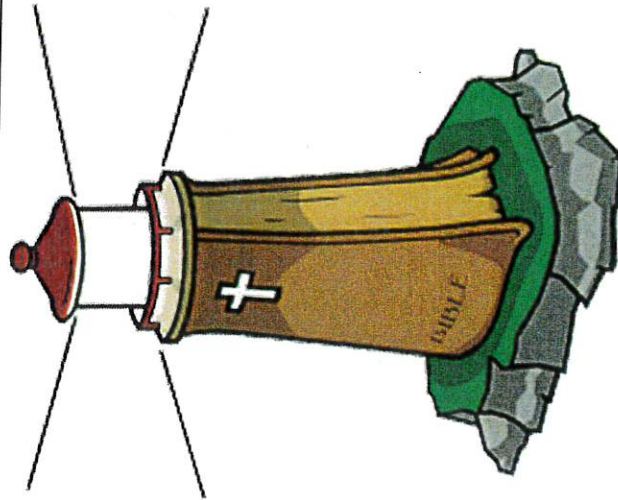


The Beacon

Bethany / East Lemonweir Parish
May 2025



*Instead, let the Spirit renew your
thoughts and attitudes. Ephesians
4:23*

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

RETURN SERVICES REQUESTED



MAY 2025 CELEBRATIONS

Bethany Birthdays

Anne Fenwick – 1
Evelyn Heffler Baumgart - 6
Linda Eddy - 11
Cylus Sletten – 12
Randy Fenwick – 13
John Costello - 14
Dan Schultz – 18
Dean Allard – 18
Lorraine Schultz – 18
Ethan Benson - 20
Glenda Swinehart – 22
Beth Preuss – 22

Bethany Anniversaries

Randy & Anne Fenwick – 1
Keith & Michaele Korbein – 23
Galen & Janenne Lingl – 28

If a celebration is missing, please call
Betty at 608 562 3807. Thank you.



East Lemonweir Birthdays

Elwood Syverson – 1
Anne Fenwick – 1
Randy Fenwick – 13
Gerald Wolfgram – 20
Kathryn Pitcel – 25
Dawn Nelson – 26
Richard Groskreutz – 29
Shari Ann Lee – 31

East Lemonweir Anniversaries

Randy & Anne Fenwick - 1

Dear God's beloved,

Happy May! Hopefully Spring has finally turned the corner where it feels like it's inching its way to Summer rather than feeling like Winter. I know I'm itching to go shopping for my annuals that I put in pots on my front steps. It feels good to get my hands in the dirt and add some color to the yard.

May can also be a very busy time of year full of celebrations and honors.

Mother's Day is a day filled with joy but also pain. We feel joy as we give thanks for all who have been "mothers" in our lives—those who have supported and nurtured us as we grew: biological moms, foster moms, stepmoms, aunts, and friends. But we also feel pain—as so many no longer have moms in their lives. Whether by death or another means of separation, memories come with joy but also the pain of the inability to make new memories and hearts ache and anger may rise.

In the church, Confirmation is traditionally held in either May or October. At Bethany we will celebrate on May 18th as we celebrate with Josye and Jude Keltner as they affirm their baptism and renew their promises to walk in faith. We will gather as a congregation to reaffirm our promises to walk with them in their faith and to help them to never forget the love and call they have as members of the body of Christ.

May 24th is the graduation ceremony for New Lisbon High School. There are two graduates apart of Bethany that will be crossing the stage and getting their diploma. Josye Keltner and Abby Steele will both be attending Western Technical School to pursue a nursing degree. Abby has the specific goal of becoming an OB RN or a Travel Nurse. Congratulations Josye and Abby for reaching this milestone in your education and we wish you many blessings as you walk into your futures. Remember you are wrapped in God's love and the love of your community through Christ.

Finally, May 26th is Memorial Day. We commemorate this day with a joint service on Sunday at East Lemonweir. We will give thanks for those who answered God's call to love their neighbor by serving their country and gave the ultimate sacrifice with their lives.

