

Bethany Lutheran Church

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



Important Dates

03-07 Worship with Holy
Communion (See note on page 3)
03-08 Council meeting 6:30 PM
03-28 Palm Sunday

Wednesday Lent Worship
(3/3, 3/10, 3/17, 3/24)
*Premiers at noon each Wednesday
on our Facebook page*

Contact Information

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

Pastor Chad Whaley
pastor@wbbethany.org

Pastor is in the office often so give him
a call at (319) 643-5998 if needed or just
to say "Hi!"

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

I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers.

Ephesians 1:16



Dear Beloved Saints,

We are just over a week into the season of Lent, a 40 day journey in preparation for the celebration of the resurrection on Easter. What are you doing to prepare? We each go about this differently. There is no set formula to follow. Maybe the question to ask is, "What does it mean to prepare?"

I do believe there are many options that we can undertake. Perhaps you devote yourself to an increased focus on prayer or spending time in God's word, the Bible. Perhaps, you are being more intentional on connecting with fellow brothers or sisters in Christ in our time of physical distancing. Maybe, you are giving up something. Whatever it may be, it seems to me what is key is that it opens us up to a deeper understanding of the grace, mercy, and love of God revealed in Jesus Christ. It helps us enter more fully into the beautiful relationship with the Trinity we are invited into. Whatever we might undertake as a Lenten practice should not be a chore. It should be a gift and opportunity for growth, renewal, healing, and wholeness.

I would love to hear of the ways in which you might be preparing for Easter. Feel free to email (pastor@wbbethany.org) or give me a call in the office (319) 643-5998. And if you are not doing anything, that is fine too. Allow yourself the space and freedom to simply reflect on the glory of God.

I am undertaking 40 days of gratitude. Each day, I am keeping a journal that includes a Bible verse focused on gratitude (simply do an internet search for gratitude verses and many will be displayed) and writing down one thing I am grateful for that day and this season. My hope is the Holy Spirit will draw me even further into an experience with and understanding of the source of our gratitude.

Today, I wrote and reflected on the above verse from the Apostle Paul to the church in Ephesus. I am so grateful for all of you. Over these last 11 months, which have not been easy, I give thanks for your patience, understanding, faithfulness, generosity, and willingness to experiment, adapt and try new things in our mission to proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ. Beloved followers of Christ, you are in my prayers constantly during our Lenten journey.

May the peace of Christ be with you all!



EASTER GARDEN TRADITION

Each Easter we are greeted with the beauty and sweet fragrance of lilies adorning our sanctuary. If you would like to contribute to this display, please fill out the information below and mail this slip to Paula by Sunday March 21st.

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

Dedications will be listed in the bulletin on Easter morning.

NAME: _____

_____ I would like Bethany to purchase an Easter lily for me. I have enclosed \$10.00

Please print your dedication as you wish it to appear in the bulletin. Please indicate if this is "In honor of" or "In memory of" and list those names below:

The devastating winter storm that caused power grid failure, dangerous shortages and fatal conditions across the state of Texas in February will have long-lasting impacts on those most vulnerable in the affected areas. To help with long-term relief and as an anti-hunger synod, the Southeastern Iowa Synod will be sending a gift to fight hunger as the recovery in Texas continues.



There is currently a matching grant through the Office of the Bishop for the first \$7,000 contributed to this effort by individuals, congregations, or partner ministries of the Southeastern Iowa Synod.

The Office of the Bishop of the Southeastern Iowa Synod will be collecting gifts to be sent to the Southwestern Texas, Texas – Louisiana Gulf Coast, and Northern Texas-Northern Louisiana synods until March 26th, 2021. After this date, gifts can be sent to Lutheran Disaster Response.

Go to the Southeastern Iowa Website to give online or mail a check directly.

<https://seiasynod.org/texas-disaster-relief-2021/>

You may also send a check payable to Bethany (P.O. Box 236, West Branch, IA 52358). Please designate it is for Texas storm relief. We will then submit one check of the total amounts.



