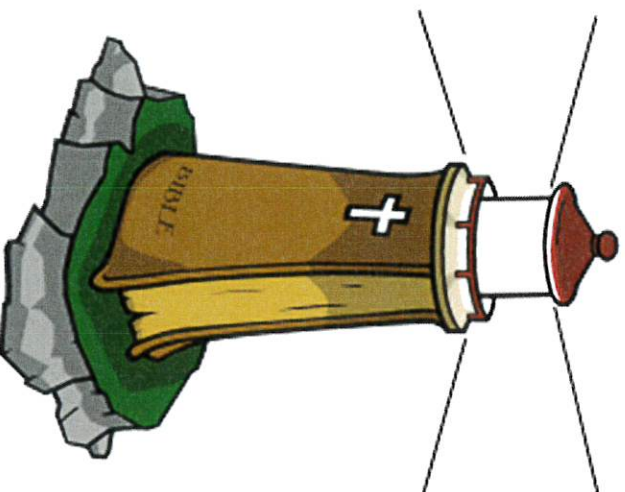


Bethany and East Lemonweir Lutheran Churches
618 West River Street
New Lisbon, WI. 53950
RETURN SERVICES REQUESTED

The Beacon

Bethany / East Lemonweir Parish
February 2024



"There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear. For fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not been perfected in love." ~ **1 John 4:18**

Bethany & East Lemonweir Lutheran Parishes

February 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
9 AM Bethany 10 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM East Lemonweir	AA Meets 6:30 PM Tues @ East Lemonweir Thu @ Bethany	February Food Drive @ Bethany		1	2 Betty Day Off	3
4 Altar Communion <i>Bethany</i> <i>Constitution Vote</i> Bethany Council @ Noon	5	6 4 pm Rachael Circle @ Bethany Conference Room	7 Quilting @ 9	8	9 Betty Day Off	10
11 Continuous Communion East Lemonweir Council MTG Bethany WELCA Mtg after Worship	12	13 Bethany Pancake Supper @ 5 pm	14 Ash Wednesday Service 6:30 pm Quilting @ 9 am <i>Valentine's Day</i>	15 9am Bible Study	16 Betty Day Off	17
18 Altar Communion	19	20 East Conference Pastor Meeting @ East Lemonweir 9a-12p	21 Soup Supper 5 pm Lenten Service 6:30 pm Quilting @ 9 am	22 9am Bible Study	23 Betty Day Off	24
25 Continuous Communion	26	27	28 Soup Supper 5pm Lenten Service 6:30 pm Quilting @ 9 am	29 Leap Year		

Isaiah 43:19 "I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth; do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert."

During "arrival time" at summer camp, we would always play some introduction games. We would first gather in our separate cabin groups but as our groups got bigger, we would join with other cabins--in the same program--so we could get to know the whole group. One of my favorite games was "Never have I ever." We would stand in a large circle with one person in the middle. The person in the middle would first introduce themselves and then announce something that they had never done before. If you had done that...you had to find a new place to stand in the circle--the last one who couldn't find a spot was the new person in the middle.

So as a lifelong learner I want to spend some of 2024 learning how to do and trying things I have never done before (so I'll have to move more the next time I play Never Have I Ever). I want to see if I can try at least 24 new things for 2024! Anytime we venture to learn something new it is an act of faith as we allow ourselves to be vulnerable, trust someone to teach us and set aside our area of expertise in order to hone a new skill and broaden our understanding.

So, here is the start of my to-learn list for 2024:

Ride on a tractor/combine,
Eat lutefisk (talk about an act of faith),
Learn the Lord's prayer in another language
Camp at Buckhorn State Park
Complete a walking/running challenge
Blow glass
Canoe on the Wisconsin River
Learn the Art of Hardanger
Learn how to play Gin Rummy (or other card game)
Build a bat-house

Now I need some willing teachers and maybe a few others who want to learn along with me. God is surely doing a new thing among us and what better way to recognize that than to try something new! Do you have a skill you think I would like to learn? Something you love to teach? Invite me to be your student! Let's learn together. Watch future newsletters for photo evidence of the learning that happens as we lean into the new year together!

