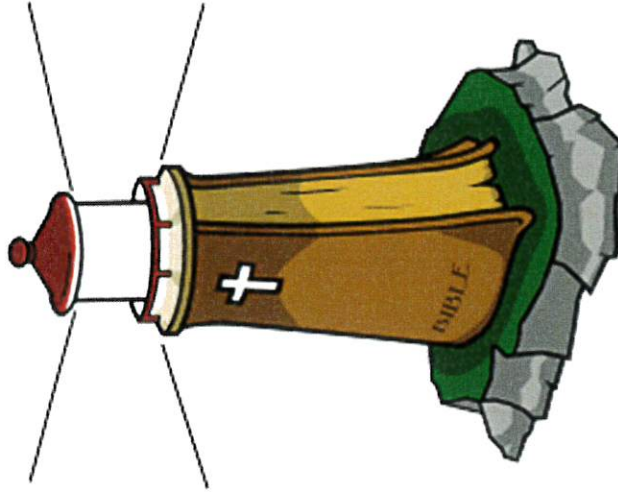


The Beacon

Bethany / East Lemonweir Parish
March 2024



John 11:25-25

Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?"

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

RETURN SERVICES REQUESTED



As we continue our Lenten journey, I want to take some time and share and reflect a bit on our theme for our mid-week services. Our theme is “Wandering Heart: Figuring out Faith with Peter.”

Peter is remembered in the church for his extraordinary commitment to the early church and the spreading of the Gospel. Some would say he is the most famous of Jesus’ disciples. From scripture we learn that he is a benefactor from miracles performed by Jesus (the miraculous catch of his call to discipleship story and the healing of his mother-in-law), he walks on water, and proclaims Jesus as the Son of God when no one else can. Many myths and legends have been written and told about his actions and teachings. It is easy for us to put him up on a pedestal.

However, Peter has a wandering heart. His heart often leads toward Jesus in one moment and then away in the next moment. His journey is far from polished, straight, or perfect. Yet, he always finds himself tethered to the love of God. Jesus offers him abundance when there is scarcity or unbelief, catches him when he begins to sink, challenges him when he tries to stand in the way, washes his feet, predicts his betrayal, and offers him love in the way that only God can.

Peter is like us. For we, too, often take one step forward in faith only to take a step backward moments later. Our hearts wander—and Jesus is right by our side—loving us, giving us a hand to grab when we are sinking, forgiving our betrayals, and helping us see abundance amidst scarcity.

So, I invite you to come on this journey—of walking with Peter in figuring out faith. Not idolize or vilify him but to simply wander alongside...to be open to what we might learn about Jesus (and ourselves) by stepping in his shoes.

---Pastor Lucy

Lenten Mid-Week Soup Supper and Worship Schedule

February 28

March 6, 13, and 20

Soup is served 5:00-6:00. Service starts at 6:30.

Did you know?

- Peter is actually mentioned via several different names in the NT. He is also called Simon, Simeon, Simon Peter, and Cephas.
- Taking all of the different version of his name, Peter is mentioned 181 times in the New Testament. That’s more than Paul/Saul who is mentioned 177 times.
- Simon’s hometown was Bethsaida. Sometime prior to meeting Jesus, he moved to Capernaum where he resided with his brother (Andrew), his wife, and mother-in-law (and possibly lived near James, John, and Zebedee given their business relationship).

Bethany Fellowship Sundays

Starting on Sunday March 10th, Bethany will be observing Fellowship Sundays.

The second Sunday of each month will feature a slightly abbreviated service in order to give Pastor Lucy a longer time to fellowship with people compared to other Sundays.

We hope you will join us!

