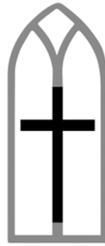


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## *Our Mission*

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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# September 2017 Bethany Messenger

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## From Pastor Steve

This is a helpful little tool that I thought might be worth sharing.

### The FIVE FINGER prayer

1. Your thumb is nearest you. So begin your prayers by praying for those closest to you and are the easiest to remember. To pray for our loved ones is, as C. S. Lewis once said, a "sweet duty".
2. The next finger is the pointing finger. Pray for those who "point the way" – those who teach, instruct, and heal. This includes teachers, doctors and nurses, parents, police officers, pastors, and a whole host of others. They need support and wisdom in pointing us in the right direction and keeping us on the right path. Keep them in your prayers.
3. The next finger is the tallest finger. It reminds us of our leaders. Pray for the president and all of our elected officials, for leaders in business and industry, for administrators and managers, and for all in positions of authority. These people give shape, structure, and form to what we do individually and corporately. They need God's guidance each and every day.
4. The fourth finger is our ring finger. Surprising to many is the fact that this is our weakest finger; as any piano teacher will testify. It should remind us

to pray for those who are weak, ill, in trouble or in any type of pain. They need our prayers day and night. You cannot pray too much for them.

5. And lastly comes our little finger; the smallest finger of all which is where we should place ourselves in relation to God and others. Your pinkie should remind you to pray for yourself. By the time you have prayed for the other four groups, your own needs will be put into the proper perspective and you will be able to pray for yourself more appropriately and effectively.

See you in Church!

Respectfully,

*Pastor Steve*

## From Beth

Again, I am sharing something from Mikey's Funnies. The following story is an excellent example of how we at times don't realize how important it is to be helpful and kind and what an impact it can have on the other person.

John was walking home from school one day when he noticed the boy ahead of him had tripped and dropped all of the books he was carrying, along with two sweaters, a baseball bat, a glove and a small tape recorder.

John knelt down and helped the boy pick up the scattered articles. Since they were going the same way, he helped to carry part of the burden. As they walked John discovered the boy's name was Bill, that he loved video games, baseball and history, and that he was having lots of trouble with his other subjects and that he had just broken up with his girlfriend.

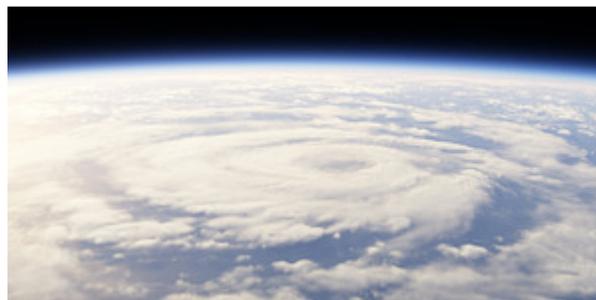
They arrived at Bill's home first and John was invited in for a Coke and to watch some television. The afternoon passed pleasantly with a few laughs and some shared small talk, then John went home. They continued to see each other around school, had lunch together once or twice, then both graduated from junior high school. They ended up in the same high school where they had brief contacts over the years.

Finally the long-awaited senior year came and three weeks before graduation, Bill asked John if they could talk. Bill reminded him of the day years ago when they had first met. "Did you ever wonder why I was carrying so many things home that day?" asked Bill. "You see, I cleaned out my locker because I didn't want to leave a mess for anyone else. I had stored away some of my mother's sleeping pills and I was going home to commit suicide. But after we spent some time together talking and laughing, I realized that if I had killed myself, I would have missed that time and so many others that might follow. So you see, John, when you picked up those books that day, you did a lot more than that, you saved my life."

Yours in Christ,

*Beth*

## ELCA Hurricane Relief



Hurricane Harvey hit the Gulf Coast of the United States on **August 25, 2017** and we are waiting for Hurricane Irma.

**What you can do:****Pray**

Please pray for the people who have been affected and are in the path of Hurricanes Harvey and Irma. May God's healing presence give them peace and hope in their time of need.

**Give**

Gifts to "US Hurricane Relief" will be used to assist those affected by the hurricane until the response is complete.

**Connect:**

To learn more about the situation and the ELCA's response:

- Give through your congregation or make your check out to Lutheran Disaster Response and send to: Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, ELCA Gift Processing Center P.O. Box 1809, Merrifield, VA 22116-8009. Write "Hurricane Response, United States" or "Lutheran Disaster Response, U.S." on your check's memo line.
- Check the Lutheran Disaster Response blog: <http://blogs.elca.org/disasterresponse/> and sign up to receive Lutheran disaster Response alerts
- Like Lutheran Disaster Response on Facebook and follow @ELCALDR on Twitter.

