

From the Desk of  
Pastor Blaine MacNeil

## Bethel's Lutheran Table Talk

During the days of the Reformation, Martin Luther's followers were hanging on his every word. At the Luther's kitchen table, clergy, students and devotees questioned Martin almost nonstop, even while he was attempting to eat. They wrote down every last word he spoke. His wife Katie insisted he eat, but his guests would not leave him alone long enough to have just a simple peaceful meal. He worried that they would even write down his "belching" because they were so intensely engaged. It was from these conversations that a book was compiled, called Table Talk, which included the topics of those discussions.

For the month of October, I have set aside time in my work day and scheduled 15 meetings at various times throughout the week to visit with our church members. I hope that you will take advantage of this opportunity to sign up for a meeting. I am limiting the number of members per meeting to about 10 or 12. I hope to have at least one member of our Bethel Church Council present at each meeting as well. Please RSVP by signing up at church, or by calling the office and letting Angie know which meeting you plan to attend.

The specific topic for these meetings is Sexuality, but it is not limited to this alone. As you have learned from my letter dated September 18, our Council has scheduled a Special Congregational Meeting for Reformation Sunday, October 25<sup>th</sup>. In these meetings we will be discussing our future with our national church, the ELCA, whether to stay or to leave. As time allows, we can discuss whatever else is on your hearts as well.

Faithfully in Christ our Lord,

*Pastor Blaine*

## Lutheran Table Talk Meeting Schedule

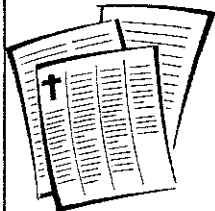
Tuesday October 6<sup>th</sup> at 10 am.  
Tuesday October 6<sup>th</sup> at 2 pm.  
Tuesday October 6<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm.  
Wednesday October 7<sup>th</sup> at 2 pm.  
Thursday October 8<sup>th</sup> at 2 pm.  
Thursday October 8<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm.  
Saturday October 10<sup>th</sup> at 10 am.

Tuesday October 13 at 7 pm.  
Saturday October 17<sup>th</sup> at 10 am.  
Tuesday October 20<sup>th</sup> at 2 pm.  
Wednesday October 21<sup>st</sup> at 10 am.  
Wednesday October 21<sup>st</sup> at 2 pm.  
Thursday October 22 at 2 pm.  
Friday October 23<sup>rd</sup> at 10 am.  
Saturday October 24<sup>th</sup> at 10 am.

Note: October 11-17, no weekday meetings in the daytime during the Rummage Sale.

**Bethel Financial Report  
August 2009**

**Treasurer's**



**Report**

Respectfully  
submitted,  
Mike March



If you would prefer to write a check for your "loose change" offering, that would be great! Please indicate "loose change" on your check or your offering envelope and your "loose change" offering will be tracked for income tax purposes.

<b>A. Budget Income</b>		
1. Sunday Offering		\$11,139.00
2. Loose Offering		\$356.41
3. Sunday School		\$8.00
4. Initial Offering		\$3.00
5. Lutheran		\$8.00
6. Use of Church		\$130.00
<b>Total Budget Income</b>		<b>\$11,644.41</b>
<b>B. Designated Funds</b>		
1. Building Fund		
a. Building offering		\$125.00
b. Debt Reduction		\$50.00
c. Parking Lot		\$110.00
<b>Total Building Fund</b>		<b>\$285.00</b>
<b>*Other Designated</b>		
2. Food Shelf		\$5.00
3. Missionary Support		\$51.08
4. Sound System		\$337.45
<b>Total Designated Income</b>		<b>\$678.53</b>
<b>Grand Total Income</b>		<b>\$12,322.94</b>
<b>C. Expenses</b>		
1. Budget Expenses		\$10,933.91
b. Peru Mission		\$290.00
	Peru Mission	\$149.49
	Habitat for Humanity	\$72.25
	Oasis Share a Meal	\$72.25
a. Building Offering		\$250.00
b. Debt Reduction		\$50.00
c. Food Shelf		
d. Altar Guild		\$30.00
<b>Total Designated Expense</b>		<b>\$330.00</b>
<b>Grand Total Expense</b>		<b>\$11,553.91</b>
<b>Balance</b>		<b>\$769.03</b>



