

MONTHLY CONNECTIONS

SUNDAY SERVICE

Lost Island- 8:45am

Bethany- 10:30am

CHILDREN MINISTRY

Bethany Sunday School-
9:30am

Lost Island Sunday School-
10:15am

YOUTH MINISTRY

WEDNESDAYS

SACK (2nd-5th grade): 3:30-5pm

Connect (6th-8th grade): 7-8pm

LIFE (9th-12th grade): 7:30-9pm



Pastor's Corner

As I write this, we are in the middle of the coldest part of the winter so far. We also have the most snow so far, though it does seem odd to call this paltry amount "the most." Note- If I jinxed it and we get buried in snow soon, you are free to yell at me all you want. This month brings us closer to a number of things that I would like to highlight:

LENT -Ash Wednesday is March 5th. Please join us for worship at either Church. The schedule is posted elsewhere in the newsletter. Our theme for the midweek services will be "Created for Community." Please come join us for this series beginning March 12. Supper is at 5:30, Worship at 6:30.

SABBATICAL - Begins after Palm Sunday. All the pieces are in place. If you have any questions, please let me know. I would be happy to talk with you. You will hear from many different voices during that time. Some familiar, some new. I urge you to be creative with this time.



By Pastor Peter Morlock

SYNOD ASSEMBLY—June 13-14 in Sioux City. More information on this will be forthcoming, but if you are at all interested in exploring how the wider church works, we can send two voting members to this gathering. You will have the opportunity to hear from some of our mission partners, meet with other folks from across the synod to worship and break bread together, and hear what is happening in the Synod and the wider ELCA. This year we are also electing a new Bishop (PLEASE do NOT throw my name in!) This is always an interesting process to be part of. If you would like to be a voting member please contact Diane Clasing - Steger in the office. Registration in May.



PASTOR
PETER MORLOCK

712-852-4450

bethany-
pastor22@gmail.com



Prayer is such an important piece in the life of a Christian. Not only do we pray to God individually, but as a body of Christ, we pray for our neighbors, the world, and we trust that God will do His will in those prayers. Need prayer? Want to intentionally pray for others? Let us know!

We remember those in special need of God's love and care including:

Kailey Hackbart (Niece of Pastor & Kris), Elaine Sidles, Jeff Duhn, Bob Steger, Marilyn Leininger, Maddie (Norris) Roth, Korbin Johnson, Alan Oppedahl, Wilma Nielsen, Nolyn Johnson, Pam Rouse, Kylee Hill, Omundson Family, Shirley Knutson, Eric & Lana Kropf, Jess McCune, Jim & Carol Krause, David Stephens, Rick Rienhardt, Bridget Johnson, Lon Twait, Robert Mortenson, Jr., and those we name in our hearts.

***Our Sympathy:**

To all those we know that are grieving the loss of a loved one. We remember Mike Hermansen whose funeral service was the February 12th.

***Our Military Members:**

Thomas Crocoll and Logan Murray

***Our companion synods:**

The Southern Diocese of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania-Yakobi Parish companion with Lost Island and the Evangelical Lutheran Church Laz-Paz Parish in Chile, companion with Bethany.

***Our New Members:**

Jackie Black
Katelyn Helgevold
Shellee Wright

***Our New Members via Baptisms:**

Stay Connected



Lost Island Lutheran Church



Lost Island Lutheran Church

www.lostislandlutheranchurch.com



Coffee Connection.

March 9th
9:45am-10:30am

Held every 2nd Sunday of the month.

We invite ALL to join us for fellowship in the Overflow Room.

Coffee. Treats. Conversation.

A social time of fellowship to connect with others & enjoy some treats and beverages.

Stay Connected



Bethany/Lost Island Parish



@bethanyemmetsburg



Bethany Worship

GET INVOLVED.

QUILTING

Morning Quilting
Mondays- 9 AM weekly

Night Quilters
Monday, 3-5 PM weekly

Lost Island Quilting
Saturday, March 15

WOMEN'S CIRCLES

***Tabitha Circle:**
at 6:50 pm @ Alaire's

***Sarah Circle:**
March 11 -6:30 pm @ Church

***Mary Martha Circle:**
Resume March 19th at 9:30

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY
WEDNESDAYS AT NOON



Communion
Remembering His sacrifice.

