Bethany Lutheran Church, ELCA 202 South 11 th Street • Escanaba, Michigan 49829

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

Volume 124 March, 2024 Number 3

CHURCH STAFF

Pastor Lily Brondyke
Office Administrator Kelly Blake
Financial Secretary Carole Beck
Custodian
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
UsherRodney Spence

FACEBOOK PAGE

www.facebook.com/belutheranescanaba

WEBSITE ADDRESS

www.bethanyescanaba.com

EMAIL ADDRESSES

Pastor	pastorlily.bethany@gmail.com
	bethanysecretary.escanaba@gmail.com
Kyra	.bethanysocialmedia.escanaba@gmail.com

OFFICE HOURS

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

PHONE NUMBERS

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

March 202

31 10am Easter Sunday Worship in person, Facebook live	10am Palm Sunday Worship in person, Facebook live	24	10am Sunday 6:3 Worship in person, Co Facebook live 11:30am Communion class	10 10am Sunday Worship in person, Facebook live	3 5:3 Worship in person, Mu Facebook live 1 lam coffee fellowship	Stituay
		25	18 6:30pm Church Council	11	4 5:30pm Worship & Music	Monay
	l0am Bulletin Folding	26	19 Ipm Bethany Gems	12	5 9:30am Zumba 11am-1pm Free Store 4pm-6pm Free Store	Tuesday
	9am Quilting	27	9am Quilting 4:30pm Death & Dying class 5:30opm Lenten Soup 6:30 Midweek Service	9am Quilting 4:30pm Death & Dying class 5:30opm Lenten Soup 6:30 Midweek Service	9am Quilting 12pm Freestore meeting 4:30pm class at Anderson Funeral Home 5:30pm Lenten Soup 6:30 Midweek service	Wednesday
	10am Bible Study 6:30pm Maundy Thursday Worship 4-6pm Communion bread baking workshop	28	21 10am Bible Study	9:30am Bethany Belles 10am Bible Study	7 10am Bible Study	Inursaay
	12pm Good Friday Worship 6pm Ecumenical service at Immanuel	29	22 10am Coffee Fellowship	15 10am Coffee Fellowship	8 10am Coffee Fellowship	1 10am Coffee Fellowship
	4pm Holy Saturday Vigil	30	23	16	9	samraay 2

PASTORAL PONDERINGS WITH PASTOR LILY



Our Year Revolves Around Easter

Just the other day I took a walk in the park and signs of spring were emerging all around me. Buds poked out of tree branches, a robin sat on a telephone line, and after 25 minutes I needed to shrug my jacket off. The seasons have begun to shift a little early this year. (I apologize in advance if we get a freak snowstorm after this gets out to you---I have no meteorological skills.) Signs of new life emerging tease through the cold and ice of winter's rest.

One of the gifts of being in the Earth's Northern hemisphere is that our seasons accompany the year of the church well! In Advent our nights become longer as we await the light of the Christ in our world. In Lent, the landscape goes from the sparse and barren winter landscape to buds of springtime and our celebrations of Christ's new life on Easter. We approach Holy Week and Easter this year with signs of that new life already springing up around us!

As followers of Jesus our year revolves around Easter. We celebrate and remember that our sin is put to death on the cross, and with Jesus, we are raised to new life. We celebrate this year around. Every Sunday is like a mini-Easter! We gather around the baptismal font and remember that in those waters we are raised to new life! Hooray! Yes, we are a resurrection people who proclaim the hope of Jesus' resurrection to new life. But we can't get to the joy of Easter morning without first bearing witness to the cross of Good Friday.

There is no resurrection without the tomb. There is no tomb without the cross where Jesus goes to die. We cannot know the resurrection and hope of Easter without first knowing the finality and death of the cross.

We have a few weeks left in the Lenten season. There's plenty of time to join in the journey to the cross where God reveals just how far God will go so, we may know God's love. How far will God go so that on Easter morning we can proclaim hope and joy without fear?

If you have never attended services in Holy Week, hear my invitation to you now. There's nothing quite like it. It is the summary, the celebration, and the tradition of our faith. It causes children and adults to marvel and wonder about Jesus' love at work in our lives.

