

# BETHANY LUTHERAN Connections

## June 2021

Members are encouraged to attend the

### **Annual Congregational Meeting on June 27<sup>th</sup>**

immediately following worship service. This meeting will take place in the sanctuary to provide social distance. Due to covid protocol, members will be asked to verbally register as they enter church for worship. This will eliminate the need to leave the sanctuary after worship to sign-in. The purpose of the annual meeting is to approve the 2021 budget. Copies of the annual report are available at church or if you need a copy mailed to you, call the church office at 608-847-6690. There will be some report corrections announced at the meeting. This newsletter serves as the constitutionally required mailed meeting notification. The council is grateful to the congregation for their patience and understanding of postponement during the pandemic. Member safety has been the top priority in all decisions made regarding the meeting. An additional thank you is sent to the council and committee members who extended their terms until this meeting. Your dedication is sincerely appreciated.

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**There will be a memorial service for  
Paul Kielstrup at Bethany on  
Saturday, June 5th at 2:00pm.  
All are welcome!**

Pastor Gloria's last day serving Bethany as interim Pastor is June 15th, 2021.

The Hospitality Committee will be hosting an outdoor farewell fellowship immediately following worship on June 6th. This will be held under the canopy. If it is raining, we will ask folks to drive thru under the canopy and wish her well.

We thank her for finding innovative ways to reach out to all of us during the pandemic. She brought the message of God's word alive in so many ways through her inspiring sermons, her dedication to our church, and her desire to be an example of Jesus' love to others.

Bethany has truly been blessed by the time Pastor Gloria has spent with us. We send her to her next endeavor with our prayers and gratitude and wish her all the best as she follows God's call in her ministry. You have touched us and we have grown!

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

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## **STREAMING WORSHIP AND RUNNING THE TELEVISION VIDEOS**

Volunteers needed! We are looking for a few volunteers to video (it's easy!) our Sunday worship, which is being streamed live on the Bethany Facebook page, and available on the Facebook page and YouTube after the service.

Volunteers needed to **run the slides on the screens during worship.** It is something easily learned by anyone. If you want to volunteer or have any questions, talk to Dick (608 548 5982).

We also need more people to be trained for **Altar Guild**, all interested please call the church secretary at 608-847-6690 (remember, you have to dial the entire 10 digit number!)

**Congratulations to our June graduates!** Offering our best wishes on their graduation and looking forward to what God has planned for their future.



Josh Bell  
Nelson Brandt  
Camron Cafferty  
Dawson Dearth  
Ian Flint

Kalon Kustief  
Jack Luehman  
Izzy Lutz  
Emily Wiese

## ***Congratulations to our 2021 Scholarship recipients:***

Nelson Brandt  
Ian Flint

Izzabela Lutz  
Emily Wiese

Bethany Lutheran Church and the Endowment Fund are happy to make these scholarships available for their continued education! We were blessed to be able to celebrate their important milestone during our In-Person worship service on May 30th.

## **Synod-Wide Assembly Worship**

**Sunday, Jun 13, 9:00 am.** The assembly worship service will be live-streamed for all congregations of the La Crosse Area synod to participate virtually. All synod pastors will be attending the assembly. We will be viewing this virtual service in our worship for the day, including Holy Communion. Preacher: Interim Bishop Chris Boerger

## **La Crosse Area Synod WELCA—Save the Date**

Mark your calendar now for **July 31st** as Women of our Synod will gather at **Trinity Lutheran Church in Cashton** for worship, elections, an important program on the theme of racial justice, and lunch. The theme is "Just Love"

## **Vacation Bible School**

Save the date! VBS will be held in-person at Bethany July 25th-28th, from 6:00-8:00 pm. More information will be provided in July's newsletter.



# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Pastoral Coverage Plans

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During the transition time following Pastor Gloria's departure and the call of a new Pastor, Kathy Marose, congregational president will serve as the emergency contact. She may be reached via cell phone at 608-343-4381 or home phone 608-847-4381. If no answer, please leave a message and she will return your call as soon as possible. She will make arrangements for pastoral coverage of your emergency.