**Envelopes available on the Resource Table****Worship God****September Lessons****Pentecost 13: September 3<sup>rd</sup>**

- † Jeremiah 15:15-21
- † Psalm 26:1-8
- † Romans 12:9-21
- † Matthew 16:21-28

**Pentecost 14: September 10<sup>th</sup>**

- † Ezekiel 33:7-11
- † Psalm 119:33-40
- † Romans 13:8-14
- † Matthew 18:15-20

**Pentecost 15: September 17<sup>th</sup>**

- † Genesis 50:15-21
- † Psalm 103:8-13
- † Romans 14:1-12
- † Matthew 18:21-35

**Pentecost 16: September 24<sup>th</sup>**

- † Jonah 3:10-4:11
- † Psalm 145:1-8
- † Philippians 1:21-30
- † Matthew 20:1-16

**Sunday School Registration**

- **Registration forms** on line at [www.bethanybatavia.org](http://www.bethanybatavia.org)
- Or at the **Resource Table**
- Leave in the basket when completed

## Rally Day

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- **Sunday, September 10<sup>th</sup>**
- **10:30am**
- **Ministry Center**

There will be **ONLY ONE Worship Service at 9:00am**. Following the service, children and parents will meet the teachers and find their classroom. The festivities will conclude with breakfast/brunch and treats in **Fellowship Hall**.

## Sunday School Help Needed

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- Bethany's **AWSOME** Sunday School program and teachers need you!
- Do you enjoy spending time with children?
- You **DO NOT** have to currently have children in the program to participate
- Needed: Classroom helpers, substitute teachers to lead an occasional class
- Join us when it fits into your schedule. We need you if you have **LOTS** of time or **A LITTLE** time
- Want to help, but don't know how? Talk to Beth, or one of the Sunday School teachers, or indicate your interest on the yellow sheet so we can call you

## Nursery Volunteers Needed

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One of the best things Bethany has been able to offer to our young families is nursery care during the worship service. If you or someone you know would be interested in helping fill this need, or want to know what is involved, please give the office a call, contact Beth, or indicate your interest on the yellow sheet so we can contact you. We are in need of volunteers to assist our nursery attendant.

## Fall Worship Schedule will Resume September 17<sup>th</sup>

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Our Sunday schedule this fall, **September 17<sup>th</sup>**

- **9:00am**..... Traditional Worship Sanctuary
- **10:00am**..... Fellowship - Coffee & Refreshments
- **10:30am**..... Chapel Service
- **10:30 – 11:30am**..... Sunday School

## Our Chapel Service

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*Anyone looking for a slightly different style of service is encouraged to give our Chapel service a try...*

Beginning on **September 17<sup>th</sup>** we will be returning to our two service format with our second service being held in the Chapel behind the Altar area of the Sanctuary

- The service will begin at **10:30am**
- Worshippers can enter the Chapel by going through the Sanctuary using the door by the organ console

- OR by coming up the "back stairs" (turn right after entering the building through the East Door located under the canvas covered walkway between the main building and the Ministry Center and then come upstairs)
- OR by entering through the North Entrance to the building on the Wilson Street side of the church and coming upstairs. Anyone looking for a slightly different style of service is encouraged to give this service a try.

This service will have a different liturgy and style than the **9:00am** service. It is more informal, casual, "spiritual", and meditative in nature. Holy Communion is celebrated weekly. Also prior to the sermon, parishioners are asked if they have questions from that morning's readings that they would like pastor to address during the sermon. Sometimes we pause for questions and comments during the sermon and it has more the feel of a Bible Study, rather than a "regular" sermon. If you are looking for something a little different, then this service might be right for you.

### Introducing our New Visitation Pastor Steven Ritter:



**Steven & Liesa Ritter**

- Baptized, confirmed, married and ordained at St. Mark Lutheran Church in Toledo, Ohio
  - A graduate of Capital University and the Evangelical Lutheran Theological Seminary in Columbus, Ohio in 1978
  - Served as a U.S. Navy Chaplain for thirteen years including seven years with the U.S. Marine Corps
  - Retired from 1<sup>st</sup> Marine Division after deployment to Somalia in 1993.
  - Called as pastor to the following congregations: Faith Lutheran, Sagerton, Texas. Faith Lutheran, Millersburg, Ohio. St. Paul Lutheran, Warren, Ohio. Hope Lutheran Parish that included Messiah Lutheran, Newton Falls. Lordstown Lutheran, Lordstown. St. Mark Lutheran, Warren. Emmanuel Lutheran, Warren, and finally Trinity Lutheran, Niles, Ohio
  - Retired in the summer of 2012 and moved to North Aurora, Illinois
  - Member of Bethany since 2013
- Married wife Liesa of Columbus, Ohio on **June 10, 1972**
  - Three adult children: Jeffrey, Sarah, and Michael
  - Five granddaughters: Karah, Katie, Olivia, Evelyn and Aelia