The world constantly reminds us of the cycle of death and resurrection. Holy Week and Easter remind us of God's love at work ushering in new life. Come and be a part of the greatest story ever told!

Peace,

Pastor Lily

Radio & Floral Ministry Dates that are available!

<u>Please contact the office to reserve, or</u> 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: March-17,24; April-14,21; May- 5, 12,19,26; June-9,16,30; July-14,21,28; August-4,11: September-1,15,22,29; October-13,20,27; November- 17; December-15,22,24,29

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): April-14,21; May-5,12,19,26: June-9,16,30; July-14,21,28; August-4,11; 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**, **April 7**th.

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 Lutheran Church Free Store News

Lent is a wonderful time to reflect on the needs of our community. The Free Store is hard at work collecting products and monetary donations to help those in need. A Bethany family has graciously stepped up again this year and are willing to match up to \$6000.00 of collected monetary donations. Please help us reach this goal by donating online, bringing your spare change in for our noisy donation, or by dropping a check or cash in our collection jar or the collection plate. Please note in the memo line or write on your envelope "Free Store" In addition to our fundraising efforts, Bellin Health RN Care Coordination Team has been holding a donation drive at their Green Bay and Escanaba locations. They collected February 1st-March 1st. We look forward to receiving their gifts mid March. Don't forget in-kind donations to bring to church.

March 3rd Toilet Bowl and Household Cleaners (Pine Sol, Mr. Clean, etc.)

March 10th Dish Soap. Original "Dawn" appreciated. All sizes

March 17th Liquid Hand Soap and Shampoo/Conditioner. "Suave" appreciated

March 24th Facial Tissue and Dental items

These are current suggestions. We welcome all donations, any time. Let me know if you would like a complete list of items we carry. Monday Messenger will be featuring our wonderful volunteers during Lent. If you would like to volunteer, please reach out to the office or any of our current volunteers. We would love to introduce you to this ministry.



BETHANY BELLES

Will be meeting on Thursday, March 14th at 9:30a.m. in our conference room.



2024 LENTEN SOUP & SANDWICHES

March 13th and 20th are our last two Wednesday's for Lenten soup and sandwiches. Please join us at 5:30pm in our fellowship hall! Then join us for worship at 6:30pm



Holy Week & Easter Worship Schedule

SUNDAY, MARCH 24th

10:00 AM - Palm Sunday Worship

THURSDAY, MARCH 28th

6:30 PM – Maundy Thursday Worship

FRIDAY, MARCH 29th

12:00 PM - Good Friday Worship 6:00 PM - Ecumenical Service at Immanuel

SATURDAY, MARCH 30th

4:00 PM - Holy Saturday Vigil

SUNDAY, MARCH 31st

10:00 AM - Easter Sunday Worship



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:

- Фара
- Shampoo & Conditioner
- botion
- 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.



Easter Memorials & Honorariums

Members and friends of Bethany wishing to remember loved ones or to

honor someone in the bulletin on Easter Sunday, may do so by using the designated envelope provided in your packet of envelopes. We appreciate receiving this information no later than **Monday, March 25**th.

Our Easter offering will go to ELCA World Hunger this year.



We will be serving college students on Monday, April 8th.

Please mark your calendars!

As always we will need hot dishes, salads, desserts, juice, and milk. It would be helpful if you put the type of hot dish or salad when you sign up so we don't wind up with too many of the same things. There are sign-up sheets in the Narthex and the circle drive entrance.

Food should be brought to the church by 4p.m. on April 8th or it can be dropped off at the college cafeteria by 5pm. If you have any questions, please contact the church office or call Jean Sovey, at 906–241–4323. Thank you!



During worship we will be welcoming those who have joined our church recently! We hope you will join us as we celebrate our new members!

Worship Helpers Needed



Ushers Assisting Ministers Readers

Beginning in April we will be 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.

If any of these important roles interest you, please reach out to our office and sign up for a service. We will be happy to answer any questions you have.

906-746-6642

Next month in our ECHO we will have a sign up sheet so you can see when we are in need. Thank you so much for volunteering!