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

RETURN SERVICES *REQUESTED*

The Beacon

Bethany / East Lemonweir Parish
September 2026

Proverbs 19:21"Many are the plans in the mind of a man, but it is the purpose of the Lord that will stand."

In order to assist the new Administrative Assistant, I thought I would update contact information.

Thank you for filling out the below.

Family Last Name(s): _____

First name _____

Email _____

Home Phone # _____

Cell Phone # _____

Work # _____

Second Name _____

Email _____

Home Phone # _____

Cell Phone # _____

Work # _____

If you have a new mailing address please indicate below.

_____

Please indicate if we may share this information with others.

For additional Names and Information, you may list below.

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Reminder: If you haven't, please complete and return to the Church Secretary.

2026 September Worship Assistants

East Lemonweir

Readers

9/6 – Worship @ Bethany
9/13 – Connie Wolfgram
9/20 – Kathyrn Pitcel
9/27 – Audrey Scholl

Greeters

9/6 – Worship @ Bethany
9/13 -Ted Haschke
9/20 – Henry & Margarete Hummelbeck
9/27 – Gayle Hempel

Bethany Assistants

9/6
Assistant Minister – Michaele Korbein
Reader – Ross Hardie
Communion Assistant – Michaele Korbein
Ushers – Mark Hansen & Debby Hansen

9/13
Assistant Minister – Mark Hansen
Reader – Debby Hansen
Communion Assistants – Inger Kirkwood, Mark Hansen, Ross Hardie
Ushers – Beth Preuss & Collette Schultz

9/20
No Communion
Assistant Minister – Larry Thome
Reader – Shiela Stark
Ushers – Shane Gesler & Amanda Hulka

9/27
Assistant Minister – Beth Preuss
Reader – Deanna Smith
Communion Assistants – Judy Zobal, Beth Preuss, Inger Kirkwood
Ushers – Karl Katuin & Tim Parker

** If you cannot meet the schedule, please exchange and if you aren't able to find someone let the OFFICE know.

September 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
AA Meetings 6:30 PM Tues @ East Lemonweir Thu @ Bethany	Worship 9 am Bethany 10:30 East Lemonweir	**1** Rachel Circle @ 4	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5**
6 10:30 am Joint Worship @ Bethany	**7**	**8**	**9** 9 am Quilting	**10** 9 am Bible Study	**11**	**12**
13 Grandparent Day Bethany Council Mtg	**14**	**15** East Conference Pastor/Sams MTG	**16** 9 am Quilting	**17** 9 am Bible Study	**18**	**19**
20 Pastor Off Sunday School after worship today.	**21** Pastor Off	**22** Pastor Off October Beacon due date.	**23** Pastor Off 9 am Quilting	**24** 9 am Bible Study	**25**	**26**
27 WELCA MTG After Worship	**28**	**29**	**30** 9 am Quilting			
						10/24 WELCA is planning an outing to the CAL Center to hear a Contemporary Christian Music.