Sunday worship services will continue in person and live streamed. These services may be led by a supply Pastor or lay leadership. The congregation is asked to encourage and support leadership during this time as they are working diligently to find coverage to keep worship plans intact.

The call committee continues their hard work leading to the call of our new Pastor. All required paperwork has been submitted to the Synod and the committee is awaiting information about prospective Pastors. Please pray for them and the process asking God to lead the right person in Bethany's direction. We thank the call committee for their time and effort serving in this capacity.



Dear Pastor Gloria & Members of Bethany Lutheran Church,

A huge thank-you to the people of your congregation for giving to the La Crosse Area Synod World Hunger Team's Family Farm Project. Your recent gift in the amount of \$715 will purchase a complete "Family farm" in ELCA World Hunger's Good Gifts. I am very grateful for your generosity and compassion, and for making such a substantial contribution to feeding the hungry. We know that the "family farm" isn't just giving money to people in poverty, but it gives them the livestock, tools, education and encouragement to build a sustainable foundation to feed not only one family, but enabling them to then reach out to their community. Thank you!

Your generosity is a blessing to you, to our church and to the world!

In Christ, Rev. Chris Boerger, Interim Bishop

### In our prayers

— John Griffin, Jimmy Hoilien, Bonnie Robinson, Phyllis Held, George Pierce, Meryle Henry, Tricia Demmin, Joe Griffin, The Dillin Family, Ken Plants, Bill Voltz, Ronald Miller, Tim Seebecker, Julie, the Vanderhoof Family, Donna Voltz, Tammy Brown, Marcus Brown, and Marcella Schroeder.

— Major Kyle Pokorney, Ben Murphy, Spence Dallman, Kevin Berg, Mitchell Brown, and all who serve their country.

Bethany's Prayer Chain Coordinator is Audrey Gierhart (847-4106).  
If you have an urgent prayer request, call her to share the request.  
Please contact the church office (847-6690) with any Pastoral Care needs requests.

## Council Highlights

**Treasurers Report:** The properties/finance team met on 5/11/21. All financial reports were approved. Our line of credit loan balance is now down to \$56,158.16! The check signers will be updated to John Williams and Tim Benson. From the PPP Grant (Payroll Protection Program) we received \$7,178.42 in April, and \$6,940 in May. The following was approved to be paid in May: Line of Credit, \$100 building, \$350 parking lot, \$250 professional services, Missions; \$50 food pantry, \$890 LaCrosse Area Synod (\$175 for regular synod giving and \$715 for the Farm Project).

There was a resignation from Linda Bohnert and Norma Miller from Properties & Finance Committee and from Dorothy Pierce from the Endowment committee,

**Faith Development Committee:** The Affirmation of Baptism service was on May 2nd, and six students were confirmed. The last week of Sunday school was April 18th.

**Hospitality Committee Report:** Tables for confirmands were set up and a small cake to take home after the confirmation service. Thank you to everyone who delivered meals for Meals on Wheels for May! There were treats for Bethany graduates to take home following the May 30th service. We are planning a farewell outdoor fellowship for Pastor Gloria following Sunday worship on June 5th.

**Stewardship Committee:** The Stewardship Committee would like to thank the volunteers who made our Community drive thru spaghetti supper a success. A Thrivent Action Team grant paid for the meal allowing Bethany to provide this community outreach for little cost. There were 115 meals served, 69 to non-members, with 13 meals delivered. Fifteen members came together to prepare, serve and deliver meals. It is in working together to serve others we follow Jesus' commandment to love one another as He loved us!

**Worship Committee:** The reopening of church and what will go along with it were discussed, such as distancing, wearing masks & visiting outdoors. Worship committee is scheduling lectors, singers, and Altar Guild for summer months.

**Finance and Property Committee:** A new policy regarding church keys was approved by Council. This summer we will re-key the building, it hasn't been done for many years. Contact the office at 608-847-6690 if you need a key or the code for entry on the kitchen door so that we know how many to make.

