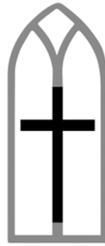


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## *Our Mission*

Called and empowered by  
God's grace in Christ Jesus,  
we *WORSHIP* God,  
Grow in *FAITH*, and  
*REACH OUT* to others

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# November 2017 Bethany Messenger

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## From Pastor Steve

You can't begin to write a "November" newsletter article without thinking about the holiday that dominates this month, Thanksgiving. We all realize that we don't need to wait until end of November to stop and give "Thanks to God" or to anyone else for that matter. What this holiday does do however, is to have us stop, look back, and reflect upon the past year. To remember ALL of those things, both large and small, for which we need to give thanks, and for which we so very often don't.

At the top of my list of things for which I am thankful this year is YOU. For ALL of the love, support, encouragement, care, concern, compassion, and kindness that YOU, the members of Bethany, have shown to me this year. From the time of my stroke back in March, culminating in the wonderful celebration on October 8th, your support and ongoing care has been overwhelming. The words "Thank You" seem so inadequate to express my sincere and heartfelt gratefulness for all of the letters, notes, cards, well wishes, and gifts that made my 10th year Anniversary Celebration such a memorable day. Thank you so very much for all you have done for me and for Eileen this past year and over these past ten years. Surprising me with having the Bishop come, the fantastic brunch, and all of the festivities, made that day one I will never forget.

As a part of our Congregation Council Meetings each month we are working through a book entitled, "Healthy Churches, Faithful Pastors" by David Keck. This book is all about the how to achieve and maintain healthy, responsive, and interactive relationships between congregational leaders,

congregational members, and congregation's pastoral and staff leaders. What a joy to work through this book and learn that much of what we are doing is affirmed as healthy and appropriate. Can we do better? Of course we can. There is always room to grow and improve, but we truly have a great deal to be thankful for this year. May God continue to bless us and all of our endeavors that together we my forever, "Praise God from whom ALL Blessings Flow" giving thanks not just on that Thursday in late November, but each and every day. Thank you and Thank God!

Peace,  
*Pastor Steve*

## From the Bishop

### OCT. 32 AND BEYOND



This is the 500th anniversary of the Reformation. For the past year it has been "All Reformation All the Time!" Everything Martin Luther. The really observant have branched out to Philipp Melancthon and Johannes Bugenhagen. True believers will dress their children up as Martin and Katie for Halloween, or if they tend toward the fear factor, Johann Tetzel.

Bring in the extra brass. Fire up the choir. Sing the fight song ("A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"). Dress in red. Binge-watch every Luther film and documentary. (I particularly liked Joseph Fiennes as the young, hot Luther.) This is our year!

Oct. 32.

Now what?

When I am out and about the church, I like to ask people what it means to be Lutheran—what is distinctive about the Lutheran movement. Grace is almost always mentioned, along with justification. Some will say we are *ecclesia semper reformanda*—the church always being reformed. Others point to our work for disaster relief, ELCA World Hunger, advocacy and other work for justice. Most of this is part of the Lutheran experience, but not unique to us. What then, did Luther uncover and what relevance does it have now?

Interestingly, Luther did not give his greatest emphasis to reform or to reforming the church. *Semper reformanda*—always reforming—was actually coined in 1947 by Karl Barth, a Reformed theologian. Liberation in Christ through faith was the freedom that transformed Luther. This freedom is what he wrote about most frequently and most passionately. The Freedom of a Christian, a short and accessible treatise, is probably most familiar. I commend it to you. In this brief work and in others, Luther makes the case that liberation in Christ is both a freedom **from** and a freedom **for**.

Freedom **from** is liberation from all spiritual bondage. We are set free from being trapped in ourselves, consumed by ourselves, from the belief or terror that we can and must save ourselves, that our **self** is the center of the universe. Life in Christ is not an inward-dwelling experience. We are free to get over ourselves. Freedom **from** is liberation from the law's accusation and judgment. We are liberated from terror and despair, which are soul-crushing. We are liberated from the incessant and impossible task of measuring up. Freedom **from** liberates us from estrangement from God and God's creatures. Caught in sin and standing before a God who demands righteousness, when we believe we are responsible for our salvation, breeds resentment toward God and the objectification of others.

Freedom **for** means that in Christ we are set free for loving and serving others. Freedom is a relationship, not a new set of activities or the demands of a new law.

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*Freedom for means that in Christ we are set free for loving and serving others. Freedom is a relationship, not a new set of activities or the demands of a new law.*

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Luther put it this way: "Faith, however, is a divine work in us which changes us and makes us to be born anew of God. It kills the old Adam and makes us altogether different people, in heart and spirit and mind and powers; and it brings with it the Holy Spirit. O, it is a living, busy, active mighty thing, this faith. It is impossible for it not to be doing good works incessantly. ... And this is the work which the Holy Spirit performs in faith. Because of it, without compulsion, a person is ready to do good to everyone, to serve everyone, to suffer everything, out of love and praise to God who has shown them this grace" (Luther's Works, 35:370-1).

No longer is God transactional and others a means to an end. This freedom is scandalous because it is based on unconditional grace. It is a gift. Think about it—do we feel the burden being lifted? Think about it—do we feel the complete love of God? Think about it—do we now see others through God's eyes, free and beloved children?

On Reformation Sunday we will hear Jesus' promise: "You will know the truth, and the truth will make you free" (John 8:32).

On Oct. 32 and beyond let us live in that freedom.

A monthly message from the presiding bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Her email address: [bishop@elca.org](mailto:bishop@elca.org). (from Living Lutheran [www.livinglutheran.org](http://www.livinglutheran.org) 9/29/2017)

## Worship God

### November Lessons

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#### **All Saints: November 5<sup>th</sup>**

- † Micah 3:5-12
- † Psalm 43
- † 1 Thessalonians 2:9-13
- † Matthew 23:1-12

#### **Pentecost 23: November 12**

- † Amos 5:18-24
- † Psalm 70
- † 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
- † Matthew 25:1-13

#### **Pentecost 24: November 19**

- † Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18
- † Psalm 90:1-8, 12
- † 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11
- † Matthew 25:14-30

#### **Thanksgiving Day: November 23**

- † Deuteronomy 8:7-18
- † Psalm 65
- † 2 Corinthians 9:6-15
- † Luke 17:11-19

#### **Christ the King: November 26**

- † Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24
- † Psalm 95:1-7
- † Ephesians 1:15-23
- † Matthew 25:31-46

## All Saint's Day Observance

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We will mark the observance of All Saints Day on **Sunday, November 5<sup>th</sup>**. All Saints Day is one of the more important festivals within the life of the Church. We will be marking this holy day with special ceremonies and observances.

