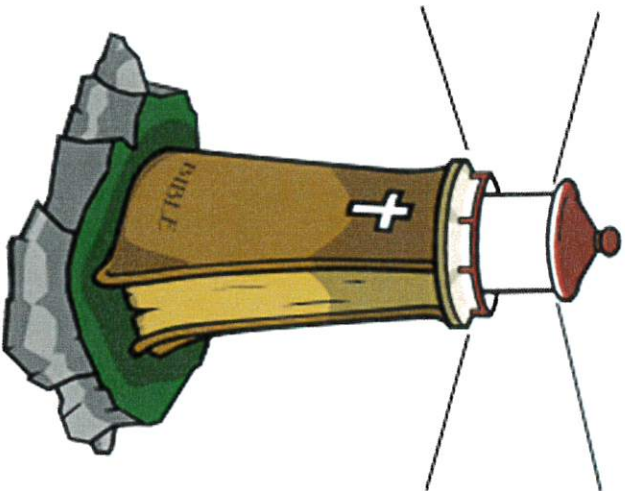


*Bethany and East Lemonweir Lutheran Churches
618 West River Street
New Lisbon, WI. 53950
RETURN SERVICES REQUESTED*

The Beacon

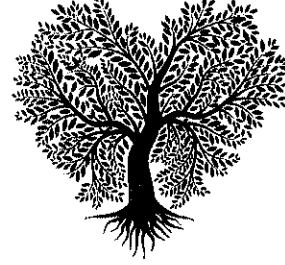
Bethany / East Lemonweir Parish
June 2024



Luke 15:20: "But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him."



A Note from Pastor Lucy



Dear God's Beloved,

During June 7-9, the elected voting members from Bethany and East Lemonweir will join other voting members from area congregations at La Crosse Area Synod's Synod Assembly. If you are not familiar with Synod Assembly, think of it as an Annual Meeting (like our congregations have or even a cooperative business). We will discuss business items (like the synod's mission support budget and compensation guidelines for rostered leaders, and various resolutions about the ministry we do together as a synod), participate in worship, and learn together through workshops.

All of this work will be centered around the theme, "Rooted in God's Love." This theme comes from the second half of the La Crosse Area Synod's mission statement: *Cultivating Life-Giving Relationships Rooted in God's Love.* Ephesians 3:17 will be the guiding verse for the weekend supported by the Parable of the Sower from Mark 4:1-9.

As I've begun to prepare and pray for Synod Assembly—I have often found myself thinking about what it means to be rooted in God's love. How do I stay rooted? How does being rooted in God's love call me to treat creation, my community, strangers, family, and friends? How does being rooted in God's love empower me to learn and serve?

Roots are important. A plant's root system is a fragile yet strong system of tendrils that all come from a single center root. It not only provides a foundation and stability for plants—but also gathers nutrients. Roots are ever trying to grow deeper and farther in search of the nutrients they need.

Although we humans don't have physical or literal roots, we do have figurative roots. A goal for many of us is to find a place where we can put down roots. We long for a place where we can be nourished and grow--where we can be fed and supported.

We can find those physical places like community and our homes—yet another place where we can find nourishment to grow is God's love. When we dwell or abide in God's love—trusting in the grace and forgiveness God gives us—we are filled with the Holy Spirit to discover, learn, serve, and journey. It is as Paul writes in Ephesians 3:14-21...

¹⁴For this reason I bow my knees before the Father,^[a] ¹⁵from whom every family^[b] in heaven and on earth takes its name. ¹⁶I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit ¹⁷and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. ¹⁸I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth ¹⁹and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. ²⁰Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, ²¹to him be glory in the church and^[c] in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

God's peace be with you,
Pastor Lucy

Notes: Worship on 6/9 will be a lay led service with a video message from Bishop Felix as will be at Synod Assembly Worship in La Crosse (all are invited). I will also be out on vacation 6/25-7/2. I will provide Emergency Pastoral Care contact closer to those dates.



