



# The *Echo*

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

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**Volume 124**

**January, 2024**

**Number 1**

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## 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](http://www.facebook.com/belutheranescanaba)

## WEBSITE ADDRESS

[www.bethanyescanaba.com](http://www.bethanyescanaba.com)

## EMAIL ADDRESSES

Pastor.....[pastorlily.bethany@gmail.com](mailto:pastorlily.bethany@gmail.com)  
Adminstrator .. [bethanysecretary.escanaba@gmail.com](mailto:bethanysecretary.escanaba@gmail.com)  
Kyra. ....[bethanysocialmedia.escanaba@gmail.com](mailto:bethanysocialmedia.escanaba@gmail.com)

## 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

# January 2024



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Happy New Year! OFFICE CLOSED	2 Free Store 10am to 1pm	3 9am Quilting 12pm Free Store Meeting	4 9:30am Zumba Gold 10am Bible Study	5 10am Coffee Fellowship	6
7 10am Sunday Worship in person, Facebook live 11am coffee fellowship	8 6:30pm Church Council Meeting	9 9:30am Zumba Gold	10 9am Quilting	11 9:30am Zumba Gold 9:30am Bethany Belles 10am Bible Study	12 10am Coffee Fellowship	13
14 10am Sunday Worship in person, Facebook live With Lisa Bouche presiding	15	16 9:30am Zumba Gold  7pm Choral Society	17 9am Quilting	18 9:30am Zumba Gold 10am Bible Study	19 10am Coffee Fellowship	20
21 10am Sunday Worship in person, Facebook live With Rev. Dave Van Kley presiding	22	23 9:30am Zumba Gold	24 9am Quilting 5-7pm New Member Class (please RSVP)	25 9:30am Zumba Gold 10am Bible Study	26 10am Coffee Fellowship	27
28 10am Sunday Worship in person, Facebook live 11am Annual Meeting & lunch	29	30 9:30am Zumba Gold	31 9am Quilting			

# PASTORAL PONDERINGS WITH PASTOR LILY



New Year and Epiphany Blessings to you and your home!

The Christmas season lasts for a short twelve days. If we are being honest, by the time December 25th passes, most of us are a little tired and a little partied out. I hope the twelve days of Christmas for you, are restful, rejuvenating, and filled with the joy of small moments.

On January 6th, we shift from the season of Christmas to the season of Epiphany. For you etymology nerds, epiphany comes from a Greek work meaning 'manifestation'. The Christmas season ends by the church's celebration of the manifestation of God's love in Jesus Christ. Epiphany celebrates the revelation of Jesus as God's love letter to the world. We celebrate that this love is real and that it's tangible in our own lives.

How are you participating in this revelation? How are you manifesting God's love letter to you during this season? These kinds of questions shape our lives as disciples of Jesus. Our spiritual practices help in our formation.

Give these practices a try this Epiphany season!

- 1) Try filling in the blank every morning when you wake up or right before you go to bed:

"Because Jesus is [fill in the blank], I am [fill in the blank]."

"Because Jesus can [fill in the blank], I can [fill in the blank]."

- 2) Bless your home using the Epiphany blessing found in the January Echo!

Incorporating new spiritual practices and continuing old ones is a great way to celebrate the season of Epiphany and the beginning of the new year. These practices remind us of the tangible ways God shows us love through Jesus in our world. Our lives focus on the revelation of Jesus alive among us, bringing hope to our weary world.

Peace,

Pastor Lily

## An Epiphany Blessing for Your House

January 6<sup>th</sup> is Epiphany. In Eastern Europe a tradition of blessing your home began and has spread around the world. The Magi used the light of the star to find Jesus. Like this star we hope our own homes and lives reflect the hope of Jesus to all the world. All you need is a piece of chalk, your household, and the words in bold. Say these words gathered around the entrance to your home.



**Peace be to this house and to all who enter here.**

**A reading from Proverbs: "By wisdom a house is built, and through understanding it is established; through knowledge its rooms are filled with rare and beautiful treasures."**

**Let us pray. Gracious God, as a shining star once guided the magi to the birthplace of the infant Jesus, so enable those who dwell here to be your light in the world; through Jesus Christ we pray.**

Everyone says amen.

*Using chalk inscribe the frame above your front door with the inscription shown below. The letters C M B stand for Christus Mansionem Benedicat (it's okay if you can't pronounce this!) which means "May Christ bless this dwelling!" 2024 marks our current year!*

*Give each person a chance to make one of these marks!*

*20 + C + M + B + 24*

**A reading from Isaiah: "The effect of righteousness is peace, and the result of righteousness, quietness and trust forever. My people will abide in a peaceful habitation, in secure dwellings, and quiet places."**

**Let us pray. God, we pray that you will bless this home and all who live here with your gracious presence, that your love may be our inspiration, your wisdom our guide, your truth our light, and your peace our benediction; through Jesus Christ we pray.**

Everyone says amen.

**May the Lord watch + over our going out and our coming in, from this time forth and forevermore.**

Everyone says amen.

# HAPPY NEW YEAR! 2024 Radio & Floral Ministry Dates are available!

Please contact the office to reserve or  
mail you 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:** January- 21; Feb.-18,25; March-10,17,24; April-14,21; May- 5, 12,19,26; June-9,16,23,30; July-14,21,28; August- 4,11,18; September-1,15,22,29; October-13,20,27; November- 10,17,24; December-8,15,22,24,29



## 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):** January-21, 28; Feb.-18, 25; March-10,17,24; April- 14,21; May-5,12,19,26; June-9,16,23,30; July-14,21,28; August-4,11,18; September-1,15,22,29; October- 13,20,27; November-10,17,24; December- 8,15,22,29



## COFFEE FELLOWSHIP

Join us after worship on the **first** Sunday of every month for coffee and treats in the fellowship hall! Our next coffee fellowship date is **Sunday, February 4th**.