We will remember in the Prayers of the Church all those who have entered the church through the Sacrament of Baptism during the preceding twelve months. We will also lift up the names of the members of our congregation, together with the names of our member's extended family and friends, who have died during the past year.

Please join us, as we remember those who have shared the faith with us and in many cases taught us about the love of God through the love, kindness, and compassion that they gave to us.

This year we will be including a candle lighting ceremony as a part of our worship. Toward the end of the service, you will have an opportunity to come forward as the congregation sings the hymn "For All the Saints," to light a candle to offer a silent prayer in memory of a loved one who has died. This is a very meaningful and loving way to remember those near and dear to us as we continue to grieve the passing of those we love. It is our hope, that this ritual may help us to celebrate God's gift of new life as we remember ALL of God's SAINTS.

## Community Thanksgiving Worship

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- **Tuesday, November 21<sup>st</sup>, 7:00pm**
- **Calvary Episcopal Church, 222 S. Batavia Ave. (Corner of Main St. and Rt. 31)**
- Refreshments to follow
- Childcare provided.
- Free will offering to benefit Batavia Interfaith Food Pantry

This service of worship will have a special liturgy for the day with clergy and perhaps choir members from the various faith communities here in Batavia. As always there will be a time of fellowship following the service. This is a great way to give thanks to God for all of the blessings we receive as a nation and city by worshipping with other members of the Batavia faith communities.

## Thanksgiving Eve Service & Chili Supper

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- **Wednesday, November 22<sup>nd</sup>**
- **6:00pm – Chili Supper**
- **7:00pm – Worship Service**
- **Fellowship Hall**
- Please sign up on the yellow sheet if you can bring a pie or a dessert

In addition to the Community Thanksgiving Service, we will be holding our own Thanksgiving Eve Worship to commemorate this very special holiday. We will enjoy a bowl or two of chili from mild to hot, accompanied by all the "fixins". Mac and Cheese will be available for the kids. The Thanksgiving Eve service will begin at 7:00pm. Dessert will follow.

Keep your kitchen clean for the following day's feast and join us for a service of thanks and fellowship.

## Special Worship Services

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### Christmas Pageant

- ✦ **Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup>**
- ✦ **10:30am**
- ✦ **Sanctuary**

Everyone is invited to see this wonderful Sunday School Pageant that tells about the true meaning of Christmas.

### Blue Christmas Service

- ✦ **Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup>**
- ✦ **5:00pm**
- ✦ **Chapel**

This is a reflective, quiet service that is held in the Chapel for folks who are missing someone this holiday season and wants to celebrate Christmas, just without all of the hoop-la. There will be a time for candlelight, prayer, and meditation. Don't forget to invite someone to join you at this service.

### Fourth Sunday of Advent

- ✦ **Sunday, December 24<sup>th</sup>**
- ✦ **10:00am, only one service this morning**
- ✦ **Sanctuary**

### Christmas Eve

- ✦ **Sunday, December 24<sup>th</sup>, Family Service**
- ✦ **4:00pm**
- ✦ **Sanctuary**

Our early Christmas Eve worship reminds us of the humble, simple birth of the Christ Child. This simple service of Carols and the Reading of the Christmas Gospel is especially meaningful for children (regardless of your age!). The brief sermonette is designed for young children, focusing upon the "manger crèche" with the children again helping to place the Nativity figures under our tree. The entire service will be approximately thirty minutes in length.

### Festival Candlelight Worship

- ✦ **Saturday, December 24<sup>th</sup>, Holy Communion**
- ✦ **7:30pm**
- ✦ **Sanctuary**

Our major service of the Christmas season includes a candle lighting ceremony, during which some of our most beloved carols will be sung. This Festival Service with Holy Communion is filled with music and joyous celebration. The liturgical portions of the service will all be replaced with Christmas hymns and carols as we fill the night with song and celebration and hear again the joyous news that "unto us a Child is born."

### Candlelight Worship

- ✦ **Saturday, December 24<sup>th</sup>, Holy Communion**
- ✦ **9:30pm**
- ✦ **Sanctuary**

This service is designed around the theme of "Silent Night". It will be a quiet, meditative service, filled with prayers, scriptures, meditation, and lots of music. The mood will be more quiet and reflective, rather than loud and festive. We hope this service will be a fitting compliment to the two earlier services. We will again celebrate Holy Communion at this service. The sermon at this service will be different from the earlier service.

### Christmas Day Worship

- ✦ **9:00am – Coffee and Fellowship – Fellowship Hall**
- ✦ **10:00am – Lessons and Carols - Sanctuary**
- ✦ Please join us for a Christmas morning worship service

## Lessons & Carols

- ✦ **Sunday, December 31<sup>st</sup>**
- ✦ **10:00am, one service only**
- ✦ **Sanctuary**

This service will be filled with hymns, carols, and Christmas anthems as we continue our traditions of observing the "Twelve Days of Christmas". *There will be **no Sunday School**.*

## Grow in Faith

### New Member Class



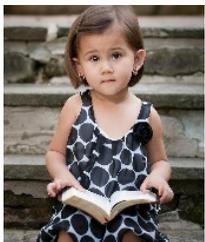
New member classes are available for individuals and families interested in learning more about Bethany and the Lutheran Church.

The remaining classes in this session:

- **Sunday, November 5<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup>**
- **from 10:15am – 11:15am**
- **Lower Level**

The New Member Luncheon will be **Sunday, November 19<sup>th</sup>** following the second service in **Fellowship Hall**.

