Bethany Lutheran Church

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





Important Dates

- 12-7 Annual Cookie Walk 9:00 am
- 12-9 Council Meeting 6:30 pm
- 12-11 Women's Circle 9:00 am
- 12-15 Children's Christmas Program 9:00 am
- 12-24 Candlelight Service 5:00 pm
- 12-24 Candlelight Service 8:00 pm

Contact Information

Bethany Lutheran Church 235 South Second Street West Branch, Iowa 52358 (319) 643-5998

Pastor Chad Whaley pastor@wbbethany.org

Office Hours

Pastor Chad is frequently in the office.

Stop by, call or email to arrange a time

Admin. Assistant: Paula Casper blcsecretary@lcom.net

Office Hours Tuesday & Thursday 8:00-11:30 a.m.

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

"The Lord is with you ... Do not be afraid."

Luke 1:28, 30



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ.

Grace and peace to you in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ! As we enter the season of Advent we once again prepare to celebrate the birth of God's Son. We recall the words spoken by angel Gabriel to Mary she would conceive stating,

"Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you. ... Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus." (Luke 1:28, 30-31) It is in this event God once again acted in order to reconcile the broken relationship between God and all of creation.

At times in our own journeys with God or in our life together as the church, I believe we often succumb to our fears. Perhaps, it is the fear we won't have enough money, volunteers, time, or other resources. Perhaps, it is the fear of letting go of the past in order to look forward to the future God is leading us into. Perhaps, it is the fear of trying something new. It is perfectly natural to experience fear; after all, it is a human emotion God created us with. Yet, a life of faith, is one lived assured in the promise God will meet us in that fear and help us overcome and transform that fear into peace, strength, contentment, hope, joy and a future rooted in the goodness of God.

It was a year ago a severe winter storm impacted parts of Iowa and made I-80 nearly impassible resulting in many people spending the night at Bethany. Following that, we discerned God was leading us in a new way in responding to our neighbors who may be experiencing some sort of crisis. There were questions to ponder and possibly even fears to overcome such as how would we do this? Would we have enough people to assist us? Is this where God is leading us? Will we have the resources needed? It would have been easy to give into these fears and not push forward but the Spirit assisted and equipped us to move onward.

A year later, we are in a good position to respond should some form of emergency warrant our neighbors needing a temporary shelter for 24 - 48 hours. A team of seven has worked diligently and created partnerships with Cedar County Emergency Management to provide resources such as cots, blankets, pillows, and personal care kits. We have also partnered with local restaurants and convenience stores to provide meals in the event we have to enact an emergency shelter. All the unknowns, uncertainties and fears we initially had were transformed into a partnership in God's mission to meet the world where it is at, just as God did in the birth of our Lord and Savior that first Christmas.

While we wait during this Advent season to celebrate the birth of our Lord and while we await his second coming, let us live out and proclaim confidently this same promise spoken to Mary, spoken by Jesus often to his disciples, and spoken to God's people throughout history, "The Lord is with you...Do not be afraid."

In peace,

Fanter In

Birthdays

- 12-02 Bruce Jeffries
- 12-06 Wanda Anderson
- 12-07 Kellee McCrory
- 12-10 Barb Campbell
- 12-13 Marshall McElhinney
- 12-14 Beth Kaufman, Elizabeth McCrory
- 12-15 Kami Poppen
- 12-17 Traci Fryauf
- 12-18 Marilyn Crow
- 12-19 Jim Friis
- 12-20 Auron Marsh
- 12-21 Lindsey Zimmerman
- 12-22 Mark Colvin
- 12-23 Amber Marsh
- 12-24 Monica Hinkhouse
- 12-26 Nancy Bruns
- 12-29 Jim Peak
- 12-31 Jon Twing

*If you don't see your birthday listed, please contact Paula so we can update our database.

Annual Meeting

Bethany's annual meeting will be held January 19, 2020 following worship.

Please plan to attend as your presence is vital and very much appreciated.

Also, this is a reminder of who is a voting member, according to our Constitution. All others are welcome to attend; however, they just cannot vote.

