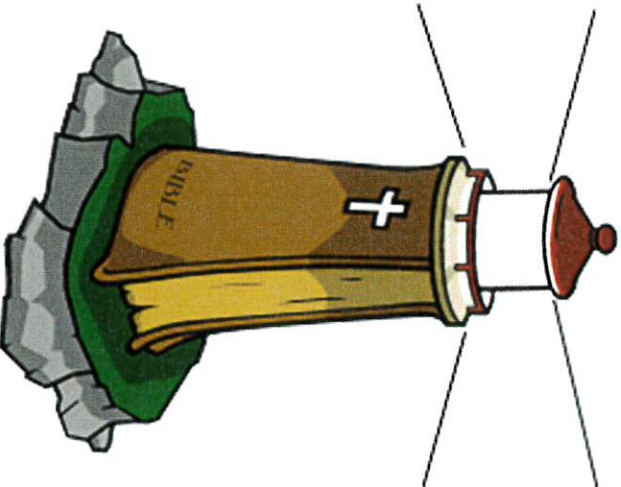




Bethany and East Lemonweir Lutheran Churches  
618 West River Street  
New Lisbon, WI. 53950  
RETURN SERVICES REQUESTED

# The Beacon

Bethany / East Lemonweir Parish  
April 2024



**2** Let my teaching fall like rain and my words descend like dew, like showers on new grass, like abundant rain on tender plants.  
Deuteronomy 32:2

Happy Easter!

As I sit and write this note, Holy Week has just started. Echoes of “Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord” are still ringing in my ears. Palm branches have been waved, we’ve raised our voices in song—preparing the royal highway and praising God for all the promise, hope, and gifts bestowed on us. Hearing Christ’s passion according to the gospel of Mark, really helped get me into a Holy Week mindset. Although it’s a hard week—when we will be reminded that Jesus endured betrayal and suffering—it is also a wonderful week. Because it is also a week where we are reminded of the expansiveness of God’s love and are connected to the God’s church across space and time.

Easter has been formally celebrated since the 2<sup>nd</sup> century, although commemorations or observances honoring Jesus’ Resurrection most likely occurred even earlier.<sup>1</sup> Believers around the world, across centuries, have marked the day with worship, feasts, fellowship, fun, and joy. This year will be/was no different. Through the power of the Holy Spirit, we proclaim and confess a belief that has been handed down for generations and has been uttered in hundreds of languages: “Alleluia! Christ is Risen! Christ is Risen indeed! Alleluia!”

This central belief of Christ crucified and risen continues to stir in the hearts of those alive today. Empowered by the Holy Spirit we answer God’s call to proclaim this through word and deed as we live and serve in the world around us. We continue to pass down the story and traditions that keep this message alive and in our hearts.

So in honor of passing down traditions, I thought it would be fun to share a couple of activities that my family did while I was growing up. One is even tasty! I would love to hear some of your traditions too!

Alleluia! --- Pastor Lucy

### Resurrection Cookies

1 cup pecans/almonds or mini chocolate chips\*  
1 tsp vinegar  
pinch of salt  
1 cup sugar  
3 egg whites

\*Use half nuts and half chocolate chips if you prefer or all chocolate chips.

1. Preheat oven to 300 degrees F. This is important, you must do this first.
2. If you using nuts, place pecans/almonds in a plastic bag. Beat the nuts with a wooden spoon to break into small pieces. This represents that Jesus was arrested and beaten by the Roman soldiers. Read John 19:1-3.
3. Smell the vinegar. Think or Discuss how Jesus was forced to drink vinegar when he was thirsty on the cross. Put 1 tsp. vinegar into mixing bowl. Read John 19:28-30.

4. Add egg whites to bowl with vinegar. Eggs represent life and that by giving His life, Jesus gave us eternal life. Read John 10:10-11.

5. Give everyone a little salt in their hand and encourage them to taste it. The salt represents the salty tears that were shed by Jesus’ followers and the bitterness of our sin. Add a pinch of salt to the bowl. Read Luke 23:27.

6. Add 1 cup sugar. Sugar is added to show that the sweetest part of the story is that Jesus died because He loves us. Read Ps. 34:8 and John 3:16.

7. Beat the egg whites to form peaks, beat for about 5-10 minutes. The white color represents the purity in God’s eyes of those whose sins have been cleansed by Christ. Read Isaiah 1:18 and John 3:1-3.

