

OCTOBER 2023 EVANGEL

"BY WHAT
AUTHORITY
ARE YOU
DOING
THESE THINGS?"

MATTHEW 21:23, NRSV

Financial Report Attendance: Sun – 71, Mon – 21, Total = 92

2023	ACTUAL	BUDGET	% OF BUDGET
Sept. 24 & 25	\$3,813	\$4,545	84%
YEAR-to-DATE	\$165,923	\$177,255	- \$11,332

We now have a URL address and a QR code to make donations!

<https://tinyurl.com/BethellshpGiving>

The link has been added to our website (www.bethelish.org).

At this time, only our General Fund operating account is available, but we will soon include Special Funds, such as the Boiler/HVAC Fund.



You can also go to the App Store and Download the Vanco mobile app on your device.

If you prefer, mail your offerings to:

Bethel Lutheran Church, 333 E Ridge St, Ishpeming, MI 49849

Reader/Lector Orientation

Interested in reading the worship lessons but want some tips, encouragement and practice?

Come to lector orientation on October 1 & 2 following worship. We will gather in front of the sanctuary immediately after worship concludes for this short 10 minute orientation.

RIDING THE TIGER – Men’s Retreat

October 20, 5pm – October 21, 2pm / Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp
Posters are located on several of the bulletin boards in the church.



Wear RED to worship for Reformation!
October 29 and 30

SERVING US

Presiding Minister: Pastor Tim Johnston
Organist/Choir Director: Lucas Wickstrom

	SUNDAY	MONDAY
Lector	Steve Nelson	<i>Need Volunteer</i>
Usher(s)	Doug Perttunen	<i>Need Volunteer</i>
	Jill Bouza	<i>Need Volunteer</i>
Communion Assistants	Kathy Balzarini	<i>Need Volunteer</i>
	Bill Seppanen	<i>Need Volunteer</i>
9am Coffee Host(s)		-----
Van Driver	Gary Thibeault	-----

Serving Next Week: October 8 & 9

	SUNDAY	MONDAY
Lector	Laura Kantola	<i>Need Volunteer</i>
Usher(s)	Paul Altobello	<i>Need Volunteer</i>
	<i>Need Volunteer</i>	<i>Need Volunteer</i>
Communion Assistants	Kathy Balzarini	<i>Need Volunteer</i>
	<i>Need Volunteer</i>	<i>Need Volunteer</i>
9am Coffee Host(s)	Robyn Altobello	-----
	Diane Poirier	-----
Van Driver	Duane Palomaki	-----

The sign-up sheet for volunteering is located at the back of the sanctuary on the bulletin board. ***Please consider helping out.***

Sunday Morning Adult Education/Discernment Meeting

On Sunday, October 8 after worship, join me in the fireside room for a 30 minute or less discussion about what you might be interested in for adult education here at Bethel. I have particular interest in the possibility of reading and discussing different books. We could even have more than one group led by different people.

Come and join the discernment discussion.

Pastor Tim

Dear Members of Bethel,

Thank you for your generous donation to our family. ALS was not something we had in our plan, however, we know God has His own plan. We are so grateful for the support through prayers, cards and donations from your congregation.

From the bottom of our hearts, thank you!

-Kevin, Sabina, Josie, Katie and Eli Carlson

OCTOBER MEETINGS

Thursday, October 5 – 6pm – Social Ministry Committee

Sunday, October 8 – 9am – Worship & Music Committee

Tuesday, October 10 – 6:30pm – Council Meeting

Thursday, October 12 – 6pm – Property Committee

Monday, October 16 – 10am – Packing LWR Kits & Quilts

DAILY DEVOTION READINGS: October 2 - 7

Monday – Psalm 144 / Ezekiel 19:10-14 / 1 Peter 2:4-10

Tuesday – Psalm 144 / Isaiah 27:1-6 / 2 Corinthians 5:17-21

Wednesday – Psalm 144 / Song of Solomon 8:5-14 / John 11:45-57

Thursday – Psalm 23 / Isaiah 22:1-8a / 1 Peter 5:1-5, 12-14

Friday – Psalm 23 / Isaiah 22:8b-14 / James 4:4-10

Saturday – Psalm 23 / Isaiah 24:17-23 / Mark 2:18-22

During Martin Luther's great struggle to reform the church in the 16th century, the Holy Roman Emperor sought to silence him. So he spent some lonely months in Wartburg Castle under protective custody. There, as he fought despair, Luther scribbled the words "I am baptized" on his desktop as a reminder that he was living according to an ongoing call from God. He did not write, "I was baptized" but used the present-tense verb. For he rightly understood that in his baptism, God had adopted him as his son, and no human could take that from him.

