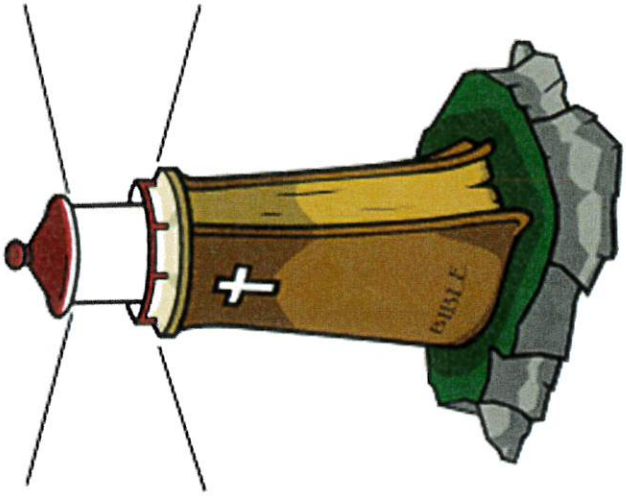
The Beacon

Bethany / East Lemonweir Parish
June 2025



Proverbs 11:3 "The integrity of the upright shall guide them: but the perverseness of transgressors shall destroy them."

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

RETURN SERVICES *REQUESTED*

This year's synod assembly theme is "For the Beauty of the Earth." The theme comes from the well-loved hymn by the same title and out of a resolution from last year assembly to focus on creation care. So, I thought I'd offer a little devotion/reflection of sorts to go along with this theme.

I'm often struck when playing games with Samuel, how often the game helps me look at life/the world differently. I notice small miraculous things that I tend to ignore. This makes me think about how we walk by creation.

It is so easy to look past the small wonders. So often we look at creation for what it gives us—for how it serves us—we can take the earth and our power over it for granted. We often focus on the creation story where humankind is given "dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth." We are used to hearing that we have been given a great responsibility to steward what God has given us—But the next creation story in chapter 2 of Genesis paints a slightly different picture—one that helps me see creation and humankind's role in it in a different light.

After sharing how God created humankind out of the dirt of the ground, Genesis 2:15 says, "The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it." I know this may not sound new. We have been told many times that God commanded the first humans to till and keep the land—what may be new is to learn that the Hebrew meaning behind the word we translate to till or cultivate is literally "to serve." The same word to describe God's command to humans is the same word used to describe the servitude of servants to masters, of one group of people to another, or of people to God. So, in this account of creation, human beings are seen to be in the service of the earth—not the earth in service to humankind. Human beings are placed in a position of dependence on nature rather than dominion over it.

Both creation stories from Genesis open many different perspectives. But across all those perspectives, God creates everything in relationship to one another. What in nature tends to grab your attention? What are some things that help you remember our dependence on creation and creation's dependence on us?

To help think about that relationship a bit more. I invite you to a couple of opportunities this summer to worship outside:

The first will be **Saturday, June 28th at 6:00PM at Bethany in New Lisbon**. This service in not a replacement for Sunday's worship but an additional time to praise God and enjoy some fellowship. Rain date will be in August.

The second will be on **Sunday July 6th at 10:30AM at Heritage Park in New Lisbon**. We will be joined by Winding River United Methodist Church and have a joint pot-luck lunch after service. In case of rain, the service will be held at Winding River.

In peace,

Pastor Lucy

For the Beauty of the Earth (vs. 1-4)

1 For the beauty of the earth,
for the beauty of the skies,
for the love which from our birth
over and around us lies:

Refrain

Christ, our God, to thee we raise
this our sacrifice of praise.

2 For the wonder of each hour
of the day and of the night,
hill and vale and tree and flow'r,
sun and moon and stars of light:

3 For the joy of ear and eye,
for the heart and mind's delight,
for the mystic harmony
linking sense to sound and sight:

4 For the joy of human love,
brother, sister, parent, child,
friends on earth and friends above;
for all gentle thoughts and mild:

Bethany & East Lemonweir Lutheran Parishes

June 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 12 pm Bethany Council Meets 9AM Worship @ Bethany 10:30AM Worship@ East Lemonweir	2	3 4 pm Rachel Circle	4 9 am Quilting @ Bethany	5 9:30 Bible Study	6 Synod Assembly	7 Synod Assembly
8 Synod Assembly	9	10	11 9 am Quilting @ Bethany	12 9:30 Bible Study	13 Bethany WELCA Salad Lunch & Silent Purse Auction 11am-1pm	14
15	16	17	18 9 am Quilting @ Bethany	19 9:30 Bible Study	20	21
22 Floats and Noodles after Bethany Worship...enjoy Root Beer Floats	23	24	25 9 am Quilting @ Bethany	26 9:30 Bible Study	27	28 Campfire worship @ Bethany 6pm
29	30	AA Meeting 6:30 PM – Tuesday @ East Lemonweir and Thursday @ Bethany	1st & 3rd Sunday @ Bethany Altar Communion; 4th & 5th Sunday Continuous communion	July Worship in the park, details in the works.	June Food Pantry focus is pasta noodles.	

