



THE BANNER

July 2021

Dear Disciples of Bethany Lutheran,

I ran across this story by Theodore Wedel sometime back. I believe it says a lot about the mission and congregational life.

On a dangerous seacoast where shipwrecks occur stood a crude lifesaving hut with one boat. It had a few devoted members who kept watch over the sea. They went out day and night searching for the lost and shipwrecked. They saved many lives through this wonderful little station. Some of those who were saved desired to become associated with this station. So they joined. They gave their time and effort and financial resources to support this station's mission. More boats were bought, and new crews were trained.

Later, some members grew unhappy that they had a small, crude hut. They felt they should provide a comfortable place as the first refuge of those who were saved. They built a new a building, replaced the cots with beds, put in beautiful furniture, and decorated it nicely. The station became popular for its members. It became a social club. In time fewer members were interested in going for rescue missions, so they hired others to do the work. The lifesaving motif still prevailed in the building, even having a lifeboat used for new member initiations.

Then it happened. A large shipwrecked of the coast. The crews brought in boat loads of dirty, cold, and sick people. The beautiful club was in chaos. So the property committee had showers built outside the club for victims to clean up before entering the club.

At the next meeting, the membership split. Most wanted to stop rescue missions because it made the social life unpleasant. Some did insist that lifesaving was the primary purpose of the club, but they got voted down. They were told if they wanted save lives of those shipwrecked to go and start your own lifesaving mission down the coast. As the years went by the new station went through the same changes as the old. It evolved into a club. And yet another lifesaving station was founded. If you go down that seashore you will find many exclusive clubs. Shipwrecks are frequent, but most people drown.

This parable illustrates the challenge that always confronts the church. Forgetting the mission, forgetting what God calls us to do. Soon the church turns in on herself, concerned for her needs, and forgets that many are out in the community drowning. In this world people are drowning in oceans of grief and sin, pain, and loneliness. Our Lord God saw this and sent His Son, Jesus to jump into these seas with us to save us. Jesus saves us on the cross. And now being saved and having the gift of the Holy Spirit our call is to jump in and to participate in God's saving and redeeming work in the world. Our call is look outward and point others to Christ.

Just a closing thought. If the church building does not get a little messy from time to time, then we are not doing the mission of Christ.

In Christ's Service,

Pastor David

Bible Reading Plan for the Disciples of Bethany

...standing firm in one spirit, with one mind striving side by side for the faith of the gospel... Philippians 1:27b

Thursday, July 1	1 Samuel 2:27-36
Friday, July 2	1 Samuel 2:37-47
Saturday, July 3	1 Samuel 4:1b-11
Sunday, July 4	1 Samuel 4:12-22
Monday, July 5	1 Samuel 5:1-12
Tuesday, July 6	1 Samuel 6:1-16
Wednesday, July 7	1 Samuel 7:2-17
Thursday, July 8	1 Samuel 8:1-22
Friday, July 9	1 Samuel 9:1-14
Saturday, July 10	1 Samuel 9:15-10:1
Sunday, July 11	1 Samuel 10:1-16
Monday, July 12	1 Samuel 10:17-27
Tuesday, July 13	1 Samuel 11:1-15
Wednesday, July 14	1 Samuel 12:1-25
Thursday, July 15	1 Samuel 13:5-18
Friday, July 16	1 Samuel 13:5-18
Saturday, July 17	1 Samuel 14:16-30
Sunday, July 18	1 Samuel 14:36-45
Monday, July 19	1 Samuel 15:1-3, 7-23
Tuesday, July 20	1 Samuel 15:24-35

