

NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT...

The 110th Anniversary of Bethany was held on April 14, Palm Sunday, and what a day it was. Many in attendance said they learned so much with the video as it unfolded the development of the building we have occupied since its completion in 1942. I acknowledged the late Betty Bawden for her diligent work as our church historian for so many years. It was because of her that these photos were so readily available through her many ring binders that were loaded with many photos, stories and clippings, all relating to Bethany. Pastor Mark Krueger (1981-1987) and his wife Sandy travelled from Marshfield to be with us and Pastor Krueger delivered the sermon, referencing to the cornerstone, and building tools to include the plumb bob, level and square and how they all symbolized our relationship to God. We honored Mr. Norman Wilbert, a persistent member of Bethany, who guided a determined committee through many years of planning of the "new building". Talks began in 1929, but the Great Depression stalled those plans. In 1934 Norman formed a new committee and finally, after seven years, the new building came into being starting in June of 1941. Our special guests were Norman's son, Bill



The Anticipation

(Marge) Wilbert, with granddaughters Lori Wilbert and Ellen (Dave) Ahlersmeyer also in attendance. This all meshed well with the Palm Sunday service and the children were also part of the music that day. Thanks to Kya (Schnettler) Diehl for her patient work with these little ones. The program and dinner in the social hall, which followed, had 118 in attendance. None of this would have happened without the great support of many members teaming up. I especially want to thank our Vice President, Todd Matte and his wife Dori. They did a lot of the organizing along with Gina Fibiger. The Matte family was involved all the way through and their leadership was great. In addition, to

Bethany Lutheran Church - Kohler
Celebrating 110 Years In Christ

 <p>Mark Krueger 1981-87 110th Anniversary Preacher</p>	 <p>Norman Wilbert 1902-1985 Remembered Today for his Leadership and serving as Bethany's Organist and Choir Director for over 50 years</p>	 <p>Pastor Robert Steele 2006-Present</p>
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*"Let's Hang On To
What We've Got!"*

Thank you for being a part of this
celebration today April 14, 2019

"Home of Jesus' Friends"

all of the people who helped set up, prepare the kitchen, including washing all of the dishes ahead of the event, ordering and picking up items, serving food and going to the tables with coffee, milk and water, cleaning up and washing all the dishes after the dinner, taking out garbage, vacuuming and putting the tables and chairs back to their original locations, I THANK YOU! Some people have asked about getting a copy of the 12-minute video. The entire service and downstairs program were recorded. I am putting together a DVD that will be edited to include everything, including the 12-minute video that was part of the April 14 service. I will put something in a few upcoming bulletins with information on how you can get copies.



MINI CLASS REUNION! Did you know that Barb (Kuitert) Gumm and Mark Krueger grew up together? They both attended Bethlehem Lutheran School in Sheboygan, K-8th grade, then ninth grade at Farnsworth Junior High, then on to Sheboygan South High School, graduating in 1967. Barb lived on Swift Avenue and Mark lived several blocks away on Broadway.



A few news clips from the last Council Meeting on April 15: 1) There will be an AED Refresher Course on April 24 (Wednesday) at 5pm. We do this to assure that many of our Elders, Officers, Ushers and other members have training in CPR and use of the AED or "Automated External Defibrillator". 2) We are changing the phone system at church. We will need to keep the dedicated phone line for the elevator/lift, the other lines will now be just one line through the computer. It will have quite a list of new and optional features. There is a one-time nominal fee for the switching, but the monthly savings will be about \$30. That translates to \$360 savings and more versatility. 3) We will be taking collections in May that will purchase Bible Sticks for military personnel. We have done this other years and find it to be a beneficial cause to support. This subject will also be publicized in upcoming service bulletins. 4) Back in November at the Voter's Meeting a Disaster Relief expenditure was added to the budget. The Council agreed that Bethany should be helping out, in some way, with the many troubled areas affected by wild fires, floods, tornados and hurricanes in the U.S. At the time, we only approved of the amount of \$1800. Since then, the avenue to "get us there" has been identified, the LCMS Disaster Response. This was found to be the most comfortable step for us to take because the LCMS has already established ways to get help to these victims and locales without putting the burden on us of researching trustworthy and effective agencies out there, and there are many to choose from. The Board of Finance recommended sending our donation to this established LCMS group. About 88% of every dollar goes to disaster relief. After seeing where their administrative dollars go, it was deemed to be acceptable and we approved of proceeding with sending out this donation.