And those are just a few of the occasions for celebrating within our community. Of course, there are many anniversaries and birthdays that we can add to that list. All around the world communities will get together to celebrate and commemorate each other, their achievements, heritage, independence, and more.

But let us not forget to also celebrate our faith. Every day is a day to offer joyful thanksgiving and celebration to God for working in our lives and calling us to the holy work of loving God, ourselves, and all people. We celebrate because by the power of God through the Holy Spirit, Jesus Christ is risen! —and is working in every life and every community. We celebrate because being called to be a part of that work is filled with awe and blessings beyond our understanding.

May you find something to celebrate every day this month.


Pastor Lucy

Bonus Family Sunday School!

Our last Family Sunday School for the year will be **May 18th at Bethany (3PM start)**. Any adult/child combinations are welcome. You are invited to spend some time as families learning about God while we read, play, create, and fellowship. Come join us!

Bethany & East Lemonweir Lutheran Parishes

May 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
9AM Worship @ Bethany 10:30AM Worship @ East Lemonweir		AA Meeting 6:30 PM – Tuesday @ East Lemonweir and Thursday @ Bethany		1 Pastor Off – NO Bible Study	2 Pastor Off	3 Pastor Off
4 Pastor OFF Altar Communion Bethany Council MTG	5	6	7 9 am Bethany Quilting	8 9 am Bible Study	9	10 Bethany Work Day @
11 Mother's Day	12	13	14 9 am Bethany Quilting	15 9 am Bible Study	16	17
18 Confirmation- Josye&Jude Keltner Altar Communion Bethany BINGO 3pm Family Sunday School	19	20	21 9 am Bethany Quilting	22 9 am Bible Study	23	24 NL Graduation
25 Combined Worship 10:30 am @ East Lemonweir	26 Memorial Day 	27	28 9 am Bethany Quilting	29 9 am Bible Study	30	31

May 2025 Worship Assistants

East Lemonweir

Readers

5/4 Audrey Scholl
5/11 Audrey Scholl
5/18 Dawn Nelson
5/25 Kathryn Pitcel

Greeters

5/4 Audrey Scholl
5/11 Connie Wolfgram
5/18 Gayle Hempel
5/25 Roger & Dawn Nelson

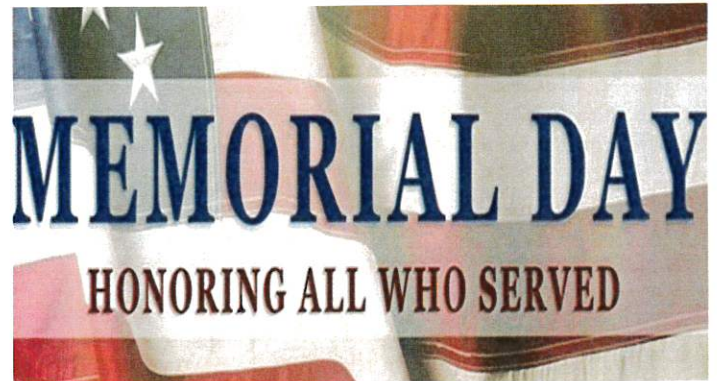
Bethany

May 4th

Assistant Minister – Beth Preuss
Reader – Barb Parker
Communion Assistant – Beth Preuss
Usher – Larry & Kathy Thome

May 18th Confirmation Sunday
Assistant Minister – Larry Thome
Reader - Sheila Stark
Communion Assistant – Larry Thome
Usher Mark & Debby Hansen

May 25th – Worship will be at East Lemonweir.



May 11th

Assistant Minister – Michaele Korbein
Reader – Debby Hansen
Communion Assistants – Michaele Korbein,
Inger Kirkwood, Barb Parker
Usher - Tim Parker & Shane Gesler



BINGO				
4	18	37	59	51
34	68	12	63	8
28	54	FREE	26	15
43	72	46	25	40
57	74	3	61	37

At Bethany

May 18th

Hint for the big prize game: It's **C**onfirmation
Sunday!

