

# MARCH 2025

## EVANGEL

Bethel Lutheran Church, ELCA, NGLS  
333 E. Ridge Street  
Ishpeming, Michigan 49849  
906-485-5533



# Financial Report

2025	Receipts	Budget	+ Or -
As of February 25	\$ 31,563	\$ 35,928	- \$4,365

<https://tinyurl.com/BethellshpGiving>



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

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## MARCH Meetings

Tuesday, March 11, 6pm – Church Council  
Thursday, March 13, 6pm – Property Committee  
Wednesday, March 19, 3pm – ‘Holy Envy’ book study

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### From the meeting on February 11:



### Council Highlights

- \* Welcomed new Council members - Bill Seppanen, Carol Watts, Jason Chapman, Kathy Smith
  - \* Participated in review of "Introduction to Council at Bethel" provided by Pastor Tim
  - \* Reviewed correct end-of-year balance sheet for Special Funds (follow-up from Annual meeting)
  - \* Reviewed and discussed the Ish ELCA schedule of services for the Lenten/Easter season
  - \* Approved the removal of 317 individual members from Bethel (inactive since prior to 2018). This was done in preparation to move to a new church management software product soon.
  - \* Discussed wedding and funeral fees, made changes to be in sync with other local churches.
  - \* Approved request for Narcotics Anonymous group to return to Bethel, using Pioneer Hall on Thursday evenings.
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*Adult Book Study – HOLY ENVY – Wednesday, March 19 at 3pm*



Tuesday, March 4 from 2:00 – 6:00 pm  
 Please call Laura Kantola or Linda Wommer for an appointment.

\*\*\* Walk-ins are also Welcome!

## YOUTH (and Adult) INFORMATION

### Preschool Blessing –

Calling all children younger than pre-school age! You are invited to worship on Sunday/Monday, March 16/17! We will have a time of fun singing and give you a book! This is just one way your congregation supports you on your baptismal faith journey.

If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Tim.

### Confirmation Class –

Saturday, March 8, 9am-Noon – Messiah, Marquette  
 The carpool from Bethel leaves promptly at 8:15am.



### 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday/Monday Food Drive

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

The items are given to St. Vincent DePaul.

\*\*\*Food items can be brought in at any time; this is just a 'designated' day.

### Kitchen Shower

Monday, March 17, at 10am

All are invited to a brunch 'kitchen shower'.

Donations of the following (at any time) are needed to help supply the

- |                              |                          |             |
|------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------|
| Coffee filters (to fit Bunn) | Mr. Clean (all-purpose)  | Tissue      |
| Reg. & Decaf. Coffee         | Glass Cleaner            | Rags        |
| Powdered Creamer             | Toilet Paper             | Paper Towel |
| 13 & 30 gal. garbage bags    | Dusting Spray            |             |
| Toilet Bowl Cleaner          | Hand Soap/Refill bottles |             |

# LENTEN WORSHIP SCHEDULE

**Ash Wednesday-** March 5

12:00pm (noon) at Faith Lutheran Church

6:30pm at Trinity Lutheran Church

**Lenten Midweek Services-** Wednesday, March 12, 19, 26, April 2, 9

5:30pm Soup Supper followed by Holden Evening Prayer

at 6:30 here at Bethel Lutheran Church

**Fifth Sunday Combined Worship-** Sunday, March 30

10:00am at Bethel (no service on Monday, March 31)

**Maundy Thursday-** April 17

6:30pm at Bethany Lutheran Church

**Good Friday-** April 18 - Cantata

6:30pm; location to be determined

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## LENTEN SOUP SUPPER SCHEDULE



March 12- Faith & Trinity

April 2- Bethel and Faith

March 19- Bethel

April 9- Bethany & Trinity

March 26- Bethany

Each supper will need 14 pots of soup, 5 loaves of bread, 2 boxes of crackers, 2 tubs of butter and 1 gallon of milk. Bethel will provide water and coffee. Sign-up sheets are at the back of the sanctuary on the bulletin board.

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**\*\*\*\*\* 4-ISH Choir Rehearsal \*\*\*\*\***

The combined voices of the ELCA churches in Ishpeming will rehearse for the Ash Wednesday services on February 26 at 6:30 pm. Bethany Lutheran Church will host this rehearsal.

Rehearsals for the Good Friday Cantata will take place at 7:15pm (following mid-week Lenten services) at Bethel Lutheran Church (March 12, 19, 26, April 2, 9). All singers in the Ishpeming area, regardless of church affiliation, are invited to participate in this community offering.

There will be a dress rehearsal at a time convenient for all.



If you or a loved one are or will be hospitalized, and you would like a visit, notify Pastor Tim (563-581-0929) or the church office. Privacy laws restrict hospitals from disclosing information about patients.