**Community Sharing Pantry:** This month we only delivered around 20-25 pounds. In an effort to strengthen our partnership with the pantry, in a time when hunger & food insecurity is prevalent, you can call the church and request a volunteer to pick up items from your home if you're not able to deliver them to the church. Just call 608-847-6690 and leave a message.



## Happy June Birthday to....

Karli Denman	06/02
Ahren Heinrich	06/02
Lori O'Dell	06/04
Phyllis Goetz	06/04
Nancy McCullick	06/05
Christopher Flint	06/05
Avianna Bohnert	06/06
Jerry Staehling	06/06
Cheryl Fenner	06/07
Kendra Daniels	06/08
Preston Young	06/09
Landry Flint	06/10
Marcella Schroeder	06/13
Mitchell Reigard	06/14
Richard Radcliff	06/15
Laurie Jensen	06/15
Ivon Heinrich	06/15
Kyle Pokorney	06/15
Greg Smith	06/17
Chad Seebecker	06/18
Wayne McCullick	06/19
Crystal Cafferty	06/20
Dylan Bollig	06/20
Danielle Barnhart	06/22
Jake Arens	06/23
Nelson Brandt	06/24
Paul Zaidel	06/26
Mike Klein	06/27
Patricia Tabbutt	06/27
Randy Fabian	06/28
Dick Pirwitz	06/28
David Broske	06/28
Teresa Cypert	06/28

## Happy June Anniversary to....

Troy & Lisa Hansen	06/01
Maynard & Renee Miller	06/05
Brian & Wendy McGuire	06/07
Wayne & Linda Morris	06/09
Kraig & Tammy Zoller	06/10
Mark & Amy Behling	06/11
Mark & Ellen Dahlke	06/20
Derek & Cheryl Fenner	06/21
James & Meryle Henry	06/22
Jim & Cora Dillin	06/22
Doug & Bobbie Lindner	06/22
Ken & Jane Lalk	06/27
Bill & Doreen Coller	06/28
Larry & Bonnie Bonner	06/29

*Please know that the office does not have every member's information. Please contact the office with corrections and*



## Financial Updates

BLC Line of Credit Balance as of 4/30/2021  
 Parking Lot: \$21,622.16  
 Professional Services \$26,263.00  
 Repairs & Updates \$ 8,273.00  
 Total: \$56,158.16



Giving	Cash/Check	Online	Total
Apr 15, 2021	\$3,070.00	\$1,588.97	\$4,658.97
Apr 28, 2021	\$2,926.00	\$439.29	\$3,365.29

Gen Fund	Apr 2021 Actual	Apr YTD Actual	Apr 2021 Budget	Apr YTD Budget
Receipts	\$7,448.54	\$46,698.85	\$12,500.00	\$50,000.00
Disbursements	\$11,186.67	\$47,332.50	\$17,975.75	\$68,503.00
* PPP Funds	\$7,178.42			

## Sugar Creek

Sugar Creek is now accepting registrations for all their summer programs! There truly is a program for youth with all kinds of interests! New this year is Elevated! - a program in which youth explore the bluffs and valleys of Sugar Creek during the day, and strap up their hammocks to sleep at night. Night Camp is a new Middle School program. These night owls will learn about God's nighttime creation, enjoy epic midnight campfires, and more! Of course all your favorite programs are back, too!

Family Camp dates for this year are: July 5-8, Aug. 8-11, and Aug. 12-15.



**Has your contact information changed?  
 Be sure to let us know!  
 (608) 847-6690—  
 bethanymaustonelca@gmail.com**

We at Bethany Lutheran Church, Mauston, seek to build unity by instilling hope through:

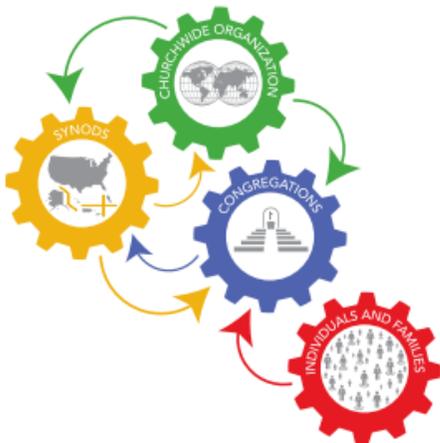
**ENGAGING**  
 all generations in the practices and teaching of Jesus,