Bethany Lutheran Church – New Lisbon, Wisconsin

Church Council Meeting Minutes

Sunday, May 5, 2024

Council Members Present:	Pastor Lucy Hardie, Mark Hansen, Shane Gesler, Karl Katuin, Inger Kirkwood, Michaele Korbein, Deanna Smith, Glenda Swinehart, Larry Thome, Christy Toelle
Council Members Absent:	None
Guests:	None
Agenda	
Call to Order:	President Mark Hansen called the Council meeting to order at 12:02 PM.
Devotions:	Larry Thome provided a devotion from Pastor Rick Warren - Working Together, We Can Accomplish More. As you walk through life, remember that you're not supposed to do everything on your own. As you share the burden of your work with fellow Christians, you'll find that you actually accomplish more for the glory of God.
Agenda Approval:	Mark Hansen presented the agenda for approval. There were no changes. Christy Toelle made a motion to accept meeting agenda as presented, seconded by Inger Kirkwood; motion passed 10-0.
Secretary's Report: <i>(Larry)</i>	Karl Katuin made a motion to accept the April 7, 2024 Council meeting minutes as presented, seconded by Inger Kirkwood; motion passed 10-0.
Treasurer's Report: <i>(Michaele)</i>	The period ending 4/30/24 General Fund Register, Savings Summary Report and Memorials Balance Summary Report were presented. There were no questions after the review. Shane Gesler made a motion to accept the 4/30/24 Treasurer's reports as presented, seconded by Inger Kirkwood; motion passed 10-0.
Pastor's Report:	Pastor Lucy thanked all those who have helped, prayed and provided monetary assistance for those attending the National Youth Gathering Update; The Krause family and Barb Pease will be welcomed as new members at the May 19 th service. We will have a Confirmation on that Sunday with one Confirmand – Gracie Faber.
Committee Reports	
Discipleship: <i>(Glenda and Shane)</i>	A couple of new Discipleship ministry are being considered: An "In-Reach" ministry, which would provide care to the congregation, their friends and their family by providing support in times of trouble, sadness, healing, and joy (e.g. new baby). This could be a meal train or some other kind of assistance. Similar to our Salad Luncheon, a possible outreach lunch ministry grilling brats, chips, etc.. in the July/August timeframe. Something that maybe some of the local companies and businesses could enjoy.
Education: <i>(Deanna)</i>	No new updates the committee. Pastor Lucy shared that she has been talking with the Pastor from Winding Rivers Methodist Church about having an ecumenical Vacation Bible School (VBS) this summer (July/August) for K-5 th grade children (and possibly their families). This would be based on an ELCA based VBS program and they are in communications with other churches in the area to see if they are interested.
Social Concerns: <i>(Inger/Christy)</i>	Containers are out in the Fellowship Hall for items for the healthcare kits. Toothbrushes, soap and towels are the greatest need for the kits. The committee is also looking into baby care kits as another possible social ministry.