**Remember in Your Prayers:**  
 Mark ..... (Mission Builder  
 burned in an electrical  
 accident), Sandi Altrichter  
 (ALS), Jiselle Heath  
 (granddaughter of Linda and  
 Wayne Heath, leukemia),  
 Gerald Hendrickson (cancer),  
 John Hynes (health issues),

Brian Kalahar (cancer), Gene Kalisch  
 (injuries from accident), Ed LeMay (cancer),  
 Don Lucksinger, Sr. (cancer), Brian  
 Morawczynski (nephew to Lois Sanderson,  
 brain tumor), Norma Pantzke (surgery), Bob  
 Riddle (cancer), Jeanie Rudolph (cancer),  
 Janet Schoenleben (cancer), Darlene  
 Warnke (cancer), and Vera Woll (sister to  
 Hildur Hallberg, cancer). **Pray for Those**

**Serving In Active Duty:** Erik Arne, Shane  
 Arne, Lauren Brady, Eric Glesne (Iraq),  
 Jenna Johnson, Matt Pederson, Melissa  
 Rakow, Aaron Sandbakken, Derek  
 Sanderson, and Craig Vogel. **Pray for our**  
**missionaries:** Pastor Dana Nelson and her  
 husband Tom Ososki in Peru. Dana and  
 Tom's contact information:

Congregacion Evangelica Luterana  
 Cristo Rey  
 Calle Conde de Nieva, 237  
 Urb. La Virreyña, Surco  
 Lima 33, Peru  
 e-mail: dnelson003@luthersem.edu



Dear Quilters, From everyone at Camp  
 Knutson and the Paul Bunyan Auxiliary, we  
 thank you for your generous gift to our 23rd  
 annual Quilt Auction. This year we had 165  
 quilts in our live auction and 55 items in our  
 silent one. Eleven of your donated quilts will  
 remain at the camp for ongoing use by  
 campers. They were especially needed as a  
 result of our cool summer weather. We are  
 blessed with your commitment and support,  
 and we welcome your participation in next

year's 24th Annual Quilt Auction on August  
 14, 2010. The quilt donated by Bethel  
 Lutheran Church sold for \$375.00.

To members of Bethel Lutheran Church,  
 Oasis Share-A-Meal wishes to thank you for  
 your "Loose Change Sunday" donation. It is  
 very much appreciated and will be used to  
 support Share-A-Meal and the Paint-A-Thon.  
 Thanks again for your generosity to our  
 organization. May God reward you all. Carol  
 Schmidt, Director

A special thank you to David Hiemenz for  
 covering the church office on Monday,  
 September 21!!!

Thank you so much for the use of the tables  
 and chairs for our family picnic. It is much  
 appreciated! From Windwood Staff.

Bethel Church, Thanks for letting us use  
 your Fellowship Hall for our trainings. It is  
 greatly appreciated. Thanks again. From the  
 LSS Group Homes: Rosewood, Genesis,  
 Our House, Cottonwood, and Windwood.

Dear Pastor MacNeil and Bethel Lutheran  
 Friends, Thank you all for you continued  
 prayers, support and volunteerism for Habitat  
 for Humanity of Morrison County! Your  
 financial support directly impacts the lives of  
 the homeowner families. It is through your  
 support that we are able to help more  
 families realize their dream of owning their  
 own home. You are a church who puts their  
 faith into action. We gratefully acknowledge  
 your contribution of \$72.25. Please know  
 that your support is appreciated! Sincerely,  
 Kathy Kahlhamer PS A little update on the  
 Habitat house: This home is three months  
 ahead of schedule. I am convinced this is  
 because of the prayers and support of good  
 neighbors like you. The building days were  
 very productive, including a large group from  
 Camp Ripley who built the backyard fence.  
 Thank you for the generous offer to be able  
 to use your dining area for our work crews.  
 Because of the good weather, all the meals

were served right on site. We will have a dedication ceremony in late September or early October, and you are all invited! Thank you so much!