**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.



Birthdays

March 01 - Ellie Holstad
 March 06 - Travis Kaufman
 March 08 - Cheryl Fischer
 March 09 - Alan Beyer, Abbey Fryauf
 March 11 - Johnathan Holstad,
 Mike Fryauf
 March 13 - Dylan Schiele, Miranda Dlh
 March 15 - Kris Sweat
 March 16 - Marisa Terry
 March 19 - Sienna McElhinney
 March 20 - Kevin Olson
 March 21 - Mark Anderson
 March 22 - Brett Schiele
 March 25 - Bradley Arp
 March 25 - Terry Moss
 March 28 - Ellen Gunderson
 March 29 - Toni Dodds, Justin Roth

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

Don't forget Daylight
 Savings time!
 Set your clocks forward
 March 14th!



We will celebrate the sacrament of Holy
 Communion during worship March 7th.
 If you would like a cup
 (see image) please contact
 Paula or Pastor Chad. We
 will also deliver if needed.



Bethany Books



Books For Adults

Beverly Lewis has written a new book on life in Lancaster County Pennsylvania. *The Stone Wall* depicts life, love, and choices among the Amish in this community. Anna Beachy is a young woman who is eager to start a new chapter in her life after a disappointing prior relationship. She moves to Lancaster County and works as a tour guide. Her grandmother once stayed there a long time ago. Anna wishes she could talk with her about those long-ago days, but the elderly woman suffers from Alzheimer's. Beyond a vague comment about an old stone wall, much about her grandmother's time there is a mystery. As Anna settles into her new community, she finds herself unexpectedly befriended by a handsome Mennonite tour guide and also a young Old Order widower who manages a local horse retreat serving Amish children with special needs. As Anna grows closer to both men, she is faced with a difficult choice - one of which is in potential conflict with the expectations of her parents. Who will she choose? Will she discover the truth about her grandmother's past in Lancaster County? Besides giving the reader a further insight into Amish life, the reader will also be able to see the difference in the customs of the Old Order Amish, Beachy Amish, and Mennonites.

During the time of Covid we have not been able to get out and travel as much as usual. It turns out that one thing we do more of is to watch TV. One way I am able to combine TV and travel is to watch the Rick Steves' segments on PBS. He is known for his travel groups to Europe and also his personal guide books. I am adding *Rick Steves' Europe Best Destinations*. This small booklet contains highlights of some of his best tours. (donated)

DVDS

I am also adding two DVDS, *Rick Steves' Europe Travel Skills*. Disc 1 covers the essentials of smart European travel. It has his latest tips on trip planning, packing, money, safety, communicating, transportation, eating, sleeping and more. The second half of this disc contains travel as a political act. He feels that thoughtful travel expands our worldview and shapes how we address the challenges confronting our nation. Disc 2 covers European Art. It takes you from the medieval era, Romanesque and Gothic churches, the Renaissance, through to the modern world. The last part of the disc is a "test drive" of a trip to Europe. It is the "Best of Europe in 14 days" tour. You will see real tour members and guides as they experience the day-to-day events of their trip. (donated)

Lutheran Services in Iowa (LSI) News

March is National Professional Social Work Month

March is National Professional Social Work Month, a time to recognize social workers and thank them for all they do. At Lutheran Services in Iowa (LSI), we are grateful for the many social workers who have dedicated their lives to serving our communities across the state!

Maybe you have never had a social worker involved in your life. Yet, whether you realize it or not, you have had the benefit of their behind-the-scenes work in your community. Social workers help people help themselves by overcoming life's most difficult circumstances or managing challenges of everyday living: poverty, abuse, mental illness, depression, addiction, disability, and many other situations.

Iowa wouldn't be the same without the patience, guidance, and empowerment that social workers provide. Happy National Professional Social Work Month!

A Path to Hope and Healing

Mike remembers feeling angry and depressed, and his family was at risk of falling apart. When he decided to start Therapy Services with LSI, he questioned the decision. Therapy wasn't easy and when he missed an appointment, he didn't want to go back.

But through working with his LSI therapist, Sherry, for the past several months, he has found ways to grow and heal. During each session, Sherry is there to listen without judgement, and she provides a listening ear for anything Mike wants to talk about. At the end, Mike is always given a type of homework or a lesson to think about until they meet again.