C8.02.c *Voting* members are confirmed members. Such confirmed members, during the current or preceding calendar year, shall have communed in this congregation and shall have made a contribution of record to this congregation. Members of this congregation who have satisfied these basic standards shall have the privilege of voice and vote at every regular and special meeting of the congregation.



Bethany Books

Books For Adults

Living With Hope series is published by Fortress Press. Our library has three titles from this series: Waiting For Good News: living with chronic and serious illness by Sally L. Wilke, Jobs Lost, Faith Found: a spiritual resource for the unemployed by Mary C. Lindberg, and Dignity And Grace: wisdom for caregivers and those living with dementia by Janet L. Ramsey.

Waiting For Good News is organized around seven questions that those who face serious illness ask. The heart of this book is the stories. From them the reader will find

the strength, support, and a way forway to face difficult situations. Wilke offers tools, tips, ideas, and resources for reflection and for obtaining additional support.

Jobs Lost, Faith Found is for those who feel alone due to job loss. It is also for those who offer respect, companionship, guidance, and resources to the unemployed. The author draws on her family's experience with unemployment and the wisdom of others. Readers discover a sense of worth and purpose on their way to a new job. The path toward hope will be the reader's own but the ideas, reflections, and strategies in this book will help get you started on the journey.

In *Dignity And Grace*, the author draws on her own experience as well as interviews with eight family and professional caregivers. She helps caregivers and those with impaired memories learn as they listen to each other. Whether a diagnosis of dementia arrives suddenly or gradually, this illness reorganizes a family's entire life. She also shows them how the Holy Spirit can awaken their imagination and understanding while they discover how to live with dementia.

Whether you are new to Bethany or a long time member, sometimes it is helpful to review basic Lutheran doctrine. The Lutheran welcome series with the illustrations by Daniel Erlander and hand-lettered text are helpful materials to use for this purpose. The titles include:

- A Lutheran Welcome To Holy Baptism
- A Lutheran Welcome To Holy Communion
- A Lutheran Welcome To Jesus
- A Lutheran Welcome To The Bible
- A Lutheran Welcome To Forgiveness
- A Lutheran Welcome To A Reformation Way

I will also be putting Christmas books on the table during the month of December.

Adult Education Opportunities

Bethany Men's Breakfast Bible Study Group

Wednesdays at 6:00 a.m. in the Great Hall *Note - Dec. 4 @ McDonalds 6:00 a.m. All are Welcome

Thursday Women's Bible Study

6:00 a.m. in the Small Hall **All are Welcome**

Women's Circle

Second Wednesday of Month 9:00 a.m. in Great Hall unless stated otherwise All Women are Welcome

Adult Discussion

10:20 a.m. in the Small Hall *Only meet once in December (12/1) and then resume Jan. 5, 2020 All are Welcome

Cookie Walk 2019

December 7th 9:00 am—11:00 am

Remember to heat those ovens and bake lots of yummy cookies.

Please bring them to the church on Friday, December 6th (doors will be open until 8:00 pm) or by 8:45 am on December 7th . Please arrange them on plates, ready to be placed on the tables.

Come join us for a fun filled community event!

Call Paula 331-9456 with any questions and to **VOLUNTEER** to help. Thank you!

Inclement Weather policy

In the event we need to cancel worship at Bethany due to inclement weather notification will be done in the following formats. There will be a post on the church website (www.wbbethany.org) and Bethany's Facebook page. There will also be an email sent out to all Bethany members who have provided an



email address and the phone answering machine will be updated to advise of a cancellation. Notification will also be provided to KGAN and KCRG television stations. These will be the primary means of notification.

If none of the above means work for you please contact Paula so we can make other arrangements. Thank you!

Ministers of Prayer Opportunity

Throughout history and within New Testament writings of the early church the laity played an important role in utilizing their gifts to help lead worship. Not only worship, but the life of the church is one carried out by the people and not primarily the Pastor or the Council.

The Worship Team is exploring the possibility of incorporating Ministers of Prayer during worship to assist in leading the Prayers of Intercession. Below is an excerpt taken from *Worship Matters An Introduction to Worship* (Augsburg Fortress, 2012).

