



Bethel

by God, each other, family, friends and community

August 31, 2023

Bethel Lutheran Church, White Rock, SC

Recently a member brought a concern to me. She heard about a different creed used during worship in an ELCA congregation. I had also heard this news from our Heartland Conference pastors. The ELCA made national news AND trended on social media for a bit because the creed used in this particular congregation was very different and sparked some controversy.

This has become a teaching moment. First, I want to lift up this member for coming straight to the pastor with a question like this. I strive for us to be clear communicators. I also love discussing topics of faith and theology. If you are ever concerned about our doctrine or have big questions about church, come and talk!

Second, it's helpful to have a bit of Lutheran doctrine 101. According to the ELCA constitution, the Synodical constitutions for all 65 synods and the 8861 congregational constitutions, we only confess three creeds- The Athanasian Creed, Nicene Creed and Apostles' Creed. While a congregation can choose to use another creed in worship for various reasons (perhaps a confirmation class wrote one to better understand faith and reads it during a special youth service), it is not part of Lutheran doctrine. Our creeds are rooted in deep church history and were written with numerous theologians over many years. We will not be changing these doctrines. We will continue to confess our faith through the Apostles' Creed and Nicene Creed (on festival days and seasons) at Bethel.

Peace,

Pastor Megan



THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO WORKED TOGETHER THIS YEAR TO MAKE OUR LITTLE FREE LIBRARY A REALITY!

We had a great ribbon cutting event for the library and the bench donated by the Girls Scouts (currently located inside until we can secure it outside). Bring books and donate them by simply leaving them in the library. Take books to read. There is no check out time limit. Several folks have already found some good reads and we've noticed neighbors dropping by to leave books. Thanks for your support for this little community library!

It is that time of year. “God's work. Our hands.” is September 10. Outreach and Mission Team is again hosting a Sock Hop. We won't really dance. We will collect socks to donate to Transitions Homeless Center again this year. While September 10 is “God's work. Our hands.” across the ELCA, we will observe the whole month. So, help us collect socks for the homeless of Columbia.



**God's work.
Our hands.**

Please join us for the WELCA Heartland Conference Fall meeting at Mt.

Tabor Lutheran Church, 816 Mt. Tabor Rd., Little Mountain, SC 29075 on Sunday afternoon, September 10, at 3:00 pm. Guest speaker will be Pastor Bobby Morris, Old Testament Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary Professor, who will provide the program, entitled The Fifth Gospel. Make plans to attend this afternoon of Christian fellowship and worship.



Out of Office: Robbin will be out of the office Monday, September 18 – Wednesday, September 20.



SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

9/4 Betty Moore
 9/5 Joseph Williams
 9/7 Howard McCartha
 9/9 Morgan Sanders
 9/18 Mary Lou Burt
 9/18 Patty Moore
 9/20 Harriette Wunder
 9/27 Morgan Johnson

SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

9/29 – Pastor Megan and Will Salazar

Altar flowers are needed

for various dates for the remainder of the year to beautify our sanctuary. Please call or email the church office if you would like to sign up and see what dates are available.



Homecoming and Golden Age Sunday, October 8

Our guest preacher will be Bishop Aibescher.

We will have a delicious lunch after worship provided by Congregational Life. Please invite your family, friends, and former members to worship and lunch.

RSVP no later than October 2.



SEPTEMBER WE CARE NEEDS

Soup	Spaghetti-Os
Canned Fruit	Syrup
Canned Meats	Canned Corn
Canned Peas	Cereal
Jello	Canned Potatoes
Paper Products	Toiletries
	Cleaning Supplies



October Save the Dates:

Wednesday, Oct. 4 – Blessing of the Animals

Sunday, Oct. 8 – Homecoming Confirmation

Sunday, Oct. 15 – Council Meeting

Sunday, Oct. 22 – Confirmation

Monday, Oct. 23 – Tuesday, Oct. 24

Robbin will be out of the office

Saturday, Oct. 28 – LMM Fish Fry

Sunday, Oct. 29 – Noisy Offering

Dear Bethel Women of the ELCA,

Thank you so much for the donation to the Wolves Pantry. We so appreciate your support and prayers.

Pastor David Coffman
Newberry Chaplain



Patsy McCartha, Harvey Stone,
Grady Slice, Phil Wunder,
Pebble Briggs, Vannie Toy,
Sue Elliott, Russell Miller,
Claude Leviner, Irene Leviner,
Bertha McCartha, Paul and Bonnie Bates,
Bella Raniszewski, Ronnie Taylor,
Sheri Southworth, Teresa Abshire
(Bertha McCartha's niece), Richard
Torres, Sheri Johnson, Betty Rhodes
(Donna Torres' sister), Drake Upchurch
(Aleena Stone's husband- currently
deployed), and Richard Chouinard.