While they originally began meeting in person, Sherry has continued to be available through virtual therapy throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. The virtual sessions ensure Sherry and Mike can continue meeting regularly, on a flexible schedule and from the safety of their own homes.

"Thank God for working through LSI in-person and through telehealth, and especially for Sherry, who helps people like myself who have been lost for years. If I hadn't chosen LSI, I wouldn't have met my therapist who has truly helped me keep my family and stay alive," Mike says. "I look back at the progress I have made and see some light peeking through to the end."



Join us every Wednesday in Lent for a short prayer service of healing. This will be posted to our Facebook page at 12:00 noon and then be able to be viewed anytime thereafter. Additionally, a short devotion or reflection will accompany this worship opportunity.



Please join Lutheran Services in Iowa and the three Iowa synods of the ELCA for the 2021 Lutheran Day on the Hill event. We will gather virtually from 9:30 - 11:30 a.m. on Thursday, March 11. This is an annual event in which ELCA Lutherans across our state come together to advocate for the needs of our neighbors. Visit LSI's website for additional information and to register now.

<https://lsiowa.org/take-action/advocate/>

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(319) 643-5998 or (319) 643-7257
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Pianist – Jill Barnhart

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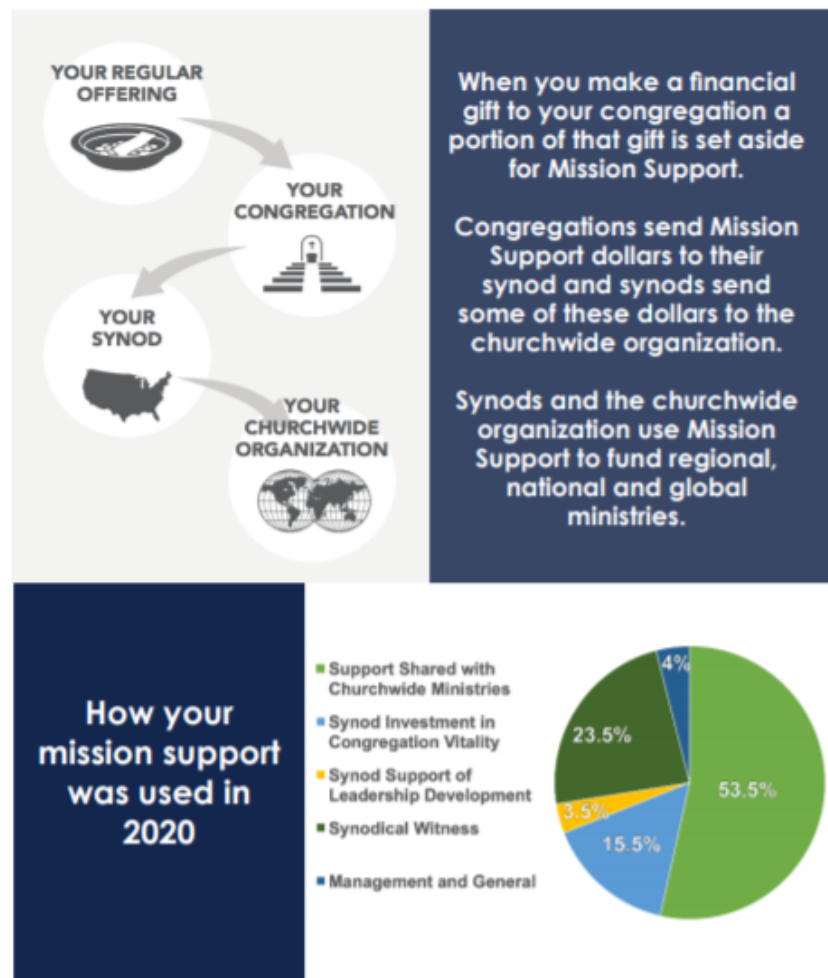
Southeastern Iowa Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

The 2021 [Mission Spending Plan](#) from the Office of the Bishop of the Southeastern Iowa Synod is now available on their website.

