PASTOR'S PAGE

On The Other End

Dear beloved saints at Bethany:

"I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ. It is right for me to feel this way about you all, because I hold you in my heart, for you are all partakers with me of grace." (Philippians 1:3-7)

Paul's letter to the Philippians begins by reminding them that they are in "partnership in the Gospel." I absolutely can use these words to describe our relationship. I am very thankful for our ministry together these past years. Unlike Paul, my little imprisonment does not lead to my execution or death. However, like Paul's, vour pravers and cards uplift me.

I would like to update you. My surgery went very well. Prior to surgery the doctor stated that many who have this type of surgery feel like they could walk out of the hospital immediately and I would have to say that it was true. After a few hours of pain medication, the lasting effects of the pain where pretty well gone. In fact, I was feeling so good I called my mom and my siblings. I even texted many people. My hospital stay was 4 days. The stay was hard because I felt good. However, they had to monitor me and my hormones.

All of us are partakers of God's grace. God's grace is uplifting to me through each of you. God's ever assuring presence is with me because of you. It is different being on this side of prayerful petitions. Though, I have been assured over the years that I am in your prayers. Those statements bring God's healing hand home while I recover at home for the next few weeks.

Again, thank you for the prayers. "It is right for me to feel this way about you all, because I hold you in my heart."

God's grace and peace be with you!

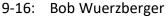
Yours in Christ, Pastor Steele

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 9-04: Kathy Goldman
- 9-05: Kathryn Miller Sue Sholten
- 9-07: Doug Luecke
- 9-11: Steve Hazen
- 9-13: Marc Luecke



9-14: Lisa Kraus



9-17: Gerry Luebke 9-20: Dane Madson 9-21: Katherine Edler 9-23: Andy Fibiger

- Lee Gumm 9-26: Shelby Werner
- Tamra O'Keefe
- 9-27: Gary Froh

SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

9-14: John & Lisa Willadsen 9:15: Dan & Summer Menzer 9-19: Bruce & Cindy Fisher

- 9-21: Gerry & Lynn Luebke
- 9-30: Shua & KaoKalia Yang

Blessings to all that are celebrating this month!

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

NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Summer is quickly winding down, as is our time of rest and relaxation, as we send the kids back to school and begin focusing on fall activities. Sunday school and Bible classes will be starting soon. I pray that both will be well attended in the coming year. To help facilitate a quality program for the Sunday school, we really could use one or two volunteers to help teach. Gina will be leading the program, but could really use some help. It's not a big time commitment and can be a rewarding experience, helping these young children get to know Jesus. There are also positions opening up with the board of elders and trustees, as well as the treasurer position. Many of our board members have been serving multiple consecutive terms and will be leaving their positions next year. If you can spare just a couple hours a month, it would go a long way in keeping our church running smoothly and preventing those who have been serving multiple terms from getting burned out. I'd like to share this Bible verse with you:

Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain. 1 Corinthians 15:58

We should all live to serve Christ in any way we can. It should be a lifelong endeavor. We are never too young and never too old to serve our Lord. I challenge you all to ask yourselves, "What can I do to help?" and prayerfully consider offering to help in some way. Getting involved is rewarding and a great way to engage in some fellowship through getting to know the other volunteers. Who knows, you might make a new friend! I know I've made some great life-long friends serving with others. Feel free to reach out to me any time if you have any questions about these positions, I would be happy to talk with **YOU**!

Yours in Christ, Andy Fibiger



SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER MISSION OF THE MONTH Good News Jail & Prison Ministry

During the months of September and October, any money received in your "Designated Offering" contribution envelope, will go to **Good News Jail and Prison Ministry** – Transforming lives behind bars here and around the world. By bringing the Holy Gospel to inmates, they are reaching those others may have forgotten. To learn more about Good News, visit their website at <u>www.goodnewsjail.org</u>