# BETHEL



## Bazaar

Submitted by Joanne Nelson



Your good quality (no stains, no rips, no missing parts, no junk) items can be dropped off at church starting October 1. Large items (i.e. furniture, exercise equipment, etc.) should be dropped off October 12 or 13. Please, no used computers or televisions. Items most needed include children's winter coats, hats mittens and boots; business attire, kitchen items and children's books. Volunteers will be needed to help with set-up on Monday, October 12 and Tuesday, October 13. **NO EARLY SALES.** Volunteers who help set up the sale will be allowed to "shop" from 10:00-11:00 a.m. on Wednesday, October 14.

### Bethel Library

Submitted by Alyce Kalahar

Three brothers from the hills of Scotland come and settle on the plains of Texas. Texas Brides is a novel based on their father's gifts to each brother as the greatest gift of love. Dr. Robert Gregor opens an office and tends to Mercy Stein who has a battered soul. Will Dr. Robert be able to tend her? But only God can heal a battered soul. Duncan Gregor is a cobbler who befriends a crippled neighbor. Will the Bible his father gave him bring the neighbor and him together, or drive them apart? Christopher Gregor is a Texas Ranger. The last thing he needs is to be sidetracked by a helpless woman. Kathryn finds everything she ever dreamed of with Christopher, but will her secret tear them apart? Can their father's gifts help these brothers lead three hurting women to healing faith and love? Please remember to turn in any overdue library material.

It is not too early to begin thinking about our Bethel Bazaar to be held on November 6-7, 2009. Crafts will be sold; find some White Elephants that you CAN live with-out; and, of course, there will be our BBQ luncheon. BUT, this year our main focus will be the Bake Sale. Bethel Bakers are known for wonderful baked goods. So get those recipe files out and start planning on what you will make for this sale. Soups, jams, jellies, candy and specialty items are always welcome, BUT the need is there for lots of breads, buns, cookies, coffee cakes, and muffins. You make it and it will get sold!! If you have questions, please call Ardis Borgstrom at 632-9672 or Cathy Frerichs at 632-3903.



Portions of the minutes from the Men In Mission meeting held on Tuesday, September 8, 2009. Submitted by David Hiemenz. John Hallberg will get the information together

for expenses incurred for lawn maintenance. Tuesday, September 15 was set as the date to clean the church garage. Highway 238 clean-up date is scheduled for Tuesday, October 13 followed by a MIM meeting. The men will work on the requested items from the church council during the next two months.



We are delighted to announce Jolene Warnke has taken on the role of volunteer nursery coordinator! Volunteers began staffing the nursery on

Sunday, September 20. If you are interested in volunteering your talents to the nursery coverage, please contact the church office. Thanks Jolene!

**It's A Girl** Congratulations to Amanda Kruchten and Rocky Berg on the birth of their daughter, Mariah Ann-Marie Berg on Saturday, September 19. Mariah was born at 1:44 p.m. and weighed 7 lbs 10 oz. She was welcomed home by her big brother Randall and her sisters Keira and Larissa.



### Church Council News

Portions of the draft of the Church Council Minutes from meeting held Thursday, September 17. A complete copy of the draft is available at the church office. **COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:** Mike March, David Hiemenz, Bette Kalisch, Alyce Kalahar, Pastor Blaine MacNeil, and John Albaugh. **COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT:** Sheila Venske, Cathy Frerichs, Bruce Marquette, Brad Lundquist and Steve Pantzke. **CHURCH STAFF PRESENT:** Pastor Blaine MacNeil and Angie LeBlanc **GUEST(S):** Ed Ososki and Kim Mielke Ed Ososki spoke on behalf of a group of congregation members. This group is opposed to the vote at the recent Churchwide Assembly. They do not want to leave the Lutheran faith, but would like to check out other denomination options. They would like to see Bethel withhold the benevolence payment to the ELCA. A motion was made to establish a taskforce to explore other denominations. The taskforce will include Kim Mielke, Joanne Nelson and Mike March. This taskforce will report their findings to the Church Council on October 15, 2009. Bette Kalisch/David Hiemenz MSC **Mutual Ministry Committee** Pastor Blaine stated the Mutual Ministry Committee is currently a nonfunctioning committee. New members will be appointed to the committee. Pastor Blaine reviewed his list of

