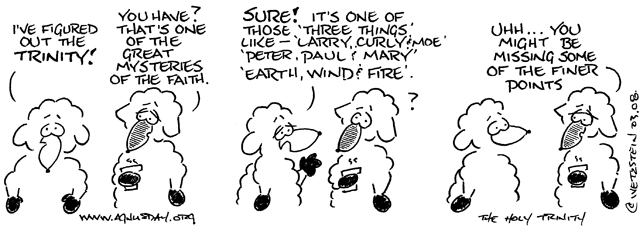
A close up of a sign

Description automatically generated with low confidence

19When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” 20After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. John 20:19-20

ATTENTION: check out website [www.bethanylutheran-laurens.org](about:blank)!

**Here is the weekly email with the activities happening at Bethany for next 8+ days. This is a great resource to check the times of activities, especially worship time if changes have been made. Our Summer worship is at 9:30AM and coffee fellowship at around 10:30. Adult SS is 8:30AM beginning on May 25th..**Check our website this week **(bethanylutheran-laurens.org) There are new pictures and postings on our Facebook page as well, check it out. The sheep cartoon from this week’s reading John 16:12-22. Don’t be of little faith and don’t doubt Jesus!**He IS the Son of the Living God. **Spring** is the perfect time to develop new habits; coming to worship and attending more church activities are great ways to celebrate God’s gift of salvation to all of us. Everything is still here at Bethany, pretty much the way you left it. Come and see, YOU are missed! We are less without you!



**Monday:  May 19, 2025**

**7:00 PM ~ Hand Bell Rehearsal**

**Tuesday:  May 20, 2025**

**8:30 AM ~ Prayer Group**

**9:30 AM ~ Tuesday coffee at Bethany**

**Wednesday:  May 21, 2025**

**7:00 PM ~ Confirmation**

**Sunday:  May 25, 2025**

***Sixth Sunday of Easter***

**TIME CHANGE for Summer**

**8:30 AM ~ Adult SS**

**9:30 AM ~ Worship**

**10:30 AM ~ Coffee Fellowship**

**4:00 PM ~ Laurens Care Center Service**

**6:00 PM ~ Bethany Prayer Group**

**Monday:  May 26, 2025**

**9:00 AM ~ Memorial Day Service at cemetery**

**Tuesday:  May 27, 2025**

**8:30 AM ~ Prayer Group**

**9:30 AM ~ Tuesday coffee at Bethany**

***Worship, Love, Accept~Together in Christ's Name***

**Emergency contact information:**

In the case of an emergency or are in need of a visit/call, please contact Pastor David Klappenbach at 419-603-8350 (cell), 712-841-2181 (church), 712-841-2532 (parsonage).

**SPRING TIME 10:30 AM Worship services at Bethany**

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**HAPPENINGS I****N MAY**

\*May 18 *~ 6:00PM Bethany Prayer Group*

\*May 19 *~ 7:00PM Hand Bell Rehearsal*

\*May 20,27 *~ 8:30AM Prayer Group*

*9:30AM Tuesday coffee at BLC*

\*May 21 *~ 7:00PM Confirmation*

\*May 25 *~ SUMMER WORSHIP TIME BEGINS at 9:30AM*

*4:00PM Laurens Care Center Service*

*6:00PM Bethany Prayer Group*

\*May 26 *~ MEMORIAL DAY*

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**MAY: Altar Guild** = Shirley Kruse & Eloise Armstrong

**Fellowship** = May 25 – Shirley Kruse, Jan Hersom

**Ushers** = May 25 – Michelle Gordon & Shirley Kruse

**JUNE: Altar Guild** = Rich & Marilyn Ehlers

**Fellowship** = June 1 – Julie Dawson, Shirley McKiernan

= June 8 – Julie Dawson, Shirley McKiernan

= June 15 – Tom & Rhonda Shewell, Shirley McKiernan

= June 22 – Julie Dawson, Shirley McKiernan

= June 29 – Shirley McKiernan, Kelly & Dawn Gordon

**Ushers** = June 1 – Tom & Elaine Anderson

= June 8 – Myra Reese & Michelle Gordon

= June 15 – Jean Swanson & Tammy Oxenreider

= June 22 – Myles & Shirley Pedersen

= June 29 – Tom & Rhonda Shewell

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**Communion**: Served on the 1st & 3rd Sundays of every month.

