

**BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA
333 EAST RIDGE STREET
ISHPEMING, MICHIGAN 49849
906-485-5533**



June Evangel

Financial Report

2024	ACTUAL	BUDGET	Deficit
YEAR-to-DATE	\$85,270	\$92,211	- \$6,941



<https://tinyurl.com/BethellshpGiving>

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If you prefer, mail your offerings to:
Bethel Lutheran Church
333 E Ridge St, Ishpeming, MI 49849



JUNE MEETING

Tuesday, June 11 – 6:30pm – Church Council
Thursday, June 13 – 6pm – Property Committee
Wednesday, June 26- 6pm – Outreach/Soc. Min. Committees

From the May Meeting:



- Approved Worship & Music Team's Recommendation to cancel Monday night worship at Bethel on the weekends of the "All Ishpeming ELCA" 5th Sunday service are held.
- Finance Cmte. and Council reviewed current financial reports. (See article in this Evangel). Discussion is occurring on how to best address this. Both committees will continue monitoring and keep the congregation abreast of the status.
- SEMCO rebate of \$1,875 was received after the installation of the new boilers.
- Approved confirmands, Nora Jo Anderson and Marshall Knapp.
- Working with WJPD/Radio Results Network on the significant issues we have had with connectivity for our radio broadcast and we apologize to our listeners. Keep tuning in; hopefully the issue will be resolved soon.

Accessible Worship

One of the most important changes made in the reformation was making worship accessible to everyone; putting worship in the language of the people and the invention of the printing press that put scripture into the hands of the people. Access to worship is vitally important, after all Liturgy is “the work of the people.”

Over the last couple of years, Bethel has worked to make our worship more accessible to everyone. We upgraded the sound system and wireless microphones so we have a clear, clean sound. Along with the sound system upgrade, we updated our connection to the radio station to an automated, digital signal so our radio listeners have the best possible experience. We are still working to get all the fine details tuned in. For those who still have difficulty hearing, we now have 6 Williams Sound hearing assist devices (with several styles of earphones) that are connected to the sound system. Connie makes several large print options of the bulletin available on the back table. Pastor Tim always has printed versions of his sermons. There’s even a magnifier available on the back table.

Several of our regular lectors have told us that they aren’t comfortable climbing the steps up into the pulpit any longer. We want everyone to be able to participate in worship in any way they would like. Since we have a beautiful, smaller lecture that is a memorial and survived the fire, we have opted to use that so our lectors can all feel comfortable and read during worship without worry of falling or climbing. The tradition of a large pulpit came about in the Middle Ages as a way to allow people to hear whomever was speaking. It was an adaptation for accessibility. You’ll note that if you see photos or visit these old churches, there’s often a wall behind the pulpit and a small overhang; this was to project the sound. With modern sound systems the large pulpit is no longer a necessity.

You may have noted that our bread for communion has changed. We have a number of parishioners who have gluten and wheat allergies. We want to give everyone who desires to commune the opportunity to receive Holy Communion, so we are using homemade gluten free communion bread. A special thank you to Kathy Balzarini who has been working with Pastor Tim to perfect the bread recipe. In the communion trays, you may have noted that in the center there is a ring of white grape juice for those who wish to commune without alcohol.

The choir pews have been swapped out for chairs to make our music area more flexible and accommodating for our bell choir or instrumentalists. It also creates more room for better wheelchair access on the far side in the front of the church.

These are just some of the ways we at Bethel are making worship accessible to everyone. If there are other ways that we can help make worship accessible, please let us know.

Bethel’s Worship & Music Team



1st Sunday/Monday Food Drive

Reminder to bring in non-perishable food to church on June 2 & 3. Please place the items in the grocery cart in the hallway.

The items are given to St. Vincent DePaul.

Pastor Tim will be away for vacation until June 3. If you are in need of immediate pastoral care during this time, please contact Pastor Steve Solberg (church office).



FORTUNE LAKE

A place of grace in Crystal Falls, MI

Congregational Day Visit ~ You have until June 6 to sign up for the Congregational Day at Fortune Lake on Thursday, June 27. Forms are available in the church office. Bethel's Fortune Lake Scholarship Fund is helping with this, so it is only \$10 per person.