1st & 3rd Sunday of the month

BETHANY VOLUNTEERS

Altar Guild: Kathy Mehan

Date	Lector	Greeter	Usher	Comm Asst	Acolyte	Musician
March 2nd	Josey Saxton	Kyle & Kayla Hagen Family	Joe Neary Michael Jacobson	Dianne Hough Marla Noble, Josey Saxton Jameson Boevers	Caitlin Cole	Tim Nielsen
March 5th Ash Wed			Terry Rouse Michael Jacobson	Kristin Rienhardt Sloan Rodemeyer Emmy Dooley Drake Mehan		Tim Nielsen
March 9th	Kristin Rienhardt	Jason & Laura Reinders Family	Chuck Noble David Sidles		Kennedy Martini	Laura Gustafson
March 16th	Amelia Ort	Pat Vician Dianne Hough	Mark Saxton Mark Evans	Diane Steger LuAnn Opheim Somer & Liza Saxton	Brett Saxton	Tim Nielsen
March 23rd	Marit Veltri	Del & Donna Poldberg	Kyle Hagen Brian Malm		Ava Hagen	Holly Davidson
March 30th	Brian Malm	Joe & Jen Boevers	Michael Jacobson Lonnie Naig		Zoey Reinders	Laura Gustafson

LOST ISLAND VOLUNTEERS

Altar Guild:
Susan Rohan, Alaire Nielsen

Date	Lector	Communion Assistant	Musician
March 2	Sue Geiger	Kadin Norris	Tim Nielsen
March 5th	Alaire Nielsen	Sue Geiger	Tim Nielsen
March 9th	Tim Nielsen		Tim Nielsen
March 16th	Susan Rohan	Charles Henningsen	Tim Nielsen
March 23rd	Kyle Norris		Tim Nielsen
March 30th	Karyn Leininger		Tim Nielsen

MEMORIAL GIFTS GIVEN.

In Memory of *Mike Hermansen* given by *Angie Hetrick* .
In Memory of *Mike Hermansen* given by *David & Elaine Sidles*.
In Memory of *Mike Hermansen* given by *Kathy & Pat Mehan* .
In Memory of *Mike Hermansen* given by *Bob & Diane Clasing-Steger for Trinity Garden*
In Memory of *Mike Hermansen* given by *David & Cindi Mason*.
In Memory of *Dawn Freeman* given by *Bob & Diane Clasing Steger* for *HVAC System*
In Memory of *Dawn Freeman* given by *David & Elaine Sidles* for the *Quilt Fund*.
In Memory of *Daryl Egerstrom* given by *Dale Evans* .
In Memory of *Mike Hermansen* given by *Kristin Rienhardt* for *Trinity Garden*.
In Memory of *Mike Hermansen* given by *Laura Reinders* .
In Memory of *Mike Hermansen* given by *Randy & Dianne Hough* for *Deferred Maint.*
In Memory of *Mike Hermansen* given by *Tom & Mary Beth Michaelis*.
In Memory of *Mike Hermansen* given by *Daniel Schofield*
In Memory of *Mike Hermansen* given by *Andy/Jim Rydell*
In Memory of *Mike Hermansen* given by *Dianne Campbell*

BETHANY FUNERAL SERVERS.

GROUP B

Laure Miller, Elaine Nauss, John & Stephanie Larson-Chairpersons

Phil Andreasen	Darlene Naig	Greg & Ann Sween
Dan & Michelle Jackson	Greg & Rachel Haack	Randy & Deb Jones
Cordell & Donna Poldberg	Beverly Norland	Aaron & Jackie Leuer
Kristin Rienhardt	Cory & Stacie Fjetland	Doug & Sherri Ort
Bob & Connie Schubert	Tonya Peterson	Dawn Daniels
Tom & Karen Hagen	Joyce & John Froisland	Shari Schurg
Jason & Laura Reinders	Dale & LuAnn Opheim	Lori Forry
Ben & Laura Gustafson	Paul & Teresa Saxton	Joe Neary
Gina & Angie Cowden	Jason & Nicole Sanders	Ina Crocoll
Bob & Sheryl Mortenson, Jr	Tiffany Keller	Willard & Glenyce Schmeling

