Seventh Sunday after Pentecost
July 12, 2026

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.

Seventh 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

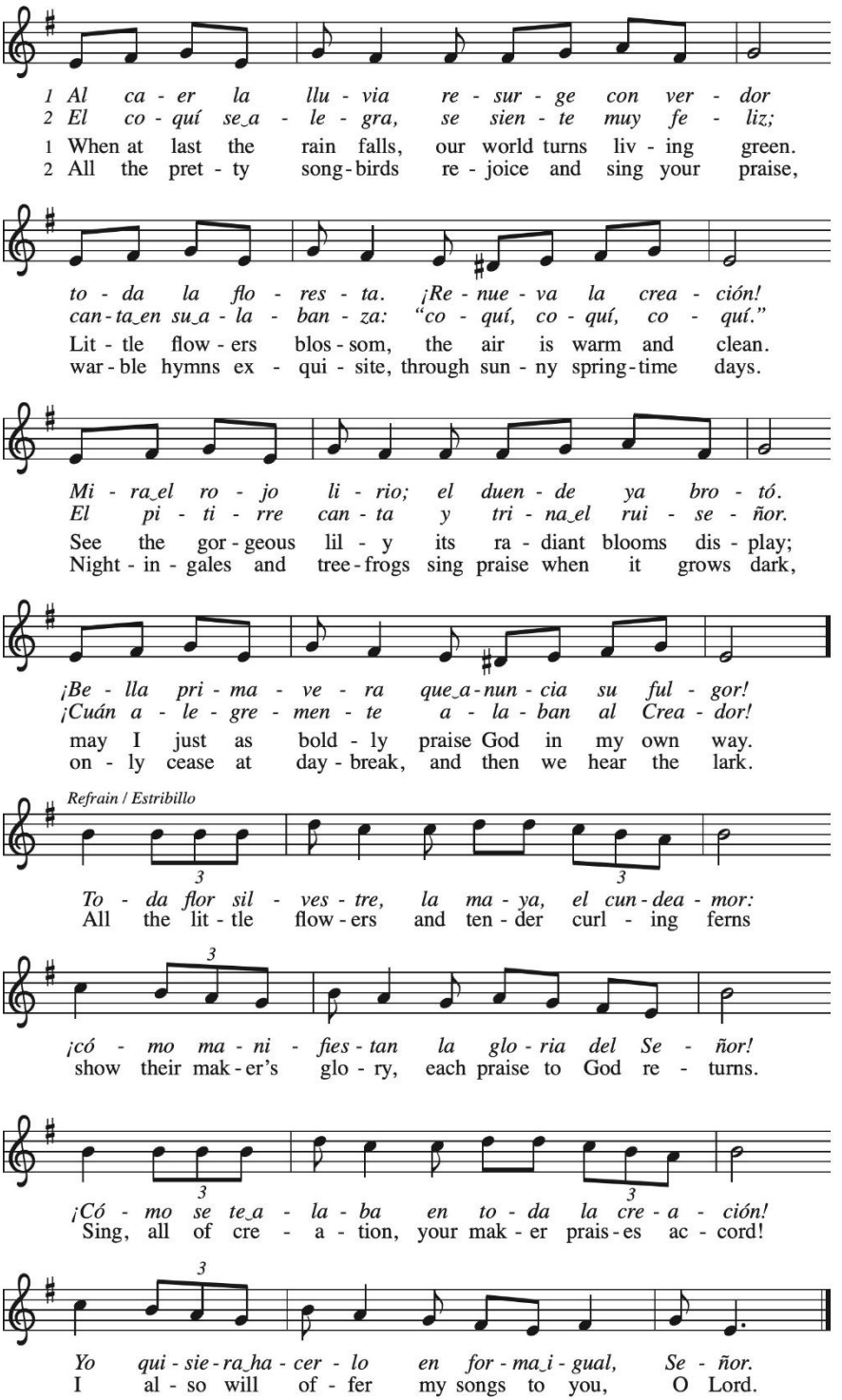
(Please Stand)

