

Bethany Lutheran Church 235 S. 2nd St., PO Box 236 West Branch, IA 52358, (319) 643-5998 pastor@wbbethany.org

Members of Bethany,

On Saturday 5/30/2020 the Council Executive Committee met (via Zoom) and discussed gathering again for in-person worship. After discussion it was decided that the building would continue to be closed through June 15 and we will continue with online worship services. Our rationale is that we have not yet met Phase I guidelines as summarized in *Consideration for Returning to In-person Worship* Being Church Together During the COVID-19 Pandemic (Evangelical Lutheran Church in America; May 12, 2020) and coming together too soon could pose a serious threat to many members of our congregation. We will again review the statistics and recommendations at our next Council meeting, June 8 to determine a next course of action. Our concern is for the safety and well-being of all our members.

Blessings!

Del Hughes Council President