June 2025 Worship Assistants

East Lemonweir

Readers
6/1 Connie Wolfgram
6/8 Roger Nelson
6/15 Diane Clark
6/22 Bret Haschke
6/29 Audrey Scholl

Greeters
6/1 Roger & Kathryn Pitcel
6/8 Audrey Scholl
6/15 Diane Clark
6/22 Bret & Billie Jo Haschke
6/29 Diane Clark

Bethany

6/1 Altar Communion
Assistant Minister Larry Thome
Reader Sheila Stark
Communion Assistant(s) Larry Thome
Usher Shane Gesler & Kathy Thome

6/8 (No Communion)
Assistant Minister Mark Hansen
Reader Betty Krotzman
Usher Jack & Betty Krotzman

6/15 Altar Communion
Assistant Minister Beth Preuss
Reader Ross Hardie
Communion Assistant(s) Beth Preuss
Usher Larry & Kathy Thome

6/22 Continuous Communion
Assistant Minister Michaele Korbein
Reader Debby Hansen
Communion Assistant(s) Michaele Korbein, Betty Krotzman, Galen Lingl
Usher Mark & Debby Hansen

6/29 Continuous Communion
Assistant Minister Galen Lingl
Reader Barb Parker
Communion Assistant(s) Inger Kirkwood, Barb Parker, Galen Lingl
Usher Karl Katuin & Tim Parker

Floats and Noodles
Summer Fun and Yum

*Sunday, June 22nd, following Bethany's service

*Bring some noodles (like macaroni, spaghetti, etc.) to support our New Lisbon Food Pantry

*Enjoy a root beer float!

*Possibilities for prizes just for staying for fellowship!

In-Reach Update

It has been one year since Bethany began its journey in supporting our members in a time of need, such as the birth of a child, illness, and/or surgery. Six families were supported with meals or gas/food cards during times in their lives when additional assistance allowed them to focus on other areas of importance.

Thank you to all who have volunteered to participate with this special ministry. It has been appreciated by all those who received help. You have made a difference! ☺

1 John 3:18

"Dear children, let's not merely say that we love each other; let us show the truth by our actions."

	Bethany Lutheran Church – New Lisbon, Wisconsin
	Congregation Meeting – Properties Improvements
	Sunday, April 27, 2025

Meeting Purpose:	The Church Council/Properties Committee is presenting two projects to the congregation that exceed the Council funding limits and requires congregational approval.
Agenda	
Call to Order:	President Karl Katuin called the Congregational Meeting to order at 10:11 AM.
Constitution Vote:	Karl Katuin and Mark Hansen (Properties Director) presented two projects to the congregation. These projects would be funded by money currently held in CDs and then a fall fundraising project would occur to replenish those funds. **<u>Window Replacement in the Sanctuary</u>** The original windows require replacement. A bid was presented by Steadfast Remodeling of Mauston for the following: 12 windows - double pane - white exterior/dark oak interior Clear glass – $13,620.78 Grey tinted glass – $14,834.38 The windows would take six weeks to order (custom) and the one-day installation. ***Chrissy Toelle made a motion to accept the bid for the clear glass windows at $13,620.78. The motion was seconded by Beth Pruess; motion passed unanimously by the congregation.*** **<u>Parking Lot Repair</u>** The church parking lot is in dire need of repair. Three bids were presented. • B & H – Mauston – Crack-filling and seal-coating with 2 coats – $8,200 • Riley Paving – Baraboo – Grind down 1.5 inches - pour hot mix over the top and stripe – $72,150 – Pour 2 inches hot mix over the top and grind down to match existing concrete – $57,700 – Crack-filling and seal-coating with 2 coats – $10,500 • Gasser Construction – Baraboo – Take out approximately 165 square yards of existing blacktop (where bad) and pour 4" of hot mix in those areas - seal-coat with 2 coats – $24,227 The Council recommends the estimate from Gasser Construction. ***Keith Korbein made a motion to accept the bid for the bid from Gasser Construction for $24,227. The motion was seconded by Al Rhea; motion passed unanimously by the congregation.***
Adjournment:	Mark Hansen made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Cindy Costello. Motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 10:21 AM.

