

Bethany Lutheran Church

"To grow so deep in Christ through worship, education,
and fellowship that we celebrate by reaching out to others."



**"Come, follow me," Jesus said, "and I will send you out to fish for people." -
Mark 1:17**

Important Dates

- 2-05 Lunch Bible Study @ Mexico Lindo
- 2-08 Lutheran day on the hill
- 2-12 Lunch Bible Study @ Mexico Lindo
- 2-14 9:00 am Women's Circle
7:00 pm Ash Wednesday Service @ Bethany
- 2-21 6:15 pm Lent Supper
7:00 pm Lent Worship
- 2-25 Community Meal 5:00 pm
- 2-28 6:15 pm Lent Supper
7:00 pm Lent Worship

Contact Information

Bethany Lutheran Church
235 South Second Street
West Branch, Iowa 52358

Pastor Chad Whaley
pastor@wbbethany.org

Office Hours
Monday & Thursday
9:00 a.m. - Noon

*Pastor Chad is also available by
appointment.

Admin. Assistant: Paula Casper
blcsecretary@lcom.net

Office Hours
Tuesday & Thursday 8:00-11:30 a.m.
Office Phone: (319) 643-5998

FIND US ON FACEBOOK!

Simply search "Bethany Lutheran Church (ELCA) West Branch, Iowa" on facebook and "like" our page!

ALSO FIND US ON TWITTER!

Search @blcwestbranch



Dear People of God,

Grace and peace to you from the light of the world, Jesus Christ our Lord! Amen.

"Come, follow me." Three short and simple words that Jesus issues to his first disciples in the gospel of Mark. It seems so darn easy and in fact Mark's presentation of how these first disciples respond further seems to imply that's all there is to it. They just drop everything they are doing. They abandon their fishing boats and follow Jesus. They leave all they have ever known and get behind him. Two of the disciples even leave their father who had also been in the boat with them. "Come, follow me" and they do without question and not knowing where the journey they embark on will lead them.

I have been pondering this text even following preaching on it January 21st. It is one that just seems to live at the front of my brain nudging me, even nagging me to continue to wrestle with it. God's word is like that sometimes. In one sense, I absolutely love the call stories of these first disciples because Jesus, the Son of God, invites these ordinary, everyday fishermen to join him and the work God has sent him to do. Likewise, we too are invited into his ministry. Just as we are. Ordinary. Everyday. People. We are good enough just as God created us! We have the gifts Jesus can use to fish for people and to bear forth light to the world!

On the other hand, we know what those first disciples didn't know when they first got behind Jesus. Following Jesus and being his disciples is a daunting task and will take us places we would rather not go such as the cross of Good Friday. It will call us to do things that very well might make us uncomfortable—forgiving our enemies. Excuse me, I don't think so Jesus. Offering forgiveness seventy times seven, which basically equates to Jesus saying we are to forgive to the point it can't be counted or measured. Yeah! Sure thing, Jesus. Or maybe it's selling everything we have and giving it to the poor. No way, no how, it's not going to happen Jesus!

Here is the rub with this text for me. Mark makes it look so darned easy but I know it's just not that simple and I suspect you do as well. Those days when fear sets in and I don't want to invite someone to Bethany for the possibility of being rejected or those days when it's scary to try something new or perhaps it was the unknown and uneasiness I felt last week going to Anamosa State Penitentiary to undergo training so that at some point I will be able to worship with the inmates and brothers and sisters in Christ of the newest congregation in our Synod called Free Indeed. (More information on page 8)

Yet, in the back of my mind is that voice of the Good Shepherd whispering, "Come, follow me." He will lead. He has and will go ahead of us. We won't be alone. He will give us the strength. He will show us the way. He will equip us. In all we do as people of God whether corporately as the church or individually in our daily lives the call of Jesus continues with three simple, short words, "Come, follow me."