These prayers, sometimes called the prayers of the people, ideally are written and led by a lay assisting ministers on behalf of the assembly. Like the prayer of the day, these prayers also have a pattern—one that intends us to pray for everything! These prayers reflect the wideness of God's mercy for the whole world.

As these are the prayers of the people, it seems appropriate to have a brother or sister in Christ from the assembly help lead these prayers. At this time, you won't be asked to write the prayers. Additionally, Pastor Chad will make available a training session for those willing to serve in this new ministry effort. We would like high school students and adults of all ages to consider this. If interested, please see Pastor Chad.

Merry Christmas from LSI!

"The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it." — John 1:5

As Christmas approaches, we give thanks to you! Whether you have lifted up our organization through a financial or in-kind gift, volunteered your time to our programming, or supported us as a ministry partner this year, you have helped bring the light of Christ to others.

At LSI, we know many people experiencing deep darkness. We know parents who feel hopeless, with little resources to raise their young children. We know adults with disabilities who feel voiceless, with no support system or connection to their community. We know teens who are aging out of foster care, who fear they will never have a family to love them.

The holidays can be an especially difficult time for our most vulnerable neighbors. In the spirit of giving, the spirit of love, and the spirit of working together, let us stand with them and lift them up this Christmas season. If you would like to learn more about how you can support lowa children and families, contact Deb Whitford, LSI director of philanthropy and church relations, at 563.676.2065 or Deborah.Whitford@LSIowa.org.

Wishing you a blessed and merry Christmas from LSI!

With You Every Step of the Way

When Lexi found out she was pregnant, she felt scared. She didn't have a job or an apartment, and she was overwhelmed as she tried to prepare for her baby. She knew she needed guidance and support, and she knew where to turn.

In high school, Lexi utilized LSI's Behavioral Health Intervention Services, where she developed skills like anger management and healthy communication through regular meetings with her LSI worker. LSI had been in her corner before, and she needed help again now. She enrolled in LSI's Early Childhood Services.

The services provide in-home parenting education for families of young children or parents who are expecting. Each week, Lexi's LSI worker, Gretchen, brings resources and helpful tips and tricks to help Lexi feel confident as she starts her new family.

Now, Lexi is thriving. She found a job she loves and she moved into her apartment earlier this spring. On May 14, she welcomed baby Javeah into the world.

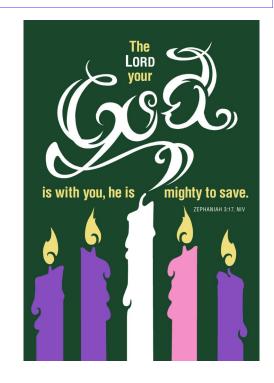
"LSI has always pointed me in the right direction and given me support, and they've really pushed me to where I need to be," Lexi says. "I always have someone to call when I need help."

Why Do We Worship?

The top ten reasons why we worship is found in the book, *Worship Matters An Introduction to Worship* (Augsburg Fortress, 2012). This month, we share number nine.

Because worship is one of the places in which we reliably encounter God.

This may sound familiar—or outright crazy. Many of us long to experience the mystery of God, the power of the holy in our lives, and we look in many places to find it: relationships, mountaintop experiences, pilgrimages, retreats. We can forget that God promises to show up in ordinary places too—like our neighborhood churches! There we have an opportunity to experience the holy in worship with real, fallible people, sacred stories, water, bread, and wine. It's as simple as this: Lutheran Christians believe that God really is with us doing good things for us when we gather together in Jesus' name. (p.21).



