BETHANY BRANCHES WEEKLY

JANUARY 27, 2026 www.wbbethany.org

FAITH FORWARD SURVEY

The *Faith Forward* team is discerning the future of this ministry and we are seeking your input. A short survey is now available and your feedback will greatly help us determine what the next steps are. Access the survey at:

https://tinyurl.com/3zref5jm

COUNCIL MEMBERS NEEDED

Thanks to all who attended last Sunday's annual meeting. It was a wonderful turnout for a brisk morning. Nancy Bruns was elected as our new treasurer. Unfortunately, there are still 2 unoccupied positions on the council, which the council will be seeking to fill. We ask you to prayerfully consider serving. If interested, see Council President Dale Swenson.

BIRTHDAYS
JANUARY 26-FEBRUARY 1

Since there has not been a weekly newsletter for two weeks, this newsletter contains birthdays during that time span.

1/26 Hunter Niles
01/29 Lance Schiele
01/30 Kent Pedersen
01/31 Patricia Cassabaum
02/01 Jennie Wombacher

If your birthday is not listed, please contact Heidi so we can update our member database.

CONTACT US

Bethany Lutheran Church
235 South 2nd St.
PO Box 236
West Branch, IA 52358
(319) 643-5998

Pastor Chad Whaley
pastor@wbbethany.org

Heidi Christensen
Administrative Assistant
blcsecretary@lcom.net
Office hours: Tuesday & Thursday 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Find us on Facebook
Bethany Lutheran Church (ELCA) West Branch

COUNCIL MINUTES

Remember, council minutes can be viewed on our website. In the black menu bar on the home page, click "Council Minutes".

Visit our online calendar.

Southeastern Iowa SYNOD
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

SOUTHEASTERN IOWA SYNOD NEWS

Stay informed about events and happenings within the Southeastern Iowa Synod by subscribing to their weekly newsletter.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

PreK-Grade 2 January Schedule

Class Time: 8:30-9:15 AM

February 1

February 8

February 22

WEDNESDAY FAITH FORMATION

Grades 3-8 January Schedule

Class Time: 6:30-7:30 PM

January 31

February 4

February 11

MONETARY GIFTS REPORT

December 2025	Actual	Budget
Total Gifts	$17,945	$14,808
Total Expenses	$13,183	$14,790
Net Revenue	$4,762	

Year to Date	Actual	Budget
Total Gifts	$189,873	$177,700
Total Expenses	$180,449	$177,718
Net Revenue	$9,454	

Thank you for your faithful and generous gifts that sustain our ministries!

Give Online Now

FEBRUARY MINISTRY ASSISTANTS

Minister of Proclamation (Lector)
2/1 - Cheryl Boerjan
2/8 - Del Hughes
2/15 - Pat Cassabaum
2/18 - (Ash Wed.) Jill Barnhart
2/22 - Paula Casper

Minister of Hospitality (Greeter)
2/1 - Jon & Laura Twing
2/8 - Wayne Frauenholtz
2/15 - John & Linda Black
2/18 - (Ash Wed.) Heidi Christensen
2/22 - Howard & Terry Moss

Minister of Technology
2/1 - Dave Poppen
2/8 - Kent Kaufman
2/15 - Darla & Kevin Crosthwaite
2/18 - (Ash Wed.) Jill Taylor
2/22 -Dale Swenson

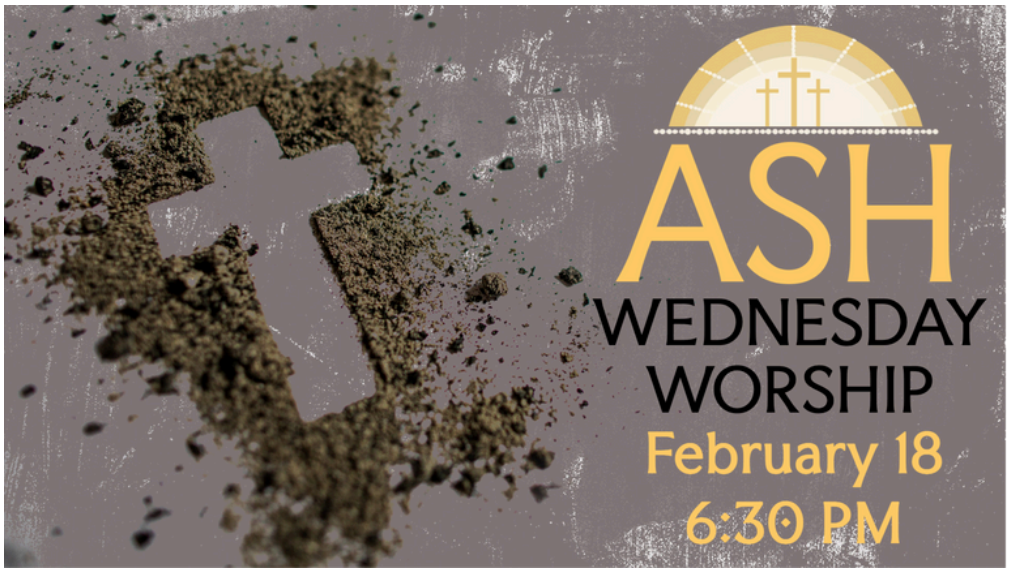
Minister of Altar Care
Nancy Bruns

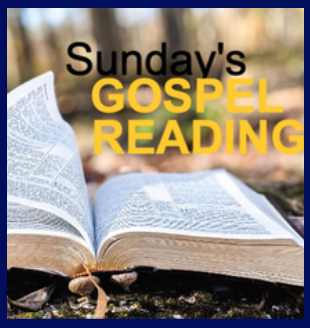
Thanks For Your Help

Minister of Food & Fellowship
2/1 - Evie White
2/8 - Nancy Bruns
2/15 - Del & Sue Hughes
2/22 - Heidi Christensen

LUTHERAN DAY ON THE HILL

Join Lutheran Services in Iowa (LSI) and the three Iowa synods of the ELCA for Lutheran Day on the Hill in Des Moines on February 26, 2026. Online registration opening soon. Learn more at: https://lsiowa.org/ldh/





GIVE GOD 10

Take 10 minutes to read Sunday's gospel and reflect on a couple questions alone or together. Access upcoming copies now.

INVITATION FROM THE BISHOP

In October of 2025, Bishop Amy Current of the Southeastern Iowa Synod traveled to Tanzania visiting our companion dioceses. She is writing reflections on her time in Tanzania the next six weeks. The first reflection can be found here. On Thursday, February 12 from 7:00 - 8:30 PM she is hosting an online event sharing photos and her experiences in Tanzania. Pastor Chad will be at church if you are interested in viewing in a group setting.

ELCA PRAYER RESOURCE

Prayer Ventures is a monthly resource that includes prayer prompts for each day. You can the February 2026 edition here.

Visit our online calendar.