Later, in his *Large Catechism*, Luther wrote: "To be baptized in God's name is to be baptized not by human beings but by God himself. Although it is performed by human hands, it is nevertheless truly God's own act." —from *The Wired Word*

Bibles for Students

As part of our congregation's baptismal promise to support families in raising their/our children in faith, we will be presenting students who have not received a Bible from Bethel with a bible. All students who are in 3rd Grade and higher are eligible. We ask that you attend the bible class on Monday, October 23 from 6:30-7:30pm (feel free to come for worship at 5:30 and stay for class, or if you can't make it for worship, that is ok too). Then, those students who have come to the class will be presented with bibles in worship on Sunday/Monday, October 29/30.

If you will not be in attendance at the class and would still like to receive a bible, please contact Pastor Tim.

SOLID AS A ROCK – YOUTH RETREAT

October 20 – 21 for Grades 3-6

Anyone interested in going needs to get their name, youth release form with clearly printed health insurance info, and \$20 to Connie in the Bethel office by October 4.

Bethel will cover \$55 of the cost from the Fortune Lake Camp Fund.

YOUTH EVENT:

Celebrate Fall with a Campfire!

As the days grow shorter, let's gather together for dinner (Pudgy Pies) and dessert (S'mores) around the campfire. We will end with a campfire worship!



Where: Prince of Peace, 555 Riverside Rd, Harvey

When: Sunday, October 8th, 5 – 7pm

Who: Youth in Grades 6th – 12th Bring a friend!

Youth from Bethel interested in attending can RSVP to Steve Nelson @ 906-201-1625.

Rides are available!

Bethel Visitors-

As people of faith we share in the mutual ministry of caring for those in our community of faith. Thank you for the ways you already connect with and care for those in our church community and those who are homebound or alone.

You are invited to help with an extended visiting ministry of care and connection that could include bringing communion to those you visit. This ministry is not intended to replace visiting that you already do and it is not intended to replace the visiting that the pastor already does.

The goal of this ministry is three-fold:

1. To bring connection and caring to more of our members.
2. To help you make use of your relationships and knowledge of community happenings to bring care and connection to more members in need.
3. To bring communion to those you visit

If you are interested, have questions, or would like to know more please contact Pastor Tim by Monday, October 9 (make sure Pastor Tim has your email as we will organize via email). Once we have our group determined we will schedule a one time, one hour 'training' meeting.



On Sunday/Monday November 5/6 we will mark All Saints' Day. The custom of commemorating all of the saints of the church on a single day goes back to at least the third century. The readings and liturgy call us to remember all who have died in Christ and whose baptism is complete and to remember all who have been newly baptized in the past year.

We will specifically name those who have died since last November 1, as well as those who have been baptized since last November 1. For names of people who died more than a year ago, we will not specifically list them in our service, but you will have an opportunity to name them on that day.

Please call the office with any names of people who have died or been baptized in this past year by Monday, October 30.

From the September Council Meeting:

- Approved repair of the fascia on the Third Street side of the building
- Discussed stewardship planning for the upcoming year
- Approved a sabbatical policy
- Approved a policy for all volunteers and staff working with youth
- Discussed the success of the “God’s work. Our Hands” bag lunch distribution by the Social Ministry and Outreach Committees
- Discussed the need to update and maintain Bethel’s website (need a volunteer)



Project: Keep Kids Warm

Tax-deductible donations can be sent to Wesley United Methodist Church, PO Box 342, Ishpeming MI 49849 (checks made out to Wesley Methodist Church with “Project KKW” in memo line).



