

BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA
333 East Ridge Street, Ishpeming, MI 49849
bethellutheran333@yahoo.com

There is nothing outside a
person that by going in can
defile, but the things that
come out are what defile.

Mark 7: 15,
NRSV



September Evangel

Treasurer's Report

August 22 & 23: Actual = \$2,682 / Budget = \$5,556 / 49%

YTD: Actual = \$164,515 / Budget = \$188,904 / 87%

Attendance: 64

Boiler Fund ~ \$11,215

If you cannot attend worship, please remember to mail your offerings
to Bethel Lutheran Church, 333 E Ridge St., Ishpeming, MI 49849

Radio Broadcast & Altar Flowers

We have openings to sponsor both radio broadcasts and altar flowers.
Contact the church office for the date you would like to reserve.

New Cell Phone Numbers:

Pastor Steve Weston – 906-204-0256

Pastor Evelyn Weston – 906-204-4979

Worship Schedule & Office Hours

Beginning on September 4, the evening services move to

Saturday and the office hours are

8:00am – 3:30pm (Monday – Friday)

***The church office is closed on Monday, September 6,
in observance of Labor Day.***



MASKS are recommended for worship
services due to the uptick in Covid cases
in Marquette County.

From Your Interim Pastors

Several decades ago, people realized that whenever a congregation moved quickly to replace a long-term pastor, it rarely worked. Usually, things just didn't work out. There was almost always severe conflict, and the new pastor had to leave after a year or two. That's when people got the idea for what we now call *intentional interim ministry*, where a pastor intentionally stays for only a year or two to help the congregation with the transition process and then moves on. It has worked over the years, and an effective process has been developed. In future newsletters we will have more to say about the details of the process. For now, it's enough to be aware that this is a time of transition. There will be tension and anxiety at times, but we'll all get through it. Our main job here is to help you folks with three things: adjust to Pastor Maki not being here; discern where God is leading in the future; and adjust to new pastoral leadership.

For now, we invite you to consider the lesson of the camp fire. If you spread out the burning logs of a camp fire, the flames will cease and you'll be left with dying embers. When you push the embers together, and maybe put some more wood on, the flames reappear. A Christian's spiritual life is kind of like that.

(This is Pastor Steve writing.) In a congregation I served many years ago there was an elderly couple I remember fondly, Ted and Hazel. They were both in their 90s, and though it was a strain on them, they continued to come to worship just about every week. Even though Ted's arthritis made it hard for him to get up the stairs, and even though Hazel could only hear about half of what was going on, they kept coming, because they believed it was important. After Hazel passed away, one of the younger men in the congregation shared this memory with me; "Some Sunday mornings I wake up and think of all the reasons not to go to church, how warm the bed is, how cold it is outside, how I have so many other things to do, and how I really just don't feel like it. But then I remember Ted and Hazel, and I think, if they can do it, so can I."

You may have seen lists of suggestions for how you can get the most out of your worship experience. Most such lists that I've seen include practical, common sense advice: arrive early; look over the bulletin before

the service; sit up; pay attention; take notes on the sermon; don't let yourself get distracted by the attire or behavior of other people or their children; don't count the organist's mistakes; be open to any new insights you might hear; etc.

These bits of advice sound good, but they miss the point entirely. The way to get the most out of worship is to begin by *not* worrying about what *you* get out of it. Rather, begin by remembering that you are part of a worshipping community, part of something bigger than yourself.

You'll get the most out of worship if you focus first of all on God, and second on how your participation can be a blessing to those around you. Think of the hymns as your chance to sing to your neighbors about God's love. Speak the words of the Creed as an encouragement to others to be firm in their faith. If one Sunday's sermon doesn't seem to connect for you, remember that someone else might have needed to hear precisely that message.

Above all, show up. Even if you do nothing else, your mere presence in worship can encourage others in their faith. Ted and Hazel understood this. That's why it's like a camp fire. Come to worship, not for your own benefit, but for everyone else's, and you'll be amazed at how your own spiritual flame gets rekindled.

Peace and blessings!

Pastors Steve & Evelyn Weston



Weekly Calendar

Sunday, August 29 8am – Worship
 9am – Coffee & Fellowship
 10:30am – Worship

Saturday, September 4 6:30pm – Worship

Sunday, September 5 8am – Worship
 9am – Coffee & Fellowship
 10:30am – Worship

The church office will be closed on Monday, September 6,
in observance of Labor Day.

Office hours will resume at the regular hours of
8:00 am – 3:30 pm Monday through Friday.