BETHANY COUNCIL

Laure Miller, President 712-363-2005
Mark Evans, Vice President 712-260-5651
Ed Meyer, Treasurer 712-298-1029
Diane Clasing-Steger, Sec. 712-298-1003
Barb Haack 712-260-3408
Michael Jacobson 712-790-1452
Aaron Leuer 712-480-2116
Jennifer Boevers 712-298-2143

**Do you have
questions? Need
assistance?**

**Contact your
council members
and they will get
you connected with
the right people!**

LOST ISLAND COUNCIL

Troy Leininger – President
Tim Nielsen - Treasurer
Kyle Norris – Secretary
Craig Thu & Kadin Norris – Trustees
Alan Oppedal & Charles Henningsen –
Deacons

March is an emotional ride when it comes to the weather, at least in the Midwest! We can have every season in a 24 hour period. Life can feel the same way, we have ups and downs and roller coasters of emotions. We go through seasons in life just like nature does. Some seasons feel great and are ultimately good but there are others that are hard and don't feel super good. But regardless of the season, there is purpose in them. There is purpose in the reflection, purpose in the growth, purpose in the hurt, purpose in the tending, and even purpose in the barren, lost seasons of life. God is always working and He is working in the seasons that are good and those that are hard. God is a Waymaker. Miracle Worker, Chain Breaker, etc. As we enter into Lent I am reminded of this very thought. We reflect on the heart work that needs to happen in order to be focused on Jesus. We reflect on the heart work in order to see our need for the God who loves us and cares about us. We reflect on the heart work in order to look to the hope of Easter Morning! Seasons are important. There is a time for everything under the sun. Ask God to open your eyes to how He is working and moving in your midst and in your situations. He is moving and working we are just too blinded to see it.

NOISY OFFERING

CHERISH CENTER

Support, drive,
donate, teach?



Contact Kristin

KRISTIN
RIENHARDT

Kristin.rienhardt@blc.edu

712-790-6470

SUNDAY SCHOOL OFFERING

\$42.35 AS OF
2.23.25



UPCOMING EVENTS/SCHEDULE:

March 5th- Connect and LIFE groups to attend Ash Wed Service

March 9th- Sunday school kids singing in church

March 15th- 1:30pm St Patrick's Parade

March 19th- Youth Serving Lenten Meal

March 23rd- 3pm-5pm Movie (youth and adults- all are welcome)

March 26th- Sunday school kids serving Lenten meal

April 6th- Youth Sunday

April 9th- Youth serving Lenten Meal

**Keep an eye out at the end of the month as we are doing another Pizza Ranch pizza fundraiser*

OKOBOJI OUTREACH NIGHT
March 16
GARGOYLES
5:00-8:00pm
\$5 per person
6th-12th graders
RSVP at www.okoboji.org/outreach by 4pm on Mar 13th
Want to come early for a service project? Let us know.

JOIN US
FOR YOUTH PROGRAMS



Sundays & Wednesdays

LOST ISLAND NEWS.

Maundy Thursday at Lost Island needs people to help read, serve, and strip the altar. If you are able to help in anyway please contact Karyn from Lost Island. The service is April 17th at 7pm. You can get ahold of Karyn by emailing lostislandlutheran@gmail.com or let Kristin know and she can pass you along to Karyn.

THANK YOU.

- Thank you to all who have been involved in worship on Sundays to bring us the Good News of God!
- Thank you to all that have continued to give your monetary donations!
- Thank you to the Church Council for sponsoring the "Coffee Connection" for the month of February. This was in combination with New Member Sunday as we welcomed Jackie Black, Shellee Wright and Katelyn Helgevold. Don't forget to look at the Sign-Up sheet for a Sunday that you and others can sponsor. Right now, no one has signed up for March's Coffee Connection. (9th)
- Thank you to the family of Mike Hermansen for donating those beautiful floral bouquets from Mike's funeral. I wish they could last longer. Thank you to Sarah Circle for providing desserts and serving at Mike's funeral luncheon.
- Thank you to everyone who donated to the Youth Food Drive. There were over 300 items and \$195 worth of gift cards that we gave to UDMO to be given to those in need in our county. UDMO was very appreciative of what was brought to their building.

