

APRIL 2025

EVANGEL

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



April

Financial Report

2025	Receipts	Budget	+ or -
As of March 17	\$ 46,020	\$ 49,401	- \$3,381

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



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, or call 1-800-847-4836.

You must direct your Choice Dollars in March!

This does NOT affect your personal investments with Thrivent.

APRIL Meetings

Monday, April 7, 6:45pm – Resonant Innovation Team

Tuesday, April 8, 6pm – Church Council

Wednesday, April 9, 3:45pm – ‘Holy Envy’ book study

From the meeting on March 11:



Council Highlights

- * Approved purchase of Bunn coffee maker with funds to come from Memorial Fund.
- * Approved payment of new church program (ICONS) with funds from Memorial Fund.
- * Approved new Property Use Policy/Fees and Incident Report.
- * Approved use of church Pioneer Hall for a women’s support group.
- * Approved using general church members as volunteers to count the offerings on Sunday (council is down to 9 members).
- * Request for interest/dividend money for Bethel youth from the Community Foundation of Marquette County to be sent and deposited in the Bethel Youth Fund.

New Administrative Assistant

Greetings! My name is Heather Swanson and I am excited to serve as administrative assistant starting in April. I taught Middle School history, humanities, and technology for 25 years at Ishpeming Middle School and retired in October of 2023. My husband and I have three grown children that we love to spend time with. I enjoy my summers at the DRB and going for long walks with my Irishdoodle.

Looking forward to meeting everyone at Bethel soon.

I want to thank everyone at Bethel for their support and friendship during the time I have been the Administrative Assistant. It has been a joy to be here; meeting new people, serving where I can, and building relationships with so many of you! I started working here in August 2011, and I can't believe it has been that long!

*Love you all,
Connie*



1st Sunday/Monday Food Drive

Reminder to bring in non-perishable food to church on April 6 & 7. 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.

LENTEN WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Lenten Midweek Services- Wednesday, April 2 and 9.
5:30pm Soup Supper followed by Holden Evening Prayer
at 6:30pm at Bethel Lutheran Church

Fifth Sunday Combined Worship- Sunday, March 30
10:00am at Bethel (no service on Monday, March 31)
Potluck luncheon will follow at 11:15

Maundy Thursday- April 17
6:30pm at Bethany Lutheran Church

Good Friday- April 18 - Cantata
6:30pm; location to be determined



LENTEN SOUP SUPPER SCHEDULE

April 2- Bethel and Faith

April 9- Bethany & Trinity

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.

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

Rehearsals for the Good Friday Cantata will take place at 7:15pm (following mid-week Lenten services) at Bethel Lutheran Church (April 2 and 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.

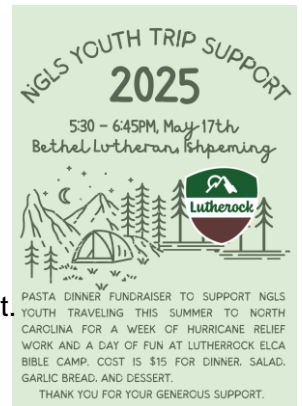
looking ahead...

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)!



Welcome Visitors!

Matt Barron, James Flanigan, Marilyn Meyer,
Barbara Johnson- Republic, and Susan Sutherland- Florida

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.



**LUTHERAN
WORLD RELIEF**

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.

PERSONAL CARE KITS:

- 1 Lightweight Bath Towel (between 20x40" and 27x52"), dark color recommended
- 2-3 Bath Bar Soap (in original wrapping)
- 1 Adult Toothbrush (in original wrapping)
- 1 Sturdy Comb
- 1 Metal Nail Clippers (attached file optional)

5th 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

Bethel's recently held blood drive on March 4th was, once again, a huge success thanks to those who volunteered to make it happen. Thirty-three folks carved out time to stop by and donate, resulting in twenty-nine pines collected. What a wonderful gift to the potentially eighty-seven lives that were saved!

Thank you one and all!

*** Prayerful Yoga- The next experiment will gather on Sunday, April 6 at 2pm at Bethel. 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. If you have a yoga mat/block/strap please bring, otherwise we have extras provided. An option to do yoga in a chair will also be offered. 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.

All Creation Sings hymnal

You have until March 30 to donate an All Creation Sings hymnal "In Memory" or "In Honor" of a loved one.

The cost of the hymnal is \$20.00.

