

RESOURCES FOR WORSHIP

February 7 - Fifth Sunday After Epiphany
8:00 a.m. & 10:45 a.m. Communion & Worship

Guest Pastor Rev. Lee Liverance,
 Our Savior's, Iron Mountain
 Forum Hour "Tanzania" by Rev. Lee Liverance
 Special Music Senior Choir
 Liturgist Tom Wilson
 Lector & Closing Prayers Ken Bodell
 First Lesson Isaiah 6:1-8 [9-13]
 Second Lesson 1 Corinthians 15:1-11
 Gospel Luke 5:1-11
 Hymns 242 (tune 407), 506, 494, 259
 Sound System - 10:45 John Norman
 Acolytes - 10:45 Amanda Bink, Anna Chernick
 Nursery Supervisor Traci Harris
 Nursery Mom/Dad - 10:45 Lee Anne Strand
 Ushers - 8:00 Eric Bessonon & Elizabeth Moberg
 10:45 Will Carne, Gregg & Rosemary Hendrickson,
 Robert Judson, Dennis & Marilyn Pearson

February 14 - Transfiguration Sunday
8 a.m. Communion Service & 10:45 a.m. Worship

Interim Pastor Rev. Dean A. Peterson
 Forum Hour "What Do We Mean When We Say
 The Word "Love" - a "Twist" on Valentine's Day
 Special Music Cherub & Children's Choir &
 Confirmation Handbell Choir
 Liturgist Lauren Kulbertis
 Lector & Closing Prayers Julie Roll-Phillips
 First Lesson Exodus 34:29-35
 Psalm 99
 Second Lesson 2 Corinthians 3:12 - 4:2
 Gospel Luke 9:28-36 [37-43]
 Hymns 291 [tune 535], 89, 80, 260
 Sound System - 10:45 Jake Zelenak
 Acolytes - 10:45 Paige Rau, LiAnne Roll
 Nursery Mom/Dad - 10:45 Angie Miron
 Ushers - 8:00 Eric Bessonon & Jim Moberg
 10:45 Ken Bodell, Will Carne, Gregg & Rosemary
 Hendrickson, Dennis & Marilyn Pearson

February 17 - Ash Wednesday
Noon & 7:00 p.m. Ash Wednesday Services

Sound System 7 p.m. Jake Zelenak
 Acolytes 7 p.m. Blake Beauchamp, Andrew Sedlar
 Hymns Earth to Ashes, Everything Is One, 99, 197

February 21 - First Sunday In Lent
8:00 a.m. & 10:45 a.m. Communion Service

Interim Pastor Rev. Dean A. Peterson
 Forum Hour "What's Going On At Our Seminaries"
 Special Music Senior Choir
 Liturgist Jordan Beck
 Lector, Prayers & Communion Assistant Anna Burch
 First Lesson Deuteronomy 26:1-11
 Second Lesson Romans 10:8b-13
 Gospel Luke 4:1-13
 Hymns 93, 341, 229, 439
 Sound System -10:45 Andrew Sedlar
 Acolytes - 10:45 Greg Schwalbach, Sam Strand
 Nursery Mom/Dad - 10:45 Julie Sanville
 Ushers - 8:00 Eric Bessonon & Elizabeth Moberg
 10:45 Ken Bodell, Will Carne, Gregg & Rosemary
 Hendrickson, Dennis & Marilyn Pearson

February 24 - Midweek Lenten Service
Noon & 7:00 p.m.

Sound System 7 p.m. Kyle Piehler
 Acolytes 7 p.m. John Norman
 Hymns Jesus Loves Me, 305, 98, 272