### Storybook Bibles



Storybook Bibles will be presented to our three year olds on **Sunday, November 12<sup>th</sup>** at the **9:00am** Worship Service. A letter with important information outlining the plans and specifics surrounding this important growth marker in the spiritual growth and development of our youth, will be sent to the families of our three year old children. Plan now to invite grandparents, family members and especially baptismal sponsors to this celebration.

### Circle Meetings

Grace Circle	<b>Wednesday, November 1<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>7:30pm</b>	Fellowship Hall
Charity Circle	<b>Thursday, November 2<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>9:30am</b>	Holmstad
Kindness Circle	<b>Thursday, November 9<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>11:30am</b>	East China Inn, 140 W Wilson, Batavia
Hope Circle	<b>Monday, November 13<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>12:00pm</b>	Fellowship Hall
Peace Circle	<b>Tuesday, November 14<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>1:00pm</b>	Various member's homes

**Join a Circle now!** *Enjoy fellowship, fun and spiritual growth with other women*

## From Our Parish Nurse

### Veterans Day – A Time to Remember and Support

Veterans Day is **Saturday, November 11<sup>th</sup>** and this is the day to remember and honor all persons who are serving or who have served in the U.S. military – both past and present. It is important to remember the sacrifice each of these men and women serving in the military make for our country. We must reach out to support the troops as they return from combat service.

When our men and women return to home life, we are seeing an increase in combat stress; addiction, domestic violence and suicide. Too often the norm is to be silent about combat related mental health problems. Only half of those with mental health problems seek treatment. This is slowly changing, as the military is encouraging veteran's with combat stress symptoms to seek help. When combat stress is dealt with early, the symptoms can be treated so they do not lead to lifelong problems. Clergy and faith communities can be part of the support team for returning veterans and their families.

The faith community can support veterans and their families in a variety of ways:

- Publicly acknowledge members of the congregation who have served or are serving in the military through prayers and listing their names in the bulletin.
- Send letters, care packages or other tokens of support to persons who are deployed.
- Support families dealing with the transition of persons leaving for service and then returning home from service. Reach out through phone calls, by providing meals, providing child care, offering to care for their pet while they are gone, and most importantly, provide a listening ear.
- Provide non-judgmental pastoral care and opportunities for veterans to share their story and talk about how their combat experience has affected their faith.

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*“God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in distress” Psalm 46:2.*

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For all you Veterans here at Bethany and throughout our communities, please join me in saying **THANK YOU** to all those who are serving or those who have served our country. For more information on PTSD visit [www.ptsd.va.org](http://www.ptsd.va.org) or [www.warveteranministers.org/ptsd](http://www.warveteranministers.org/ptsd). If I can be of assistance to you or someone you know, leave me a message at the parish office 630-879-3444 or E-mail me at [mary.stola@presencehealth.org](mailto:mary.stola@presencehealth.org).



Peace,

Mary Stola, RN, Faith Community Nurse

## Reach Out to Others

### Mutual Ground

Mutual Ground serves survivors of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault through many avenues including but not limited to: shelter, legal advocacy, counseling, prevention in schools, and medical advocacy.

Throughout the year, we are continually looking for some items to help our clients as they transition to a safe environment.



Here is our current list of needs for our clients:

- Full Size Toothpaste
- Tampons
- Binders
- Dry Eraser Markers
- Full Size Kleenex Boxes
- Children's Paint: Watercolor or Elmer paints
- Gift Cards to Michael's or Hobby Lobby
- Canvasses (any size)
- Wal-Mart & Jewel Gift Cards
- Gas Gift Cards (\$15-25)
- Home Depot Gift Cards
- AND MORE!
- For a more detailed list visit [www.mutualground.org/?page\\_id=2017](http://www.mutualground.org/?page_id=2017)

THANK YOU! To those who have already GENEROUSLY contributed.  
There will continue to be a bin available in the **Lower Narthex** for donations.

### Help Feed Those in Need - Batavia Interfaith Food Pantry Serving

Our Bethany family provides volunteers to staff the Batavia Food Pantry on the **second Friday** of **each** month. Can you help? Haven't done it before? No problem. New Volunteers always welcome!

- **Friday, November 10<sup>th</sup>**
- **9:45am-Noon**
- **Batavia Food Pantry, 100 Flinn St., Batavia**

Sign up on the yellow sheet if you plan to attend. Call the church office or Deb Petges (630-482-9578) if this is your first time volunteering or if you have questions.



Donated items may be dropped off at the shopping cart in the **Lower Narthex**. You may also visit their website: [bataviafoodpantry.org](http://bataviafoodpantry.org)

\$1 donation buys \$8 food from the Northern Illinois Food Bank, Money donations are always appreciated.

#### **CURRENT NEEDS**

- Cereal
- **Fruit Juice**
- **Canned Stew**
- **Canned Chili**
- Pancake Mix
- Syrup
- Plain Pasta
- Spaghetti
- Macaroni and Cheese
- **White Rice**
- **Rice Mix**
- Condensed Soup (vegetable, chicken noodle)
- Ready to Eat Soups (all types)
- Ramen Noodles
- Ketchup and **Mustard**
- **Salad Dressing** (Ranch and Italian)
- Baby Food – all stages
- Baby Formula
- Diapers – all sizes
- **Salt & Pepper**
- Sugar
- Cooking oil
- **Tomato Paste**
- **Spaghetti Sauce (jar)**
- **Canned Black Beans**
- **Canned Kidney Beans**
- **Canned Fruit** (all types)
- Peanut Butter
- Strawberry and Grape Jelly
- **Canned Tuna**
- Canned Chicken
- **Kitchen Garbage Bag (13 gallon)**
- **Ziploc Bags – all sizes**
- Paper Napkins
- Aluminum Foil
- **Laundry Detergent**
- Paper Towels
- Shampoo & Conditioner
- Body wash
- Disposable Razors
- Deodorant/Antiperspirant

- Toothpaste and **toothbrushes (medium)**
- **Diapers** (all sizes)
- Feminine Products (pads/tampons)

### Bethany Community Supper

- **Friday, November 24<sup>th</sup>**
- **5:00pm-7:00pm**
- **Menu: Spaghetti Bake**, French Bread, Salad
- Sundae Bar, children's menu and "To Go" are available
- Can you help? Sign up in Fellowship Hall
- Want to just eat? Sign up on the yellow sheet if you are planning to attend
- Blood pressure screenings will be available.
- **Wanted:** Your donations of travel sized personal hygiene products such as soap, lotion, toothbrushes, toothpaste, baby wipes, laundry detergent, deodorant, etc. These items will be made available to attendees of the Community Supper
- Thank you for your prayers, your donations, and your help toward Bethany Community Supper

The Community Supper ministry appreciates your donations of baked goods and travel sized personal hygiene products

In **October** we served **216** meals

### Tri-Cities CROP Walk News



On **October 14<sup>th</sup>** Bethany raised **\$706** to fight hunger. Thank you to all who participated in this annual event.

