

# 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

By Pastor Peter Morlock

For the past 18 months, I have been working on a graduate level certificate in Leadership studies through Augsburg University in Minneapolis MN. I have taken a class called "Foundation of Leadership", which explored the different theories of leadership from the 20th century to now.

This was an interesting class as we dug into the different models, I was able to explore how those different models play out over time in the church setting where we have shifted from a hierarchical Pastor led model, to something more collaborative with shared responsibility and power in many areas. My next class was "Leading Organizations Through Change" where building on the models in the first class, we focused on the factors that make for a challenge to change and how to lead successful change in any organization. We studied some successful and well-known agents of change- Like Bishop Tutu and Nelson Mandela and thought about what made them successful as they guided necessary change. We explored ideas of power and authority and how they function and are used in times of change.

My last class for the certificate is an independent study where I will be exploring how the church can be a leader in the public square in changing times. Part of what I would like to do for this class is be in conversation with a few of you to exchange thoughts and ideas where I will share with you what I am reading for class and engage with some of you in conversation. What the final product for this class will be, will grow out of those conversations, but I don't want to do this in a vacuum. If you are interested in being part of the conversation, please let me know.



PASTOR  
PETER MORLOCK

712-852-4450

bethany-  
pastor22@gmail.com

# HOW CAN WE PRAY FOR YOU?

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

Hailey Koenig, Justin Reinert, Mike Schipull, Paul Bedard, Wendy Warmbier, Shellee Wright, Doug Ort, Wilma Nielsen, Korbin Johnson, Nolyn Johnson, David Stephens, Omundson Family, Rick Rienhardt, Bridget Johnson and those we name in our hearts.

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!

### **\*Our Sympathy:**

To all those we know that are grieving the loss of a loved one.

### **\*Our Military Members:**

Thomas Crocoll and Alex Meyer

### **\*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:**

### **\*Our New Members via Baptisms:**

## Stay Connected



Lost Island Lutheran Church



Lost Island Lutheran Church

[www.lostislandlutheranchurch.com](http://www.lostislandlutheranchurch.com)



**Coffee.  
Treats.  
Conversation.**

## Coffee Connection.

February 8th  
9:45am-10:30am

Held every 2nd Sunday of the month.

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

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

## Stay Connected



@bethanyemmetsburg



Bethany Worship



## GET INVOLVED.

### QUILTING

**Morning Quilting**

*Mondays- 9 AM weekly*

**Night Quilters**

*Monday, 3—5 PM weekly*

**Lost Island Quilting**

*Saturday, February 7*

### WOMEN'S CIRCLES

#### **\*Tabitha Circle:**

*Feb 11 at 6:50 pm @ Alaire's*

#### **\*Sarah Circle:**

*Feb 10th -6:30 pm @ church*

#### **\*Mary Martha Circle:**

*Resume March 18th at 9:30*

### MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

**WEDNESDAYS AT NOON**



**Communion**

*Remembering His sacrifice.*

*1st & 3rd Sunday of the month*

# BETHANY VOLUNTEERS.

Altar Guild: Dianne Hough

Date	Lector	Greeter	Usher	Communion Assistant	Acolyte	Musician
Feb 1st	Scout Sunday	Scout Sunday	Chuck Noble Ed Meyer	Angie Hetrick, Kristin Rienhardt, Barb Haack, Sherri Ort	Emma & Jorja Dietrich	Tim Nielsen
Feb 8th	Laure Miller	Carrigan Family & Laure Miller	Chuck Duhn Matt Malm	N/A	Carter Reinders	Holly Sidles
Feb 15th	Brayden Ayers	Ayers Family	David Sidles Richard Ayers	Brayden Ayers Brian & Amy Malm, Matt Malm	Noah & Riley Soenen	Tim Nielsen
Feb 18th Ash Wed.			Michael Jacobson & Mark Saxton	Liza Saxton and 3 Volunteers		Tim Nielsen
Feb 22nd	Angie Hetrick	Greg & Rachel Haack & Angie Hetrick	Mark Evans Cael Rodemeyer	N/A	Asa Rodemeyer	Laura Gustafson

# LOST ISLAND VOLUNTEERS.

Altar Guild: Karyn Leininger, Linda Pitt

Date	Lector	Communion Assistant	Musician
February 1st	Troy Leininger	Karyn Leininger	Tim Nielsen
February 8th	Karyn Leininger	N/A	Tim Nielsen
February 15	Charles Henningsen	Kyle Norris	Tim Nielsen
February 18th Ash Wednesday	Jeff Geiger	Sue Geiger	Tim Nielsen
February 22nd	Sue Geiger	N/A	Tim Nielsen