8. Fold in broken nuts or mini chocolate chips. Drop by teaspoons onto a parchment covered cookie sheet. Each mound represents the rocky tomb where Jesus’ body was placed. Read Matt. 27:57-60.

---

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.britannica.com/topic/Easter-holiday>

9. Put the cookie sheet in the oven, close the door and turn the oven OFF. Use pieces of masking tape to seal the oven just as the tomb was sealed. Read Matt. 27:65-66.

10. NOW GO TO BED! Just as you may feel sad to leave the cookies in the oven overnight, Jesus' followers were sad when the tomb was sealed and

they had to leave his body there. Read John 16:20 and 22.

11. In the morning, open the oven and give everyone a cookie. As you take a bite you will discover that the cookies are hollow. On the first Easter, Jesus' followers were amazed to find the tomb open and empty. Read Matt. 28:1-9

### **The Easter Tree**

The Easter egg tree tradition is centuries old, but the origins of the story have been lost over time.

It is very popular in Germany and other German speaking parts of Europe. In Germany the tradition is called Ostereierbaum, or Easter egg trees. Eggs are a long-held symbol of life, and Easter happens to fall during Earth's rebirth at spring...therefore people started pairing the two together. They decorated trees in their yards with tens or thousands of eggs. My family brought the tradition inside. We take branches from our yard or small artificial branches and create a tree centerpiece. I remember blowing the whites and yokes out of the eggs and dyeing them with my mom. Each color represents a part of the Easter story.

Purple is associated with Lent, as well as the color of royalty as Jesus is the King of Kings.

Red represents the blood of Jesus Christ, shed for the sake of humanity for the forgiveness of sins.

Black is used as a symbol of mourning, reminding us of Jesus' death on the cross.

White is the color that symbolizes purity, grace, and the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Pink symbolizes jubilant new beginnings and joyful hope, like the pink found in the sky at sunrise.

Green represents rebirth and the promise of eternal life.

Gold represents glory and triumph, specifically Jesus' resurrection and triumph over death.



---

### *A Note of Thanks from the New Lisbon Food Pantry*

We received a "Thank You" note from the New Lisbon Food Pantry with the following message:

Bethany Lutheran Church,

Thank you so much for your generous monetary donation to the New Lisbon Food Pantry in the amount of \$300. Thank you also for all the food items you have provided for us.

God Bless, Barb Hache on half of the New Lisbon Food Pantry.



# 2024 APRIL WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

## East Lemonweir Reader

4/7 – Audrey Scholl  
4/14 – Kathryn Pitcel  
4/21 – Diane Clark  
4/28 – Dawn Nelson

## Bethany Worship Assistants

4/7 –  
**Assistant Minister** – Larry Thome  
**Reader** – Angie Krizan  
**Altar Communion Assistants** – Larry Thome & Confirmation Student  
**Ushers** – Karl Katuin & Shane Gesler

4/14-  
**Assistant Minister** – Beth Preuss  
**Reader** – Barb Parker  
**Continuous Communion Assistants** – Beth Preuss, Barb Parker, Galen Lingl  
**Ushers** – Tim Parker & John VanMeter

4/21-  
**Assistant Minister** – Michaelae Korbein  
**Reader** – Ross Hardie  
**Altar Communion** – Michaelae Korbein & Confirmation Student  
**Ushers** – Mark & Debby Hansen

4/28 –  
**Assistant Minister** – Mark Hansen  
**Reader** – Debby Hansen  
**Continuous Communion** – Betty Krotzman, Inger Kirkwood, Deanna Smith  
**Ushers** – Mike & Lori Esser





# April 2024 Celebrations

## Bethany Birthdays

Becky Bailey	1	Peg Katuin	6
Kyler Reichhoff	12	John A. Krotzman	13
Yvonne Olson	22	Jeff Berry	23

## Bethany Anniversaries

Ross and Lucy Hardie	11	Jeff & Holly Berry	11
Steve & Renee Spaniol	21		

## East Lemonweir Birthdays

Audrey Scholl	6	Diana Berry	18
---------------	---	-------------	----

## East Lemonweir Anniversaries

N/A

If your name is missing on the Birthday and Anniversary page, please call the Church Office (#562-3807), and let us know. Thank you!

