

Bethel Broadcaster



March 2026

Soup Suppers begin at 5:15 pm

followed by

Worship at 6 pm

The theme for mid-week services this year is

“A Way Home”

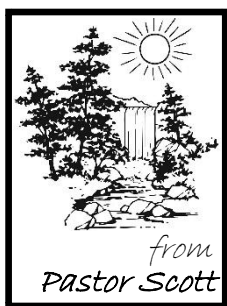
Mar 11: Our Savior’s Lutheran — *1600 University Dr.*

Mar 18: Hosted by Community Covenant & First United Methodist Churches—*Site still to be determined. Stay tuned.*

Mar 25: Pioneer Presbyterian— *1947 Riverside Ave.*

There is also a Lenten service each Wednesday morning at Emmanuel Lutheran Church. You are invited to attend at **11 am** each week. Pastors Scott and Christine are leading this service. *(All loose offerings made at these morning services and our Good Friday Tenebrae Service will be given to Abundant Life Homeless Shelter.)*





Dear Bethel,

The Lenten season, which is the forty days between Ash Wednesday and Maundy Thursday is a liturgical invitation for us to slow down, reflect, and repent. At first glance, this may not seem like a season that people yearn

for, like Christmas or Easter, but in experience, (both personally and professionally), that it is essential to daily living.

In a world that seemingly demands results, Lent encourages us to be disciplined, but in a way that builds up our faith, and encourages us to look within and nourish our inner lives. Many people do this by 'giving up' something for Lent...or possibly pushing themselves to try something new-an acknowledgement that difficulty can deepen the spiritual experience.

A few years ago, my Lenten discipline was to read more Carl Sagan. This may seem like an odd thing for a pastor to do, since Sagan was an atheist. But I've been a fan of his ever since reading his book *Contact*, in which aliens use science to communicate with humans. He was a deep thinker and an idealist, and he wasn't openly hostile to religion, although religious people did frustrate him when they assumed blind faith meant stopping critical thinking.

Although we wouldn't agree on everything, he's someone I'd enjoy sharing a cup of coffee with for quotes like:

“We are a way for the cosmos to know itself.”

“If you wish to make an apple pie from scratch, you must first invent the universe.”

“Every one of us is, in the cosmic perspective, precious. If a human disagrees with you, let him live. In a hundred billion galaxies, you will not find another.”

We live in a time where we are quick to marginalize one another for differences, or make their struggles a talking point in an ongoing culture war. The season of Lent, and thinkers like Sagan resist this. Differences don't have to mean dissent. We can learn so much about others, the world, and ourselves by gently exploring them.

Lenten blessings to you,

Pastor Scott Ehle

Kiwanis / ARC Blood Drive _____

Bethel will be the location of an American Red Cross Blood Drive hosted by our local Kiwanis club on Thursday, March 26th. Appointments will run from 9 am – 2 pm. There is currently a great need for blood in our region. Please make an appointment today. Go to RedCrossBlood.org or call 800-733-2767. Thank you.



Drumming and Dinner Youth Event _____

Try something new! Youth between 6th-12th grade are invited to exercise their mind and body with a unique drumming class led by a guest instructor. All equipment will be provided, and NO prior experience is needed! Drumming will be followed by dinner and a devotion. We will meet at Bethel Lutheran Church on Sunday, March 29



from 4:00 – 6:00 p.m. Friends are welcome! **Please RSVP to Stefanie Ehle at youthcoordinator@nglsynod.org by Thursday, March 26 to ensure enough equipment.**



Thank You to February Coffee Hour Servers _____

Mary Krah & Carol Johnson; Nancy & Bob Krysiak;
Anne Kelley; Cindy Baur & Carol Johnson

Rummage Sale Date is Set _____

Bethel will be holding a rummage sale on Friday and Saturday, May 15th & 16th. As you are spring cleaning or just downsizing please keep us in mind for your donations. (No adult clothes please.)

The funds raised this year will go to the ELCA national youth gathering which will be held in 2027. More info to come.



