

# January 2024

**Bethany Lutheran Church**  
**525 South 6<sup>th</sup> St**  
**Lake City MN 55041**

www.bethanylutheranlakecity.com

## Worship

9am on Sunday

Watch on local channel 13/18

- Sunday at 9am (LIVE)
- Monday at 8pm
- Tuesday at 11am

Pastor Steve Frentz

PastorFrentz@hotmail.com

Home 651-448-8561

Cell 630-846-1909

Office hours: Wed 9am-12pm

Secretary: Michelle Roberson

bethanylc4@hotmail.com

Office 651-345-2424

Cell 507-259-3919

Office hours:

Monday-Thursday 8am-1pm

Please watch our bulletins for  
more info.



Send an email to

BLCPrayerChain@hotmail.com  
to join!

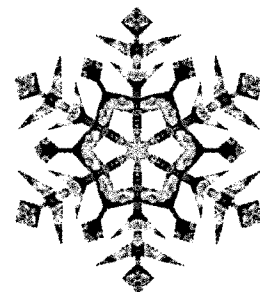


Find us on:  
**facebook.**

Bethany Lutheran Church  
Missouri Synod

## January Birthdays!

<i>Faith Almsted</i>	2
<i>Beth Burrows</i>	3
<i>Zachary Vanberg</i>	3
<i>Austin McDonnell</i>	5
<i>Henning Pelz</i>	6
<i>Linda Brackee</i>	7
<i>Thomas Brand</i>	7
<i>Amy Plank</i>	7
<i>Don Bauch</i>	15
<i>Andy Franz</i>	22
<i>Ted Kruempel</i>	22
<i>Amy LaFond</i>	22
<i>Mark Abel</i>	23
<i>Evan Corey</i>	24
<i>Layla Luhmann</i>	25
<i>Chloe Solum</i>	25
<i>Robert Johnson</i>	26
<i>Dane Houghton</i>	30



HAVE YOU  
TALKED  
TO GOD  
TODAY?

## January Anniversaries!

*Anthony & Trisha Meyer on the 18<sup>th</sup>*  
*Ted & Lois Kruempel on the 25<sup>th</sup>*

## January 14<sup>th</sup> Voters Meeting Following Worship

January 8<sup>th</sup> 1:00pm Women's Bible Study

**January 17, 24, 31 at 11:00am**  
**Bible study with Pastor at Bethany**

January 10, 17, 24, 31 6:00pm  
Confirmation Class at Bethany

**~A Blessed New Year to All~**

**2 Corinthians 5:17**

<sup>17</sup> Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation.<sup>[2]</sup> The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.