**You can donate prizes to the Bingo Basket, if you want.
Hope to see and hear you on the 18th!

Let's celebrate Josye Keltner and Jude Keltner on Confirmation Sunday, May 18th. Enjoy treats and BINGO following service.

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.

Please do not share with Linda Eddy as this is a SURPRISE.

80th Birthday Party for Linda Eddy

Saturday, May 10th, 2025

2 pm to 4 pm

New Lisbon City Hall

232 Pleasant Street

New Lisbon WI 53950

RSVP: Heidi Randall, 608 847 2227

Come and Share some Refreshments.



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

	<u>March</u>	<u>Year To Date</u>
Offerings+Other Income received	\$16,369.84*	\$39,979.74
Expenses paid	\$13,401.33	\$45,961.04**

* includes East Lemonweir's budget reimbursements

**includes final roofing work payment

Bethany Lutheran Church, New Lisbon, WI
Church Council Meeting Minutes
Sunday, April 6, 2025

Council Members present: Pastor Lucy Hardie, Mark Hansen, Michael Korbein, Glenda Swinehart, Karl Katuin, Deanna Smith, Inger Kirkwood, Debby Hansen

Council members absent: Larry Thome

1. Call to Order: President Karl Katuin called the council meeting to order at 12:03 p.m.

2. Approve Agenda: Mark Hansen made a motion to approve the agenda as presented but with the addition of CD under New Business, seconded by Inger Kirkwood; motion passed 8-0.

3. Devotions: Karl Katuin provided devotions.

4. Secretary's Report: Debby Hansen made a motion to accept the March 2, 2025 Council meeting minutes as presented, seconded by Deanna Smith; motion passed 8-0.

4. Treasurer's Report: The March year-to-date financial reports were presented. Mark Hansen made a motion to accept the March Treasurer's reports as presented, seconded by Deanna Smith; motion passed 8-0.

5. Pastor Report: Pastor's goal is to visit all our home-bound members in April and to wish them a Happy Easter. She will coordinate decoration of the church after Good Friday worship. May 4 she will be attending Continuing Education on people who worship only at special occasions like baptisms, weddings, or funerals, and to figure out how engage those people to continue worshipping more than at just those occasions. Pastor Denny and Chris Hallemeier will be here that Sunday for worship.

6. Committee Reports:

a. **Education:** Family Sunday School will be April 13, and then again in May or June.

b. **Discipleship:** Twenty cards were sent out that were inviting people back to worship. A meeting is scheduled for Fellowship.

c. **Property:** Tile floor in decent shape, according to one contractor who will be getting us a quote to strip and re-wax them. Quote for repair of boiler's circulating pump that is leaking oil came in from Bolder Services for \$2,458.04. We can continue to monitor and oil the pump to get through the heating season and then have the work done after that. Mark Hansen made a motion to approve Bolder Services' quote for \$2,458.04 to repair the boiler circulating pump, seconded by Glenda Swinehart; motion passed 8/0. Workday is scheduled for Saturday, May 10, at 9 a.m.

d. **Social Concerns:** Collections have started for Health Kits; a list of needed items will go on the bulletin board.

e. **Worship:** Easter Worship will be April 20 at 8 a.m., followed by Easter potluck brunch. A page will be put on the table in the fellowship hall for people to sign up for dishes to bring for the potluck.

7. Old Business:

a. **Church Cleaning:** One company sent in a cleaning quote for \$180/per cleaning. A meeting is scheduled with another company to get their quote.

b. **Long-Range Planning:** After review and discussion of several crackfilling/seal coating/stripping quotes for the parking lot, Glenda Swinehart made a motion to approve the crackfill/sealcoat/stripping quote from D.L. Gasser for \$24,227, seconded by Inger Kirkwood; motion passed 8/0. Steadfast Remodeling's quote for \$13,620.78 to replace the 12 windows in the sanctuary was discussed; it included a 10% church discount. No other quotes were received. Question if other quotes will be gotten. The overall cost from Steadfast was very reasonable; based on reviews and reputation, they felt no other quotes will beat that cost. Glenda Swinehart made a motion to approve the quote from Steadfast Remodeling for \$13,620.78, seconded by Deanna Smith; motion passed 8/0. Funding for both can come from undesignated memorials and from the CD. Both projects will now be scheduled to go to the Congregation for discussion and approval at a Congregational meeting on April 27. In the meantime, insurance certificates and W-9s will be requested of both contractors.

