

Bethlehem Lutheran Church

NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2026



Birthdays: Aug 1- Cash Sleezer; Aug 2- Anne Borcharding, Joanne Clark; Aug 3- Melody Rowan, Karal Schuknecht; Aug 4- Sue Roberts; Aug 5- Addilynn Ebert; Aug 6- Jack Letsche; Aug 8- Koreen Anderson; Aug 9- Terry Janssen, Todd Larsen; Aug 10- Jared Peterson, Roger Peterson, Matt Woodall; Aug 11- Phyllis Conley, Michelle Sleezer; Aug 14- Karen Frandsen, Lynette Hyndman, Kent Wenck; Aug 15- Brian Janssen, Stacey Zwiefel; Aug 16- Kyle Lundy, Phillip Pingrey, Trish Tisthammer; Aug 17- Rose Beazley, Pat Friedrichsen, Jim Perrin, Rusty Rasmus; Aug 19- TJ Lundsgaard; Aug 21- Colleen Harrison; Aug 24- Heidi Woltman, Tanner Woodall; Aug 26- Deb Baker, Ella Simonsen; Aug 27- Everlee Fuller; Aug 29- Maeryn Cedar, Mason Lundy; Aug 31- Carson Hare



Anniversaries: Aug 2- Nick & Laura Ebert; Aug 5- John & Quinn Woods; Aug 6- Steve & Lori Thomas; Aug 10- Lynn & Pat Friedrichsen; Aug 11- Denny & Pam Allen; Aug 13- Phillip & Barb Kindwall; Aug 19- Doug & Monica Kennebeck, Jim & Connie Mohn; Aug 22- Dave & Connie Ladwig; Aug 24- Pat & Lynette Hyndman; Aug 26- Ryan & Sara Husman



Lectors Needed for August: Bethlehem is looking for volunteers to read the scriptures for the month of August. Lectors are needed for **August 9, 15, 16, 22, 29, and 30**. If interested, please sign up on the sheet in the Narthex, or contact Linzi in the office.

Save The Date: The annual special summer bash will be held on Sunday, August 30th at the church. There will be activities for the kids, food, entertainment, and a short worship time. This should be a great time for all ages.



Summer Bash Cake Walk: Our **Summer Bash** will include many fun activities for the children on **Sunday, August 30 from 2:00-4:30 pm**. One of those activities will be a Cake Walk! We will need lots of cakes for this event. Thanks to you, each child was able to win a cake or cupcakes last year! If you are willing to donate a homemade or purchased cake or cupcakes, please sign up on the sheet found on the table in the Narthex. You can bring them to the kitchen that Sunday before 2:00 pm. Please put them in a covered container that the winner can take with them. Thanks so much for helping to make this a fun event for the kids again this year!



Mowers Needed in August: The mowing sign up sheet has three open weeks in the month of August. If you are interested in volunteering to mow, please sign up on the sheet in the Narthex. The Property Committee greatly appreciates these volunteers!

Evangelism In Action

Our **July Welcome Plate** meal was held on **Thursday, July 30th from 5:30-6:30 pm**. We served grilled hamburgers, jumbo hot dogs, brats, potato salad, baked beans, ice cream treat, bars, and drinks. Thanks to the many people who helped in the kitchen, donated food, lead devotions, and assisted with the HyVee baked goods, Papa's Pantry, and the Caring Closet! It was wonderful to have Pastor Alan and Renata helping out, also! We served 124, including 21 deliveries and 15 carry outs. It

was a great turnout, with many new faces, and a wonderful time of fellowship! Jesus was helping us to share the love of the Lord!

Thank you so much for your generous donations to Papa's Pantry! We are still in need of donations, as they have been slowing down the last couple of months. If you are out shopping, please consider donating any of these items: cereal, oatmeal, pasta sauce, peanut butter, jelly, juices, pickles, soups, canned spaghetti, snack crackers, snack bars, pudding mixes, cake mixes, frosting, pickles, ketchup, mustard, BBQ sauce, salad dressing, muffin mixes, sugar, brown sugar, baking soda, salt, pepper, canned tuna or chicken, canned fruit, kidney beans, pork and beans, gravy, mashed potato packets, egg noodles, chips, pretzels, or anything you choose. A container is in the Narthex, so you can place your items in that container. It is important that you not bring any perishable food and check the dates on each item, so that it is not close dated or out of date! Those who are attending our meals are very grateful for the tables full of food items ready to take with them each month!