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- 7-12 Grade/parents/adult leaders

Fortune Lake is thrilled to welcome Rachel Kurtz to camp for the In The Body Jr/Sr High Retreat on 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!

Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp Annual Meeting

The meeting will take place on Sunday, April 27 at 3pm (ET).
Bethel's delegates are Jennifer Juntunen and Carol Watts.
Please pray for our delegates as they travel and attend.

Serving Us in April

Sunday Tellers: Kathy Smith and Laura Kantola

SUNDAY DRIVERS

April 6 – Duane Palomaki April 20 – Bud Hart (Easter)
April 13 – Earl Eliason April 27 – Curtis Pauline

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

9:00am Sunday Coffee- Fellowship Hall

April 6 - Julie Luehmann & Marilyn Hart
April 13 - Connie Kangas, Nicole O'Brien, Carol Brown
April 20 - Bill Seppanen & Carol Watts
April 27 - Loretta Niemi & Linda Wommer



MEMORIALS

In Memory of **Ruth Doney** from:

Adams nieces and nephews (correction)	
Julie & Paul Luehmann	Debbie Willey
Reynold & Ann Kulju	Sam & Marilyn Savolainen
Esa (Ann Morin) Rantanen	Megan & Joshua Richards
Becky & Brian Kestila	Mike & Wendy Morton
Ed & Sue Anderson	Mary Johnson
Carolyn Giguere	Steven & Lori Boase
Family & Friends	
* for the Quilters from Karen Marietti	

In Memory of **Patt Holli** from

Steve & Denise Perry	Al & Kathy Balzarini
Neil & Mary Rundman	Joyce & Jim Anderson
Diane L Poirier	Anne & Jeff Giroux
Lee & Gail Mattson	Michael & Linda Legacy
* for the Quilters from Ed & Lou Ouellette	
* for the Endowment Fund from Mary & Bud Poirier	

In Memory of **Edith and Edwin Savala** from Susan Sutherland (their daughter)

- 1 Kelly Miller, Taryn Moyle, Sharon Mutka
- 2 Lacy Miller, Amy Uuro,
Beatrice Williams
- 3 Lacey LaCosse
- 4 Crystal Vanslambrouk
- 5 Eileen Brooks-Laitinen
- 6 Jessica Thibeault
- 7 Chelsey Laitinen
- 8 Lacy Johnson, Claude Kautz
- 10 Judith Mattson, Anita Sandberg
- 11 Jacqueline Hewitt
- 12 Tami Ketchem, Derek Mahoski
- 13 Kathryn Kulju
- 14 Isabella Martell, Ed Ouellette
- 15 Krystal Foreman, Michael Nelson, Amber Rautio,
Ashley Talus
- 16 James Davey, Betty Heikkinen, Sam Hillman, Morgan Oja,
Vicki Ostlund, Hunter Perry
- 18 Jacob Adriano, Judith Niemi
- 19 Adalyn Etelamaki
- 20 Aida Townsend, Blake Verellen
- 21 Jacqueline Choate, Ryan Paull, Jaks Williams
- 23 Tina Brewer, Lois Talus
- 24 Eden Ball, Robert Emanuelson, Christopher Magnuson
- 25 Kirra Peterson, Kristine Poirier
- 27 Leah Miller, Denise V. Perry, Margo Rantanen,
- 28 Devin Rice
- 30 Anna-Liisa Kautz, Cece Korpi, Lana Maki, David Rodda



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.





Holy Humor Sunday/Monday April 27/28

Many churches are resurrecting an old Easter custom begun by early Greek Christians- 'bright Sunday' or 'Holy Humor Sunday' celebrations on the Sunday after Easter. One thought about the origin of this tradition was the musings early church theologians had about God playing a practical joke on the devil by raising Jesus from the dead. For centuries, the week following Easter Sunday was observed by the faithful as 'days of joy and laughter' with parties and picnics to celebrate Jesus' resurrection.

One April 27/28, bring a clean joke to share during the beginning or sending announcements and a mid-service 'humor break.' Children can also bring jokes to share during the children's sermon.

Pastor Tim is on vacation until March 29, and from April 29-May 5. If you are in need of immediate pastoral care during this time, please contact Pastor Steve Solberg.

SYNOD ASSEMBLY CHOIR

Come sing with the Synod Assembly choir and help lead the Synod Assembly opening worship at Bethel Lutheran Church, Ishpeming, in sung prayer and praise. There will be two rehearsals. We encourage you to attend at least one rehearsal prior to the assembly worship.