8. New Business:

a. **Synod council retreat updates:** The retreat was a good reminder that the council does the legal part of the church in taking care of our fiduciary responsibility. Overall, it was a good gathering for people new to church council. One take-away item learned there was that both councils really should do a joint review of Pastor.

b. **Council soup supper April 9:** "Luke's Diner" continues with Council providing chili and fixings for this last Lenten soup supper.

c. **CD:** Due to the possibility of a parking lot project and a window project, it was agreed that the CD that recently matured March 30 should just roll back into the Savings account.

(Pastor then left the meeting early to go to Westby for the Synod Caucus this afternoon.)

9. Next Meeting: Next Council meeting will be May 4, 2025 at 12 noon, with Glenda Swinehart providing devotions.

She will also have Sunday announcements for the month of May.

10. Adjourn Meeting/Closing Prayer: Debby Hansen made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Glenda Swinehart; motion passed 8-0. The meeting adjourned at 1:23pm.

Respectfully submitted by Michael Korbein, Secretary pro tem

EAST LEMONWEIR LUTHERAN CHURCH
Special Congregational Meeting
March 09, 2025

President Roger Nelson called a special Congregational Meeting to order at 11:25 a.m. following worship on Sunday, March 09, 2025. The intent, to approve the bid from Ernest Gingerich Construction Hillpoint, WI for a new roof in the sum of \$33,900.00. A motion to approve this bid made by Roger Pitcel, second by Dawn Nelson. Motion carried.

A second bid for steel siding from Hillpoint Builders (Melvin Miller) Hillpoint, WI in the sum of \$52,000.00 was given. A motion to accept the bid of \$52,000.00 by Gayle Hempel, second by Betty Johnson. Motion carried.

A bid for the replacing of storm windows in the approximate sum of \$1,500. per window was also given. These windows will be clear, allowing the stain glass window to be seen. Motion made by Roger Pitcel and second by Gayle Hempel to approve this bid. Motion carried.

The Congregational Meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Connie Wolfgram, Secretary

EAST LEMONWEIR LUTHERAN CHURCH

Council Meeting

April 13, 2025

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

Absent: None

President Roger Nelson called the April 13, 2025 council meeting to order at 11:50 a.m. following Sunday's coffee fellowship. Opening prayer was given by Pastor Lucy Hardie.

A motion was made by Kathryn Pitcel, second by Gayle Hempel to approve the March 2025 secretary's report. Motion carried. A motion to approve the March 2025 treasurer's report was made by Audrey Scholl, second by Marlene Pelton. Motion carried.

We have heard from A+ Lawn Care and the price will be the same as last year.

The cemeteries are in good shape. They have been cleaned by Roger and Dawn Nelson. Roger also poured a concrete curb for better water runoff south of the propane tank. Kathryn Pitcel made a motion to pay Roger Nelson \$200.00 for his work. Second by Marlene Pelton, motion carried.

Pastor Lucy Hardie thanked Council members Gayle Hempel, Audrey Scholl, and Marlene Pelton for attending the 2025 Congregation Council Development Retreat Saturday, March 22, 2025 hosted by Trinity Lutheran Church Sparta, WI.

The Synod Assembly will be June 6-8, 2025 at Westby Coon Prairie Lutheran Church Westby, WI. Our Synod delegates are Dawn Nelson and Jennifer Sarnow.

East Lemonweir will host Maundy Thursday, April 17, 2025 service 6:30 p.m. with Holy Communion at the Altar rail. Easter Sunday service at 10:30 a.m. April 20, 2025 with Communion continuous from the floor.

Work should begin on the siding project in a couple weeks.

Motion to adjourn by Roger Pitcel, second by Marlene Pelton. Motion carried.

We closed by Praying the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Connie Wolfgram, secretary