

Bethany Lutheran Church

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



Important Dates

- 11-3 **All Saints Sunday Worship**
9:30 AM
- 11-11 **Council Meeting**
6:30 PM
- 11-24 **4th Sunday Meal**
5-6:00 PM

Contact Information

Bethany Lutheran Church
235 South Second Street
PO Box 236
West Branch, Iowa 52358
(319) 643-5998
www.wbbethany.org

Pastor Chad Whaley
pastor@wbbethany.org

Pastor is in the office often. Call him at
(319) 643-5998 if needed, schedule an
appointment, 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 Face-
book and "Like" our page!

FIND US ON X!

Search @blcwestbranch

Links to websites are built into the
digital version of this newsletter.
Click on words highlighted in blue
(e.g. www.wbbethany.org) or images

⁴ Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. ⁵ It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. ⁶ Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. ⁷ It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. - 1 Corinthians 13:4-7 (NIV)

Dear Faithful Servants,

Grace and peace to you from God our Father, and from our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

I suspect a majority of people identify the above text with weddings. In fact, a quick internet search indicates this is the most common biblical text read at a wedding. It seems to make sense, doesn't it? After all, the passage is all about love.

Yet, what is often missed is the final verse of Chapter 12: *And yet I will show you the most excellent way.* The "most excellent way" is one that is drastically different than the way the Corinthian church had been living. As this young church came together in their new life in Christ, there were vast differences and disagreements among them. This was leading to widening divisions within the body of Christ. Called to bear and proclaim the presence of Christ, what others saw was quite the opposite.

So, what does Paul do? He reminds them of the love they have been given and the grace they have been clothed in through Christ's death and resurrection. He reminds them it is Jesus Christ that unites them. He reminds them that the freedom they have from the curse of sin and death is not the freedom to act as they want. It is rather freedom to respond in love. Set aside all pride, envy, and self-seeking agendas. Set aside disdain for one another. Instead, follow the most excellent way of love that is patient and kind.

We are just days away from the presidential election. It has been a long season of campaigning in which at times it has been difficult, if not impossible, to have a conversation with a relative, friend or neighbor because of the great differences of opinions among us. It has been a season in which there has been banter directed at one another from both sides. It has been a season that some cannot wait to come to an end.

And it will be a season in which some are reveling over a victory, some are weeping over a defeat, some are angry with the results, and some are left hopeless and despairing about our nation's future. It's all too easy to let our response continue to foster division. It's all too easy to let our response reveal something quite opposite of the most excellent way of love.

The Apostle and the Spirit continue to call Christ's church to a most excellent way of love that is patient and kind. Lord, give us the strength and courage to carry out your ways and do your will! May the peace of Christ be with you all!

Pastor Chad



Birthdays

- 11-02 Addison Langley
- 11-03 Betty Slach
- 11-06 Tammy Urmie
- 11-07 Paul Weismann
- 11-08 Madelyn Anderson
- 11-09 Eulyn Frostestad,
Sadie McElhinney
- 11-14 Josephine Hervey
- 11-16 Kevin Crosthwaite
- 11-17 Cheyanne Crow
- 11-18 Alex Poppen
- 11-22 Scott Marsh
- 11-23 John Hierseman
- 11-26 Patty Yeater
- 11-27 Steve Campbell



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



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



Join Bishop Current for a light dinner and an evening of fellowship, conversation, and gratitude for the ministry we share in our synod one Sunday evening in November.

November 3 Peace Lutheran Church
Pella

November 10 Christ the King Lutheran Church
Iowa City

November 17 Trinity Lutheran Church
Pleasant Valley

November 24 Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd
Des Moines

No RSVP is needed and all are welcome!
All events are 4:30 PM - 7:00 PM



Sunday, November 3

Jesus  You!



