

*This week our front page is a brief collection of snapshots from the life of Anna Marie Seeman. Anna Marie offers us some perspective from her life. She shares her trials, her faith and offers encouragement.*

### **My Story.** By Anna Marie Seeman

I was born on November 11, 1927 on the Iowa / MN border. My father, Ben Hinrichs, drowned in 1929. After that, we moved to Raymond to a small farm and lived at Grandmother Getting. I had whooping cough in 1930 and was fed bananas and jello. During this time, Grandma taught me how to sew. In 1932 we had no rain. The result was no crop and a dust storm.

In 1934, my mother remarried John F. Asche. We moved north of Clara City in 1936. Over the next year I had trouble with a boil in my ear and had ear infections. To make matters worse, while visiting relatives we were exposed to small pox and had to quarantine. Soon, they discovered a small pox vaccine.

In 1937 I had my tonsils and adenoids removed. We had no inside running water and no electricity on the farm until 1938. While on the farm I made an attempt to milk cows. During one of my attempts, I fell into the gutter and injured my ankle. I developed an infection which required surgery. The surgeon was a WWI vet. He cleaned up my leg, but at this time there were no antibiotics so I had my leg in a cast. The doctor had no nurse to help him so when he needed help, he would set his equipment on my lap and I would hand him the tools he needed. During my recovery I kept busy sewing and making quilt tops.

This is probably where I discovered the importance of being satisfied with what I had. My faith in God started when I lived with Grandmother Dora. She took me to Salem Reformed Church in Little Rock, IA. She was a Sunday school teacher. She had sewn me a pretty red dress and told me to sit and wait while she taught her class. She gave me a card with the lesson on it. One part had a picture of Jesus and beautiful flowers in a garden. I would not give the card back as it was where I wanted to go. When we were home, she would say, "It's Tea Time!" and we would talk about the Bible and she explained to me what each part on her lesson card meant.

The best thing I found out from the Bible as I grew up was about God's grace. I studied and read the Bible and found out He is with me, keeps me through all the problems I face and shows me his love. And, I do love Him as He also guides me when I have problems. I can talk with Him daily, and I do.

These are difficult times, indeed. I was born in 1927 and have survived many things including the death of my father at age two, whopping cough, the dust storm of 1932, the Great Depression, WWII, small pox quarantine, no running water & electricity until I was 11 years old, polio, osteomyelitis infection, and reoccurring ear infections for which the care was minimal. I have learned in my long life . . . the art of being satisfied and have gained knowledge that God is with me, helping me through any problems I may have. I love Him and talk to Him often. He has helped me with all the challenges in my life, and He will see us through Covid-19!

# 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)

WELCOME  
HOME

Text "**BRC APP**" to 77977  
to download our app



# Back to Church

## SUNDAY GATHERINGS

*“Let us not give up meeting together as some are in the habit of doing...” Heb 10:25*

### Directives for our Sunday gatherings

***Due to the recent statewide mandate on masks, Bethany will have disposable masks available, but will not be regulating or managing their use.***

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.

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

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>

# NEWS

Bethany delivers **MEALS ON WHEELS** in September--- if you are interested in volunteering the signup sheet is by the church office bulletin board.

**Looking for teachers for Wednesday night church!** This year both boys and girls will come together to create a combined class for each grade 1<sup>st</sup> thru 6<sup>th</sup>. We have had some volunteers but are still in need of more. If you don't feel you want to commit to teaching, but would like to be a substitute, we are looking for some of those too! If interested please contact Jaclyn Sunderland via phone or text at 507-829-9619.

*Thank you to those who were able to make our Summer Learning Opportunities a success this year by giving of their time and talents: Bennie Miller, Pam Knapper, Ettie Goeman, Bryan & Allison Pauling, and Todd Henker.*

*Bethany Prayer Shawl Ministry,  
I want to extend a sincere thank you to the Bethany Prayer Shawl Ministries who made me a beautiful prayer shawl. I appreciate the thoughtfulness of the prayer shawl during the recovery of my hip replacement surgery. Thank you! ~ Phyllis Santjer*

**Join us Thursday, August 20<sup>th</sup> from 11:00 am – 1:30 pm at Almich's Market. TAKE OUT Hamburgers, hot dogs, chips & water. Free will donations for the Clara City Lions Community Projects.**

## **Raymond United Methodist Fall Fundraiser**

This year, due to the pandemic, we won't be holding our normal Fall Bazaar. Instead, we are taking orders for Lefse and Broccoli Cheese Soup. Orders may be placed by calling Kim at 320-295-6510; Char at 320-967-4184 or 320-444-4915 and Kay at 320-894-3664 before October 1. Lefse is \$5/package of three; Broccoli Cheese Soup is \$3/16-ounce container. Orders ready to pick up Nov. 7 from 9:00 a.m. to noon.