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
whose compassion endures forever.
C: Amen.
P: Let us confess our sin to God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Compassionate God,
C: we confess to you all our sins.
Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves.
In your mercy, call us back to you.
Your yoke is easy and your burden is light.
Restore us to dwell in your peace.
In Christ's name we pray,
Amen.
P: Jesus says, "Come to me,
all you who are weary
and are carrying heavy burdens,
and I will give you rest."
In the name of God,
Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit,
your sins are forgiven.
Rest in God's love.
C: Amen.


1 Al ca - er la llu - via re - sur - ge con ver - dor
2 El co - quí se_a - le - gra, se sien - te muy fe - liz;
1 When at last the rain falls, our world turns liv - ing green.
2 All the pret - ty song-birds re - joice and sing your praise,
to - da la flo - res - ta. ¡Re - nue - va la crea - ción!
can-ta_en su_a - la - ban - za: "co - quí, co - quí, co - quí."
Lit - tle flow - ers blos - som, the air is warm and clean.
war - ble hymns ex - qui - site, through sun - ny spring-time days.
Mi - ra_el ro - jo li - rio; el duen - de ya bro - tó.
El pi - ti - rre can - ta y tri - na_el rui - se - ñor.
See the gor - geous lil - y its ra - diant blooms dis - play;
Night - in - gales and tree-frogs sing praise when it grows dark,
¡Be - lla pri - ma - ve - ra que_a-nun - cia su ful - gor!
¡Cuán a - le - gre - men - te a - la - ban al Crea - dor!
may I just as bold - ly praise God in my own way.
on - ly cease at day - break, and then we hear the lark.
Refrain / Estribillo
To - da flor sil - ves - tre, la ma - ya, el cun - dea - mor:
All the lit - tle flow - ers and ten - der curl - ing ferns
¡có - mo ma - ni - fies - tan la glo - ria del Se - ñor!
show their mak - er's glo - ry, each praise to God re - turns.
¡Có - mo se te_a - la - ba en to - da la cre - a - ción!
Sing, all of cre - a - tion, your mak - er prais - es ac - cord!
Yo qui - sie - ra_ha - cer - lo en for - ma_i - gual, Se - ñor.
I al - so will of - fer my songs to you, O Lord.

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

HYMN OF PRAISE

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, we thank you for planting in us the seed of your word. By your Holy Spirit help us to receive it with joy, live according to it, and grow in faith and hope and love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

We Listen to God's Word

(Please be seated)

FIRST READING **Isaiah 55:10-13**

10 For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven
and do not return there until they have watered the earth,
making it bring forth and sprout,
giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,
11 so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth;
it shall not return to me empty,
but it shall accomplish that which I purpose
and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

12 For you shall go out in joy
and be led back in peace;
the mountains and the hills before you
shall burst into song,
and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.
13 Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress;
instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle,
and it shall be to the LORD for a memorial,
for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

L: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM *(read responsively)* **Psalm 65:1-13**

L: You are to be praised, O God, in Zion;
to you shall vows be fulfilled.

**C: To you, the one who answers prayer,
to you all flesh shall come.**

L: Our sins are stronger than we are,
but you blot out our transgressions.

C: Happy are they whom you choose and draw to your courts to dwell there! They will be satisfied by the beauty of your house, by the holiness of your temple.

L: Awesome things will you show us in your righteousness, O God of our salvation,
O hope of all the ends of the earth and of the oceans far away.

**C: You make firm the mountains by your power;
you are girded about with might.**

L: You still the roaring of the seas,
the roaring of their waves, and the clamor of the peoples.

**C: Those who dwell at the ends of the earth will tremble at your marvelous signs;
you make the dawn and the dusk to sing for joy.**

L: You visit the earth and water it abundantly; you make it very plenteous; the river of God is full of water.
You prepare the grain, for so you provide for the earth.