Bethany Lutheran Church – New Lisbon, Wisconsin

Church Council Meeting Minutes

Sunday, May 5, 2024

<p>Property: (Karl)</p>	<p>There was an emergency issue with the parsonage garage door that was addressed, but it may require a new garage door opener.</p> <p>The clean-up Saturday was a success even though there was some weather impact. A number of trees that badly needed trimming were addressed and the exterior door by the steeple was fixed by Deanna's husband (Pete).</p> <p>There are two outside faucets, and only one is working (by the Fellowship Hall). The one not working may need extensive repair as there is a pipe in the wall and cement that needs replacing, and it's not a simple fix. Karl will be reaching out for quotes to fix this and bring this back to the Council.</p>
<p>Worship: (Larry)</p>	<p>No new updates from the committee.</p> <p>Pastor Lucy did provide an update on the outdoor Service on July 7th at Riverside Park. This will be a joint service again with Winding Rivers Methodist. Winding Rivers will provide the brats and buns and Bethany/East will provide salads, etc. for the after-service lunch.</p> <p>Mark Hansen will be providing music, but we need of a portable sound system for the service. Pastor Lucy also mentioned that there may be some minor "tweaks" in the summer liturgy.</p>
<p>Old Business</p>	
<p>Mission Statement Update:</p>	<p>The Council members were reminded that we will be discussing the creation of a Mission Statement at the June Council meeting and that they should do some research into reviewing other churches Mission Statements as preparation for the discussion.</p> <p>An example is the La Crosse Synod's Mission Statement, "<i>Cultivating Life-Giving Relationships Rooted in God's Love</i>".</p>
<p>By-Laws:</p>	<p>Larry Thome shared that we received feedback from Pastor Denny Hallemeier regarding our by-laws updates. We made the content changes that he suggested and we agreed that the by-laws would be a separate chapter in the Bethany Constitution, similar to how the past by-laws were maintained.</p> <p>As the Council approved presenting these by-laws to the congregation for approval, it was decided that we would do this as part of the June 2nd Service. To allow the congregation to review the new by-laws prior to the vote, we will communicate the changes electronically on our website, Facebook, and have a limited number of printed copies available in the narthex. Announcements will also be made in the bulletins and as part of Sunday Service.</p>
<p>Wa du Shuda Days:</p>	<p>Similar to last year's Wa du Shuda Days, Bethany will have a pie/brownie booth next to East Lemonweir's ice cream booth.</p> <p>We will need help in setting up the booth on Friday, July 12th at 5:00 PM and also in working in the booth on Saturday, July 13th from 11:00 AM to 6:00 PM.</p> <p>Shane Gesler will be creating a sign-up schedule for this event for both pie and brownie making and the booth support.</p>
<p>New Business</p>	
<p>Bethany Website:</p>	<p>Bethany's website needs an upgrade to both the outdated website design and the content (information) on the website. Pastor Lucy met with a website hosting firm named Chapel Sites. This is a new company formed from our current website hosting company, and they agreed to update the website design for no cost if we signed a new contract with them. They provided us with a prototype using the content from our existing website and Pastor Lucy shared it with the Council.</p> <p>Chapel Sites had multi-year plans at reduced costs, but the Council did not want to go into a multi-year plan until we were comfortable with the overall support and our comfort level with this new company.</p> <p>The cost for this website service/support is \$29/month, which is \$348 annually.</p>

	<p>Deanna Smith made a motion to approve the new website provider as presented, seconded by Glenda Swinehart; motion passed 10-0.</p> <p>While the new website hosting company was approved, the content (information) will still need to be updated as much of this information has not been updated in over five years. Larry Thome volunteered to update the website content with information gathered from different resources and people from the congregation before we move to the new design.</p>
WELCA – Church Floor Funding:	<p>Over the course of multiple years, WELCA has been accruing funds designated for the church floor in the sanctuary. The current floor was installed in 1969 when the church was built. The current flooring is made of a material that has a long life, and questions came up as the timeline for needing replacement. The floor is in good shape, and the cost to replace the floor would be expensive. It was noted that WELCA does not see this as an immediate need, but wanted the Council to be informed that they could designate these funds if needed long-term. Michael Korbein did mention that with our current flooring needed to be stripped and rewaxed on a regular basis to retain its long life. The last time this was done was at least four years ago by a company based out of Tomah, and maybe we should be looking into this as a short-term maintenance solution.</p> <p>Mark Hansen will follow up with WELCA to ensure that Council and WELCA are in agreement with the approach on the sanctuary flooring.</p>
Next Meeting:	The next Council meeting is scheduled for June 2, 2024 at 12:00 PM. Deanna Smith will provide devotions and Sunday service announcements.
Adjourn Meeting/ Closing Prayer:	<p>Pastor Lucy led the Council in a closing prayer.</p> <p>Glenda Swinehart made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Karl Katuin; motion passed 10-0. The meeting adjourned at 1:46 PM.</p>

Submitted by Larry Thome, Council Secretary

Bethany will again be setting up a pie/dessert booth at Wa Du Shuda Days in Riverside Park. Set up will be on Friday, July 12th at 5 pm. Meet at Bethany. We will need a few people to bring tables from the Church to the Park, and few people to help set up. The day of the event we will need volunteers to sell. We will start selling after the parade on Saturday, and be done around 7, based on traffic and sales, then taking down the tent after Church on Sunday. Fun was had by all last year, and great visibility for our church. Start thinking about your favorite pie and dessert to make for this great event. A sign up sheet for desserts and helpers needed will be put up on the Narthex soon. If anyone has any plastic banquet tables, we could use, please let Shane know. For more information, please reach out to Shane.