2024

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

Offerings+Other Income received **Jan:** \$14,208.12* **YTD:** \$14,208.12*

Expenses **Jan:** \$ 9,618.77 **YTD:** \$ 9,618.77

* includes East Lemonweir's reimbursement

Bethany and East Lemmonweir Lutheran Parishes

March 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Sunday Worship 9 am Bethany 10 am Sunday School 10:30 am East Lemmonweir	Altar Communion @ Bethany 1 st and 3 rd Sunday, Continuous Communion other Sundays	6:30 PM AA @ East Lemmonweir	East Lemmonweir Altar Communion 1 st Sunday, Continuous Communion 3 rd Sunday	6:30 PM AA @ Bethany	1	2
3 Bethany Council Bold Women Sunday @ Bethany	4	5 Rachael Circle 4pm @ Bethany Conference Room	6 9 am Quilting 5 pm Soup supper 6:30 pm Lenten Service	7 9 am Bible Study @ Bethany	8	9 You need to Spring your Clocks ahead tonight.
10 BINGO @ Bethany Bethany Fellowship Sunday Daylight Savings	11	12	13 9 am Quilting 5 pm Soup supper 6:30 pm Lenten Service	14 9 am Bible Study @ Bethany	15	16
17 St. Patrick's Day	18	19 Spring Arrives Beacon Articles Due	20 9 am Quilting 5 pm Soup supper 6:30 pm Lenten Service	21 9 am Bible Study @ Bethany	22	23
24 	25	26	27 9am Quilting	28 9 am Bible Study @ Bethany 6:30 PM Maundy Thursday Service	29 Good Friday Ecumenical Service 1 PM @ Bethany	30 
31 8 AM Bethany Easter Svc with Brunch 10:30 am East Lemmonweir	Pastor will be out of office 4/1 – 4/3	Pastor @ Cont. Education 4/9 – 4/12			Betty Out of Office on Fridays	

2024 MARCH WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

East Lemonweir Reader

3/3 – Diane Clark
3/10 – Jennifer Sarnow
3/17 - Connie Wolfgram
3/24 – Jennifer Sarnow
3/31 – Roger Nelson

Lenten Service Readers

3/6 – Debby Hansen
3/13 – Sheila Stark
3/20 – Roger Nelson
3/28 - Audrey Scholl (Maundy Thursday)

Bethany Worship Assistants

3/3 –
Assistant Minister – Mark Hansen
Reader – Debby Hansen
Altar Communion Assistants – Mark Hansen & Confirmation Student
Ushers – Larry & Kathy Thome

3/10

Assistant Minister – Galen Lingl
Reader – Angie Krizan
Continuous Communion Assistants – Galen Lingl, Betty Krotzman, Barb Parker
Ushers – Mark & Debby Hansen

3/17 –

Assistant Minister – Larry Thome
Reader – Ross Hardie
Altar Communion – Barb Parker & Confirmation Student
Ushers – Tim Parker & Karl Katuin

3/24 –

Assistant Minister – Beth Preuss
Reader – Barb Parker
Continuous Communion – Beth Preuss, Deanna Smith, Mark Hansen
Ushers – Mike & Lori Esser

3/31 –

Assistant Minister – Larry Thome
Reader – Sheila Stark
Continuous Communion – Barb Parker, Inger Kirkwood, Michaela Korbein
Ushers – Tim Parker & Shane Gesler





March 2024 Celebrations

Birthdays

Bethany

5 Sidney Schultz
10 Shirley Wehman
18 Keith Korbein
31 Pete Smith

East Lemonweir

2 Lorraine Bowen
11 Karren Elsing
11 Ron Thompson
21 Sharron Groskreutz
22 Rustin Groskreutz
27 Margarete Hummelbeck

3/13 - Ross Hardie

3/16 Lucy Hardie

Anniversaries

Bethany

3/25 - Mike & Lori Esser

East Lemonweir

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!

2024 BETHANY COUNCIL MEMBERS

PRESIDENT – MARK HANSEN

VICE PRESIDENT – KARL KATUIN

TREASURER – MICHAELE KORBEIN

SECRETARY – LARRY THOME

COMMITTEES

**DISCIPLESHIP (FORMERLY EVANGELISM) – GLENDA SWINEHART AND
SHANE GESLER**

EDUCATION – DEANNA SMITH

PROPERTY – KARL KATUIN

SOCIAL CONCERNS – CHRISTY TOELLE AND INGER KIRKWOOD

WORSHIP – LARRY THOME

Long Range Planning and Stewardship Committees are now a responsibility of the Council as a whole. This is related to the updated Bethany Constitution recently approved the Congregation.