**C: You drench the furrows and smooth out the ridges;
with heavy rain you soften the ground and bless its increase.**

L: You crown the year with your goodness,
and your paths overflow with plenty.

**C: May the fields of the wilderness be rich for grazing,
and the hills be clothed with joy.**

L: May the meadows cover themselves with flocks, and the valleys cloak themselves with grain;
let them shout for joy and sing.

SECOND READING **Romans 8:1-11**

[1] Therefore there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. [2] For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. [3] For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, [4] so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. [5] For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. [6] To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. [7] For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed, it cannot, [8] and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

[9] But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. [10] But if Christ is in you, then the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. [11] If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

L: Word of God, word of life.
C: Thanks be to God.

(Please Stand)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the 13th chapter.
C: Glory to you, O Lord

GOSPEL **Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23**

1 That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. 2 Such great
crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole
crowd stood on the beach. 3 And he told them many things in parables, saying:
"Listen! A sower went out to sow. 4 And as he sowed, some seeds fell on a path, and
the birds came and ate them up. 5 Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did
not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of
soil. 6 But when the sun rose, they were scorched, and since they had no root, they
withered away. 7 Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked
them. 8 Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold,
some sixty, some thirty. 9 If you have ears, hear!"

18 "Hear, then, the parable of the sower. 19 When anyone hears the word of the
kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is
sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. 20 As for what was sown on
rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with
joy, 21 yet such a person has no root but endures only for a while, and when trouble
or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls
away. 22 As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word,
but the cares of this age and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields
nothing. 23 But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the
word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields in one case a
hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty."

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 *"God of the Fertile Fields"* **ACS Hymn 1063**

We Respond to God's Word

APOSTLES' CREED ***(unison)***

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

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.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

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

(*Please be seated)*

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Each petition concludes:
P: God of Grace,
C: hear our prayer.

We Share in the Holy Meal

(Please Stand)

DIALOGUE

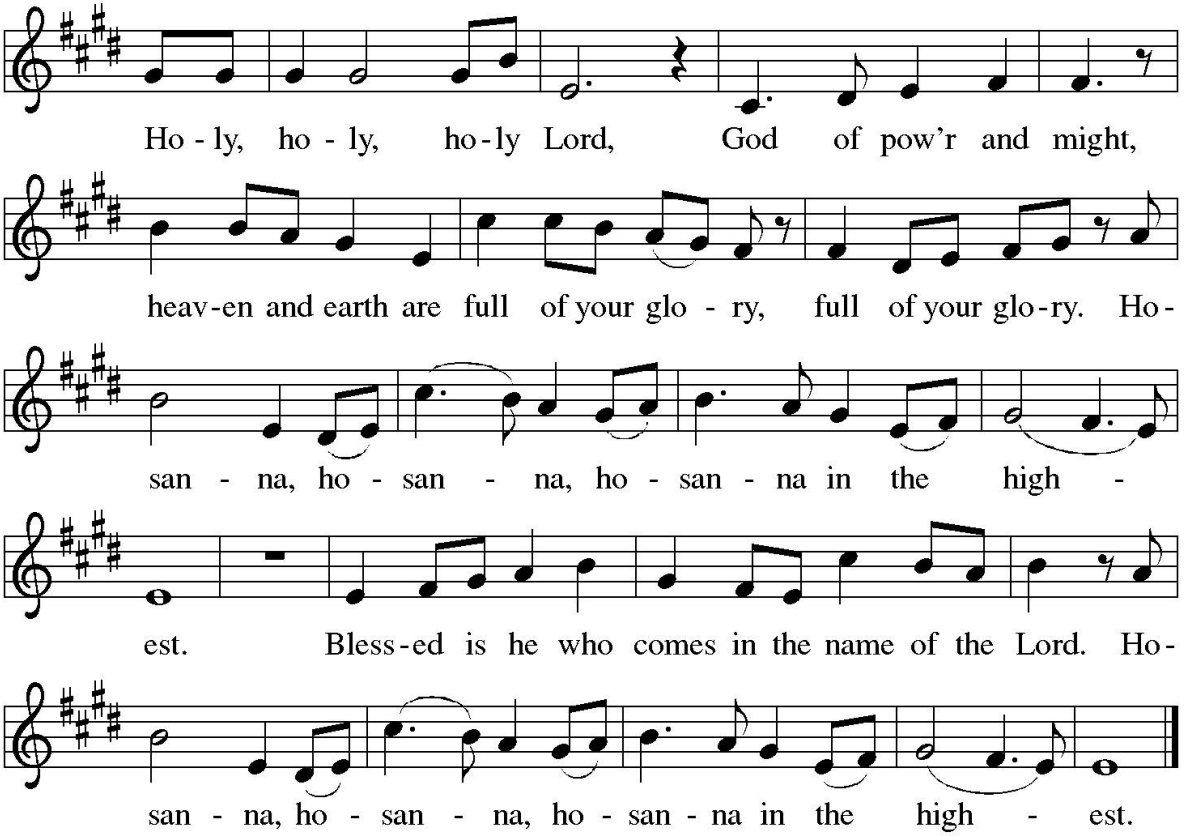
P: The Lord be with you.
C: And also with you.

