

am writing this as I watch the ice storm continue to make life difficult on this Ash Wednesday. Today is the second time this year that I have had to make the difficult decision to close Bethania for services. Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of our Lenten journey when we remember Jesus' ministry, his ability to heal and care for humanity, and at the same time, his passion, death, and overall, his glorious resurrection. Ash Wednesday is such a powerful experience because we experience it physically with receiving the cross on our foreheads. Missing out on the services today is not that foreign of a feeling after not being able to attend Ash Wednesday services during 2021 due to COVID.

Struggling with not being able to hold services kind of fits with a Lenten experience. It fits with the feeling of giving something up or sacrificing that we often associate with Lent. With repentance being at the core of Christian living (the first of Luther's 95 Theses "When our Lord and Master Jesus Christ said, 'Repent,' he willed the entire life of believers to be one of repentance."), we all become penitent during the season of Lent, looking forward to seeing the cross as a sign of

God's reconciliation with all creation.

Our Lenten journey will continue with a series of evening services with messages that build on each other. We will hold the services in the Hearth Room keeping them as small and intimate services that are intended to be a shared personal experience among those that attend. I look forward to seen my church family of Bethania throughout the Lenten season.

While dwelling on Ash Wednesday and the message of mortality that it brings, I am reminded of recent developments concerning the Boy Scout Troop at Bethania. It was an emotional and difficult decision for the leadership of Troop 242. That decision I discuss was whether the Troop should continue. COVID was not kind to the Troop. It did not lose any members directly from COVID. In fact it fought COVID bravely holding a summer camp on the church grounds during 2020 when it's chosen Boy Scout Camp had closed due to COVID. What COVID did to Troop 242 was totally disrupt the Cub Scout Packs in Racine. Not being able to meet due to COVID nearly ended all Cub Scout activities and prevented individual Cub Scouts from getting to the point of bridging over to Boy Scouts. Without a source of new members, Troop 242 shrunk to only four boys for most of this

last year. Activities critical for Boy Scouting to develop leadership, such as camp outs, holding leadership positions, working on projects, and others were not working as intended or not happening at all with such a small number of Scouts. At the end of January, the Troop was informed that it would not be rechartering to continue in 2023. The Scouts were introduced to a neighboring troop hoping that each Scout will find a new home and continue on in the good work that Scouting accomplishes.

For Bethania, this means one less activity within the church and the working out of what to do with the Scout equipment that reverts to Bethania as the charter

organization. In the coming days, you may see a second trailer parked in the parking lot. Some equipment is being stored in a classroom in the basement. And in the Danish Room, I have placed the Troop flag, a troop statue, a troop standard with many ribbons attached, and another Troop standard that names all the Eagle Scouts that Troop 242 produced. Troop 242 had a good 30+ year relationship with Bethania. Signs of their successes being placed in the same room with other items of Bethania's rich history seemed like the right thing to do.

Your obedient servant in Christ.

Jeff Alderson



HIGHLIGHTS OF THE FEBRUARY 26, 2023 CONGREGATIONAL MFFTING

- ★ We had a quorum of 28 voting members. More joined after the meeting was called to order. Making the total 35.
- **★** Jeff opened the meeting at 9:06 a.m. with a prayer.
- **†** The 2022 reports were read. Ed presented the treasurers report, noting that the envelopes didn't quote make the budget but with the 10K outlay from LACE we came close to meeting the budget. Our insurance was out of whack with the budget. The stormwater came in slightly higher than expected. We had planned for Pastor Allison to be with us a year and she left at at 10 month mark. The water bill was higher due to a water issue with one of the lower level toilets constantly running last spring. Our carryover balance is \$2,721.28. Jeff reported that there was a correction to the LACE report. Midway down to the 4th paragraph it reads ... an outlay of 1-k for... It should readan outlay of 10K for ... A motion was made to accept the reports with one minor correction by Bonnie Jensen Seconded by Julie Hansen
- ★ Ed presented the 2023 Budget. He lowered the envelopes to reflect the actual giving from last year. He explained that there is a Pastor's salary portion (\$16, 875.) which reflects our plan for a larger call to be discussed later in the