Also,, a huge "Thank You" to all who sent my family and me cards and gifts this Christmas. Your gifts warmed and humbled my heart. We are so grateful that we have been called to both East Lemonweir and Bethany. Looking forward to many more moments of ministry and celebration together. God's Peace!

Pastor Lucy



East Lemonweir Lectors

2/4 – Roger Nelson

2/11 – Jennifer Sarnow

2/18 – Audrey Scholl

2/25 – Kathryn Pitcel

Bethany Worship Assistants

2/4

Assistant Minister – Mark Hansen

Reader – Debby Hansen

Altar Communion – Mark Hansen & Confirmation Student

Ushers – Mike & Lori Esser

2/11 –

Assistant Minister – Galen Lingl

Reader – Larry Thome

Continuous Communion – Inger Kirkwood, Galen Lingl, Michael Korbein

Ushers – Shane Gesler & Karl Katuin

2/14 – Ash Wednesday

Reader – Larry Thome

2/18 –

Assistant Minister – Beth Preuss

Reader – Barb Parker

Altar Communion – Beth Preuss & Confirmation Student

Ushers – Tim Parker & John Van Meter

2/21 – Lenten Service

Reader – Betty Krotzman

2/25–

Assistant Minister – Larry Thome

Reader – Ross Hardie

Continuous Communion – Michael Korbein, Mark Hansen, Betty Krotzman

Ushers – Mark & Debby Hansen

2/28 – Lenten Service

Reader – Sheila Stark

East Lemonweir Council Meeting

December 13, 2023

President Roger Nelson called the December council meeting to order. Pastor Lucy led us in devotions thinking about (1) what you have done to volunteer for East Lemonweir and (2) what would have to occur for you to NOT go to church at East?

A motion to approve the secretary's report made by Kathryn Pitcel, second by Roger Pitcel, motion carried. A motion to approve the treasurer's report made by Marlene Pelton, second by Jennifer Sarnow; motion carried.

Pastor Lucy reported on Feb. 17th there will be a Synod sponsored Congregational Council retreat at LaCrosse; More information later. The Synod Assembly will be held at Warrens, Wis. Annual reports are due to Betty by January 3rd. The Annual meeting for East Lemonweir will be held Jan. 28th.

We discussed the budget for next year. A motion to approve was made by Roger Pitcel, second by Marlene Pelton; motion carried.

A motion to adjourn was made by Roger Pitcel, second by Kathryn Pitcel; motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Connie Wolfgram, sec.

Joint Council Meeting

December 13, 2023

Roger Nelson called the joint council meeting to order, Pastor Lucy led us in prayer. We went over the shared budget items and a motion to approve the percentages at 70 and 30 was made by Roger Pitcel, second by Marlene Pelton; motion carried.. Kathy Means made a motion to stay with the Synod guidelines, second by Mark Hansen; motion carried. It was noted that the health insurance numbers will come in later. Continuing Education and Social Security are to be determined. A motion to keep the secretary's salary at the current amount was made by Jennifer Sarnow, second by Inger Kirk, motion carried.

A motion to approve the budget made by Karl K., second by Kathy Means; Motion approved.

The meeting was adjourned.

EAST LEMONWEIR LUTHERAN CHURCH

SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING

January 7, 2024

The East Lemonweir Council met immediately following worship to approve the proposed budget for 2024. This budget will be presented to the congregation at our annual meeting on Sunday, January 28, 2024. Motion made by Roger Pitcel and second by Margarete Hummelbeck to approve budget. Motion carried.