Please consider attending the May 2, 2019 National Day of Prayer. Locally it will be at The Pine Haven facility just to the north of Prairie Crossing beginning at 11am. This event is sponsored by Pine Haven and The Sheboygan Falls Kiwanis. There will be a free lunch to follow. There is never a shortage of things to pray about in this life. Yesterday, Easter Sunday, we learned about yet another world event, an attack on Christians by seven cowardly, evil beings. Nearly 300 people were killed and hundreds injured in this act, which normal people cannot grasp the thinking that leads up to them. All we can do is pray and hope that this will be the last time. Unfortunately, because we cannot flip a switch that makes these bad people realize how wrong they are to be killing innocent people, we march on and pray and hope some more. Our faith is the greatest weapon against evil. The evildoers picked the wrong day to promote this sin because it is the day we Christians all proclaimed that "He is risen". In the end, God will have the last word, but until then, we hurt from the suffering and loss that has taken place in Sri Lanka. Pray for them all.

A few weeks ago, Pastor Steele mentioned the movie "Unplanned". He recommended it to the membership. This movie has been playing in Sheboygan for a while and Barb and I did see it on April 16. The subject is abortion, it is a sad commentary about how some view the miracle of life. With Mother's Day just around the corner, I cannot help but think about all the young women who gave up that opportunity. The main thrust of the movie is how one very powerful Planned Parenthood woman, who had two abortions herself, and, oversaw 22,000 of them came to realize one day that something was wrong with where she was in her life. She ends up doing a "180" and put herself out to help those seeking abortions to consider the alternative. I know that this subject is so polarizing and political, but the sanctity of life is still, and always will be, part of the equation, the decision cannot be easy, but I hope in my lifetime, we find a better way to deal with our "Unplanned" situations.

With Easter behind us now, and it was a perfect day, we now look ahead into May. I want to wish all of our Bethany mothers happy Mother's Day. My mother-in-law always said "your children are always your children". This in reference to their age and stage of life. Fathers who have witnessed the birth of their children know that the feeling of that woman, at that moment of giving birth is something that only she can have. It is hers, and if my mother-in-law was right, and I am sure she was, this feeling stays with you all the days of your life.

Lee Gumm - President, Bethany Lutheran Church

MAY BIRTHDAYS

5-01: Annalise Hasler
5-03: Ashley Buell
5-04: Traci Barthels
Gary Bartz
5-05: Dan Fibiger
5-06: Austin Fibiger
5-07: Julie Regutis
5-11: Shirley Mueller
Grace Matte



5-14 Marilyn Buell
5-17: Ray Ottman
Betsy Metscher
5-19: Jeremy Paltzer
5-20: Lexie Matte
5-22: Joshua Yang
5-26: Kristine Faucher
5-29: Caroline Ney
5-30: Ezekiel Johnson

MAY ANNIVERSARIES

5-01: Bill & Julie Regutis
Rev. Robert & Julie Steele
5-11: Joe & Lori Wychesit
5-26: Patrick & Rachel Johnson
5-31: Bob & Karen Wuerzberger

If we missed a member's birthday or anniversary, please contact the church office and let us know.

SUMMER WORSHIP TIMES

The snow is barely melted but believe it or not, we have to think about summer worship times. Starting Sunday, May 26, service will be at 9:00am. The first Thursday night service will be Thursday, May 30 at 6:00pm.

MAY/JUNE CHARITY OF THE MONTH – Vernacular Video Mission International (VVMi)

"Whether hiking hours into mountain ranges or going by boat to small islands, the Gospel is being shared in remote areas of the Philippines through video and Scriptures and hundreds of people are responding and being disciplined in places where the Lord has never before been praised." We can help by giving of our gifts to the May and June Mission of the Month. Our donations will be used to help purchase Bibles which have been translated and are printed in vernacular (heart) languages. Christian videos which have been dubbed into "heart" languages are also used to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Please be generous as you share in this important project.



‡ A LOSS IN OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Norbert Sternitzky was called to his heavenly home on April 6, 2019. His funeral was held at Bethany on April 13 with the burial taking place at Woodlawn Cemetery in Plymouth following the service.

‡ GIFTS GIVEN TO BETHANY.

Memorial Gifts in memory of Ron Hummitzsch were given by Betty Hahn, Betsy Metscher, Pat Horness, Pat & Joanne Stangel, and Bill & Judi Strenger.