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Coming up....

Light the Fire for Fortune Lake – May 31 (see article in this Evangel)

Senior Days – Sept. 11 and Nov. 18, 2024, and Jan. 13, March 10 and May 12, 2025 from 10am to 2pm (CT)

Wellness Retreat – September (12) 13-15

Fall Fest – October 5

Youth Retreat (grades 3-6) – October 11-12 (with adult education on October 12)

There is a bulletin board with posters and information (as it comes in) on these events – you can also go to fortunlake.org for information and registering. If you need help in registering, please see Pastor Tim.

Daily Devotions

	June 3-8	June 10-15	June 17-22	June 24-29
Mon	Psalm 78: 1-4, 52-72	Psalm 74	Psalm 52	Psalm 65
	Exodus 16:13-26	1 Samuel 16:14-23	Ezekiel 31:1-12	Exodus 7:14-24
	Romans 9:19-29	Revelation 20:1-6	Galatians 6:11-18	Acts 27:13-38
Tue	Psalm 78: 1-4, 52-72	Psalm 74	Psalm 52	Psalm 65
	Exodus 16:27-36	1 Kings 18:17-40	Jeremiah 21:11-14	Exodus 9:13-35
	Acts 15:1-5, 22-35	Revelation 20: 7-15	Revelation 21: 22-22:5	Acts 27:39-44
Wed	Psalm 78: 1-4, 52-72	Psalm 74	Psalm 52	Psalm 65
	1 Samuel 21:1-6	Isaiah 26:16 -27:1	Jeremiah 22:1-9	Joshua 10:1-14
	John 5:1-18	Luke 11:14-28	Luke 6:43-45	Mark 6:45-52
Thu	Psalm 130	Psalm 92: 1-4, 12-15	Psalm 107: 1-3, 23-32	Psalm 30
	Isaiah 28:9-13	Genesis 3:14-24	Job 29:1-20	Lamentations 1: 16-22
	1 Peter 4:7-19	Hebrews 2:5-9	Acts 20:1-16	2 Corinthians 7: 2-16
Fri	Psalm 130	Psalm 92: 1-4, 12-15	Psalm 107: 1-3, 23-32	Psalm 30
	Deuteronomy 1: 34-40	1 Kings 10: 26-11:8	Job 29:21-30:15	Lamentations 2: 1-12
	2 Corinthians 5: 1-5	Hebrews 11:4-7	Acts 21:1-16	2 Corinthians 8: 1-7
Sat	Psalm 130	Psalm 92: 1-4, 12-15	Psalm 107: 1-3, 23-32	Psalm 30
	Genesis 2:4b-14	2 Kings 14:1-14	Job 37:1-13	Lamentations 2: 18-22
	Luke 8:4-15	Mark 4:1-20	Luke 21:25-28	Luke 4:31-37

The Social Ministry and Outreach Committees will be handing out bottles of water to people during the 4th of July Parade in Ishpeming (which will take place on Saturday, June 29). They are asking for donations of water bottles – labels with “Bethel Lutheran Church” will be put on them by the committees prior to distributing them. They also need some wagons!



Please have your donations at the church by Monday, June 24.

2024-2025 Superior Conference Youth Schedule

Every gathering (usually on a 2nd Sunday of the month) will include: - An activity that gets kids (and present adults) to interact - Meal - Nametags

Date Notes/Details	Host/Organizer/Location
September 8, 2024 3-6pm- Kickoff party- swimming, sauna, yard games, s'mores	Bethel, Ishpeming- at Hart's camp
October 13, 2024 4-6pm- Pumpkin carving and board games	Immanuel, Negaunee
November 10, 2024 4-6pm- Thanksgiving, games, and service	Prince of Peace, Harvey
December 8, 2024 4-7pm- ELF movie & meal	Grace, Gwinn
January 12, 2025 4-6pm- Sledding!	Bethany, Ishpeming
Feb 14-16, 2025 - Youth Quake- Early bird registration due 11/21/24	Immanuel, Negaunee Wisconsin Dells, WI
March 9, 2025 4-6pm- St Patrick's Day Pre-Party	Prince of Peace, Harvey
April TBD Fortune Lake Spring Retreat 7-12 th grade Register on FLLC Website	
May 18, 2025 4-6pm- Bowling at River Rock Lanes	Bethel, Ishpeming
June 8, 2025 7pm- Tentative planning meeting for 2025-2026 events	Bethel, Ishpeming

*** Did you know writers from around our synod have produced daily devotions for over 20 years? You can find the most recent ones here: <https://nglsynod.org/prayfaithfully/>

Welcome Visitors!