### Mutual Ground Walk for Hope – Open House

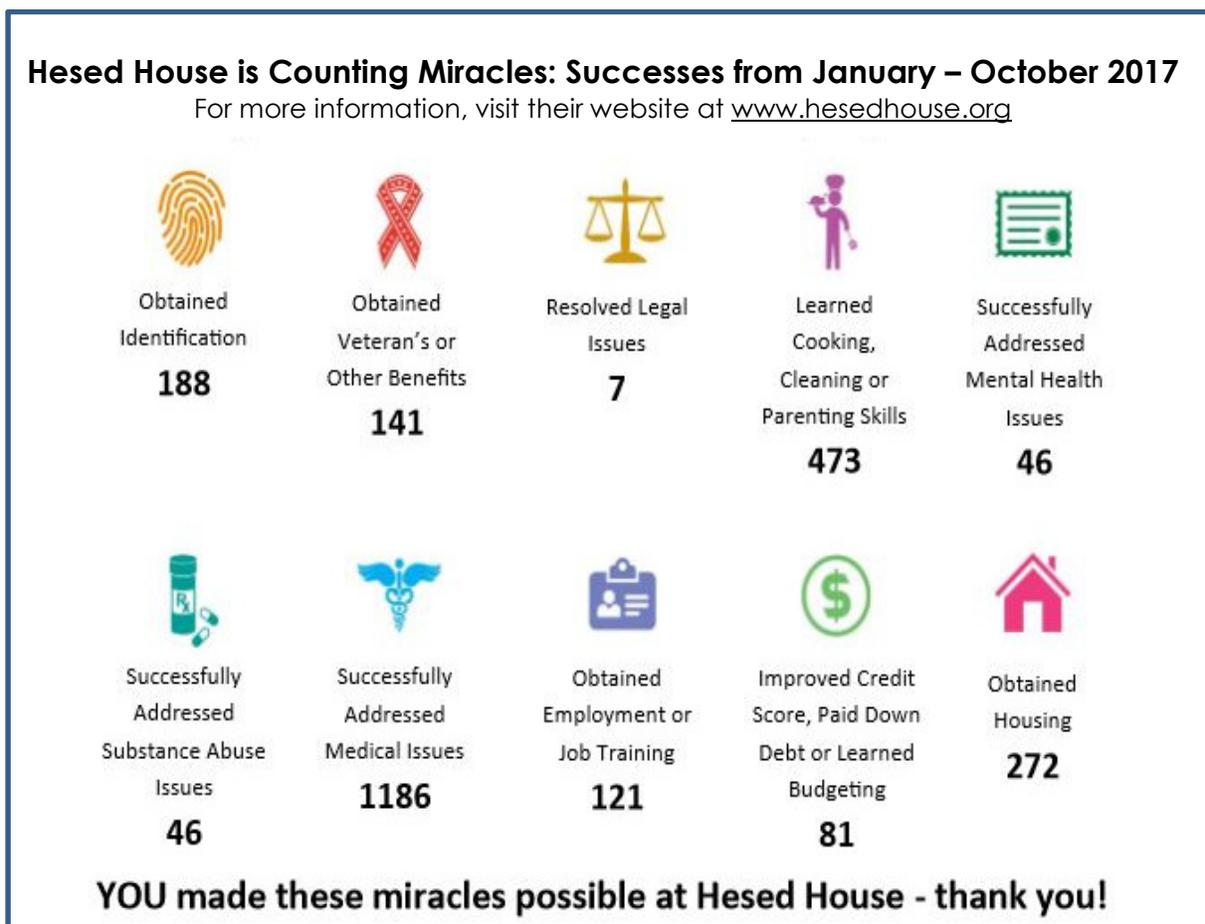
- **Friday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4:00pm - 7:00pm**
- **Saturday, November 4<sup>th</sup>, 9:00am - 12:00pm**
- **Mutual Ground, 418 Oak Ave, Aurora**

Thank you to everyone who planned on attending our 10th Annual Walk for Hope! Unfortunately, we had to cancel the walk due to severe weather. In place of the walk, we will be hosting an Open House, where people can pick up their Walk for Hope t-shirts and experience our various victim impact projects.

We are still collecting donations for this event! Please feel free to continue collecting donations through our fundraising page. We will also be collecting donations on the Open House dates.

As a reminder, this event is family-friendly and FREE of charge to attend! It is NOT necessary to register, but if you would like to raise money as a fundraiser, create a team, or donate to a campaign please visit our Fundraising page.

## Hesed House Successes



## In Our Prayers

### Sacrament of Holy Baptism

We welcome into God's family through the waters of Baptism:

Adeline Lynn, daughter of Chris & Jen Powell. Proud grandparents are John & Karol Clark.

Claire Julianna, daughter of Joel & Erica Hagen, sister of Ellis and Anders.

## ***Celebrating New Life***

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Congratulations to Brian & Molly B. on the birth of their daughter, Lily, born on **September 14<sup>th</sup>**

### ***Please pray for those who mourn the passing of:***

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Ken Ford, friend of Allison C.

### ***Last month we prayed for those who are part of the life of Bethany who struggle with illness and other concerns, especially:***

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Keith A.	Junellen J.	CJ M.	Katie R.
Charley A.	Marilyn K.	Julie L.	Shirley S.
Dale C.	Pam K.	Wendy M.	Cindy S.
Sandi C.	Diane L.	Glenn M.	Sherry S.
Michelle G.	Luke L.	John N.	Shirley S.
Karl H.	Marie L.	Mary N.	
Anna J.	Richard L.	Lorrie R.	