February 28 - Second Sunday In Lent
8:00 & 10:45 a.m. Worship

Interim Pastor Rev. Dean A. Peterson
 Forum Hour "The Bucket List" - Things To Do
 Before You "Kick The Bucket"?
 Special Music Cherub & Children's Choir
 & Confirmation Handbell Choir
 Liturgist Sara Beck
 Lector & Closing Prayers Jon Lancour
 First Lesson Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18
 Psalm 27
 Second Lesson Philippians 3:17 - 4:1
 Gospel Luke 13:31-35
 Hymns 343, Jesus Keep Me, 436 (tune 494), 95
 Sound System - 10:45 Cory McKeever
 Acolytes - 10:45 Alex Madden, Audrey Wilson
 Nursery Mom/Dad - 10:45 Sandy Wilson
 Ushers - 8:00 Eric Bessonon & Jim Moberg
 10:45 Ken Bodell, Will Carne, Gregg & Rosemary
 Hendrickson, Dennis & Marilyn Pearson

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CHURCH STAFF

Interim Pastor Rev. Dean A. Peterson
 Secretary Sandy Flinn
 Director of Parish Ministries Jeanne Sauter
 Custodian John Cavadeas
 Financial Secretary Eleanore Beck

EMAIL ADDRESSES

Pastor pastor@bethanyescanaba.org
 Secretary sflinn@bethanyescanaba.org
 Dir. of Parish Ministries jhsauter@bethanyescanaba.org

WEBSITE ADDRESS

www.bethanylutheran-escanaba.org

OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Thursday 8:30 to Noon - 1:00 to 4:30
 Friday 8:30 to 12:30

PHONE NUMBERS

Church Office 786-6642
 Ark Pre-School 786-5410
 Rev. Paul M. Mai 786-3664
 Jeanne Sauter's Home 786-8719
 Sandy Flinn's Home 786-6949

Interim's Ink

"But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions – it is by grace you have been saved." - Ephesians 2:4-5 (NIV)

Happy Valentine's Day! Soon we will be celebrating the day set aside to honor St. Valentine – a day when we focus on love and how much our loved ones mean to us. I've always enjoyed Valentine's Day. My sister and an uncle were born on Valentine's Day. The holiday is also a refreshing change of pace in the midst of mid-winter blahs. I like seeing all the pinks and reds decorating the stores, livening up our snowy, white world.

On Valentine's Day we most often think about the hearts and flowers aspects of love. Our decorations are full of cupids and hearts with arrows through them. We hope for and give away chocolates and flowers and jewelry (maybe even sparkling diamond ring jewelry, if we're really lucky!).

As we celebrate our love for our families, spouses, friends, boyfriends, girlfriends, fiancées, etc., it behooves us to celebrate also the love of the One who is the Author and Perfecter of Love. We have received God's love richly poured out for us in Jesus Christ. And this love is not simple symbols of hearts and flowers. This love is symbolized in the cross. The cross represents for us the ultimate sacrifice of love – Jesus Christ giving His earthly life up for our sakes' that we may have eternal life with Him in heaven. This is a love truly worth celebrating!

I have loved being a piece of Bethany's ministry for the past three months. It has been a wonderful time of meeting new people, learning new names and faces, engaging in new ministries, and making life-long friends. We are bound together eternally through the love of Jesus Christ. This is true of all Christians throughout time and place, including the saints in light. I will miss working alongside you on a regular basis, but I will always know that the goals we work toward remain the same – reaching out to others with the love of Jesus Christ.



For by
GRACE
you have
been saved
through
FAITH ...
it is the gift
of **GOD** ...

Ephesians 2:8, NRSV

In Christ's love,

Pastor Cori Johnson

Memorial Gifts

Gifts given to Bethany's Building & Memorial Fund through January 24th.

Building Fund – Phil & Chrysta Christensen, John & Teri DePlonty, Donald & Carol Metor, Harold & Vicki Shcuh, Clarence & Dorothy Zeno, Mary Maercklein, Jon & Julie Neisius, Lil Zorza, Leon & Marlene Frishman, Erik Rubright, Alan & Shirley Sanville, Lewellyn & Marguerite Mineau.

ELCA Disaster Response to Haiti: gifts given by Bob & Bernice Larson, Terry & Karen Mokszycke, Dean & Elaine Peterson, Anna Sedler, Lisa Sedlar, Clare Atwood, Doug & Gayle Bradley, Bill & Lil Howe, Leroy & Charlene Scheeneman, Eleanore Beck, Jon & Julie Neisius, Wally & Sandy Flinn, Ruth Oberg.

