

B October 2019 Newsletter

Bethany Lutheran Church



Bethany Lutheran Church
2900 Parkview Drive
Longview, WA 98632

Church: 360-577-8240
Fax: 360-577-2614

Pastor Megan Filer
Cell: 360-431-1988

Bethany website: www.bethanylongview.org

Office Hours 9:30 – 3:00 Tues, Weds & Thurs

Secretary office email: secretary@bethanylongview.org

Worship Time

9:30 Worship
10:30 Coffee Hour



*Let us fear the Lord our God,
who gives autumn and spring rains in season,
who assures us of the regular weeks of harvest.
~Jeremiah 5:24b*

As I write this month's letter, I listen to the sounds of rain outside my office window. It feels like fall came fast this year, with leaves changing and the evenings growing dark. I even think you were able to get pumpkin spice lattes in August! Before we knew it, autumn had arrived.

This is often my favorite season. I like the cloudy and rainy days, the quiet time at home, and the feeling of new things coming. Whenever we see the leaves changing, we can find ourselves feeling as dreary as the weather.

But we can't have a spring without an autumn, and as much as we want to curl up under a warm blanket, our fall church season draws us out from the covers.

With so much going on, from our growing youth programs, tabling at community festivals, the Women's Salad Supper, Oktoberfest, and Stargiving Community Meal at Catlin Elementary. This is a season in our church of new things, of growth, of branching out into the world around us. And that is probably the biggest reason autumn is my favorite.

Because as creation seems to move towards hibernation, we are only just beginning!
~Pastor Megan

Ministry of the Month!

Special thanks to Bethany's Renewal Team! Last year we completed our synod's "Imagine Project", imagining all the ways God might be working through us and with us here at Bethany, but the work of renewal and imagining continues. The Renewal team has helped to inspire our tabling at local festivals like Squirrel Fest and Highlander Festival, movie night at Columbia Heights Elementary, Beer & Carols, and so much more!

Thank you Renewal team for all that you do!

SUNDAY'S MINISTRIES OCTOBER 2019

October 6, 2019 **Sunday Service** Pastor Megan Filer
Communion/Emergency Fund

Ushers: Barb Wilson & Bob Baldwin
Readers: Russ Gilchrist
Communion Asst: Pam Van den Driessche
Communion Setup: Norma Oyloe
Coffee Hour: Oyloe/Reistroffer
PowerPoint: Steve Smith
Financial Sec. Barb Wilson

October 13, 2019 **Sunday Service** Pastor Megan Filer
Small Seeds/Communion

Ushers: Small Seeds & Chris Engebo
Readers: Small Seeds Helpers
Communion Asst: Small Seeds Helpers
Communion Setup: Norma Oyloe
Coffee Hour: Schauer/Sharp
PowerPoint: Carol Thompson
Financial Sec Barb Wilson

October 20, 2019 **Sunday Service** Pastor Megan Filer
Communion

Ushers: Dave Foslien & Gil Schauer
Readers: Dana Hughes
Communion Asst: Pat Reistroffer
Communion Setup: Norma Oyloe
Coffee Hour: Thompson/Utto
PowerPoint: Don Wallin
Financial Sec Barb Wilson

October 27, 2019 **Reformation Sunday!**
ELCA Worship & Potluck at
Trinity Lutheran Church @ 10:30am



****Please find a substitute if you can't volunteer for that Sunday.**

Bethany's Corner



Susan Johnson is our prayer chain contact. You can contact her with your prayer concerns at **360-261-9122** or email her at **BethanyPrayer247@gmail.com**.

Continued Prayers & Healing

Takko family	Guerra family	Gansler family
Yockey family	Oyloe family	Crawford family
Amy Thibodeau	Donna Stansberry	Helen Carrell
Laura Mahnke	Sharon Ann	Dave Kilaby
Yule family	Steve Kirpatrick	Kerry Farnham
Shayleen Migneaut	Judy Bailey	Rae Davenport



OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

26 John & Nancy Baumberger

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

01 Tony Guerra	15 Mona Fiscus
05 Kathy Newton	20 Nancy Baumberger
07 Tori Gosch	Chris Engebo
Kalob Rahn	31 Martha Sharp
12 Dana Hughes	

Reformation Sunday

October 27th is Reformation Sunday! Every year we celebrate the anniversary of Martin Luther nailing his 95 theses to the door of the Wittenberg church. Each year we gather together with our fellow ELCA churches in our area for a joint worship at Trinity Lutheran Church in Longview! This year, we celebrate 502 years of Reformation, as we sing, pray, and commune together. We join together for worship at 10:30am followed by a potluck lunch afterwards. We will not have regular worship at Bethany that day. Please bring a dish to share and if possible help to clean up after the potluck has ended!