## Grow in Faith

### Congregation Council Retreat



On **Friday, September 8<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, September 9<sup>th</sup>** members of our Congregation Council will meet again with Nancy Sayer from the SamaraCare Consulting for our annual retreat. This year we will be meeting at the Lutheran Outdoor Ministry Center in Oregon, IL. As we gather for worship, prayer, Holy Communion, the council members will discuss how we could individually and corporately become more focused on strengthening our relationships with God and one another. A report of the proceedings will be included in next month's issue of The Messenger.

## New Member Class

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We will be hosting another session of the new member classes for individuals and families interested in learning more about Bethany and the Lutheran Church. The classes will be held on **Sunday mornings from 10:15am until 11:15am** on the **Lower Level below the Sanctuary**. The sessions will begin on **Sunday, October 15<sup>th</sup>** and run through **Sunday, November 12<sup>th</sup>** and host a New Member Luncheon that same day, following the second service.

## Third Grade Bibles

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Bibles will be presented to our Third Graders on **Sunday, September 17<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 has been sent to the families of our third graders. Plan now to invite grandparents, family members and especially baptismal sponsors to this celebration.

## The Rite of Confirmation

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Please join our confirmands, Aidan B., Morgan H., Ethan L., Matthew N., and Johnathan T., as they reaffirm the Baptismal vows and promises made on their behalf at their Baptism. This Rite of Confirmation will take place during our **10:30am** Worship Service on **Sunday, September 17<sup>th</sup>**. **A rehearsal will take place the Wednesday evening prior on September 13<sup>th</sup>**. A letter outlining the plans and activities surrounding our confirmation observance including the specifics regarding the rehearsal, photographs, and other activities has been sent to the confirmands.

## Confirmation Parent & Student Meeting

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- **Wednesday, September 20<sup>th</sup>**
- **6:00pm**
- **Vlahn Room in the Ministry Center**
- Parents and students of all 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> graders
- Plans will be made for this year's confirmation program

## High School and Middle School Parent Meeting

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- **Wednesday, September 20<sup>th</sup>**
- **6:30pm**
- **Vlahn Room in the Ministry Center**
- Parents and students of all high school and middle school students are invited
- Plans will be made for service projects, fellowship events, fundraising, Youth Quake, and Mission Trip or Youth Gathering

## A Service of Health and Wholeness

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Our Lord in his ministry performed many different acts of healing: forgiving sins, casting out demons, curing physical disease. His disciples also performed similar acts. These practices continued as part of the Church's ministry of healing. The laying on of hands was associated with prayers for the work of the Holy Spirit. Anointing with oil was also associated with the activity of the Holy Spirit, but was especially related to the healing of sickness or infirmity. In recent decades, many have rediscovered the value of the laying on of hands and anointing with oil both in the visitation of the sick and in public services of healing. On **Sunday, October 22<sup>nd</sup>** at both services we will hold a Health and Wholeness Service and will provide you with the opportunity of participating in an anointing and in the prayers associated with health and healing.

## Circle Meetings

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Grace Circle	<b>Wednesday, September 6<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>7:30pm</b>	Fellowship Hall
Charity Circle	<b>Thursday, September 7<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>9:30am</b>	Holmstad
Peace Circle	<b>Tuesday, September 12<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>1:00pm</b>	Various member's homes
Kindness Circle	<b>Thursday, September 14<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>11:30am</b>	East China Inn, 140 W Wilson, Batavia
Hope Circle	<b>Monday, September 18<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>12:00pm</b>	Fellowship Hall

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

## Music Schedule for Fall

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It's time to get back to our "Fall Routine". Maybe now is the time for you to join a choir. There are open seats and open spots in all the groups. Come, give it a try. We would love to see you.