Needed for only Bethany's part of the budget: \$9,960.28

	April	YTD	
Offerings+Other Income	\$13,292.95	\$55,963.27	*
Expenses	\$16,199.95	\$58,101.77	

* includes East Lemonweir's reimbursement

East Lemonweir Council Meeting

April 21, 2024

The council met after worship April 21st at 11:45. Roger Nelson opened the meeting and Pastor Lucy led us in prayer. Members attending were Roger Nelson, Kathryn and Roger Pitcel, Jennifer Sarnow, Audrey Scholl, Marlene Pelton and Connie Wolfgram.

Kathryn made a motion to accept the secretary's report and Jennifer Sarnow second: motion carried. A motion to accept the treasurer's report was made by Marlene second by Audrey; motion carried.

A motion to take the bid for cement and work on the front steps to the congregation on May 5th was made by Roger P., second by Marlene; motion carried. It was noted the A1 lawn mowing price has increased.

Cemetery cleanup will be April 28th after church. We added \$500 a year to the Synod's Most Needed Fund.

Pastor Lucy noted there is a change in location for Synod Assembly to Onalaska. On April 28th we will have a Baptism at East Lemonweir. May 5th students will lead worship services.

Our May council meeting will be May 19th.

We will have an ice cream stand at Wa Du Shuda Days on July 13th.

July 7th we will have worship in the park in New Lisbon. July 28th is the 170th anniversary of East Lemonweir, plans are being made to celebrate our anniversary. September 1 we will have worship service at Bethany.

A motion to adjourn was made by Roger P., seconded by Marlene. Motion carried. We closed by praying the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Connie Wolfgram, sec.

East Lemonweir Congregational Meeting

May 5, 2024

After worship on May 5th Roger Nelson called the meeting to order. Due to the condition of the outside steps and sidewalks we have safety concerns. The council has received a bid from T2, a company from Tomah to repair and replace steps with concrete. The railings are not included in this bid, but will be repaired and refurbished. The T2 Bid is \$31,162. Questions about the project were answered.

A motion to accept the bid made by Roger Pitcel second by Margarete Hummelbeck; motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Connie Wolfgram, sec.

East Lemonweir Council Meeting

May 19, 2024

Members attending: Roger Nelson, Jennifer Sarnow, Kathryn Pitcel, Roger Pitcel, Audry Scholl, Marlene Pelton, Pastor Lucy, and Connie Wolfgram. We began at 11:40.

Roger Nelson called the meeting to order, Pastor Lucy led us in prayer. A motion to approve the secretary's reports of the April and May 5th meetings was made by Roger P. second by Jennifer; motion carried. A motion to approve the treasurer's report made by Marlene second by Audry; motion carried.

Church Mutual Insurance Co. is dropping East Lemonweir as of July 1, 2024. They listed our electrical boxes as the reason. Roger Nelson has contacted the Synod office and has received some possible names. Rural Mutual is a possibility. We need to change the electrical box and cover wires. This will be done.

Pastor Lucy reported for the worship in the park the Winding River Methodists will provide brats and buns. We need to locate a sound system for the day.

Marlene noted the Wa Du Shuda days ice cream stand "Sundaes on Saturday" will be on July 13th.

A motion to adjourn made by Roger P. second by Marlene; motion carried. We closed by praying the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Connie Wolfgram, sec.