Coming Up Soon!

Come to the Table – Table Catechism

Join us in deepening our faith and fellowship together as we dive into Luther's Small Catechism over food and refreshments in this bi-weekly evening education series!

We will be discussing Luther's Small Catechism (10 Commandments, Apostles' Creed, Lord's Prayer, Baptism, and Communion), growing in our understanding of our faith tradition and our own discipleship journeys.

Join us for dinner, drinks, and Martin Luther's Small Catechism at Vernie's Pizza (900 Triangle Shopping Center) October 8th, 22nd, & November 5th at 5:30pm.



Oktoberfest & Silent Auction

This fall we be having another Oktoberfest on **October 19th at 5:00pm**. As part of our event, we will be hosting a silent auction. We hope to include some wonderful donations as well as some themed baskets as part of our silent auction.

Examples of themed baskets might be a "movie night" basket with movie tickets, candy, and popcorn; "spa day" basket with soaps, lotions, and face masks; "game night" basket with cards, a board game, etc. If you would be interested in donating items or sponsoring a basket, please contact Carol Lane at church or 360-431-3564 or Barb Wilson. Thank you.

Tickets for Oktoberfest are available now. They are \$17 for adult, \$7 for kids ages 4-10, and under 4 is free of charge. Your ticket includes 2 beverage tokens, appetizers, soup, a German inspired meal and the movie.

This year's movie is "Martin Luther: The Idea that Changed the World". There will be a raffle for a Seahawks lap blanket as well as the silent auction.

Upcoming Events Cont.

Sunday Adult Education – "All Are Welcome"

This series will look at different stories from scripture where God extends welcome to those we might not expect. From Ruth to the Samaritan woman at the well, join us as we explore the ways God calls us to extend welcome and grace to all people. October 6th, 13th, & 20th @ 11:15.

Building Discipleship - Pledge Series

Join us this month in embracing stewardship, in sharing stories of gratitude, of God's gifts, the gifts we share, and the amazing grace each of us are given.

We invite you join us in prayer, in joy, and in thanks-giving during this stewardship month as we celebrate God's gifts in our lives and in our world.

Pledge Sunday will be October 13th

Family Promise of Cowlitz County

Family Promise is an organization that supports families experiencing homelessness to find temporary housing in churches, mosques, and synagogues. As a support congregation we have been paired with Gloria Dei Lutheran Church!

Look for sign ups for volunteer opportunities for the weeks of October 13th, and November 24th!

If you'd like to learn more about Family Promise, Greg Filer is our liaison and can be reached at 515-451-7705 or filergj@gmail.com

SW WA Women of the ELCA Convention

Christ Lutheran Church 8211 112th St SW, Lakewood, 98498
October 12, 2019

Fear not...with keynote speaker, Pastor Mary E. Davison

Workshops: tour, make & take, lectures, and business.

Jar Raffle (fun stuff in a jar to bid on--25 choices), vendors, displays, information galore, great food and awesome fellowship.

The cost is only \$40. Sign up forms by Pastor's office.

Call Kathy Newton for more information.

Small Seeds Children's Ministry

Small Seeds Weekend will be a week early this month! Saturday October 7th and Sunday October 8th –Helping our Kids to see how Worship can be for them too! These special worship services will have the usual litany simplified, song choices familiar to our young ones (and the young at heart), a children's message, as well as an invitation to our children to help lead through lighting the candles and ushering.

Mark your calendar: Oct. 12th @ 1pm, Oct. 13th @ 9:30am



Sprout's Youth Ministry

Beginning in October, our Sprouts youth ministry for kiddos 10-13 will begin meeting at the same time as Small Seeds

Choose Your Own Adventure Confirmation

Our 2 year Choose Your Own Adventure Confirmation program begins this month! Our students will be using workbooks, videos, readings, and a worksheet to explore their faith over these next two years.

If you're interested in how you might support our confirmation students, chat with Pastor Megan for more information!

*A message of thanks from Barbara Utto, surrounding our **Small Seeds Program...***

"Thank you Small Seeds for making worship so meaningful.

Emily – I love seeing you in the Praise Choir.