Marlene Pelton asked if the council wanted to sponsor a raffle basket for the Prime Rib Dinner, hosted by the Outreach Committee on Saturday, January 27, 2024. Motion made by Roger Pitcel and second by Kathryn Pitcel to approve this expenditure. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Marlene Pelton, pro-tempore

East Lemonweir Council minutes

January 14, 2024

President Roger Nelson called the meeting to order. Pastor Lucy led us in prayer. A motion to approve the secretary's minutes was tabled, the minutes were not in. A motion to approve the treasurer's report was made by Marlene Pelton, second by Jennifer Sarnow; motion carried. There will not be a February council meeting.

Pastor Lucy announced a February 17th Congregational Council Development Retreat at West Salem from 9-12. The Synod assembly is June 7-8th. We need to find a Sugar Creek delegate. Pastor Lucy was thanked for a wonderful year. This is the 1 year anniversary of her ordination. February 14th is Ash Wednesday, services at 6:30 at Bethany. Good Friday will have an afternoon service. Easter is March 31st.

Annual reports will be available to the congregation next Sunday.

A motion to approve the payment of \$500 to complete the Sugar Creek fund raiser made by Kathryn Pitcel, second by Marlene Pelton; motion carried. A motion to pay the K & L Cleaners for the basement floor cleaning; motion passed.

Jennifer S. made a motion to adjourn, second by Marlene; motion carried.

Respectfully submitted

Connie Wolfgram, sec.

**Bethany Lutheran Church, New Lisbon, WI
East Lemonweir Lutheran Church, Elroy, WI
Joint Council Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, December 6, 2023**

East Lemonweir Council Members present: Connie Wolfgram, Jennifer Sarnow, Roger Nelson, Marlene Pelton, Margarete Hummelbeck, Roger Pitcel, Kathy Pitcel

Bethany Council Members present: Kathie Means, Mark Hansen, Larry Thome, Michaele Korbein, Shane Gesler, Inger Kirkwood, Karl Katuin, Deanna Smith

Mark Hansen called the joint council meeting to order at 5:25pm.

Roger Pitcel made a motion to keep the shared expenses split at 70% Bethany and 30% East Lemonweir, seconded by Marlene Pelton; motion passed 15/0.

Motion by Jennifer Sarnow, seconded by Inger Kirkwood, to keep Betty Krotzman's wages the same, at \$20/hr; motion passed 15/0.

Kathie Means made a motion, seconded by Mark Hansen, to approve the base wages of \$42,600 and associated benefits for Pastor for 2024 as presented and following Synod guidelines; motion passed 15/0.

Pastor noted the health insurance will be changing as her husband will no longer be part of a sponsored couple.

Michaele Korbein will call and get updated figures for the wages and benefits and send to both council presidents.

Mark Hansen noted that it is a testament to how both churches have worked together over the years.

Karl Katuin made a motion, seconded by Kathy Pitcel, to approve the shared budget items as presented; motion passed 15/0.

The meeting adjourned at 5:51 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Michaele Korbein