In memory of Norbert Sternitzky: Memorial Gifts were given by Bob Parnitzke and Roger & Barbara Strenger. Improvement Fund Gifts were given by Julie Schuman and Lee & Barb Gumm.

If you would like to give a gift in memory or in honor of someone, cards can be found on the counter outside Pastor's office as well as in the back of church

FUNERAL LUNCHEON HELPERS NEEDED

We are trying to compile a list of people that would be willing to help serve at funeral luncheons here at Bethany. The luncheons are usually catered so all that is needed is two or three people to help get tables ready, help serve the food and then help clean up after. If you'd like to be on the list of people willing to help, please let Dori Matte or Gina in the church office know. Thank you!

LWML MITE BOX

The large LWML Mite Box will be out Sunday, May 26 and will support "Sharing Jesus with People with Disabilities". This grant will make it possible for our Bethesda Lutheran Communities to enhance the lives of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities with services that share the Good News of Jesus Christ with over 1,900 people at 300 program sites in 13 states, including our own Bethesda in Watertown, WI. Many of the people in these communities receive very little support because their family and friends have already left this world and are with God in heaven. Your donation will support this 114-year-old ministry and fulfill Jesus' words from the Gospel of John 13:34: "Love on another as I have loved you, so you must love one another." Please note: this will be the last Mite Box Sunday until we resume in September.

FROM THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Listed below are the financials from the month of March, 2019 as well as the year-to-date totals.

March Income	Yr. To Date Income
\$15,905.50	\$41,259.17
March Expenses	Yr. To Date Expenses
\$10,988.20	\$37,093.38
March Net Gain/Loss	Yr. To Date Gain/Loss
\$4,917.30	\$4,165.79

Steve Marotz
Chairman - Board of Finance

Ben Marotz
Member – Board of Finance

*** Please consider using the Electronic Giving program "Joyful Response" to simplify and budget your giving. Registration forms can be found on the counter outside Pastor's office or see Gina in the church office. ***

THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS

*****Thank You Bethany Thrivent Members***** With that March 31st deadline to direct 2018 Choice Dollars, the Bethany Thrivent Committee was once again BLESSED with additional funds that we will be able to use to help support Special Events at Bethany or Special Mission work in the community & abroad.

Any questions about Thrivent Projects or Action Teams please see your Bethany Committee members Lynn Luebke, Dave Prange or Mary Madden

END OF THE SEASON DATES

Please note the last day of:

- Joy Choir – will practice on May 22 and 29
- Adult Bible Study – May 12
- Sunday School – May 12
- Confirmation 5/6 grade – May 13
- Confirmation 7/8 grade – May 15
- Bethany Book Club – May 21



YOUTH SUNDAY

On Sunday May 12 (Mother's Day), Bethany will be having a special "Youth Sunday". All of the Sunday School students will be contributing musically to the service. Our students will also be helping with the ushering and scripture reading duties for the day.

ELEVATOR/ LIFT PROJECT COMPLETE

The elevator/ lift replacement was installed on February 22nd, and passed final inspection on March 8th, a few weeks earlier than expected. The lift is fully operational, and the door to the lift now opens automatically with the press of a button.

The January 6th voter's meeting approved an estimated budget of \$27,000 for the project, and came in under budget at \$23,559.73. I am also pleased to report that the elevator/ lift is paid in full. The majority of the funding came from the Bawden Estate, and the light above Jesus in the front of the sanctuary was also fixed while the electrician was here per their wishes. Several other donations came from congregation members (including painting the walls after the lift was installed). The remainder was paid from the church general fund.

I would like to thank the Long Range Planning Committee for all of the work done to choose the right supplier and contractor. Special thanks to Bob Wuerzberger for following this project all the way to the end, and Lee Gumm for "being there" – especially for the installation and inspection dates. The church is blessed to have such dedicated members.

Todd Matte Chairman - Long Range Planning Committee

MILITARY BIBLE STICKS

May is National Military Appreciation Month so Bethany has chosen this month to support Military Bible Sticks. Our donations will supply our troops at home and abroad with God's Word in audio. \$25 sponsors one service member and their family. If you'd like to purchase a Bible Stick for a member of our troops, you can put your donation in an envelope marked "Bible Sticks" and place it in the offering plate or in the plate in the back of church at the Bible Sticks display. Donations will be collected through the month of May. The organization has an anonymous donor who has offered to match all donations made during the month of May. So, if Bethany purchases 50 Bible Sticks, 100 will be sent to our troops (which is a whole company!) Please consider supporting this important mission.