OTHER NEWS/EVENTS

Repairs Needed *The Bethany Council would like to let you know that we are looking into the possibility of either repairing or replacing our current HVAC system.*

We are taking quotes from different businesses in the area and will let you know what we have decided to do. We are asking for your prayers while these decisions are made. Thank You.

BETHANY SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

BETHANY EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP
MARVIN E SIMONSEN SCHOLARSHIP

APPLICATIONS ARE OUTSIDE OF THE OFFICE,
BOTH ARE DUE APRIL 15TH!

COMMUNITY/CHAMBER EVENTS



ST. PATRICK'S PARADE
March 15th
1:30PM

All youth and families are welcome to join to be on the church float. Be at float around 12:45pm-1:00pm as they might start moving the line prior to parade. Meet at Ag Partners (1800 11th St)

SAVE LIVES WITH LIFESERVE

Emmetsburg Community Blood Drive
VFW Hall
3205 Main Street | Emmetsburg
Wednesday, March 12, 2025
12:00 PM - 4:30 PM

Text: LIFESERVE to 999.777 | Call: 800.287.4903 | Visit: lifeserve.info/schedule

SCAN ME

LifeServe BLOOD CENTER
YOUR BLOOD. YOUR HOSPITAL. YOUR NEIGHBORS.

MISSION WORK.



Friends of Sharing the Dream in Guatemala is a volunteer-based fair trade organization that works to reduce poverty in Guatemala through collaborative partnerships with Guatemalans. We offer Guatemalan crafts including hand-made beaded jewelry, handwoven scarves, baskets from all natural materials and much, much, more. Shop online at www.sharingthedream.org, visit one of the stores in Vermillion, Sioux Falls or at Lost Island Lutheran Church. If you are interested in learning more contact Karyn Leininger.

COLLECTING ITEMS THROUGHOUT LENT FOR MISSIONS






These kits will be sent to Lutheran World Relief where they will be delivered all around the world to those in need of them. Bring in any of the below items and share in the gift of not only essential items for living, but hope.

A SEASON OF HOPE

This Lent, we're joining Lutheran World Relief in **A SEASON OF HOPE** to announce to the world the HOPE of Christ. Each week, we'll collect a different item that we'll use to assemble Personal Care Kits that give people around the world tools to stay healthy in life's most challenging situations.

Our goal is to assemble 25 LWR Personal Care Kits during Lent.

Lost Island Kits

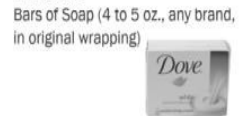
<p>Week 1 Bars of Soap (4 to 5 oz., any brand, in original wrapping)</p> 	<p>Week 3 Toothbrushes (adult size, in original packaging)</p> 
<p>Week 2 Bath Towels (light-weight, maximum 52" x 27", dark color recommended)</p> 	<p>Week 4 Combs</p> 
<p>Week 5 Nail Clippers (metal, attached file optional)</p> 	

For more information contact Karyn

We will assemble our Personal Care Kits on 4/20/25
at Lost Island Lutheran Church

Bethany Kits

Bethany Circle is collecting items throughout Lent for Personal Care Kits and School Kits. These are the items needed:



Bath towels
(dark color recommended)
Bath Towels (light-weight, maximum 52" x 27", dark color recommended)



Monetary Gifts to purchase Cloth Diapers (Can be made out to Bethany).

We are collecting items through **April 13th**

Any Questions please contact Elaine Nauss. Place items in baskets under the tables in back of sanctuary.

SUNDAY SCHOOL PROJECT AND NOISY OFFERING.

March's Noisy Offering is going to Cherish Center.



Cherish House provides expecting mothers and their children with a safe and supportive home. We want our residents to not only feel comfortable at Cherish House but excited about their future, no matter what that looks like. We all have stories, and we honor each one of our resident's journeys.

SUNDAY SCHOOL OFFERING

YOUTH VS CONGREGATION

**JANUARY TO APRIL
PENNY WAR**

Goal: \$300

SAMARITAN'S PURSE- CLEAN WATER FUND

BRING PENNIES IN FOR YOUR BUCKET AND PUT SILVER/BILLS IN YOUR OPPONENT'S BUCKET

PENNIES= POSITIVE

SILVER COINS/BILLS= NEGATIVE

FOOD DRIVE RESULTS

Over 300 items and \$195 of gift cards were brought to UDMO.