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:



WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER ***(unison)***

P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

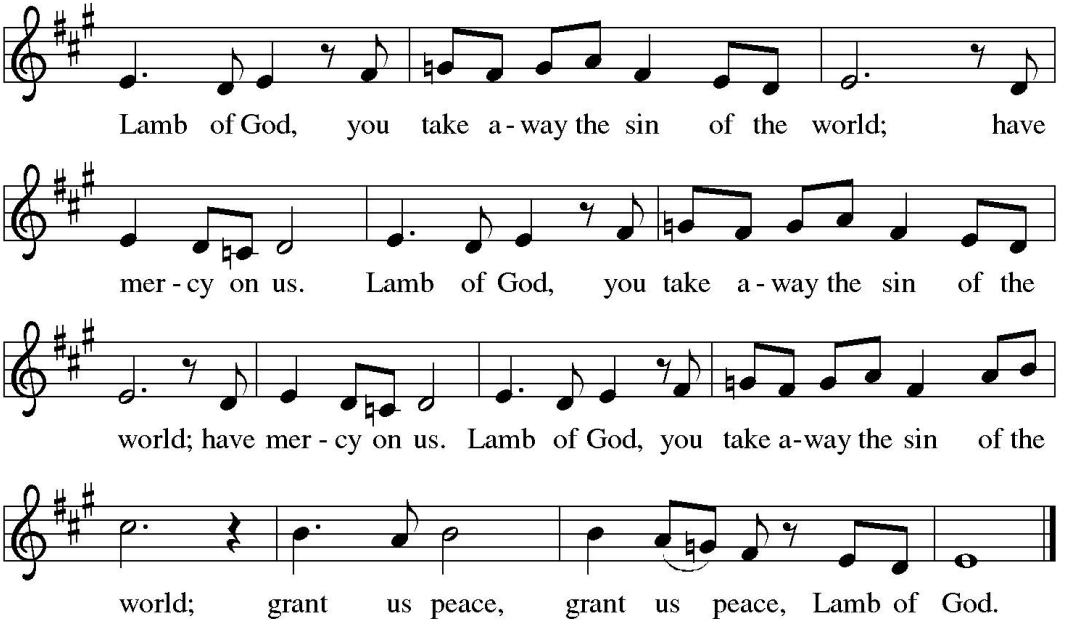
Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the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

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: Heaven has come near. Come, share in the feast!