In 2020, Bethany's mission support to the Southeastern Iowa Synod was \$15,941.92 (10% of Regular Giving). Below is a graphic that shows where your offering and our mission support gifts are utilized for ministry efforts to proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ through word and deed.

Here are just a few other interesting facts as found on the Mission Spending Plan about who we are and how the mission support dollars were used in 2020.

- 138 Congregations in 34 Counties and 2 states
- \$1.4 million from congregations given directly to ELCA World Hunger, Lutheran Disaster Response or ELCA Good Gifts
- 20+ congregations in synod helped with leadership transitions
- \$78,924 funds received and distributed for relief following Derecho storm in August
- 13 congregations connected to and 60 incarcerated men reached through the gospel at FreeIndeed prison ministry within the Anamosa State Penitentiary
- 21 individuals in the candidacy process to become pastors or deacons



BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH

Bethany Lutheran Church Annual Congregational Meeting Minutes January 17, 2021

The meeting was called to order by President Hughes at 10:30 a.m.

Council members present were Del Hughes, Nancy Bruns, Linda Black, Alan Beyer, Dave Bahnsen, Curt Casper, Kristin McElhinney, Amber Marsh, Anne Fetzer, and Pastor Whaley.

The meeting opened with a responsive reading by Pastor Chad and Del Hughes.

Secretary's Report: Minutes from the January 2020 meeting were submitted. Linda moved to accept the minutes as presented. Dave seconded. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: The audit committee found no discrepancies in the report. John Black moved to accept the report. Cliff seconded. Motion passed.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Chad submitted his report and thanked Anne Fetzer and Del Hughes for helping to set up Bethany's first Annual Meeting using Zoom. He reflected on the challenges that the COVID pandemic presented this year and how well Bethany responded to those challenges. It has brought renewal to its ministry and we were able to reach out to many that we had not been able to before, using Zoom, Facebook, and other ways. He mentioned many positive things that we've accomplished.

Committee Reports: (submitted)

Worship and Music: (Linda Black) Linda thanked all on her committee who helped out this year.

Education and Youth: (Amber Marsh and Kristin McElhinney) Amber mentioned how Education at Bethany adapted to closing the church. Confirmation classes and Faith Formation classes were either held outside or via Zoom. Vacation Bible School used take-home kits and still reached out to many youth. Kristin said the younger kids are using take-home kits for their Faith Formation classes.

Stewardship: (Dave Bahnsen) Dave thanked the Holy Spirit this year for guidance this year as the congregation was very successful in meeting its needs.

Fellowship: (Anne Fetzer) Anne said that this was a tough year for fellowship because we could not meet in person for most of the year. For a time we had fellowship after services using Zoom. She is still exploring new ideas.

Evangelism and Outreach: (Alan Beyer) Al said that this turned out to be a busy year and that we need to be planning for Bethany's one-year delayed 125th Anniversary this year.

Building and Grounds: (Curt Casper) Curt thanked all who helped this year.

Business Agenda:

2021 Budget Discussion and Approval: Del opened discussion with a comment on how well the budget appears this year. There were no other comments. Neal moved to approve the proposed 2021 Budget as presented. Curt seconded. Motion passed.

Nomination and Election of New Council Members presented By the Nomination Committee: Only one candidate was presented for the incoming council. Laura nominated Jill Taylor. Neal seconded. Motion passed.

Nomination and Election of 2021 Nominating Committee: Laura moved to nominate Nancy Bruns, Linda Black, and Alan Beyer to the 2021 Nominating Committee. Neal seconded. Motion passed.

Nomination and Election of 2021 Annual Synod Assembly Delegates: Laura moved to nominate Paula Casper and Alan Beyer as Synod Delegates. Claudia seconded. Motion passed.

Pastor Chad thanked the staff at Bethany (Jill Barnhart, Paula Casper, and Patsy Ernst) for their work this year. He also thanked the council members who put in extra time this year in their duties. He led a short discussion on options for filling the two council vacancies.

The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer at 11:05 a.m.