potential names for membership in the Mutual Ministry Committee. A motion was made to approve the list as read. David Hiemenz/Bette Kalisch MSC **Council member's suggestions to reduce expenses** Suggestions included: 1) Delete the line item of \$500 for supply pastors and use people from the congregation to preach. We would still invite Sarah Larson to preach with payment at least a couple of times each year. 2) A motion was made to stop the payment of \$250 each month to the ELCA due to the fact that the scenario has changed and good faith was broken since the annual meeting was held this past January. Alyce Kalahar/David Hiemenz MSC 3) Merge names/addresses from Revelations for the Enlightener to save labels. 4) Use duplexing if at all possible on all print jobs. 5) Turn your computer screen off each evening and unplug any electric appliances not in use. 6) Use regular cups for coffee fellowship each Sunday. **Request from Heartland Christian Home Educators to use the church twice per month. Request to waive fee for church use.** A motion was made to approve the request from the Christian Home Educators to use the church twice per month and to waive the fee for the use of the church through December 2009. At that time, we will review the request and either re-approve or discontinue the approval. They will be asked to complete a service project for the church. Alyce Kalahar/David Hiemenz MSC **Churchwide Assembly and the Sexuality Resolution The Pastor's Action Plan** Pastor Blaine reviewed his action plan which in part includes sending a letter to the congregation, holding Table Talk meetings, and having a Special Meeting of the Congregation.



**Please pray for the members  
listed below on their birthday.**



**Happy Birthday  
Wishes To . . .**

- |    |                    |
|----|--------------------|
| 1  | Matt Valentine     |
| 2  | Annmarie Lyon      |
| 2  | Yesenia Stumpf     |
| 4  | Alberta Kierstead  |
| 5  | Dale Nelson        |
| 9  | Ed Ososki          |
| 10 | Carl Hallberg      |
| 13 | Amy Lyon           |
| 13 | Stephen Swan       |
| 14 | Mikayla Kurr       |
| 14 | Emily McCall       |
| 15 | Gary Nelson        |
| 17 | Alice Hوجلund      |
| 18 | Sadie McCall       |
| 20 | David Hiemenz      |
| 20 | Gerald Lochner     |
| 21 | Larissa Berg       |
| 23 | Carol Hildebrant   |
| 23 | Judy Jensen        |
| 25 | David Olson        |
| 26 | Delaney Chuba      |
| 26 | Tony Deering       |
| 26 | Patsy Hayes        |
| 28 | Hildur Gustafson   |
| 29 | Derrick Cochran    |
| 29 | Mary Ann Olson     |
| 29 | Elizabeth Storkamp |
| 30 | John Albaugh       |
| 30 | Kaden Kurr         |
| 31 | Haden Chuba        |