**Bethany Lutheran Church, New Lisbon, WI**  
**Annual Meeting Minutes**  
**January 21, 2024**

**1. Call to Order:** Council President Mark Hansen called the meeting to order at 9:38 a.m., immediately after today's worship service. Forty-three voting members were present for this meeting.

**2. Adoption of the Agenda:** Christy Toelle made a motion to adopt the meeting agenda printed in the 2023 Annual Report, seconded by Galen Lingl. Motion passed by voice vote.

**3. Congregational Statistics:** The Council Member page shows the 2023 council members, their committee, the year they came onto council, and who current officers are. Note that terms for Larry Thome, Kathy Means and Betty Krotzman end today. There is also a 2023 Listing of Pastoral Acts for Baptisms, confirmations, Funerals, Marriages, and Transfers. There were no other comments.

**4. Minutes of the 2023 Annual Meeting.** Minutes of the 2023 meeting were presented. Karl Katuin made a motion to approve the minutes of the 2023 Annual Meeting as printed, seconded by Glenna Swinehart. Motion passed by voice vote.

**5. Committee Reports and 6. Other Organizational Reports:** Ross Hardie made a motion to approve the Committee Reports and Other Organizational Reports as printed, seconded by Angie Krizan. Motion passed by voice vote.

**7. Building Fund Report:** No report provided.

**8. Treasurer's Report:** Reports provided for year end 2023 included a General Fund Checking Register, Expenses Listing, Accounts Balances, and a Savings Summary. Galen Lingl and Kathy Thome complete an audit of the financial records on January 14, 2024, and records appear to be in order and proper. All accounts are reconciled monthly. Balance in the General Fund checking account as of December 31, 2023 was \$763.28, which included the Auction proceeds not yet transferred to savings. September activity included closing three accounts -the Youth Fund, the Social Concerns Fund, and the General Savings Account- to help simplify the bookkeeping, and their balances were added to the Special Savings. Also in September, a CD was taken out with funds from the General Savings Account. The Savings Summary provided the breakdown of all the funds in the special giving accounts. Debby Hansen made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Reports as printed and presented, seconded by Christy Toelle. Motion passed by voice vote.

**9. 2024 Proposed Budget:** The Council's proposed budget for 2024 was printed in the 2023 Annual Report, with the 2023 Budget and the expenses as of December 31, 2023. The 70/30 split will continue for Bethany and East Lemonweir respectively for splitting certain shared costs. Most of the 2024 budget was kept basically the same as 2023. Besides the proposed increases in wages and related items under Pastoral Ministry, there were minor increases to Stewardship, Quilting, and Sunday School and the addition of an Other Worship Programs category. The Council's proposed budget was approved by Council at their January 7, 2024 meeting. Karl Katuin made a motion to approve the budget as presented, seconded by Mike Esser. Motion passed by voice vote.

**10. Elections:** Submitted names/nomination for various positions open for next year were listed on Elections 2024 page in Annual Report. Nominations from floor will also be taken as elections progress.

**-Financial Secretary:** Mark & Debby Hansen, Keith, William & Michaela Korbein, and Larry & Kathy Thome currently share the position of Co-Financial Secretary. A motion was made by Galen Lingl to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Mark & Debby Hansen, Keith, William & Michaela Korbein, and Larry & Kathy Thome as Co-Financial Secretaries, seconded by Angela Krizan. Motion passed by voice vote.

**-Treasurer:** Michaela Korbein is the current Treasurer and is the nominee listed on the ballot. This is the only office that is elected by the congregation. Christy Toelle made a motion to close

nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Michael Korbein for Treasurer, seconded by Glenda Swinehart. Motion passed by voice vote.

**-Secretary:** Currently, Michael Korbein is the Secretary; but per Synod and our Constitution, no officer should hold two officer positions. Also, this position will no longer be elected by the congregation. When the new council meets for the first time, they will vote among themselves to decide who will be Secretary, President, and Vice-President.

**-Council Members:** Thank you to the three Council members going off council today: Kathy Means, Betty Krotzman, and Larry Thome. While doing the updates to the Constitution, it was determined that our council was a bit too large for a congregation of our size, so Council will undergo right-sizing, which will result in two council member positions being dropped. Since Larry Thome did not have a full term as he was a replacement during Covid, he could volunteer to be on council again. Debbie Hansen made a motion to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Larry Thome for the one open Council position, seconded by Barb Parker. Motion passed by voice vote. New Council will meet immediately following worship to determine Council President, Vice-President, and Secretary.