Haiti on their minds by the Bethany Belles Circle - the earthquake and its ongoing consequences was on our minds at our January meeting, just two days after the quake struck on Jan. 12th. As our group gathered and thought of the blessings we have in our homes and community, we wanted to send help to the innocent victims of this tragedy. Those people may have some semblance of a church to worship in today, but once they walk out the doors, they have no homes to go to. So, we used our circle offering and added a little more from our "blessing kitty" and gave \$150 to add to Bethany's gift to Lutheran World Federation's Haiti Earthquake Relief. We learned that every dollar will go directly to the island. It made us feel that even in this small way, we helped.

Music Fund: *in memory of Mark Neumeier by Ralph & Dorothy Zenker and a gift by Jon & Julie Neisius.*

Air Conditioner: *a gift given by Judi Dagenais and Susan Dagenais.*

in memory of Mark Neumeier & Laila Barber by Harold & Nina Johnson.

Radio Broadcasts

The cost of broadcasting the 10:45 a.m. worship service on Sunday mornings is \$85.00. Two people may share the cost for the same Sunday. Available Sundays in 2010 are: March 28; April 11 (\$42.50), 25; June 13, 20; July 4, 18; August 1, 15; September 5; October 24; November 28; December 5, 12, 19. Two people may sponsor the same Sunday at a cost of \$42.50 each.

Altar Flowers

Altar flowers are \$17.00 a Sunday. If the Sunday you are looking for is filled call the church office to see if the center vase is available (\$8.50)

Available Sundays are: April 18, 25; May 2; June 20, 27; July 18; August 15, 29; October 24, 31; November 7, 14, 21. The cost is \$17.00.

January Worship Attendance

January 3 - 211 January 17 - 201
January 10 - 241 January 24 -197

Avg. year to date this year as of 1/24 . . . 209
Avg. year to date last year 225

New Coffee Available

Fair Trade Coffees, Teas & Cocoa

"Love Buzz" - just in time for Valentine's Day - a new French & Full City Roast Coffee for Drip Grind coffee makers. It's sweet, sultry and smooth with an unexpected bite.

NGLS Professional Leaders Event

The Northern Great Lakes Professional Leaders Event will be held at Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp on February 21-22, 2010. Presiding Bishop Mark S. Hanson will be the speaker.

The theme this year is:

"Strengthening Our Leaders". Leadership in our synod is: *Christ-Centered - Healthy - Confident - Skilled.*



Family fun for large families, small families young families and grandparents! Come to the Gladstone Ski Park on Sunday, Feb. 7

The Delta Conference annual Tubing Party will be held at the Gladstone Sports Park on Sunday, February 7th for everyone in the family from **6:30-8:30 p.m.** Bring a snack to share - beverages will be provided. It's sure to be an evening of fun! The cost is \$2.00/person or \$5.00/family. We realized that February 7 is also Super Bowl Sunday, but the sports park has a large screen TV, and has in the past hosted Super Bowl parties. With that in mind we are making this a "Tubing-Super Bowl Party." The Sports Park is making new snow after the thaw this past weekend!

An RSVP by February 2nd is not necessary, but it very helpful to make sure enough staffing is provided. Sign up by calling the church office!

Snack - it Café

Snack Essentials needed every week: paper towels, paper bowls, paper plates, napkins, 5 oz. Glasses.

February 7, 2010 - "A Fishy Treat"

Bag of celery, soft cream cheese,
1 bag of raisins, 1 bag of small pretzel twists

February 14, 2010

"One, Two, Three in a Cloud"

2 large tubs of whipped topping
30 people shaped cookies
30 heart shaped cookies

February 21, 2010

"Frown Upside-Down Cookies"

30 large sugar cookies
2 containers of frosting
2 bags of thin licorice whips
1 large bag of chocolate chips

February 28, 2010 - "Circles for Friends"

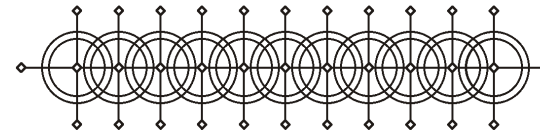
1 large box of Circular Cereal

Senior Club

The Senior Club will enjoy a Ham Loaf dinner at their February 9th gathering. Please call the church office (786-6642) for a reservation for the noon catered meal. The cost is \$8.00 a plate.

