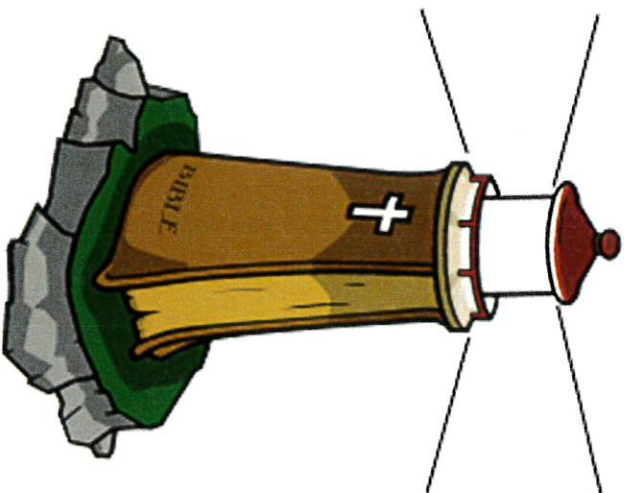




Bethany and East Lemonweir Lutheran Churches
618 West River Street
New Lisbon, WI. 53950
RETURN SERVICES REQUESTED

The Beacon

Bethany / East Lemonweir Parish
April 2025



John 11:25-26: "Jesus said to her, 'I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live.'"



2025 April Worship Assistants

East Lemonweir

Readers

4/6 – Connie Wolfgram

4/13 – Audrey Scholl

4/20 – Roger Nelson

4/27 – Jennifer Sarnow

Greeters

4/6 – Roger & Kathryn Pitcel

4/13 – Audrey Scholl

4/20- Jennifer Sarnow

4/27 – Bret & Billie Jo Haschke

Bethany

4/6

Assistant Minister – Beth Preuss

Reader – Barb Parker

Communion Assistant – Beth Preuss

Usher – Karl Katuin & Tim Parker

4/13 Palm Sunday

Assistant Minister – Mark Hansen

Reader – Ross Hardie

Communion Assistant – Mark Hansen, Inger

Kirkwood, Betty Krotzman

Usher – Mike & Lori Esser

**4/20 – Easter Service at Bethany is 8 am
with Potluck Brunch to follow**

Assistant Minister – Michaelae Korbein

Reader – Sheila Stark

Communion Assistant – Michaelae Korbein,
Barb Parker, Betty Krotzman

Usher – Kathy & Larry Thome

4/27

Assistant Minister – Larry Thome

Reader – Debby Hansen

Communion Assistant – Larry Thome

Usher – Mark & Debby Hansen

Thank you for your assistance.



April 2025 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
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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 & East Lemonweir Lutheran Parishes

April 2025

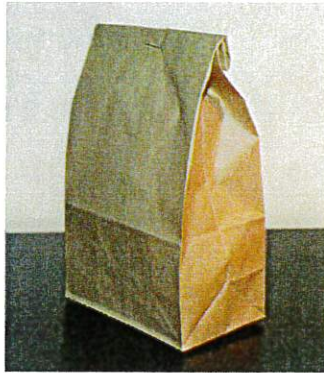
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
9AM Worship @ Bethany 10:30AM Worship @ East Lemonweir	AA Meeting 6:30 PM - Tuesday @ East Lemonweir- & Thursday Bethany	1 Election Day Rachel Circle - 4pm @ Bethany	2 9 am Quilting 6PM Lent Service w/Soup Supper	3 9 am Bible Study	4	5
6 8:15 Bethany Choir Practice Communion Bethany Council Mtg Synod Caucus 3 pm	7	8	9 9 am Quilting 6PM Lent Service w/Soup Supper	10 9 am Bible Study	11	12
13 Palm Sunday 8:15 am Bethany Choir practice East Lemonweir Council Mtg	14	15	16 9 am Quilting	17 9 am Bible Study 6:30 PM Maundy Thursday @ East Lemonweir	18 1 PM Good Friday @ Bethany	19
20 Communion 8 am Easter Service followed by Brunch @ Bethany. 10:30 Easter Service @ East Lemonweir	21	22 May Beacon Articles Due	23 9 am Quilting	24 9 am Bible Study	25	26
27 Recognition Sunday	28	29	30 9 am Quilting			
April 28th - May 4th Pastor Lucy is off for continuing education.	Confirmation Sunday is May 18 th . Bishop Felix will be visiting.					

It's Back: Bags at Bethany

Following service on April 13th

Bidding on items that you cannot see
while utilizing play money!

How competitive can it be?
Come and see.