Church Staff

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

Admin. Assistant Paula Casper
blcsecretary@lcom.net

Custodian Pat Cassabaum

Pianist Jill Barnhart

Church Council

Kent Kaufman **President**

Howard Moss **Building & Grounds**

Dale Swenson **Stewardship**

Kristen Van Scoyoc **Education**

Jon Twing **Treasurer**

Jessica Fonseca **Evangelism & Missions**

Courtney Heid **Youth/Secretary**

Pat Cassabaum **Fellowship**

Cindy Knoop **Worship & Music/
Vice President**

Claudia Beyer **Financial Secretary**



ALL SAINTS SUNDAY



November 3

We'll worship Jesus Christ, our Lord!
We'll give thanks for the saints who have
gone before us, the newly baptized saints,
and our senior saints, (80+) among us.
We would love to have you join us!



Senior Saints

Betty Slach, Bonnie Conner,
Delores Paulsen, June Madsen, Jerry Dodds,
Patricia Ernst, Evie White,
Paul Weismann, Deanna Weismann,
Eulyn Frostestad, Marilyn Crow,
Ronald Madsen, Candy Madsen,
Marv Brick, Karen Brick,
Diane Hougen, Phil Hougen,
Janice Fitzgerald, Pam Glandon
Joanne Brooksheer, Wauthena Noe,
Kent Kaeser, Alda Buresh

Baptized Saints

Charlie Casady, Olivia Burnette

Saints That Have Died in Faith

Dorothy Holmes, Richard Madsen, Frank Frostestad
Alberta (Peaches) Sweat,
Norm Fitzgerald, Mary Rundell, Dianna Fuhrmeister

**If we inadvertently missed a name, please let Paula
know as soon as possible.*



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

Affirmation of Baptism

Congratulations Arik, who was confirmed on October 27. Thank you to all who attended worship to celebrate with this amazing young man and surround him with the love and presence of Jesus Christ.



Sunday School

Preschool - Grade 2

8:30 - 9:15 AM

November 3
November 17
November 24

Community Meal

NOVEMBER 24

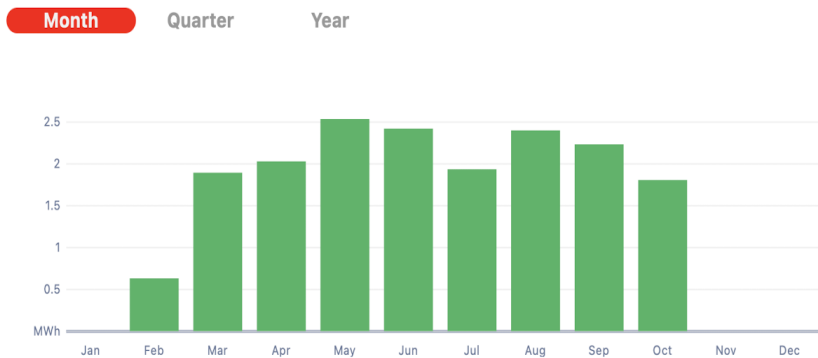
5-6:00 PM

All are welcome!

Bethany Lutheran Church
235 South 2nd St.

Comparative Production

● 2024



Solar Update

In September of 2023, our Alliant energy bill was \$305. In September of 2024 our bill was \$21.80 Thanks to Jon Twing, treasurer, for providing this information.

Environmental Benefits

CO2 Emission Saved
27,711.7 lb

Equivalent Trees Planted
209





Sunday Bible Readings

The passages below are the assigned readings for November. You can click on each reading and be taken to the passage on "[Bible Gateway](#)." May this be one more way we can hear and study the word of God.

November 3
[Isaiah 25:6-9](#)
[Psalm 24](#)
[Revelation 21:1-6a](#)
[John 11:32-44](#)



November 10
[1 Kings 17:8-16](#)
[Psalm 146](#)
[Hebrews 9:24-28](#)
[Mark 12:38-44](#)

November 17
[Daniel 12:1-3](#)
[Psalm 16](#)
[Hebrews 10:11-25](#)
[Mark 13:1-8](#)

November 24
[Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14](#)
[Psalm 93](#)
[Revelation 1:4b-8](#)
[John 18:33-37](#)

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.