The program has been titled **"Memories"**! You'll need to come to Senior Club to find out "whose or what" memories it will be all about.

Bethany Women Circles & Studies Continue in 2010



Each year the Circles focus on a particular study from the Lutheran Woman Today Magazine. Since September the theme has been: **"To God's Beloved: Paul's Letter to the Romans."** Topics monthly have been Encouragement, Obedience, Hope, Change, and Trust for January and February.

Monthly 50-60 women meet together in Circles for the study, planning mission activities, and for social fellowship. Circle members also make visits to those in nursing homes, are homebound, or hospitalized.

Circles meet in the morning, afternoon or evening and new ones can be formed for specific times and needs. Call Jeanne Sauter at 786-6642 if you're interested in joining a group or starting a new one.

Birthday Recognition

80, 85, or 90+

Our computer program for some reason is not pulling up all of our birth dates. If you are turning **80, 85 or 90+** this year and we have not included you in the bulletins previously, please inform the church office right away. If you have never given us your birth date please do so as soon as possible.

Please accept our apology, we are working to solve the problem.



With devastation and floods occurring cleaning supplies are needed. The Women of the ELCA have taken on this mission project and are seeking to fill buckets that can be given to those in need. Last year Wisconsin had severe flooding and were helped with the buckets. Devastation and floods can occur anywhere — near or far as we see what is happening in Haiti.

We will bring the filled buckets to the Spring Cluster (date to be announced later). The white buckets will be in Jeanne's office for dropping off items.

Even one item from the list below will be a gift for someone who is a "cleaner-upper".

Kit Contents: Bleach two 1-quart or one 82 oz. Bottle, 5 scouring pads, 7 sponges, 1 scrub brush, 18 cleaning towels (reusable wipes), Liquid laundry detergent (two 25 oz. or one 50 oz. Bottle), 1 household cleaner a 12-16 oz. Bottle, 50 clothes pins, Clothes line (two 50 feet or one 100 ft.), 5 dust masks, 2 pair latex gloves, 1 pair work gloves, 24-bag roll of heavy-duty trash bags, 33-45 gallon (remove roll from box before placing in bucket), 1 insect repellent spray, 6-14 oz. can (if aerosol, cans must have protective caps.)

RIDE - one of our members is no longer able to drive and has asked if someone from the congregation would be willing to pick her up for church on Sunday mornings. Please call the church office (786-6642) if this is a possibility for you or sign a pew card today.



Youth Committee

It would be really exciting to have a youth program in place by the time we meet our new pastor. We have some fun things going on for our kids but we could really improve on them with a little creativity. If the adults would divide up activities so you would only be in charge of one a year it would make life a lot easier for everyone. The committee would have to meet on a regular basis to establish some continuity between people and the events taking place but I believe this could work. Once we are up and running we could invite Immanuel and Christ the King to join us for some of the fun.

Two groups would have to be established. One for the high school students and one for the Middle School students, but only one Youth Committee. We are looking for a couple more people for our committee including two high school students and two middle school students so they could give the adults some input. Let's give this a try "for the Kid's Sake" after all they are the future of Bethany!

OUR THANKS AND APPRECIATION to Dr. Don Nyquist for teaching our confirmation students each week and to Mary Jo Roll for teaching our fifth grade communion classes. We really appreciate your time, energy and enthusiasm

Let's Go To The Movie **STUDENTS 13 YEARS AND UP**

(or by permission given by parents of 12 year olds)

We're planning a night at the movies when *Invictus* comes to the local theatre. "This is an incredibly entertaining movie about the power of forgiveness, the importance of sports, the art of transformative leadership and the reconciliation of the races. Directed by Clint Eastwood, this film is set in South Africa in 1994 as Nelson Mandela (Morgan Freeman), after 27 years in prison, becomes the first black president of a country torn apart by years of violent racism.