Bethany Budget for 2024

Page 1 of 2

	Actual Exp pd Thru 12/31/23	70/30 2023 BUDGET	70/30 2024 BUDGET	Bethany 70%	East 30%
<u>PASTORAL MINISTRY</u>					
PASTOR SALARY	36,819.30	40,365.00	42,600.00	29,820.00	12,780.00
HEALTH,HOUSING,PENSION	17,410.79	33,180.32	34,259.16	23,981.41	10,277.75
SS OFFSET	3,146.85	3,596.52	3,796.00	2,657.20	1,138.80
OFFICIAL MEETINGS	369.00	800.00	1,000.00	700.00	300.00
SABBATICAL RESERVE		1,150.00	1,150.00	1,150.00	--
CONTINUING EDUCATION	375.38	800.00	800.00	560.00	240.00
OTHER/FIRST CALL THEO.EDUCATION	669.30	1,000.00	1,000.00	700.00	300.00
BOOKS & PUBLICATIONS	265.30	300.00	300.00	210.00	90.00
PARSONAGE UTILITIES	3,318.35	4,500.00	4,500.00	3,150.00	1,350.00
SUPPLY PASTORS	1,091.95	300.00	300.00	210.00	90.00
MOVING EXPENSES	3,465.00	.00	.00	.00	.00
TOTAL	66,931.22	85,991.84	89,705.16	63,138.61	26,566.55
AUTO ALLOWANCE -MILEAGE	560.68	4,000.00	4,000.00	2,800.00	1,200.00
<u>BENEVOLENCES</u>					
ELCA / WORLD HUNGER	10,236.00	7,000.00	7,000.00	7,000.00	--
LUTHERAN SOCIAL SERVICES	500.00	500.00	500.00	500.00	--
SUGAR CREEK BIBLE CAMP	520.00	400.00	400.00	400.00	--
NEW LISBON FOOD PANTRY	500.00	500.00	500.00	500.00	--
TOTAL	11,756.00	8,400.00	8,400.00	8,400.00	--
<u>CHURCH /SOCIETY /TRANSIENT EXP</u>					
<u>WORSHIP/MUSIC</u>					
MUSIC / MUSIC LICENSE	601.20	500.00	500.00	350.00	150.00
ALTAR SUPPLIES	469.90	300.00	300.00	300.00	--
OTHER WORSHIP PROGRAMS		.00	850.00	595.00	255.00
TOTAL	1,071.10	800.00	1,650.00	1,245.00	405.00
<u>STEWARDSHIP / GIVING ENVELOPES</u>					
<u>EVANGELISM COMMITTEE</u>					
EVANGELISM FUND	1,217.22	400.00	400.00	400.00	--
QUILTING	1,080.96	500.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	
WEBSITE	14.00	300.00	300.00	210.00	90.00
TOTAL	2,312.18	1,200.00	1,700.00	1,610.00	90.00
<u>EDUCATION COMMITTEE</u>					
SUN.SCHL/VAC,BIBLE SCHL/ADULT ED.	178.04	200.00	400.00	400.00	--
BIBLE CAMP		200.00	200.00	200.00	--
CONFIRMATION	199.41	200.00	200.00	200.00	--
TOTAL	377.45	600.00	800.00	800.00	--
<u>OFFICE SUPPLY/COPIER UPKEEP -SHARED</u>	5,094.39	3,500.00	4,800.00	3,360.00	1,440.00

Bethany Budget for 2024

Page 2 of 2

	Actual Exp pd Thru 12/31/23	70/30 2023 BUDGET	70/30 2024 BUDGET	Bethany 70%	East 30%
<u>CONTRACTED SERVICES</u>					
CUSTODIAN SERVICE		2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00	--
CLEANING/JANITORIAL SUPPLIES	183.09	500.00	500.00	500.00	--
LAWN CARE/LANDSCAPING	34.98	400.00	400.00	400.00	--
SNOW REMOVAL/PLOWING	729.00	500.00	500.00	500.00	--
ORGANIST	866.67	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00	--
TREASURER WAGES		300.00	300.00	300.00	--
OFFICE SECRETARY	9,027.50	14,000.00	14,000.00	9,800.00	4,200.00
OFFICE SECRETARY SOC.SECURITY	690.60	1,071.00	1,071.00	749.70	321.30
TOTAL	11,531.84	20,771.00	20,771.00	16,249.70	4,521.30
<u>OUR CHURCH HOME</u>					
PARSONAGE FUND		600.00	600.00	600.00	--
PARSONAGE UPKEEP / MAINTENANCE	2,862.31	800.00	800.00	800.00	--
CHURCH BUILDING/GRNDS MAINT	2,153.67	2,200.00	2,200.00	2,200.00	--
CHURCH UTILITIES	7,244.47	8,500.00	8,500.00	8,500.00	--
CHURCH OFFICE PHONE	1,603.33	1,600.00	1,600.00	1,120.00	480.00
BUILDING INSUR & WORK COMP	5,881.00	6,000.00	6,000.00	6,000.00	--
NEW EQUIPMENT	1,656.14	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	--
TOTAL	21,400.92	21,200.00	21,200.00	20,720.00	480.00
TOTALS	121,318.30	147,362.84	154,226.16	119,523.31	34,702.85
Scrip Cards	988.00				
Gift Certificates, pie booth cash	850.00				
Roofing -Capital Improvement	39,660.11				
Total Expenses	162,816.41				
			SHARED EXPENSES FOR 2024:		
			TOTAL TO	BETHANY	EAST L.
			BE SHARED	PORTION	PORTION
			115,676.16	80,973.31	34,702.85