*God beyond time ... teach us to pause in this moment, to tuck ourselves into
the curve of your slow arm, that we may know the miracle of now, the gift of
this moment: you beside and beyond us, welcoming us outside of all we
measure, and standing with us in it. May we see the goodness of our still
hours and days, sunrises, sunsets, and the darkness where our rest is found.*

—Micha Boyett in *A Rhythm of Prayer* (edited by Sarah Bessey)

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

Pastor Steve Weston: ext. 302 (cell – 906-204-0256)

Pastor Evelyn Weston: ext. 305 (cell – 906-204-4979)

Administrative Assistant-Connie Kangas: ext. 301

Sunday School – Jenn Juntunen BethelSS@yahoo.com

Chancel Choir – Sue Pohlman (cell – 906-251-1737)

Bell Choir – Lucas Wickstrom (cell – 906-204-6800)



Sunday School will resume on September 12!
All children from age 3 to Grade 7 are invited
to attend. Starting time is 9:15 a.m. and ends
at 10:15 a.m. If you would like to pre-register, contact the church office
at bethellutheran333@yahoo.com or Jenn Juntunen, Sunday School
Director, at BethelSS@yahoo.com.

We are also in need of teachers!

We're looking forward to seeing the children back again!



Altar Guild members are involved in
cleaning and changing the paraments (altar
cloths) and banner, cleaning and
polishing the brass & silver candlesticks and
communion cups/trays, changing the hymn board,
changing candles when needed.

Some of these things are seasonal, some are
weekly. It is hopeful that we have at least 8
members volunteer so that it can be done
on a rotating basis. Our current altar guild
members will be happy to 'train' new members.

Boiler/AC Envelope

Enclosed is an envelope for donations to the Boiler/Air Conditioner
Fund. Our boilers and the unit on the roof are getting older, needing
repairs, and parts are getting harder to find. The process for getting cost
estimates is happening; our fund has been growing, but much more will be
needed. Thank you for your support!

CONFIRMATION

Plans for Confirmation classes are in the works.
More info will be forthcoming in the mail, bulletins and posted
on Facebook.

August 10 Meeting:

- Technology has been upgraded and the office now has wi-fi
- Re-keying of exterior doors will be researched
- Church/Synod events will be posted on the bulletin board outside office
- Council is researching options for air conditioner
- Pastors Steve & Evelyn Weston's membership transfer to Bethel was approved
- We will utilize ushers and lectors at church services, but no greeters yet
- Welcome for the Westons between services on Sunday, August 22
- Scholarship from Jarvinen Seminary Fund to Jonathon Rundman



Council Members~ President: Julie Luehmann,
 Vice President: Kay Tupala
 Secretary: Carol Holmgren

Stephanie Nelson, Warren Heikkila, David Holli, Katie Barron, Bernie Mattila, Kay Johnson, Scott Perry, Vickie Voegtline, Ron Oja, Joyce Anderson, Dean Maki, Willow Lake



Bethel's organist, Sue Pohlman, is in need of help getting to church and home (she lives in Marquette). She is utilizing the MarqTran bus as much as possible, and she does have three people who have volunteered so far.

If you are able to help on Sundays or the Saturday evening worship services, please contact the church office for more information. Thank you!

The WELCA Cluster 8 Fall meeting has been cancelled. With the current uptick of COVID-19 cases, it was thought best to wait until Spring.

Offering Tellers for September
 Willow Lake & Carol Holmgren

Church Council Meeting – Tuesday, September 14, at 6:30 p.m.

Grounds Maintenance



For the week of:

Sept 5	Harlen Heikkila	Sept 19	John Wiitanen
Sept 12	Mike Vial	Sept 26	Bud Hart



Rides Available

Van Drivers for September

September 5	Earl Eliason
September 12	Gary Thibeault
September 19	Duane Palomaki
September 26	Earl Eliason

VAN MAINTENANCE ~ Gary Thibeault

www.Bethelish.org

Did you know we have a website? This is the address, but if you check it out, you will notice that it is very out-of-date and needs to be updated.

If you would like to volunteer for this project, please contact Connie in the church office. We have a website developer who will work with you to give us a nice, new, updated website.
 485-5533 or bethellutheran333@yahoo.com



Homebound and unable to attend worship services: please call the church office if you would like to be added to the pastors' visitation schedule.

Hospitalized: please notify our pastors or the church office. Privacy laws are such that hospitals are restricted from giving us information about patients. We don't want to miss anyone!



Kits will not be sent this year because there is too little time before the shipping date. The items will be stored for next year.