Needed monthly for only Bethany's budgeted expenses: \$10,866,61

	<u>January</u>	<u>February</u>	<u>Yr To Date</u>
Offerings+Other Income received	\$12,197.98	\$11,411.92	\$23,609.90*
Expenses paid	\$20,146.80**	\$12,412.91	\$32,559.71**

* includes East Lemonweir's budget reimbursements

**includes final roofing work payment

W-ELCA News

Mission statement: To mobilize women to act boldly on their faith in Jesus Christ.

This month's bible study from *'gather'* continues the faithfulness theme. This month we discuss faith adventures with Peter and Cornelius. The Holy Spirit teaches Peter, the church and us to see others as God sees them.

Bethany W-ELCA meeting will be rescheduled due to the Recognition Brunch

There's an annual request for anyone to share their Easter plants/flowers for our Easter Sunday service. Please bring your plants/flowers to the church by noon on the Sat. before so we can again beautify our church. It will be appreciated.

Please consider attending the Spring Convention at St. Stephen's in Camp Douglas on April 26th. The women from St. Stephen's hope for a good turn out from their neighboring Bethany women. It is a wonderful opportunity to share fellowship with other Lutheran women and meet our synod leaders who will share their experiences. The In-Kind offering for this year will go to the Camp Douglas Food pantry with requests to donate personal care items. Registration forms for this conference are posted on the W-ELCA bulletin board in the narthex.

We will be asking for help and food donations for our appreciation brunch on April 27. This is a time for fellowship as we honor our confirmands on confirming their faith and our congregation as a whole for our collective efforts.

Upcoming Events:

Sat., April 19 – decorating for Easter

Sat., April 26 – synod Spring Convention at St. Stephen's Lutheran Church in Camp Douglas.
Registration begins at 8:00am with worship at 9:00am.

Sun., April 27 – Recognition Brunch

A thought: Our Lord has written the promise of resurrection, not in books alone but in every leaf in springtime. Martin Luther

EAST LEMONWEIR LUTHERAN CHURCH
Council Meeting
March 16, 2025

Present: Roger Nelson, Roger Pitcel, Kathryn Pitcel, Audrey Scholl, Gayle Hempel, Pastor Lucy Hardie, and Marlene Pelton.

Absent: Connie Wolfgram and Margarete Hummelbeck.

President Roger Nelson called the March 16, 2025 council meeting to order following Sunday's coffee fellowship. Opening prayer was given by Pastor Lucy Hardie.

A motion was made by Marlene Pelton to approve the February secretary's report with the following corrections being made: Council members correct spelling to be Gayle Hempel and Audrey Scholl, and the work to be done by Ernest Gingerich Construction to include metal gutters, removal of the chimney, and a new roof. Second by Kathryn Pitcel, motion carried.

The January treasurer's report was reviewed. Motion made by Gayle Hempel and second by Audrey Scholl to approve the January treasurer's report. Motion carried. The February treasurer's report was reviewed. Motion made by Marlene Pelton and second by Gayle Hempel to approve the February report. Motion carried.

With upcoming expenditures for roof, siding, and more it was determined to withdraw \$100,000.00 from our General fund at Thrivent Financial. The motion for this action was made by Roger Pitcel and second by Marlene Pelton. Motion carried.

No word from our lawn care provider as of yet for the upcoming season.

Pastor Hardie will be gone on May 4, 2025. Pastor's Dennis and Chris Hallemeier will lead worship.

Council members Gayle Hempel, Audrey Scholl, and Marlene Pelton along with Pastor Hardie will attend the 2025 Congregation Council Development Retreat Saturday, March 22, 2025 hosted by Trinity Lutheran Church Sparta, WI.

Maundy Thursday service will be at East Lemonweir 6:30 p.m. This is a joint worship service with Bethany-New Lisbon. Holy Communion will be offered at the rail, along with stripping of the Altar. Good Friday service will be at Bethany 1:00 p.m. Easter service at Bethany will be 8:00 a.m. followed by Brunch. East Lemonweir's Easter Sunday service will be 10:30 a.m.

East Lemonweir will wait to receive information on avenues to pursue for investments for the future, on funds that are now invested in Thrivent. We need a better idea on what the expenditures will be on our church refurbishing.

Motion made to adjourn by Roger Pitcel, second by Audrey Scholl. Motion carried.