***NOTE:** These minutes will be approved at next year's annual meeting.

BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH

Council Minutes—January 11, 2021

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

Members present were Nancy Bruns, Linda Black, Del Hughes, Kristin McElhinney, Amber Marsh, Dave Bahnsen, Anne Fetzer, Alan Beyer, and Pastor Whaley.

Members absent was Curt Casper.

Pastor Chad led an opening based on verses from Ecclesiastes and Psalms which emphasized the importance of laughter. Pastor Chad and members shared recent stories of family humor. Laughter is a way to steward our bodies. Pastor Chad then thanked Linda, Nancy, and Al for their terms on council.

Pastor's Report:

Report to Council – January 11, 2020

Joys Since December Meeting

Christmas Eve, while quite different, was still wonderful, beautiful, and truly inspiring to me to see how the Spirit was at work.

Over 300 views.

Many thanks to so many people; especially, Linda Black (Altar Care), Jill Barnhart (Musician), Cliff Hinkhouse (music), David Fischer (Audio/Visual), Lisa Zimmerman (lector), Paula (administrative) and Patsy (custodial) Thanks for our cameras. Thanks for those who joined us. Thanks for the financial gifts. Thanks for Luther College Choir and the Association of Lutheran Church Musicians for their musical pieces. My apologies if I am missing someone.

Some rest and a couple days off between Christmas and New Year.

Grateful for Bishop Current and her staff for providing worship on 12/27

Cards and gifts, I received – Thank you!

Much of my time this past month focused on preparation and administration. There was much work put into the Christmas Eve service and as expressed above, I am grateful for so many who assisted. I have heard many positives on how it turned out. Time was devoted to my work as chair of the Synod Nominating Committee and am grateful I have the time to do it, serve God and serve the people of the Southeastern Iowa Synod in this capacity. I worked with Anne Fetzer and Del in planning for the Annual

Meeting to be held via Zoom Meeting. I assembled 2 documents to assist those joining via a laptop, smart phone, or tablet and those who may be joining via regular phone with no visual capabilities. I spent a great deal of time in prayer for the people of God. I had a meeting (via Zoom) with Bishop Current and fellow colleagues in the Synod. I had a WBARC meeting (via Zoom). Worked with Paula to finish up Annual Report and January Newsletter. Attended a 3-day retreat for “The Moses Project” in Des Moines. The focus of the retreat was Mental Wellness. It was an opportunity for us to get away a bit, be together, and work to find strategies to assist us in ministry in dealing with our mental well-being. The retreat was held at a hotel. Only a few of us in the project attended and precautionary measures were strictly adhered to. I attended a Free Indeed outside council meeting. Looking to the future, it is hard to believe but Ash Wednesday (February 17) and Lent are right around the corner. With the uncertainty about things, planning is challenging. I will be spending time contemplating this in the coming weeks. A small group will resume our book discussion on racism.

Confirmation will resume via Zoom and hopefully in-person soon.

Secretary's Report:

Linda moved and Nancy seconded to accept the Secretary's Report with corrections. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report:

The General Fund Revenue and Expense report reflects \$19,000 in regular offerings, \$350 in special offerings for missions, and a \$100 donation from Fidelity Bank. Total expenses were \$17,120, which included \$3,985 for local missions (2.5% of regular offering). The year-to-date total revenues were \$160,569 and total expenditures were \$151,548 allowing for a \$9,021 increase in the General Fund.

The Fund Balance report shows \$1,085 received for the Angel Tree. All the requested gifts were donated so the full \$1,085 was given to the school for their hunger programs. The Cookie Walk Fund was distributed evenly to the FreeIndeed Prison

(Continued on page 8)

BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH
Council Minutes—January 11, 2021

(Continued from page 7)

Ministry, Lutheran Chaplaincy and the Iowa City Shelter house. The Hope Chest Fund included a \$100 donation and \$500 from the West Branch Fire-fighters for a family in need.

Al moved to accept the Treasurer's Report. Amber seconded. Motion passed.

Committee Reports:

Building and Grounds: No report.

Education and Youth:

Amber said that the Grade 4 – 6 Faith Formation classes are going well.