Submitted by Larry Thome, Council Secretary

Bethany Lutheran Church – New Lisbon, Wisconsin

Church Council Meeting Minutes

Sunday, May 4, 2025

Council Members Present:	Mark Hansen, Michaele Korbein, Debby Hansen, Deanna Smith, Glenda Swinehart, Larry Thome
Council Members Absent:	Pastor Lucy Hardie, Karl Katuin, Inger Kirkwood
Guests:	None

Agenda

Call to Order:	Vice-President Mark Hansen called the Council meeting to order at 10:24 PM.
Agenda Approval:	Mark Hansen presented the agenda for approval. There were no changes to the agenda. ***Debby Hansen made a motion to accept the meeting agenda as presented, seconded by Glenda Swinehart; motion passed 6-0.***
Devotion:	Glenda Swinehart shared a devotion based on Gospel for the third Sunday of Easter (John 21:1-19). Jesus makes breakfast of fish for the Disciples, and we too shall be fed by Jesus.
Secretary's Report: *(Larry)*	Larry Thome presented the minutes from the April 2025 Council Meeting as written by Michaele Korbein. There were no questions on the report as presented. ***Glenda Swinehart made a motion to accept the April 2025 Council Meeting minutes as presented, seconded by Larry Thome; motion passed 6-0.*** Larry Thome presented the minutes from the April 27, 2025 Special Council Meeting regarding the Properties improvements (windows and parking lot). There were no questions on the report as presented. ***Debby Hansen made a motion to accept the April 27, 2025 Special Council Meeting regarding the Properties Improvement minutes as presented, seconded by Deanna Smith; motion passed 6-0.***
Treasurer's Report: *(Michaele)*	Michaele Korbein presented 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 as of April 30, 2025. Michaele noted that she was going to consolidate a few seldom used accounts into general accounts as part of a clean-up process. This is a standard accounting practice and no Council approval was required. There were no questions or comments on the reports as presented. ***Deanna Smith made a motion to accept the Treasurer's reports as presented, seconded by Glenda Swinehart; motion passed 6-0.***
Pastor's Report:	No report as Pastor Lucy was not present.

Committee Reports

Discipleship: *(Glenda and Debby)*	The committee met to plan out the ministries for the rest of the year.
Education: *(Deanna)*	The next family Bible study is scheduled for May 18 at 3:00 PM.
Social Concerns: *(Inger)*	No report as Inger Kirkwood was not present.
Property: *(Mark)*	With the congregational approval of the properties work, Gasser has provided a start date for the parking lot in a couple of weeks. They will pour the area that needs to be replaced first, let that set for two weeks, and then sealcoat and stripe the parking lot. Saturday May 10th is clean-up day. Mark Hansen has created a list of items to be completed that day.

Worship: *(Larry)*	Confirmation is set for Sunday, May 18. Bishop Malpica will not be able to join us that Sunday, but will lead our worship on Sunday, May 11. Pastor Lucy has mentioned Saturday evening, June 28 for a campfire worship – more to come. Sunday, May 25 is our joint worship at 10:30 AM at East Lemonweir. Worship in the Park is planned for July at Heritage with Winding Rivers UMC. Larry was not sure of the actual date, and will need to confirm with Pastor Lucy.
Old Business	
Church Cleaning:	Mark Hansen met with Red Maple Cleaning and Property Services of Necedah regarding assisting in cleaning the church twice a month. They provided an estimate of $85 for each time they clean, or $170 a month. ***Larry Thome made a motion to accept using Red Maple Cleaning for cleaning the church twice a month, seconded by Deanna Smith; motion passed 6-0.***
New Business	
Wa Du Shuda Days Participation:	For the last couple of years Bethany has participated in Wa Du Shuda Days selling pies and baked goods. While this has been a good outreach to our community, it is not much of a fundraiser and we want to do something different to make people more aware that Bethany is part of the community. Debby Hansen presented that at this year's Wa Du Shuda Days, Bethany will be handing out bottles of water with a label stating it was from Bethany with some additional information on it. Rather than having to scheduling bakers and shifts for the booth, we would just need volunteers to hand out the water. It was suggested that this could be part of the parade or after the parade as people are heading back to the park.
Joint Worship in the Park:	Bethany will be the hosts this year for Worship in the Park. That means that we will be responsible for providing the main course for the post worship lunch. A couple of options were discussed, and the Council recommended that we provide Sloppy Joes for the main course. With an estimate of approximately 100 people participating in this worship, this would require 20 lbs. of ground beef plus buns for the meal. Individuals would provide salads, desserts, etc... for the lunch.
Next Meeting:	The next Council meeting is scheduled for June 1, 2025 at 12:00 PM.
Adjourn Meeting:	***Michaele Korbein made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Glenda Swinehart; motion passed 6-0.*** The meeting adjourned at 10:59 PM.