Grace and peace,

Pastor Chad



Birthdays

02/02 Becky Paulsen
 02/04 Del Hughes
 02/06 Herman Boedecker, Jamie Fetzer
 02/10 Dave Bahnsen, Paul Friis,
 Kristin McElhinney
 02/12 Katherine White
 02/15 Becky Blaalid, Kyle Colvin,
 Dave Poppen
 02/20 Joshua Snyder,
 Jamie Zimmerman
 02/21 Tina Webb
 02/23 Arik Marsh
 02/24 Lynn Lovetinsky
 02/26 Isaac Kimpe
 02/27 Dorothy Holmes
 02/28 Brad Kinsinger

EWALU Summer Camp

Summer programming at Ewalu is focused on exploring God's creation, making new friends, being challenged by new activities, and learning about God's love for all of us.

Brochures for this year's Camp schedule for children and youth in grades 1-12 and their parents can be found on the Resources Table in the Great Hall. Each unfurls into a poster and contains a registration form.

Camperships are available to individuals in need of financial assistance.

For more information go to EWALU's website at: <http://ewalu.org/>



Bethany Books by Frank Frostestad



Books For Adults

This month's theme will be fiction once again. Last June I put a number of books by Lauraine Snelling on display. The first book this month is a new one by her. It is book one of a new series titled *The Promise Of Dawn*. A new family emigrates from Norway but they do not go to Blessing, North Dakota but to Minnesota. Opportunities are scarce in Norway, so when Rune and Signe Carlson receive a letter from Rune's uncle, Einer Strand, offering to loan them money for passage to America, Rune accepts. Signe is reluctant to leave her home, especially as she is pregnant with her fourth child. Einer promises to give them land of their own, something they could never afford in Norway. Life in Minnesota is more difficult than they imagined. Uncle Einer and Aunt Gerd are hard, demanding people. They soon find themselves worked to the bone to pay off their debt. Have a good time reading this book to find out what happens with this family.

In September, I introduced several books by Beverly Lewis. She has since been busy writing more books about the Amish community. In *The Atonement* we meet Lucy Flaud, now twenty-five and beyond Amish courting age. The mistakes of the past haunt her and she is constantly striving to be good enough, filling up her hours doing volunteer work. No matter what she does she does feel she is doing enough. When her father strikes up an unexpected friendship with an Englisher in search of a simpler life, Lucy forms a connection of her own with him. Meanwhile, she rejects courtship with her longtime Amish friend. Is it too late for her to accept redemption for what is bothering her and directing her behavior?

In *The Wish* Leona Speicher got the "sister" she always dreamed of when Gloria Gingerich and her family moved to Lancaster. The Arkansas newcomers seem to be the answer to Leona's prayers. She and Gloria form a close friendship and are virtually inseparable. This continues until Gloria's father is expelled from their Old Order Amish church for reasons no one will discuss. Much to Leona's dismay, the Gingerich's suddenly pack up and disappear. After several years of silence, Gloria unexpectedly contacts Leona. Leona makes up her mind to go after her friend and bring her back, despite some who question if this move is a good idea. Will this move be her undoing with the Amish community?

In *The Proving* we meet Amanda Diener. Five years before something happened that caused her to leave her Amish community. After five years as an Englisher, she is shocked to learn that her mother has passed away. Her mother left her Lancaster County's most popular Amish bed-and-breakfast. However, the inn will only truly be hers if she can successfully run it for twelve months. Reluctantly, she accepts the challenge, even though it means facing the family she left behind. What caused her to leave? Also the clientele expect an Amish hostess. Can she do that? What about her problems in the kitchen trying to cook? Can she fulfill the terms of the inheritance or is it one big mistake?