Currently, we **are not** accepting any clothing donations for the Caring Closet. We need some time to sort through the many items that have been donated. Thanks so much for your patience!

Our **August Welcome Plate Meal** will be held on **Thursday, August 27th from 5:30-6:30 pm.** We will again be grilling hamburgers, hot dogs, and brats as our main entree'. We urge you to invite your friends and neighbors to attend. Come and join us in welcoming our guests and showing them that God loves them and so do we! Invite them to come to church.

On **Sunday, August 30th**, we will be hosting our **Summer Bash**, again this year! Kids games will start at 2:00 pm., the Anthon City Band will play in the Sanctuary at 4:30 pm., and supper will follow in the Fellowship Hall. Save the date, and be watching for further details. Invite you friends to come!!

If you'd like to join our committee, we meet on the **third Wednesday of the month at 11:00 am** in the Fellowship Hall. We'd love to have additional members who would like to become involved in the events that we plan each month.



August Volunteers & Sponsors

Sunday Lectors:

Aug 2: Dave Zelle
Aug 9:
Aug 16:
Aug 23: Dave Zelle
Aug 30:

Saturday Lectors:

Aug 1: Harry Bradstreet
Aug 8: Harry Bradstreet
Aug 15:
Aug 22:
Aug 29:

Altar Flowers:

Aug 2:
Aug 9: Jim & Connie Mohn
Aug 16: Todd & Sheila Anderson
Aug 23: Phyllis Conley
Aug 30:

Bethlehem On the Air:

Aug 2: Joanne Clark
Aug 9:
Aug 16: Donna Janssen
Aug 23: Sandy Gustafson
Aug 30: Jim & Connie Mohn

Mission Support:

Aug 2: WELCA
Aug 9: Lynn & Pat Friedrichsen
Aug 16:
Aug 23: Dave & Connie Ladwig
Aug 30: Sandy Gustafson

World Hunger:

Aug 2: Joanne Clark
Aug 9: WELCA
Aug 16: Dave & Connie Ladwig
Aug 23:
Aug 30:



Mowing Schedule:

July 26-Aug 1: Todd Anderson & Brayden Schoenfeld
Aug 2-8:
Aug 9-15:
Aug 26-22:
Aug 23-29: Todd Anderson & Brayden Schoenfeld
Aug 30-Sep 5:

Baby Shower





August 2026 MEETING DATES:

Executive Board Meeting- August 2- After the church service in the library

Anna Group- No meeting

Vashti/Esther Group- No meeting

Lydia Group-No meeting

All are welcome at our group meetings. We'd love to have more fellow Christians participate. This month we will all meet together.

Quilting- August 19, 9:00, Church Basement- We have lots of fabric that has been donated. Please let us know if you'd like to sew quilt tops or bottoms for us. Thanks to all who have done this for years.

"Gather" Bible Study- Read the devotions and lessons on your own. Gather Magazine has wonderful stories to inspire us and strengthen our faith. We'll do the 3rd lesson in September.

Cookbooks- We are still selling our cookbooks for \$5. This money will go toward our Mission Groups we support all year. Let us know if you'd like one for a gift.

Start collecting, sewing, and giving. Personal/Health Kits will be stored in the Confirmation Room as they are completed. Quilts and School Kits can also be stored there when complete. (new shelves) We will then be able to use Room B for our workshops and clothing donated.

Personal/Health Kits - Please help us make some personal/health kits. Bath towel- dark in color and 2 bath size bars of soap.

School Kits- Backpack, notebooks, ruler, eraser, unsharpened, pencils, pens, scissors, crayons, pencil sharpener

Baby Kits- Socks, gowns, sweater or jacket, cloth diapers, diaper pins, receiving blankets, towels, T-shirts, soap.

Thanks to all who helped at the Welcome Plate in July. If you'd like to help in August, please contact Pat Friedrichsen. We are all God's Hands and Feet! Let's help our neighbors in need. If you'd like to help in the Caring Clothing Closet, please contact Lynde Lundquist, Marlin Saeger or Lynette Hyndman.

Summer Brunch- August 12, 9:30 AM. Please join us for good food, fun, and fellowship. We will have devotions, songs, and a craft. Invite a friend. God gives us Joy in the Morning and Fireworks at Night. Let's praise him together with our sisters of faith.