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 8:00–Noon Home School Group 7:00 p Boy Scouts	2   Camp Onomia Fall	3 W/ELCA Heartland Conference  Work Weekend
4 Loose Change Sunday 9:00 a Worship Service Choir Sings 10:00 a Fellowship 10:15 a Education Hour 10:15 a Altar Guild	5	6 10:00 a Table Talk 2:00 p Table Talk 7:00 p Table Talk	7 1:00 p MS Society 2:00 p Table Talk 6:00 p Bell Choir 6:30 p Confirmation 7:15 p Bethel Choir	8 2:00 p Table Talk 7:00 p Table Talk 6:00 p John Bible Study	9	10 10:00 a Table Talk
11 9:00 a Worship Service Bells Play Gideons Int'l here 10:00 a Fellowship 10:15 a Education Hour	12 Columbus Day Rummage Sale Set up	13 Rummage Sale Set up 5:00 p Men In Mission Highway Cleanup 7:00 p Bible Study 7:00 p Table Talk	14 LSS Rummage Sale 6:30 p Confirmation 7:15 p Bethel Choir	15 LSS Rummage Sale 5:00 p Executive Comm 6:00 p Church Council	16 LSS Rummage Sale	17 9:00 a A Day of Quilting 10:00 a Table Talk
18 9:00 a Worship Service Choir Sings 10:00 a Fellowship 10:15 a Education Hour	19	20 2:00 p Table Talk 7:00 p Bible Study	21 10:00 a Table Talk 2:00 p Table Talk 6:00 p Praise Band 6:30 p Confirmation 7:15 p Bethel Choir	22 8:00–Noon Home School Group 2:00 p Table Talk 6:00 p John Bible Study	23 10:00 a Table Talk	24 10:00 a Table Talk ZOO BOO
25 9:00 a Worship Service Praise Band Plays <b>10:00 a Special Congregational Meeting</b> and Coffee Fellowship 10:15 a Education Hour	26	27 5:00 p LSS Group Home Dinner 7:00 p Bible Study	28 10:00–Noon RHAG 6:00 p Bell Choir 6:30 p Confirmation 7:15 p Bethel Choir	29	30 8:15 a Assemble November Enlighteners	31



**October 2009**

**Altar Guild:** Bernice Eystad and Anne Hallberg

**Fellowship:** Bernice Eystad

**Enlightener Assembly:** Ardys Erickson, Alice Smuda, Alvina Smuda, and Yesenia Stumpf - and anyone else who would like to join us on September 25 at 8:15 a.m.

**Sunday, October 4**

**Presiding Minister:** Pastor Blaine MacNeil

**Assisting Minister:** Ardie Borgstrom

**Church Musician:** Sarah Larson

**Acolytes:** Brandon Scherping and Chase Scherping

**Council Members:** David Hiemenz and Bette Kalisch

**Fellowship:** Edna Golombiecki and June Beseman

**Lector:** Alan Thelander

**Nursery:** Celka Buss

**Soundboard:** Bryan Warnke

**Ushers & Greeters:** Alyce and Keeven Kalahar, Jay Robinson, and Jack Peck

**Sunday, October 11**

**Presiding Minister:** Pastor Blaine MacNeil

**Assisting Minister:** Judy Hiemenz

**Church Musician:** Joan Wingert

**Acolytes:** Cameron Venske

**Council Members:** David Hiemenz and Bette Kalisch

**Fellowship:** Men In Mission Breakfast

Team members: Ron Jones, Larry Pickering, Bruce Braun, Alan Thelander, Gary Berulson, Jim Kalisch, Daven Hanson, Jack Peck, and Lloyd Beseman

**Lector:** Edna Golombiecki

**Nursery:** Kim Bzdok

**Soundboard:** John Albaugh

**Ushers & Greeters:** David and Roxy Paul, and Dick and Ann Thelander

**Sunday, October 18**

**Presiding Minister:** Pastor Blaine MacNeil

**Assisting Minister:** Joan Wingert

**Church Musician:** Sarah Larson

**Acolytes:** Adam Hallberg and Franklin Marquette

**Council Members:** David Hiemenz and Bette Kalisch

**Fellowship:** Sheryl March and Jennifer Lucksinger

**Lector:** Bruce Marquette

**Nursery:** Judy Hiemenz

**Soundboard:** Brent Berger

**Ushers & Greeters:** Jack and Marylou Ruff, and David and Wendy Rutz

**Sunday, October 25**

**Presiding Minister:** Pastor Blaine MacNeil

**Assisting Minister:** Praise Band/Joan Wingert

**Church Musician:** Sarah Larson

**Acolytes:** Desiree Dickmann

**Council Members:** David Hiemenz and Bette Kalisch

**Fellowship:** Vonnie VanBockel and Bernice Eystad

**Lector:** Janette Albaugh

**Nursery:** Rebecca Jones

**Soundboard:** Sandy Berulson

**Ushers & Greeters:** Alan Thelander, Alice Gustafson, and Wayne and Linda Heath

Due to the low response in the tracking of volunteer hours, we will no longer be tracking this information.