**Prayer Concerns:** Prayer concerns may be given to Pastor Klappenbach or the office at any time. We just ask that you let us know who is making the prayer request by signing your name. This is important so that Pastor can follow up on the continual need for prayer.

**Prayer Concerns**: Bethany Lutheran Church members, nursing home residents, storm/flood/fire victims, those suffering any illness, Amy Campbell, Myra Reese, Don & Brenda DeHaan, Janelle Mason, Tim Burton, Desiree Welty, Pastor John Mayer, Elizabeth Dunbar, Monica Isom, Bill Alexander, Eli Honer, Dorothy Sandvig, Gloria Bell, Helen Dodge, Patricia Bentsen. Our youth, parents & teachers, our military & missionaries.

**Weekly Budget Needs: $2817.00**

Faith Promise $ 789.00 Worship 38

Sunday School $ 9.00 Adult SS 5 Youth SS 11

# Birthdays: May 19 – Shawn Oxenreider; 22 – Heidi Baker

# Anniversary:

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**\*\*\*NOISY OFFERING ~ $136.04 went to the Laurens Food Pantry! Thank You ~ *Keep collecting those coins as our next one will be in July!!***

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***Laurens Community Blood Drive ~ Thursday, May 22, 2024***

***1:00 to 6:00 PM @ Laurens United Methodist Church***

***Appointments are ENCOURAGED ~ Text: LIFESERVE to 999-777***

***Visit:*** [www.lifeservebloodcenter.org](http://www.lifeservebloodcenter.org) ***or call 1-800-287-4903***

***Please bring a valid form of identification, such as your donor ID card or driver’s license.***

***Per CDC guidelines, LifeServe is requiring blood donors to wear masks to their appointments. Donors who do not have a mask will be provided one at registration.***

**WORSHIP TIME CHANGE FOR SUMMER**

**Starts Sunday, May 25**

**8:30 AM Adult SS**

**9:30 AM Worship & 10:30 AM Coffee Fellowship**

Bethany Lutheran Church members are invited to a Retirement Party honoring **Pastor Ken Kimball**

to celebrate his 30 years of service at Old West and Old East Paint Creek Lutheran Churches on **Sunday, June 1, 2025**.

**Program 2:00-3:00; Reception 3:00-5:00**

at Waterville Community Center (formerly Waterville School),

115 Main Street, Waterville, IA 52170.

RSVP to Kerri Gibbs at [ckgibbs@acegroup.cc](mailto:ckgibbs@acegroup.cc)

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**Laurens Congregate Meals: 272 N 3rd St., Laurens, IA**

**712-841-2577 for pricing, hours, & orders ~ Monday-Friday**

**Provides a communal dining experience for individuals seeking nutritious and affordable meals with a focus on social interactions.**

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**CLOTHES CLOSET at First Christian Church**

***Free Clothes to all who need them!***

**Open every Thursday ~ 2:00 - 5:00PM**

**Open last Saturday of each month 10:00AM – 1:00PM**

**324 W Section Line Road ~ *Please use the east door.***

**STEWARDSHIP 2025**

April giving goal:  $11,800.00

April giving:  $4,959.00

Year-to-date goal:  $50,150.00

Year-to-date giving: $38,493.01

**SHORT:**  -**$11,656.99**

$15,000.00 Funds taken from Farm Acct/Edmonds Fund for general expenses

**eGiving: *eGiving*** is an automated giving program from Vanco Payment Solutions that Bethany is already a part of. It’s designed to help you conveniently, consistently, and joyfully give financial gifts to our congregation’s ministry. By participating in ***eGiving***, you can use electronic funds transfer to give your weekly, semi-monthly, or monthly offering to our congregation. To learn how you can participate in ***eGiving***, contact: Rich Ehlers - 712-358-1928. Let ***eGiving*** help you build better stewardship by turning a simple choice into a generous response.