SEPTEMBER 2026 CELEBRATIONS

BETHANY BIRTHDAYS

Mark Hansen – 1

Rhonda Larson – 5

Penny Tiedt – 7

Christina Krotzman – 9

Daniel Swinehart – 12

DeAnn Gollmar – 13

Cindy Costello – 14

Frank Zobal – 14

Patti Phillips – 16

Dawn Van Meter – 17

Asher Krause - 18

Kamden Reichhoff - 20

Morgan Reichhoff - 28

EAST LEMONWEIR BIRTHDAYS

Diane Clark – 20

Marlene Pelton – 28

BETHANY ANNIVERSARIES

Frank & Judy Zobal – 19

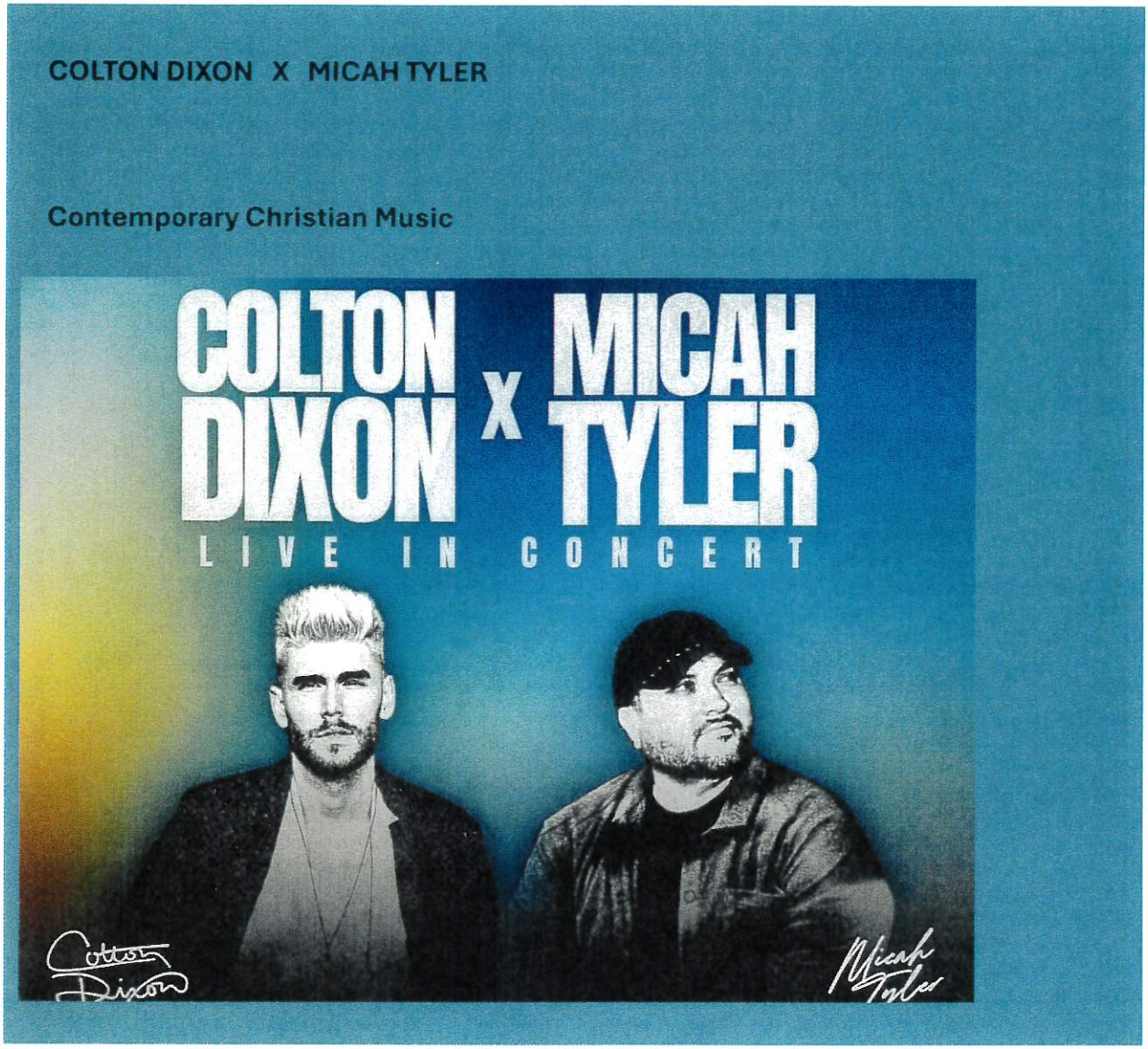
John & Rosie Halverson - 30

EAST LEMONWEIR ANNIVERSARIES

Roger & Kathyn Pitcel – 5

Roger & Dawn Nelson – 27

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



WHERE – CAL Center – Reedsburg

WHEN: Saturday, Oct. 24th at 7:00 p.m.