Gabe – I feel the joy in you when you light the candles.

Thank you, Emily and Gabe, for your service. Thank you Pat & Bob for the great job you do with our young people. Gail, I love that you snag the kids into service lighting candles. Great reading Gabe! Jesus is smiling down on all of you!"

Interfaith Potluck

The Lower Columbia Interfaith Community invites you to join them at St Stephen's Episcopal Church on Saturday **October 12th at 4pm** for an interfaith potluck. Bring your favorite dish to share and join for good conversation with our siblings of faith with guest speaker Ophelia Noble.

Mark Your Calendars **Holidays Are Coming!**

It may seem far off, but the holidays & Advent are on their way!

November—Thanksgiving Baskets for families at Columbia Heights Elementary, Catlin Elementary, and Cascade Middle School

December—Christmas Baskets with presents and food for families at Columbia Heights Elementary, Catlin Elementary, and Cascade Middle School

November 13

ELCA Thanksgiving Soup & Pie Social

November 21st

Catlin Stargiving Meal

November 24th

Church Decorating

December 1st

Smorgasbord with Castle Rock Men's Choir

December 15th

Small Seeds Sunday & Christmas Pageant

December 21st

Katie's Night (Beer & Carols) @ The Carriage

December 24th

Christmas Eve Meditative Worship

December 25th

Christmas Morning Celebration Worship

December 29th

Epiphany Lessons & Carols

FYI

Financial Secretary Needed

Do you have a few hours a month to help our church? We need one person to assist with counting the offering, enter the information into the computer program and make the weekly deposit. It's easy, doesn't take much time and training is provided. See Barb Wilson or Pam Van den Driessche.

Stargiving

This year we will be hosting Stargiving for Catlin School on Thursday, November 21st @ 5:00. Be looking for sign ups for donations in the Narthex soon. Please consider using your Thrivent Choice dollars to support this outreach ministry. If that is something you're interested in, we only have a couple of weeks to get the ball rolling. Contact your Thrivent Financial Representative to find out how.

Quarterly Visioning Meeting Update

On September 19th we met for a potluck dinner and conversation surrounding ideas and policies here at Bethany.

We discussed our current security system of the Ring Doorbell and Ring Camera's. We will be adding a live monitored security system and a panic button. Kim is checking into our current internet and Wi-Fi capabilities. We looked at what we still need to do to move forward with the Emergency Policy Procedures that were approved by council. We need to buy jamb belts for the doors and label doors. We will be scheduling two emergency drills and usher training. We also wrote and told stories of our experiences at church to assist in formulating our new Mission and Vision Statements. There was discussion on the disposal of church property and we came up with a plan to present to council on October 10th. Suzanne Arnits will be working with Hospitality and Women of Bethany to draft a policy surrounding safe food handling procedures which will be presented for further discussion.

The next Quarterly Visioning Meeting & Potluck will be Wednesday, December 11th @ 5:30pm.

Council Retreat Goals & Updates

Each year our church's council meets for several hours at the start of their term to get to know one another, to dream about what God might be up to in our church, to give thanks for the gifts that our church is experiencing, and to set goals for the next 1-5 years and create achievable next steps.

First Council spent some time thinking about what is going well in our church, and gave thanks for the gifts of our congregation in these areas:

1. We welcome and care for members, friends, and visitors
2. Our hard-working and involved volunteers
3. Financial health improvement and stability
4. Growing presence and outreach in our community

Council shared what they would like to see at Bethany in the next 5 years:

1. **More youth**—as our Small Seeds program continues to grow, Council would like to focus on welcoming and programing for our kids as they grow themselves. Pastor is already taking steps to begin a second stage of Small Seeds for children 10 and up and a new confirmation program.
2. **Continued financial health, debt reduction, and grounds updating**—Council would like for us to continue our current stability, while reducing our mortgage and updating our building. Duct Tape is already taking next steps in looking at ways to update our portable to have a working restroom. Special thanks to Wayne Spriggle for repairing our sanctuary window!
3. **Community knowledge of who we are, what we do, and that all really are welcome (and we mean it!)**—Council is looking for ways we can be a known presence in our community, reaching out to diverse groups and sharing Christ's love and welcome. Next steps include Kelso Highlander Festival, and continuing to look for new chances for outreach.

Please keep our church council in your prayers as we work towards these next steps and find all the ways God is working in our church and in our community, and keep an eye out for upcoming events, projects, and information as we work on these goals.