## MEMORIAL GIFTS GIVEN.

In Memory of **Jim Anderson** given by **David & Elaine Sidles**.  
In Memory of **Jim Anderson** given by **Angie Hetrick** for the **Scholarship Fund**.  
In Memory of **Bev Hayden** given by **Angie Hetrick** for the **Scholarship Fund**.  
In Memory of **Bev Hayden** given by **David & Elaine Sidles**.  
In Memory of **Bev Hayden** given by **Frank & Marit Veltri** for the **Scholarship Fund**.  
In Memory of **Bev Hayden** given by **Pat & Kathy Mehan**  
In Memory of **Bev Hayden** given by her **friends & family**.  
In Memory of **Jim Anderson** given by **Diane & Bob Steger** for the **Deferred Maint. Fund**  
In Memory of **Bev Hayden** given by **Diane & Bob Steger** for the **Deferred Maint. Fund**  
In Memory of **Dale Opheim** given by **Tim & Karen Hagen** for the **General Fund**  
In Memory of **Dale Opheim** given by **Shirleen Helgeson** for the **Trinity Garden**  
In Memory of **Dale Opheim** given by **Family & Friends**  
In Memory of **Bev Hayden** given by **Tom & Karen Hagen**  
In Memory of **Bev Hayden** given by **Alan & Donna Larson**  
In Memory of **Bev Hayden** given by **Microbac Laboratories, Inc**  
In Memory of **Bev Hayden** given by **Dori Quam**

## BETHANY FUNERAL SERVERS.

### GROUP B

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

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

### BETHANY COUNCIL

Laure Miller, President 712-363-2005  
Aaron Leuer, Vice President 712-480-2670  
Ed Meyer, Secretary 712-298-1029  
Michael Jacobson, Treasurer 712-790-1452  
Barb Haack 712-260-3408  
Brian Malm 712-260-0721  
Jen Boevers 712-298-2143  
Tim Rodemeyer 515-341-3955

**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  
Jeff Geiger & Charles Henningsen – Deacons

For God SO LOVED THE WORLD THAT HE GAVE HIS ONLY BEGOTTEN SON SO THAT WHOEVER BELIEVES IN HIM SHALL HAVE EVERLASTING Life

John 3:16

February, known as the month of love. Love is a powerful thing. When you love something or someone you don't give up on that easily. The thing about the love we give to things or others...fail. We disappoint others and make mistakes, or break or lose that toy or object.

Our love is never perfect and it can be messy but usually it is worth it. But even greater than this is the love we receive from Jesus. The love that is never failing and never ending. The love that is so Reckless for us! The love that will do leaps and bounds to come after us. Jesus is constantly pursuing us because of that love. No matter what we do or don't do, Jesus doesn't love us any more or less than He already does. He is the greatest Valentine!

Have you experienced the love of Jesus?



Support, drive,  
donate, teach?



Contact Kristin

KRISTIN  
RIENHARDT

[Kristin.rienhardt@blc.edu](mailto:Kristin.rienhardt@blc.edu)

712-790-6470

## NOISY OFFERING

FOOD DRIVE

## UPCOMING EVENTS/SCHEDULE:

### February 7th-

10am-Noon Pick Up  
Subs

### February 8th-

END OF TO TACKLE  
HUNGER FOOD  
DRIVE

Coffee Connect  
Pick Up Subs

### February 15th-

Outreach at Okoboji  
for 6th-12th graders

(no normal  
confirmation class or  
LIFE youth group)

7:30pm MIME  
practice

### February 18th-

7:30pm Ash  
Wednesday Service

### February 25th-

5:30pm Lenten Meals  
begin  
6:30pm Lent Service



*Sundays & Wednesdays*

# LOST ISLAND NEWS.

\*Tabitha Circle will be meeting on February 11th at Alaire's home at 6:50 pm.

\*Quilting will take place on Saturday, February 7th beginning at 9 am.

## 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 Board of Youth for sponsoring the "Coffee Connection" for the month of January. The Board of Youth will be sponsoring the next Coffee Connection on February 8th.
- Thank you to Funeral Group A for serving at Bev Hayden's funeral on January 3.
- Thank you to all of you who attended our Annual Meeting on the 18th. Also to those that attended Lost Island's Annual Meeting on the 25th.

## COLLECTING ITEMS THROUGHOUT LENT FOR MISSIONS

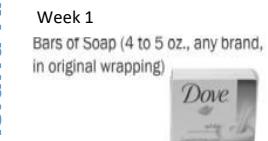
These kits will be sent to Lutheran World Relief where they will be delivered all around the world to those in need of them. Bring in any of the below items and share in the gift of not only essential items for living, but hope.