# CALENDAR

- Deacon's & Elder's Meetings. Monday, August 17 at 7:00 PM
- Consistory Meeting. Monday, August 17 at 8:00 PM

## Profession of Faith.

For those interested in completing their Profession of Faith that began in the Spring, you are invited to the Elders meeting this coming Monday, August 17 at 7:00 PM. Please bring your Statements and your written Profession, and be prepared to share briefly about each. Call or text Pastor Matt if you have questions: (612) 719-3272

## Funeral Notice.

Bessie Bulhuis, age 96, of Clara City passed away on Thursday, August 6, 2020 at her home. Funeral services will be held Saturday, August 15, 2020 at 11:00 AM at Bethany Reformed Church in Clara City with burial following in the church cemetery. Visitation will be held from 9:30 – 11:00 AM, one and a half hours prior to the service at the church. The full obituary can be found at [www.wingbain.com](http://www.wingbain.com)

## Third Graders will receive their Bibles Sunday, September 13<sup>th</sup>.

**BETHANY REFORMED CHURCH** will be having our *Annual Fall Benefit Supper* on Wednesday, September 9<sup>th</sup> from 4:30 – 7 pm.

**Take-Out Turkey Dinner**...drive thru the alley to pick up your meals.

All proceeds will go towards the Clara City Ambulance,  
Clara City Fire Department & Clara City Aquatic Center.

***Come & pick up a good meal!***



Join us for a Meet & Greet Bridal Shower honoring

**Ashlie Johnson**

bride-to-be of Ryan Wubben

Saturday, August 15<sup>th</sup> from 9:30-11:00 at Bethany

*Registered at: Target, Menards & Millpond Mercantile*

# PRAYER

## PRAYERS for STRENGTH & HEALING

- † Students, Teachers and Administrators back to school
- † Care Center & Assisted Living Residents
- † Job Seekers during this time of uncertainty & heightened layoffs
- † Our national anxiety and unrest to coronavirus & race relations
- † The family of Bessie Bulhuis
- † Bruce Hinrichs
- † Ruth Johnson
- † Deanna Meints
- † Harlan Ruiters
- † Milt Wubben
- † Sharon Asche is at the Clara City Care Center.
- † Randy Freiborg is recovering at home after a fall.
- † Ardis Gerdes is having bilateral knee surgery in Alexandria next Wednesday, August 19.
- † George Kluver is at the Clara City Care Center, room 149. His phone # is (320) 368-3688.
- † Maria Koenen is having surgery on August 27 to remove a mass from her kidney.
- † LaRae Koenen is having surgery in St. Cloud on Monday, August 17.
- † Darren Melin had successful back surgery and extends a heartfelt thank you to all prayer warriors and those who gave the prayer shawl.
- † Cindy Plowman continues to suffer with pain.
- † Arvid Wieberdink is recovering from hip surgery at the Rice Therapy Suites.

# WORSHIP NOTES

*"But godliness with contentment is great gain. For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it." | Timothy 6:6*

**Opportunities to serve in August**...contact Pam if you are willing to run projector, sound, or sing. Also, if you have a favorite song that we haven't sung in a while, let Pam know, and we will sing it!

Prayer Team: Women gathering to pray...weekly. Contact Pam if you would like to join in this time of prayer. *Jeremiah 29:12 . . . "Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will hear you."*

# YOUTH NEWS

**Youth group will be starting on the August 26<sup>th</sup>.** We will start the year off meeting in the gym to be able to social distance as best as we can. We will be taking your temperature with a touchless thermometer at the gym door and I will be asking you to bring in your own lawn chair, with all 4 plastic/rubber pads on the legs, so as to not harm the gym floor. There will be red tape marks on the floor for you to be able to set up your chairs.