- meeting. The postage was dropped \$100 since we aren't using as much postage. Worship & Music was increased by \$100. Stewardship was dropped \$100 as we are only paying for the yearly envelopes and that we haven't been doing any kind of Stewardship campaigns. The Custodial Service was increased by \$300 since we hired a cleaning service to come clean the main floor. They charge \$180 a month so the \$2,300 presented in the budget reflects 12 months at that rate. The utilities increased \$1510 to reflect the 10% increase on utilities. The budget presented is a 32Kdeficit budget and we would need to get 10K from the LACE Members. Since all the LACE members were present they voted yes to the 10K outlay to help with the budget. Since all the Council members were present they also approved the 10K outlay from LACE. A Motion made by Bonnie Jensen to accept the budget as presented and the 10K outlay from LACE. Seconded by Kelly Imhoff. The motion passed with 34 yeas, 0 nays, 1 abstain.
- † Jeff asked for nominations from the floor for Council members, LACE Members, Memorial members and Synod Assembly representatives. No one steeped forward for council, Chris, Robin and Julie stepped forward to do another term on LACE, No members were needed or stepped forward for Memorial and Brad and Jeff stepped forward to be representatives at Synod Assembly. A motion was made by Bonnie Jensen to accept these nominees as presented. It was seconded by Grete Loschenkohl. The motion passed with 34 yeas, 0 nays, 1 abstain.
- **†** The changes to the constitution were

presented at this congregational meeting to meet the required second annual meeting presentation—#1 to change our quorum from 25 to 15 members. A motion was made by Kelly Imhoff and seconded by Bonnie Jensen. The motion passed with 34 yeas, 0 nays, 1 abstain.

- # #2 to allow proxy voting and meeting virtually or in another place in the case of an emergency, (such as another pandemic). A motion was made by Kelly Imhoff and seconded by John Barnes. The motion passed with 34 yeas, 0 nays, 1 abstain.
- **+** Jeff explained that the council has interviewed a candidate for Pastor but we have not heard anything. We would like to hire someone with a 35-40% call for 2 years.
- **★** Jeff also explained that to do the 35-40%

- call for 2 years we would need to take from the LACE fund. Both items the pastoral candidate and the money approval to pay for the Pastor from the LACE fund would take a Special Congregational meeting.
- → Jeff presented changing the worship time to 9:30am with coffee hour following. Two members desired the time to be changed to 9:00 a.m. A motion was made to change the worship time to 9:30 a.m. beginning Easter Sunday, April 9 by Bonnie and Seconded by Kelly Imhoff The motion passed with 33 yeas, 2 nays, 1 abstain.
- **†**A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 10:15 a.m. by Kelly Imhoff and Seconded by Shelly Alderson. The motion passed with 35 yeas, 0 nays, 0 abstain.
- **†** Jeff closed the meeting with a prayer.

NEW WORSHIP TIME BEGINNING APRIL 9!

9:30 a.m. - In Person or on FACEBOOK LIVE.

NOW with closed captioning.

Coffee hour to follow at 10:30 a.m.

Bulletins are available by email or on our website: http://www.bethanialutheran.org/bulletins

OUR MEMBERS



Meet Miss Charlotte Marie Mishleau, born on January 15, 2023 to her proud parent s Noah & Jessica Mishleau. Proud grandparents are Tom & Dodi Schoff. CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL!



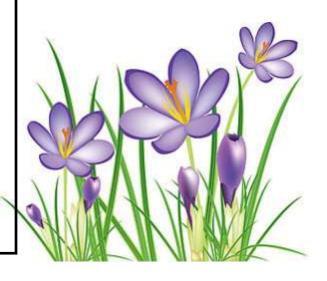
InJuly 2022, the National Suicide Prevention Hotline launched 988 as a quick dial code for anyone in need of support for suicide prevention, substance abuse, self harm, anxiety, depression, and other heath needs. Text and Live chat are available, and crisis counselors are trained to take calls in English, Spanish, as well as the LGBTQ population, the deaf and other populations. Even family and friends worried about a loved one can call.



Cathi and the Altar Guild,

Thank you so much for your friendship and support of our mom over the years. Bethania was such an important part of her life and we very much appreciate your help in celebrating her life.