ELCA World Hunger Grant

Helping Our Hungry Children—Our Future!

16.9% of the population as determined in Cowlitz County, WA (17.2k out of 102k people) live below the poverty line, a number that is higher than the national average of 13.4%. The largest demographic in all Cowlitz age groups is women—a large number whom have children. As a result, our schools are filled with over 58% of the children on free or reduced breakfast and lunch. Over 200 hundred Kelso-Longview school children and youth are homeless. These children go hungry on weekends unless they get GoBags for the weekends in our schools—this effort to feed them in managed by two volunteer groups!

As a part of your thank offering, please consider bringing a donation to the Reformation Sunday service at Trinity on October 27th. Collection will be in the narthex and donations of non-perishables will be delivered to both E.A.T.S. for Longview and Faith Center Food Bank for Kelso.
(See the list of needed items.)

If you would like more information please contact Barbara Clausen at barbjclausen@comcast.net or call her at 206.669.2014

“God has no hands on Earth but OURS”

 <p>Pop tarts Instant oatmeal -flavored Single serve peanut butter or jars Single serve or jars of jam Protein or Granola bars Ravioli or spaghetti o's or chicken noodle soup Top ramen or cup of soup Cans of tuna, chicken, or pork</p>	 <p>Fruit snacks Cereal Small (4-6 pkg) cracker packages Small individual serving size cookie package Ziploc bags 1 gallon and 2 gallon or recycle your grocery bags here! Single serve trail mix Beef Jerky</p>
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Ladies of the Lake Quilt Guild Show

Join them for the 2019 Quilt show at the Youth and family Link building , Friday, October 4th from 10am-5pm and Saturday, October 5th from 10am- 4pm. There will be demonstrations, door prizes, vendors, raffles, country store and more. With more than 150 quilts, this is the largest quilt show in Cowlitz County. Proceeds will support Local Veterans, Children’s Justice Advocacy Center and Luggage of Love.

Serving with Bethany

Throughout our newsletter you can see upcoming events and opportunities for service, fellowship, worship, and more. As we continue to grow, we recognize how important it is to invite others into service with us.

We are also always looking for new ways to serve our Lord and our neighbor together, if God has put a project on your heart, fill out an event proposal!

Many of the upcoming events and opportunities you can read about are still in need of volunteers for planning, and for the day of the events! We invite you to pray about the ways God might use you to serve our Lord and serve our neighbor together!

Upcoming Service Opportunities:

- FISH Food Pantry Distribution
Contact Pam Van den Driessche or Marge Yockey
- Duct Tape Maintenance Volunteering (Thursdays 9am-12pm)
Contact Rick Loewen or Dave Foslien
- Office Help Volunteering (Thursday Mornings)
Contact Kim Moran
- Caring Ministries (Cards, Phone Calls, Visits)
Contact Pastor Megan
- Church Council, Committees, and Finances
Contact Pastor Megan, Tori Gosch, or Barb Wilson
- Family Promise
Contact Greg Filer



Upcoming Youth Opportunities:

- Small Seeds & Sprouts Ministry (2nd Weekend of the Month)
Contact Pat Reistroffer or Pastor Megan

Serving with Bethany continued...

Upcoming Fellowship Opportunities:

- Member Sunday Celebrations
Contact Pastor Megan
- Member Connection Team
Contact Judy Bailey

Upcoming Education Opportunities:

- Women of Bethany Bible Study at 10:30 am, Tuesdays. All are welcome. Contact Kathy Newton.
- Sunday Adult Education
Contact Pastor Megan

Upcoming Hospitality Opportunities:

- Fall Salad Supper
Contact Women of Bethany



- Oktoberfest! October 19th at
Contact Barb Wilson

Upcoming Stewardship Opportunities:

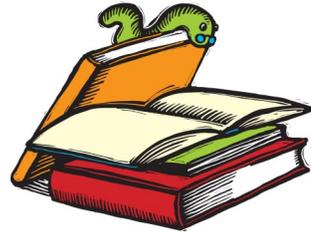
- Pledge Month
Contact Barb Wilson



Upcoming Worship Opportunities:

- Praise Team (Sunday mornings)
Contact Pastor Megan
- Worship Ministries (Ushering, Reading, Coffee Hour, Communion assisting/setup, PowerPoint, etc)
Contact Ardyth Loewen

Do you have your own idea for an exciting ministry God is putting on your heart? Let us know! Event proposal forms are available in the office or on the bulletin board, you chat with Pastor for more info!