Submitted by Larry Thome, Council Secretary

EAST LEMONWEIR LUTHERAN CHURCH
Council Meeting
May 18, 2025

Present: Pastor Lucy Hardie, Roger Nelson, Margarete Hummelbeck, Connie Wolfgram, Audrey Scholl, Kathryn Pitcel, Roger Pitcel, Gayle Hempel, Marlene Pelton.

Absent: None.

President Roger Nelson called the May 18, 2025, council meeting to order at 11:50 am, following Sunday's coffee fellowship. Opening prayer was given by Pastor Lucy Hardie.

A motion was made by Audrey Scholl, second by Roger Pitel to approve the secretary's minutes. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Gayle Hempel, second by Marlene Pelton to approve the treasurer's report. Motion carried.

Workmen should be here this week for installing the siding.

Pastor requested prayers for Pastor Lucy Hardie and the Synod Assembly scheduled June 6 – June 8.

A combined worship and lunch will be held in the New Lisbon Heritage Park, July 6th. Bethany will be providing the meat portion of the meal.

On June 12, a funeral and lunch, for Dennis Ristow, will be held at East Lemonweir.

Marlene Pelton shared Wa Du Shuda will be July 12 in New Lisbon and East Lemonweir will be having an ice cream stand.

Audrey Scholl will read for the May 25th worship service instead of Kathryn Pitcel.

Motion to adjourn by Roger Pitcel, second by Gayle Hempel. Motion carried. We closed by praying the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Connie Wolfgram, Secretary

W-ELCA News

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

This month's bible study from *'gather'* is the last lesson in this faithfulness theme. This month we study and discuss Faith Risks - Jairus and the faithful woman. This lesson is based on Mark 5:21-43. We discuss and learn how Jairus, and the faithful woman relied on God's faithfulness in times of difficulty.

Thank you to everyone who shared their Easter flowers for our Easter service, they beautified our church as we rejoiced our Risen Lord.

Upcoming Events:
W-ELCA - TBD

A thought: Life is a journey, and the church is my favorite pit stop for spiritual fueling.

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

	April	Year To Date
Offerings+Other Income received	$12,905.25*	$52,884.99
Expenses paid	$20,786.59	$66,747.63**

* includes East Lemonweir's budget reimbursements
**includes final roof work, windows downpayment & boiler pump repair

Silent Purse Auction is Back!! Yeah!!

This will be our 6th Silent Purse Auction. Watch for it in the narthex, it ends June 13th right after the salad luncheon.

HOW IT WORKS: * Purses will be displayed filled with unknown/surprise items
*People will bid on these purses without knowing what is inside.
*The winning bidder will receive the purse and its contents.

WHAT YOU CAN DO TO HELP: Anyone that would like to help with the purse auction can PLEASE do soin the following ways:

1. You can fill a purse with items perhaps around a certain theme.
2. Donate a purse and its contents with items you would like to find inside a purse yourself.
3. Donate a purse or item(s) you may find in a purse
4. If you choose to donate items, please put them in a brown paper bag and place them in the basket on the conference room table

The types of items are only limited by our imaginations.

Thanks!

WHAT ELSE YOU CAN DO TO HELP: Bid on the purses!

Questions: Please contact Peggy Katuin or Judy Zobal

June 2025 Celebrations

Bethany Birthdays

Kevin Klinker – 2
Toni Phelps – 2
Rosie Halverson – 4
Garry Olson – 4
Janie Bever – 8
Cody Sletten – 12
John Bailey – 14
Danielle Benson - 14
Don Powell – 15
Jack Krotzman – 15
Shane Gesler – 15
Barbara Pease - 19
Sandy Rhea - 21
ShyAnna Sletten – 30

Bethany Anniversaries

Kevin & Lisa Klinker – 14
Ken & Marcia Adams – 22
Karl & Peg Katuin – 23
Chis & Leah Faber – 24
Jack & Betty Krotzman – 25

East Lemonweir Birthdays

Bret Haschke - 25
Nathan Brown – 26

East Lemonweir Anniversaries

Connie & Gerald Wolfgram – 5

If a celebration is not listed, please call 608 562 3807 or email bethanyeast@mwt.net.