Book For Children

Buzby: The Misbehaving Bee by Troy Schmidt is based on characters from Max Lucado's *Hermie: A Common Caterpillar*. Buzby thinks he is too cool for rules. Ladybug twins Hailey and Bailey admire him for it. That is, until he lets a huge frog into the garden, putting everyone at risk. He finally must ask God for forgiveness and help. It's about following the rules. (donated)



Adult Education

**Wednesday Bethany Men's
Breakfast Bible Study
Group**
6:00 a.m. in Great Hall

**Thursday Women's
Bible Study**
6:00 a.m. in the Small Hall

Women's Circle
Second Wednesday of Month
9:00 a.m. in Great Hall unless
stated otherwise

Adult Discussion
10:20 a.m. in the Small Hall
All are Welcome

**Monday Lunch Bible Study
at Mexico Lindo**
11:30 a.m.
February 5 and 12

**NEVER
STOP
LEARNING**

CHOIR NEWS

There will be no choir practice on February 14 due to Ash Wednesday Worship at Bethany.

LUTHERAN SERVICES IN IOWA (LSI) NEWS

Happy Valentine's Day from LSI!

"We love because He first loved us." 1 John 4:19

Lutheran Services in Iowa's (LSI) mission is about love: responding to the love of Jesus Christ through compassionate service. We give thanks for all the ministry partners, both individuals and congregations, who help share this love for Iowa children, families, and adults!

We see this love in newly adopted children and their families, in teens who learn to trade self-harm for self-worth, in Iowans with disabilities who are growing their independence and confidence, in new parents who are raising strong and healthy families, and in so many other moments of joy. If you would like more information, please contact Deb Whitford, LSI's director of philanthropy and church relations, at 563-676-2065 or Deborah.Whitford@LSIowa.org.

Thank you for the love you share and create through LSI. Happy Valentine's Day!

Our Mission: Lutheran Services in Iowa responds to the love of Jesus Christ through compassionate service. LSI is an affiliated social ministry partner of the Iowa congregations of the ELCA (Evangelical Lutheran Church in America) and a member of LSA (Lutheran Services in America). We proudly serve people of all ages, abilities, religions, sexes, gender identities, national origins, ethnicities, races, and sexual orientations. Learn more at www.LSIowa.org and www.facebook.com/LSI.iowa.

Healing through Harmony

Jaden doesn't have many memories of his father. When Jaden was 5 years old, his father unexpectedly passed away. Now 14, Jaden has grown up without that loving connection. Through his grief, his connection to his mother became strained, and he struggled to manage his anger at home. After being placed in LSI's Bremwood Residential Treatment Center in Waverly, Jaden connected with LSI's Spiritual Life program. The voluntary program connects youth with faith-based art, music, and film. It serves as a safe space for children to open up about their emotions and get the support they need to thrive. "Jaden is one of the few kids who would actively set up lunch appointments with me," says Pastor Dennis Bauer, who leads the program. "He's really benefitted from being able to talk during the day." Having access to a support network and a trusting relationship with Pastor Dennis has helped Jaden feel empowered to make a positive change during his time at Bremwood. Jaden is finding his faith through music, and he's learning how to talk about his trauma and become a role model for other Iowa youth. Jaden has now been adopted into a loving family. As he finishes up his treatment at Bremwood, his family visits frequently and worships with him, and Jaden is enjoying being a new big brother.



ReVitalize is a one day event, open to all. Join others from congregations around the Southeastern Iowa Synod for a day of workshops given by real people making a difference in their community.

Across the Southeastern Iowa Synod there are signs of vitality and life in the ministry of congregations just like yours. Rather than bring in a ‘professional’ to talk about what brings congregational vitality, you are invited to hear from leaders – your own neighbors – who have tried something new, revamped an oldie-but-goodie, or who are engaged in ministry with surprising partners.

At its heart, ReVitalize aims to promote vitality in your congregation by providing tools and resources to equip individuals to live out their faith in daily life and foster excitement about your congregations’ future. During this daylong conference you will join congregations from around the Southeastern Iowa Synod for workshops given by real people making a difference in their community.

Re:Vitalize. Get ideas. Be inspired. Renew the church.

Workshops vary in scope from worship and arts to hunger and multi-cultural ministries to practical how-tos of moving a congregation in the right direction. In addition to the workshops there will be opportunities to network, worship, and fellowship in a day that reminds us that we are #inthistogether for the sake of the world.