# JANUARY 2024

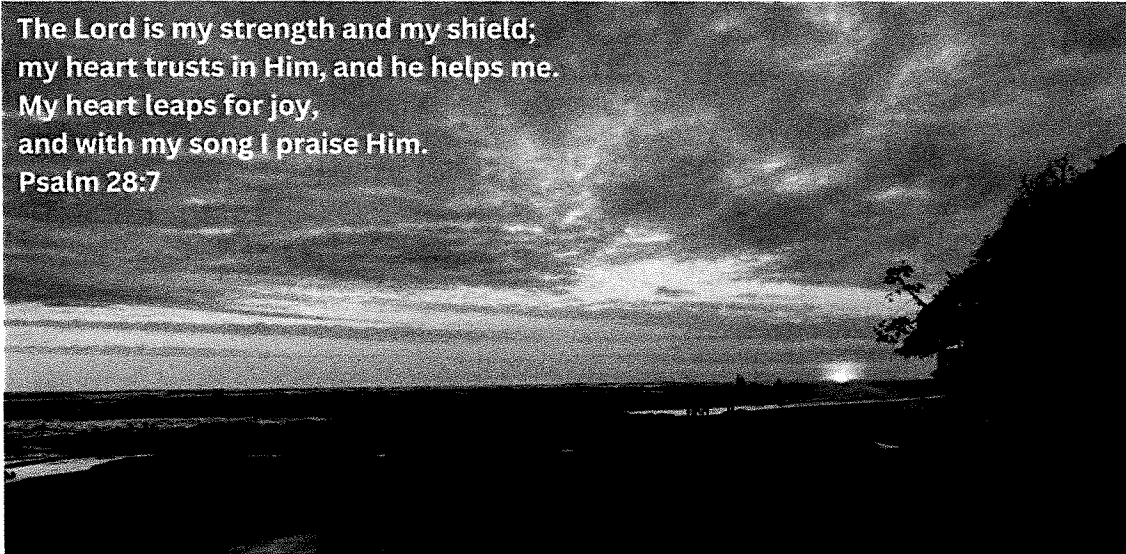
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
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Judges 14 Psalm 6 Acts 17:10-21	Judges 15 Psalm 7 Acts 17:22-34	Judges 16:1-14 Psalm 8 Acts 18:1-17	Judges 16:15-31 Psalm 9 Acts 18:18-28	Judges 17 Psalm 10 Acts 19:11-20	Judges 18:1-17 Psalm 11 Acts 19:11-20	<b>5 EPIPHANY</b>
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Ruth 3:7-4:4 Psalm 19 Acts 22:22-29	Ruth 4:5-22 Psalm 20 Acts 22:30-23:11	First Samuel 1:1-20 Psalm 21 Acts 23:12-22	First Samuel 1:21-2:11 Psalm 22 Acts 23:23-35	First Samuel 2:12-26 Psalm 23 Acts 24	First Samuel 2:27-3:21 Psalm 24 Acts 25:1-12	<b>13</b>
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**Sarah Parrish**

# **Connect to Costa Rica**

**November 2023 Ministry Update**

**The Lord is my strength and my shield;  
my heart trusts in Him, and he helps me.  
My heart leaps for joy,  
and with my song I praise Him.  
Psalm 28:7**

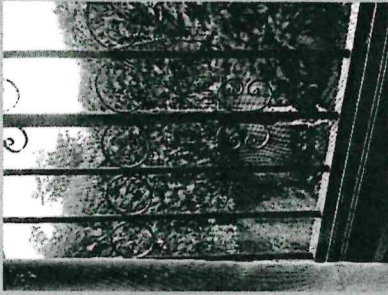


## **Getting Settled in Parrita**

This month has been an intentional time to get to know my new home and although it has taken quite a bit of time to find my way around town and to begin to recognize familiar faces, I am finally beginning to find a home away from home here in Parrita!

One thing that has continued to be challenging for me and something that God has been growing in me since moving here to Parrita is patience. Intentional ministry here takes a lot of time since a large part of intentional ministry is building deep relationships with the people. It has been hard for me to be patient in building those relationships in order to have those deeper conversations. However, in the last few weeks with the decline in the number of students at the school due to the school year finishing up for them, we have had more chances to connect one on one with more students and begin to have those deeper relationships with them.





View from my bedroom window



My walk to the high school

A couple of weeks ago, we had a lunch activity centered around four types of love that we encounter in our day-to-day lives. These included love between family members, love between friends, love between a married couple, and the unconditional love of God. The students were read a scenario where they had to decipher which type of love was being presented in each one. Afterward, we had conversations asking them which ones are a bit harder to fulfill and which ones are easier, and what that looks like in their lives. It was no surprise to me that they said that it is easy to love their friends especially as they turned to laugh and smile at their friends around them. However, what amazed me were the few students who said that agape love (God's love) was easy to see in life and I was encouraged by their ability to this love in their life despite the challenges they endure here in Costa Rica. These students have been such a joy to get to know!



A recent lunch activity about the types of love



## Giving Thanks

The other day during my online Spanish class, my teacher and I were talking about how I was preparing to write my newsletter. She said it so plainly, "Sarah why don't you just talk about thankfulness." There is always so much to be thankful for even amidst the challenges of life. As I've been experiencing some of the true trials of mission work, I have been so blessed to have great reminders just like this reminder from my Spanish teacher that there is always so much to be thankful for. She went on to say that even in the midst of struggles and hardship, there are blessings all around. What a great reminder to think about how God uses all kinds of circumstances to grow and strengthen us. My Spanish teacher has been such a blessing to me in this entire process of moving to Costa Rica. We began classes together 3 months before I arrived and ever since. Our conversations look different every day, but I am always so grateful for her heart and how these bits of encouragement are intertwined in our time together.

