

Bethany Lutheran Church

25430 Bison Road

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Cushing, MN 56443

September 2021



Contact Information:

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God So Loves – John 3:16

*“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son,
so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.*

There are just a few memories of my short stint playing for the Chicago Bears that are forever burnt into my mind. But one that often makes its way into my remembrance came during one of the two games that I actually played in as a professional. We were facing off against the NY Jets in a pre-season game at Soldier’s Field in Chicago. And early in the first quarter the Bear’s wide receiver James Scott caught a sideline pass, turned up field, and darted and dodged his way through the Jet’s defense for a touchdown. And as he crossed the goal-line, the sideline which I was a part of erupted in celebration. It was then as the field-goal team jogged onto the field to kick the extra point that a memory was made.

It was just as the team lined for the kick, that a middle-aged man, seated behind the goal post stood up and raised a sign that simply read, “John 3:16”. That man and his sign are what is engraved in my mind. For at Soldier’s Field, a stadium built to celebrate the accomplishments of the physicality of human athletes was a reminder that God and his love are ever-present. John 3:16 shares an understanding of the indescribable love of God for all creation; a love that would compel God, to give the life of his only Son, Jesus Christ.

In 1 John 3:1 the apostle again has difficulty describing God’s love and can only basically say, “Look and see what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. While none of the New Testament writers can explain God’s love for us, they can speak clearly about how amazing it is. The Apostle Paul writes, “...But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us.” (Romans 5:8)

“While we were still sinners.” As sinners, everyone and everything in the world was condemned. But in the 3rd chapter, John tells us that “God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.” He came to save us from ourselves and from the evil that is part of the world we live in. Those of us who “believe in him” have passed from darkness into light, from condemnation to salvation and from death to life eternal.

John 3:16, God so loved the world This is the verse and message that we will be sharing during this year’s Sunday School. Each week through the Sunday School year, John 3:16 will be lifted before our youth in a number of different ways. And just as it was for me so many years ago at Soldier’s Field, our hopes and prayers for this Sunday School year is that this verse and message will be forever burnt into the hearts and minds of our Faith and Bethany youth.

God’s blessings,
Pastor Carl

September 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5 9:00 am Worship Svc w/Holy Communion 10:00 am Fellowship	6 Labor Day	7 9:00 am Quilting/Prayer Shawls	8	9	10	11
12 9:00 am Worship Svc w/Holy Communion 10:00 am Fellowship Rally Sunday	13	14 9:00 am Quilting/Prayer Shawls	15 6:00 pm Bible Study	16	17	18
19 10:00 am Worship Svc w/Holy Communion 11:30 am Fellowship/Meal Mortgage Burning Svc	20	21 9:00 am Quilting/Prayer Shawls 6:00 pm Church Council Mtg	22 6:00 pm Bible Study	23	24	25
26 9:00 am Worship Svc 10:00 am Fellowship Food Shelf Sunday	27	28 9:00 am Quilting/Prayer Shawls	29 6:00 pm Bible Study	30		

September 2021

Team Ford: Bruce Ford, Norb & Jan Bueckers, Leone Johnson, Diana Vaverek, Kim Schultz, Gary & Susan Oberton, Tom & Sandy Bjorge, Glen & Theresa Welters, Norma Pantzke

October 2021

Team LuConic: Mike LuConic, Darlene Molde, Chuck & Char Stockman, Randy & Janet Beinhorn, Joanie Miller, Steve Ahlrich and Barb Anderson, Bob Miller and Becky Wetch, Wendy Richmond, Dorothy Radke



Sep 6th John & Phyllis Nelson
Sep 8th Don & Heddie Wolbeck
Sep 8th Lucas & Tania Hendrickson

Sep 2nd Garrett Olson
Sep 2nd Jackie Wiherski
Sep 7th Ethan Petersen
Sep 10th Amanda Bramstdt
Sep 12th Hunter Richmond
Sep 12th Carol Larson
Sep 16th Florence Jones
Sep 18th Elliott Oberton
Sep 23rd Wendy Richmond
Sep 26th Tom Bjorge

Contact any Council Member if you have specific needs:

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

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.

Mortgage Burning: We will have a special Mortgage Burning Service at 10:00 am Sunday, September 19th. There will be a meal (free-will offering) and fellowship after the service. Bishop Amy Odgren will be joining us, along with some previous pastors and members. We are asking our current members to bring a dessert item. We will need help with serving and cleanup. There is a sign-up sheet on the table in the fellowship hall.

Due to the on-going spread of COVID-19 through the Delta variant, we are encouraging our members to wear a mask in church. We want to stay open and keep singing!

Introductory information on

Chris Mathiason

the pastor called to serve at Faith and Bethany Lutheran congregations.

Chris grew up in Granada, MN and attended school at Fairmont, MN

He graduated from St. Olaf College

Worked at Good Earth Bible Camp in Spring Valley, MN

Served as Youth Director at St. Olaf Church in Austin

Graduated and was ordained from Luther Seminary in St. Paul.

Met and married Erin Bovendam while at Luther Seminary.

Chris was the intern pastor at St. Stephen's Lutheran Church in Mifflintown, PA.

After his internship, he was called to St. Stephen's Lutheran and served the church for 14 years

Pastor Erin Bovendam after also serving a church in Pennsylvania is now the lead pastor at Calvary Lutheran in Perham.

Chris and Erin have two sons: Henry, an 8th grader and Ben, a 6th grader.

They also have a family dog, Netta.