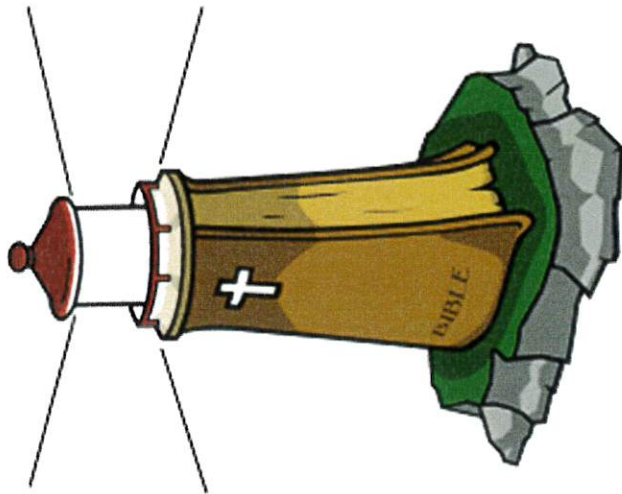


The Beacon

Bethany / East Lemonweir Parish
August 2024



Ecclesiastes 3:1: "For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven."

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

RETURN SERVICES REQUESTED



Hello God's Beloved!

Happy Fall 😊 Although September felt more like a continuation of summer due to the weather. As students return to classes—we, at Bethany and East Lemonweir, are also spending some time learning together.



Sunday School and Bible study will be highlighted in another spot—because those are not the only ways we are learning. We as a congregation are also taking some time to think about Discipleship during our fall worship series. Each week's Gospel text will help center our contemplation around 5 areas of discipleship: Service, Worship, Invitation, Generosity, and Growth. But I also wanted to share some other thoughts that didn't make it into my sermon when I introduced the series earlier in September.

In seminary, my class and I were assigned a book call "Being Disciples: Essentials of the Christian Life" by Rowan Williams. In the very first sentences of chapter 1, Williams states, "Discipleship is a state of being. Discipleship is about how we live; not just the decision we make, not just the things we believe, but a state of being...It's not an intermittent state; it's a relationship that continues."

Discipleship is not just something that we do because we confess that Jesus is our Savior, the Messiah, and the Son of God—we are committing ourselves to a lifelong journey. It is part of everything we are called to be and do as believers in Jesus. As we live our lives in and out of church and the church community, we are always disciples called to practice discipleship—to be changed over and over again by God's love. Our relationship with Jesus is a journey that lasts a lifetime.

And, it's a journey that costs all of us several things. Instead of putting ourselves first, we are called to put God and God's mission first. It requires us to continually turn away from placing worldly things at our center and instead place the worship of God at our centers. It costs us comfort and calls us to invite and be hospitable to all God's children to participate in worship and join our communities. It calls us to give up resources both material and in-material as we answer the call to love God and our neighbor. Finally, we are called to move and grow and be the children of God, who God created us to be—forever growing in our trust in God and in our seeing of God working in our lives and the world.

It may sound like a lot to give up or commit to...because it is. It calls us to be different than what many others tell us to be. But we can answer Jesus' call—because we walk together as a community, as the body of Christ, Jesus walks with us, the Spirit guides us, and the Father creates and renews us. We do not journey alone.

Dear Lord, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

May you feel God's peace surrounding you,

Pastor Lucy

2024 October Worship Assistants

East Lemonweir

Readers

10/6 – Connie Wolfgram

10/13 – Kathryn Pitcel

10/20 – Dawn Nelson

10/27 – Audrey Scholl

Greeters

10/6 – Connie Wolfgram

10/13 - Roger & Kathryn Pitcel

10/20 – Roger & Dawn Nelson

10/27 – Audrey Scholl

Bethany Assistants

October 6

Assistant Minister – Michaelae Korbein

Reader – Ross Hardie

Altar Communion – Michaelae Korbein

Ushers - Mark & Debby Hansen

October 13

Assistant Minister – Larry Thome

Reader – Betty Krotzman

Continuous Communion – Betty Krotzman, Deanna Smith, Larry Thome

Ushers – Mike & Lori Esser

October 20

Assistant Minister – Beth Preuss

Reader – Michaelae Korbein

Altar Communion – Beth Preuss

Ushers – Karl Katuin & Shane Gesler

October 27

Assistant Minister – Galen Lingl

Reader – Sheila Stark

Continuous Communion – Mark Hansen, Galen Lingl, Barb Parker

Ushers – Mark & Debby Hansen



If you are interested in helping with worship, please let Pastor or Betty know. We are in need of a few more helpers.