Tonya Perry and Lucas Wickstrom are directing this year.

All are welcome!

Rehearsals:

May 2, 5:30pm at Messiah Lutheran Church, Marquette

May 24, 6:30pm at Bethany Lutheran Church, Ishpeming



*“In God’s economy,
there is always enough.”*

2010 US 41 S
Marquette, MI 49855

Dear Bethel Members,

The Free Store (TFS) is an interfaith, non-profit organization supporting people in Marquette County who express a need for free clothing, housewares, personal hygiene items and household cleaning supplies. TFS now has over 1,800 registered participants, representing more than 4,000 family members. Many of our shoppers come to us from the Ishpeming area.

TFS is asking area churches and non-profit organizations to help us with our community service mission by donating **new personal hygiene or household cleaning supplies**. Often grant funds help us with the purchase of these supplies; however, the increasing number of registered families often deplete the items we have on hand.

We need your help to sustain our mission. We have a collection bin located in Bethel’s upper hallway with suggested donations by month. We are, however, happy to receive any of the needed items at any time, regardless of the items suggested for a particular month. These items will be available free of charge to our “shoppers” on alternate months.

I will transport any donations received at Bethel to The Free Store on an ongoing basis. Thank you for considering participation in this mission to serve families in need in our community.

Ronalyn Arseneau
The Free Store Volunteer

Daily Devotions

	Mar 31-Apr 5	Apr 7-12	Apr 14-19	Apr 21-26	Apr 28-May 3
Mon	Psalm 53	Psalm 20	Psalm 36:5-11	Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24	Psalm 122
	Lev 23:25-41	Exodus 40:1-15	Isaiah 42:1-9	Josh 10:16-27	Esther 7:1-10
	Rev 19:1-8	Heb 10:19-25	John 12:1-11	1 Corin 5:6b-8	Rev 1:9-20
Tue	Psalm 53	Psalm 20	Psalm 71:1-14	Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24	Psalm 122
	Lev 25:1-19	Judges 9:7-15	Isaiah 49:1-7	Judg 4:17-23; 5:24-31a	Esther 8:1-17
	Rev 19:9-10	1 John 2:18-28	John 12:20-36	Rev 12:1-12	Rev 2:8-11
Wed	Psalm 53	Psalm 20	Psalm 70	Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24	Psalm 122
	2 Kings 4:1-7	Habak 3:2-15	Isaiah 50:4-9a	2 Sam 6:1-15	Esther 9:1-5, 18-23
	Luke 9:10-17	Luke 18:31-34	John 13:21-32	Luke 24:1-12	Luke 12:4_12
Thu	Psalm 126	Psalm 31:9-16	Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19	Psalm 150	Psalm 30
	Isaiah 43:1-7	Isaiah 53:10-12	Exod 12:1-14	1 Sam 17:1-23	Isaiah 5:11-17
	Philip 2:19-24	Hebrews 2:1-9	John 13:1-17, 31b-35	Acts 5:12-16	Rev 3:14-22
Fri	Psalm 126	Psalm 31:9-16	Psalm 22	Psalm 150	Psalm 30
	Isaiah 43:8-15	Isaiah 54:9-10	Isaiah 52:13-53:12	1 Sam 17:19-32	Isaiah 6:1-4
	Philip 2:25-3:1	Hebr 2:10-18	John 18:1-19:42	Acts 5:17-26	Rev 4:1-11
Sat	Psalm 126	Psalm 31:9-16		Psalm 57	Psalm 30
	Exod 12:21-27	Levit 23:1-8		Isaiah 52:7-10	Genesis 18:1-8
	John 11:45-57	Luke 22:1-13		Mark 1:1-15	Luke 14:12-14

BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA, NGLS

E-mail Address: bethellutheran333@yahoo.com

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

Office Hours: Tue – Fri, 9am – 1pm

Council Members

President: Kay Tupala Vice Pres: Jason Chapman
Secretary: Julie Penrose Council Treas: Anne Giroux

Earl Eliason Laura Kantola Kathy Smith
Bill Seppanen Carol Watts

Staff

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tdjohnst@gmail.com

Admin. Assist: Heather Swanson– 906-485-5533

bethellutheran333@yahoo.com

Treasurer: Karen Ostlund– 906-485-5533

betheltreasure@aol.com

Organist/Choirs: Lucas Wickstrom

S.S. Director: Jennifer Juntunen

Custodian: Tina Anderson