Mike Mariuzza, Benjamin Reith, Jim Hayward,
Jana & Levi Nicholls, Susie & Joseph Belpedio,
Bill & Candy Johnson and Lily Peller-Bethany, Republic
Wendy Claus-St Paul's, Mass City, MI
Sharon & Rick Engstrom-Grace, Alpena, MI
Ron Kulju-Messiah, Albuquerque, NM

CHURCH ACT

Memorial Service – May 3, June Larsh (died April 28)

Memorial Fund



*In Memory of **June Larsh** from
John & Shirley Solomon and Joyce Larson*

*In Memory of **Marlene Mongiat** from
Diane L Poirier*

The chairs in the choir loft were purchased using
Memorial Fund monies.

AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM

Nora Jo Anderson and Marshall Thomas Knapp were confirmed
On Sunday, June 19. God's blessings to you both!

SERVING IN JUNE

Sunday Tellers: Laura Kantola, Julie Penrose & Dave Holli

Tuesday Tellers: June 4 – Stephanie & Julie

June 11 – Carol & Clare

June 18 – Carol & Clare

June 25 –

SUNDAY DRIVERS

June 2 – Earl Eliason

June 23 – Curtis Pauline

June 9 – Earl Eliason

June 30 – Duane Palomaki

June 16 – Bud Hart

A ride is available in Ishpeming & Negaunee for the 10:00am Sunday worship service. Call the office by noon on Fridays to sign-up.

Voicemails will not be heard until Monday morning.

9:00am Sunday Coffee in the Fellowship Hall

June 2 – Mary Rundman & Margo Rantanen

June 9 – Stephanie Nelson & Warren Heikkila

June 16 –

June 23 – Jennifer Juntunen

June 30 –



There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the fellowship hall.

Please consider volunteering to serve this summer.



Grass Cutting Schedule

June 2

John Solomon

June 9

John Wiitanen

June 16

Todd Penrose

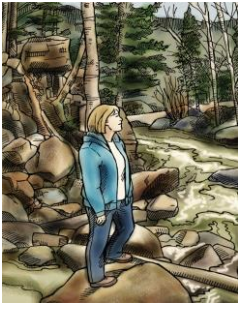
June 30

Gary Thibeault



- 1 Robert Abramson
- 2 Kathleen Chavez, Paul Pruet, Tony Pruet
- 3 Kayden Dymond, Elizabeth Knight, Pastor Maki,
Lori Moyle, Jeffrey Steede, Ryan Thorne
- 4 Connor Ball
- 5 Lori Boase, Jessica Gustitis, Einona Heikkila, Steve Nelson
- 6 Pamela Rose
- 7 Charlotte O'Brien
- 8 Paul Altobello, Bob Lake, John Ruona, Kay Tupala
- 9 Brian Elmquist
- 10 Tania Harsila
- 11 June Larsh
- 12 Dean Annala, Roxanne Koch, Rachel Niemi, Brian Talus
- 13 Harlynn Mitchell, Gary Mattson, Sharon Soave
- 14 Larry Borg, John Meier, Jerry Millimaki, Macey Nault, Brook Raisanen,
Celia Stankorb
- 15 Bryce Harsila, Elizabeth Juntti, Gail Parkinen, Cathy Vilona
- 16 Wayne LaMere, Tricia Mann, John O'Neill
- 17 Amanda Adriano, Isabelle Jarvi
- 18 Danielle Guidebeck, Austin LaCosse
- 20 Amanda Butler, Nancy Kamppinen
- 21 Debra LaMere
- 22 Susan Erickson
- 23 Corbin Choate, Jason Cittadino, Matthew Palomaki
- 24 Sharon Bocklund, Parker Brewer, Dan Etelamaki, Anders Johnston
- 25 Vickie Emanuelson, Piper Etelamaki, Christine Johnson, Ben Thorne
- 26 Jordan Hart
- 27 Tony Cittadino, Ava Cittadino, Joshua Garceau, Garrett Guidebeck,
Heather Hart, Debbie Horton, Lisa Mongiat, Linda Paull
- 28 Robyn Altobello, Bonnie Hermes, Steve Liubakka, Marilyn Mahoski,
Julie Stream
- 29 Jolene Garceau
- 30 Zachary Garceau, Warren Heikkila, Cory Mahoski