100% of your donation goes toward the purchase of new winter outerwear for children in need in our area. Last year more than 370 children were helped!

FELLOWSHIP POTLUCK

The Outreach Committee would like to invite you to enjoy good food and fellowship on Sunday, October 29 at 5:00pm. Please bring a dish to pass.

Community Blood Drive

Wednesday, October 25 from 2:00 – 6:00 pm
Please call Laura Kantola (906-869-0970) or Linda Wommer (906-204-0852) for an appointment.

Walk-ins are also Welcome!



Serving in OCTOBER



Offering Tellers: Katie Barron & Julie Penrose

SUNDAY VAN DRIVERS

MAINTENANCE: Gary Thibeault

Oct. 1 – Gary Thibeault
Oct. 8 – Duane Palomaki
Oct. 15 – Earl Eliason
Oct. 22 – Gary Thibeault
Oct. 29 – Duane Palomaki



The van is available in Ishpeming & Negaunee for the 10:00am Sunday worship service. Call the office by noon on Fridays to sign-up.

Voicemails will not be heard until Monday morning.

9:00am Sunday Coffee in the Fellowship Hall

Oct. 1 – **Need Volunteers**
Oct. 8 – Robyn Altobello & Diane Poirier
Oct. 15 – Tami Ketcham & Gail Mattson
Oct. 22 – Debra Campbell & **Need Volunteer**
Oct. 29 – Lou & Ed Ouellette



Although National Volunteer Week is officially observed in April, every week thousands of volunteers help people in need. As volunteers can attest, sharing one's time and talents leads to many intangible benefits.

New research shows that volunteering and giving also provide physical and emotional advantages. Givers report an improved sense of well-being, lower stress levels, better physical health, an enriched sense of purpose in life and increased happiness.

As Ralph Waldo Emerson said, "It is one of the beautiful compensations of life that no man can sincerely help another without helping himself."

Night of

Sunday November 5 at 6:00pm will be a Night of Music here at Bethel! Your Bethel Bell and Chancel choirs will be joined by the Bethany Choir, The Negaunee Male Chorus's Strictly Gospel group as well as a few other musicians and groups from around the area! It will be a wonderful night of music. This will be a fundraiser for the purchase of the new hymnal supplement "All Creation Sings" for Bethel.

Think back to sometime before 1990 when no one had heard of or sung *Borning Cry*. But then it was included in the hymnal supplement "With One Voice" and has since become a favorite hymn here at Bethel. There are new (and a few returning) hymns waiting to be discovered and rediscovered in the hymnal supplement to the ELW, "All Creation Sings" (ACS). Most of the anthems the chancel choir is singing this fall are songs out of "All Creation Sings."

It's been 17 years since the "new" cranberry ELW hymnal came out. Countless hymns and songs have been penned since then, including 2 hymns included in this new supplement by a son of Bethel, Rev. Jonathan Rundman. ACS picks up right where the ELW ended. It offers more ways and resources for us to sing praises, pray and proclaim the good news in worship.

The cost of each hymnal is about \$16. If you'd like to help us to get a head start in purchasing copies for in our pews, please drop it in the offering so-marked. Your Bethel Worship and Music committee hopes to have ACS in our pews for Advent!

Fall Fest at Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp Saturday, October 7th

Continental Breakfast / Bake Sale

9:30-10:30am (Central Time) in the Dining Hall

Quilt Auction 11:00am (Central Time) in the Chapel

Draffle (Drawing/Raffle) Tickets and Hand-crafted Items
(Country Store) for Sale all morning in the Chapel

****** Join Us at the Quilt Auction! ******

Bethel women plan to carpool to this event on Saturday. Sign up in the office if you'd like a ride; or call the church office (906-485-5533). We can pick you up or you can meet us at the church. Time of departure is approx. 9am; we will return mid-afternoon.

MEMORIAL

In memory of **Leona Luke** from Anita & Bernie Mattila

WEDDING

September 9 – Jacob Adriano and Alyssa Usimaki

RADIO BROADCAST SPONSORS

August 27 – To the Glory of God from the Rachel Circle

September 3 – In loving memory of our parents
from Gary & Wanda Dolkey

September 10 – To the Glory of God from the Rachel Circle

September 17 – In loving memory of the Rosten, Tousignant and Kuisti
families from Anne & Reynold Kulju

September 24 – In celebration of my mom's (Peggy Chapman) birthday
On September 19 from Jason Chapman

Radio Support is always needed! Thank you!