Bethany Lutheran Church – New Lisbon, Wisconsin

Church Council Meeting Minutes

Sunday, February 11, 2024

Council Members Present:	Pastor Lucy Hardie, Mark Hansen, Shane Gesler, Karl Katuin, Inger Kirkwood, Michaele Korbein, Glenda Swinehart, Larry Thome, Christy Toelle
Council Members Absent:	Deanna Smith
Guests:	Keith Korbein, William Korbein (for part of the meeting)
Agenda	
Call to Order:	President Mark Hansen called the council meeting to order at 11:59 AM.
Devotions:	Mark Hansen provided devotions based on the Gospel from today's service on the Transfiguration. Jesus is always with you – you are never alone with Jesus.
Secretary's Report:	Shane Gesler made a motion to accept the January 7, 2024 Council meeting minutes as presented, seconded by Christy Toelle; motion passed 9-0. <i>Karl Katuin made a motion to accept the February 4, 2024 special Congregation meeting minutes from the 2nd vote for the new Constitution meeting minutes as presented, seconded by Inger Kirkwood; motion passed 9-0.</i>
Treasurer's Report:	The January General Fund Register, Savings Summary Report and Memorials Balance Summary was presented. Micheale had a question regarding the allocation of where we should send our undesignated Synod funds/Penny Pole funds. She recommended that we should send to the ELCA World Hunger, where there is a focus on providing clean water globally. No vote required, but council agreed. <i>Christy Toelle made a motion to accept the January Treasurer's as presented, seconded by Inger Kirkwood; motion passed 9-0.</i>
Pastor's Report:	Thanks to everyone who helped with support the funerals at Bethany over the last two weeks. Mark and Michaele will be attending the Synod Council retreat on February 17, 2024 in West Salem. Pastor Lucy asked about funding for the National Gathering retreat: Bethany will have four youth and two adults attending this year. The average cost per person for attending is \$1,500. Each attendee is responsible for \$150 of this cost with the church providing the rest of the funding through current funds or fundraising efforts. For the Council's turn for mid-week Lenten support, Pastor would like to have the youth attending the National Gathering also help, and use the freewill offerings as part of the funding for their trip. Questions came up on the feasibility to use part of the Kwik Trip script cards balance for funding as well – we have ~\$2,000 available. Also, the current balance in the youth fund is ~\$6,500. The Council is supportive of these options and will review after some additional fundraising efforts. Pastor will also share this information with the congregation in the newsletter to help understand the cost of sending people to the National Gathering.
Committee Reports	
Education: (Shane)	No new updates.
Evangelism: (Glenda)	No new updates.
Property: (Karl)	The hot water in the church is leaking and per Inger, not consistently providing hot water. A plumber will be called. The door on the men's restroom needs repairing as a few screws need to be replaced.
Social Concerns: (Inger/Christy)	No new updates.



Bethany Lutheran Church – New Lisbon, Wisconsin

Church Council Meeting Minutes

Sunday, February 11, 2024

Worship: (Larry)	<p>The Worship Committee met regarding current state and future planning/dreams: Looking into improving back of sanctuary experience – traffic flow, offering plate Additional information on announcements in bulletins, increasing size of songs AV/Technical improvements – microphones, camera position, updates to computers, hardware updates.</p> <p>Pastor availability for fellowship after service – majority of the time she has to leave for East right away after service. A solution for this is starting in March, to have the 2nd Sunday of each month be a “fellowship” Sunday, where the service is shorter and Pastor will have time to spend after service with the congregation. There will still be Communion, but maybe fewer readings and hymns – TBD.</p>
Old Business	
March 3rd Council Meeting:	<p>Instead of a regular Council meeting, Pastor Dione, Director for Evangelical Mission and Assistant to Bishop Malpica will join us for a leadership and planning session from 12:00 PM to 3:00 PM. BBQ lunch will be provided with Council members bringing sides.</p>
New Business	
Handheld Microphone and Power Strip:	<p>Keith and William Korbein joined the meeting. The current handheld mics (2) used mainly for the song leaders are no longer working and need to be replaced. Based on their research, they are recommending an Audix AP62 OM2 Wireless Microphone purchased from Sweetwater Audio. Council discussed funding and agreed to use funds from undesignated memorials (Evie Hicks). Also, a new Power Distribution System and Filter was purchased for \$80 for the A/V system as a fire safety issue.</p> <p>Mark Hansen made a motion to approve the purchase of the new handheld microphones as presented up to \$1,600, seconded by Karl Katuin; motion passed 9-0.</p>
Secretary’s Computer:	<p>Keith and William led a discussion on the office computer and how it will not be compatible when Windows 10 is sunset in October 2025. They discussed an option to upgrade the current computer with more RAM, a video card and power supply for ~\$300. Council requested them to report back with a comparison of upgrading the current computer vs. purchasing a new one. To be discussed at a future meeting.</p>
Committees:	<p>With the “rightsizing” of the Bethany Council based on the new Constitution and mentioned at the annual meeting, it was decided that the Stewardship and Long-Range Planning committees would be dissolved and merged into an overall Council responsibility. The 2024 Council committees were then finalized:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Education: Deanna Smith • Discipleship **: Glenda Swinehart and Shane Gesler • Property: Karl Katuin • Social Concerns: Inger Kirkwood and Christy Toelle • Worship: Larry Thome <p>** The Evangelism Committee’s name was changed to Discipleship, to denote that we are disciples of Jesus – also a suggestion from Pastor Denny.</p>
Schedule for Announcements/Devotions	<p>The Council members signed up for devotions and announcements for the rest of the year and a separate document was created with the months and names.</p>
Next Meeting:	<p>The next Council meeting will be March 3, 2024 at 12:00 PM. This will not be a regular meeting, but a leadership and planning session with Pastor Dione.</p>
Adjourn Meeting/ Closing Prayer:	<p>Christy Toelle made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Glenda Swinehart; motion passed 9-0. The meeting adjourned at 1:10 PM.</p>