Festival Choir – open to all adults and High School students

**Thursdays 7:00pm Choir Room Beginning September 7<sup>th</sup>**

LeGODtos – open to Sixth through Eighth Grades

**Wednesdays 5:30pm Choir Room Beginning September 6<sup>th</sup>**

Youth Handbell Choir – open to Sixth through Eighth Grade and by audition

**Wednesdays 5:00pm Adult Lounge Beginning September 6<sup>th</sup>**

Lord's Voices – open to First through Fifth Grades

**Wednesdays 4:00pm Choir Room Beginning September 6<sup>th</sup>**

Chime Sparklers (Hand Chime Choir) – open to First through Fifth Grades

**Wednesdays 4:30pm Adult Lounge Beginning September 6<sup>th</sup>**

Grace Notes Handbell Choir – open to all adults and by audition

**Wednesdays 7:00pm Balcony Beginning September 6<sup>th</sup>**

## Handbell Choirs

**Sparkle Chimers**—At the beginning of the session, the kids learn notes, rests, counting beats, etc. This is open to students in First – Third grade and other beginning students who do not read music.

**Youth Handbell Choir**—This choir is open to all students in 6<sup>th</sup>– 12<sup>th</sup> grade and younger by audition. Come join the fun!

**Grace Notes Handbell Choir**—Adult handbells will begin on **Wednesday, September 6<sup>th</sup>**. We will start by polishing the bells with rehearsal and discussing the upcoming year following. Anyone wishing to join please contact Beth prior to the first rehearsal, so position assignments can be made.

## Vocal Choirs

**Cherub Choir** is for pre-school-aged children. The focus of the program is to encourage the enjoyment of music, develop listening skills and participate in vocal activities which help them find and use their singing voice as well as movement activities which help them respond physically to rhythm and beat. We currently do not have this scheduled, but if there is interest we will add it to the schedule.

**The Lord's Voices** is for children in Kindergarten through fifth-grade. We continue to work on musical skills and work with rhythm instruments and Orff instruments. This choir sometimes joins with LeGodtos.

**LeGODtos** is currently for sixth-grade through eighth-grade children. They are joined by Lord's Voices on occasion. The emphasis in this group is to continue to develop vocal and sight-reading skills.

**The Festival Choir** at Bethany remains a choir director's dream. We have tried to do a variety of musical styles. This is a dedicated, hard-working group of individuals who come together to share fellowship and to make beautiful music as they lead and enrich our worship services. This choir is dedicated to leading the congregation in singing, as well as adding meaningful anthems to our worship experience.

**Men's and Women's Choirs** Again this year, we will be having the men's and women's choirs singing. Several of you have mentioned that you would love to sing, but not on a weekly basis. These choirs will meet once or twice and then share their talents at our **9:00am** Sunday morning worship service. They will then have a break and come back again later.

## From Our Parish Nurse

### Tips for a Healthy School Year



It is so important to develop healthy eating choices when you are young in order to maintain a healthy weight. The following healthy eating tips are suggested for children.

- **Don't Skip Breakfast** – A healthy breakfast keeps you from being hungry and wanting to snack on unhealthy food. Choose foods that are packed with nutrition to keep you full until lunch such as scrambled eggs, whole grain cereal with nuts or whole wheat toast with peanut butter.
- **Talk to Your Parents** – Children should talk to their parents about having healthy foods at home like fresh fruits, vegetables, whole grain breads, yogurt and reduced fat milk.
- **What's in Your Lunch box?** – Make your sandwich with whole wheat bread instead of white bread. It will keep you feeling full longer.
- **Eat Foods with Lots of Water in them** – Fruits and vegetables such as grapes, berries, carrots and celery are filled with lots of water. If you eat a lot of them, they will keep you full.
- **Healthy Fast Food Fix** – When you eat fast foods, order a tasty grilled chicken sandwich with extra lettuce, tomato and pickles. Choose apples slices instead of French fries. Skip the pepperoni and sausage on pizza, instead load it up with vegetables such as broccoli and mushrooms. Choose water or reduced fat milk for your beverage.

- **Protein Power** – When you are hungry choose a food high in protein instead of a sugary food that the body digests quickly. High protein foods such as chicken, peanut butter, cheese, yogurt and scrambled eggs keep you full longer because it takes longer for our body to digest them.
- **Make Healthy Food Switches** – Instead of regular bacon, have Canadian bacon or turkey bacon. Instead of whole or chocolate milk, drink reduced fat milk. Eat spaghetti with tomato sauce and a small amount of cheese.
- **Build a Healthier Dessert** – Eat one scoop of frozen yogurt with berries on top. Make a sundae out of chocolate pudding with pineapple chunks. Strawberries and grapes dipped in reduced fat vanilla yogurt make a great dessert.
- **Share with Your Friends** – Instead of serving chips and cookies when your friends come over, serve great alternatives such as sliced apples, carrots, whole grain tortilla chips with salsa or trail mix made from nuts and dried fruits.

