

BETHANY BRANCHES WEEKLY

SEPTEMBER 1, 2026

www.wbbethany.org

GOD'S WORK, OUR HANDS SUNDAY

The ELCA annual day of service, God's Work, Our Hands, is Sunday September 13. Mark your calendars! A sign up sheet is in the fellowship hall if you plan to attend.



Newsletter

HOOVER'S HOMETOWN DAYS PARADE FLOAT

Bethany had a fabulous float in Hoover's Hometown Days in August. If you were unable to attend the parade, a short video of photos taken that day is located on our [YouTube](#) page.



WORSHIP RECORDINGS

Recordings of past worship services can be located on our YouTube [channel](#). There is also a link to the channel on the home page of our website (see the right side under "Worship with us".)



BIRTHDAYS AUG 31 - SEPT 6

9/1 Dru Johnston
9/1 Andrea Pedersen
9/1 Jared Liebergen
9/3 Jaden Hierseman

9/4 Maria Joe Headings
9/4 Nick Fitzgerald
9/5 River Harding
9/6 Cole Bailey



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

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

Visit our online [calendar](#).

MINISTRY PARTNERS

Stay up to date with some of our partners in ministry below.

LUTHERAN CAMPUS MINISTRY



Check out the ministry at the University of Iowa on their [website](#).

LUTHERAN SERVICES IN IOWA (LSI)

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



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](#).



Evangelical
Lutheran
Church in America

ELCA UPDATES

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

MONETARY GIFTS REPORT

Submitted by Nancy Bruns, Treasurer

July 2026

Gifts
Total Expenses
Net Revenue

Actual	Budget
\$18,174	\$16,099
\$15,010	\$16,016
\$3,163	

Year to Date

Total Gifts
Total Expenses
Net Revenue

Actual	Budget
\$115,266	\$112,693
\$120,029	\$112,188
\$(4,762)	

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

[Give Online Now](#)

SEPTEMBER MINISTRY ASSISTANTS

Minister of Proclamation (Lector)

9/6 Bruce Jeffries
9/13 Beth Kaufman
9/20 Alan Beyer
9/27 Del Hughes

Minister of Hospitality (Greeter)

9/6 Linda & John Black
9/13 Nancy Bruns
9/20 Jon & Laura Twing
9/27 Wayne Frauenholtz

Minister of Technology

9/6 Dale Swenson
9/13 Dave Poppen
9/20 Kent Kaufman
9/27 Darla & Kevin Crosthwaite

Minister of Altar Care

Kent & Beth Kaufman

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

Thanks For
Your Help

Minister of Food & Fellowship

9/6 Opportunity to assist!
9/13 GWOH
9/20 Potluck
9/27 Opportunity to assist!

*If you can help,
sign up in the Great Hall.*

WEDNESDAY YOUTH

FAITH FORMATION: GRADES 3-8



GATHER.
GROW.
GO.
In Christ.

 **Meal Served:**
6:00 - 6:20 PM

 Large group activities.
Small group breakout
and lesson.
(Grades 3-5 and 6-8)

 **Ending time:**
7:30 PM

Sunday School



Pre K-Second Grade

8:30 - 9:15 AM

September 20, October 4 & 18,
November 1, 15 & 29



In addition to the ways to sign up noted in the graphic above, you can also sign up via the link below.

<https://tinyurl.com/rs8r7kvx>

Tuesday Morning Prayer Gathering

10:00 AM

Gather in the Sanctuary



All are welcome to attend. Come as you are. You can offer a prayer or say nothing and simply be present.





Southeastern Iowa Women of the ELCA Gathering



I AM WORTHY

THE GATHERING

All women are invited to take part in the 38th Annual Gathering of the Southeastern Iowa Women of the ELCA on Saturday, September 26, from 9:00 AM–3:00 PM at Zion Lutheran Church in Iowa City. It will be a full day of worship, learning, fellowship, and inspiration centered on the theme I AM WORTHY. This gathering offers a meaningful chance to connect with women from across the region and reflect on the deep worth and belovedness each person carries.

REGISTRATION

To register, download the registration form at: <https://tinyurl.com/3yfkjrb9>
Mail it in by Friday, September 11. Address listed on form.

SILENT AUCTION

The day will include a silent auction. You're invited to bring an item to contribute—crafts, books, theme baskets, or other creative offerings are all welcome.

Sign Up Online Now:
<https://tinyurl.com/3yfkjrb9>

Beyond Sunday

Continue your walk with Christ throughout the week. These simple practices can help.



On the Way

A weekly God pause with Scripture, a conversation prompt, and prayer.



Open On the Way



Give God 10

Spend ten minutes preparing your heart for Sunday worship. Read. Pray. Reflect.



Open Give God 10

Explore more ways to grow in Christ this week under ***Beyond Sunday*** on our website.