*(At the short meeting of the new council immediately following worship, Mark Hansen was voted as President, Karl Katuin was voted as Vice-President, and Larry Thome was voted as Secretary.)*

**-Head Usher:** No nominee was listed in the Annual Report, no one volunteered, and at this time there is no need for one.

**-Synod Assembly Voting Members:** No nominee was listed in the Annual Report, but Deanna Smith and Ross Hardie volunteered. Synod Assembly will take place in Warrens this year. They will attend one meeting in April. (Note: a Synod Voting Member votes according to their heart during assembly meetings; delegates vote according to wishes of their congregation). Glenda Swinehart made a motion to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Deanna Smith and Ross Hardie for Synod Assembly Voting Members, seconded by Christy Toelle. Motion passed by voice vote.

**-Sugar Creek Bible Camp Delegate:** No nominee was listed in the Annual Report, but Kathie Means volunteered for this position. John Bailey made a motion to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Kathie Means for Sugar Creek Bible Camp Delegate, seconded by Keith Korbein; Motion passed by voice vote.

**-Auditors:** No nominees were listed in the Annual Report. Kathy Thome and Ross Hardie volunteered to be nominated as auditors. Karl Katuin made a motion to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Kathy Thome and Ross Hardie for the Auditors positions, seconded by Keith Korbein. Motion passed by voice vote.

**11. Old Business:** Nothing discussed.

**12. New Business:** A proposed updated Constitution has been out for several weeks, during which time Council members were available after church to answer questions on the proposal. A summary overview of the changes was also available for members to review. Some changes will require two votes, while some other changes only require one vote. Another vote will be taken this next month to cover what is needed.

**13. Vote on Bethany Lutheran Constitution:** Glenda Swinehart made a motion to approve the updates to the Constitution as presented, seconded by Angela Krizan. Motion passed by voice vote. Thank you to the Constitution Committee, especially Larry Thome for typing up the new constitution and communicating the proposed changes.

**14. Adjournment:** Galen Lingl made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Glenda Swinehart. Motion passed. This meeting adjourned at 10:08 am.

**15. Benediction:** Pastor provided the Benediction.

Respectfully submitted by Michael Korbein, Council Secretary

## East Lemonweir Council Meeting

March 10, 2024

President Roger Nelson called the March 10<sup>th</sup> council meeting to order in the fellowship hall at 10:30. Pastor Lucy led us in prayer. Council members present were Roger Nelson, Marlene Pelton, Jennifer Sarnow, Connie Wolfgram, Roger and Kathryn Pitcel, Margarete Hummelbeck, and Audry Scholtz.

Kathryn P. made a motion to approve the minutes of the January Council minutes, second by Connie Wolfgram; motion carried. Marlene made a motion to cast a unanimous vote for Roger Nelson as president of the council, second by Roger Pitcel; motion carried. A motion to approve the treasurer's reports for January and February made by Connie, second by Marlene: motion carried. It was noted the Outreach committee has given a check to the church for the Prime Rib Dinner. This money will be kept in a separate listing.

The Synod is having a workshop for council members to look at the Constitution.

Pastor Lucy reported the dates she will have off. April 14 Jim Arends will be with us. July 28<sup>th</sup> Pastor Dione and September 29<sup>th</sup> Deacon Stephanie will be here.

Easter season services are Maundy Thursday 6:30 at Bethany, Good Friday 1:00 at Bethany and Easter Sunday at 8:00. There will be Communion on Thursday and Easter Sunday.

East Lemonweir has its 170<sup>th</sup> anniversary on July 28<sup>th</sup> and a luncheon was suggested. No further action. Installation of council members will be held March 17<sup>th</sup>.

A motion by Roger Nelson to donate \$2,000 to the youth trip, second by Marlene, motion carried.

We will have combined services with Bethany on Memorial Day at East Lemonweir at 10:30 and Labor Day at 9:00 at Bethany. The 7<sup>th</sup> of July will be held in the park with the Methodist Church invited.

The lawn care was tabled. Marlene addressed the birch stumps left after the hillside was cleared.

The possibility of having an AED defibrillator at church was received. The cost would be \$1,700 to \$2,000, and it is possible to get a discount. Nurse Natty Kranz would give instruction. Item was tabled.