October Updates



Family Sunday School

We are going to try something different this year! Sunday School will meet every other month on the following dates at 3pm. Each session will include a lesson, a craft, play time, and a snack. Let's learn together. Any caregiver/child relationship welcome!

October 13 April 13

December 8 May 18

February 9 July 13




Bethany Mission Statement

The Bethany church council is seeking input from members as we consider a new mission statement.

We would love any feedback.

"Creating life-giving relationships through worship, outreach, and service."




New Ministry Opportunity!

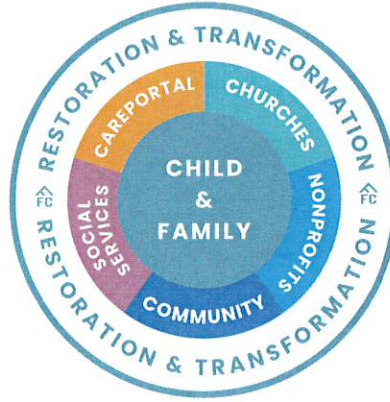
Check out the new ministry opportunity through Family Connect of WI and Care Portal.

Information is included in the following pages. Please contact Pastor Lucy or Mark Hansen with any questions.

How It Works:

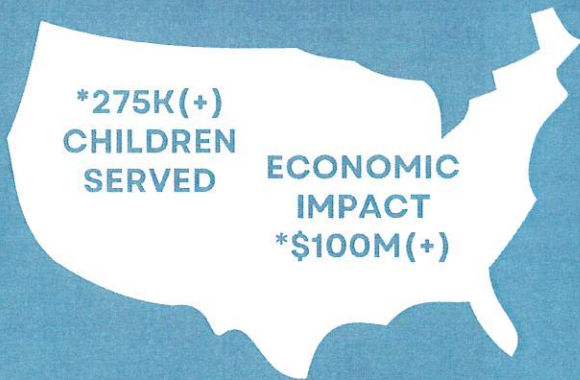
- A need is uncovered, vetted, & submitted by a child serving agency.
 - That need is shared with churches & community through Careportal.
 - Each church can respond directly back to the case worker to meet the need...
 - ...or they can engage other churches & community partners who want to help.
- 

FAMILY CONNECT OF WI EXISTS TO SUPPORT VULNERABLE CHILDREN AND FAMILIES BY CONNECTING RESOURCES, LOCAL CHURCHES, AND THE COMMUNITY.

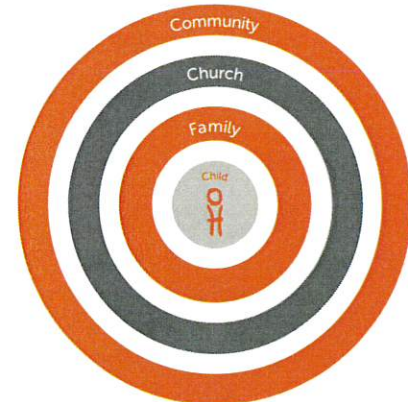


NON-PROFITS, BUSINESSES, INDIVIDUALS, CHURCHES, AND SOCIAL SERVICES WORKING TOGETHER TO PROVIDE MEANS FOR LASTING SOCIETAL CHANGE.

13% of children living in poverty | 4,229 victims of child abuse/neglect | 6,162 children in Out-of-Home Care | 1,391 children awaiting adoption | 3780 churches called to care



Care-sharing technology that drives action for local kids and families in crisis.



FCWI is a licensed provider of CarePortal and implementing partner for the state of Wisconsin.

EXPAND YOUR OUTREACH

Family Connect helps equip churches and ministries with a heart to help local children and families in crisis. Backed by CarePortal technology, training, and support, each church in the CarePortal network commits to pray, give, and serve. Churches can also identify and submit needs within their own church and community through the Church Entered Needs feature.