**WELCOMING**  
 each other,

**REACHING OUT**  
 to our greater community.



# WHERE DOES MY OFFERING GO?



ELCA members in more than 9,300 congregations in the United States and Caribbean give approximately \$1.75 billion in regular offering to support ELCA ministries in their local communities and worldwide. When members give through their congregations, a percentage of that money is then shared with the local synod and the national churchwide organization.

This unrestricted giving, called Mission Support, gives us both the foundation and the fuel to do God's work in the world and a portion of the gifts circle back to support ministries in synods and local congregations. Of these unrestricted gifts, the churchwide organization receives around 2.6 percent. This represents the largest portion of the ELCA churchwide organization's operating budget.

## Your Mission Support helps fund the following churchwide ministries:

### Grow the ELCA in the United States

25%



**357**  
Plant and support  
357 new congregations.



Enable congregations to renew their ministries and reach out to their surrounding communities.



Work together with our African Descent, American Indian and Alaska Native, Arab and Middle Eastern, Asian and Pacific Islander, and Latino/Latina members to develop networks and resources for ministry.



Develop and share resources for faith, discipleship, prayer and worship.

### Grow the Lutheran church around the world

18%



As a member of The Lutheran World Federation, we're in communion with 145 member churches and directly connected to 85 companion churches in other countries.



Accompany new Lutheran churches, expand ministries, and train leaders and evangelists.



**230**

Send 230 missionaries to more than 48 countries, including more than 84 Young Adults in Global Mission in 11 country programs.

### Provide coordination and support for churchwide ministries

16%

**1.1 million**

Maintain constituent database, including 1.1 million records of rostered and lay leaders, members, donors and congregations.



Provide office space, equipment and human resources for staff and operations.



Preserve and maintain archives and historic records of the ELCA and its predecessor bodies.

Equip congregations and synods with resources to assist in risk management and legal matters.



Process 150,000 gifts to ELCA ministries.

## Support and develop current and future **leaders** in the ELCA

15%

7  
26

Support the work of seven ELCA seminaries and 26 colleges and universities.



9,900

Recruit, prepare and implement a system for the assignment of 9,900 rostered ministers.



Offer events and leadership opportunities for youth and young adults.



Identify, connect and provide ministry resources and opportunities for networking for lay leaders.

## Invest in **technology** and **communications**

8%

**Design and maintain communications tools** to strengthen our Lutheran identity and grow awareness of our church and its mission and ministries.



**Connect members with one another** through new technology and systems.

## Provide **governance** and **leadership**

5%

**Organize lay and clergy leaders from across the church to serve** on the governance boards and committees that provide guidance and oversight for ELCA ministries.

65



**Coordinate meetings and support** for 65 synodical bishops.

## Grow and sustain financial resources

5%



**Develop and promote** efforts related to stewardship education, financial literacy, mission interpretation and growth in giving to all church ministries.

## Address social issues and **work for justice**

4%



**Engage** in churchwide study and deliberation to create social statements and resources that address social, political, environmental and other public issues.

**Equip** members and leaders to advocate with lawmakers in order to support policies that promote justice and peace.



1 in 50

**Support** social ministry organizations, such as Lutheran Services in America, to impact the lives of **1 in 50** Americans.

Your designated gifts to ELCA World Hunger and Lutheran Disaster Response provide additional funds annually to address hunger, poverty and suffering around the world.

## Engage in **research** and **strategic planning**

2%

**Research and analyze trends that impact the ELCA and develop innovative strategies** to improve mission and ministry in the 21st century.



## Sustain **ecumenical** and **interfaith relationships**

2%

Facilitate dialogue and common action among communities of other faiths, including the development of resources and communications for ELCA congregations.



Seek unity in faith and life with all Lutherans and six full communion partners.