

Ministries (Cont.)

Adult Choir

Gathers periodically throughout the year.

Community Hope Chest

Housed in the Small Hall of Bethany we provide new and like new clothes and shoes for all ages.

West Branch Food Pantry

Even in a small community such as West Branch there are still hunger needs. Bethany has faithfully collected food and supplies for the pantry over the years.

Fourth Sunday Supper

A free meal and time for fellowship provided to anyone. This is open to the entire West Branch community.

Quilters

This faithful group of women meet every Tuesday from 1:00 - 5:00 p.m. in the Great Hall. They make quilts that bring comfort, warmth, and healing to those in need.

Tanzania Sister Congregation

Through our partnership with the Southeastern Iowa Synod of the ELCA we have a relationship with the Mbakweni Lutheran Church. In the past Bethany members have visited Tanzania and we have provided funds for a corn milling machine.

Kids Against Hunger

In the past Bethany has done several events to package food for hungry children abroad.

Bus Tour Luncheons

Provides meals and fellowship to those visiting West Branch.

Others

In the past we also have responded to God's grace by giving to the ELCA Malaria Campaign, ELCA World Hunger, Heifer International, and local organizations such as DVIP, Lutheran Campus Ministry at U of I, Lutheran Chaplaincy Outreach, and Lutheran Services in Iowa. We also meet the needs of others through Bethany's Good Samaritan Fund and our partnership with the West Branch Area Religious Council.



Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH

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BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH (ELCA)



*Celebrating Christ's love
by reaching out to
others*

Welcome to Bethany!

We are so glad you are here! Bethany Lutheran Church is a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA).

We are a faith community rooted in the richness of God's grace and doing our best to respond to the call of reaching out to our neighbor through the love and grace God revealed to us in Jesus Christ. At Bethany you will find a warm and open community where all are welcome - young or old, short or tall, rich or poor, member or visitor, etc. We are glad you are here and are praying for you!

Worship

We gather for worship Sunday morning at 9:00 a.m. Worship will include the singing of hymns, remembering our baptism or our brokenness and need for God's forgiveness, Bible readings, prayer, a sermon, offering, sharing of God's peace with one another, and sharing in the Lord's Supper or Communion. (This sacrament is celebrated on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month) Worship is the primary activity in the life of our faith community and we hope that you join us.

What We Believe

- Jesus Christ is the Son of God. He is God made flesh and lived among us. (John 1:14; Christians celebrate His birth on Christmas Day)
- He was sent by God to reveal the love of God for all creation. (John 3:16)
- Through His life, ministry, and teaching He broke down barriers and extended God's grace to all.
- He was crucified, died, and was buried and after three days by the power of the Holy Spirit He rose again from the dead to new life. (Christians celebrate His resurrection on Easter Day)
- Through His death and resurrection God has opened the way of forgiveness and salvation to all people who believe in Jesus Christ.
- It is solely through God's grace in Christ that we are saved from sin and death. (Ephesians 2:8-9)



Ministries

At Bethany we have many opportunities to become involved and do God's work in the world. We believe we have been created by God and, by the Holy Spirit, God uses our hands to do God's work and mission in the world. For more information on all our ministry opportunities and more visit our website at www.wbbethany.org.

Education

There are many opportunities at Bethany to grow in your faith.

- Sunday School (Sept. - May)
 - ◇ Pre-K - 3rd Grade - Sunday following worship at 10:20 a.m.
 - ◇ 4th-6th Grade - Wednesday at 6:30-7:30 p.m.
- Men's Morning Bible Study
 - ◇ Wednesday 6:00 - 7:00 a.m. with breakfast
- Women's Bible Studies
 - ◇ Second Wednesday of each month 9:00 a.m. (generally at the church)
 - ◇ Thursday morning 6:00 a.m.
- Vacation Bible School (VBS)
 - ◇ Early to Mid June
- Affirmation of Baptism (Confirmation)
 - ◇ Sept. - May (7th - 8th Grade)