Put the items in the gray plastic storage bin in the hallway. You do not have to donate the full-kit quantity of items, as they are grouped together later for shipment. Thank you!

PERSONAL CARE KITS:

- 1 lightweight bath towel (maximum 52" X 27"), dark color recommended
- 2 bath-size bars (4 to 5 oz.) of soap, any brand, in original wrapping
- 1 adult-size toothbrush in its original packaging
- 1 sturdy comb
- 1 metal nail clippers (attached file optional)



Lifelong Faith Formation: Synod Offers Online Classes Beginning in September

Visit www.nglsynod/lifelongfaithformation for details

Registration is now open for the fall 2021 schedule of Lifelong Faith Formation, a program of the Northern Great Lakes Synod. The classes provide fun and interesting opportunities for people

from across the synod to connect with each other online, via Zoom, during these uncertain times.

The fall schedule includes these offerings beginning in September and October:

- **Biblemania! Reading Through Some of the 66 Books of Food for the Soul**
- **Ezekiel Bible Study**
- **Intermediate Biblical Greek**
- **Walking Together: Companionship with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania**
- **An Introduction to Family Systems Thinking**
- **Book Study of *Friedman's Fables* (by Rabbi Ed Friedman): "Metaphors for Family Systems Thinking"**
- **Holy Communion Post-Pandemic: What, When, Where, Who, and Why**

For more information, visit www.nglsynod.org/lifelong-faith-formation or contact Deacon Lori Ward at (615) 519-1969 or lori.ward@nglsynod.org.

GROUPS YOU CAN JOIN

"Make a joyful noise unto the Lord!"

The **Chancel & Bell Choirs** are always looking for new members.

The Chancel Choir will meet each Sunday at 11:30am beginning Sept. 5

The Bell Choir meets on Wednesday at 5:30pm beginning Sept. 15

The **Women's Christian Service Quilters** meet each Thursday at 9:00 a.m. beginning

on September 9. If you can use a pair of scissors,

sew a straight line, or tie a knot, there is something for you to do to help.

You are welcome, even if you can only join them 'part-time'!

A time of fellowship with coffee & goodies is included!

The **Knit & Crochet Group** makes Prayer Shawls for those who are suffering from a

loss or an illness. The group meets in the Fireside Room on the

1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month at 1 p.m. beginning September 15.

Women of the ELCA Circles

All women are invited to join a circle... you will find:

- support on your faith journey
- opportunities to serve and make a difference in your community and around the world
- a community of women that prays together
- Bible study
- the joy of growing in faith and friendship

* Deborah Circle- 2nd Wednesday at 1 p.m.

* Martha Circle- 3rd Tuesday at 10 a.m.

* Rachel Circle- 4th Tuesday at 1 p.m.

The Circles meet in the Fireside Room/Library.

The **Bethel Churchmen** will meet for coffee, donuts and devotions on

Saturday. September 11, 9 a.m. at Bethel in the small hall.

Due to covid restrictions, there is no other place at this time to meet.

Come and meet our new Interim Pastor Steve Weston!

FUNERALS/GRAVESIDE/MEMORIAL SERVICES

July 31 – Michelle (Wickstrom) Brendalen (nonmember); died Nov. 8, 2020

August 12 – Howard Matthew Harsila; passed away August 2

August 14 – Linda Lou Asmund; passed away August 11

God bless their memory among us.

MARRIAGE

August 14 – Seth & Ashley (Enos) Brewer

Congratulations and God's blessing on your marriage!

RADIO SPONSOR & ALTAR FLOWERS

August 15 – In loving memory of Janet Wentela from her daughters.

Radio Broadcast & Altar Flowers

We have openings to sponsor both radio broadcasts and altar flowers.

Contact the church office for the date you would like to reserve.

MEMORIAL GIFTS

In Honor of **Pastor Maki's 28 years of Service** from Nancy Kamppainen.

In Memory of ***William Koski*** from Paul Outinen.

In Memory of ***Steven & Howard Harsila*** from Shirley & Frank Kinnunen.