- Bethany -notes for the 2024 budget:

-Proposed to keep Office Secretary wages the same as 2023 AT \$20/HR, based on 700 hrs/yr.

-Website -will be looked into for updating, so there may be costs with that.

Bethany Lutheran Church, New Lisbon, WI
Church Council Meeting Minutes
Sunday, January 7, 2024

Council Members present: Pastor Lucy Hardie, Mark Hansen, Michael Korbein, Inger Kirkwood, Larry Thome, Glenda Swinehart, Shane Gesler, Kathie Means, Deanna Smith, Karl Katuin Christy Toelle, Betty Krotzman

Council members absent: None

1. Call to Order: President Mark Hansen called the council meeting to order at 12:04 p.m.

2. Devotions: Christy Toelle provided devotions.

3. Secretary's Report: Christy Toelle made a motion to accept the December 10, 2023 Council meeting minutes as presented, seconded by Glenda Swinehart; motion passed 12-0.

4. Treasurer's Report: The December/year-end financial reports were presented. One question on Statement of Financial Position; Michael Korbein will review for an answer. Karl Katuin made a motion to accept the November Treasurer's reports as presented, seconded by Betty Krotzman; motion passed 12-0.

5. Pastor Report: Pastoral visits continue. Thank you to all who helped with the Christmas Eve service - it was very nice, with 142 attending. February 17 will be Synod Councils Congregational Retreat from 9am-noon at Our Savior in West Salem.

6. Committee Reports:

a. **Education:** New Spark bibles have arrived for students that are easier for them to read and for different age groups. Students made Christmas ornaments to take home.

b. **Evangelism:** Nothing new.

c. **Long Range Planning:** Nothing new.

d. **Property:** Church bubbler is being repaired. New electric fireplace insert will be installed at the parsonage this week.

e. **Social Concerns:** In light of the additional funds received, they could consider doing something more than just Thanksgiving baskets, possibly grocery cards for some families of students for over the holiday break where regular lunches may not be possible.

f. **Stewardship:** Thank you to all who donated to the hat/mitten/scarf tree. Next year they would like to take the tree back to the park to self-distribute there during the holiday lights in the park. Sharing supper will be coming back for four times at the community center this year.

g. **Worship:** A worship planning meeting will be held toward end of January.

7. Old Business:

a. **Constitution Committee:** So far very few questions on the constitution changes. The proposed new constitution will be voted on at the January 21, 2023 annual meeting; and then if passed, it will be voted on again several weeks later to finalize.

b. **2024 Budget:** Noted were the changes that came out of the December meetings for the proposed budget. Kathie Means made a motion to approve the proposed budget as presented, seconded by Glenda Swinehart; motion passed 12-0.

b. **Nominating Committee -Council Size:** In the new constitution, other than the four officers, no more than six council members would be needed. Kathie Means, Larry Thome, and Betty Krotzman will be going off council. Larry Thome did offer to do another term on council.

8. New Business:

a. **March 3 council meeting:** This will not be a regular meeting. Instead, council members should plan for a retreat-type meeting to include a study of scripture and to look to the year ahead with Pastor Dione.