### ***Please pray for those in care facilities, especially:***

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Maxine D.	Jennings Terrace, Aurora	Shirley P.	Harry J. Ekstam, Holmstad
Marilyn G.	Park Manor, Holmstad	Joyce S.	GreenFields, Geneva
Roz H.	Bria Health Services, Geneva	Ken S.	GreenFields, Geneva
Carol H.	Bria Health Services, Geneva	Irma S.	Harry J. Ekstam, Holmstad
Lorraine P.	Bickford, St. Charles	Mariann W.	Heritage Woods, Batavia

### ***Please pray for those homebound, especially:***

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Nancy C., Lois E., Mary H., Elaine K., Karl K., Vie K., Martha M., Pat Q.

### ***Please pray for those in military service, especially:***

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Xander C., Matt K.

### ***Last month we prayed for our family and friends, especially:***

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Peggy A.	Friend of Kathi Gorlewski	Cathy	Sister of Jan Bristow
Judy F.	Friend of Sue & Bob Novy	Debbie	Friend of Ruth Beck
John H.	Brother of Beth Lawniczak	Eloise	Infant friend of Kimmy Robertson
Mary M.	Daughter of Nita Chevalier	Ethyl	Mother of Cindy Schuler
Teri P.	Sister of Sue & Bob Novy	Marge	Friend of Jan Bristow
Serena S.	Daughter of Cindy Shuler	Marietta M.	Mother of Wendy McKiness
Jeff S.	Son of Ken & Joyce Stran	Rev. Ernie Rex	Former Pastor at Grace Lily Lake
Loane T.	Sister of Norm Freedlund		

## Anniversaries This Month

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### November

- |                               |                           |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>11</b> David & Karen B.    | <b>17</b> Todd & Jori T.  |
| <b>11</b> Brian & Jennifer N. | <b>27</b> Norm & Nancy F. |
| <b>11</b> Steve & Linda S.    | <b>28</b> Mike & Megan D. |
| <b>15</b> Nic & Stephanie C.  | <b>30</b> Ken & Joyce S.  |
| <b>17</b> Steve & Carole H.   |                           |

## Birthdays This Month

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### November

- |                       |                       |                        |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|
| <b>1</b> Steve K.     | <b>10</b> Judy D.     | <b>20</b> Vicki K.     |
| <b>2</b> Kristen G.   | <b>12</b> Steve D.    | <b>21</b> Chloe C.     |
| <b>3</b> Melissa D.   | <b>12</b> Kathryn F.  | <b>21</b> Lane S.      |
| <b>3</b> Kris K.      | <b>12</b> Margaret L. | <b>21</b> Wyatt S.     |
| <b>3</b> Dan S.       | <b>12</b> Patrick M.  | <b>22</b> Natalie B.   |
| <b>4</b> Michelle C.  | <b>12</b> Graham W.   | <b>22</b> Catherine C. |
| <b>4</b> DeAnna M.    | <b>12</b> Tanner W.   | <b>22</b> Steven D.    |
| <b>5</b> Mike M.      | <b>13</b> Marla K.    | <b>23</b> Andy C.      |
| <b>5</b> Sarah W.     | <b>14</b> Karol C.    | <b>24</b> Katie C.     |
| <b>6</b> Reese C.     | <b>14</b> Will F.     | <b>25</b> Dave B.      |
| <b>6</b> Emily F.     | <b>15</b> Shirley P.  | <b>25</b> Gustav F.    |
| <b>6</b> Judy Hill-S. | <b>15</b> Liesa R.    | <b>26</b> Char T.      |
| <b>6</b> Danni O.     | <b>16</b> Barry C.    | <b>28</b> Scotty S.    |
| <b>6</b> Dorothy P.   | <b>17</b> Lindsay B.  | <b>28</b> Nora S.      |
| <b>6</b> Bob S.       | <b>17</b> Joshua H.   | <b>29</b> Emily D.     |
| <b>7</b> Kathy F.     | <b>19</b> Roger J.    | <b>29</b> Taylor K.    |
| <b>8</b> Steve H.     | <b>19</b> Jim N.      | <b>29</b> Mackenzie W. |
| <b>9</b> Todd A.      | <b>19</b> Lindsay P.  | <b>30</b> Hershel P.   |

## Upcoming Events

### Mitten Tree

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- **November 1<sup>st</sup> – TBD**
- Tree will be located in the **Lower Narthex**
- Warm the hearts and hands of those in need. Donations of mittens, gloves, hats, and scarves will be collected for Batavia Clothes Closet's annual holiday distribution

### Café Bethany

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- **Wednesdays at 5:00pm**
- **Fellowship Hall**
- Suggested donation is: \$4.00 per senior or child, \$5.00 per adult, \$14.00 per family cap

## F.U.N. Craft Night

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- **Friday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>**
- **6:30 – 8:00**
- **Fellowship Hall**
- We will create family friendly crafts in preparation for the craft show that will benefit Mutual Ground, and the Batavia Park District Christmas tree
- Pizza will be served, bring a snack to share

## Sewing Sisters

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- **Saturday, November 4<sup>th</sup>**
- **10:00am – 3:00pm**
- **Ministry Center, Room M110**
- Sewing projects & fellowship!
- Bring a sack lunch, or we can order in

## Equal Exchange

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- **Sunday, November 5<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup>**
- **10:00am-11:00am**
- **Fellowship Hall**
- Orders will be taken for fairly traded coffees, teas, and chocolates. This is a great opportunity to take care of holiday gift giving and entertaining needs.

