

BETHANY LUTHERAN

Connections

April 2022

WE ARE EASTER PEOPLE

We have to live as Easter people, to see life from the perspective of the resurrection. We are the people who dare to live the hope that other people believe can never be realized. From the Easter perspective, we live the “as if” principle. That is, we live “as if” the world has more love than it does, “as if” there is more hope than people are willing to embrace, “as if” the kingdom of God can reign on the earth today. (Pastor Ron Schlak)

We are Easter People. We live every moment of our day in sure and certain hope and love.

HE IS RISEN! HE IS RISEN INDEED!



PALM SUNDAY – APRIL 10th 9:30 am. Join us as we wave our palm branches, shouting “Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!”



EASTER SUNDAY – APRIL 17th 9:30 am. Celebrate the promise of our new life in Christ! Pastor Bill Horn will lead our worship.

MAUNDY THURSDAY & GOOD FRIDAY – APRIL 14th and 15th

We are not having services on Maundy Thursday or Good Friday this year.

We encourage you to watch live services at:
www.firstlutheranonalaska.org/live at 12:15 and 6:15 pm both days.

<https://www.englishlutheran.org/livestream.html> at 7 pm both days.

Palm Sunday Community Drive Thru Supper April 10th

The Bethany Stewardship Committee in cooperation with the Hospitality Committee will be hosting a FREE community drive thru chili supper on Palm Sunday, April 10th from 4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. Members of the congregation as well as the community are invited to come and pick up the meal to take home and enjoy. Members who are unable to pick up a meal may contact the church office at 608-847-6690 for a delivery. Community meals are part of the stewardship initiatives Bethany has established that reach out to members and the larger community sharing the love Christ has shown us. What better way to share His love at the beginning of Holy Week than by serving others? Spread the news that all are invited!!

Would you be available to help prepare the chili on Friday, April 8th or to serve or deliver the meals on April 10th? Please contact Kathy Marose or Sheri Benson for more information.

Easter Sunday Brunch

Celebrate Easter morning by joining us for brunch following Easter worship in the fellowship hall. It has been so long since we have been able to enjoy fellowship with one another, so let's celebrate the Risen Lord by sharing a meal together. THIS MEAL IS FREE TO EVERYONE! The menu will include egg bake, fruit, muffins, coffee, milk, and juice. An RSVP would be helpful by signing up on the kiosk but come even if you didn't sign up. Volunteers to help with prep, serving and clean up would be appreciated. If you can help, there will also be a sign up on the kiosk for this. Please make plans to join us for this special gathering.

701 Grove Street Mauston, Wisconsin * 608-847-6690 * www.bethanymauston.com

IT'S TIME TO COME BACK

We have gone through some challenging times in the past two years. The Covid pandemic forced us to close the church building and rely on video worship. Many people chose to not come back when we opened up again because Covid was still out there, we were wearing masks and not singing. Now we are finally worshipping without masks and are singing - and still some members have not come back.

Let's be clear: We are not thinking about closing. We are in better financial shape than we have been for decades – debt free and money in the bank.

If there is one thing the pandemic taught me, it was that what we take for granted could suddenly disappear – friends, businesses, Bethany, and many other things that are an important part of our lives.

Come back and be part in the revitalization of our congregation. We are finding new ways to bring love and hope to our faith family - this world – our community. Come back – Your faith family misses you!

UPDATE ON THE SEARCH FOR A PASTOR The Assistant to the Bishop, Pastor Dione Stepanek, met with the Bethany Church Council after leading our worship on March 13th. A long history of conflict within the Bethany congregation and with our pastors has led her to request we have a conflict resolution expert come to Bethany to work with us, teaching us skills that will allow us to deal with the problem. At this time, she has not been able to find any pastor available for call who could be effective in our congregation. She is searching now for a conflict resolution person that we could use. Once we complete the conflict resolution process, she feels she can recommend us.

Scholarship: The Bethany Endowment Committee is again offering scholarship opportunities to any member of our congregation who is attending post secondary education. If you are not granted a scholarship the first time you apply, you can reapply the next year. If you are awarded a scholarship and do not use it, you cannot reapply. You can be a full time student but not necessarily a freshman. If you are not a freshman and have already received this scholarship you may not apply a second time. Applications are available either by email or at the church office, and must be received by the church by May 1, 2022 for consideration. Please direct any questions to Maynard Miller at 608-847-6358.

PLEASE PICK-UP YOUR OFFERING ENVELOPES We still have 50 boxes of envelopes in the narthex. Could you pick them up the next time you come to worship or just stop by Monday – Thursday 10 am to 2 pm. Would everyone look at those left – There may be one or more you could deliver to a friend or relative. Thank you. - Dick

March Finance & Property Highlights

The Committee approved mission support of \$500 to the La Crosse Synod/ELCA, \$100 to Lutheran Social Services and \$75 to the Mauston Food Pantry.

