

*We must stand together with and pray fervently for our fellow Christian servants both here and around the world.*



*In July, the international religious freedom focus is on Hong Kong.*

Headlines from here and Hong Kong are quite the same lately. Pictures of protest. Until now, Hong Kong has been a free, largely independent and peaceful place, despite its close proximity to Communist China. But on July 1st, the people of Hong Kong woke up knowing their freedoms were gone. The night before, the Communist Party passed a new law that allows for the repression of dissidents in Hong Kong, which includes people of faith. This, of course, is all in the name of national security.

Imagine waking up to that! While we have seen protests up close in recent months, we have yet to find ourselves fighting for the freedom to practice our faith. Yes, sometimes we feel like the pressure is on and that we are moving into some uncertain territory. But we are not yet to the point where this pressure is pushing us to the streets in protest.

This news from abroad is an unnerving reminder for us as a church body, that we must stand together with and pray fervently for our fellow Christian servants both here and around the world. As Paul says in Galatians 6, "For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms."

We are at war. The same forces that are at war in China are at war here. It's the same battle. And so, the next word out of Paul's mouth is "therefore." "Therefore, put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground." He then lists a lot of armor, and concludes with a call to prayer. To "be alert and to always keep on praying for God's people."

We need prayer warriors! We need each other. Both here and abroad. To stand up for each other in this battle. May we get on our knees so that both we and the faithful around the world may stand strong.

# Bethany Church

Reach. Serve. Love.



**SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP 9:30AM**  
222 MAIN STREET N | CLARA CITY MN  
**Mailing Address: P.O. Box 687**  
320.847.3322

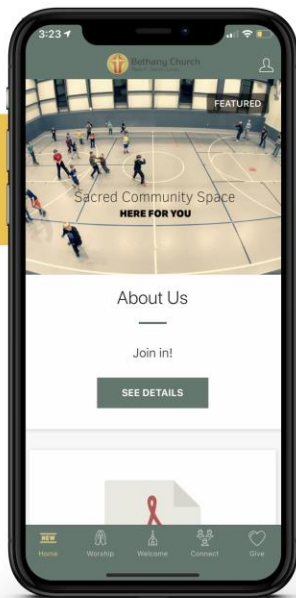
Office email : [bethany@hcinet.net](mailto:bethany@hcinet.net)

Bethany Prayer Chain email : [info@bethanychurch-mn.com](mailto:info@bethanychurch-mn.com)

## [Give | Bethany Church - MN](#)

Anyone who would like a DVD of the services or know of someone who would like to receive one call the church office at 847-3322 or send an email to [bethany@hcinet.net](mailto:bethany@hcinet.net).

**BETHANY DIRECTORY.** <https://mobiledirectory.lifetouch.com/158305/bethany-reformed-church>  
Access code is BRC20. The information can also be changed. If your contact information and anything else in your listing has changed, please contact the church office at 847-3322 or email at [bethany@hcinet.net](mailto:bethany@hcinet.net)



**NOW YOU CAN BE IN THE BETHANY LOOP WHEREVER / WHENEVER!**

**text: "brc app"**

**to: 77977**

**to download our new app!**

# Back to Church

**“Let us not give up meeting together...” Hebrews 10:25**

## Directives for our Sunday gatherings

Hand sanitizer is provided.

NO nursery or Children’s Church.

NO gathering in The Hub after the service.

Offering plates are set out at the back of the sanctuary.

Please exit the sanctuary after the service and visit outside.

Maintain proper distances while entering & exiting the sanctuary.

Please be seated in family groups and social distanced from others.

Remain in primary gathering spaces; sanctuary, entrance and bathrooms.

Facial coverings are great! But not required.

Singing is great! But not required.

If you are feeling sick or are anxious about returning, please remain at home and join in on our FACEBOOK PAGE LIVESTREAM

## Directives for Gym Use

As of July 1, the MN Dept of Health has encouraged and expanded the opportunities for indoor sports and activities. Bethany will continue to use the state guidelines for general direction with regards to use of the church building.

### **Please follow the 3 S’s for GYM USE: SCHEDULE / SUPERVISE / SANITIZE**

- Please call the church office, or stop in to schedule a time so there are no conflicts
- Staff or an adult supervisor must be present
- Sanitize equipment used

See our website for more info? <https://www.bethanychurch-mn.com/gym-use-questions>

Clara City Assisted Living

1012 Division Street N  
Clara City MN 56222

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Leonard & Kathryn Klinghagen 213

George & Gert Kluver 209

Kenneth & Emma Koenen 203

Prairie Park Place

1100 Warrings Avenue  
Clara City MN 56222

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Gordon & Geneva Grussing 120

Esther Kluver 115

Muriel Vestal

Clara City Care Center

1012 Division Street N  
Clara City MN 56222

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Stanley Ammermann 141

Marian Andreson 150

Betty Bohlsen 139

Marie Jansen 155

Allan Meints 90

Phyllis Peterson 153

Conrad & Vera Rozeboom 138

Bernice Westendorp 115

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Alice Korn

Bethesda Grand Care Center

901 Willmar Ave SE - Room 124

Willmar, MN 56201

320-214-5688

Millie Tebben

Copperleaf Senior Living Community

1550 1<sup>st</sup> N - Room #212

Willmar, MN 56201

320-894-4363

Arlyne Berghuis

Copperleaf Senior Living Community

1550 - 1<sup>st</sup> N – Room #208

Willmar, MN 56201

Arvid & Sharon Wieberdink

Westview Village Apts.