THANK YOU!

1. **Give first, not last.** Sounds counterintuitive, but we should give to God before we give to others. Even when we have little in the way of finances, we should make our church offering a top priority. If we wait until the end of the month to see “what’s left,” it’s very likely the answer will be “nothing.”
2. **Give generously but sensibly.** By this, I don’t mean writing a \$500 check for missions when you only have \$200 in the bank. I mean, don’t let fear make your giving decisions. If you commit to giving X amount each month, then give X amount each month.
3. **Give regularly.** There’s something about the rhythm of our giving, whether it’s monthly or weekly. If we only give once or twice a year, it’s harder to remember, and it’s easier to forget to give altogether. Having a regular time you give can keep you on track for giving.
4. **Give out of your heart.** As Jesus said in Luke 6:45, “The good person out of the good treasure of his heart produces good, and the evil person out of his evil treasure produces evil, for out of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaks” (ESV). What is your giving saying about your heart’s priorities?
5. **Give more than money.** Sometimes, we do run out of money, but we can give in other ways. We can give our time to someone who needs a friend. We can run errands for a charity or answer the phones at church while the secretary’s out sick. There are numerous ways we can give and make an impact that doesn’t involve dollars.
6. **Give of yourself.** This goes hand-in-hand with giving more than money. If you have talents, consider using them as your way of giving instead of cash. When I was on a tight budget during my early career years, I signed up to help with the church nursery and also became a leader in one of the church’s children’s ministries. While my offering amount was small, I gave more freely of what I did have—my time.
7. **Give without expectation.** This means we’re not giving because we think God will reward us with checks in the mail or cash in our bank account. We give without an expectation of receiving. We give because of all we’ve been given. There’s no magical formula in which we give a certain amount, and God will bless us with more.

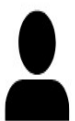
Giving is an important component of our Christian life, and even when our financial coffers are lean, we should keep giving to God. The actual amount isn’t as important as cultivating a heart of giving, even during tough times. The more we open our hearts to blessing others, the more God will use our willingness to strengthen our faith.

FEBRUARY 2025 FINANCIALS.

Bethany Lutheran Church Treasurer’s Report

If you have any financial questions, please email Michael at bethanyfinance20@gmail.com and he can answer any questions.

WAYS TO GIVE.



In Person
Drop cash/check off
in the office or the
offering plate.

Online



Online
One Time or
Recurring at Vaneo



Mail
Send offering to:
Bethany Lutheran Church
703 Broadway
Emmetsburg, IA 50536



Local bank-bill pay option
The local Emmetsburg banks
each provide a FREE online bill
pay service which can arrange
recurring weekly or monthly
payments.

	MONTHLY BEGINNING BALANCE (18,162.06)		
INCOME		EXPENSES	
Offerings	10,929.02	Personnel Expenses	9,475.11
Transfers from other Funds	0.00	Program Expenses	86.60
Lost Island	0.00		
Total Income	10,929.02	Office Expenses	493.33
		Property Expenses	4,924.92
		Western IA Synod	1324.68
		Other Donations	100.00
		Damascus Road	100.00
		NO ELCA Donations	0.00
		TOTAL EXPENSE	16,504.64
	Income Less Expenses	(5,575.62)	
	GENERAL FUND BALANCE	(23,737.68)	