Submitted by Larry Thome, Council Secretary

W-ELCA News

Thank you to those who helped prepare, serve and provide food for the funeral luncheons of Arlene Krotzman and Jon Gollmar. The families were very appreciative. May they rest in peace as their families find peace.

Thank you to Helen and the crew for providing the annual/traditional Bethany pancake supper. We appreciate another tradition which is the soup suppers. People are so willing to help in any way they can. Soups suppers are Feb. 21, 28, March 6, 13, 20.

Thank you to the ladies who attended our Feb. 11th W-ELCA meeting. It was heartwarming to hear some members' stories of faith. In addition to discussing/planning upcoming events (see below), we talked about Easter decorating, program booklet, synod spring convention, purchasing an AED, re-organizing due to changes in membership.

Bethany W-ELCA needs updated contact information from ladies of our congregation. Please put current contact info on the form on the round table in the fellowship hall. Thank you!

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.

March Bible study is Scripture and nature: Teachers of Faith. Session three: Rivers. Through stories of biblical rivers, we receive a vision of flourishing creation. During this lesson, we'll gather at the rivers. The rivers that flow through Scripture will teach us to pay attention to God's faithfulness throughout generations and to God's continued work to carry us toward life, justice and abundance for all creation.

Rachel Circle meets the first Tuesday of each month at 4:00 in the conference room. We've been a small group but welcome all ladies who would enjoy Bible study and fellowship to please attend.

Upcoming events:

Sunday, March 3 – Bold Women's Sunday

Tuesday, March 5, Rachel Circle meets at 4:00 in the conference room

Wednesdays - soup suppers - Feb. 21, 28, March 6, 13, 20.

Saturday, March 23, bus trip to Appleton through Mauston Methodist Church to attend the Passion Play. Contact our church office or check out the flyer on the white board in the narthex.

A thought: Exercise daily. Run from Satan, walk with God.

BOLD WOMEN'S SUNDAY MARCH 3RD

Celebrate the bold women in your life

Bold Women's Day—observed the first Sunday of March—celebrates all Lutheran women who have acted or are acting boldly on their faith in Jesus Christ. Boldness comes in many forms; firm and quiet and bright and loud. Some women are bold in their unceasing prayers. Other women are bold in their service to those in need. Still other women are bold in their advocacy or through their hospitality. Whether we live out our bold story of faith in the workplace, family home or community, our faith compels us to make a difference in the lives of others. It's all about living out our baptismal call, about being a disciple of Christ. Are you bold?

B-I-N-G-O

@

Bethany

March 10th

FRAME UP! Join us to find out what this is all about!

*You can donate prizes to the Bingo Basket, if you want. Hope to see and hear you on the 10th!

B I N G O

12	25	41	51	63
3	30	37	54	66
7	21	FREE	56	74
1	26	35	50	69
10	17	45	47	64

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