### 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



Week 1

Bars of Soap (4 to 5 oz., any brand, in original wrapping)



Week 3

Toothbrushes (adult size, in original packaging)

Week 4

Combs



Week 2

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



For more information contact Karyn

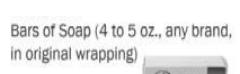
We will assemble our Personal Care Kits on 4/5/26 at Lost Island Lutheran Church

### Bethany Kits

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



Nail Clippers (metal, attached file optional)



Bars of Soap (4 to 5 oz, any brand, in original wrapping)



Combs



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 **end March**

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

## 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.sharing the dream.org](http://www.sharing the dream.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.

## SAVE THE DATE.



## SUPER BOWL FOOD DRIVE.



**QUARTERS**  
Quarter 3: January 25th-February 1st  
Toiletries such as deodorant, toothbrush, toothpaste, shampoos, body wash, diapers, feminine products, laundry soaps, etc.  
Quarter 4: February 1st-February 8th  
Gift cards (for bread, milk, eggs, meat, etc.) Kwik Star, Fareway, Dollar Fresh, Dollar General  
\*These should be \$5-\$30 a piece

## BUSY, AMAZING THINGS HAPPENING AT BETHANY THIS MONTH.



# STEWARDSHIP.

Stewardship, quite simply, is recognizing that everything we have and everything we are is a gift from God and being grateful and generous with those gifts. God reveals His perfect and infinite love for us most visibly in His Son, Jesus Christ.

Many people think of stewardship in terms of money, fund raising and the bottom line on the spreadsheet. Stewardship is much more! We are looking at different programs and events that will reconnect our faith with joyous giving, giving of our time, talents and resources. Please consider helping with WELCA, youth, Sunday School, greeters, ushers, lectors, singing in the choir, altar guild, communion assistants, acolytes and other activities.

***We ask that you please prayerfully consider your gifts to Bethany in 2026. If possible, could you consider giving a little extra each week, monthly or yearly. Any amount is deeply appreciated. With increasing expenses such as utilities, insurance, salaries, snow removal, janitorial expenses, elevator, furnace and air conditioning repairs, postage and general maintenance expenses our budgeted amounts are stretched.***

The Stewardship Committee is looking for new members and volunteers and we ask that you consider volunteering. By creating good stewards, we will ensure that Bethany will continue to grow and thrive.

What is the Steward's Prayer? "Heavenly Father, you taught us by your Son Jesus Christ that all our possessions come from you: help us to be faithful stewards of our time, our talents and our wealth, and to consecrate gladly to your service a due proportion for all that you have given us. Take us and make us your own; for Jesus Christ's sake. Amen."

## JANUARY 2026 FINANCIALS AS OF 1/27/26

Bethany Lutheran Church Treasurer's Report

If you have any financial questions, please email Michael at [bethanyfinance20@gmail.com](mailto:bethanyfinance20@gmail.com) and he can answer any questions.

	MONTHLY BEGINNING BALANCE 532.00		
INCOME		EXPENSES	
Offerings	9,303.51	Personnel Expenses	12,118.01
Transfers from other Funds	0.00	Program Expenses	31.00
Lost Island	0.00		
<b>Total Income</b>	9,303.51	Office Expenses	185.72
		Property Expenses	6,052.62
		Western IA Synod Other Donations	644.51 0.00
		Damascus Road	50.00
		NO ELCA Donations	0.00
		<b>TOTAL EXPENSE</b>	19,081.86
	Income Less Expenses	(9,778.35)	
	<b>GENERAL FUND BALANCE</b>	(9,246.35)	

## WAYS TO GIVE.



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



**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.

# February 2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 <b>Communion Sunday</b> 8:45 am Worship (LI) 9:30 am Sunday School (B) 10:15 am Sunday School (L) 10:30 am Worship (B)	2 Quilting	3 Diane Gone in The AM	4 <b>Noon</b> Men's Bible Study 3:30-9PM Youth Groups	5	6	7 <b>9 am</b> <b>Quilting at</b> <b>Lost Island</b> <b>10am-noon</b> <b>Superbowl</b> <b>Sub Pick up</b>
8 <b>COFFEE CONNECTION</b> 8:45 am Worship (LI) 9:30 am Sunday School (B) 10:15 am Sunday School (L) 10:30 am Worship (B) Superbowl Sub Pick up	9 Quilting	10 Sarah Circle	11 <b>Noon</b> Men's Bible Study 3:30-9PM Youth Groups <b>5:30 pm Youth Mtg</b> <b>6:30 pm Council</b>	12	13	14
15 <b>Communion Sunday</b> 8:45 am Worship (LI) 9:30 am Sunday School (B) 10:15 am Sunday School (L) 10:30 am Worship (B) 11:30am Sinnamon Sunday Meal 5-8pm Outreach	16 Quilting	17	18 <b>Noon</b> Men's Bible Study 3:30-5PM SACK No other Youth Groups ASH Wed Serv. 6 pm Lost Island 7:30 pm Bethany	19	20 <b>News- letter Articles Due</b>	21
22 8:45 am Worship (LI) 9:30 am Sunday School (B) 10:15 am Sunday School (L) 10:30 am Worship (B)	23 Quilting	24	25 <b>Noon</b> Men's Bible Study 3:30-9PM Youth Groups <b>Lenten Meal (Circles)</b> 5:30 pm <b>Lenten Service</b> 6:30 pm at Bethany	26 <b>Send out News- letter</b>	27	28