~ The Anderson Family



CONFIRMATION



THE FOUR COMMANDMENTS

People often look for a sign from God, here are signs found in churches from people who work for God.

- "Do not leave your cell phones, purses, wallets, or bags unattended—others may think it is an answer to their prayers."
- "Adultry is a sin. You can't have your Kate and Edith too."
- "There is only one priest available for confessions today. Make your confessions direct and to the point, confess only your sins and offenses. No need to explain why you did it. "

On a sign in a church parking lot:

"Tresspassers will be baptized. Frequent tresspassers will be senf away on a mission."

~Boredpanda.com



SUNDAY SERVICES - 10:30 a.m.

March 5 –God promises to raise us up with Christ to new life.

March 12 – Christ offers us the lifegiving water of God's mercy and forgiveness

March 19 -God opens our eyes to see the truth of who we are: God's beloved children.

March 26 – We remember God's unfailing promise in our baptism.

MIDWEEK SERVICES - 7:00 p.m.

February 26 - Imposition on Ashes

"Ways of the Cross"

March 1 - Jesus is condemned to death

March 8 - Jesus takes up his cross

March 15 - The cross is laid on Simon of Cyrene

March 22 - Jesus Meets the women of Jerusalem

March 29 - Jesus is stripped of his garments



PALM SUNDAY- April 2 10:30 a.m.

MAUNDY THURSDAY - April 6 7:00 p.m.

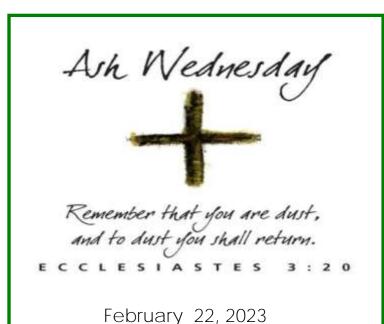
JESUS IS NAILED TO THE CROSS AND DIES ON THE CROSS

(HOLY COMMUNION WILL BE SERVED)

GOOD FRIDAY - April 7
7:00 p.m.

JESUS IS LAID IN THE TOMB

easter sunday—april 9 9:30 a.m.—JESUS IS RISEN!



Worship with Imposition of Ashes

At 7:00 p.m.

TIPPING IN 2023

Since the start of Covid our lives changed and the services we receive have changed so the way we tip see some changes below:

Restaurants:

Old: Leave a tip when you dine in.

New: Always tip, even for take out. Tip 15-20% when dining in, Tip 10-15% on take out or delivery.

Bartenders:

Old Rule: \$1 per drink

New \$2 per drink or 10-15% of the whole tab.

Baristas:

Old Rule: Leave your change.

New rule: \$1 per drink, more if your drink is compli-

cated.

Personal Shoppers:

Old Rule: N/A we didn't have these pre covid.

New Rule: Tip in the app as you will more than likely not see your shopper. 10-15% Some apps already include tip.

Home Deliveries:

Old Rule: Don't tip.

New Rule: Drinks, snacks, or \$5—\$15 depending on package size. NOTE; Postal carriers, UPS and FedEx drivers

aren't allowed to accept tips.

Furniture Delivery

Old Rule: Give a few dollars

New Rule: \$20 or 15% of the total order

Flower Delivery

Old Rule: The person who places the order gives the

tip.

New Rule: Don't assume that the person who placed

the order gave the tip. Tip \$5 -\$10.

Ride Share

Old Rule: Tip In Cash

New Rule: 15-20%

Pet Providers

Old Rule: Don't Tip

New Rule: Dog walker, groomers and pet sitters - 10 -

15%. Do not tip vet techs or veterinarians.

Hairstylists

Old Rule: 10 %

New Rule: 15-20%, plus \$5 to \$10 for shampoo assis-

tant.

Home Service Providers:

Old Rule: Don't tip

New Rule: Painters, plumbers, repair persons, home maintenance, etc. Tip a small gift, a note, \$10-\$20.

Hotel Housekeepers

Old Rule: Tip at the end of your stay.

New Rule: A few dollars each night, plus \$5 for any

special requests such as toiletries.

(From the Reader's Digest-March/April 2022. Used as in-

formation in the Blade.)

Cares & Concerns



Care and Concern List:

Please consider sending a note of encouragement to someone on this list. These are people who are dealing with challenges of health, mobility, or other things in their lives.