COST: Ticket price range of $50 - $45 - $30

IF INTERESTED - *If you would like to hear a preview of the music for this concert go to CAL CENTER PRESENTS.

*If you would like to attend, please sign up on the sheet provided in the fellowship hall and note which ticket you prefer.

Bethany Lutheran

FAMILY SUNDAY SCHOOL

FALL 2026 - SPRING 2027

Sept 20	Creation
Oct 18	The 10 Commandments
Nov 15	Battle of Jericho
Dec 13	David and Goliath **with visit from Santa and Mrs. Claus
Jan 10	Jonah and the Big Fish
Feb 14	Daniel and the Lion's Den
Mar 14	Jesus Dies and Rises
Apr 11	Jesus the Good Shepherd
May 16	Jesus Feeds the Crowd

Mark your calendars:
SEPTEMBER 13th

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ADULTS - bring your grandkid/s (or any kid/s) to church.
KIDS - bring a grandparent/s (or any adult friend/s).
Let's play a game and enjoy some treats
together following service!

W-ELCA News

Mission statement: To mobilize women to act boldly on their faith in Jesus Christ
All women of Bethany are members of W-ELCA and can enjoy the fellowship, programs and activities.

Our summer Bible Study from the *gather* magazine is "I Am Worthy". The first session speaks to our core understanding that we are made in God's image. The second session speaks to being more than one thing. The third and final study in this session is I am because you are.

People are needed to serve on our altar teams. If interested, please contact the office.

There are purses, cards and our cookbooks available to purchase in the narthex. Money for any of these can be given to Helen York, our W-ELCA Treasurer.

WOW – what a wonder outpouring of items for our Baby Care Kits. THANK YOU! To complete 14 kits, we could use the following: 10 dark hand towels, 10 pairs of socks, 8 jackets/sweaters/sweatshirts with or without a hood and 6 bars of gentle soap. Each kit contains about 16 items. Again, thanks for the generosity for this project.

We remember Toni Phelps, a dedicated parishioner and altar chairman who served with love.

Upcoming events:
Tues., Sept 1 at 4:00 - Rachel Circle meets at the church (all women invited)
Sun., Sept 27, WELCA meets after church.
Sat., Oct. 24, 7:00 – Contemporary Christian music concert at CAL Center in Reedsburg.
If interested and io order tickets, please sign up in the Fellowship Hall.

A thought: Lost? Try G. P. S. (God's Plan of Salvation) Acts 2:38

Bethany Lutheran Church – New Lisbon, Wisconsin

Church Council Meeting Minutes

Sunday, August 2, 2026

Council Members Present:	Mark Hansen, Pastor Lucy Hardie, Debby Hansen, Glenda Swinehart, Galen Lingl, Michaele Korbein, Tim Parker, Larry Thome
Council Members Absent:	Inger Kirkwood
Guests:	None

Agenda

Call to Order:	President Mark Hansen called the Council meeting to order at 12:00 PM
Agenda Approval:	Mark Hansen presented the agenda for approval. There were no additional updates. ***Galen Lingl made a motion to accept the meeting agenda as presented, seconded by Glenda Swinehart; motion passed 7-0.***
Devotion:	Mark Hansen shared a devotion reminding us that God nourishes us and helps us to feed others. We need to keep in mind that the best things are not always the most expensive.
Secretary's Report: *(Larry)*	Larry Thome presented the minutes from the June 28, 2026 Council Meeting. There were no questions on the report as presented. ***Debby Hansen made a motion to accept the June 28, 2026 Council Meeting minutes as presented, seconded by Galen Lingl; motion passed 7-0.***
Treasurer's Report: *(Michaele)*	Michaele Korbein presented the General Fund Checking Register, the Savings Summary Report, the Memorials Balance Summary, the Statement of Financial Position, and the Statement of Financial Income and Expense Report as of July 31, 2026. It was noted that Michaele had to transfer money from savings to pay expenses this month. Also noted that the building insurance bill (due at the end of August) had increased by a large amount. She will be contacting the insurance company to understand the reason for the increase. Pastor Lucy suggested utilizing the Synod's relationships with other insurance companies. There were no other comments or questions. ***Galen Lingl made a motion to accept the Treasurer's reports as presented, seconded by Tim Parker; motion passed 7-0.***
Pastor's Report:	Pastor Lucy shared that during July, she served as the camp chaplain for one week at Sugar Creek, participated in the "explorer day" at Sugar Creek organized by Debby Hansen with a few families from Bethany and as part of continuing education, attended the ELCA rostered minister conference in Indianapolis. Pastor also floated an idea about an end-of-life planning workshop using local legal, medical, funeral and spiritual experts.