Kristin said that 57 kids received the Faith at Home Kits in December and 24 in January. They will continue these lessons through May.

Pastor said that Confirmation is tentatively set for May 22nd.

Evangelism and Youth:

Al mentioned finding a "family in need" for the WBFD check. It was decided to deal with this under new business.

Fellowship: No report.

Stewardship: No report.

Worship and Music:

Linda lined up altar care for the year.

Pastor Chad thanked Linda for all of her work during December, especially for the decorating for the Christmas Eve service.

Old Business:

Annual Meeting January 17: This will be held via Zoom with Pastor Chad and Anne working out the logistics. The congregation members will be invited to join the meeting 15 minutes early. Information will be sent out to members explaining the process.

Nominating Committee: Only one nomination has been received so far.

Building Use Policy: Dave moved to continue Bethany's building use policy. Al seconded the motion.

Discussion was held on gradually relaxing this policy to allow a few congregants to attend worship services. Consensus was to revisit this question at the February meeting hoping that COVID incidence has declined. Motion passed.

Synod Assembly Delegates: Bethany needs one more delegate for this online meeting.

New Business:

\$500 Donation: Al moved to give the \$500 gift from the WBFD to a family in need as identified by Officer Steen and the WBPD. Dave seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Parsonage Value: Nancy moved to set the fair market rental value for the parsonage at \$11,800. Anne seconded. Motion passed.

Anne moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:19 p.m. Linda seconded. Motion passed.

Pastor led closing with the Lord's Prayer.

The next four pages include letters of thank you received recently from our partners in ministry in which we support financially through our missionary efforts. Thank you all for your generous support! We apologize if the images are a bit blurry. We did our best to scan and paste them into the newsletter.



Forming Valued Leaders for God's Mission

January 19, 2021
 Rev Chad Whaley
 Bethany Lutheran Church
 235 S 2nd St
 PO Box 236
 West Branch, IA 52358-0236

Dear Rev Whaley and Friends at Bethany Lutheran Church,

"Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you." Philippians 4:9

Thanks be to God for YOU! Your support, now more than ever, means that Wartburg can continue to meet the changing needs of future leaders who have come to us to learn, lead, and grow in ministry. Thank you!

The COVID-19 pandemic has challenged us all to be more creative in every aspect of our lives. With the support of people like you, Wartburg can continue to adapt and change as we continue preparing our students for a world that needs pastoral leadership.

Please keep the Wartburg community in your prayers as we continue to pray for you. Together wherever, we will get through this and find ourselves stronger than ever. Contact our Development Team at 563-589-0322 or by email at development@wartburgseminary.edu with any questions regarding your gift.

In Christ,

Dr. Kristine Stache
 Interim President

Gift Date: Dec 31, 2020
 Description: Wartburg Seminary Fund

Gift Amount: \$531.00



January 11, 2021

Rev. Chad Whaley
Bethany Lutheran Church
235 S 2nd St
PO Box 236
West Branch, IA 52358-0236

Dear Pastor and members,

We are so grateful for your partnership and your generous gift of \$531.00.

In the face of so much uncertainty, you are providing education, resources, and guidance to comfort and empower Iowa parents as they care for their children in unprecedented ways. Because of you, Iowa children and teens in LSI's Residential Treatment Centers have access to critical mental health care and a team of compassionate LSI staff to encourage them along their journey to healing. And your neighbors with disabilities have the support they need to live their lives with independence and dignity, thanks to your gift.

"LSI is helpful because they care about people. LSI makes me feel like I'm home." – Kiza, a client through LSI's Refugee and Immigrant Services

"I am very thankful for my LSI support worker. This year was a difficult time, especially for the kids, and they were so helpful." – Jill, an Iowa foster mom through LSI Foster Care and Adoption

"LSI staff do a great job. They are excellent teachers and they're patient." – Marty, a Host Homes mentor through LSI's Services for People with Disabilities

These are just a few of the Iowans you have impacted this year. Thank you for responding to the love of Jesus Christ through compassionate service! Have a blessed New Year.