Mission, Vision, & Goals Planning

Our congregation is beginning discussions on updating our Mission, Vision, Values, and Goals statements.

These were last updated in 2016, and from the lessons learned by our Renewal team and in our congregation over the years, it looks to be that time again where we look at our statements and see if they match up with who we are and who we are being called to be as a church.

So what are the statements for our church?

Mission: We are a community inviting & sharing the love of Christ through worship, outreach, and fellowship.

Vision: We are striving to be a Christ-centered church that reaches out in our community and world in loving service.

Core Values:

- Encourage loving relationships & fellowship among all people.
- Celebrate the love of Jesus Christ through worship.
- Embrace the inclusion of youth, family, & diversity in all parts of church life.
- Provide education & discipleship that reflects Jesus as Lord.
- Commit to share our gifts to be a blessing to others.

Goals:

1. Discipleship: To foster faith, fellowship, & worship within our church and community.
2. Outreach: To share the love of Christ through fellowship & outreach.
3. Finance: To guide members to be good stewards & make the church financially solvent.

Looking to 2020

As part of our visioning for the future of our congregation, it's important that we look at these statements and ask:

1. Do these statements reflect who we are as a congregation?
2. Are these statements specific to our church?
3. If we were to ask a member of our church, would they know our mission statement? Our vision statement? Our core values? Our goals as a church?
4. If we were to ask a regular visitor to our church, would they?

As we begin to look towards updating these statements, it may be helpful to think about what each statement is meant to do:

- A mission statement should state who we are.
- A vision statement should state who we want to be.
- A core values statement should state what we hold dear.
- A goals statement should state where & how we want to grow.

Through our quarterly visioning meetings, council meetings, and conversations with each other, our hope is to vote on new statements at our 2020 annual meeting in January. To do this, we need your help! Help us by:

1. Taking this time to dream about our church and answering these questions: Who are we? Who do we want to be? What do we hold dear? Where and how do we want to grow as a church?
2. Looking up other churches' statements. What are statements that speak to you? What are statements that you'd like to avoid?
3. Attending the Quarterly Visioning Meetings in October and December and sharing your answers, findings, and thoughts.

September Council Minutes

Bethany Lutheran Church Council Meeting – September 5th, 2019 5:30 p.m. - Faith Room

Devotions and Prayer – Don Wallin

Call to Order and President's Report - Barb Wilson

October 10th - Devotions and Treats – Tori Gosch

Exec. Com. Decisions between meetings: **Moved, seconded, and approved facility usage request for Nov 2nd wedding. Moved, seconded, and approved facility usage request for Judy Bailey Sept 8th.**

Secretary's Report–Norma Oylo: Approval of Council August 1st, 2019–Regular Minutes filed as is.

Treasurer's Report - Don Wallin and Bob Reistroffer

Monthly Financial Report of Expenses and Income-August 20019 budget expenses were \$10,921.36 and exceeded August 2019 budget income of \$8,377.06 by \$2,544.30. The church loan balance as of August 31, 2019 is \$52,593.76 and designated funds/savings as of August 31, 2019 are \$30,212.57. YTD offerings of \$98,806.41 exceed YTD offerings of \$95,271.77 by \$3,534.64. One year ago, YTD 2018 budget offerings were \$85,725.77 and budget expenses were \$82,268.64.

Council began discussing increasing the employer contribution for Pastor Megan's health insurance for 2020 and will discuss further at October meeting.

Thrivent is no longer notifying customers when to distribute Thrivent Dollars, Don will be making an announcement regarding this at an upcoming Sun worship.

Ministry Reports -

Worship/Music-Pastor Megan: Next meeting Sept 12th @ 7:15pm, 5th Sun Hymn Sing Sept 29, Multiple people will be leading. PowerPoint Computer purchased

Education-Pastor Megan: Sun Adult Ed: "All Are Welcome" begins Sept. 15th, Table Catechesis; Sept. 10th, 5:30 pm at Vernie's Pizza. PSALM Update: Chris Cotton has submitted her application with the synod for the lay ministry training program.

Evangelism-Pastor Megan: Highlander Festival Sept 14th. Sign up sheet in the narthex. Katie's Night (Beer & Carols) will be Dec. 21st at the Carriage restaurant.