Saturday, February 24, 2018
First Lutheran Church, Cedar Rapids, Iowa
8 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.
\$25 per person, includes lunch
Discount for groups of 4 or more from the same congregation

Learn more and register at <http://bit.ly/2BURsSf>

If you have questions about this event contact Rev. Erika Uthe at 319-338-1273 or uthe@seiasynod.org



Southeastern Iowa Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
 God's work. Our hands.



Worship Opportunities During Lent and Easter

Once again this year we will be partnering with our brothers and sisters in Christ of Springdale United Methodist Church and West Branch United Methodist Church in worshipping together for the services of Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, and Good Friday. The schedule is below. Over the years these have been some wonderful worship opportunities and if you haven't attended at one of the other congregations please consider doing so this year. Your presence is so appreciated as we truly come together as the body of Christ.

This year we will also be offering a worship opportunity at 12:00 p.m. These noon services will be approximately 30 minutes in length.

Ash Wednesday Service - Wednesday February 14

12:00 p.m. at Bethany Lutheran Church

7:00 p.m. at Bethany Lutheran Church

Maundy Thursday Service - Thursday, March 29

12:00 p.m. at Springdale United Methodist Church

7:00 p.m. at Springdale United Methodist Church

Good Friday Service - Friday, March 30

12:00 p.m. at West Branch United Methodist Church

7:00 p.m. West Branch United Methodist Church

Easter Sunday Services at Bethany - Sunday, April 1

9:00 a.m.



We invite you to join us for worship this Lent as we gather together for Prayer Around the Cross. This will be a short contemplative and meditative prayer service to assist us in centering ourselves during the season of Lent. We will sing short, simple songs, offer prayers together and be invited to pray around the cross for whatever it is that lays heavily upon our hearts.

Wednesday, February 21

6:15 p.m. Lent Supper

7:00 pm Prayer Around the Cross Worship Service

Wednesday, February 28

6:15 p.m. Lent Supper

7:00 pm Prayer Around the Cross Worship Service

Wednesday, March 7

6:15 p.m. Lent Supper

7:00 pm Prayer Around the Cross Worship Service

Wednesday, March 14

6:15 p.m. Lent Supper

7:00 pm Prayer Around the Cross Worship Service

Wednesday, March 21

6:15 p.m. Lent Supper

7:00 pm Prayer Around the Cross Worship Service

ADULT DISCUSSION HOUR

Everyone is invited to Adult Discussion hour at 10:20 a.m. Sunday morning. This is a 7 part Discussion about the book we call the Bible. Each of the sessions lasts about 45 minutes. The sessions are on separate topics so you don't have to attend all the sessions; come to the ones that interest you! This Discussion is designed for those of us that want to know the basics about the Bible. The topics are: Canon-what was or wasn't included; History-the versions of the Bible and how they affect what we learn; Testaments-two parts of one story; Gospels-the Good News of Jesus; Genre-history, poetry, prophecy, and apocalyptic writing; Interpretation-how we understand the Bible and assumptions that might affect our understanding; and Grace-using the Bible for good and loving each other. Please see Neil Korsmo with any questions.



West Branch Area Religious Council (WBARC)

Bethany Lutheran, Springdale United Methodist, St. Bernadette's Catholic,
West Branch Friends, West Branch Friends Meeting, West Branch United Methodist

January 11, 2018

To: WBARC Representatives and Congregations

Re: 2017 WBARC Financial Recap

Greetings Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As the acting Treasurer of the West Branch Area Religious Council (WBARC) I want to once again thank all of you for your faithful partnership and support of our shared ministry together. Through your faithful stewardship and monetary donations to our joint account we were able to continue our shared mission in assisting those in need in our community.

During 2017 WBARC received \$1,483 in monetary gifts. Thank you all so much! We had mission expenditures of \$2437.23. During 2017 we assisted approximately 17 individuals and/or families with needs such as a room at the Presidential Inn, food vouchers to Jack and Jill, fuel assistance, rental assistance, deposit to provide safe housing in a domestic violence situation, shoes for a student, and a few other needs. Additionally, WBARC continued its strong support of the Weekend Backpack Program at Hoover Elementary, which provides weekend food items for students who may need them, by allocating \$1,050 to fund this valuable ministry and hopefully we will be able to continue to do so once again in 2018.