VBS Dates Just Announced _____

Save the date! Vacation Bible School will be held Monday, August 3rd through Thursday, August 6th.

March 29th is the Sunday of the Passion / Palm Sunday _____



Worship with Holy Communion will begin at 9:30 am with a procession of palms. We will read together the Passion of Our Lord according to the Gospel of St. Matthew.

On this day we encounter the paradox that defines our faith: Jesus Christ is glorified king and humiliated servant. We wave palms in celebration as Christ comes into our midst, and we follow with trepidation as his path leads to death on the cross. Amid it all we are invited into this paradoxical promise of life through Christ's broken body and outpoured love in a meal of bread and wine. We begin the week that stands at the center of the church year, anticipating the completion of God's astounding work.

Maundy Thursday is April 2nd _____



Worship with Holy Communion will be held at Bethel and will begin at 6 pm. The service will end with the stripping of the altar. Departing worship in solemn silence, we anticipate the coming days.

On this evening our Lenten observance comes to an end, and we gather with Christians around the world to celebrate the Three Days of Jesus' death and resurrection. On this night we remember Christ's last meal with his disciples, but the central focus is his commandment that we live out the promise embodied in this meal.

As Jesus washed his disciples' feet, so we are called to give and receive love in humble service to one another. Formed into a new body in Christ through this holy meal, we are transformed by the mercy we have received and carry it into the world.

Good Friday is April 3rd _____

The **Ecumenical Community Good Friday Service** will be held at Pioneer Presbyterian Church on Riverside Ave. in Marinette from **noon until 3 pm**. Six half-hour segments will begin at noon. You may come for any or stay for all. Pastor Scott will be preaching at the service that begins at 12:30.

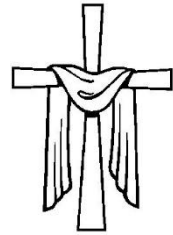
Bethel will host a **6 pm Tenebrae Service** this year. A Tenebrae service (Latin for "darkness" or "shadows") is an ancient Christian Holy Week tradition that meditates on the suffering, death, and burial of Jesus. It features the gradual extinguishing of candles until the room is in total darkness, symbolizing the abandonment of Jesus and the desolation of his death, concluding with a "strepitus" (loud noise).

Life and death stand side by side as we enter into Good Friday. Standing with the disciples at the foot of the cross, we pray for the whole world. We gather in solemn devotion, but always with the promise that the tree around which we assemble is indeed a tree of life.

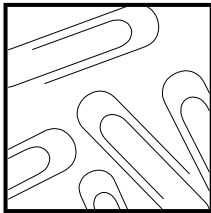


Easter Sunday is April 5th _____

Plan to attend Easter breakfast before worship. As in the past, there will be an egg hunt for the kids too. Worship begins at 9:30 am.



Christ is risen, and through him all creation is made new! We sing hymns of praise, gather around sacred words, and proclaim God's faithfulness, power, and love in the feast of holy communion. With the women at the tomb, we are astonished, elated, and grateful. We depart with joy to proclaim the good news of God's endless love. He is risen!



FROM HEIDI IN THE
**CHURCH
OFFICE**

Next Month's Newsletter _____

If you have news to share with the rest of the congregation that you would like published in the April newsletter, please submit it to me by Sunday, March 22nd. Thanks!

The **Bethel Broadcaster** is the monthly newsletter of Bethel Lutheran Church, 1309 14th Ave., Menominee, MI, 49858, 906-863-2066, BethelMenominee.com. Bethel is a congregation in the Northern Great Lakes Synod (nglsynod.org) of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (elca.org). Editor: Heidi Beland, bethel_secretary@yahoo.com. Pastor: Rev. Scott Ehle, revscott25@gmail.com. Unless otherwise noted on the enclosed calendar, we worship every Sunday at 9:30 a.m. Sunday School is held on the first, third and fifth Sundays of each month, beginning at 8:15 a.m. Holy Communion is celebrated every week. We invite you to join us.