Together we can make healthy lifestyle changes so that everyone is healthier.

***“Train children in the right way, and when old, they will not stray” Proverbs 22:6***

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

### Craft Fair for Mutual Ground

**Do you make crafts? – quilts, paintings, woodworking, sewing, knitting, crocheting...?**



- We will have a Craft Fair on **November 11<sup>th</sup>**.
- The proceeds of the sales and/or table rental will go to Mutual Ground
- We need people willing to donate their crafts or to rent a table to sell their items.
- We are in the beginning of the planning but if you have questions or donations, please contact Beth

### Crop Hunger Walk:



Why Donate or Walk? To raise funds for Church Wide Service to end hunger and poverty

**Focus for 2017: Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene**  
**Date & Time: Saturday, October 14<sup>th</sup> @ 8:50am**  
**Goal: Let's raise \$1025**

Two ways to help:

1. Walk and/or collect - see Charlene Boehm for a donation envelope or sign up to walk.
2. Donate online at [crophungerwalk.org/saintcharlesil](http://crophungerwalk.org/saintcharlesil) selecting donate then selecting team Bethany or an individual

Thank You Bethany! Together we raised \$915 last year!

## Mutual Ground

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**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.



As of **August 2017**, 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

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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, September 8<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, September 29<sup>th</sup>**
- **5:00pm-7:00pm**
- **Menu: Tacos, Mexican Rice**
- 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 August we served 219 meals\*\**

## God's Work Our Hands Sunday

On **September 10<sup>th</sup>** we will participate in God's Work Our Hand's Sunday. We will be making personal care kits for Lutheran World Relief. The Following items are needed:

- Light-weight bath-size towels (between 20" x 40" and 52" x 27"), dark color recommended
- Bath-size bars of soap equaling 8 to 9 oz., any brand, in original wrapping
- Adult-size toothbrushes in its original packaging\*
- Sturdy combs, remove packaging
- Metal nail clippers (attached file optional), remove packaging

\*Toothbrush multi-packs may be used by sealing an individual toothbrush in a business-size envelope; no plastic bags or wrap

### SOME IMPORTANT GUIDELINES TO REMEMBER

- Be sure to shop for light or medium-weight towels, which are easier for Kit recipients to hand wash and air dry, take up less storage space and are considerably less expensive than the fluffier towels we may prefer to use.
- Bath towels vary in size. The 52" X 27" size listed in the guidelines is the maximum size. 20" x 40" is a good guideline for a minimum size.
- There is a bin on the donation table outside the office to collect your items

## In Our Prayers

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

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John Hansen, Jr. (8/15/17), father of Donna D.  
Marilyn Thryselius, (8/11/17)

### *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.	Pam K.	CJ M.	Lorrie R.
Dale C.	Diane L.	Glenn M.	Cindy S.
Sandi C.	Luke L.	John N.	Joyce S.
Karl H.	Marie L.	Mary N.	Ken S.
Marilyn K.	Richard L.	Sue N.	

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

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Maxine D.	Jennings Terrace, Aurora	Lorraine P.	Bickford, St. Charles
Marilyn G.	Park Manor, Holmstad	Shirley P.	Harry J. Ekstam, Michealson
Roz H.	Bria Health Services, Geneva	Irma S.	Harry J. Ekstam, Michealson
Carol H.	Bria Health Services, Geneva	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.	Andrew F.	Matt K.
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### *Last month we prayed for our family and friends, especially:*

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Judy F.	Friend of Sue & Bob N.	John W.	Uncle of Tara S.
Mary M.	Daughter of Nita C.	Cathy	Sister of Jan B.
Cheryl M.	Sister of Bill D.	Debbie	Friend of Ruth B.
Teri P.	Sister of Sue & Bob N.	Eloise	Infant friend of Kimmy R.
Serena S.	Daughter of Cindy S.	Ethyl	Mother of Cindy S.
Jeff S.	Son of Ken & Joyce S.	Marge	Friend of Jan B.
Loane T.	Sister of Norm F.	Mike	Neighbor of Holly R.