Committee Reports

Discipleship: *(Glenda and Larry)*	Participated in Wa Du Shuda days. Gave out 450 bottles of water and still ran short. If we do this again next year, it would be better to have more volunteers to help out.
Education: *(Debby)*	The one-day camp for Bethany children at Sugar Creek on July 21st had three families participate and all had a great time. A meeting with Pastor Lucy is scheduled to start planning the curriculum and schedule for family Sunday school.
Property: *(Tim)*	The water level in the basement is down. There seems to be an issue with one of the toilets. There is still an issue with the fuse box interfering with the sound system. Michaele and Keith Korbein suggest that there may be an issue with the dimmers for a couple of the LED lights.

	Bethany Lutheran Church – New Lisbon, Wisconsin
	Church Council Meeting Minutes
	Sunday, August 2, 2026

Social Concerns: *(Inger)*	No updates as Inger was not in attendance.
Worship: *(Galen)*	No updates as worship will be discussed as part of New Business.
Old Business	
Secretary Position:	We had 3 candidates apply for the position via Facebook and 11 via Indeed. Three were interviewed by Pastor Lucy, Mark Hansen, Roger Nelson and Larry Thome. Amanda Hulka was offered the position and accepted and will start on August 4th to work with Betty on transitioning. ***Galen Lingl made a motion to approve the hiring of Amanda Hulka, seconded by Glenda Swinehart; motion passed 7-0.*** *(East Lemonweir had approved earlier in the day)*
Joint Worship at Bethany:	The September 5th worship will be a joint worship with East Lemonweir and will start at 10:30 AM. Bethany will be hosting a lunch afterwards. The plan is to feed an estimated 40 people. To try something different, the Council decided to with "Appetizer Surprise", which will be a variety of hors d'oeuvres. All Council members were asked to bring something to share.
New Business	
September Council Meeting Date:	Since the first Sunday in September is the joint worship, the next Council meeting will be held on Sunday, September 13th. Debby Hansen will provide the devotion for the June meeting and will provide the announcements during worship for September.
Supply Pastor Discussion:	Finding available supply pastors through the Synod has become increasingly difficult, as there are very few pastors available to fill these openings. Pastor Lucy has three remaining Sundays in 2026 when she will be away. Given the limited availability of supply pastors, along with the opportunity to reduce costs, Mark Hansen will lead the services on August 23rd and November 22nd, and Larry Thome will lead the service on September 20th.
Change to the Constitution:	The Council discussed modifying the Bethany Constitution on how we assign audit committee members and the term for the two members. We had sent an initial draft to Pastor Denny Hallemeier (Synod Constitution Review Co-Chair) and he provided initial feedback. After our discussions, we will contact Pastor Denny for some additional guidance.
AED Demo:	Mark Hansen provided the Council with a demonstration of the recently purchased AED device. It is very easy to use and hopefully will never be used.
Prayer/Adjourn Meeting:	Pastor Lucy led the Council in a prayer. The meeting adjourned at 1:20 PM.

Submitted by Larry Thome, Council Secretary

EAST LEMONWEIR LUTHERAN CHURCH

COUNCIL MEETING

August 16, 2026

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

President Roger Nelson opened our August 16, 2026 meeting at 11:24 a.m. Opening prayer given by Pastor Lucy Hardie.