In Memory of ***Michelle (Wickstrom) Brendalen*** from:

Mary & Bud Poirier Neil & Mary Rundman

Pastor Lauri & Lois Maki

In Memory of ***Steve Giuchin*** from:

Bruce Chapman Ted & Mildred Balzarini


In Memory of ***Linda (Pantti) Asmund*** from

Ralph & Pat Watters Doug & Diane Collar

Neil & Mary Rundman Ed & Kathy Lundin

Dean Patron Harlan & Nona Heikkila

Jo & John Ruona LaVerne Koski

- 
- 1 Lauri Maki III, Garrett Mann
 - 2 Randy Harsila, Shawn Hodges,
Michael Isaacson, Tyler Maki,
Jennifer Nicholas
 - 3 Ayla Cox, Annette Ebner, Craig Etelamaki
 - 4 Jean Bilkey, Carol Brown, Tammy Hebert, Emma Uuro
 - 5 Kaitlyn Williams
 - 6 Kevin Goethe, Jesse Sihtala, Sarah Stanek,
 - 7 Alyssa Anderson, Gatlin Karvonen, Jesse Michaud, Steven Nurmela,
Kathleen Ruokala
 - 8 Kara Ball, Lillian Swanson
 - 9 Allen Anttila, Shirley Harvala
 - 10 Gabrielle Kautz, Michael Ostlund
 - 11 Tony Bachmann, June Harsila, Cassondra Kitto
 - 12 Marc Hillman, Kevin Kaminen, Mark Livermore, Richard Mattson
 - 13 Wayne Kaminen, Sheila Meier
 - 14 Mariann Annala, Lisa Brewer, Nathan Brewer, Gavin Cittadino, Alexa Davis,
Marlene Eliason, Joseph Giroux, Owen LaMarre, Karen Palomaki, Anistyn Skytta,
Lexi Thibeault
 - 15 Robert Mechling
 - 17 Caleb Anderson, Theresa Mashburn
 - 18 Norman Bjorne
 - 19 Peggy Chapman, Brittney Hays, William Nardi
 - 20 Dorothy Meyer, Dylan Perry, Samantha Rivord, Kyle Sihtala
 - 21 Mary Doney, Vickie Voegtline
 - 22 Lori Butler, Niina Nykanen
 - 23 Nicholas Parkinen
 - 24 Sharon Bocklund, Kelly Coluzzi, Leslie Frake, Abby Kulju, Tyler Martinac,
Josie Mechling, Robbie Mechling, Amber Racine
 - 25 Luke Abendroth, Devin Ball, Seth Brewer, Sandra (Mattila) Cittadino,
Christopher Eagling
 - 26 Tammy Annala, Nichole Asgaard, Cheryl Fleury, Hayden Freudenstein,
Autumn Tall, Jane Webb
 - 27 Gail Hooper, Heidi Kugler, Alexandria Livermore, Rita Palomaki,
Gary Walimaa
 - 28 Sophie Mahoski
 - 30 Elizabeth Anderson, Dylan Giuchin, Nicole Illikainen, Paul Koch,
Tasha Sullivan, Sara Thibeault, Collin Wiitanan

COMMITTEES

CHECK THEM OUT! – THERE IS SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE!

Attend a meeting or two to see if it you'd like to join; there is no obligation! Keep an eye on the church calendar for dates and times.

BETHEL BBQ ~ plans, prepares for, serves at & cleans up after the Bethel Barbeque, which is held late in July or early August.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION ~ This group meets 2 to 3 times a year to discuss Sunday School & Vacation Bible School.

EVANGELISM ~ Members deliver goodies to a public service agency once a month; small gifts are prepared for visitors; in the past, free coffee and postage stamps have been handed out.

FINANCE ~ The committee meets usually only once in the fall to go over the next year's budget. A proposed budget is developed, sent for approval by the council, then voted on at the Annual Meeting.

MEMORIAL FUND ~ Review and recommend items/gifts to purchase for the church.

PERSONNEL ~ The committee will meet to discuss issues such as a staff position opening. They interview candidates, as well as update job descriptions, as necessary.

PROPERTY ~ The committee meets to discuss any property issues and repairs. A wide variety of skills are needed.

SOCIAL MINISTRY ~ They usually meet twice each year. The committee handles blood drives, Adopt-a-Highway, Thanksgiving meal, Easter and Christmas cards/gifts to nursing home residents, birthday cards to members 80 years & older, Christmas cookie platters for shut-ins & bereaved Bethel families, the Giving Tree & Christmas baskets.

STEWARDSHIP ~ The Stewardship Committee plans the stewardship campaign. Materials are provided through the ELCA & the Synod office.

VAN ~ Responsible for maintaining the van; members are assigned by month. You may also volunteer to pick up members who cannot drive for the 10:30am service.

YOUTH ~ Plans larger youth events. Members are occasionally called to make soups, bars, etc. for events; sometimes to help chaperone.

WORSHIP & MUSIC ~ Discuss worship & music for the Sundays & Seasons of the Church Year, and arranges for special music for worship services.