Once again, on behalf of my colleagues, let me express our gratitude and thankfulness for your commitment and faithfulness to our shared ministry. We do our best to faithfully steward these gifts and see they are making a difference and extending God's care and love to all. We look forward to 2018, our partnership together, and our joint efforts in doing God's work in our community.

In peace,

Chad Whaley
Pastor, Bethany Lutheran Church
WBARC Treasurer

BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH
COUNCIL MINUTES DECEMBER 2017

Meeting called to order at 6:30 p.m. by President Lipes

Members Present: Greg Lipes, Jill Taylor, Beth Kaufman, Jamie Zimmerman, Jon Twing, Pastor Chad, Cheryl Fischer,

Members Absent: Paula Casper, Wayne Frauenholtz, Tonya Samuelson

Opening Prayer and Devotional (Pastor Chad)
Pastor Chad led with an opening prayer.

New Business (All)-Due to scheduling issues New Business was moved to the front of the agenda
November Budget

Discussed disposition of \$345.91 in the noisy can collection without action. Stewardship and Youth will decide action in 2018.

2018 Budget

Initial budget planning spend versus inbound revenue was projected at approximately \$3,500.

This is only a two percent variance on a large (\$145,000) projected budget. This gap is likely to be covered with excess carryover from 2017.

Beth Kaufman moves to approve budget. Jon Twing seconds. Motion approved.

Special Gifts Budget

Need to give away the remainder of the Thrivent money since Thrivent changed funding programs. This is an additional \$227 that needs to be distributed in the budget.

Jamie Zimmerman made a motion to move \$500 from the “internal missions” to the quilters with the balance of the 1.5% to a new fund called “internal ministries”. Beth Kaufman seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The Council agreed to allocate money to the “external ministries” using a lot process. First, the Council agreed to add the Prison Ministry to the roster of “external ministries.” Second, the Council agreed to cut the WBARC allocation in half due to need (i.e., WBARC finances are solid). Finally, the Council agreed that if the entire budget represented 15 shares, WBARC would get one share and all others would get two shares of budget allocation. This resulted in the following distribution of total budget allocation (i.e., basis of 2.5%):

UI – Lutheran Campus Ministry	2
UIHC Hospital Chaplaincy Program	2
Lutheran Services in Iowa	2

Wartburg Seminary	2
Iowa City Shelter House	2
WBARC	1
DVIP – Domestic Violence Intervention	2
Prison Ministry	2

Cheryl Fischer moved, Jon Twing second.
Motion approved.

Pastor’s Report (Pastor Chad)
See report as submitted

Pastor Chad informed the Council that the WBARC not-for-profit status was re-instated after an un-planned relapse due to a technical glitch.

Work has completed on the final constitution and a copy will be distributed to the members of Bethany for review and comments. Vote pending at the upcoming Annual Meeting

Planning for the unique Christmas Services for this year is complete. Christmas Eve is the last Sunday of Advent so there will be three services

Secretary’s Report: (Jon Twing)

Jon Twing distributed, council reviewed.

Jamie Zimmerman moved to accept, second was by Cheryl Fischer. Minutes accepted as corrected or amended.

Treasurer’s Report: (Jill Taylor)

Covered under New Business

Committee Reports:

Building and Grounds (Jamie Zimmerman)

New Nativity up and looking good.

Trees removed from grounds for safety and aesthetic reasons.

Painting plan, implemented by volunteers, overseen by Men’s Prayer Group and Paint Committee

Education (Pastor Chad for Tonya Samuelsson)

Pastor Chad commented that Tonya is looking for a co-lead to help with planning for the 2018 VBS and a committee will be formed soon.

Evangelism (Wayne Frauenholtz)

No Report.

Fellowship (Paula Casper)

No Report.