An error was pointed out by Marlene Pelton in the July 2026 secretaries report. The balance in our Thrivent account of $415,263.49 is as of June 30, 2026 not year end of 2025. With this correction, motion was made by Marlene Pelton and second by Roger Pitcel to approve the secretaries report. Motion carried.

The treasurer's report for July 2026 was reviewed. Motion made by Gayle Hempel and second by Audrey Scholl to approve the report as presented. Motion carried.

Funeral for Marian LaFortune was held August 13, 2026. Roger Nelson reported that the burial site is one row back from what had originally been designated.

Roger Pitcel has received from TK Elevator what appears to be a double billing for invoices that were paid on June 10, 2026. Marlene Pelton will check on this.

Roger Pitcel pointed out that due to the manner in which our propane carrier took payment for a recent fill it would be better to do 1500 gallons prepay rather than the 1250 gallon previously approved. Motion made by Audrey Scholl and second by Gayle Hempel to do so. Motion carried.

We have received a thank you from Sugar Creek for our monetary gift of $1,000.

Pastor Lucy Hardie showed several drafts of a design for an exterior metal sign for our church yard, replacing the wooden sign that has deteriorated over the years. Pastor Hardie advised that a wedding that had been set for October 10, 2026 for a non-member couple will not be held at church. The church council had previously given approval for this ceremony. Pastor Hardie will be gone Sunday, August 23, 2026. Mark Hansen will deliver the sermon, and Roger Nelson will conduct the service. Pastor Hardie will also be gone September 20, 2026.

Pastor Hardie advised that Bible study will resume Thursday, September 10, 2026.

Motion to adjourn was made by Roger Pitcel and second by Gayle Hempel. Motion carried.

Meeting closed by praying the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Marlene Pelton, pro-tempore

MEET AMANDA HULKA

Secretary • East Lemonweir Lutheran & Bethany Lutheran Churches

Hello, everyone! My name is Amanda Hulka, and I am so excited to be transitioning into the Secretary position. I have been training with Ms. Betty, and we are quite a team!

A LITTLE ABOUT ME

I was born and raised in Colorado, but during COVID I lost both my job and my home. I followed work to Grand Marsh to harvest pumpkins in the fall. What began as a temporary job became something much more meaningful. I fell in love with the countryside, with Wisconsin, and with Fil, the man who would become my husband. We have now been married for four years, celebrating our anniversary on August 20th.

Fil and I make our home in Friendship with our two dogs, Ezio, an 11-year-old Chihuahua, and Amos, our 6-year-old Shepherd/Collie mix. Together, they keep our humble home very well patrolled!

MY FAITH JOURNEY

I have been in and out of different churches since I was young. Although I was baptized at 11, I did not yet understand God's grace or fully understand what it meant to follow Christ.

A few years ago, I truly came to know Jesus and realized that I had loved Him my whole life—I just hadn't understood what it meant to follow Him. In September 2025, I was baptized as an adult in the Wisconsin River as a recommitment to the Lord, this time with a deeper understanding of His grace and what it means to walk with Him.

I still worship at many different churches because I love looking for Jesus in all ways, at all times, and in all things. But I have come to love calling Bethany Lutheran my home. Everyone here has been so kind and gracious to me, and I know without a doubt that God has brought me exactly where He wants me to be.

SERVING CHRIST

For several years, I have wanted to pour my time and energy into serving the body of Christ. I am incredibly grateful for everyone who has helped make this dream a reality. I am excited to become part of this church family, share a heart for Christ, and serve wherever He leads us.

WHEN I'M NOT WORKING...

I love spending time with my girls, and we often enjoy going to Christian concerts together. I also love riding my motorcycle, and when the snow comes, you can usually find us out on the ATVs. I enjoy Diamond Dotz, board and card games, and pretty much anything that involves learning. I love learning about people, history, processes, the Bible—you name it! So if you have a story to tell, I am all ears.

I am incredibly grateful to be here, and I am excited to see what God has in store for our church family.