Carolyne Luettgen

5321 Douglas Avenue Apt. 1164 Racine, WI 53402

Grete Loschenkohl

819 Indiana Street Racine, WI 53405 Phone - 262-633-6095

Joyce Thomsen

2935 Old Mill Drive Racine, WI 53405



If you have anyone you would like to have added to the prayer chain please contact Kelly Imhoff at 262-554-1558 or by email:

bethaniaprayerchain@wi.twcbc.com



Dan Cruz, Ann Marie, Pat & Pete Nelson, Jeff & Sue O., Austin Imhoff, Forest, Kyle, Kevin Dahlen, Ryan Nelson, Carl & Mickey Monefeldt, Anita Nielsen, Tom Nielsen

WORSHIP

Date	Worship Leader	Communion Assistant	Reader	Acolyte	Coffee Hour	Altar Flowers	Building Host
3/5	Pastor Paul Ihlenfeld	(Open)	Brad Larsen	Eli Imhoff	(Open)	(Open)	Brad Larsen
3/12	Pastor Paul Ihlenfeld	(Open)	Anne Woodward	Brooke McIntosh	Altar Guild	(Open)	Aldersons
3/19	Pastor Chad Kline	(Open)	(Open)	(Open)	(Open)	(Open)	John Barnes
3/26	Pastor Kara Baylor	(Open)	(Open)	Dominic Shawhan	(Open)	(Open)	Ed Young
4/2	Pastor Kara Baylor	(Open)	(Open)	Eli Imhoff	(Open)	(Open)	Kelly Imhoff
4/9	Pastor Chad Kline	(Open)	Anne Woodward	Brooke McIntosh	Altar Guild	(Open)	Brad Larsen
4/16	Pastor Brad Brown	(Open)	(Open)	(Open)	(Open)	(Open)	Aldersons
4/23	Pastor Brad Brown	(Open)	(Open)	Dominic Shawhan	(Open)	(Open)	John Barnes
4/30	Pastor Paul Ihlenfeld	(Open)	(Open)	Eli Imhoff	Potluck	(Open)	Ed Young

<u>Reader/Lectorers:</u> The readings are now on the bulletin board outside the hearth room so you can see what the reading would be before you even sign up and can have it ahead of time.

<u>Altar Guild volunteers are needed.</u> We use to be 3-3 member teams now we are 1-1 member team, 1-11/2 member team and 1-2 member team. Every third month you set up communion for the worship service and change paraments and fill candles as needed during your month. If youd like to be on a team talk to Vicki Theiry or Cathi.

<u>Communion Assistants are needed.</u> People are needed to hold the chalice during the distribution of communion. You only need to say "This is the blood of Christ shed for you" as people dip their wafer into the cup.

Church Business

Date	In Person	Facebook	Giving
January 1	15	47	\$1,132.00
January 8	23	51	\$1,760.00
January 15	25	55	\$1,437.00
January 22	20	56	\$ 819.00
January 29	0	0	0 -snowstorm
February 5	23	22	\$3,079.00
February 12	26	22	\$ 794.00
February 19			
February 26			





BETHANIA HOSTS COMMUNITY MEAL SUNDAY MARCH 5, 2023

- Prepackaged fruit cups/applesauce or dessert

If you can help please see Jeff or Shelly Alderson.



Church Contacts

Bethania Lutheran Church

4120 Wright Avenue Racine, WI 53405 262-632-7267





Church Email: Bethania@wi.twcbc.com

Pastor's Email: pastorallison91@gmail.com

Website: www.bethanialutheran.org

Office Hours: Monday through Friday 7:30 to 9:30 a.m. Emergencies: Call (262) 909-5369

(Please note: There may not be a car in the parking lot but the office is open.)

Reverend Allison Johnson, Pastor
Cathi Webster, Administrative Assistant
Willy Mueller, Church Musician
Mike Imhoff, Maintenance



CELEBRATIONS

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

March 2 - Vicki McGaughey

March 5 - Caitlin Webster

March 6 - Etta McGaughey

March 8 - Austin Kechter

March 15 - Vicki Thiery

March 17—Jordan Kechter

March 20 - Connie Thorn

March 21 – Jacob Imhoff

Matrch 21 - Marion Jensen

March 21 – Evelyn Munch

March 22 - Tyler Rybarik

March 25 - Alyssa Munch



(Please let us know if there are any changes or missed birthdays or anniversaries. Thank You!)