Provide resources to stabilize the environment of children and their caregivers.

OPPORTUNITY FOR THE CHURCH

Every request presents the **opportunity** for churches to make meaningful connections. Sometimes, connection means meeting one need at just the right moment. At other times, connection starts life-changing relationships.

BETHANY/EAST LEMONWEIR LUTHERAN PARISHES

October 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
9 am Bethany 10:30 am East Lemonweir Worship Service	AA Mtg 6:30 pm Tues - East Lemonweir Th - Bethany	1 Bethany WELCA 4 pm	2 9am Quilting @ Bethany	3 9 am Bible Study @ Parsonage - "The Chosen"	4	5
6 10 am Bethany Auction 12 pm Bethany Council	7 Pastor at Fall Theological Conference 10/6 - 10/8	8 Cookies to Bethany for Campus Ministry	9 9am Quilting @ Bethany Betty out of Office	10 9 am Bible Study @ Parsonage - "The Chosen"	11	12
13 Family Sunday School @ 3 pm	14	15	16 9am Quilting @ Bethany	17 Cookies for School Conferences 9 am Bible Study @ Parsonage - "The Chosen"	18	19 WELCA Fall Renewal 8:30-3 @ St. Peter's Prairie du Chien
20 East Lemonweir Council	21	22 Beacon Articles Due	23 9am Quilting @ Bethany	24 9 am Bible Study @ Parsonage - "The Chosen"	25	26
27 Baby Kit Drive Ends	28	29	30 9am Quilting @ Bethany	31 9 am Bible Study NL Chamber 4-6 pm Trunk or Treat @ Old IGA		Nov 9 - East Lemonweir Fall Luncheon & Craft Sale Parking Lot

Attention: Bethany & Friends -
Mark your calendars!

Church Auction
on Sunday, October 6th
in Fellowship Hall -
to follow our church service

Ways you can help and/or participate:

- 1) Donate items - can be new or slightly used and in excellent condition
(some ideas - vases, baskets, baked goods, home decor;
feel free to be creative with your donations).
- 2) Please have donated items to church by Saturday, October 5th.
- 3) Take a look at the items, which will be located in the Fellowship Hall,
and be here to bid on items that interest you.
- 4) **New this year: Some silent auction items.**

****Monies raised will support BLC by
enhancing our **Emergency Aid Fund.****

EAST LEMONWEIR'S

FALL LUNCHEON,
BAKE SALE, & MORE
(Norwegian Pastries for sale too)

