



The Echo

Glorifies God, Serves all people,
Welcomes everyone into Christ's family.

Volume 124

April-May, 2024

Number 5

CHURCH STAFF

Pastor Lily Brondyke
Office Administrator Kelly Blake
Financial Secretary Carole Beck
Custodian Rodney Spence
Kids Ministry Coordinator Brook Prins
Pastor Emeritus Rev. Dean A. Peterson
Organist Bill VanEffen
Choir Director & Musician/Tech Support John Beck
Pianist Kim Beck
Social Media Producer/Web Developer Kyra Beck
Usher Rodney Spence

FACEBOOK PAGE

www.facebook.com/belutheranescanaba

WEBSITE ADDRESS

www.bethanyescanaba.com

EMAIL ADDRESSES

Pastor.....pastorlily@bethanyescanaba.org
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OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Thursday 8:30am-2:30pm (lunch 12-1)
Friday.....8:30am-12pm

PHONE NUMBERS

Pastor Lily Brondyke 563-542-5746
Church Office 906-786-6642

April

2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Office Closed	2 9:30am Zumba Gold 11am-1pm Freestore 4pm-6pm Freestore	3 9am Quilting	4 10am Bible Study	5 10am Coffee Fellowship	6
7 10am Sunday Worship in person, Facebook live 11am coffee fellowship 1:30 Choral Society concert	8 5:30pm Bay College Dinner	9 9:30am Zumba Gold	10 9am Quilting	11 9:30am Bethany Belles 10am Bible Study	12 10am Coffee Fellowship 10:30am Social Ministry	13
14 10am Sunday Worship in person, Facebook live	15 6:30pm Church Council	16 9:30am Zumba Gold 1pm Bethany Gems	17 9am Quilting	18 10am Bible Study	19 10am Coffee Fellowship	20
21 10am Sunday Worship in person, Facebook live Welcome to the table	22	23 9:30am Zumba Gold	24 9am Quilting	25 10am Bible Study	26 10am Coffee Fellowship	27
28 10am Sunday Worship in person, Facebook live 3pm FLLC Annual Meeting	29	30 9:30am Zumba Gold				

May

2024



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 9am Quilting 5pm New Member class	2 9:30am Zumba Gold 10am Bible Study	3 10am Coffee Fellowship	4
5 9am Church Breakfast 10am Worship in person Facebook Live	6	7 9:30am Zumba Gold 11am-1pm Free Store 4pm-6pm Free Store	8 9am Quilting 12pm Free Store Meeting	9 9:30am Zumba Gold 10am Bible Study	10 10am Coffee Fellowship	11
12 10am Worship in person Facebook Live	13	14 9:30am Zumba Gold 5:30pm Worship & Music	15 9am Quilting	16 9:30am Zumba Gold 10am Bible Study	17 10am Coffee Fellowship	18 9am Hybrid Synod Assembly meeting @ Immanuel
19 10am Worship in person Facebook Live	20 5pm Church Council retreat	21 9:30am Zumba Gold 1pm Bethany Gems	22 9am Quilting	23 9:30am Zumba Gold 10am Bible Study	24 1st Adopt-A-Plot plant day! 10am Coffee Fellowship 6:30pm- 9am Youth Sleepover @ Bethany	25
26 10am Worship in person Facebook Live	27	28 9:30am Zumba Gold	29 9am Quilting	30 9:30am Zumba Gold 10am Bible Study	31 10am Coffee Fellowship	1 Color Your Faith 5k Walk/Run

Celebrating 145 Years for the Next 145 Years

On Sunday April 14th we celebrated Bethany's 145th anniversary with a birthday party! We had cake and balloons and confetti! We looked at photos, bulletins, newsletters, and more from our past. It was truly a celebration. We even ran out of cake!



While streamers and birthday cakes may feel silly and unimportant, celebrating 145 years of ministry gives us an opportunity to dream about the next 145 years of ministry. That's the thing about celebrating milestones. It's just as much about looking back as it is about looking forward. For 145 years Bethany has reinvented its mission to meet the needs of their community and their world.