**Your Finance/Stewardship Committee**

**members are:** Dale Nelson, George Sandy, Mike March, Lynda Lochner, Doris Anderson, Dennis Heise, John Albaugh, Don Lucksinger, and Kim Mielke.



MAY GRACE AND PEACE  
BE YOURS IN ABUNDANCE.

# 21 Ways to Build A Stronger Spiritual Life

by Victor M. Parachin

The challenge of these days, when times are not hospitable to spiritual growth, is how to nurture, feed, heal, restore, and renew the soul. Here are 21 practical suggestions for building a stronger spiritual life. **1. Be a river, not a swamp.** The Bible says: "Rivers of living water will flow from the heart of those who believe in me" (John 7:38). Remember, it is the mountain stream that carries fresh, life-giving water because it flows out. However, the swamp is stagnant and life-devouring. A swamp collects and retains water that comes its way. Don't be the kind of person who seeks to accumulate much before allowing a little to flow through. As Christians we are to let blessings flow through us and on to others. When we hoard and dam the blessings in our lives, we are in danger of becoming spiritually stagnant, emotionally detached, and intellectually cynical. Resolve to break up the dam and let blessings flow like a river. The freshness is in the flow. **2. Identify blessings.** Too often we go through life oblivious to the good that comes flowing into our lives. Try this spiritual exercise for one week: At the end of the first day, identify a blessing that came to you from a family member. At the end of the second day, a blessing from a neighbor. Third day, from a friend. Fourth day, from a work colleague. Fifth day, from a stranger. Sixth day, from a child. On the seventh day, a blessing that came from an "enemy." **3. Be like Moses—speak words of blessing.** One of the most beautiful and compassionate passages in the Bible contains these words of blessing pronounced by Moses: May the Lord bless you and protect you. May the Lord smile on you and be gracious to you. May the Lord show you his favor and give you his peace (Numbers 6:24-26). Get creative with language, and speak words that will uplift, encourage, hearten, and bless other people. As you build them up, your own spirit will get stronger. **4. Nurture a shared**

**prayer life.** Increase the amount of time you spend in prayer by sharing in prayer with others. Some ways to do this include: Letting friends know you are always available for prayer. Attending regularly held prayer groups. Participating in a prayer chain. **5. Take a step of faith.** Spiritual growth means taking a leap of faith from time to time. Rather than trying to get everything in place before you start something important, why not follow God's leading and allow the plan to evolve? This means taking a step of faith and trusting God to provide what may be needed for success. **6. Restore someone's faith.** Today, make time to heal a wounded heart, to extend kindness to someone who really needs a friend, or to help gather up pieces of a broken dream. Today, do whatever you can to radiate God's unconditional love. **7. Be a grateful person.** Start every day with a morning prayer of gratitude to God for the gift of a new day. Do this even if the day ahead appears ominous. Conclude every day with an evening prayer of gratitude to God for the gift of the preceding hours. Do this even if you've had a very tough day. **8. Share the journey.** Hook up with one other person who is seeking to grow spiritually. Agree to meet once a week for a period of time to study and reflect on spiritual matters. **9. Serve.** Look for ways to serve the community, especially tasks that promise no reward, such as picking up litter on the streets. Read and reflect on the action of Jesus in John 13:1-5. **10. Cultivate a little solitude.** "Solitude makes us tougher toward ourselves and tenderer toward others; in both ways it improves our character," noted philosopher Friedrich Wilhelm Nietzsche. Spend some time away from the crowd and the noise of life. Set aside a few minutes to be alone—just you and God. In quietness we turn our minds away from the problems of life and fix our thoughts on the mind of God. **11. Fast and pray.** Prayer linked with fasting was often done by people in the Bible. Ezra 8:23 reports: "So we fasted and earnestly prayed that our God would take care of us, and he heard our prayer." The next time you are asked to pray urgently for someone in difficulty, consider combining your praying with some fasting. **12. Turn worries over to God.**