Genesis 4:3-5

In the course of time Cain brought to the Lord an offering of the fruit of the ground, and Abel for his part brought of the firstlings of his flock, their fat portions. And the Lord had regard for Abel and his offering, but for Cain and his offering he had no regard. So Cain was very angry, and his countenance fell.

- My best for God...
- I may hold back giving my best...
- Getting along with brothers and sisters...



Revelation 21:3-4

And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away."

- God among us...
- My images of heaven...
- Death, mourning, crying and pain...



faith forward families passing faith on

Around 50 people attended the Faith Forward Open House on October 9th. Here are some photos of the evening.



Planning Team: Brad & Jill Kinsinger, Chad and Amanda Whaley, Nancy Bruns





November 2024

View Calendar on our [website](#).

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 9:30am All Saints Worship (Also streamed live on Facebook) 10:30am Fellowship Hour	4	5	6 7:00am Men's Study Group 6:15pm Choir Practice 6:30pm Faith Formation (Grades 3-8)	7 6:00am Women's Study 1:00pm Quilters	8	9
10 9:30am Worship (Also streamed live on Facebook) 10:30am Fellowship Hour	11 6:30pm Council Meeting	12	13 7:00am Men's Study Group 6:15pm Choir Practice 6:30pm Faith Formation (Grades 3-8)	14 6:00am Women's Study 1:00pm Quilters	15	16
17 9:30am Worship (Also streamed live on Facebook) 10:30am Fellowship Hour	18 7:00pm WB Study Club	19	20 7:00am Men's Study Group 6:15pm Choir Practice 6:30pm Faith Formation (Grades 3-8)	21 6:00am Women's Study 1:00pm Quilters Crestview Worship	22	23
24 9:30am Worship (Also streamed live on Facebook) 10:30am Fellowship Hour 5:00-6:00pm Community meal	25	26	27 7:00am Men's Study Group 6:15pm Choir Practice 6:30pm Faith Formation (Grades 3-8)	28	29	30



Monetary Gifts Report Submitted by Jon Twing

	September 2024		YTD	
Total Gifts	Actual 11,673	Budget 14,338	Actual 125,294	Budget 129,047
Total Expenses	Actual 11,880	Budget 14,678	Actual 129,608	Budget 132,238
Net Revenue	(207)		(4,314)	

To give an offering visit our website wbbethany.org and click on the button.

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.



Bethany's Cookie Walk has become a familiar and anticipated part of the "Christmas Past" celebration here in West Branch. There's just something about creating and sharing home baked cookies that fills us with the holiday spirit.

We are planning our 34th annual cookie walk, we are asking you to share your favorite holiday cookies with us. Please bring your cookies by 8:30am Saturday on festive labeled plates. Remember, the more the merrier!

**If you would be willing to volunteer a few hours of your time that morning, please contact:
Pat Cassabaum @ 319-541-4708.**





It's time to order your poinsettia
to adorn our altar for Christmas.



Plants will be 12.50 each

Please return this form with payment to the church office,
or mail to:

Bethany Lutheran P.O. Box 236 West Branch, IA 52358
by December 8th.

Plants will be set out for the Christmas Eve services.

Name: _____

I would like to order _____ poinsettias in memory

or in honor of: _____

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235 South Second Street
PO BOX 236
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Bethany Branches

November 2024

Ministry Assistants

Ministers of Proclamation (Lectors)

11-3 Phil Hougen
11-10 Alan Beyer
11-17 Jon Twing
11-24 Kami Poppen

Ministers of Technology

11-3 Cole Crosthwaite
Tate Frantz
11-10 Dale Swenson
11-17 Dave Poppen
11-24 Paula Casper

Ministers of Hospitality

11-3 John & Linda Black
11-10 Anne & Jamie Fetzer
11-17 Wayne Frauenholtz
11-24 Del & Sue Hughes

Ministers of Altar Care

Del & Sue Hughes



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Facebook

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

DON'T FORGET TO LIKE US!



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@blcwestbranch

You Are Loved!

