

**Bethany Lutheran Church**

**25430 Bison Road**

**PO Box 37**

**Cushing, MN 56443**

**July 2021**



**Contact Information:**

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Wendy's email is

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**Bethany's Website:**

[www.bethanylutherancushing.org](http://www.bethanylutherancushing.org)

# The Pursuit of True Happiness

<sup>36</sup>“Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?” <sup>37</sup>Jesus said to him, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.” <sup>38</sup>This is the greatest and first commandment. <sup>39</sup>And a second is like it: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ <sup>40</sup>On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.”

Matthew 22:36-40

Walter Cross, in his book, When One Plus One Is More Than Two, wrote:

*“we are neither human enough nor divine enough to serve only ourselves. For in the end, if that is what we use our gifts for we will come up empty. A Christ centered ‘Pursuit of Happiness’ begins when we, as disciples of Christ give of ourselves for the other, and that I believe is also where we find true freedom.”*

There’s a story about a young girl who saw that one of her classmates at her school was shivering on the playground during an early Fall cold snap. Realizing that her classmate’s family didn’t have the money to spend on a coat the young girl promptly went up to the shivering friend and promised to buy her a coat.

After checking online to see how much a coat costs the young girl understood that she didn’t have enough money to buy a coat from a major department store. So, she went to the local Goodwill hoping to make a purchase on behalf of her classmate. But even at Goodwill, she ended up spending every cent of her allowance for the coat for her classmate. Was she disappointed that she spent all that she had on her friend. No, she was satisfied, in fact happy, that she was able to help out.

This splurge on her carefully saved funds caught her parents by surprise and caused them some concern. This wasn’t how they envisioned that their daughter would use her savings. They had been preaching to their daughter that she should take some of her allowance and put the money away for college while using the rest of it for herself. So, they questioned their daughter as to the wisdom of her actions. The daughter replied to their inquiry by simply saying, *‘I promised to help her because she needed a coat.’*

Our ‘Pursuit of True Happiness’ begins when we give of ourselves for the other, when we are neighborly to our neighbors, when we step out and take risks for the other, and when we live out our call to be disciples of Christ. That’s where our freedoms, our liberty and our patriotism needs to rest. Not with the understanding that we are independent of others, but that we are called to be dependent on God and neighbor and because of that are to worship God with all of our heart, soul, strength, and mind. We are not to think that freedom is our independence from all others as we live only for ourselves, but real freedom is found as we love God and our neighbor.

Have a blessed Independence Day,  
Pastor Carl

# July 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
<b>4</b> 9:00 AM Worship Svc w/Holy Communion  <b>Youth Sunday</b> Pastor Lundgren	5	6	7 6:00 PM Bible Study	8	9	10
11 9:00 AM Worship Svc w/Holy Communion  10:00 AM Fellowship  Pastor Carl	12	13 9:00 AM Cookie Baking	14 6:00 PM Bible Study	15	16	17
18 9:00 AM Worship Svc  10:00 AM Fellowship  Norb Bueckers	19	20 6:00 PM Church Council Mtg	21 6:00 PM Bible Study	22	23	24 6:00 PM Outdoor Svc w/Holy Communion  Pastor Carl <b>Food Shelf Saturday</b>
<b>25</b> <b>No Sunday Svc</b>	26	27	28 6:00 PM Bible Study	29	30	31 8:30-11:00 AM Cushing Day Pancake Breakfast

## July 2021

Team Bloom: Harvey & Helen Bloom, Gary Kratzke, Lois Brenner, Darren & Lynn Bushinger, Tom & Pat Crawford, Lucas & Tania Hendrickson, Irene Oldenburg, Arnie Akkerman

## August 2021

Team Bramstedt: Amanda & Glen Bramstedt, Joel & Jeanine Pantzke, Brad & Mary Hansen, Mark & Mary Schlangen, Andy & Kourtney Frank, Florence Jones, Mary Tanner, Lois Breden



July 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Tom & Pat Crawford
July 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Doug & Jackie Wiherski
July 27 <sup>th</sup>	Gary & Susan Oberton
July 29 <sup>th</sup>	Joel & Jeanine Pantzke
July 30 <sup>th</sup>	Wendell & Kim Schultz

July 5 <sup>th</sup>	Katherine Wray
July 6 <sup>th</sup>	Jim Oberton
July 7 <sup>th</sup>	Harvey Bloom
July 8 <sup>th</sup>	Joel Pantzke
July 12 <sup>th</sup>	Wyatt Petersen
July 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Jeanine Pantzke
July 30 <sup>th</sup>	Bob Miller

**Contact any Council Member if you have specific needs:**

Mike LuConic 651-249-9540  
Amanda Bramstedt 507-259-0411  
Wendy Richmond 320-360-1981  
Roxie Flicek 320-749-2026

Wade Sandbakken 320-749-2311  
Bruce Ford 218-575-2335  
Harvey Bloom 320-749-2929

**Cushing Day:** Cushing will be having a car show on Saturday, July 31. Bethany will have a Free Will Pancake Breakfast that morning, 8:30-11:00 AM.

**2021 Quilt Raffle:** Raffle tickets are now available to purchase. Tickets are \$1.00. The drawing will be on September 19. The queen size quilt is on display in the fellowship hall. If you would like to help sell tickets, please see Wendy or Jan Bueckers.

**Vacation Bible School** will be Monday - Thursday, August 9-12, from 4:30 - 7:30 pm. We welcome kids ages 4 through 6th grade, as well as youth helpers. Our theme this year is "Treasured, Discovering You're Priceless to God". Anyone interested in helping with this amazing ministry is welcome to join in the fun! Also, if you know of a child in the area that would like to attend and hasn't attended before, please get names and addresses to Roxie Flicek asap. We're asking for advanced registration this year, the deadline for that is July 23.

#### **Malaria Nets -**

As part of our VBS this year, our church will take part in an Operation Kid-to-Kid mission project that gives kids the opportunity to share God's love with children all over the world. During VBS, kids and adults can donate any amount of money to help purchase bed nets to keep at-risk children safe from malaria-carrying mosquitoes. Each net costs \$10. All donations will be sent directly to World Vision, who will purchase and then distribute the mosquito nets throughout key African nations and other countries impacted by malaria. If you would like to contribute to this exciting program and participate in our net match outreach, please contact Mary Schlangen with your donation or send it into church. Please make sure that if you send it into church, put mosquito nets in the memo. Thank you for your consideration and prayers for the children these mosquito nets will impact.

**Garage Sale:** The sale was a huge success. A big "Thank You" to all who helped and donated. As of this time, the youth received a total of \$2,293.47!

**Outdoor Service:** Our first outdoor service of the summer will be Saturday July 24 at 6:00 PM. Just the service, no barbeque before the service. Please bring a lawn chair. There will **not** be a service Sunday the 25<sup>th</sup>.



Bethany's 2021 Graduates, Michael Oberton and Emily Miller



Receiving a quilt and a Bible from Irene Oldenburg and Mike LuConic.