With the recent celebration of Thanksgiving, I was overwhelmed with all I had to be thankful for this year. Although it was so tough to experience this first holiday away from home, I am amazed at God's faithfulness and how He has provided for me since the very beginning of this journey. A few weeks ago, I took the time to hang up all of the printout pictures I brought with me from the States. Pictures of so many friends and family who have consistently supported me in this journey. Each day as I wake up and see my wall of pictures, I am overwhelmed with the smiling faces who hold a very special place in my heart and who I miss so much. I am also reminded of all those who are not pictured but have also made a lasting impact on my life and I am ever grateful for. I am thankful beyond words for all those God has placed in my life. I know that I never walk alone in this journey. Thank you God!



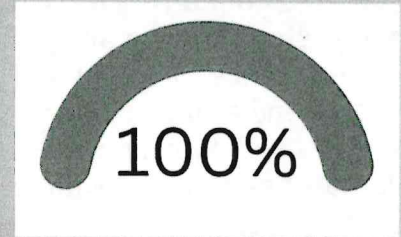
My wall of pictures!



## Fundraising Update

I am so grateful for you all and am blown away by the amount of support I have received! God is so good and it has been a great blessing to watch Him work through you all to create such an incredible support team.

Officially, I am 100% funded for this year! I cannot say thank you enough for all of your support. Not only that, but I have received over \$5,000 for next year already! As I begin to look forward to next year, I ask that you would prayerfully consider giving a gift to help me kick-start fundraising for next year. Any and all gifts are greatly appreciated and God has already blessed me immensely!



[Donate Here!](#)

Again, I am so grateful for each and every one of you and that God has called you to support me either as prayer partners and/or as financial partners. God's richest blessings to you all!

## Prayer Requests

- Thanksgiving for all who have supported me in getting to this point in my journey to Costa Rica.
- Thanksgiving that I am beginning to find a home away from home here in Parrita.
- For the LightHouse team as everyone returns from furlough and we begin to find routine in our complete team.
- That God would bless the ministry in Parrita and all the students who are a part of the community being made there.
- That God would use me to bring light and hope to the students in the high school as I continue to build relationships with them.

MISSION  
OF CHRIST  
Network

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**Our mailing address is:**  
Mission of Christ Network  
P.O. Box 533  
Concordia, MO 64020

"I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world, you will have trouble. But take heart! For I have overcome the world."

John 16:33

# St. Peter's News

St. Peter's Lutheran Church  
28961 365th St. Goodhue, MN 55027

HAPPY NEW YEAR  
January 2024

Pastor Steven Frentz · PastorFrentz@hotmail.com · 651-448-8561  
Office: 651-923-4438 · Email: stpeter@sleepyeyetel.net  
Tara Marklevits, Secretary · Tarakehren@hotmail.com · 651-329-0159  
Prayer Chain Email: BLCPrayerChain@hotmail.com

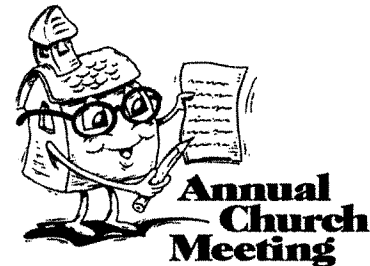
## January Worship Assistants

Altar Care: Barb Hadler & Heidi Roberson  
Elder: Kevin Paradis



## Worship Schedule

10:30AM Sunday Worship (year round)  
9:30AM Sunday School



Our Annual Congregational Meeting will be Sunday, Jan. 21st immediately following worship.

## Annual Reports

Various committee members please get your annual reports to Tara by January 10th so they can be included in the 2023 Annual Report booklet prior to our annual meeting.