Saturday, November 9, 2024

10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

at

EAST LEMONWEIR LUTHERAN CHURCH

4 miles south of New Lisbon on Hwy. 80

Lunch \$9.00 for adults \$3.00 under 12

Delicious Bakery items

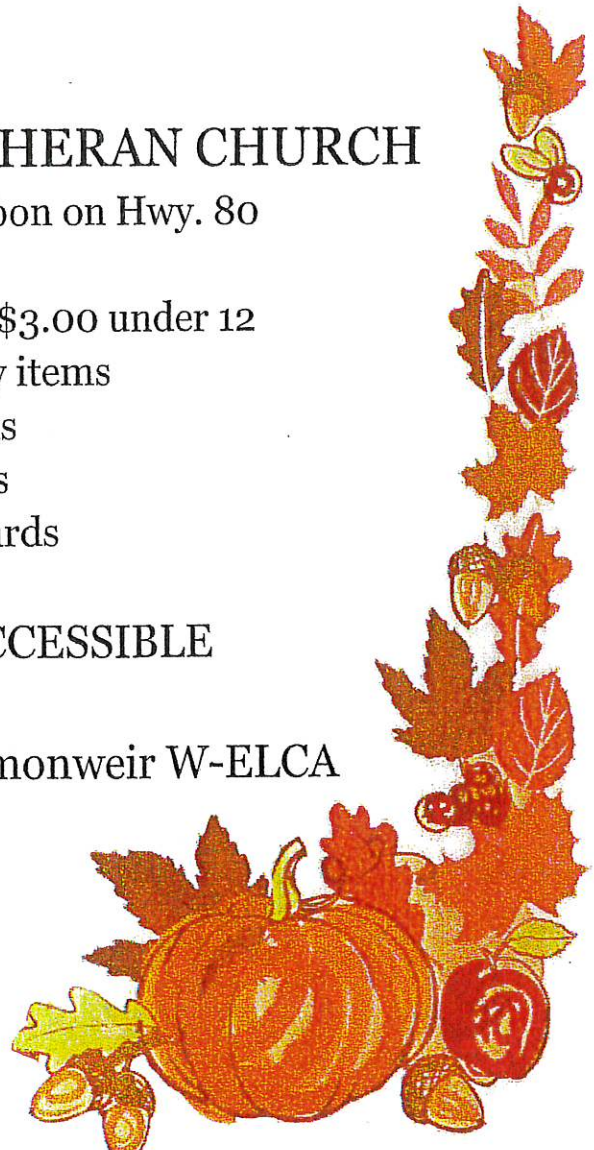
Raffle items

Craft items

Napkins & Cards

HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE

Sponsored by the East Lemonweir W-ELCA



In-Reach Ministries

*****Looking for volunteers*****

Who: To support individuals or families having a new baby, recovering from surgery, etc.

What: To provide a meal or donate a gift card for a meal

Where: To people's homes

When: As needed/requested

Why: To offer support within our church family

*****Contact the church office (562-3807) or Pastor Lucy if you can help with this ministry or if you (or someone you know) may benefit from Bethany's new ministry.***



In-Reach Ministries Update

The intention of our In-Reach Ministries at Bethany is to offer support within our church family. We have had the opportunity to do so in welcoming Willa Pedersen, daughter of Cullen & Michaela Pedersen, and Bowden Benson, son of Ethan & Dani Benson, into our church family.

Thank you to the 15+ volunteers (so far) who have provided these families with meals by dropping off a prepared meal or offering a gift certificate to a restaurant. Your generosity and kindness have been well-received.

This is what the Pedersen family shared ~

“We are so thankful for this church community! Everyone was so quick to help us out, and it doesn’t go unnoticed! Everyone went above and beyond in their meals, gift certificates, and sometimes other little gifts for us. THANK YOU!”

This is what the Benson family shared ~

“We would like to thank everyone who made a meal or purchased a gift card for us after the birth of our son, Bowden. We are feeling so blessed to have such a wonderful church family. It helped out so much having the meals provided for us. Thank you all again.”



Bethany Lutheran Church – New Lisbon, Wisconsin

Church Council Meeting Minutes

Sunday, September 8, 2024

Council Members Present:	Pastor Lucy Hardie, Mark Hansen, Michaelae Korbein, Deanna Smith, Karl Katuin, Glenda Swinehart, Larry Thome
Council Members Absent:	Shane Gesler, Inger Kirkwood, Christy Toelle
Guests:	None
Agenda	
Call to Order:	President Mark Hansen called the Council meeting to order at 12:03 PM.
Agenda Approval:	Mark Hansen presented the agenda for approval. There were no changes. <i>Karl Katuin made a motion to accept the meeting agenda as presented, seconded by Michaelae Korbein; motion passed 6-0.</i>
Devotions:	Karl Katuin shared a devotion about consensus over the true God, and the challenge of spiritual integrity. What gives us confidence that Christianity is the right path? Quite simply, it's because all other religions teach man how to reach God, but the Bible teaches that God reached down to us in the person of Jesus Christ.
Secretary's Report: (Larry)	<i>Glenda Swinehart made a motion to accept the June 2, 2024 Council meeting minutes as presented, seconded by Deanna Smith; motion passed 6-0.</i> Larry Thome mentioned that we needed to reach out to the Audit Committee (Ross Hardie and Kathy Thome) to make them aware of the changes in the approved By-Laws impacting the Audit Committee roles. Larry will follow-up.
Treasurer's Report: (Michaelae)	The period ending 6/30/24, 7/31/24 and 8/31/24 General Fund Registers and the 8/31/24 Savings Summary Report, Statement of Financial Position and Statement of Financial Income and Expense Reports were presented. There were no questions after the review. <i>Mark Hansen made a motion to accept the Treasurer's reports as presented, seconded by Glenda Swinehart; motion passed 6-0.</i> Michaelae Korbin stated that Bethany has a 1-year CD (~\$27,000) that is coming due in September. <i>Glenda Swinehart made a motion to roll over the CD with the best possible rate/period as determined by Michaelae, seconded by Karl Katuin; motion passed 6-0.</i>
Pastor's Report:	Pastor Lucy thanked the volunteers who helped with Wa-Du-Shuda days. Pastor had a quiet summer in terms of pastoral acts, but was busy with many other things. Pastor will have Continuing Education in October, but it will not impact any Sundays.
Committee Reports	
Discipleship: (Glenda and Shane)	Discipleship events being looked at: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A "Trunk-or-Treat" event that does not conflict with the New Lisbon event. • Movie night in the winter. • Community dinner in 2025. • Summer campfire/outdoor themed worship event. • Mini-food pantry, where Bethany has a place that's open all the time for people to pick-up food or drop food off, similar to a little free library box.
Education: (Deanna)	Since Sunday school attendance is spotty and it is difficult to plan agendas, Bethany will try a "Family Sunday School" once a month starting in October for kids pre-K to 5/6 grade where the whole family is engaged and materials that can bring back home for continued learning. Pastor sent out a survey on this and received positive feedback. Thrivent grants are available to support this effort.
Social Concerns: (Inger/Christy)	No new updates from the committee as Christy/Inger were not in attendance.



