

Bethlehem Lutheran Church

NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2026



Birthdays: Oct 1- Dennis Alquist; Oct 2- Patricia Garriott; Oct 3- Tally Rasmus; Oct 5- Joan Anderson, Aubrey Kannegieter, Brad Nelson, Barb Schuck; Oct 7- Gracie Schwanz; Oct 8- Steve Anderson; Oct 9- Carrie Crum, Doug Kennebeck, Katlyne Pitts; Oct 10- Kenna Mongan, Donna Steward, Linzi Bierman; Oct 12- Payton Rasmus; Oct 14- Trevor Faist, Wyatt Puhrmann; Oct 15- Scott Hare; Oct 16- Caryl Lee Cline; Oct 18- Dylan Nelson, Liv Kannegieter, James Pingrey; Oct 20- Audrey Pitts; Oct 21- Trevor Larsen; Oct 22- Gary Borcharding, Tasha Larsen; Oct 23- Hannah Campbell, Elaine French; Oct 24- Elisabeth Letsche; Oct 27- Allen Campbell, Tom Letsche; Oct 28- Leah Niemeier, Jeff Lundquist; Oct 30- Bill Boger



Anniversaries: Oct 1- Keegan & Brittney Jepsen, Colton & Mikki Younie; Oct 10- Don & Shirley Bright; Oct 19- Derek & Rachel Simonsen; Oct 20- Roger & Barb Mummert; Oct 22- Rusty & Tally Rasmus



Lectors Needed for October: Bethlehem is looking for volunteers to read the scriptures for the month of October. Lectors are needed for **Saturday, October 24th & Saturday, October 31st**. If interested, please sign up on the sheet in the Narthex, or contact Linzi in the office.

New Address for Caryl Lee Cline: Caryl Lee Cline has moved to Sioux City. Her new address is: Caryl Lee Cline, c/o Sunrise Senior Living, 5503 Gordan Dr E #313, Sioux City, IA 51106. Her cell phone number is: 712-229-6783



Wanted- Old Cookbooks: A member has contacted the office in search of 2 copies of the old blue cookbooks to give as wedding gifts. If you have an old cookbook you'd be willing to part with, please contact the office.

Evangelism In Action

Our **September Welcome Plate** meal was held on **Thursday, September 24th from 5:30-6:30 pm**. We served grilled hamburgers, jumbo hot dogs, brats, fresh fruit salad, chips, ice cream sundae bar, 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! We served 101, including 21 deliveries and 16 carry outs. The guys grilling even made it through the rain, thanks to a canopy! Thanks so much for being **SO DEPENDABLE!!** This is a great way for us to reach out to our community and a wonderful time of fellowship! What a terrific way for us to share the love of the Lord! We are so blessed, so let's bless our guests in return!

Thank you so much for your generous donations to **Papa's Pantry!** Our tables were full of many items for them to take home. 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.

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 **October Welcome Plate Meal** will be our annual **Fall Festival**, to be held on **Saturday, October 31st from 4:00-6:00 pm.** Notice the change of time! We will be serving a variety of pizzas, fresh veggies, monster cookies, and drinks. Devotions for the children will be a short YouTube video for them to watch during the evening. There will be a photo op area open to anyone who would like to participate in that and have their picture taken. We urge you to invite your friends and neighbors to attend. Those who are coming to chapel service are certainly welcome to join us before worship begins! Come and help us to welcome our guests and show them that God loves them and so do we! Invite them to come to church, as well!

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.



October Volunteers & Sponsors

Sunday Lectors:

Oct 4: Chris Nelson
Oct 11: Chris Nelson
Oct 18: Chris Nelson
Oct 25: Dave Zelle

Saturday Lectors:

Oct 3: Jim Mohn
Oct 10: Don Tisthammer
Oct 17: Jim Mohn
Oct 24:
Oct 31:

Altar Flowers:

Oct 4:
Oct 11:
Oct 18: Bob & Karen Ferris
Oct 25:

Bethlehem On the Air:

Oct 4: Sandy Gustafson
Oct 11: Matt & Jodi Mongan
Oct 18: Bob & Mary Hahn
Oct 25:

Mission Support:

Oct 4: WELCA
Oct 11:
Oct 18: Dave Zelle
Oct 25:

World Hunger:

Oct 4: WELCA
Oct 11:
Oct 18:
Oct 25:



October 2026 MEETING DATES:

Executive Board Meeting- October 3, after the church service in the library

Anna Group- October 14, 9:30, Doris De Forest

Vashti/Esther Group- October 14, 1:30, Marlin Saeger

Lydia Group- October 13, 3:00, Deena Jones

All are welcome at our group meetings. We'd love to have more fellow Christians participate. Invite a friend!