Gary reported that he was having some issues with his computer and it was recommended that he contact Rob Demeuse to see if he could fix the problems since he has helped with previous computer issues for the Church.

Kathy Green has used the Church copier to make copies for the food pantry. As a result, the Food Pantry sent a \$38.70 check to Bethany for copies made in 2021. The Committee felt that this was unnecessary and instructed Elley to send the check back to Kathy and the Food Pantry. The Committee also made a motion to allow the Mauston Food Pantry to have free access to our copier for up to \$100 of copies per year. (\$.10/copy) This would be considered additional community involvement and support for the Mauston Food Pantry.

The next F & P Meeting will be on Tuesday April 12th.

March Council Highlights

We will continue making wearing of a mask optional. Communion at the rail will have to wait. We will use up our current supply of "hour glass" individual servings and then consider offering communion at the rail. Having food served at church will be brought-up at a later time.

The Faith Development Committee reported they have 7-10 kids a week at Sunday School. They are doing a painting project in the nursery. Confirmation students are catching up on their sermon notes.

Worship Committee reported that Easter lilies and mums will be available for \$10. Dick has filled 6 of 13 supply pastor openings for April through June. Affirmation of Baptism is in May. The Sunday worship will have the Kyrie, Hymn of Praise and Lamb of God added starting April 13th.

Mission Committee talked about the summer camps for children and that Bethany has full scholarships for any child of Bethany.

Emil Skorik, a longstanding former member of our congregation passed away on March 5th. If you would like to send a card to Sheryl her address is: 1752 N. Genesee Street, Delafield, WI 53018.

This month the Sunday School Children have been learning about Jonah and the Big Fish, plus the Parable of the Lost Sheep. The older kids have also been working diligently on the nursery and it is coming along nicely!! If anyone has a Pack and Play, toys, etc. to donate, that would be wonderful!! Also, in the plans is a “paint night” on a Saturday afternoon to continue developing the wonderful murals. If there is a Saturday afternoon that will not work, please let the Sunday School Committee know.



In April, we are planning an Easter Egg Hunt, more details to follow.





Happy April birthday to....

Sue Engevold	04/01
Kirstin Grzenia	04/01
Dianne Peterson	04/01
Kathleen Marose	04/04
Johnie Steinke	04/05
Audrey Scholl	04/06
Emily Wiese	04/07
William Marose	04/09
Dan Remington	04/09
Audrey Gierhart	04/10
Mara Hansen	04/10
Jacob Muchenberger	04/10
Betty Benton	04/11
Mike Borreson	04/11
Trey Honnold	04/11
Ella Rotzoll	04/11
Calista Coller	04/12
Carissa Huebner	04/12
Emalee Bohnert	04/14
Phyllis Field	04/14
Remi Hagen-Buda	04/14
Brad Ellerman	04/15
Kari Lalk	04/15
Norma Smith	04/15
Elliott Wilberg	04/15
Nancy Blixt	04/18
Bergen Brandt	04/18
Chase Seebecker	04/20
Douglas Lindner	04/23

Dorrine Bert	04/24
Kim Reigard	04/27
Brady Nelson	04/28
Laura Wilberg	04/29
Patricia Lutz	04/30
Lauren McIntire	04/30



Happy April anniversary to....

Jeri & Molly Shultis	04/18
Brad & Teresa Ellerman	04/23
Steve & Kendra Grzenia	04/23

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

**Thank you for your understanding, patience,
and help in keeping our records up to date!**

608-847-6690

Thank you for continuing to
give generously!



Giving	Cash/Check	Online	Total
February 6, 2022	\$1,659.30	\$443.47	\$2,102.77
February 13, 2022	\$5,605.00	\$270.22	\$5,875.22
February 20, 2022	\$3,895.29	\$25.00	\$3,920.29
February 27, 2022	\$9,240.00	\$334.06	\$9,574.06

Gen Fund	February 2022 Actual	February YTD Actual	February 2022 Budget	February YTD Budget
Receipts	\$20,213.89	\$27,222.90	\$12,500.00	\$25,000.00
Disbursements	\$10,163.21	\$18,719.03	\$16,535.00	\$33,065.00

Church Office Hours

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.

The church office is open **Monday – Thursday from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.** Messages left on the church voicemail are only checked during office hours. For urgent messages and emergencies, contact Dick Pirwitz, council president, at 608-548-5982. If not immediately available, he will answer as soon as possible.

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