## Anniversaries This Month

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### September

1	Jim & Ann N.	16	Pete & Deb P.
4	Billy & Darlene H.	20	Seth & Sara H.
5	Karl & Lisa H., Jr	22	Bill & Cheryl P.
7	Jerry & Marsha S.	25	Hershel & E. Louise P.
10	Steve & Alice D.	25	Scott & Holly R.
14	Bill & Lynn D.	27	Ken & Judy H.
16	Bob & Mary G.	28	Bill & Donna D.
16	Kevin & Amy H.		

## Birthdays This Month

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### September

1	Michael G.	9	Tim W.	21	Katie C.
1	Cheryl P.	10	Gayle C.	22	Adam H.
2	Greg C.	10	Eric H.	22	David M.
2	Kurt G.	14	Aidan G.	23	Mason H.
2	Marie L.	14	Ashlyn G.	23	Alaine N.
2	Dennis S.	14	Reilly G.	23	Benjamin T.
4	Hannah B.	15	Bill D.	24	Julie F.
4	Garry B.	16	Evan L.	24	Lynne I.
4	Pam F.	17	Nita C.	25	Maureen S.
4	Gretchen V.	17	Alice S.	25	Mary V.
4	Colleen W.	18	Billy P.	27	Jackie P.
5	Tori K.	19	Ray J.	27	Margie S.
5	Sharron R.	20	Paul B.	28	Kari M.
5	Steve S.	20	Wendy M.	30	Dorothy A.
6	Paige C.	20	Marilynn S.	30	Steve B.

## Upcoming Events

### Sewing Sisters

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- **Saturday, September 9<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>, October 7<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>**
- **10:00am – 4:00pm**
- **Ministry Center, Room M110**
- Sewing projects & fellowship! Bring a sack lunch, or we can order in

### Café Bethany

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- **Wednesdays beginning September 13<sup>th</sup>, 5:00pm**
- **Fellowship Hall**
- Suggested donation is: \$4.00 per senior or child, \$5.00 per adult, \$14.00 per family cap
- September Menu
  - **13<sup>th</sup>** – Baked Spaghetti
  - **20<sup>th</sup>** – Enchilada Dinner
  - **27<sup>th</sup>** - Bowtie Chicken Bake

## Singles Supper Club

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- **Sunday, September 17<sup>th</sup>**
- **Fireside Grille, 49 Sugar Ln, Sugar Grove, IL**
- Meet at the church at **3:30pm** to carpool

## WELCA Luncheon and Program

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- **Sunday, September 24<sup>th</sup>, Noon – 3:00pm**
- **Fellowship Hall**

A fun presentation from the Triennial Convention by Marty, Marsha, Laura and Ruth. There will be pictures, raffles and giveaways! Join us! A free will offering will be received.

## Prayer Shawl

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- **Thursday, September 28<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

## Save the Date

### Quilt Raffle

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- **Buy tickets on Sunday, October 8<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, and 22<sup>nd</sup>**
- **During Coffee Hour in Fellowship Hall**
- **\$1.00 per ticket or 6 for \$5.00**

Thank you to everyone who has donated fabric and to the quilters for all of your hard work!

## Bunco Night at Bethany

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- **Friday, October 13<sup>th</sup>**
- **6:15pm-9:00pm**
- **\$5 per person**
- No Experience needed, Rides available upon request, childcare provided, this is not a fundraiser

**Men and women of all ages are welcome to attend!** Enjoy an evening filled with refreshments, appetizers, playing Bunco, prizes and learning. The presentation will be given by Joe King, PT, ATC. He will focus on the importance of exercise as improving your way of healthy living and the importance of exercise especially when going through cancer treatments. There is a \$5.00 charge to cover expenses. (Scholarships are available). Registration online at [www.bethanybatavia.org](http://www.bethanybatavia.org), sign up on the yellow sheets or call the office at 630-879-3444. Wear your pink, bring a friend and spend the evening with us at this fun filled event.

## 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Metro-Chicago Synodical Women's Convention

- **Saturday, October 14<sup>th</sup>**
- **Bethel New Life, 1140 North Lamon, Chicago**
- Registration forms at Bethany Women's board and cost is \$30

Theme is "Reforming through Advocacy". The Keynote speaker will be David Novak from LSSI. Mary Nelson will preach at the closing worship. There will be break-out sessions, vendors, items for sale, meet the new President of Women of the WLCA, Lisa Plorin.

## Lutheran Fellowship Bowling League

- **Sunday, September 17<sup>th</sup>**
- **3:30pm**
- **Bowling Green in West Chicago**

The Lutheran Fellowship Bowling League, a 50+ year old joint league among area Lutheran Churches, is looking for adults 18 or older to join us every other Sunday for an evening of adult Christian fellowship. Bowling skill or experience not required, as we just love to have a good time and always love to welcome new faces to our fellowship every year! You can join as an individual or couple (special cases we can have a group of 3 join together). The first session is **Sunday, September 17<sup>th</sup> at 3:30pm at Bowling Green in West Chicago** (Route 38 just west of Route 59).

