

## A Lil' Nostalgia

It is possible that I have been accused of singing or humming Christmas carols as early as the 4<sup>th</sup> of July. Now how true this is...I will never tell 😊. What I will share with you is that Christmas is a wonderful time of year. Growing up in Virginia, it was the family tradition to put together and decorate the Christmas tree the day after Thanksgiving. I would get so excited, not just the fact of trimming the tree, but it also gave me a chance to go into my parents' attic to get the decorations. You see, the house where I grew up only had an access point to the attic in the hallway. There was no ladder attachment (to this day I still wonder why not), so I would have to bring in a ladder. This ladder was only five-feet-tall, after pushing the access door out of the way, I had to climb onto the top step and then boost myself up into the attic. For whatever reason, the attic was a cool place for me to hang out even with the slight musty air. In the attic was a treasure trove of "stuff" to check-out. I would sometimes try-on my dad's service jacket he wore during his time in the army. Or I would move the trunks of blankets and clothing to create a fort. There was also a slide projector and slides to see images of my grandparents, uncles, and cousins...the memories is conjures up!

One of the amazing gifts that God has given humanity is the beautiful gift of memory. In a sense, memory allows us to relive a moment that was so special to us, and I always find myself reminiscing about the past. I love to cherish and hold on to memories. There are times when God is doing things and we might not understand it yet. That is why it's important to cherish the little moments on your walk with Christ. You might not know exactly what He is doing but you know something is being done. In Luke 2 we noticed that Mary treasured and thought about all that occurred and was said before her: "But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart" (v.19). She treasured things in her heart even though she didn't fully understand. We should also

treasure and cherish the little things even though we don't fully understand and see the full picture yet. Treasure the moments God gives you with family and friends. Treasure the grace, mercy, and forgiveness that God pours out to you on behalf of his Son. Treasure the fact that Jesus has overcome the world and you are his. May each of you have the most blessed of Advent and Christmas seasons, and don't forget to make and share those memories!

~Pastor Intern Dave~

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I found this prayer and I thought it would be nice to share. Pray it as often as you like during Advent and Christmas...Intern Dave

### A Humble Christmas Prayer

God, our Creator, we offer this humble prayer on Christmas Day. We come to worship with a song of thanks in our hearts—a song of redemption, a song of hope and renewal. We pray for joy in our hearts, hope in our God, love to forgive, and peace upon the earth. We ask for the salvation of all our family members and friends, and we pray your blessings on all people. May there be bread for the hungry, love for the unlovable, healing for the sick, protection for our children, and wisdom for our youth. We pray for the forgiveness of sinners and abundant life in Christ. Holy Spirit, fill our hearts with your love and power. In the name of Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.

~Rev. Lia Icaza Willetts

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### Bethany Foundation Memorials:

Undesignated donations from:

Mark & Laurie Schumaker

Michael & Margo Filipkowski

Karen Fawbush

In Memory of **Harold Stolt:**

Greg & Sue Johnson

In Memory of **Al Dietz:**

Muriel Rostad

In Memory of **Eunice Rostvedt:**  
Greg Simonson, Duane & Sharlene Tollefson

## Education News



You are invited to join us on December 12th at 3pm for a Christmas Program. Cookies and other treats will be served following the program. Come and see our Bethany Church School kids shine! Every child will receive a goodie bag as they leave. A cart will be in the Narthex. Hope to see you there!

~Intern Dave~

### Pastor Janet's Joke of the Month

A mechanic once owned a dog named Mace. Mace had a bad habit of eating all the grass in the mechanic's lawn, so the mechanic had to keep Mace inside. The grass eventually became overgrown. One day the mechanic was working on a car in his backyard and dropped his wrench, losing it in the tall grass. He couldn't find it for the life of him so he decided to call it a day. That night, Mace escaped from the house and ate all the grass in the backyard. The next morning, the mechanic went outside and saw his wrench glinting in the sunlight. Realizing what had happened, he looked up to the heavens and proclaimed.... "A grazing Mace, how sweet the hound that saved a wrench for me."



From the Bethany Staff

Pastor Janet, Pastor Intern Dave Myers, Deacon Kari Files, Nadine Holmly, Patti Abrahamson, Jackie Hebor, Tim Lindsey, Donna Randash, Shelley Duchscherer, and Jacob Thraikill.



### Poinsettias for Christmas Worship

You can help make the sanctuary festive by loaning a poinsettia for Advent and Christmas worship. Bring your plant to the office anytime during Advent, mark it with your name, and pick it up again after worship on Christmas Day. If you would like your memorial recognized in the Christmas bulletin (December 25), please have your flower at the church by December 21.



### Christmas Cantata Sunday

The Christmas Cantata will be performed at the 8:30 & 10:30 am services on December 19<sup>th</sup>. Come hear this special Christmas concert that includes choirs, keyboards, handbells and instruments.