## Holiday Craft Fair to Benefit Mutual Ground

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- |  |                         |
|--|-------------------------|
| • <b>Sunday, November 12<sup>th</sup></b>    | <b>10:00am – 1:00pm</b> |
| • <b>Wednesday, November 15<sup>th</sup></b> | <b>4:00 – 6:30pm</b>    |
| • <b>Thursday, November 16<sup>th</sup></b>  | <b>4:00 – 6:30pm</b>    |
| • <b>Friday, November 17<sup>th</sup></b>    | <b>4:00 – 6:30pm</b>    |
| • <b>Saturday, November 18</b>               | <b>9:00am – 12:00pm</b> |
| • <b>Sunday, November 19<sup>th</sup></b>    | <b>10:00am – 1:00pm</b> |
| • <b>Wednesday, November 22<sup>nd</sup></b> | <b>5:30 – 7:00pm</b>    |

Craft Fair will be located **HERE** at **Bethany** in the **Lower Narthex**. Proceeds from this event will benefit Mutual Ground.

*If you are a "crafter" and would like to donate handmade treasures to sell at this event, let Beth Lawniczak know. 630-879-3444*

## Giving Tree

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- **November 12<sup>th</sup>** begins our traditional UN-decorating the Christmas tree in **Fellowship Hall** to help make the holidays a little brighter for those who are less fortunate
- Ornaments will each have a suggested donation for charities such as **Batavia Clothes Closet, Hesed House, Mutual Ground, ELCA Good Gifts Giving\* and Wishing Star Project\*\***
- Please place selected gifts, **unwrapped**, back under the tree
- All donations should be made by *around* **Sunday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>**
- Thank you for your generosity, It means so much to those who have so little

\* **ELCA Good Gifts Giving** – This is a new opportunity we added this year. This is a worldwide program where people may buy gifts to help the needy in someone else's name.

\*\* **Wishing Star Project** – This is another opportunity available to Bethany this year. It is done in conjunction with WELCA in support of Concordia Place providing gifts to seniors and children. *Deadline is* **November 30<sup>th</sup>** for this project.

## Singles Supper Club

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- **Sunday, November 19<sup>th</sup>**
- **Livia Italian Eatery, 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, Geneva**
- Meet at the restaurant at **4:00pm**

## Bethany Thanksgiving Luncheon – All Are Invited!

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- **Sunday, November 26<sup>th</sup>**
- **12:00pm**
- **Fellowship Hall**
- **Tickets are \$10**

Bethany Women will be hosting the Fall/Thanksgiving Luncheon. We are doing something different! It's not Advent yet, so we are having a Thanksgiving theme. You may decorate a table if you'd like. Just let us know. All are invited, and you are welcome to invite friends as well.

You will have a chance to meet Katie von Bora Luther, wife of Martin Luther. Find out what it was like to live during that time. Katie was definitely a bold woman and the only one for Martin. Dottie Johnson will portray Katie von Bora Luther. Dottie gave this presentation at our SWO Convention last year and has given it at other churches in our Synod.

Thankoffering envelopes will be received. Reservations are required. Tickets are \$10 and will be available at the Welcome Desk during November.

## Lunch Bunch

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We would like to invite those who enjoy the Lunch Bunch fellowship to attend the Thanksgiving Luncheon on **Sunday, November 26<sup>th</sup>**. See above for more information.

## Prayer Shawl

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- **Thursday, November 16<sup>th</sup>**
- **2:00pm**
- **Panera, Batavia**
- Can't knit? We'll teach you! Bring your knitting needles or crochet hook and join the fellowship and fun

## Important Stuff

### Pictorial Directory Sign-up

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Bethany will be making a Pictorial Directory and our goal is to have 100% participation from our Congregation! Family pictures will be taken **November 14<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>**

**There will be three ways to schedule your family pictures:**

1. Reserve your picture appointment online!
  - <https://booknow-lifetouch.appointment-plus.com/y6rgg8yx/>
2. If you do not have computer access, we have a Sign up sheet available on the Welcome Desk for scheduling
3. Or, call the church office to schedule at 630-879-3444

If you cannot get to Bethany for picture taking, please call the church office, 630-879-3444.

We are in need of hosts to help on each picture night. Duties include checking people in, etc. If you can spare a couple of hours, we would be grateful! Contact Lura Dreymler at 630-879-3444.

### Poinsettias

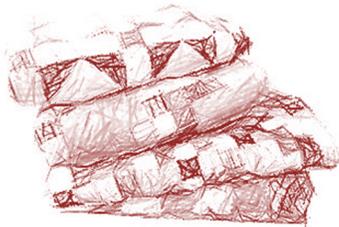
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Beginning **Sunday, November 26<sup>th</sup>** poinsettia envelopes will be available for you to order and dedicate a plant in honor or memory of a loved one. Please note "*Poinsettia*" in your check's memo. Each Shady Hill plant is **\$10.00**. The deadline to order the poinsettias is **Sunday, December 10<sup>th</sup>**. You may pick up your plant(s) after the Christmas Day worship service.

## Quilt Raffle Results are in!

Bethany's Quilters would like to thank you for your generosity and participation in the Annual Quilt Raffle. We will use the earnings to purchase batting over the next year.



### The lucky winners of the quilt raffle are:

**Delores H.  
Jackie P.  
Joyce S.  
Dee S.  
Karen B.**

**Little Square Quilt  
Homespun Gold Star Quilt  
Green Quilt  
Wilderness Quilt  
Won the silent auction for the Vintage Quilt**

**97** Quilts were shipped to Lutheran World Relief this fall. **270** Quilts total were shipped this year. **30** Baby quilts were sent to the Clothes Closet right here in Batavia.

## Do You Love Café Bethany? We Need Your Help!

- We are looking for volunteers to be "on-call" to help out when someone can't be there
- There are a number of opportunities to help:
  - **Monday** – putting together the delicious entrée for the week
  - **Wednesday** – Set-up, serving, clean-up
- If you are available to add your name to our list, please call the church office 630-879-3444
- We are looking for an occasional helping hand

If you know someone who might enjoy helping out in this ministry, we would be grateful if you would pass this information along. Cafe Bethany is a much loved ministry attended by members of the church and community. Cindy provides a great meal while we gather for food and fellowship.

## Calling All Techies!

Do you enjoy technology? If so, there's a way you can help during church services. We need a few more volunteers for both audio and visual support. Every Sunday, we videotape the **9:00am** service for BATV. We also need to monitor and take care of the audio during the services. We have a few dedicated folks who volunteer for both tasks, but we are looking for a couple more! No experience is necessary. Training will be provided. Please contact Fred Holch if interested in learning more about this opportunity.