## St. Peter's Positions Available

Anyone interested in being on our church council, finance committee, missions committee, or being our dual parish member at large please contact Marty Kehren or let him know if you have questions regarding these positions. Please prayerfully consider one of these important positions within our church.

## Remember in Prayer...

Please keep in your prayers:



Barb Hinck, Ashley Sexton,  
Meryl & Lois Watson, John Diercks,  
Julie Marklevits, and the family of  
LaVonne Schafer

## Council Meeting

January's council meeting is TBD. Stayed tuned for a meeting date to come. Let our council member know if you have a topic for discussion. Jonathan Huneke, Kevin Paradis, Jim Hansen, Marty Kehren, Arlan Betcher, Tony Betcher, and Roger Benrud.



## Mary Martha Events

On January 8th at 6:00pm we will take down the Christmas tree & decorations. Mary Martha would be blessed if council would help carry the tree boxes downstairs for storage after their meeting.

Jan. 22nd at 7:00pm we'll work on tie blankets.

# Youth Information

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## Sunday School Schedule

9:30AM Sunday School  
PreK through 8th grades

All children are welcome to join at  
anytime of the year!

## January Acolyte Schedule

January 7: Chris Hansen

January 14: Aaron Betcher

January 21: Clara Benrud

January 28: Ayva Marklevits

\*The next schedule for February-May 2024  
will come out mid-January.



## Youth Group • 6-12th Graders

Youth group will meet on January 21st at St. Peter's after worship. We'll enjoy lunch, Bible study, and an activity.

## 7th & 8th Grade Confirmation Details

Confirmation for St. Peter & Bethany 7th & 8th graders is every Wednesday from 6-7PM at Bethany Church.

## Thank You



Thank you to all who donated to the Seminary Food Shelf at our potluck Christmas dinner on December 17th.

# Giving

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## Missions

St. Peter's missions donation goal for 2023 is \$10,000 to send to various missions throughout the year. As of November 30th we have raised \$9,445. If you wish to donate write "missions" on your donation.



## ONLINE *giving*

We offer the option to give recurring gifts online through First Farmers & Merchants Bank. Contact our church treasurer, Tony Betcher to set this up.

## Anniversaries in January

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Jan. 30: Diane & Tony Berkold

## Birthdays in January

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Jan. 1: Paul Burfeind

Jan. 3: Tera Hansen

Jan. 6: Gary Watson

Jan. 11: Mason Juers  
Paul Meyer

Jan 12: Deb Kohrs

Jan 14: Grant Bollum  
Charlie Hadler

Jan. 16: Jamie Kehren

Jan. 17: Brooke Bremer  
Jill Kohrs  
PeriAnn Williams

Jan. 21: Jackie Paradis  
Cory Wiebusch

Jan. 23: Vonnie Bollum

Jan. 24: Henry Thomforde

Jan. 25: Pat Schafer

Jan. 30: Nancy Kohrs

Jan. 31: Jeremy Kohrs





# Bethany Lutheran Church-January 2024

525 South Sixth Street

Lake City, MN 55041

651-345-2424

E-mail: bethanylc4@hotmail.com

Prayer Chain: BLCPrayerChain@hotmail.com - Just send an email to join!

Website: www.bethanylutheranlakecity.com

On Facebook search for: Bethany Lutheran Church Missouri Synod

**Pastor Steven Frentz:** PastorFrentz@hotmail.com (H)651-448-8561 (C)630-846-1909

**Michelle Roberson, Secretary:** bethanylc4@hotmail.com Office 651-345-2424 (C)507-259-3919

**Elder: Greg Holmstadt**

**Usher: Bob Roschen**

## Acolytes:

January 7 Leah Anderson  
January 14 Vincent Finnigan  
January 21 Kambrie Scolley  
January 28 Alana Schmitz

## Readers:

Nancy Cliff  
Sue Blumberg  
Bob Roschen  
Tess Holmstadt

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Lake City, MN 55041  
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