Church Staff

Pastor - Chad Whaley (319) 643-5998 or (319) 643-7257 pastor@wbbethany.org

Admin. Assistant - Paula Casper (319) 331-9456 blcsecretary@lcom.net

Custodian – Patsy Ernst

Pianist – Jill Barnhart

Church Council

Del Hughes (319)430-5705 hughesdelsue6@gmail.com

Curt Casper (319)331-2811 Curt.casper@rocketmail.com

Dave Bahnsen (319)325-7700 bahn1225@gmail.com

Tonya Samuelson (319)643-5915 s3ams@aol.com

Nancy Bruns (319)643-3201 Paul.nancyb@gmail.com

Alan Beyer (319)643-2136 (319)430-7579 iabeyers@aol.com

Wayne Frauenholtz (319)930-1196 wrfrauen@lcom.net

Linda Black (319)643-5622 (319)430-0604 lblack@lcom.net

Cheryl Fischer (319)643-7358 1982cmf@gmail.com

Financial Secretary

Claudia Beyer (319)643-2136 iabeyers@aol.com

We will celebrate Christ's birth together during our Christmas Eve candlelight worship services at 5:00 pm and 8:00 pm



Children's Christmas Program



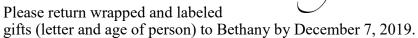
Sunday, December 15th at 9:00 a.m.

We hope you can make it.

Come and worship, praise, and glorify our Lord and also support our wonderful children and youth!

Bethany Members:

We have been given families this year from WBCSD for the Angel Tree project. We will be using an online signup again this year.



You can write checks to WBCSD to be put toward lunch and milk accounts in need. Feel free to place those in my mailbox or take them to school directly.

You may also write checks to Bethany to be used for shopping for items that remain in the signup at the end. Please put Angel Tree in the memo and place them in the offering.

I have included all size and like info that I received in the signup. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me.

Here is the link: https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E4EABAF2EA6FB6-angel2

Thanks for all you do in this ministry.

Sincerely, Jeni Schiele 319-631-2661

BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES—October 2019

The meeting was called to order by President Hughes at 6:30 p.m.

Members present were Del Hughes, Wayne Frauenholtz, Curt Casper, Tonya Samuelson, Dave Bahnsen, Alan Beyer, Linda Black, and Pastor Whaley. Absent were Cheryl Fischer and Nancy Bruns.

Pastor Chad opened with a devotion and prayer around the baptismal font.

Pastor's Report: Council Report – October 14, 2019

Grace and peace in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ! Amen.

A few things that have occurred since our last meeting include:

Conference 7 Meeting in Tipton with fellow clergy Premarital counseling session for upcoming

Wieneke/Dlhy wedding

Funeral of Millie Anderson

Kickoff to Wednesday Faith Formation

Assembled 120 snack bags with Confirmation you for the WB Public Library

WBARC Meeting (Review our purpose statement and future planning)

Suicide Prevention Training (hosted by WBARC) at Bethany

Baptismal Education Training for William Van Scoyoc baptism on October 6

Crestview Worship

Conferences Attended o Fall Theological Conference in Des Moines (Southeastern Iowa Synod)

Craft of Preaching (Luther Seminary, St. Paul, MN) Pastor Visits – 9

We have so much to rejoice and celebrate! We are three things among many I am joyful for in the last month.

Time away to learn, grow, and be in the presence of colleagues in Christ.

The 15+ children and youth who faithfully attend each Wednesday, the parents who bring them and teach faith formation, the energy and excitement they bring, and the wonderful conversation with the Confirmation students.

Baptism, visitors, and another baptism on the horizon

God is good! Christ is alive! The Spirit is moving among us and breathing new life into our community in many ways! That is the message we as the body of Christ are called to share. God is actively involved in the world. God loves the world. God loves us, more than we can every imagine or comprehend! Thanks be to God!

Secretary's Report:

Dave moved and Linda seconded to approve the minutes of the September meeting. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report:

The general fund revenue and expense report reflects total offerings of \$11,101 for the month, which is below budget. The expenses for the month are \$20,247, which includes \$2,716 for the bell tower repair and \$5,000 for the sidewalk project. \$7,500 was transferred from the Mission Improvement fund to help cover those expenses as approved by the council in June. The net reduction to the general fund was \$1,646. Wayne moved to accept the treasurer's report. Curt seconded. Motion passed.