SEPTEMBER ADOPT-A-BAG FOOD DRIVE

Shopping bags will be available soon in the lower narthex for you to take and fill with food for the Sheboygan Falls Area Food Pantry. Bring your filled bag back to church any time during the month of September. The Food Pantry serves Sheboygan Falls, Kohler, Howards Grove and Oostburg. Thank you for your support! *(Bags will be collected through Sunday, October 1)*





ADULT BIBLE STUDY

Pastor Steele will be leading a study of the Book of Jonah. There will be two opportunities to attend this study. Wednesday evenings at 6:00pm starting September 27 and Thursday mornings at 10:00am starting on September 28. Sign up in the back of church if you'd like to attend (walk-ins are welcome). Please note, there is not a Sunday morning Bible Study due to Pastor teaching confirmation during that time.





For many of our events here at Bethany, we have used Thrivent Action Team Grant money to help with costs. These dollars allow more money to help the community. Thrivent recently reached a milestone - 1 million Thrivent Action Teams! Since the program launched in 2014, our collective impact includes:

- $\sqrt{9.6}$ million volunteers
- $\sqrt{93}$ million volunteer hours
- $\sqrt{$ \$1 Billion raised to impact communities

Thank you, Bethany, for directing Thrivent Choice Dollars! Together we can impact the community in so many ways!

SUNDAY SCHOOL

All children ages 3 years – 8th grade are invited to join our Sunday School. We meet every Sunday at 8:45am beginning on Sunday, September 10th. You do not need to be a member of the church to attend. All are welcome. Please fill out the below registration form and drop it off at church either in the offering plate or put it in the Sunday School Superintendent mailbox in the communication room. You can also email it to <u>info@blckohler.com</u>.



2023-24 Bethany Sunday School Registration

Child's Name:
Child's Grade:
Child's Birthdate:
Does your child have any allergies? If so, please list:
Address:
Home Phone (if applicable):
Mother's Name:
Mother's Cell Phone:
Father's Name:
Father's Cell Phone:
Primary Email Address (can be more than one) (Used for important reminders and occasional updates)

Do you give permission for your child to be photographed/filmed? (photos may be used for educational and promotional purposes on publicly distributed printed materials (ie. Bethany brochures), within Bethany's facility (ie. Bulletin boards and narthex tv), or online including our Website or Facebook page. Understand that global access to the internet does not allow us to control who may access the photos but know that names will NEVER be used.

 \Box Yes

□ No

THOSE SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER 2023

Sunday, September 3 10:00 a.m. w/Holy Communion	Elder: Ushers: Altar Guild: Scripture Reader: Door Locker: Streaming:	Steve Hazen Fibigers Rachel Johnson & Julie Steele Lee Gumm Dan Fibiger Fibiger
Sunday, September 10 10:00 a.m.	Elder: Ushers: Altar Guild: Scripture Reader: Door Locker: Streaming:	Gerry Luebke Ken Thompson, Bob Kuehlman Shirley & Ray Ottman Steve Hazen Diane Marotz Steve Perry
Sunday, September 17 10:00 a.m. w/Holy Communion	Elder: Ushers: Acolyte: Altar Guild: Scripture Reader: Door Locker: Streaming:	Lee Gumm Steve & Diane Marotz Katelynn Regutis Liz & Ken Buesing Sharon Werner Ryan Brooks Matte
Sunday, September 24 10:00 a.m.	Elder: Ushers: Altar Guild: Scripture Reader: Door Locker: Streaming:	Shua Yang Mattes Gina & Madison Fibiger Mary Ann Fibiger Steve Marotz Thomas Yang



SEPTEMBER2023

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					01	02
o3 10am Worship w/HC	04 Labor Day Church Office Closed	o5 6:30pm Elders 6:30 Board of Education	o6	07	08	09
10 8:45am Sunday School & Confirmation 10am Worship	11 6:15pm Finance 7pm Council	12	13	14	15	16
17 8:45am Sunday School & Confirmation 10am Worship w/HC	18	19	20	21	22	23
24 8:45am Sunday School & Confirmation 10am Worship	25	26	27 6pm Bible Study	28 10am Bible Study	29	30