Stewardship (Jon Twing)

No Report

(Continued on page 8)

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Thank You to
Our Staff

COUNCIL MINUTES DECEMBER 2017

Continued from page 7

Youth (Cheryl Fischer)

No report.

Worship & Music (Beth Kaufman)

Planning for Christmas in full swing
“Hanging of the Greens” was successful.

Old Business (All)

Annual reports to Paula are past due!
Need to finish Pastor Chad’s performance evaluation
New Council Member suggestions should be provided to the Past-
President

Additional New Business (All)

Christmas Bonus for the Organist is needed this year especially since there will be three services on Christmas! It would be nice to provide this bonus prior to Christmas. Jamie Zimmerman moved that we post a \$500 bonus, Beth Kaufman Second this motion. Motion approved.

The Missions Investment Funds discussion has been tabled to the next meeting and will be included in the Report of the Treasurer.

Meeting adjourned at 7:44 p.m. with the Lord’s Prayer.

Next Council Meeting is Monday, January 8, 2018 at 6:30 PM

FREE INDEED PRISON MINISTRY

Free Indeed is a new ministry taking shape at the Anamosa State Penitentiary, a men’s state prison located in Anamosa. Free Indeed is a community that shares the good news of Jesus Christ with and through those inside the prison walls, with support of ministry partners outside the prison walls. Currently, Free Indeed is a congregation under development in the Southeastern Iowa Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

Free Indeed will serve the nearly 1,000 men living at the Anamosa State Penitentiary with the mission to share the good news of Jesus Christ to those who are inside and outside of prison walls, build a community of faith within the confines of the prison using national Prison Congregations of American model, build a network of supporters on the outside of the prison walls to support and participate in the congregation and assist those who are released to be restored to the community and to continue in their spiritual journey. (From Southeastern Iowa Synod website)

Pastor Jerry Collell has been called to this congregation and will be worshipping with us on March 11 and sharing more about this ministry, which Bethany has supported financially the last 2 years.

For more information and a video, go to: seiasynod.org/ministries/prisonministry/



FAITH AT HOME

These short Bible passages and reflection starters are one more way we are trying to spur conversation about faith at home and also absorb ourselves in the word of God. We hope you find them beneficial.

Acts 2:1-4

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

- If I had watched this, I would have...
- The Holy Spirit...
- God's spirit in our world...



Psalm 23:1-6

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters; he restores my soul. He leads me in right paths for his name's sake. Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff—they comfort me. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord my whole life long.

- The darkest valley I could imagine going through...
- Being led and having my soul restored by this shepherd is...
- To dwell with God is to...

Romans 1:16-17

For I am not ashamed of the gospel; it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who has faith, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. For in it the righteousness of God is revealed through faith for faith; as it is written, "The one who is righteous will live by faith."

- To live by faith is to...
- Being not ashamed of the gospel would be...
- The gospel, the good news of faith is...

Daily Bible Readings

The foundational premise of this set of daily readings is their relationship to the Sunday lectionary. The readings are chosen so that the days leading up to Sunday (Thursday through Saturday) prepare for the Sunday readings. The days flowing out from Sunday (Monday through Wednesday) reflect upon the Sunday readings. The complete Daily Lectionary is also found on pages 1121-1153 of our hymnal, *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*.