Challenged with the task of governing a divided nation, Mandela realizes the importance of sports as something that people can all rally around. He urges the white captain (Matt Damon) of the rugby team to create a World Cup competitor that can win the respect of all South Africans, including the blacks who had previously rooted against them. Mandela sets the example by becoming their biggest fan. Through his leadership, he demonstrates to the whole country the power of forgiveness to release us from the restrictions of revenge, to remove fear and hatred of enemies, and to open the door to unity. *Invictus* is one of the best films of 2009 and must be seen, discussed and taken to heart by all religious people." (Warner Bros., PG-13 — brief strong language)." Quote taken from The Lutheran Magazine.

New Bible Study

WANT TO HAVE A GOOD TIME WITH FRIENDS and talk about your faith through a Lenten Journey.

What do these ideas mean to you, *Blessing the Enemy, Endurance, Joy in the Spirit, Giving of Yourself?* These and many other thoughts will be discussed at our Monday Morning Bible Study beginning on February 1 at 9 a.m. with coffee served at 8:30 a.m. The Book of Faith Journey will be used as a guide. Books will be available for you at the Bible Study or may be picked up in Jeanne's office.

Come join us for a good time making Lent 2010 something special!

*Bonnie Bauerle, Gaylene Bradley,
Elaine Peterson and Florence Bessonen*



It's time to think about Soup Suppers. We will need five+ people (one or more each week) in charge of the kitchen and making the soup. We have recipes for various soups in the church office. If you are willing to do this please sign a pew card or call 786-6642.

Soup Suppers will be on **Wednesdays: February 24, March 3, 10, 17, 24.** WE will begin the supper on February 24 and continue on consecutive Wednesday's until we no longer have volunteers.

Souper Bowl of Caring

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7 -Middle School Youth will hold soup pots at the church doors on "Souper Bowl" Sunday, February 7, 2010. Yes, Souper, it's not a typo. After our worship services and before the Super Bowl football game, some of Bethany's Middle School students will be holding soup pots and will solicit money cans and non perishable food items for the food pantry and the **Lutheran World Relief**. We will join with about 15,000 congregations nationwide, collecting from their fellow church members.

Thrivent Financial will match \$1.00 for every \$2.00 donated by Thrivent members up to \$1 million for the potential of generating \$3 million. Funds can be directed to four Lutheran organizations to support their Haiti earthquake relief efforts: Lutheran World Relief (which we will support), ELCA Disaster Response, LCMS World Relief and Human Care and WELS Committee on Relief. Locally, there is a Thrivent Financial for Lutherans office located at 1612 Ludington St. in Escanaba.

Missing Dishes

Are you missing dishes? Have you forgotten to pick up your dish after you brought food to church for some event? A wonderful array of antique plates, Tupperware, Pfaltzgraff, casserole dishes, bowls, platters and 9x13 pans are now on a table in the Fellowship Hall. Please take a look and if you recognize yours, bring it back home. In mid-February, the left overs will be given to St. Vincent's or Goodwill. Thanks.

Kids

Lenten Program

Begins on Wednesday, February 24, and continues on March 3, 10, 17, and 24.

All we need to begin **“BAOBAB BLAST”** is you! Activity Site Leaders only plan one or two activities for each week. Suggestions and helpful information can be found in Jeanne's office. If you are able and/or interested in becoming a Site Leader give Jeanne a call at 786-6642 or stop in her office for a peek at the curriculum.

We will begin Baobab Blast on Wednesday, February 24 (we do not run the program on Ash Wednesday) and continue on Wednesday, March 3, 10, 17, and 24. However, if we don't have volunteers for the Children's program we will not be able to have one and the preschool thru forth grade kids will really be disappointed. Please consider helping with Baobab Blast! Give Jeanne a call or stop in a check out the material. A good program is only as good as its teaching staff!

Fifth thru ninth grade students are required to attend Lenten services as part of the Confirmation program at Bethany. Students will have the opportunity to help with the soup suppers and earn money for upcoming events as well as usher, worship and serve together with their Bethany family.