If you're interested in joining, contact Nick Rex for more information. (630) 742-5836 (please leave Nick a text or voicemail) or [lutheranbowling@gmail.com](mailto:lutheranbowling@gmail.com). We are also on Facebook, just search "Lutheran Fellowship Bowling & Softball". If there are times you'll be out of town, do not worry, we have available subs to fill in. If you want to be a sub, please let us know as well.

**The Bowling League schedule will be posted on the bulletin board.**

## Important Stuff

### 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 withal 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 Youth would like to send care packages in the near future.*

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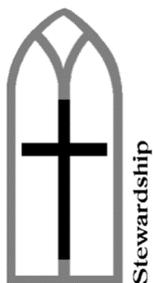
In many areas, people are unable to work or even be involved in routine activities because of vision problems. Eyeglasses are not readily available or are simply unaffordable.

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!

## Stewardship

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Bethany's Stewardship has already begun the work of preparing for our 2018 Annual Stewardship Appeal. Stewardship can and should be a life-giving, life-changing practice that frees us from seeing giving to church as simply a way to meet our budgetary needs as a community. Rather it should help us to become more closely connected to God's mission and ministry here at Bethany and throughout the world. When it is done well it will allow us to free stewardship from its connection to the fall financial appeal, so that being a faithful steward and disciple of the Lord Jesus becomes a way of life. More importantly, we free stewardship from the cries of scarcity so that we can celebrate God's overwhelming love and abundant blessings. You will be hearing and seeing more about this year's appeal in the coming weeks in church, in the weekly Messenger

Updates, our monthly newsletter, and in material sent directly to your home. We are asking that everyone prayerfully consider their response to this year's appeal.

## Property Update

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Don't know if you have noticed, but a lot has happened here at church this summer. Here is a list of some of property items that have been done.

- The roof of the Sanctuary has been replaced and is now done, including replacing damaged eaves. (additional insulation in the attic above the Sanctuary will be added this Fall)
- The sidewalk on the north side of the building has been replaced, a new drainage system installed, and the area landscaped.
- Diseased or damaged trees have been removed and others trimmed along with shrubs and bushes.
- Trees that were overhanging the building out front (along Lincoln Street) and in the courtyard have been pruned and the gutters were cleared of debris.
- Outside lights at the Ministry Center and in the Parking lot have been repaired and bulbs replaced with more energy efficient bulbs.

There are several more projects in the works that the Property Committee wants to complete before winter arrives. But for now, things are looking very good and are in much better repair! Thanks to everyone who has been a part of this.

## In the Community

### *Lazarus House Invites You to Celebrate At the 20<sup>th</sup> Birthday Party & Community Appreciation Event*

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Come celebrate Lazarus House's 20 birthday! Join the Board members and staff on **Saturday, September 9<sup>th</sup>**, from **1:00pm – 4:00pm**, at **214 Walnut Street in St. Charles**. See and learn what you are doing as a community to help our neighbors whose lives are in crisis. For the last 20 years, Lazarus House has been able to offer hope by providing hospitality, food, safe shelter, and education to those in our community that are in need. Some of the area mayors will say a few words at **2:00pm**, and Darlene Marcusson, who founded the shelter, will be here signing her book that tells the story of raising Lazarus House. Lazarus House is so thankful for the tremendous support of local churches. Come celebrate what you have helped create! The event is free, so come and enjoy live music, tasty food, family-friendly birthday activities, and just have some fun!

### *13<sup>th</sup> Annual Hike for Hesed House*

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- **Saturday, September 16<sup>th</sup>**, registration **9:00am**,
- Hike begins at **10:00am**
- Walk alone or with a team of co-workers, family or friends through downtown Aurora
- Immediately after the Hike there will be food, live music and fun activities for the whole family
- For additional information go to [www.hesedhouse.org](http://www.hesedhouse.org)

### *Annual Fox Valley Marathon, Half Marathon, Final 20 Races*

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- **September 17<sup>th</sup>**, **7:00am – 11:00am**
- Location is on **Illinois and First Streets, St. Charles, IL**
- If you make a donation to Hesed House for \$100 or more, you will get a discount for registration! To receive your code, contact Carolyn Fairbanks at [cfairbanks@hesedhouse.org](mailto:cfairbanks@hesedhouse.org) or 630-897-2156 x514. [www.fv26.com](http://www.fv26.com)