It is good to praise the Lord
and make music to your name,
O Most High,
proclaiming your love in the morning
and your faithfulness at night,

Psalm 92:1-2

Bethlehem Lutheran Church
Cherokee, Iowa

MEETING: **Church Council Meeting**
DATE/TIME: **Thursday, July 9, 2026**
MEMBERS **Kevin Tapper, Kelley Clausen, Jodi Mongan, Mike Niemeier, Karen**
PRESENT: **Ferris, Allen Campbell**

MEMBERS

ABSENT: **Kaleb Sleezer**
OTHERS PRESENT: **Jim Mohn, Pastor Alan Cummins**
OTHERS ABSENT: **None**
GUESTS PRESENT: **None**
PRESIDING: **Kevin Tapper**
RECORDING: **Linzi Bierman**

<u>AGENDA</u>	<u>DISCUSSION</u>	<u>RESPONSIBILITY</u>
Call to Order	Meeting called to order by Chairperson Kevin Tapper at 6:30 pm	
Approve Agenda	Motion to approve agenda by Allen, second by Karen; motion carried	
Devotions	Devotions by Pastor Alan based on the difference between Law and Gospel- law is a command, Gospel is a promise.	Devotions for Aug by Pastor Alan .
Secretary's Report	Minutes approved electronically	Council members to text approval or email approval to Linzi
Financial Report	June Operating Revenue: \$42,050.82; Operating Expenses: 14,180.28; June Net: \$27,870.54. Year to Date Operating Revenue: \$133,763.17; Operating Expenses: 93,499.60; Year to Date Net: \$40,263.57. Motion to approve Financial Report by Karen, second by Kelley; motion carried.	

<u>Communion Schedule</u>	July 11- Kevin July 19- Jodi, Kaleb, Allen, Aug 1- Karen Aug 2- Jodi, Kelley, Karen, Aug 15- Aug 16-	
<u>Adjournment</u>	Motion to adjourn by Allen, second by Jodi; motion carried. Meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.	Next meeting Thursday, Aug 13 @ 6:30 pm

MEETING: **Congregational Meeting**
DATE/TIME: **Sunday, July 12, 2026, 10:30 am**
PRESIDING: **Kevin Tapper**
RECORDING: **Linzi Bierman**

<u>AGENDA</u>	<u>DISCUSSION</u>	
Call to Order	Meeting called to order by Chairperson Kevin Tapper at 10:28 am	
New Business	3 Major Expenses to discuss: Windows, Cement, and Sound System Windows- 5 windows to be installed; 2 for kitchen, 3 for youth room, and brickwork on surround. Approximately \$8,000 for all 5 windows. Cement Work- Need to replace cement: 11'x12' space under the overhang and 56'x50' for the rest of the parking lot. The water system will flow underneath the new cement to prevent future issues. Cost: approximately \$26,400. Presented by Todd Anderson Sound System- Update with 2x 86" TVs on each side down front, 2x 74" TVs half way, and 1x 86" on the back wall for Pastor to see. Update cameras as well as audio- new wireless mics, currently have problems with cutting in and out and buzzing noise. Updating costs: approximately \$59,000 for video and \$20,000 for sound. Still need a quote for electric for plug ins and fixing broken light in Narthex. Presented by Allen Campbell Motion to accept as presented by Mike Niemeier, 2nd by Matt Mongan	
Discussion	Janice Lundsgaard- How much are we looking at total for costs? Total for costs approximately \$125,000. \$365,000 available from Estates and Capital Improvement funds. Cost of these updates/repairs can come out of this \$365,000, which leaves \$240,000 for future projects. Presented by Jim Mohn No other questions Vote by voice to move forward with presented recommendations: 0 nay; motion carried.	
Adjournment	Motion to adjourn by Karen Ferris, 2 nd by Allen Campbell; motion carried.	

PLEASE JOIN US FOR

Bethlehem Lutheran Church's

SUMMER

Bash

AUGUST 30, 2026

300 E BOW DRIVE, CHEROKEE

2:00-4:30 pm ~ Activities for Kids

*Bring your own lawn chair

4:30 pm ~ Anthon City Band

5:30 pm ~ Free Meal in Fellowship Hall

Everyone is welcome!

Ditzy Balloons

Inflatables

Face Painting

Yard Games

Cake Walk

Ice Cream Treats

Cold Drinks

Goodie Bags



Welcome Plate

Free Community Meal



Thursday, August 27 • 5:30-6:30 pm

Devotions • 5:15 pm

Bethlehem Lutheran Church

300 E Bow Drive (lower level)*

*Handicapped Accessibility Available

Everyone is welcome!

Food Pantry and Clothing Closet
will be open during this time