Quilting- October 21, 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. Thanks to Kelley, Rose, & Betty R. for their work on tops, bottoms, and finishing.

"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 2nd Lesson 1 in Fall Magazine

Cookbooks- We are still selling our cookbooks for \$5, only a few left. This money will go toward the 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 September. If you'd like to help at the Harvest Festival in October, please contact Pat Friedrichsen. It will be on October 31 from 4 to 6. 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 Hyvman.



Bethlehem Lutheran Church
Cherokee, Iowa

MEETING: **Church Council Meeting**
DATE/TIME: **Thursday, September 10, 2026**
MEMBERS **Kevin Tapper, Kelley Clausen, Jodi Mongan, , Kaleb Sleezer, Allen**
PRESENT: **Campbell, Karen Ferris, Mike Niemeier**
MEMBERS
ABSENT:
OTHERS PRESENT: **Jim Mohn, Pastor Alan Cummins**
OTHERS ABSENT:
GUESTS PRESENT: **Alex Paulsrud – Brentwood Construction**
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 Psalm 103:12- God's forgiveness is unending and covers all of our sins when we confess and repent.	Devotions for Oct by Pastor Alan .
Secretary's Report	Minutes approved electronically	Council members to text approval or email approval to Linzi
Financial Report	August Operating Revenue: \$13,858.30; Operating Expenses: \$18,206.05; Net loss: (\$4,347.75). YTD Operating Revenue: \$159,399.53; Expenses: \$129,387.41; Net: \$30,012.12. Note- Quarterly insurance payment of \$4,345.75 made, \$1,097.05 used from Operating toward downpayment for Mid States Audio (\$50,000 transferred from Harold & Marilee Peterson account at Thrivent, \$51,097.05 total downpayment amount). Deductible was changed for insurance policy. Motion to approve Financial Report by Jodi, 2 nd by Allen; motion carried	
<u>Correspondence</u>	Received from: none	
<u>Pastor's Report</u>	7-8 people joined the new choir. 5 students showed up for Confirmation class – all were given Bibles. We are changing some of the music for the Call to Worship to use well known hymns and a newer song for the Canticle of Praise. Pastor Alan will be gone in October for a conference.	
<u>New Business</u>	None	
<u>Old Business</u>	Roof- Alex Paulsrud discussed Brentwood's findings and recommendations for the roof: Current shingles are ok, some spots could be screwed down. Recommend to remove TPO membrane and replace. Also, without gutters, the water runoff from roof is damaging the brick columns. Recommend either getting gutters or	

	wrapping the tops of the columns with TPO material. Damage on roof does not appear to be bad enough that insurance will cover anything. Brentwood recommends that roofing issues be taken care of sooner rather than later- end of October or possibly next spring.	
<u>Committee Reports</u>	Property- The new windows have been purchased, need installed. Cost of quote for audio/video upgrades has gone up due to higher prices (quote was in 2024), and some changes made. Also have quote for electric: \$6,810. <i>*Congregational meeting on first Sunday in November to present changes in cost and cost of electrical to congregation.*</i> W&M- reviewed Summer Bash- great attendance. 75 for the concert, 120 for the meal. Discussed things to keep and change for next year. Also discussed upcoming holiday seasons- the Sunday before Thanksgiving will be Thanksgiving Sunday this year as Nov 29th is 1st Sunday in Advent. Endowment- Christian Ed – Summer Bash went well. Gotcha starts on September 16th with Bingo night. Will be held at the Presbyterian Church only, but BLC will provide some meals to help. Evangelism/Social Ministry/Missions – July Welcome Plate served 124, August meal was on 8/27. Will help with Summer Bash. Bethlehem Trifold to be revised. Gathering pictures. Not accepting clothing donations. Finance- Donations/Gifts/Memorial- Stewardship- Spiritual Formation –	
<u>Communion Schedule</u>	Sept 19- Kevin Sept 20- Allen, Karen, Mike, Kelley Oct 3- Oct 4- Mike, Karen, Allen, maybe Kaleb	
<u>Adjournment</u>	Motion to adjourn by Jodi, second by Allen; motion carried. Meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.	Next meeting Thursday, Oct 15 @ 6:30 pm



Fall Festival

Free Community Meal



Saturday, October 31 • 4:00 - 6:00 pm

Devotions • 3:45 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

Photo Op! Wear your costume!