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!



## 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 is starting a Puzzle Exchange!  
The puzzles will be in the library at Bethany.  
Please bring in your used puzzles and take one  
for you to do. This is starting this month.*

*Wishing you God's peace and joy for The New Year.*

*Submitted by Judy Adamini*





## Bethany Lutheran Church Free Store News



December was another successful month for the Free Store. We welcomed our 104 shoppers with cookies and hot chocolate and sent them away with a gift from our Christmas tree shelf. This shelf consists of donations throughout the year of items that we don't normally carry. Lotions, body wash, clothing, and various Christmas décor just to name a few.

These 104 shoppers returned home with product to help 335 family members which includes 88 children and 37 babies. What a wonderful mission this is for our community.

Special shout out to those who came out to volunteer for the first time (YAY) and to those who continue to volunteer in whatever capacity they are needed. This wonderful mission works because of all of you. Happy New Year.





## 2024 LENTEN SOUP & SANDWICHES

Mark your calendars!

Wednesday, February 21<sup>st</sup> at 5:30  
PM will be our first soup and  
sandwich supper for the Lenten  
season.

Jacque Johnson and Maripatt Lindahl will be the coordinators. Once again, we will need soup, sandwiches, and dessert preparers. Various groups/committees will be serving and cleaning up, as they did last year. Watch your email at the end of the month for your group/committee's assigned week.

If you have any questions or want to sign up to make food, contact Jacque at 906-280-3464, Maripatt at 906-280-2843 or Kelly in the church office. Sign up sheets will be available in the Narthex by the end of January.

Thank you in advance for your participation!

# SAVE THE DATE



January 28th after worship  
*Annual Meeting*

Dear Bethany Lutheran Faith Community,

On behalf of the church council you are invited to our community's 2024 Annual Meeting. The annual meeting gives us the opportunity to celebrate a year of ministry and the ways God has been at work in us for the sake of the Gospel. The annual meeting is also time for all members to have a say in who we are and how we operate for the sake of the Gospel in our community. We take time to think about how we will do ministry in 2024.

- If you have had your most active year in the Bethany community and are coming to celebrate: you are most welcome.
- If you have been away for a little bit, you are most welcome back to see what we have been up to in the past year.
- If you are a new member, you are most welcome to come and see the many ways you can participate in life here at Bethany!

On Sunday, January 28<sup>th</sup>, I hope you join us for 10 AM worship and then head down to our fellowship hall for a meal courtesy of Wiles Catering and our fellowship fund. We have photos and videos of 2023 to share, and a plan for ministry in 2024 to approve.

Come and celebrate! There is a place for you here!

Peace,

*Lillian Brondyke*

Pastor, Bethany Lutheran Church

Escanaba  
Bethany Lutheran



# Lifelong Faith Formation 2024

## Winter Classes Begin in January and February

Visit [www.nglsynod.org](http://www.nglsynod.org) to register.



In its fourth year, Lifelong Faith Formation is one way for people of the Northern Great Lakes Synod, and beyond, to be church together. Join the conversation. Enjoy the fellowship and discover new ways to share the light of Christ with the world. All classes are held online via Zoom. "Stewardship of Animals" is also meeting in person. Contact Deacon Lori Ward if you have any questions at (615) 519 - 1969 or [lori.ward@nglsynod.org](mailto:lori.ward@nglsynod.org)

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### Open to Interpretation: Insights into Translating the Bible

**Instructor:** Pastor Nicole Hanson-Lynn, Zion and Salem, Ironwood

**Sundays, January 28-February 25; 6 – 7 p.m. Eastern Time, 5 – 6 p.m. Central Time**

Explore concepts of Biblical translation and interpretation, including Biblical Greek and Hebrew.

### The Way of the Dream: God's Forgotten Language

**Facilitators:** Pastor Jon Magnuson, Barb Ojibway, and Will Sharp,

**Tuesdays, January 16 – February 13; 9 – 10 a.m. Eastern Time; 8 – 9 a.m. Central Time**

Join the exploration of the role of dreams in scripture and the power of integrating dreams in one's personal life as a personal spiritual discipline; Offered in partnership with the Cedar Tree Institute.

### Native America and the Stewardship of the Land: Land Acknowledgements and Beyond

**Instructors:** Pastor Bucky Beach, Nancy Heykes, and Pastor Dave Van Kley

**Tuesdays, January 16 – February 6; 7 – 8 p.m. Eastern Time; 6 – 7 p.m. Central Time**

Providing a process for congregations to develop a land acknowledgement statement and to explore next steps to build supportive relationships with our indigenous neighbors.

### The Book of Proverbs Part One: Donning A Foreigner's Clothes,

**Instructor:** Pastor Tommy Richter, Zion, Manistique

**Wednesdays, January 17 – March 20, 7 – 8 p.m. Eastern Time; 6 – 7 p.m. Central Time**

Join the search for meaning and clarity in Proverb's ancient Hebrew wisdom.

### Stewards of Children

**Instructor:** Pastor Kari Vadis, Trinity, Rhinelander

**Thursday, February 29; Choice of a midday or early evening session.**

Empowering adults to prevent, recognize, and react responsibly to child sexual abuse through awareness, education, and stigma reduction.

### Stewardship Of Animals

**Instructor:** Cindy Sjoquist, First Lutheran Church, Gladstone, with guest speakers

**Thursdays, February 8, 15 and 22; 6:00 – 7:30 p.m. Eastern Time; 5:00 – 6:30 p.m. Central Time**

**Meeting in-person at First Lutheran Church, 1212 Minneapolis Ave., Gladstone, with online option.**

This class will touch on several religions and their beliefs and actions towards animals through history.