(Please be seated)

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 *"In This Feast of Love"* ACS Hymn 962

DISTRIBUTION HYMN *"We Come Now to Your Table"* **ACS Hymn 970**

(Please Stand)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: Compassionate God,
through the gifts of bread and wine
our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love.
Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal,
may share your love freely, as you have shared with us.
We ask this in the name of Jesus,
through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever.

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.

SENDING HYMN *"O God, Whose Word Well-Planted"* **ACS Hymn 975**

DISMISSAL

P: Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Lector:	Carlene Woodside
Usher:	Susan Swanson
Communion:	Mike Hopp; Julie Wischmeier
Greeters:	Sharon Martindale
Missionary Support:	Open
Altar Flowers:	Given in celebration of the wedding of Brooke & Shane Quam, by Tiffany & Michelle Huppenbauer
Remember in prayer:	Patty Chacey; Eleonore Benninghoven; Genieve Hingst

~ ~

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

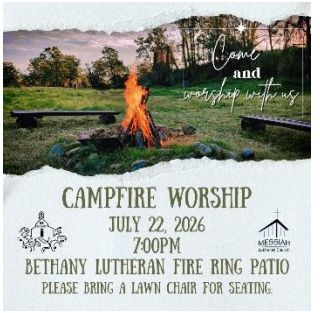
Today:	**Seventh Sunday after Pentecost**	
	9:00 a.m.	Worship w/ Holy Communion
	10:15 a.m.	**Church Life & Outreach**
	10:55 a.m.	Lutheran Church of Hope Service
Monday:	**6:30 p.m.**	**Property mtg.**
Tuesday:	***Office will be open late @ 2:30pm***	
	5:00 p.m.	**Pastor's Book Club**
Wednesday:	**6:30 p.m.**	**Council mtg**
Thursday:	9:30 a.m.	Bible Study @ Messiah
Saturday:	**8:00 a.m.**	**Men's Breakfast**
Next Sunday:	**A Creation Service of Lessons & Carols-*Todd Chelf will be preaching***	
	9:00 a.m.	Worship-**No Communion this week**
	10:55 a.m.	Lutheran Church of Hope Service

PASTOR MISHA AT WELCA TRIENNIAL CONVENTION & GATHERING

Pastor Misha will be attending the WELCA Triennial Convention on Zoom all day Monday, July 13 & Tuesday, July 14. She will be away and attending the WELCA Triennial Gathering in Des Moines from Wednesday, July 15 through the afternoon of Sunday, July 19.

SUMMER CAMPFIRE WORSHIP SERVICE

Our last Campfire Worship Service for this year will be on Wednesday, July 22 at Bethany! A meal will start things off at 6:00pm with the service to start at 7:00pm and roasting s'mores will wrap up the evening! We will be singing out of the "With One Voice" Hymnals again this year. Remember to bring your lawn chair! Come gather around the fire with us!



WEEKLY FINANCE REPORT

These are the numbers for where we are financially for the dates of June 28 – July 4:

June 28-July 4
Income: $2,712.00
Expense: $5,487.20
Shortfall: ($2,775.20)

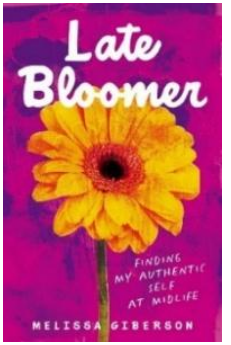
If you have any questions about these numbers, please contact a member of the Finance Committee.

JULY OUTREACH DONATIONS

Food Pantry Donations for July will be anything non-perishable! Thank you for your generosity!

JULY PASTOR'S BOOK CLUB

Our July book club will meet again this Tuesday, July 14 @ 5:00 p.m., here at Bethany. All are invited to join us! For this month, we will be reading "Late Bloomer" by Melissa Giberson!



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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
Wendy Bell	Office Administrator
Michelle Huppenbauer	Financial Secretary
Pam Crable	Custodian