Committee Reports:

Building and Grounds:

Curt said that the carpets need to be cleaned. He said the cost would be \$460 to \$490. Alan moved and Curt seconded to have them cleaned. Motion passed.

Pastor Chad said the humidifier in the parsonage has died. Wayne moved to purchase a new one. Dave seconded. Motion passed.

The trees to replace those cut down for the parking lot repair will be planted in the spring.

Pastor mentioned that five trees have been removed from the parsonage in recent years and should replaced sometime.

Education: Tonya said there has been good regular attendance on Faith Formation Wednesdays. A couple of new parents are helping out.

Evangelism and Outreach:

The Designated Shelter Committee met on September 30th. Two new people have joined the committee, Pam Glandon and Karen Swensen. A layout plan was made and a tentative plan of action for emergencies was developed. Alan went to Tipton to meet with Tim Mallot at the Cedar County Emergency Management office. He brought back 15 blankets which are now in stor-

(Continued on page 7)

BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES—October 2019

(Continued from page 6)

age with other supplies. The next step is to receive FEMA training which will be held here on October 28th.

Beth Ahrens and Al went to the Free Indeed service at the penitentiary in Anamosa on October 5th. Pastor Jerry was at a retreat so Pastor Rodney from Anamosa led the service.

Fellowship:

Wayne said the Synod Candidacy meeting held at Bethany went well. Bethany provided two meals for them.

4th Sunday Meals: Beyers and Johnstons provided the September supper. Confirmation class will serve the October meal.

Stewardship:

Time and talent sheets are being prepared to hand out. Dave mentioned this at the service on Sunday also.

Worship and Music:

All Saints Day service will be on November 3rd. Members who are over 80 years old will honored at this service; Bethany has 17 members in this group!

Old Business:

A memorial fund committee will be formed. Since Time and Talent signups will be soon, it was decided to wait for this. Action was tabled to the next meeting.

Little Free Food Pantry: Randy Robertson was contacted, and he said his class could construct these as a project next semester.

New Business:

Audit Committee: Several names were brought up for discussion. Del will contact people for this committee

Annual meeting will be held January 19, 2020.

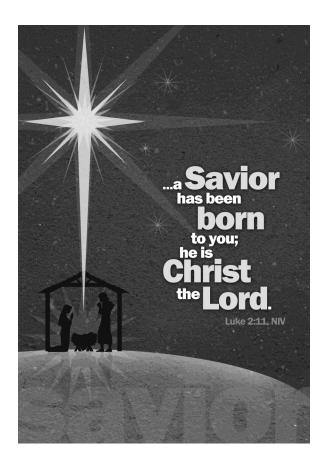
Nominating committee will be Jon Twing, Beth Kaufman, and Jamie Zimmerman. Al will remind them of this responsibility. Tonya questioned whether Education and Youth Committees could be combined, necessitating the need for just two, rather than three, new members. Discussion was tabled for the next meeting.

Synod Assembly delegates for next year's meeting will need to be selected. Dave Bahnsen offered to be one of them.

Date for the Christmas program will be December 15th.

Discussion was held regarding publishing the meeting minutes earlier. It was decided that they could be included in the weekly newsletter rather than waiting for the monthly Bethany Branches.

Linda moved to adjourn. Curt seconded. Motion passed. Meeting closed at 8:00 p.m. with the Lord's Prayer.



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.

Deuteronomy 6:4-9

Hear, O Israel: The Lord is our God, the Lord alone. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your might. Keep these words that I am commanding you today in your heart. Recite them to your children and talk about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise. Bind them as a sign on your hand, fix them as an emblem on your forehead, and write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.



- For me, experiencing God's love with my heart, soul and might...
- •What I know about God I learned from...
- One of my favorite Bible stories...

Joshua 24:14-15

"Now therefore revere the Lord, and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the Lord. Now if you are unwilling to serve the Lord, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord."

- Today, things that have become other gods for people are...
- The things that get in my way of choosing to serve the Lord are...
- In my household, 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*.