March 2025

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2 <i>Communion Sunday</i> <i>Sinamon Sunday</i> 8:45 am Worship (LI) 9:30 am Sunday School (B) 10:15 am Sunday School (L) 10:30 am Worship (B)	3 Quilting Diane Gone ?	4	5 <i>Ash Wednesday</i> <i>Noon Men's Bible Study</i> 3:30 SACK 6:00 pm Service (LI) 7:30 pm Service (B)	6	7	8
9 <i>COFFEE CONNECTION</i> 8:45 am Worship (LI) 9:30 am Sunday School (B) 10:15 am Sunday School (LI) 10:30 am Worship (B) <i>SS KIDS SINGING</i>	10 Quilting	11 Cub Scouts	12 <i>Noon Men's Bible Study</i> 3:30-9PM Youth Groups 5:30pm Youth Board Meeting 5:30pm Meal Served 6:30pm Lenten Service	13	14	15 1:30pm St Pats. Parade 9 am LI Quilting
16 <i>Communion Sunday</i> 8:45 am Worship (LI) 9:30 am Sunday School (B) 10:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship (B) 5-8pm Outreach at Okoboji	17 Quilting	18 Council	19 <i>Noon Men's Bible Study</i> 3:30-9PM Youth Groups 5:30pm Meal Served 6:30pm Lenten Service	20 <i>Newsletter Articles Due</i>	21	22
23 8:45 am Worship (LI) 9:30 am Sunday School (B) 10:15 am Sunday School (LI) 10:30 am Worship (B) 3-5pm Movie (all welcome)	24 Quilting	25 Cub Scouts	26 <i>Noon Men's Bible Study</i> 3:30-9PM Youth Groups 5:30pm Meal Served 6:30pm Lenten Service	27 WIC	28	29
30 8:45 am Worship (LI) 9:30 am Sunday School (B) 10:15 am Sunday School (LI) 10:30 am Worship (B)	31					

*** BOLDED WORDS ARE CALENDAR ITEMS THAT ARE UNIQUE TO THE GIVEN MONTH**

*Bethany Quilters: Morning Quilters 9-Noon, Night Quilters 3-5pm

*Council meets every Third Tuesday at 6:30pm

*Youth Groups meet Wednesdays [SACK (2nd-5th) 3:30pm-5pm] [Connect (6th-8th) 7-8pm] [LIFE (9th-12th grade) 7:30-9pm] *During Lent, Connect and LIFE have mime practice

*Coffee Connection is monthly, typically the 2nd Sunday of the month, 9:45am-10:30am, at Bethany

- Lost Island has weekly coffee fellowship following worship

*WIC meets once a month from 9am-3:30pm in the church basement

*Cub Scouts meet every other Tuesday at 6:30pm

*Noisy Offering cans are on tables but are passed during offerings every 2nd Sunday of month

*Lost Island Quilting meets in the basement at Lost Island

LENT THEME AND INFORMATION

Sinnamon Sunday

SAVE THE DATE

**MARCH 2ND
AFTER WORSHIP
FELLOWSHIP HALL**

Free Will Offering towards furnace repair

SPONSORED BY MARIT VELTRI'S THRIVENT ACTION TEAM



**MARCH 5TH
LOST ISLAND-6PM
BETHANY-7:30PM**

CREATED
2025 LENT



6:30PM WORSHIP

**MARCH 12-
WEEK 1:**
IN COMMUNITY
WITH CREATION

**MARCH 26-
WEEK 3:**
IN COMMUNITY
WITH OUR
NEIGHBOR

**MARCH 19-
WEEK 2:**
IN COMMUNITY
WITH ALL THE
SAINTS

**APRIL 2-
WEEK 4:**
IN COMMUNITY
WITH THOSE ON
THE MARGINS

**APRIL 9-
WEEK 5:**
IN COMMUNITY
WITH CHRIST



CREATED
LENTEN MEALS



5:30PM MEAL

**MARCH 12-
WOMEN CIRCLES SERVING
HOT HAM & CHEESE,
SIDES, DESSERTS
FREE WILL OFFERING TO
LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF
KITS**

**MARCH 26-
SUNDAY SCHOOL SERVING
SUB SAND., SIDES,
DESSERTS
FREE WILL OFFERING TO
SUNDAY SCHOOL/VBS**

**MARCH 19-
YOUTH SERVING
HOT TURKEY SAND.,
SIDES, DESSERTS
FREE WILL OFFERING TO
YOUTH PROGRAMS**

**APRIL 2-
COUNCIL SERVING
MAIDRITE SAND.,
SIDES, DESSERTS
FREE WILL OFFERING TO
GENERAL
BUDGET/MAINTENANCE**

**APRIL 9-
YOUTH SERVING
PORK LOIN
SAND., SIDES,
DESSERTS
FREE WILL OFFERING TO
YOUTH PROGRAMS**