Wednesday, July 21

Thursday, July 22

Friday, July 23

Saturday, July 24

Sunday, July 25

Monday, July 26

Tuesday, July 27

Wednesday, July 28

Thursday, July 29

Friday, July 30

Saturday, July 31

1 Samuel 16:1-17:11

St. Mary Magdalene

2 Corinthians 5:14-18

John 20:11-18

1 Samuel 17:17-30

1 Samuel 17:31-49

1 Samuel 17:50-18:4

1 Samuel 18:5-30

1 Samuel 19:1-24

1 Samuel 20:1-23

1 Samuel 20:24-42

1 Samuel 21:1-15

1 Samuel 22:1-23

Minutes for the Women of Bethany NALC June 12, 2021

Thirteen women met Saturday a.m. at the church at 9:30. Opening and introduction of guest speaker Josie was led by Linda. The business meeting was led by Jan. The minutes of the previous meeting were approved with the following corrections: at the end of 2020, \$100 was given to the Ministerial Association, and \$100 to the NW Christian home, and \$400 to the WNALC missions fund, the latter from our Thank Offering total. Shirley gave the treasurer's report with current balance of \$629.93.

Subjects for general review and approval are as follows; we will continue our Thank Offering boxes, we will have our Election Day Soup Supper, we will continue with funeral dinners and fellowship lists. Our prayer squares and infant caps are still available for distribution and will be expanded to include preschool sizes. We will continue to support Meals on Wheels monthly. We will support the Operation Christmas boxes.

The Prayer Chain member list will be updated. We were encouraged to use the prayer chain for joys as well as concerns and to be using it often, using the guidelines outlined.

Women's circle will be the third Thursday of each month at church. The offering goes to our general fund. We encourage our members to read the daily Bible readings listed by pastor in our Banner.

Vacation Bible school was held for three days, and the Youth group will have their Haiti trip this summer.

We encourage members to go to the Iowa Mission District Convocation in Emmons, Mn Sept. 11th. Also to be keep in prayer our sisters at the annual WNALC meeting in Texas this August.

A new project to investigate is a request for a Name Banner to be used at funerals.

Our next meeting will be in October and the Angels will be the study topic.

Request to Provide Altar Flowers for 2021



If you wish to provide altar flowers for church during 2021, please complete this form. Please place it the offering plate or mail it to: Shirley McKiernan, 313 2nd St., Laurens, IA 50554 *Thank you.*

Name of person providing flowers: _____

Date desired: _____

Do you want to provide flowers on this same date from year to year? yes no

Information needed for Sunday bulletin:

Altar Flowers in Loving Memory of: _____

From: _____

Or Altar Flowers

From: _____

Please contact Shirley McKiernan, 841-2637, if you have any questions.



In case of emergency contact
Pastor David Klappenbach
712-841-2181 (Office)
712-841-2532 Home)
419-603-8350 (Cell)

Services are currently being live streamed on Facebook

Visit us @ <https://www.bethanylutheran-laurens.org>

July Birthdays and Anniversaries

Name	Marriage	July
Hudson, Jackie		7-02
George, Homer & Sandy	7-03	
Jamison, John		7-04
McKiernan, Shirley		7-04
Sandvig, Allen		7-04
Sindergard, Donna		7-04
Kruse, Don & Shirley	7-05	
Larson, Dale		7-06
Ehlers, Rich		7-10
Hodgell, James & Denise	7-15	
Alexander, Pat		7-17
Armstrong, Eloise		7-17
Hersom, Luke		7-19
Nomann, Jim & Margaret	7-20	
Hudson, Brayden		7-21
Hawley, Michael		7-27
Johnsen, Raelyn		7-29
Gustafson, Carla		7-31
Hersom, Jan		7-31

**Alter Guild for June
Rich & Marilyn Ehlers**

USHERS:

July 4-Myles Pedersen

July 18-Dean Armstrong

JULY 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		Bethany Lutheran Church Adult SS- 9:15 Youth SS- 9:30 Worship-1030		1	2	3
4 9:00 Worship w/ Holy Communion	5	6 8:30AM Prayer Group- 9:30AM Coffee @ BLC	7	8	9 Laurens	10 Days
11 9:00 Worship	12	13 8:30AM Prayer Group 9:30AM Coffee @ BLC	14	15	16	17
18 9:00 Worship w/ Holy Communion	19	20 8:30AM Prayer Group 9:30AM Coffee @ BLC	21	22	23	24
25 9:00-Worship	26	27 8:30AM Prayer Group 9:30AM Coffee @ BLC	28	29	30	31