With gratitude,

Sarah Green
Vice President of Philanthropy and Church Relations

*we are grateful
for your generous
support!*

24 Hour Hotline:
800-373-1043
www.dvipiowa.org
dvip@dvipiowa.org



1105 S. Gilbert Court
 Suite 300
 Iowa City, Iowa 52240
 Business Line: 319-356-9863

Safety and Dignity... Always.

January 21, 2021

Bethany Lutheran Church
 PO Box 236
 West Branch, IA 52358-0236

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your support of the Domestic Violence Intervention Program (DVIP). Your donation of \$531 on 12/31/20 is important for the safety of victims/survivors. Your donation has been designated for our General Fund.

Your support means so much to those we serve! This year we have helped **1900 women, children and men with your help**. Our 24/7 emergency shelter has housed over 300 individuals, including 150 children and 20 pets. In all of our counties, we offer housing aid, our 24/7 hotline, counseling, assistance with protective orders and basic needs like food, clothing and hygiene products.

This year has been especially difficult for many and we are grateful for the continued support from community members like you. One of our clients said this, "I wouldn't have been able to get away from my husband without the support of my advocate and DVIP." She spent many long years trying to work up the courage to leave and saw a newspaper ad for our services and was able to make the call to our hotline.

Your donations make our work possible!

Best wishes,

Ashlee Hopkins
 319-359-9353
ashlee@dvipiowa.org

Thank you!

PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR TO-GO SOUPER BOWL

PRESENTING SPONSOR:
CBI
 Bank & Trust
 All High Bank Strong



GET SOUP
 DELIVERED OR
 PICK UP!

Tickets on sale until February 15th!
 Get yours today!

THURSDAY,
 FEBRUARY 25TH
 2PM-8PM





This year,  you are our Valentine!

We appreciate your gifts and commitment to
Lutheran Campus Ministry at the University of Iowa.

Your support provides us with hot meals, speakers,
virtual events, retreats, service projects, and care packages.

Thanks once more for your steadfast support that
makes this ministry that we love possible.

Peace and blessings to you!

LCM Students



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.

Matthew 2:10-12

When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

- For me, Christmas...
- The gifts I bring to Jesus are...
- My star, or what is guiding me to Jesus, is...



March 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28 9:30 AM Worship (Online via Facebook)	1 12:00 PM Monday Gospel Gathering (via Zoom Meeting) 7:00 PM Dialogues on Racism Virtual Class	2	3 Lent Worship (online via Facebook premiers at 12:00 PM) 6:30 PM Youth Faith Formation (4-8th Grade) online	4	5	6
7 9:30 AM Worship (Online via Facebook) Communion Sunday	8 12:00 PM Monday Gospel Gathering (via Zoom Meeting) 6:30 PM Council Meeting	9	10 Lent Worship (online via Facebook premiers at 12:00 PM) 6:30 PM Youth Faith Formation (4-8th Grade) online	11	12	13
14 9:30 AM Worship (Online via Facebook)	15 12:00 PM Monday Gospel Gathering (via Zoom Meeting)	16	17 Lent Worship (online via Facebook premiers at 12:00 PM)	18	19	20
21 9:30 AM Worship (Online via Facebook)	22 12:00 PM Monday Gospel Gathering (via Zoom Meeting)	23	24 Lent Worship (online via Facebook premiers at 12:00 PM) 6:30 PM Youth Faith Formation (4-8th Grade) online	25	26	27
28 9:30 AM Worship (Online via Facebook)	29 12:00 PM Monday Gospel Gathering (via Zoom Meeting)	30	31	1	2	3

Monetary Gifts Report

Submitted by Jill Taylor

Saints in Worship

It is challenging to get an accurate account of those worshipping online. With that said, we continue to have many joining us for worship on Facebook. God is good!

Thanks for worshipping

	January 2021		YTD	
Total Receipts	Actual 12,230	Budget 13,497	Actual 12,230	Budget 13,497
Total Expenses	Actual 11,898	Budget 13,874	Actual 11,898	Budget 13,874

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.

www.wbbethany.org



Ministers of Altar Care for March: Cindy Knoop



Find us on
Facebook

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

DON'T FORGET TO LIKE US!



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