Bethany Lutheran Church – New Lisbon, Wisconsin

Church Council Meeting Minutes

Sunday, September 8, 2024

Property: <i>(Karl)</i>	Finished deck repair project at the parsonage.
Worship: <i>(Larry)</i>	New Advent series theme decided by Pastor Lucy (<i>Words for the Beginning</i>). We will have a representative from Sugar Creek Bible Camp joining us at worship on 9/29. Working to provide a technical backup for the Clavinova so we don't have any issues with songs. Pastor Lucy out 11/24 – looking for a Supply Pastor to fill in.
Old Business	
Bethany Website:	Company that we contracted with/paid (<i>Chapel Sites</i>) has not responded to our many, multiple requests to publish our new website since late May and we will need to find an alternate option. <i>Chapel Sites</i> has been reported to the California BBB. Larry Thome and Collette Schultz recommend using Weebly to build the website ourselves. This will be duplicate work, but we will be more in control of managing the site. The estimate for this will be ~\$200/yr. Larry/Collette will work on the prototype for the site.
Mission Statement:	Council agreed that the draft statement should be: <i>Gathered by God to create life-giving relationships through worship, outreach and service</i> Pastor will create a poster with this statement to solicit feedback from the congregation.
New Business	
Pastor Lucy Vacation:	Pastor Lucy requested to carry over a vacation day from 2024 to 2025. <i>Larry Thome made a motion for Pastor Lucy to carry over vacation as needed, seconded by Glenda Swinehart; motion passed 6-0.</i>
Long Term Planning:	Mark Hansen asked every Council member to come to the next meeting with any long-term planning ideas for your committee or for any other areas of the church to present as part of your regular update.
Care Portal:	Juneau County met with Mark Hansen and Pastor Lucy about a new project called Care Portal. This is an outreach program that uses non-profits to deliver donated goods/items to local families in need and making meaningful connections in our community. There is minimal participation initially so we can determine how much we want to be engaged. Mark and Pastor Lucy would be our point people for this no cost ministry. <i>Larry Thome made a motion to participate in this ministry, seconded by Deanna Smith; motion passed 6-0.</i>
Church Cleaning:	Deanna Smith met with Inger and Mike Kirkwood, and they requested assistance with church cleaning. They still want to help clean, but they are requesting that they do two weeks a month and someone else clean the other two weeks. An announcement will be made requesting assistance.
Next Meeting:	The next Council meeting is scheduled for October 6, 2024 at 12:00 PM. Karl Katuin will provide devotions and Sunday service announcements in October.
Adjourn Meeting/ Closing Prayer:	Pastor Lucy led the Council in a closing prayer and the Lord's Prayer. <i>Glenda Swinehart made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Deanna Smith; motion passed 6-0.</i> The meeting adjourned at 1:38 PM.