**Thrivent Choice Dollars:** The Thrivent Choice program is a charitable grant program and a benefit of membership that encourages members of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans to help direct a portion of Thrivent Financial’s charitable funding to causes important to them. The funds that Bethany receives from Thrivent Financial for Lutherans this year are called Thrivent Choice Dollars. The amount Bethany receives is determined by individual members of Thrivent who direct the dollars credited to them to Bethany. These funds were formerly called the supplemental funds.

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***Women of Bethany* ~ If you need a crocheted cross for someone, they are ready. You will find them in the Narthex in the Registry Stand.**

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Address for Sandy George: Address for Dorothy Smith:

Sandy George Dorothy Smith

4877 Bradford Lane 220 S. Maple Apt. 204

Sioux City, IA 51106 Watertown, SD 57201

**“Like Bethany Lutheran Church-Laurens on Facebook”**

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**Laurens Food Pantry donations needed:**

****\*Baking Mix (pancake and/or bisquick)

\*Juice, Jelly, Cereal

\*Mixed Fruit, Applesauce, Pears

\*Corn, Diced Tomatoes

\*Spaghetti Noodles, Elbow Macaroni

\*Taco Shells (Hard & Soft) & Taco Seasoning

\*Cream of Mushroom Soup

\*Thursdays 4:00-6:00 PM Last Monday of each month 11:00AM – 1:00PM

\*PLEASE REMEMBER ~ The food pantry can not take any expired items, so please check all dates on the products before you graciously give.

\*Our number of families using the pantry continues to grow.



\*Donations may be placed in the shopping cart downstairs in the United Methodist Educational Unit or at the Bethany Lutheran Church in Laurens or in the shopping cart at the Laurens HyVee Pharmacy.

\*Thank you for all you do for the Food Pantry, we are pleased that you are a part of this mission!!! *Thank you for Caring and Your Support*

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**SUNDAY SCHOOL STUDENTS & STAFF ~ May 11, 2025**

|  |
| --- |
| **Kindergarten-Seventh Grade:** Lucas & Addy Sorensen, Elli Cazares, Niels, Jens, Isabella & Raelyn Johnsen  **Teachers for Nursery-Seventh Grade:** Tammy Oxenreider, Jean Swanson, Julie Dawson, Rhonda Shewell, Kathy Sorensen, Rich Ehlers, Liz Klappenbach  **High School:**  Michelle Gordon  **Music:** Marilyn Ehlers & Shirley McKiernan  **Sunday School Leader:** Linda Bieri |

**As we close the Sunday school year, we recognize the following student with an attendance pin:**

**Raelyn Johnsen: 9 year pin**

\*\*\*This means this student missed three or less Sundays this school year!!!

Congratulations to this dedicated student and her parents!

***We honor and congratulate*** *our graduate:* ***HS graduate: Michelle Gordon***

*We wish God’s blessing on you as you enter the world of college and/or the business world.*

**The geraniums on the altar** are given for the glory of the Lord to honor our dedicated Sunday school teachers and students for their hard work 2024/2025. They will continue to be enjoyed all summer as they adorn our outside entrance. Thank God for his blessings and the freedom to worship together.

Thank you to Marilyn Ehlers, Shirley McKiernan as our music worship leaders. Our teachers are Jean Swanson, Tammy Oxenreider, Kathy Sorensen, Rhonda Shewell, Julie Dawson and Liz Klappenbach for the smaller children. The older children are taught by Rich Ehlers, and our adult Sunday school is lead by Pastor Klappenbach. We appreciate everyone’s faithful dedication to teaching and to learning God’s everlasting words.

Luke 4:21: He began to say to them, “Today scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.”

*Linda Bieri*