In 1879, thirty-five immigrants worked hard to establish a Lutheran church for all those coming from Sweden who would need a spiritual home and community in this new-to-them world.

In 1905 Bethany built a chapel in the northern part of Escanaba so that all those, even those who couldn't travel too far to the main sanctuary could participate in the life of the church and its community.

In 1921 English services began. The community had grown, the children of Swedish immigrants were adjusting to life here, and new people needed to know the Gospel was for them.

In 1977 the Ark Preschool was established to meet early education needs in our community.

In 2022 The Bethany Lutheran Free Store began so that Bethany could continue its tradition of meeting the needs of the community. Offering household supplies and personal hygiene products, The Free Store offers a helping hand so that household budgets can work for families in Escanaba.

This is only a snapshot of 145 years of ministry. This is only a glimpse at the way God has used the members and the gifts of Bethany for the sake of the Gospel in the world.

I hope when you think about this birthday celebration you are able to see the resilience and hope 145 years gifts us today. God is faithful. We don't know what that looks like, nor do we know where that will lead us. But we trust that God's good news in Jesus Christ is at work in our world and through our community.



Jesus was the hope of those 35 Swedish immigrants in 1879, and Jesus remains that hope for us today. A prayer for us as we think about the next 145 years:

O God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Blessings to you all! Pastor Lily

Radio & Floral Ministry Dates that are available!

Please contact the office to reserve, or mail
your check with the date you are reserving



Radio Ministry

Each week our worship is broadcast on radio stations AM600 and FM 93.5. These broadcasts reach countless folks with our ministry and message. The cost to support a week is \$90. You may dedicate the broadcast for special events and memorials.

AVAILABLE RADIO SPONSORS 2024: April-21;
May- 5, 12, 26; June-9,16,30; July-14,21,28; August-
4,11; September-1,15,22,29; October-13,20,27;
November- 17; December-15,22,29



Floral Ministry

Each week our altar is adorned with fresh flower arrangements. Two large vases of beautiful flowers help us prepare our altar for worship and are available to be picked up by those who sponsored them. The cost to support one week's floral ministry is \$17. Like the radio broadcast you may dedicate the flowers for special events and memorials.

AVAILABLE FLOWER SPONSORS 2024 (\$17.50):
May-5,26; June-9,16,30; July-14,21,28; August-4,11;
September-1,15,22; October- 13,20,27; November-
10,17; December- 8,15,22



NO COFFEE FELLOWSHIP IN MAY DUE TO OUR CHURCH BREAKFAST EVENT

Our next coffee fellowship will be on **June 2nd**!

We are in need of volunteers to help make coffee before worship and pick up donuts from Elmer's. Please let the church office know if you are able to help!



Worship Helpers Needed

**Ushers
Assisting Ministers
Readers**

We are asking for volunteers to help keep our services running smoothly. This is open to ALL that come to worship at Bethany. No experience required.

- *Ushers* assist welcoming people, handing out bulletins, and assist with seating when necessary. Just need to arrive 15 minutes early for our service.
- *Assisting ministers* read from a leader bulletin and singing is NOT required.
- *Readers* are reading our Bible verses that pertain to our services each week.

EVERY Sunday in May & June we need worship assistance. We are looking for Ushers, Readers, and assisting ministers. There will be sign up sheets with our worship assistance needs for each week in the Narthex and on Bethany's website. Call the office at 786-6642 if you have any questions. Thank you for your help!



Welcome to the Table

April 21st during worship

During worship on April 21st, we'll be celebrating Bethany members receiving their first communion! We hope you will join us for this special day!



NEW MEMBER CLASS
MAY 1ST, 5PM - 6:30PM

Interested in church membership at Bethany? Pastor Lily will be hosting our next new members' class on Wednesday, May 1st at 5pm. Dinner is provided!