## Calling all Graduates: Headed for College, Moving, Other Plans???



We would love to stay in touch with all of Bethany's high school/college grads. Please send us new e-mail and snail-mail addresses to [office@bethanybatavia.org](mailto:office@bethanybatavia.org), or write them on the yellow sheet when you are in church.

***The Sunday School children will be sending care packages SOON!***

## Sign up to Serve at Coffee/ Fellowship Hour on Sundays, it's EASY!

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- Our Sunday Coffee Hour depends on our volunteers!
- Volunteer alone or get a few friends to join you
- Bake or purchase the goodies
- Don't want to serve? Just donate goodies instead
- You may be reimbursed for what you purchase
- Coffee Hour is a flexible volunteer opportunity
- Call the Church office if you have questions or to find out how you can help

## 2017 Flower Calendar

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Would you like to donate flowers for the altar in honor of someone, to celebrate a special occasion, or perhaps in memory of a loved one? There are still a lot of open dates. If we do not have a sponsor, we will not have altar flowers on that Sunday. The sign-up chart is posted on the Bulletin Board in **Fellowship Hall**, or you may call the church office (630-879-3444) if you are interested. Please indicate your name and the occasion celebrated or the individual to be honored or remembered. Flowers may be taken home after worship on the date of donation.

## Recycled Eyeglasses

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In many areas, people are unable to work or even be involved in routine activities because of vision problems. Eyeglasses are not readily available or are simply unaffordable.

Our Reach Team collects old eyeglasses and sends them to the Lions/Lioness Club for distribution to those in need.

Please put your cast-off glasses and sunglasses (*no loose lenses or empty frames*) in the special box on the Coat Rack next to the Church Main Office. Thank you to all who filled the box over the past several years!

## In the Community

### Refuge for Women Event

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- **A Visit with Amy Carmichael 1867 - 1951**
- **Saturday, November 4<sup>th</sup>**
- **9am – 11am**
- **Hosanna! Lutheran Church, 36W925Red Gate Rd, St. Charles, IL**
- Tickets to this event are complimentary
- RSVP [Donna.Gauthier@refugeforwomen.org](mailto:Donna.Gauthier@refugeforwomen.org)

One of the best-known and respected missionaries in the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. She gave up her comfort and safety in order to give comfort and safety in order to give comfort and safety to abused children.

Refuge for Women, an after care home for trafficked and exploited women, is pleased to invite you to a special fall fundraising event. Please join us for a dramatic portrayal on the life of Amy Carmichael. This one-woman drama presented by Maggie Rowe- author, dramatist, and women's speaker- depicts the life and words of Amy Carmichael, a missionary in India. Amy Carmichael was one of the early heroes to those caught up in sex

trafficking and Refuge for Women is proud to honor this early sex trafficking abolitionist by presenting this program.

Enjoy a light breakfast, door prizes, A Visit with Amy Carmichael, and a presentation on the restorative, healing work of Refuge for Women. An opportunity to give to Refuge will be presented.

### Moosheart Holiday Lights 5K Run/Walk

- **Saturday, November 18**
- **5:00pm**
- **Mooseheart Child City and School**

Join the family friendly 5K/Run/Walk to kick off the Holiday Season with the Mooseheart Community. Be among the first spectators to see this year's Holiday Lights up close and personal. The Holiday Lights 5K/Run/Walk is open to all ages and will begin at **4:00pm**.

#### **Event Highlights:**

- Adults \$35
- Children under 12 - \$15
- Participants receive a race shirt (pre-registered only)
- Chili & hot dog dinner after race **5:00pm to 7:00pm**
- Finisher medal
- USATF Certification #IL17034NM
- Race Timing by "It's RaceTime"
- Sponsorship opportunities and registration online at <http://support.moosecharities.org/2017HolidayLights5k>
- Questions: 630-966-2200 or email [request@moosecharities.org](mailto:request@moosecharities.org)

### Lazarus House Community Thanksgiving Feast

Lazarus House invites you to join its staff, guests, and many supporters at our annual Thanksgiving Feast to be held **Thursday, November 23, 2017**, at the **Salvation Army St. Charles Tri Cities Corps located at 1710 S. 7th Ave. in St. Charles**. The event is from **11:30am to 2:00pm**, with dining beginning at **noon**.

The feast has become quite a tradition in the community. The potluck style buffet, which is at no charge, gives you the opportunity to enjoy delicious food, entertainment and rich fellowship together. This feast has become the family meal for Lazarus House guests, as well as many who live by themselves or do not have family in the area. Come meet new friends and share a meal with the neighbors in your community.

If you want to cook or donate various supply items, please sign up now. Food should arrive in a disposable container and come hot and ready to serve between **11:30 and 11:45am**. Please check our website at [www.lazarushouse.net](http://www.lazarushouse.net) for more details about food and supply donations. Please contact Anne at [volunteer@lazarushouse.net](mailto:volunteer@lazarushouse.net) to sign up for a donation or get more details about the event.

### 2018 Faith Build

- **Saturday, February 10<sup>th</sup>**
- **9:00am**
- **Genesis Community Church, 1300 S. Broadway, Montgomery**

Breakfast refreshments and rolls will be served. Bring your questions, and anyone who is interested in working with us. Come and meet Carmen Fernandez and her daughters. See you there. [www.foxvalleyhabitat.org](http://www.foxvalleyhabitat.org)

## Council Highlights

### October Council Meeting Highlights:

- The Council voted to appoint Kelli C. to fill the Council Vacancy. Kelli will serve until the end of June 2018 at which time the position will be filled by an election at the Congregational Meeting in May. She will be eligible for nomination for this position
- The Council approved the recommendations of the Property Committee to renew our contract for snow removal and their recommendation to enter into a contract with Youngren HVAC contractors to provide preventative maintenance and repair work on the our Main Building and the Ministry Center HVAC systems
- The concrete floor of the Courtyard has been cleaned, tinted, and a sealcoating applied. Thank you to Ozinga Materials for sealcoating supplies and to John H. for the work that he did in applying the material
- Audit Committee has completed their audit and a report (which had been reviewed by the Finance Committee) was submitted and accepted
- Stewardship packets have been prepared and distributed
- "Thank yous" go to John Holz (for his work in the courtyard) and to Bill D., Steve H., Fred H., Ken H., Brian N., Tom S., and Mike T. who rotate evenings and check the church EVERY evening to make certain that the building is secure and all of the lights are off