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**Women's 2025 Fall Retreat – SAVE THE DATE!**  
Sunday, September 7 – Tuesday, September 9  
Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp, Crystal Falls

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**Looking ahead...**

Thursday, May 15 –at Bethel  
Drop in anytime between 5:30 and 6:45pm for a pasta dinner fundraiser to support NGLS Youth traveling this summer to North Carolina for a week of hurricane relief work and a day of fun at LutherRock ELCA Bible Camp.

Cost is \$15 for dinner, salad, garlic bread, dessert.

Thank you for your generous support! Stay after dinner for a powerful synod assembly opening worship (starts at 7pm)!



**Thrivent Choice Dollars –**

If you are a member of Thrivent Financial, you may be eligible to direct monies to Bethel. Go to [thrivent.com/choice](http://thrivent.com/choice), or call 1-800-847-4836.

You must direct your Choice Dollars in March!

This does NOT affect your personal investments with Thrivent.

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**Welcome Visitors!**

Dan Doney, Joseph Belpedio, Matt Barron,  
Anna Solberg & Patrick Houlahan

Often, when natural disasters strike or when war drives families from their homes, our hearts ache with compassion, but we don't know how to help. Making Lutheran World Relief Kits is a simple, fun and tangible way to offer comfort to those suffering and express love to our neighbors in need.



LWR Kits are specifically designed to help people coping with poverty, disaster, conflict and more. Whether a kit helps someone to maintain good hygiene, care well for a newborn baby, keep education going during a crisis or learn a new vocation, LWR Kits provide dignity and hope in the direst situations.

You do not have to purchase all of the items to complete a kit – they will be put together in the fall and prepared for shipping. Place items in the plastic bin in the hallway marked LWR Kits.

### **BABY CARE KITS:**

- 2 lightweight cotton t-shirts
- 2 pairs of socks
- 4 cloth diapers, flat fold preferred
- 1 hand towel, dark color recommended
- 2 receiving blankets, medium-weight cotton or flannel, or crocheted or knitted with lightweight yarn, up to 52" square
- 1 jacket, sweater or sweatshirt with a hood, *or include a baby cap*
- 2 bath-size bars (4 to 5 oz.) of gentle soap, in original wrapping
- 2 long or short-sleeved gowns or sleepers (without feet)
- 2 diaper pins or large safety pins

Gently used, clean items (no stains or tears)  
can be substituted for new.

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## **5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Worship**

Sunday, March 30 at Bethel Lutheran Church – 10:00am

There will be a potluck fellowship provided by the 4-Ish ELCA churches after worship (approximately 11:15). Hot dishes can be brought to the kitchen prior to services to place in the oven or plug in. Cold dishes can be kept cold in the refrigerators.

Requests for items (alphabetized by last name):

A-G	Hot Dish	M-R	Salty Salad
H-L	Sweet Salad	S-Z	Dessert

The service will be broadcast on 92.3FM



Tonya Perry and Pastor J are excited to offer a Spiritual Practice for our Lenten experience. Often times, we are encouraged to give something up for Lent in order to make room for prayer or

meditation. This year, we're looking at adding a spiritual practice, around the Psalms, for our journey to the cross and Easter. We'll explore the Psalms through many different lenses and voices with the aim of writing a collection of our own!

Help us create the space for our creativity and listening with God, by bringing an item or object from home that holds a place of prominence in your life.

Begins on Saturday, March 8, 1pm, at Bethany. A soup lunch will be served after the first gathering.

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\*\*\* Prayerful Yoga- We are embodied people. Our bodies affect how we feel, how we connect with the world and God. Join us as we combine yoga, meditation, and prayer to bring peace and wholeness into our lives.

The first experiment will gather on Sunday, March 16 at 2pm at Bethel. If you have a yoga mat/block/strap please bring, otherwise we will have extras provided. Pam Roose will be our yoga instructor. Her leadership is provided due to a Thrivent grant and we will collect a free will offering to help provide for the space.

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#### MAGIC BOOK COMMUNITY STUDY:

*On Tyranny* - Twenty Lessons from the Twentieth Century  
by Timothy Snyder

Begins on March 6, and every following Thursday, at 7pm

Online and in the Social Room at Bethany, Ishpeming

There is more information on the posters.

Contact Pastor J at Bethany Lutheran Church, Ishpeming

# FORTUNE LAKE LUTHERAN CAMP

## **Sacred Waters Youth Retreat-**

All current 3-6 graders and their parents/adult leaders are invited to camp for our Sacred Waters Youth Retreat. This one-night retreat includes camp favorites like songs and games, campfire, worship, Bible Studies, and more! Our theme, Sacred Waters, centers around Holy Baptism. Our hope is that all participants, regardless of prior knowledge, come away with a better understanding of this radical promise. There will be a session for adults in attendance on Saturday morning. This retreat is the perfect opportunity to get a taste of camp in a shortened time period.