Please Email

pastorlily@bethanyescanaba.org to

RSVP



CHURCH BREAKFAST
MAY 5TH, 9AM

Bethany's family ministry committee is hosting a church breakfast! All are welcome to join us in the fellowship hall before worship at 9am!

A new committee has formed at Bethany Lutheran Church! The Family Ministry Committee will work to create family-oriented opportunities for our congregation and our community. Replacing the Christian Education and Youth Committee this group strives to support the needs of families here at Bethany Lutheran Church. Stay tuned for more events coming from this incredible group of leaders.

Members: Brooke Prins, Jackie Porath, Paige Sauve, Christine Kobasic, Sandy Anderson, Paul Nelson, & Pastor Lily



Thank you!

Rick Anderson
Will Carne
Dan Johnson
Rodney Spence

For helping move
our cross to storage until next year!



Bethany Gems

Our Bethany Gems have been collecting items for personal packets that are given to the homeless by the Salvation Army, St. Vincent de Paul and Tri County Safe Harbor.

These items include:

- ❖ Soaps
- ❖ Shampoo & Conditioner
- ❖ Lotion
- ❖ Kleenex packets
- ❖ Dental Floss
- ❖ Toothpaste
- ❖ Toothbrushes

These can accumulate in our homes from travel, visits to our dentists, etc. and can be put to good use.

If you wish to donate, please bring them to Kelly in the church office and she will make sure the Gems receive them.

Thank you for your previous donations.



Bethany Lutheran Church Free Store News

As the Free Store grows, so grows the generosity of the Bethany Lutheran Congregation. We have once again knocked it out of the park with our generous monetary and in-kind donations. This year's Lenten fundraiser brought in \$15,290.93 in monetary donations.

Our combined efforts of Noisy offering, online contributions and just plain ol' giving brought in \$9290.23. On top of that, another \$6000.00 was donated by one of our very generous Bethany families.

It doesn't end there. Our in-kind donations brought in over 500 products. We proudly displayed these items on our alter for all to see. Way to go Bethany. It truly was a sight to behold.

But wait, there's more. Bellin of Green Bay and Escanaba is committed to supporting the communities that they service. Most times the support is in the Green Bay area as that is where most of their clinics and hospital are. This year, the Bellin RN Care Coordinator Program got word of our wonderful Free Store and decided to support our mission this year. Both Escanaba and Green Bay set up donation boxes and ended up bringing in over 500 additional in-kind donations.

Thank you everyone for your generous donations, your time, (no easy task lugging, shelving, and counting donations) your monthly volunteering commitment and your willingness to be a positive in our community.

Please reach out to the office if you would like to volunteer at The Free Store. We would love to have your help!



Adopt-a-Plot

Reserve a Plot by: May 15th

Planting Timeline: May 24th-June 8th

Bethany needs your help beautifying our flowerbeds! Adopt a plot of soil (you can choose size) around our building. Buy your flowers in your favorite colors and varieties! Then you just need to plant. During planting days we will have basic gardening tools available for you to use. If you need help, just ask.

**You plant, we maintain!
But you'll want to check on your beds to see how beautifully everyone's flowers grow!**

**Reserve a plot by calling
the church office (906)786-6642.**

**Any questions please contact
Rodney Spence at (906)786-4268**



Calling High School Graduates!

Graduation Sunday: May 19th at 10 AM

Did you know Bethany has scholarships available! The Lippold Music and Neisius-Collins Scholarships are meant to help you!

Pick up an application from the church office and return it by May 15th!