Love INC
Love In the Name of Christ
of Shelby County

Wake up with...
**JESUS
&
COFFEE**

Gift Set Available for \$15!

EACH PACKAGED GIFT SET CONTAINS:

- One 12oz. bag of ground or whole beans: Torke Breakfast Blend coffee
- One Box of Blessings: beautiful inspirational cards, sets for men & women both available!

PLEASE SEE YOUR CMC TO ORDER YOUR GIFT, OR CONTACT LOVE INC AT 920-783-6701 FOR QUESTIONS AND ORDERING INFO!

Proceeds raised will benefit the Love INC Volunteer Ministry to recruit, equip, and recognize Christian Volunteers to put their faith in action & serve in ways that transform lives

Special Thanks to: Torke Coffee, Sonlight Books, & Olivu for your support!

♥♥ JESUS AND COFFEE ♥♥

Love INC has been Blessed with an opportunity to partner with Torke Coffee for a fundraiser we are calling:
♥ "Jesus & Coffee" ♥.

Ready to give Gift Bags that include a bag of Torke Breakfast Blend Coffee in our custom designed bag along with a 'Box of Blessings', for you to enjoy daily, are available in the back of church. What a perfect gift for a Mother, Father, Sibling, Grandparent or Friend for a Birthday, Anniversary or any occasion a quick gift is needed.

See Sue Prange to purchase a gift bag or if you have any questions.

Thank you!

Love INC would like to thank everyone for their generous donations to the Love Bucket Ministry. The cleaning products that were donated will be so helpful to our Neighbors in need!

MAY 2019

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1 3pm Confirmation 7/8 grade	2	3	4
5 8:45am Bible Study Sunday School 10am Worship w/HC	6 3:30pm Confirmation 5/6 grade	7 7pm Bethany Book Club	8 3pm Confirmation 7/8 grade	9	10	11
12 8:45am Bible Study Sunday School 10am Worship Mother's Day	13 3:30pm Confirmation 5/6 grade 6:30pm Elders	14 9:30am Quilting 7pm Bethany Book Club	15	16	17	18
19 10am Worship w/HC	20 5:45pm Bd of Ed 6:15pm Finance 7pm Council	21 7pm Bethany Book Club	22 6pm Joy Choir	23	24	25
26 9am Worship	 Memorial Day	28 9:30am Quilting	29 6pm Joy Choir	30 6pm Worship w/HC	31	

THOSE SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE THE MONTH OF MAY 2019

Sunday, May 5
10:00 a.m.
w/Holy Communion

Elders: David Hasler, Jason Mengel
Ushers: Group 8 – Todd, Lexie, Luke Matte
Acolyte: Ella Albert
Scripture Reader: Lee Gumm
Altar Guild: Debbie & Steve Perry
Bulletin Folder: Dan Fibiger
Door Locker: Ryan Brooks

Sunday, May 12
10:00 a.m.

Elders: Gerry Luebke
Ushers: Group 1 – Ben Marotz, Tom Schnettler,
Ivan & Alaric Hazen
Acolyte: Annalise Hasler
Scripture Reader: Steve Hazen
Altar Guild: Kristine & Maggie Faucher
Bulletin Folder: Dan Fibiger
Door Locker: Steve Marotz

Sunday, May 19
10:00 a.m.
w/Holy Communion

Elders: Steve Hazen, Brian Faucher
Ushers: Group 2 – John Keller, Dan Fibiger
Brian & Aiden Faucher
Acolyte: Isabella Hasler
Scripture Reader: Cindy Bartz
Altar Guild: Cindy & Gary Bartz
Bulletin Folder: Dan Fibiger
Door Locker: Tom Schnettler

Sunday, May 26
9:00 a.m.

Elders: Shua Yang
Ushers: Group 3 – Doug Luecke, Ken Thompson,
Karl Rademacher
Acolyte: Thomas Yang
Scripture Reader: Barbara Strenger
Altar Guild: Kristi & Doug Luecke
Bulletin Folder: Dan Fibiger
Door Locker: Patrick Johnson

Thursday, May 30
6:00 p.m.
w/Holy Communion

Elders: Jim Madden
Ushers: Group 4–Dave & Sue Prange, Jerry Sabrowsky
Acolyte: Grace Matte
Altar Guild: Marilyn Kirchenwitz, Lynn Luebke