*** **Blessing of Graduates:** Join us in worship on Sunday/Monday, June 9/10 as we honor graduates from high school, college, and other programs. If you know of a member who is graduating from college or finishing a time of schooling, please have them contact the office (906-485-5533) so we can plan on honoring them.



Prayerful Hiking – hiking, meditative discussion, prayer and communion. Spread the word to those who are able to hike up a moderate incline. All are welcome. We will have our prayerful hike as we head to a destination where our formal time together will end with communion together. From the destination you are free to hike further on your own or as a group, or you can head back. If light rain, hike will go on. If heavy rain, hike will be canceled.

For 2024 an event will be offered on these dates:

- Sunday, June 9 – 1pm- hiking Hill Street, Ishpeming, to Angeline overlook. Park at the far end of Hill Street. Extended post event hike looping on Epic.
- Sunday, July 7 – 1pm- hiking to top of Sissy Pants overlook. Park at the HOB parking lot/RAMBA trailhead (corner of Malton Rd. and East Division). Extended post hike on Sissy Pants.
- Sunday, August 4 – 1pm- hiking to top of Wabash bluff. Park at the Brasswire Campground, northside parking lot (234 Malton Rd). Extended post event hike past the city water tower.

Questions: Contact Pastor Tim Johnston (tdjohnst@gmail.com)

The council presidents and vice presidents of each of the four ELCA churches continue to meet monthly to discuss potential future plans for the four congregations.

One initiative we are implementing is to worship together on a more frequent basis (other than Advent and Lenten seasons).

Starting on June 30, 2024 the four congregations have committed to worship together at one location during any month that has a fifth Sunday.

Here are the dates and locations for the upcoming year.

Sunday, June 30, 2024 @ 10.00 at the Mather Inn. Coffee and gathering to follow.

Sunday, September 29, 2024 @ 10.00 at Faith Lutheran Church. Potluck to follow.

Sunday, December 29, 2024 @ 10.00 at Trinity Lutheran. Potluck to follow.

Sunday, May 30, 2025 @ 10.00 at Bethel Lutheran Church. Potluck to follow.

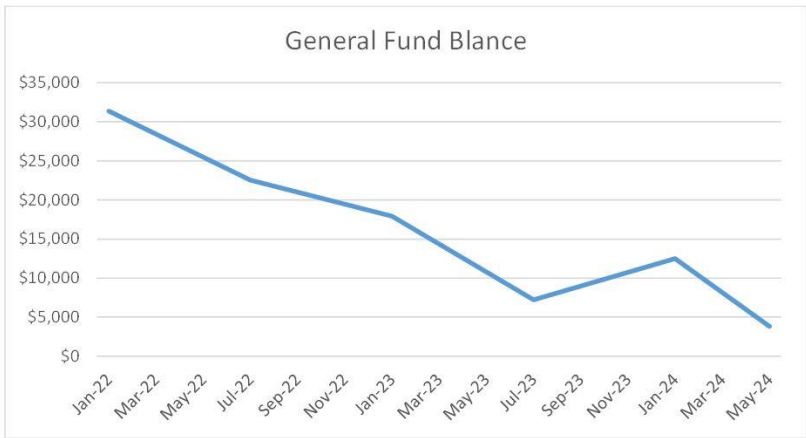
Sunday, June 29, 2025 @ 10.00 at Bethany Lutheran Church. Potluck to follow.

