



Bethany Beacon

May 2024



Dear Bethany Lutheran Members and Friends,

I am watching all the worker bees set up items for the Rummage Sale as I write this final newsletter article to you, impressed at how this vision came together, and the diligence with which everyone is working to make the sale a success. How wonderful to be able to pull resources, make an event happen and use the proceeds to get kids to camp. You are making a difference!

It has been such a joy to be with you these last eight years – worshipping together, growing together, discerning God’s call together and trying to live out our mission together.

My last Sunday with you will be on Sunday, May 12th. Council President Marty Christensen will lead the Conclusion of a Call liturgy during worship where we will give thanks for our mutual ministry together and will formally release the pastoral call. Be sure to stay for the party afterward. I know a lot of things are happening on the 12th, so if you are unable to make it, I have listed other times I will be in the office the week after further on in the newsletter. I would deeply appreciate the opportunity to say goodbye to you.

The Church Council is currently working with Deacon Susan Williams in the Synod Office to help with this transition. Marty will be communicating next steps to you. You can expect an interim pastor to come in and give the

congregation some space and time to discern where God is calling Bethany in mission and what type of pastor would best fit that mission. A Call Committee would then be formed to interview possible candidates. A new pastor would only be called after a majority congregational vote. I hope that gives you a little insight into what will most likely be happening over the next several months.

I will begin my term call (1 year) in interim ministry at Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd in Duluth on May 26th. I am excited for this new opportunity to grow in ministry, but I hold that excitement with the grief of missing this wonderful congregation. I hope you know how much I have delighted in sharing this journey of faith together. I will hold onto the many lessons I learned from you and pray God’s blessings on your life together as you move into this next phase of mission and ministry.

Grace and peace to you always!

Pastor Lisa

Pastor Lisa Farewell Party

After worship on Sunday, May 12th, Council will host a Farewell Party for Pastor Lisa, around 10:20am. All are welcome and invited to attend. If you are not able to make welcome and invited to attend. If you are not able to make the party on the 12th, but still want to say goodbye, Lisa will be in the office and available to visit the following hours:

Monday, May 13 – 9am-2pm

Tuesday, May 14 – 11am-2pm

Wednesday, May 15 – 1pm-4pm

Discovers Camp at Camp Hiawatha

Kids entering grades K-4 are invited to Camp Hiawatha on July 1st and 2nd to experience camp life and learn more about God in the great Northwoods! Bethany Lutheran Church is raising funds to pay for each Bethany kid who would like to attend this camp. Please let Pastor Lisa know you are interested in your child attending and we will provide you with the special promo code for online registration so that it is no-cost to families.



Upcoming Community Events from the Chamber of Commerce

Designer Purse Bingo hosted by *Forward Health Foundation*. Friday, May 10th, 5:00pm at Cohasset Community Center. Tickets are on sale at Northern Star Market Place, Daylily Gifts and Itasca Historical Society. Paid entry is also allowed at the door! Over 20 purses to be up for Bingo with Bonus Round for Malbay Fall Staycation for up to 10 people at Malbay Estate in Cohasset!
<https://forwardhealthfoundation.org/upcoming-events/> 218-246-4212

Enchanted Garden Luncheon hosted by *DRHC Volunteers*. Saturday, May 11th, 11:30am-1:00pm at Bethany Lutheran Church. Tickets are \$12 at Daylily Gifts or at the door with proceeds benefitting flower gardens at Essentia Health Courtyard.

Off Road – On Track ATV Ride hosted by *Deer River Chamber*. Saturday, May 18th, 9:00 Registration, 10:00am start from Blueberry Bowl. Roughly 90 mile ride north of Deer River, finishing at Blueberry Bowl.
<https://www.deerriver.org>

Bena Fest hosted by *Leech Lake Gaming, Leech Lake Band of Ojibwa and the Community of Bena*. Saturday, June 15 in Bena. Email Tim Elliott at Tim.elliott@leechlakegaming.com

Golf for Cancer Care hosted by *Forward Health Foundation, Blueberry Hills Golf & RV Park and Paul Bunyan Communications*. Wednesday, June 19th, 4:30pm at Blueberry Hill Golf Course. Register – Blueberry Hills: 218-246-8010.
<https://forwardhealthfoundation.org/upcoming-events/>

Golf Scramble hosted by *New Beginnings Pregnancy + Family Support*. Friday, June 28th at Blueberry Hills Golf Course. 3:00pm check-in, 4:00pm start. Registration includes brat meal, goodie bag and 2 golf carts. Register at Blueberry Hills 218-246-8010.

The World's Largest 75th Annual Wild Rice Festival hosted by *Deer River Lions Club*. July 12-14.

Party in the Park hosted by *Forward Health Foundation*. Saturday, August 10, 9:00am – 3:00pm. Deer River Tractor Club.
<https://forwardhealthfoundation.org/upcoming-events/>

Sunday Service Schedule



Date	Greeters/ Ushers	Reader	Fellowship	Communion
5/5/24	Jeff & Amy Carter	Jeff Carter	Lynette Schmidt Robbie & Don Osse	Andy Shaw
5/12/24	Anne Webber & Doug Kutschat	Kyle Lyytinen	Farewell Party for Pastor Lisa	
5/19/24	Craig & Lael Storlie	Barb Tornes	Mary & Jeff Grife Margie & Chad Schumacher	Barb Tornes
5/26/24	Marty & Janet Christensen	Chris Vinson	Chris Vinson Liz & Chuck Elton	



Volunteers appreciated! If you would like to take a turn serving coffee for fellowship, greeting, ushering, reading or assisting with communion, please let Diane Nelson know so you can be added to the list

May Birthday Wishes!

1- Brandon Jensen
3 - Karen Haiby
4 - Steve Jensen
5 – Mike Guthrie
7 - Rich Anderson
8 – Abby Kuschel
19 – Tucker Jensen
26 – Larry Nixon

27 – Bobbi Hemphill
David Peterson
Linda Peterson
Maggie Swanson
29 - Jeannine Jensen



Anniversary Wishes

8 - Wayne Krueger & Vicki Taylor
20 – Gary & Lori Reigel
23 – Lisa & Ben Buchanan

28 – Kyle & Jenna Lyytinen
27 - Marty & Janet Christensen

Newsletter of Bethany Lutheran Church
Pastor Lisa Buchanan
Box 218 - 33297 State Hwy 6
Deer River, MN 56636
Office (218) 246-8398
Email: bethany@paulbunyan.net

Bethany Lutheran Church
Box 218
Deer River, MN 56636-0218