez!



SUMMER HOLDEN EVENING PRAYER SERVICES @ UNITY

Unity has extended an invitation to Bethany and Messiah to attend their once a month Holden Evening Prayer Services @ 6:30pm on the 3rd Thursday of the month during the summer! Final summer service is August 21.

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www.bethanyburlington.org

Office Hours
Monday-Wednesday-Friday - 9:00am-1:00pm
Tuesday & Thursday - 1:30pm-4:30pm

Pastor Misha's Office Hours
Bethany: Monday & Tuesday
Messiah: Wednesday & Thursday
****Pastor Misha's hours vary in the office from week to week as she may be out of office on visits or other Pastor duties. Please call or text her to make an appointment or to see if she is in the office.****

***Pastor Misha's contact info: 412-628-6382;
damisha.mcfarlandpollock@gmail.com***

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Our Staff

Rev. Misha McFarland-Pollock	Pastor
Cory Byrne	Organist/Choir Director
Kim Engle	Stephen Minister Coordinator
Wendy Bell	Office Administrator
Michelle Huppenbauer	Financial Secretary
Pam Crable	Custodian