## ***You're Invited! 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Women's Power Luncheon***

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- **Thursday, September 21<sup>st</sup>, 11:00am**
- **Two Brothers Roundhouse, 205 N. Broadway, Aurora**
- Tickets are \$50/each, Raffle Tickets: \$5 each or 5 for \$20
- Keynote Speaker: Pattie Vasquez, Radio Personality, Comedian
- Proceeds to benefit Mutual Ground
- For more information: [www.sharefoxvalley.com](http://www.sharefoxvalley.com)

## ***Mutual Ground 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Walk for Hope***

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- **Saturday, October 14<sup>th</sup>, 8:00am – 11:30am**
- **Blackberry Farm, 100 South Barnes, Aurora**
- Fundraising goal \$115,000
- For additional information visit [www.mutualground.org](http://www.mutualground.org)

## ***Women's Trauma Recovery Group***

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- This is a 12 week group for adult women who have experienced sexual violence. topics include:
- Effects of abuse, self-care, boundaries, body and trauma, self-compassion, healthy relationships
- For information contact Amy J. Medlin, Mutual Ground Sexual Assault Program Coordinator 630-897-0084 x125  
[amedlin@mutualground.org](mailto:amedlin@mutualground.org)

## ***S.E.L.F. Group***

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- Safety, Empowerment, Learning & Friendship
- S.E.L.F. is a 12 week empowerment group for adults who have experienced Domestic Violence.
- **Wednesdays, 10:00am – 11:30am**
- **Tuesdays, 6:30pm – 8:00pm**
- For information, call Mutual Ground 630-897-0084

## ***Literacy Volunteers Needed***

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Literacy Volunteers Fox Valley needs volunteers to help Fox Valley adults learn English. A four-session tutor training workshop will be held from **6:30pm to 9:00pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays, September 12<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>, and 21<sup>st</sup>** at the St. Charles Public Library.

Literacy Volunteers Fox Valley helps adults improve their English by matching them with trained volunteer tutors one to one. The program provides material and training so that anyone can be a tutor. You don't need a second language or a teaching background to qualify.

Once you are trained, you meet with your student for one hour each week. We arrange convenient, comfortable, and safe public locations for tutoring. If you can spare one hour each week, we can fit tutoring into your schedule.

From week to week, you'll see your student get more comfortable and fluent in English and you will know you are making a big difference in their lives. You will get guidance and support when you need it and experienced tutors are glad to share what they have learned.

**To register for tutor training visit [www.lvfv.org](http://www.lvfv.org) or call/text Peg Coker at 630-584-4428.**

## Council Highlights

### August Council Meeting Highlights:

- Discussed necessary repairs of the Ministry Center Roof
- Community Supper continues to be a success and is still self-sustaining
- Energy Builders have done a lot of work over the summer and it is appreciated
- The Congregation has been very generous with school supply donations.
- HVAC control box in the Ministry Center needs to be replaced and repairs were approved
- All work on the Sanctuary roof is now complete including interior work
- Budget Preparation and Stewardship Timelines were distributed and approved
- Council retreat is **September 8 & 9, 2017** at Lutheran Outdoor Ministry Center and will again be led by Nancy Sayer
- Audit Committee is up and functioning
- AID contract has been renewed
- "Thank you's" go to Fred Holch, Rich Kreis, and Ruth Beck for all that they do for our church

## Thank you

Thank you letters were received from the following missions and will be posted to the bulletin board in Fellowship Hall:

- Carlson Community Services
- Lutheran Social Services
- Lutheran World Relief
- Suicide Prevention Services of America

**From the Magic After School Place & Carlson Community Services** →



School Supplies Thank You -

Thank you Bethany for all the school supply donations you made this summer. We had boxes and boxes of supplies that went to LSSI for foster children and to needy children in the Batavia School district. We have received a written thank you from LSSI for your generosity and a big verbal thank you on behalf of the Batavia School district. Your generosity has provided many schoolchildren a good start to the school year. God Bless You!



## Congratulations

### Geneva Church Softball League Champions!

Bethany's Softball Team is the winner of this year's First Place trophy.

Team members: Chris A., Ralph B., Darren C., Ken G., Greg G., Dale H., Ed M., Steve M., James N., Pete P., Chris R., Jerry S. did Bethany proud.

## 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 Dreytmiller
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 Dreytmiller .....	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: M – F 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)