This is a clear teaching of Scripture: "Give your burdens to the Lord, and he will take care of you" (Psalm 55:22). Do this each time a worry crops up. **13. Spread love wherever you go.** That is the advice of Mother Teresa of Calcutta, who advised: "Spread love everywhere you go: First of all in your own house. . . . Let no one ever come to you without leaving better and happier. Be the living expression of God's kindness; kindness in your face, kindness in your eyes, kindness in your smile, kindness in your warm greeting." **14. Keep your priorities straight.** Know what is ultimately important and what is not. Consider the words of former President George Bush: "I am blessed with a close and wonderful family, and I want to spend the rest of my life letting them know how much I love them and appreciate them". **15. Strive for excellence.** The Bible tells us: "Whatever you do, do well" (Ecclesiastes 9:10). Be the best that you can be at whatever station in life God has placed you. **16. Use it or lose it.** God has generously endowed each of us with unique gifts and talents. Make use of them or you will run the risk of losing them. "Use your gifts faithfully, and they shall be enlarged; practice what you know, and you shall attain to higher knowledge," noted nineteenth-century poet Sir Edwin Arnold. **17. Meditate on Scripture.** The Bible is loaded with verses of comfort, encouragement, and wisdom. Make it a habit to read and study your Bible in a regular, disciplined way. Highlight verses that speak to you. Meditate on those words. Memorize some of the passages so you can recall them from memory at a future time. **18. Be reliable.** Do what you say you will do-whether it's convenient or not. Follow through on all of your commitments, large and small. By your actions, show others you are a person who can be trusted and counted upon. **19. Ask God to make you a blessing today.** A great way to grow in wonder and amazement is by asking God to turn your life into a blessing. Do this each morning before resuming your daily activities. Offer a short,

simple prayer like this one: "Dear God, on this day make my life a blessing to someone, somewhere." Then pay close attention to every person you encounter during the day, as God will honor your prayer, sometimes in surprising ways. **20. Spend time in nature.** This was something done by the psalm writers, and they gleaned spiritual lessons from their time in nature. "The heavens tell of the glory of God. The skies display his marvelous craftsmanship" (Psalm 19:1). "When I look at the night sky and see the work of your fingers-the moon and the stars you have set in place-what are mortals that you should think of us, mere humans that you should care for us?" (Psalm 8:3,4). "Mountains rose and valleys sank to the levels you decreed. Then you set a firm boundary for the seas, so they would never again cover the earth" (Psalm 104:8, 9). **21. Exercise your power of choice.** No matter what happens to you, you always have the freedom to choose. You can select joy over despair. You can select love over hate. You can select forgiveness over revenge. You can select growth over stagnation. Remember that a crisis can evoke the best in us or the worst in us. The choice is ours!



### Request for items for church:

- 10 recycling containers. We would like to be better stewards of recycling paper here at Bethel. The city of Little Falls sells their recycling bins for \$10 each, or if you would like to purchase another type of green container, it should be large enough for a piece of paper to lay flat in it.
- 2 toy oxen for a children's sermon (one slightly larger than the other). Please contact Pastor Blaine for further details.

## RECIPES NEEDED!!

Do you have a special recipe you would like to share with us? If so, please drop off the recipe in the container outside the church office or E-mail it to [bethelittlefallsa@usfamily.net](mailto:bethelittlefallsa@usfamily.net) for future use in the Enlightener.