WELCOME VISITORS!

Rose McBride, Beth Pynnonen, Robert Dobson,
Peter Johnson, Mike Mariuzza, Nancy Imm, family Yu/Cho,
Robert Lake, Geraldine Owens of Cheboygan, MI, Ron Kulju of
Albuquerque, NM, Nancy Lepisto of Boynton Beach, FL
and Jack Lepisto of Midland, NC.

Snowbirds!

*Bethany Lutheran Church in Scottsdale, AZ, has sent a letter of
invitation to snowbirds visiting that area.*

Email: pastor@bethanyscottsdale.com

www.bethanyscottsdale.com/Bethany/Scottsdale

Siblings in Christ,

You may have noticed the announcement in our bulletin that says children of any age who have

their hands out will receive communion. It is indeed true, all the baptized can be given communion. What an expression of the grace that exists in communion! You didn't earn it. You can't earn it. It is a mystery that brings grace to us in unexpected ways each week.

Let me tell you about Ace. Ace came weekly to the altar rail with his grandparents and the family had expressed they wanted the children to wait for now on receiving communion. Then the day came when Ace was just a little over three years old when after I passed him up for communion- giving him a blessing instead, and after grandma and grandpa went to sit down, he wouldn't move. He got red in face and angry and was being pulled away kicking and screaming, until he got away ran back up to the altar and put his hands out. He wanted communion. Was he old enough to learn all the stuff we adults would want to teach him? Could he write a paragraph about the meaning of communion? No. But he did know there was something sacred and special there. And so I looked at grandma or grandpa and with the nod given we gave Ace communion. He will take a class later and do some learning about communion but I think he already learned the most important lesson of all: God is present in, with and under this mysterious and not easily explained holy sacrament.

The thing is, do any of us understand the mystery of God's grace come to us in simple bread and wine? I don't think so. In fact, maybe children understand better because they understand with their hearts and haven't been 'taught' yet that they are 'supposed' to understand by thinking.

When one of our sons was young he would ask to be picked up during the final hymn and be carried to the baptismal font to get some water. Water not to play with, but water which he promptly put on his forehead, and on whatever parent picked him up. At three and a half years old he knew that the water in the font was special and important.

As we allow children to be a part of worship- to touch, to speak, to participate-like sponges they quickly suck up what is going on. They insist to receive communion bread knowing that it is important, they ask to go to the font and bless themselves and others- again, knowing that it is



*From the
Pastor*

important.

As any parent of young children knows, having children in worship is difficult, a challenge, even maddening. BUT, it is worth it! Jesus speaks to them, and Jesus speaks to adults through them. For many years the common wisdom was that children were to be seen but not heard, children needed to be taught about the meaning of communion before they could receive it, and maybe even that children don't really know what is going on. Yet, when we are dealing with God who is deep mystery, how can we claim that? Jesus himself said that in order to enter the kingdom of God we were to become like little children (Matthew 8.3). For all we know, children 'understand' the mystery of God better than adults, though I think it is more helpful to think of children and adults understanding in different ways and are a blessing to each other.

Children aren't the future of the church. Older adults aren't the past of The church. Children and adults of all ages ARE THE CHURCH, now, today. Together we are the Body of Christ and as we watch and listen we are given gifts, blessed, by those we worship with. If you have little children and are not in worship, I encourage you to come-you might not feel like you get anything out of it- but I bet your children will, and I bet that over time you will be surprised by the little joys that Jesus brings = through their presence with you. If you don't have children, or your children are grown, thank you for the ways that you continue to engage children as a part of our community of faith. Get to know their names. Support their parents. Make sure they know you are glad they are with us. Those relationships youth make with other adults have been found to be a vital part of their faith formation. See you in worship!

In Christ,
Pastor Tim

Pastor Tim will be away for a week of
Continuing Education October 15-21.