**\* 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]

\*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

## COMMUNITY/CHAMBER EVENTS

**Give from the heart.**  
*Save a heart.* 

### EMMETSBURG COMMUNITY BLOOD DRIVE

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2026**  
**1:00 pm - 5:30 pm**  
Holy Family Parish Center | 2003 Broadway St. | Emmetsburg

 **WALK INS WELCOME**

call: 800.287.4903  
visit: [lifeservebloodcenter.org](http://lifeservebloodcenter.org)  
text: LIFESERVE to 515.815.7242



Horizons Unlimited and Kiwanis are hosting their annual "Super Pancake Breakfast" on Sunday, February 8 from 8 am—12:30 pm. Tickets can be purchased for \$9.00 per person at the Horizons office (2107 Main Street) or at the door of the event for \$10.00 per person.

All proceeds benefit individuals with disabilities served by Horizons Unlimited.



## OTHER IMPORTANT NOTES

### Newsletter

If you would like a Hard Copy of the Newsletter, please let Diane know and she will have one sent to you. There will be a sign-up sheet on the back table or give her a call at (712) 852-4450.

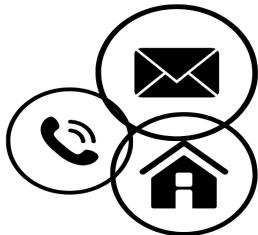
## BETHANY SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

BETHANY EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP  
MARVIN E SIMONSEN SCHOLARSHIP

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

Beginning in March, we will no longer be doing **Coffee Connection**. If you or some group would like to do it for a special occasion, please let the office know so that it can be promoted in the Bulletin. This is due to lack of people/groups offering to sign up.

## UPDATED CONTACT INFO.



*Please send the office or Kristin updated family/individual photos if you would like your photo updated or weren't apart of Bethany when last newsletter was done.*

*Please send office-updated addresses, email addresses, and phone numbers (especially cell phone numbers)*

Congregational Vote  
on March 8th  
regarding  
the Geelan Funeral  
Home Request.

## LENTEN SEASON.



February 18th  
LOST ISLAND-6:00PM  
BETHANY- 7:30PM

## Ash Wednesday Worship Service



LENTEN MEALS  
5:30PM MEAL  
Sponsored by Thrivent

FEBRUARY 25-  
WOMEN CIRCLES SERVING  
HOT HAM & CHEESE,  
SIDES, DESSERTS  
FREE WILL OFFERING TO  
LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF  
KITS

MARCH 11  
COUNCIL SERVING  
MAIDRITE SAND.,  
SIDES, DESSERTS  
FREE WILL OFFERING TO  
GENERAL CHURCH  
OPERATIONS

MARCH 18-  
SUNDAY SCHOOL SERVING  
TACO IN A BAG,  
DESSERTS  
FREE WILL OFFERING TO  
SUNDAY SCHOOL/VBS

MARCH 4-  
YOUTH SERVING  
PORK LOIN  
SAND., SIDES,  
DESSERTS  
FREE WILL OFFERING TO  
YOUTH MISSION TRIP

MARCH 25-  
YOUTH SERVING  
HOT TURKEY SAND.,  
SIDES, DESSERTS  
FREE WILL OFFERING TO  
YOUTH PROGRAMS

## MISSION TRIP 2026: DENVER, CO

JUNE 20-26, 2026



Keep the youth and adults in prayer throughout this school year as they raise money and prepare for this trip.

WANT TO GIVE ONLINE VIA CREDIT  
CARD?  
• AIM CAMERA AT QR CODE  
• CLICK LINK  
• FIND "YOUTH PROGRAMS & MISSIONS"  
AND CLICK DONATE  
• TYPE IN MEMO "YOUTH MISSION TRIP"



CHECKS CAN BE MADE OUT TO  
BETHANY LUTHERAN YOUTH

THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR SUPPORTING  
US!

## SAVE THE DATE BEY the Bloom OND



Acrylic Painting  
Class taught by  
Megan Newell with  
Fun, Fellowship, and  
a Great Cause  
(Youth Mission Trip)

SUN  
MAR 1  
2:00-4:00pm

ENTRY \$30  
(INCLUDES MATERIALS AND  
TREATS)

703 BROADWAY  
EMMETSBURG