9. Next Meeting: Next Council meeting will be February 4, 2024 at 12 noon, with Mark Hansen providing devotions. He will also have Sunday announcements for the month of February.

10. Adjourn Meeting/Closing Prayer: Christy Toelle made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Glenda Swinehart; motion passed 12-0. The Lord's Prayer was prayed in closing. The meeting adjourned at 12:49pm.

Respectfully submitted by Michael Korbein, Council Secretary

FEBRUARY 202 CELEBRATIONS

Bethany Birthdays

Jordan McGuire – 1

Deanna Smith – 8

Betty Krotzman – 9

Greg Gollmar – 11

Simon Schultz – 11

Renee Spaniol – 11

Taylor Bever – 11

Maura Baumgart - 14

Kalie Lingl – 16

William Korbein – 16

Alicia Wyss – 24

Leah Faber – 26

Steve Spaniol – 27

Marcia Adams – 28

Bethany Anniversaries

John & Dawn Van Meter – 11

Please let Betty know if we need to include someone on the celebration list.



East Lemonweir Birthdays

Krystle Stoughtenger – 3

Marilyn Wetley – 10

Connie Wolfgram -11

Marion LaFortune – 24

Brad Stoughtenger – 27

East Lemonweir Anniversaries

Heinrich & Margarete Hummelbeck - 28



February Food For All

"and if you spend yourselves in behalf of the hungry and satisfy the needs of the oppressed, then your light will rise in the darkness, and your night will become like the noonday."

Isaiah 58:10

**Each week in February Bethany is collecting food for the food pantry. Please note the theme of each week. (Of course, any food donated is appreciated and can be given at any time. We are just having some fun while helping others.)

May our food container runneth over!

February 4th: "Winter Wonderland" (warm foods) – canned vegetables, stuffing, noodles, rice, etc.

February 11th: "Soup"er Bowl Sunday – all varieties of soup

February 18th: "Rise 'n' Shine" (breakfast foods) – cereal, pancake/waffle mix, oatmeal, coffee, etc.

February 25th: "Miscellaneous Mania" – applesauce, peanut butter, crackers, etc.

** Here is another way to support our hunger outreach. There is a February calendar located in the narthex.

- Sign up for 1 (or more) days on the calendar.
- Each day represents your contribution of \$10. (Ex. 3 days = \$30)
- Put donation in the offering plate and mark it from you for the food calendar.
- The money donated will be divided between our local food pantry and global hunger outreach through the ELCA.
- If ALL 29 days are claimed, the \$290 will be matched by a donor.

February 4th Food Facts:

(local) – In 2022 the New Lisbon Food Pantry supported 84 families = 90 adults, 60 people aged 60 & over, and 45 children.

(global) – ELCA offers a comprehensive approach and works to address hunger from all angles – both domestically and globally.

February 11th Food Facts:

(local) – In 2023 the New Lisbon Food Pantry supported 110 families = 129 adults, 57 people aged 60 & over, and 83 children.

(global) – 821 million people around the world (more than 1 in 10) Can't access the food they need to live active, healthy lives.

February 18th Food Facts:

(local) – The New Lisbon Food Pantry saw an increase of almost 31% of families and an increase of approximately 84% of children needing additional food support from 2022 to 2023.

(global) – ELCA's Global Barnyard shows how donations can help:

\$10 – chicks

\$20 – honeybees

\$30 – pig

\$50 – goat

\$250 – fish farm

\$500 – cow

February 25th Food Facts:

(local) –New Lisbon Food Pantry Information:

~ located at 121 S Adams St. in New Lisbon

~ contact number = 608-562-5189

~ hours of operation = 8:30 a.m.- 10:30 a.m.

on the first 4 Thursdays of the month; closed on holidays

(global) – The Synod emphasis is Water is Life. Donations can support the following:

\$25 - hygiene kit

\$30 - water filter

\$100 – portion of an irrigation project

\$150 – toilet

\$250 – share of a safe water project