If you are in need of immediate pastoral care during this time, please
contact Pastor Steve Solberg at 906-458-2145.

Thank you for supporting learning and renewal for your pastor.

Remember the Shopping Cart in the upstairs hallway for nonperishable food and toiletries – these items are given to St. Vincent DePaul's food bank, which is in critical need.



- 1 Diane Collar, Kristine Kivela,
- 2 Debra Campbell, Elaine Giuchin, Elaine Harvala
- 3 Danielle Mattson, Sandra Niemi, Wendy Rautio, Parker Scott
- 4 Kristine Burke
- 5 Terri Brooks, Cheryl Fowler, Ethan Martell, Katie Mechling,
Neil Rundman
- 6 Jack Stanek
- 7 Rebekah Ayotte, Diane Cecchini, Tracy Hammar, Josey Moyle
- 8 Elizabeth Uuro
- 9 Lydia Burke, Dean Maki, Mason Mariuzza, Paul Meier
- 10 Chelsea Frustaglio, John Solomon
- 11 Kalli Gustitis, Mitchell Knapp, Ivan Niemi
- 12 Maren Flanigan, John Ostlund, Marie Poutanen, Abby Williams
- 13 Jenny Frustaglio, Ryan Mahoski, Carmen Nelson
- 14 June Peterson
- 15 Jessica Doney
- 16 Michael Chapman, Sylvia Massie, Marlys Roberts
- 17 Michelle Doney, Vicki Tews
- 18 Bryan Arseneau, Erika Bjerne, Mason Burke
- 19 Grace Johnson, Frank Kinnunen
- 20 Craig Eliason, Nolin Goethe, Cassy Sandberg
- 21 David Christian
- 23 Brad Jalonen
- 24 Bonnie Brewer, Josh Cittadino, Ruth Doney, Beth Martell,
Michael Rivord
- 25 Brandt Martell
- 26 Mila Brazeau, Bruce Chapman, Logan Cox, Sarah Etelamaki,
Robyn Nardi, Bobbi Nault, Michael Rautio, Amber Roberts,
Hilda Santti, Sydney Vial
- 27 Alan Balzarini, Branden Foreman, Anna Nurmela
- 28 Carter Cittadino, Gerald Uren
- 29 Trinidy Ball, Brent Helsten
- 30 Bradly Solomon
- 31 Sarah Lyke, Mitchell Mutka, Bruce Talus



Radio Broadcast and Altar Flower Sponsors are needed!

Call or email the church office to reserve a date.

Radio broadcasts are \$80.00.

Office: 906-485-5533 or bethellutheran333@yahoo.com

You can also fill out the form below and turn it in
with your offering or mail it to

Bethel Lutheran Church, 333 E Ridge St, Ishpeming, MI 49849



I would like to reserve _____
(Sunday Date)

Radio Broadcast _____ * Altar Flowers _____

Print in bulletin (In memory of/In honor of/In celebration of):

From _____

Phone # _____

You will be called if the date has already been reserved.

* Flowers are ordered by you directly from your florist.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK

SUNDAY, OCT. 1

8:45am – Bell Choir
9am – Coffee Fellowship
10am – Worship & Sunday School
11am – Chancel Choir
– Lector Training

MONDAY, OCT. 2

5:30pm – Worship
6:40pm – Lector Training

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 4

1pm – Prayer Shawls

THURSDAY, OCT. 5

9am – Quilters
6:30pm – Social Ministry

FRIDAY, OCT. 6

Pastor Tim's Day Off

SATURDAY, OCT. 7

9am–12pm – Confirmation at
Immanuel, Negaunee

SUNDAY, OCT. 8

8:45am – Bell Choir
9am – Coffee Fellowship
– Worship & Music Cmte. Meeting
10am – Worship & Sunday School
11am – Chancel Choir
-- Adult Ed Discussion Meeting
5-7pm – Youth Campfire at Prince of
Peace, Harvey

MONDAY, OCT. 9

5:30pm – Worship

BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA, NGLS

333 East Ridge Street, Ishpeming, MI 49849 (906-485-5533)

E-mail Address: bethellutheran333@yahoo.com

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

Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 9 am – 1 pm