Submitted by Larry Thome, Council Secretary

**East Lemonweir
Council Meeting
September 15, 2024**

Members present: Roger Pitcel, Audrey Scholl, Jennifer Sarnow, Marlene Pelton, Margarete Hummelbeck, Kathryn Pitcel, and Connie Wolfgram. We began at 12:00.

Roger P. called the meeting to order. Pastor Lucy led us in prayer. A motion to approve the Secretary's Report made by Kathryn, second by Marlene; motion carried. A motion to approve the Treasurer's Report was made by Jennifer, second by Connie; motion carried.

Pastor Lucy noted we will have October's Council Meeting on October 20th. It is the third Sunday and Pastor Dione will be with us. We will have a luncheon after church.

Marlene noted some repairs to siding and reroofing the church. She has sent a thank you to Bethany for their hospitality.

Motion to adjourn by Marlene, second by Roger P.; motion carried. We adjourned at 12:20.

Respectfully submitted,

Connie Wolfgram, Sec.

Bethany Budget

Bethany Budget	\$9,960.28		
July + August			
Offerings+Other Income	\$20,359.24	Aug 30 YTD	\$107,530.35*
July + August			
Expenses	\$28,176.39	Aug 30 YTD	\$112,599.74**

*Includes East Lemonweir's reimbursement

** Includes yearly insurance expenses

W-ELCA News

Mission Statement – To mobilize women to act boldly on their faith in Jesus Christ

Thanks to those who helped with the luncheon for the Tom Steele family. May we keep them in our prayers and may Tom rest in peace.

WELCA along with East Lemonweir ladies are participating in Cookies on Campus sponsored by our synod's ELCA campus ministry. They distribute cookies to UWL students each Wed. Our share is 30 dozen. Please sign up in the fellowship hall to help with this outreach project. Please make a note on cookies if they contain allergens such as peanuts/nuts. Cookies need to be at church by Tues. a.m. Oct. 8th

Another opportunity to bake is for the NL school's PTC (Parents and Teachers for Children). We've been asked to provide cookies/bars as part of the evening meal being provided for the teachers during Parent-Teacher conferences on Thurs., Oct. 17th. We need one more pan of bars or batch of cookies.

Lefse fun with ladies from East Lemonweir Thurs., Nov. 7th @ 8:45 at East. Join them to learn how to make lefse or bring your lefse skills.

Loony Lutherans at CAL Center in Reedsburg, Sunday, March 23, at 2:00. There is a plan for the ladies of Bethany to attend as a group. Consider this and contact Judy Zobal for more info.

Requesting ideas/suggestions for the upcoming year in an effort to become stronger together and be fulfilled to stay true to why WELCA exists.

WELCA bible study from our *gather* publication is a three-part study that explores whether grace is real, how God's power works in us and grace-filled living, ancient and new.

Upcoming Events: *WELCA Fall Renewal Sat. Oct. 19th, 8:30-3:00 St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran, Prairie du Chien, *Fall Women's Retreat at Sugar Creek, Fri.-Sun., Oct. 18-20 cost \$125

A thought: Download your worries and get online with God.

Baby Care Kits -- WELCA is accepting donations now through Sunday, Oct. 27th. *Any new or gently used items are appreciated, you may put them in the bassinet in the narthex. *Sizes between 6- and 24-months *Items needed: t-shirts, gowns or sleepers, receiving blankets, cloth diapers, jacket/sweater/sweatshirt with hoods, socks, dark hand towel, bath-size gentle soap, diaper pins. Thanks

OCTOBER 2024 CELEBRATIONS

If a CELEBRATION is not listed, please
call 608 562 3807.

East Lemonweir Birthdays

Toni Stoughtenger – 12

Lynn Ormson – 13

East Lemonweir Anniversaries

Roger & Julie Onsager – 2



Bethany Birthdays

Carmen Heffler – 1

Brantley Wyss – 3

Susan Powell – 7

Collette Schultz – 9

Galen Lingl – 18

Christopher Faber – 24

Angela Krizan – 24

Bethany Anniversaries

Ross & Angela Krizan – 4

Don & Sue Powell – 8

Mark & Debby Hansen – 20

Douglas & Sonja Haske - 29