Sunday Dec 1	Isaiah 2:1-5 Romans 13:11-14 Matthew 24:36-44	Tuesday Dec 17	Ezekiel 47:1-12 Jude 17-25 Psalm 42
Monday Dec 2	Genesis 8:1-19 Romans 6:1-11 Psalm 124	Wednesday Dec 18	Zechariah 8:1-17 Matthew 8:14-17, 28-34 Psalm 42
Tuesday Dec 3	Genesis 9:1-17 Hebrews 11:32-40 Psalm 124	Thursday Dec 19	2 Samuel 7:1-17 Galatians 3:23-29 Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19
Wednesday Dec 4	Isaiah 54:1-10 Matthew 24:23-35 Psalm 124	Friday Dec 20	2 Samuel 7:18-22 Galatians 4:1-7 Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19
Thursday Dec 5	Isaiah 4:2-6 Acts 1:12-17, 21-26 Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19	Saturday Dec 21	2 Samuel 7:23-29 John 3:31-36 Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19
Friday Dec 6	Isaiah 30:19-26 Acts 13:16-25 Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19	Sunday Dec 22	Isaiah 7:10-16 Romans 1:1-7 Matthew 1:18-25
Saturday Dec 7	Isaiah 40:1-11 John 1:19-28 Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19	Monday Dec 23	2 Samuel 7:18, 23-29 Galatians 3:6-14 Luke 1:46b-55
Sunday Dec 8	Isaiah 11:1-10 Romans 15:4-13 Matthew 3:1-12	Tuesday Dec 24	Isaiah 9:2-7 Psalm 96 Titus 2:11-14
Monday Dec 9	Isaiah 24:1-16a 1 Thessalonians 4:1-12 Psalm 21	Wednesday Dec 25	Luke 2:1-14 (15-20) Isaiah 62:6-12 Psalm 97 (11)
Tuesday Dec 10	Isaiah 41:14-20 Romans 15:14-21	The D 26	Titus 3:4-7 Luke 2:(1-7) 8-20
Wednesday Dec 11	Psalm 21 Genesis 15:1-18 Matthew 12:33-37	Thursday Dec 26	Psalm 148 Wisdom 4:7-15 Acts 7:59-8:8
Thursday Dec 12	Psalm 21 Ruth 1:6-18 2 Peter 3:1-10	Friday, Dec 27	Psalm 148 Proverbs 8:22-31 1 John 5:1-12
Friday Dec 13	Psalm 146:5-10 Ruth 4:13-17 2 Peter 3:11-18	Saturday, Dec 28	Psalm 148 Isaiah 49:13-23 Matthew 18:1-14
Saturday Dec 14	Psalm 146:5-10 1 Samuel 2:1-8 Luke 3:1-18	Sunday, Dec 29	Isaiah 63:7-9 Hebrews 2:10-18 Matthew 2:13-23
Sunday Dec 15	Psalm 146:5-10 Isaiah 35:1-10 James 5:7-10	Monday, Dec 30	Psalm 20 Isaiah 26:1-9 2 Corinthians 4:16-28
Monday Dec 16	Matthew 11:2-11 Isaiah 29:17-24 Acts 5:12-16 Psalm 42	Tuesday, Dec 31	Psalm 20 1 Kings 3:5-14 John 8:12-19

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

On Sunday, November 3rd we gave thanks to God for the grace revealed through the birth, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. This reconciling work opened to the baptized the promise of eternal life. It also means we stand before God clothed in the garment of Christ and His innocence. We stand before God as a saint. You are precious saints people of God!

On this day we remembered those saints who have died since last All Saints Day: Janet Friis, Mildred Anderson, and Sadie Lipes.

We also gave thanks for those new saints baptized into the church in the past year: Theo Wiele, Aynsley Fonseca, Madalyn Kilburg, Casper Heid, Charlotte Perkins, William Van Scoyoc and Leo Burnette.



Finally, we recognized, gave thanks, and prayed for our "senior" saints (those 80 and over among us). They are: Patricia Ernst, Hermann Boedecker, Jerry Dodds, Paul Friis, Dorothy Holmes, June Madsen, Richard Madsen, Delores Paulsen, Jim Peak, Helen Petersen, Betty Slach, Paul Weismann, Jeannette Cummins, Kay Davisson, Herb Friis, Ronald Madsen, Marvin Brick, Norm Fitzgerald and Alberta Sweat. Here is a photo of some in attendance that morning. Those who were unable to be with us were missed greatly!