'Voices of Note'

presents a

'Christmas Concert'

join us for an evening of  
carols & refreshments

Concert is free and open to the public

Monday, December 13<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm

Vincent United Methodist Church

(Christmas goodies to follow)



**DECEMBER CAUSE OF THE MONTH**

## Global Barnyard



**QUILTING ONLY ON THURSDAY,  
DECEMBER 2<sup>ND</sup> @ 1 PM  
NOT ON THE 16TH**



### Advent Worship

How can we prepare for the birth of the Christ child in a more meaningful way? Make Advent worship a part of your weekly preparation. The first three **Wednesdays** during Advent at **6:45pm** (Dec. 1, 8, 15) we'll gather in the

Sanctuary for a service that includes singing of hymns, listening to the music of our choirs, and lighting the Advent candles.



### Christmas Advent Drama

The Advent Drama is being held instead of the Advent Brunch. This will be hosted by the BLCW and they will serve coffee and treats.

This will be held on Dec 12<sup>th</sup> at 9:30am. See you there!

**LYO Serving  
Caramel Rolls  
Sunday, December 19<sup>th</sup>  
During Fellowship Hour  
Everyone is invited!**

**RUTH CIRCLE MEETING  
on Tuesday, December 14<sup>th</sup> @ 2 pm.**

### LYO December News

December 1, 2021----Bible Study

December 8, 2021----Christmas Party (Wear your ugly Christmas sweater or other Christmas gear)

December 15, 2021----Baking with Donna

December 19, 2021----Carmel Roll Sunday

December 22 & 26, 2021---No LYO---See you in 2022!!

In late October, five of our teens attended the LYO Synod gathering in Bismarck. Grady Duchscherer finished out his two-year term as Treasurer of this group, and Phoebe Thompson completed year one of her two-year term as Turtle Mountain Representative. A big thank you to Lana Thompson that stepped in to take Shelley's spot as she was ill. It was reassuring to know that Donna would not have to do this alone. Synod is always such a great time, and it is a big part of their faith journey.

We are happy to report that with support of our congregation, and all the help to make it happen, that our Turkey Dinner was a huge success. We fed many people and have decided that next year we will be keeping it on Saturday night.

On November 10<sup>th</sup>, the Bethany LYO rented the Oak Park Movie Theater for the night and invited LYO groups from the surrounding area to watch "Camp Cool Kids" with us. I am not sure of an exact number, but I would say around 100 teens joined us. It was a great experience, and we are hoping to do more things like this in the future.

Carmel Roll Sunday will be in December!! We will have the already baked options, or if you would like to do the take-n-bake option that will be available as well. The fee for take and bake options, or for the baked to-go option is \$8 for a four pack.

It is hard to believe that we are already in December. It has been great being back in the Church. We feel blessed and grateful for all the support that we have received. We as a group wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!!  
Bethany LYO

...the fear and depression of unemployment  
...the worry of ill health  
...loneliness.  
Each can leave us "blue" in the midst of the holiday celebrations. We invite you to make space and take time to acknowledge the sadness.

### November Offering

11/07	\$4,386.
11/14	\$3,228.
11/21	\$4,198.
11/28	
Thanksgiving Eve	
Online Giving	\$10,500.
October Cause of the Month	\$819



### at Bethany

**Friday** – December 24  
**Worship** at 5:00pm

**Candlelight Service** at 11:00pm

**Saturday** – December 25  
**Worship** 9am

**Miriam Bible Study**  
**Dec 09, 2021**



### Special Rehearsals Scheduled

#### Saturday Rehearsals for Sanctuary Choir:

December 4 -----10:00am

December 18 -----10:00am

#### Sunday Rehearsal for Church School

#### Christmas Program Practice

December 12 1:45pm – 2:45pm (3<sup>rd</sup> gr-5<sup>th</sup> gr)

#### Christmas Program:

**Sunday, December 12<sup>th</sup>**

**3:00pm**

(3 yr olds-5<sup>th</sup> Grade)

Fellowship After for All

### 'Tis the Season for Giving

In many ways, we honor the birth of the Christ child – God's gift to us – by sharing our own blessings in gifts to others. If you are looking for some meaningful ways to give, here are some possibilities:

**\*The Bethany Lutheran Foundation** 215  
3<sup>rd</sup> Ave SE, Minot ND 58701

**\*Luther Seminary** – 2481 Como Ave, St. Paul  
MN 55108

**\*Ann Carlsen Center for Children** – 301  
7<sup>th</sup> Ave NW, Jamestown ND 58501

**Mary Circle will meet Tues, Dec  
14<sup>th</sup> @ 9:30 am.**



## Altar Guild

**Altar Guild will decorate for Christmas  
on December 2, at 9:00am.**

**November Ministerial Acts**  
**Funerals:** Adeline Bergeron, Alvin Dietz,

*Bethany Lutheran Church invites you to*  
**A Blue Christmas Worship Service**  
of prayer, music, and God's Word  
shining light in the darkness.  
**Wednesday, December 22<sup>nd</sup> @6:45pm**  
Sometimes the constant joyous refrains of  
Christmas season remind us of the losses in life...  
...the anguish of broken relationships  
...the loss of a child, spouse, or other loved ones

Harold Stolt

**Transfers Out:** Ralph & Karen Kuhnenn

**Nov 2021 Memorials:**

In Memory of **Harold Stolt**

**Undesignated** from Marlys Armstrong.

**Music** from Bill & Bev Jensen.

**Education** from Charles & Sue Taft.

In Memory of **Ione Harshberger**

**General Fund** from Darwin & Nancy Langseth.

**Donations** also to the BLCW, MOC, Quilting, and Music.

In Memory of **Eunice Rostvedt**

**Music** from Bill & Bev Jensen, Greg & Sue Johnson, Mary Jordahl, Bryan & Nadine Holmly.

**Ministry of Care** from Roger & Roberta Larson.

**Undesignated** from Ron & Pat Schimke, Mel & Margaret Schmidt, Ellen Cadwalader, Shelby & Marcheta Holmly, Andrew & Camilla Hemingway, Ed & Mary Duchsherer, Robert & Bonnie McAdoo, Boyd & Phyllis Hanson, David & Linda McAdoden, cash, Claire Larson, Janice Dill, Jacky & Kelly Smith, Bruce & Janet Meyer, Bradley & Maryann Johnson, Agnes Brandt, Dean & Nancy Ziegler.

In Memory of **Ken Walker**

**Undesignated** from Shelby & Marcheta Holmly.

**Faith and care/Ministry of Care** from Roger & Roberta Larson.

In Memory of **Adeline Bergeron**

**Ministry of Care** from Boyd & Phyllis Hanson, Bill & Bev Jensen.

**Faith & Care** from Lolly Rostad.

In Memory of **Pastor Paul Fiske**

**Music** from Bill & Bev Jensen.

Thank you to the LYO for the donations of their leftover turkey dinner supplies to help prepare the Thanksgiving meal for the Men's Winter Refuge.

The men greatly appreciate how much Bethany supports them when we can.



**Bethany Birthdays!  
December:**

1<sup>st</sup>—Bernie Gangl, Billy Schindler,  
Kevin Seehafer

2<sup>nd</sup>—Emily Deforest, David Walter

4<sup>th</sup>—Haili Duchscherer, Carter Larson,  
Journey Larson, Kirk Nybakken,  
Erna Pederson, Brooks Schafer

5<sup>th</sup>—Tyler Schindler, Stefanie Stalheim,  
Aiden Sult

6<sup>th</sup>—Jodi Pederson, Justin Westmeyer

7<sup>th</sup>—Jonathan Mathistad

8<sup>th</sup>—Conner Armstrog, Ryan Van Dyke

9<sup>th</sup>—Nancy Hoiland

10<sup>th</sup>—Debra Love, Samantha Rasmusson,  
Lavonne Sandvol, Betty Werre

11<sup>th</sup>—Caleb Grindy

12<sup>th</sup>—Teresa Erie, Ashley Johnson

13<sup>th</sup>—Luca Bourquin, Marcheta Holmly,  
Crystal Schlag, Trent Westmeyer

14<sup>th</sup>—Deloris Lee, Conley Post,  
David Schafer

16<sup>th</sup>—Peter Mathistad, Shawn Wallace

17<sup>th</sup>—Mary Nordmark

18<sup>th</sup>—Phoebe Thompson

19<sup>th</sup>—Jessie Casey, Brendon Walker

20<sup>th</sup>—Bethany Egeberg, Derek Kuhnenn,  
Brianna Walker

21<sup>st</sup>—Scott Hodenfield, Holli Larson,  
Murrel Price

23<sup>rd</sup>—John Bearman, Mark Tollefson

24<sup>th</sup>—Brian Berg, Mollie Muus,

25<sup>th</sup>—Amy Jenkins, Ruth Moe

26<sup>th</sup>—Ashlyn Dopp

27<sup>th</sup>—Cameron Hummel, Linda Walker

28<sup>th</sup>—Sharon Grondahl, Tracey Schuster

30<sup>th</sup>—Alexa Dopp, Tessa Nesheim

31<sup>st</sup>—Michael Filipkowski, Sheldon Hill,  
Carol Lucier, Shirley Price,  
Jacob Thraikill

Also, Happy Birthday to anyone whose name is not on the list. If your name is not on the list then we

don't have it, so please call the office with it. Thank  
you!