Pastoral Care-Pastor Megan Filer: Last Meeting July 28th – Lay care team continues to visit those who want visits and are open to more. Member Connection Update: going well, lots of positive feedback from members who really appreciate the cards.

Hospitality-Joyce Croy: Aug 25th Church Picnic Update, went well with 56 in attendance. Oct 19th Oktoberfest: Discussion around price for the dinner-\$17 for food and 2 alcoholic beverage tickets, \$15 for food and non-alcoholic beverages, \$7.50 for kids, children under three will be free. There are 5 baskets so far for the silent auction. We'll show "Martin Luther: The Idea that Changed the World" DVD. Rally Day Sept. 8th: Cupcakes and dixie cups will be served with games, funds for food items will come from the education budget as the event is celebrating the kickoff of education programs for the fall.

Building Grounds/Duct Tape-Pastor Megan Filer: **Motion made, seconded and approved for duct tape crew to be given \$200 to fix the back parking lot light. Motion made, seconded and approved for the portable bathroom project to take longer but for the Duct Tape Crew to begin work on the project.** \$1000 from memorial fund to be donated to the installing of a bathroom in the portable. Council feels it may take awhile but needs to done. **Motion made, seconded and approved for Duct tape to open up the water fountain,** Kim will use the fountain to water plants so it is regularly used. Duct Tape recently installed an extra electrical outlet in the crawl space near the furnace, have been cutting larger tree circles and filling with bark dust, painted all parking lot lines and yellow bumpers, replaced all cap screws in the portable roof, and continue their usual every-day jobs.

Youth/Service-Pastor Megan/Bob Reistroffer: ELCA Grant update: Going well, packed over 70 bags at recent go-bag event at Stella, working to involve the other churches in our conference, next Conference meeting with Lutheran churches will be Sept 15th at 2pm. CYOA Confirmation-we may have 3 students so far that will be joining the new confirmation program. Family Promise: Gloria Dei will be hosting their first family at the end of Sept. Donations can be made directly to Family Promise for the day center and organization or to Bethany Lutheran with "Family Promise: Gloria Dei" written in the memo for funds to be sent directly to Gloria Dei for support of host families. Catlin Stargiving will be Thurs Nov 21st, Joyce will be sending Pastor a copy of the menu so she can put together a flyer. Girl Scouts: Pastor recently met with the Girl Scout leader regarding partnerships and facility usage, it was decided if the Girl Scouts are having an

Council Minutes cont...

event at the church with parents and families, a member of the church will be present. Stewardship/Fundraising-Barb Wilson. "Building Discipleship" Pledge Series-Barb Wilson gave a report and letters will be going out to members today. Rummage sale funds: It was moved, seconded and approved for 80% to go to the kneeling pad fund, 10% to general fund, 5% to the Emergency Support Shelter, and 5% to Family Promise of Cowlitz County from the Rummage Sale proceeds.

Other Committees-
 Women of Bethany- Norma Oyloe: Next Mtg Oct 29; Fall Supper Sept 26th: Carol Thompson is organizing the event and will be speaking on the topic "Christ the Rock" and men of the church will be servers for the evening.
 Memorials-Joyce Croy: Kneeling pads-A place called Perfect Stitch has been contacted re- our kneeling pads. Should be a top priority. Memorial garden-We continue to update the gardens and it has been dedicated and blessed.
 FISH-Tori Gosh: Next Date Sept 9th Setup, Sept 10th distribution, distribution starting at 9:30am and will be serving breakfast casserole and coffee cake.

Minister's Report-

Minister's Report -Pastor Megan Filer – Pastor out of office Wed Sept 25th. (sick day) Report of August 2nd – Sept 5th Communication: 5 Committee/team/staffing meetings + regular weekly staff meetings, 5 Duct Tape Coffees/Walking Group/Breakfast Group/Women's Bible Study, Social media: 4 sermons uploaded, Regular social media/website updating & blogging; Visitation/Community: 5 Office/Home/Hospital Visits, 3 Pastoral phone calls – calls lasting longer than 15 minutes covering pastoral needs of members or committees, 4 Community Building/Meeting/Events – local schools/organizations, ELCA LCC, walk group, etc., 6 Clergy meetings/gatherings – Ministerial association, Clergy Tues, Synod Council, ELCA Text Study, Holy Week worship planning; Other/Special: 4 Sermons / 4 Worship services Special Events/Projects – Assisted in planning, Attended, and/or Volunteered at Small Seeds Weekend, Go-Bags @ Stella, Outdoor Worship & Church Picnic, Preparing Choose Your Own Adventure Confirmation Workbooks, Vacation Unfinished Business:

Treasurer/Bookkeeping & Financial Secretary Update-Pastor & Barb Wilson-We'll be transferring our current bookkeeping to QuickBooks at the start of the new year in January. We are still in need of a financial secretary. Barb will write an article for the newsletter.