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

April 1 –Tom Nielsen

April 4 –Lily Weaseman

April 6—Luke Hagerman

April 7 – Gilbert Jensen

April 12 - Irma Abderson

April 17 – Jessica Mishleau

April 18 – Jeanne Kutka

April 21—Dominic Shawhan

April 30—Tyrion Dittmer

EASTER FLOWERS

Help Us Decorate For Easter

in the church gardens.

Help us celebrate our risen Christ with beautiful Easter Flowers as well as decorate our sanctuary. Easter flowers can be purchased In loving memory or In Honor of your friends and loved ones. You may pay by cash or check, just please make your check payable to "Bethania Lutheran Church". **Deadline to Order is March 5, 2022.**

Easter Lily x \$13. 00 =	
Daffodil (yellow) x \$13.00 =	
Regal Geranium (purple) x \$13.00 =	
TOTAL:	
In Loving Memory of: (deceased)	
In Honor of: (alive)	
Name:	
Phone#:	-8
I will take my flowers	
I will leave my flowers for a shut in or planting	

OUR SYMPATHY

Our Sympathy to Jane Spencer and family on the loss of her mother Irma Anderson on Sunday, January 15, 2023. Irma's Celebration of Life service was held at Bethania on Saturday, February 11, 2023 at 11:00 a.m. with Pastor Steve Wohlfeil and Vicar Debbie Hartfield officiating. A Private graveside service were held Saturday, February 11, 2023 at 9:00 a.m.

MEMORIALS



Memorials were given to Bethania in Loving Memory of Irma Anderson by the following people:

Glen & Jolie Prasser, Bonnie Jensen, Thomas & Lois Van Dahm, Anne Woodward, Erik & Grete Hansen, Dorothy Stofen, Julie Hansen, Anita Neilsen, Lorelei Goodman, Jim & Larue Unglaube, Jeff & Shelly Alderson, Bill & Diane Katt, Ingaborg Stauersbol and Lisa Peterson, Paul & Pauline Peterson, Darrell & Carol Stoner, and Darrell & Laurie Stitzel.



WAYS YOU CAN HELP OUR COMMUNITY:

BRING NON PERISHABLE FOOD (Food Pantry)

BRING EMPTY ALUMINUM CANS (Cans for K-9s)

BRING GENTLY USED CLOTHES OR PAPER BAGS (TxT)

WAYS YOU CAN HELP BETHANIA:

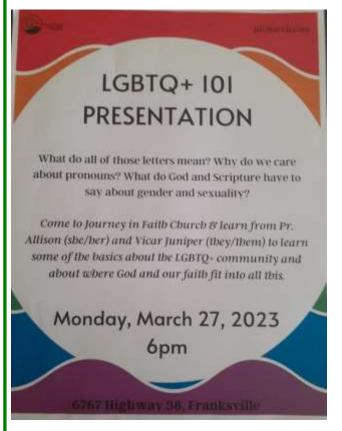
SERVE AS A WORSHIP LEADER

SERVE AS AN USHER

MOW THE LAWN

JOIN THE CARE & CONCERN TEAM (Visit our Members)

REMEMBER YOUR OFFERING (Pays the Bills)



LAWN MOWING AND YARD WORK

YAY! For spring warm weather, birds, flowers, sunshine, and of course green grass and weeds.

There is a sign up sheet outside the hearth room if you would like to volunteer to help spend sometime outside in the yard mowing, weeding, edging, etc.

Any questions contact Brad, church property.





SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS
WILL BE AVAILABLE:
MARCH 12, 2023

Deadline is <u>FRIDAY</u>, <u>APRIL 28 at 4:00 p.m.</u>



Mon

March 2023 Tue Thu Wed Sat Fri

			I Office OPEN –4:30 to 6:30 a.m. Thread by Thread OPEN 10 –2 Lenten Worship 7 p.m., Hearth Room	2 Office OPEN – 7:30 to 9:30 a.m.	3 Office OPEN –7:30 to 9:30 a.m. RUSD 8-3 LL 5:00 p.m. Brown Vow Renewal , Sanctuary	4
5 LENT 2 9:30 coffee Hour 10:30 a. Worship In person & ONLINE	6 Office OPEN 7:30 - 9:30 a.m.	7 Office OPEN –7:30 to 9:30 a.m. 7:00 p. council meeting	8 Office OPEN 4:30 - 6:30 a.m Lenten Worship 7 p.m., Hearth Room	9 Office OPEN – 7:30 to 9:30 a.m.	10 Office OPEN – 7:30 to 9:30 a.m. RUSD 8-3 LL	11
12 LENT 3 9:30 coffee Hour 10:30 a. Worship In person & ONLINE	13 Office OPEN 7:30 - 9:30 a.m.	14 Office OPEN – 7:30 to 9:30 a.m.	15 Office OPEN – 4:30 to 6:30 a.m. Thread by Thread OPEN 10 –2 Lenten Worship 7 p.m., Hearth	16 Office OPEN – 7:30 to 9:30 a.m.	17 St. Patricks Day Office OPEN – 7:30 to 9:30 a.m. RUSD 8-3 LL	18
19 LENT 4 9:30 coffee Hour 10:30 a. Worship In person & ONLINE	20 Office OPEN 7:30 - 9:30 a.m	21 Office OPEN – 7:30 to 9:30 a.m.	Office OPEN 4:30 6:30 a.m Lenten Worship 7 p.m., Hearth Roor	23 Office OPEN – 7:30 to 9:30 a.m.	24 Office OPEN – 7:30 to 9:30 a.m. RUSD 8-3 LL	25
26 LENT 5 9:00 Annual Meeting 10:30 a. Worship In person & ONLINE	27 Office OPEN 7:30 - 9:30 a.m.	28 Office OPEN – 7:30 to 9:30 a.m.	29 Office OPEN 4:30 - 6:30 a.m Lenten Worship 7 p.m., Hearth Room	30 Office OPEN – 7:30 to 9:30 a.m.	31 Office OPEN – 7:30 to 9:30 a.m. RUSD 8-3 LL	



April



	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
С							1
A L	9:30 coffee Hour 10:30 a. m Worship In person & ONLINE	3 Office OPEN 7:30 - 9:30 a.m.	4 Office OPEN – 7:30 to 9:30 a.m.	Office OPEN -7:30 to 9:30 a.m. Thread by Thread OPEN 10 -2	MAUNDY/THURSDAY Office OPEN –4:30 to 6:30 a.m. Maundy Thursday service 7:00 p.m. Hearth room	Office OPEN –4:30 to 6:30 a.m. Good Friday service 7:00 p.m. Hearth room	8
L N	9:30 Worship 10:30 a. m coffee Hour	7 Office OPEN 7:30 - 9:30 a.m.	1 1 Office OPEN 7:30 - 9:30 a.m.	1 2 Office OPEN 7:30 - 9:30 a.m.	13 Office OPEN 7:30 - 9:30 a.m.	1 4 Office OPEN 7:30 - 9:30 a.m.	15
D А	9:30 worship 10:30 a. m coffee hour	1 7 Office OPEN 7:30 - 9:30 a.m.	18 Office OPEN 7:30 - 9:30 a.m.	1 9 Office OPEN -7:30 to 9:30 a.m. Thread by Thread OPEN 10 -2	20 Office OPEN 7:30 - 9:30 a.m.	21 Office OPEN 7:30 - 9:30 a.m.	22
R	9:30/Morship 10:30 a_m Coffee Hour / Thread by Thread Change Over, Noon— Confirma- tion, @ Redeemer	24 Office OPEN 7:30 - 9:30 a.m.	25 Office OPEN 7:30 - 9:30 a.m.	26 Office OPEN 7:30 - 9:30 a.m.	27 Office OPEN 7:30 - 9:30 a.m.	28 Office OPEN 7:30 - 9:30 a.m. LACE SCHOLARSHIP DEADLINE	29
	30 9:30 a. m Worship In person & ONLINE 10:30 Potluck						

Bethania Lutheran Church 4120 Wright Avenue Racine, WI 53405

Place Stamps here

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