The Sunday and Wednesday Superintendents are currently working on how best we can do our programming for the start of the fall. On the website there are some current suggestions that we have discussed we will be meeting in the next few weeks to finalize what those program's look like in the fall. Sunday school kick off will be on the September 13<sup>th</sup> and our first night of Wednesday classes will be on September 16.

**If you taught Sunday school or Wednesday night classes last year, please bring your teachers materials in to or contact Todd about them, so we can pick up where we left off with our curriculum this fall.**

Incoming 7<sup>th</sup> graders please look for a note coming in the next week in the mail for information in regards to youth group. At our first meeting I would like to have your email and cell phone numbers written down so that I can enter them into my computer to keep you informed on our activities.

*Thank you to those of you who donated the golf simulator that is currently being set up in the gym. This will make a nice addition to the activities available in our great gym area. Hopefully soon we will be able to get all activities back to "normal" for all who want to use our great facility.*

# AUGUST

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## Anniversaries

- |    |                           |    |                         |
|----|---------------------------|----|-------------------------|
| 1  | Tim & Kathi Beseman       | 20 | Brad & Darla Poppen     |
| 4  | Jim & Vicky Hinrichs      | 20 | Alan & Lori Petersen    |
| 5  | Todd & Jen Henker         | 22 | Dale & Jan Petersen     |
| 7  | Dennis & Pauline Erickson | 25 | Chris & Darcy Nokelby   |
| 8  | John & Carly Hagemeyer    | 25 | Matt & Stephanie Miller |
| 11 | Jim & Audrey Koenen       | 27 | Don & Julie Boonstra    |
| 12 | Chuck & Cindy DeGrote     | 27 | Paul & Lynn Koenen      |
| 14 | Brian & Whitney Nelson    | 29 | Rick & Korine Sommers   |
| 16 | Harold & Linda Doesken    | 31 | Bruce & Dawn Johnson    |
| 19 | David & Megan Struxness   |    |                         |

## Birthdays

- |    |                     |    |                    |    |                   |
|----|---------------------|----|--------------------|----|-------------------|
| 1  | Harlan Doesken      | 11 | Liam Epema         | 22 | Dean Jansen       |
| 2  | Marlyn Andresen     | 13 | Josh Cavaness      | 24 | Mari Sietsema     |
| 2  | Maria Koenen        | 14 | Steve Hilbrands    | 24 | Scott Abbas       |
| 2  | Kristi Caspers      | 14 | Katie Poppen       | 25 | Kevin Groen       |
| 2  | Stefanie Epema      | 14 | Isaiah Epema       | 26 | Krista Childers   |
| 2  | Darlene Andresen    | 15 | Pauline Freiborg   | 29 | Elva Hinrichs     |
| 3  | Lester TerWisscha   | 17 | Gert Kluver        | 29 | Leann Knapper     |
| 3  | Leonard Hilbrands   | 18 | Audrey Arends      | 30 | Garrett Struxness |
| 3  | Esme Aviles         | 18 | Dianne Ammermann   | 30 | Loren Stomberg    |
| 3  | Molly Loe           | 18 | Phil Pieper        |    |                   |
| 4  | Brenda Madsen       | 18 | LeAnn Groen        |    |                   |
| 4  | Deb Stomberg        | 18 | Roger Feldman      |    |                   |
| 6  | Jeff Koenen         | 19 | Jan Zimmer         |    |                   |
| 6  | Leah Johnson        | 19 | Terese Bourne      |    |                   |
| 6  | Maverick Klinghagen | 20 | Brandon Wieberdink |    |                   |
| 7  | Emma Koenen         | 20 | Fritz Goeman       |    |                   |
| 7  | Rodney Boike        | 21 | Brad Poppen        |    |                   |
| 7  | Cheri Aeikens       | 21 | Nicole Cloutier    |    |                   |
| 7  | Chip Goeman         | 21 | Bo Schwitters      |    |                   |
| 8  | George Kluver       |    |                    |    |                   |
| 10 | Esther Kluver       |    |                    |    |                   |
| 10 | Parker Ruiter       |    |                    |    |                   |