Closed with praying the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Marlene Pelton, pro-tempore



Bethany Lutheran Church – New Lisbon, Wisconsin

Church Council Meeting Minutes

Sunday, March 2, 2025

Council Members Present:	Pastor Lucy Hardie, Karl Katuin, Mark Hansen, Michaele Korbein, Inger Kirkwood, Debby Hansen, Glenda Swinehart, Larry Thome
Council Members Absent:	Deanna Smith
Guests:	None
Agenda	
Call to Order:	President Karl Katuin called the Council meeting to order at 12:44 PM.
Agenda Approval:	Karl Katuin presented the agenda for approval. There were no changes to the agenda. Mark Hansen made a motion to accept the meeting agenda as presented, seconded by Debby Hansen; motion passed 7-0.
Secretary’s Report: <i>(Larry)</i>	<p>Larry Thome presented the minutes from the February 2025 Council Meeting. There were no questions on the report as presented.</p> <p>Glenda Swinehart made a motion to accept the February 2025 Council Meeting minutes as presented, seconded by Mark Hansen; motion passed 7-0.</p> <p>Larry Thome presented the minutes from the February 9, 2025 Special Council Meeting regarding the Sunshine Movement. There were no questions on the report as presented.</p> <p>Glenda Swinehart made a motion to accept the February 9, 2025 Special Council Meeting regarding the Sunshine Movement minutes as presented, seconded by Debby Hansen; motion passed 7-0.</p>
Treasurer’s Report: <i>(Michaele)</i>	<p>The General Fund Checking Register, Savings Summary Report, the Statement of Financial Position, the Statement of Financial Income and Expense and the Memorials Balance Summary Report were presented as of February 28, 2025.</p> <p>It was noted in the reports that money was transferred from savings to pay for some of our monthly expenses. Based on the first two months of the year, monthly offerings are not meeting our expenses. It was requested that an analysis take place to look into trends of giving/spending to determine if this will be a problem moving forward in 2025.</p> <p>There were no other questions or comments on the reports as presented.</p> <p>Mark Hansen made a motion to accept the Treasurer’s reports as presented, seconded by Inger Kirkwood; motion passed 7-0.</p>
Pastor’s Report:	<p>Pastor Lucy asked if it was possible to share Bethany’s Audit process that was developed in 2024 at the Synod retreat. Ross Hardie is meeting with church treasurers at the Synod retreat. President Karl Katuin gave his approval for this to happen.</p> <p>Pastor Lucy also shared the schedule for Lent and Holy Week:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Mid-week Wednesday worship with the theme “Luke’s Dinner” in the Fellowship Hall – Maundy Thursday service at East Lemonweir – 6:30 PM – Good Friday service at Bethany – 1:00 PM (with Grace Lutheran/Elroy and Winding Rivers Methodist) <p>Larry Thome asked if the New Lisbon Lions could place an Eyeglass Collection box in the narthex, and Pastor Lucy approved the request.</p>
Committee Reports:	There were no committee reports this month as the focus of this Council meeting is long-term planning.
Devotion:	Pastor Lucy shared an interactive devotion with the Council to help prepare for long-term planning. The purpose of this devotion was to understand that we all have strengths to share and we should focus on using and sharing those strengths as a collective group



Long Term-Planning

Pastor Lucy led the discussion on long term planning. To start the discussion, the Council reviewed the long-term planning items from the October 2024 Council meeting:

Properties

- Parking lot resealing (priority for 2025)
- Window replacement in the Sanctuary
- Boiler replacement
- Fellowship Hall drywall and ceiling repair

Discipleship

- Community supper being a priority in 2025
- New signage in town marketing Bethany

Education

- Increased family religious education based on the success of the new Bible study

Worship

- New computer for the sound AV system in the sanctuary
- Multiple cameras in multiple positions for worship
- New/upgraded computer for the church secretary
- Improved usage (maybe larger) of computer screens as part of worship
- Music director and/or full-time musician for worship
- Restarting the church choir
- Re-sealing of the church floor
- Complete fixing of the last piece of the ceiling after removing the skylight

Each Council member was asked to identify and other items and then the Council identified a couple of new items (not necessarily long-term):

- Worship – BBQ Worship service/campfire on a Saturday night in the summer, Christmas in July
- Discipleship – Touched-Twice Clinic, mitten tree
- Education – Bible Study - small group/book study
- Properties - Parking lot resealing, window replacement in the Sanctuary, re-sealing of the church floor
- Social Concerns – Ministry highlight – educating the congregation
- Stewardship/Council – Ministry fair

The action items from this discussion/list:

- Pastor Lucy – look into outside summer service
- Larry Thome – research Bible study/small group options – solicit additional people to assist
- Mark Hansen – obtain estimates for major work efforts, then Council can prioritize and look for how to fund
- Inger Kirkwood – look into different ways to educate the congregation on various ministries (utilize ELCA and Synod resources)

Council members will report at future Council meetings on the progress of these action items.

Next Meeting:

The next Council meeting is scheduled for April 6, 2025 at 12:00 PM. Karl Katuin will provide devotions and Sunday service announcements in April.

**Adjourn Meeting/
Closing Prayer:**

Pastor Lucy led the Council in a closing prayer.
Glenda Swinehart made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Inger Kirkwood; motion passed 7-0. The meeting adjourned at 2:38 PM.

Submitted by Larry Thome, Council Secretary