

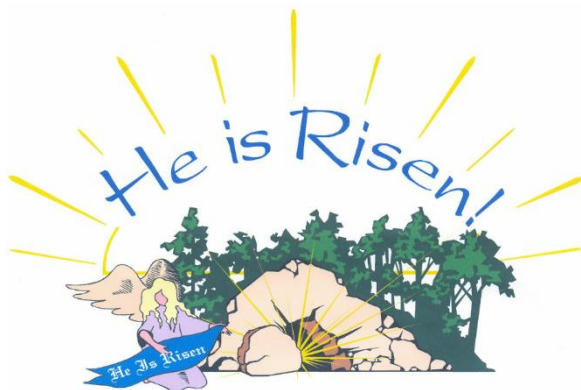
Bethany Lutheran Church

25430 Bison Road

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Cushing, MN 56443

May 2022



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Unity in Christ

By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.” John 13:35

One day, a man was walking across a bridge and saw another man standing on the edge, about to jump off. He immediately ran to him and said, "Stop! Don't jump!"

"Well, why shouldn't I?" the man replied.

The other said, "You've got so much to live for!"

"Like what"?

"Well ... are you religious or atheist?" "Religious." "Me too! And are you Christian or Jewish?" "Christian."

"Me too! Are you Catholic or Lutheran, or Protestant?" "Lutheran." "Me too! Are you Missouri Synod, Wisconsin Synod, ELCA, or another branch?" "ELCA." "Wow! Me too! Are you ALC or LCA?" "ALC." "Me too! Are you Norwegian Synod of the American Evangelical Lutheran Church of 1918 or the Norwegian Lutheran Church of America of 1917?" "The Norwegian Lutheran Church of America of 1917."

To which he said, "Die, you heretic!" and pushed him off the bridge.

Often when we start discussing our faith traditions, it seems that the smallest things can divide us. Even though we agree on 99% of the things discussed, it is that minute detail that often creates barriers. The body of the Lord – the church – was created by Christ to be one big family. Yes, we differ in opinion on some issues. But God's plan for all of us is that we are going to spend eternity together, so let's push ourselves now towards learning how to live in peace with one another. In fact, let's go even further by taking the initiative to make a real difference in the world, by showing love for each other now.

In a letter to the people of Strasburg in May of 1536, Martin Luther wrote:

I shall not be found wanting in any respect if it pleases God; I shall do and suffer as much as I possibly can to achieve a true, sound, permanent unity. Experience has taught us very clearly what "good" the disunity of the churches does --- unfortunately. Christ, our Peace and Consolation, be with all of you until the end. Amen.

Let's not be like the man who pushed the other off the bridge. Let's try to learn from one another and always love one another. But let's go a little further at Bethany and invite our friends, and neighbors, to join us on Sunday morning, or at the game night that is coming up, or to quilting, or our Sunday breakfast, or our Well, you get the idea. Bethany is a place where all are welcome. We put no barriers up as to who is in and who is not. And now, as we are starting to get a little feeling of Spring, it's a good time to invite people to our worship. Pick up a card or two at the church and take it and share it with someone that needs what we have. Remember, at Bethany, "All Are Welcome."

Pastor Carl

May 2022

Team Oberton: Gary & Susan Oberton, Marilyn Mueller, David & Maggie Petersen, Dave & Sharon Cina, Kathy Wray, Doug & Jackie Wiherski, Gary & Tracy Statema

June 2022

Team Bueckers: Norb & Jan Bueckers, Ken & Judy Shorter, Lonnie & Shauna Stokes, Roxie Flicek, Charlie & Anna Hansen, John & Phyllis Nelson, Don & Heddie Wolbeck, Wade & Kayla Sandbakken



May 29th Gary & Tracy Statema

May 1 st	Gary Oberton
May 4 th	Kortnee Olson
May 10 th	Sharon Cina
May 13 th	Diana Vavrek
May 13 th	Monte Bramstedt
May 15 th	Patty Crawford
May 19 th	Lonnie Stokes
May 20 th	Carl Larson
May 24 th	Shauna Stokes
May 26 th	Betty Anderson
May 27 th	Benjamin Hansen
May 27 th	Doug Wiherski
May 29 th	Corey Hansen

Contact any Council Member if you have specific needs:

Norb Bueckers 320-760-9055
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Gary Oberton 320-749-2992

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Bruce Ford 218-575-2335
Harvey Bloom 320-749-29

Annual Garage Sale: Bethany will be having a sale on Friday and Saturday, June 3-4. Donated items can be put into the smaller Sunday School room. Proceeds will go toward youth activities.

Game Night: Join us Friday night, May 6th, beginning at 6:00. Cards, dice, board games and fun for all ages. If you have a favorite game, bring it along! Pizza, snacks and beverages will be provided.

Spring Cleanup: The date has been set for Thursday night, May 12th, at 6:30 pm.



Levi Sandbakken and Ethan Petersen received their First Communion from Pastor Carl on Palm Sunday