SAVE THE DATE

**FOR THE BETHANY COLOR
YOUR FAITH 5K RUN/WALK**

JUNE 1ST (Sat) 9 AM



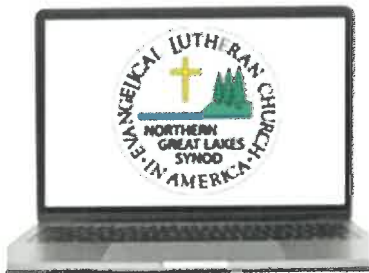
2024 NGLS Synod Synod Assembly

We are thrilled to have you join us for the hybrid 2024 NGLS Synod Assembly. As the synod gathers, we invite you to consider what seeds of faith you are planting. Whether you are working to pass on the faith to the next generation, or enjoying the fruit of seeds planted long ago, **we invite you to intentionally plant seeds for future faith, and future ministry.**

This year, on Saturday, May 18th, each conference will gather in a designated location. Please go to our website: <https://nglsynod.org/synod-assembly/> to register for your specific criteria.



Virtual Synod Assembly Workshops



Taking place May 11th – 17th, virtual Synod Assembly Workshops and Synod Wide Hikes are available to all!

How to Join a Workshop: on our website: [Nglsynod.org/synod-assembly/workshops/](https://nglsynod.org/synod-assembly/workshops/) Go to your selected workshop Click the “Join Zoom Meeting” button to directly access the link. We recommend accessing the link 5 to 10 minutes before the workshops start time.



Synod-Wild Conference Seed Sower Hike

Lead by U.P. Wild Church
May 11th-19th

A joint event between the Northern Great Lakes Synod and U.P. Wild happening in conjunction with Synod Assembly Workshops. Hikes will take place between May 11th – 19th. Visit the NGLS synod assembly website to find out how to participate.



Sowing Seeds Through Story

Lead by Nick Kiger and
Karen Kretschmann
Monday May 13 – 7PM ET

The ministry of our congregations, our synods and our churchwide organization is woven together through story. Our ministry stories convey messages about our faith, our relationships, our dreams and even our fears. During this workshop we will explore ways to share our stories that keep the transformative work of Jesus and our faith at the heart while engaging each other in something bigger than ourselves.



Land Acknowledgments: A Spiritual Practicality and Plan for Congregations

*Lead by Pastor Bucky Beach,
Pastor Julie Belew, and Nancy Heykes
Monday May 13 – 6:00 pm ET*

Join for a resource presentation and discussion of the why and how of doing land acknowledgments as a congregation practice as a beginning step to walk with our Indigenous neighbors. Led by Pastor Bucky Beach, Pastor Julie Belew, and Nancy Heykes, members of the NGLS Walking With Our Indigenous Neighbors Committee.



Stewardship - ECRF

*Lead by Pastor Mike
Markwell*

*Tuesday, May 14 at 2:00 pm ET
Wednesday, May 15 at 7:00 pm ET*



Faithful Innovations: What it is and how it can help your congregation in an adaptive, communal, learning process

Lead by Pastor Jim Duehring, Assistant to the Bishop and Director of Evangelical Mission

*Tuesday, May 14 at 7:00 pm ET
"Listen, Experiment, Reflect."*



It's all Greek to me!

*Lead by Pastor Nicole
Hanson-Lynn*

*Wednesday, May 15 at 7:30PM ET
Thursday, May 16 at 3:00PM ET*

What is up with all these translations of the Bible? Popular Bible website Bible Gateway gives free access to sixty-three different translations of the Bible in English, and that isn't even all of the English translations. The work of translators is still ongoing, and new translations of the Bible are published regularly. But why is all this work necessary? What is the point of all this translation work? Perhaps more poignantly, how do we engage with Scripture when the selection of different Bibles is overwhelming? In this workshop session, we'll take a glimpse from 10,000 feet to appreciate the difficult work our translators are doing for us and dive into the midst of what these different translations have to do with how we engage with scripture.



Northern Great Lakes Synod Budget

*Lead by Synod Treasurer Pastor Terry
Frankenstein
Thursday, May 16 at 7:00PM ET*



Discussion on Civic Life and Faith draft Social Statement

*Lead by Synod Vice
President Chuck Thomas
Friday, May 17 at 7:00PM ET*