Please make every effort to have your child here each Wednesday evening during Lent.

●●● Some Things ●●● To Think About

A little pamphlet called **“Big Ways, Little Ways — to Tell Others About Jesus”** arrived in the mail last week. Over the weekend I opened it and began reading very short paragraphs about a variety of topics. This one caught my eye; **“Adjusting schedules and social events around worship services sends a strong message that you are devoted to your faith. Making church activities the constant and other activities the variable is proof of what's important to you.”** Your friends and family too, will learn that your family's church activities come first.

Here's a Lenten challenge for our Sunday School kids and you. How many Sundays and Wednesdays can you go to Worship and Sunday School without missing one? (o.k. we won't count Spring Break ☺) Are you able to show your friends that you are devoted to your faith? Why not invite your friends to come along with you to Sunday School and Worship?

Put your bank together, drop in a coin in every day and try to do something kind or helpful for your family, neighbor, friend at school or Sunday School and remember how much God loves you.

Youth Sunday

Thanks to Christina Anderson, Erika Carne and her cousin Shaylee, Ana Chernick, Chad Leisenring, Ryan Leisenring, Axel Madden, Jamison Norman, John Norman, LiAnne Roll, George Rubright, Greg Schwalbach, Andrew Sedlar, Anna Sedlar, Sam Strand, Jake Zelenak and James Zelenak for participating in the Youth Sunday Worship service. You all did a wonderful job leading worship and we thank you for your time, talent and “getting up early” to practice. **THANKS!**

Lenten Witness

“What to do for Lent” - a common question among pastors as the season of Lent draws near. But now this year, I will be in the pulpit instead of the pew. The question is of greater urgency. Yes, I have files full of Lenten messages, but this season was always special for me when I was in the parish because I sought to make it a time to learn something new or dig deeper into an element of my faith that had not been explored. The result of my pondering and prayer this year is “witness”. What does it mean to be a witness for Jesus Christ in this age whereby we can witness almost instantly events and happenings all over the world?

You have seen, as I have, the images of pain, turmoil and destruction in Haiti. We hear daily the personal testimony and witness of those directly involved in alleviating the suffering among the throngs of people who have lost everything. More than a few question why God would allow such a thing to happen. How do we witness to those who have such doubts? Do we leave such a task to the “professionals” (i.e. preachers) alone?

Midweek Lenten services begin on Ash Wednesday, February 17th. Each service will feature a witness who encountered Jesus during his lifetime. These fictional, first-person accounts have been drawn from a variety of sources, but hopefully will prompt you to consider the ways and means you bear witness to your faith in Jesus Christ. Do we really “love to tell the story” about Jesus Christ? How do we go about witnessing to our children or grandchildren? What kind of witness is Bethany making in our community these days?

I trust you get the “gist” of what I am describing. More important, I hope you are willing to take the time and be part of the community that gathers on Wednesday nights at 7 p.m. as a way for you to give witness to your faith journey. As an added experience, why not join with other Bethany folk for a soup supper on those evenings. You will be served with care by the youth of this congregation.

Forums for February

February 7 -Pastor Lee Liverance from Our Savior's, Iron Mountain will share his experiences and insights about the Christian community in Tanzania.

February 14 -What do we mean when we say the word **“love”** - a **“twist”** on Valentines Day.

February 21 - What's going on at our seminaries? - the challenges of preparing people to serve as Pastors today .

February 28 -The **“Bucket List”** - what would you put on your “bucket list” - things to do before you “kick the bucket”?

Church Basement Ladies Strike Again!

A crew of ladies met downstairs this past Thursday to clean the kitchen. They pulled everything out of the cupboards - washed them inside and out - put everything back in the cupboards, cleaned the counter tops, cleaned the ovens inside and out and washed all the chairs in the fellowship hall. The kitchen now looks *fantastic* thanks to: **Mary Anderson, Bonnie Bauerle, Char Cavadeas, Judi Dagenais, Norma Hopkins, Ruth Karkkainen, Elaine Peterson, Mary Jo Roll, Shirley Sanville, Jean Sovey, and Harriet Varvil.**