1425 19<sup>th</sup> Ave SW – Room B16

Willmar, MN 56201

320-212-7560

Gladys Williams

Sunrise Village Assisted Living

1125 9<sup>th</sup> St SE #103

Willmar, MN 56201

Richard & Velma Feldman

RenVilla Health Center

205 Elm Ave SE

Renville, MN 56284

320-329-3737

Darlene Andresen

The Legacy of Farmington

22300 Denmark Ave #327

Farmington, MN 55024

In the Bethany Directory:

Sharon Asche 320-847-2329

Alice Brouwer 320-321-1290

Bessie Bulthuis 320-847-3294

Agnes Carlson 320-222-0680

Harlis Emkes 320-269-6698

Pauline Freiborg 320-295-1494

Elva Hinrichs 320-847-3341

Verna Janssen 320-847-2926

Ethel Gabbert 507-485-3181

Sondra Groen 320-847-2173

Ed Jansen 320-847-3242

Ruth Johnson 320-847-3040

George Poppen 320-847-3293

Vivian Reiners 320-847-2352

Anna Marie Seeman 320-894-4143

Russel Sietsema 320-967-4469

Lois Sweep 320-847-3502

Jennie Tebben 320-847-2531

# NEWS

The Parkinson's Support and Education group continues to meet the first and third Monday of every month from 3:30 - 5:00 p.m. Because of COVID and social distancing, we have been meeting virtually every Monday via the ZOOM platform. Anyone who is affected by Parkinson's Disease, or would just like to learn more, is encouraged to attend our virtual meetings! To learn more about this group and/or obtain log in information, please contact Lori Petersen at 320-321- 8241 or 320-226-2343. This support group is free and is sponsored by CCM Health in Montevideo.

FALL COMMUNITY MEAL will be held on Wednesday, September 9 in the Fellowship Hall at Bethany. Any changes will be made by August 1.

# PRAYER

## PRAYERS for STRENGTH & HEALING

- ✝ Care Center & Assisted Living Residents
- ✝ Elva Hinrichs – knee surgery went well
- ✝ Darren Melin – had back surgery to relieve pain
- ✝ Harlan Ruitter
- ✝ Bruce Hinrichs
- ✝ Maria Koenen
- ✝ Ruth Johnson
- ✝ Deanna Meints
- ✝ Cindy Plowman
- ✝ Milt Wubben
- ✝ George Kluver
- ✝ Milt Wubben
- ✝ Job Seekers during this time of uncertainty & heightened layoffs
- ✝ Our national anxiety and unrest to coronavirus & race relations

# WORSHIP NOTES

*"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law." Galatians 5:22&23*

Thank you to Connor & Lee for their ministry in music on July 5th, and to my brothers, Paul & Tom for their ministry on the 12th. It is a privilege and joy to worship in music...together 😊

This Sunday, July 19th, we once again welcome Shawn & Naomi Koenen's girls, Ali, Lizzie & Sadie, as they lead us with their music.

As we travel closer to the month of August, I'll be preparing the schedule for this five Sunday month. If you are willing to run projector, manage the sound, or sing during this month, please contact Pam.

	<u>Team</u>	<u>Sound</u>	<u>Projector</u>
July 19	Ali, Lizzie & Sadie Koenen		Megan Struxness
July 26	Kara Dirksen & Daniela Goeman	Jerry Schwitters	Brenda Schwitters

*Jason Groen has been volunteering at the sound desk for over 15 years. During this time, he also managed the projector on Sundays when he wasn't busy at the sound desk. Jason worked hard, often building up a sweat, esp. during the times when he was experiencing such pain with his hips! This didn't discourage or stop his ministry! Jason has served with a servant's heart, applying the fruits of the Spirit while working with our musicians here at Bethany. Jason has accepted a new job in New Ulm so is preparing to start a new adventure there. Jason, we love you and appreciate you so much! Thank you for being a part of our "Bethany Family." We will be cheering you on from afar!*

# YOUTH NEWS

With the school year starting early, please make sure you check out the website after July 26<sup>th</sup> to make sure you know when activities for you and your children start up again in the fall.

Todd is looking for a Small group leader for the incoming 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Class. If you are interested in learning more about this opportunity to serve call the office and ask for Todd or talk to him after a service.