## **In The Body Jr/Sr High Retreat-**

Fortune Lake is thrilled to welcome Rachel Kurtz to camp for the In The Body Jr/Sr High Retreat! Open to all current 7-12 graders and their parents/adult leaders and will take place at Fortune Lake April 11-12. Rachel will lead Bible Studies for the youth as well as provide an adult training session on Saturday morning. Our theme, In The Body, will speak to being present in our own bodies as well as how we show up within the Body of Christ. The weekend will conclude with a concert open to the public on April 12th. We hope to see you there!

Rachel Kurtz – Free Concert!

April 12, at 3:30pm (CT) in the Chapel at Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp  
Open to All!

If you become homebound, or are unable to attend worship because of some difficulty, please call the church office so that you can be added to the pastor's visitation schedule.





# Serving Us in March

Sunday Tellers: Carol Watts and Julie Penrose

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## SUNDAY DRIVERS

March 2 – Curtis Pauline	March 23 – Bud Hart
March 9 – Duane Palomaki	March 30 – Curtis Pauline (4-Ish Worship)
March 16 – Earl Eliason	

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

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### 9:00am Sunday Coffee- Fellowship Hall

March 2 - Julie Stream, Katie Barron, Sarah Stanek	
March 9 - Lisa & Dan Swiedals	
March 16 - Ruth Thibeault & Denise Perry	
March 23 - Need Servers	
March 30 - No coffee - there is a potluck after 5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday Worship	

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## MEMORIALS

In Memory of **Ruth Doney** from Lloyd & Gail Hooper, Connie & David Kangas, Jean & Eugene Bilkey, Scott & Denise Perry, Dave & Linda Denofre and June Peterson, Kathy Balzarini, and Diane L. Poirier

In Memory of **Steven Bilkey** from Scott & Denise Perry, Adams nieces and nephews

In Memory **John & Lorraine Adams** from Paula Adams

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## DEATH

February 10 – Ruth Agnes Doney; service held February 22.  
February 21 – Patricia Ann Holli; service held February 28.

- 2 Lisa Swiedals  
3 Ellen Balzarini, Deanna Nurmela  
5 Judy Fountain  
7 David Holli  
9 James Nankervis  
11 Jarod Anttila, Lauren Carlson, Keith Doney, Shannon Junak  
12 Matt Duhome, Ann Kulju, Steve Laitinen, Bradley G. Nelson  
15 Kristen Mariuzza, Marilyn Phare  
16 Adam Christian, Lisa Hillman, Janet Poggione  
20 Andrew Poirier  
21 Sandra (Rajala) Cittadino, Eric Lovern, Jennie Scott  
22 Stephen Kulju  
23 Marilyn Matson  
24 Linda Legacy, Cristy Williams  
25 Beau Mattson, Daniel Perry  
26 Anita Mattson, Barbara Pennala, Olivia Roberts  
27 Pam Bessolo  
28 Avery Mariuzza, Luke Mariuzza, Josh Penrose  
29 Diane Goethe, David Uitto  
30 Collins Flanigan  
31 Bill Phillips



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**St. Urho's and St. Patrick's Day Cookie Decorating Event**

Faith Lutheran Church, 180 Co Rd PPO, Ishpeming

March 2 at 1:00pm

First 3 Cookies FREE – add'l cookies are \$1 each

Children under 10 must bring an adult.

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**St. Patrick's Day Youth Event**

A Pre-St. Patrick's Day party will be held for Grades 6-12  
on Sunday, March 9 from 4-6pm at Prince of Peace in Harvey.

Pastor Tim will be away for Vacation March 22-29.  
If you are in need of immediate pastoral care during this time,  
please contact  
Pastor Steve Solberg or the church office.

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BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA, NGLS

E-mail Address: [bethellutheran333@yahoo.com](mailto:bethellutheran333@yahoo.com)

Web Address: [www.Bethelish.org](http://www.Bethelish.org) / Facebook: Bethel Lutheran Church Ishpeming

### **Council Members**

President: Kay Tupala  
Vice Pres: Jason Chapman  
Secretary: Julie Penrose

Earl Eliason  
Bill Seppanen

Anne Giroux  
Carol Watts

Laura Kantola  
Kathy Smith

### **Staff**

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

Admin. Assist: Connie Kangas– 906-485-5533 [bethellutheran333@yahoo.com](mailto:bethellutheran333@yahoo.com)

Organist/Choirs: Lucas Wickstrom

S.S. Director: Jennifer Juntunen

Treasurer: Karen Ostlund

Custodian: Tina Anderson

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### **All Creation Sings hymnal**

We need to fill our pews with more of these hymnals, and are giving the congregation the opportunity to donate one either “In Memory” or “In Honor” of a loved one. There will be a label inserted into the front cover of the hymnals that are donated. The cost of the hymnal is \$20.00.

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Daylight Saving Time – Sunday, March 9  
Set your Clocks Ahead!