2024 June Worship Assistant

East Lemonweir Lectors

6/2 – Kathryn Pitcel

6/9 – Diane Clark

6/16 – Dawn Nelson

6/23 – Connie Wolfgram

6/30 – Jennifer Sarnow

6/16 –

Assistant Minister – Michaelae Korbein

Reader – Ross Hardie

Ushers – Mike & Lori Esser

Altar Communion – Michaelae Korbein

Bethany Worship

Assistants

6/2 –

Assistant Minister – Beth Preuss

Reader – Sheila Stark

Ushers – Mark Hansen & Shane Gesler

Altar Communion – Beth Preuss

6/23 –

Assistant Minister – Larry Thome

Reader – Debby Hansen

Ushers – Mark & Debby Hansen

Continuous Communion – Larry Thome

6/9 –

Assistant Minister – Mark Hansen

Reader – Betty Krotzman

Ushers – Larry & Kathy Thome

Continuous Communion – Mark Hansen, Deanna Smith, Galen Lingl

6/30 –

Assistant Minister – Galen Lingl

Reader – Barb Parker

Ushers – Jack & Betty Krotzman



June 2024 Celebrations

Bethany Birthdays

Kevin Klinker – 2
Toni Phelps – 2
Rosie Halverson – 4
Garry Olson – 4
Janie Bever – 8
Adele Haschke - 11
Cody Sletten – 12
John Bailey – 14
Danielle Benson - 14
Don Powell – 15
Jack Krotzman – 15
Shane Gesler – 15
Barbara Pease - 19
Sandy Rhea - 21
ShyAnna Sletten – 30

East Lemonweir Birthdays

Nathan Brown – 26

East Lemonweir Anniversaries

Connie & Gerald Wolfgram – 5

Bethany Anniversaries

Kevin & Lisa Klinker – 14
Ken & Marcia Adams – 22
Karl & Peg Katuin – 23
Chis & Leah Faber – 24
Jack & Betty Krotzman – 25

If a celebration is not listed,
please call
608 562 3807 or email
bethanyeast@mwt.net.

Super Bowl of Sundae Sunday



➤ **June 16th following our service**

➤ All are welcome!

➤ Appreciate dads and enjoy a Father's Day treat.

➤ Celebrate making our Water is Life goal.

➤ Honor farmers as June is National Dairy month.

What: Brambleberry Winery Field Trip

When: Sun., June 23 - Meet at the winery at 2:00

Where: 234 N Leonard Street in West Salem

Who: Bethany and friends


Why: To visit Ross Hardie's parents' place

for fun and fellowship

- Guided tasting flight at the counter or a 6-sample flight at a table (\$8) or glasses of featured wines for \$1 off
- Light menu including pizzas, cheese bread, and charcuterie snack plates
- Drinks include Wisconsin craft beers and Guinness, bottled water, tea, hot cocoa, hot cider, soda, and Heineken NA
 - Contact Debby Hansen by June 17th, if interested.



JUNE 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
9am Worship @Bethany 10:30am Worship @ EL		Tuesdays 6:30 PM AA@ East Lemonweir		Thursdays 6:30 PM AA @ Bethany		1
2 Altar Communion <i>By-Law Vote @ Bethany</i> 12 pm Bethany Council Meeting	3	4 Pastor's Text Study 4 PM Rachel Circle	5 9:00am Quilting	6 9:30 am Bible Study	7 W-ELCA Salad Luncheon 11 - 1	8
9 Continuous Communion	10	11 Pastor's Text Study	12 9:00am Quilting	13 9:30 am Bible Study	14  Flag Day	15
16 Altar Communion <i>Sundae Super Bowl following Bethany Worship</i> Happy Father's Day	17	18 Pastor's Text Study <i>Beacon Articles Due.</i>	19 9:00am Quilting	20  Summer Begins 9:30 am Bible Study	21	22
23 Cont. Communion 2PM Brambleberry Winery West Salem Ross Hardie's Parents Winery	24	25 Pastor Text Study	26 9:00am Quilting	27 No Bible Study Today, July and August!	28	29 Upcoming - 7/7 Worship in the Riverside Park 7/12 & 7/13 Wa Du Shuda
30 No Communion						