### Pumpkin Bread

Submitted by Janette Albaugh

1 1/2 c sugar	1/2 t ground cloves
1/2 t salt	1/2 t cinnamon
2 eggs	1/2 t nutmeg
1 c pumpkin	1 2/3 c flour
1/2 c oil	1/2 c chopped nuts
1 t soda	1/2 c raisins
1/2 t baking powder	1/2 c of the raisin water

Boil raisins in a cup of water and let cool. Save the juice for the 1/2 cup of raisin water needed. Mix in order given. Bake in greased pans at 350° - one hour for a large pan or 45 minutes for 2 small pans.

### Apple Pie in a Jar

Submitted by Dawn Kallunki

Makes 7 quarts of pie filling

7 quarts peeled, cored and sliced apples	4 1/2 cups white sugar
1 cup corn starch	1 Tbsp ground cinnamon
1 1/2 tsp ground nutmeg	1 tsp salt
10 cups water	3 Tbsp lemon juice

Sterilize 7 wide mouth quart jars and covers. Allow jars to air dry. Combine sugar, cornstarch, cinnamon, nutmeg, salt and water in a large saucepan. Place over high heat and cook until thick and bubbly, stirring frequently. Remove from heat and stir in lemon juice. Tightly pack apples into sterilized jars. Slowly pour syrup over apples, covering them completely. Gently tap jars on the countertop or run a knife along the inside edge of the jar to remove air bubbles. Screw lids on jars. Carefully lower jars into pot of hot water using a holder. Leave a 2 inch space between jars. Add more water if necessary until tops of jars are covered by 2 inches of water. Bring water to a full boil, then process for 30 minutes. Remove jars from water. When cool check to make sure they seal. Sealed jars can be stored for up to 1 year.

To make apple pie:

Put pie filling in a 9 inch pie crust. Cover with top crust or crumb crust. Bake at 425° degrees for 15 minutes then at 325° degrees for 30 min.

Crumb crust:

1 cup flour	1/2 cup firm butter
1/2 cup, packed brown sugar	1/2 tsp cinnamon

Apple Crisp

Put pie filling in a 9 inch square pan. Mix the following ingredients until crumbly then put on top of pie filling.

1 cup flour	3/4 cup oatmeal
1 cup brown sugar	1/2 cup melted butter

Bake at 350° degrees for 30 minutes.

<b><u>Pastor</u></b>	
<b>Blaine MacNeil</b>	<b>320-249-7801</b>
<b><u>Secretary</u></b>	
<b>Angie LeBlanc</b>	<b>320-632-2316</b>
<b><u>Music Minister</u></b>	
<b>Joan Wingert</b>	<b>320-632-2316</b>
<b><u>President</u></b>	
<b>John Albaugh</b>	<b>320-573-5400</b>
<b><u>Vice President</u></b>	
<b>David Hiemenz</b>	<b>320-632-3479</b>
<b><u>Secretary</u></b>	
<b>Sheila Venske</b>	<b>320-632-5698</b>
<b><u>Treasurer</u></b>	
<b>Mike March</b>	<b>320-732-2533</b>
<b><u>Church Council</u></b>	
<b>Cathy Frerichs</b>	<b>320-632-3903</b>
<b>Alyce Kalahar</b>	<b>320-632-5677</b>
<b>Bette Kalisch</b>	<b>320-632-2945</b>
<b>Brad Lundquist</b>	<b>320-616-5466</b>
<b>Bruce Marquette</b>	<b>320-632-3149</b>
<b>Steve Pantzke</b>	<b>320-749-2816</b>

# The EnLightener

Bethel Lutheran Church



Worship Services are held at 9:00 a.m. each Sunday  
 followed by coffee fellowship at 10:00 a.m.  
 And Education Hour at 10:15 a.m.  
 901 W. Broadway, Little Falls, MN 56345  
 320/632-2316 Email: [bethellittlefallsa@usfamily.net](mailto:bethellittlefallsa@usfamily.net)

**October 2009**

## **Bethel Lutheran Church**

901 W. Broadway  
 Little Falls, MN 56345  
 (320)632-2316

Address service requested

## **Office Hours:**

Monday-Friday  
 8:00-Noon  
 or by appointment  
 632-2316