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIA ORDERS

It's time to order your poinsettia to decorate the altar for Christmas.

Plants are \$10.00 each.

Please mail this order form and payment to:

Bethany Lutheran Church
P.O. Box 236
West Branch, IA 52358

or put in Linda Black's mailbox by December 8th. Plants will be set out for the Christmas Eve candlelight worship services. Please make checks payable to Bethany.

Name:		
I would like to order In memory of:	Poinsettia(s).	
in memory or.		

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9:00 AM Worship 10:20 AM Adult Bible Study	6:30 PM Budget Committee Mtg	3 1:00 PM Hope Chest Open 1:00 PM Quilters	4 6:00 AM Men's Breakfast and Bible Study @ McDonalds 6:15 PM Choir Practice 6:30 PM Faith Formation Pre-K - 8th	5 6:00 AM Women's Bible study	6 1:00 PM Cookie Walk set up	7 9:00 AM Cookie Walk
8 9:00 AM Worship	9 6:30 PM Council Meeting	10 1:00 PM Hope Chest Open 1:00 PM Quilters	11 6:00 AM Men's Breakfast and Bible Study 9:00 AM Women's Circle Bible Study 6:15 PM Choir Practice 6:30 PM Faith Formation Pre-K - 8th	12 6:00 AM Women's Bible study	13	14
15 9:00 AM Worship (Children's Christmas Program)	16	17 1:00 PM Hope Chest Open 1:00 PM Quilters	18 6:00 AM Men's Breakfast and Bible Study 6:15 PM Choir Practice 6:30 PM Faith Formation Pre-K - 8th	19 6:00 AM Women's Bible study	20	21
9:00 AM Worship 5:00 PM West Branch Community Meal @ Bethany		24 5:00 PM Christmas Eve Worship 8:00 PM Christmas Eve Worship	25	26	27	28
29 9:00 AM Worship	30	31	1	6:00 AM Women's Bible study	3	4

Saints in Worship 10-6 59 10-13 59 10-20 69 10-27 60 Total 247

Monetary Gifts Report Submitted by Nancy Bruns

	October 2019		YTD	
Total	Actual	Budget	Actual 123,560	Budget
Receipts	12,257	12,625		126,250
Total	Actual 13,265	Budget	Actual	Budget
Expenses		13,657	139,667	137,761

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.

December 2019 December 2019



West Branch, lowa 52358 PO BOX 236 235 South Second Street Bethany Lutheran Church

Ministry Assistants

Ministers of Proclamation (Lectors)

12-1 Lisa Zimmerman

12-8 Kami Poppen

12-15 Tonva Samuelson

12-22 Patsy Ernst

12-24 (5 pm) John Black

12-24 (8 pm) Jon Twing

12-29 Jon Twing

Ministers of Hospitality (Greeters)

Kent & Beth Kaufman 12-1

Shawn & Tonya Samuelson 12-8

12-15 Dave & Kami Poppen

12-22 Pam Glandon

12-24 (5 pm) Del & Sue Hughes

12-24 (8 pm) Al & Claudia Beyer

12-29 Paul & Deanna Weisman

Ministry Assistants

Ministers of Christ's Light (Acolytes)

12-1 **Dylan Schiele**

Aizlyn Marsh

12-8 Arik Marsh

Jacob Langley

12-15 Miley Shields

Alexa Fitzgerald

12-22 Chloe Klabo

Shelby Klabo

12-24 (5 pm) Layla Samuelson

Cole Crosthwaite

12-24 (8 pm) Auron Marsh

Aizlyn Marsh

12-29 Arik Marsh

Jacob Langley



To find Bethany's main page, search "Bethany Lutheran Church (ELCA) West Branch, Iowa"

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Follow us on Twitter! Our Twitter Handle is: @blcwestbranch