VBS coloring pages that go along with the lesson will be available, by the new welcome desk through the 24<sup>th</sup>. On the 24<sup>th</sup> the videos will also be taken down from the web site, but can be viewed on YouTube, to save space.

**LOH meetings: July 19 & 26 at 7:00 at church unless you hear otherwise from Todd.**

The Education Committee will meet on Tuesday the 21st of July to discuss the Education program start and end times for the coming year.

# YOUTH NEWS (cont.)

## SUMMER LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

for students in grades 3-12 will be held at the church on **Wednesday afternoons starting July 29 - August 12.**



**Piano for Beginners:** This opportunity will take place in the chapel and is open to anyone who finished 2<sup>nd</sup> grade through adults. This summer offers only three sessions, but this may be enough to peek your interest in becoming a pianist! Purchase of a beginner book will be necessary and this will be taught by Pam Knapper.

**Paint your own Nativity figures.** This project will take all 3 weeks for us to sit down and paint your nativity figures to take home after the last week. Taught by Todd this will be a great keepsake for the rest of your life.

**Basics in creating with metal:** Here you will have a chance to learn about the basics of making a project from start to completion. Taught by Bryan and Alison Pauling.

**Towel Embroidery:** Make great gifts for people using this skill. Taught by Ettie Goeman you will learn how to personalize towels.

**T-Shirt making:** Creating and designing your own T-shirt from concept to completion. Taught by Todd. *You will need to bring your own T-shirt.*

**Lego Creations:** sit down and make a creation with just your imagination. Taught my “Master Builder” Benny Miller. Here you will have fun figuring out how to make your vision come “to life” in Lego form. You will need to bring your own “shoe box” of Lego.

**Mobile Artistry.** Explore some of the artistic options available on your mobile device. Time spent on our mobile devices is often time wasted. App art is one way to turn that equation around into time well spent. Bring your iPhone, Android, or other smart mobile device and let’s do something constructive and creative. Facilitated by Matt Miller.

**Register on the Bethany website if you are interested in attending one of these great opportunities.**

# JULY

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## Anniversaries

- |    |                            |    |                              |
|----|----------------------------|----|------------------------------|
| 7  | Glenn & Darlene Aeikens    | 25 | Ed & Marie Jansen            |
| 11 | Steve & Gretchen Hilbrands | 26 | Barry & Katherine Schwitters |
| 12 | Dan & Jane Wrede           | 27 | Rodney & Kim Boike           |
| 13 | Lane & Amy Schwitters      | 29 | Gary & Deb Slagter           |
| 16 | Keith & Tracie Loe         | 29 | Scott & Julie Abbas          |
| 19 | Gordon & Geneva Grussing   | 31 | Aaron & Amanda Pauling       |
| 19 | Chip & Ettie Goeman        |    |                              |
| 20 | Darren & Cheri Melin       |    |                              |

## Birthdays

- |    |                    |    |                    |    |                   |
|----|--------------------|----|--------------------|----|-------------------|
| 1  | Lois Sweep         | 13 | Nicholas Zimmer    | 30 | Payten Carpenter  |
| 2  | Alice Brouwer      | 14 | Phyllis Petersen   | 30 | Jaron Aeikens     |
| 2  | David Hinrichs     | 14 | Eldon Aeikens      | 31 | Sue Hinrichs      |
| 2  | Liberty Niemeyer   | 14 | Stan Harms         | 31 | Grayson Ahrenholz |
| 5  | Kristie Rhode      | 14 | Breckin Childers   | 31 | Gary Folkerts     |
| 5  | Carol Thomton      | 15 | Jolene Hebrink     | 31 | Averi Wubben      |
| 7  | Galen Gerdes       | 15 | Travis Wubben      |    |                   |
| 7  | Terry Vreeman      | 20 | Abigail Hebrink    |    |                   |
| 7  | Ed Zurn            | 21 | Cheryl Boike       |    |                   |
| 8  | Ben Schoep         | 21 | Dalen Wieberdink   |    |                   |
| 8  | Linda Doesken      | 21 | John Madsen        |    |                   |
| 9  | Jeremy Aeikens     | 23 | Kaden Ahrenholz    |    |                   |
| 9  | Kincade Enger      | 24 | Faye Harms         |    |                   |
| 9  | Jeremy Aeikens     | 24 | Wade Buss          |    |                   |
| 9  | Kincade Enger      | 27 | Ivy Ruitter        |    |                   |
| 10 | Jade Bedel         | 27 | Tommy Hoekstra     |    |                   |
| 10 | Carmen Grussing    | 27 | Alexandra Hinrichs |    |                   |
| 12 | Angie Butler       | 28 | Lois Kluver        |    |                   |
| 12 | Gretchen Hilbrands | 30 | LaRae Koenen       |    |                   |
| 12 | Tracie Loe         | 30 | David Struxness    |    |                   |
| 12 | Mindy Hinrichs     |    |                    |    |                   |