Credit Cards Update-Paperwork still needs to be completed, tabled until October meeting. Emergency Policy & Procedures-Motion made, seconded and approved to adopt Emergency Policy & Procedures. At the Sept 19th Quarterly Visioning Meeting we'll discuss a date for usher training, adding a panic button, and upgrading our security system from cameras to a monitored system.

New Business:

Policy regarding sale of church items- Motion made, seconded and approved for the policy regarding sale of church items will be brought to the Quarterly Visioning Meeting on Sept 19th for discussion. Motion made, seconded and approved to donate cup holders to Alice Snyder. Vacation Request from Kim Moran – Sept 25th office will be closed at noon. Kim will be doing bookkeeping with the treasurers until around 2pm that day. She is requesting Nov 19th, 20th, 27th, and Dec 26th and Dec 31st off. Discussion regarding closing the office for holiday dates and looking for volunteers to cover other dates. Kim's dates were approved by Pastor.

Staff Report: No additional facility usage requests, Kim is going to research our current internet provider.

Announcements and Adjournment-Barb Wilson

ATTENDANCE	
Sept.	TOTAL
1	61
8	73
15	53
22	52
29	54
Avg	59

Offering to date (August)	
2018	2019
\$85,725.77	\$98,806.41

Expenses to date (August)	
2018	2019
\$82,268.64	\$95,271.77

Next Scheduled Meetings: Exec. Com. September 25th; Council October 10th. 5:30;

Meetings At Bethany!

Women of Bethany

Women of Bethany will be meeting four times this year! You can join us for our next meeting on the 5th Tuesday of January, April, July, and October at 10:30am. Also, we are in need of a chairperson to lead our group. Meeting only 4 times a year would make it even easier. Please give this some thought and prayer.



Breakfast Group

Our Breakfast Group meets on Tuesday mornings at 8:00am at the Elks at 900 Ash Street in Kelso. What a great opportunity to enjoy good food and fellowship! Free coffee if you arrive before 8:00am.



Women's Bible Study

The Women's Bible Study meets every Tuesday morning at 10:30 in the Faith Room.

Walking Group



Walking group meets the first and third Wednesday of the month at 2:30pm. We meet at Bethany and get some light exercise, and sometimes a light workout. A great way to exercise and a little fellowship at the same time. Contact Pastor Megan for more info!

Duct Tape Crew

The Duct Tape Crew meets on Thursday mornings at 9am and are the "fix it" crew at Bethany. This group of men and women repair, clean, install, mow and do many other things to keep our church beautiful and up and running. If you have ever used duct tape and like donuts, you are highly qualified. Come join us at 10am for coffee.



2019 Church Council

Tori Gosch / Vice President goschrae@gmail.com 360-560-9535
Glenn Milhiser glennbeth@centurylink.net 360-431-2997
Barb Wilson/President longbabs@aol.com 360-430-6731
Joyce Croy jmchgc@icloud.com 360-577-0287
Carol Lane ca3424927@gmail.com 360-431-3564
Norma Oyloe/Secretary whonho2@gmail.com 360-274-7851
Bob Reistroffer/ Treasurer BReistrof@aol.com 360-636-5125
Don Wallin / Treasurer Dew2@q.com 503-556-8716
Megan Filer/ Pastor pastor@bethanylongview.org 360-431-1988

Our Mission Statement:
**BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH IS A
COMMUNITY SHARING THE LOVE OF CHRIST THROUGH
WORSHIP, OUTREACH, AND FELLOWSHIP**

Our Vision Statement:
**“A dynamic Christ-centered church that
reaches into our community and
world in loving service”**

Newsletter articles must be submitted before the 20th of the month prior in order to be published. There will be a reminder in the weekly announcements reminding everyone about the deadline.

While all efforts are made to keep original submissions, article submissions are subject to editing for accuracy, spelling, grammar and formatted to fit in the space allowed.



*Bethany Lutheran Church
2900 Parkview Drive
Longview, WA 98632*

October 2019

God's Blessings to . . .