**On June 30 the service will be broadcast on radio GTO 97.5 FM
Please share with anyone who is a radio listener.**

We are encouraged by the discussion our leadership group is having. We will continue to share information with our congregations via our newsletters. Feel free to contact Kay Tupala or Julie Penrose with questions.

Bethel Members ~

The Finance Committee and Council are concerned about the church’s financial position as we head into the summer months. We ask that you consider increasing your giving to help us avoid what could be a financial crisis for Bethel. Our general fund has decreased to levels that cause us to be concerned about how we will pay the operating expenses of the church through the summer. The Finance Committee has reviewed the church’s operating expenses and sees few opportunities to cut what are mostly fixed expenses. It is imperative that we increase contributions and we ask for your prayerful consideration of assisting in any way.



Income and Expenses through 4/30/24

	Budget through 4/30/24	Actual through 4/30/24	Deficit
Income	\$76,102	\$72,610	(\$3,492)
Expenses	\$76,102	\$81,329	(\$5,226)
			(\$8,718)

Attached is a SONshine ‘envelope’ to help Bethel get through the summer months. You can mail it in, or make an online payment at <https://tinyurl.com/BethelGiving> or by using the QR Code.

Siblings in Christ, in 1997 the ELCA did some serious thinking about the practice of word and sacrament, which is what you have called me to lead you in as your pastor (in fancy words, a pastor is a minister of word and sacrament). In 1997, our ELCA came out with a document called The Use of the Means of Grace.

In that document, principle 9, we read: In fidelity to the readings appointed for the day, the preacher proclaims our need of God's grace and freely offers that grace, equipping the community for mission and service in daily life.

This principle tells us the core of preaching- helping us to see where our needs are and to know God's grace at work. In Lutheran language: law and gospel.

Principle 9 also states: While other persons may sometimes preach, the called pastor of a congregation has responsibility for this preaching.

I give you this background because as we welcome some lay people from Bethel to preach when I am away, I first want to assure you that those individuals are not alone. We have taken some time to talk about the core of preaching: our need and God's grace. And we will continue to meet to learn and grow together.

Some may say lay people are preaching when I am away in order to save some cost on having a substitute preacher, but it is much more than that.

Why lay preachers? First and foremost: THEY ARE A GIFT to you! You get to hear the voices of people who you have worshipped with, sometimes for decades or longer. Their testimony will enrich you as you hear stories that may have gone unspoken. It will be a voice that allows variety from my weekly voice as your pastor. Maybe you will even get to know the lay preacher better- and if you do, it will enrich and grow your fellowship and community. And, the struggle and challenge and study your lay preachers engage in will allow them to grow as people of faith. Bethel will truly be blessed by this venture.

Thank you in advance for supporting your lay preachers. As is always the case, as we move forward into a future that is always changing, I am happy to talk with any of you at any time about your feedback and thoughts. We are also working to empower teams to do ministry, so there will be times it is more appropriate for you to talk to them. Thank you for providing that feedback and thoughts to the appropriate people in ways that are constructive and caring, that our life together might be built up and strengthened.

Grace and peace to you,
Pastor Tim

Blood Drive Update

A sincere thank you to all those at Bethel who helped to make the May 20th blood drive another success! Twenty-seven folks from not only Bethel, but the surrounding community, took time out of their day to share the gift of life. Twenty-three pints of blood were collected, potentially saving sixty-nine lives! We live in a caring place!

Bethel's Social Ministry Committee

BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA, NGLS

333 East Ridge Street, Ishpeming, MI 49849 (906-485-5533)

E-mail Address: bethellutheran333@yahoo.com

Web Address: www.Bethelish.org / Facebook: Bethel Lutheran Church Ishpeming

Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 9 am – 1 pm

Staff

Pastor: Rev. Tim Johnston – 906-485-5533 tdjohnst@gmail.com
(emergencies- 563-581-0929)

Admin. Assist: Connie Kangas– 906-485-5533 bethellutheran333@yahoo.com

Organist/Choirs: Lucas Wickstrom

S.S. Director: Jennifer Juntunen

Treasurer: Karen Ostlund– 906-485-5533 betheltreasure@aol.com

Custodian: Tina Anderson– 906-485-5533

Env. # _____ \$ _____

Name _____

