


BETHANY BRANCHES WEEKLY


APRIL 28, 2026

www.wbbethany.org

ON THE WAY

On the Way. A practice for the week as we journey "On the Way" with the risen Christ. Short. Simple. Scriptural. Using a verse from the upcoming Sunday readings. Find it weekly on our Facebook page and [website](http://www.wbbethany.org). Below is this week's "On the Way" utilizing the Psalm 31.

 Prompt: When I need help or feel afraid, I can trust God with...

 Prayer: Faithful God, thank you for protecting me. When I feel afraid, grant me peace. Help me trust you each day with my whole life. Amen.



CONTACT US

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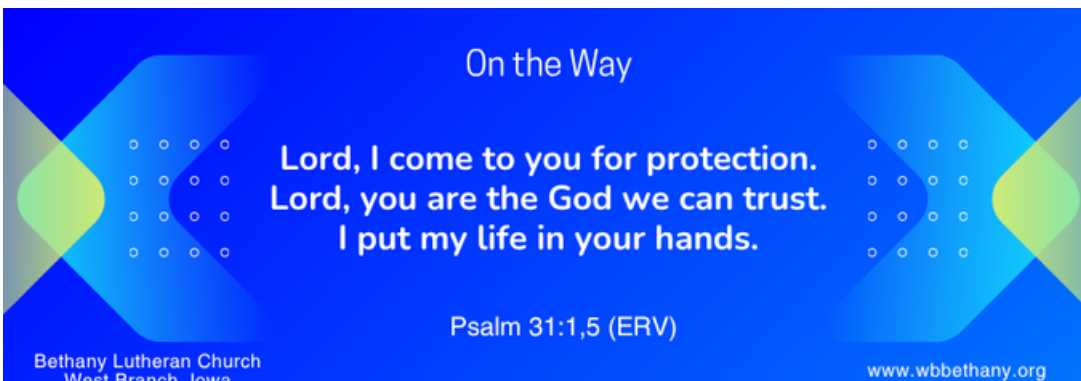
Pastor Chad Whaley
pastor@wbbethany.org

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

Council minutes can be viewed on our [website](http://www.wbbethany.org). In the black menu bar on the home page, click "[Council Minutes](#)".



ELCA PRAYER RESOURCE

Prayer Ventures is a monthly resource that includes prayer prompts for each day. You can find the May 2026 edition [here](#).

GIVE GOD 10

Take 10 minutes to read Sunday's upcoming gospel and reflect on some questions or pray the daily prayer. Access [upcoming copies](#) now.

BIRTHDAYS

APRIL 27-MAY 3

4/27 Courtney Halls
4/27 Lindsey Wiele
4/28 Karen Friis
4/30 Samantha Miller
5/1 Rick Paulsen
5/1 Dirk Wieneke
5/1 Olivia Poppen
5/1 Cozette Sexton

Visit our [online calendar](#).



ALLELUIA! HE IS RISEN!

LUTHERAN SERVICES IN IOWA (LSI)

Visit the [website](#) of LSI to learn more and stay up to date on this ministry partner.



ELCA UPDATES

Stay up to date with happenings in the ELCA by visiting their website at www.elca.org

SYNOD UPDATES



Southeastern Iowa
— SYNOD —
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

Stay informed about events and happenings within the Southeastern Iowa Synod by subscribing to their [weekly newsletter](#).

MONETARY GIFTS REPORT

| March 2026 Total | Actual | Budget | Year to Date | Actual | Budget |
|------------------|------------|----------|----------------|-----------|----------|
| Gifts | \$13,248 | \$16,099 | Total Gifts | \$47,823 | \$48,297 |
| Total Expenses | \$23,596 | \$16,035 | Total Expenses | \$53,176 | \$48,099 |
| Net Revenue | \$(10,348) | | Net Revenue | \$(5,343) | |

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

[Give Online Now](#)

MAY MINISTRY ASSISTANTS

Minister of Proclamation (Lector)

- 5/3 Deb Anderson
- 5/10 Bruce Jeffries
- 5/17 Beth Kaufman
- 5/24 Alan Beyer
- 5/31 Cheryl Boerjan

Minister of Hospitality (Greeter)

- 5/3 Kent & Beth Kaufman
- 5/10 Howard & Terry Moss
- 5/17 Dave & Kami Poppen
- 5/24 Stacy Beyer
- 5/31 Wayne Frauenholtz

Minister of Technology

- 5/3 Dale Swenson
- 5/10 Dave Poppen
- 5/17 Kent Kaufman
- 5/24 Darla & Kevin Crosthwaite
- 5/31 Paula Casper

Minister of Altar Care
Del & Sue Hughes

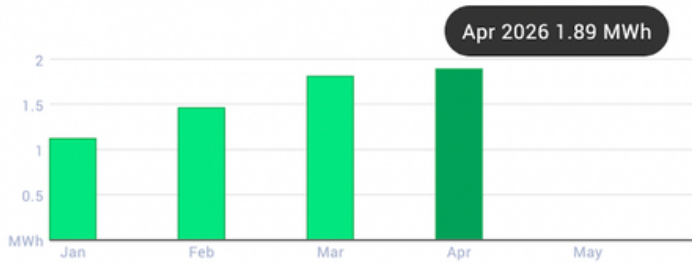


Minister of Food & Fellowship
5/3 Diane & Phil Hougén
5/10 Needed
5/17 Graduation Cake!
5/24 Needed
5/31 Needed

We are always looking for additional ministry assistants. Contact Heidi to be added to the list.

SOLAR UPDATES

Below are two graphics pertaining to solar energy output at the church. The first graphic shows monthly output thus far in 2026. The second graphic on the right shows lifetime environmental benefits of the system.



71,936

Pounds of CO₂ Emission Saved



81,648

Miles Driven on Sunshine

DEVOTIONAL APP

[d365](https://d365.org) is an app and online devotional experience produced by Passport, Inc., with youth and young adults in mind. As the name implies, there is a devotional for every day in the year. The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America is one of four denominational sponsors of d365. Devotions feature a reflective five-step process: Pause, Listen, Think, Pray, Go. Find it in the App Store or Google Play today and give it a try or visit the website (<https://d365.org>). Also located on their website is a devotional titled, "[Intentional Conversations for Joyful Families](#)." Check it out now.



Graduation Recognition and Blessing

DURING WORSHIP ON MAY 17 (9:30 AM)

Come celebrate with our graduates:
Aizlyn, Jacob, Rena and Andrew



TUESDAY MORNING PRAYERS

Join Heidi and Pastor Chad for a short time of prayer Tuesday morning at 10:00 AM. Four of us were gathered today praying for members in our community and beyond. All are welcome to attend. If you have a prayer request for the group, please email Pastor Chad (pastor@wbbethany.org).



Visit our [online calendar](#).