Thursday, Feb 1	Psalm 147:1-11, 20c Proverbs 12:10-21 Galatians 5:2-15	Friday, Feb 16	Psalm 25:1-10 Daniel 9:15-25a 2 Timothy 4:1-5
Friday, Feb 2	Psalm 147:1-11, 20c Job 36:1-23 1 Corinthians 9:1-16	Saturday, Feb 17	Psalm 25:1-10 Psalm 32 Matthew 9:2-13
Saturday, Feb 3	Psalm 147:1-11, 20c Isaiah 46:1-13 Matthew 12:9-14	Sunday, Feb 18	Genesis 9:8-17 1 Peter 3:18-22 Mark 1:9-15
Sunday, Feb 4	Isaiah 40:21-31 1 Corinthians 9:16-23 Mark 1:29-39	Monday, Feb 19	Psalm 77 Job 4:1-21 Ephesians 2:1-10
Monday, Feb 5	Psalm 102:12-28 2 Kings 4:8-17, 32-37 Acts 14:1-7	Tuesday, Feb 20	Psalm 77 Job 5:8-27 1 Peter 3:8-18a
Tuesday, Feb 6	Psalm 102:12-28 2 Kings 8:1-6 Acts 15:36-41	Wednesday, Feb 21	Psalm 77 Proverbs 30:1-9 Matthew 4:1-11
Wednesday, Feb 7	Psalm 102:12-28 Job 6:1-13 Mark 3:7-12	Thursday, Feb 22	Psalm 22:23-31 Genesis 15:1-6, 12-18 Romans 3:21-31
Thursday, Feb 8	Psalm 50:1-6 1 Kings 11:26-40 2 Corinthians 2:12-17	Friday, Feb 23	Psalm 22:23-31 Genesis 16:1-6 Romans 4:1-12
Friday, Feb 9	Psalm 50:1-6 1 Kings 14:1-18 1 Timothy 1:12-20	Saturday, Feb 24	Psalm 22:23-31 Genesis 16:7-15 Mark 8:27-30
Saturday, Feb 10	Psalm 50:1-6 1 Kings 16:1-7 Luke 19:41-44	Sunday, Feb 25	Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16 Romans 4:13-25 Mark 8:31-38
Sunday, Feb 11	2 Kings 2:1-12 2 Corinthians 4:3-6 Mark 9:2-9	Monday, Feb 26	Psalm 105:1-11, 37-45 Genesis 21:1-7 Hebrews 1:8-12
Monday, Feb 12	Psalm 110:1-4 Exodus 19:7-25 Hebrews 2:1-4	Tuesday, Feb 27	Psalm 105:1-11, 37-45 Genesis 22:1-19 Hebrews 11:1-3, 13-19
Tuesday, Feb 13	Psalm 110:1-4 Job 19:23-27 1 Timothy 3:14-16	Wednesday, Feb 28	Psalm 105:1-11, 37-45 Jeremiah 30:12-22 Luke 12:36-43
Wednesday, Feb 14	Joel 2:1-2, 12-17 Psalm 51:1-17 2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10		
Thursday, Feb 15	Psalm 25:1-10 Daniel 9:1-14 1 John 1:3-10		

WEST BRANCH FOOD PANTRY NEEDS
FEBRUARY 2018

Immediate Needs

Pizza Mix in a box-Chef
Boyardee
Sloppy Joe mix
(Most needed)
Great Northern Beans
Chili
Chili beans
Kidney beans
Pinto Beans
Baked beans
Jelly/Jam
Refried Beans
Ground Coffee 12 oz. size

Cookies
Hot Chocolate mixes
Salad Dressings
Saltine crackers
Tomato paste
Canned Chicken
Instant pudding-all flavors
Jell-O-all flavors
Men's deodorant
Diapers: #4, #5
Dish soap
Laundry detergent



See next page for ongoing
needed items.



WEST BRANCH FOOD PANTRY NEEDS
FEBRUARY 2018

Ongoing Needs

All-in-one Mexican meals

Salsa

Boxed Cereals

Cake mixes

Frosting

Spaghetios

Raviolios

Pudding cups

Juice boxes

Instant oatmeal

Boxed Potatoes

Microwave Popcorn Boxes

Tomato sauce

Spaghetti Sauce

Canned Fruit

Ramen soup/noodles

Boxed meals

Facial tissues

Toilet Paper

Toothpaste

Reminder: We can't accept dented cans, opened boxes or packages, or date expired items.

Thank you so much for your ongoing support of meeting the hunger needs of our West Branch community. Together we are making a difference every can, box, and bag of food at a time. Just a reminder there is a garbage can to place your food items just inside the door to the Small Hall. Please see Neil or Chris Korsmo with any questions about the West Branch Food Pantry.