## Stewardship

### Our 2018 Financial Stewardship Campaign



**Called and Empowered by God's Grace**

The theme of our 2018 Stewardship Appeal is **Called and Empowered by God's Grace**. Hopefully everyone recognizes this phrase as the first part of *Bethany's Purpose Statement*: **Called and Empowered by God's Grace in Jesus Christ, we Worship God, Grow in Faith, and Reach Out to others**. For many years now we have focused upon the latter portion of the statement. We have even based our organizational structure around Worshiping God, Growing in Faith, and Reaching Out to others. However, the first part of the statement is every bit as important as the latter portion, especially this year, as we remember the 500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Reformation. Luther's emphasis upon the Grace of God as the heart and soul of the faith is critical and essential for us as Lutheran Christians. Why? Because Stewardship is what happens

AFTER we say I BELIEVE! Everything we do, everything we say, all our values, morals, priorities, behaviors, and actions become a reflection of our Beliefs and our Faith! That is what Stewardship IS. Giving back to God some of what God has given to us allows us to demonstrate and practice our thankfulness. We give generously and gratefully because God has given us so much. This year's Stewardship Appeal is designed to again challenge us to live out our calling as disciples of the Lord Jesus. Holy Scripture challenges us to periodically examine our personal stewardship to insure that our actions truly reflect what we believe?

This year's Stewardship Campaign is our invitation to you to support the work of our congregation as well as those ministries that we support through our local and synodical benevolence gifts. We are asking everyone to respond to this year's appeal by Sunday, November 12th. We want to thank you for your support of our congregation and its ministry and we hope you will continue to participate in and support our ministries, not only financially, but with your prayers, your commitment of time, and your personal gifts and skills. May God continue to richly bless us in our ministry together.

## Thank You

*Thank you to the Bauer family for hosting the annual hayride for Bethany Sunday School kids and families.*

*Thank you to John and the Energy Builders for power washing and sealing the courtyard cement floor.*

*Dear Friends at Bethany,*

*This is coming to you a little late... Thank you for the beautiful Christmas stole. It is by Gaspard, one of my favorite companies! I will think of you and the blessings I received from and with you whenever I wear it.*

*Thank you!  
Pastor Kimberly*

From Bethany Hayride – October 29<sup>th</sup>



Photo credit: Steve M., Brian and Jennifer N., and Jori T.

From Bunco – Breastcancer Awareness Event, October 13<sup>th</sup>



Photo credit: Mary S.

## Staff & Council

### Church Staff:

Senior Pastor .....	Rev. Steve Srock
Visitation Pastor* .....	Rev. Steven Ritter
Administrative Assistant* .....	Kathi Gorlewski
Administrative Assistant* .....	Darlene Hutchens
Administrative Assistant* .....	Lura Dreymliller
Financial Secretary* .....	Maureen Scollon
Sexton.....	Steve Hayes
Director of Music/Shared Ministry .....	Beth Lawniczak
Organist* .....	Alan Spear
Parish Nurse* .....	Mary Stola
Nursery Attendant* .....	Brittany Gyoerkoes

(\* Part-time)

### Congregation Council:

Rick McKiness.....	President
Charlene Boehm .....	Vice-President/Personnel
Lynn Dreymliller .....	Secretary/Worship & Music
Steve Mickelson .....	Treasurer/Finance
Charley Andersen .....	Memorial Gifts
Molly Cox.....	Children & Family
Andrea Gustafson.....	Stewardship
Carie Holzl.....	Service
Steve Ritter .....	Evangelism
Dennis Schuett .....	Property
Leonard Wray.....	Adult Discipleship

**8 South Lincoln Street, Batavia, IL 60510 - 630.879.3444**    [office@bethanybatavia.org](mailto:office@bethanybatavia.org)

**Office Hours: Monday – Friday, 9am – 4:30pm**

**Website:** [www.bethanybatavia.org](http://www.bethanybatavia.org)

View recent sermons, Sunday's Update/weekly news, The Messenger

**Like us on Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/BethanyBatavia/](https://www.facebook.com/BethanyBatavia/)

Share your Bethany events, post your pictures, and see what's new

### **Worship Broadcast**

BATV Cable Channel: Bethany's worship services are broadcast on BATV Cable channel 17 on Mondays 4:30pm & 10:30pm, Tuesdays at 10:30am/pm, 4:30am/pm and Wednesdays 4:30am & 10:30am. Access programming online at: [mybatv.com](http://mybatv.com). BATV is available on Comcast Channel 17, and on AT&T U-verse Channel 99 across N. Illinois.

### **Bethany's Favorite Links to Local Resources and Events**

- Aurora University Events  
[alumni.aurora.edu](http://alumni.aurora.edu)
- Elderday Center  
[www.elderdaycenter.org](http://www.elderdaycenter.org)
- Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
[www.ELCA.org](http://www.ELCA.org)
- Fermilab Public Events  
[events.fnal.gov](http://events.fnal.gov)
- Hesed House  
[www.hesedhouse.org](http://www.hesedhouse.org)
- Lazarus House  
[www.lazarushouseonline.com](http://www.lazarushouseonline.com)
- Living Lutheran  
[www.livinglutheran.org](http://www.livinglutheran.org)
- Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago  
[www.lstc.edu/lstc-life/events](http://www.lstc.edu/lstc-life/events)
- Lutheran Social Services of Illinois  
[www.lssi.org](http://www.lssi.org)
- Metropolitan Chicago Synod ELCA  
[www.mcsela.org](http://www.mcsela.org)
- Mutual Ground  
[www.mutualground.org](http://www.mutualground.org)
- Lutheran Suicide Prevention Ministry  
[www.lutheransuicideprevention.org](http://www.lutheransuicideprevention.org)