Motion to adjourn by Roger P., second by Marlene; motion carried. We adjourned at 11:30.

Respectfully submitted,

Connie Wolfgram, sec.



W-ELCA News

It would be appreciated if Easter/spring flowers would be shared for Easter Sunday. If you share yours, please put your name on it and take it back home with you to enjoy.

Thank you to those who helped prepare, serve and provide food for the funeral luncheon for Linda Balgord Fenton. The family appreciated it. May she rest in peace as her family finds peace. Also thanks to those who have supported the soup suppers by working, providing food and coming to enjoy the food and fellowship.

Our Bold Women's Sunday was a special time, and we appreciate all who participated and shared names of those who have impacted their faith journey.

Rachel Circle meets the first Tuesday of each month at 4:00 in the conference room. All ladies are invited to enjoy Bible study and fellowship. Our April study centers on what we can learn about food and eating from the scriptures.

Upcoming events:

Sunday, April 14, W-ELCA meets after church in the conference room. If it works out this will allow Pastor Lucy an opportunity to join us.

Saturday, April 20, kW-ELCA Spring Convention – Our Redeemer – LaCrosse

A thought: Spring shows what God can do with a drab and dirty world.

---

Bethany's figures used in monthly newsletter 2024

Needed monthly for only Bethany's part of the budget: \$9,960.28

	February	YTD
Offerings+Other Income	\$10,771.20	\$24,979.32 *
Expenses	\$13,897.87	\$23,516.64

\* Includes East Lemonweir's reimbursement

# Find out firsthand what this is all about

## following service on April 21<sup>st</sup>:

Question: What do you get when you cross play money with containers of treasures?

Answer: **Bags at Bethany**

\*It's free!

\*It's fun!

---

## February Food for ALL Update:

What a successful food drive! A total of 328 pounds was donated to the New Lisbon Food Pantry. The February calendar was filled, and that means that \$300 was donated to our local food pantry with a match of \$300 being donated to world hunger. THANK YOU to all for your participation and support!



# SCBC SPRING VOLUNTEER WORK WEEKEND

FREE  
LODGING  
FRIDAY  
NIGHT

.....  
SUGAR CREEK BIBLE CAMP  
SATURDAY, MAY 4, 2024  
9:00 AM - 7:00 PM  
.....

- Play a part in building, cleaning, arranging and preparing camp buildings, trails, and equipment for a safe and busy season ahead
- Projects for all skill levels
- Bring your church, friends, youth groups, and family
- Enjoy Sugar Creek hospitality and hearty meals

RSVP: [office@sgrcreek.org](mailto:office@sgrcreek.org) or 608-734-3113

[www.SugarCreekBibleCamp.org](http://www.SugarCreekBibleCamp.org)





## Bethany and East Lemonweir Lutheran Parish

### April 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
9am Worship @Bethany 10:30am Worship @ EL	1 Pastor Off	2 Pastor Off 9:00am Pastor's Text Study 4:00pm Rachel Circle 6:30 PM AA/East Lemonweir	3 9:00am Quilting	4 9 am Adult Class @ Bethany 6:30pm AA/Bethany	5 Betty Off	6
7 Altar Communion Bethany Council Meeting	8	9 Pastor Off 9:0am Pastor's Text Study 6:30 PM AA/East Lemonweir	10 Pastor Off 9:00am Quilting	11 Pastor Off No Adult Class 6:30pm AA/Bethany	12 Pastor Off Betty Off	13 Pastor off
14 Pastor Off Cont. Communion Bethany W-ELCA meets after worship	15	16 9:00am Test Study 6:30 PM AA/East Lemonweir	17 9:00am Quilting	18 9:00am Adult Class @ Bethany 6:30pm AA/Bethany	19 Betty Off	20 W-ELCA Synod Spring Convention @ Our Redeemer - LaCrosse
21 Altar Communion BAGS AT BETHANY Following Worship	22 Beacon Articles Due Earth Day	23 9:00am Pastor's Text Study 6:30 PM AA/East Lemonweir	24 9:00am Quilting	25 9:00am Adult Class @ Bethany 6:30pm AA/Bethany	26 Betty Off Arbor Day	27
28 Cont. Communion	29	30 9:00am Pastor's Text Study 6:30 PM AA/East Lemonweir		Betty off May 2 - May 10		