February 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28 9:00 AM Worship 10:20 AM Adult Discussion Hour 10:20 AM Sunday School Pre-K through 3rd grade 5:00 PM West Branch Community Meal @ Bethany	29	30 1:00 PM Quilters 1:30 PM Hope Chest Open	31 6:00 AM Men's Breakfast and Bible Study 6:15 PM Choir Practice - Sanctuary 6:30 PM 4-6 grade Education 6:30 PM Confirmation	1 6:00 AM Women's Bible study	2	3
4 9:00 AM Worship 10:20 AM Sunday School Pre-K through 3rd grade	5 11:30 AM Lunch Bible Study at Mexico Lindo	6 1:00 PM Quilters 1:30 PM Hope Chest Open	7 6:00 AM Men's Breakfast and Bible Study 6:15 PM Choir Rehearsal 6:30 PM 4-6th Grade Education 6:30 PM Confirmation	8 6:00 AM Women's Bible study	9	10
11 9:00 AM Worship 10:20 AM Sunday School Pre-K through 3rd grade	12 11:30 AM Lunch Bible Study at Mexico Lindo 6:30 PM Council Meeting	13 1:00 PM Quilters 1:30 PM Hope Chest Open	14 6:00 AM Men's Breakfast and Bible Study 9:00 AM Women's Circle 12:00 PM Ash Wednesday Service @ Bethany 7:00 PM Ash Wednesday Service @ Bethany	15 6:00 AM Women's Bible study	16	17
18 9:00 AM Worship 10:20 AM Sunday School Pre-K through 3rd grade	19	20 1:00 PM Quilters 1:30 PM Hope Chest Open	21 6:00 AM Men's Breakfast and Bible Study 6:15 PM Choir Practice - Sanctuary 6:15 PM Lent Supper 7:00 PM Lent Worship Prayer Around the Cross	22 6:00 AM Women's Bible study	23	24
25 9:00 AM Worship 10:20 AM Sunday School Pre-K through 3rd grade 5:00 PM West Branch Community Meal @ Bethany	26	27 1:00 PM Quilters 1:30 PM Hope Chest Open	28 6:00 AM Men's Breakfast and Bible Study 6:15 PM Choir Practice - Sanctuary 6:15 PM Lent Supper 7:00 PM Lent Worship Prayer Around the Cross	1 6:00 AM Women's Bible study	2	3

Monetary Gifts Report Submitted by Jill Taylor

Saints in Worship:	
12-03	83
12-10	80
12-17	92
12-24	37
12-24	110
12-24	42
12-31	35
Total	479

	December 2017		YTD	
Total Receipts	Actual 14,545	Budget 13,166	Actual 150,686	Budget 158,000
Total Expenses	Actual 17,530	Budget 13,015	Actual 146,176	Budget 156,473

Thank you all for faithfully stewarding the gifts God has entrusted us with in fulfilling the ministry and mission of God here at Bethany Lutheran Church! In so many ways, not just monetarily, God is abundantly providing for our needs.

February 2018

Bethany

community
become
live
grow



Bethany Lutheran Church
235 South Second Street
PO BOX 236
West Branch, Iowa 52358
www.wbbethany.org



Ministry Assistants

Ministers of Proclamation (Lectors)

02-04 Phil Hougen
02-11 Jeni Schiele
02-18 Paula Casper
02-25 George McCrory

Ministers of Hospitality (Greeters)

02-04 Shawn & Tonya Samuelson
02-11 Pam Glandon
02-18 Dave & Kami Poppen
02-25 Kevin & Darla Crosthwaite

Ministers of Christ’s Light (Acolytes)

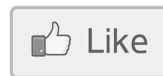
02-04 Hannah & Dylan Schiele
02-11 Aiden & Miley Shields
02-18 Andrew & Layla Samuelson
02-25 Hunter Niles & Cole Crosthwaite



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Church (ELCA)
West Branch, Iowa”**

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FAITH



**CAN MOVE
MOUNTAINS.**

